

NYTimes MAY 1 1972

# Foe Captures 2 Positions in Cambodia

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PNOMPENH, Cambodia, April 30 (UPI)—South Vietnamese and Cambodian troops gave up the village of Bavet and the border stronghold of Kompong Thrach today, leaving the provincial capital at Svayrieng isolated along a Communist-controlled 60-mile stretch of highway.

In Pnompenh, the country's first election in two years—a vote on a proposed new constitution—went off without Communist interference or disruption by demonstrating students.

The Cambodian command said 4,600 Government troops and their 705 dependents evacuated Bavet and fled into South Vietnam. Troops also withdrew from Kompong Thrach, a major Cambodian-South Vietnamese stronghold, which has been under Communist attack for a month.

The command said that Svayrieng, whose population had been swollen by refugees to almost 40,000, was now isolated.

## Svayrieng, a Provincial Capital Near Border, Is Now Isolated

The provincial capital is on Route 1, which runs from Saigon to Pnompenh.

The road on both sides of the city, however, has been under Communist control for almost two weeks. Communists now control the entire length of the road inside Cambodia from the South Vietnamese border to Neak Luong, a Mekong River city 30 miles south of Pnompenh.

Bavet is only 42 air miles from Saigon.

The Cambodian ends of two of the three major roads into Cambodia to the north and west of Saigon are now under Communist control.

North Vietnamese troops seized the upper end of Route 13, which runs north from the South Vietnamese capital into Cambodia, early in the offensive that started a month ago.

Bavet is on Route 1 just west of where Route 22 branches off and runs into Cambodia in a northerly direction roughly parallel to Route 13.

Control of the roads would give the Communists a safe supply route into South Vietnam. It would also give the North Vietnamese potential invasion routes into Saigon.

The Cambodian command said a convoy carrying ammunition and gasoline from South Vietnam made the trip up the Mekong River to Pnompenh successfully today. In the last few days river traffic has been hampered by enemy fire and Pnompenh could be supplied from Saigon only by air.

The Cambodian election was called by President Lon Nol, who took over the Government March 12 after disbanding the National Assembly. It was the first election in the country since open warfare with the Communists broke out two years ago and Prince Norodom Sihanouk fled into exile in Peking.