

Phnom Penh Post

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To: **Kenyan's Market**

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PLEASE FORWARD TO MICHAEL HAYES, TEL: 548-8898

From: Kathleen Hayes

Date: 11 July 1994

Dear Michael,

I've delayed faxing you on the current situation in Cambodia, thinking that it would all become clear soon. However, the political situation has been changing so rapidly that it's been difficult to put into words. Alas, it has been nine days of developments and confusion of which I trust Nate has briefed you better than I can.

Attached is Nate's Washington Post article and our press article for your reference.

Jon has requested that your editorial be approximately 500 words. He's working hard and the paper is packed with heavy stuff. We've already completed nine pages—which sounds good—but the last five or six pages are going to be tough, as too many stories continue to unravel. As I mentioned to you, we are doing 24 pages this week. The bottom line is that you could help immensely if your editorial could be 500 words, and is faxed to us by (our) Tuesday morning.

Things are crazy but fine at the Post. I'm working with Isaaz on these two supplements with the backing of the Malaysian ambassador but not the Singaporean. (We may wait on the Singaporean supplement until the embassy sets up an office here. Unfortunately, Richard's health is worse rather than better, so he went to Thailand last Thursday for some tests. They thought he had Hepatitis but it did not show up on the tests in Cambodia. They've been testing since Thursday and still haven't discovered the problem.

On the birthday issue, the response was positive. We have a good show of support. (The Cambodia Times had a one-page birthday message: from themselves.) I also faxed Snooky to see if he would like to write a letter on the occasion. Unfortunately, he did not reply.

Leang needs a new title. It needs to be something more than ASSISTANT but probably not MANAGER. I suggest the following possibilities but none are quite right:

- A) Graphic Production ???(Technician)
- B) Graphics Production & Computer Specialist
- C) Chief Layout Consultant
- D) Graphics Production Manager

Please fax your suggestions. I'd like to change his title this issue.

Not to worry about us. We're holding the fort, and will let you know if there are any problems. Enjoy and relax. Please let me know when you are thinking of returning. While we greatly miss you, I think we can get through another issue if you want to stay another few weeks. [I can't remember why, but I thought you wanted Jane's no.: (718)875-6913] Be sure to send my regards to Munthit and Stefan.

Best Regards,



P.S. Call my mother.

Tell her all is well here if you have a chance.

Tel: 617 488-7360

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BC-CAMBODIA-ARREST-(PICTURE) Camobodian editor arrested after coup report
By Mark Dodd

PHNOM PENH, July 9 (Reuter) - The editor of a popular Cambodian newspaper was arrested on Saturday after publishing an article linking a senior minister to last weekend's attempted coup.

Nguon Nun, editor of the Morning News newspaper, was detained in police custody after a brief court appearance where according to witnesses he was charged with "incitement effecting internal and external security, spreading a state of panic among the people and undermining public order."

"He was arrested at 1.30 (p.m.). Now noone is allowed to see him -- he is in prison now," said a police officer at the jail.

Nun's arrest came a day after his paper published a story linking Interior Minister Sar Keng with last weekend's failed coup.

"The court asked me if my article affected government officials, and I answered yes because I published some names," said Nun before being taken to prison.

"But they did not ask me whether it was true or not and they did not ask me where I got my information from," he added.

Nun is no stranger to controversy. Last March he was detained for 36 hours after publishing a series of articles implicating senior government officials in car theft.

He was released after the intervention of head of state King Norodom Sihanouk.

On Saturday, Cambodia's two joint interior ministers warned the Khmer media to exercise greater responsibility when reporting events surrounding last weekend's failed coup, which according to the government was led by a former interior minister and a son of Sihanouk.

"We would like the national and international press to cooperate with the royal government to avoid anarchy caused by publications.

"The exaggerations will not only cause unrest among state employees, armed forces and police but will also jeopardise relations between governments," Kheng said.

REUTER Reut11:28 09-07

By Heng Sok Chheng

A POPULAR Khmer language daily newspaper *Koh Santipheap* (Island of Peace) has been reprimanded after publishing a cartoon which some government officials believe ridiculed the King.

The newspaper's June 20-21 edition printed a cartoon titled "To bring the Khmer Rouge to power?". The picture depicts King Sihanouk with drops of sweat pouring from his face hauling a heavy cart loaded with Khmer Rouge leaders through a no-entry street in front of the Council of Ministers building.

KR President Khieu Samphan is seated in the front of the cart armed with a knife and poised to stab the King. Ieng Sary is seated in the middle of the cart and orders Samphan "Don't stab yet." Pol Pot, seated in the back of the cart, is armed with an ax and has an enigmatic smile on his face.

A letter dated June 21 from Funcinpec MP Ahmad Yahya made a complaints to the Ministry of Information. It was obtained by the *Post* and said the newspaper had disparaged King Sihanouk's credibility and dignity. The letter added that the newspaper had insulted people from all walks of life who consider the King as the God of the Cambodian people.

Upon receiving the protest letter the Ministry of Information moved to stop the cartoon's publication and distribution.

In a reply to Yahya's letter dated June 27 Minister of Information Ieng Mouly said he had dealt with the complaint. Mouly's letter said that *Koh Santipheap* editor Oy Thong Pang had promised not to run any more cartoons which could be considered demeaning to the King.

Pang, a veteran journalist with over 20 years experience, said he had no intention with the cartoon to ridicule the King and declined to comment further.

Minister of Information Ieng Mouly told the *Post* the Ministry would not act against newspapers unless it received complaints from members of the public.

"Ordinary people who think an article can damage their credibility or reputation can lodge a complaint and the Ministry will act accordingly," he said.

But Mouly said newspapers should not generate stories that can affect the King's credibility and dignity because he is sacred.

MP Yahya said: "Newspapers should be able to criticize the King if he makes a mistake but they should not ridicule him in cartoons."