

II. 30 Mar 70

C A M B O D I A

055043

H 1

COMMUNIQUE, APPEALS OF NEW REGIME ISSUED

CAMBODIA
FILE

SUBJ.

DATE

SUB-CAT

27 Mar Communique

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in French 1530 GMT 27 Mar 70 D

[Communique of the salvation government]

[Text] The public is informed that very well-organized maneuvers backed by the Vietnamese took place last evening and today, 27 March, which were aimed at causing trouble in our capital. They proceeded from different directions--by the Kompong Cham-Chroui Changwar road, the Kompong Cham-Neak Loeung road, Prek Eng, Chhbar Ampeou communes. These maneuvers used uniform means of transport, especially (?in) the various plantations on the left bank of the Mekong. They were thwarted by our armed forces and people [words indistinct].

The first (?convoy composed of) about 20 trucks was arrested by our forces and taken away for interrogation. The (?leaders) coming from Chroui Changwar in the second [word indistinct] on the morning of 27 March were abandoned by their (?followers), who affirmed their confidence in the salvation government and turned around. The column coming from Neak Loeung could not advance, so it had to retreat. We captured many of the Vietnamese who led the demonstrators, and we are interrogating them.

We remind our people once again that they must not allow themselves to be deceived by foreigners, who have successfully enslaved Prince Sihanouk and induced him to continue to clumsily seek personal power in defiance of the national constitution, even by unhesitatingly and actively fomenting war against his own country and his nationalist Buddhist flesh-and-blood brothers by appealing to foreigners.

The new Cambodia is supported by our clergy, intellectuals, and youth. It will be rebuilt with everyone participating, by forsaking Prince Sihanouk's personal policy so our country may rapidly achieve genuine progress which [word indistinct] everybody. Today thousands of our young intellectuals enlisted in the army and the Phnom Penh defense corps, thus (?deliberately) continuing to develop the spirit of the communique issued yesterday, 26 March.

Because they feel they are not very strong in the field of honest international politics, the Viet Cong have, more than ever resorted to subversive [word indistinct] maneuvers allegedly carried out by Khmer. You must no longer allow yourselves to be deceived by those who actively play into Viet Cong hands.

It is the duty of the salvation government to save our people. It assumes this responsibility before history. Convinced of the need to correctly apply the 1954 Geneva agreements and the Bandung spirit, which leads us to a close legal, and honest international cooperation, the legitimate Cambodia represented by the salvation government reiterates its invitation to the Vietnamese delegations to hold roundtable discussions with our delegation concerning conditions for the withdrawal of their troops from our territory in conformity with respect for our neutrality and territorial integrity.

Through this communique, Cambodia informs all diplomatic missions of the friendly countries, especially the socialist ones, of this. These countries are also informed that, according to correct diplomatic methods, we are going to agree, as promised to the Vietnamese, to correct compensation for the damage done to their embassies during the 11 March demonstrations.

29 Mar Communiqué

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in French 0030 GMT 29 Mar 70 D

[Government communiqué]

[Text] This is to inform the public about the following incidents which have occurred recently.

On 27 March at 1000 two members of the Khmer national police force were seized by the Viet Cong in Peamchor, Prey Veng Province, 20 kilometers inside the border. The latest report said that one of the two has been released. That same day at 1800 our joint national defense forces clashed with a large group of Viet Cong in the (Prek Chreou) area, 3 kilometers from the border, in Snuol district, Kratie Province. Our casualties--including soldiers, people, and youths--were two killed, eight seriously wounded, and six missing. At about 2100 an estimated 3,000 Viet Cong troops overran (Svay Andaung) commune in (Preah Sdach) subsector, Kompong Trabek district, Prey Veng, seven kilometers inside our territory, and seized two soldiers of our military post, one of whom died. The soldiers of (Preah Sdach) have been threatened [as heard] by the Viet Cong.

