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# Reports Hint 'Blood Debt' Being Paid

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Not long after the Communists captured Phnom Penh and consolidated their hold on Cambodia, they issued the following secret instructions:

"Eliminate all high-ranking military officials, government officials. Do this secretly. Also get provincial officers who owe the Communist Party a blood debt."

These are the words, translated into English, that were broadcast over the Khmer Rouge communications network. U.S. intelligence intercepted the radio transmission and sent a translation to the State Department by secret cable.

We have obtained a copy of the secret cable and are quoting it because the Communists have denied press reports that a bloodbath is taking place in Cambodia.

Other radio reports from the field indicate that the blood reprisals have started. One unit, relaying orders from the Communist high command, called for the execution of all military officers from lieutenant to colonel, with their wives and their children.

Another intercepted report

called for the elimination of anyone who offered resistance or opposed Communism. Apparently, the Khmer Rouge want to eliminate everyone who might some day become a threat to Communist control.

The secret State Department cables also report that reprisals have been taken in Vietnam against people who worked for Americans. One report said that 120 people were taken out of Danang and executed.

**Humphrey Howls**— In sharp language intended strictly for his staff, Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) has accused Ford administration spokesmen of scaring the country into a continuing recession.

"If these administration spokesmen keep talking as they are," Humphrey wrote to aide John Stark, "they're going to scare the living daylights out of everybody..."

"The greatest single impediment and obstacle to economic recovery are the pessimistic and frightening statements of administration spokesmen. If they'd just shut up for about a month, cool their rhetoric and let this economy start moving again without shouting scare words, I think we'd be on the road to recovery."

Humphrey is chairman of the Joint Economic Committee, which oversees the economy. He was particularly disturbed, according to his memo, over Treasury Secretary William E. Simon's "constant pronouncements that the federal deficit cannot be financed without choking off money and credit for the private sector."

"It seems to me that, if the economic counselors to the President are doing their job, they would be able to schedule government financing in such a manner as not to really interfere with the private and corporate financing," Humphrey wrote.

**Chinese Support**— Since the surrender of Saigon, Peking has secretly encouraged the United States to hold the line in Asia. The Chinese apparently want to keep American military power in Asia as a bulwark against the Soviet threat.

The Chinese discouraged North Korea's Kim Il-sung, according to the secret cables, from starting trouble on the 38th parallel. Kim wanted to take advantage of the U.S. setbacks in Southeast Asia and went to Peking to sound out the Chinese.

The Chinese took exception to

Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger's statement including Taiwan in the U.S. defense line. They are committed to support Communist insurgencies throughout the world, but strictly on the QT, the Chinese don't want U.S. armed forces to leave the Far East.

**Gas Lobby**— The massive lobbying campaign to hike natural gas prices picked up speed at a private meeting March 26 between the Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, according to internal memos. While most big companies plotted to deregulate the prices, a few companies fought to keep natural gas prices down by maintaining regulation.

**Ambassador Hays?** — Rep. Wayne L. Hays (D-Ohio), a power in the House was considered last fall as ambassador to England. Hays confirmed that he was approached about the post by a White House aide, but said he "was never really sure whether it was an offer or just a feeler." Hays, who is chairman of the Democratic National Congressional Committee, said he didn't take the offer seriously because he was busy with committee work.

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