

## Move Surprises and Worries Europe

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 1—Surprise and concern were the dominant reactions in Europe today to the American military move into Cambodia.

The French Government, long critical of the United States involvement in Indochina, issued an unhappy official statement. It said:

"The Government can only deplore anything that aggravates, prolongs and extends the conflict. The experience of the last few years has shown that military action brings about an inevitable chain reaction that cannot be controlled."

In Paris a mood of concern and fear was noted, and Americans were repeatedly asked to explain how President Nixon could make such a move in the light of American opposition to extending the war.

There were no immediate newspaper comments in France. There, as on most of the continent, the papers were closed for the May Day holiday.

Britain's official attitude was noncommittal, neither endorsing nor condemning the American incursion into Cambodia. But privately, some in the Government voiced shock and worry.

The Foreign Secretary, Michael Stewart, called Soviet and American diplomats to the Foreign Office during the day to renew British appeals for an international conference on Cambodia.

Mr. Stewart came under heavy attack from Labor party members when he appeared in the House of Commons to make a brief statement on Indochina. His tone toward the United States appeared to be correct but cool, if not strained.

Samuel Silkin, a Labor moderate, asked whether "escalation of the conflict" might not hurt the prospects for negotiation, "a matter of very serious concern for the peace of the world."

"I would entirely agree with that," Mr. Stewart said.

Sir Alec Douglas-Home, the Conservative party's foreign-policy leader, said it was "deplorable" that the Communists had long occupied Cambodian territory. He said it should be Britain's aim, and everyone's, "to rid Cambodia of all foreign troops." But Sir Alec, like Mr. Stewart, refrained from any direct judgment on the wisdom of the Nixon action.

British newspaper comment was critical. The Evening Standard, owned by the archconservative Daily Express, said it

was conceivable that the action could work militarily, but there were doubts.

"The phrases the world heard last night," The Evening Standard said, "have been heard so many times before, from three successive American Presidents. They are the old appeals to past history and present sacrifice designed to conceal the true desperation of the situation."

The Swedish Premier, Olof Palme, expressed deep concern. For years he has vigorously opposed United States policy. At a May Day rally he said:

"We are facing the risk of enlargement of the war, of renewed escalation, of the illusion that it is possible to win military victories over poor people who demand bread, freedom and human dignity."

In Italy there was no official reaction on May Day.

In West Germany also, May Day blanked out press and official reaction.

One country where there was favorable reaction was Portugal. Officials there saw a parallel with Portugal's problems in her African territories, where rebels are fighting Portuguese troops and often cross borders for sanctuary.