



Statement by

**Mr. KHIEU Samphan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence,
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the Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea**

Kampuchea and its Kampuchean people are pacific. Kampuchea and its Kampuchean people always wish to live in harmony. Kampuchea is an independent, peaceful and neutral country. Kampuchea's independent, peaceful and neutral policy is always welcomed and acknowledged by every pacific and just nation and people throughout the world. However, the American imperialists just do not leave Kampuchea and our people alone to live in harmony. They held a coup d'état on 18 March 1970 to topple the independent, peaceful and neutral Kampuchea by brutally staging an aggression war on Kampuchea and put Kampuchea and Kampuchean people in a great misery.

This crime and brutal aggression of the American imperialists and its absolute slaves—Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh committed against Kampuchea and Kampuchean people are being obviously witnessed by Kampuchea and Kampuchean people and people all over the world.

Kampuchea and Kampuchean people namely the National United Front for Kampuchea, Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea and our Kampuchean People's liberation armed forces struggled to counter-attack this aggression war of the American imperialists in order to liberate our country and our Kampuchean people for real independence, peace, neutrality, sovereignty and freedom.

In counter-attack effort against the American imperialists' aggression war on Cambodia and in order to resolve Kampuchean issues, Kampuchea and its people namely the National United Front for Kampuchea and the Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea have "5" points as mentioned in the statement dated 23 March 1970 of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of National United Front for Kampuchea as follows:

1. The imperialist American aggressor and its external subordinates shall pull out of Kampuchea including the removal of all its military personnel,

military advisors, and weaponry from Kampuchea; and stop supporting the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh, and stop carrying out military activities including land army, air force and navy in order to invade Kampuchea.

2. Regime of the traitors—Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh, the absolute slaves of the imperial America shall be dismantled. As to the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh, it is the internal affair of Kampuchean people.
3. Build Kampuchea an independent, peaceful, neutral, democratic and prosperous country with real sovereignty.

This just goal of the National United Front for Kampuchea and the Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea is subsequently recognized and supported by many friendly countries and people throughout the world.

At this moment, people are signing [on the Agreement] to end the Vietnamese crisis while the American imperialists are still carrying out their aggression activity and are continuing to provide the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh with huge technical assistance in order to keep the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh, the great traitors, the most corrupts, the great fascists in power. [The reason] is to set up its new colony in Kampuchea and use Kampuchea as its military base as well as a stepping stone to invade neighbouring countries.

Therefore, Kampuchea and its people have to continue its counter-attack against the American imperialists and the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh in order to liberate the country, and bring about independence, peace, neutrality and freedom.

Ten sites namely Kay Rong (កាយរ្យ័ង), Wat Ang Tong (វត្តអង្គទង់), Kandoal Chum (កណ្តាលជុំ), Sandol (សណ្តាល), Yol Tong (យោងទោង), Wat Touch (វត្តតូច), Khna Chas

(ខ្នាចាស់), Wat Kraing Krouch (វត្តក្រាំងក្រូច) and Ampae Rom (អំពៅរ៉ូម) along national road No. 3 have fell under the control of our people and Kampuchean people's liberation armed force. Brigade 73 that stationed at Tram Khnar (s), two battalions of the Black Eagle and Chan Rainsy (s) along with many of the enemy's reinforcement squads have been smashed, injured, killed and deserted, and been made prisoners of war. According to an interim report, some 1,550 heads of the enemy's military personnel and officers including hundreds colonels, captains, lieutenants and major lieutenants have been smashed while ten thousands of people have been liberated.

2. Enemy's sites namely Samroang Young (សំរោងយ៉ាង), Wat Chambok Bet Meas (វត្តចំបក់បិទមាស), Psar Chambok (ផ្សារចំបក់), Prasat Neang Khmao (ប្រាសាទនាងខ្មៅ), Anlong Thonn (អន្លង់ធន់), Saroam (សារោម), Daeum Thlok (ដើមឆ្នុក), Thnal Toting (ផ្ទះទទឹង), Prey Veng (ព្រៃវែង), Chhouk Sar (ឈូកស), Svay Chek (ស្វាយចេក), Phum Sla (ភូមិស្លា), Svay Prey (ស្វាយព្រៃ) have been attacked by our Kampuchean people's liberation armed force; six main sites have been liberated and 1,200 heads of enemy's armed force personnel were smashed, killed, injured, deserted and made prisoners of war. As to Krong Takeo (ក្រុងតាកែវ), it has been surrounded by our Kampuchean people's liberation armed force. It is certain that Krong Takeo will be liberated in the future. On the other hand, in the Svay Prey battlefield along national road No. 2 alone, we have smashed the enemy's 10 strategic villages, 11 bridges, and injured/killed 300 enemies including a captain; and 300 households have been liberated.

3. As to battlefields long national road No. 5, the Kampuchean people's liberation armed force is continuing to smash the enemy from the south of Kampong Chhnang and from Kampong Chhnang to Sala Lek Pram (សាលាលេខប្រាំ). At this moment, Banteay Romeas (បន្ទាយរមាស), the enemy's crucial and strategic base for

tanks and cannons has been liberated by our Kampuchean people's liberation armed force. In the meantime, we ambushed and completely defeated the enemy's reinforcement from Kampong Chhnang, Prey Khmer (ព្រៃខ្មែរ), Sala Lek Pram to help their fellow fighters; as a result, 200 heads of enemy's Battalion 437 members under the command of Captain Pech Nhan (ពេជ ង៉ាន) and Battalions 27 and 35 heading from Prey Khmer were completely smashed by our Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces. According to the interim statistics, we have smashed, injured, killed, deserted and made prisoners of war 1,050 enemies at the battlefields of Banteay Meas, Kampong Chhnang and Prey Khmer along national road No. 5. Additionally, our militia squads in the battlefields along national road No. 5 have jointly smashed 120 enemies. Again, in the Southwest Zone, the Kampuchean people's liberation armed force stationed in Kampot surrounded and conducted heavy attacks on Krong Kampot, Krong Kep and Veal Vong (វាលវង់), and smashed 100 enemies; and 300 households of people were liberated.

4. These huge victories is a pressure to Phnom Penh (the Special Zone of Phnom Penh), the last haven to the clique of the nation-selling thieves—Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh, Lon Non (លន់ ណុន), Hang Thonhak (ហង់ ធុនហាក់). In parts, the Kampuchean people's liberation armed force is launching the attacks [on Phnom Penh] from the West and the North. As to the South and the Southeast, it is being additionally attacked particularly by the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces from the East. For the time being, we are launching the attacks on the strategic defence lines of Phnom Penh located only 10 to 20 kilometres from Phnom Penh. The enemy's [defence lines] of Wat Ang Talik (វត្តអង្គតាឡិក), Spean Dach (ស្ពានដាច់), Wat Chhouk (វត្តឈូក), Trapeang Phong (ត្រពាំងផុង), Ang Tasit (អង្គតាសិត), Doeum Samraong (ដើមសំរោង) have been defeated, leaving 750 enemies injured, killed and deserted. Some warehouses and cannons, a tank and two air crafts were destroyed. Based on the attack speed and these victories, the Kampuchean people's liberation

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armed force on the North and Northwest of Phnom Penh are jointly attacking the bases and enemy's defence system at Phnum Bat (ភ្នំបាត), Phnum Chet Reus (ភ្នំចិត្តរឿស) and the Northern part of Phnom Penh in order to break those lines and take control of them, and move towards Phnom Penh. At Phnum Bat and Phnum Chet Reus alone, we have smashed, injured, killed and defeated 160 enemies (based on an interim statistics) including a captain.

