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ACTION EA-12

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TO SECRETARY WASHDC IMMEDIATE JONS
DIA WASHINGTON DC// IMMEDIATE
INFO DANIELIA FT DETRICK
CDR/PSTC CHARLOTTESVILLE VA
CDRANADCOM EDENWOOD ARS MD

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EO12065: NA
TAGS: SHUN, PONG, THIO, SREF, LA, VM, UR
SUBJ: ALLEGED MNONG VICTIMS OF MAY 20 CBN ATTACK PROVIDE
-- BLOOD AND RESIDUE SAMPLES

1. TWO MNONG REFUGEES WHO CLAIM TO HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF A CBN ATTACK IN LAOS ON MAY 20, 1982 PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING THE ATTACK AND ITS EFFECTS ON THEM. DR. ANOS TOUNNEND DREW BLOOD FROM BOTH MEN AND FROM CONTROLS ON JUNE 19. DETAILS REGARDING SHIPMENT OF BLOOD SAMPLES, WHICH ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON JUNE 21, ARE CONTAINED IN PARA 7. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER GIVING PRIORITY TO ANALYSES OF THESE SAMPLES IN LIGHT OF TIMELINESS AND RELEVANCE OF THE REPORT AND EVIDENCE.

2. THE ATTACK: SOURCE SAID THE ATTACK TOOK PLACE AT APPROXIMATELY 1700 HOURS MAY 20, 1982 NEAR BAN PHA NOUN (VIC TF7898), ONE DAY'S WALK NORTH OF NAN NUN (UNLOCATED). THE TWO WERE PART OF A RESISTANCE
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PATROL COMPRISING SIX MEN. THEY HEARD A JET AIRCRAFT

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FLYING ABOVE THE CLOUDS, BUT NEVER SAW IT. WITHIN AN HOUR, THEY NOTED A YELLOW SYRUP-LIKE SUBSTANCE WHICH APPEARED ON THEM AND ON NEARBY FOLIAGE. THE DROPS DRIED VERY QUICKLY DESPITE A LIGHT MIST WHICH WAS FALLING.

3. MEDICAL SIGNS/SYMPTOMS: THE YOUNGER HMONG (22 YEARS OF AGE) LOOKED HEALTHY AND ALERT AND PROVIDED MOST OF THE INFORMATION OBTAINED. THE OLDER HMONG (28 YEARS OF AGE) APPEARED TO BE SLIGHTLY ICTERIC, WAXY, ANEMIC, EDEMATOUS OF LEGS AND ABDOMEN AND MENTALLY DULL IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS. BOTH VICTIMS SUFFERED CHEST PAIN, VIOLENT COUGHING WITH PINK MUCUS, SORE THROAT WITH A SWOLLEN FEELING INSIDE, DYSPNEA, NASAL CONGESTION, VISUAL DISTURBANCE ("THINGS LOOKED DARK"), A DRUNKEN SENSATION, HEMO-DIARRHEA, HEARNESS, ANOREXIA AND ABDOMINAL PAIN. THE OLDER VICTIM, WHO APPEARED TO BE THE SICKER OF THE TWO, ALSO SUFFERED LOWER LEG AND PEDAL EDEMA, ABDOMINAL DISTENTION, FACIAL EDEMA, MILD ICTERUS AND A DULL MENTUM. NEITHER REPORTED NAUSEA OR VOMITING. THE TWO COMPLAINED OF CONTINUING SIGNS/SYMPTOMS AS FOLLOWS: WEAKNESS, ANOREXIA, HEADACHE AND NASAL CONGESTION. THE OLDER HMONG STILL EXHIBITED EDEMA AND ABDOMINAL DISTENTION AND DULL MENTUM NOTED ABOVE, AND COMPLAINED OF A PINK STOOL. INITIAL LAB RESULTS FROM BAN VI MAY CAMP HOSPITAL ARE AS FOLLOWS:
22-YEAR-OLD HMONG: BLOOD: WBC-8,300; HCT 42; DIFF: S-59, L-36, E-10, M-2. URINE: PH-6.0; PROT-1 PLUS; SUGAR-NEG; WBC 3-6/HPF; RBC 0-1/HPF; BACT PLUS WITH SOME AMORPHOUS URATES. LAB RESULTS ON THE 28-YEAR-OLD HMONG: BLOOD: WBC-8,750; HCT-18.5 (REPEAT) 18.5;
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DIFF S-38; L-62. NEGATIVE MALARIA SHEAR WITH ADEQUATE PLATELETS. SHEAR SHOWED RED/RED MICROCYTIC HYPOCHROMAIC ANEMIA WITH MODERATE POIKILO AND ANISOCYTES. THERE WERE SOME OVALOCYTES AND TARGET CELLS. TEST SHOWED 3 NRBC'S PER 100 RBC'S. URINE: PH-6.0; PROT PLUS 1; SUGAR NEG; WBC'S 2-4/HPF; RBC 0; BACT PLUS 2. THERE WAS AMORPHOUS MATERIAL WITH SOME URATES.

4. MEDICAL SIGNS/SYMPTOMS OBSERVED BY VICTIMS: THE

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SIX-MAN PATROL REACHED A NEARBY VILLAGE OF BAN PHA NGUM SHORTLY AFTER THE ATTACK. MOST OF THE CIRCA 100 INHABITANTS WERE ILL AS A RESULT OF THE ATTACK. THERE WERE FOUR DEATHS IN THE VILLAGE, THREE MALES AGED 17, 18 AND 30 AND ONE WOMAN ABOUT 30 YEARS OF AGE. THE ONLY SIGN/SYMPTOM NOTED AMONG THE VILLAGERS WAS HEMODIARRHEA.

5. EFFECT ON PLANTS AND ANIMALS: PIGS AND CHICKENS DIED BUT MOST OTHER ANIMALS SURVIVED, E.G. CATTLE, HORSES, CATS AND DOGS. HMONG WERE NOT CLEAR ON THIS INFORMATION AND OFFERED NO INFORMATION REGARDING THE EFFECT ON PLANTS.

6. RESIDUE SAMPLE (SPOTS ON LEAVES) COLLECTED FOLLOWING THE ATTACK IS BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT FOR EA/VLK, DETAILS TO FOLLOW SEPTEL.

7. HEPARINIZED AND CLOTTED BLOOD SAMPLES WERE DRAWN AND REFRIGERATED FROM BOTH VICTIMS AND FROM TWO YOUNG MALE HMONG CONTROLS (AGES 19 AND 20). NEITHER OF THE CONTROLS WERE EVER EXPOSED TO CBW TO THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND BOTH ARE IN GOOD HEALTH WITH NO HISTORY OF MALARIA OR JAUNDICE. THE SAMPLES, TWO TUBES EACH FROM THE TWO VICTIMS AND TWO CONTROLS, ARE CONTAINED IN POUCH NO. GT-1972, CARRIED ABOARD
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PANAM 001, TO BE TRANSFERRED TO PANAM 107 IN LONDON ARRIVING AT DULLES INTERNATIONAL AT 1545, JUNE 21, AIRWAY BILL NO. 02602685406. THE POUCH IS ADDRESSED TO GENE HENDERSON (DI-1A, DIA) AND R. PORTER (EA/VLK).

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