

Cambodia New Vision

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Militia's Arms Demolition at the Special Military Region Headquarter

On January 26, 1998, noting the first arms demolition of its kind in the Cambodian history at the special military region (SMR) headquarter, Samdech Hun Sen drew audience's attention to the following:

1,500 as part of the 3,626 rifles in SMR under demolition... for elections in free and fair atmosphere

"... we have brought 1,500 as part of the 3,626 rifles collected from the militia in the special military region to demolition. Responding to the orders of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), the Co-Commander in Chief of the Cambodian National Armed Forces (CNAF), the Ministry of National Defense, the General Staff disarmed 22,760 rifles from about 80% of the militia all over the country. Subsequent arms demolition in other military regions will be organized by the Ministry of National Defense in collaboration with the General Staff... demolition of arms signifies goodwill of RGC and CNAF in safeguarding security and public order, in strengthening a state ruled by law, and in creating a neutral political atmosphere for the sake of implementing a multi-party democracy, especially the forthcoming elections to be held in a free, fair and credible atmosphere on July 26, 1998."

Ten provinces completed the militia disarmament...

"... after the July 5-6 incident up to date, the overall situation of Cambodia has evolved in a remarkably positive direction. With the return to normality and even better condition of the situation, and for the creation of a neutral political atmosphere, security and safety for the up-coming 1998 elections, the Government leaders and Co-Commander in Chief of CNAF have issued an eight-point security order on August 18, 1997, one point of which is to disarm the militia and bring the



weapons for demolition. Implementing the order, the General Staff has defined the number of weapons to deprive according to security and specific geographical condition. A number of provinces such as Battambang, Porsath, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap, Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear, Takeo, Koh Kong, Monduliri and Kep-Bokor City, have already completed the arms collection.

Seeking military superiority and col- luding with the Khmer Rouge... causes of the July event

"... extremists' ambitious aim for a monopoly power runs counter to democracy and political stability which were then in a fragile condition easily leading to a friction. Starting from early 1996 they strove for a military and civil administration balance in which case military superiority is a necessity to support their own political activity neglecting the principle of political neutralization on the armed forces and civil administration, which envisages a danger to the nation. They attempted to build up armed forces, militia and po-

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For a Permanent Cease-fire

With a view to bring about a permanent cease-fire for the sake of durable peace and stability for Cambodia, on January 6, 1998, Samdech Second Prime Minister Hun Sen issued a statement embodying important measures as follows.

To achieve a permanent cease-fire and a return to the original framework of the situation, Norodom Ranariddh has to: 1) withdraw his order to fight against the Royal Government, which was declared at the dawn of July 5, 1997; 2) nullify the illegal appointments of Chief and Deputy Chief of General Staff, and other appointments which are contrary to the state laws and violate the King's rights to decide, and because all these appointments are but the order to fight which bears the nature of secessionism aimed at creating a country of two states, and two armies in Cambodia; and 3) declare the severance of relations, under whatever forms, with the outlawed Khmer Rouge who have infiltrated their troops disguised as Ranariddh's troops to fight against the armed forces of the Royal Government of Cambodia.

Anyone in the armed forces who ally with the extremist group should, 1) completely cease the fighting and report to the Royal Government of their locations, number of troops, weapons, and ammunition; 2) no longer mobilize, re-deploy, and advance their troops, 3) drive away the Khmer Rouge troops from their locations,...

"... the Royal Government welcomes back all those who have their names on the list prior to the July-1997 event, and re-instate them with their previous ranks and positions together with their salaries and other entitlements accrued from the date when they abandoned their units. (the armed forces of the Royal Government) will take no actions against any deployment areas where the above mentioned three measures have been fulfilled. ■

Education:

- **800,000 Rural Pupils Can Be Accommodated with Peace Culture in School**
- **Welcome to Academy of History in Cambodia**

3 January 1998

Receiving a group of delegation of the Khmer Staff Association of Education on January 3, 1998 at his residence in Takhmao, Samdech Hun Sen signifies certain ideas on current educational facilities, foreign aid, technology, and culture as follows:

800,000 children can now attend a two-session class from Hun Sen's school project...

