

# JSAC NEWS



## Large Weapons and Ammunition Cache Removed

JSAC, Cambodia Mine Action Centre (CMAC) and Provincial Police conducted an operation in 3 Districts to remove large weapons, ammunition and explosives caches in Battambang Province in Cambodia in June 2006. A total of 1,956 small arms were collected, and 3,153 ammunition and 47 explosives were removed and safely destroyed by CMAC.

These weapons and ammunition were found in frequently accessed areas such as the city center, around residential areas and in farmland. In this Province, remaining weapons such as these still pose a threat to the safety of the people. While JSAC continues to conduct workshops in cooperation with NGOs and appeal at each village on the danger of small arms, it also effectively and efficiently contributes to peace and safety of the residents by close field coordination and cooperation with local police, authorities and CMAC.

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Small arms found at weapons cache

## Weapons Destruction Ceremony

On June 15, 2006, the first weapons destruction ceremony supported by JSAC in Kompong Thom Province was held in Kompong Thom Province, Kompong Thom Town. Many residents joined the Provincial Government, the Ministry of Interior / police, military and other related organizations in observing the burning of 1,273 small arms. All of these weapons were voluntarily surrendered by residents to the police during JSAC's activities.



One gentleman who attended the ceremony following the invitation of his commune chief remarked that "It is my first time to attend such a ceremony, and it was exciting. It is very good that weapons are put to an end like that.

Since 2003, JSAC has supported the destruction of 18,772 small arms in Cambodia.

## Public Awareness Project



In addition to directly addressing the public at workshops, JSAC uses billboards, posters, stickers and other material to raise their awareness on the danger and illegality of small arms. Posters, t-shirts, stickers (design on the left), billboards in front of Phnom Penh Airport, and billboards in 21 Districts in Battambang and Kampong Thom Provinces all have the slogan "Say 'NO' to Weapons" on it, carrying JSAC's anti-gun message.

*About JSAC (Japan Assistance Team for Small Arms Management in Cambodia)*

Founded by Japan International Cooperation Systems (JICS) for the implementation of the "Comprehensive Peace Building and Comprehensive Small Arms Management Program in Cambodia, a grant aid provided by the Government of Japan to the Government of Cambodia. JSAC in contributing to the reduction of small arms and peace building comprehensively through 5 projects (1. Weapons Reduction and Development for Peace Project, 2. Safe Storage and Registration Project, 3. Weapons Destruction Project, 4. Public Awareness Project, 5. National Commission Support Project). JSAC has collected a total of 20,493 small arms in 5 Provinces as of mid-June 2006.

Please see JSAC's website for details. URL: <http://www.online.com.kh/users/adm.jsac/>