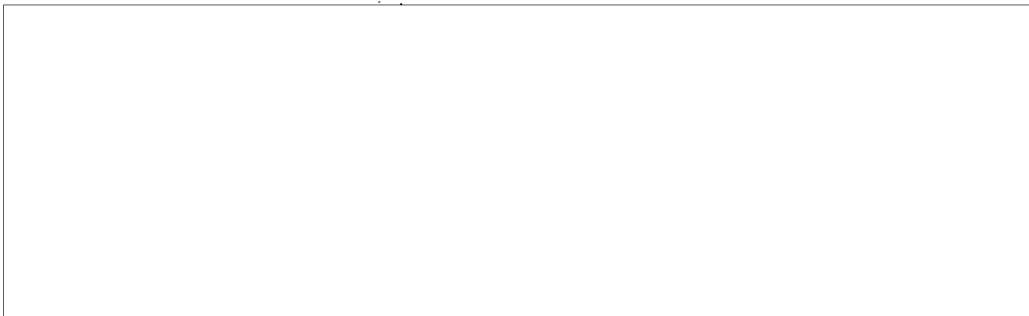


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~~SECRET~~ NOFORN NOCONTRACT ORCON WNINTEL  
030138Z [redacted]  
TO: DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE, DIA, TREASURY DEPT,  
ZEN/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, ZEN/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
STAFF, ZEN/CIA OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS.

DB

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NSA FOR ZKZK DO DLS DE (FOR NSOC); STATE FOR INR; DIA FOR DIA,  
SWS, CIA/NMCC



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Kampuchea (b)(3)  
~~Vietnam~~  
~~Thailand~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

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

COUNTRY: KAMPUCHEA/VIETNAM/THAILAND

SUBJECT: [redacted] PAVN

ATTACK ON SOK SANN; CHEMICAL WARFARE ATTACK; [redacted]

SOURCE :

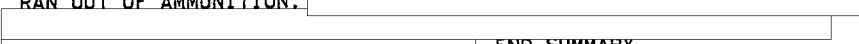


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SUMMARY:



CLASHES BETWEEN PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN) AND KPNLF  
TROOPS DURING MARCH CULMINATED IN THE MAJOR PAVN ATTACK ON 17 MARCH.  
THE SOK SANN CAMP WAS SHELLED AND SPRAYED FROM THE AIR WITH A YELLOW  
AND WHITE CHEMICAL POWDER WHICH CAUSED SERIOUS DEBILITATION.  
THE PAVN BURNED SOK SANN III AND IV DURING THE THIRD PHASE OF THE  
ATTACK. KPNLF TROOPS HELD THEIR POSITIONS LONG ENOUGH TO ENABLE  
AN ORDERLY CIVILIAN EVACUATION BUT RETREATED INTO THAILAND WHEN THEY  
RAN OUT OF AMMUNITION.

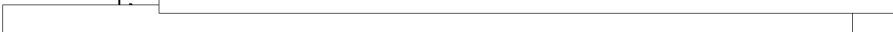


END SUMMARY.



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1.



CLASHES BETWEEN PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN) AND KPNLF TROOPS  
INCREASED IN EARLY MARCH IN THE TA SANH (TU 6793) AREA NORTHEAST  
OF THE SOK SANN DEFENSE PERIMETER. ON 6 MARCH, KPNLF CADRE FOUND  
A MAP ON THE BODY OF A DEAD PAVN OFFICER WHICH GAVE THE LOCATION  
OF SOK SANN I AND II AND THAT OF THE DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA (DK)  
POSITION ON PHNUM THOM (UNLOCATED) TO THE SOUTH OF SOK SANN  
PERIMETER BUT BORE NO INDICATIONS THAT THE PAVN WERE AWARE OF THE  
EXISTENCE OF SOK SANN III AND IV. LATER IN THE DAY OF THE 6TH,  
THE PAVN BEGAN PROBING ATTACKS AGAINST THE 20TH AND 40TH KPNLF  
BATTALIONS IN THE NORTHERN SECTOR OF THE SOK SANN PERIMETER FROM A  
BASE AT PHNUM REYE (TU 6384). UNITS OF BOTH KPNLF BATTALIONS  
WERE DISPATCHED TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF THE BUILD UP.

2. BEGINNING ON 7 MARCH AND SPORADICALLY UNTIL 13 MARCH,  
SOK SANN WAS SHELLED AND SPRAYED FROM THE AIR WITH BOTH YELLOW

AND WHITE CHEMICAL POWDER. THOSE WHO CAME IN CONTACT WITH THE  
POWDER SUFFERED FROM HEADACHE, DIARRHEA AND STOMACH CRAMPS AND HAD  
A CONTINUAL URGE TO VOMIT. THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT WAS SERIOUS  
DEBILITATION. COMMENT: THE KPNLF TROOPS HEARD PLANES

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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OVERHEAD BUT COULD NOT IDENTIFY THEM. IT HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED WHETHER ANYONE ACTUALLY DIED AS A RESULT OF EXPOSURE TO THE CHEMICAL.)