"... Some people raised the question as to when Mr Hun Sen will end his school building project? I often told them that the project will never come to an end. I am quite happy that the current school facilities that are born from my rural school building project can now accommodate 800,000 pupils, if they attend school on a two-session-class basis..."

In some cases, foreign aid rarely reached out to the Cambodian people...

"... Adhering to a transparency in offering assistance, foreign countries come to build schools by themselves. According to the Cambodian standard, we spend only US\$ 20,000 to construct a five-classroom building. But, those foreigners-run projects, adding up all related expenses such as airtickets for technicians and others', cost from US\$30,000 to US \$35,000 for a building. In some cases (as far as foreign aid is to mention here), only 10% of the assistance reached Cambodian people due to unnecessary spendings... some form of assistance have been used as a way to provide employment to (foreign) technicians, so to speak. The local people or Khmer expatriates with high degrees and knowledge have not been adequately employed..."

Technology should be morally attached...

"... Progress has been made in tech-

nology while human morality has declined; this technology will only serve the human killing purpose. For instance, a number of physicians carry out the experiments to produce drugs. A number of nuclear technicians did not produce nuclear for the sake of energy development but to invent lethal nuclear bombs. This is technological development in the absence of morality. The social morality is on the decline. It is an old problem that exists not only in Cambodia, but also in the world..."

Peace culture to be introduced into schools, families and society...

"...We will establish a national committee of Peace Culture Day. We have to carry out this task to do away with conflicts that may be caused by killing, insulting and fighting each others. Therefore, we have to use cultural means for peace and development because we have common points although we have different trends... culture can cement the rift of a nation. The program of peace culture must be introduced into schools, families and society as a whole..."

24 January 1998

In a courtesy visit to Samdech Second Prime Minister Hun Sen at his residence in Takhmao on January 24, a group of 16 professors from Department of History of the Royal University of Phnom Penh led by Prof. Sun Samnang, presented a proposal to set up an Academy of History to be seconded to the Royal University of Phnom Penh. Samdech Hun Sen gladly agreed and drew the professors' attention to:

Documentation on Cambodian history in disarray... efforts has to be made to re-establish it

"... in the past, many Khmer (historical) works/documents have been lost. It caused a lot of difficul-

ties for our young generation students and researchers. (Therefore) we have to collect, compile and publish those documents that are related to the national history..."

As researchers ones have to have independent position... otherwise their works are meaningless

"... the efforts made by professors of history will contribute to the success of the rural development strategy as well as the enhancement of the people's general knowledge, first of all on democracy. Researchers should adhere to an independent position and not be subjected to any politicians. Otherwise, their research will be meaningless..."

US\$ 35,000 for the start of an Academy of History in Cambodia

"... (aimed at facilitating the research project presented by the professors from the Department of History) Samdech Hun Sen kindly contributed a sum of US\$ 35,000 for the start of an Academy of History seconded to the RUPP and for the publication of documents and field works in 1998..."

Message from
Cambodia New Vision

The Cabinet of the Second Prime Minister has a great pleasure to share with you its monthly publication of Cambodia New Vision bulletin which carries to you excerpts of speeches/statement/interviews etc. made by Samdech Hun Sen. Comments on and recommendations for the publication and its contents are welcome at the following address:

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Samdech Hun Sen Expounds Ideas on Democracy, Neu- trality of Military & Civil Administra- tion, and Inde- pendence of Judges

Attending a seminar on Good Governance organized by the Cambodian Institute of Human Rights (CIHR) on January 12, 1998, addressing its participants, Samdech Hun Sen outlined some ideas as follow:

Democracy... closely connected with peace, political stability and development

"... taking into consideration the history of human rights and the history of democratic theories, everybody recognizes that people created democracy for the sake of mankind..."

