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KAMPUCHEA'S Feb. 28, 1980 STATEMENT ON REPATRIATION OF KAMPUCHEAN REFUGEES IN THAILAND

Much attention in the west has been drawn to the repatriation of Kampuchean refugees in Thailand. The Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of Kampuchea deems it necessary to examine the reason why a number of Kampucheans are having to live as refugees in Thailand, and explain the policy of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council on this problem.

1- Why are hundreds of thousands of Kampucheans, though attached to their native land and wishing to live in peace, freedom and independence in their own country, have been forced to go to a neighbouring country and live a miserable life there in refugee camps, victimized by bands of mercenaries of the imperialists and international reactionary ? This is due firstly to the U.S. imperialists' policy of intervention, subversion and aggression which led to the 1970-75 atrocious war involving carpet-bombings with napalm and toxic chemicals, destroying the homes of hundreds of thousands of people who had to seek refuge elsewhere. This was followed by the genocidal policy of the Beijing expansionist in Kampuchea from April 17, 1975, implemented by its henchmen, the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique. In their last days of despair, Pol Pot-Iens Sary remnants forced hundreds of thousands of civilians to follow them to Thailand to serve as cannon - fodder and supplementary manpower to oppose the Kampuchean people. After Kampuchea's complete liberation the Beijing expansionists, the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces, in collusion with the Thai authorities, took advantage of and dramitized a famine they themselves had created in Kampuchea, and made use of international humanitarian relief to lure many more hapless Kampucheans to refugee camps in Thailand. These camps are, in fact, accommodation for reserve forces to carry out activities against the Kampuchean revolution. From these refugee camps groups of commandoes of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique and other traitors have infiltrated Kampuchea across the Thai border for sabotage activities.

2- The existence of these refugee camps in Thailand have created a tense situation along the Thai-Kampuchea border. It not only threatens the independence and sovereignty of the reople's

Republic of Kampuchea, but also causes trouble and insecurity to Thai people in the border regions. A solution to this problem, therefore, will concern not only the fates of Kampuchean refugees in Thailand, but also the relations between the two countries and interests of both Kampuchea and Thailand.

For their part, the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea and the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council have always advocated assistance to the victims of the Pol Pot-Iens Sary fascist butchers to return to live in their native land and to join the rest of the Kampuchean people in overcoming the disastrous consequences of the genocide regime and in building an independent, peaceful and happy country. The repatriation of Kampuchean refugees or exiles in Thailand and other countries must be carried out in a manner which guarantees Kampuchean citizens' interests and conforms to the policy of peace, friendship and cooperation of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council towards neighbouring countries.

It should be recalled that in June 1979, the Thai authorities ordered their troops to deprive some 47,000 Kampuchean refugees of their property and drive them at gunpoint back to Kampuchea in the province of Preah Vihear where it was known that mine fields still existed. Many of them were thus killed or wounded. In extremely difficult and dangerous conditions, the local revolutionary administration gave emergency treatment to these people and guided them back to their native villages. Such forcible and disastrous repatriation is unacceptable.

The Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council is ready to discuss with the Thai authorities repatriation of Kampuchean refugees in Thailand. The venue may be in Bangkok, Phnom Penh or some places at the border between the two countries, on the basis of respect for each other's independence and sovereignty, border security and in the interests of the lives and property of Kampuchean refugees and friendship and neighbourliness between Kampuchea and Thailand.

The People's Revolutionary Council welcomes all international humanitarian and to Kampuchea to melp it solve the material difficulties resulting from the repatriation of refugees.

3- As stated by President Heng Samrin, the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council deeply sympathizes with the plight of the bulk of the Kampucheans now taking refuge in foreign countries, especially Thailand. It hopes that all overseas Kampucheans will heighten their patriotism and national pride, naintain their confidence in the bright future of their metherland, increase mutual love and assistance, closely unite whith local people, and guard against the enemy's scheme to take advantage of the refugee problem to harm their interests and those of their country. Those who wish to be repatriated can apply to the Embassies or General Consulates of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, clearly indicating their native places and their desires the revolutionary administration will consider their cases and will help them ./.

KAMPUCHEA REFUTES HUMAN RIGHTS ALLEGATION

Hanoi VNA Feb. 23: A spokesman for the Kampuchean Foreign Ministry has issued a statement denouncing allegation by Washington and Beijing concerning human rights in Kampuchea.

The statement, released by S.P.K. yesterday, notes that over recent days, while the U.N. human rights commission was holding its 36th session in Geneva, the Beijing expansionist and U.S. imperialists have slandered the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The statement says:

- "The Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of Kampuchea deems it necessary to make clear the following:
- 1- Deprived of the right to live as human beings, the Kampuchean people have risen up and defeated the genoeidal policy unprecedented in human history- of the Beijing expansionists and the Pol Pot Teng Sary clique, and have gone about rebuilding their free life, their independence and happiness. During this humane uprising the Vietnamese people conscious of their international obligations toward a neighbouring nation threatened with extermination, spared no sacrifice to help the Kampucheans liberate themselves and rebuild their country. This came at a time when Viet Nam was subject to violations of its sovereighty and

independence in its Northern and Southwestern border regions.

For this assistance, the Kanpuchean people are extremely grateful. It is perfectly legal, just and in the national interests of both Kampuchea and Viet Nam, meeting the Kampuchean and Vietnamese people's aspirations to human rights.

2- It is the Beijing expansionists and the U.S. imperialists who have grossly violated human rights by launching an extremely barbarous aggressive war against the three Indochinese countries. The U.S. imperialists have massacred millions of innocent people, committed extremely savage crimes in a vain attempt to put the peoples of the three countries under their neo-colonialist domination, cynically violating the human rights of the Kampuchean, Vietnamese and Lao peoples, by encouraging the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary clique to follow an extremely , savage policy of genocide in Kampuchea and to wage a barbarous assressive war asainst Viet Nam in early 1979, the Beijing expansionists have exposed themselves as blood thirsty butchers under the guise of 'socialism''. By so doing, they have tried to impose their domination on the Indochina peninsula, infringing upon the numan rights of the peoples in the three fraternal countries.

3- At present, their most serious violation consists in their opposition to the sacred cause of the Kampuchean people, namely the pursuit of their human right in overcoming the consequences of the genocidal regime and building a new life of prosperity and happiness. The U.S. and Beijing clamour about "respect and defence of human rights" but they themselves have tried to revive the savage genocidal regime of Pol Pot and leng Sary. They falsely accuse the People's Revolutionary Council which has continged to uphold humanitarian values, overcome the consequences of the genocidal clique and defend the Kampuchean people's legitimate interests. They try by all means to calumniate the Vietnamese people- close friends of the Kampuchean people- who, amimated by proletarian internationalism

have saved the Kampucheans from the danger of extermination and fully supported them in building a new life.

4- The U.S. imperialists and their allies, the Beijing expansionists are responsible for the worst violations of human rights, are not qualified to speak in defence of human rights.

The Kampuchean people energetically condemn all their violations of human rights and urge them to immediately cease their aggressive activities, sabotage and their false charges against the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The United Nations and other international organizations must expel the genocidal Pol Pot - Ieng Sary clique, whom the Kampuchean people have sentenced to death and the world public opinion detests as the most hated butchers in human history"...