

# Hanoi's Peace Demand

## Cambodia Reforms Won't Do

### Saigon

North Vietnam made clear yesterday that despite planned reforms in the Cambodian government there can be no peace settlement until ruler Lon Nol steps down.

Commenting on Lon Nol's announced plans to form a new government that would include members of opposition parties, Radio Hanoi said the reorganization "is aimed at settling internal conflicts of the Lon Nol puppet government which is deteriorating while confronted with greater and greater military and political defeats."

"Under American pressure," Radio Hanoi continued, "Lon Nol has been forced to introduce a number of so-called opposition elements into his Cabinet so that it may have a 'broader political base.'"

"However reformed it

may be, the Lon Nol puppet government still remains an instrument of the U.S. imperialists in continuing to

Khmerize the war. With such a nature, the Lon Nol government will be more and more isolated and disrupted every day.

### DRIVE

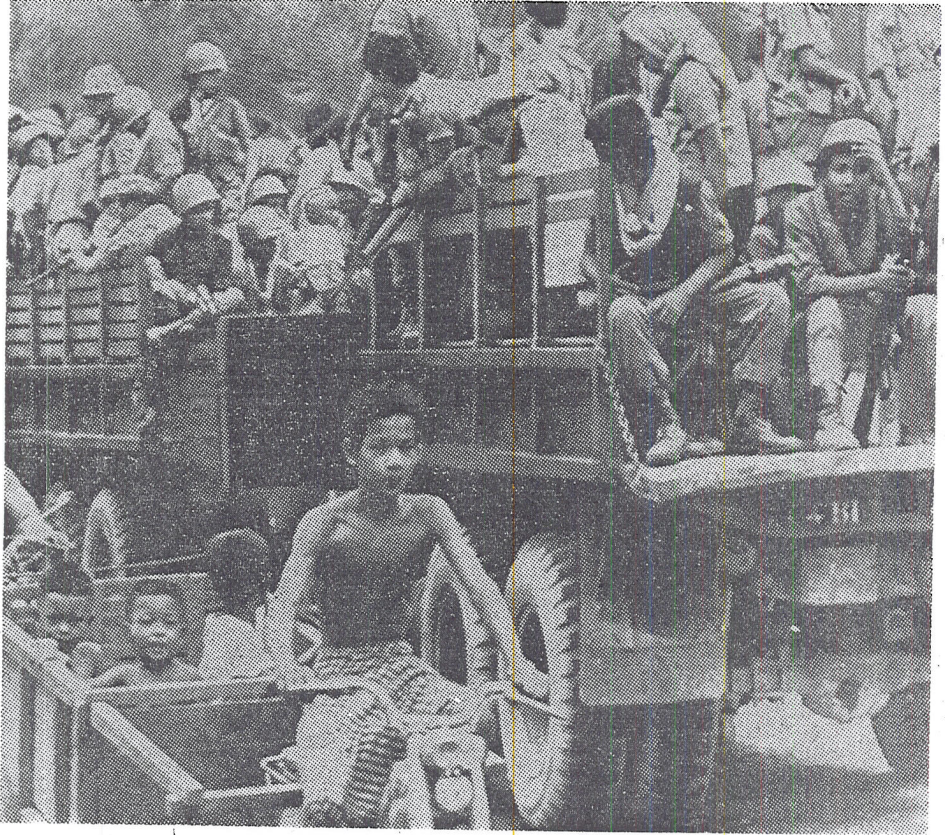
The Radio Hanoi statements indicated that Cambodian insurgents would continue a military drive in hopes of forcing Lon Nol out. Official U.S. sources in Washington were still optimistic that the reorganization might encourage the start of cease-fire talks.

The insurgent forces are estimated to number about 65,000—25,000 North Vietnamese and 40,000 Cambodians. There are reported to be at least three major groups of Cambodian insurgents. These include Hanoi-trained guerrillas, most of them hard-core Communists; the Cambodian Communist party known as the Khmer Rouge; and the Khmer Rumdoh, made up of Sihanouk supporters.

### AID

The Lon Nol regime has an army of 200,000 troops, paid for and equipped by the U.S. Government.

U.S. sources said the U.S. pressured Lon Nol into agreeing to form a new government to include opposition elements.



UPI Telephoto

Cambodian troops passed fleeing refugees 20 miles from Phnom Penh

On the battlefields, Cambodian troops drove back an attack on a garrison at Tram Knar, 37 miles south of Phnom Penh, the military command reported.

Several other scattered attacks were reported in the southern sector of Cambodia.

In Laos, fighting was reported to have ended in the northeastern sector after two days of renewed U.S. air strikes around the Plain of

Jars, where Communist-led troops overran three government positions last weekend.

Acting Laotian Minister of Defense Prince Sisouk Na Champassak said there were no U.S. air strikes over Laos yesterday.

Associated Press