

UNCLASSIFIED

E3

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1982BANGKO16051

Page: 1

Channel: n/a

<<<<. >>>>  
CONFIDENTIAL

RELEASED IN PART  
B2, B3, DIANRO, B6

PAGE 01 BANGKO 16051 01 OF 02 130541Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO	OCT-00	ADS-00	INR-10	EUR-12	SS-10	OIC-02	CIAE-00
	H-01	IO-15	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	SSO-00	HA-06	L-03
	PM-09	PA-01	HHS-04	INRE-00	OES-09	ACDA-12	ICAE-00
	SP-02	SPRS-02	/110 W				

-----230633 130556Z /12

O 130519Z MAR 82  
 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2840  
 DIA WASHINGTON DC//  
 INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
 AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
 AMEMBASSY PARIS  
 AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
 USMISSION GENEVA  
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
 AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
 AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
 CDR/FSTC CHARLOTTESVILLE  
 CDRAARADCOM EDGEWOOD ARS MD  
 DIA WASHINGTON DC//  
 CDC ATLANTA GA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BANGKOK 16051

DIA FOR [REDACTED] STATE ALSO FOR EA/VLK

B2, B3

EO 12065: GDS 03/13/88 (ROY, J. STAPLETON) OF-M  
 TAGS: PARM, PBOR, SHUM, MOPS, SOPN VM. CB, TH  
 SUBJ: REPORTED YELLOW RAIN ATTACKS AT SOKH SAN

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY: KPNLF AND VOLAG SOURCES HAVE REPORTED THAT THE FOUR VILLAGES AT SOKH SAN EXPERIENCED A SERIES OF APPARENT CBW ATTACKS MARCH 7-11. A YELLOWISH SUBSTANCE WAS DELIVERED BY ARTILLERY, INCLUDING SOME CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 16051 01 OF 02 130541Z

AIR BURSTS. SYMPTOMS OF THOSE MADE ILL REPORTEDLY INCLUDED ITCHING AND SWELLING OF AREAS WHICH CAME IN

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: CHARLES L DARIS  
 DATE/CASE ID: 14 APR 2004 200000450

UNCLASSIFIED

rec'd 5/04

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1982BANGKO16051

Page: 2

Channel: n/a

CONTACT WITH THE SUBSTANCE; NAUSEA, VOMITING AND DIARRHEA (NO BLOOD). CHICKENS WERE SAID TO HAVE DIED AND/OR BECOME FEVERISH WHEN GIVEN THE YELLOW SUBSTANCE. THE KHMER HAVE PROVIDED SAWS WITH A SAMPLE OF THE SUBSTANCE WHO HAVE PASSED IT TO US THROUGH [REDACTED] WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO STEER A SECOND SAMPLE, NOW BEING BROUGHT OUT BY AN AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL, TO THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY. WE HAVE PROVIDED SAWS AND KPNLF WITH CBW COLLECTION KITS AND OFFERED TO ARRANGE FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT/EXAMINATION OF A SENIOR KPNLF CADRE AT SOKH SAN WHO SAID HE EXPERIENCED SEVERE ITCHING AFTER CARRYING OUT THE INITIAL SAMPLE. WE HAVE ALERTED THE CANADIAN EMBASSY TO THE DEVELOPMENTS, AND IT IS NOW ATTEMPTING TO GET THE CANADIAN MOD CBW TEAM, STILL IN THAILAND, INTO SOKH SAN. END SUMMARY.

B6

3. SAWS AND KPNLF SOURCES SEPARATELY HAVE TOLD US THAT THE FOUR VILLAGES THAT COMPRISE SOKH SAN WERE HIT BY APPARENT CBW ATTACKS ON MARCH 7-11. FIRST REPORTS INDICATE THAT ARTILLERY, INCLUDING SOME AIR BURSTS, DELIVERED A MOIST YELLOW SUBSTANCE WIDELY OVER THE FOUR VILLAGES AND NEIGHBORING AREAS. THE DEPUTY COMMANDER OF SOKH SAN, COLONEL LENG, GAVE A SAMPLE OF THE RESIDUE TO A SAWS NURSE AT THE THAI CHECKPOINT ON THE ACCESS TRAIL (VOLAG PERSONNEL HAVE NOT BEEN ALLOWED INTO SOKH SAN ITSELF SINCE LATE FEBRUARY, PER ORDER OF THE THAI). SAWS PASSED THE SAMPLE TO US THROUGH [REDACTED]

