

## Supplement || Japanese Press Interviews Pol Pot

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MOST JAPANESE DAILIES CARRIED PAGE-ONE ARTICLES MORNING DECEMBER 11 BASED ON INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY GROUP OF JAPANESE CORRESPONDENTS WITH POL POT AT BASE CAMP INSIDE KAMPUCHE DECEMBER 8. NHK ALSO FILMED PORTIONS OF INTERVIEW AND VISIT TO CAMP, WHICH WERE BROADCAST EVENING DECEMBER 10. POL POT, IENG SARY AND HIS WIFE IENG THIRITH, DK SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTER, WERE PRESENT AT INTERVIEW. ALL APPEARED IN EXCELLENT HEALTH. BOTH PRESS AND TELEVISION ACCOUNTS PLACED CAMP IN HEAVY JUNGLE ABOUT 5-6 KILOMETERS ACROSS THAI BORDER IN KAMPUCHEA. FOLLOWING INTERVIEW, NHK FILM SHOWED WELL-KEPT LIVING AREA WITH WOMEN ENGAGED IN DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES AND CONTINGENT OF APPROXIMATELY 100 KHMER ROUGE SOLDIERS, ALL YOUNG, WELLFED AND HEAVILY ARMED WITH AUTOMATIC RIFLES, MORTARS AND AMPLE AMMUNITION.

2. IN INTERVIEW, POL POT CLAIMED THAT HIS 50,000 REGULAR TROOPS, LINKED IN NETWORK COVERING ALL KAMPUCHEA, HAD EFFECTIVELY STALLED 200,000-MAN VIETNAMESE OFFENSIVE.

ALTHOUGH ACKNOWLEDGING HIS ADMINISTRATION HAD MADE MISTAKES LEADING TO DEATH OF SEVERAL THOUSAND KAMPUCHEANS, HE ASSERTED VIETNAMESE HAD TRIED TO SHIFT RESPONSIBILITY TO HIM FOR MANY DEATHS THEIR OWN ACTIONS HAD CAUSED. POL POT SAID HE HAD MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH KHMER SERIKA AND FREE KHMER, AND DID NOT REGARD SIHANOUK AS AN ENEMY.

POL POT SAID HE HAD DELEGATED DAY-TO-DAY ADMINISTRATION TO IENG SARY AND KHIEU SAMPHAN. SON SEN WAS SAID TO BE COMMANDING DK TROOPS ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

3. POL POT ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR JAPAN'S CONTINUED RECOGNITION OF HIS REGIME. RESPONDING TO QUESTION ABOUT INTERVIEW, MOFA OFFICIAL TOLD PRESS DECEMBER 10 THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE IN GOJ POLICY OF MAINTAINING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH DK GOVERNMENT.

MANSFIELD