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Description Notes Proposal from the Historical Evaluation and Research Organization to prepare a historical report on the development and use of Agent Orange. Attachments are a brochure on HERO, a phone message for Dr. Young that Mr. Brinkerhoff called, a notecard reading "John Brinkerhoff. Historical Study on Agent Orange. See Dick Christian," and a business card for John R. Brinkerhoff

John Brinkerhoff

Historical Study on
~~3~~ Agent Orange

SEE
Dick Christman

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

DR Young

YOU WERE CALLED BY- YOU WERE VISITED BY-

Mr. Brinkerhoff

OF (Organization)

PLEASE PHONE ▶ FTS AUTOVON

560-6427

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

JOHN R. BRINKERHOFF
COLONEL, US ARMY, RETIRED
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
DATA MEMORY SYSTEMS, INC.
HISTORICAL EVALUATION & RESEARCH ORGANIZATION
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AGENT ORANGE: ORIGINS AND USE

A HERO CONCEPT PAPER

Objective

The Historical Evaluation and Research Organization (HERO), a division of Data Memory Systems, Incorporated (DMSI), proposes to prepare a historical report on the development and use of Agent Orange. The report will serve as an orientation text and authoritative reference for Veterans Administration and other personnel who deal with any aspect of the Agent Orange problem.

Background

The Veterans Administration has been given the responsibility for determining whether or not the use of Agent Orange in Vietnam resulted in, or was a significant factor that led to, serious illness and/or long term health problems for a large number of Vietnam veterans who were exposed to it. Agent Orange is one of the three defoliants employed during the Vietnam War. Agent Orange contains a small amount of Dioxin (TCDD), and the presence of this substance has been the key factor in the controversy over Agent Orange that began in the 1970's and has yet to be resolved. The 12 May 1983 decision of Federal District Judge George C. Pratt that there was sufficient evidence for the 20,000 Vietnam Veterans to proceed to trial with their grievance against five major producers of Agent Orange has heightened the controversy and suggests a need for objectivity when examining the Agent Orange issue. The recent publication of Fred A. Wilcox, waiting for an Army to Die: The Tragedy of Agent Orange is a further demonstration of the need for an objective, open-ended, historical study of Agent Orange.

The Veterans Administration is involved heavily in the Agent Orange matter. A comprehensive history would provide the Veterans Administration with a definitive guide to the background of the Agent Orange issue and provide easy access to pertinent data on Agent Orange for Veterans Administration personnel and others involved with the issue.

Concept

HERO will conduct extensive research using primary source data, including Army and Marine Corps combat records, Department of the Army medical records, and Chief of Ordnance records. Having used official records from both the World Wars in other historical studies, HERO has extensive experience in researching these primary sources.

All available sources of data will be used in writing the report. In addition to official records HERO will examine pertinent primary source data relating to nonmilitary usages of Agent Orange in the private sector. HERO will examine published books, articles written in science periodicals, TV and radio news devoted to the issue, and other secondary sources. Appropriate excerpts from important sources will be included in the text, and appendices will include key primary source documents.

This history will not take a position on the issues involved. Both sides of the issues will be presented. HERO will state the historical evidence, the causes of disputation, and the various arguments advanced by interested parties but will not take sides or make any value judgments.

The historical report on Agent Orange will require 3-4 technical man-years and cost about \$350,000.

HERO—THE PEOPLE

TREVOR N DUPUY (Colonel, USA Retired), President of DMSI and Executive Director of HERO. Colonel Dupuy is a founder of HERO and has been associated with it for the 20 years of its existence. He is an internationally recognized military historian, and the author or co-author of numerous articles and over 80 books. Colonel Dupuy is a pioneer in the development of quantitative analysis of historical data.

C CURTISS JOHNSON, Director of Research and Managing Director of HERO; MAT in History, Trinity College (D.C.); BA in History, Providence College. Mr. Johnson is the author or co-author of numerous articles and several books, including *Battles of the American Civil War* and *Battles of the American Revolution*. He is a recognized authority on tactics and organization for land combat.

GAY HAMMERMAN, Senior Research Associate; MA in History, Harvard University; BA in History, University of North Carolina. Mrs. Hammerman is the author or co-author of several books, including *People and Events of the American Revolution* and *A Documentary History of Arms Control and Disarmament*. She has worked in the Office of the Chief of Military History of the Army and for the Department of State.

PAUL MARTELL, Senior Research Associate; MS in International Relations, University of Freiburg. Mr. Martell is the author or co-author of numerous articles and several books, including *Great Battles of the Eastern Front*. Mr. Martell is an expert on the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and he has spent much of his time recently researching military operations in the Middle East.

EDWARD A OPPENHEIMER, Research Associate; BA in History, Reed College. Mr. Oppenheimer is an expert on the application of computers to the quantitative analysis of historical data. He is the manager of the Quantified Judgment Model.

CHARLES R SMITH, Research Associate; PhD and MA in International Relations, Catholic University; BA in History, St. Francis College. Dr. Smith has concentrated on the defense and foreign policy aspects of recent history.

BRIAN BADER, Research Associate; BA in History, Catholic University of America. Mr. Bader is experienced in the use of survey techniques to establish human perceptions of historical events.

OTHER DMSI PRODUCTS

HERO Seminars are short courses designed to provide the military professional and the defense analyst with solid intellectual education on military and national security subjects. These 2½ day seminars provide an in-depth examination of a particular military topic. Courses currently under development include: The Arab-Israeli Wars, 1947-1983; Current Issues in NATO Defense; Theory of Land Combat; and Evolution of Weapons and Warfare. These seminars will be scheduled and announced in separate brochures.

