An 11-year-old boy has been killed in southern Vietnam after accidentally detonating a Vietnam War-era shell that he thought was a toy.

(28.01.2004)

After hearing an explosion, the boy's parents - who were working in a nearby pepper plantation - rushed back home and discovered their son's dismembered body. At least 43 people were killed and scores more injured in Vietnam last year from landmines and explosions of other war-era ordnance. According to the US military more than 15 million tonnes of bombs, mines, artillery shells and other kinds of munitions were used during the Vietnam War. As much as 10 percent of this ordnance is estimated to have failed to explode.

Von: Radio Australia, Australia, 29.01.2004

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