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TAGS: MOPS, TH, LA,

SUBJECT: CBW SAMPLE TH-840306-1DL

1. THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED  
INTEL.

2. (U) SHIPPING INFORMATION: TO FOLLOW.

3. (U) PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: TH-840306-1DL IS A  
CLEAR, TRANSPARENT GLASS VIAL CONTAINING A DARK  
BROWN, MUDDY-LOOKING SUBSTANCE. THE TOP OF THE VIAL  
HAS BEEN CLOSED WITH PLASTIC SECURED BY AN ELASTIC  
BAND. THE VIAL HAS ILLEGIBLE LETTERING ON THE SIDE.  
ONLY ONE WORD CAN BE READ: "STERILE".

4. (U) DETAILS OF COLLECTION:

- A. (C) ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] A HMONG  
RESISTANCE GROUP LEADER, TH-840306-1DL WAS OBTAINED  
IN PHONE SA WANG (UG 1253), XAING KHOANG PROVINCE,  
LAOS SOMETIME DURING THE PERIOD 8-15 JANUARY 1984.  
THERE IS AN OLD AIRFIELD AT PHONE SA WANG AND THE  
RESISTANCE RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM UNKNOWN SOURCES  
THAT A CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENT WAS KEPT IN A LARGE  
BARREL IN AN UNDERGROUND BUNKER ABOUT 100 TO 200  
METERS FROM THE CENTER OF THE AIRFIELD.

(b)(6)

- (1) (C) [REDACTED] IN THE  
LAO GOVERNMENT FORCES, OBTAINED THE SAMPLE AND TURNED  
IT OVER TO AN UNNAMED RESISTANCE FIGHTER WHO IS STILL  
IN LAOS. THIS UNNAMED PERSON BROUGHT THE SAMPLE TO  
THE GROUP OF RESISTANCE LED BY [REDACTED] AND  
TURNED IT OVER TO THEM ON 15 JANUARY 1984.

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- (2) (C) [REDACTED] ALSO ON THE MORNING OF 15 JANUARY  
1984, [REDACTED] STATED HIS GROUP FOUND A BARREL  
THAT HAD BEEN DROPPED (LOCATION UNKNOWN) AND THAT  
SOME CHEMICAL WAS LEFT IN THE BARREL AND SPLASHED  
AROUND. SOME OF THE CHEMICAL FROM THE BARREL WAS  
THEN COMBINED WITH THE SAMPLE TAKEN FROM PHONE SA  
WANG IN THE SAME VIAL. THE COMBINED SAMPLE WAS  
CARRIED BY THE GROUP TO THE MEKONG RIVER WHERE IT WAS  
GIVEN TO YANG TOU, A JUDIE WORKER, AT THE RIVER.

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UNQUOTE WHO SERVES AS A GO BETWEEN THE RIVER AND BAN VINAI REFUGEE CAMP.

9. (U) ACCORDING TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BROUGHT THE SAMPLE TO [REDACTED] AND TURNED IT OVER TO HIM ON 5 MARCH 1984.

- C. (C) [REDACTED] TURNED THE SAMPLE OVER TO THE CHEMICAL OFFICER ASSIGNED TO THIS POST'S CBW TEAM ON 6 MARCH 1984. SAMPLE WAS PLACED INTO A LARGER, OPAQUE GLASS JAR WITH A PLASTIC SCREW TOP. TISSUE PAPER WAS USED AS PACKING AROUND THE VIAL. THE SAMPLE WAS THEN REFRIGERATED AND HAS REMAINED REFRIGERATED SINCE.

5. (U) SYMPTOMOLOGY: THE RESISTANCE FIGHTER WHO CARRIED THE SAMPLE OUT OF LAOS COMPLAINED OF BEING SICK AS DID FOUR OTHER PERSONS IN THE SAME GROUP. NO OTHER DETAILS WERE OBTAINED.

