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## Insecticide Spraying in Ninh Thuan Province

315CSG (CC)

1. Telecon between Major Rioux (315 TAW DOC-S) and Major Carrestia (MACV Entomologist) provided the following bits of information which may be helpful in answering the second paragraph of the attached letter.

a. There is no connection between any crop damage and the use of malathion. This can be readily substantiated by any agronomist but it is doubtful that the province chief has anyone with that background available to him for consultation.

b. Our spray crews have been told to start and stop spraying well within the confines of the perimeter of the base. This has caused no reduction in the effectiveness of the spraying but should show our good intentions. Our spray aircraft always operate at low levels, approximately 150 feet above the terrain. To operate at a higher level negates the value of spraying at all. It would be virtually impossible to plan our spray operation around the wind blowing out of the north; however, we do not spray anytime the wind exceeds 8 knots, so little if any drifting should occur.

c. The concentration of malathion is one half pound per acre to be sprayed and that is exactly the same amount used to spray land back in the states. We have no recorded complaints from the states referencing crop damage. Using that solution, the malathion is 95% effective and in actual fact, probably kills many other flying insects that could be harmful to crops.

2. If further information or guidance is desired, contact Major Carrestia at USARV Headquarters, Long Binh, phone 923-2042 or call Major Rioux, 315th TAW DOC at extension 3411.

FOR THE COMMANDER

CLIFFORD J. HORKANS, Colonel, USAF  
Deputy Commander for Operations

1 Atch  
Ninh Thuan AIA OCE, 25 Sep 71  
LER w/t atch.