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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 195

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 6034

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFDR, EAID, MASS, PINT, PINS, MOPS, CB, US  
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT FORD FROM GKR ACTING PRESIDENT  
SAUKHAM KHOY

1. I HAVE JUST RECEIVED FROM ACTING PRESIDENT SAUKHAM KHOY THE FOLLOWING HAND-WRITTEN LETTER ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT FORD WHICH HE ASKS ME TO TRANSMIT BY THE MOST RAPID MEANS POSSIBLE. THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT IS IN ENGLISH. THE LETTER WILL BE POUCHED TO EA/LC FOR DELIVERY TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

2. BEGIN TEXT. PHNOM PENH, 6 APRIL 1975

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:  
AS THE AMERICAN CONGRESS RECONVENES TO RECONSIDER YOUR URGENT REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE KHMER REPUBLIC, I APPEAL TO YOU TO CONVEY TO THE AMERICAN LEGISLATORS OUR PLEA NOT TO DENY THESE VITAL RESOURCES TO US, IF A NON-MILITARY SOLUTION IS TO EMERGE FROM THIS TRAGIC 5 YEAR OLD CONFLICT. //

AS ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC, I WILL BEND ALL MY ENERGY TO CORRECT SOME OF OUR FAILINGS WHICH MAY HAVE HAMPERED OUR EFFORTS IN THE PAST. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC WILL ALSO LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED IN THE SEARCH FOR AN EARLY POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE TRAGEDY OF MY COUNTRY. IN THIS SEARCH, IT IS NOT A MATTER OF PERSONALITIES, BECAUSE ALL OF US HERE BELIEVE THAT THE WELFARE OF OUR COMPATRIOTS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE FATE OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP OF PEOPLE. TO FIND A PEACEFUL END TO THE CONFLICT WE NEED TIME. I DO NOT KNOW HOW MUCH TIME, BUT WE ALL FULLY REALIZE THAT THE AGONY OF THE KHMER PEOPLE CANNOT AND MUST NOT GO ON MUCH LONGER. HOWEVER, FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, WE NEED THE RICE TO FEED THE HUNGRY AND THE AMMUNITION AND WEAPONS TO DEFEND OURSELVES AGAINST THOSE

DOS REVIEWED 07-Mar-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

NSA REVIEWED 15-Feb-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

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WHO WANT TO IMPOSE THEIR WILL BY FORCE OF ARMS. A DENIAL BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OF THE MEANS FOR US TO CARRY ON WILL LEAVE US NO ALTERNATIVE BUT INEVITABLY ABANDONING OUR SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION WHICH WILL GIVE OUR CITIZENS SOME FREEDOM OF CHOICE AS TO THEIR FUTURE. FOR THE NUMBER OF YEARS NOW THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE HAVE PLACED THEIR TRUST IN AMERICA. I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT THIS CONFIDENCE WAS MISPLACED AND THAT SUDDENLY AMERICA WILL DENY US THE MEANS WHICH MIGHT GIVE US A CHANCE TO FIND AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO OUR CONFLICT. " PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. PRESIDENT, THE EXPRESSION OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. (SIGNED) SAUKHAM KHOY.

END TEXT.  
DEAN  
BT

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