

Bangkok Post 5 January 1982

'Gas attack' on Khmer forces

VIETNAMESE troops used toxic gas against forces of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front in fighting north of Sisophon on Saturday, it was alleged yesterday.

The KPNLF said in a news release that two of its soldiers were killed and 21 wounded, four by toxic gas, in the fighting, which took place two kilometres southeast of Freay and lasted several hours.

Many Vietnamese soldiers had been killed or wounded in the engagement, the news release claimed.

On December 31, the KPNLF said, its troops made a hit-and-run attack on a Vietnamese position in Beng Ampil, five kilometres south of Ban Sa-ngae. The resistance forces, it said, got through minefields and set fire to three Vietnamese barracks blocks.

Two KPNLF soldiers died and 18 were wounded; the Viet-

namese casualties were heavier, it said.

Kampuchean resistance forces claim to have killed 36 Vietnamese in several such hit-and-run raids in the past 10 days.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk's Moulinaka group yesterday also reported clashes with Vietnamese forces along a resupply route. Reports from the border said the sounds of

small-arms fighting inside Kampuchea could be heard throughout the day, but there were no specific accounts of the encounter or of casualties.

A spokesman for the KPNLF in Bangkok, Madame Kaset, informed reporters meanwhile that the fighting ability of its forces had improved steadily since General Thach Reng, former commander of special forces troops under Prime Minister Lon Nol from 1971 to 1975, had taken command in July.

She said he had helped restructure two guerrilla units and given them training in guerrilla tactics.

Gen Thach Reng visited Ban Yeang Dangkum on Friday, shortly after it had been captured from the Vietnamese by the resistance troops.

Madame Kaset said, however, that there was an urgent need for more medicine, especially for Kampuchean living inside Kampuchea who are less sheltered than those in the refugee camps in Thailand.

Malaria, she said, was the most rampant disease, and most people in country areas had no precautionary or remedial measures at all.

Khmer Rouge Describe Chemical Attacks

By William Branigin
Washington Post Foreign Service

PHUM TMEY, Cambodia—Communist Khmer Rouge guerrillas battling the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia have produced what they say is fresh evidence that Hanoi is continuing to use chemical weapons in the three-year-old war.

Interviewed at a makeshift hospital at this jungle camp near the Thai-Cambodian border, Khmer Rouge guerrillas described a Vietnamese gas attack Feb. 13 about 10 miles south of here. Khmer Rouge officials displayed a gas mask that they said had been taken from a dead Vietnamese soldier March 1 after a battle for a hill about 12 miles to the southeast.

According to U.S. officials in Bangkok, the mask is the first piece of equipment related to Hanoi's alleged use of chemical warfare to be found in Indochina. As such, one official said, it represents a "significant," although not conclusive, contribution to the growing body of evidence that Vietnamese forces are using chemical weapons in Cambodia.

Khmer Rouge officials said the mask, made of gray rubber and plastic, was captured when guerrillas attacked a Vietnamese unit at Phnom Poch.

According to Long Norin, a senior Khmer Rouge official here, the Vietnamese have sometimes fired artillery shells containing poison gas at Khmer Rouge positions to evacuate besieged Vietnamese units.

Widely vilified for the brutality, mass executions and destruction of its 1975-79 rule in Cambodia, the ousted Khmer Rouge government has never been given much credibility. However, in this instance Khmer Rouge accounts of the use of chemical weapons by the Vietnamese appeared consistent with information from Western and Thai sources.

For example, intelligence sources in Bangkok have reported that the Vietnamese distributed large numbers of gas masks earlier this year to units fighting in western Cambodia. There were no markings on the mask displayed here other than a series of numbers, and its origin could not immediately be determined positively. However, a U.S. source who examined it said it "could very well be a Soviet mask," judging by the plastic star symbol over the air-intake filter.

The Vietnamese Embassy in Bangkok had no immediate comment on the gas mask. But Hanoi recently accused Thai forces of firing poison gas shells into Cambodia, a charge denied by the Thais and seen by some Western diplomats as a possible pretext for the Vietnamese distribution of the masks.

