

Thailand: November 7-10, 1979 [1]

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| memo w/attachment | Aaron to Carter, 4 pgs | 11/3/79 | A |
| memcon | Labouisse, Bloomfield, 10 pgs | 11/28/79 | A |
| report | Visit of Ms. Carter..., 38 pgs | 11/8-10/79 | B |
| list | Manifest, 1 pg | 11/7/79 | B |
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FILE LOCATION

Records of the First Lady's Office, Mary Hoyt's Foreign Trip Files (Press), Box 27, Thailand, November 7-10, 1979

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Office of the First Lady's Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

First Lady Rosalynn Carter will visit Thailand this week to observe first hand the plight of refugees there, particularly the conditions of Kampuchean refugees.

Mrs. Carter will depart on Wednesday, November 7, and return on Saturday, November 10. She will be accompanied by Dr. Julius Richmond, the Surgeon General of the United States. Other members of the delegation will be announced later.

The purpose of her trip will be to learn of the needs of the refugees fleeing Kampuchea, look at ways to increase the flow of relief supplies and food into Kampuchea, and report her findings to the President in order to help accelerate effective support for the international relief programs.

During her visit to Thailand, Mrs. Carter will visit refugee camps and consult with Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak and his cabinet. She will discuss with him the burdens created for Thailand by its humanitarian acceptance of the vast influx of refugees. Mrs. Carter will also meet with international relief and American officials in Thailand. Her trip will provide a focus at the highest level of the U.S. government for the effective concentration and utilization of U.S. resources, both public and private, to meet this human tragedy.

The Surgeon General will provide the expert judgment needed on the extent of medical aid necessary and the medical application necessary to aid those suffering from malnutrition and other diseases. The plight of the Cambodian people and the special needs of those who have made their way to Thailand make this an urgent mission for the U.S. and for the First Lady.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 9, 1979

Office of the First Lady's Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

First Lady Rosalynn Carter will address the Council on Foreign Relations on Wednesday, December 12, 1979.

Mrs. Carter will speak about her recent trip to refugee camps in Thailand.

Per custom of the Council on Foreign Relations, the speech will be closed to the press.

REPORT OF MRS. ROSALYNN CARTER ON CAMBODIAN RELIEF

November 8-10, 1979

I visited Thailand November 8-10 to express the concern of all Americans over the tragedy unfolding in Cambodia, to pay tribute to the Thai government for the actions it has taken to alleviate the plight of Indochinese refugees, and to consider what additional steps the United States and other nations might take to provide food and medical care to those who have fled Cambodia as well as those who remain there.

At the refugee camps in Thailand, I witnessed incredible starvation, disease, dislocation and suffering. At the Sakeo Holding Center for Cambodians I saw many children separated from their parents, afflicted with malaria and malnutrition. In the Lao Refugee Camp at Ubon, conditions were substantially better, yet many of the camp's inhabitants have waited three or four years for approval to resettle abroad. They wait, hoping not to be forgotten by the world. At the Refugee Transit Center in Bangkok, I observed overcrowded and humiliating conditions which refugees awaiting final processing for emigration must endure. These were emotionally wrenching scenes, and I shall never forget them.

As bleak as these conditions were, however, they pale in horror by comparison to those which must be experienced by those still living in Cambodia. In particular, I was informed that nearly a quarter of a million people

gathered near Sisophon close to the Thai border face the most desperate situation. Intensified fighting -- anticipated in the coming weeks -- will probably send them into Thailand where they may overwhelm existing capabilities to provide relief.

The plight of the children is particularly distressing. Indeed, a generation of Cambodian children is in danger of being lost. We saw few children under five at Sakeo, and there were virtually no toddlers. I held one infant who had survived despite malnourishment because aid was available. We must not allow others to die because our assistance was either too little or too late.

The Thai government is dealing with the massive influx of refugees with compassion. They have opened their borders to fleeing Lao and Cambodian as well as Vietnamese boat people. And they are now establishing holding centers to handle these displaced people away from the border areas where fighting threatens.

These decisions pose risks and pressures for the government of Prime Minister Kriangsak. Failure by the international community to provide visible and demonstrable political, economic, and security support to the Thais could undercut their current humanitarian approach. We must give Thailand our support and understanding.

The relief efforts of international agencies and voluntary

groups in Bangkok is impressive. They have performed heroic services under the most trying circumstances. Yet I return with the conviction that coordination of such efforts in Thailand must be improved to assure maximum use of limited financial and human resources.

The most urgent issue is to get more food and medical supplies into Cambodia and to see that they are more widely distributed. UN Agency representatives have stated that the authorities in Phnom Penh may be willing to increase the amount of international relief reaching Cambodia. The Phnom Penh authorities have said they will permit delivery of food and medicines up the Mekong River, as well as expanded air and sea deliveries. These are vitally important. However, implementation is bogged down by political bottlenecks, and proposals for essential land deliveries into Cambodia from Thailand remain stymied.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

With these circumstances in mind, I believe the United States must act urgently to stimulate and contribute to expanded international efforts to relieve the suffering of refugees in Thailand and to find additional ways of delivering food and medicine to people in Cambodia. To this end we should consider the following actions:

1) The United States is fully committed to the principle that food should reach all the people of Kampuchea. Right now, the overwhelming

problem facing the relief effort is how to deliver food to the people who remain in Kampuchea. During my visit, I discussed the problem of approval by the authorities in Phnom Penh with Congresswoman Holtzman's delegation before their departure for Cambodia. I raised the issue of land deliveries with Prime Minister Kriangsak who affirmed his approval of the delivery of food from Thailand with the approval of the appropriate authorities. The continued delivery of food to the Thai-Cambodian border area is essential. Finally, the relief effort based in Phnom Penh should be commensurate with the task at hand. The international agency presence there -- currently thirteen people -- is clearly inadequate.

2) While commodities and services are essential, so is cash. We must disburse available funds immediately to permit the procurement of goods and services urgently needed in Kampuchea and in the Thai holding centers. We should immediately provide \$2 million from our refugee funds to cover the U.S. share of World Food Program requirements through the end of 1979, and we must tap the generosity of the American people to supplement through private charity those programs to which we are contributing government funds. In this connection, the United States Commission on the International Year of the Child has already launched an appeal for Americans to give a special offering this Thanksgiving to "Children Without." High on the priority is the refugee child. Contributions are to be donated to the charity of one's choice with a list of relief organizations available. We must help to save the children of Cambodia by urging all Americans to participate in this fund-raising effort.

3) To meet urgent requirements in Thailand we should initiate immediately an airlift to provide, in full cooperation with pertinent international agencies, vegetable oils and special foods needed for infants and small children, mobile equipment to provide water to refugee holding camps, and communications equipment to improve coordination between the refugee camps and support agencies in Bangkok. Subject to the concurrence of authorities in Phnom Penh, we should also be prepared to transport by air such equipment as fork lifts and cranes to facilitate handling and distribution of food and medical supplies arriving at the seaport of Kompong Son and the river port at Phnom Penh.

4) We need to work with the international relief agencies and voluntary groups in Thailand to develop integrated contingency plans for coping with a massive influx of additional Cambodian refugees across the Thai border during the weeks immediately ahead. The identification of sites for additional holding centers should be expedited, construction materials for hospitals identified and earmarked, and plans initiated for providing food, water and medical services.

5) In the light of additional heavy burdens anticipated by the Thai, we should earmark more of the monthly refugee entry allocations to Thailand during the next quarter. This would help offset large numbers of new arrivals from Cambodia and offer more equitable resettlement possibilities in other camps such as Ubon.

Thailand's need is so great that it demands special attention and support.

6) We must also urge the UNHCR to construct new facilities for refugees transiting Bangkok. For our part we must accelerate the paperwork involved in processing requests for resettlement abroad.

7) We must increase the numbers of American volunteers participating in the relief effort. I was proud of the contributions being made by Americans. More can be done. The UNHCR in particular needs assistance, and I believe the Peace Corps should be asked to make volunteers available to the UNHCR at once.

8) Because malnutrition complicates and intensifies other disease problems, all efforts should be made to provide adequate food supplies to the populations of the refugee camps, in the border areas and in Cambodia. And for purposes of extending medical services to these people, the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service should work with the voluntary health organizations to assure that a national clearing house and response capacity for the refugee health volunteer effort is established.

9) In view of the desperate situation in Western Cambodia, some of the representatives of voluntary agencies with whom I spoke in Bangkok proposed initiating unilateral early truck deliveries from Thailand. While there are practical difficulties and risks associated with this proposal, I believe that it should be

given serious consideration as a last resort measure.

10) We must renew our efforts to increase the contributions of other countries as we increase ours. When I stopped in Japan, for example, I discussed this matter with the new Foreign Minister by telephone and with the Japanese press.

11) We must swiftly appoint a new Coordinator for Refugee Affairs who can relate larger U.S. contributions -- including initiatives stemming from my mission -- to a broader international relief and refugee resettlement effort.

FROM: Mary Finch Hoyt

TO: Ambassador Morton Abramowitz

PLEASE DELIVER OOB

Following National Press expected to travel with Mrs. Carter to total eleven persons:

- (2) Time Magazine writer and photographer (Christopher Ogden & Diana Walker)
- (1) Voice of America correspondent (Jane ^{Berger} ~~Bleyer~~)
- (1) CBS correspondent (Lee Thornton)
- (1) NBC Correspondent
- (1) ABC Correspondent
- (1) UPI Photographer
- (1) RKO General correspondent (Clifford Evans)
- (1) Chicago Tribune writer (Aldo Beckman) (Coffey)
- (1) Los Angeles Times writer (Marlene Cimon)
- (1) ~~Reuters correspondent (Ralph Harris)~~ <

Following press expected to pick up press party in Bangkok to total sixteen persons:

- (2) Newsweek writer and photographer
- (3) ABC crew
- (3) NBC Crew
- (3) CBS Crew
- (1) UPI writer
- (2) AP writer and photographer
- (1) New York Times (Henry Kamm)
- (1) Washington Post (John Burgess)

Please ascertain how many other correspondents or photographers need to be added to this group to accompany Mrs. Carter on all activities. Suggest your press office pick 10-12 representatives from Thai, foreign press and others

already in country.

This would total 37- to 40 press which would need to be accommodated in addition to official travel party. Extra plane would need to be considered.

ANDREWS DEPARTURE STATEMENT

ROSSLYN CARTER TRIP

TO THAILAND

The sorrow of Kampuchea is one which we all share. A once peaceful nation of seven million has been devastated by war and brutality. Its people now face annihilation from famine and disease.

The images we all see in the news media of young mothers cradling in their arms their dying infants, the hopeless stare of both children and adults so weakened by starvation and disease they cannot even stand compel all of us to do more; to commit ourselves and all our energy to ending their senseless suffering.

The President has asked me to visit refugee camps in Thailand. I will share with the people there Jimmy's and the American people's profound concern over this unprecedented human tragedy. Our delegation will explore additional ways in which we can further use our resources to ease the suffering.

The U.S. Government has already pledged \$69 million to assist in international relief efforts. But the needs are too great, too urgent to be satisfied by governments alone. That is why, on our mission, we will particularly be looking for ways to enhance the efforts of private voluntary agencies.

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that nearly a quarter of a million people gathered near Sisophon close to the Thai border face the most desperate situation. Intensified fighting -- anticipated in the coming weeks -- will probably send them into Thailand where they may overwhelm existing capabilities to provide relief.

The plight of the children is particularly distressing. Indeed, a generation of Cambodian children is in danger of being lost. We saw few children under five at Sakeo, and there were virtually no toddlers. I held one infant who had survived despite malnourishment because aid was available. We must not allow others to die because our assistance was either too little or too late.

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and risks associated with this proposal, I believe that it should be given serious consideration as a last resort measure.

10) We must renew our efforts to increase the contributions of other countries as we increase ours. When I stopped in Japan, for example, I discussed this matter with the new Foreign Minister by telephone and with the Japanese press.

11) We must swiftly appoint a new Coordinator for Refugee Affairs who can relate larger U.S. contributions -- including initiatives stemming from my mission -- to a broader international relief and refugee resettlement effort.

I call upon all Americans to assist these groups in their efforts to alleviate the crisis by making generous contributions to these private efforts.

We must get help to the people so desperately in need by working in concert with international relief groups and other concerned governments, such as the government of Thailand which has been so generous in providing temporary haven for Khmer fleeing across the border. I pray that we can quickly act to ease the burden of a people who have suffered too much, too long.

Thank you.

With the gracious permission of His Royal Highness, I should like to say a few words to bid farewell to Mrs. Rosalynn Carter and Party upon the completion of their mission in Thailand.

Twodays ago, the Thai Government and people were pleased to welcome you to Thailand on a mission in the behalf of the President of the United States to learn at first hand the refugge situation in our country. We very much appreciated the extraordinary effort you have made to demonstrate the genuine concern of the American Government and people for the catastrophe that has befallen our fellow human beings in this corner of the globe.

Although you have been among us for only a short time, we have been touched by your courage, spirit and compassion. We have been overwhelmed by the affection of a wife and mother that you have shown towards the starving, the sick, the young orphans. You have struck a deep and tender chord in the hearts of all mothers in Thailand and I am sure of human beings all over the world. Your deep emotional experience will focus greater international attention on the tragic plight of the Indochinese refugees in our country. You have brought renewed hope to the suffering thousands. I am confident that your mission will quicken the momentum of the international effort towards securing for the Kampuchean

/ people

people a just and humane existence.

As demonstrated by your mission here Mrs. Carter, the conscience of the world has been indeed awakened to the great suffering of the Kampuchean people. The problem has now been comprehended, the international expressions of concern have been made; future generations will not forgive us if we were to be found wanting in the sustained efforts needed to alleviate the suffering.

And let us have the courage and stamina to walk the extra mile. In feeding and clothing the destitute people of Kampuchea, we should attempt further to restore to them not only peace in their homeland but also their dignity as a free and self-governing nation. Only by doing so can we in the longer term bring meaningful relief to the men, women and children of Kampuchea.

Mrs. Carter, it is clear to us in this region that your husband's Administration has acted with wisdom in the decisive application of American influence and prestige to help resolve the major issues in the Asian and Pacific region. We are glad to have been able to witness at first hand the continuing application of this wise and prudent policy.

Mrs. Rosalynn Carter, you came to us as First Lady of the United States, you leave as a shining hope of the refugees and I trust, as a friend of Thailand. May I take the opportunity to ask you to convey to President Carter and the American people our best wishes and affection.

Speech

CAMBODIA: A Preventable Holocaust

FACT: Since 1975, over 3 million Cambodians have died.

FACT: 2 to 3 million more people face starvation in the days and months to come.

FACT: Today, over 800,000 Cambodians are amassed in camps in Thailand and along the border. Nearly half a million more are now fleeing to that border.

Our immediate commitment is needed so that the Cambodian people will survive. We can act now. We must.

NATIONAL CAMBODIA CRISIS COMMITTEE

The White House
Washington, D.C.
January 29, 1980

NATIONAL CAMBODIA CRISIS COMMITTEE

Biafra, Bangladesh, Uganda and, now, Cambodia ... the names ring like an elegy through recent human history.

People in these countries shared common experiences -- repression, war, disease, starvation and death -- in huge measure.

The world community now stands aghast, as it did when the Nazi Holocaust was finally revealed in all its horror and as it did when Biafra and Bangladesh seared themselves on human conscience. It is numbed by the sheer magnitude of the tragedy which has befallen Cambodia.

The Cambodian people have suffered the effects of war and/or repression for more than a decade. Now they are suffering from the "fruits" of those experiences -- starvation, disease and death.

We Are All Linked...

The days when famine and disease existed "over there" in some distant country or continent are long gone. Now we are all inextricably linked, connected by electronic impulses which flash through cables or via satellites, bringing us not only the sight but the sound of the hungry, the diseased and the dying. Now we cannot escape our responsibility for suffering fellow humans by cowering behind a wall of unawareness.

For now we KNOW what its like "over there." Television and radio and photographs and a flood of printed words bring into our homes and offices the images and sounds and descriptions of life and suffering and death. We can see the effects of starvation and disease ... the wasted bodies, the lassitude of the sick and dying, the hollow, vacant stares of bewildered, uncomprehending children.

There is no escaping our responsibility, not only for what has happened or is happening but for how we try to shape the future course of human history.

For no longer can we be prisoners of all that has gone before us. The time has now come for the human race to stand and say: Enough, we are all of this world; together we shall take a stand against starvation and disease.

Our Resources...

At our disposal are massive resources -- materials, skills and talent. It's all there and we can use it to help alleviate starvation and disease. But the most potent resource exists within ourselves. For if each of us accepts a personal responsibility then in that very moment of acceptance we become

an integral part of a future solution for all of the Biafras and Bangladeshes and Cambodias.

Within this context of overall responsibility to try to relieve the world of starvation and disease is our immediate concern for the plight of the Cambodian people.

Not since the Nazi Holocaust has there been such ruthless slaughter and continuing disregard for human beings on such a massive scale as has been occurring in Cambodia.

Statistics of those years almost defy comprehension. Probably several million of Cambodia's pre-war population of some 8,000,000 people are dead -- either executed by the forces of ousted Premier Pol Pot or victims of starvation and enforced hardships during his rule.

Hundreds of thousands of Cambodians have fled their homeland in the past few months. Nearly a whole generation of children was wiped out or, because of the prevailing conditions, was never even conceived. Hundreds of thousands of families were decimated or dispersed or both. And for several million Cambodians still living in their homeland, the specter of starvation looms in the months ahead unless massive food aid is rapidly forthcoming.

We Can All Help...

Together with other nations and private relief organizations the United States government and many American relief agencies are already rushing food and medical aid to try to forestall a tragedy of mind-numbing magnitude. But this is only a start. Much more is necessary -- in money, effort and time.

With this very much in mind, a cross-section of American leaders -- from such fields as religion, education, business, politics, entertainment, the media and consumer groups -- has been called together today to chart a course for action.

Known as the National Cambodia Crisis Committee, the group will draw on its members' vast and varied expertise and influence to mobilize the American people to take a stand on aid to Cambodia and to give a resounding cry of "NO" to this potential Holocaust.

On the urgency of their effort -- and the extent of their success -- probably depends the best chance the United States and the international community have to help prevent the total devastation of the gentle Khmer people, their country and their culture.

Cambodia Still Needs Help

Doubts are plaguing many private citizens who tried for months to prevent starvation in Cambodia. Reports that food is just stacking up in warehouses there have caused the International Red Cross and Unicef to curtail shipments. Now American volunteers wonder if they, too, should withdraw. Someone phoned to ask: "Should we keep giving? Can we honestly collect money even from schoolchildren?" The answer is yes. Give. Keep pushing to get the food through. Shout bloody murder. It has helped before.

