



Associated Press

**WHERE RAIDERS STRUCK:** Wrecked South Vietnamese Air Force spotter planes at the airport at Pnompenh, Cambodia. The planes and copters were damaged or destroyed by explosives set off by enemy commandos yesterday.

## Death Toll in Enemy Raid On Pnompenh Is Put at 39

By The Associated Press **JAN 23 1971**

PNOMPENH, Cambodia, Jan. 22—At least 39 persons were reported killed and 170 wounded today in a predawn raid by guerrillas on Pnompenh's airport and nearby installations. As small fires still burned among wrecked planes and helicopters and devastated ammunition dumps, Capt. Chhang Song, a Cambodian information officer, said preliminary casualty reports listed as killed 13 soldiers and 26 civilians, including wives and children of soldiers. At least 20 soldiers and 150 civilians, many of them women and children, were wounded, he said.

But he said the figures were incomplete and undoubtedly would rise. Hospitals were filled with the wounded.

It is believed that the raid was carried out by only 10 guerrillas.

### Shipyards Also Attacked

Fires also burned at a shipyard on the edge of downtown Pnompenh, where a rocket landed during the attack. This was the closest the enemy has come to hitting the center of the city.

Amid an atmosphere of gloom over the raid on the airport, eight miles west of the city, a Cambodian military spokesman announced that Cambodian and South Vietnamese forces had linked up in Pich Nil Pass on Route 4, Pnompenh's highway to the sea.

The spokesman said the main South Vietnamese force, moving up from the south, and the Cambodians, pushing through the pass from the north, had met three miles from the craggy northern end of the mountain gateway. Advance elements of the South Vietnamese force reportedly reached the Cambodians on Wednesday.

Despite the link-up, a reliable source said it might take a long time to reopen the road to trucks carrying oil and other supplies from the port city of Kompong Som to Pnompenh.

He reported that enemy troops had blown 500 yards of roadway into a ravine near Pich Nil Pass, which is 60 miles southwest of here. The highway is also said to be scarred by bomb craters, and many bridges have been damaged.

In addition, the in-

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