

APPENDIX

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Afghanistan: The United States has received several reports of Soviet chemical attacks occurring in 1983 but, contrary to previous years, we have not yet been able to confirm these reports as valid, in accordance with our above mentioned standards. For 1982, on the other hand, the United States had strong evidence of several dozen chemical attacks in Afghanistan, resulting in over 300 agent-related deaths.

Laos: The number of reported toxic attacks in 1983 on which the United States has data is roughly the same as in previous years. While our analysis of these reports has not been completed, our preliminary judgement is that use of toxic agents has actually declined in 1983. Additionally, the number of agent-related deaths and cases of illness resulting from these 1983 attacks appears to be approximately one-third that for 1982. Some deaths associated with toxic attacks occurring in 1983 resulted from secondary effects, such as from eating contaminated animal products after an attack. In some cases, deaths occurred only among the infirm, perhaps caused by exposure to normally non-lethal agents or lethal agents in low concentrations. Additionally, descriptions of the 1983 incidents and medical effects, by victims, doctors and eyewitnesses differ from those of previous years. Fewer describe the rapid onset of nausea and vomiting, small blisters; severe irritation of the skin, severe bleeding syndromes, including protracted diarrhea; or vomiting of blood which were common in reports from earlier years. These symptoms, in the past, were associated with exposure to trichothecene toxins, as confirmed by sample analysis and examination of victims by doctors. Methods of delivery of the agents, however, were as reported in previous submissions, with aerial spray occurring most often.

Kampuchea: The number of reports of toxic attacks in 1983 is close to fifty percent greater than the number in 1982. Based on analysis of these reports to date, however, it appears that the level of use of toxic weapons has not increased, but remained essentially the same as in 1982. We believe that the increase in reports is due in part to better monitoring of the occurred. The number of agent-related deaths resulting from attacks in 1983 also appears to have decreased significantly from 1982 levels. On the other hand, victims did experience more short-term, incapacitating effects from which they recovered in hours or days. This may be indicative of the use of non-lethal incapacitating or riot control agents. As with Laos, 1983 reports for Kampuchea contain far fewer descriptions of trichothecene toxin type effects than reports from 1982 and earlier years. Methods of delivery of the agents were as previously reported.

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