On 28 March at about 1000 a large group of Viet Cong attacked (Ang Keng) military post in Komchay Mea subprovince. The post, which was defended by a military unit and located 6 kilometers from the border, was surrounded and is being held by the Viet Cong at present. The post was also hit by many artillery rounds fired by the Viet Cong.

On 27 March two sizable groups of Viet Cong infiltrated into our territory and moved toward the Neak-Loeung ferry via Peam Chor and (Stung Slaut), according to our intelligence service. In the morning of 28 March forward elements of these Viet Cong forces were observed near Neak-Loeung. On the same day several Viet Cong were seen near Touk Meas district, Kampot Province, about 20 kilometers inside the Khmer frontier. Also on 28 March, an estimated 600 Viet Cong were seen moving toward (Po Ta-Suy), Kirivong district, Takeo Province, about 10 kilometers inside the frontier.

To settle these serious affairs peacefully, our Foreign Ministry has been instructed to immediately contact all embassies in Cambodia, including those of the socialist camp, with a view to settling these flagrant violations of Khmer territory by Viet Cong troops in conformity with our policy of peace and friendship with all peoples, especially with our neighbors, within the framework of the Geneva agreement, and in accordance with the spirit of the UN Charter. The government of salvation requests that our troops, our provincial guards, our people, and our youths maintain their coolness and dignity, because, internationally speaking, justice in this affair is on our side, and the Viet Cong, who have been violating our territory unceasingly, must assume all responsibilities. As we have previously informed the people, the government of salvation, in conformity with the ideal [words indistinct] only wants to search for peace, and proposes a roundtable conference to the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese, just like the first talks we proposed, which were unfortunately interrupted by the suspension of activities of the two embassies on their governments' initiative.

Appeal to Vietnamese Leaders

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0803 GMT 28 Mar 70 D

[Appeal of the salvation government of the Vietnamese socialist leaders]

[Text] International laws and agreements to settle (?direct) difference exist between the Khmer and Vietnamese nations. These matters should be discussed immediately at a roundtable, as has been proposed. Our justice-and peace-loving countrymen, who have always insisted on respect for the law, believe that real respect should naturally begin with oneself [words indistinct].

Given the present circumstances in Cambodia, (?following) Prince Sihanouk's ouster ~~as chief of the Khmer state~~, you should not interfere in Khmer domestic affairs. The case of Prince Norodom Sihanouk is analogous to that of former Emperor Bao Dai of Annam [words indistinct]. During his reign Bao Dai [words indistinct] and hampered the people's advance [words indistinct]. Our people have been cheated and fooled in their aspirations. Our struggle has been (?disregarded) [words indistinct] and ignored, our youths deceived and forsaken, our workers neglected and despised. We therefore must organize ourselves so our people can advance and we can revive our institutions, which have been constitutionally (?deprived of by) Prince Sihanouk.

In view of these facts, why do you want to invade our country? Why do you want us [words indistinct] even Sihanouk whom you continuously branded in your subversive propaganda as a tyrant, a reactionary, a lackey of the imperialists? We request those Vietnamese of good conscience and all our countrymen to think that over.

As for those Cambodians who have taken to the bush--such as Hou Yuon, Hu Min, Khieu Samphan, and the Khmer Reds: you did so because you opposed Sihanouk and not our people. As for the other countrymen our progress [words indistinct] was hampered by Prince Sihanouk, with his daily propaganda on his good works. The equipment shown at the inauguration ceremonies for cooperatives and hospitals was designed to please the eyes of foreigners. After Sihanouk had finished with the inaugural ceremonies, the (?personnel) and equipment were removed as soon as possible for other so-called spectacular inaugurations.

Fellow countrymen: ~~You should~~ not fear Sihanouk's return. Do not (?burn) [words indistinct]. Another page of history has been turned. [words indistinct] you have only domination to fear. You should liberate yourselves from the Vietnamese masters, who are foreigners. You should fear also your [words indistinct] to organize you to go to the bush (?to fight Khmer) [words indistinct]. Free yourselves of the personal power of Sihanouk.