As to the southern part of Phnom Penh, we are attacking the enemy at Preak Ho (ព្រែកហ្នូ) and spreading to Krong Ta Khmao making the enemy very panic. The huge and strategic victory is on the Southwest of Phnom Penh where the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces stationed in the Special Zone attacked the west bank of Mekong in Leuk Daek District (លើកដែក) in cooperation with the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces stationed in the East Zone and managed to take control of Mekong's most important water way.

5. In addition to the said battlefields, the Kampuchean people's liberation armed force and people of the East Zone amazingly launched huge attacks on important battlefields as follows:

- Battlefields of Kampong Soeng (កំពង់ស្ទឹង) and the areas around Neak

Loeang (អ្នកលៀង);

- Battlefields along the banks of Mekong River from the southern part of Neak Loeang to the border;

- Battlefields at Preaek Ta Meak (ព្រែកតាមាក់), Vihear Suork (វិហារសួគ៌),

Mukh Kampul (មុខកំពូល) and Khsach Kandal (ខ្សាច់កណ្តាល);

In the battlefields of Kampong Soeng and the areas around Neak Loeang, dozens of bases starting from Wat Snay (វត្តស្នាយ), Prey Ta Nen (ព្រៃតាណេន), Plov Baek Wat

Sathea (ផ្លូវបែកវត្តសត្វា), Sén Phnov (សែនឃ្លៅ), Phum Phtes Yeay Phong (ភូមិផ្ទះយាយផង), Phum Phtes Barang (ភូមិផ្ទះបារាំង), Phum Svay Sam Sim (ភូមិស្វាយសាមសឹម), Tuol Sléng (ទួលស្តែង), Spean Kampong Soeng (ស្ពានកំពង់សឹង), Wat Preah Chor (វត្តព្រះជ), Prey Khla (ព្រៃខ្លា), Kampong Soeng (កំពង់សឹង), Stoeng Slot (ស្ទឹងស្លុត), four brigades under the command of Thach Chann (ថាច់ ចាន់) have been scattered. Based on interim statistics, we have smashed 1,000 enemies including those with the ranks of private up to major, taken 300 as prisoners of war with the same ranks as mentioned, and have confiscated 500 pieces of weapons including unrecoilable cannons; and 1,000 households of people have been liberated. Many enemies have been injured and deserted in all directions. Those stationed at Neak Loeng on the east bank of Mekong had their hair stood on end and ran for their life.

Another important battlefield was the one along the Mekong River on the south of Neak Loeung; we managed to smash enemies and pushed four battalions out of the fighting ground. We liberated the district centre of Peam Chor (ពាមជ័រ) and some other bases along both sides of the river banks located two kilometres on the south of Neak Loeung through the southern Vietnamese border. These bases include Preaek Krabau (ព្រែកក្របៅ), Preaek Ta Hour (ព្រែកតាហួរ), Spean Kdar (ស្ពានក្តារ), Neak Ta Chen (អ្នកតាចិន), Preaek Ta Phok (ព្រែកតាហ្នែក), Preaek Sambuor (ព្រែកសំបួរ), Kaoh Peam Reang (កោះពាមរាំង), Kaoh Kantheay (កោះកន្ទាយ), Kaoh Thmei (កោះថ្មី), Kaok Chek (កោះចេក) and Kaoh Roka (កោះរកា) while the enemy stationed on the right bank of Mekong; for example, those stationed at Dang Kdar (ដងក្តារ) fortress got panic and just ran for their life. Our occupation over the Mekong water way from Neak Loeung through Can Tho (កាន់ចូរ) means that the Phnom Penh traitors' transport of goods,

food, rice, gasoline, ammunition and weapons are completely cut off. According to the interim report, we smashed 2,105 heads of our enemies, shot down two war motorboats and confiscated 100 rifles.

Again, the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces stationed in the East Zone, launched storm attacks in Preah Prasab (ព្រះប្រសប់), Preaek Ta Meak (ព្រែកតាមាក់), Vihear Suork (វិហារសួគ៌), Chok (ចក), Kampong Porpil (កំពង់ពពិល) and Mukh Kampul (មុខកំពូល). We have liberated Preah Prasob completely by killing 250 enemies and injuring many. At Chok and Kampong Porpil, we smashed 70 other heads of the enemies including two first lieutenants and a second lieutenant. Currently, the enemies stationed on the east of Phnom Penh particularly those at Vihear Suork are losing control completely. Under the daily pressure from the Kampuchean people's liberation armed force, most of them deserted and left their bases.

As to Mukh Kampul battlefield, we have smashed 200 heads of Lon Non's army especially those who were attempting to mobilise from Preaek Anhchanh (ព្រែកអណ្ណាញ) and Preaek Khsach (ព្រែកខ្សាច់) to Phnum Del (ភ្នំជិល). We also smashed some military officers namely Major HIM Khann (ហ៊ឹម ខាន់) within the framework of the contemptible Non's United Psychology Organization.

6. In the North, the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces are enjoying great victories namely the battlefields of Krong Kampong Thom, Sdaeung Chey (ស្ទើងជើង), Ph'av (ផ្កាវ), Cheung Prey (ជើងព្រៃ) of Krong Kampong Cham, Siem Reap and most of Odar Meanchey. In the Krong Kampong Thom battlefield, we get close to the provincial office, the water tower, the hotel alias bungalow; and up to mid-January 1973, we have smashed 1,200 heads of the enemies in the Krong Kampong Thom

battlefield. The enemies no longer dare to stick their heads out but kept staying in their holes as sick mice. This town will be liberated in the future. As to Siem Reap Sector, our armed forces have been attacking the enemies strongly and actively. From 1 to 3 January 1973 alone, we liberated seven enemy's bases namely the villages of Thnong (ថ្មង), Tram Sasar (ត្រាំសសរ), Sdau Pok (ស្ដៅពក), Pov Dieb (ពៅឌឺប), Sléng (ស្លេង), Bos Beng (ប៉ុសបេង) and Bos Pongro (ប៉ុសពង្រ); and 300 heads of the enemies smashed, and 100 rifles and a lot of ammunition confiscated.

7. In the Northwest, the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces smashed enemies who were attempting to re-operate roads No. 110 and No. 5. In Odar Meanchey Province, almost all the countryside has been liberated while the enemy only remains in the provincial town.

All in all, up to mid-January 1973, the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces and our people have obtained great victories. We have smashed a total of 10,245 heads of the enemies and liberated dozens of bases, Mekong River and tens of thousands of people, and confiscated thousands of rifles and the enemies have become hot-blooded and more panic stricken. They have run out of strength, bases, territories, people, food supply, gasoline and particularly means of transport including both land transport and water way. This situation enables us to storm attack the enemies and we have become more qualified to win over the enemies completely.

Bravo! The brave people and Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces throughout the country!

Bravo! Great victories to our people and the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces in every battlefield!

Special Report

“I accompanied Mr. Deputy Prime Minister
KHIEU Samphan to visit the provinces of Preah Vihear,
Kampong Thom and Siem Reap.”

From 25 November through 15 December 1972, I accompanied Mr. Deputy Prime Minister KHIEU Samphan to visit Preah Vihear, Kampong Thom and Siem Reap. The districts of Chey Saen (ជ័យសែន) and Rovieng (រវៀង) in Preah Vihear, Sandan (សណ្តាន់), Sambo (សំបូរ), Kampong Svay (កំពង់ស្វាយ) of Kampong Thom, and along national road No. 6, Banteay Srei (បន្ទាយស្រី) and the Angkor compounds were the main places of our visit.

