Cambodia Bars Press At Battle

PHNOM PENH — (AP) — The Cambodian high command barred foreign journalists from the southeastern front today after accusing them of sensationalizing and exaggerating government losses in the area.

Military sources said the ban apparently was ordered to preserve secrecy about several thousand government troops rushed to the southeast in the past two days to attempt to reopen Highway One.

North Vietnamese forces Thursday seized a 50-mile stretch of the road, the main artery between Phnom Penh and Saigon.

The high command confirmed that heavy fighting took place yesterday in Svay Rieng province in the southeast. North Vietnamese and Viet Cong attackers have seized virtually all the province except for Svay Rieng, the provincial capital.