Up to now, charges that Hanoi has used chemical weapons have been based on plant and blood samples said to contain traces of mycotoxins of the trichothecene group, chemical agents that can cause death by internal bleeding, diarrhea and vomiting.

The samples have been collected in Cambodia and Laos, where guerrillas are battling Hanoi-backed governments kept in power with the help of Vietnamese troops.

The most serious allegations have concerned "yellow rain," a highly toxic substance dropped from aircraft and capable of causing violent, bloody death within minutes.



By William Branigin—The Washington Post

Khmer Rouge aide holds gas mask reportedly taken from dead Vietnamese soldier.

In the latest sample from a suspected "yellow rain" attack, Khmer Rouge officials have collected what they say is a contaminated leaf from a battle zone across the border from the Thai village of Pong Nam Ron. According to the Khmer Rouge, the substance was dropped Feb. 26 in an attack by two Vietnamese planes. The sample has been forwarded to the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok and is to be sent to the United States for analysis.

Also being sent are new blood samples from some of the 17 Khmer Rouge guerrillas said to have come under a Vietnamese gas attack during a battle at Tuol Chrey on Feb. 13.

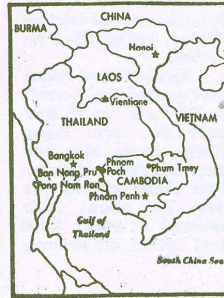
According to the leader of the unit, Prak Reth, the battle began in the morning and lasted all day. Then at 6:30 p.m., he said, the Vietnamese fired 105 mm shells containing poison gas.

"At first I had trouble seeing, like there was soap in my eyes," he said through a Khmer Rouge interpreter. "I also had difficulty breathing. My nose felt inflamed, like it was burning. Then I started vomiting. I vomited from 6:30 until morning. I could run about 500 meters [580 yards] before I fell down. Besides nausea, I also had diarrhea until morning."

Prak Reth said he could not see the gas or tell how many shells had struck because it was night. He said none of the guerrillas died from the gas.

Prak Reth was among six guerrillas who gave blood Wednesday to a private doctor collecting samples on behalf of the U.S. government. The doctor, Amos Townsend, has been instrumental behind the scenes in investigating alleged chemical warfare incidents in Laos and Cambodia. He rushed to this jungle camp

"heavy cases." The boyish-looking guerrilla, already a 10-year veteran of the Khmer Rouge, said he returned to combat in January and was struck down by gas a second time last month. Affected less seriously this time, he expects to be released in another 10 days.



By Dave Cook—The Washington Post

According to U.S. officials, the Vietnamese appear to be using several different chemical agents, possibly including some substances other than the mycotoxins that officials believe are produced in the Soviet Union. Some of the substances apparently are not designed to kill but to incapacitate, injure and terrorize, thus leaving survivors who impede evacuations, clog hospitals and drain resources, the officials said.

So far neither the Khmer Rouge nor Western investigators have been able to find what one Bangkok-based diplomat said would be the real "smoking gun" in the case: a piece of Vietnamese chemical ordnance such as a gas canister or artillery shell. Khmer Rouge officials said the Vietnamese have thwarted the search by mixing poison gas shells with a preponderance of regular shells in their barrages. However, the officials said Khmer Rouge units now were making special efforts to find chemical ordnance.

Despite the international furor over the allegations, Townsend said he was not surprised at reports that the Vietnamese are continuing to use chemical weapons in Cambodia.

"The advantage of gas is that if you know people are out there somewhere, you don't have to aim so well," he said. "It's just too useful in a jungle environment."

after learning of the presence of the 17 purported gas victims.

A former U.S. Air Force colonel, Townsend, 51, also went into Khmer Rouge territory in Cambodia in October to collect blood samples from guerrillas. The samples were later used by the U.S. government to bolster its allegations against Vietnam, although officials refused to say how and from whom the specimens were collected.

