Cambodia's Plan to Stop Fighting

SFChronicle Phnom Penh

Cambodia will unilaterally suspend all offensive operations after implementation of the Vietnam cease-fire, Prime Minister Hang Tun Hak said yesterday.

The Cambodian government's good-will gesture came despite fierce attacks by guerrillas in the north.

Hak said the government of President Lon Nol would suspend all operations 'to prove our good will and to allow the North Vietnamese to withdraw in peace."

REBELS

He said the government would continue to take "defensive operations" and troops will continue their attempts to persuade Cambodian rebels to come over to the Phnom Penh regime.

Military sources said Cambodian guerrillas launched fierce attacks against five bridge positions along Highway 7, about 21 miles northeast of Phnom Penh. Seven government soldiers were killed and 34 wounded. One guerrilla was captured.

The attack was preceded by a 122-mm. rocket barrage that killed at least two persons and wounded 15, all wives and children of soldiers.

Field reports said the five bridges are still in government hands.

ACCORDS

Hak said the peace accords initialed in Paris do not forbid continued American military aid to Cambodia either in the form of war supplies or fighter jet support. But he added the Americans would not be asked to bomb in support of government military operations "unless the North Vietnamese do not respect the spirit of the accords."

One Western diplomat said, "The Americans will probably have to make at least a show of discontinuing air strikes in Cambodia for the first few weeks. That is probably the reason the Cambodians are making this good will gesture and suspending offensive operations—they couldn't possibly conduct an offensive operation without American air support."

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