Cambodia's grief continues. Besides the food bottlenecks there are gun battles near Thailand among factions of anti-Vietnamese Cambodians. Guerrillas there are eating food intended for children, as invading Vietnamese may be doing elsewhere. Vietnam wants to crush its enemies before the dry season ends. The war and devastation, the use of Cambodia as a power pawn, the ruthlessness, the anarchy, aren't about to end.

How can people be fed in such circumstances? Well, many have been fed; more will be. Food delivered to Thailand is filtering into Cambodia. And some

food flown and shipped to central Cambodia is being distributed. Private groups dealing only with Phnom Penh and not its enemies have gained a measure of cooperation. The pile-ups at the docks have unquestionably been made worse by the insensate refusal of Cambodians, Vietnamese and Russians to get the job done or let other foreigners do it. Nonetheless, much more food will be needed to prevent famine once this spring's meager rice crop is devoured.

A few months ago, the surviving half or two-thirds of the Cambodian people — about 4 million — were starving. The response of private citizens has helped turn back genocide. The aid agencies they supported are still helping and drawing the world's attention to Cambodia despite grave crises elsewhere. However frustrated, they are saving lives. The moral and political pressure they exert on Congress and the President should not slacken. Stronger official action may yet be needed if the signs increase that food is being deliberately held back. But volunteers, and the contributions that sustain them, are still needed.

Editorial
The New York Times
January 8, 1980

THE ROLE OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES
IN
KAMPUCHEA AND THAILAND

The American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service is a thirty six year old confederation of 44 member agencies, headquartered in the U.S. which has major programs overseas in the fields of development assistance, material assistance and refugee assistance. The American Council serves as a professional forum for voluntary agency executives to discuss common problems and pragmatic approaches to solving these problems. It also serves in a liaison capacity between its member agencies, the U.S. Government and the United Nations. Within its membership are those major agencies involved with U.S. Government food commodities through the Office of Food for Peace.

Acquaintance with the countries and governments of Cambodia and Thailand is not new to the private non-profit sector of the United States. Voluntary agencies have worked in these countries for many years. A 1974 report produced by the Technical Assistance Information Clearing House (TAICH) indicates that 11 voluntary agencies were providing development or technical assistance to Cambodia in that year. These organizations were working especially in the areas of education, housing, medicine and health, food production as well as supplying equipment and material aid.

In the country of Thailand, a 1977 report issued by the Technical Assistance Information Clearing House, shows that some 45 U.S. based voluntary agencies were involved in various development assistance programs during that year. As in Cambodia, the programs of these agencies were highly diverse covering areas of education, food production and agriculture, industrial development, medicine and public health and community development. During that year, 31 of these agencies reported expenditures of over six million dollars.

Once again, the focus of overseas programming in Asia is on Thailand and Cambodia. Not only have voluntary agencies continued their good work in the area, but they have expanded their programming capabilities in the past few months. As of mid-December 1979, this expansion has involved over 15 million relief dollars which these agencies have raised from their own constituents found in every village, town, city and state in America. This tremendous effort is a direct reflection of the will of the American people to render a helping hand to those in need, through what most of them perceive as their own voluntary agency.

CAMBODIAN REFUGEE HEALTH CLEARINGHOUSE

In response to the urgent need for medical personnel in the Thai refugee camps, a national clearinghouse has been set up by the National Council for International Health. The Cambodian Refugee Health Clearinghouse functions as a telephone information service for persons wishing to volunteer their services for Cambodian refugees in Thailand, as well as to assist the Private and Voluntary Organizations (PVOs) fill their medical personnel requirements and to disseminate information about the activities of PVO's, medical equipment needs, and volunteer training materials. The Clearinghouse is operating under the coordination of Peggy Cronyn.

The National Council for International Health was organized in 1971 by nine national health and religious associations. Dr. Russell E. Morgan, Jr. is the Executive Director.

For more information, contact:

Cambodian Refugee Health Clearinghouse
Coordinator: Peggy Cronyn
c/o National Council for International Health
2121 Virginia Ave., N.W., Suite 302
Washington, D.C. 20037
(202) 298-5901 (Phones open 24 hours a day)

AGENCIES OPERATING RELIEF PROGRAMS IN THAILAND/CAMBODIA

UNICEF/ICRC

United Nations Children's Fund
International Committee of the Red Cross

U. S. Committee for UNICEF
331 E. 38th Street
New York, New York 10016
President: C. Lloyd Bailey, 212/686-5522
Information Staff: Johanna Grant

American Red Cross
National Headquarters
17th and D Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006
Director, International Services: Dorothy Taaffe, 202/857-3574
Assistant Director: Robert Martin, 202/857-3573

Oxfam-America
302 Columbus Avenue
Boston, MA 02116
Executive Director: Joseph Short, 617/247-3304
Information Staff: John Wong

UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.
Suite 405
Washington, D. C. 20036
Director, Washington Office: Gary Perkins, 202/387-8546
Information Staff: Christopher Thorne

Church World Service

(U.S. affiliate of the World Council of Churches)
475 Riverside Drive
New York, New York 10027
Executive Director: Reverend Paul McCleary, 212/870-2257
Information Staff: Evie Moore, 212/870-2818

Catholic Relief Services

1011 First Avenue
New York, New York 10022
Executive Director: Most Reverend Edwin Broderick, 212/838-4700
Information Staff: Monty Sonaggere

International Rescue Committee
386 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016
Executive Director: Charles Sternberg, 212/679-0010
Information Staff: Bob Devecchi, 212/679-0090

CARE, Inc.
660 First Avenue
New York, New York 10016
Executive Director: Louis Samia, 212/686-3110
Information Staff: Donald Sanders

World Vision International
919 West Huntington Drive
Monrovia, CA 91016
President: Dr. W. Stanley Mooneyham, 213/357-1111
Information Staff: Robert Ash; Reuben Macagba, 213/357-7979

American Friends Service Committee
1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
Executive Secretary: Louis W. Schneider, 215/241-7000
Information Staff: Rick Boardman, 215/241-7154

Seventh-Day Adventist World Service, Inc.
6840 Eastern Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20012
Executive Secretary: Howard Burbank, 202/723-0800

Food for the Hungry International
3331 North Hayden Road, Suite #1
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251
President: Dr. Larry Ward, 602/941-0307
Information Staff: Bill Moy

CAMA
The Christian and Missionary Alliance
Division of Overseas Ministries
350 North Highland Avenue
Nyack, New York 10960
Executive Director: Dr. Louis L. King, 914/353-0750
Director, S. E. Asia: Robert Reed

U. S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES SUPPORTING RELIEF OPERATIONS IN
THAILAND/CAMBODIA

American Refugee Committee
310 Fourth Avenue South - Rm 410
Minneapolis, MN 55415
National Director: Stan Breen, 612/332-5365
Information Staff: Nan Satterlee

American Baptist Churches
Board of International Ministries
Valley Forge, PA 19481
Executive Secretary: Reverend Chester Jump, Jr., 215/768-2000
Information Staff: Reverend Raymond W. Beaver

Baptist World Alliance
1628 16th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20009
Interim Staff Director: Dr. C. Ronald Goulding, 202/265-5027
Information Staff: Erna Redlich

Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board
3806 Monument Avenue
Richmond, VA 23230
Executive Director: Baker James Cauthen, 804/353-0151
Information Staff: Winston Crawley

Assemblies of God
Foreign Service Committee
1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802
Executive Director: J. Philip Hogan, 417/862-2781
Information Staff: Nelda Ammons

Direct Relief Foundation
404 East Carrillo Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Director: Dennis Karzag, 805/966-9149
Information Staff: Kathryn Cody

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
60 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017
Executive Vice-President: Ralph Goldman, 212/687-6200
Information Staff: Murray Kass

Heifer Project International
825 West Third Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
Executive Director: Terry Ford, 501/376-6836
Information Staff: Charles Burwell

Holt International Children's Services
1195 City View
Eugene, Oregon 97402
Executive Director: John Adams, 503/687-2202
Information Staff: David Kim

International Human Assistance Programs, Inc.
360 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10010
Executive Vice President: Myles Ren, 212/684-6804

Lutheran World Relief, Inc.
360 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10010
Executive Director: Dr. Bernard Confer, 212/532-6350
Information Staff: Ove Nielsen

MAP International
327 Gundersen Drive
Carol Stream, IL 60187
President: J. Raymond Knighton, 312/653-6010
Information Staff: Calvin Williams

Meals for Millions/Freedom from Hunger Foundation
1800 Olympic Boulevard
Santa Monica, CA 90404
President: Peter Davies, 213/829-5337
Information Staff: Michael Hayes

Mennonite Central Committee
21 South 12th Street
Akron, PA 17501
Executive Secretary: William Snyder, 717/859-1151
Information Staff: Vern Preheim

Rescue Now
555 Market Street, Apt. #309
San Francisco, CA 94105
Director: John Berwalt, 415/894-6551

The Salvation Army World Service Office
1025 15th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20005
Director, Overseas Programs: Lt. Col. Ernest Miller, 202/833-5646

Save the Children Federation
48 Wilton Road
Westport, CT 06880
President: David Guyer, 203/226-7271
Information Staff: Pratima Kale

World Relief
450 Gundersen
Wheaton, IL 60187
Executive Director: Jerry Ballard, 312/665-0235
Information Staff: Bill Hewlett

YMCA
International Division
291 Broadway
New York, New York 10007
Executive Director: Robert Harlan, 212/374-2085
Executive Director, International Division: Frank Kiehne
Information Staff: Boris Kazimiroff

World Concern
19303 Fremont Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98133
President: Dr. Clarence Reimer, 206/546-7201
Information Staff: Tim Burgess

THE CAMBODIA CRISIS CENTER

The Cambodia Crisis Center* is a humanitarian effort to increase public awareness about the plight of the Cambodian people and to support the work of relief agencies trying to help them. As the operational arm of a national, private sector mobilization effort for Cambodian relief, it will provide coordination, resources and information for these activities.

The Center is a cooperative project created out of a set of consultations on Cambodian relief convened in October and November, 1979, by the Overseas Development Council, Father Theodore Hesburgh and others. The Center is operating under the auspices of the American Council for Voluntary Agencies and is being funded by private organizations, foundations and individuals.

It is hoped that the work of the Cambodia Crisis Center will raise public consciousness about the tragedy and its devastating impact on the 3.5 to 4 million surviving Cambodians. The Center will do this by creating a climate of understanding and support for the relief effort on behalf of the Cambodian people.

*The Cambodia Crisis Center is a project of the Indochina Refugee Action Center (IRAC). IRAC was created by a consortium of foundations in August, 1979, to work on issues involving the domestic resettlement of Indochinese refugees and on the Cambodian crisis. IRAC is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia. The Crisis Center receives administrative support from IRAC.

The work of the Center is divided into three distinct yet interrelated areas:

1) National Clearing-House

The Center will serve as a clearing-house and referral service for non-medical volunteers, public inquiries and other activities relating to the relief and redevelopment effort. An initial activity in this regard has been to take over the operation of the Cambodian Relief hot-line that has been managed for the past two months by the U.S. Committee for UNICEF. The new hot-line number is (800) 424-5051. It will operate from 10:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. six days a week and will be connected to an answering device at all other times.

2) Information Resources

The Center will provide a centralized, reliable and up-to-date information gathering and dissemination network. It will focus on present needs and long-term redevelopment efforts. It will also provide information on current and planned activities of the relief organizations. The Center will produce regular information updates, media releases, articles, and materials for public and educational use.

3) Mobilization

The Center will coordinate and support the efforts of individuals and agencies to raise public awareness and participation. Focusing both on major national campaigns and on grass-roots efforts, it will seek to involve large sectors of society that have previously not been included. It will provide resources and materials to interested people and assist them in designing and implementing projects. The first mobilization project of the Cambodia Crisis Center has been to coordinate the production of a sixty-second Public Service Announcement for television by First Lady Rosalynn Carter.

In addition to these functions, the Cambodia Crisis Center will provide administrative, informational and resource support to the members of the National Cambodia Crisis Committee.

CAMBODIA CRISIS CENTER

CHAIR.....ROBERT J. STEIN

STAFF

MANAGEMENT GROUP

DIRECTOR.....DEBORAH A. HARDING

SPECIAL PROJECTS.....TED CARPENTER

OFFICE MANAGER.....LATIFA KAMARA

SECRETARY.....VERNA SUPEL

MOBILIZATION GROUP

DIRECTOR.....DENI FRAND

ORGANIZER.....CAROL BLUM

ORGANIZER.....JONATHAN S. DEULL

ORGANIZER.....KRIS JACOBS

PLANNING CONSULTANT.....LAEL STEGALL

INFORMATION GROUP

POLICY DIRECTOR.....ROSS GILLIGAN

IMPLEMENTATION DIRECTOR.....POLLY DEMENT

ACTION UPDATE EDITOR.....ELINOR KOCH

INFORMATION SPECIALIST.....MARIJA FUTCHS FINE

INFORMATION SPECIALIST.....JEREMY MARK

INFORMATION SPECIALIST.....KATHLEEN O'PELLA

CLEARINGHOUSE GROUP

DIRECTOR.....LLOYD FEINBERG

CAMBODIAN RELIEF PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

As a result of suggestions made at the November 13th consultation on Cambodian relief held at The White House, First Lady Rosalynn Carter has done a sixty, thirty and ten-second Public Service Announcement (PSA) for television. A story board of the spot is attached.

Callers to the special toll-free number* receive a list of participating relief organizations and a business reply envelope. They are asked to make their contributions to the organization of their choice.

The PSA project was coordinated by the Cambodia Crisis Center. The spot was produced on a pro-bono basis by Ketchum, MacLeod and Grove. Funds for duplication, distribution and associated costs were provided on a no-interest loan basis by The Hunger Project. Costs incurred will be repaid by the participating organizations at a fixed cost per contribution received.

* This special toll-free number (800-331-1700) is used only for responses to Mrs. Carter's appeal. It is not an information or referral service. A Cambodian relief information hot-line operates out of the Cambodia Crisis Center. Its toll-free number is (800) 424-5051.

CAMBODIAN RELIEF

Public Service Messages

60 SECOND AND 30 SECOND
COLOR VIDEOTAPE TV

60 SECOND SPOT



Rosalynn Carter: It is almost impossible to describe the devastating conditions of the refugees from Cambodia. But I have seen for myself this human suffering.



I have held starving children in my arms.



I have seen thousands of human beings—young and old—who are homeless—bewildered—diseased.



At this very moment, their futures—in fact, their very lives—are at stake.



But there is a way for us to reach out and help. The people of Cambodia need our prayers.



They need our contributions of money. Please send your contribution for Cambodian relief to your church, your synagogue or to the international relief agency of your choice.



For a list of relief agencies, call the toll-free number 800-331-1700

Help the
Cambodians.
Through the denomination
or relief agency of your choice.

Or call
1-800-331-1700

Let's help save the people of
Cambodia.

A public service message
on behalf of American Council of Voluntary
Agencies for Foreign Service.

CAMBODIA FACT SHEET

THE PEOPLE

- o The current population of Cambodia is between 3.5-4.5 million, reduced from about 8 million in 1970.
- o Nearly one million people are amassed along the Thailand/Cambodian border and inside Thailand. About 680,000 are in makeshift camps along the border, and about 120,000 are in special "holding centers" in Thailand, which are maintained by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Thai government.
- o The border camps in Cambodia are largely controlled by different factions of the Khmer Serei (Free Khmer) guerilla troops. Violence among these factions often drives hundreds of thousands of civilian refugees across the border into the Thai holding centers.
- o There are untold numbers of people living in areas of Cambodia that have not been "stabilized" by the Vietnamese-backed government in Cambodia (Heng Samrin regime) whose villages have remained largely beyond the reach of relief agencies working in Cambodia.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION

- o From 1975-78, Cambodia was controlled by the Khmer Rouge, under the leadership of Pol Pot who systematically executed untold numbers of Cambodians--particularly the educated classes.
- o In January 1979 the Vietnamese army and anti-Khmer Rouge Cambodians toppled the Pol Pot regime and installed a new government under the leadership of Heng Samrin.
- o China, the United States and most other countries condemned the invasion by Vietnamese troops, and the U.N. voted in October 1979 to continue recognizing the Pol Pot government. The U.S.S.R. and Vietnam support the Heng Samrin regime.
- o The Pol Pot forces are now in control of a small area of Cambodia in the southwest mountain area. Pol Pot has been replaced by Khieu Samphan as Prime Minister, but retains authority over the Khmer Rouge armed forces.

- o The Vietnamese troops in Cambodia--numbering around 200,000--are expected to launch a dry-season offensive against opposition forces in the Thai border region in early 1980.

INSIDE CAMBODIA TODAY

- o Transportation is a major problem. Roads are nearly impassable; the limited railway system is badly in need of repair; only three airports are in working order.
- o There are virtually no telephone or postal systems, and the telegraph system is severely limited. No relief agency is able to have a direct radio link from Phnom Penh to cities outside the country.
- o Only a fraction of the arable land has been planted; although there has been a recent small rice harvest, it was not a good one. Relief agencies expect that when the present harvest is used up, the Cambodian people will again be almost totally dependent on outside aid.
- o Agricultural and industrial equipment is needed to rebuild a destroyed internal economy.
- o There is no monetary system. Rice serves as a form of exchange.

RELIEF EFFORTS

- o To date, about \$240 million has been raised or pledged by international relief agencies, private U.S. voluntary agencies and individual governments for Cambodian relief efforts. This is far short of the OXFAM and UNICEF/ICRC budget projections of nearly \$400 million just for the first phase of the relief effort.
- o At least 1,000 tons of food a day is needed to ward off starvation for the estimated 2 million Cambodians immediately facing that threat.
- o A diet adequate to rehabilitate and strengthen these people requires about 2,000-2,500 tons a day.
- o Since the beginning of western relief efforts in August to the end of 1979, about 65,000 tons of food had been shipped to Cambodia and an additional 10,000 tons to the Thai border camps.

- o Thousands of tons of additional relief supplies-- including medical supplies and equipment, agricultural tools, clothing and utensils--have also been shipped in the last three months.
- o About 775 medical personnel are working with Cambodian refugees in camps along the Thai/Cambodia border.
- o High-protein foods are in greatest demand now, particularly at the Thai border camps.
- o Agricultural tools, industrial equipment for reconstruction of a demolished internal economy and an eventual return to self-sufficiency are needed.

