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Intelligence Information Cable

IN 3622575A  
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FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT.

STATE/INR JCS/MC(DIA) CIA/NMCC  
SWS NSA TREAS OCO  
(HARD COPIES TO: NSC/S NFAC WHSITRM OCR).

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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

REPORT CLASS ~~S E C R E T~~/WNINTEL--NOFORN

CITE [REDACTED]  
DIST 03 JAN 80

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COUNTRY LAOS

SUBJECT CONTINUED USE OF CHEMICAL WARFARE WEAPONS AGAINST HMONG  
RESISTANCE AND TRIBAL ELEMENTS IN THE LAO PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC [REDACTED]

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

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1. [REDACTED] COMMENT: A NUMBER OF REPORTS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES,

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[REDACTED] HAVE

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NOTED THAT THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES IN THE LAO PEOPLE'S  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (LPDR) HAVE FOR SOME TIME BEEN USING CHEMICAL  
WARFARE (CW) WEAPONS AGAINST THE HMONG RESISTANCE AND TRIBAL ELEMENTS.  
THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS FROM HMONG REFUGEES SHOWS THAT DESPITE  
DISCLOSURES IN THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIA, THE LPDR AND  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV) FORCES HAVE CONTINUED TO USE CW  
WEAPONS IN THE LPDR.)

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2. IN MID-LATE

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WARNING NOTICE  
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

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AUGUST 1979, HONG REFUGEE [REDACTED] THEN  
A RESIDENT OF BAN NA LUANG (TF6891), WAS VISITING MUANG CHA (TF9991)  
LPDR AND OBSERVED A

"JET AIRPLANE" FLY OVER MUANG CHA, MAKE ONE CIRCLE, AND THEN DESCEND  
TO AN ALTITUDE OF AROUND 1,000 TO 1,500 FEET. THE PLANE APPROACH-  
ED MUANG CHA FROM THE WEST FLYING OVER BAN SUN (TF5993), BAN NA XOU  
(TF5794), AND BAN NAM MOH (TF8187) BEFORE IT BEGAN DISPENSING A  
"LIGHT-YELLOW SMOKE." THE SPRAY WAS DROPPED OVER MUANG CHA, MUANG  
OM (UF1395), AND OTHER PLACES SITUATED IN THE FOOTHILL AREA OF PHOU  
BIA (UF0699). AFTER COMPLETING ITS RUN, THE AIRCRAFT FLEW EAST FROM  
MUANG CHA. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] DESCRIBED THE JET AIRPLANE AS  
HAVING NO PROPELLER AND MAKING A SOUND MUCH DIFFERENT THAN THAT OF A  
U.S. MANUFACTURED PHANTOM JET WHICH HE WAS FAMILIAR WITH. HE SAID HE  
HAD NEVER SEEN THAT PARTICULAR TYPE OF JET AIRCRAFT BEFORE AND FROM  
CONVERSATIONS WITH HIS FRIENDS HE BELIEVED THE AIRPLANE WAS  
"SOVIET MADE.)

3. [REDACTED] SAID THE EFFECTS OF THE CW AGENT ON  
THE INHABITANTS IN THE AREA BEGAN TO SHOW WITHIN AN HOUR AFTER CON-  
TAMINATION. OVER THE NEXT TWO DAYS 74 PERSONS LIVING IN THE  
VILLAGES OF BAN NONG SAVANG (NCA), BAN KHI XANG (NCA), AND BAN NAM  
CHA (TF9990) DIED FROM EXPOSURE TO THE CHEMICAL, AS WELL AS LARGE  
NUMBERS OF LIVESTOCK. [REDACTED] NOTED THAT THE EFFECT OF THE CW AGENT  
ON VEGETATION BECAME NOTICEABLE ABOUT ONE WEEK AFTER THE INCIDENT  
WHEN THE THATCH GRASS AND SOME OTHER VARIETIES OF LONG LEAF GRASSES

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IN 1622575A [redacted]

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IN ABOUT SIX OR SEVEN LOCATIONS, EACH LOCATION ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT 100 SQUARE METERS, BEGAN TO WITHER AND DIE. HE SAID THE GRASSES APPEARED DRY AND TO HAVE BEEN SCORCHED BY SCALDING HOT WATER.

