

Possible Use of Chemical Warfare

Agents in Southeast Asia

Refugee Interviews at

Ban Vihai 5 May 1982

Executive Summary

1. These interviews are similar to earlier ones gathered during 1980 and 1981 and submitted to the United Nations in March 1981. The duration of time over which interviews have been taken (six years) and their consistency tends to substantiate the charges that some sort of chemical agent is being used in Southeast Asia.
2. During the interviews the usual difficulties of interpretation were encountered. As a result there are certain inconsistencies in the individual interviews. However when viewed as a whole the accounts are coherent.
3. While initial laboratory analysis of three blood samples showed a peak corresponding to HT-2 toxin, the presence of trichothecenes during later analysis stages could not be established.
4. Certain of the samples provided could not be used because of serious deterioration which took place due to the time element in transportation and to the packaging and handling techniques.
5. This report underlines the urgent requirement, to improve international verification and control procedures related to chemical and/or biological weapons use.