Training Scrap Metal Workers to Identify UXO Hazards

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Bangkok, Thailand EOD specialists from the Royal Thai Air Force are instructing scrap metal and junk shop owners to be aware of potential dangers including UXO when accepting items. The training is a response to an recent explosion at a shop where a WWII bomb was found on a construction site and brought to a scrap metal warehouse.

Migrant workers used a blowtorch to open the bomb in an effort to evaluate the value of the metal. The device detonated, killing eight people, including one child, and injuring 19 others. Several homes in the area were destroyed as well.

The EOD instructors urged workers to contact police if they are unsure about the safety of an item. Scrap metal shop owners are also encouraged to install cameras in parking lots to help police identify individuals who may try to bring in illegal items.