"... A society imbued with democracy, to me, has at least the following points: 1) constitution, 2) freedom and independence of the press, 3) neutrality of civil administration and armed forces, and independence of the judiciary courts, and 4) recognition and attention paid to the voice of the minority..."

"... A strong democracy must have thesis and antithesis which should not cause division detrimental to the national interest. The forces of thesis and antithesis, in the end, will lead to a combined force for the sake of national interest..."

"... An efficient democracy responds to the generality and particularity of the society. No formula or model can be employed for all time and all places. Democracy is not a commodity for export-import policy... Democracy can not take shape by installing, imposing or forcing onto a society..."

"... A durable democracy must be closely connected with peace, politi-

cal stability and development..."

On neutrality of civil administration and the armed forces...

"... We need neutrality of the civil administration and armed forces not only for the elections and neutral political atmosphere but also for the state of law... as far as the elections and neutral atmosphere are concerned, our law stipulates that no political party is allowed to have its own troops/armed forces and secessionist regions..."

"... In a state of law, the civil administration and the armed forces belong to the nation and the government. Although the government is headed by any prime minister, the civil administration and the armed forces always belong to the Government. It is unchangeable... if it is, there will be unending confrontation from one term to another..."

"... For the up-coming elections, it is good for the police to defend in each voting station. If the police force is not sufficient, the military police can be of help..."

"... We all should encourage the civil administration and armed forces to be neutral. The commentaries or reports by local as well as foreign newspapers/TV/radio should concentrate on strengthening neutrality..."

On independence of Judges

Among other qualities, Samdech Hun Sen proposed that to be a good judge one has to nurture two aspects as follows:

- 1 Objective aspect — without pressure, threat, intimidation and bribe, or political imposition on the judge.
- 2 Subjective aspect — they should stick to impartiality, and avoid the partiality caused by emotion, fear, hatred and ignorance... ■

Hun Sen to TVBS: One-China Policy — Principle, Morality & Legality

Giving interview to the Taiwanese TVBS on January 19, 1998, Samdech Hun Sen addressed some issues as follows:

Cambodia presented by foreign media is bad... but the real Cambodia is beautiful and in progress

"... The security in Cambodia has never been better during the past 30 years. The sporadic small fighting is only a bargaining scheme in the fight-talk situation... now there are two Cambodias: one Cambodia presented by a number of foreign newspapers and TV channels, which is diminishing. Another Cambodia — where we are sitting together here — is beautiful and making progress. I hope that the truth will prevail in accordance with the real nature of the truth..."

One-China policy... a principle, morality and a legal matter

"... One-China Policy is the principle and morality... (in view of morality) we can not shake hands with a person and trample on his feet at the same time i.e. we can not shake hand with Beijing and maintain relations with Taipei. If we did, China could do the same with Cambodia. We are not afraid of China, but this is the matter of morality and principle in international relations. We, Cambodians, have suffered a lot, when foreigners interfere into Cambodia's internal affairs... (in view of legality) formerly Taiwan was the representative of China in the UN Security Council. Now, Beijing is. It (one China-policy) is therefore a legal matter as well..."

RGC continues to protect the interest of the Taiwanese investors...

"... After the July incidents, despite the absence of the Representative Office of Taiwan (ROT), the Royal Government of Cambodia has adequately protected the interest of the Taiwanese investors like other investors. Even if there would be a ROT, it can not protect... because only a Representative Office at the ambassadorial level can provide protection. It is in this case the Embassy of the People's Republic of China. So far, the Embassy has protected the interests of the Chinese from Hong Kong, etc..." ■

Hun Sen to “Le Figaro”:

- **Peace Culture in Electoral Campaign,**
- **Criminal Investigation – as a Package,**
- **Monarchy Sustains if Not Involved in Politics**

Giving interview to “Le Figaro” on January 12, 1998, Samdech Hun Sen addressed some issues as follows:

Politicians should not insult each other in the elections campaign...

“... may I propose the real Khmer culture, the culture of peace, to be applied by all (Cambodian) politicians in the forthcoming electoral campaign. In order to gain ballots, all political parties should present their positive points rather than insult and curse each others...”

