C112(A83)

## Proposal Abstract C112(A83)

1. Arms Control Problem: Chemical Weapons - use

## 2. Verification Type:

- (a) On-site inspection selective sampling
- (b) Non-physical/psychological inspection
- (c) Complaints procedure referral to Secretary General

## 3. Source:

Ezz, Esmat A. "International Investigation and Verification of Alleged Use of Chemical Weapons: Technical and Political Aspects." In Complaince and Confirmation: Political and Technical Problems in the Verification of Arms Control of Chemical Weapons and Outer Space, pp. 67-76. Edited by H. von Riekhoff. Ottawa: Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University, 1986.\*

## 4. Summary:

A proposal is set forth in this paper which outlines extensive procedures for conducting an investigation of the alleged use of chemical weapons. It begin with a brief history of such investigations, and notes that until recently, no provision was made in any treaty for the investigation or verification of chemical weapons use. The UN resolved in 1980 to perform an impartial investigation of alleged incidents, and a resolution was adopted in 1982 requesting the Secretary General to make provision for the systematic review of complaints.

Some of the difficulties which were encountered in the UN's first investigations are then discussed; foremost among these were the delays caused by administrative difficulties, the inaccessability of sites, and the lack of evidence from impartial sources. Such problems were significant in view of the fact that they prevented effective scientific analysis. Consequently, a thorough and detailed set of procedures is presented which might help to overcome these obstacles. These procedures include an enumeration of the fields from which experts should be selected: chemical and biological defence, clinical toxology, contagious diseases, various medical specialities and knowledge of ecology, chemistry and microbiology are all required. Specialized laboratories will also be required which provide all the requisite equipment and expertise.

Detailed specifications regarding the sampling process and the handling of samples themselves are also outlined. The investigative team should proceed as quickly as possible to the site where the

<sup>\*</sup> Proceedings of a conference held in 1983.