Fellow countrymen: In some corners of our country the Vietnamese will attempt to give you weapons. They believe that you are unable to understand the situation and will serve their imperialist. Accept their weapons, but only in the spirit of returning later to join our elite, our children, our youth to rebuild our country together, to rebuild it together with the entire people this time. Our bonzes, wherever they are, are requested to actively direct our countrymen in this affair.

Defense Ministry Appeal

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 27 Mar 70 D

[Appeal by the Ministry of National Defense]

[Text] The Ministry of National Defense appeals to all former members of the military reserve force to present themselves immediately, beginning 27 March, at the military sub sector nearest their homes in order to serve in the national force.

Former military members who are living in Phnom Penh must present themselves at Phnom Penh sports stadium on Czechoslovakia Avenue. The Ministry of National Defense is confident that all former militarymen will again courageously serve the nation against rebels of all tendencies.

Communique Pardons Prisoners

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 27 Mar 70 D

[Communique of the salvation government]

[Excerpt] In order to wipe out all injustices done during the Sihanouk regime to Khmer citizens opposing the royal government, and to gather together all the Khmer people, the Chief of State and the salvation government have decided to pardon 265 political prisoners so that, after their release, they may contribute to national construction.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SENDS PROTEST NOTE TO U.S.

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 27 Mar 70 D

[Text] The Cambodian Foreign Ministry has sent several notes to the U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh protesting the following incidents:

On 8 January several units of the U.S.-South Vietnamese armed forces of Trapeang Robang post penetrated Cambodian territory in (Chan Moul) commune, Mimot District, Kompong Cham Province, forcibly arrested two Khmer citizens, and took them to South Vietnam. These two Khmer citizens were released on 14 January. The Cambodian Government strongly protests this U.S.-South Vietnamese intrusion and the kidnaping of Khmer citizens, and demands that the U.S. Government take appropriate measures to prevent similar acts from reoccurring.

On the night of 14 to 15 January U.S.-South Vietnamese troops of (Thanh Tri) post shelled Cambodian territory about 700 meters from the frontier, in (Thmei) commune, Kompong Rau District, Svay Rieng Province. On 17 January U.S.-South Vietnamese troops of (Kim Sang) post fired six artillery rounds on Khmer territory, about 300 meters from the frontier, in Koh Sampeou commune, Peamohor District, Prey Veng Province. The Cambodian Government strongly protests these repeated shellings of Khmer territory by U.S.-South Vietnamese forces and demands that the U.S. Government take appropriate measures to stop such provocations.

On 16 and 17 January six helicopters of the U.S.-South Vietnamese forces, supported by a reconnaissance aircraft, fired several rockets at Khmer people's houses near the (Taleng Keng) road, La Palket village, Sre Khtum commune, O Reang District, Mondolkiri Province. The rockets set fire to four houses belonging to Khmer villagers. The Cambodian Government strongly protests these deliberate shellings of Khmer houses in villages and demands that the U.S. Government take immediate measures to compensate the victims, indemnify them for damage done to their property, and prevent the recurrence of such aggressive acts.

Further Incidents

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0000 GMT 29 Mar 70 D

[Text] The Cambodian Foreign Ministry has sent several protest notes to the U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh in connection with a series of recent border incidents.

These notes said that on 18 January the Thmei commune in Kompong Rau District, Svay Rieng Province, was hit by 10 artillery shells fired by U.S.-South Vietnamese troops stationed at the (Thanh Tri) post in South Vietnam. The exploding shells wounded two Khmers, killed one water buffalo and injured another about 2,000 meters inside the Khmer border. That same day U.S.-South Vietnamese troops at (Kinh Thai Bang) post [in South Vietnam] fired nine artillery shells at the Bacnam pagoda in Bacnam village, Prek Tonle commune, Koh Thom District, Kandal Province, wounding a Khmer villager.