Criminal investigation should be conducted as a package...

“... the investigation to search (for criminals) should be carried out as a package, because there are a lot of people killed by Ranariddh’s forces in their retreat. Investigation should therefore be carried out on both CPP and FUNCINPEC in order to hunt down murderers. We (the Royal Government of Cambodia) will arrest anyone who is proved to be a murderer by documents/evidence... (RGC) has met a lot of troubles in making prog-

ress in the investigation process by which it is insufficient to make accusation... there have been statements that if the murderers are not found, the (future) elections will not be fair... why were not the 1993-elections unfair since the crimes of Pol Pot had not been (and still is not) found either? Those remarks/statements are but troubles for Cambodia. In this connection, it is worth asking if they are politically motivated or legally oriented? Please provide us with evidence/proofs for (further developing) accusing process...”

Whether HM the King is the last?...

“... Many people said that HM the King Norodom Sihanouk is the last King (in Cambodia). It is not my view. HM the King can be the last one if members of the royal families are involved in politics. If they do not carry out a revolution by themselves, according to my assessment, after considering all opinions, perhaps HM the King will be the last one. However, it depends on the royal families. I am not more royalist than the King is...”■

The “Flower Festival” Dedicated to Teachers Collected the Total Sum of 2, 041, 737, 700 Riels

The flower festival initiated by Samdech Hun Sen and lasted from June 16, 1997 to January 6, 1998, in dedication to teachers has come to a close collecting a total sum of 2,041,737,700 Riels.

The amount has been divided and donated by Samdech Hun Sen to 19 municipality/provincial and six regional teacher's training colleges, and one faculty of pedagogy in Phnom Penh for a period of one year. Allowance per person and college is illustrated in the following chart:

| College/School | Monthly Allowance Per Person (Riel) Per Month | Total Allowance for One Year (Riel) | Total Administrative Costs for One Year (Riel) |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| 19 Teachers’ Training Colleges at the Provincial and Municipal levels | 15,000 | 839,100,000 | 114,000,000 |
| Six Regional Teachers’ Training Colleges | 20,000 | 372,000,000 | 36,000,000 |
| Faculty of Pedagogy | 20,000 | 353,280,000 | 6,000,000 |

(Continued from page 1)

lice by arming them illegally, by colluding with the outlawed Khmer Rouge indicating that they are but a non-ethnic democratic game, a violation of law on purpose, a political distrust, and a betrayal to the Parties’ alliance. Having done all these, not only that they do not intend to compete in a democratic and pluralistic atmosphere, but also they create a threat to national security, causing disaster to the nation and people. The July incident that took place at the ignition of the extremist group aimed at pulling down the legal government and reviving the genocide has actualized in deaths, and losses of properties of people and state. Whatever form their efforts may be, however, for their belligerent ambition and power, they were defeated by timely repressing operation of the Government forces allowing for the return to normality of the country’s situation. The bitter experience of July 5-6 incident prompts us to be precautious in preventing such an incident from happening again under whatever forms.

Outsiders to respect Cambodia’s independence, sovereignty and self-decision rights...

“... to achieve a durable cease-fire for the sake of peace and stability, RGC and the General Staff of CNAF appeal to the neighboring countries and the international community to fully respect Cambodia’s independence, sovereignty and self-decision rights, to avoid interference into Cambodia’s internal affairs especially by curbing and ceasing support, under whatever forms, to those extremists who make use of neighboring country’s territory as source of armed struggle against the legal government and innocent Cambodians...”

Disarmed militia will continue to receive Government assistance...

“... (the Royal Government) will proceed to disarm the militia according to plan and will organize subsequent arms demolition in various military regions while keeping strict control on arms and explosives remaining at local areas and in the military units. The militia whose weapons have been disarmed will continue to receive the Government assistance. Therefore, the commanders, the united commanding committee at provincial and capital levels, as well as authority of all levels must continue to provide assistance to their living conditions while encouraging them to fulfil their tasks...”■