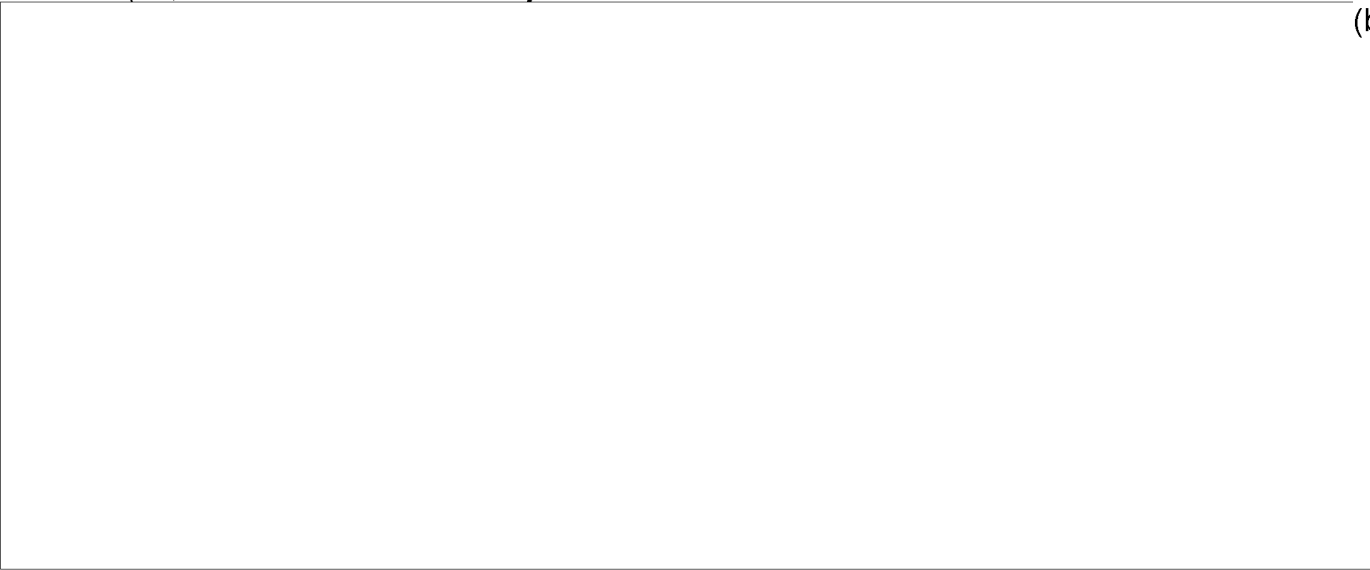


~~SECRET~~



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TOT: 162041Z OCT 87



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CONTROLS

~~SECRET~~ NOFORN NOCONTRACT WNINTEL
162041Z

(b)(3)

TO: DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE//FOR INR, DIA, TREASURY DEPT,
WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, ZEN/CIA OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS,
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI, CDRWESTCOM FT SHAFTER HI, COMIPAC HONOLULU HI,
CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI, CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI, FOSIF/WESTPAC,
COMSEVENTHFLT.

SERIAL: 
BODY

PASS: 

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~--WNINTEL--NOFORN--NOCONTRACT

DIST: 16 OCTOBER 1987

COUNTRY: LAOS/VIETNAM

SUBJ: ACCIDENTAL DETONATION OF A CHEMICAL WARHEAD BY
LAO SOLDIERS; REPORTED LARGE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES
AMONG LAO AND VIETNAMESE TROOPS

DOI: 
SOURCE:

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

TEXT:  A WEAPONS INSPECTION TEAM OF THE LAO

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

~~SECRET~~

NOFORN NOCONTRACT WNINTEL

SM
SANWAKA (b)(3)
STUFF (b)(3)
MG (b)(3)
39482

SECRET

NOFORN

NOCONTRACT

WNINTEL

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PEOPLE'S ARMY (LPA) INSPECTED SOME AMMUNITION STORED IN OUTHOUMPHONG DISTRICT, SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE, AND FOUND AN OLD STOCKPILE OF SEVEN OR EIGHT B-41 ROCKET SHELLS. THE TEAM MARKED THE SHELLS FOR DESTRUCTION, APPARENTLY WITHOUT REALIZING THAT THE ROUNDS WERE ARMED WITH CHEMICAL WARHEADS. AFTER THE TEAM DEPARTED, AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF LPA SOLDIERS STATIONED AT THE AMMUNITION STORAGE SITE ATTEMPTED TO EXTRACT THE EXPLOSIVE CHARGE FROM ONE OF THE SHELLS TO USE FOR FISHING, WHEN THE ROUND ACCIDENTALLY EXPLODED. THE INCIDENT REPORTEDLY CAUSED THE DEATH OF ABOUT 150 LPA AND PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM SOLDIERS AND 50 CIVILIANS IN THE SURROUNDING AREA. TWENTY SOVIET ADVISORS ARRIVED LATER TO BEGIN TO DECONTAMINATE THE AFFECTED AREA. COMMENT: NO INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED AS TO WHETHER THE CASUALTIES WERE ATTRIBUTED TO THE EXPLOSION OR TO THE CHEMICAL CONTAINED IN THE SHELLS.)

See
 (b)(1)(b)(3)
 (b)(3)
 for info on
 20 (b)(1) et
 (b)(3) advisors

ADMIN

[Redacted]

WARNING: REPORT CLASS S E C R E T--WARNING NOTICE--INTELLIGENCE SOURCES OR METHODS INVOLVED--NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS--NOT RELEASABLE TO CONTRACTORS/CONSULTANTS.

[Redacted]

ALL PORTIONS

(b)(3)

CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.>

[Redacted]

NNNNEND OF MESSAGE

SECRET

(b)(3)

SECRET

NOFORN

NOCONTRACT

WNINTEL