

Regime in Cambodia Charges 3 Nations Kept Her Backward

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BANGKOK, Thailand, June 11 (Reuters)—Cambodia's new Government today blamed France, Japan and the United States for the country's economic backwardness.

In a commentary monitored here, the Phnom Penh radio declared: "The old and new aggressors have caused the weakness of our country. If there had been no foreign attacks, Cambodia would have become a powerful country."

It accused France, which governed Cambodia as a protectorate for 90 years until 1953, of having prevented development of weaving and handcrafts industries.

The old and new colonialists, the radio said, "wanted to keep our country in a colonial situation. They stole our raw materials to ship them to their own countries."

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The radio accused the "Japanese fascists, then the United States done the same thing to stop Cambodia from developing and of bringing their own goods to Cambodia to compete with local products."

It accused the ousted government of Marshal Lon Nol, which seized power in a coup on March, 1970, against Prince Norodom Sihanouk, of having sold Cambodia out to the Americans.

Since the Communist takeover last April 17, the chief aim had been "to make Cambodia a country with modern, powerful agriculture," the commentary said, adding:

"After that we will be able to transform our farming country into a country that is also industrial."