3. ON 15 MARCH THE KPRLF SPOTTED HEAVY PAVN FORCES SPREADING OUT IN SEVERAL COLUMNS FROM THE BASE AT PHNUM REYE. THE NIGHT OF 15 MARCH WAS ILLUMINATED BY NUMEROUS FLARES. ON 16 MARCH PAVN FORCES, SPEARHEADED BY UNITS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA (PRK) ARMY, REACHED THE MOUNTAINOUS AREA WHERE THE NORTHERN SECTOR OF THE SOK SANN DEFENSE PERIMETER IS LOCATED. FIGHTING GRADUALLY SPREAD FROM THE AREA DEFENDED BY THE 40TH KPRLF BATTALION TO THE ENTIRE NORTHERN PERIMETER.

4. ON 17 MARCH SHELLING OF THE SOK SANN PERIMETER AND OF SOK SANN I BEGAN. THE KPRLF TROOPS STARTED TO PULL BACK WHEN THEY RAN LOW ON AMMUNITION AND THE CIVILIAN POPULATION PANICKED AND FLED. THE KPRLF TROOPS HELD THEIR POSITION NORTH OF SOK SANN II LONG ENOUGH TO ALLOW AN ORDERLY EVACUATION OF THE POPULATION. PAVN REACHED THE OUTSKIRTS OF SOK SANN II WHICH WAS ALSO UNDER ARTILLERY FIRE BY 5 P.M. [REDACTED]

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5. ANOTHER PAVN ATTACK WAS DEVELOPING IN THE SOUTH AT THE SAME TIME AS THE NORTHERN ATTACK. THE PAVN DID NOT ASSAULT THE DK POSITION AT PHNOM THOM BUT INSTEAD, ONCE IT REACHED THE MOUNTAIN, SPLIT INTO TWO FORCES WHICH FELL ON THE KPRLF FORCES DEPLOYED NEAR SOK SANN III AND IV. THE PAVN LITERALLY STUMBLER BY ACCIDENT ON SON SANN III AND IV AND BURNED BOTH. [REDACTED]

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6. [REDACTED]

IT APPEARS

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THAT A NUMBER OF TANKS WERE USED ALTHOUGH THIS STILL HAS TO BE CONFIRMED. PAVN USED HELICOPTERS ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS ALTHOUGH IT HAS NOT YET BEEN ESTABLISHED WHETHER THEY WERE ACTUALLY USED TO CARRY TROOPS DIRECTLY TO THE COMBAT ZONE. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE SOK SANN COMPLEX IS LOCATED IN A MOUNTAINOUS JUNGLE AREA COVERED WITH TALL TREES WHICH LIMIT VISIBILITY.)

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7. [REDACTED]

HID THEIR WEAPONS AND WENT TO THE TEMPORARY CAMP SEVERAL KILOMETERS INSIDE THAILAND. CLOSE TO 7,000 SOK SANN VILLAGERS HAVE BEEN REGROUPED IN THIS CAMP WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE THAI AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] IT APPEARS HOWEVER THAT SMALL UNITS MAY STILL BE LOCATED SOME DISTANCE INSIDE KAMPUCHEA. THE 100 CADETS FROM BAN SA NGAIE SENT TO SOK SANN FOR GUERRILLA TRAINING ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL OF 1,042 BUT ARE CURRENTLY WITH [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE ANTI-SRV VIETNAMESE OF LE QUOC ((TUY'S)) ORGANIZATION TRAINING AT SOK SANN WERE SUCCESSFULLY EVACUATED AND ARE IN THAILAND. ALTHOUGH NO REPORT HAS BEEN MADE OF THE DAMAGE DONE AT SOK SANN. [REDACTED] LOST ONLY A FEW WEAPONS AND [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] A NUMBER OF THE SOLDIERS WHO REACHED THE THAI BORDER CARRIED SEVERAL WEAPONS. THE TWO 75MM RECOILLESS PIECES [REDACTED] WERE BROUGHT OUT AS WELL AS THE TRACTOR AND AMBULANCE PREVIOUSLY USED AT SOK SANN. KNOWN MILITARY CASUALTIES ARE SO FAR 10 DEAD AND 35 WOUNDED. ALTHOUGH THE OFFICIAL NUMBER OF CIVILIANS AT THE SOK SANN COMPLEX WAS GIVEN AS APPROXIMATELY 9,000, IT NOW APPEARS THAT THIS NUMBER MAY HAVE BEEN INFLATED TO OBTAIN MORE RELIEF. THE GENERAL BELIEF AT THE KPRLF HEADQUARTERS IS THAT

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MOST OF THE SOK SANN CIVILIAN POPULATION ARE SAFELY IN THAILAND.

[Redacted]

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THE KPRLF  
UNITS WERE ORDERED TO TRY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANY PAVN/DK HEAVY  
ENGAGEMENT TO STEAL DK WEAPONS.)

8.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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9.

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10.

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11.

12.

[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--NOT RELEASABLE  
TO CONTRACTORS/CONSULTANTS--DISSEMINATION AND EXTRACTION OF INFORMATION  
CONTROLLED BY ORIGINATOR.

[Redacted] ALL PORTIONS  
CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

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END OF MESSAGE

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