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UNITED STATES MILITARY
Office
APO 54 3222

MACJOIA

24 February 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL WESTMORELAND

SUBJECT: Spray Aircraft for Mosquito Control

1. Colonel Mosely, MACV-38 (Statistical Project Officer), called our office this morning requesting assistance or information that we may have regarding spray equipped C-123 aircraft stationed in Thailand.

2. It seems that General Westmoreland has tasked the MACV staff with the responsibility for equipping a spray type airplane to be used in South Vietnam for mosquito control.

3. Colonel Mosely and I contacted Colonel Froehlich, Commander 315th ACW for information concerning the spray equipped C-123's in Thailand and to solicit his ideas and recommendation for establishing such a mosquito control program in South Vietnam. Colonel Froehlich stated that the 608 Composite ACS located at Nakhon Phanom, Thailand has six of these aircraft and nine crews and that they could be readily equipped with wing booms and tanks if the decision was made to select one of these aircraft to fill the requirement. However, Colonel Froehlich and Colonel Mosely both concur that with the arrival of the eighteenth C-123 RANCH HAND equipped aircraft this month, that the shortage of herbicide chemical in country could allow the use of a RANCH HAND airplane for mosquito control on a short-time basis to meet the 1 March date established by General Westmoreland, or until such time as the contract for additional herbicide delivery to South Vietnam could be effected.

4. Based on the above information MACV will propose to 7th AF that a 12th ACS RANCH HAND airplane be configured for mosquito control beginning 1 Mar 67. It is further proposed that the selected aircraft be painted a distinctive color (possibly a loud yellow) and that

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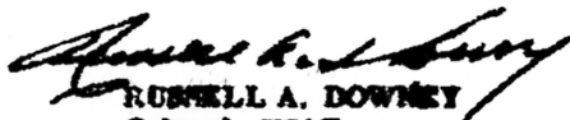
*Prove the jets flew in support of
Spray missions - From Thailand
Came back to base Contaminated*

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leaflets be dropped simultaneously with each mosquito spray operation telling the Vietnamese people that this airplane is a good bird and that it will kill the harmful mosquito. It was also proposed that every effort be made to condition the Vietnamese people of this program by leaflet or any other means available prior to flying an aircraft into a selected area.

5. Recommendation: That a 7th AF RANCH HAND aircraft allocation for purpose outlined above be favorably considered upon receipt of official requirement.


RUSSELL A. DOWNEY
Colonel, USAF
Assistant Deputy Commander
for Air Operations

*will take a look
at it and this to
for advancing*