By the end of this year, our liberated areas were full of yellow paddy in large fields mixed with the light green dry-paddy seedlings in the plains, along canals and around lakes; this made us very happy and excited. The wet paddy has not yet been harvested while the dry paddy is already greenly booming in the nursery and fields. It has been noticed that the harvesting movement is being carried out actively and is moving forward very fast.

In the past rainy season, our people fought very hard. Our people did not only fight in the war against the American imperialists who kept shooting, bombarding, spreading poisonous chemicals [on us] from aircrafts in order to hinder our production and destroy our people's paddy fields, but also fought against mother nature in many ways including drought in most parts early this year, some areas were flooded especially along Stuong Saen river and the worms destroying paddy. Currently, fields are full of

ripe paddy; this is a huge success of our people at the rear lines in conjunction with victories at the front lines. At this moment, our people from every place are more in favour with the *Angkar*, and cadres who have inducted people into the solidarity force and have worked hand in hand with our people in coping with all obstacles. In a case of shortage of water, people and cadres collaboratively constructed dams across canals and rivers in order to sow paddy. The transplants withered a few times but the people kept sowing until they survived. In a case of running out of seeds, people discussed among themselves in their patriotic teams from one team to another by sharing seeds among themselves willingly in order to have enough to sow and transplant in every fields. Immediately after it rained, there were already sufficient seedlings in order to transplant in time. For those who did not have cattle, the patriotic teams would lend them cattle in order to plough in time. Solidarity force as well as assigned production force of the people was in place to carry out reciprocal labour with other production teams. They have overcome all obstacles and have brought about satisfactory result. In Preah Vihear, in general, paddy is good while there is little damage in some places; as to those areas along national road No. 6, particularly in Kampong Kdei on the way to Siem Reap, paddy is very good as dense paddy stalks cover everywhere your eyes can see. As to Kampong Thom, rice is also fairly good. Along the road, only paddy fields in Sandan District were heavily damaged because water from Stueng Saen river flooded villages, paddy fields and plantations last August and September. However, our people over there are always optimistic. Flood cannot completely win over our people's solidarity force. Though villages, houses and granaries were flooded unexpectedly, our people managed to protect old seeds stored in their granaries and shared them among themselves for interim consumption while awaiting harvest of the dry season paddy. Our people also managed to protect their cattle, pigs and poultry from the flood. During the flood, each patriotic team in villages turned themselves to be combat squad and worked hand in hand with subdistrict militia to actively protect people's properties and belongings while cattle, poultry and rice were collected to higher ground in a timely manner. Elderly people and children were also assisted and transported to higher ground in a timely manner. As to this moment, we can see that crops including banana, sweet potato, cassava, bean and peanut are greenly growing again. In the plains with little water left located at the back of villages, our people are busy cultivating dry season paddy. Particularly, this district never practised dry season paddy before; however, as to this year, with

instruction from the *Angkar*, our people are actively cultivating it. With assistance in terms of rice from Rovieng District and other neighbouring districts, our people will be able to effectively handle the issue of husked rice.

In every place, although rainy season paddy has been harvested, our people are actively cultivating dry season paddy. People told us that, “*We, at the rear lines have sufficient rice for consumption and are increasing produce in order to supply to the front lines and other places that have been damaged.*”

In every place, monks are actively participating in dry season paddy cultivation and are inspiring others to actively cultivate dry season paddy. For example, in Kampong Thom, monks from Wat Sambor (វត្តសំបួរ) have made many water wheels to give to people. Under the leadership of the head monk, monks from Wat Srangae (វត្តស្រងៃ) were in charge of building three dams in Srangae (ស្រងៃ) Village of Tbaeng (ត្បែង) Subdistrict. According to its original design, the three dams are supposed to supply water to 20 hectares of dry season paddy fields.

On the other hand, it should be noted that the Chinese Cambodians particularly those Chinese Cambodians from Rovieng and Psar Sandan are also cultivating paddy with full support from the *Angkar's* front.

In conjunction with rainy season paddy and dry season paddy cultivation, crops production, and raising of pigs, chicken and ducks to meet the demand, there has also been a tremendous change in the countryside. For instance, people in Khvang (ខ្វាង) Village of Rovieng District do not leave any space free; along the canals, they grow floating rice; and along the roads in the villages, what you see are consecutive rows of potato and radish. Although the female members of the militia who were in charge of guarding the roads within the area of Wat Khvang also took their time to set up rows for cultivating radish while being in duty. In this village of Khvang, the village militia has many collective crop gardens namely the one located in front of the pagoda and

another one is at the back of the village. In Chey Saen, we even visited the villages of Meun Reach (ម៉ឺនរាជ) and Khyang (ខ្យង) where almost every household raises a pair of pigs in their pens. In some cases, there are many piglets in the pens. The same situation can be noticed along national road No. 6. Because of their villages were flooded, people set up their pig pens consecutively along the road all the way to Siem Reap. When we got close to Siem Reap, we got off the main road to see people in villages. We encountered flocks of ducks of 10 or 20 swimming in the channels on both sides of the roads.

It is obvious that the economic policy of the Kampuchea's National United Front once declared, "The rear lines storm attack on production and improving people's livelihood especially that of the base people and supporting the front lines" is being rapidly realized in villages, subdistricts and all remote areas throughout the country.

People's livelihood has been improved significantly. People particularly poor farmer who used to be in debt are no longer in debt and are enjoying sufficient rice for consumption. Since the liberation, there are no longer cases of the middlemen and/or debtors come to take farmers' rice from their granaries.

Our people from everywhere have come up with new plans with pleasure; and particularly women find these the most satisfactory as their husbands who used to drink liquor, fermented palm juice, and yell around, play card, gamble and play lottery have stopped; they are no longer in debt. As to now, they have sufficient rice for consumption. A lady from Rovieng who was making *Ambok* (Khmer traditional crispy flattened rice) with her teenaged daughter told me this with her regional accent. After sharing this with me, she said that, "this is because of the Revolution's grace. That's why I had not stopped my sons when both of them chose to join the armed forces. The lady told me proudly that she has two sons serving in the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces. Almost every family in this district has either a son serving in the army or a daughter serving the *Angkar* and they are very proud that their children serve the Revolution. In Kampong Putrea (កំពង់ព្រៃ) located along the way from Chey Saen to Rovieng, we encountered an uncle who was climbing down a

palm tree. We approached him and bought his palm juice. We finished one container of his palm juice but he refused to take our money. He responded to us that, “the Revolution had liberated me from debt and given me back my paddy fields and sufficient rice for consumption; thus, why could I not offer you a container of palm juice? You have worked without pay.” These words of his were full of Revolutionary sentiment, and we were very touched by his words. We had a chat with him for quite a while. Prior to the revolution, he never had enough rice to eat because the traitor clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh, their subordinates and the middlemen had exploited him in many ways. As to this moment, he has sufficient rice for consumption. Currently he is also a village militia. We bid him goodbye to continue our trip although he had insisted that we drank more of his palm juice.

Along the road, wherever and whenever we stopped for a rest, men, women, young and old people and children always came to shake our hands and warmly greeted us along with continuous coconuts, banana and flattened rice. In Preah Vihear, old people even welcomed us with thread wrapped around our wrists and warmly wished us. Children were also very friendly to us. When they saw us, those children came running toward us from a distance and said that, “we would like to shake hands with you!” We asked them what they would do when they grow up; and they responded clearly that, “Serve in the army to fight against the American!”

Our people know who are friends and enemies very clearly; and they hold absolute grudge against the enemy.