During the night of 22 January artillery shells fired by U.S.-South Vietnamese troops at (Chinh Tam) post [in South Vietnam] burned down a house, destroyed a sewing machine, and killed a cow in Koh Sampou commune, Peam Chor district, Prey Vent Province.

The Cambodian Government strongly protests these repeated acts of criminal aggression against peaceful Khmer inhabitants and villages along the border. It demands that the U.S. Government take immediate measures to indemnify the victims and end these criminal acts.

SIHANOUK SECRETARIAT PREDICTS SUPPORT FOR FUNK

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1650 GMT 28 Mar 70 B

Hanoi VNA March 25--The private secretariat of Samdech head of state Norodom Sihanouk on March 27, 1970 issued the following communique:

"Certain press agencies of the 'free world' claim that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk wants to make the United National Front of Cambodia an 'instrument' for his eventual return to power in Phnom Penh.

The private secretariat of the Cambodian head of state requests the Western press to pay more attention to the Prince's declaration and proclamations in which he has specified and underlined many times that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk will not agree in any case to take back power and that, on the contrary, he will rapidly tender his resignation as head of state of Cambodia and hand over all his constitutional powers to a popular government which will be set up in Phnom Penh after the victory of the United National Front of Cambodia (abbreviation 'F.U.N.K.' and not S.U.L.K. or S.U.L.K.A. as certain correspondents write fantastically (victory won) over the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak, Cheng Heng clique of reactionary saboteurs and their master, imperialism). [as received]

It is therefore evident that the struggle waged by Samdech is not at all prompted by any personal ambition or interest.

Besides, certain Western journalists (especially Anglo Saxon) believe they can make fun of the 'symbolic' struggle of the Prince who, in their opinion, can never go farther than the "micro" stage.

"To 'support' their 'prophecy', they fancy they can reassure their public opinion by predicting that F.U.N.K. will not succeed in getting either army or support from friendly powers, and that that F.U.N.K. is a but a 'bluff' by Sihanouk. [as received]

"The private secretariat of the head of state is in a position to inform the press that it is not at all a bluff and that neither support nor material aid from friendly countries of the Khmer people will fail to reach F.U.N.K. and its liberation army whose presence in Cambodia will be felt even in a not very distant future."

BONZES, STUDENTS MAP OUT PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN

[Editorial Report--D] Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1305 GMT on 28 March 1970 carried a 2-hour live broadcast of a meeting in the Premier's Office of bonzes and representatives of colleague students and the youth association. The meeting was chaired by Sangkum chairman and national assembly chairman In Tam and was held to discuss the launching of a propaganda campaign throughout the country.

In Tam opened the session by reviewing the circumstances leading to the deposing of Chief of State Norodom Sihanouk. He recalled the people's demonstrations against the present of Viet Cong troops on Khmer territory and the legal procedures taken by the two houses to divest Sihanouk of his function as Chief of State. He noted Khmer students in France have sent a message voicing support for the salvation government and proposing Cambodia be transformed into a republic. He then denounced Sihanouk for betraying the national interest at the instigation of foreigners. In Tam stressed that the salvation government has worked in the national interest, but that this has not been fully understood by Cambodians living in remote areas exposed to enemy oppression. He urged the participants to do their best to thwart the deceitful tricks of a person who thinks only of his family interests. He asked them to select the best views and use them in explaining the situation to people of all walks of life.

He then invited bonze chiefs to voice their views on the reparations to be made to launch a propaganda campaign. A bonze chief stressed the urgency of this task in order to help people understand the country's situation. Another came to say that Prince Sihanouk has become a Vietnamese socialist. He said all bonzes must realize this fact, explain it to the people, and urge them to take precautions in case Sihanouk sends Vietnamese forces to attack Cambodia. Other bonze chiefs expressed similar views on the need to launch this propaganda campaign.

At In Tam's invitation, a student representative said that he would do everything necessary to serve the nation in these difficult times, and that the student and youth associations had met several times on this matter.

