

Cambodia Calls for Drive To Rebuild Her Industry

NYTimes

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By Reuters

BANGKOK, Thailand, May 9—The new Cambodian Government has announced a major program to rebuild shattered industry as well as agriculture.

The Cambodian radio, monitored here, carried pronouncements saying that the economy would still be based on agriculture but that intensive efforts were also under way to rebuild factories destroyed by the losing side as the five-year war ground to an end.

The broadcast accused the United States and the ousted American-backed Government of Marshal Lon Nol of destroying most of the factories because they knew they could not win. "That is why our soldiers and workers are now

very actively devoting themselves to our industry," the broadcast added.

It was the first time the radio had stressed the industrial sector. Several announcements had urged increased agricultural production in the wake of an order for everyone to evacuate urban areas and work in the fields.

"Our people do not seek to produce only rice, but also to produce goods for industrial use—cotton, rubber, textile fibers," the broadcast said. "Our soldiers, our people, our workers, our youth and our monks believe we can develop our industry and economy in a short space of time."

Yesterday the radio reported that soldiers and workers were mending roads and bridges while children were taking time off from school to work in the rice fields.

Today's broadcast said reconstruction had begun at the port of Sihanoukville—called Kompong Som under the Lon Nol Government—which was severely damaged during the war.

Death Reports Downgraded

By Agence France-Presse

BANGKOK, May 9—A French doctor who was quoted yesterday on reports of executions at the Phnom Penh Sporting

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Club told Agence France-Presse here today that he could not provide proof since the reports had reached him second hand.

Dr. Bernard Piquart, who was chief surgeon at the French-run Calmette Hospital in the Cambodian capital, seemed embarrassed over the wide publicity given to his reports, which included testimony that he had seen hundreds of bodies with their throats cut in the central market.

Former Premier Long Boret and Lieut. Gen. Sirik Matak, a former Premier and Defense Minister, were named in the reports as among the dead. Both were on the Cambodian Communists' list of traitors who faced execution.

Patrick Clement, a French journalist, had also reported that Dr. Piquart affirmed that he had been forced to operate on wounded Communist soldiers at gunpoint and that he had cared for French women who had been raped.

Today Dr. Piquart, who crossed the Cambodian border yesterday with the last group of refugees from the French new Embassy in Phnom Penh, said

he had talked too much and had never seen all of that.

'Sound, Clean' Social System

BANGKOK, May 9 (UPI)—The Cambodia Communists, charging that the American-backed Lon Nol Government "produced nothing," has instituted a "sound, clean" social system, Radio Phnom Penh said today.

"This is a new social system that is sound, clean, free from corruption, and in which there is no hooliganism, graft, embezzlement, gambling, prostitution, alcoholism or any kind of hazardous games," the broadcast said.

"In the drive to build a new Cambodia that is independent, peaceful, neutral, nonaligned and democratic, our industrial construction fundamentally depends on our agriculture," it added.

Sihanouk Defends New Rulers

The Globe and Mail, Toronto

PEKING, May 9—Prince Norodom Sihanouk responded today to accounts of the human upheaval in Cambodia with a statement asserting that the new Government had taken "all humanitarian measures" — in

witness to which he cited the good health of poodles carried into Thailand by foreign refugees.

The statement, in the form of message to the France-Cambodia Association in Paris, referred to "foul calumnies" carried by the foreign press against the new rulers in Phnom Penh and declared that the allegations had been unmasked by statements by the refugees.

The Cambodia Communists' humanitarian attitude was demonstrated by the fact that "these so-called mistreated, sick and dying refugees arrived safe and sound, in good health and adequately nourished, at the Cambodian frontier," said the Prince, who has been living here since his ouster in 1970.

"Among the so-called dying there were some who were even able to take their poodles with them and these too were in perfect health," he added.

The statement offered no explicit refutation of accounts filed by journalists reaching Thailand that told of the mass evacuation of the civilian population of Phnom Penh and other major cities, looting and pillaging by troops, and scenes of devastation between the capital and the Thai border.

Cambodians Leave for U.S.

U TAPHAO, Thailand, May 9 (UPI)—The last group of Cambodian refugees brought

78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100

Hanoi Says New Bridge Links North and South

HONG KONG, May 9 (Reuters)—North Vietnam reported today the completion of a bridge across the Ben Hai River—the boundary between North and South Vietnam.

The North Vietnamese press agency said the link across the formerly closed border at the 17th Parallel had been named the Hien Luong Bridge.

out of Phnom Penh by the United States Embassy left by air today for homes in the United States.

A United States Air Force transport carried 121 refugees for Camp Pendleton, Calif., via Guam and Honolulu.

A total of 1,045 Cambodian refugees have been taken to the United States, all of them brought out in the closing days of the war. Most were embassy employes and "high risk"

people who faced retribution if they remained, officials said.

The officials said 412 Cambodian refugees are still in the tent city built on the American base here. Almost all are Cambodian Air Force pilots and their families who fled in their craft when Phnom Penh fell. "Their status has yet to be settled," a United States Embassy spokesman said. American sources said they would probably end up in the United States.