

# Cambodian Troops Begin Training in South Vietnam

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SAIGON, South Vietnam, July 2—The first contingent of Cambodian troops to be trained in South Vietnam is being instructed at Lamson infantry training center near Nhatrang in central Vietnam, South Vietnamese military sources said here today.

The sources said that the contingent of 1,300 men was the vanguard of approximately 10,000 troops that are to be trained in South Vietnam. The sources said that American military advisers, along with South Vietnamese instructors, would participate in the training program, which usually lasts 80 days.

Informed sources said the training program, which will also be held at the Ducmy ranger school near Nhatrang

and the Chilang training center at Chaudoc, near the Cambodian border, was part of an agreement worked out during Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky's visit to Pnompenh early in June and confirmed subsequently in talks between representatives of the Cambodian and South Vietnamese general staffs.

## Operation to Be Coordinated

Now that the United States has withdrawn its troops from Cambodia, as well as its advisers, helicopters and logistic support for South Vietnamese units remaining in Cambodia, these sources said, the South Vietnamese intend to reorganize their own military effort in Cambodia.

Until now, troops belonging to the III and IV South Vietnamese Corps have been operating fairly independently of each other in areas of Cam-

bodia adjoining these two corps—the III in the so-called Parrot's Beak and Fishhook regions and the IV Corps in the Mekong River corridor. Elements of the IV Corps have gone up the Mekong beyond Pnompenh and are now operating northeast and northwest of the capital.

The South Vietnamese intention, informed sources said, is gradually to withdraw these troops, which totaled 30,000 as of yesterday, and to replace them with a mobile brigade of about 12,000 men, based in the Mekong River town of Neakluong.

Neakluong, where the South Vietnamese have just completed an airstrip, is 20 miles from the Vietnamese border on the strategic Route 1, which connects Saigon with Pnompenh.

The mobile brigade will have its own air and artillery support, and will operate wherever

required in Cambodia. It will be under the command of a military mission based in Pnompenh and responsible to the South Vietnamese ambassador to Cambodia.

President Nguyen Van Thieu has not yet named an ambassador, but has appointed Tran Van Phuoc, a former official of the Supreme Court and onetime mayor of Dalat, as minister plenipotentiary in charge of the South Vietnamese mission in Pnompenh. Mr. Phuoc, who was born in Takeo in Cambodia, is said to speak and write Cambodian fluently and is a former schoolmate of Sisawath Sirik Matak, the Deputy Premier of Cambodia.

The Cambodians have a four-man liaison mission at the South Vietnamese Joint General Staff headquarters in Saigon, while the Vietnamese have a liaison mission in Pnompenh headed by Col. To Van Kien.

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