

OTS-NK-AA 20092 Ed

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

April 29, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *K*

SUBJECT: Actions on Cambodia

The following is a report on actions taken or underway on Cambodia:

Military Operations

ARVN-- The ARVN attack against North Vietnamese bases in the "Parrot's Beak" was scheduled to begin at 8:00 P.M. last night.

U.S. -- MACV has been authorized to conduct a joint US/ARVN operation against Base Areas 352/353 (Operation Shoemaker). It is scheduled to begin not later than 7:00 P.M. Washington time on Thursday 30 April. Preparatory movement of forces is underway.

-- U.S. Tactical Air, Gunships and Helicopter support will be available. General Abrams has been given authority to commit this U.S. support if it is needed, notifying Washington when he does so. U.S. Air Controllers will be on the ground in the III Corps area to coordinate air and artillery support. Air Controllers in IV Corps area will operate airborne. U.S. advisors (approximately 50) are accompanying ARVN units.

-- U.S. 25th Division units will screen on the Vietnam side of the border in the Parrot's Beak area. Artillery support will be provided from the Vietnam side of the border as required.

-- General Abrams has been authorized to use tactical air in the Salem House area and against Base Areas 352 and 353.

-- Fourteen tactical air sorties were flown in Cambodia on 27 April with good effect against bunkers and supply activities. No U.S. losses.

NSS/NSC, OSD, JCS, DOS reviews completed

MORI/CDF C03319152

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

SENSITIVE

- 2 -

- The Carrier Coral Sea arrived in the Gulf of Tonkin at 5:00 PM yesterday. The requirement to maintain a carrier within 24 hours of the Sea of Japan 20-30 days each month has been temporarily suspended.

- Two ships and naval patrol aircraft continue surveillance operations off the Port of Sihanoukville (outside 12 mile limit). A small Norwegian freighter was sighted entering port. There still has been no reaction reported.

Military Assistance

[Redacted] 25X1

- 90,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition left the U.S. for Saigon 27 April by air. 40,000 additional will be shipped in the next day or two.

- 15,000 carbines have been made available with 30 day requirement of ammunition. The carbines have been shipped by air from the U.S. to Saigon for delivery to Phnom Penh. 33 million rounds of ammunition are available in Pacific Command. Arrangements for shipment to Phnom Penh are being worked out.

[Redacted] 25X1

- Ambassador Bunker has been instructed to ask President Thieu to make available GVN aircraft to transport ethnic Cambodian forces (Khmer Serai) now in Vietnam to Phnom Penh as Lon Nol has requested.

Diplomatic Actions.

- The Vietnamese mission to discuss treatment of Vietnamese in Cambodia arrived in Phnom Penh yesterday. If this mission is successful, it may lead to resumption of full diplomatic relations.

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

- 3 -

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

-- Indonesia has issued invitations to all Asian and Pacific nations for a conference on Cambodia and Indo-China. The aim of the conference will be to find a formula for restoring peace and security in Cambodia. The conference is tentatively scheduled for 11-12 May but may slip a few days.

-- Ambassador Galbraith will see Indonesia's Suharto today and press for Indonesian military assistance to Cambodia. Indications are, however, that Indonesia will not act until after the Asian Conference which it is sponsoring.

-- We still do not have Australian Prime Minister Gorton's reply to your letter urging military assistance for Cambodia.

-- Communications equipment which arrived on 27 April is being installed in the Embassy at Phnom Penh and should be operational about 1 May.

Press Policy

-- Charge' Rives has informed Lon Nol that the "Parrot's Beak" operation begins on 29 April. Lon Nol was happy and will state simply that the area in question is under Communist control and he is unaware of what is taking place there.

-- President Thieu's statement on the "Parrot's Beak" operation will be available early today.

-- Press guidance and statements to be issued in Washington and Saigon have been provided to MACV. The Washington statement will follow Thieu's statement and precede MACV. No other comment is authorized.

-- Associated Press has reported a large ARVN build-up "possibly for new thrusts into Cambodia" and mentioned restrictions on access by newsmen. This raises the possibility of "censorship" charges by an angry press corps.

