

NEW ATTACK ON KAMPUCHEA?

Over 115,000 Vietnamese troops are massed along the Vietnam-Kampuchea (Cambodia) border, according to recent foreign press reports. The troops are gearing up for a major military offensive against Kampuchea. Within the last week alone, between 10,000 and 15,000 troop reinforcements were sent to the southwestern Vietnamese border.

Already Vietnamese troops have made fresh incursions into Kampuchean territory, according to a recent Phnom Penh radio broadcast. The broadcast also stated that over 950 Vietnamese had been killed between Sept. 1 and Oct. 20 in Vietnamese assaults on Kampuchean forces.

Kampuchean Deputy Prime Minister Ieng Sary referred to the new Vietnamese invasion plans in his Oct. 12 speech to the 33rd session of the United Nations General Assembly:

"At present . . . Vietnam is actively mobilizing its forces in order to prepare to launch a new large-scale attack during the forthcoming dry season, that is, from

next November. Several divisions of the Vietnamese army quartered in foreign territory are also getting ready to carry out this plan."

Along with this military drive, Vietnamese authorities have launched an unsuccessful diplomatic barrage aimed at isolating Kampuchea in Asia. Vietnamese Premier Pham Van Dong offered promises that Vietnam would not give any aid to liberation movements if Asian governments would side with that country.

The source of the Vietnam-Kampuchea conflict lies squarely with the Vietnamese ambition to dominate Kampuchea and ultimately the whole of Southeast Asia. Vietnam wants to create an Indochina Federation to bring Kampuchea under its control.

Vietnam's regional expansionism also fits right into the greater ambitions of the Soviet social-imperialists to control Southeast Asia as part of their drive for worldwide hegemonism. For this reason, Vietnam's new aggressive schemes against

Kampuchea are being heavily backed with Soviet aid.

As Ieng Sary pointed out in his recent UN address: "The activities of the expansionist big power, which increases the number of its advisers and the quantity of its armaments to reinforce Vietnam, constitute an integral part of this plan."

Since 1975, Vietnamese aggression towards Kampuchea has heightened dramatically. The most recent large-scale invasion in January was totally crushed, as were similar previous invasions. Since January, the Vietnamese attempted smaller-scale incursions, all of which were likewise defeated.

Faced with this latest threat, Deputy Prime Minister Ieng Sary affirmed his country's determination to defeat the invaders: "In such a situation the people and the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea constantly heighten their vigilance. They are closely united with the Community Party of Kampuchea . . . in their resolute struggle to defend and ensure the perennality of Democratic Kampuchea."