

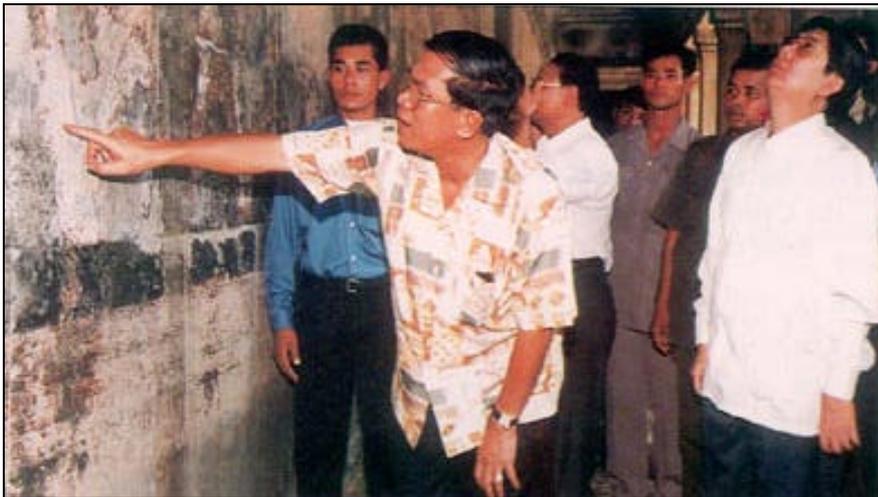
Cambodia New Vision

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EXTENSIVE EXCERPTS OF

SAMDECH HUN SEN'S SEPTEMBER-03, SEPTEMBER-07 PRESS CONFERENCES,
AND SEPTEMBER-24 PRESS BRIEFING



◆ **THE SEPTEMBER-3
PRESS CONFERENCE IN
SIEMREAP PROVINCE**

“... Samdech Chea Sim and I respectfully informed HM the King that the CPP delegation led by HE Samdech Chea Sim, Chairman of the Party and I, Vice Chairman, will attend the meeting (of the three elected parties). At the moment I was told that Funcinpec and Sam Rainsy Parties will dispatch to the meeting their low-level officials... Through the service of the Cabinet of the Royal Palace, the two parties were aware already that CPP would be led by its top leaders...”

Top leaders of the political parties should attend the Siemreap meeting

“... There are two important reasons why we send the top-level

leaders to the meeting: 1) to work with HM the King, we should not, and we can not dishonor him by sending to the meeting the low-level officials as it is not appropriate as far as the rank is taken into consideration. HM the King is at the top of the nation. I am not saying, though, that it is an insult to HM, but it could be considered impolite to send their low-ranking representatives to work with the Father of the Nation... As for me, I have cancelled all my scheduled programmes in Phnom Penh to come and stay here for the work...; 2) this meeting is deemed important because of the political decision that will be made in relation to the future of the nation. Therefore, low-ranking officials are not sufficiently entitled to do it... I hope that Funcinpec and Sam Rainsy Parties will reconsider sending their highest-level representatives to the meeting under the

chairmanship of HM the King...”

A timely functioning National Assembly and a new Government — the wish of the Cambodian people and the international community...

“... CPP foresees three possibilities which could bring about a solution, for the time being as well as for the future, to break through the current stalemate. Let me tell you that I already sought HM the King’s consideration of those possibilities...”

“... The first possibility is that we successfully convene the National Assembly and set up a coalition Government. It is the best possibility for the Cambodian people and the wish of the international community. All elected parties are required to make compromises in line with the will of the people as expressed through the July-26 elections. CPP favours this possibility, so it prays and makes all efforts so that this will be realized...;”

“... The second possibility is the National Assembly being convened, but the new Government not being ready. To our understanding, after the convening of the National Assembly, it is just a matter of time that the process to form a new Government will fol-

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low suit, though it would be in a slower pace... In this case, since a new Government is yet to be formed, the current Government, which is headed by HE First Prime Minister Ung Huot, and myself, would continue its work as a caretaker Government. Perhaps I have to make it clear on this point. This means that there will not be any type of temporary Government other than the existing one. HM the King and I have agreed on the continuation of the current Government... because according to our Constitution, the existing Government can be dissolved only when the newly formed Government exists to replace it. No one is entitled to dissolve it. HM the King said that "he has no rights to do it"... This possibility is not so good, nor too bad, because we will have monarchical institution, the convened National Assembly, the process to set up the Government later, and the current Government that functions as a caretaker one. Therefore, we ensure the continuity of the state...;"

"... The third possibility is that the new National Assembly could not be convened, and accordingly, the new Government cannot be foreseen. It is the worst option. In such a circumstance, one should bear in mind that the current National Assembly has not yet dissolved, while the new one has yet the rights to take over the job... therefore, we are forced to solicit the first legislative National Assembly to do something like constitutional amendments... Let me tell you frankly here that I do not want to see such a situation arise. And I see its probability of less than 1%. We will do the best we can to avert this option..."

