SFChronicle APR 2 6 1973

Rocket Attack Hits Phnom Penh Area

Phnom Penh

A rebel rocket attack early today in the suburb of Pochentong, 2½ miles west of Phnom Penh, killed 24 civilians in an area crowded with refugees.

The high command said 55 civilians and seven soldiers were wounded.

More than ten 122millimeter rockets crashed into the area during the attack, destroying two shacks occupied by refugees 50 yards from the Pochentong rail station and a wooden house at the southern end of Pochentong market.

It appeared the attack may have been aimed at the capital's nearby airport and the rockets went astray into the refugee area.

Military sources said hundreds more Cambodian villagers were sent streaming into Phnom Penh yesterday when Vietnamese Communists and Cambodian insurgents infiltrated the village of Arei Ksat, two miles east of the capital, and cut Highway 6 four miles to the north.

Associated Press