E2: CONFIDENTIAL MOSCOW 04907

SUBJ: USSR/SVERDLOVSK RESIDENT CONFIRMS 1979 INCIDENT AT SPECIAL FACTORY [(U)]

THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTEL

1. [(U)] CTRY: USSR (UR)

2. [(U)]

3. [(U)] TITLE: SVERDLOVSK RESIDENT CONFIRMS 1979 INCIDENT AT SPECIAL FACTORY

4. [(C)]

5. [(C)]

6. [(C)] IN 1979 THERE HAD BEEN AN INCIDENT AT A SPECIAL FACTORY (SPETSZAVOD) IN THAT TOWN WHICH HAD NECESSITATED CLOSING OFF A PART OF THE CITY.

7. [(U)]

8. [(U)]

9A. [(U)] DETAILS:

(b)(2)

(b)(2)

(b)(2)
BEEN MUCH SPECULATION ABOUT AN ANTHRAX EPIDEMIC IN THE SVERDLOVSK AREA REPORTEDLY CAUSED BY AN ACCIDENTAL EXPLOSION AT A BACTERIOLOGICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A CONFUSED EXCHANGE SUGGESTING THAT THERE HAD BEEN A SIMILAR EPIDEMIC IN KURGAN BUT LATER BACKING OFF THIS STATEMENT. THE SPECIFIC INCIDENT HAPPENED OVER TWO YEARS AGO. SAID THAT HE REMEMBERED NOW THAT IN 1979 THERE HAD IN FACT BEEN AN INCIDENT AT A SPECIAL FACTORY (SPETSZAVOD) IN SVERDLOVSK WHICH HAD NECESSITATED THE CLOSING OFF OF PART OF THE CITY. UNFORTUNATELY NO DETAILS AS TO CASUALTIES OR EXTENT OF CONTAMINATION WERE PROVIDED AND THE SUBJECT COULD NOT BE REINTRODUCED.