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South Vietnam and Cambodia Are Stressing Gains

By DAVID A. ANDELMAN

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BANGKOK, Thailand, Sept. 5 —Both Cambodia and South Vietnam have begun campaigns to convince the world that life in their countries is returning to normal.

Within the last several days, the Phnom Penh radio has announced the reopening of the capital's Pochentong airport as well as a number of factories and transportation facilities. At the same time, however, the radio acknowledged that heavy flooding had swamped a number of dikes and paddy areas around the capital.

In Saigon, the radio has reported the resumption of operations of "hundreds of factories and enterprises" in Sai-

gon, Bien Hoa, Danang, Qui Nhon and Can Tho.

Specifically, Cambodia has reported the resumption of operations in about 70 small and medium-sized industrial plants, of which about 50 are in Phnom Penh itself.

This, together with recent comments by Cambodia's Deputy Premier, Ieng Sary, to Western newsmen in Lima and New York, indicate that Phnom Penh has been substantially resettled. Immediately after the end of the war in April, a forced exodus of the entire population of the capital took place and hundreds were reported to have died on this march.

However, in a recent broadcast, monitored in Bangkok, the Phnom Penh radio reported that "among the plants in Phnom Penh there are 13 state-owned

textile mills manned by 2,700 male and female combatants and workers."

The rubber and tire factories, at one time among the economic mainstays of the Cambodian capital, are also reported to have resumed operation, together with a dry-cell battery plant that "produces enough batteries for the entire country."

Other enterprises such as cement, paint, glass, oxygen and paper plants, as well as soft-drink factories, the local brewery and distillery, and a tobacco mill are also in operation and employing about 10,000 workers in Phnom Penh, according to the radio broadcasts.

There are still problems in the agricultural sector. While the radio has noted that "we

are confident that our entire people will be self-sufficient after this year's harvest season," it also noted today in the same broadcast that the overall production prospects are only "fairly promising."

There have been heavy floods in the Phnom Penh region, the radio reported, while rainfall has been scanty in other areas.

"Still, production activities continue to be carried out with the most militant ardor," the radio concluded optimistically.

Some analysts here believe that much of the optimistic rhetoric particularly from the Phnom Penh radio in recent days is designed to herald the homecoming, now expected Tuesday or Wednesday, of Prince Norodom Sihanouk.