used forms of Maoist beliefs to destroy the culture of Cambodia and make robots of the Cambodian society who would follow every order without question. Some Cambodians made up their own “counter-slogans” to show their opposition to the Khmer Rouge. What I found most helpful about the slogans was that they helped me understand what the leaders of the Khmer Rouge were thinking as they began their revolutionary changes in Cambodia. Cambodian’s had used “sayings, rhymes and proverbs” for centuries so using slogans was “at the heart of Cambodian culture.” I used this information to explain how the Khmer Rouge manipulated the uses of slogans to brainwash the Khmer people.


David Model is a professor of political science at Seneca College in Toronto, Ontario Canada. He has presented several papers at international academic conferences, including Cambridge and Oxford. What helped me in this book was the section on President Richard Nixon, Henry Kissinger, and the bombing of Cambodia. It discussed the events that caused Sihanouk to break away from the United States, particularly the U.S. involvement in the assassination of Vietnam’s president Ngo Dinh Diem. Sihanouk’s reaction to the plot caused Cambodia to move toward the communists.


This book covers President Nixon’s years in the White House. However, I used only the portion on the Menu Campaign, Nixon’s secret bombing missions in Cambodia. What helped me the most was learning that the designations Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, and Brunch represented geographical areas inside Cambodia. It also helped me understand why Nixon did not trust Congress with the truth about these missions and authorized “deliberately false Air Force record keeping” to keep his secret. This information helped me explain Nixon’s reaction to the Viet Cong who camped inside Cambodia’s borders.

Thesis


This thesis discusses the difficulties Cambodians faced under the Vietnamese-backed People’s Republic of Kampuchea (PRK). What helped the most was the description of Cambodia as it tried to recover from the Khmer Rouge. I used this information to explain the difficulties Cambodians faced after the Khmer Rouge implemented its reforms and the reaction that the Vietnamese had to the Khmer Rouge’s treatment of its people who lived in Cambodia.

Periodicals


Although this source appears to be biased against the U.S., the information listed had good references to back up the statements. It explained that after the U.S. lost the war in Vietnam, it could not support Cambodia once Vietnam forces came in and took over. What I found most interesting was that the U.S. supported Pol Pot even though he led a Marxist-Communist organization that had committed terrible crimes in Cambodia. This information helped me explain the U.S. reaction to the Vietnamese takeover of Cambodia in 1979.


Pratap Chaterjee is a journalist and editor at CorpWatch. This article covers Operation Breakfast and the history of how the Khmer Rouge came to power in Cambodia. He interviewed several members of the Khmer Rouge to find out why they joined the group. What was very helpful was that he also made some comparisons to what is going on in the world today. I used this information to explain why Nixon’s bombings caused ordinary Cambodians to join the Khmer Rouge.


This article describes the U.S. bombing campaign in Cambodia during the 1960s and 1970s. Taylor and Kiernan’s research suggests that the bombing actually started during the Johnson administration in 1965 and then escalated in 1969 under President Nixon. The Khmer Rouge used the bombings as propaganda to turn the Khmer people against Americans and Lon Nol’s government. The destruction from the bombings resulted in refugees from all over Cambodia fleeing to safety in the capitol of Phnom Penh. I used this information to explain why the Khmer people supported the Khmer Rouge instead of Lon Nol.


This article gave a complete overview on Pol Pot and the events that led up to his revolution in Cambodia. What was also helpful was learning how his actions and government impacted the people of Cambodia. This was one of my first sources so it helped me understand the basic information about the Khmer Rouge and it had a bibliography of sources that I used to find out more information.


This article gives an overview of Pol Pot’s rise to power and the impact that the Khmer
Rouge had on Cambodia. It helped me understand the reforms he implemented and the result that they had on the Cambodian people.


Phil Rees is a reporter for the BBC News who interviewed Nuon Chea, one of Pol Pot’s loyal followers for more than 30 years. Nuon is the “most senior surviving member” of the Khmer Rouge and has no remorse for being a key part of the genocide in Cambodia. Rees explained the U.N. reaction to the Cambodian government’s refusal to let international law rule over Cambodia’s laws. This information helped me understand why some world leaders and many of the victims think the war crimes trials in Cambodia are corrupt.


This article discussed a man named Youk Chhang, a survivor of the Cambodian killing fields who is using primary sources from the tribunals to teach students about the Khmer Rouge. For decades, no one in Cambodia has talked about what the Khmer Rouge did during the 1970 because many of the people in Cambodia today were members. Chhang thinks that the tribunals offer an opportunity to teach about the past and let people ask hard questions about why this happened. I used this information to explain one area where the war crimes trials are having a positive effect in Cambodia today.