In the latest airing of the charges, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, Wednesday again referred generally to blood samples collected in Cambodia last fall. In a letter to the U.N. secretary general, Kirkpatrick said the samples and survivors' accounts provided "strong circumstantial evidence that trichothecenes were used as chemical agents in yet another chemical attack in Southeast Asia."

Specifically, the U.S. government said an independent analyst was able to "tentatively identify" in samples from two of the nine gas victims a metabolite, or breakdown, of the T2 toxin said to be a component of "yellow rain."

According to Dr. Townsend, the alleged gas victims seen Wednesday "looked very similar to the nine we drew blood from last October." Although there was no sign of any wounds, "they just looked very listless and fatigued," he said.

In fact, one of 17 guerrillas said he had also been incapacitated by poison gas in the earlier attack, which he said occurred Sept. 19 at Takong.

The guerrilla, O Rin, 26, said the gas came from a land mine triggered by a fellow soldier.

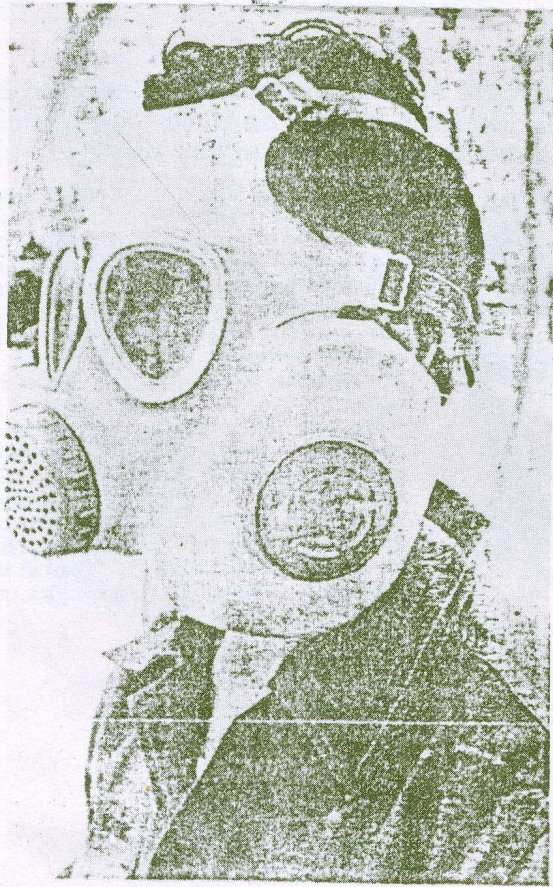
O Rin said he suffered severe vomiting and diarrhea and was hospitalized for four months. He said there were more than 80 other

'500 affected in VN chemical attack'

THE Khmer Rouge charged yesterday that 500 people were affected by toxic chemicals used by Vietnamese forces in the current dry season offensive against resistance forces in western Kampuchea.

The Khmer Rouge radio, monitored in Bangkok, said 364 of those affected required hospital treatment. But it did not say if anyone had died from the effects of the chemicals it alleged were used in the lower half of Battambang Province, near the town of Pailin and Highway 10.

Vietnam, has consistently denied allegations of using toxic chemicals against rebels.



A Thai soldier dons one of the 20 gas masks that were found earlier this month after being abandoned by intruding Vietnamese-led Heng Samrin forces in Ban Klong Hard, Watthana Nakhon District, Prachin Buri Province.

The masks and a number of pith helmets were found after Thai infantrymen fired at the intruders, drove them back across the border and then combed the area for weapons.

The masks, made in the Soviet Union and fairly well-used, are a strong indication that the Vietnamese troops might have employed chemical or biological agents against Khmer Rouge guerrillas near the Thai border, Thai officials say.

US alleges new 'yellow rain' raid

UNITED NATIONS
THE United States said in a note issued here on Wednesday that it had information that Vietnamese troops waged chemical warfare with poisonous fungi in a battle last February 13 with resistance fighters in Kampuchea.

US Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, in sending the note to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, asked him to pass the contents along to a UN group of experts created in 1981 to investigate reports of the military use in some areas of chemical agents, described by the victims as "yellow rain."

