



Department of State

EXCISE TELEGRAM

44

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

AN: DB20221-0956

FOOYU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 23592 01 OF 02 281231Z
ACTION EA-12

F
(A)(6)

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-10 CIAE-00
H-01 IO-15 NEA-06 NSC-01 NSAE-00 HA-06 L-03
PH-09 PA-01 RP-10 OES-09 ACDA-12 ICAE-00 SP-02
SR-04 SPRS-02 /132 W

-----007621 281255Z /46

P 281211Z APR 82
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7267
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
DIA WASHINGTON DC//
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CDRAARADCOM EDGEWOOD ARS MD
DIRUSAMIIA FT DETRICK MD

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED by

MA

DATE

11/8/85

RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY IN PART
 DENY Non-responsive

FOI, EO or PA exemptions

(A)(6)

CLASSIFY as _____, OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to () E or () C, OADR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BANGKOK 23592

EO12065: NA
TAGS: PARM, SHUM, SOPN, TBIO, CB, YH, LA
SUBJ: PAVN DEFECTORS REPORT CBW USE IN KAMPUCHEA

1. THE PARAGRAPHS BELOW CONVEY THE RESULTS OF INTER-
VIEWS CONDUCTED APRIL 25/26 AT PHANAT NIKHON REFUGEE
PROCESSING CENTER WITH 4 VIETNAMESE DEFECTORS ON THE
SUBJECT OF CBW USE IN KAMPUCHEA. THE INTERVIEWS WERE
HELD THROUGH AN INTERPRETER BY DR. AMOS TOWNSEND AND
AN ENDOFF. THE DEFECTORS' INFORMATION IS HERE REPORTED
IN RAW FORM FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION AND
EVALUATION. WE WILL EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF
FURTHER DEBRIEFINGS HERE. OF THE FOUR, ONE IS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 23592 01 OF 02 281231Z

APPLYING FOR ADMISICK TO THE US: THE PREFERRED DESTINA-

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TION OF THE OTHER THREE IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME.

2. SOURCE A CLAIMED THAT HE WAS A MEMBER OF [REDACTED] WHOSE MISSION WAS TO POISON GROUND WATER SOURCES IN THE PHNOM MELAI AREA. SOURCE'S UNIT [REDACTED]

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

[REDACTED] COMPOSED ENTIRELY OF NORTHERN SOLDIERS WHO CARRIED PACKS OF CHEMICALS. THE LETTERING HE BELIEVED WAS "UR-2." THE TEAM TRAVELED THROUGHOUT THE PHNOM MELAI AREA, DUMPING A PORTION OF ONE PACK, OR SEVERAL PACKS IF IT WERE A LARGER WATER SOURCE, INTO LAKES, PONDS AND STREAMS. SOURCE SAW THE SPECIAL UNIT PUT THE POWDER INTO WATER SOURCES ON TWO OCCASIONS. HE SAID THAT BEFORE OPENING A PACK OF POWDER, THE FIVE TEAM MEMBERS DONNED TRANSPARENT GLOVES WHICH REACHED ABOVE THE ELBOW. THE TEAM MEMBERS CARRIED GAS MASKS BUT HE DID NOT SEE THE TEAM USE THE MASKS. WHEN DUMPED INTO WATER, THE POWDER, WHICH WAS WHITE, CAUSED THE WATER TO EFFERESCE INITIALLY AND RESULTED IN THE KILLING OF FISH, FROGS, INSECTS, ETC. THE TEAM WOULD THEN REMOVE ALL DEAD ANIMALS FROM THE WATER SO THAT IT WOULD HAVE THE APPEARANCE OF BEING A SAFE WATER SOURCE. THE SPECIAL UNIT REPORTED DIRECTLY TO DIVISION HEADQUARTERS, BYPASSING THE REST OF THE CHAIN OF COMMAND. SOURCE KNEW NONE OF THEIR NAMES, OR THEIR RANKS, THOUGH HE NOTED THAT EACH CARRIED A K-54 PISTOL. SOURCE SAID THAT SOLDIERS IN HIS REGIMENT WERE ISSUED WITH A SMALL (2 CENTIMETERS) VIAL OF SOME CHEMICAL TO BE USED IF A SOLDIER ENCOUNTERED KHMER ROUGE CBW. SOURCE ADDED THAT THE COMMON BELIEF IN HIS REGIMENT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BANGKO 23592 01 OF 02 281231Z

WAS THAT THE MEDICATION WAS FOR USE ON PAVN SOLDIERS IN CASE OF ACCIDENTAL CONTAMINATION BY PAVN MUNITIONS.