25X1

25X1

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

TOP SECRET/NODIS/KHMER

April 29, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HENRY A. KISSINGER
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Daily Report on Cambodia No. 4

Diplomatic Action

1. We have instructed our Embassy in Djakarta to reassure the Indonesians that U.S. military support for the Parrot's Beak operation is directly concerned with protection of allied troops in Vietnam and should create no doubts in Indonesian minds about our continuing, if unobtrusive, support for the Asian conference initiative. Meanwhile, Ambassador Galbraith has reported that he carried out his instruction to raise the question of Indonesian materiel aid for Cambodia. He spoke both with President Suharto and Foreign Minister Malik. Suharto indicated that he felt military assistance to Cambodia was an absolute requirement, and that Indonesians were thinking of assembling materiel to be provided Cambodia on an island to which Cambodian planes could come to pick it up, and implied that there might be a way to transfer materiel out of South Vietnam via this arrangement. However, he said that he had little, if any, AK-47 ammunition available. Galbraith believes that both Suharto and Malik are receptive, but that what they intend to do is not clear at this moment. He expects to hear more in the next few days.

2. The GVN gave speedy agreement to our request that the Vietnamese Air Force (VNAF) provide transport for the Khmer Krom troops to Phnom Penh. We have instructed Rives to take this up directly with the Cambodian authorities and to make arrangements for the air lift directly with Saigon.

3. Rives also has been instructed to inform the Cambodians that 3000 M-2 carbines with ammunition are ready for delivery by the VNAF. He is to make arrangements directly with Saigon for delivery.

TOP SECRET/NODIS/KHMER

TOP SECRET/NODIS/KHMER

- 2 -

4. An additional 2000 AK-47 rifles were to be delivered to Phnom Penh during the course of the day. This makes a total of 6000 in three shipments.

5. The Asian conference initiative stands as follows: The following countries have formally or informally accepted Foreign Minister Malik's invitation: Japan, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore. The Communist countries and Burma are expected to refuse. The Indian attitude is still in doubt. Ceylon has told us informally it will probably attend.

Economic Assistance

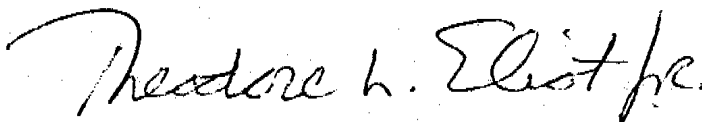
We are consulting the posts involved on the desirability and feasibility of immediate Indonesian cash purchase of exportable Cambodian rice (we understand the Cambodian rice crop is significantly larger this year). The purposes would be (1) to stimulate apparent Cambodian efforts to draw rice out of eastern areas, and thus deny supplies to VC/NVA forces, and (2) provide additional foreign exchange earnings for Cambodia.

Phnom Penh Embassy Facilities

Following a request from Rives, we have authorized him to lease the house immediately beside his official residence in order to provide space for the additional personnel already in place or en route.

Press

In connection with the Parrot's Beak operation, the press has largely ignored the GVN statement that the ARVN units participating have received orders to return to the territory of Vietnam after completion of the operation "in the spirit of the respect for the independence, neutrality and territory of neighboring Cambodia." News reports have persisted in describing the operation as an "invasion." Senator Fulbright, of course, has told the press that the operation with U.S. support is "a great mistake" and "a major escalation."



Theodore L. Eliot, Jr.
Executive Secretary

TOP SECRET/NODIS/KHMER

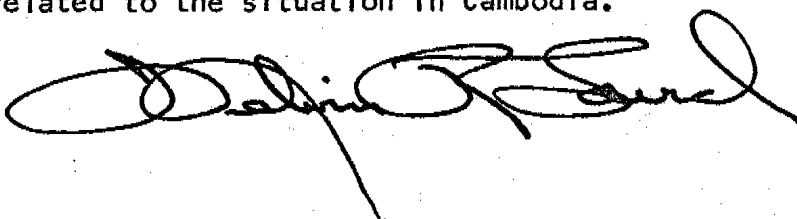
~~TOP SECRET~~

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

April 29, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Attached is the daily report you asked to be provided on the status of activities related to the situation in Cambodia.



