



Ministry of Commerce
No: 0159-77

To Beloved and Respected Brother Hem (ហែម)

Report on the meeting with comrade Chinese at the Chinese Embassy on 14 March 1977 from 9:00 to 10:05 a.m.

Cambodian side: Comrades Hong (ហុង) and Văn (វ៉ាន់)

Chinese side: Comrades Ma (ម៉ា), Chai (ថៃ), and Hong (female)

Opinions of comrade Chinese:

1. A ship named Hoeng San (ហ៊ឹង សាន) flying Panama's flag has docked at Kampong Som Port. Comrade Cambodians have already been there to examine the ship to decide whether to buy the ship or not because the ship has to return to China's Huong Pou (ហ្វូងពូ) Port. If comrade Cambodians decide to purchase it, please inform us immediately so that we will report it to [the officials] in our country to arrange the purchase of the ship at Huong Pou Port right away. This way, we do not let the people on the ship know in advance that we are going to sell the ship. Otherwise, the crewmen will steal equipments that are unfamiliar to us from the ship. Please, comrade Cambodians set the specific date to buy it because the ship will not dock far from the licensed ship-hiring company in Guangzhou of China. To get things done on time, [we] ask comrade Cambodians to prepare a letter proposing to purchase the ship either through the Ministry of Commerce or Cambodian Embassy in China. The letter should be sent to China's General Company of Sea Transportation. The letter should specify three issues:

- 1. Proposal to purchase the ship
- 2. Permission to fly a Chinese flag
- 3. Date of receiving the ship

Concerning the training of Cambodian crewmen, which comrade Cambodians have requested China to help for a period of time, a contract of this will be signed at a later time. The ship also has to be repaired in Hong Kong.

2. Concerning the issue of traditional medicine-producing system, [we] have already discussed with comrade Rith (រិទ្ធិ) and provided him with both the documents and instruction book. Comrade Rith has taken the documents for study. We proposed for inspection by the observers and comrade Rith agreed to the idea. We will send our technicians to inspect further. Do comrade Cambodians prefer to buy Chinese traditional methods of producing medicine or the modern methods of producing medicine? Which type do you prefer? Concerning medicine packaging tools, can comrade Cambodians deal with them? For example, there are such things as bottles, metal tubes etc.

3. Please provide the contract in Chinese language of China's Light Industry Company. 1). Paper cement bags 2). Flints 3). Fishing hooks 4). Combs 5). Paper for printing newspaper 6). Carbon sheets

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- Concerning the paper for printing newspaper, comrade Cambodians want from 52 to 54 grams, but we could supply only 51 grams. It is a little thinner and the size is also different. It is 22 [illegible] x 30½ [illegible]. It equals to the French measurement of 560 millimeters x 775 millimeters. Is the paper acceptable? If yes, please sign the contract. If no, it is requested that the contract be returned to us.
- Concerning carbon sheets, we deliver three types, among which two types have only one printable side and another type has two printable sides. We would like comrade Cambodians to examine whether they are the right sheets.
- Concerning spare parts for bicycles especially handlebars, the number ordered by comrade Cambodians outnumbers the factory's production plan. We, therefore, ask for a reduction of 2000 out of the number ordered. Is that possible?
However, if comrade Cambodia wishes to receive the item in full number, we will contact other places, while this number of 2000 will be signed in a later contract.
- Concerning eye glasses for old people, do comrade Cambodians want to purchase only the glass lens or the whole glasses?

Our opinions:

Concerning the ship and the medicine-producing system, we will inform [you] later. We would like to thank comrade Chinese. To link to this matter, we would like to give the contract in Khmer language. As for the machinery, we will clarify on the issues which comrade Chinese has raised and which were reported to Brother [illegible] on March 4th, 1977 numbered 3-6-7-8-9-10-12 and will ask about the possibility of providing tar for road construction and the request to buy 500 tons of normal round nails ranging from 60 mm to 150 mm.

Opinions of comrade Chinese:

Concerning the loss of a carton of system for rice mill, we are searching for it. If it is found, it will be sent by plane. Concerning the requests to buy normal round nails ranging from 60 mm to 150 mm and the tar for road construction in Cambodia, we will forward these messages to [the officials] in our country and will notify comrade Cambodians at a later time.

The meeting with comrade Chinese took place in a friendly and pleasant atmosphere.

Please, Brother, be informed of this.

In the revolutionary fraternity,

14 March 1977
Commerce Committee

CC:

- Brother Hem: 1 copy
- Brother Vân (វ៉ាន): 1 copy
- 51: 1 copy
- Documentation: 2 copies