

DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

Interview With Pol Pot

Kampuchean Prime Minister Pol Pot recently told Japanese reporters, "Viet Nam is trying to complete its war of aggression during the present dry season, but it is failing to accomplish its ambitions because of difficulties within Viet Nam and the fighting conducted by our guerrillas who are spread like the meshes of a net within Kampuchea."

A group of Japanese reporters travelled on December 8 and 9 into the heartland of the Kampuchean guerrilla resistance movement to have this rare interview with the Prime Minister. In good spirits, he replied to their questions. "We have a complete network of contacts linking the East, Central and West. . . . If a certain place is attacked, then we resort to the offensive in another place to keep enemy forces stationary. Viet Nam has poured 200,000 men into Kampuchea and eight divisions are now bottled up in the eastern and northern parts of the country."

During the four-hour interview, Pol Pot noted that at present the Great National Patriotic and Democratic Union is Kampuchea's "supreme body." Its foremost task is to protect the nation and the people from extermination by Hanoi and its aim is to unite Kampuchean forces at home and abroad. He said that he is in contact with all elements including the Free Khmer and Khmer Serika and that he has contacted Samdech Norodom Sihanouk on several occasions.

The Prime Minister pointed out that his country enjoyed "the support of the majority of the countries of the world and the ASEAN countries in particular." Noting that the ASEAN countries are facing the threat of Vietnamese aggression, he said that "the Southeast Asian countries and those in the Pacific region are well aware that it would be wrong to pursue an appeasement policy when the Soviet Union and Viet Nam are waging a full-scale war in Kampuchea."

Pol Pot also gave another interview to Per Forslind, a correspondent for the Swedish pa-

per *Svenska Dagbladet*, during which he stressed that Viet Nam is trying to annihilate the whole of the Kampuchean nation with a view to turning Kampuchea into a springboard for further expansion in South-east Asia. He cited Hanoi's use of toxic chemicals as one example of its efforts to wipe out the three-million-strong Kampuchean nation.

ST. VINCENT AND GRENADINES

Armed Rebellion Quelled

An official of St. Vincent and Grenadines announced that his country had quelled an armed rebellion.

Early on the morning of December 6, a group of unidentified armed personnel attacked a police station and the airport on Union Island, a three-square-mile island which they occupied that afternoon.

Prime Minister Milton Cato the next day declared a state of emergency and imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew as he dispatched a police task force to the occupied island. He appealed to the United States, Britain and Barbados for military help. Barbados responded by sending a police force to help.

Ten Caribbean countries condemned the rebellion and pledged support for Cato's government. A government spokesman of Grenada, a neighbouring country to the south of St. Vincent and Grenadines, denied any involvement of his country in the rebellion.



Pol Pot (left), Ieng Sary (middle) and Mrs. Ieng Thirith in the jungles of western Kampuchea.

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