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OO RUEAIIA 14460
 DE RUMTBK #14460 0711248
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 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4392
 INFO RUMJPG/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 4077
 RUEHBAC/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 6374
 RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 6825
 RUMJDH/AMCONSUL HONG KONG 1687
 RUSBOD/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 4091
 RUEHJA/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA 4988
 RUMJKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 6703
 RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 2870
 RUMJMA/AMEMBASSY MANILA 4495
 RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1487
 RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4191
 RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 1119
 RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 6949
 RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 7736
 RUDXFKQ/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 0463
 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2891
 RUMTBKU/AMCONSUL UDORN 6530
 RUMJPS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 3450
 RUEHNL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 3991
 RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
 RUEADW/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC NSC
 RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC//
 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
 RUMOHJA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
 RUMOHGA/COMPAF HONOLULU HI
 RUMMBRA/FICPAC PEARL HARBOR HI
 RUMUAAA/13AF CC CLARK AB RP
 RUEOAYA/CRDRSTC CHARLOTTESVILLE VA
 RUEADED/CHIEF OF STAFF ARMY WASHDC
 RULNEAA/CDRAARADCOM EDGEWOOD ARS MD
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by *fwl* DATE *1/17/88*

- RELEASE DECLASSIFY
- EXCISE DECLASSIFY IN PART
- DENY Non-responsive info.

FCIM, EO or PA exemptions *(a)(1)*
 31A 63 *(b)(1)*
 CLASSIFY as _____ TS authority to: _____, OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADR



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C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 14460

PARIS FOR BIGELOW
CINCPAC FOR POLAD AND J233
DIA FOR DC-48
CIA FOR NFAC
CSA FOR DAMI-15H
FSTC FOR DRXST-FMO AND ISI
CDRAARADCCN FIR DRDAR-SEIC

EO 12065: GDS 03/13/87 (ABRAMOWITZ, MORTON I.) ORAM
TAGS: PEPR, MMOL, PINS, CB
SUBJ: ALLEGED CHEMICAL WARFARE IN CAMBODIA

REF: FBIS BK 121025 (NOTAL)

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. [] CONFIRMED THAT HE HAS PRELIMINARY REPORTS OF HOSPITALIZATION AND DEATH OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA TROOPS WHO CLAIM CHEMICAL WEAPONS AFFECTED THEM. HE TOLD US THAT HE HAS REPLIED TO PRESS INQUIRIES WITH "NO COMMENT." THE REPORTS FROM ARANYAPRATHET CITE EIGHTEEN PATIENTS ADMITTED TO DK HOSPITALS AT TAP PHRIK (TV 1398) OR KHAO DIN (TV1386) OF WHOM FIVE HAVE DIED. THE VICTIMS SAY THEY SMELLED "PERFUME" AND LOST THEIR BALANCE. ICRC HAS NOT YET DECIDED ON STEPS PENDING CONFIRMATION OF THESE PRELIMINARY REPORTS APPARENTLY RECEIVED FROM THE DK MEDICS THAT STAFF THE HOSPITALS.

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3. REPORTING ON THE INCIDENT MARCH 12, DAILY BANGKOK WORLD (REF) CITED DK MILITARY LEADER, PHOL, WHO CLAIMED HIS MEN WERE MADE ILL BY DRINKING WATER AND BREATHING POISONOUS GAS IN THE AREA OPPOSITE NONG PRU VILLAGE (TA 1603). THE GAS CAUSED VOMITING, HEADACHE AND LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS, CLAIMED THE DK COMMANDER. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, AFP SAID THEIR STRINGER HAD TALKED TO PHOL WHO CLAIMED TO THEM THAT HIS TROOPS WERE AFFECTED BY WALKING THROUGH BRUSH SPRAYED WITH CHEMICALS IN THE AREA OPPOSITE NONG EAN (ESE OF ARANYAPRATHET TOWN). HE CLAIMED TEN KILLED AND 31 WOUNDED.

4. COMMENT: ICRC BANGKOK HAS RECENTLY SHOWN INTEREST IN OUR INFORMATION ON ALLEGED POISON GAS USE IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA. WE

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HAVE ENCOURAGED THEM BUT THEY HAVE SAID THEY NEED MORE EXPLICIT
AUTHORIZATION FROM GENEVA TO DISCUSS THE TOPIC IN DETAIL. WE
WOULD PREFER THAT THEY TOUCH BASE WITH US SOONER WHEN ALLEGED
GAS USE COMES TO THEIR ATTENTION. IN THIS CASE WE RECOGNIZE AND
ACCEPT ICRC DESIRE TO PLAY AN INDEPENDENT ROLE, BUT NEVERTHESS SEE
VIRTUE IN OFFERING PREVIOUS FINDINGS AND MEDICAL EXPERTISE TO
THEM IN GENEVA AND THEN HERE, IF ICRC GENEVA AGREES.
ABRAMOWITZ

END OF MESSAGE

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