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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4910
INFO RUEHOK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 2706
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 6361
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 05915

E.O. 120651 GDS 4/18/86 (FLOWERREE, C.C.) DR-0
TAGS: PARM, CD, KP
SUBJECT: CW USE IN KAMPUCHEA

REFS: A) STATE 799621 B) GENEVA 5867

1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT).

2. IN A LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH A US CD DELOFF, A PRC MILITARY ADVISOR (PROTECT) INDICATED THAT AN ARTICLE IN THE (JAPANESE) ASAHI NEWSPAPER OF 22 MARCH 1980 (MORNING EDITION) CONTAINED EVIDENCE OF CW USE. PROBABLE THAT THIS IS SAME ARTICLE REFERRED TO IN REF A AS 21 MARCH. US DELOFF ASKED JAPANESE DELOFF IF HE COULD OBTAIN THE NEWSPAPER. JAPANESE DELOFF LATER CALLED WITH INFORMATION THAT HE HAD THE ARTICLE BUT NOT A TRANSLATED VERSION. HE PROVIDED A VERBAL SYNOPSIS RELATED BELOW.

3. ARTICLE CONTAINED INFORMATION ON USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS BY VIETNAMESE IN KAMPUCHEA FOLLOWING MAJOR POINTS WERE MADE:

-- IN MID-FEBRUARY THE RED CROSS SENT A TEAM OF DOCTORS TO THE THAI-KAMPUCHEAN BORDER;

-- DOCTORS CONDUCTED AN AUTOPSY OF SIX DEAD POL POT SOLDIERS AND SENT BLOOD SAMPLES AS WELL AS LEAF SAMPLES TO RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS IN GENEVA;

-- ON 19 MARCH RED CROSS ANNOUNCED THAT LEAF SAMPLES HAD BEEN SENT TO AN INSTITUTION FOR ANALYSIS;

-- AUTHOR OF THE ARTICLE CONTACTED ONE OF THE DOCTORS WHO HAD PERFORMED THE AUTOPSIES;

-- DOCTOR HAD BEEN INFORMED BY RED CROSS THAT COMMENTS WERE PROHIBITED; NONETHELESS HE STATED THAT WHILE HE HAD NOT BELIEVED BEFORE THE AUTOPSIES THAT CHEMICAL WEAPONS WERE BEING USED, HE NOW WAS CONVINCED THAT POISON GAS HAD BEEN USED;

-- WHEN ASKED WHY HE HAD ARRIVED AT THAT CONCLUSION, THE DOCTOR REPEATED THAT HE COULD NOT COMMENT FURTHER.

4. ABOVE INFORMATION MAY ALREADY BE AVAILABLE TO WASHINGTON. SINCE REF A HAD REQUESTED INFORMAL TRANSLATION. IF SO, REQUEST TRANSLATED COPY OR ANALYSIS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by Salook DATE 4/17/88

() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
() EXCISE () DECLASSIFY in PART
() DFRY () Non-responsive info.
FOI, EO or PA exemptions (A) (B)

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() CLASSIFY as _____ OADR
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OF ARTICLE. AS REF B INDICATES, THERE IS SKEPTICISM
HERE ON US ASSERTIONS ON CW USE AND NON-US ORIGIN
EVIDENCE IS LIKELY TO BE HELPFUL. HELMAN

END OF MESSAGE

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