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Dear Michael,

Thank you for your letter of November 17 and the letter to Mr. Takada which I passed on to him. I have continued to collect donations for Cambodia and will be returning to Phnom Penh again in late February or early March to coincide with Prince Sihanouk's schedule for another round of distributions.

I am continuing to pursue my concept for a daily in Cambodia and am in the process of moving in various directions to realize my goal. As you will note from the attached letter which I have sent a Cambodian journalist whom I met during my visit in October, I still hope you might be involved in this project, but if you do not plan to do so, we may wish to use the printing press I provided you and also the ones that FUNCINPEC has now. All this equipment was donated by a generous printer in Japan and targeted for the publication of an independent newspaper but I do not mind if it is used for other purposes until the paper is realized.

As you see I have nothing very ambitious in mind. If we use the format of the enclosed "newsletter/newspaper" that exists on software in my MAC, the paper could be typed up in within a couple of hours every day, utilizing about 60 percent of world news provided by AP, the Washington Post, or even just transferring the 15 to 20 items which the Dow Jones news service offers over the Dow Jones data base. It can be retrieved in about 5 minutes of data with a modem, copied onto the desktop publishing screen and printed out within an hour. Of course some layout modifications and photo insertions would be necessary and then two or three pages would be included with local political, economic and social news. Another couple of pages of news or summary in Khmer and classified ads, movie and TV schedule; letters, editorial, Op-Ed article, etc. And on the weekend a full-size Weekend paper, such as yours, could be distributed. Anyway, that's my idea as I move forward to collect material, financial support, equipment and finally a staff and operation in Cambodia once the support elements are assured.

And I think John Wilcock as the start-up editor can get the thing rolling with efficiency, professionalism and a lot of fun. I think the daily would totally transfer the sleepy environment of Phnompenh.

Of course, English is not the final target for a paper in Cambodia. But I think

it's the way to start (with a section in Cambodian). Such a paper will test the waters and help to spin off, hopefully, other papers, and inevitably, a strong paper in Khmer.

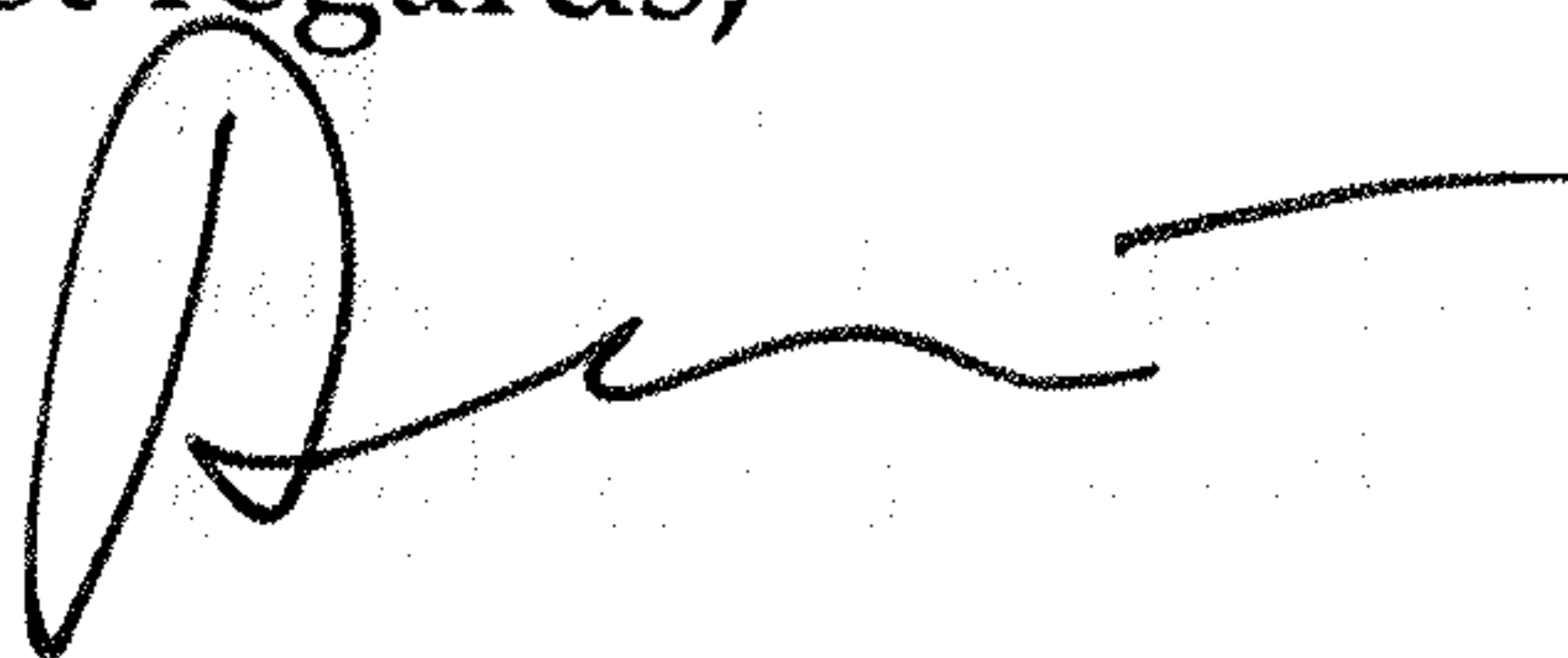
If you have further thoughts or second thoughts, please let me know.

How can I get copies of the Post here?

I'm curious to know how long it took for this letter to reach you by mail.

See you in a month or two.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'P' followed by a series of connected loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.