

# POL POT ON CONFLICT BETWEEN KAMPUCHEA AND VIETNAM

*The following excerpt is taken from an interview with Pol Pot, general secretary of the Communist Party of Kampuchea, who is also Prime Minister of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea. The interview, which was conducted by the Democratic Kampuchea Press Agency on April 12, 1978, focused on the present conflict between Vietnam and Kampuchea. Pol Pot was asked about the position of Democratic Kampuchea on solving the problem. The full text of this interview is available for 50¢ from The Call.*

I have already solemnly declared [our position] on January 17, 1978, and later confirmed it in my interview to the Yugoslav journalists on March 17, 1978. But, today, based on my previous statements, I would like to confirm it once again.

1) Vietnam has to sincerely respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kampuchea, and the right of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea to decide on Kampuchea's affairs. Vietnam must not in any case interfere in the internal affairs of Democratic Kampuchea or carry out activities of subversion, spying, violation, aggression, pounding, machine-gunning, bombing against the territory of Democratic Kampuchea.

2) Vietnam has to respect the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity of Democratic Kampuchea within her territorial and maritime borders that the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam and the Government of Hanoi solemnly declared to recognize in 1966 and 1967.

The Kampuchean people and Democratic Kampuchea are constantly endowed with a genuine goodwill: they wish only to live in peace and security inside their borders, and have friendly relations with all neighboring countries. That is why Kampuchea's people do not want to dig up old accounts.

If it is a question of right of claiming, right of digging up the documents on the borders, of asking for rectification of territorial and maritime borders, only Democratic Kampuchea has these rights.

She has many good reasons to do so. For example, she has the right to raise the problem of Kampuchea Krom, that of



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the Kampuchean islands that the French colonialist regime had bound to the "Cochinchina," and of which the regime of Ngo Dinh Diem and those of Saigon had then taken possession.

Notably, concerning the maritime border, if Democratic Kampuchea would dig up the accounts... the drawing of Kampuchea's maritime border would be situated further to the South of the Brevié's line. But, as Democratic Kampuchea wishes to have friendly relations, she does not dig up these documents.

Let Vietnam not misjudge and think that Kampuchea is naive! Let Vietnam not try to foment all kinds of schemes in order to annex and swallow at its will Kampuchea's territory! Vietnam must be aware that to carry out annexation is injustice, is hostility and would lead Vietnam to failure. The insatiable ambition of swallowing the other's territories is barbarousness and it is contrary to international laws and practices.

In order to have friendship between the two countries, Democratic Kampuchea thinks that Vietnam must absolutely respect the above-mentioned points and abandon forever its idea and plan of "Indochina Federation," its plan of "one party, one country, one people, one

army" as well as its idea and plan of annexing Kampuchea and of putting an end to the Kampuchean race.

Vietnam must abandon not in words, but in deeds forever. If it is not so, the so-called friendship and solidarity, the so-called special friendship and special solidarity, the so-called negotiations do nothing but mislead the Vietnamese people and world opinion.

Facing such a situation, the people and the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea constantly hold aloft their revolutionary vigilance to resolutely defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their country, their national honor and dignity in order to drive out forever the Vietnamese aggressors, annexationists and swallowers of territories, and to inflict on them one defeat after another until the definitive one.

We call upon the Vietnamese side to accept Kampuchea's friendship in the interest of the Kampuchean people and that of the Vietnamese people, for the friendship between Kampuchea and Vietnam, between the Kampuchean people and the Vietnamese people, for the progress, prosperity, peace and security of Kampuchea and Vietnam, as well as for peace and security in the region.