DISTRIBUTION

- o Workers at the Cambodian port of Kompong Som are able to offload approximately 1,000 tons daily--up from 250 tons in October, 1979.
- o Barges may now travel up the Mekong as far as Kompong Cham--about 75 miles north of Phnom Penh.
- o UNICEF/ICRC's three daily flights into Phnom Penh airport can bring in about 100 tons a day.
- o Most roads are nearly impassable, and bridges are in a state of extreme neglect.
- o A train from Kompong Som to Phnom Penh carries 500-700 tons every other day. Technicians have been sent in by UNICEF/ICRC to help repair the railroad system.
- o An estimated 300 trucks, as well as additional cranes and forklifts, have been delivered to Cambodia to help with offloading and internal distribution. The U.S.S.R. has reportedly donated an additional 200-250 trucks.
- o Logistical problems, an unskilled workforce, and an unstable political situation in Cambodia have contributed to the stockpiling of thousands of tons of food in port city warehouses.
- o The World Food Program has temporarily ceased food shipments to Cambodia until the stockpiled food has been moved out of the warehouses.
- o Relief agency officials are remaining in Cambodia, despite the temporary cessation of food shipments by sea, to assist the Heng Samrin government in improving its food distribution program.

SHORT CHRONOLOGY OF KAMPUCHEA'S* HISTORY

9th to 14th Century

Angkor Empire

1394

Capture of Angkor followed by a 100-year war with Thailand and Vietnam.

1863

Kampuchea becomes French protectorate.

1953

Prince Norodom Sihanouk gains Kampuchea's independence from France.

1954

The Geneva Conference on Indochina recognizes Kampuchea's neutrality.

1966

Sihanouk allows Vietnamese communists to use Kampuchea's border area.

1969

The U.S. begins "secret" bombing of communist sanctuaries inside Kampuchea.

1970

March 18—Sihanouk deposed by General Lon Nol. Lon Nol's government is quickly recognized by the U.S.

March 23—Sihanouk and the Khmer Rouge form the National United Front of Kampuchea to fight against the Lon Nol government.

April 30—American and South Vietnamese troops invade Kampuchea.

1973

August 15—American bombing of Kampuchea is ended by an act of Congress.

1975

April 17—Khmer Rouge enter Phnom Penh and begin evacuating the city.

May 3—Khmer Rouge forces attack Vietnamese border areas and fighting breaks out between Vietnamese and Kampuchean border forces on off-shore islands.

1977

December 31—Phnom Penh breaks diplomatic relations with Vietnam.

1978

Fighting escalates on the Kampuchea-Vietnam border.

December 3—The formation of the Kampuchean United Front.

December 25—Vietnamese and Heng Samrin forces invade Kampuchea.

1979

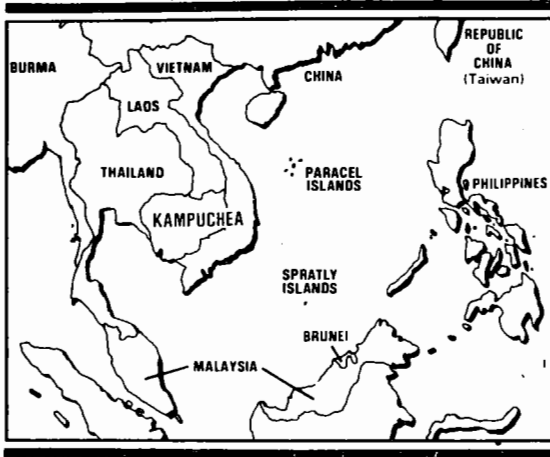
January 7—Heng Samrin government installed in Phnom Penh.

February 17—China invades Vietnam in retaliation for Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea.

February 19—Heng Samrin signs a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation with Vietnam.

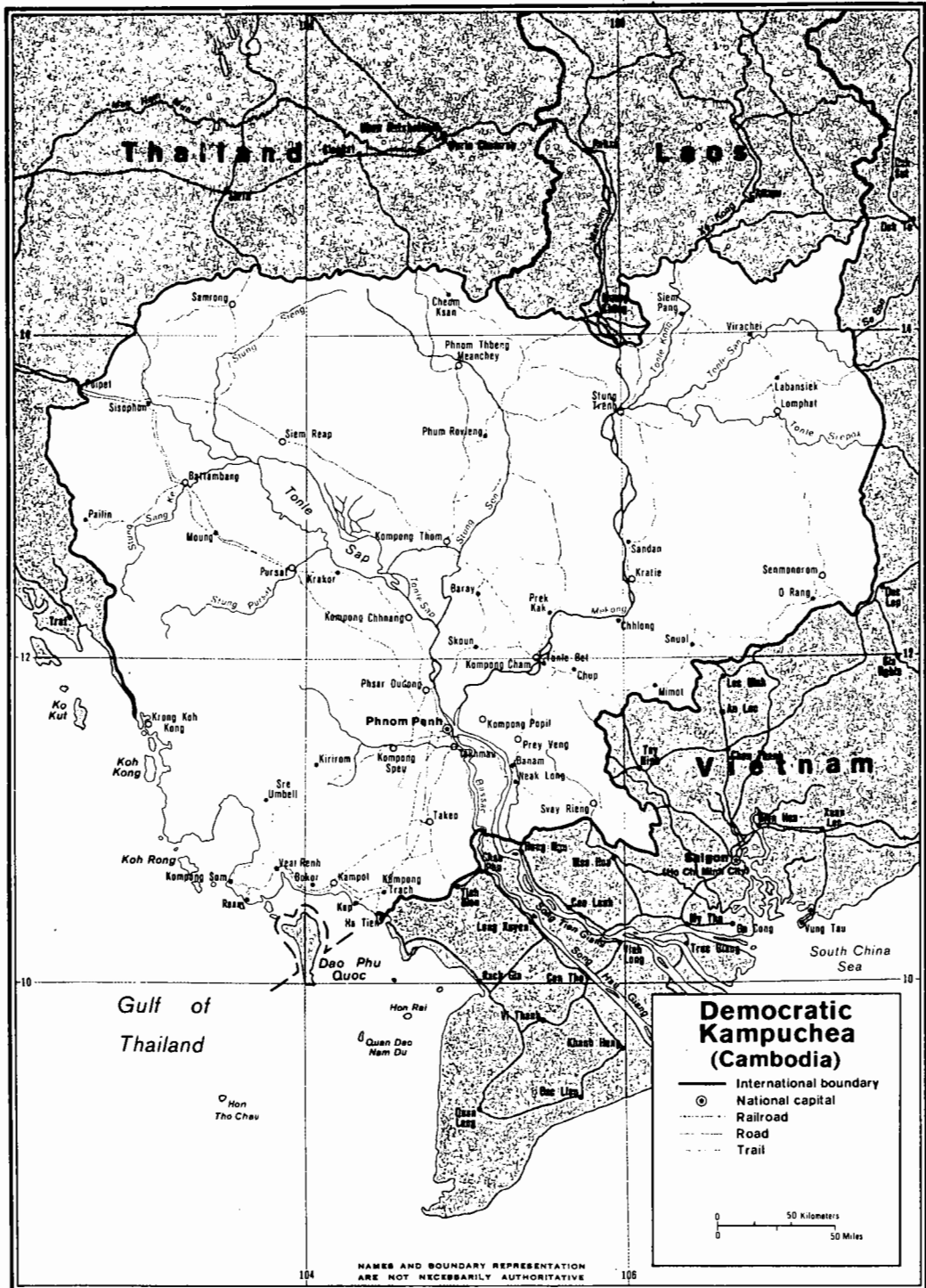
Source: Indochina Issues, December 1979, a publication of the Center for International Policy, Indochina Project.

* Cambodia is also called Kampuchea or Democratic Kampuchea.



KAMPUCHEA (CAMBODIA) And Neighboring Countries

(Map from December 1979 issue of *Indochina Issues*, a publication of the Center for International Policy, Indochina Project)



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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Contents

-- Cambodian Relief: 1979

An in-depth report on the chronology, progress and current status of Cambodian relief efforts

-- History

An overview of the political development of Cambodian society, providing an historical context for the present crisis

-- Funds Raised by U.S. Voluntary Agencies for Aid to Cambodia

-- Data on Relief Efforts by U.S. and International Agencies

-- Coping With Famine

A synopsis of the article by Dr. Jean Mayer, President, Tufts University

-- The Role of the Voluntary Agency in Disaster Mitigation, Preparedness and Relief

A synopsis of the article by Leon Marion, Executive Director, American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service

-- Glossary of Names and Terms

CAMBODIAN RELIEF EFFORTS: 1979

It was in February 1979 that the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok first began to alert Washington to the possibility of famine in Cambodia. The following month the U.S. Department of State released evidence of a possible food shortage in Cambodia and urged the international community, through diplomatic channels, to undertake contingency planning for such an occurrence.

By the early summer, relief agencies such as UNICEF, Catholic Relief Services and OXFAM, began to plan efforts to bring food and medical aid to the Cambodian people. In late June, Catholic Relief Services began delivering food and supplies to Cambodians along the Thai border, at the invitation of the Royal Thai Government. The Thai government recognized that the situation in Cambodia could bring thousands of new refugees across the border into Thailand, a situation they feared greatly.

In July, UNICEF and the International Committee of the Red Cross began negotiations with the Vietnamese-controlled government in Cambodia (headed by Heng Samrin) in an attempt to gain permission to begin relief operations in Cambodia. These early negotiations were bogged down by Heng Samrin's apparent reluctance to acknowledge the magnitude of the problem, and by his reluctance to admit the international

agencies into a country still not fully under his regime's control. (The Vietnamese-installed Heng Samrin government, bolstered by 175,000 - 200,000 Vietnamese troops, were still attempting to destroy the remaining strongholds of Pol Pot, whose regime the Vietnamese had overthrown in January, 1979.) Although UNICEF and ICRC were able to send in their first joint airlift of food and medicine in August, it took months of tedious negotiations with the Heng Samrin government before they could begin a full-scale operation in October.

By August, reports in the world press painted a catastrophic picture of conditions in Cambodia--often comparing the situation to a "second Holocaust." Reports indicated that:

- o Almost no food was being grown or produced in the entire country. Only about 5% of the rice paddies appeared to be in cultivation--and people were eating seedlings in order to stay alive.
- o 80 - 90% of the Khmer children were severely malnourished. Malaria, dysentery, intestinal parasites and respiratory diseases were epidemic.
- o The Cambodian population had been reduced--by war, purges, disease and starvation--from approximately 8 million in 1970 to 4-5 million in 1979.
- o War, and the excesses of the recently overthrown Pol Pot regime, had left Cambodia with virtually no transportation, communication system, telephones, books, medical supplies, machines and other aspects of modern civilization.

- o There were only 55 doctors in the entire country (out of more than 500 practicing before the Pol Pot regime came to power in 1975), and very few hospitals. A substantial proportion of the educated people living in Cambodia before 1975--doctors, teachers, engineers and other professionals--were killed between 1975 and 1979.
- o As many as 2.5 million people or more faced starvation, unless aid was forthcoming immediately.

In August, the U.S. State Department made representations to over 30 nations, urging them to support the joint UNICEF/ICRC planned relief program. In addition, various agencies of the United Nations, as well as a number of other governments, played a role in alerting the world community.

The British-based relief organization, OXFAM (working in conjunction with OXFAM-America and other voluntary relief agencies) began negotiations in August with Phnom Penh officials to begin an aid program in Cambodia. A joint relief flight by OXFAM and the French Medical Committee to Aid the Cambodian People arrived in Phnom Penh August 26. It wasn't until October, however, that the Heng Samrin authorities permitted a full-scale, four-to-six month relief program by OXFAM and an OXFAM-led international consortium of 30 non-governmental relief agencies (NGO Consortium). The Heng Samrin regime outlined specific conditions under which it would accept the consortium's aid. These conditions precluded OXFAM from providing aid to the Pol Pot occupied territories along the Thai border.

Mid-October saw the beginning of large-scale aid efforts to Cambodia from Western countries. On October 19,

U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and UNICEF Director Henry R. Labouisse announced the joint UNICEF/ICRC relief operation and made an international appeal for support. UNICEF and ICRC released a projected six-month budget of \$111 million to meet the most basic needs of the Cambodian people and to insure their immediate survival. They estimated that 165,000 tons of food and additional amounts of medical and relief supplies would be needed to prevent massive starvation and epidemic disease.

On October 24, President Carter announced a U.S. pledge of \$69 million for Cambodian relief efforts, most of which was to be channeled through UNICEF/ICRC and the World Food Program. The U.S. share of the world effort was later enlarged to \$106 million by various acts of Congress and the Administration.

In early November, UNICEF and ICRC expanded their joint relief budget projection to \$251 million for a full year's operation. On November 5, an international pledging conference was held at the U.N. A total of \$210 million was pledged by participating member nations, some of which was directed to the UNICEF/ICRC program. The remainder was to be channeled through other governmental and non-governmental agencies or through aid sent directly to Thailand or Cambodia. The revised U.N. budget also projected an additional \$60 million for the United Nations High Commissioner

for Refugees, to support holding centers for the hundreds of thousands of Cambodians who had fled to the Thai border.

During the spring and summer of 1979, the Royal Thai Government had considered new arrivals from Cambodia to be "illegal entrants." (In June 1979, Thailand had forced 42,000 Cambodian refugees back over the border into Cambodia.) On October 19, however, the Thai Prime Minister reversed his government's previous approach, and announced an "open door" policy, pledging that Thailand would receive all Cambodians seeking refuge from the war and famine in their country. On November 1, the Royal Thai Government formally requested UNHCR assistance in providing care for the more than 300,000 Cambodians then in Thailand. The UNHCR immediately began planning construction of emergency holding centers for these people.

It must be noted, however, that the Cambodians who arrived in Thailand during this period were not accorded full refugee status. Unlike their fellow Khmer in "first asylum" refugee camps--who had fled Cambodia a few years before--the recent Khmer arrivals were not assured that they would not be returned to their homeland, and were not automatically considered candidates for resettlement in other countries. Their future remains uncertain.

U.S. Relief Efforts

By late October 1979, a national campaign to raise U.S. public awareness of the scope and nature of the

Cambodians' plight, and to garner support for relief activities, was in full swing. A substantial number of agencies began to raise funds, either for one of the relief efforts already underway (such as UNICEF/ICRC, OXFAM, Church World Service, etc.), or for their own relief efforts. The response from the American public was immediate and generous. By the end of the year, the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service (ACVAFS) reported that 27 U.S. agencies* had raised an aggregate total of \$15,120,210.

A toll-free information hotline was set up in the United States to handle public inquiries, offers of monetary and commodity donations, and volunteer assistance. Many of these agencies had formed coalitions or alliances to coordinate deliveries or to establish arrangements with the Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh or with Thai authorities. Church World Service initiated a U.S. consortium--called Action for Relief and Rehabilitation in

* American Friends Service Committee, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, American Red Cross, American Refugee Committee, Assemblies of God, Baptist World Alliance, CARE, Catholic Relief Services-USCC, Church World Service, Direct Relief Foundation, Food for the Hungry International, Holt International Children's Services, International Human Assistance Programs, International Rescue Committee, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, MAP International, Mennonite Central Committee, Oxfam-America, Save the Children Federation, Seventh-Day Adventist World Service, Synagogue Council of America, U.S. Committee for UNICEF, Wisconsin Indochina Refugee Relief Program, World Concern, World Relief, World Vision Relief Organization, YMCA-International Division

Kampuchea (ARRK)--to coordinate its members' relief activities through an office in Phnom Penh. Members of ARRK included Church World Service, CARE, YMCA-International Division, Heifer Project International, Lutheran World Relief and Meals for Millions/Freedom from Hunger Foundation.

At the U.S. State Department, a Kampuchea Working Group was created, with representatives of various government departments (as well as representatives from the American Council of Voluntary Agencies). The function of this Working Group was to aid in the coordination of government activities in the relief effort and to provide the public with information on the Cambodian crisis.

A November visit by Rosalynn Carter to the Thai holding centers sparked further White House initiatives to encourage private and public support for relief activities.

In December, a Cambodia Crisis Center was formed at the initiative of Father Theodore Hesburgh (President of the University of Notre Dame and Chairman of the Overseas Development Council), a consortium of national and international relief agencies, and the federal government. Its role was to provide information on the Cambodia effort, to act as a public clearinghouse, and to mobilize support for voluntary agency relief efforts in Cambodia.

Shipment and Distribution of Aid

The World Food Program assumed responsibility for all food shipments by UNICEF/ICRC and several individual donor countries. By the end of 1979, WFP reported food shipments totaling about 70,000 metric tons. In addition to the 51,000 metric tons of food supplied by UNICEF/ICRC (this figure is included in the WFP total), private U.S. relief agencies and the OXFAM-led consortium had delivered over 17,000 metric tons of food to Cambodia by December 1979.

Accompanying the food shipments were deliveries of medical supplies and equipment, agricultural tools, clothes, kitchen utensils, blankets, industrial supplies, seeds (rice, maize and vegetable) and transportation equipment. OXFAM had over 70 trucks in Cambodia by the end of the year, as well as several forklifts and landrovers. UNICEF/ICRC had sent in 225 trucks and nine cranes by the end of 1979, to assist with offloading of aid and the internal distribution of supplies and food to the outlying provinces. There were unconfirmed reports that the U.S.S.R. had supplied another 200-250 trucks by the end of the year.

While all of the relief agencies were concerned with the immediate needs of the Cambodians, whose country had been decimated and its population displaced by the ravages of war and famine, long-term efforts toward the eventual reconstruction and rehabilitation of the country were also begun. OXFAM, in particular, focused its efforts on rebuilding local industry and agriculture, and on the general reconstruction of the

country. That emphasis was reflected in the relief shipments sent by OXFAM, which included cotton yarn for textile mills, aluminum sulfate for water purification and nylon twine for fishing nets.

The distribution of food and supplies within Cambodia remained a major problem through the end of the year. In December there were numerous reports that thousands of tons of food and some supplies were stockpiled in warehouses at the ports of Kompong Som and Phnom Penh. On December 6, President Carter issued a statement, based on U.S. State Department and intelligence reports, which voiced the suspicion that Vietnam and the Heng Samrin government may have been deliberately blocking food and aid to the Cambodian populace. An editorial appearing in The Economist (Dec. 22, 1979) stated succinctly the current lines of thought concerning the stockpiling at that time:

. . . There are three possible explanations. One is that the Vietnamese and their Cambodian clients are genuinely trying but are not up to the job, and would rather let a lot of Cambodians starve than lose face by allowing the aid agencies to take over the distribution. But the American government (and many of the Cambodian refugees who have recently poured into Thailand) do not accept this incompetence theory. So the second explanation is that Vietnam is deliberately blocking the distribution of food as a means of applying pressure to the population of occupied Cambodia. After all, the Vietnamese army has trucks and drivers enough to shift food around the country (indeed, the Vietnamese at one point offered to rent trucks to the aid agencies).

The third possibility, which is gaining credence among aid officials, is that Vietnam is stock-

piling the food against a possible shortage next summer in case the dry-season harvest in April-May fails. Things are not too bad right now, so this theory goes: a small wet-rice harvest has just been got in; perhaps as much as a fifth of Cambodia's population has fled to Thailand and is being fed there; and a lot of aid was sent in by Russia and Vietnam before the western operation started.

These theories are not mutually exclusive; the truth may well contain elements of all three. . . .

As the year ended, debate continued over the reasons for the distribution problems. Certainly the logistical situation was hampered by railroads in poor repair, roads that were at times impassable, and continued fighting between the Vietnamese troops and Pol Pot's forces. The relief agencies were allowed only a limited number of personnel in the country (UNICEF/ICRC had 16 people in Phnom Penh at the end of the year), and monitoring of actual distribution of supplies was sporadic at best. Distribution was in the hands of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, and its distribution reports were not generally verifiable by the relief agencies themselves. A number of relief agency officials who visited Cambodia in late November and in December, however, reported witnessing some food distribution and also noted the presence of Russian corn and Vietnamese rice. Most of these agency representatives were allowed to travel a well-beaten route along the main highways (routes #5 and #6) to areas in the northwest of the country-- areas that had been "stabilized" by Vietnamese forces. In

late December UNICEF/ICRC and OXFAM reported that the Phnom Penh government was allowing their monitors increased access to distribution convoys. The number of relief agency staff members allowed to remain in the country remained unchanged, however.

Thailand and the Border Area

Relief agencies carried on efforts throughout the summer and fall, aiding Cambodians who had fled to the Thai border. During the summer, it was estimated that there were about 50,000 Khmer refugees seeking food and safety in Thailand. By mid-November, after the implementation of the Thai government's "open door" policy, the Khmer population in Thailand swelled to about 380,000. By the year's end, there were an estimated 900,000 Cambodians massed at the Thai border-- in holding centers established by the Thai government and the UNHCR, in makeshift camps in Thailand, in enclaves straddling the border, and in areas a few miles inside Cambodia.

In the early months of relief efforts at the Thai border, agencies were allowed only to distribute food and supplies at the border (to Cambodians who carried the aid back across the border), without being able to monitor distribution inside Cambodia. By the end of the year, however, Catholic Relief Services reported that it was not only allowed to distribute food and supplies at the border, but could at times cross into Cambodia to reach people encamped a few miles from the immediate border area. All relief convoys to the

border were accompanied by Royal Thai Military troops.

During November, at the request of the Thai government, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees undertook to aid the Thai authorities in setting up facilities inside Thailand to feed, house and provide medical aid to the tens of thousands of Cambodians encamped along the Thai border. By the end of December 1979, holding centers had been established for this purpose at Sa Kaeo, Khao I Dang and Kamput, and several others were being planned or under construction (at Mai Rut, Kab Cherng and Chonburi--as well as an additional holding center adjacent to the one at Sa Kaeo). At the close of 1979 about 110,000 people were living in those centers.

A sizeable number of voluntary agencies joined in the relief effort at the holding centers, including UNICEF/ICRC, Catholic Relief Services, CARE, International Rescue Committee, World Vision International, American Refugee Committee, World Relief, Seventh-Day Adventist World Service, and Save the Children Federation.

The health conditions of the people in the holding centers improved considerably by the end of the year. Although overcrowding was a problem (particularly at Sa Kaeo), and medical teams were greatly overworked and understaffed, discernable signs of hope were evident.

By December 1979 the relief agencies and the Thai Ministry of Health were discussing the need to move beyond "curative"

medical care and to develop community outreach programs that would promote preventative health measures that the Cambodians could continue in years to come--after the emergency medical relief operations had ended.

The Thai Ministry of Health was given principal responsibility for refugee assistance, and a subcommittee on health was established by the Thai Ministry in conjunction with the UNHCR and the International Committee of the Red Cross. The ICRC was responsible for deployment of medical personnel, with the International Rescue Committee playing a major role in the medical field. At the end of the year, ICRC reported that about 775 medical personnel were working in the holding centers and field units at the Thai border.

* * *

Most of the encampments on the Cambodian side of the border were under the control of various factions of the Khmer Serei (Free Khmer) or, to a lesser extent, Pol Pot forces. During November, access to the people in these camps was hampered by shelling from battles being waged between Vietnamese and Khmer Serei troops.

In early December, it was discovered that most of the estimated 250,000 people in the border encampments near the Thai town of Aranyaprathet--under the control of "Prince" Norodom Soryavong and other scattered leaders--were being forceably prevented from leaving those camps and entering the holding centers in Thailand. The Khmer Serei leaders claimed

they needed to retain a civilian population base in order to be considered a credible governing force in Cambodia. In a move to free those who wanted to enter Thailand, the Thai military command ordered the temporary cessation of all relief shipments to these encampments. The order was rescinded after five days, when the Khmer Serei leadership promised to allow the people to leave. Additional refugees from these encampments did enter the Thai holding centers, although not to the extent that the Thai government and relief agencies had hoped.

Conclusion

While there was continuing concern over the logistics and degree of distribution within Cambodian territory by the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin government, the end of 1979 saw the continuation of a massive aid effort in Cambodia and Thailand. While reports of aid from Eastern bloc countries were inconclusive, the response from the Western countries has been extraordinary and at nearly unprecedented levels in the history of world disaster relief. At the close of 1979 the fate of the Cambodian nation and the control of its territory remained uncertain, but the immediate threat of massive starvation and death by epidemic disease was being greatly reduced by collective world action.

HISTORY

Pre-colonial Cambodian civilization, records of which can be traced to a First Century kingdom, reached its peak of regional influence and internal cohesion during the Angkor period (800 A.D. - 1400 A.D.). By the mid-Nineteenth Century, Cambodia had been reduced to a vassal state of Thailand and Vietnam. However, the French Protectorate (1864 - 1953) impeded further Thai and Vietnamese territorial encroachments, and in the 1950's an independent, neutral Cambodia emerged under Prince Sihanouk.

Sihanouk's careful balancing of international and domestic political forces was upset by the Vietnam War: By the mid-1960's Cambodia served as a staging area for North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces, leading to secret United States bombings of the eastern border provinces. Sihanouk was deposed by a coup on March 18, 1970, and a pro-U.S. Khmer Republic led by Marshal Lon Nol was set up. A number of political groups ranging from Sihanoukists to communists subsequently established the Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea (GRUNK) and a bloody civil war erupted.

During the following five years, Cambodia was devastated by ground warfare and aerial bombardments; hundreds of thousands of people died. The Lon Nol government, crippled by corruption and military incompetence, was soon confined to the larger towns and cities. Phnom Penh and other cities fell to the Khmer Rouge in April 1975.

After the fall of the Lon Nol government, drastic changes took place in Cambodia. Prince Sihanouk's GRUNK emerged from the war victorious, but power was actually held by the Kampuchean Communist Party and the army which it controlled. All cities and towns were forcibly evacuated, the entire population was forced onto rural agricultural collectives and Cambodia was sealed off from the outside world. The new government renamed the country Democratic Kampuchea.

Communist rule in Democratic Kampuchea was extremely harsh, regimented and austere. Large numbers of former Lon Nol government officials and soldiers, as well as businessmen, intellectuals and others were executed. In addition, many non-communist members of the wartime coalition were purged. Although it is impossible to obtain accurate figures, it is probable that hundreds of thousands of people were killed. Moreover, the population was further decimated by starvation and disease during the first two years of the new political order.

In April 1976, Sihanouk resigned as head of state and was replaced by Khieu Samphan. Under Prime Minister Pol Pot, schools were closed, money was abolished, and most aspects of traditional Khmer culture, such as traditional village life, and observance of the Buddhist religion were eradicated.

By 1978 the food situation in Cambodia appears to have improved somewhat, but Pol Pot's government faced a number of serious security threats. Relations with Vietnam, already strained in 1975, had been steadily deteriorating. Periodic skirmishing along the border developed into largescale fighting by the end of 1977. On

December 31, 1977, Phnom Penh broke relations with Vietnam. Throughout this period, Democratic Kampuchea developed close trade and military ties with the Peoples Republic of China.

There were a number of reported uprisings, attempted coups and purges in Cambodia during 1978. In one reported revolt, army units in the eastern region of the country rebelled and crossed into Vietnam, where they joined tens of thousands of refugees who had already fled Pol Pot's rule. The Vietnamese government began recruiting and training "liberation forces" from amongst these exiles.

Extensive fighting with Vietnam again broke out during Autumn 1978. Finally, on December 25, 1978, the Vietnamese army and forces under the "Kampuchean United Front for National Salvation" launched a massive invasion of Cambodia. Phnom Penh, almost all other towns, and major lines of communication were quickly captured.

The Pol Pot government fled to the jungles of the mountainous southwest region after the invasion, and embarked on a guerrilla war. Non-communist Khmer groups also declared their opposition to the Vietnamese invasion, and during 1979 some of them launched guerrilla campaigns along the Thai border. China announced that it would provide logistical support to any group willing to fight the Vietnamese. (Also, in early 1979, China launched a short-term punitive invasion of northern Vietnam, a move obviously linked to the events in Cambodia).

The Kampuchean Peoples Revolutionary Council government under Heng Samrin was proclaimed in January 1979, and has since had the crucial backing of the Vietnamese military forces and the Soviet bloc. Few other countries have recognized this government; during Autumn 1979 the United Nations General Assembly voted overwhelmingly

to seat the Pol Pot government.

Many of the worst aspects of Pol Pot's rule have been relaxed by the new regime. Dispersed families have been allowed to reunite and village life has also begun to re-emerge. Traditional religious activities are once again permitted. However, the collective structures of the previous government appear to have been retained in modified form.

Heng Samrin's efforts to stabilize Cambodia since the 1978 invasion have been severely hampered by continuing warfare, widespread starvation and disease, and the movement of hundreds of thousands of people to the Thai border region and their former homes. The transportation and communications network has been almost totally destroyed and trained personnel are scarce. In addition, the Vietnamese-installed government must gain the confidence of a people who traditionally have expressed a strong enmity towards Vietnam.

In December 1979, the communist authorities based in the Southwest announced that Prime Minister Pol Pot had been replaced by Khieu Samphan, and that Democratic Kampuchea's socialist constitution had been abolished. However, Pol Pot reportedly still holds his posts as commander in chief of the armed forces and secretary general of the Kampuchean Communist Party. The Vietnamese are expected to launch a 1980 dry season offensive against Pol Pot's forces.

Also during 1979-80, Sihanouk began to tour world capitals to obtain support for an effort to achieve an acceptable negotiated solution to the Cambodian problem. A number of governments began

to officially and unofficially withdraw their support of the Pol Pot government. One of the governments to announce derecognition has been Great Britain. On January 3, 1980, the government of Thailand announced that it would allow Sihanouk to visit refugee camps along the Cambodian border and to use Thai territory to enter his country.

FUNDS RAISED BY U. S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES
FOR AID TO CAMBODIANS
December 1979

| <u>Voluntary Agency</u> | <u>Funds Raised</u> | <u>To Date</u> |
|--|--------------------------|----------------|
| American Friends Service Committee | \$1,000,000. | 12-17 |
| American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee | 52,000. | 12-12 |
| American Red Cross | 500,000. | 12-17 |
| American Refugee Committee | 400,000. | 12-17 |
| Assemblies of God | 27,000. | 12-17 |
| Baptist World Alliance | 24,000. | 12-13 |
| CARE, Inc. | 325,000. | 12-4 |
| Catholic Relief Services-USCC | 5,000,000. | 12-14 |
| Church World Service | 652,886. | 12-6 |
| Direct Relief Foundation | 25,000. | 12-14 |
| Food for the Hungry International | 100,000. | 12-17 |
| Holt International Children's Services | appeal issued 12-14 | |
| International Human Assistance Programs | 10,000. | 12-10 |
| International Rescue Committee | 500,000. | 12-17 |
| Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod | 50,000. | 12-17 |
| MAP International | 90,000. | 12-1 |
| Mennonite Central Committee | 30,411. | 11-30 |
| Oxfam-America | 1,750,000. | 12-17 |
| Save the Children Federation | 57,000. | 12-14 |
| Seventh-Day Adventist World Service | 243,670. | 12-17 |
| Synagogue Council of America | 25,000. | 12-17 |
| U. S. Committee for UNICEF | 750,000. | 12-7 |
| Wisconsin Indochina Refugee Relief Program | 160,000. | 12-14 |
| World Concern | (100,000.) (to WVRO) | 12-17 |
| World Relief | 328,243. | 12-11 |
| World Vision Relief Organization | 3,000,000. | 12-17 |
| Young Men's Christian Association International Division | 20,000. | 12-17 |
| Grand Total | \$15,120,210. | |

AGENCY

END OF YEAR TOTAL RELIEF

COMMENTS

UNICEF/ICRC

51,000 MT* food by sea

Over 2000 MT food, 120 MT medical supplies, additional relief goods (including 225 trucks) by air

8900 MT food and over 95 million liters water to border camps in Thailand

\$92 million in commitments and expenditures made or to be made in near future

Three daily aircraft (from Australia, France and the Netherlands) fly in about 100 MT a day to Phnom Penh

UNICEF/ICRC monitors were aboard 23-truck convoy to Siem Reap

Cash shortage of \$35 million reported as of 12/13/79, about 2/3 of which could come from existing pledges so far not received. Additional contributions required.

OXFAM

Six barges, carrying 6113 MT food, plus about 2400 MT agricultural equip., 150 MT industrial goods. Also medical supplies and equip., transportation equip. (50 trucks 7 landrovers, 4 forklifts, diesel fuel), and misc. supplies

\$8.8 million spent to date

Barge 7 being loaded. Barges 8-10 planned for Jan. shipment.

\$13.2 million committed for next three months (until 3/15/80)

Ship is en route with 20 additional trucks

Permission gained for smaller barges to travel up Mekong as far as Kompong Cham

RELIEF DATA BY AGENCY

* metric tons

| <u>AGENCY</u> | <u>END OF YEAR TOTAL RELIEF</u> | <u>COMMENTS</u> |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Church World Service | <p>4 shipments by air (10 MT rice, 5 MT lactose IV solution, 5 MT glucose IV solution)</p> <p>\$25,000 to UNICEF for mosquito netting</p> <p>1 barge (1200 MT food)</p> <p>\$1,458,992 spent to date</p> <p><u>World Council of Churches/</u> <u>Christian Conference on Asia</u></p> <p>2 air shipments (10 MT medical equipment, 98 MT raw pharmaceutical supplies and medical equip.)</p> <p>4 barges (5300 MT food)</p> | <p>Initiated Action for Relief and Rehabilitation in Kampuchea (ARRK), a coalition of 6 U.S. agencies to coordinate relief efforts in Cambodia (see section on Mobilization)</p> |
| American Friends Service Committee | <p>joint flight with Operation California (11/22); AFSC collected about half of 37.5 tons on board (medical supplies, canned meat)</p> <p>2 tons electrolyte solution to ICRC in Thailand</p> <p>400 tons rice (on OXFAM barge)</p> <p>\$200,000 spent to date</p> | <p>1/10/80 flight with 15 tons: 1/3 canned meat (from Mennonite Central Committee); 1/3 seeds (from AFSC); 1/3 vitamins and medicines (from drug companies)</p> <p>Projections: 1) sending barge with rice up Mekong; 2) flights to Phnom Penh with specific special supplies as needed; 3) sending team 1/10/80 to explore long term project at Kompong Cham and Kratie</p> |

| <u>AGENCY</u> | <u>END OF YEAR TOTAL RELIEF</u> | <u>COMMENTS</u> |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Operation California | joint flight with AFSC 11/22 carrying 37.5 tons medicines, canned meat | donations from manufacturers (medicines, high protein food, infant formula) |
| | 12/25 flight with 37.5 tons medicines, infant formula, high protein food | OXFAM donated funds for 12/25 flight; Shell Oil donated fuel |
| | approx. \$100,000 spent to date | |
| | 18 tons supplies on ICEM* flight (* Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration) | |
| Mennonite Central Committee | \$50,000 to NGO Consortium | 5 tons canned meat on AFSC flight 1/10/80 |
| | 16 tons canned meat, vegetable seeds on 11/22 AFSC/Operation Calif. flight | part of OXFAM-led NGO Consortium |
| | \$109,000 spent to date | |
| Catholic Relief Services | 40 mercy convoys (avg. 36 tons each) to border camps | Has joined OXFAM consortium and another consortium of European and Canadian Christian agencies working in Cambodia; CWS will contribute money to these efforts in addition to continuing its own program in Thailand |
| | 10 doctors, 30 nurses, 6 nutri- tionists, 4 paramedics | |
| | feeding kitchens at Sa Kaeo and Khao I Dang | |
| | \$2.5 million spent to date | |

| <u>AGENCY</u> | <u>END OF YEAR TOTAL RELIEF</u> | <u>COMMENTS</u> |
|--|---|--|
| American Baptist Churches in USA | \$200,000 committed to Cambodian relief efforts | medical team (2 doctors, 3 nurses) to leave in Jan. First of several rotating teams. |
| Direct Relief Foundation | 6.4 tons medical supplies pharmaceuticals to AFSC/Operation Calif. 11/22 flight Also contributed to Operation Calif. 12/25 flight | |
| Seventh-Day Adventist World Service | 3 medical teams (30 people) in Thailand | |
| Assemblies of God | Mission personnel working with World Relief at Sa Kaeo \$25,000 spent to date | |
| CARE | 10 MT fresh vegetables delivered daily at Khao I Dang Delivered over 15,000 welcome kits at Khao I Dang 12/14-20. (Includes mosquito nets, towels, soap, pen, writing pads, misc. food items) 3 feeding centers (serve 5000 children) 3 nurses in Thailand | proposal with UNHCR to feed up to 4,000 children in as many as 20 kitchens fourth feeding kitchen awaiting arrival of more refugees |
| MAP* International (Medical Assistance Programs) | 4 tons medical supplies donated to OXFAM, at cost of \$122,000 | |

"COPING WITH FAMINE"

Jean Mayer

Foreign Affairs, October 1974

SYNOPSIS OF ARTICLE

Throughout history, there has been a devastating famine in some part of the world. Historically, the world has been ill-prepared to cope with famine. Until the last few years individual nations, international voluntary agencies and especially official international organizations have dealt with mass starvation as an unexpected crisis. "Whoever is faced with the present famine usually acts as though there were no lesson to be derived from the melancholy succession of previous famines and previous efforts to cope with them." Starvation for many centuries was essentially inevitable since means of information and transportation were not available. In the present day, however, transportation, technology, and communications are available and can be mobilized in a famine situation. "Therefore, we have obligations that did not exist in past generations.

A true famine can be defined as a severe shortage of food accompanied by a significant increase in the death rate in the local area or region of the country affected. In a true famine, people die in large numbers. Most famines result from widespread crop failures. "These, in turn, may be caused by drought, crop diseases or pests, the impact of war or civil disturbances, or a combination of disturbances hitting both crops and farmers". The most immediate effect of famine is widespread deaths from starvation. The number of deaths is an indicator of the severity of the famine; consequently, a decrease in the number of deaths indicates that measures to control the famine situation have been effective. In famines, the most vulnerable groups of people are the elderly and the children. Special measures, therefore, are needed to insure their survival. A second consequence of famine is the state of social disruption which usually involves large scale panic. People who have no food tend to leave their homes in search of food elsewhere. Families

are often separated and children are lost in this process. A third serious consequence of famine is the spread of epidemics. In addition, domestic animals and seeds for future crops are usually destroyed. "If one is to speak of coping with famine, one must include follow-on measures to restore the food supply and rehabilitate the area - or if this cannot be done, to resettle the population elsewhere".

Famine situations include the element of politics to one degree or another. Much of the relief assistance rendered comes from outside of the country, notably from major international organizations such as UNICEF and international voluntary agencies. Individual nations also contribute food and medical supplies and provide transportation in an international relief effort. Consequently, "some adjustment and cooperative arrangement between the political entities involved is the first essential for coping with a famine - if this is smooth, all becomes much easier; if not, the drag is immense". A second crucial step is the procurement of sufficient amounts of food to avert widespread famine, maintain a balance in the population, and eventually rehabilitate the population. The third requirement in a famine relief effort involves the need for authority and assignment of responsibility. Decisive leadership and developed managerial skills are necessary. Often it is expedient for the agencies involved to appoint a relief director to manage and coordinate relief operations.

The most pressing priority for those administering relief efforts is to develop the organizational capacity to collect and distribute available information. It is important for agencies to mobilize among themselves in order to check statistical data. The causes of death need to be noted so that additional deaths can be averted by appropriate treatment. Economic information regarding food and other stocks, prospects for harvest, repair shops, fuel, trucks, and the state of roads and communications needs to be monitored closely. A working logistical and communication system is of the utmost importance.

The distribution of food and medical services can begin to take place more efficiently after a system of organization has been established. The preferred method of food distribution should be to set up as many distribution points as possible near the areas of starvation. The food used must be acceptable to people in terms of food habits and religion. The type of food supplied would consist of a few staple foods that are high in nutritional value and easy to transport, store and distribute. Likewise, medical services are utilized the

most when facilities are decentralized. A small number of famine hospitals are more practical than one large hospital removed from the area of the emergency.

Other lessons from past international relief efforts show the need for price controls to avoid the selling of food and other commodities by persons intent upon making a profit from such circumstances. It is also crucial to maintain law and order to avoid looting and other disturbances. And, as relief assistance is usually short-term, planning for rehabilitation and development of the area affected by famine is an essential next step, particularly when the emergency is expected to continue for some time.

The worst type of famine is that precipitated by war when one or more political factions argue that it is an "internal matter". "In such cases, the humanitarian instincts of the international community may be dulled by political motives. There is essentially no chance, under the present conventions of international behavior, for a war-related famine to end anything but tragically. . . . An international agreement to outlaw starvation as a weapon of war should be supplemented by one empowering suitable international organization such as UNICEF to enter a famine area to feed the noncombatant victims of starvation without prior authorization. . . .

The time has come when, through international agreement and action, man-created famines should be eliminated".

"THE ROLE OF THE VOLUNTARY AGENCY IN DISASTER MITIGATION,
PREPAREDNESS AND RELIEF"

Leon Marion, Executive Director,
American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service,
June 1979.

SYNOPSIS OF ARTICLE

Introduction

The past decade has seen an increase in the ability to impart information on disasters worldwide as a result of modern communications. Voluntary agencies are involved in this process for they play an essential role in international relief efforts.

The Nature of Voluntary Agencies

Most of the work of voluntary agencies is based on humanitarian concerns which often stem from religious convictions. Many voluntary agencies, particularly religiously based groups, have already been working in host countries, usually in development assistance programs, prior to the occurrence of a disaster situation. The prior existence of an operational relief or development program by a voluntary agency within a particular country is a key factor in the success of a disaster relief effort.

Funding for the programs of voluntary agencies, worldwide, in the fields of humanitarian and development assistance, according to the Paris based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) averages 2 billion dollars annually. The majority of funds come from the support of private individuals. National governments contribute additional funds and commodities, particularly food. The U.S. Agency for International Development is the main channel for such assistance to American voluntary agencies. However, it is important to realize that the "efforts of voluntary agencies, with only limited amounts of funds and supplies, can only supplement what usually needs to be accomplished in disaster relief and disaster preparedness by the host government, coupled with whatever bilateral government assistance might be rendered."

A major strength of the voluntary agency is its flexible working relationships with the host government concerning disaster preparedness and disaster relief programs. Most voluntary agencies are not as burdened with bureaucratic procedures for obtaining aid as is often the case with bilateral government assistance programs. And field representatives, based in the host country, are aware of conditions in the country and relief needs as soon as a disaster situation occurs. These factors, in particular, enable voluntary agencies to respond both quickly and efficiently in an emergency situation.

Voluntary Agencies and Communications

A network for communicating and coordinating information with regard to the relief needs of the country affected and the relief programs of the agencies involved is essential. The American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service provides a forum for cooperation, joint planning, and the exchange of ideas and information to coordinate the relief, rehabilitation and development programs of American voluntary agencies. In addition to maintaining close contact with the voluntary agencies themselves, ACVA consults with the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance within the Department of State and the United Nations Disaster Relief Office in Geneva. "These systems of communication make it possible for the international sector, the national sector, and the private sector to communicate rapidly about need assessment and to share periodic situation updates concerning the flow of finances and commodities into the disaster event country."

Nature of Disaster Preparedness and Relief Assistance

"The capability of voluntary agencies to assist with either preparedness programs or disaster relief is completely dependent on the types of ongoing activities in which they are involved in the disaster event country." "There are relatively few voluntary agencies which have specialized capabilities to render immediate post-disaster relief assistance; however, development assistance programs can play a role in the mitigation of conditions which might lead to disasters." The major categories of assistance provided by voluntary agencies in times of disaster are food, health and medicine, housing, and water.

The Red Cross

The Red Cross, through the League of Red Cross Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross, is uniquely organized to provide relief assistance both before and after a disaster occurs. The Red Cross is the only worldwide organization whose total program is committed to disaster related events, both nationally and internationally. The national or League of Red Cross societies maintain an inter-

national communications network with each other and with the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. In this manner, financial and commodity assistance and the expertise of Red Cross personnel are made available to the country concerned. National societies of the Red Cross are found in almost every country of the world. "There is no other organization which spends as much time in training, preparedness, and refining of their own relief capabilities as the Red Cross."

The Place of Authority

In all disaster relief operations, coordination is of crucial importance. However, without acknowledged authority, effective coordination is not possible. In most disasters, the government of the affected country has the major authority and control over disaster relief efforts. At times, this authority is shared with international agencies such as the United Nations Disaster Relief Office.

In the case of international relief efforts in Cambodia and Thailand, a joint relief program is being led by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). These two agencies, working together, share the primary responsibility for relief operations in Cambodia. The British organization, OXFAM, also has a major role in relief and development assistance within Cambodia. A number of voluntary agencies, particularly American ones, are working with the refugee populations in Thailand. The overall coordinating group on refugee assistance in Thailand is composed of the Thai government, the United Nations group (UNICEF, the World Food Programme, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees), the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Thai League of Red Cross Societies, the U. S. Embassy, and the voluntary agencies.

GLOSSARY

ACVAFS (American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service):

Founded in November 1943, in order to provide a professional forum for cooperation, joint planning and the exchange of ideas and information for the 44 member International Relief Agencies.

ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations):

Organization including Thailand, The Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia that has taken the lead in bringing the Kampuchean problem before the U. N. and in seeking a peaceful solution based upon the principles of the U.N. Charter. It has persistently used its direct contacts with Vietnam to urge withdrawal and a peaceful solution; through its participating members, it has provided first asylum for hundreds of thousands of refugees.

CAMBODIA REFUGEE HEALTH INFORMATION OFFICE:

Located in Washington, D.C.; set up by the National Council for International Health; acts as a clearinghouse for American medical personnel who want to volunteer to go to the Thai camps; telephone is (202) 298-5901

CENTERS/CAMPS, HOLDING:

Located along the Thai-Cambodian border and in Thailand; the six that are currently operating include:

- Mai Rut (Trat, formerly Klonyai)----10,000 refugees
- Aranyprathet----12,000
- Kamput----20,000
- Sa Kaeo (best equipped of the six, though still primitive; one camp is built, with 31,000 refugees, another camp is being built)
- Khao I Dang----52,000 refugees
- Ban Nong Samet----160,000

Other camps/holding centers planned for include:

- Kab Cherng and Wattana Nakorn.

DEMOCRATIC KHMER:

Also called Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Rouge and Democratic and Patriotic Front for National Unity (DPFNU), Pol Pot's political front organization, which controls a tenth or less of the people (mostly in Western Kampuchea near the Thai border).

FOOD FOR PEACE:

Food channeled through voluntary agencies by the U.S. government under Title II of Public Law 480 for the disposal of U.S. excess food supplies; \$25 million for PL 480 commodities has been appropriated by Congress for the U.N. World Food Program for use in Cambodian Relief efforts.

GENEVA ACCORDS (1954):

Resulted in the agreements for: a temporary division of Vietnam into North and South; recognition of Cambodia's neutrality and territorial integrity; the guarantee that the Viet Minh would withdraw from Cambodia's eastern areas that the Viet Minh had used in their war against the French; and committing Cambodia to elections based on universal suffrage.

HENG SAMRIN:

Vietnamese-and Soviet-backed leader situated with his People's Republic of Kampuchea government in Phnom Penh; president of KPRCG, also president of the Kampuchean United Front for National Salvation (KUFNS).

IENG SARI:

Cambodian Marxist who fled Phnom Penh 1963; Deputy Prime Minister charged with foreign affairs in the government of Democratic Kampuchea, 1975-1978.

INTERAGENCY KAMPUCHEA WORKING GROUP:

U. S. State Department group concentrating on Cambodia Crisis; Director is Tom Barnes.

KHIEU SAMPHAM:

Replaced Pol Pot as Prime Minister of Democratic Kampuchea December 1979; previous to that was head of state; prepared a doctoral dissertation while studying in Paris, a paper that became a key influence in developing the rural economy of Cambodia along the lines of collectivism; Minister of Defense in Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea, 1970-75.

KHMER LIBERATION MOVEMENT:

Currently a third force, opposes both Heng Samrin and Pol Pot; believed to control some areas of Cambodia-- where and to what extent are not officially known.

KHMER ROUGE:

Left-wing insurgents in the countryside, so called by Prince Sihanouk; under the leadership of Pol Pot , took over control of Kampuchea April 1975.

KHMER SEREI:

(Free Khmer)--an anti-Sihanouk, right-wing group under Son Ngoc Thanh's leadership emanating from the anti-French resistance movement called Khmer Issarak; currently, these anti-communist fighters (who oppose both Pol Pot and Heng Samrin) attach themselves to the sprawling shanty towns around the Thai border towns (Ban Nong Samet and Ban Nong Mak Moon); Thai military sources estimate the total number of participating members number no more than 400; however, the UNHCR and the Thai government have been hindered by the refusal of Khmer Serei leaders to allow the bulk of the Cambodians

to move from encampments to holding centers.

KOMPONG SOM:

Formerly Sihanoukville ; the main seaport located on the southern tip of Cambodia on the Gulf of Thailand; it was the port through which Vietnamese Communists conducted a thriving covert business and through which substantial amounts of supplies and foodstuffs are currently channeled to Cambodians.

KRIANGSAK CHOMANAN:

Prime Minister of Thailand who announced an open-door policy for Cambodian refugees; suggested a plan for Thai holding centers, including a national center.

LON NOL, GENERAL:

Minister of Defense and Prime Minister of Cambodia before 1970; co-author of the coup that overthrew Prince Norodom Sihanouk, March 1970; Prime Minister, Commander in Chief and Head of State of the Khmer Republic, 1970-75; fled to Hawaii, April 1975.

MEKONG RIVER:

Flows southward from Laos, down through Cambodia's northeastern provinces region, the central rice-growing region, the capital Phnom Penh, the eastern border region and on out through the Mekong Delta (through southern Vietnam) and finally into the South China Sea; it has figured prominently as a distribution route during wartime and in the current effort at transporting foodstuffs to areas where famine exists.

NGO:

See voluntary agency.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA:

The official name of Cambodia since the advent of Heng Samrin's Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council Government, (KPRCC), established January 8, 1979).

POL POT (previously known as Saloth Sar):

Currently Supreme Commander previously Prime Minister of Democratic Kampuchea (1976-1979); Cambodian Marxist who fled Phnom Penh 1963; Secretary General, Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kampuchea, 1963-1978; in September 1979, the U. N. voted to continue the Pol Pot government as the official U. N. representative.

PVO:

See voluntary agency.

RELIEF AID:

Relief assistance programs overseas are provided by both governmental and non-governmental organizations and are geared to meeting people's immediate needs of food, medicine, shelter and water resulting from an emergency situation.

SIHANOUK, PRINCE NORODOM:

Crowned King of Cambodia 1941; abdicated in favor of father 1955; ruled Cambodia as prince until deposed in 1970; head of government in exile, Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea, 1970-75; returned to Phnom Penh under Khmer Rouge rule, as nominal head of state, 1975; forced into retirement 1976.

SIHANOUKVILLE:

See Kompong Som.

TONLE SAP (GREAT LAKE):

Located in the northwestern part of Cambodia, next to the great central plain area; the Great Lake and Mekong River valley are the most fertile, rich lands in the country; as a result, Cambodia vied for centuries for the domination of these two areas, resulting in frequent wars and armed revolts with neighbors, Vietnam and Thailand.

UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees):

Works cooperatively with the Royal Thai Government in establishing 6 holding camps near the Cambodian border and one national holding center far from the border; ultimate responsibility for the establishment and running of these centers rests with the Thai government.

VOLAG:

See voluntary agency.

VOLUNTARY AGENCY:

(Also called Volag, PVO---private and voluntary organization, and NGO---non-governmental organization); according to the ACVAFS a volag-PVO-NGO is a non-profit organization established by a group of private citizens for a stated philanthropic purpose, supported primarily by voluntary contributions from private individuals with additional funding and supplies provided by national governments such as the U.S. AID.

WFP (World Food Program):

Handles food shipments for UNICEF/ICRC, 17 nations, the European Economic Community and 14 non-governmental organizations and agencies; see Food for Peace.

REPORTERS TO TAKE CHARGE OF EMBARGOED LINES WEST OF MILES CITY,
MONT.

UPI 11-06 01:11 PES

UP-065

R W

1ST ADD ROSALYNN, WASHINGTON (UP-047)

MRS. CARTER TOLD REPORTERS AFTER MEETING WITH TOP OFFICIALS OF INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE AND RELIEF AGENCIES, "WE CAN'T LET PEOPLE STARVE."

SHE SAID SHE HOPES HER FOUR-DAY TRIP "WILL FOCUS WORLD ATTENTION" ON THE FAMINE IN CAMBODIA.

MRS. CARTER SAID IT WAS FIRST SUGGESTED, THROUGH GOVERNMENT CHANNELS, THAT PRESIDENT CARTER MAKE THE JOURNEY TO EMPHASIZE U.S. CONCERN. BUT, "JIMMY CAN'T GO AT THIS TIME."

THE FIRST LADY SAID SHE AND THE PRESIDENT HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THE CAMBODIAN TRAGEDY "FOR SEVERAL DAYS...ABOUT WHAT COULD BE DONE TO CALL ATTENTION TO THE NEED."

"THEN WHEN WE WERE AT CAMP DAVID (LAST WEEKEND) WE GOT A MESSAGE SUGGESTING I GO," SHE SAID. MRS. CARTER SAID SHE AND THE PRESIDENT DECIDED YESTERDAY SHE SHOULD MAKE THE TRIP...

"I CAN SEE THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS FOR ME TO GO," SHE ADDED. "IT'S ONE OF THE MORAL ISSUES OF OUR TIME. IT'S AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE. WE CAN'T LET PEOPLE STARVE. WE CAN FOCUS WORLD OPINION ON IT...IN ORDER TO GET ACTION."

UPI 11-06 01:15 PES

N049

RW

ROSALYNN-REFUGEES LEAD (TOPS N39)

BY MAUREEN SANTINI

WASHINGTON (AP) -- ROSALYNN CARTER WILL VISIT CAMBODIAN REFUGEE CAMPS IN THAILAND THIS WEEK IN BEHALF OF HER HUSBAND, PRESIDENT CARTER, THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE FIRST LADY, ACCOMPANIED BY DR. JULIUS B. RICHMOND, THE U.S. SURGEON GENERAL, WILL LEAVE WEDNESDAY AND RETURN SATURDAY.

"THE PURPOSE OF HER TRIP WILL BE TO LEARN OF THE NEEDS OF THE REFUGEES FLEEING KAMPUCHEA (CAMBODIA), LOOK AT WAYS TO INCREASE THE FLOW OF RELIEF SUPPLIES AND FOOD INTO KAMPUCHEA AND REPORT HER FINDINGS TO THE PRESIDENT IN ORDER TO HELP ACCELERATE EFFECTIVE SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL RELIEF PROGRAMS," ACCORDING TO A WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT.

AFTER A 45-MINUTE MEETING AT THE WHITE HOUSE TODAY WITH HER STAFF AND UNITED NATIONS AND RED CROSS REPRESENTATIVES, MRS. CARTER TOLD REPORTERS: "I CAN SEE THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL THINGS THAT NEED TO BE DONE. IT'S ONE OF THE MORAL ISSUES OF OUR DAY. WE CAN'T LET PEOPLE STARVE."

SHE SAID THAT AT FIRST HER HUSBAND HAD BEEN ADVISED TO MAKE THE TRIP, BUT COULD NOT FOR UNEXPLAINED REASONS, SO IT WAS DECIDED SHE WOULD GO INSTEAD.

"IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THIS EFFORT IS SEEN AS AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT," DR. CHARLES EGGERS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL OF UNICEF, TOLD HER.

ALSO ATTENDING THE MEETING WERE POUL HARTLING, U.N. HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, AND JEAN-PIERRE HOCHE, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS.

