

4.0 Results

4.1 Evidence Suggesting That Chemical Warfare Agents Were Used

The first- and second-hand eye witness reports (see Appendix I) and the numerous reports on the alleged use of chemical warfare agents¹⁾, attest to the fact that "something is going on". Although one has to take into consideration the possibility of exaggeration in some of the refugee reports, and further that some of the "eye witness" reports may be fabrications under the influence of personal messages or radio broadcasts by the Khmer Rouge or Hmong leaders, one has to give serious attention to the apparently never-ending flow of reported incidents. It appears highly unlikely that the essentials of all the reports are products of imagination, fabrication or propaganda.

There is no indication of occurrence of diseases in Thailand which naturally affect, at the same time, all kinds of species such as humans, other mammals, birds or plants (see Appendix IV). Considering the geographic, climatic and general living conditions, this is probably also true for the surrounding countries. Therefore, it is highly improbable that the events reported by the refugees could be due to natural circumstances.

4.2 Types of Chemical or Biological Warfare Agents That May Have Been Used

4.2.1 Introduction

Although the principal investigator has certain reservations with respect to the categorization of the agents that have allegedly been used, a certain general consensus appears to be developing in that at least three different types of agents may have been employed:

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- 1) - First Canadian Submission to the Experts' Group through the Secretary General in March, 1981;
- Various US submissions to the UN;
 - Report of the Group of Experts to Investigate Reports of the Alleged Use of Chemical Weapons, A/36/613, 36th UN General Assembly, 20 Nov. 1981;
 - Seagrave, S. Yellow Rain. A Journey Through the Terror of Chemical Warfare. M. Evans & Co., New York, 1981.