

Thailand Orders Evacuees Out

San Francisco Chronicle 13
★★ Thurs., April 17, 1975

Bangkok

Thailand, in a further indication of its shifting foreign policies, announced yesterday that all Cambodian refugees flown here by the United States in recent days must leave the country within 30 days.

Foreign Minister Chatichai Choonhavan also announced that foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian nations will meet in Kuala Lumpur May 13-15 to discuss the Indochina situation.

This, he said, might be followed by a high-level meeting of the five member countries — Thailand, Malaysia,

Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines.

The announcement, made at a news conference here, were seen as part of a broad-scale policy reassessment by many area nations in light of recent developments in Indochina.

Last weekend the United States evacuated several hundred Americans from Phnom Penh, including Ambassador John Gunther Dean. They also brought out foreigners and Cambodians associated with American firms or programs who might face possible reprisals by the insurgents.

The Cambodians have

been confined to the U Tapao air base about 100 miles southeast of Bangkok. The foreign minister said these refugees totaled 878, almost half of them children under 12.

There are 872 Cambodians, five Chinese and one Laotian, Chatichai said.

He also said that Saukham Khoy, the former acting president of Cambodia, is subject to existing visa regulations and must leave in area Tuesday.

New York Times