After an exchange of views between bonzes and youth representatives on the propaganda campaign in the provinces, In Tam proposed that bonzes and student and youth representatives make their first propaganda sortie in Kompong Cham Province on 29 March, and that other sorties will be effected later in other provinces. This proposal was approved by all the participants.

The meeting closed after Dy Touch, secretary for interior in charge of cult and religious education, took the floor to thank the bonze chiefs for their participation in the session.

DRV, VIET CONG EMBASSY STAFFS LEAVE CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh Correspondent's Dispatch in English to Radio NHK Tokyo 1425 GMT 27 Mar 70 B)
(FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Phnom Penh--Embassy staffs of North Vietnam and Vietcong in Phnompenh evacuated today from Phnompenh and closed their embassys. Twenty seven staffs including charge d'affairs of both embassys left Phnompenh airport by International Control Commission plane two o'clock local time this afternoon.

At airport several ambassadors from communist country saw off. In Phnompenh traffic of motorcycle and bicycle have been strictly prohibited from six evening to six morning since tonight. Reason of this announcement still unknown but believed to be because troubles agitated by Vietcong in local areas since this morning.

Japanese Embassy found today by telephone that several Japanese families of Colombo plan expert working for Cambodian livestock center in Kompong Cham are safe but they have been advised by authority to stay inside center. In Phnompenh after six o'clock no motorcycle and bicycle are seen although cars and tricycle driving freely. Streets quieter than usual.

As result of evacuation and close of North Vietnam and Vietcong embassys, possibility of negotiation or talk between Cambodian Government and communist Vietnamese very scarce. Total number of two embassys staff are thirty five, twenty seven gone but eight said to be still in Phnompenh.

4 KILLED, MANY INJURED IN PRO-SIHANOUK DEMONSTRATIONS

Singapore AFP in English 1032 GMT 29 Mar 70 B (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Singapore, March 29 (AFP)--At least four people were killed and 30 to 40 others injured in pro-Sihanouk demonstrations in Phnom Penh last Friday, according to travellers reaching here today from Phnom penh. The demonstrations which took place between Phnom Penh and Kongpong Cham (120 kms) northeast of the capital were quelled by armoured vehicles which opened fire on the demonstrators, they said. The demonstrators fled, leaving behind a number of casualties.

The situation in the Cambodian capital remained tense as a curfew was clamped immediately. Phnom Penh was a ghost town, they added. There were hardly any people in the streets except for army and police personnel patrolling the capital with guns on the ready. The demonstrators, who went about the capital in trucks and lorries which they got from French-owned plantations and local businessmen, carried pictures of the deposed Prince Norodom Sihanouk. They shouted "Vive le Sihanouk" as they went from village to village. There were no less than 50 lorries and trucks in the "procession."

As they passed villages more people joined the demonstrators and the "procession" was getting bigger and bigger. The demonstrators fled when confronted by armoured vehicles which opened fire on them.

PHNOM PENH AIRPORT OPENED TO INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC

Singapore AFP in English 0800 GMT 30 Mar 70 B (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 30 (AFP)--Phnom Penh airport was re-opened to international traffic at 6.00 am today. The country's airports had been closed down since Friday following demonstrations against the new regime.

EMBASSY IN DAKAR RALLIES TO SIHANOUK'S CAUSE

Singapore AFP in English 1437 GMT 28 Mar 70 B (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Peking, March 28 (AFP)--By Pierre Comparet--The Cambodian Embassy in Dakar has rallied to the cause of deposed Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the third to do so after the embassies in Moscow and Cairo, the Prince's Secretariat announced here tonight.

The Prince received a message of loyalty from the Cambodian ambassador in Dakar, Chan Youran, on March 18, the day the Prince was deposed. The message pledged "total support" for Prince Sihanouk's cause, the secretariat said. Prince Sihanouk has also received messages of support from writer Han Suyin, Professor Gail Stark, of St. Louis, Missouri, and the Union of Cambodian Students in France.