HERO Publications are books, reports, and articles produced by the DMSI staff, many of these publications are based on HERO research. The 1984 *Almanac of World Military Power* is currently in preparation and will be available in the fall of 1984. Several books are being prepared for publication, including *Empires by Conquest*, a military history of Russia. HERO Publications will include also several hard-to-find books by Trevor N. Dupuy, including the best-selling *A Genius For War*, which gives the German General Staff major credit for the high combat performance of German soldiers in two World Wars.

Military Data Bases provide detailed information on 600 land battles since 1600 AD. DMSI is in the process of organizing, indexing, and processing this data into convenient formats for use by other researchers. These finished files will be made available for sale in 1984.

The *Defense Information Service* will provide the complete text of documents on the subject of national security to subscribing agencies and organizations. This service will be available in 1984.

Call 560-6427 for more information on any of these products.

HERO HERO HERO HERO

**HISTORICAL EVALUATION
AND
RESEARCH ORGANIZATION**

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Dunn Loring, Virginia 22027
(703) 560-6427

HERO—THE ORGANIZATION

The Historical Evaluation and Research Organization (HERO) is a division of Data Memory Systems, Incorporated (DMSI). DMSI is a diversified information services company whose other divisions provide specialized information services, educational seminars, books and other publications, and recreational computer war games. DMSI provides information services about military and defense matters to the national security community and interested members of the general public.

HERO was founded in October 1962 as an association of scholars motivated by a common awareness of the need for historical perspective in policy decisions. HERO is dedicated to making past experience a useful tool for those who formulate national defense and national security policy.

HERO consists of a core group of full-time professionals augmented as necessary by a larger group of consultants. The permanent staff consists of highly skilled historians, trained to perform quantitative historical analysis of historical data. The consultants include not only historians but political scientists, economists, mathematicians, and other scholars, plus knowledgeable combat veterans and commanders, who participate in projects for which their special expertise is of value. In addition, HERO may call upon the services of other employees of DMSI, whose skills include operations research, computer operations, modeling and simulation, geography, military science, and data processing.

HERO research meets the highest standards of objective scholarly work. Research is based on primary sources to the extent possible. HERO staff researchers are expert in the use of archives and libraries in the Washington, D.C. area, and elsewhere in the United States, and also archives and libraries in Europe and the Middle East. HERO has compiled a substantial collection of combat data and operations narratives from World War II and more recent conflicts which is a valuable resource for historical research and analysis, including qualitative analysis. HERO makes full use of this resource in its reports and other publications.

HERO—THE PRODUCT

HERO specializes in the analysis of historical data. Most "history" consists of a chronology or a narrative description of past events. HERO goes beyond this by performing "problem-oriented" analysis of the historical data to facilitate the application of past experience to current problems.

Problem-Oriented Historical Analysis is particularly valuable to prospective users of HERO's services. Past experience is always relevant to present problems, even if only to provide a basis to reject or to accept the relevance of that experience. This is recognized by researchers when they include a "background" section or append a narrative of prior events at the end of the study report. Most history, however, is written by historians to provide a general perspective of the past from the historian's viewpoint. HERO approaches history to see what it can tell about the client's problem. This requires sifting through a mass of data to find all the facts really bearing on the problem, organize them, and interpret them in a way which illuminates the current problem.

Quantitative Analysis of historical data involves seeking numerical relationships among the data, using modern statistical and operations research techniques. HERO starts with historical research of the usual kind, going to primary sources of data and correlating data from several sources to establish consistency and reliability. HERO goes further to apply modern analytical methods, with the assistance of computers, to wrest from the data the information it contains of relevance to the client's problem.

Qualitative Analysis is still important in historical research, and HERO does this too. HERO is particularly interested in the human factor and seeks to establish the perceptions of participants at all levels in battles as a necessary adjunct to the official histories and the memoirs of the leaders. HERO uses the services of sociologists and other specialists in social science research to complement the historical research effort.

The Quantified Judgment Model has been developed by HERO as a way to allow historical combat experience to influence modern combat organization and tactics systematically. The basis for the QJM is the thesis that the known results of previous battles and engagements is compared to the pre-engagement and trans-engagement characteristics of each side to develop a consistent set of relationships explaining why one side lost or won. This set of relationships can be expressed approximately by mathematical formulas which are derived empirically. The QJM serves as a basis for combat simulation, complementing other models, which are based on test data and theory. HERO believes that history, properly treated, is at least as good a basis for speculation about the future as any other kind of data available and is an essential ingredient in any combat simulation. It would be reassuring if combat simulations in use today were able to recreate actual battle outcomes from recent wars, in which organization, tactics, and technology are not very different from those in use today. The QJM provides a way to do just that — to validate current theories and models of combat against actual combat results.

The Historical Services provided by HERO are available for clients in any business. While much of HERO's past experience has been with military and national defense matters, the techniques of historical analysis apply to any field of knowledge. The expertise of the HERO staff and consultants has been applied to education, energy, and health matters in the past. HERO will continue to provide its services to the national security community as before, but also will offer them to other clients who have need of HERO's special competence — problem-oriented historical analysis.

HERO is available to provide historical research services to government agencies and to companies and other research organizations who do not themselves have the capability to perform historical research, or who need augmentation for particular projects. HERO specializes in providing accurate, thorough and responsive reports on the historical background of problems to help other kinds of researchers do their work.