20^M MILLION PAYMENT TO LON NOL CITED MAY 8 1975 Successor Says Ex-Leader Sought Funds in Return for Leaving Cambodia

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. May 7 Reuters)—The former Cambodian President, Lon Nol, was paid \$1-million by his own Government to leave the country, the man who took over from him said here today.

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Saukham Khoy, the acting head of the Cambodian Government when it was overthrown by the Communists last month, made the statement at a press conference at this military facility, which has been turned into a refugee center.

Speaking through an interpreter, Mr. Saukham Khoy said that Marshal Lon Nol had told his Government that before he left the country, he would have to have enough money to make a new life elsewhere.

Mr. Saukham Khoy said that the Cambodian Government felt it could not survive unless Mr. Lon Nol left, so it paid him \$1-million. Mr. Lon Nol left Cambodia for Bangkok on April 1 and then felw to Bali. On April 10 he flew to Guam where he borrowed a United States Air Force plane to Honolulu.

Marshal Lon Nol, who is now living in Hawaii, has acknowleged that the Government offered him \$1million, but said last week that he had not received it.

The former Cambodian Min-

ister of Culture, Long Botta, who also was present at the press conference today, said that Marsal Lon Nol's physical disabilities — partial paralysis because of a stroke—had apparently affected his mind.

Mr. Long Botta described the former president's mental health as "not so well." He linked Marshal Lon Nol's troubles to "corrupt generals and people" who exerted pressure on him in the final months before the Communist takeover.

Both Mr. Saukham Khoy and Mr. Long Botta arrived here last night in the first large contingent of Cambodian refugees airlifted to the United States. They had left Phnom Penh in the American evacuation of April 12.

Mr. Saukham Khoy, discussing reports of executions in Cambodia, said: "I know the Communists have killed many people." Asked for a figure, he replied, "many thousands."

Convoy Reported Near Border

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand, May 7 (UPI)—The second and probably last convoy of foreign refugees coming out of the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh has reached a point close to the Thai frontier, Cambodian officials said today.

The convoy—expected to include at least 250 persons—had not reached this border crossing point before it closed at sundown yesterday. The Cambodians gave no reason why it had not appeared. It is now expected to arrive tomorrow.

The convoy should bring out the last foreigners known to be in Cambodia since the fall for Phnom Penh on April, 17.

A group of about more than 500 others who had been in the French Embassy in Phnom Penh reached Thailand last weekend but agreed not to talk about events in Cambodia until all foreigners had reached safety.

ty. The French Ambassador to Thailand, Jeán-Louis Toffin, conferred with Cambodian officials this morning, and said that they had told nim that the refugees had spent the night at the town of Sisophon, about 30 miles away.

The atmosphere at the border today was more relaxed than in prevlous days when Cambodian troops and Thais have occasionally exchanged insults.

A group of Cambodians chatted in French with foreign correspondents and said that they had liquor and wine that they would like to trade for pork and cigarettes, apparently scarce in the Cambodian frontier area. They did not say where they had obtained the wine and whiskey.

Self-Reliance Stressed

BANGKOK, Thailand, May 27 (AP)—Phnom Penh radio said ttday that Cambodia's new leaders are campaigning to "clear the country of filth and garbage" left by the war and increase farm production to be "completely independent of all foreigners."

A broadcast monitored here stressed the self-reliance theme that has led many observers to believe it will be a long time before the new Cambodian regime opens contacts with the putside world.

"Immediately after defeating the enemy, our people, male and female, combatants and cadres, took up the task of clearing the country of the filth and garbage left behind by the war of aggression of the U.S. Imperialists and their lackeys," today's broadcast said. !

Large areas of the Cambodian sountryside are littered with unexploded bombs, artillery shells and other explosives, many of them live.

No Comment From Lon Nol HONOLULU, May 7—Former President Lon Nol, who is living an exile in Honolulu, could not be reached for comment on tolay's statements of his acting successor, Saukham Khoy. American officials said that Marshal Lon Nol did not want to talk with reporters.