Ambassador's Statement

Paris AFP in French 1823 GMT 28 Mar 70 C (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] "It was to place myself as quickly as possible at the disposition of Prince Norodom Sihanouk that I left Dakar," said the Cambodian ambassador to Senegal, Chan Youran, on his arrival in Paris on Saturday evening.

"I am an ardent follower of the policy of neutrality, independence, peace, national integrity, and justice which Prince Norodom Sihanouk, with whom I have been collaborating for a long time, is the only person qualified to realize."

Chan Youran, who has indicated his intention to go to Moscow as quickly as possible, has also made an appeal to all his compatriots overseas to give the fullest support to the cause of the Prince in exile.

Support From UN Envoy

Singapore AFP in English 1050 GMT 30 Mar 70 B (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Peking, March 30 (AFP)--By Pierre Comparet--Cambodia's permanent ambassador to the United Nations has come out in support of ousted head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the Prince's Secretariat announced here today.

He is the fourth foreign envoy to back the Prince, following similar moves by the ambassadors to Moscow, Cairo and Dakar, Senegal. Further support has come from the Union of Cambodian Students in France, the Soviet Union, and United Arab Republic, the secretariat stated. Meanwhile the Prince has ordered all Cambodian diplomatic or consular missions to adopt a new title, Royal Cambodian embassy, or Royal Cambodian consulate general, "placed under the aegis of the National United Front of Kampuchea (Cambodia)," a communique, dated March 23 and released today, states. The Secretariat stated that the proposed national union government had not yet been formed although the Prince's March 23 statement had referred to the constitution of a new regime.

In a separate communique also released today, the Prince's private adviser Samdech (Prince) Penn Nouth Claimed that 165 political prisoners reportedly released in Phnom Penh had been arrested by Premier Lon Nol while Prince Norodom Sihanouk was in power.

Reports said that "the Lon Nol government has released 165 prisoners, victims of the injustices [as received] of Prince Norodom Sihanouk," the communique states. "It was the reactionary, anti-communist and pro-imperialist Lon Nol himself who, as prime minister and defense minister, on his own initiative had many young people and peasants arrested on charges of being communists, pro-Vietcong and pro-Vietminh."

The communique concluded: "Prince Norodom Sihanouk, informed of these massive arrests and detentions, took the initiative to release hundreds of extreme leftist Cambodians and had returned them to their families in their villages and towns of origin during his provincial tours."

EMBASSIES SEND SUPPORT MESSAGE TO NEW REGIME

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in English 0545 GMT 28 Mar 70 D

[Text] The Cambodian embassies in Washington, Colombo, Belgrade, and 5 Khmer members of the embassy staff in Moscow have sent telegrams of support to the salvation government.

Support From France

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in French 2330 GMT 27 Mar 70 D

[Text] Khmer students and civilian and military officials receiving training in France have sent a telegram of support to the government of salvation demanding that it declare Cambodia a republic in accordance with national interests.

NEW FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES HEADS OF MISSIONS

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in French 2330 GMT 27 Mar 70 D

[Text] The British, the Soviet, and the Indian ambassadors were successively received by Foreign Minister Yem Sambaur at his office on 26 March.

More Envoys

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 28 Mar 70 D

[Text] The heads of the diplomatic missions from Indonesia, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, the UAR, and Burma were received by Foreign Minister Yem Sambaur in his office on 27 March.

Further Details

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 29 Mar 70 D

[Text] On 28 March Foreign Minister Yem Sambaur received heads of diplomatic missions in Cambodia from the GDR, Bulgaria, Laos, France, the United States, Singapore, Spain, and Australia.

BRIEFS

CONGO BORDER RECOGNITION--The ambassador from the Congo Brazzaville to Cairo presented Sarin Chhak, Cambodian ambassador to the United Arab Republic, with a solemn statement of the state council of the Congolese People's Republic, "recognizing and respecting the territorial integrity of Cambodia within its present frontiers." (Phnom Penh REALITES CAMBODGIENNES French 6 Mar 70 X)