

Phnom Penh Post

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To Whom It May Concern:

Kevin Barrington worked as a reporter for the *Phnom Penh Post* from January to May 1993. He was the first full-time, expatriate reporter hired by the *Post* and proved to be an excellent, hard-working, and extremely valuable addition to our staff.

I was sorry to see Kevin leave the *Post* but understand fully his reasons for doing so. Moving to *Agence France Presse* was a career decision that no young journalist, especially one with Kevin's extensive capabilities, could afford to pass up.

During Kevin's tenure with the *Post* he demonstrated his immeasurable talents as an investigative journalist, taking on complicated assignments dealing with legal issues, the tangled web of Cambodian politics and the even more complex, day-to-day developments of the historic and multi-faceted U.N. Mission here in this troubled land.

In all of these assignments, I was regularly impressed with Kevin's ability to cover intense, fast-moving issues and present them to our readers in a comprehensive, balanced and well-written style.

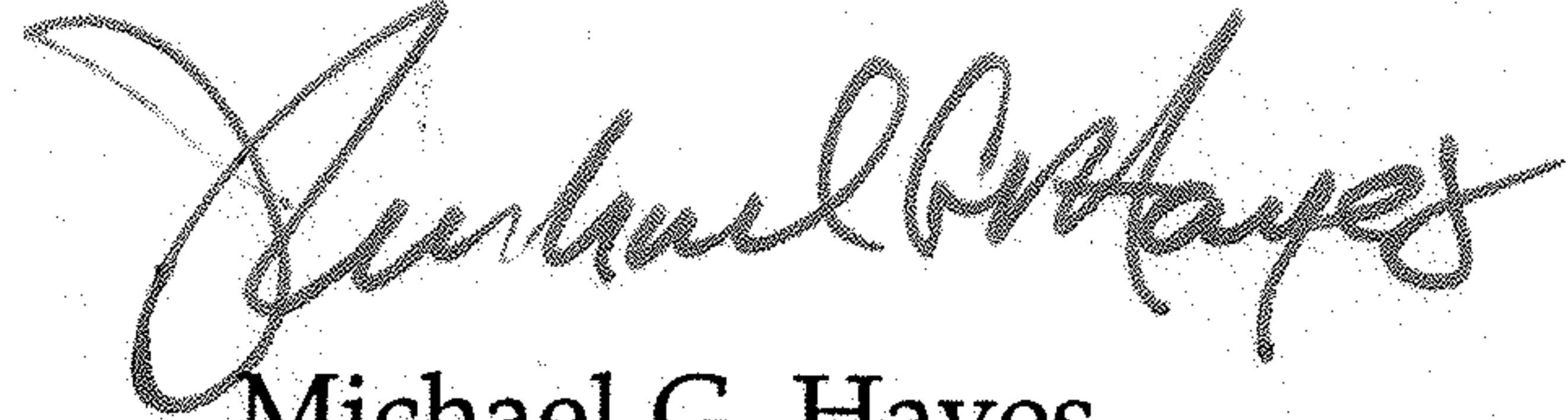
More broadly, during Kevin's three-plus year tenure in Cambodia I was both pleased and excited to see his development as a competent and respected foreign correspondent. Even after he left the *Post*, I knew that Kevin was one of the few journalists in town who could be counted on to have a grasp for "the story behind the story." His ability to think critically and analytically, his access to an endlessly wide variety of sources and his unquenchable determination to get to the bottom of any story left him standing head and shoulders above most of his colleagues.

Simply put, Kevin Barrington is a damn good journalist. There is something in his nature, a certain restlessness, an acutely inquisitive mind,

an unrelenting desire to get to the truth, and a gutsy refusal to take "no comment" for an answer that leaves me with the utmost admiration for him both as a human being and a fellow reporter.

Accordingly, I give my highest, unqualified recommendation for Kevin to any of his potential employers. More importantly, I look forward with great anticipation to seeing his by-line — hopefully with a ceaseless regularity — in the years and decades ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael G. Hayes".

Michael G. Hayes
Publisher & Editor-in-Chief