Everywhere we went, people including men, women, children and elderly people warmly welcomed Deputy Prime Minister KHIEU Samphan with great joy. Before leaving for a new place, people just came to shake hands with Mr. Deputy Prime Minister with love and miss, and requested him to visit their place again. People wished Mr. Deputy Prime Minister, and through him the front and the Royal Government of National Union of Kampuchea great victory and splendid strength.

**6 JANUARY REPORT FROM THE BATTLEFIELDS
KRONG KAMPONG THOM:**

**The Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces successfully
attack the enemy's last sanctuaries**

Krong Kampong Thom sits on both banks of Stueng Saen; however, all the commercial centres and administrative offices are located on the left bank. Krong Kampong Thom borders with Poti Bakar (ពោធិបាក់ក) on the east, Wat Thommeak Yutt (វត្តធម្មយុត្តិ) on the west, Spean Thbong Cham (ស្ពានត្បូងចាម) on the south and Spean Intanou (ស្ពានឥន្ទ) on the north that crosses Stueng Saen. However, prior to 8 December 1972, the treacherous clique of Kampong Thom temporarily takes control of some villages along Stueng Saen and along national road No. 6. Along the west bank of Stueng Saen, they occupied Ou Sambuor (អូសំបួរ), Baktuk (បាក់ទូក), Ou Vai (អូរវ៉ាយ), Ou Kanthor (អូរគន្ធរ), and Kampong Roteh (កំពង់រទេះ). Along national road No. 6 from the south towards the north, they occupied Puk Yuk (ពុកយុក), Srayov (ស្រយូវ), Trapeang Veang (ត្រពាំងវែង), Kdei Saen (ក្តីសែន), Saen Snay (សែនស្នាយ), Balang (បាឡាំង), Wat Kampong (វត្តកំពង់), Achar Leak (អាចារ្យលាក់), Banteay Vichealay (បន្ទាយវិទ្យាល័យ) and Krachab (ក្រចាប់). Moreover, they had some posts in villages that were not located along the national road; these include Roluos (រលួស),

Prey Banlich (ប្រៃបណ្ឌិត), Kdei Doung (ក្តីដូង), Prey Ta Hu (ប្រៃតាហ្គី), Trapeang Prolit (ត្រពាំងព្រលិត), Sampot Houll (សំពត់ហ្គួល) and so on... Prior to the 8 December 1972, if calculated in kilometre, the enemy is occupying some 10 kilometres from the east to the west and some 8 kilometres along the main road from the south to the north. The enemy has already exhausted its energy in order to gain control over the above areas. This is the geographical location and surrounding areas of Kampong Thom that are being under the control of the enemy up to 8 December 1972.

It has already been two years now that Krong Kampong Thom has become 100 percent isolated from other areas being under the interim control of the enemy. Since 18 March 1970, Kampong Thom can only be reached by two means—a water way from Kampong Chhnang and along Stueng Saen river during the flooding season. Their on-and-off communication with Phnom Penh was made possible only by plane; therefore, the livelihood of the enemy's mercenaries and people collected from the countryside is in critical condition; for instance, a sack of rice is 13,000 to 15,000 riels while salt is 700 to 800 riels per kilo. After being defeated at Chenla I (ចេនឡាទី១), the treacherous clique's soldiers including those of the late UM Savuth (អ៊ុំ សាវុធ) also come to flock in Kampong Thom which makes people's livelihood even worse. There are few cases that they do not fight among themselves because of shortage of food; therefore, their military strength is weak so is economic strength. The treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh who is clinging to power in Kampong Thom is just for the sake of image in order to deceive the public and as encouragement to a bunch of people in Phnom Penh. They never care whether or not their soldiers are dying and the people they have collected are in critical condition; these country-selling thieves do not even think or care about anything. Although hundreds and thousands of people are dying, they do not even care but to continue to cling to power.

On 8 December 1972, our army in the North Zone launched a hurricane-like attack on Krong Kampong Thom to smash the enemy and liberate people from the hell of Lon

Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh. Just for a wink of 8 through 10 December, we managed to smash the enemy completely in the western part of the town namely from Ou Sambuor through Wat Thommeak Yutt. We attacked the area because it used to be one of the main suppliers of food of the treacherous clique in Kampong Thom. On the south, we have surrounded Trapeang Veaeng which is a great paddy granary while we are close to Banteay Vichealay on the north and our dynamic army is already approaching Kdei Doung and right in front of the provincial governor's house in Prey Ta Hu on the Northwest. Since 10 December, our army has kept moving forward, tightened the grip and eliminated the enemies completely from their bases along Stueng Saen and national road No. 6 (Red flags on the map represent the enemy's areas that we have liberated). Up to 6 January 1973, the enemy's land is shrinking or becoming smaller and smaller namely just the area around the market of Kampong Thom where it borders with the water factory on the east and Wat Thomma Yutt on the west which is some 1,300 metres apart, and on the south it borders with Spean Tbong Chan (ស្ពានត្បូងចាន) and the Kbal Spean Thum (ក្បាលស្ពានធំ) on the north which is some 1,000 metres apart. Our army has absolute control of the right bank of Stueng Saen through Kbal Spean Thum. As to the enemy's little last shelter, we kept shelling on it. The hotel alias the bungalow, the governor's residence and the water factory that had been turned into the enemy's strong bases were destroyed by our cannons. The enemy's markets and administrative offices have shut down subsequently. The treacherous clique is badly running out of food and ammunition because the aircrafts no longer dare to drop them anymore parachutes because of the fear of our air protection force. Teab Bén (ទាប ប៉ែន)'s treacherous generals in Kampong Thom are to certain that they all will die or if they want to live, they will have to raise a white flag to surrender to our Kampuchean people's liberation armed force. Phnom Penh radio no longer broadcasts any news about Kampong Thom battlefields because they are afraid that this people's victory spreads to other places, and their soldiers become more demoralised.

This is a huge victory of our Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces in this dry season.

This great victory is the result of the blood and flesh devotion of our people's children under the correct and brilliant leadership of our youth and cadres' *Angkar's* front in the battlefields of Kampong Thom who raise the attack flag up high to support all kinds of difficulty and struggles in smashing the enemy. This highly-appreciated heroic act of our army defeats all kinds of enemies and their tactics. Our people throughout the country are very appreciated and proud of this heroism. The attack on Kampong Thom is an appropriate response to the trick, fake peace and ceasefire of the US and its country-selling subordinates of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh. Kampong Thom is truly liberated! Our army with the assistance from our people in the East, Southwest, Northwest and the Special Zone of Phnom Penh, it is certain that we will liberate our beloved Cambodia completely in the future.

Bravo! Our brave and always-winning people and army in Kampong Thom!

1972 TOTAL VICTORIES

**IN THE PAST YEAR, OUR KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE'S LIBERATION
ARMED FORCE AND PEOPLE WON GREAT VICTORIES
over the American imperialists, their subordinates and treacherous clique of Lon
Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh**

In the past year of 1972, our Kampuchean people of liberation armed forces and people successfully fulfilled huge national and international obligations. Our people and army launched strong, straight-forward and non-stop attacks on the enemy, and the enemy was badly defeated. Right after the [Operation] Chenla II, our army has kept pressing the enemy in all battlefields; and the enemy lost their control completely but waited to be attacked by us. The more attacks launched, the better spirit and tactics the Kampuchean people's liberation armed force has become while the American imperialists' mercenaries have become weaker and weaker in terms of spirit and tactics. In the past year, the sense of solidarity between the people and the Kampuchean people's liberation armed force has merged and melted together as one flesh and blood in which our final victory is reflected. As to the traitors' army who kept exploiting, stealing, robbing and brutally killing people, and people have considered them bloody enemies that have to be smashed. They will be defeated in the end.

