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PERIOD OF TIME, LONGER THAN IRRITANTS, BY AFFECTING MENTAL AND PHYSICAL ABILITIES. THE US ARMY DEVELOPED AN INCAPACITANT, BZ, BUT HAS NOT USED IT BECAUSE UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES IT CAN CAUSE ILLNESS AND ACCIDENTAL DEATH. THE DEFECTOR DESCRIBED AN INCAPACITANT, WHICH COULD NOT HAVE COME FROM CAPTURED US STOCKS IN VIETNAM.

C. LETHAL: THERE ARE A WIDE RANGE OF LETHAL AGENTS WITH VARYING CHARACTERISTICS WHICH PRODUCE DIFFERING EFFECTS IN DIFFERING TIME PERIODS. NERVE GASES LIKE TABUN (GA), SARIN (GB), AND SOMAN (GD) CAUSE DEATH QUICKLY. NON-PERSISTENT CHOKING AGENTS ARE PHOSGENE (CG) AND DIPHOSGENE (DP). PHOSGENE OXIME (CX), A BLISTER AGENT WHICH CAN CAUSE SEVERE INTERNAL DISORDER AND DEATH, IS A LIKELY CANDIDATE FOR THE AGENT USED IN LAOS AND AFGHANISTAN AS IT ALSO CAN AFFECT VEGETATION. HCN (AC) AND CNC (CK) ARE BLOOD AGENTS. PERSISTENT BLISTER AGENTS ARE MUSTARD (H), MUSTARD/LEWISITE (HL) AND NITROGEN MUSTARD (HN3).

4. THE DEFECTOR IS REPORTED IN AFP AS DESCRIBING THE SOVIET MARKING HZ ON A SHELL. IF HE WAS REFERRING TO CYRILLIC, IT COULD HAVE BEEN NZ, A SOVIET MIXTURE OF NITROGEN-MUSTARD-LEWISITE. THIS IS A LETHAL AGENT, NOT AN INCAPACITANT.

5. FOR BANGKOK: IF WE STILL HAVE ACCESS TO PAVN DEFECTOR WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHETHER HE CAN BE MORE SPECIFIC REGARDING WHAT AGENTS WERE USED (WHERE AND WHEN), PURPOSE AND DOCTRINE OF PAVN CHEMICAL WARFARE, AND EFFECTS. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION AS TO WHETHER HE SPOKE FIRST TO US AND BANGKOK POST, OR TO AFP. CHRISTOPHER

END OF MESSAGE

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