The group, in Thailand from last October 31 to November 10, interviewed refugees from Laos and Kampuchea who told of being sprayed from airplanes with "yellow powder" that had sickened them and killed others. It declined to come to any conclusion on grounds it had no proof of the origin of the physical evidence it had gathered.



Kirkpatrick

"Victims reported," she said, "that the agent was delivered by Vietnamese troops firing 105 mm

artillery shells. Symptoms experienced by those affected included severe eye irritation, prolonged and repeated vomiting episodes, difficult breathing, trembling and severe diarrhoea."

Mrs Kirkpatrick said evidence from the latest case and four earlier "yellow-rain" attacks in Laos and Kampuchea showed conclusively that "these trichothecene mycotoxins are components of the chemical agents known in Laos and Kampuchea as yellow rain."

The expert group is expected to submit a further report to the assembly session to start next September 15. — AP

CONDUCTED

Mrs Kirkpatrick said her government had got reports last February that the Vietnamese had conducted a chemical attack at Tuol Chrey, Kampuchea, on the 13th of that month.

The United States, she wrote, "is now in a position to provide information, based on analyses of blood samples collected less than 24 hours after the attack, and other human samples, including urine, which is consistent with trichothecene exposure and indicates exposure to a high concentration of...toxin."

Trichothecenes are fungi that produce poisons called trichothecene mycotoxins. Mrs Kirkpatrick said such toxins were in blood and urine samples taken from four victims of the February attack and analysed by Dr Chester Mirocha of the University of Minnesota.

Chemical warfare claim supported

THERE has been widespread but selective use of chemical weapons in Laos and Kampuchea, the Asian Lawyers' Legal Inquiry Committee has concluded.

The committee, consisting of jurists from India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand, conducted an on-site investigation into the alleged violation of human rights in Laos and Kampuchea during June 4-10 at three refugee camps — Khao I Dang in Prachin Buri, Phanat Nikom in Chon Buri and Ban Vinai in Loei.

Concerning the alleged use of chemical weapons, the committee said yesterday that its scope of investigation was different from that of a medical enquiry since it did not purport to identify the weapons concerned, but to find out if there was any proof that chemical weapons had been used in the two Indochinese countries.

According to Mr P.N.

Lekhi, senior advocate of the Supreme Court of India, the committee members had talked to three Hmong children in Ban Vinai camp and Kampuchean refugees in Khao I Dang, who claimed they had suffered chemical attacks.

The committee, he said, believed there is sufficient evidence to say that there had been widespread, but selective use of some forms of chemical weapons in Laos and Kampuchea.

The committee has also found there was human rights violations in the two countries which resulted in the exodus of their peoples from their homeland.

Because of limited time, the committee admitted that a conclusion could not be reached on whether food aid for the Kampuchean people has been diverted for military use. A report on this matter will be published soon, Mr Lekhi said.

Bangkok Post 23 July 1982

VN deserter attests to use of chemical arms

A VIETNAMESE deserter yesterday admitted that Vietnamese gunners bombarded a Khmer village with chemical shells in March this year.

Corporal Trin Dine Whan formerly of the 210th Artillery Regiment of the 7th Division told a Press conference at the Supreme Command that 27 chemical shells were lobbed into Sok Sanh Village controlled by the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPRLF) with an aim to annihilate the Khmer resistance. But the villagers were evacuated before the attack started because the Khmers had got hold of the attack plan from a Vietnamese officer, Lt Hu Han, in an ambush in February, he added.

Whan said troops from the 7th Division briefly occupied Sok Sanh and eventually withdrew. He added he did not know the casualties of the Khmers as a result of the chemical attack.

The corporal, who served in Kampuchea since December 1979 and escaped to Thailand in April this year, confirmed that the chemical weapons were supplied by the Soviet Union.

He said that morale was low among the low ranking foot soldiers because of boredom, battle fatigue, the shortage of food,

clothing and medicines and the hostile attitude of the Khmer people.

Whan was among five deserters who were presented to the Press yesterday. Altogether 349 Vietnamese troops had escaped to Thailand since 1979. Two hundred of them had already been resettled in third countries and the rest are still being held in the Phanat Nikom processing centre, the Suranaree army barrack and in Aranyaprathet, according to the Supreme Command.

MOVEMENTS

Another deserter, Pvt Yuen Ba Line, formerly of the 302nd Division stationed in Oddar Meanchey, disclosed that his mission was to ascertain the troop positions and movements of the Khmer Rouge as well as Thai forces close to Surin Province.

He admitted that his patrol unit sometimes crossed 5-10 kilometres into Thailand. He said earlier his unit had been instructed to avoid contact with Thai troops, but the instruction was changed last year to the effect that they could engage the Thais upon confrontation.

A resident of Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City), Line said he was forced into service in

April 1981 and fled to Thailand in December the same year.

A third deserter, Corporal Phan Wan Ten formerly of the 25th Engineering Battalion of the 5th Division, told the Press that he was sceptical of Hanoi's announcement of partial withdrawal from Kampuchea.

He said he had been told by his battalion commander and also heard from Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong that Vietnamese forces would remain in Kampuchea for as long as 20 years.

He said that it was true some troops were pulled out and some were sent in on rotation which, he added, is usually done twice a year — in March and between June and July.

Cpl Le Ya Fuoc, 22, said only sick troops and those that have served for the duration of the Vietnamese occupation have been withdrawn. He said they were sent back to Vietnam for further training and would be redeployed in Kampuchea.

A Khmer Rouge commander, Mit Pheap, previously said that the arrival of fresh Vietnamese troops in western Kampuchea had already led to an increase in the fighting near the Thai-Kampuchean border.

Cpl Phan Wan Ten admitted that the fortifications which were built up in Poipet recently were aimed to defend the town from Khmer Rouge attacks.

'Yellow rain' claim by Canadians

CANADIAN officials say they believe chemical warfare has been conducted by Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea and Laos, although they have been unable to prove it beyond doubt.

They also described alleged "yellow rain" attacks on two Thai villages near Kampuchea where residents became sick, animals died and a bathing stream was abandoned because it caused skin rashes.

Scientists have found evidence of trichothecene mycotoxins in blood samples from alleged "yellow rain" victims, but were unable to prove presence

sults of field trips earlier this year, came closer than any non-American study so far to proving use of chemical warfare by Vietnamese troops in Laos and Kampuchea.

But although laboratory testing of the blood of five stricken Hmong from Laos, showed "a peak corresponding to HT-2 toxin," final results of the test were inconclusive.

"The presence of trichothecenes in the five blood samples has not been established," reported a scientist of Health and Welfare Canada's food research division after his tests.

by ALAN DAWSON

of the poisons, a Canadian government-approved report states.

A separate report by a Canadian military team and also made available to the *Bangkok Post*, meanwhile, concludes: "CW/BW (chemical warfare/biological warfare) agents are being used in Southeast Asia" against Thai villagers, as well as Laotians and Kampuchians.

"The CW/BW agents are being used against unprotected troops and civilians with inadequate medical support," the team said in its heavily-documented report.

A diplomatic source familiar with the reports said they "are not the smoking gun, let alone the bullet, but they are not negative on the subject either. They still leave questions unanswered."

The two reports, compiled recently from re-

tack in Kampuchea in March.

The doctor conducting the autopsy said he was unable to determine the exact cause of death but said it was by "acute renal (kidney) failure with acute tubular necrosis."

"Exposure to toxic chemicals is not excluded by this examination," he said, adding that there were a number of possibilities, including shock and a mismatch in a blood transfusion.

The military doctors said they saw "yellow rain," which gathered on homes and foliage in a Thai village between daytime visits to talk to the Thais there.

At Ban Sa Tong in Pong Nam Ron District, Chanthaburi Province, 10 kilometres from the Kampuchean frontier, a single-engined aircraft last February dumped a yellow powder and flew away to the east. Villagers vomited, lost their hearing and suffered chest pains, rapid heart-rate, itchiness, fatigue and weakness.

