INQUIRE=DOC18D
ITEM NO=00310743
ENVELOPE

BT
CONTROLS
CONFIDENTIAL
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SECTION 01 OF 02
SERIAL: (U) IIR 2 240 7175 92.

/*********** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE ***********/

BODY

PASS: (U) [Redacted]

COUNTRY: (U) CUBA (CU).

SUBJ: IIR 2 240 7175 92/BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL DEFENSE (U).

WARNING: (U). THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTEL. REPT CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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NOFORN-
CUBA HAS A WELL-REHEARSED CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSIVE PROGRAM INVOLVING THE CUBAN POPULACE. PHYSICIANS ARE TAUGHT HOW TO PERFORM IN A CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENT.

1. SYNOPSIS. ON SUNDAY DEFENSE DAYS, THE CUBAN POPULACE IS GIVEN MILITARY TRAINING THAT INCLUDES INSTRUCTION ON AN ALARM SYSTEM FOR CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ATTACKS. THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR CIVILIAN AND MILITARY HEALTH. ALL PHYSICIANS HAVE A RESERVIST FUNCTION AND ARE TRAINED TO WORK IN A CHEMICAL WARFARE ENVIRONMENT. CHEMICAL TROOPS ARE TRAINED TO IDENTIFY AND ANALYZE CHEMICAL AGENTS.

2. SUNDAY DEFENSE DAYS. SUNDAY DEFENSE DAYS (DOMINGOS DIA DE LA DEFENSA) ARE HELD IN CUBA ONCE-A-MONTH, THE MAIN CONCEPT AND STRATEGY IS TO TRAIN EVERY CUBAN AND INVOLVE THEM IN THE "WAR OF THE ENTIRE PEOPLE" (LA GUERRA DE TODO EL PUEBLO). THE CUBANS HAVE AN ALARM SYSTEM FOR BIOLOGICAL, CHEMICAL, OR AERIAL ATTACKS.

IN TIME OF WAR, EVACUATION PLANS HAVE BEEN DRAWN UP TO SHELTER THE URBAN POPULATION FROM AIR RAIDS AND REDEPLOY THEM AS AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS TO SUPPORT THE WAR EFFORT.

3. CHEMICAL WARFARE. UPON GRADUATION FROM MEDICAL SCHOOL, ALL PHYSICIANS ARE GIVEN THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT IN THE RESERVES. DURING SCHOOL YEARS THEY RECEIVE MANDATORY MILITARY TRAINING ALL
PHYSICIANS ARE TRAINED TO WORK IN A CHEMICAL WARFARE ENVIRONMENT. PHYSICIANS ARE ISSUED SOVIET PROTECTIVE MASKS, BOOTS, AND PONCHOS. THE MASKS WERE OLD FOR THE MOST PART AND BROKE EASILY. AT THE SOUND OF AN ALARM SIGNIFYING A CHEMICAL ATTACK, PHYSICIANS WOULD REPORT TO THE CHIEF OF MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL. HERE A MILITARY OFFICER WOULD INSTRUCT THE PHYSICIAN ON WHAT TO DO AND WHERE TO GO.

PHYSICIANS CARRY A KIT-BAG WHICH CONTAINS ANTIDOTES.

4. -[&] CASUALTY TREATMENT. THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CIVILIAN AND MILITARY HEALTH. CASUALTIES WITH BULLET WOUNDS, COMPLEX FRACTURES, AMPUTATIONS, AND THOSE WITH CHEMICAL OR BIOLOGICAL INJURIES ARE TREATED

5. -[&] CHEMICAL CASUALTIES. CHEMICAL CASUALTIES WOULD FIRST BE CLEANED WITH SOAP AND WATER FROM A TRUCK-MOUNTED SHOWER BEFORE THE APPROPRIATE TREATMENT WAS ADMINISTERED. SURVIVORS WOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO EITHER A CIVILIAN OR A MILITARY HOSPITAL; CADAVERS WERE SIMPLY BURIED.

6. -[&] BIOLOGICAL AGENTS ANALYSIS CAPABILITY. CUBA HAS THE CAPABILITY TO IDENTIFY AND ANALYZE BIOLOGICAL AGENTS.

7. -[&] ANTIBIOTICS. THE FAR ALSO HAS GOOD RESERVES OF A WIDE SPECTRUM OF [REDACTED] ANTIBIOTICS. CURRENTLY, POOR QUALITY [REDACTED] ANTIBIOTICS ARE BEING USED AS SUBSTITUTES FOR BETTER-QUALITY ANTIBIOTICS THAT ARE UNAVAILABLE. THE FAR ALSO HAS A GOOD RESERVE OF OXYGEN; THIS AND OTHER MATERIEL IS STORED IN UNDERGROUND WARTIME HOSPITALS.

COMMENTS: -[&]