AP-WX-1106 1222EST

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*****U N C L A S S I F I E D***** COPY

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO WHITEHOUSE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS BANGKOK 46186

PASS TO FIRST LADY'S AIRCRAFT
E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN)
SUBJ: FIRST LADY'S VISIT TO THAILAND

1. PER TELECON, THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE CARD LEFT
IN MRS. CARTER'S SUITE:

BEGIN TEXT -- MRS. CARTER, THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
WOMEN OF THAILAND WISH TO EXTEND A CORDIAL WELCOME AND TO
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN ABOUT THE REFUGEE PROBLEM.
(SIGNED) KHUNYING CHANDHANE, SANTAPUTRA, PRESIDENT, NCWT
END TEXT.

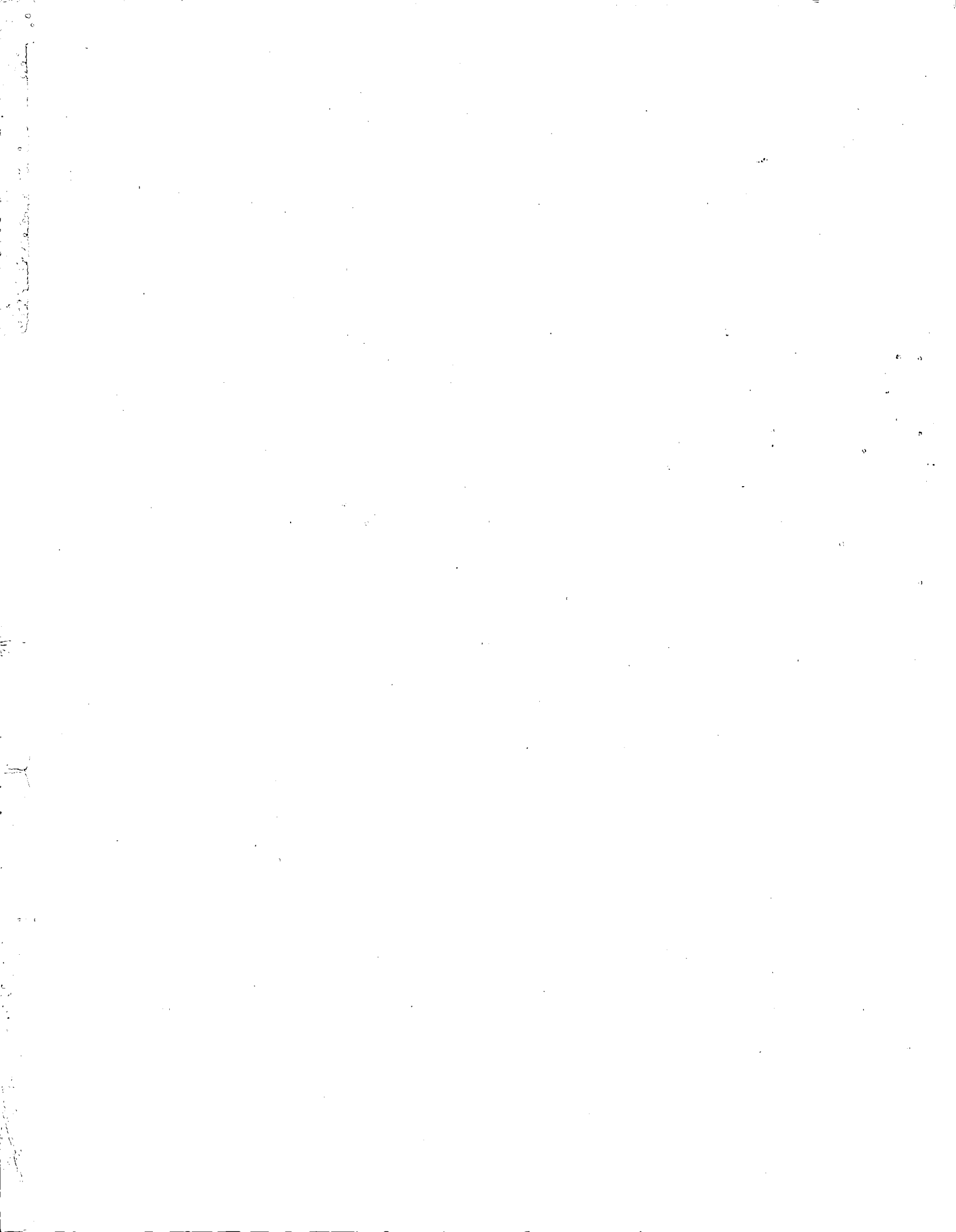
2. AS MENTIONED KHUNYING IS A TITLE AND SHE SHOULD BE
ADDRESSED AS KHUNYING CHANDHANE, ABRAMOWITZ.
BT

*****WHHR COMMENT*****

GA, DEN, (MARY HOYT)
EOB: BLOOM, PLATT, OSKEN

PSN: 002603 PAGE 01 OF 01 TOR: 315/03:22Z DTG: 110315Z NOV 79

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D***** COPY



DRAFT REMARKS/ MEETING RE CAMBODIAN RELIEF

I AM PLEASED TO WELCOME YOU HERE TODAY. AS THE PRESIDENT HAS SAID, I WENT TO THAILAND ON HIS BEHALF TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND CONCERN OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY FOR THE TRAGEDY THAT IS UNFOLDING IN INDOCHINA. MY VISIT TO THAILAND WAS BRIEF, BUT ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN MY LIFE.

I CAME AWAY (WITH A HEART) FILLED WITH ADMIRATION FOR THOSE REPRESENTATIVES OF YOUR ORGANIZATIONS WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH THE MASSIVE, COMPLEX PROBLEM OF PROVIDING RELIEF TO THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF HUMAN BEINGS WHO ARE STARVING AND HOMELESS AND BEREAVED. AND I CAME AWAY FILLED WITH GRATITUDE FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THAILAND AND THE THAI GOVERNMENT.

I AM SURE THAT EVERY PERSON IN THIS ROOM KNOWS WHAT FACES US IN THE COMING WEEKS.

WHILE OUR INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS HAVE BROUGHT VAST IMPROVEMENTS -- AND I SAW IN THE REFUGEE CAMP AT SAKAEO THE BEGINNINGS OF HOPE FOR THOSE PITIFUL FEW BROUGHT BACK FROM THE BRINK OF DEATH -- THE PICTURE IN THE NEAR FUTURE LOOKS DANGEROUSLY BLEAK. A WAVE OF NEW REFUGEES ESTIMATED IN NUMBER ANYWHERE FROM 100,1000 TO ONE QUARTER OF A MILLION IS EXPECTED IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.

FOR THOSE OF US WHO HAVE SEEN WITH OUR OWN EYES THE DIMENSION OF THE PROBLEM, THE THOUGHT IS ALMOST TOO MUCH TO BEAR.

LET ME TELL YOU BRIEFLY ABOUT OUR TRIP. AS YOU KNOW, I WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THOSE WHO ARE HERE WITH ME TODAY (INTRODUCE THEM).... SOME OF US WORKED TOGETHER, OTHERS DISPERSED TO GATHER TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND TO INTERVIEW.

AT THE REFUGEE CAMPS IN THAILAND, WE WITNESSED INCREDIBLE STARVATION, DISEASE, DISLOCATION AND SUFFERING. AT THE SAKEO HOLDING CENTER FOR CAMBODIANS, WE SAW MANY CHILDREN SEPARATED FROM THEIR PARENTS, AFFLICTED WITH MALARIA AND MALNUTRITION.

IN THE LAO REFUGEE CAMP AT UBON, CONDITIONS WERE SUBSTANTIALLY BETTER, YET MANY OF THE CAMP'S INHABITANTS HAVE WAITED THREE OR FOUR YEARS FOR APPROVAL TO RESETTLE ABROAD. THEY WAIT, HOPING NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN BY THE WORLD.

AT THE REFUGEE TRANSIT CENTER IN BANGKOK, WE OBSERVED THE OVERCROWDED AND HUMILIATING CONDITIONS WHICH REFUGEES AWAITING FINAL PROCESSING FOR EMIGRATION MUST ENDURE. THESE WERE EMOTIONALLY WRENCHING SCENES, AND I SHALL NEVER FORGET THEM.

WHILE WE WERE THERE, WE HAD CANDID DISCUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS TO DISCUSS THEIR GOALS -- FRUSTRATIONS -- AND THE NEED FOR BETTER COORDINATION.

WE ALSO MET WITH THE KING AND QUEEN OF THAILAND TO DISCUSS THE BROAD SPECTRUM OF THE REFUGEE SITUATION -- AT WHICH TIME I PRESENTED THE QUEEN, WHO IS THE HEAD OF THE THAI RED CROSS, A CHECK OF \$100,000, DRAWN FROM OUR REFUGEE FUNDS, TO ASSIST THE THAI RED CROSS EFFORTS.

and the needs for further action

WE HAD A LONG AND FRUITFUL DISCUSSION WITH PRIME MINISTER KRIANSAK ABOUT THE ~~Mounting~~ POLITICAL AND FOREIGN POLICY RISKS FACING THE THAI GOVERNMENT UNLESS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY PROVIDES VISIBLE AND DEMONSTRABLE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SECURITY SUPPORT TO THE THAIS.

AS WE FLEW BACK TO WASHINGTON, OUR GROUP PREPARED A REPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT WHICH WOULD STRESS THE URGENCY OF THE SITUATION AND LAY OUT SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS. WE WILL GIVE YOU THAT REPORT THIS MORNING. WE NEED YOUR CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF OUR RECOMMENDATIONS; WE NEED YOUR CREATIVE IDEAS FOR HOW TO IMPLEMENT THEM; YOUR SUPPORT; YOUR CONCENSUS. I DO NOT KNOW WHEN I HAVE FELT SUCH A SENSE OF URGENCY ABOUT CUTTING RED TAPE AND UNBLOCKING LOGJAMS AND MOVING AHEAD.

I THINK I CAN SAY WITH SOME ASSURANCE THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE ALREADY MOBILIZING TO HELP US. BUT THEY NEED TO KNOW HOW TO HELP... NOW. WHERE TO TURN ... NOW. WHAT IS NEEDED ... NOW. AND IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE THEM SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT WAYS THEY CAN REACH OUT TO THEIR FELLOW MAN. WE MUST NOT LOSE PRECIOUS TIME.

I AM PLEASED TO KNOW THAT MOST OF YOU HERE HAVE PREPARED BRIEFING PAPERS ABOUT YOUR PROGRAMS AND YOUR PROBLEMS, AND I KNOW THAT YOU WILL BE ADDRESSING YOURSELVES TO THESE ISSUES THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

BUT BEFORE THEN, I WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON THOSE MEMBERS OF MY TRAVELING PARTY WHO HAVE BROUGHT BACK NEW INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT BE HELPFUL -- AND THEN I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU OUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT -- AND HIS ACTIONS IN RESPONSE.

FIRST ...

Office of the First Lady's Press Secretary

Mrs. Carter's Meeting With Voluntary Agencies

Partial List of Participants

Mr. Lloyd Bailey
U.S. Committee for UNICEF

Ms. Marjorie Craig Benton
Save the Children Foundation

Bishop Edwin Broderick
Catholic Relief Services

Mr. Henry Brodie
United States Catholic
Conference

Mr. Howard D. Burbank
Seventh Day Adventist
World Services, Inc.

Ms. Carol Capps
Interreligious Task Force
on U.S. Food Policy

Rev. Robert L. Charlebois
Catholic Relief Services

Mr. Leo Cherne
International Rescue Committee

Mr. Jerald Ciekot
World Hunger - American
Friends Service Committee

Mr. Bernard Confer
Lutheran World Relief

Bishop Marcus Cummings

Mr. Charles Egger
UNICEF

Mr. David Elder
American Friends Service
Committee

Mr. Deni Frand
Indochina Refugee Action Center

Mr. Ralph Goldman
American Jewish Joint Distribution
Committee

Mr. James P. Grant
Overseas Development Council

Mr. Eugene Grubbs
Southern Baptist Convention

Mr. David Guyer
Save the Children Foundation

Rev. J. Harry Haines
Board of Global Ministries
United Methodist Church

Father J. Bryan Hehir
United States Catholic Conference

Rev. Peter Henriot
Center of Concern

Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C.
University of Notre Dame

Mr. Murray Heibert
The Indochina Project

Ms. Joan Holmes
The Hunger Project

Ms. Corrine Johnson
American Friends Service Committee

Rev. Paul McCleary
American Council of Voluntary Agencies

Mr. Martin M. McLaughlin
Overseas Development Council

Rabbi Bernard Mandelbaum
Synagogue Council of America

Mr. Leon Marion
American Council of Voluntary Agencies
for Foreign Service

Mr. Ove R. Neilsen
Lutheran World Relief

Ms. Erna Redlich
Baptist World Alliance

Mr. John Richardson
International Rescue Committee

Mr. Louis Samia
CARE

Mr. Joseph Short
OXFAM America

Rev. Arthur Simon
Bread for the World

Mr. Edward Snyder
Friends Committee on National
Legislation

Dr. Eugene Stockwell
National Council of Churches

Mr. Edgar Stoesz
Mennonite Central Committee

Ms. Dorothy Taaffe
The American Red Cross

Mr. Paul Van Oss
World Vision Relief Organization

Mr. Michel Veuthey
Delegate to International Organizations
of the International Red Cross

Mr. Charles W. Whalen, Jr.
New Directions

Ms. Patricia Young
Church Women United

Julius Richmond, M.D.
Surgeon General

William Foege, M.D.
Director, Center for
Disease Control

Lt. Gen. Joseph M. Heiser

Rev. Bob Maddox

Senator James Sasser

Mrs. Mary Sasser

Mrs. Gay Vance

Charles William Maynes
Assistant Secretary of State
for International Organizations

Thomas Ehrlich, Director
International Development
Cooperation Agency (IDCA)

Jessica Einhorn
Staff, IDCA

Ruth Greenstein
Staff, IDCA

Pat Moran, U.S. Commission on
International Year of the Child

Robert Pomeroy, U.S.
Commission on IYC

Frederick Green, M.D., U.S.
Commission on IYC

Nate Stark
Undersecretary of HEW

Gary Perkins, Office of the
UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Mr. Zia Rizvi, Office of the
UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Matthew Nimetz
Action U.S. Coordinator for Refugees

John A. Baker
Director of Refugee Programs
Department of State

Thomas Barnes, Director
Working Group on Cambodia
Department of State

Richard Holbrooke
Assistant Secretary of State
for East Asian Affairs

Howard Davis
Assistant to Mr. Nimetz

Office of the First Lady's Press Secretary

VISIT OF THE FIRST LADY TO THAILAND

NOVEMBER 7-10, 1979

Weather Forecast:

Clear skies. No rain expected. Daily average temperature: 82° High: 89° Low: 75° 78% Humidity All times are local

Wednesday, November 7, 1979

7:15 am Press check-in, Special Air Missions Counter, Andrews AFB

7:25 am THE FIRST LADY DEPARTS THE WHITE HOUSE VIA MOTORCADE ENROUTE ANDREWS AFB

Open Press Coverage

Press Note: Press pick-up in West Wing press office: 7:15 am

8:00 am THE FIRST LADY ARRIVES ANDREWS AFB, BOARDS AIRCRAFT AND DEPARTS ENROUTE ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA

Flying time: 7 hours, 20 minutes Gain 5 hours

10:20 am THE FIRST LADY ARRIVES ELMENDORF AFB FOR REFUELING

11:50 am THE FIRST LADY DEPARTS ELMENDORF AFB ENROUTE YOKOTA AFB, JAPAN

Flying time: 7 hours, 15 minutes Gain 9 hours

Thursday, November 8, 1979

2:15 pm THE FIRST LADY ARRIVES YOKOTA AFB, JAPAN FOR REFUELING

3:45 pm THE FIRST LADY DEPARTS YOKOTA AFB ENROUTE BANGKOK, THAILAND

Flying time: 7 hours, 15 minutes Lose 2 hours from Japan time; gain 12 hours from Washington time

9:00 pm THE FIRST LADY ARRIVES BANGKOK, THAILAND AND IS GREETED BY THE CROWN PRINCE

Open Press Coverage

FIRST LADY REMARKS

RON ERAWAN HOTEL, BANGKOK

Friday, November 9, 1979

Morning Depart Bangkok by aircraft for tour of refugee centers

3:30 pm Audience with the King and Queen of Thailand

7:00 pm Arrive Bangkok - free evening

Saturday, November 10, 1979

8:30 am Meeting with representatives of international and voluntary organizations at the Ambassador's Residence

10:30 am Meeting with the Prime Minister and his cabinet

12:15 pm Depart Bangkok enroute Yokota AFB, Japan

Flying time: 6 hours, 35 minutes
Gain 2 hours

8:50 pm Arrive Yokota AFB to refuel

10:20 pm Depart Yokota AFB enroute Elmendorf, AFB, Alaska

Flying time: 6 hours, 35 minutes
Lose 9 hours

9:55 am Arrive Elmendorf AFB to refuel

11:25 am Depart Elmendorf AFB enroute Andrews AFB

Flying time: 6 hours, 30 minutes
Lose 5 hours

10:55 pm Arrive Andrews AFB

#

REPORT ON TRIP TO THAILAND

I visited Thailand last Friday and Saturday to express the concern of all Americans about the tragedy unfolding in Cambodia, to pay tribute to the Thai Government for the action it has taken to alleviate the plight of Indochinese refugees, and to consider what additional steps the United States might take to provide food and medical care to those who have fled Cambodia as well as those who remain there.

2

At the refugee camps in Thailand, ^{we} I witnessed incredible starvation, disease, dislocation and suffering. At the Sakeo Holding Center for Cambodians ^{we} I saw many children separated from their parents, afflicted with ^{the} Malaria and malnutrition. In the Lao Refugee Camp at Ubon, conditions were substantially better, yet many of the camp's inhabitants have waited three or four years for approval to resettle abroad. They wait, hoping not to be forgotten by the world. At the Refugee Transit Center in Bangkok, ^{we} I observed ~~the humiliating~~ ^{the} overcrowded and humiliating conditions ~~in~~ which refugees awaiting final processing for emigration must endure. These were emotionally wrenching scenes, and I shall never forget them.

7

As bleak as these conditions were, however, they pale in horror by comparison to those which must be experienced by those still living in Cambodia. In particular, I heard that nearly a quarter of a million Cambodians gathered near Sisophon close to the Thai Border face the most desperate situation. Intensified fighting -- anticipated in the coming weeks -- will probably send them into Thailand where they may overwhelm existing capabilities to provide relief.

7

The plight of the children is particularly distressing. Indeed a generation of Cambodian children ^{is in danger of being} ~~has already been~~ ~~virtually~~ lost. We saw few children under five at Sakeo, and there were virtually no toddlers. I held one infant who had survived despite malnourishment because aid was available. We must not allow others to die because our assistance was either too little or too late.