Although a Bangkok report said that yellow "flour" or "flowers" were dumped on the village, the Canadians believe that Ban Sa Tong was hit by a "yellow rain" attack.

"All those (villagers) interviewed told us that no one bathes in the stream anymore as its water causes skin rashes," they reported.

At Ban Sub Tha Mau, four kilometres closer to Kampuchea, "the team saw yellow spots on roofs and platforms which had been clean the day before when it had also been in the village," the report states.

"The yellow substance," the report says after describing illnesses in the village caused by the substance, "is being blown over the border from Kampuchea where it is being used in and around Pailin."

The report also concluded that a common military "gas mask" would provide protection against death or serious injury by "yellow rain," based on the observations of the Canadian doctors.

Bangkok Post 14 January 1983

Gas mask seized in border clash

CHANTHABURI

ALL Vietnamese troops sent to fight along the Kampuchean border were issued with gas masks, a captured Vietnamese soldier has revealed.

A gas mask, nine rounds of AK47 ammunition and a backpack were seized from the soldier, a corporal whose name was withheld.

The soldier told a Thai interpreter that the Vietnamese planned to unleash a massive offensive soon against resistance forces operating along the border, according to a police source.

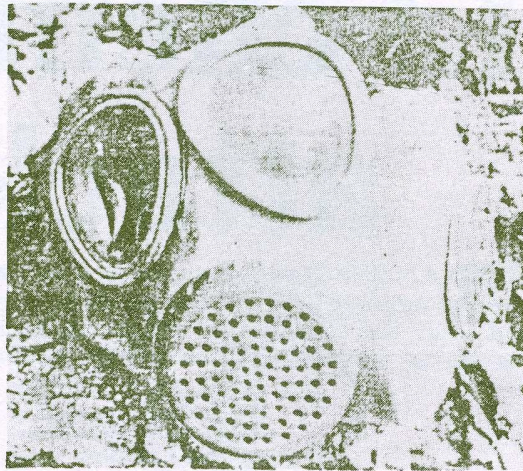
The offensive would stretch from Buri Ram to Trat provinces, he reportedly told his Thai captors.

The corporal was captured on Wednesday after fighting between Vietnamese troops and the Khmer Rouge spilled across the border.

Another Vietnamese was killed in the fighting on Thai soil.

A military source yesterday corrected earlier reports that five Vietnamese were killed in the fighting.

About 300 villagers evacuated from Ban Nong Kok, Ban Din Daeng and Ban Nong Krathing following Wednesday's fierce battle



The gas mask seized from the wounded soldier. Its discovery indicates that the Vietnamese may be using toxic chemicals against the Khmer resistance, according to a police source.

returned to their homes yesterday.

Meanwhile, an intelligence source said the Vietnamese had moved Soviet-made T54 tanks close to Pong Nam Ron District border to crush Khmer Rouge guerrillas operating in the area.

There were believed to be at least three tanks in the area and Thai border forces had been placed on a full alert.

Sporadic fighting continued last night between the Vietnamese and the rebels.

Further north, a resist-

ance source said that the Vietnamese had moved in another 1,000 men to support their offensive to regain Ban Yaeng Dang Kum, which they lost late last month to Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) forces.

The battle for Yaeng Dang Kum, opposite Aranyaprathet, began in January and the KPNLF says it has since suffered casualties of 30 dead and 80 wounded.

It claims to have inflicted 150 casualties on

the Vietnamese but could not give a breakdown.

The source predicted that fighting would escalate in the next few days because of the reinforcements which both sides had moved into the area.

Meanwhile, an intelligence report made available to the *Bangkok Post*

yesterday says that villagers in Kampuchea have been giving more aid to resistance forces because of Vietnamese policies which discriminate against them.

It said that villagers in Jangalur District, Kampong Cham, had organised fierce anti-Viet-

namese activities which had been suppressed and the leaders arrested.

Discriminatory practices referred to in the report included a curfew imposed in Jekreng District, Siem Reap Province, which does not apply to its ethnic Vietnamese population.

