

Lon Nol Continues Rule by Decree

Phnom Penh

The Cambodian government has squashed an attempt by opposition politicians to reopen the National Assembly, restore its legislative authority and put an end to Cabinet ruling by decree.

The official news agency reported yesterday that the Lon Nol government threw out a clause in the new constitution, now being drafted, which would have revived the two-chamber assembly.

The government took over the assembly's powers last October and effectively dismissed the elected body by refusing to let it sit on after the expiration of its five-year term of office.

Cambodia is therefore like-

ly to continue without a parliament because there is widespread agreement here on the impossibility of holding fresh general elections in the war-torn countryside now partly under Communist occupation.

Reuters