

## Merry-Go-Round

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# A Grim Picture Of Death March



Jack Anderson

THE UNITED NATIONS, collectively and separately, continues to ignore the forced evacuation of an estimated three million Cambodians from the cities to the countryside.

Yet this must go down in history as the greatest atrocity since the Nazis herded Jews into the gas chambers. The mass exodus was a death march, with reports of bodies abandoned along the way. An estimated one million people are expected to die from hunger and exposure in the hinterlands.

The Communists have sealed off Cambodia so that almost no information leaks out.

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AN INTELLIGENCE MEMO, prepared for the White House, reports this much:

"Although the accounts are confused, and in many cases conflicting, it is clear that the forced march out of Phnom Penh resulted in death for many of the young, old and weak among the city's two million inhabitants."

Another million people from other towns were forced to join the death march.

Continues the intelligence document: "First-hand accounts from individuals caught up in the forced exodus — and who subsequently exited the country — paint a grim picture.

"One reported scores of bodies floating in a river near the capital. According to doctors among the marchers, scores of

people died from cholera, dehydration or hunger since the Communists provided no food, water or medicine throughout the long march. \*

"Having forcefully relocated the urban population, there is evidence that the leadership is having difficulty adequately caring for its new wards and the toll of human lives is likely to continue as the result of disease and famine."

Why did the Communists empty the cities? Declares the memo: "The removal of the urban population to the countryside is clearly a deliberate and calculated policy of the new leadership and appears to be aimed at furthering the Communists' plan to remake completely Cambodian society in the shortest possible time, relieving the strain on urban food supplies and facilitating consolidation of control over the cities and towns."

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IN THE PAST, the patent lobby has been defeated in its efforts to gain antitrust exemptions that would cost the consumers billions. Now the lobbyists have found a new water carrier. Senator Hiram Fong (Dem-Hawaii).

He is pushing legislation which would give certain industries billions by letting them use patent monopolies to raise prices, corner markets and partition sales territories.

One company that would profit from the legislation is Monsanto. The Senate aide who helped Fong draft the measure is Robert Seto, once a patent lawyer for Monsanto.

\* See note attached to same column, WXP 23 Jun 75, filed Indo.