

K.R.A. LAUNCHES FIERCE COUNTER-ATTACK

"...Vietnam tried recklessly to over-run and annex the whole of Kampuchea in one stroke. However, they cannot wipe us out now, nor can they annex Kampuchea. We fight in accordance with our people's war strategy, and will create conditions to tie them down in a protracted war. This is what the enemy fear most since their hardships will become ever more severe as a result of being bogged down," reported Radio Democratic Kampuchea on January 24th.

REVOLUTIONARY ARMY HITS BACK

Following their *Blitzkrieg* invasion of Kampuchea on December 25th, the Soviet-backed Vietnamese authorities are experiencing what it is like to be on the receiving end of a people's war. They are facing fierce resistance in every area of the country from the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea (KRA) - a spent force according to the capitalist press!

Already this "spent force" has inflicted 14,000 casualties on the 14 divisions of the invading Vietnamese Army, and reports also indicate a number of Russian troops killed. It has liberated most of the Northern provinces; controls Highway 19 and is besieging Stung Treng. In the South it has retaken Takeo, after a 2000 man assault using artillery and armour, and liberated the huge area surrounding Highways 2 and 3. The capital, Phnom Penh, (which has recently been the object of guerrilla attacks within the city boundaries) is isolated from its port of Kompong Som, which is in the hands of the KRA and Vietnam's reinforcements cannot move along Highway 4 because guerrillas have blown up bridges.

The Vietnamese are isolated within the major towns of Sisophon, Mongkol Borei, Battambang and Pursat with the KRA controlling Highway 5, while Siem Reap, Kampot and all neighbouring towns, Stung Treng, Kratie and Chhlong are besieged. The Viet-

namese forces are road-bound and their supply routes the subject of constant daylight guerrilla actions to destroy bridges, and mine roads.

In fact, they are so vulnerable that, just like the Americans before them, they have had to airlift supplies into Phnom Penh and the rice growing areas of Siem Reap and Pursat. The Vietnamese may be able to maintain control of major cities for a long time, by concentrating superior fire power. But the people control the countryside and Vietnamese strength will continue to decline.

Radio Democratic Kampuchea said that wherever the Vietnamese invaders went they were under attack from the Kampuchean people and that their numbers were being decimated; that the deeper they penetrated into the country, the more their military lines become extended and their strength weaker, as a result of which it would be easier to divide and isolate them and eliminate them in small groups.