I am pleased to ~~W~~ welcome you here today. As the President has said, I went to Thailand on his behalf to express the profound concern of the people of this country for the tragedy that is unfolding in Indochina. My visit in Thailand was brief, ~~but~~ ^{one of the most} ~~significant~~ ^{profound} events in my life. ~~My~~ ^{with a heart} I came away filled with admiration for ~~those~~ ^{of} those representatives ~~of~~ your organizations who are struggling with the massive, complex ~~problem~~ ^{problems} of providing relief to thousands upon thousands of human beings who are starving and homeless and bereaved. And I came away ~~with~~ ^{with a heart} filled with gratitude for the efforts of the people of Thailand and the Thai Government.

I am sure that there is not a person in this room who does not realize --
--- Let me tell you a little bit about my ~~own~~ ^{own} efforts and those of my companions who dispersed ---

I am sure that every person in this room knows what faces us ~~in~~ ^{international} in the coming weeks. While our ~~efforts~~ ^{efforts} have brought about miracles -- and I do believe that I saw ~~at~~ ^{at} a kind of miracle in the refugee camp of Sa Kaeo ~~where~~ ^{where} we found ~~beginning~~ ^{in the} of hope for ~~some~~ ^{a pitiful few} who had been brought back from the brink of death --- our ~~picture~~ ^{in the near future} looks horrendously bleak ~~for the expected~~ ^{for the expected} for next month ~~if we contemplate the expected~~ ^{at} an ~~expected~~ ^{at} number of new wave of new refugees ~~estimated~~ ⁱⁿ to number anywhere from 100,000 to one quarter of a million ~~in early December~~ ⁱⁿ crosses the borders of Cambodia into Thailand. - ~~is expected~~ ^{is expected}.

For those of us who have seen ~~the~~ ^{the} dimension of the problem, ~~it~~ ^{the} is almost too much to bear, ~~thinking about~~ ^{thinking about}.
Let me tell you briefly about our trip. As ~~most of you know~~ ^{As you know}, I was accompanied ~~by~~ ^{by} those who are here with me today (introduce them). ~~Some of us worked together; others dispersed to gather~~ ^{technical} ~~valuable~~ ^{data for interviews} information which ~~we are going to share with you this morning.~~ ^{add paragraph} ~~We visited the refugee camps~~ ^{and candid discussions}
2--- While we were there, we ~~also met~~ ^{met} with representatives of the international voluntary organizations to discuss their ~~goals~~ ^{goals} -- ~~their~~ ^{their} frustrations -- and the need for better coordination. I met with the King and Queen -- in fact, I presented the Queen, ~~who is the~~ ^{who is the} head of the Thai Red Cross

add

also
I met with the King and Queen ^{of Thailand} to discuss the ^{broad} ~~situation~~ ^{spectrum of the refugee situation} -- ~~and~~ ^{at which}
~~in fact~~ ^{time I} presented the Queen, who is the head of the Thai Red
Cross, a check for \$100,000 ~~from~~ ^{to assist} drawn from our refugee
funds, ~~for~~ ^{we} the Thai Red Cross efforts. ~~A~~ had a long and fruitful
discussion with Prime Minister Kriensak about the mounting
political and foreign policy risks facing the Thai Government
unless the international community provides visible
and demonstrable political, economic and security support to
the Thais.

then,
~~On the way back to Washington~~ As we flew back to Washington,
our group worked feverishly to prepare a report for the President
~~on the situation which would lay out~~ which would ~~expound~~ ^{stress}
the urgency of the situation and lay out ^{specific} the needs in a set
of recommendations. We will give you that report later this
morning. We need your ^{Careful} ~~urgent~~ consideration of ^{our} these recommendations;
we need your creative ideas, ^{for how to implement them!} your support; your concensus.
I do not know when I have felt such a sense of urgency ^{about} ~~about~~
~~cutting red tape~~ ^{and} unblocking logjams ^{and} moving
ahead.

~~I think that we agree that the climate in the United States is~~
~~is-----~~

I think I can say with some assurance that the American
~~people~~ people are already mobilizing to
help us. But they need to know ^{Now.} ~~how~~ ^{Now.} they can help -- to help. ^{Now.}
Where to turn... what is needed. ~~And that is our responsibility~~
And it is our responsibility to give them specific information
about ways they can reach out to their fellow man. We
~~cannot~~ ^{must not} lose ^{precious time.} another moment.

I am pleased to know that most of you here have prepared
briefing papers about your programs and your problems, and
I know that you will be addressing yourselves to ~~these~~
these issues throughout the day. But before then, I would
like to call on those members of my traveling party who have
~~new information~~ brought back new information
which might be helpful -- and then I would like to share with ^{you}
~~our~~ our recommendations to the President -- and his
actions in response, ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~time.~~ ~~First....~~

First - - -

The Thai Government is dealing with the massive influx of refugees with compassion. They have opened their borders to fleeing Lao and Cambodians as well as Vietnamese boat people. And they are now establishing holding centers to handle these displaced people away from the border areas where fighting threatens. These decisions expose the Government of Prime Minister Kriangsak to mounting political and foreign policy risks.

Failure by the international community to provide visible and demonstrable political, economic, and security support to the Thais could undercut their current humanitarian approach.

The relief efforts of international agencies and voluntary groups in Bangkok is impressive. ^{They} ~~Some~~ have performed heroic services under the most trying circumstances. Yet I return with the conviction that coordination of such efforts in Thailand must be improved to assure maximum use of limited financial and human resources.

I heard from UN Agency representatives that the authorities in Phnom Penh ~~appear~~ ^{may} be softening their opposition to some forms of international relief in Cambodia. There ~~is~~ ^{is a possibility now} of willingness to accept delivery of food and medicines up the Mekong River, and expanded air and sea deliveries. However, implementation is bogged down by logistic and political bottlenecks, and proposals to initiate land deliveries into Cambodia from Thailand remain stymied.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

With these circumstances in mind, I believe the United States must act urgently to stimulate and contribute to expanded international efforts to relieve the suffering of refugees in Thailand and to find additional ways of delivering food and medicine to people in Cambodia. To this end we should consider the following actions:

①

TALKING POINTS FOR MRS. CARTER

-- The tragedy of the Khmer people is truly an event that affects us all. Our willingness to respond to the needs of these people who have been displaced by war, famine, and disease is a test that we cannot fail. I am gratified that so many private and international agencies have given generously to ensure that the Khmer people survive. Your presence here today testifies to the fact that ~~the entire international community is~~ ^{we are} united in a common moral effort to relieve the suffering taking place in Southeast Asia.

-- ~~As you know,~~ ^{since} I have just returned from a visit to Thailand to inspect ~~the~~ conditions among the refugees who have sought shelter in that country, I would like to ~~review~~ ^{share} the results of my trip with you. ^{Should also like to} discuss the recommendations that I shall be making to the President, and explore ways in which all of you can assist in providing the humanitarian assistance that is so urgently needed.

Findings

-- The depth of the suffering among the Khmer people is almost beyond description. I shall never forget the emotionally wrenching scenes I witnessed in the refugee camps we visited.

-- At the Sakeo Holding Center, I observed terrible starvation, disease, dislocation, and overcrowding. There were few children under the age of five and virtually no toddlers. Those who had survived the flight from Kampuchea were often afflicted with malaria and other diseases, and were seriously malnourished.

-- As bleak as conditions were in the camps, the situation among the Khmer people who are still in Kampuchea must be unimaginable. Intensified fighting in the coming months will probably send them ^{to many of}

(2)

in Thailand where they may overwhelm existing capabilities to provide relief.

-- The Thai government has ~~responsibly/ably~~ responded with compassion to the needs of these refugees. ~~The/entry~~ Despite the risk of domestic political criticism, Prime Minister Kriangsak has opened the border to fleeing Khmer, and ~~Laotians~~ and provided generous assistance in making the work of the private and international agencies possible.

-- There is some hope that the authorities in Phnom Penh may be willing to allow increased shipments of relief to Kampuchea, either by means of the Mekong river or through expanded air and sea deliveries. If these avenues of assistance are opened, it will be important that the international relief efforts not become bogged down in logistical or political bottlenecks.

Intro

MRS. CARTER'S REMARKS

I AM PLEASED TO WELCOME YOU HERE TODAY. AS THE PRESIDENT HAS SAID, I WENT TO THAILAND ON HIS BEHALF TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND CONCERN OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY FOR THE TRAGEDY THAT IS UNFOLDING IN INDOCHINA. MY VISIT TO THAILAND WAS BRIEF, BUT ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN MY LIFE. I CAME AWAY WITH A HEART FILLED WITH ADMIRATION FOR THOSE REPRESENTATIVES OF YOUR ORGANIZATIONS WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH THE MASSIVE, COMPLEX PROBLEM OF PROVIDING RELIEF TO THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF HUMAN BEINGS WHO ARE STARVING AND HOMELESS AND BEREAVED. AND I CAME AWAY FILLED WITH GRATITUDE FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THAILAND AND THE THAI GOVERNMENT.

I AM SURE THAT EVERY PERSON IN THIS ROOM KNOWS WHAT FACES US IN THE COMING WEEKS. WHILE OUR INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT MIRACLES -- AND I DO BELIEVE THAT I SAW A KIND OF MIRACLE IN THE REFUGEE CAMP AT SAKAEO IN THE BEGINNINGS OF HOPE FOR A PITIFUL FEW BROUGHT BACK FROM THE BRINK OF DEATH -- THE PICTURE IN THE NEAR FUTURE LOOKS HORRENDOUSLY BLEAK -- AS A WAVE OF NEW REFUGEEES ESTIMATED IN NUMBER ANYWHERE FROM 100,000 TO ONE QUARTER OF A MILLION IS EXPECTED.

FOR THOSE OF US WHO HAVE SEEN WITH OUR OWN EYES THE DIMENSION OF THE PROBLEM, THE THOUGHT IS ALMOST TOO MUCH TO BEAR.

LET ME TELL YOU BRIEFLY ABOUT OUR TRIP. AS YOU KNOW, I WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THOSE WHO ARE HERE WITH ME TODAY (INTRODUCE THEM). SOME OF US WORKED TOGETHER; OTHERS DISPERSED^A TO GATHER TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND TO INTERVIEW.

AT THE REFUGEE CAMPS IN THAILAND, WE WITNESSED INCREDIBLE STARVATION, DISEASE, DISLOCATION AND SUFFERING. AT THE SAKEO HOLDING CENTER FOR CAMBODIANS, WE SAW MANY CHILDREN SEPARATED FROM THEIR PARENTS, AFFLICTED WITH MALARIA AND MALNUTRITION. IN THE LAO REFUGEE CAMP AT UBON, CONDITIONS WERE SUBSTANTIALLY BETTER, YET MANY OF THE CAMP'S INHABITANTS HAVE WAITED THREE OR FOUR YEARS FOR APPROVAL TO RESETTLE ABROAD. THEY WAIT, HOPING NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN BY THE WORLD. AT THE REFUGEE TRANSIT CENTER IN BANGKOK, WE OBSERVED THE OVERCROWDED AND HUMILIATING CONDITIONS WHICH REFUGEES AWAITING FINAL PROCESSING FOR EMIGRATION MUST ENDURE. THESE WERE EMOTIONALLY WRENCHING SCENES, AND I SHALL NEVER FORGET THEM.

WHILE WE WERE THERE, WE HAD CANDID DISCUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS TO DISCUSS THEIR GOALS -- FRUSTRATIONS -- AND THE NEED FOR BETTER COORDINATION. WE ALSO MET WITH THE KING AND QUEEN OF THAILAND TO DISCUSS THE BROAD SPECTRUM OF THE REFUGEE SITUATION -- AT WHICH TIME I PRESENTED THE QUEEN, WHO IS THE HEAD OF THE THAI RED CROSS, A CHECK OF \$100,000, DRAWN FROM OUR REFUGEE FUNDS, TO ASSIST THE THAI RED CROSS EFFORTS. WE HAD A LONG AND FRUITFUL DISCUSSION WITH PRIME MINISTER KRIANSAK ABOUT THE MOUNTING POLITICAL AND FOREIGN POLICY RISKS FACING THE THAI GOVERNMENT UNLESS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY PROVIDES VISIBLE AND DEMONSTRABLE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SECURITY SUPPORT TO THE THAIS.

THEN, AS WE FLEW BACK TO WASHINGTON, OUR GROUP WORKED FEVERISHLY TO PREPARE A REPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT WHICH WOULD STRESS THE URGENCY OF THE SITUATION AND LAY OUT SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS. WE WILL GIVE YOU THAT REPORT LATER THIS MORNING. WE NEED YOUR CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF OUR RECOMMENDATIONS; WE NEED YOUR CREATIVE IDEAS FOR HOW TO

IMPLEMENT THEM; YOUR SUPPORT; YOUR CONCENSUS. I DO NOT KNOW WHEN I HAVE FELT SUCH A SENSE OF URGENCY ABOUT CUTTING RED TAPE AND UNBLOCKING LOGJAMS AND MOVING AHEAD.

I THINK I CAN SAY WITH SOME ASSURANCE THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE ALREADY MOBILIZING TO HELP US. BUT THEY NEED TO KNOW HOW TO HELP...NOW. WHERE TO TURN ... NOW. WHAT IS NEEDED ... NOW. AND IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE THEM SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT WAYS THEY CAN REACH OUT TO THEIR FELLOW MAN. WE MUST NOT LOSE PRECIOUS TIME.

I AM PLEASED TO KNOW THAT MOST OF YOU HERE HAVE PREPARED BRIEFING PAPERS ABOUT YOUR PROGRAMS AND YOUR PROBLEMS, AND I KNOW THAT YOU WILL BE ADDRESSING YOURSELVES TO THESE ISSUES THROUGHOUT THE DAY. BUT BEFORE THEN, I WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON THOSE MEMBERS OF MY TRAVELING PARTY WHO HAVE BROUGHT BACK NEW INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT BE HELPFUL -- AND THEN I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU OUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT -- AND HIS ACTIONS IN RESPONSE.

FIRST ...

Myth - Speech should include historical, cultural aspects; Personal; POTUS human rights quote; 'Good examples of people in U.S.'

Politics and government always have two faces. One face is benign. It is the concept of limited government that acts as the servant of the people. This is the concept that Thomas Jefferson taught us. In our two societies, we deeply believe in it. For those who cherish the concept of limited government and inalienable rights, politics has a benign face. People benefit from what their governments do when the political process sees people not as abstractions but as individuals.

The other face of government is a harsh face. People are regarded as existing to serve the cause of their rulers. They are victims of the dictates of strategy, of greed, of fanatical ideologies that leaders put above the well-being of their people. This creates many of the horrors around us in our world.

Within states, people are often denied rights that we hold as basic, above all the right to the sanctity of the person. Those who disagree or fail to comply with the dominant ideology are often jailed, sometimes without trial and what we consider due process of law. In the worst instances, they are left to rot in prison for years, and even tortured. Or they are exiled, separated from their families, which are held hostage.

Sometimes in the past we were told that national interest dictates that we remain silent--that we not speak out, to avoid embarrassing our foreign relations. But by any standard of any decency and morality, denial of the basic rights of the individual person constitutes a modern version of savagery that simply is immoral.

The Carter Administration decided not to turn a blind eye or to wink at such behavior, not to simply slap wrists, or cross to the other side of the street to avoid being involved. The President and his administration have spoken out from the sources of our deepest national beliefs and values. We have told other governments outright of our standards, and of our concerns. We have even committed that diplomatic sin of talking about such matters publicly.

Some have criticized that policy. In the real world, where we like all countries have overriding interests, or where American lives are at stake, or where a greater good must be achieved, of course it is not always possible to be completely even-handed or even consistent. Sometimes there are overriding considerations of national security, for example to avoid nuclear confrontation.

But I think the history books will show there are many places in the world where, as a result of this administration's policy, the political torture was stopped--prisoners of

conscience were let out of jail into the light of day-- unelected military regimes have been replaced by civilian rulers who operate under popular constitutional rule.

I am proud of that record. Of course we Americans are not the only ones who have this concern; far from it. The international community has established a set of norms we all ought to follow. These are found in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the various covenants of human rights the great majority of nations have agreed upon. But we can't rest on our laurels. The task remaining is endless. But it will be made easier if the international community takes more and more responsibility, and no single nation has to play the role of monitor for others.

In one unhappy corner of the world--the Indochina peninsula--there are many new victims of government brutality, and their wars of conquest. In Vietnam, the ruling regime has forced into the sea masses of individuals who did not fit in with the "new order." The "Boat People" surely reflect that evil side of politics of which I spoke. The world's conscience was awakened by that tragic spectacle, and the UN and private organizations have already done much for the hundreds of thousands of refugees who were either expelled or fled from Vietnam. I am proud that the US is taking 14,000 a year into its own society, and in that sense has done more than anyone else--as perhaps it should. Canada has

been extraordinarily generous. We and you have made tremendous efforts, both public and private, to persuade the perpetrators to cease their inhumane policies, and to convince other nations to take in the homeless and the uprooted.

Now we have a new human tragedy in Kampuchea (which used to be called Cambodia). I shudder to think how much worse it could be if it were not for the action generous nations began to take when those heartbreaking pictures were shown of fellow humans in the last ghastly stages of starvation. How can one begin to forgive governments who commit genocide on their own population in order to win political control? The fact that two Communist regimes are at each others' throats doesn't make it any easier for the masses of people who are starving--those tortured Cambodian people in whose names the war is conducted.

The international efforts now underway to save the people of Kampuchea from extinction is beginning to show--but it is not enough. I have seen with my own eyes unbelievable scenes of human degradation that should arouse the pity of every human being fortunate enough to have food, shelter, a home, even a family. The international effort to aid the victims of this newest human outrage in Indochina will need our support for a long time to come.

I am enough of a realist to know that there will be other situations that call for our compassion--other places where people are made the victims of the ambitions and cruelties of their leaders. We must be unceasing in our witness to the

desperate plight of so many of our fellow humans. I am proud that the Carter Administration has tried to make real its deep conviction that people, rather than real estate, or strategy, or short-run advantages, represent the ultimate human concern, and the highest political value. We occupy a small planet. Those of us who have the advantages--and the terrible responsibility--of riches and power must always put our humanitarian concerns at the forefront of policy. I am proud that the human face of politics shows itself in my country in a time when the world is becoming a global village in which we are all neighbors--in which we, whether we choose or not, are inescapably our brothers' and sisters' keepers.

