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~~SECRET~~ NOFORN \*NINTEL

161503Z

TO: DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE, DIA, TREASURY DEPT, ZEN/USTR,  
ZEN/AGRICULTURE, ZEN/COMMERCE, ZEN/FRB,  
ZEN/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, ZEN/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
STAFF, ZEN/CIA OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS,  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI, CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI, CDRWESTCOM FT  
SHAFTER HI, COMIPAC HONOLULU HI, CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI,  
COMSEVENTHFLT, 13AF CLARK AB PI.

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*PM*

*Kampuchea -  
humint*

NSA FOR ZKZK OD DLS DE (FOR NSOC); STATE FOR INR; DIA FOR  
DIA, SWS, CIA/NMCC;  
13AF FOR DOI

[Redacted]

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~--\*NINTEL--NOFORN

COUNTRY: KAMPUCHEA/VIETNAM/UNITED NATIONS

SUBJECT: RUMORS OF SPREAD OF TOXIC CHEMICALS BY PAVN; DIVERSION  
OF INTERNATIONAL AID TO FEED PAVN TROOPS IN KAMPUCHEA;  
INFLUX OF VIETNAMESE CIVILIAN REFUGEES INTO KAMPUCHEA  
BECAUSE OF SHORTAGE OF FOOD IN THE SRV

SOURCE :

[Redacted]

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1. IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 1981 RUMORS CIRCULATED IN  
PHNOM PENH, KUMPONG SOM, PREY VENG, KOMPONG CHAM AND KOMPONG THOM  
OF DEATHS OF KAMPUCHEAN RESIDENTS RESULTING FROM TOXIC CHEMICAL  
POISONS DELIBERATELY PLACED IN FOODSTUFFS SOLD IN MARKETS AND  
RESTAURANTS. INDIVIDUALS ARRESTED FOR SPREADING THE TOXIC  
CHEMICALS WERE RUMORED TO BE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV)

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CITIZENS FROM BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM WHO HAD BEEN HIRED BY SRV AUTHORITIES. [Redacted] COMMENT: THE RUMORS OF FOOD POISONING HAVE BEEN REPORTED ELSEWHERE AND MAY STEM FROM AN AGENCE FRANCE PRESS DISPATCH ATTRIBUTED TO DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA (DK) SOURCES THAT 110 PERSONS HAD DIED INSTANTANEOUSLY ON 15 OCTOBER AT TRAPEANG CHONG AND PURSAT MARKETS AFTER EATING FOOD PURCHASED FROM VIETNAMESE. RADIO PHNOM PENH ANNOUNCED A 3 NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS AREA TO CONDEMN THE DISPATCH.)

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2. RECOGNIZING THE DAMAGING EFFECT THE RUMORS WERE CAUSING, THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA (PRK) GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTED TO PROHIBIT ANY DISCUSSION OF THE MATTER. PERSONS WHO DISOBEYED THE LAW WERE ARRESTED AND ACCUSED OF BEING SPIES OR TOOLS OF THE ENEMY'S PROPAGANDA AND LIABLE TO BE CONDEMNED TO DEATH. [Redacted] COMMENT: SRV CONTROL IS FIRM IN PHNOM PENH AND THE ARBITRARY ARREST OF KAMPUCHEANS DOES TAKES PLACE.

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3. AN OFFICIAL OF THE PRK COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT STATED IN EARLY NOVEMBER THAT APPROXIMATELY TWO-THIRDS OF ALL FOREIGN HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN FUND AID INTENDED FOR THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE WAS BEING DIVERTED BY THE SRV TO FEED PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN) TROOPS STATIONED IN KAMPUCHEA AND THAT ONLY ONE-THIRD EVER REACHED THE PEOPLE. THIS DIVERSION OF AID HAS CREATED HARDSHIPS FOR THE PEOPLE AND, COUPLED WITH THE RUMORS OF SRV PLANTING OF TOXIC CHEMICALS, HAD BEGUN TO AROUSE FEELINGS OF HATRED AMONG THE PEOPLE.

[Redacted] COMMENT: THIS JUDGEMENT ON DIVERSION IS PROBABLY BASED ON RUMOR.)

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4. THERE IS AN ALMOST DAILY INFUX OF VIETNAMESE CIVILIAN REFUGEES INTO KAMPUCHEA. ONE OF THESE, A FEMALE REFUGEE, SAID IN EARLY NOVEMBER 1981 THAT VIETNAMESE ARE LEAVING THE SRV AND GOING TO KAMPUCHEA BECAUSE OF THE EXTREME DIFFICULTY OF MAKING A LIVING IN THE SRV. THE WOMAN STATED THAT MANY VIETNAMESE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT OR ADEQUATE CLOTHING. MANY CANNOT OBTAIN ANYTHING BETTER TO EAT THAN RICE GRUEL. THE PEOPLE ARE DREADING AN EVEN MORE SEVERE SHORTAGE OF FOOD AND MORE MISERABLE LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE FUTURE. [Redacted]

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

[Redacted] CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOUCMENT.

ALL PORTIONS CARRY

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END OF MESSAGE

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