

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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TRANSLATION/TRADUCTION	
ថ្ងៃ ខែ ឆ្នាំ (Date):.....	19-Sep-2011, 09:37
CMS/CFO:.....	Phok Chanthan

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--- DIRECTORS --- RESERVED ---

RE: VISIT TO CAMBODIA BY THE THAI MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

--- KHMER PERSONALITIES ----

I refer to my telegram No. 217.

1) The Thai delegation was officially welcomed by Mr Ieng Sary, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs. Mr Pol Pot, the prime minister, met with Mr Upadit and some of his aids. The visitors did not meet the head of state, Mr Khieu Samphan.

Mr Pol Pot appeared capable, resolute and confident. He spoke in the first person. He obviously wanted to impress it upon everyone that he is the man who has been running the country since 1975. He also took credit for the policy of friendship with Thailand, saying that he was the one who made the decision to send Mr Ieng Sary to Bangkok in October 1975.

By contrast, Mr Ieng Sary cut the figure of a lowly respectful subordinate. He hardly answered any questions immediately. He seemed anxious to always consult a higher or collegial authority each time.

2) In the course of the discussions, Mr Ieng Sary also relied on Mr Thioun Prasith and Mr Keat Chuon, two seasoned senior officials whose functions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were not specified. It would be recalled that Mr Keat Chuon is a former GRUNK deputy prime minister and that Mr Thioun Prasith – who is also a former GRUNK minister and Health Minister Thioun Thioeun's brother – travelled with Mr Ieng Sary on his tour of the ASEAN countries in the spring of 1977, and on his visit to the United Nations last autumn.

3) All the other "cadres" in attendance were careful to remain unnamed; this included the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whose youthfulness surprised his interlocutors.

Most members of the Cambodian team, also young and reserved, appeared to be of peasant extraction. Some of them spoke good English; they said that they "learned it on their own". As they were ill-prepared for dialogue and scared to answer questions, they avoided one-to-one conversations. However, they became somewhat more relaxed as the days went by. 101305. /.

ANDRÉ