Office of the First Lady's Press Secretary

Presidential Actions in Response to
the First Lady's Report on Cambodian
Relief as Reported by Mrs. Carter

- 1) The President made a determination today to grant UNICEF an additional two million dollars for the immediate purchase of rice in Thailand. This will get food into the pipeline to Cambodia more quickly.
- 2) We have told the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees that he can use immediately four million dollars of the funds we recently allocated to his organization.
- 3) The President has approved my recommendation that, in full cooperation with pertinent international agencies, we should airlift a special shipment of vegetable oils and special foods needed for infants and small children to meet urgent requirements in Thailand. We will also urgently transport mobile equipment to provide water to refugee holding camps, and communication equipment to improve coordination between the refugee camps and the support agencies in Bangkok.
- 4) The President has directed the State Department, through its Diplomatic Missions, to work closely with all international agencies and the Thai government to improve the contingency planning for a possible exodus of one-quarter million Cambodians in the near future.
- 5) The President has agreed that, as another demonstration of our support for recent decisions of the Thai government, we will earmark more of the monthly refugee entry allocation numbers to Thailand during the next quarter. As I said in my report, the Thai burden is so great that it demands special attention and support.
- 6) The President has directed the Secretary of State to review the procedures required to process refugees for resettlement with a view to speeding up the American part of the effort, in accordance with law and in close consultation with the Attorney General. I have also communicated with the United Nations Refugee High Commissioner Hartling about ways we can assist in improving the quality of the refugee transit centers in Bangkok.
- 7) The President has directed the Peace Corps to accelerate its support of the program of the UNHCR.
- 8) The Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service plans to work with the voluntary health organizations to insure the creation of a clearing house for a quick national response capacity for the volunteer refugee health effort. I am particularly interested in this item because I believe that it is the spirit of volunteerism in American that must be tapped if we are to make a significant contribution to solve this tragic problem, and I intend to speak out on this issue in the coming weeks.
- 9) The President has directed that we continue to support all efforts to open an authorized "land bridge" that we believe would be the most efficient way of getting food to the people of Cambodia. We shall continue to consider the initiation of unilateral truck deliveries from Thailand as a last resort measure.

I have also reported to Secretary Waldheim about my trip.

Your work in the coming months will be of crucial importance and the federal government stands ready to assist you in every possible way. At the outset, I think it is important that we have your views with regard to the following questions:

- A. How can we ensure smooth coordination between the government, the private voluntary agencies, and the international agencies working in this area?
- B. How can we best raise the necessary private funds to support the relief efforts that will be needed?
- C. How can we provide for better coordination of private programs in the field?
- D. How can we emphasize in private and governmental programs the importance of meeting the nutritional needs of the children in the area?
- E. How can the U.S. Government be more helpful in assisting your private efforts?

In closing, I would like to repeat and underline my husband's appeal to Americans of all faiths to give generously for Cambodian relief in their churches and synagogues on every Saturday and Sunday in November, particularly between now and Thanksgiving. I am appealing to men and women, boys and girls to help.

I am convinced all of us will give until it hurts. I hope business organizations will make it easier for their employees to contribute. You all know that a phone number (800-221-2870) exists which can be called by anyone who wishes to contribute. I hope that Thanksgiving, when each of us remembers our blessings, will call forth especially generous donations.

#

WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

| FORM OF DOCUMENT | CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE | DATE | RESTRICTION |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| memo w/attachment | Aaron to Carter, 4 pgs. | 11/3/79 | A |
| memcon | Labouisse, Bloomfield, 10 pgs | 11/28/79 | A |
| report | Visit of Ms. Carter..., 38 pgs | 11/8-10/79 | B |
| list | Manifest, 1 pg | 11/7/79 | B |
| list | Manifest, 1 pg | 11/7/79 | B |

FILE LOCATION

Records of the First Lady's Office, Mary Hoyt's Foreign Trip Files (Press), Box 27, Thailand, November 7-10, 1979

RESTRICTION CODES

- (A) Closed by applicable Executive Order governing access to national security information.
- (B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- (C) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in the donor's deed of gift.

CAMBODIAN RELIEF

The following organizations are accepting financial contributions for Cambodian relief:

UNICEF, U.S. Committee for
"Kampuchean Relief"
331 East 38th Street
New York, New York 10017
800-221-2870
212-686-5522. (*New York only*)

American Friends Service Committee
1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102
215-241-7154

American National Red Cross
"Kampuchea Relief"
2025 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
202-737-8300

Catholic Relief Services
1011 First Avenue
New York, New York 10022
212-838-4700

Church World Service
475 Riverside Drive
New York, New York 10027
212-870-2200

CARE
660 First Avenue
New York, New York 10027
212-686-3110

International Rescue Committee
386 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016
212-679-0010

Medical Services

A clearing house has been established to accept offers of medical personnel, equipment and supplies:

National Council of International Health
2121 Virginia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037
202-298-5908

Lutheran World Relief
360 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10010
212-532-6350

Oxfam America
302 Columbus Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02116
617-247-3304

World Relief Incorporated
Suite 801
1800 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
202-785-4869

Seventh-Day Adventist World Service
6840 Eastern Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20012
202-723-0800

World Relief Commission
Post Office Box WRC
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
312-665-0235

World Vision Relief Organization
919 West Huntington Drive
Monrovia, California 91016
213-357-1111

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

*F
refugees*

STATEMENT ON KAMPUCHEA

Starvation still threatens millions of Cambodian lives despite a massive international relief effort.

This sad reality is due to no failure of global concern. The international community has offered the means, and has the will, to allay the suffering of the Cambodian people. Growing quantities of food and medical supplies are now reaching that country.

But too often the relief cannot get through to those in need. Instead the flow of aid is deliberately blocked and obstructed by the Vietnamese and Heng Samrin authorities. Their Soviet allies have not brought any discernible influence to bear to alleviate the situation, while supporting Vietnam heavily.

-- Relief supplies are piling up in Phnom Penh and other points of initial delivery because local and Vietnamese authorities continually change or delay agreed arrangements for distribution.

-- Taxes and tariffs are collected on the delivery of relief supplies -- in effect imposing a surcharge on human survival.

-- We continue to receive reports that relief supplies are diverted or stockpiled for the use of military forces, and that what distribution does take place is skewed to favor officials and supporters of the Heng Samrin regime.

-- There is even interference with the attempts of the Kampuchean people to feed themselves. For example, refugees have reported the mining of rice fields to prevent a harvest.

In the face of widespread human anguish, this delay and diversion of humanitarian efforts is unconscionable.

As many as two million Cambodians may have died under the brutal Pol Pot regime. Now, in the wake of a Vietnamese invasion and occupation of Cambodia, the long-suffering people of that country face a new wave of oppression, hunger and disease.

To counter this mounting tragedy, we call upon responsible leaders in both Hanoi and Moscow to recognize and act upon the compelling humanitarian requirements of the Cambodian people, which they thus far have not done. We call on them to cooperate fully with the international community in opening all routes for supplies to enter Cambodia, which they thus far have not done. We call on them to take the steps necessary to speed the distribution of humanitarian aid to starving people throughout all parts of that country, which they thus far have not done. We call on them not to feed the flames of war, but use aircraft and airfields to ferry food to feed the people of Kampuchea.

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December 6, 1979

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE*F
refugees*

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Mrs. Carter is going as a personal representative of the President of
~~Mrs. Carter's~~ trip has been arranged in haste, as she and the U.S.
the President feel a sense of urgency about the situation.
We have been aware of the ~~separate but different~~ objectives
of the Congressional women and have been in touch with
their staffs to ~~coordinate our efforts~~
determine how we can pool ~~our information~~ the information
~~that we pick up~~ and ideas that ~~we~~ *each party*
learn about this ~~serious~~ tragic situation. ~~There are no~~
~~boundaries~~ At this point there doesn't
seem to be any limit on the terrible need of these ~~people~~
people. By doubling our efforts, I hope we can double
our effectiveness in assessing what more this country can do.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

11/5/79

Jane, here are the names of the individuals for the 10:30 meeting tomorrow with Mrs. Carter. They have been cleared for the West wing.

Poul Hartling, UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Jean Pierre Houcke, Director of Operations, International Committee of the Red Cross

Charles Egger, Assistant Secretary General, UNICEF

John Baker, Director, Office of Refugees Program

Matthew Nimetz, Counsel of the State Department, Acting Coordinator Refugees Affairs

Ambassador Henry Owens, NSC

Jerry Schecter, Lincoln Bloomfield, NSC

Albrooke
Shelle
Cole
Richmond

Labourise -

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO WHITEHOUSE WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 4582

UNCLAS BANGKOK 45530

USICA
FOR FGM/P, FGM/T, VOA, EA; STATE FOR EA
EO 12065: NA
SUBJECT: MRS. CARTER'S THAILAND VISIT.

1. PLEASE ADVISE COVERAGE YOU REQUIRE FROM POST
FOR SUBJECT VISIT.

2. REQUEST USINFO BIDDATA ON OFFICIAL PARTY AND
GUIDANCE ON SUPPORT TO TRAVELING PRESS. USE
NIACY IMMEDIATE, ATTENTION CHATTEN. CHATTEN
BT

*****WHSR COMMENT*****

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FM THE WHITE HOUSE

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS WH02103

FROM: MARY FINCH HOYT

TO: AMBASSADOR MORTON ABRAMOWITZ

FOLLOWING NATIONAL PRESS EXPECTED TO TRAVEL WITH MRS. CARTER TO TOTAL ELEVEN PERSONS:

- (2) TIME MAGAZINE WRITER AND PHOTOGRAPHER (CHRISTOPHER OGDEN
DIANA WALKER)
- (1) VOICE OF AMERICA CORRESPONDENT (JANE BLEYER)
- (1) CBS CORRESPONDENT (LEE THORNTON)
- (1) NBC CORRESPONDENT
- (1) ABC CORRESPONDENT
- (1) UPI PHOTOGRAPHER
- (1) WKO GENERAL CORRESPONDENT (CLIFFORD EVANS)
- (1) CHICAGO TRIBUNE WRITER (ALDO BECKMAN)
- (1) LOS ANGELES TIMES WRITER (MARLENE CIMONS)
- (1) REUTERS CORRESPONDENT (RALPH HARRIS)

FOLLOWING PRESS EXPECTED TO PICK UP PRESS PARTY IN BANGKOK TO TOTAL SIXTEEN PERSONS:

- (2) NEWSWEEK WRITER AND PHOTOGRAPHER
- (3) ABC CREW
- (3) NBC CREW
- (3) CBS CREW
- (1) UPI WRITER
- (2) AP WRITER AND PHOTOGRAPHER
- (1) NEW YORK TIMES (HENRY KAMM)
- (1) WASHINGTON POST (JOHN BURGESS)

PLEASE ASCERTAIN HOW MANY OTHER CORRESPONDENTS OR PHOTOGRAPHERS NEED TO BE ADDED TO THIS GROUP TO ACCOMPANY MRS. CARTER ON ALL ACTIVITIES. SUGGEST YOUR PRESS OFFICE PICK 10-12 REPRESENTATIVES.

*****WHHR COMMENT*****

MARY FINCH HOYT

FROM THAI, FOREIGN PRESS AND OTHERS ALREADY IN COUNTRY.

THIS WOULD TOTAL 37 TO 40 PRESS WHICH WOULD NEED TO BE ACCOMMODATED IN ADDITION TO OFFICIAL TRAVEL PARTY. EXTRA PLANE WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED.

DRAFTER BY MFH
X2164
11/8/79
BT

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

Following are the members of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations Pledging Conference on Refugee Relief:

Representative

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance

Deputy Representative

Ambassador Donald McHenry, U.S. Representative to the UN

Alternate Representatives

Hon. Matthew Nimitz, Counselor, Department of State

Ambassador William vanden Heuvel, U.S. Deputy Representative to the UN

Congressional Advisers

Senator Claiborne Pell

Senator Max Baucus

Senator John Danforth

Senator Jacob Javits

Senator James Sasser

Representative John Anderson

Representative Elizabeth Holtzman

Representative Clarence Long

Representative Lester Wolff

Representative C.W. "Bill" Young

Representative Clement Zablocki

Governors

Governor Richard D. Lamm

Governor William G. Milliken

Governor Robert D. Ray

Governor Richard A. Snelling

Senior Advisers

Hon. Marjorie Craig Benton, U.S. Representative to the Executive Board of the UN Children's Fund

Hon. Beverly Carter, Ambassador at Large and Coordinator for State and Local Governments

Rev. Theodore Hesburgh

Hon. Richard Holbrooke, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs

Hon. Charles William Maynes, Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs

Hon. Leo Perlis, AFL-CIO

Ambassador Richard W. Petree, U.S. Representative to the UN Security Council

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

FACT SHEET

KAMPUCHEA - U.S. AID

On Wednesday, October 24, President Carter pledged \$60 million for relief of starvation in Kampuchea. This pledge was in response to the October 21 appeal of the International Red Cross (ICRC) Committee and UNICEF for \$111 million to fund a six months relief campaign. At the same time, the President called on Americans to contribute, through religious and other voluntary organizations, to this campaign.

The American \$60 million contribution consists of \$5 million out of existing PL-480 funds, \$5 million out of existing emergency funds, \$20 million out of a PL-480 supplemental request now before the Congress, and \$30 million additional funds that are now being authorized and appropriated by the Congress for the next phase of Kampuchean relief.

These U.S. contributions are being paralleled by substantial contributions from European and other countries. The \$111 million ICRC-UNICEF appeal will be met. That appeal was issued as soon as ICRC and UNICEF had concluded negotiations with the Kampuchean authorities, which ensured that foodstuffs would be admitted to Kampuchea and that there would be enough monitoring of their distribution to give some reasonable prospect of their reaching needy people.

At the same time as he pledged \$60 million for relief of starvation in Kampuchea, the President pledged \$9 million primarily for United Nations efforts to help starving Kampuchean refugees in Thailand.

Following the Friday, October 19, ICRC-UNICEF appeal, the President made his decision on relief on Monday, October 22. He consulted with Congressional leaders on Tuesday, October 23, and as soon as Congressional assent was secured, that day invited religious leaders to meet with him at the White House on Wednesday, October 24, just prior to announcement of the relief effort.

To date, the U.S. Government has already disbursed almost \$7 million of these funds to assist in the Kampuchean relief effort. This amount includes \$2 million and \$3 million pledged to the ICRC-UNICEF by the President, from the U.S. Refugees and Migration Assistance Emergency Fund for use inside Kampuchea (for forklifts, trucks and other unloading supplies); and \$1.1 million given to support Catholic Relief Services \$300,000 provided to the ICRC, and \$450,000 for emergency tent shelter in the Thai-Khmer border area. So far, nearly a million dollars of the \$9 million for refugees in Thailand has been expended. \$500,000 of this \$1.1 million has gone to Catholic Relief Services and \$450,000 for tents.

Late last year, we expanded our intelligence coverage of the situation in Kampuchea, including thorough use of satellites. This satellite coverage continued into 1979 and provided some of the earliest warning of famine in Kampuchea which we made available to the international community in March 1979.

-- March 1979: The U.S. began alerting international organizations to the prospect of war-induced famine in Kampuchea, urging contingency planning to meet a possible food emergency.

-- June: U.S. began making contributions through international and voluntary agencies that as of

MORE

mid-October totaled about \$7 million in emergency assistance to the Kampuchean relief effort.

- Early July: Secretary Vance in Canberra made a plea for an international humanitarian relief effort for the Khmer people. Later in testimony before Congress, he reiterated this appeal.
- August: U.S. made demarches to over 30 nations, including the Soviet Union, Vietnam, and China, urging that they use their influence to expedite relief to Kampuchea.
- October 19: ICRC-UNICEF appeal for \$111 million.
- October 24: President Carter pledged \$30 million to international efforts over the next six months to aid the victims of starvation, disease, and fighting in Kampuchea and \$9 million to support efforts to assist Khmer entering Thailand. He also indicated his support for Congressional initiatives which could produce \$30 million for the next phase.

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WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

| FORM OF DOCUMENT | CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE | DATE | RESTRICTION |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| memo w/attachment | Aaron to Carter, 4 pgs. | 11/3/79 | A |
| memcon | Labouisse, Bloomfield, 10 pgs | 11/28/79 | A |
| report | Visit of Ms. Carter..., 38 pgs | 11/8-10/79 | B |
| list | Manifest, 1 pg | 11/7/79 | B |
| list | Manifest, 1 pg | 11/7/79 | B |

FILE LOCATION

Records of the First Lady's Office, Mary Hoyt's Foreign Trip Files (Press), Box 27, Thailand, November 7-10, 1979

RESTRICTION CODES

- (A) Closed by applicable Executive Order governing access to national security information.
- (B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
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I AM HERE BECAUSE MY HUSBAND, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, ASKED ME TO COME TO THAILAND TO EXPRESS THE PROFOUND CONCERN OF ALL AMERICANS FOR THE SUFFERING PEOPLES IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. WE ARE FILLED WITH ALARM WHEN WE CONTEMPLATE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE ARE FACING EXTINCTION AS A RESULT OF WAR AND FAMINE. WE REACH OUT TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND HUNGRY AND HOMELESS AND BEREAVED IN INDOCHINA.

IN ADDITION TO VISITING CAMBODIANS WHO HAVE COME TO

BANGKOK ARRIVAL

2.

THAILAND, I WILL ALSO VISIT REFUGEES WHO HAVE FLED LAOS AND VIETNAM. I WILL DISCUSS ADDITIONAL WAYS AND MEANS OF PROVIDING ASSISTANCE FOR THESE TRAGIC VICTIMS.

AND I HAVE COME TO PAY RESPECTS TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THAILAND FOR THE HUMANITARIAN EXAMPLE ~~THEY~~ SET FOR ALL THE WORLD. THAILAND'S COMPASSIONATE AND COURAGEOUS RESPONSE TO THE STAGGERING HUMAN MISERY OF ITS NEIGHBORS HAS MEANT LIFE FOR THOUSANDS ~~UPON THOUSANDS~~ ^{upon thousands} OF PEOPLE. WE OWE THAILAND NOT ONLY OUR ADMIRATION, BUT ALSO OUR FULL SUPPORT. I PLEDGE THAT TO SUPPORT ~~YOU~~ HERE TODAY. tonight

BANGKOK ARRIVAL

3.

I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES TO CONSIDER WAYS IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES CAN FURTHER CONTRIBUTE TO THE MASSIVE RELIEF EFFORT THAT IS REQUIRED AND THAT MUST BE STRENGTHENED AND SUSTAINED. AND I ANTICIPATE WITH PLEASURE MY MEETING WITH THE KING AND QUEEN /AND PRIME MINISTER KRIANGSAK, WHICH WILL GIVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY -- ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT AND ALL AMERICANS -- TO UNDERScore OUR COMMITMENT TO THAILAND.