In the past year, it should be noticed that the puppet clique of Nguyen Vann Thieu (ហ្វៀង វ៉ាន់ធីវ), the biggest backbone of the Phnom Penh traitors and the American aircrafts that once came to overwhelmingly intervene in Cambodia between 1970 and 1972 are no longer capable as they used to be because they have not only been bitterly sentenced and defeated by our brave Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces but also been severely defeated by the Vietnamese people in Vietnam. This is the reason that only the useless subordinates of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh embarrassingly ran away in all directions from their posts and towers because

of the continuous attacks launched by our Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces.

The main losses of the enemies are as follows:

- Between 1972 and April-May, the Saigon puppets were removed from Kampong Trach (កំពង់ត្រាច), Tuk Meas (ទួកមាស), Tani (តានី) and Kus (គូស); and Chan Rainsy (ចន្ទ រង្សី)'s group was smashed in Krang Chek (ក្រាំង ចេក) and Peang Lvea (ពាំងល្វា).
- Between May and August 1972, the complete defeat of Sorya (សុរិយា) I and II operations on national road No. 1 and the complete defeat of Ankorchey (អង្គរជ័យ) operation in Siem Reap.
- Between August and late 1972, the most important and strategic roads namely No. 5, No. 2 and No. 4 have been cut off completely and almost the entire Takeo has been liberated. In the Northwest, our army launched attacks in all directions, and we managed to cut off national road No. 10 from Battambang to Pailin. In the meantime, our army also launched hard attacks on the Special Zone of Phnom Penh and has tightened the grip on Phnom Penh city. Eventually, we launched an attack on Kampong Thom in December in order to finally liberate this city. In late December 1972, the enemy's base shrank to only one kilometre square.

Our great victories produced the figures as follows:

- In this 1972, we killed, injured and made prisoners of war 109,500 enemies including 9,100 have been made prisoners of war. The enemy's military officers namely 132 higher personnel (ranging from major to colonel) and 328 lower personnel (ranging from major lieutenants to captain) were killed and injured. The enemy's four generals were killed while another one was badly injured.

- We confiscated 18,500 all kinds of weapons, including 255 mortars, 468 machine-guns, 160 combat net radios and 1,200 tonnes of weaponry while tens of thousands tonnes of weaponry was destroyed particularly in Phnom Penh.
- We destroyed 525 military trucks, 216 tanks and armoured cars, 25 105mm cannons, shipwrecked 46 cargo ships with loading capacity of 75,000 tonnes, shipwrecked 101 warships and armed motorboats, shot down 120 airplanes and helicopters, burn down 535 guard posts/towers and 165 self-defence villages.
- We destroyed a number of roads with a total length of hundreds of kilometres and rail tracks with a total length of dozens of kilometres, destroyed 135 concrete and steel bridges including the Chroy Changva, the biggest bridge in Cambodia.
- We supported 825,000 people to the liberated areas in order to live in harmony. We mobilized 1,800 personnel of the enemy's army to give in and return to live among our people. In conjunction with the national obligation being successfully fulfilled by our people and the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces against the aggression war of the American imperialists, our people and the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces with King Sihanouk as the Head of State are have made decent contribution to the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, China and Korea, and of the world for the defeat of the American imperialist and its associates for the sake of independence, freedom and peace in Southeast Asia and the world.

The victories we won are the result of the tough combat with high sense of heroism of our combatants and cadres under the brilliant leadership of the *Angkar's* National United Front of Kampuchea. Under this leadership, the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces have determined to keep moving forward with courage, clairvoyance, no compromise, no retreat, and fighting until our beloved Kampuchea is completely liberated in the near future. We will certainly win! The enemy is to lose!
Bravo! The bravery of our people!
Bravo! The constant victories of the Kampuchea people's liberation armed forces!

Failure to the mercenaries of the American imperialists and their associates in Saigon, Bangkok and its country-selling clique of thieves—Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh!

THE DECEMBER 1972 VICTORIES

Since the beginning of this dry season, our Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces raised the flag and kept fighting constantly towards greater successes

Last December marked the beginning of the dry season of 1972-1973. During this time, our Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces kept raising the flag and bravely and vigorously attacking on the enemy as a continuation from last November. The speed and strength of our attacks kept improving in terms of both quality and quantity.

Spiritually, our combatants are solemnly determined to attack and smash the enemies with burning anger against the enemies. They come up with initiatives; they carry them out and endure all kinds of difficulties in order to gain victories. Both our combatants and cadres fulfil their obligations satisfactorily with high sense of responsibility for the sake of the *Angkar*, the Front and the people. This high sense of revolutionary heroism is strongly inculcated within our combatants and cadres of our army prior, during and after the experiment. Combat tactics have always been improved and upgraded among both combatants and commanders. Our commanders work closely with the combatants, and the whole army is melted together in flesh and blood with the people. This is a factor that determines the victory of the Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces throughout the country. As to the mercenaries of the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh, they are losing control and initiatives but waiting to be attacked by our army everywhere; and they just run away from their base whenever they hear a gunshot. Because of hunger, they go around stealing and robbing people in order to survive; that's the reason people consider those Phnom Penh traitors as their bloody enemies. As to commanders within the enemy's army, they become separated, insignia-oriented, money-minded, corrupt and gambling-addicted, and kept suppressing their subordinates, and are

absolutely incapable of commanding the army. The whole army moves toward complete destruction because of no commanders; and can never be saved by the American imperialists and its puppets in Saigon and Bangkok. The environment of defeat and escape thickly and darkly cover the mind of the traitors—Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh including the small ones, the medium ones and the big ones.

In the past month, we expanded more battlefields, and the enemy is increasingly agonizing. The strategic roads of No. 2, No. 4 and No. 5 remained completely cut off. The towns of Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Takeo, Siem Reap, Pailin, Kampot and so on are still surrounded by us in all directions; and our cannon squads kept shelling on them continuously. In addition to the above battlefields, we started attacking on Kampong Thom and the enemy's shelters in Neak Loeung, and putting more pressure on Phnom Penh city. In the meantime, the Mekong from Saigon to Phnom Penh as well as the Phnom Penh port which respectively considered the enemy's main vein and nose are being attacked upon strongly in December. Dozens of huge American cargo ships loaded with gasoline, food and ammunition to the Phnom Penh traitors were shipwrecked or destroyed. Furthermore, our army's small and medium activities in the Southwest, the North, the Northwest, the East and Phnom Penh Special Zone are carried out continuously and non-stop in order to weaken and damage the enemy's forces.

These marvellous victories produced figures as follows:

- 6,500 enemies including 32 officers ranging from major lieutenant to colonel were killed, injured and made prisoners of war. Among these, 600 soldiers were made prisoners of war while 270 of them had rebelled and destroyed the enemy's bases, and returned to live among our people.
- 1,150 pieces of weaponry including 25 mortars, 28 machine-guns, 20 combat net radios, 10 10-wheel trucks and a Land Rover, and 200 tonnes of weaponry were confiscated.
- 11 aircrafts and helicopters, 16 tanks and armoured cars, 99 trucks, 15 bridges, 30 military posts and camps, dozens of kilometres of roads and railroads, and nearly one million litres of gasoline were destroyed.

- 11 sea ships with loading capacity of 1,500 tonnes with gasoline and weaponry were shipwrecked; 10 of them were damaged while 21 vessels and armed motor boats were shot down.
- We assisted 6,000 people return to the liberated areas and live in harmony.

