POL POT

Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kampuchea
Prime Minister of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea

SUMMARY OF
THE TALKS
WITH THE DELEGATION
OF THE XINHUA NEWS AGENCY

Phnom Penh, December 11, 1978

* * *

Department of Press and Information
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Democratic Kampuchea
As broadcast previously by the "Voice of Democratic Kampuchea", on December 11, 1978 in the morning, Comrade Pol Pot, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kampuchea, Prime Minister of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea received Comrade Li Nan, Deputy Director of the International Department of the Xinhua News Agency and the Delegation of the Xinhua News Agency he led.

On this occasion, Comrade Secretary Pol Pot informed the comrades from Xinhua News Agency about the situation in Democratic Kampuchea. Comrade Secretary of our Party recalled the Vietnamese objective aiming at integrating Kampuchea into Vietnam through its strategy of "Indochina Federation". Comrade Secretary of our Party said:

The "Indochinese Communist Party" of Vietnam decided to set up "a sole party, a sole people and a sole country". That is to say "a sole party, a sole people and a sole country" belonging to Vietnam. Therefore, based on this strategy, the
Vietnamese have carried out all kinds of activities aiming at taking possession of Kampuchea. But since 1930 up to now, during these past 48 years, the Vietnamese have not succeeded in taking possession of Kampuchea. The Vietnamese have carried out all kinds of manoeuvres, but they failed.

Comrade Secretary Pol Pot added:

Immediately after the liberation and the reunification of their country between the North and the South, the Vietnamese have started to carry out their strategy of "Indochina Federation" and their strategy of Southeast Asia.

The circumstances when the Vietnamese have carried out its strategy square with the circumstances of the Soviet strategy in Africa. In 1975 and 1976, Cuba played the role of mercenary of the Soviet Union in Africa. As for Vietnam, it has shown its arrogance and insolence toward the other Southeast Asian countries. Vietnam and the Soviet Union thought they have favourable conditions to easily take possession of Kampuchea and dominate the other Southeast Asian countries. They thought that after taking over Kampuchea as first step, they will use her as a springboard in order to dominate Southeast Asia and then to dominate the whole world. But, they have not succeeded in carrying out this strategy, for the Kampuchea's people have not allowed them to do so, they have always refused to surrender and opposed them successively.

Comrade Secretary Pol Pot underlined that:

As it has successively been defeated, Vietnam launched large-scale attacks of invasion and aggression against Kampuchea at the end of 1977. These large-scale attacks were a form which Vietnam carried out when it had been driven into an impasse. Vietnam wanted to take possession of Kampuchea at one go following its strategy "lightning attack, lightning victory". If it succeeded in taking possession of Kampuchea at one go, Vietnam could solve its political, military, economic
and diplomatic problems. Nobody could say anything. But Vietnam has badly over-estimated its forces. Its strategy "lightning attack, lightning victory" has been fundamentally defeated. The reason was that its army were an army of aggression and they had no bases in the Kampuchea's territory. They had no people, no economy. Their 14 divisions ventured in the empty space.

Comrade Secretary of our Party further said:

The Vietnamese had no supplying forces in Kampuchea. They had to bring ammunitions, food and soldiers from Vietnam. In such a situation, the Vietnamese were not strong. They were fallen into our encircling. We were stronger than them. We had our army. We were in our territory and fully aware of its geographical situation. We had our people and food. In these favourable conditions, we won the victories. We could launch both big and small attacks against the enemy. We could attack them at any time, both abreast and on the flanks. We could use either infantry or artillery. We could attack both with mobilized infantry or guerrilla units. We laid mines everywhere.

Comrade Secretary Pol Pot said:

During the second world war when the aggressors entered into some countries, they could enjoy themselves with dancing, drinking, all kinds of debauch. As for the Vietnamese troops, when they got into the Kampuchea's territory they had no places to enjoy themselves. They had to live in the trenches. They had to be always on guard and frightened. Therefore, not only that they had no economic or political bases, but they were completely isolated and condemned to be annihilated.

Comrade Secretary Pol Pot said that the military cadres of the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea firmly grasped the development of contradictions on the enemy side. When the Vietnamese troops were mobilized in their territory and launched a sudden attack, they seemed to be powerful. But when they intruded into the Kampuchea's...
territory, they had to spread their forces. They have then become scarcely distributed. The deeper they got into, the scarcer they would be. The deeper they moved in, the more they had to face with difficulties in transporting ammunitions, food and troops. Thus, the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea could cut off the Vietnamese troops into chunks and annihilate them.

