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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREL, MCAP, UN, VN, CB

SUBJECT: DK CHARGES VIETNAMESE USE CHEMICAL WEAPONS

1. (U) AT THE REQUEST OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA, THE UN HAS CIRCULATED AS DOCUMENT A/42/222 AND S/18822 (14 APRIL 1987) AN APRIL 12 STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE CGDK FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNING VIETNAM'S "GENOCIDAL CRIMES" IN USING "POISONOUS CHEMICALS" AGAINST CAMBODIAN CIVILIANS. THE STATEMENT CHARGES THAT IN MARCH 1987 VIETNAM ORDERED ITS "SECRET UNITS SURREPTITIOUSLY TO PUT POISONOUS CHEMICALS INTO WATER SOURCES USED BY THE KAMPUCHEAN POPULATION. SUBSEQUENTLY, A GREAT NUMBER OF KAMPUCHEAN CIVILIANS HAVE DIED OR (WERE) SERIOUSLY POISONED."

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2. (U) THE CGDK STATEMENT CITES THE FOLLOWING REPORTS RECEIVED OF VIETNAMESE USE OF POISONOUS CHEMICALS:
-- ON MARCH 10, IN THE COMMUNES OF SOM AND TA AUR, DISTRICT OF KIRIVONG, TAKEO PROVINCE, 800 CIVILIANS DIED

AND ANOTHER 130 WERE SERIOUSLY POISONED.

-- ON MARCH 12, IN THE VILLAGE OF DAMNAK TRAYOEUNG, COMMUNE OF KHCHEAY, DISTRICT OF TOLK MEAS, KAMPOT PROVINCE, 20 PEOPLE DIED AND MANY OTHERS WERE SERIOUSLY POISONED.

-- ON MARCH 13, IN THE MARKET OF THE DISTRICT SEAT OF TOLK MEAS, KAMPOT PROVINCE, 38 PEOPLE DIED AND MANY OTHERS WERE SERIOUSLY POISONED.

-- ON MARCH 28, IN THE COMMUNE OF DENG SALA, DISTRICT OF TOLK MEAS, KAMPOT PROVINCE, 34 PEOPLE DIED AND ANOTHER 130 WERE SERIOUSLY POISONED.

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