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SUBJECT: CBW SAMPLE TH-840306-1DL

6. (U) THIS SAMPLE HAS NOT BEEN SHARED WITH ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT OR AGENCY.

7. (U) OTHER DETAILS:

A. (U) THE GROUP THAT BROUGHT THE SAMPLE OUT OF LAOS CONSISTED OF EIGHT HMONG MALES:

- [ ] 32. LEADER, SAW BARREL ON 15 JANUARY.
- [ ] 30. SICK
- [ ] 23. SICK
- [ ] 22. SICK
- [ ] 20. SICK
- [ ] 28. SICK, CARRIED SAMPLE. SAW BARREL ON 15 JANUARY.
- [ ] 32
- [ ] 22

ALL (b)(6)

B. (C) [ ] THE LAO ARMY OFFICER WHO OBTAINED THE SAMPLE FROM THE AIRFIELD WAS ALSO SAID TO BE A COMMANDER OF AN UNKNOWN MILITARY UNIT, A MEDICAL DOCTOR TRAINED IN THE SOVIET UNION, AND 30 YEARS AGO WAS A PATHET LAO SERGEANT. [ ] CLAIMED THAT HE [ ] IS RELIABLE. [ ] REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THIS SAMPLE IS 100 PER CENT "CHEMIE".

C. (U) [ ] STATED THAT THIS CHEMICAL IS DELIVERED BY DROPPING WHOLE BARRELS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL

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CHEMICAL BY JET AIRPLANE . HE HEARD A JET AIRCRAFT ABOUT MIDNIGHT ON 14 JANUARY 1984. THE BARREL IS LOADED INTO THE BODY OF THE AIRCRAFT WHERE THERE IS A SPECIAL MECHANISM TO RELEASE THE BARREL SO NO HUMAN RELEASE IS NEEDED. A LID IS REMOVED FROM THE BARREL BEFORE IT IS DROPPED SO THE CHEMICAL WILL SPREAD.

[ ] CLAIMED THAT IT IS DROPPED BY THE SAME METHOD THE U.S. USED TO DROP RICE DURING THE WAR. THAT IS, OUT OF THE BODY OF THE AIRCRAFT.

D. (U) THE BARREL WHICH CONTAINED THE CHEMICAL

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AND WHICH IS NOW IN THE POSSESSION OF THE RESISTANCE IN LAOS IS ABOUT ONE METER IN DIAMETER AND ONE METER IN LENGTH. IT HAS A LID AT BOTH ENDS.

- E. (U) USDAO, BANGKOK, HAS STATED THAT THIS INFORMATION IS IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE FOLLOWING CIR'S: C-JT2-40404/U-UPH-42715.

B. (U) COMMENT:

- A. (U) APPOINTMENTS WERE MADE WITH THE GROUP FOR INDEPTH INTERVIEWS AND BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COLLECTION ON 7 MARCH 1984. HOWEVER THE GROUP FAILED TO APPEAR. THOSE WHO WERE SICK ALSO FAILED TO APPEAR FOR EXAMINATION AT THE CAMP HOSPITAL SCHEDULED THAT SAME DAY. [ ] CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE GROUP'S LOCATION, ONLY THAT THEY HAD LEFT CAMP.

- B. (U) NO FURTHER DETAILS OF THE 15 JANUARY 1984 ATTACK ARE AVAILABLE SINCE THE GROUP WAS NOT

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AVAILABLE FOR FURTHER INTERVIEWS.

- C. (U) THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS RELATED BY ONLY THE LEADER OF THE GROUP, UNCORROBORATED BY OTHER GROUP MEMBERS. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THIS METHOD OF DELIVERY HAS BEEN REPORTED. IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE AN INACCURATE AND INEFFICIENT MEANS OF DISPERSION. ADDITIONALLY, DROPPING A BARREL FROM A JET AIRCRAFT APPEARS TO BE UNREALISTIC. ~~C~~ CREDENTIALS ALSO APPEAR TO BE INFLATED AND INCONSISTENT. DEAN

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