Comrade Secretary Pol Pot informed the reporters of the Xinhua News Agency that:

In the war against the Vietnamese for national defence under the leadership of the Communist Party of Kampuchea, we take into account the military, political and economic factors as well as the factors of food and friends in the world. During this year, since the Government of Democratic Kampuchea has informed the world about the Vietnamese acts of aggression, annexation, swallowing of territories against Democratic Kampuchea, these factors have met with a great transformation.

Firstly, in 1977, on the international arena, the Vietnamese carried out slanderous propagandas, desraging Democratic Kampuchea and the Kampuchea's revolution. At that time, they still had some credit among the world public opinion. They still could dupe the world public opinion. Now, the situation has turned up side-down. Only a very few countries are on the side of Vietnam. Vietnam is extremely isolated. Southeast Asia stands by the side of Kampuchea and it needs an independent Kampuchea. An independent Kampuchea is in the interest of the Asian countries and the world over.

Being unable to deceive the world public opinion anymore, the Vietnamese have rushed to kneel down and lick the Soviet expansionists boots. Such is a situation of an impasse. The Vietnamese prostate themselves before the Soviet Union to beg for aid. But, they have become more and more isolated. Their baleful face has been more clearly unmasked. The whole world have been alarmed at this event.
Being so heavily defeated and extremely isolated, the Soviet Union alone could not rescue the Vietnamese. That is why the Soviet expansionists have to mobilize all their followers inside the Warsaw military alliance to come to the Vietnamese rescue. If the Soviet expansionists alone could rescue the Vietnamese, they would not mobilize their followers inside the Warsaw military alliance. However, when the Soviet Union asked the Warsaw military alliance to come to the Vietnamese rescue, these latter have then become more isolated. The forces inside the Warsaw military alliance were also opposed to that. If the Soviet Union brings the Warsaw military alliance into Asia, how would the situation in the world be? The other countries will also have to think about it. The tendency of hating the Vietnamese, the tendency of condemning the Vietnamese, the tendency of not helping the Vietnamese keep on moving forward.

If the world stops supplying rice and food to the Vietnamese, the latter could not solve their problem. In one or two more years, the Vietnamese will ineluctably be driven into ruin and annihilation. The Soviet economic alliance COMECON would not be able to solve this problem. It can temporarily give aids to Vietnam. But it cannot be the guardian of the Vietnamese and bear them to wage a protracted war against Kampuchea. The East European peoples will certainly stand up and fight against it. This is the only source which the Vietnamese rely on. And this source is not strong enough to help them.

Therefore, in this year, there is a great change among the world public opinion which has led the Vietnamese into an extreme isolation.

Such is the international factor.

Secondly, about the factor of economy and food: In comparison with Kampuchea, Vietnam is in full starvation. Kampuchea has her rice. Therefore, as far as food is concerned, Kampuchea is stronger than Vietnam, her adversa-
ry. And Vietnam could not solve this problem by itself, it has sought for foreign aids. Today, in the world, only the Soviet Union and its clan help Vietnam. This situation is therefore not any good for Vietnam. If the war goes on, Vietnam will face more and more inextricable difficulties.

Thirdly; about the political factors: Stability prevails throughout Kampuchea. But the Vietnamese are facing many difficulties in the political field. There are dissensions within the Vietnamese party. When they set up the plan of invasion and aggression against Kampuchea, they were united. But, when they failed, everybody would have to review one's position. Now, this war is still going on and is in full complexity. Besides, Vietnam is now carrying out acts of provocations against China. This has brought about more dissensions among themselves. The economic crisis has also further increased these internal dissensions. The Vietnamese people are also against them. The people in the South are fighting against the authorities from the North. Everywhere insecurity is always prevailing, especially in the South. There are 3 opposition movements in the South:

1 - The movement of the Khmers of Kampuchea Krom

2 - The movement of the national minorities living in the highlands, formerly called Fulro. It is a movement for liberation of the national minorities living in the highlands' regions in Vietnam.

3 - The movement among the South Vietnamese people such as the former Thieu's officials and functionaries, the catholics, the Hoa Hao and the Cao Dai.

After examining these three factors: the factors of friends on the international arena, the factor of economy-food and the political factor, we have seen clearly that we are in the superiority over the Vietnamese. We have these bases in order to carry on the war for national defence. As for Vietnam, it meets inextricable difficulties in these three bases.
Concerning the other factors, Comrade Secretary Pol Pot said:

At the end of 1977 and at the beginning of 1978, Vietnam has been strategically defeated in its "lightning attack, lightning victory" and has carried on its attacks against Kampuchea in 1978. In this 1978, because of its repeated attacks along the border, its forces have then been annihilated in great number. It has suffered heavy defeats.

