



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 August 1988

Dear Charles ^{POS} 9/8

Letter from Prince Sihanouk to the Prime Minister

at hand
I enclose the original of the letter from Prince Sihanouk to the Prime Minister foreshadowed in Jakarta telegram 279 of 28 July. The message is in response to an earlier one from the Prime Minister and does not require a reply. The Prime Minister will of course have met the Prince during her visit to Thailand.

*2
10/8/88*

L Parker

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/No 10 Downing Street

Norodom Sihanouk
du Cambodge

Jakarta, 28th July 1988

Your Excellency,

The British Embassy in Jakarta has conveyed to me Your Excellency's very thoughtful message, containing Your views on the discussion on Cambodia at the recently held Toronto Economic Summit.

I am particularly grateful to have received Your Excellency's gracious comments and pay homage to Your noble concern and efforts to help my unfortunate people and country. With the assistance of the Leaders of the Free World, like Your Excellency, I hope to be able to save what is left of my country and people.

I am very touched by Your Excellency's personal concern in my people's well-being, as expressed by Your kind decision to visit the Sihanoukist refugee camp of Site B, during the course of Your forthcoming visit to Thailand. May I assure Your Excellency that my people and I are very much looking forward to Your Excellency's visit to our camp, where a most friendly and respectful welcome awaits Your Excellency and Your delegation.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration and personal esteem.

A. Gill

Her Excellency
The Right Honourable Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,
British Prime Minister,
LONDON.

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P. 26





*Mr. P...
cc to*

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

21 July 1988

Your Royal Highness,

I read your message to the Heads of State or Government attending the Toronto Economic Summit with interest. As you will be aware, the summary of the discussion of Cambodia which was read out by the Canadian Foreign Minister after the Summit repeated the Seven's call for the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops and their support for the re-emergence of a free and independent Cambodia.

It remains to be seen whether the Vietnamese Government will abide by their declared intention to withdraw all their troops from Cambodian territory, and will genuinely co-operate in the search for a settlement of the problem acceptable to all the parties concerned. Pressure on Vietnam to co-operate has been, and remains, the primary focus of the efforts of the international community. But it will be essential to ensure that any vacuum created by Vietnamese withdrawal is not filled by the return of Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge. With the support of the international community, you have a unique role to play in the process which we all hope will bring peace and freedom to the Cambodian people.

I look forward to meeting you at the Site B Camp in Thailand on 7 August and again when you make your own working

P...

visit to Britain on 25/26 October when I hope we shall have the opportunity for more substantial discussion.

Yours sincerely

Norodom Sihanouk

His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk

cc PE



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

20 July 1988

Dear Charles

Further to my letter of 17 June to Nigel Wicks I enclose a draft reply from the Prime Minister to the letter which Prince Sihanouk sent to Heads of State or Government attending the Toronto Economic Summit.

The Canadians have not replied in writing on behalf of the Seven, although Clark acknowledged the message orally when he met Sihanouk on 8 July. Nevertheless we believe that a British response would be timely given the Prime Minister's forthcoming visit to Site B, the main Sihanoukist refugee camp in Thailand, and her prospective meeting with Prince Sihanouk again when he visits Britain on 25/26 October.

On 10 July Prince Sihanouk announced his resignation as President of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK). This is not the first time he has done so. As far as we can judge, his reasons are tactical, to distance himself from the Khmer Rouge and to make his position as the head of a neutral Cambodian Government consisting of the CGDK and Heng Samrin factions more credible. He is not expected personally to attend the Jakarta Informal Meeting on 25 July but apparently still intends to play an active part in solving the Cambodian problem.

Although now in France, Sihanouk still plans to be at Site B for the Prime Minister's visit. But he is mercurial and we should try to pin him down. The draft reply is therefore intended to do this, as well as to give him encouragement and reassurance.

If the Prime Minister is content, we shall ask our Embassy in Paris to forward the letter to Prince Sihanouk.

Yours ever

R N Peirce

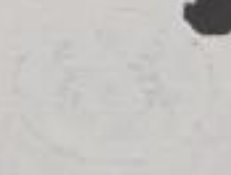
(R N Peirce)
Private Secretary

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10 Downing Street

Ever Pol - Canadian Summit
1125

EVERETT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM: Prime Minister

Reference
LAOAFR

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO: HRH
Prince Norodom Sihanouk

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Copies to:

TO: HRH
PM 2 ACI

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

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CAVEAT.....

It remains to be seen whether the Vietnamese Government will abide by their declared intention to withdraw all their troops from Cambodian territory, and will genuinely co-operate in the search for a settlement of the problem acceptable to all the parties concerned. Pressure on Vietnam to cooperate has been, and remains, the primary focus of the efforts of the international community. But it will be essential to ensure that any vacuum created by Vietnamese withdrawal is not simply filled by the return of Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge. With the support of the international community, you have a unique role to play

Enclosures—flag(s).....

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I look forward to meeting you at the Site B camp in Thailand on 7 August and again when you make your own working visit to Britain on 25/26 October when I hope we shall have the opportunity for more substantial discussion.