The report said that about 20 Kampuchean had been shot for breaking the curfew.

The villagers have also been forced to sell rice to the Vietnamese troops at a cheap prices, the report said.

It said that so many Khmers had been driven out of Kampong Cham Province that its population was 80 per cent ethnic Vietnamese.

About 70 per cent of the Kampuchean children attending schools had also been made to learn Vietnamese, the report said.

Sann: Toxic gas probe under way

PARIS — Kampuchean resistance leader Son Sann said yesterday a team of international doctors was conducting an on-the-spot investigation into the alleged use of chemical weapons by Vietnamese forces against Kampuchean civilians.

Son Sann, a former prime minister who now heads the non-communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), said Vietnamese forces had fired artillery shells into a market place in Nong Chan refugee camp on the border with Thailand last Wednesday.

Son Sann, in Paris as part of a tour of European capitals, said about 15 people were believed killed and some 40 injured. All were civilians.

He said that on the same day, Vietnamese troops used chemical weapons in an attack on the village of Sokh. Sann, further south along the Thai border.

Son Sann said he had appealed to the United Nations to take action against Vietnam for using toxic gas in Kampuchea, and said he would be sending Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar a full medical report from the team of doctors.

The resistance leader, who will go to Peking after his European tour, declined to identify the doctors on the investigating team. He promised to

do so when their report is published.

According to preliminary reports, several Sokh San villagers showed symptoms of exposure to toxic chemicals, including nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, dizzy spells and skin rashes, he said.

"Some shells containing toxic gas and Yellow Rain exploded in mid-air before hitting the ground," he said.

Reuter .



Son Sann

Bangkok World 16 March 1983

Yellow rain 'fell on Thai territory'

NEW evidence found on tree leaves on Thai soil supports claims of chemical weapons usage inside Kampuchea, a spokesman of the Supreme Command's Information Centre said yesterday.

Lt-Gen Viboon Laosathien said chemical substances found on tree leaves near Ban Khac Phra in Pong Nam Ron District of Chanthaburi Province and near Ban Ta Bard in Bo Rai District of Trat Province, were believed to have been blown into Thai territory by strong winds.

Military authorities were carrying out laboratory tests on samples of the chemicals, he said.

"We believe that the chemicals might have been dropped from airplanes," Lt-Gen Viboon said.

Air Force officials attending the news conference supported Lt-Gen Viboon's theory by saying that they occasionally saw light planes flying inside Kampuchea.

Lt-Gen Viboon said intelligence reports indicated that the

Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin troops might have used poisonous chemicals in the Kampuchean village of Ban Suk-san opposite Bo Rai District on February 21. "Two Vietnamese soldiers were accidentally killed in the incident that day," said the general.

He said the situation along the Thai-Kampuchean border was "quiet." Only minor clashes had taken place inside Kampuchea recently, he said, adding that the Vietnamese might be preparing for a major offensive against the Khmer resistance forces.

Bangkok World 6 March 1984

Evidence ties VN to use of deadly toxins

GHENT, Belgium — A University of Ghent professor said yesterday he has found evidence that Soviet-backed Vietnamese troops use highly poisonous chemicals, called mycotoxins, in the war in Kampuchea.

Aubin Heyndrickx, head of the university's toxicology department, said he has collected soil and plant samples in Kampuchea in recent years "that showed concentrations of very poisonous mycotoxins" in laboratory tests here.

Mycotoxins are highly poisonous, man-made chemical materials derived from fungi. Heyndrickx said they cause intestinal bleeding and attack the central nervous system in humans.

"People who come in contact with mycotoxins get large blisters and start bleeding from the nose, eyes and ears. At best, they will live for two or three more months," he said in an interview.

His conclusions are the same as those in studies

made in the United States and by the United Nations.

Mycotoxins are reportedly dropped by the Vietnamese from the air and commonly known as "yellow rain."

Heyndrickx said he has collected samples "of plants, bark and stones" in Kampuchea near the Thai border and "at up to 100 kilometres inside Kampuchea."

