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	Intelligence Information Cable IN 4129517 FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CONTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT.	
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	THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE	
REPORT CL	ASS SECRETWNINTELNOFURNNOCONTRACTORCON	
	CITE DIST 04 APR 80	(b)(3)
COUNTRY	KAMPUCHEA/VIETNAM/THAILAND	•
SUBJECT	PAVN ATTACKS INCLUDING INCAPACITATING GAS	
	AGAINST KPNLP PUSITIONS NEAR THE KPNLF CENTRAL	
	REGION HEADQUARTERS AT SRUCH SRANG VILLAGE	(b)(1) ('(b)(1)
SOURCE		(b)(1) ^{b)(3)} (b)(3)
1.	ON 13 MARCH 1980, KHMER PEOPLE'S NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT	;
(KPNLF)	DEFENSIVE POSITIONS NEAR THE KPNLF'S CENTRAL REGION'S HEAD-	1
	AT SROCH SRANG VILLAGE (TA7553), KAMPUCHEA CAME UNDER HEAVY	
	A CHENENTE OF THE REORIETS ARMY OF VIFTNAM (PAVN) 752ND (AKA	

ATTACK BY ELEMENTS OF THE PEOPLE'S ARMY O 174TH) REGIMENT SUPPORTED BY FOUR 105MM HOWITZERS. THE ATTACKS WERE CONCENTRATED IN THE VICINITY OF BANTEAY AMPIL WHICH IS ALONG THE KPNLF'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE AND IS APPROXIMATELY FIVE KILOMETERS EAST OF THE THAI/KAMPUCHEA BORDER.

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2. AT THE 1IME OF THE ATTACK, THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 4,000 KHMER

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WARNING NOTICE PAGE 002 UF 004 INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

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CIVILIAN PERSONNEL LIVING IN THE VILLAGE AND THE VILLAGE WAS DEFENDED BY ROUGHLY 1,500 KPNLF SULDIERS ORGANIZED INTO FOUR INFANTRY BATTALIONS. MANY OF THE CIVILIANS HAD RECENTLY MOVED TO THE VILLAGE FROM THE KHAO I DANG REFUGEE HOLDING AREA. PRIOR TO THE ATTACKS, THE KPNLF LEADERSHIP WAS PLANNING TO CREATE FOUR ADDITIONAL VILLAGES NEAR SROCH SRANG EACH OF WHICH WOULD CONSIST OF APPROXIMATELY 3,500 CIVILIANS TO BE RESETTLED FROM THE REFUGEE CAMPS IN THAILAND. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE TACTICAL SITUATION IN THE AREA THESE PLANS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED.

3. DURING THE FIGHTING THE KPNLF FORCES WERE ABLE TO HOLD THEIR POSITIONS AROUND BANTEAY AMPIL UNTIL 17 MARCH, BUT WERE FORCED TO WITHDRAW DUE TO A SHORTAGE OF AMMUNITION. DURING THE FIGHTING THE KPNLF CLAIMED THAT PAVN HAD USED AN INCAPACITATING GAS WHICH CAUSED THE KPNLF SOLDIERS TU BECOME WEAK AND DIZZY. THE GAS REPORTEDLY WAS DÉLIVERED BY 105MM ARTILLERY SHELLS AND WAS RELEASED IN THE FORM OF A DARK CLOUD WHEN THE ROUNDS EXPLODED. AS OF 22 MARCH THE SITUATION AROUND SROCH SRANG HAD STABILIZED BUT THE KPNLF DEFENSIVE POSITIONS WERE ONLY ONE AND A HALF KILOMETERS EAST OF THE BORDER. AS OF 24 MARCH, KPNLF CASUALTIES WERE ESTIMATED AT OVER 100 KILLED, WOUNDED OR MISSING; HOWEVER THESE FIGURES WERE NOT COMPLETE. PAVN CASUALTIES WERE ESTIMATED AT MORE THAN 200 KILLED.

4.

THE 752ND REGIMENT,

REINFURCED BY A 200-MAN BORDER SECURITY (CONG AN) COMPANY, HAD MOVED

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MARNING NOTICE

FURTHER DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THIS INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CUNTROLS STATED AT BEGINNING AND END OF REPORT

FROM ITS BASE AT SVAY CHER (TABI27) INTO THE AREA JUST PRIOR TO THE ATTACK. THE REGIMENT'S 4TH AND 6TH BATTALIUNS WERE THE PRINCIPAL UNITS INVOLVED IN THE FIGHTING WHILE THE REGIMENT'S STH BATTALION ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEFENSE OF BANTEAY AMPIL AFTER IT WAS CAPTURED. PRIOR TO THE ATTACK, THE 4TH BATTALION HAD A TOTAL STRENGTH OF 450 MEN AND THE REGIMENT'S 5TH AND 6TH BATTALIONS WERE ASSUMED TO BE OF EQUAL STRENGTH. FOUR 105MM HOWITZERS SUPPORTING THE ATTACK WERE DEPLOYED IN THE VICINITY OF KANDOL VILLAGE (UA1300).

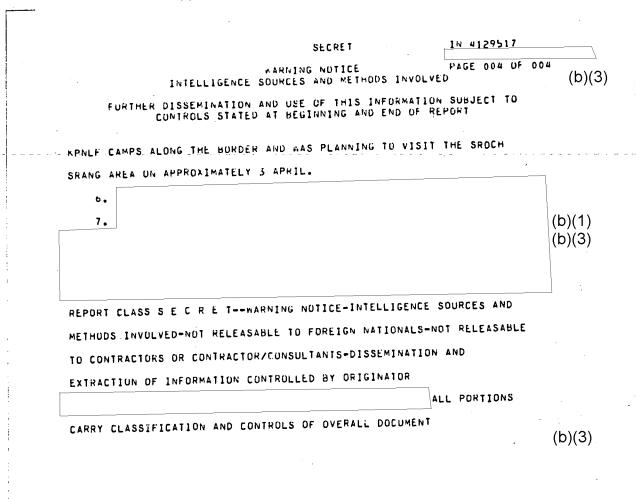
COMMENT:

NO MENTION OF ANY TOXIC AGENT BEING USED IN THE ATTACK.) FOLLOWING THE CAPTURE OF BANTEAY AMPIL, BOTH THE 4TH AND 6TH BATTALIONS WERE WITHDRAWN FROM THE AREA FOR REST. AS OF 17 MARCH, THE REGIMENT'S 4TH BATTALIUN HAD SUFFERED 40 KILLED IN THE FIGHTING.

5. THE KPNLF PLANNED TO HOLD A CUNFERENCE AT SRUCH SRANG VILLAGE ON 20 MARCH 1980 WHICH WAS TO BE ATTENDED BY KPNLF REPRESEN-TATIVES FROM BUTH INSIDE KAMPUCHEA AND FROM THAILAND. MANY OF THE REPRESENTATIVES FROM INSIDE KAMPUCHEA HAD ALREADY ARRIVED AT THE VILLAGE WHEN THE ATTACKS ON THE 13TH BEGAN AND AS A RESULT WERE AMONG THE CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WHO FLED INTO THAILAND. BECAUSE OF THE TACTICAL SITUATION IN THE AREA AND OTHER POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, THE CONFERENCE WAS POSTPONED INDEFINITELY. KPNLF CHAIRMAN S O N SANN HAD PLANNED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE BUT WAS UNABLE TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FRUM ROYAL THAI AUTHORITIES TO TRAVEL TO THE BORDER. HOWEVER, AS OF SO MARCH, SON SAND HAD RECEIVED PERMISSION TO VISIT ALL

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