"... To join or not to join the Government is the rights to decision of any political parties. However, if

they choose not to join the National Assembly, that means they ignore the will of the people..."

"... I hope for the first possibility i.e. to convene the National Assembly, and to set up the Government in an appropriately successive process... We have prayed to Devadas of Angkor Wat and Preah Ang Chek & Preah Ang Cham (the two sacred Buddhist statues in Siemreap, nearby the Royal Palace) to help us to attain the goal for the sake of peace for the Cambodian people..."

**Time for the politicians to act...
the Cambodian people have
done their part already**

"... We have overcome historical experiences starting from confrontations, military conflicts, to negotiations, all the way to attaining Paris Peace Agreement which resulted in the 1993-elections... We successfully resolved the issue of Khmer Rouge seceded zones, and fortified the national unity and reconciliation... For the past months, we have brought the once chaotic confrontation situation in the country to a free, fair, and non-violent election. More than 90% of the Cambodian eligible voters have made their political decision. It is now time for us, politicians, to seek a reconciliation among ourselves as a reciprocation to the voters' will and to enable our country to enter the 21st century with dignity and honour... I have no belief in the possibility of having another war. Since I was 28 or 29, I have carried out more negotiations than war. Though there is a very slight chance for a negotiation, somewhere at 0.1%, still we never abandon it. It is in this reason of course that I returned to Siemreap with an idea in mind that Nokor Kok Thlok Hotel should be headquarters for our negotiation this time..."

**Deep thanks to the recognition,
and the appeal of the Japanese
Government...**

"... I think that the message of official recognition of the July-26 elections declared by the Japanese Government is very encouraging. We take the declaration point by point, and notice that we are actually making effort to carry out the third point as declared in the message to start the negotiation as soon as possible with the other two elected parties in the spirit of national reconstruction, and the establishment of a coalition government in response to people's will. Taking this opportunity, we would like to express our deep thanks to the recognition and appeal made by the Japanese Government, as well as its promise of continued assistance to Cambodia..."

**Coordination... a chance that we
always explore and value**

"... In the 1993-elections, the first elected party scored 58 seats in the parliament i.e. seven seats more than the second elected party. At that time there was no Constitution which required the votes of two-thirds of the elected members of the National Assembly to adopt it. It would not be right if one said the constitutional monarchy was a product of any particular party. Without CPP support, the constitutional monarchy could not have come into being. The 1998-elections recorded that the first elected party attains 21 seats more than the second elected one. The figure shows that the first elected party is entitled to have over 50% of the seats, in the context that the Constitution and various other institutions are already in place... However, we have never aban-

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doned the chance for negotiations and coordinations... The most serious concern after the 1993-elections was the direction of the Constitution. Then political coordination was not at all simple... What is not understandable here is that with HM the King on the throne, and 39 political parties contested in the elections, they (the oppositions) call the current Government -- the Communist... While accusing us of dictatorship, they enjoyed freedom to conduct electoral campaigns, to voice their opinions through the means of media and/or demonstrations...”

◆ **THE SEPTEMBER-7
PRESS CONFERENCE
AT THE PHNOM
PENH RESIDENCE**

“... (You may be aware that) three grenades were tossed into the compound of my Phnom Penh residence. Two of them exploded... The grenades were being used concurrently with the illegal and violent demonstrations which had been staged for the past several days... The demonstrations brought about activities aimed at toppling and killing me. Sam Rainsy's speeches were full of rhetoric calling on the police and the military to turn their guns at me who is a legitimate Prime Minister, appealing the US to fire missiles at my residence at Tuol Kra-saing (Takhmao town of Kandal Province)...”

**Rhetoric of murder, racial
discrimination, violence...
UNTAC Provisional Code
should be applied**

“... The demonstrations have been going on, and deviated from its original idea of expressing dissatisfaction in relation to the election results to two other hazardous

points: 1) it provokes assassination attempts on the legal Prime Minister, and aims to quell the current legal government. I do not mean they attempt to just discredit me personally, but I mean the political regime itself. In this context, prosecutors could be plaintiffs to file complaints against the instigators; 2) it causes racial discrimination feeling to an extent that foreigners of Vietnamese origin have been beaten to death in the streets. In this context, they have been trying to attach this government with Vietnam, to destroy the memorial monument (as a symbol of the two countries' historical relations), and eventually, the massacre of the Vietnamese (ethnic minority)...

“... In these incidents, again, the prosecutors of the court could be plaintiffs to file complaints on them (the instigators)... The two cases should be processed according to the UNTAC Provisional Code...”

**The trick of agitating me to use
force,... will not work**

“... The attack on my house this morning clearly did not aim at my life because they (the criminals) had known that most of the time I reside at my house at Tuol Kra-saing(Takhmao), not in Phnom Penh. The act was to challenge me to resort to using forces to crack down the demonstration. They think that if I responded as they have thought, the election results would be destroyed...”

“... May I have your attention here that a few hand grenades could not disprove the results of the elections which were devoted efforts made by the Cambodian people and supported by the international community. It is in this respect that, before leaving Siemreap town, I gave clear instruction that no force would be used to sup-

press the demonstrators...”

