

ATSU-MH

21 March 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare
Center and School, Fort Bragg, North Carolina
28307-5000

SUBJECT: Rules of Engagement JUST CAUSE/Vietnam

1. While in general, the Rules of Engagement (ROE) governing the Republic of Vietnam and JUST CAUSE were similar, those for Vietnam were usually more detailed. This more detailed outline was due mostly to the fact that U.S. combat participation in the Vietnam War went on for about seven years. Much had to be added over these years, or the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) population could have been devastated and alienated in what was, after all, a "peoples war."

2. By contrast, major combat in JUST CAUSE was over within 24 hours. Still, this was a highly-publicized operation, and it was necessary to take down one government and put in another with popular support quickly. Therefore ROE for JUST CAUSE were quite detailed in close air support (CAS) over populated areas and in urban combat support. In several areas such as roadblocks, looting, diplomatic buildings, ROE were added that were never considered in Vietnam.

3. There was also apparently a conscious attempt to keep JUST CAUSE ROE simple as a result of "Lessons Learned" from Vietnam.

4. Point of contact for this action is Dr. Sandler, 2-4720.

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STANLEY SANDLER, PH.D.
Command Historian

***** END OF MESSAGE *****

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SUBJ: HIP POCKET HISTORY #109

SUSP: ²³/₅ MAR 90

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REF: TASKER # 0144

COMPARE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR JUST CAUSE TO THE ROE IN RVN FROM
70-72.

***** END OF MESSAGE *****

SUMMARY SHEET

DATE

COORDINATION/INFORMATION

FOR

FROM

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	SIGN/INITIALS	DATE	APPROVAL	STAFF/ORGANIZATION
				SIGNATURE	
				SECY	ACTION OFFICER
				DCDR	
				CSM	PHONE NO.
				XO	
				CDR	OFFICE SYMBOL

SUBJECT

Rules of Engagement JUST CAUSE/Vietnam Tasker #0144

1. PURPOSE: To provide CG with comparison of Rules of Engagement between the Republic of Vietnam, 1970-72, and Operation JUST CAUSE.

2. DISCUSSION: While in general, the Rules of Engagement (ROE) governing the Republic of Vietnam and JUST CAUSE were similar, those for Vietnam were usually more detailed. This more detailed outline was due mostly to the fact that U.S. combat participation in the Vietnam War went on for about seven years. Much had to be added over the years, or the Republic of Vietnam (RVN) population could have been devastated and alienated in what was, after all, a "peoples war."

3 Encls

1. TAB A: Memo to CG.
2. TAB B: Rules of Engagement
3. TAB C: Tasker from CG.

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