

OSD REVIEW COMPLETED.

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MEMORANDUM

APR 29 1970

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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April 24, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

SUBJECT: Actions on Cambodia

The following actions have been taken or are underway:

ARVN Attack

- An ARVN operation involving a division (+) with South Vietnamese air and artillery support will be launched Sunday evening (Washington time) against North Vietnamese bases in the "Parrot's Beak" in Cambodia. About 5800 enemy forces, large caches of supplies and facilities are located there. The operation will last about ten days.
- The execute order has been sent to General Abrams.
- The U. S. First Cavalry Division will move against the border areas opposite COSVN headquarters as a feint. The 25th Division will move into border areas in the vicinity of the main attack to relieve ARVN units and keep the pressure on while the ARVN attacks.
- U. S. tactical air, gunships, and resupply and evacuation helicopters will be available to support the ARVN attack if needed.

Press Policy

- Press guidance has been given to MACV - it calls for low-key approach; this is an operation like previous shallow ARVN penetrations.
- Press guidance has been prepared for embassies.

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

State Dept.  
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- A Washington release indicating our knowledge and support is being drafted.

Diplomatic Moves

- All Embassies have been instructed to give maximum encouragement to host government assistance for Cambodia.
- Our Embassy in Indonesia has been instructed to inform the Indonesians that we are prepared to replenish their stocks if they make equipment available to Cambodia.
- A response to Lon Nol's letter to you has been sent indicating our willingness to help, advising him of weapons we are making available and our intention to be of further help.
- Instructions have been drafted to Embassy Phnom Penh to inform Lon Nol of the attack and to point out how this will be helpful to him - this will be delivered a few hours before the attack begins. We will try to get a favorable reaction - or at least a "neutral" one - from him in his public statements.
- Thieu is being requested to inform Lon Nol that South Vietnamese attacks do not involve any intent to occupy Cambodia and that every effort will be made to protect Cambodian citizens in the areas attacked.
- We are urging both Lon Nol and Thieu to establish a South Vietnamese mission in Phnom Penh.
- Ambassador Unger has been instructed to ask the Thai to tell Lon Nol that they will take care of the security of his border with Thailand.

Strengthening of Staff in Phnom Penh

- State has selected and is sending a top-notch officer to assist Charge' Rives.
- Defense will add three additional military attaches (three are now on station).

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- Additional communications equipment is being installed at Embassy Phnom Penh to give us more reliable and secure communications.

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Military Assistance



- 30,000 M1 rifles are being identified by MACV to be made available to Cambodia through South Vietnam.
- Planning is underway for movement of Ethnic Cambodians with their equipment from South Vietnam to Phnom Penh.

The WSAG is continuing to direct and monitor the implementation of the decisions.

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