These huge victories are excellent stepping stones for our Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces to take a leap to greater victories. These favourable conditions are at our advantage in all sectors. We are determined to maintain continuous and hard attacks, no retreat and no compromise until our beloved Kampuchea is completely liberated in the upcoming future. It is certain that we will win. And it is certain that the American imperialist, its puppets in Saigon and Bangkok and the treacherous clique of country-selling thieves of Lon Nol, Sirik Tamak and Son Ngoc Thanh will lose.

Bravo! The brave, intelligent and always-winning Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces!

Failure to the Republic's clique's mercenaries without territory, without people and without food!

A REVOLUTIONARY STORY

ONE SHOT OF B-40 SCARES CONTEMPTIBLE THIEU'S TANK SQUAD TO RUN OVER ONE ANOTHER!

In its aggression war in Indochina, the American imperialists apply the strategy of using the Khmer people to fight against the Khmer people, the Laotian people to fight against the Laotian people, the Vietnamese people to fight against the Vietnamese people, and eventually the Indochinese peoples to fight against the Indochinese peoples.

In this sense, it uses the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh to hold a coup d'etat in our country. Among the fronts in the three countries namely Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea, it uses Nguyen Vann Thiev's army as a core mobile force to assist its puppets in Phnom Penh or Vientiane while these puppets are in trouble and being constantly attacked by our people and army or Laotian people.

Therefore, in 1970-71, when the Phnom Penh traitors were being surrounded and attacked by our Kampuchean people's liberation armed forces, and they were agonizing, the American imperialists sent in Thieu's army subsequently to save its puppies/servants along national roads No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Wherever these thieves approached, countless and unthinkable violence and fascism were committed. In response to the aggression and brutality, our people's hearts burn like fire; and as a result, they took up arms to struggle and hold grudge against the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh who was the fire starter while the American imperialists and Thieu's army were the boss of this clique.

The underneath true story is an example of our people and army's countless heroic acts in counter-attack against the enemy with the spirit of no retreat, no surrender,

absolute devotion, fresh blood and their lives to protect the people, villages, districts and country.

The setting sun was descending from Phnum Damrei Romeal (ភ្នំដំរីរមៀល) leaving bright red light on the universe. Night is falling with fog and dew covering everywhere.

At this time of the day in the town centre of Tram Kok (ត្រាំកក់) along national road No. 3, a weird activity was taking place. Everyone was rushing. Some were shutting doors while others were yelling and collecting their children; some were carrying loads of goods while some others were yoking bulls to load up their goods. Some were walking their bicycle carts with loads of goods while mothers were carrying babies and holding children. Everyone was constantly leaving the village towards a place pre-organized by village cadres to temporarily ensure safety for them.

This town centre became quiet after people had left. A young man emerged with black uniform, a *Krama* (scarf) around his neck and equipped with an AK rifle and a magazine. The young man was checking from one house to another to see if the owners had left anything unattended. A moment later, the young man shouted, calling another person who was also on the same duty on the other side of the road.

- *Hey Comrade Sam! Comrade Sam (សំ)!*
- *Kouk!* was the response from the end of the village.
- *Hurry up, Comrade Sam! Brother Sao (សៅ) is waiting for us in the noodle-making hall.*
- *I'm done. Please wait for me!* (Sam responded)

Sam, also a teenaged man dressed in black with a *Krama* around his neck and carried an M16 came running and said that:

- *You are quicker than I am, Comrade Chea. Where is Brother Sao?*

- *Hurry up! Brother Sao is waiting over there, Sao responded.*

Upon their arrival at the hall, Sao who was waiting there immediately said that:

- *Our cadres have been informed that the Thieu's army under the command of General Ngu Thú (ង៉ូ ត្នូ) of Military Region4 is invading our country via Ha Tieng (ហាទៀង), Kampong Trach (កំពង់ត្រាច) and Tuk Meas (ទូកមាស). According to the latest update, right after this afternoon, they are already approaching Tani (តានី) and they are mobilising their army here. There are hundreds of them including dozens of armoured cars and tanks while their true motive has not been known. However, according to the situation analysis, our cadres assume that a group of them and that of Ang Ta Saom (អង់តាសោម) are supposed to assist the clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh that has been surrounded by us for past two days. Another squad must come along our road, and it is not certain whether or not they will go all the way to Chhouk.*

This is the reason our comrades have evacuated our people from the village for the time being. As to three of us, we are in charge of looking after and protecting the village.

- *I will devote myself, Brother (Sam responded). At all costs, I will not agree to allow those barbarians to brutally steal and kill our brothers and sisters at all. Since I have owned the M16 that had been confiscated from the enemy, it has never been used once in a combat.*

Chea continued from Sam that:

- *Brother, I will definitely take revenge on these men. I am very angry. My anger is always in my mind. These men destroyed pagodas, stole pagoda's properties, forced monks to slaughter chicken to feed them and forced monks to have sex with nuns while they clapped hands and laughed.*

Sam interrupted Chea and said that:

- *These are the ones who beat our ladies both young and old and forced them to perform dance while naked to entertain them while they were making rhythm and laughing. They physically gang raped those ladies and finally killed them. They are hell and we need to take revenge on them at all costs.*

Sao interrupted and added that:

- *We have held a grudge against them. We have suffered the same pain of those of our brothers and sisters. In order to seek revenge for our people's blood, we dare devote our lives. In order to wide them out, we need to find ways. They are also coming along with armoured cars and tanks; thus, we need to discuss thoroughly to come up with tactics.*

Sam responded immediately:

- *No problem, Brother! The mercenaries have no spirit to fight. They even get frightened easier than those of the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh. We have already defeated them on several occasions.*

Sao responded:

- *We look down on the enemy in terms of tactics, but in each combat we need to watch out. When they are walking towards us, through our experiences, we start shooting from the front, from the left, from the right and from our hideouts from all directions; and when they assume that there are many of us, they just withdraw. Again, Ngu Thú's army is coming with tanks; thus, if they are coming with tanks, ...*

Chea responded:

- *My rifle is not effective with tanks so is Comrade Som's; thus, only your B-40 is effective.*

Sam interrupted and added that:

- *What can we do while your B40 has only a rocket and its cylinder already cracks? Since it was confiscated from the enemy, it has never been tested once. Prisoners of war from whom it was confiscated told me that this gun is*

difficult to shoot. To make it an effective gun, its operator has to be good at calculation of wind and other things.

Sao responded:

- *Never mind, Comrade Sam! It will certainly work though it has only a rocket. Its cylinder is still functioning as I have wrapped wire around it strongly. Just for the sake of shooting, there is no problem with it. The mercenaries are very afraid of death; thus, they usually shoot from a distance, and it is not effective. We are committed to protect our people and our country. We can wait until the enemies come close before opening fire at them. Only when they come as close as 20 to 30 metres do we start opening fire; thus, how could we miss the tanks that are as big as elephants? As to me, we can make use of our weapons; thus, the issue is with the place where we wait to ambush them.*

Sam responded:

- *What about the place we used as our defence line?*

Sao continued:

- *That is a good spot for enemies on foot but not good when tanks are involved. It is close to the village; and there are no main obstacles for tanks. We should select a place farther than this. As to me, I would choose a bridge. The enemies can come via the bridge. The canal is small and deep; and as to this month, if they choose to go into the canal, it is certain that they would get struck in the canal. If we shoot the tank leading the troop before it crosses the bridge, the rest will not be able to cross.*
- *You are right (Sam and Chea responded consecutively). Let's use that place!*

Sao added that:

- *According to the latest update, they are now resting at Tani. If they come through my road, they will be here by tomorrow morning. It is their habit that they do not travel at night, but we have to get ready from now on.*

By the time our three men ended their discussion, night had already fallen. Usually by this time of the day, people in the village of Tram Kok were enjoying themselves.

