

Report on Visit by British Professor and American Journalists

1. Guests' feelings when leaving for their visit

Leaving on a ship for Kamong Cham in the morning, they said that the BBC Radio reported that the Yuon was attacking and advancing into Kampuchea, reaching Kratie. How is the situation? They feared that upon their arrival in Kampong Cham, the situation would not be alright. American Journalist Dudman asked if our ship had any radio to contact Phnom Penh.

All of them felt doubtful. In their mind, they felt:

1. We cannot resist the Yuon. The Yuon has been occupying some parts of the Kampuchean territory.
2. In Kampuchea, insecurity is ubiquitous.
3. People suffer because we violate human rights.

2. About events on the way during the visit

1. The American journalists, especially the woman, mostly photographed what was bad such as children working at the traditional medicine-producing office in Kampong Cham, naked children, children walking in lines from the rice paddy wearing ragged clothes. They photographed combatants they encountered on the way from Kampong Thom to Siem Reap. They photographed our defence combatants...etc. They also photographed our good points but not as actively as they photographed our shortcomings.
2. The woman, Elizabeth Becker, used to live in many provinces: Kampong Cham, Siem Reap, Battambang, Kampot, Kampong Som, Kampong Chhnang....In Siem Reap, she wanted to visit the former Angkor conservation site, but we did not allow it.

3. The American journalists paid attention to the results of our construction, falling short of reaching our people and cadres. As for our cadres, the journalists, especially, the woman, asked questions about their personal history, their pre- and post-liberation activities, asking if they were party candidates or not, when they joined the Party, when they were born, for how long they had been working in this area... etc. Overall, they collected information and photographed our cadres.
4. They demanded meeting with those who used to be with the contemptible Nol and city evacuees. We allowed a meeting with one individual at Preus Meas (ជ្រៃស្រីមាស) cooperative, but they still felt unsatisfied and insisted on meeting—meeting people of their own choosing. We stressed to them that they were American nationals and the American imperialists had killed many Kampuchean people. Therefore, the Kampuchean people still hate the American imperialists a great deal. Then, they gave up the demand.

3. Some impressions by the guests on the way

1. The guest, the British professor, was easy and gentle. He did not ask much and did not take many photos either. But, he wrote a lot of notes. He said of his impression that he had further understood the problems. Upon his return, he would try to explain to his government and British people.
2. Journalist Dudman said of his impression that this visit had removed some of *his* [the italic is a hand writing added] previous views and understanding. So, he was clear about some matters. He made a good impression of the rubber factory. He said that the Yuon could not do that.
3. The woman, Elizabeth Becker, did not have much impression. She said that before she came to Kampuchea, she had not guessed that Kampuchea would receive her as if she were a King's daughter.

4. Additional Request by the Guests

- To meet with Sihanouk or PEN Nuth (ប៉ែន នុត)
- To meet with other ministers
- To meet with people leaving Phnom Penh
- To meet with students from Australia and America. They said that they did not know the names of the students.
- The British professor asked about CHAO Seng (ចៅសែង) and PHOUK Chhay (ហ្វុកឆាយ).
- To visit many people's homes
- To understand solutions to problems with perverts, prostitutes and dissenters of our regime, and prisons or places for re-educating no-good persons.
- To get [list of] the composition of the government and the State Presidium

5. About the views and stance of the American and British governments

1. The woman, Elizabeth Becker, said that the American government did not believe that Yuon could take Kampuchea. [...] that Kampuchea could fight and resist Yuon.
2. Dudman said that previously the American government strongly opposed Kampuchea over human rights issues. They listened to many refugees. Now that the European government has commented that what the refugees has said is not completely true and Yuon is fighting to take Kampuchea, the American government has changed to some extent and begun to understand in light of the problems that the Yuon must not be allowed to swallow Kampuchea. But as for Dudman's visit here, the American Department of State said that after he

concluded his visit in Kampuchea, he should go to Thailand and listen to Khmer refugees in Thailand. Therefore, in his capacity as a journalist, he has to go.

3. The British professor, Malcomm Caldwell, said that the British government strongly opposed Kampuchea and still believed the Yuon.

6. Our examination

1. The British professor sympathizes much with us. He wants to seek much understanding. But he has no firm stance. Staying with the American journalists, he also receives much influence from them. He is a progressive intellectual with much sympathy with us.
2. The two American journalists clearly serve the American government and the CIA as we have precisely identified. Specially, the woman, Elizabeth Becker, just keeps collecting information and spotting our weak points. The two American journalists, in the context of Kampuchean matters, have no disagreement; they agree with each other both on their views and their stance.

7. About further personal history of American journalists

1. The woman, Elizabeth Becker, visited many provinces at the time of war. She said that when we fought Kampong Cham, she was in Tonle Bet.
Next Saturday, she returns to her home country through Hong Kong and Paris.
2. Dudman has been to China twice. He went with the contemptible Nixon for his first visit, and his second visit took place in June 1972. At that time he met Sihanouk. This Saturday, he leaves Kampuchea; he goes to Thailand.

8. Summary: Overall, this visit has made the guests clear to some extent about some issues:

1. They do not believe that the Yuon can occupy the Kampuchean territory, but they have yet to believe that we are able to resist the Yuon for a long period.
2. They note that in Kampuchea there is peace; this regime is firm.
3. People are happy and have enough rice to eat.

But, they are not yet clear about human rights.

In our opinion, they do not understand these matters clearly and easily. No matter what explanation we want to give, they refuse to understand.

The three guests have made much impression, noting that the reality is different from what they have guessed—especially, the American journalists, but both journalists write good or no-good news articles about us, depending only on *the policy of* [the italic is a hand written phrase added] the American government *toward us* [the italic is a hand written phrase added].

Noting our diligence in receiving them, and understanding our stance of independence, mastery, absolute defence of national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, defence of our national dignity, they are more respectful to us than before. They try to be more gentle and cautious than before.

However, they do not throw away their secret goals during this visit. We have to maintain high revolutionary vigilance and further raise the spirit of combat.

We request the visit to go on according to the schedule.

Date: 18.12.78