**Measures to bring back
social order to Cambodia**

“... What needs to be solved is that 1) the leaders of the illegal demonstrations will be banned from making trips abroad during the period of investigation... The air traffic will continue to function as normal. The Cambodian citizens are free to travel abroad. Only those who are considered leaders, or actively involved instigators in the demonstrations will be banned from going abroad before they are proved to be innocent. This is not an attempt to deprive the citizen rights from them, but a necessary measure to be taken at the time of too many instigations resulted from the illegal demonstrations...; 2) sites which are suspected to be weapon hiding places, within the demonstration area included, will be searched thoroughly... On this point, the prosecutors, especially the National Police, have the duty to seek permission to make such a search possible, and legal in any places deemed high suspicions...; 3) the leaders of the demonstrations, who rhetorically instigated the assassination of the Prime Minister, the racial hatred on the ethnic minorities, will face with legal actions... based upon the arrest warrant to be delivered by the prosecutors, and in accordance with the legal procedures of the court of justice...; 4) the illegal demonstrations are given time till 12:00 p.m. as an ultimatum... and one should not be mistaken that a few thousand demonstrators are really representing the 11 million people of Cambodia. The 11 million people, as HM the King mentioned yesterday, who are not taking part in the demonstration have also expressed their will that they do not support it. There are over

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one million people in Phnom Penh capital, and at most, only ten thousand of them join in the demonstration. It is below even one percent of the number they claim to represent... Therefore, we wish to appeal to the illegal demonstrators to peacefully disperse before 12:00 p.m...; 5) I wish to humbly appeal to HM the King to convene (a meeting of) the National Assembly as soon as possible because only this will curb tension from inflicting further. For the past three days, HM the King, by trying to adhere to the Article 82 of the Constitution, and Point 5 of the Internal Regulation of the National Assembly, which stipulate that such a meeting must be convened within 60 days at the latest after the elections, has made all out effort to restoring normalcy in Phnom Penh, to convening the meeting of the National Assembly, and to forming a Government...; 6) may I make an appeal to all foreign embassies in Phnom Penh not to allow their sacred territories as hideouts for the terrorists (the demonstration leaders) who may seek assistance from them at the pretext that they bear foreign nationalities...; and lastly, I would like to call on our fellow citizens, and the armed forces to keep calm, to refrain from taking revenge or creating violence on each other..."

"... The legal actions outlined above are to be taken purely against the leaders of the illegal demonstrations, the terrorists, and those who continue to commit acts of violence..."

"... They are not being aimed at any political parties that are having seats in the National Assembly. The election results are to be safeguarded for the sake of the future of the Kingdom of Cambodia..."

Rain has come,... let's

get back to the rice fields

"... (Once again) I wish to appeal to our people to pay attention to the agricultural production activities because rain has come, and we are approaching the end of the rainy season. I want to have your attention that the demonstration only serves the ambition of power of some political leaders, and does not provide food for your families..."

"... May I request to my supporters to refrain from any revenging acts, and let those who are responsible to be judged by the law. I may keep the signs of damages of my house here unfixed... for journalists, and/or tourists to take a look at any time..."

No ban to the rights for demonstrations as long as they are legal, and bear reasonable demands

"... We ban no demonstrations that are staged according to law, and that express reasonable demands. And we have to take the side of public order and security when it is a matter of illegal demonstrations, especially when they inflict destruction on public properties, call for an assassination of any particular person, the Prime Minister of the legal Government in this case, instigate racial discrimination and public disorder, which are considered harm to the country's socio-economic functioning..."

◆ THE SEPTEMBER-24 PRESS BRIEFING IN SIEMREAP PROVINCE

"... Everybody, even the disabled or innate deformity people, wish to live, and so do I, like everybody. However, the great shock I have (after the rocket propelled assassi-

nation attempt) was that following my death, the problem would not be solved by any means. The incident will severely deteriorate the situation, and it will stretch beyond anyone's control..."

Thanks to the Angkor Devadas for my safety

"... I think this morning's attempt on my life is the last timing to frustrate the gathering of the National Assembly, and to nullify the election results. Not long ago they (the opposition terrorists) threw grenades into my Phnom Penh residence compound, which I considered an attempt to kindle anger in me to resort to the military forces... and, again, this morning's (assassination) attempt, if it were to be a success, the convening of the National Assembly would certainly be stalled, and fighting would then erupt. Thank God. After all, it is a good luck for me. The Angkor guardian Devadas have saved me from this fatal danger..."

Requested HM for the Royal Decree of Amnesty for Srun Vong Vannak

"... May I appeal to those who carried out this attempt to report themselves to the authority, and to provide accurate information about who are behind the scheme. They will be free from any guilt responsibility, and will be instead rewarded... By the same token, I sent a letter, yesterday, to HM the King to request his royal kindness to provide amnesty to Mr. Srun Vong Vannak, the head of security staff of Sam Rainsy, who involved in the murder of my brother-in-law..., and HM the King already issued an amnesty decree for him.../."■