

1. THE CHARGE OF THE CAMBODIAN EMBASSY IN HANOI, IN
S I V O U T H, TOLD THE AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR D.G. W I L S O N
ON 6 JULY 1976 THAT THE RAILWAY TO SIHANOUKVILLE AND TO THE
THAI BORDER HAD BEEN REPAIRED AND THAT A GREAT DEAL OF TRAFFIC
WAS USING IT, ACCORDING TO IN SIVOUTH, USE OF THE RAILWAY WAS
PARTICULARLY NECESSARY AS THE POPULATION OF PHNOM PENH WAS
DISPERSED AND ONLY ABOUT 20-30,000 OFFICIALS AND FACTORY
WORKERS REMAINED IN THE CITY. IN SIVOUTH SAID THAT EXPORTS
OF RUBBER WERE BEING ARRANGED THROUGH SIHANOUKVILLE BUT THAT
THE MEKONG WAS ONLY BEING USED FOR INTERNAL TRAFFIC BECAUSE

"IT WAS FILLED WITH WRECKAGE," HE SAID THAT 11 TEXTILE
FACORIES AROUND PHNOM PENH HAD RESUMED PRODUCTION.

2. IN SIVOUTH STATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE
IN CAMBODIA'S POSITION ON THE MEKONG COMMITTEE. HE SAID
THAT FOR THE PRESENT THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT WAS
CONCENTRATING ON PROJECTS THAT IT COULD HANDLE ITSELF. IN
SIVOUTH INDICATED THAT HE EXPECTED AN IMPORTANT CAMBODIAN
DELEGATION WOULD ATTEND THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN COLOMBO
BUT CLAIMED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHO WOULD BE IN THE
DELEGATION.

3. WHEN THE AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR ASKED ABOUT THE
STATUS OF PRINCE NORODOM S I H A N O U K, IN SIVOUTH STATED THAT
SIHANOUK AND HIS WIFE WERE IN CAMBODIA AND IN GOOD HEALTH.
IN SIVOUTH CLAIMED THAT SIHANOUK HAD " FINALLY DECIDED TO
STAY" IN CAMBODIA DESPITE THE URGINGS OF SOME OF HIS
CHILDREN TO COME TO FRANCE. IN SIVOUTH STATED THAT HE
SUSPECTED THAT "IMPERIALISTS" HAD INSTIGATED THESE URGINGS.
(HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: ALL INDICATIONS FROM PREVIOUS REPORTING
ARE THAT SIHANOUK IS BEING HELD A VIRTUAL PRISONER IN CAMBODIA.
THEREFORE THIS PROBABLY REFLECTS THE OFFICIAL CAMBODIAN PROPAGANDA

ON SIHANOUK

CAMB
FILE
SUBJ.
DATE
SUB-CAT.
6/76

(1)

(2)

1. A MALAYSIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) CLASSIFIED MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION, DATED 2 SEPTEMBER 1976, WHICH RECORDED A DISCUSSION BETWEEN MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER HUSSEIN ONN AND CAMBODIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS IENG SARY HELD ON 19 AUGUST 1976 IN COLOMBO DURING THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE, STATED THE FOLLOWING:

2. "IENG SARY CALLED ON MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER HUSSEIN ONN AT HIS OWN REQUEST. HE SAID THAT AS SOON AS HE HEARD THE PRIME MINISTER WAS LEAVING COLOMBO FOR MALAYSIA, HE HAD REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT TO PAY HIS RESPECTS, AND HE WAS GLAD THAT HE WAS ABLE TO DO SO HALF AN HOUR BEFORE THE PRIME MINISTER WAS TO LEAVE. HUSSEIN WELCOMED IENG SARY AND EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR IENG SARY'S GESTURE TO CALL ON HIM.

3. "IENG SARY THEN TALKED ABOUT THE DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH MALAYSIA WHICH HIS COUNTRY WAS KEEN TO STRENGTHEN FURTHER. CAMBODIA, HE SAID, WOULD LIKE TO STRENGTHEN ITS BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. HE SAID THAT WHEN THE THAI FOREIGN MINISTER PITCHAI RATTAKUL MET HIM RECENTLY, THE FORMER HAD EXPLAINED TO HIM ABOUT ASEAN; THAT IT WAS NOT A MILITARY ORGANIZATION BUT ESSENTIALLY AN ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL COOPERATION. IENG SARY REVEALED THAT HE HAD TOLD MR. RATTAKUL THAT CAMBODIA WAS UNABLE TO JOIN ASEAN BECAUSE THE OTHER COUNTRIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA WITH WHOM CAMBODIA HAD FOUGHT FOR LIBERATION (A REFERENCE TO VIETNAM AND LAOS) WERE ALSO PROPOSING TO FORM THEIR OWN GROUP WHICH CAMBODIA WOULD NOT WANT TO JOIN EITHER. THE ONLY ORGANIZATION THAT CAMBODIA WOULD WANT TO JOIN OTHER THAN THE UNITED NATIONS WAS THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT CAMBODIA WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE CLOSEST RELATIONS WITH SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES, AND THIS HE SAID COULD BE ACHIEVED BY HAVING BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THEM.

NATIONS AND ELSEWHERE WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR CONTACTS WITH EACH OTHER TO WHICH IENG SARY EXPRESSED HIS CONCURRENCE.

7. "IENG SARY THEN SAID THAT CAMBODIA MAINTAINS VERY GOOD RELATIONS WITH BURMA ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE NOT EXCHANGED EMBASSIES YET. REFERRING TO HUSSEIN'S VISIT TO BURMA, IENG SARY SAID THAT THE VISIT WAS GOOD. HE WISHED THE GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA FULL SUCCESS.

8. "BEFORE THE MEETING ENDED IT WAS AGREED THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD EXCHANGE INFORMATION DOCUMENTS TO ENABLE BETTER KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER,"

9. ALSO ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE MALAYSIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DATUK AHMAD R I T H A U D D E E N; MALAYSIAN MFA SECRETARY-GENERAL Z A H A R I A BIN HAJI MOHAMAD ALI; AND SEVERAL CAMBODIAN AIDES.

3