4. [redacted] WHO EXPERIENCED THE EFFECTS OF THE CW AGENT, DESCRIBED THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS FROM HIS EXPOSURE. [redacted] COMMENT: [redacted]

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[redacted] MAY NOT HAVE RECEIVED A LETHAL DOSE OF THE CHEMICAL. HE SAID THAT FOLLOWING THE INITIAL SYMPTOMS OF THE CW POISONING, ABOUT TWO DAYS AFTER THE INCIDENT, HE BEGAN IMMEDIATELY TO TREAT HIMSELF BY

TAKING DILUTED RAW OPIUM TWO TO THREE TIMES A DAY UNTIL HE BEGAN TO RECOVER.) [redacted] SAID HIS EYES BECAME INFLAMED (ON THE ORDER OF CONJUNCTIVITIS), SUFFERED FROM A SEVERE HEADACHE, HIGH FEVER, SORE THROAT AND DIFFICULTY IN BREATHING. HE ALSO EXPERIENCED EXTREME

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CHEST PAINS AND AN INCREASE IN BODY TEMPERATURE FROM THE WAIST UP WHILE BELOW THE WAIST HE FELT COLDER. HIS LIPS BECAME DRY AND SPLIT OPEN. HE HAD NO TEARDROPS OR SALIVA; HOWEVER, HE WAS CONTINUALLY THIRSTY EVEN AFTER DRINKING SUFFICIENT LIQUID. [redacted] ALSO

EXPERIENCED VOMITING AND DIARRHEA. [redacted] COMMENT: [redacted] BELIEVED THAT THOSE AMONG PEOPLE WHO EVENTUALLY DIED FROM THE CW AGENT DID SO

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AS A RESULT OF AN INABILITY TO CONTROL VOMITING AND DIARRHEA. HE SAID THAT THOSE WHO SUFFERED ACUTE VOMITING AND BOWEL MOVEMENT WERE

THE ONES WHO LATER DIED. THERE WAS INSUFFICIENT SALINE SOLUTION TO TREAT THE ILL AND TO PREVENT DEHYDRATION.) [redacted] SAID HE ALSO

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EXPERIENCED THE FEELING OF BEING "INTOXICATED" AND DESCRIBED THIS SENSATION AS THAT FELT AFTER TAKING AN OVERDOSE OF THE ANTI-MALARIA

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[REDACTED]

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DRUG CHLOROQUINE, THAT IS HE SUFFERED FROM A STATE OF CONFUSION,  
DISORIENTATION, AND AN IMPAIRED EQUALIBRIUM.

5. ANOTHER HMONG REFUGEE [REDACTED] SAID THAT ON 12 JULY HE WAS  
LIVING AT BAN PHA HOUAI NOI (TF98893), XIENG KHOUANG PROVINCE, WHEN HE  
WITNESSED A SOVIET JET AIRCRAFT FLY FROM THE DIRECTION OF BAN SON AND  
MUANG CHA, MAKE A CIRCLE, AND THEN SPRAY A CW AGENT OVER THE VILLAGES  
OF BAN PHA HOUAI NOI, BAN THONG HAK (TF96889), BAN THONG KHEUN  
(TF9288), MUANG CHE, MUANG OM, THAM LO (UF0492), AND PHA PHAI  
(UG1619). [REDACTED] COMMENT: THESE VILLAGES ARE ALL LOCATED ALONG A

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ROADWAY AND MAY HAVE BEEN THE REASON FOR THE CW BEING USED TO RID  
THE AREA OF THE PEOPLE.) [REDACTED] SAID THAT IN HIS VILLAGE OF BAN HOUAI  
NOI OVER 100 PERSONS DIED WITHIN FOUR WEEKS AFTER BEING CONTAMINATED  
BY THE CW AGENT, AND ABOUT 500 CATTLE ALSO DIED. HE SAID HE HAD  
HEARD THAT OTHER DEATHS HAD OCCURRED IN THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES  
BUT HE DID NOT KNOW THE NUMBER. HOWEVER, [REDACTED] DID CONFIRM THAT HE

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ALSO HAD HEARD OF THE CW ATTACK ON MUANG CHA IN AUGUST [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] WAS NOT  
ABLE TO PROVIDE DETAILS ON SYMPTOMS OF THE CW AGENT BECAUSE HE WAS  
NOT CONTAMINATED.)

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6. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] IN

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LATE OCTOBER 1979, A LAO RESISTANCE FORCE OPERATING IN AN AREA NORTH  
OF DONGHEN /WD3246/ AND ALONG THE PHOU SANGHE MOUNTAIN RANGE WAS

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[Redacted]

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ATTACKED BY A TWIN-ENGINE, TWIN-TAILED AIRCRAFT FIRING CW ROCKETS.  
THE RUCKETS REPORTEDLY EXPLODED IN THE AIR AND DISPENSED A "WHITE  
AND PINK COLORED SMOKE" WHICH CAUSED DIZZINESS, NAUSEA, AND SKIN  
INFECTION. THIS IS THE FIRST REPORTED INCIDENT OF CW GAS BEING  
USED IN THE SOUTH LPDR.)

7.

[Redacted]

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(b)(3)1  
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8.

[Redacted]

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

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

ALL PORTIONS

CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

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