Vietnam has not succeeded in taking possession of Kampuchea. It has run about for help from the Soviet expansionists and the Warsaw military alliance. If it has enough military forces, it would not seek for this help. Previously it has used a slogan asserting that the conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea is an ordinary border problem in order to deceive the world public opinion. At present, it can no more deceive anyone, for this conflict has become internationalized. Vietnam has now to mobilize the world to rescue it, thus alarming everybody. Now, this war has clearly stepped into its internationalization.

Comrade Secretary Pol Pot has analysed the forces of the Warsaw military alliance as follows:

What kind of forces could the Warsaw military alliance use? How could it manage to use its infantry? We think that it could use some of its infantry forces. But these forces will face inextricable difficulties, for they have to come and wage a war in Kampuchea, far away from East Europe. If 10,000 infantry forces are sent in, they will have to face many problems. If with 20,000 infantry forces, the problem will become greater, for these soldiers do not eat rice. They are forced to bring food along from their countries. In conception, our Party dares to say that the Warsaw military alliance could venture to use its infantry, but it will face many inextricable difficulties. There is a second possibility, it could use thousands or tens of thousands of advisers. At the same time, the Warsaw military alliance could send in its planes, artillery pieces and tanks.
At the first stage, we assess that more aids will be given to Vietnam in order to quickly solve the problem. But, when the war keeps carrying on, it will face many problems. Planes and tanks are not the problem for us. They could bring us some difficulties for some time. At the first attack, it could have some breakthroughs. We must take this problem into account in advance. But the determinate factor is to have a lot of infantry forces. Since the battles take place in our territory, the Warsaw military alliance will surely meet with many difficulties, for it has neither people nor food. It has to bring everything to supply its troops. As far as the fights last, its troops will be more and more annihilated. We will still carry out the same tactics of fighting by cutting the enemy in the middle as well as in the rear. Therefore, they have to keep themselves ready all the time. In order to defend an end of a road of 5km long, they need to have a battalion of troops. The longer the road is, the more forces they need to defend it. If they use a division to launch an offensive and enter 10km deep, they have to use a regiment to defend the road. Thus, they have no sufficient forces to defend the road and launch any further offensives against us. We stand on the protracted war. Based on this protracted war, we are confident in the victory. We closely follow to see what kind of forces the Warsaw military alliance will use? If it uses many of its own forces and get stuck in Kampuchea, would it not become weaker in other places? It has to think about that.

Comrade Pol Pot further said:

We are opposing Vietnam and the Warsaw military alliance, for:
- firstly, it is a national task,
- secondly, it is also an international one as a defender of the banner of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as a defender of the banner of the revolution.
Strategically, we are not worry. But tactically, we have to be vigilant and deploy all our efforts.

Concerning the Vietnamese organization called after a khmer name, Comrade Secretary Pol Pot said that Vietnam is facing an impass. That is why it has set up such an organization. It has no way out. It has been heavily defeated so that it has resorted to another new label to mislead the world public opinion. But only after one or two days of Hanoi's propaganda, this label has already been disclosed without having the chance to be shown by itself. And after the coming up of this label, the world has been aware of that it is a pure Vietnamese organization. Everything Vietnam has done has just further unmasked its baleful face. By being aware of its true nature, we know that Vietnam will keep carrying on this thing and its face will be more and more unmasked. Later, it will use the cover of Kampuchea's name, and will organize something like a press conference. Kampuchea used to know such a play very well.

The world has also been fully aware of that. Comrade Pol Pot further added:

Such is a situation I wish to inform you on the aggression in the past perpetrated by Vietnam against Kampuchea and our assessment on the situation to the future. We have to strive by ourselves.

In this struggle, we have enjoyed great support from many friends the world over. And more and more friends have supported us. The Party, the people, the army and the Government of China have successively supported us. On behalf of the Communist Party of Kampuchea, the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea and the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, we would like to take this opportunity to express our deep thanks to the Communist Party of China, the people, the army and the Government of China and to Comrade Chairman Hua Kuo-feng and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. In the past, at present and in the future, we have united together for a common cause to win victory.
At the same time, we would like to extend thanks to all friends the world over.

The talks have been proceeded in a cordial atmosphere full of warmest fraternal revolutionary feelings.