UPON REMOVAL OF THIS MARKING THIS DOCUMENT IS UNCLASSIFIED

Copy 1 of 4 Copies
Page 1 of 1 Pages

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~SENSITIVE~~

2341

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE-EYES ONLY

291600 EDT April 1970

Military Operations

- The RVNAF operation, "ROCK CRUSHER," against Base Areas 367/706 commenced at 282000 EDT April 1970.

1. At 290800H April, RVNAF forces entered Cambodia in the Parrot's Beak area, Svay Rieng Province. The northern element with one task force 20 kilometers northwest of the Angels Wing entered Cambodia and headed southeast. Two other task forces entered in the vicinity of the Angels Wing and headed west. At approximately the same time, elements of an ARVN armored cavalry squadron from IV CTZ entered Cambodia from two separate locations in the Crow's Nest.

a. Contact was light to sporadic throughout the period. Two caches were uncovered during the day amounting to 49 tons of rice and approximately 3,700 pounds of small arms and ammunition. A 100-bed hospital was also uncovered.

b. At 291800H the lines of advance for both the northern and southern elements were approximately 7-10 kilometers inside the border and initial objectives appear to have been taken.

2. Results by Corps Area

III CORPS

	<u>GVN</u>	<u>US</u>
Enemy KIA	218	0
Enemy Det	5	0
Returnee	0	0
I/WPN Cptr	119	0
CS/WPN Cptr	6	0
Rice	49T	0
Bunkers	0	0
240mm RKT	2	0
240mm LCHR	2	0
Friendly KIA	17	0
Friendly WIA	73	1

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE-EYES ONLY

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE-EYES ONLY

291500 EDT April 1970

US SUPPORTa. Artillery

<u>CAL</u>	<u>RDS</u>	<u>MISN.</u>
105	120	6
155	862	16
8"	92	8
175	67	32

b. Air: TAC AIR: None.

c. MEDEVAC: One US

d. Resupply Missions: None reported.

e. Vehicle Recovery Missions: None reported.

IV CORPS

	<u>GVN</u>	<u>US</u>
Enemy KIA	66	0
Enemy Det	0	0
I/WPN	5	0
CS/SPN Cptr	0	0
Rice	0	0
120mm Mort	40	0
82mm Mort	37	0
61mm Mort	57	0
Friendly KIA	2	0
Friendly WIA	31	0
Friendly MIA	0	0

US SUPPORT

a. Artillery: None.

b. Air: Tac Air - None
B-52 - None

c. MEDEVAC - None

d. Resupply Missions: None reported.

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE-EYES ONLY

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE-EYES ONLY

291600 EDT April 1970

3. In addition to "Operation SHOEMAKER," scheduled to commence not later than early on Friday, 1 May, Saigon time; authorization has been granted for attacks on other identified North Vietnamese/Viet Cong Base Areas in Cambodia, up to a depth of 30 kilometers. Primary responsibility for these attacks, whenever possible, will be with GVN forces with US support where necessary. Recommendations for follow-on combined operations will be submitted for approval on a case-by-case basis.

4. US

a. Ground. US support of Operation ROCK CRUSHER is detailed above.

b. Air. On 28 April 1970, two strikes were placed on targets in Cambodia within the SALEM HOUSE Zone ALFA area of operations. Total number of sorties: 12.
Significant BDA: 10 bunkers, 6 huts destroyed.
2 secondary explosions.
Enemy casualties: 5
Enemy opposition None

c. Sea. Naval surveillance off port of Kompong Som continues with following contacts reported:

(1) Norwegian vessel reported on 28 April 1970 as a freighter was again sighted at 280300 EDT April 1970. Ship identified as the oceanographic research vessel LOFOTTRAL II.

(2) USSR cargo vessel departed port at 271437 EDT April 1970.

