

104TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. 285

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of State should make improvements in Cambodia's record on human rights, the environment, narcotics trafficking and the Royal Government of Cambodia's conduct among the primary objectives in our bilateral relations with Cambodia.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 29, 1996

Mr. ROTH (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of State should make improvements in Cambodia's record on human rights, the environment, narcotics trafficking and the Royal Government of Cambodia's conduct among the primary objectives in our bilateral relations with Cambodia.

Whereas the Paris Peace Accords of 1991 and the successful national elections of 1993 ended the genocide in Cambodia, brought two decades of civil war nearer to cessation, demonstrated the commitment of the Cambodian people to democracy and stability, and led to the creation of a national constitution guaranteeing fundamental human rights;

Whereas since 1991 the international community has contributed almost \$2 billion to peacekeeping and national reconstruction in Cambodia and currently provides over 40 percent of the budget of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC);

Whereas recent events in Cambodia—including the arrest and exile of former Foreign Minister Prince Sirivudh, the expulsion of former Finance Minister Sam Rainsy from the FUNCINPEC Party and the National Assembly, a grenade attack against the independent Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party of Cambodia, mob attacks against pro-opposition newspapers, the assassination of journalist and Khmer National Party member Thun Bunly, and harassment of other journalists—suggest that Cambodia is sliding back into a pattern of violence and repression;

Whereas rampant corruption in the RGC has emerged as a major cause of public dissatisfaction, which—when expressed by opposition politicians and the press—has resulted in government crackdowns;

Whereas Cambodia has been added to the Department of State's list of major narcotics trafficking countries;

Whereas the RGC—in contravention to the Cambodian Constitution—has sanctioned massive deforestation and timber exploitation which has devastated the environment, endangered the livelihoods of many of the country's farmers, and helped finance both the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces and the Khmer Rouge in their civil war; and

Whereas the desire to cite Cambodia United Nations peacekeeping success story has stifled official international expressions of concern about deteriorating conditions in Cambodia: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) among the primary objectives in U.S. policy
3 toward Cambodia should be improvements in Cam-
4 bodia's human rights conditions, environmental and
5 narcotics trafficking record, and the RGC's conduct;

6 (2) the Secretary of State should closely mon-
7 itor preparations for upcoming Cambodian elections
8 in 1997 and 1998 and should attempt to secure the
9 agreement of the RGC to full and unhindered par-
10 ticipation of international observers for those elec-
11 tions to ensure that those elections are held in a free
12 and fair manner complying with international stand-
13 ards;

14 (3) the Secretary of State should support the
15 continuation of human rights monitoring in Cam-
16 bodia by the United Nations, including monitoring
17 through the office of the United Nations Center for
18 Human Rights in Phnom Penh and monitoring by
19 the Special Representative of the United Nations
20 Secretary General for Human Rights in Cambodia;
21 and

22 (4) the Secretary of State should encourage
23 Cambodia's other donors and trading partners to
24 raise concerns with the RGC over Cambodia's

- 1 human rights, environmental, narcotics trafficking,
- 2 and governmental conduct.