3. SOURCE B WAS AN ENLISTED MAN WHO DEFECTED [REDACTED]

(b)(6)

[REDACTED] REGIMENT FORCES EMPLOYED 82 MM MORTARS FIRING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

CHEMICAL ROUNDS. SOURCE SAID THE ROUNDS WHICH HE SAW LOOKED LIKE ORDINARY 82 MM ROUNDS EXCEPT FOR A CROSS W RED BAR AND A BLUE BAR ON THE ORDINANCE. HE WAS TOLD THAT THE CHEMICAL INTERFERED WITH THE BREATHING OF CONTAMINATED SOLDIERS. REGIMENT SOLDIERS CARRIED TWO CAPSULES OF A SUBSTANCE WHICH THEY WERE TOLD WAS AN ANTIDOTE FOR THE POISON. TROOPS WERE INSTRUCTED TO BREAK THE CAPSULE UNDERNEATH THEIR NOSE. THE CAPSULE CONTENTS WOULD ALSO BE PLACED ON A PIECE OF CLOTH WHICH WOULD THEN BE USED AS A MASK. TROOPS WERE TOLD TO SEEK LOW GROUND AND LIE DOWN IF EXPOSED TO PAVN CBM ACCIDENTLY. IN KAMPUCHEA SOURCE CARRIED A SMALL PACKET OF ITEMS TO PROTECT AGAINST CBM. IT CONSISTED OF TWO SMALL PACKETS OF A "SOAP-LIKE POWDER," WRAPPED IN THREE LAYERS OF PAPER AND CELOPHANE WHICH HAD CHINESE AND VIETNAMESE WRITING ON IT. THE VIETNAMESE TEXT SIMPLY IDENTIFIED THE SUBSTANCE AS "SOAP TO BE USED WHEN WOUNDED." THE KIT ALSO CONTAINED A SMALL VIAL OF WATER-LIKE LIQUID, A PIECE OF COTTON IN PLASTIC AND TWO CAPSULES AS ABOVE. TROOPS WERE INSTRUCTED THAT IN THE EVENT OF AN ATTACK THEY WERE TO SHED AND DESTROY THEIR CLOTHES AND APPLY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 23592 02 OF 02 281236Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-10 CIAE-00
H-01 IO-15 NEA-06 NSC-01 NSAE-00 HA-06 L-03
PH-09 PA-01 RP-10 OES-09 ACDA-12 ICAE-00 SP-02
SR-04 SPRS-02 /132 W
-----010021 281255Z /46...

P 281211Z APR 82
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7268
INFO ANCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
DIA WASHINGTON DC//
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CDRAARADCOM EDGEWOOD ARS MD
DIRUSAMIIA FT DETRICK MD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BANGKOK 23592

A MIXTURE OF THE "SOAP" AND THE LIQUID TO "BURNS"
RESULTING FROM THE CHEMICAL COMING IN CONTACT WITH
EXPOSED SKIN. SOLDIERS WERE TOLD TO COVER
THEMSELVES WITH A NYLON PONCHO (2MX2M) TO PROTECT
THEMSELVES IF THEY WERE IN AN AREA WHERE AN AIRPLANE
DROPPED "YELLOW WATER" AND TO REMAIN COVERED UNTIL AN
ALL CLEAR SIGNAL WAS PROVIDED BY A SUPERIOR. THE
SOURCE FURTHER RECOUNTED SEEING TWO POISONED KHMER
CIVILIANS AT THE 307TH DIVISION HOSPITAL IN CHOH KSAM
AREA NEAR PRAH VIHEAR, IN MARCH 1980. HE SAID THE
TWO REPORTEDLY HAD BEEN POISONED BY DRINKING PAVN
CONTAMINATED WATER. HE DESCRIBED THEM AS HAVING
LARGE "BLOOD BLISTERS" (BLACK-BROWN BLOOD) OVER MUCH
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 23592 02 OF 02 281236Z

OF THEIR BODIES. THEIR EYES ALSO SHOWED LARGE PATCHES
OF HEMORRHAGE IN THE SCLERA. THE KHMER WERE GIVEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

AN IV (SOLUTION UNKNOWN) AND "INJECTIONS." THEY REPORTEDLY REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS IN 72 HOURS AND RECOVERED EVENTUALLY.

4. SOURCE C WAS AN ENLISTED MAN IN THE

[HE DESCRIBED CONVECTION KITS IDENTICAL TO THAT DESCRIBED PARA 3, WHICH HE SAID WERE DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THE DIVISION. HE SAID THAT ONE UNIT, [WAS WITHDRAWN FROM THE PHNOM MELAI AREA AFTER THE UNIT TROOPS DEVELOPED SEVERE EYE PROBLEMS, ALLEGEDLY AS A RESULT OF A CBM EXPOSURE IN THE NANSAP AREA. THE INJURED SUFFERED SWOLLEN EYES (SOMETIMES ONLY ONE EYE) WHICH BECAME RED AND SORE. VISION WAS IMPAIRED.

5. SOURCE D WORKED IN

[HE SAID THAT NEW GAS MASKS WERE DISTRIBUTED VIA BICYCLE TRANSPORT THROUGHOUT [SOURCE A ABOVE DESCRIBED THE MASKS AS DARK GREEN, WITH A TUBE DEVICE EXTENDING FROM A MOUTH PIECE TO WHAT APPEARED TO BE A FILTER DEVICE ON THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE MASK. THE FILTER DEVICE COULD BE DETACHED FROM THE MASK. (COMMENT: SOURCE SEEMED UNSURE OF WHICH SIDE THE "FILTER" WAS ON.)

ROY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE