

Cambodia Orders Foreigners Out; Hits U.S. 'Spite'

From News Dispatches

BANGKOK, May 10 — The new Cambodian government today demanded that "all foreigners with ^{out} exception" leave Cambodia.

A statement said the new government would decide "later on" whether it will restore diplomatic, commercial or trade relations with the foreigners' countries and whether the refugees will be allowed to return. "This will depend on the concrete attitude of their countries," it said.

In what was seen as an apparent attempt to offset news reports of events following the fall of Phnom Penh April 17, written by journalists who were expelled from the country, Radio Phnom Penh broadcast two statements.

A statement by Information Minister Hu Nim said that although many journalists, diplomats and foreigners had left the country, some foreigners linked with "the traitors of the Lon Nol group" remain.

"That is why the government demands that all foreigners without exception leave Cambodia for a certain period," the minister said.

French officials have said that 100 to 200 French nationals, — many of them now "more Cambodian than French" — are still in Cambodia and that other foreigners are believed to be there still.

Hu Nim, who is considered one of the top three Communist leaders, charged that the United States and its allies "have continued activities against the Cambodian nation and the people and (are) imposing their dishonest propaganda. Their goal is to mislead world public opinion."

"U.S. imperialism is still reluctant to acknowledge its

utter defeat . . . and harbors spite toward the Cambodian nation and people. It has planted traitorous forces and is using them to continue subversion and sabotage activities against the Cambodian people."

Hu Nim's statement did not elaborate, but President Ford said at a Washington news conference last week that the administration had "hard intelligence" reports that 80 or 90 officials of the former government and their wives had been executed by the Khmer Rouge.

In a separate broadcast, the Ministry of Information said the new government had done its best to help accommodate and then evacuate the foreigners who stayed behind despite warnings to leave.

"We did our best to help them and transport them to a place where their governments or friends could help them, providing them safe exit from Cambodia," the statement said.

"We did this despite the fact that we are extremely busy, solving the problems of our people's livelihood . . . this clearly shows our lofty morals and justice . . ."

"However, the U.S. and their allies have used their propaganda apparatus to distort this truth in view of their opposition to the Cambodian nation and people."

In Washington, State Department spokesman Robert Anderson said yesterday that the United States government is "dismayed by the things that appear to be happening" in Cambodia but had only "very fragmentary information."

He said the United States was unable to confirm reports of widespread killings or reprisals against supporters of the former government.