Children would be singing in choir sweet and heart-touching revolutionary songs. Adults including men and women would meet to discuss about daily life and come up with production plans for the following day. As to tonight, the village was covered with absolute silence, not even the sound of animals. The sound of cool wind blowing the leaves of coconut tree, mango tree and other plants were so consistent. In the sky, stars are sparkling everywhere; and in a distance, there was an occasional fire blazing like a day light in the sky. The enemy's army kept yelling and burning fireworks to light up its bases all night long. The night went by as usual; and nothing threatened our three militia men.

The sun yet rose above the tree top, came a trembling sound in the sky. An aircraft was flying sparkingly from the east in the clear blue sky; and our militia men kept watching it and clearly recognized it as the pig pen and its sound became louder and louder. When it was on the village, it circled above the village once before flying away.

Sao told the other two colleagues that:

- This particular pig pen does not just fly over here for fun. It comes to make way for Thieu's army.

Sam immediately climbed up a nearby tree to view the road leading to Kus roundabout in which the enemy might pass by. Sam found nothing worth suspicion.

After awhile, Sam heard some noises; and when he turned to look at the road again, he could see a black spot after another. Sam kept watching it closely; and while he was climbing down the tree, he told Sao that:

- *They are coming, Bro! Over ten!*

As fast as arrow, the three militia men opted for their pre-arranged hideouts while watching sharply towards the direction from which the enemies are coming. They set up their gear and rifles, and were ready to shoot. A moment later, the enemies arrived. The 12 tanks were speeding; and the one that took the lead was the biggest. In front of it, big letters read, "non-flammable when shot". This was the psychological slogan for weakening our combatants' courage; but this did not even scare our militia men's a

single hair. Because of grudge and anger that have long sustained in our men, our militia men could see the opportunity to take revenge for the enemy's brutality and fascism.

They were coming 200 to 100 metres, from 50 to 30 metres, and explosion was heard. The B40 rocket hit the leading tank and it blazed with black clouds in the sky. The top lid was opened, and an enemy stuck out his head and shot dead by Chea. The tank caught on fire and stopped right in front of the bridge and blocked it. Other tanks got panic and started shooting in all directions, and returned. Later the enemy's aircraft came and circled around randomly shooting everywhere in the bushes from morning to noon; they hit nothing but tree leaves.

The three militia men withdrew and came to take a shelter close to the village, and relaxingly watched the circling aircraft.

To date, the dead tank is still there next to the road where the combat took place. This is an evidence of our militia's struggle and devotion for the sake of people and the country. This victory spreads around and serves as an inspiration to our combatants who are already high spirited. Everyone completely believes that men are the primary resource while the tools are only the secondary one.

The following night, a meeting was held among the village *Angkar's* front and villagers in order to review the lessons learned from the achievements of the militia. Everyone appreciated and expressed gratitude to the three militia men for scaring away the enemies from intruding the village.

YIKÉ

FOLLOW THE LIBERATION ROAD, THE BRILLIANT
ROAD

EPISODE I

Thousands or tens of thousands of people living in the enemy's interim areas, particularly in Phnom Penh are flocking to liberated areas everyday like a falling dam. People can no longer stand living in the hell of the treacherous clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Son Ngoc Thanh. Besides their dictatorship and fascism, people are exposed to hunger and death. The following story is very common and there are hundreds and thousands of such cases within the enemy's temporarily-controlled areas. People run into quarrels with the enemy, fight against the enemy and they escape to liberated areas.

The family of Auntie Paen (ប្អូន) and Uncle Mokka (ម៉ក់) is one of the poorest families that sell water in the quarters of Stueng Meanchey in Phnom Penh. Their hut was once located next to a dump site but was dismantled by the enemy. With support from people and representatives of the *Angkar's* front, he attacked the enemy and the *Angkar's* front brought him to the liberated area in early harvest season of 1972. After the family of Auntie Paen and Uncle Mokka has been happily assisted and accompanied to a liberated area in the Phnom Penh Special Zone, they are warmly welcomed by the people there.

Please be entertained with the following story.

Yiké “*Follow the Liberation Road, the Brilliant Road*”

Intro song:

All: Bravo, Kampuchean Revolution! Bravo, People, men and women!
 Bravo, male and female combatants! Failure to the American
 imperialists and their associates!

A person: Our Yiké (Cambodian musical performance with dialogue and singing
 accompanied by drums of various sizes) welcomes the relatives

Compatriots relatives (receive);
 We tell it in a classic form
 A tale which is true with evidence;
 We would start performing a story namely
 Follow the liberation road, the brilliant road (receive);
 To brothers and sisters who join arms
 With the brilliant road which is as follows:

All: Bravo, Kampuchean revolution! Bravo, people, men and women!
 Bravo, male and female combatants! Failure to the American
 imperialists and their associates!

EPISODE I

Narration:

We would like to start with a hut in Stueng Meanchey and Auntie Paen waiting for her husband who has gone to sell water and not returned home yet. She is swinging a hammock with a sick baby and talking to a daughter who is picking garbage.

(A *tro* [១] softly playing a romantic song)

Auntie: Hmm. I find it very hard to breathe. Since the enemy has collected our family to live in Phnom Penh, they have exploited and persecuted us brutally in all forms. It has already been a few days that we cannot find a can of rice.

Daughter: Mother, what would happen if the little brother does not have porridge?

Auntie Paen: I am very depressed, my child. Let's wait for your father who has gone to sell water since early morning. He may bring back a can or two of rice.

Daughter: I have found nothing in the garbage, not even banana or orange peel.

Auntie Paen: That's ok! Just stop picking them.

Auntie Paen sings:

Oh, my beloved child	I am very broken-hearted
So painful	my children are thin
You have no porridge	for many days
I have no idea	what will happen to my love (receive)
We live miserably	Very very poor
In the enemy's area	Americans and their associates'
Our tears are falling	Fall until our hearts are broken
Because of the clique	of Nol, Thanh and Matak (receive)
They are the fascists	brutally exploiting
To make us suffer	with endless misery
They wage a war	a really bad crime
People fall	into the sea of misery (receive)

Daughter: Mother, dad left in the morning. He should have returned.

Auntie Paen: I have no idea what is happening. Let's wait a bit more. Child! Here he comes, your dad! He returns!

Narration: Err Eyyy... At that time, Uncle Mokka who leaves home in the early morning to sell water, and only when it is late in the evening does he return home.

Daughter (runs to hug her father): Father! Have you got any rice?

Uncle Mokka: No. I cannot find any, my child.

Auntie Paen: Darling, why is the tank still full of water?

Uncle Mokka: I have been around everywhere with the water since early morning to this late, but nobody bought it.

Auntie Paen: What should we do without rice, darling?

Uncle Mokka: Hmmmm... I am out of thoughts. I ask around but they do not have rice either.

Daughter: So what are we eating, father? I am very hungry.

Uncle Mokka: My heart is breaking, my child.

Uncle Mokka sings:

All brothers and sisters	all men and women
Are put to suffer	everybody (receive)!
No rice, no water	everyone faces the same fate
Because of the barbarians,	American's dogs (receive);

Auntie Paen:

Since they have arrested	and brought us here
To live and hide	in the enemy's zone,
We suffer	great misery
Because of the war	of the American and its associates;

Auntie Paen: What should we do, darling? Our child is getting worse. At the moment, he has high temperature and no longer feels anything.

