

Bush aide: Pol Pot stops stability

By MIKE NETHERLAND
Collegian Staff Writer

Former Cambodian leader Pol Pot, now leading the strongest faction resisting the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia, represents the key obstacle to stability in Southeast Asia, a White House adviser said last night.

"You can work out a very complicated scenario that would lead to an ultimate stabilization of the area, but the thing you can't swallow is 'what do you do with Pol Pot?'" said Donald P. Gregg, national security adviser to Vice President George Bush.

Gregg, who worked for the Central Intelligence Agency for more than 30 years, spoke in the Kern Assembly Room last night on U.S. foreign policy toward Asia. His speech, followed by a reception, was sponsored by the University's East Asian Studies Society and the Asian Area Studies Committee as part of the AsiaF Festival.

Cambodia has been enmeshed in guerilla warfare since it was invaded by Vietnam in 1979. Pol Pot, whose brutally repressive regime sent millions of Cambodians fleeing, is one of three leaders of factions fighting the Vietnamese. The other two, Son Sann and Prince Sihanouk of the old ruling family, represent more moderate leadership — neither, however, have



Donald P. Gregg

Photo by Paul Chiland

strong armies.

"I think there is the recognition in (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) that if the people in Cambodia were asked to vote what they would prefer — a Vietnamese withdrawal and a revival of Pol Pot or a continuation of Vietnamese occupation — they would vote for the Vietnamese," he said.

Gregg said he is doubtful that guer-

rilla war will spill into Thailand despite recent incursions by Vietnamese troops into rebel camps on the Thai border.

Though the Hanoi government is aggressive militarily, Gregg said it is no political threat in the area.

"No one in Asia wants to copy what Vietnam is doing," he said. "Vietnam is regarded as an economic basket case, as a disaster."

Social Security:

Reagan signs \$165 billion rescue plan

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And he had to use that middle initial, W for Wilson, because, as he explained, "I forgot and signed two letters with one pen."

Reagan said the landmark legislation "demonstrates for all time our nation's ironclad commitment to Social Security. It assures the elderly that America will always keep the promises made in troubled times a half century ago."

"It assures those who are still working that they, too, have a pact with the future. From this day forward, they have our pledge that they will get their fair share of benefits when they retire."

The gala event climaxed two years of pitched political battles on the Social Security's troubles and how to remedy them. The ceremony also marked a truce in the skirmishes Reagan has been engaged in with members of Congress about defense, budget and foreign policy issues.

O'Neill said, "It shows, as the president said, the system does work. This is a happy day for America."

Senate Majority Leader Howard H. Baker Jr., said it represented "a successful conclusion of another chapter in the real greatness of the American political system — that is, the subordination of our own particular political ambition in favor of the greater good."

O'Neill, Baker and Reagan each appointed five members of the commission that produced the compromise on Jan. 15 after a flurry of last minute negotiations with the White House.

The reforms will generate \$165 billion in new revenues or savings for Social Security between now and the end of 1989, and experts from Congress and the Social Security Administration agree they will also wipe out all of the system's long-term deficit of \$1.9 trillion. That figure represents how much the system would need in its trust funds to stay in the black during the next 75 years without any reforms.

The 36 million beneficiaries will have to wait from July until next January for their annual cost-of-living increase, expected to be about 3.5 percent. That delay will

cost a typical retiree about \$13 or \$14, or roughly \$80 during the six months.

The payroll tax on employers will rise from 6.7 percent to 7-percent next January. The package also includes a tax hike in 1988-89, when the rate will be 7.51 percent. The self-employed, who now contribute 9.35 percent to Social Security, will pay 11.3 percent in 1984 and 13.02 percent by 1988.

Retirees will have to pay income tax on half their benefits starting in 1984 if their adjusted gross income plus half their Social Security exceeds \$25,000 for individuals or \$32,000 for couples.

Next January, Reagan, Vice President George Bush, all members of Congress, judges and 3,000 other top government managers will be forced to join Social Security, along with all new civil servants.

Everyone born since 1938 — those now 45 or younger — will have to wait from two months to two years longer to draw full retirement benefits.

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International Council film, 6 p.m., Room 111 Boucke.
Commodore Microcomputer Users Group meeting, 7 p.m., Room 225 HUB.
Kern Classics, Bedazzled, 7 and 9 p.m., Room 112 Kern.
Science Student Council meeting, 7 p.m., Room 324 HUB.
Delta Sigma Pi lecture, 7 p.m., Room 211-E Hum. Dev.
Yachad film, 7:30 p.m., Room 273 Willard.
Ad. Club meeting/lecture, 7:45 p.m., Room 67 Willard.

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