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SINCE DECEMBER 1980, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THE UNITED NATIONS AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN CALLING ATTENTION TO CHEMICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS USE AND BRINGING SUBSTANTIAL INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE TO BEAR ON THE USERS TO CEASE SUCH ACTIVITIES. ALTHOUGH CURRENT EVIDENCE INDICATES A DECREASE IN THE USE OF TOXIC WEAPONS, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST PERSEVERE IN ITS

EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A FULL AND PERMANENT CESSATION, PERMANENTLY ENDING THE USE OF THESE WEAPONS IN AFGHANISTAN

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AND SOUTHEAST ASIA, HOWEVER, IS ONLY ONE OF OUR GOALS. IN ADDITION, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR STRENGTHENING RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR ACHIEVING A COMPLETE AND VERIFIABLE BAN ON ALL CHEMICAL WEAPONS THROUGH THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT IN GENEVA.

SECRETARY OF STATE SHULTZ EXPRESSED THE CONCERNS OF THE UNITED STATES IN HIS LETTER OF SUBMISSION FOR OUR NOVEMBER 1982 REPORT:

"THE USE OF CHEMICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS MUST BE STOPPED. RESPECT FOR EXISTING AGREEMENTS MUST BE RESTORED AND THE AGREEMENTS THEMSELVES STRENGTHENED. FAILURE TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS CAN ONLY HAVE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SECURITY OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY FOR THE SECURITY OF SMALLER NATIONS, LIKE THOSE WHOSE PEOPLE ARE BEING ATTACKED."

ACCORDINGLY, THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION AND SHARE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS WHAT FURTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION IT MAY ACQUIRE ON PROHIBITED USE OF TOXIC WEAPONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT NEGLECT TO MONITOR OTHER AREAS IN THE WORLD WHERE PROHIBITED USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS HAS BEEN ALLEGED. THE UNITED STATES NOTES WITH DEEP CONCERN REPORTS THAT CHEMICAL WEAPONS HAVE BEEN USED IN THE UNFORTUNATE ONGOING CONFLICT BETWEEN IRAQ AND IRAN -- BOTH PARTIES TO THE 1925 GENEVA PROTOCOL. SUCH USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS WOULD CONSTITUTE YET ANOTHER SERIOUS BREACH OF THE PROTOCOL, AND RELATED RULES OF CUSTOMARY INTERNATIONAL

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PREVIOUS SUBMISSIONS, WITH AERIAL SPRAY OCCURRING MOST OFTEN.

KAMPUCHEA: THE NUMBER OF REPORTS OF TOXIC ATTACKS IN 1983 IS CLOSE TO FIFTY PERCENT GREATER THAN THE NUMBER IN 1982. BASED ON ANALYSIS OF THESE REPORTS TO DATE, HOWEVER, IT AP THAT THE LEVEL OF USE OF TOXIC WEAPONS HAS NOT INCREASED, BUT REMAINED ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS IN 1982. WE BELIEVE THAT THE INCREASE IN REPORTS IS DUE IN PART TO BETTER MONITORING OF THE KAMPUCHEA-THAILAND BORDER AREA WHERE MOST OF THESE ATTACKS OCCURRED. THE NUMBER OF AGENT-RELATED DEATHS RESULTING FROM ATTACKS IN 1983 ALSO APPEARS TO HAVE DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY FROM 1982 LEVELS. ON THE OTHER HAND, VICTIMS DID EXPERIENCE MORE SHORT--TERM, INCAPACITATING EFFECTS FROM WHICH THEY RECOVERED IN HOURS OR DAYS. THIS MAY BE INDICATIVE OF THE USE OF NON-LETHAL INCAPACITATING OR RIOT CONTROL AGENTS. AS WITH LAOS, 1983 REPORTS FOR KAMPUCHEA CONTAIN FAR FEWER DESCRIPTIONS OF TRICHOHECENE TOXIN TYPE EFFECTS THAN REPORTS FROM 1982 AND EARLIER YEARS. METHODS OF DELIVERY OF THE AGENTS WERE AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.

GENERAL NOTE: WITH REGARD TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND PHYSICAL SAMPLES FROM AFGHANISTAN, LAOS AND KAMPUCHEA, THE UNITED STATES HAS RECEIVED AND ANALYZED IN 1983 ONE BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE WHICH WAS CONFIRMED POSITIVE FOR TRICHOHECENE - TOXINS. THIS WAS A SAMPLE FROM A MARCH 1983 ATTACK IN KAMPUCHEA, REPORTED IN THE AUGUST 4, 1983 U.S.

SUBMISSION. CONFIRMATORY ANALYSIS FOR TRICHOHECENE TOXINS IS PENDING ON SEVERAL OTHER BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES FROM EARLY 1983 REPORTED TOXIC ATTACKS. THE UNITED STATES ALSO HAS A NUMBER OF 1983 SAMPLES UNDER ANALYSIS WHICH CONTAIN
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MAN-MADE TOXIC CHEMICALS AND ASSORTED SUBSTANCES OTHER THAN TRICHOHECENE TOXINS AND KNOWN CONVENTIONAL CHEMICAL AGENTS. THE PRECISE COMPOSITION OF THESE SUBSTANCES HAS NOT YET BEEN FULLY CHARACTERIZED. IN KEEPING WITH OUR PAST PRACTICE, THE UNITED STATES WILL REPORT ITS RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS WHEN THESE ANALYSES ARE COMPLETED. SIMILARLY, THE UNITED STATES WILL REPORT ANY CHANGES IN OUR OVERALL JUDGMENTS AND FINDINGS FOR 1983 AS ANALYSIS OF

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