Uncle Mokka: Hmmmm... I am very depressed, darling. Oh, who is coming? Is it Vy, darling?

Auntie Paen: That's right. It is Vy, darling.

Narration: Err Eyyy... As to Comrade Vy who represents the front *Angkar* in a sangkat in Phnom Penh, and is a niece of Uncle Mokka comes to visit Uncle Mokka and Auntie Paen.

Comrade Vy: How are you doing, auntie and uncle?

Uncle Mokka and Auntie Paen: We are doing fine.

Daughter: Sister, how come have you not visited us for a long time?

Comrade Vy: I am very busy, sister.

Daughter: Do you bring me anything?

Comrade Vy: Nothing, but only these two cans of rice. (Comrade Vy shows them the rice)

Daughter: Mother, the little brother will be ok. Sister has brought us some rice, mother. (With joy, she runs to hug her mother)

Comrade Vy: Auntie, take the rice. (Comrade Vy hands her the rice)

Auntie Paen (receives rice from Comrade Vy): Niece, I thank you very much.
My children have not had porridge for two days now.

Auntie Paen (sings):

Oh, my niece, I am worried I am worried

My baby is sick (twice)

Getting very thin because of sickness and has been sick for many days;

Chorus: Follow the liberation road, the brilliant road, the road to freedom

Because of hunger, my niece

No cake and food (twice)

As you can see I am very worried.

Chorus: Follow the liberation road, the brilliant road, the road to freedom

Comrade Vy: This is a crime, my aunt.

Of the traitor clique (twice)

Painful and bitter great misery;

Chorus: Follow the liberation road, the brilliant road, the road to freedom

The traitor clique of dogs Lon Nol, my aunt,

Absolutely (twice)

Today or tomorrow, we shall take revenge!

Chorus: Follow the liberation road, the brilliant road, the road to freedom

Uncle Mokk: We have been so disappointed, my niece

Life in these days (twice)

The dooming area, people live in blood pond;

Chorus: Follow the liberation road, the brilliant road, the road to freedom

We have to be... liberated, my niece,

From here this moment (twice)

Do not prolong any longer.

Chorus: Follow the liberation road, the brilliant road, the road to freedom

Comrade Vy: So, please make porridge for your children immediately, auntie.

Uncle Mokk: That's true, darling. Make porridge for the children immediately.

Auntie Paen: Ok, darling.

Comrade Vy (turns to her uncle): Uncle?

Uncle Mokka: What is it, niece?

Comrade Vy: If you want to go to the liberated areas, I will make contact with the *Angkar*, uncle.

Uncle Mokka: Oh! Will you help me escape to the liberated areas?

Comrade Vy: That's right.

Uncle Mokka: If you can do that, I would be very happy. In the traitors' areas, life is a misery, my niece.

Comrade Vy: That's correct! If you keep staying here, it is certain that you will die.

Uncle Mokka: You are right! So when can we leave? (The sound of the enemy's vehicle was noticed)

Comrade Vy: The military police's vehicle is coming, uncle!

Uncle Mokka: Right. They must come to find issue with us. Watch out! (The vehicle stopped)

A lieutenant: Let's go and check! Who has built a hut over here again?

A low-ranking military police: Please, sir.

(Drum playing)

Lieutenant: Hey, you! Who allowed you to build a hut here?

Uncle Mokka: Nobody. Because there is no land left, we just live here. This land does not belong to any traitor's mother.

Lieutenant: Mind your words! If you do not want to get hurt, dismantle this hut right away

Uncle Mokka: You have collected us to live in Phnom Penh to starve; and now, you are forcing us again? You, America's dogs!

The military police man: You are very impolite! (He rushed to punch Uncle Mokka, but was stopped by Comrade Vy and was strongly slapped by Comrade Vy).

Comrade Vy: Ey, traitor! (The sound of slapping the man in the face)

The military police man: Oyyy! (He fell flat on the ground)

Lieutenant: Get up, Khut (ឃ្លាត)! From where is this lady? You must be very brave to slap my subordinate in the face!

Military police man: Oh! She is also pretty, sir.

Another military police man: Yes, she is pretty.

Comrade Vy: You, the America's dogs, you always go around everywhere making everyone suffered and put people to great and endless miseries.

Comrade Vy sings:

Hey, you, impolite men who sell the country (twice),

The useless persons with cheap behaviours!

Uncle Mokk: You, America's dogs disgusting fascists (twice)

Live cheaply that was Nol, Thanh and Matak (twice);

Auntie Paen: You shall be destroyed, and separated for certain (twice)

The punishment of yours is severe You shall be dead (twice)

Chorus: Bravo, Kampuchean! Failure to the American and its associates!

Lieutenant: I have to arrest... you and bring to the court (twice),

As you dare to... to insult the Marshal (twice);

Chorus: Failure to the American and its associates! (Failure) (twice)

Failure to its dogs Nol, Thanh and Matak (twice)

Comrade Vy: You, America's dogs Failure falls on you I(twice),

The local people will smash you to pieces (twice);

Auntie Paen: Because of you... the gambling traitors (twice),

I live bitterly everyone is hungry! (twice)

Uncle Mokk: I shall take revenge in blood on you, the gambling thieves (twice),

By smashing you until you die (twice);

Comrade Vy: The liberation army will attack you (twice),

Until you die and bring about freedom (twice);

Chorus: Bravo, Kampuchean! Bravo! (twice)

Failure to the American and its associates! (twice)

The low-ranking military police: She must belong to the liberation force, sir.

Comrade Vy: Yes, I do. I belong to the liberation force.

Lieutenant: So, go and arrest her immediately. And Khut and Khim (ក្រុម),

dismantle the hut!

Uncle Mokk: Go and get our baby from the hammock immediately, darling!

Auntie Paen: Ok, I will.

Lieutenant: Sanh (សាំង), go and arrest this lady for me!

The low-ranking military police: Yes, sir. (He rushes to arrest Comrade Vy but is punched hardly in the face)

Comrade Vy: You, traitor! (The sound of punching)

The low-ranking military police: Oyyy! (He is pushed to the back). How dare you react? (The family of Uncle Mokka, Auntie Paen and Comrade Vy fight against the enemies).

Auntie Paen: Smash his head, darling!

The low-ranking military police: Oyyy! Help me, sir! (He falls to the back).

Lieutenant: Thong (ធ្លុង), help him! He is dying!!

The low-ranking military police: Khut, kick their cooking pot!

Auntie Paen: How dare you kick my cooking pot?

Daughter: Mother! Father!

Lieutenant: Thong, kick the small one to death!

Comrade Vy: Why not step on his neck? (At that time, the neighbours are alerted and came to help the family of Uncle Mokka and Auntie Paen and Comrade Vy while in the hut; people kept fighting back and forth violently.)

The voice of people coming in can be heard from a distance.

Man: Let's go and help Brother Mokka as the America's dogs are hurting him.

All men: Smash their heads! Step on the lieutenant's head!

Man: The lieutenant has fallen down; thus, step on his neck!

Comrade Vy: Uncle, let me pull out his gun!

Uncle Mokka: Shoot him, my niece! (*Bang! Bang!*)

Lieutenant: Oyyy!

Man: The others have already fled. Let's chase them for their rifles, and never allow them to flee!

Man: A lieutenant and his subordinate are dead. Let's burn down the car!

Man: Hack the gasoline tank! (The sound of the tank being hacked).

Man: Burn it! Burn it! (The military police's car catches on fire).

People's Cheering:

Bravo, the National United Front of Kampuchea! Bravo! Bravo!

Bravo, the Royal Government of the National Union of Kampuchea! Bravo! Bravo!