

# The CAMBODIA DAILY

All the News Without Fear or Favor

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From left, Thai Ambassador Virachai Plasai, Thai Foreign Affairs Minister Kasit Piromya, Cambodian Foreign Affairs Secretary of State Long Visalo, Cambodian Joint Boundary Committee Chairman Var Kimhong and Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong are seen yesterday at the International Court of Justice in The Hague. The UN court ordered both countries to pull their troops from around Preah Vihear temple.

Reuters

## UN Court Orders Troops to Pull Out From Preah Vihear

Demilitarized zone established around temple

By ZSOMBOR PETER AND NEOU VANNARIN  
THE CAMBODIA DAILY

The International Court of Justice yesterday ordered both Thai and Cambodian troops out of a newly drawn demilitarized zone around the 11th-century temple of Preah Vihear and the violently contested land around it.

The decision fell short of Cambodia's hopes that the UN's top court would order only Thai troops out of the area. But it also dashed Thailand's hopes that the court would throw the case out on grounds of jurisdiction.

Cambodia asked the Nether-

lands-based court to order Thai troops off its territory around the temple in late April, amid border clashes between the neighbors that left more than 20 soldiers dead and displaced nearly 100,000 civilians.

Instead, the court drew a demilitarized zone around the temple and, by a vote of 11 to five, ordered both sides to pull their troops out.

"The Court finds that both parties must immediately withdraw their military personnel currently present in the provisional demilitarized zone defined by it, and refrain from any military presence within that zone and from

*Continued on page 2*

## Petraeus Relinquishes Afghan Command for Top Spot at CIA

REUTERS

KABUL - General David Petraeus, Washington's new intelligence chief, handed over command of US and NATO-led troops in Afghanistan on Monday, a day after a tentative start was made to a gradual process of transferring security to Afghan forces.

Petraeus, credited with reversing a spiral toward civil war in Iraq, took over in Afghanistan a year ago after his predecessor, General Stanley McChrystal, was sacked by US President Barack Obama for comments made in a magazine story.

He is leaving the military to take over as director of the Central Intelligence Agency as part of a wi-

der shake-up of senior US security officials and takes over from Leon Panetta, the new US defense secretary.

Petraeus, who hands over authority to US Marine Corps General John Allen, oversaw a "surge" of 30,000 extra US forces that helped stop the momentum of a growing insurgency, especially in the Taliban heartland in the south. He led a similar escalation of forces that helped turn around the Iraq conflict in 2007 and 2008.

However, despite gains in violent southern provinces during Petraeus' year in charge, the Taliban-led insurgency is still far from quelled.

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## Senior Karzai Adviser Killed in Kabul Attack

By MARIA ABI-HABIB AND ZIA SULTANI  
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

KABUL - Insurgents killed a senior adviser to Afghan President Hamid Karzai at his Kabul home on Sunday night, the second assassination in a week of an influential official from southern Afghanistan and a major setback to the government's power there.

Jan Mohammed Khan, the former governor of southern Uruzgan province, was killed when at least

two insurgents burst into his home at about 8 pm local time, police officials said. Fighting continued for three hours after the attack as police battled insurgents holed up inside the residence.

The Taliban took responsibility for the attack, which also killed Mohammed Hashem Watanwal, a parliamentarian from Uruzgan who was visiting Khan at the time.

"He was on the Taliban target list," the insurgents said in an e-mailed statement. "The Taliban of

Uruzgan kept following him and finally the operation was successful today."

Khan was a key player in the push to open peace negotiations with the Taliban. His death, Afghan and Western officials said, is likely a sign from insurgents that they aren't interested in talks with the government.

Khan was a close ally to the Karzai family and a key strongman in southern Afghanistan. His death

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## AND ALSO

## Austrian Strains for Acceptance

BY ELIZABETH FLOCK  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON - Niko Alm, an Austrian atheist who in 2008 posed for his driver's license photo with an upturned pasta colander on his head only to be turned away, has won his battle with the authorities.

Alm, who belongs to the satirical Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster, argued that if Muslim women could wear head scarves

when posing for their driving license photos—a special exemption—he should be able to as well.

Three years later, with the help of a doctor's note proving he is "psychologically fit" to drive, Alm has obtained a license, kitchen headwear photo and all.

"I consider privileges due to religious or any other type of belief as anti-democratic. So I wanted...the same exception," Alm said.

## NEWSMAKERS

IN LOS ANGELES - A new controversy over Oscar winner JANE FONDA'S Vietnam War activism caused the actress to come out swinging against US home shopping network QVC on Saturday, over what she described as its caving in to "extremist" pressure to cancel her appearance. In a blog posting on showbusiness website TheWrap.com, Fonda wrote that she was scheduled to appear on QVC to introduce her book "Prime Time" about aging and life cycles. But the network, Fonda wrote, reported receiving a flood of angry calls regarding her anti-war activism of the 1960s and 1970s, and decided to cancel Fonda's appearance. "I am, to say the least, deeply disappointed that QVC caved to this kind of insane pressure by some well-funded and organized political extremist groups," Fonda wrote. QVC acknowledged Fonda's appearance was canceled, but said it was because of a "programming change." (Reuters)

## Troops...

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any armed activity directed at that zone," the ICJ said in a statement released immediately after presenting its decision yesterday.

Given the recent fighting and the threat of more, the court added that "in order to ensure that no irreparable damage was caused, there was an urgent need for the presence of all armed forces to be temporarily excluded."

The World Heritage Site was scarred by small arms and rocket fire during four days of border fighting in early February.

