A SELECTIVE, ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY ON CURRENT INDOCHINESE ISSUES

December 1986

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PREFACE

This bibliography provides selective annotations of open-source material on three current Indochina-related issues:

* Thailand's political strategy for solving the Cambodian question
* tactics and organization of Khmer/Lao resistance groups
* the war in Cambodia

This bibliography incorporates serials and monographs received in the previous month and is part of a continuing series on the above subjects.

Entries are arranged alphabetically by author or title. Library of Congress call numbers, where appropriate, are included to facilitate the recovery of works cited.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANS</td>
<td>Armée Nationale Sihanoukiste (Sihanoukist National Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASEAN</td>
<td>Association of Southeast Asian Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CGDK</td>
<td>Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DK</td>
<td>Democratic Kampuchea (Khmer Rouge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUNCINPEC</td>
<td>National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCP</td>
<td>Khmer Communist Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPNLF</td>
<td>Khmer People's National Liberation Front (Son Sann)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPRAF</td>
<td>Khmer People's Revolutionary Armed Forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KR</td>
<td>Khmer Rouge (Pol Pot)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUFNCD</td>
<td>Khmer United Front for National Construction and Defense (PRK)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nao Na</td>
<td>Progressive [lit: moving in new directions]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAVN</td>
<td>People's Army of Vietnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCCS</td>
<td>Provisional Central Committee for Salvation (KPNLF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERMICO</td>
<td>Permanent Military Committee for Coordination (KPNLF and ANS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRK</td>
<td>People's Republic of Kampuchea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRPK</td>
<td>People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, aka KPRP (Khmer People's Revolutionary Party)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RTG</td>
<td>Royal Thai Government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Siam Rat

Thai Nation

SPK

News Agency of the PRK

SRV

Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Su Anakhot

Forward [lit: going toward the future]
1. THE WAR IN CAMBODIA

The Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers have reportedly been clearing landmines and obstacles from certain parts of the Thai-Cambodian border and the Thai military anticipates that they are preparing for future unknown maneuvers, possibly another intrusion into Thai territory to target Cambodian refugees. The newspaper warns the Thai Government to be prepared.


Chanda reports that in a recent interview in New York, Prince Sihanouk sounded despondent about his country's situation. He was pessimistic over the chances of the Vietnamese ever leaving Cambodia and of Beijing abandoning its support of the Khmer Rouge, and characterized as untrue a Japanese report crediting Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian with saying that Beijing had "decided to exclude the Pol Pot faction" from peace overtures on Cambodia. The prince compared Pol Pot and his military commander Ta Mok to Hitler and Himmler, but bemoaned that the Chinese will do nothing against the Khmer Rouge and that they have insisted on the perpetual union of the three resistance factions.

"Further on Thai-SRV Talks." Bangkok Post, 25 October 1986, p. 3.

Thai Foreign Minister Sithi Sawetsila is willing to meet with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach on condition that he "show a genuine intention to make progress." This message was conveyed to visiting Vietnamese Minister without portfolio Vo Dong Giang. The visiting minister was also told that recent Vietnamese incursions into Thailand raised questions as to true Vietnamese intentions.

The KPNLF is reported to have formed its first combat unit specializing in demolition operations, a form of sabotage previously limited in use by a lack of technical skill. The unit is a battalion with a strength of about 250 men. It is comprised of two commando sections which are in turn split into six-man patrols that normally operate independently. Each member is trained in demolition and tactics are based on a hit-and-run style of operations. Forces loyal to Prince Sihanouk are believed to have recently formed such a unit or are about to do so. The Khmer Rouge have had such units operating inside of Cambodia for years.


The consultative meeting meeting between Vo Dong Giang, minister attached to the SRV Foreign Ministry, and Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan reflects a softer tone but unchanged attitude on the part of Vietnam towards Cambodia. The author contends that Vietnam was speaking with a softer tone in order to deceive the general public and that "it was playing an old song with the same words but [a] new melody."


Non-communist Cambodian resistance fighters will soon be equipped with anti-aircraft missiles, a move which is expected to significantly upgrade their morale as well as military capability. The Khmer Rouge are known to already have missiles. All three resistance factions have been increasingly harassed by helicopter gunships, including the Soviet-built Mi-24 Hind. China is the suspected supplier of the missiles.
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"Sitthi on Talks With SRV; Relations With Laos." The Nation 
(Bangkok), 28 October 1986, p. 5. In FBIS (Asia & Pacific) 

Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila states that 
Thailand will have a meaningful dialogue with Vietnam only 
after the conclusion of the Vietnamese Communist Party 
congress scheduled for December. However, he was also 
willing to meet with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Co 
Thach before that time if such a meeting could lead to a 
solution of the Cambodian conflict.

"Sitthi Rejects Nguyen Co Thach's Talks Offer." Bangkok Post, 
24 October 1986, p. 3.

Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila rejects an offer by 
Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach to hold talks. 
Sitthi reasons that the time for such a meeting is not 
right given that the Vietnamese recently violated Thai 
territory by crossing the Cambodian and occupying a hill 
in Buriram Province. Fifty Thais were reportedly killed 
during the battle for the strategic hill and Thailand had 
protested the violation to the United Nations.

"SRV's Vo Dong Giang Comments On Bangkok Talks." The Nation 
(Bangkok), 29 October 1986, p. 5. In FBIS (Asia & 

Vietnamese Minister Vo Dong Giang, concluding a visit to 
Thailand, states that he welcomes the "positive signal" he 
received from his talks with Thai Deputy Foreign Minister 
Prapat Limapaphan. Giang says that Prapat suggested that 
Vietnam and Thailand should improve relations and settle 
their mutual differences at the same time.

"SRV's Vo Dong Giang Visits; Official Views Talks." Bangkok 
World, 24 October 1986, p. 1. In FBIS (Asia & Pacific) 24 
Visiting Thailand, Vietnamese Minister without portfolio Vo Dong Giang confirms that Vietnam will totally withdraw its troops from Cambodia by 1990 but that the withdrawal date could be earlier if cooperation from "outsiders" was forthcoming. Giang also made clear that Vietnam recognized the situation in Cambodia to be an international problem, a significant change in posture since Vietnam had previously maintained consistently that the Cambodian problem was an internal conflict.


With the onset of the dry season in Cambodia the Khmer resistance is more optimistic than ever that it can hold its ground inside of Cambodia in the face of predictions of a concerted Vietnamese campaign to strengthen their grip on areas where they are strong while intensifying pressure on the Thai-Cambodian border. According to this scenario, Hanoi is acting out of concern for recent developments in the international diplomatic situation and that the Vietnamese are attempting to consolidate their gains in the country by establishing more permanence in the areas where they are strong while stepping up confrontation with Thai border troops. The generally accepted reason for Vietnamese forays into Thailand is that Hanoi is seeking to continually remind Thailand that it has an exceedingly sensitive political problem on its hands.


While visiting Thailand, Vo Dong Giang, Vietnamese Minister without portfolio, states that Vietnamese forces in Cambodia will not mount their usual dry-season offensive against the Khmer resistance this year unless the guerrillas try to reestablish their strongholds inside Cambodia. According to the minister, Vietnamese forces had
destroyed all Khmer resistance bases along the
Thai-Cambodian border in 1985 and there was no reason to
launch another offensive in 1986.