(3) French tanker "LORRAINE" (heavily laden); Singapore to Kompong Som at 280635 EDT April 1970.

(4) Unknown vessel entering port at 280730 EDT April 1970. Close proximity to coast precluded close investigation.

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE-EYES ONLY

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE-EYES ONLY

5. CAMBODIAN

- a. The South Vietnamese Joint General Staff have concurred in the redeployment of Khmer Serai troops to Phnom Penh and have agreed to use VNAF C-119 aircraft for the movement. Current Khmer assets in the CIDG Program total 2,100. They are organized into three 500-man mobile strike force (MSF) battalions and one 600-man composite battalion. Movement can be accomplished at the rate of one battalion per night.
- b. Each increment will consist of one battalion of Khmer troops, 27 machine guns, three 60mm mortars, three 81mm mortars; 15,000 rounds of ammunition and 6,000 pounds of supplies. 14 C-119 sorties per night will be required for the MSF battalions and 16 sorties for the composite battalion.
- c. MACV has been given authority to execute this movement and it is expected to commence not later than 0800 EDT on 2 May. This movement will take priority if a conflict develops with on-going munitions shipments.

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE-EYES ONLY

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

PRESS POLICY

Press releases on Operation ROCK CRUSHER have been made as follows:

a. ASD(PA); 29 April 1970:

"The Government of the Republic of Vietnam has announced in Saigon that its forces currently are conducting operations in the Parrot's Beak area along the Cambodian border. The Government of Vietnam has stated the purpose of these operations is to destroy an extensive complex of North Vietnamese and Viet Cong bases and depots in Cambodian territory, barely thirty-five miles from Saigon.

These bases and depots have posed an increasing threat to the security of free world forces in South Vietnam as a result of increased enemy activities in Cambodia and along the Cambodian-South Vietnamese borders.

The United States Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) in response to the request of the Government of Vietnam is prepared to provide support. This support will take the form of advisors, tactical air, air coordinators, medical evacuation, and some logistics assistance.

Before the RVNAF launched its current operations on the Cambodian border, the United States Government was fully consulted. The determination was made that the action is a necessary and effective measure to save American and other free world lives and to strengthen the Vietnamization program."

b. Ministry of Defense, RVN; 29 April 1970:

"With the objective to neutralize the North Vietnamese communists scheme of using the Cambodian territory as operation bases to infiltrate, shell and attack in the territory of the RVN, and with the objective to effectively save the ARVN as well as allied lives and the lives of the people, the ARVN have launched an operation on April 29, 1970.

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

This operation is designed to destroy the enemy's bases along the border in the Parrot's Beak, southwest of Tay-Ninh. This operation is a necessary and effective measure to save the ARVN and allied lives as well as the lives of the people, and to strengthen the troops replacement program.

In this operation the Joint General Staff of the ARVN has requested and has got the support of the American Forces in combat support, logistic assistance, medical evacuation etc. . . .

The units participating in the operation have received orders to strictly respect the lives and properties of the people in the area of operation. These units also have received orders to return to the territory of the RVN right after the completion of the operation in the spirit of the respect of the independence, neutrality and territorial sovereignty of Cambodia."

c. COMUSMACV, 29 April 1970:

" In response to the request of the Government of the Republic of Vietnam, advisors, air, logistics, medical and artillery support, as required, is being provided by COMUSMACV to the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces (RVNAF) operating in counter-attacks against North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong forces deployed in the Parrot's Beak area of Cambodia just across the border from the Republic of Vietnam.

Such support in the form of helicopters, artillery and tactical air was provided initially by the RVNAF.

Supplementary support to help save the lives of Free World Forces and to help accomplish RVNAF objectives was requested by the GVN from US sources.

Authority to provide the requested supplementary support was given in Washington as announced in a statement there."

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

d. Lack of MACV provision, in accord with previous instructions, to allow US press access to US operations, is causing major press complaints. This is under active and serious consideration (by OASD/PA) and other appropriate officials.

e. There is no public affairs plan beyond today. This matter is being urgently addressed.

TOP-SECRET-SENSITIVE

Page Denied