A map published along with yesterday's decision diplomatically omits any border lines but draws the demilitarized zone around both the temple and most, if not all, of the disputed 4.6 square km immediately to its north and west.

Additionally, it orders Thailand not to obstruct Cambodia's access to the temple itself to resupply "non-military personnel."

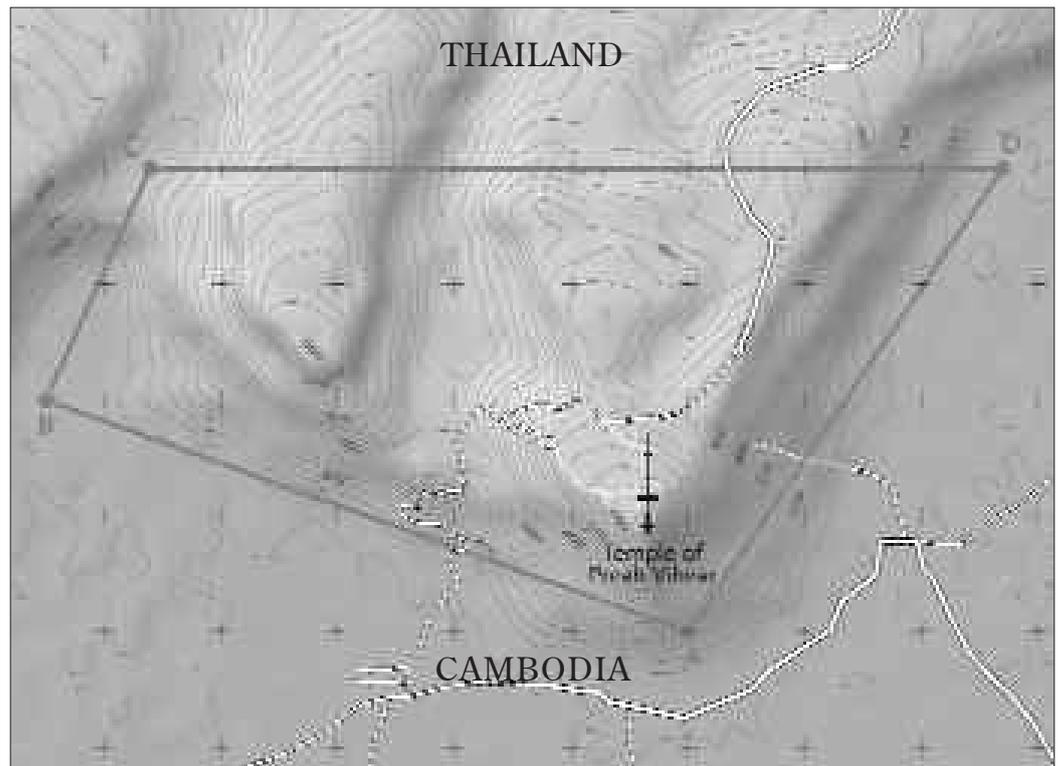
By a vote of 15 to 1, the ICJ also urged the neighbors to resume stalled talks on demarcating their border and to let in the Indonesian observers they agreed in principle to host in February in order to monitor an unofficial cease-fire there.

Thailand has delayed the observers' arrival by refusing to give them access to the disputed 4.6 square km.

In an interview broadcast on Cambodian television yesterday evening, Foreign Affairs Minister Hor Namhong, speaking from The Hague, welcomed the decision.

"Cambodia is very happy to accept the decision of the court, because we achieved our two major goals," he said. "First, we gained a permanent cease-fire by having Thai troops ordered out of the area. Second, we can get Indonesian observers into the area, which we wanted for a long time."

As for the new demilitarized



A map released by the International Court of Justice yesterday shows the demilitarized zone created around Preah Vihear temple from which it has ordered Thai and Cambodian troops to withdraw immediately. Reuters

zone, the minister called it a useful stop-gap measure to protect the temple from further damage but said Cambodian police stationed at the site would stay put.

Military officials declined to comment on the ruling.

Despite Thailand's failed bid to have the case thrown out, Thai Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Thani Thongphakdi said his government would respect the court decision.

"Thailand is satisfied with the order...and of course Thailand will respect the decision of the court and honor the obligations placed upon it," he said.

And though the court ordered troops to withdraw "immediately," Mr Thani said that details, including a timetable for withdrawal, would have to be worked out in talks with Cambodia.

In June, The Bangkok Post quoted Thai Defense Minister

Prawit Wongsuwan vowing he would order his troops out of the disputed area only if the court ordered Cambodia to do the same.

Yesterday's decision, however, still leaves unanswered the much larger matter of ownership of land around the temple.

Cambodia asked the court to settle that very question once and for all in its April 28 letter to the ICJ. But as that decision could take months, if not years, Phnom Penh also asked the court to order Thai troops out of the area in the meantime.

Specifically, Cambodia in April asked the court to "interpret" a 1962 decision in which it awarded ownership of the temple itself to Cambodia on the strength of a colonial-era French map. Though the map clearly places the disputed 4.6 square km inside Cambodia as well, the two countries disagree on whether the 1962

ruling specifically addresses its ownership.

Cambodia and Thailand made their cases for and against during a two-day hearing at The Hague in late May. Cambodia argued that the ICJ's 1962 ruling awarded it both the temple and the land next to it, Thailand argued that the court had no jurisdiction to even rule on the matter.

In February, Cambodia tried and failed to have the UN Security Council intervene following armed clashes with Thai forces.

After hearing out both sides at its Washington headquarters, the Council decided to hand the problem off to Asean, which failed to make headway and watched helplessly as more deadly border fighting erupted in April.

It was at that point that Cambodia turned to the ICJ for help.