"The mycotoxins must be of Russian make," Heyndrickx said.

"It would be impossible for the Thais or the Kampuchians to make these chemical products. They do not have the research facilities needed to produce mycotoxins."

Meanwhile, Khmer resistance leader Son Sann yesterday charged Viet-

nam is using toxic gas in Kampuchea and warned Hanoi still planned a dry season defensive this year.

Speaking to reporters on the fifth anniversary of the founding of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), which he heads, Son Sann said his forces were ready to confront the Vietnamese.

Asked about reports of

chemical weapons being used by Vietnam, Son Sann said it appeared to be Hanoi's policy to use toxic weapons against resistance forces in Kampuchea.

He said the latest use of chemicals was on Saturday when enemy forces attacked his troops near the KPNLF stronghold at Ampil, 60 km (37 miles) north of Aranyaprathet.

— AP, UPI

VN using more chemical weapons says Sihanouk Govt

UNITED NATIONS — Vietnam has intensified its use of chemical weapons against the Kampuchean people, Prince Norodom Sihanouk's coalition Government, charged in a letter circulated here yesterday.

"During the present use of toxic chemical products in order to exterminate the Kampuchean people and the National Army of Democratic

Kampuchea," the letter said.

The letter was signed by Thiounn Thoenu, a member of the co-ordinating committee for health and social affairs in the coalition Government that is battling the Vietnamese-backed regime.

Sihanouk's coalition is the officially recognised Government of Kampuchea at the United Nations.

The United States has charged the Soviet Union and its Vietnamese allies have been using deadly "yellow rain" against insurgents in Southeast Asia, killing 6,000 people in Laos and 1,000 in Kampuchean.

Vietnam and the Soviet Union have denied the charges.

The letter accused Vietnam of spreading chemical toxins by aircraft, cannon and mortar shells. — AP

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UNCINPEC



Front Uni National pour un Cambodge Indépendant, Neutre, Pacifique et Coopératif
National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia

OFFICE OF THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
OF HRH NORODOM SIHANOUK IN KAMPUCHEA AND ASIA

COMMUNIQUE

The Office of the Personal Representative of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea and President of FUNCINPEC wishes to bring to the attention of all Governments and international organizations that it has received reliable information that the armed forces of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, occupying Kampuchea, have moved to areas surrounding the ANS Headquarters of Tatum (Green Hill), in preparation for a large offensive against Tatum (Green Hill).

Last week, 3 battalions of Vietnamese soldiers were sent from the interior to O-Smach, about 20 kilometers west of Tatum.

On April 1, a division was sent from Siemreap and stationed in O-Chik, about 25 kilometers from the border. The same day, 10 armored trucks, believed to have carried artillery, moved in direction of Trapeang Tao, 7 kilometers south of Tatum.

On April 4, one regiment and 5 battalions of Vietnamese elements including their Sapper Commando units, moved from the district of Varin and are stationed between Trapeang Tao and Chring.

The Office of the Personal Representative of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea and President of FUNCINPEC, therefore, draws to the attention of the international public opinion this eventual offensive of the Vietnamese forces of occupation, which might cause loss of life among our civilian population, even though, in accordance with the decision taken by the Council of Ministers of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea during its meeting of 24 January 1984, we have proceeded to separate the civilian population from the military camp.

We wish to warn the Vietnamese forces of occupation that they would be solely responsible for any loss of life or any other criminal acts that such an offensive may cause among the innocent civilian population.

We also wish to point out that under these circumstances-*ie*: launching military operations in the border areas and violating the territory of the sovereign Kingdom of Thailand, Vietnam:

(1) Hinders the process towards a peaceful and political settlement of the Kampuchean problem. This, naturally, proves that the so-called intention of Vietnam to negotiate and withdraw its troops from Kampuchea is just another manoeuvre, attempting to divert public opinion from the current process of Vietnamisation of Kampuchea.

(2) Constitutes a real threat to all free countries of South East Asia and particularly the Kingdom of Thailand.

Bangkok, April 5, 1984.