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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
MESSAGE CENTER

Yellow Rain

537
INCOMING
TELEGRAM

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EXDIS
DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS CINCPAC AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE
E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, PARM, ASEAN, VM, UR, LA, CB
SUBJECT: ASEAN AND CW USE
REF: STATE 270118

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. IN THE COURSE OF CONVERSATION WITH MFA SECRETARY GENERAL ZAKARIA MARCH 16, AMBASSADOR PALMER NOTED ASSISTANT SECRETARY WOLFOWITZ'S STRONG INTEREST IN THE POSITION OF THE ASEAN COUNTRIES TOWARD THE INHUMANE USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS FOR THE SOVIETS AND VIETNAMESE (STATE 70118). ZAKARIA SAID THIS IS NOT AN ISSUE THAT HAS SURFACED IN SHARP FOCUS FOR THE ASEAN COUNTRIES. WHETHER CW IS BEING USED IN KAMPUCHEA OR ELSEWHERE, HE SAID AFTER A MOMENTS THOUGHT, IT IS A PRIMARILY GLOBAL PROBLEM RATHER THAN A REGIONAL ONE, AS IT IS A VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. IN REGIONAL TERMS, WHATEVER THE VIETNAMESE DO IN THE COURSE OF THEIR OCCUPATION OF KAMPUCHEA IS UNACCEPTABLE. THE WITHDRAWAL OF VIETNAMESE FORCES FROM KAMPUCHEA WOULD SOLVE A LOT OF PROBLEMS. WE WILL ALSO RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AND OTHER OFFICIALS. PALMER
BT

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BY CJ NARA DATE 8/20/06

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