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SOUTH VIETNAM: HUNDREDS AFFECTED BY NOXIOUS CHEMICALS - IN TWO VILLAGES ALONE HUNDREDS OF PERSONS WERE AFFECTED BY NOXIOUS CHEMICALS SPRAYED RECENTLY BY AIRCRAFT OF THE U.S.- NGO DINH DIEM AUTHORITIES. MANY OF THEM BECAME BLIND, OTHERS LOST CONSCIOUSNESS OR HAD THEIR BODIES SWOLLEN. HUNDREDS OF HECTARES OF RICE, FRUIT TREES, AND OTHER CROPS WERE DESTROYED. THE CHEMICALS WERE SPRAYED FOR SEVEN DAYS ENDING 9 SEPTEMBER OVER MANY VILLAGES IN THE SOUTHERN MOST AREA OF CAU MAU REPEAT CAU MAU, FOLLOWING A BIG TERRORISTIC MILITARY OPERATION LABELED "CAMPAIGN FOR THE PACIFICATION OF THE WEST" LOCAL INHABITANTS CARRIED THE 22 WORST AFFECTED PERSONS TO THE PROVINCIAL TOWN AND DEMANDED THAT THE NGO DINH DIEM AUTHORITIES GIVE THEM URGENT MEDICAL TREATMENT. THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR HAD TO ADMIT PUBLICLY THAT "U.S. ADVISORS" WERE THE AUTHORS OF THE CRIME.

THIS WAS DENOUNCED BY COL HA VAN IAU REPEAT HA VAN IAU, HEAD OF THE LIAISON MISSION OF THE VIETNAM PEOPLE'S ARMY HIGH COMMAND, IN A MESSAGE TO INDIAN AMBASSADOR R. GOBURDHUN REPEAT R. GOBURDHUN, CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISORY AND CONTROL COMMISSION IN VIETNAM. COL HA VAN IAU POINTED OUT THAT THE SPRAYING OF NOXIOUS CHEMICALS BY THE DIEM ADMINISTRATION ON U.S. ORDERS TO POISON THE CIVIL POPULATION AND DESTROY CROPS AND VEGETATION IS INDEED AN INHUMAN ACT AND A VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE GENEVA AGREEMENT OF THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES IN VIETNAM. FOLLOWING SIMILAR SPRAYING ON MANY OTHER PROVINCES (WITH) THE CHEMICAL CONSTITUTES NOT REPEAT NOT ONLY A CHALLENGE TO WORLD PUBLIC OPINION, WHICH HAS STRONGLY CONDEMNED SUCH ACTS, BUT ALSO PROVES THAT THE UNITED STATES AND THE DIEM ADMINISTRATION ARE BENT ON TAKING EVERY MEASURE, NO REPEAT NO MATTER HOW BARBAROUS TO CARRY ON THEIR WAR IN SOUTH VIETNAM, THE COLONEL SAID.

HE URGED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION INVESTIGATE THIS CASE AND RECOMMEND THAT THE U.S. - NGO DINH DIEM END AT ONCE THE SPRAYING OF NOXIOUS CHEMICALS, THEREBY INSURING RESPECT FOR AND STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM.