You are invited…

The U.S.-Vietnam Dialogue Group:
Making Agent Orange History

Part 1: Thursday, October 21 from 5 - 7 p.m. (reception 5 – 5:30)
Classroom 2, William S. Richardson School of Law, 2515 Dole Street

• Keynote with Charles Bailey
  Director, Ford Foundation Special Initiatives on Agent Orange/Dioxin
• Followed by a film screening, “Agent Orange: 30 Years Later”

Part 2: Friday, October 22 from 10 – 12 p.m.
Saunders Hall SSRI Conference Room 704

• Simulated Dialogue Group Session, convened by Charles Bailey
  Limited seating. Must RSVP to Anne Smoke (808) 956-6459.

The War in Vietnam left scars on both Vietnam and the United States that were only deepened by the aftermath of the spraying of Agent Orange over millions of acres of forests and farmland in Vietnam. For decades the detrimental health and environmental impacts of the dioxin contaminated herbicide has been a controversial subject, hindering bi-lateral relations between the U.S. and Vietnam. To help break through this impasse, the Ford Foundation initiated a citizen-to-citizen dialogue group to raise awareness about this troubling legacy of the Vietnam War. Charles Bailey, the Ford Foundation’s Director of the Special Initiatives on Agent Orange/Dioxin will talk about the impetus, challenges, and results of bringing together a diverse group of private citizens, scientists, and policy makers from both countries to work on issues that the two countries’ governments were unable resolve. Bailey will recreate his experience forming the U.S.-Vietnamese Dialogue Group on Agent Orange/Dioxin and address the strategic selection of participants and the vital role neutrality played in its success.

Sponsored by the Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Active Voice, and the University of Hawai’i William S. Richardson School of Law (Environmental Law Program & Health Law Policy Center). Co-sponsored by the University of Hawai’i Center for Southeast Asian Studies, and the Association for Conflict Resolution, Hawai’i.
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Charles Bailey, Director, Ford Foundation Special Initiative on Agent Orange/Dioxin, paid a special visit to the University of Hawai‘i for the international celebration of Conflict Resolution Day 2010 to promote the use of conflict resolution in schools, families, businesses, communities, governments and the legal system. The 2010 celebration called U.S.-Vietnam Dialogue Group: Making Agent Orange History was a two-part program including a public keynote address with Charles Bailey and a special educational session utilizing role-play and open discussion to simulate the first meeting of the U.S.-Vietnam Dialogue Group.

Part I: Keynote Video:

Charles Bailey, Director, Ford Foundation Special Initiatives on Agent Orange/Dioxin

Part II: U.S. Vietnam Dialogue Group Simulation - A Lesson in Track II Diplomacy

For the simulated dialogue session students are assigned to represent the various delegates of the initial U.S. Vietnam Dialogue Group. They are provided links to biographies, and news and information about the process of convening, so they can prepare to represent the point of view of their assigned delegate. Students are asked to look critically through their delegate's lens at Ford Foundation's design process for convening the group and then engage in the actual first meeting to sort out tasks and conditions for future meetings.

Material developed and presented by the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution in partnership with William S. Richardson School of Law (Environmental Law and Health Policy Center) and San Francisco-based strategic communications non-profit Make Agent Orange History, and co-sponsored by The Center for Southeast Asian Studies and Association for Conflict Resolution, Hawaii.