B6

[REDACTED] WITH SAWS IS CARRYING A SECOND SAMPLE TO BANGKOK. TOWNSEND, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH US, HAS SUGGESTED THAT THIS SAMPLE BE PROVIDED TO THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE THAT THE U.S. EMBASSY WOULD ACCEPT IT IF THE AUSTRALIANS REFUSED IT.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BANGKO 16051 01 OF 02 130541Z

4. KHMER DESCRIBED TO SAWS THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS AFFECTING PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE EXPOSED TO THE SUBSTANCE: THERE WAS INTENSE ITCHING FOLLOWED BY SWELLING OF AREAS OF THE BODY EXPOSED TO THE SUBSTANCE. THE CONDITION PERSISTED FOR ABOUT 12 HOURS. THE KHMER ALSO COMPLAINED OF NAUSEA, VOMITING AND DIARRHEA (WITHOUT BLOOD). THERE WERE NO HUMAN FATALITIES REPORTED AS OF MARCH 11. KHMER AT SOKH SAN FED A MIXTURE OF THE YELLOW SUBSTANCE AND WATER TO A CHICKEN. THE FOWL CONVULSED AND DIED WITHIN MINUTES. THE THAI TRIED THE SAME EXPERIMENT AT THE CHECKPOINT ON THE THAI SIDE WITH SOME OF THE SUBSTANCE BROUGHT OUT. THE THAI CHICKEN DEVELOPED TREMORS AND

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 2

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1982BANGKO16051

Page: 3  
Channel: n/a

BECAME FEVERISH WITHIN MINUTES, BUT SOURCES DID NOT KNOW IF IT RECOVERED. PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS OF THE SUBSTANCES EFFECT ON VEGETATION IS AS FOLLOWS: YOUNGER LEAVES AND STEMS OF PLANTS WILTED; THERE WAS SOME BROWNING AND BURNING (SPOTS) ON MORE MATURE LEAVES.

5. COLONEL LENG SAID THAT HE COLLECTED THE SAMPLE GIVEN TO SAWS FROM VEGETATION NEAR THE SOKH SAN BASE CAMP WHICH HAD BEEN HIT ON MARCH 10-11. HE SAID THAT HE NOTED NO ODOR OR COLOR IN THE AIR AS THE SUBSTANCE DESCENDED. HE SAID THAT AFTER HE COLLECTED THE SUBSTANCE (WITH HIS BARE HANDS) HE BEGAN TO EXPERIENCE SEVERE ITCHING. WE HAVE INFORMED SAWS AND THE KPNLF THAT WE WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP ARRANGE FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR COLONEL LENG IN BANGKOK SHOULD HIS EXPOSURE TO THE SUBSTANCE CAUSE HIM TO REQUIRE HOSPITALIZATION. WE HAVE IN MIND TREATMENT/EXAMINATION OF COLONEL LENG AT SIRIRAJ HOSPITAL WHICH EARLIER AGREED TO CONDUCT TESTS ON PATIENTS. WE WILL ALSO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH TREATMENT FOR OTHER KHMER FROM SOKH SAN WHO APPEAR TO OFFER SOME HOPE OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL EVIDENCE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 16051 02 OF 02 130542Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO	OCT-00	ADS-00	INR-10	EUR-12	SS-10	OIC-02	CIAE-00
	H-01	IO-15	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	SSO-00	HA-06	L-03
	PM-09	PA-01	HHS-04	INRE-00	OES-09	ACDA-12	ICAE-00
	SP-02	SPRS-02	/110 W				

-----230643 130557Z /12

O 130519Z MAR 82  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2841  
DIA WASHINGTON DC//IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
CDR/FSTC CHARLOTTESVIL LE

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 3

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1982BANGKO16051

Page: 4  
Channel: n/a

CDRAARADCOM EDGEWOOD ARS MD  
CDC ATLANTA GA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BANGKOK 16051

6. WE INFORMED THE CANADIANS OF THE DEVELOPMENTS AT SOKH SAN. THEY HAVE BEGUN EFFORTS TO TRY TO GET THAI PERMISSION TO SEND THEIR MOD CBW TEAM, STILL IN THAILAND, INTO SOKH SAN FOR TESTS AND OBSERVATIONS EARLY NEXT WEEK.

7. COMMENT: WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN FIRST PERSON ACCOUNTS OF THE ATTACKS AND SYMPTOMS OF VICTIMS. WE HAVE PROVIDED SAWS WITH CBW COLLECTION KITS TO PASS TO THE SOKH SAN LEADERSHIP. KITS HAD ALSO BEEN LEFT AT SOKH SAN IN LATE JANUARY. DEAN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 16051 02 OF 02 130542Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 4

UNCLASSIFIED