This article discussed how Mao Zedong came to power and covers the Cultural Revolution he implemented. He was a big influence in Southeast Asia during the time of the Khmer Rouge. What helped me the most was learning that the communism he started in China also cost millions of lives, possibly as many as 20 million.

Internet


This site contained information on Cambodia’s history from ancient times today. It helped me understand some of the major issues that allowed the Khmer Rouge to take over Cambodia and the immediate steps it took to silence anyone who was against them. What helped the most was learning the impact that those steps had on Cambodia after the Khmer Rouge government was gone. It also helped me explain the world reaction to the reforms they made during that time.

This article discusses the Khmer Rouge regime. *Year Zero* was Pol Pot’s term for returning Cambodia to an agrarian society. Security Office 21 [S-21], was a prison the Khmer Rouge created in an old high school building. There they interrogated or eliminated anyone who opposed their government. In the killing fields, at least 1.7 million people died. This article helped me understand the methods the Khmer Rouge used to implement its reforms. A major reaction to their tactics was that Cambodia had no leaders left to guide Cambodia’s recovery after the Khmer Rouge left.


This article describes the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia in 1979. The Khmer Rouge forces were weak and could not defend against Vietnam forces. Vietnam initially said it had no forces in Cambodia, but later said the invasion was for humanitarian purposes. The remaining Khmer Rouge forces fled to the forests near the Thai border. I used information from this article to describe the Khmer Rouge reaction to the invasion and to explain that the Khmer Rouge reverted back to their old ways of fighting from the remote areas of the forests.


Andy Carvin is a Senior Strategist on the Social Media Desk for National Public Radio and a PBS online teacher. From 1999 to 2001, he served on the Board of Directors for the Asia/Pacific Center for Justice and Peace, a consortium that promotes democracy, freedom of speech, and freedom of religion across Asia. Although he is biased toward democracy, Carvin used primary source documents in his research to give a balanced view of how Prince Sihanouk worked both sides of the fence [communism vs. democracy] during his reign in Cambodia. What helped me the most was his description of how Sihanouk kept switching sides during his reign in order to stay in power, which basically made him paranoid that both sides were trying to overthrow his government. I used this information to explain how Sihanouk tried to keep Cambodia neutral during the Vietnam War.

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This article explains how Lon Nol took over the Cambodian government from Sihanouk. Lon Nol was pro-Western and supported by the U.S.; Sihanouk looked for support from China and North Vietnam while still trying to maintain Cambodia’s neutral status. After he was exiled to China, he called for a rebellion against Lon Nol’s forces, which inspired the Khmer Rouge
rebellion. When America began to bomb Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge had a common enemy on which to focus its followers and civil war broke out in Cambodia. This article helped me understand the problems that Lon Nol’s government faced because of the American bombings.

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This article discusses the corruption that developed in Lon Nol’s forces from bribery and his lack of leadership. Lon Nol suffered from a series of strokes and left Phnom Penh for America. His supporter who remained in Cambodia wanted to initiate peace talks, but the Khmer Rouge refused. Lon Nol supporters declined the U.S. invitation to evacuate and were later killed by the Khmer Rouge. Members of the U.S. Embassy had to be evacuated from Cambodia. On April 17, 1975, Khmer Rouge marched into Phnom Penh, which technically ended the civil war, and began to implement their reforms to make Cambodia a “utopian communist society.” This information helped me explain the change from Lon Nol’s government to that of the Khmer Rouge.

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This article explains Nixon’s Operation Menu campaign to bomb Viet Cong and North Vietnam Army forces hiding in camps along Cambodia’s eastern border. Nixon wanted to conduct these bombings in secret because he was afraid that the American people might begin protests. To protect his secret, he authorized that any attempts to expose the bombings should be stopped. I used this information to explain Nixon’s reaction to Vietnamese camps inside Cambodia’s borders.

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This article discusses the U.S. evacuation of Cambodia and the corruption in Lon Nol’s forces that gave an advantage to the Khmer Rouge. Nixon did not take the Khmer Rouge seriously. He thought that the Paris Peace Accords with Hanoi would bring peace to the region because when U.S. troops pulled out of Vietnam, he expected the North Vietnamese to pull out of Cambodia as well. I used this information to explain why the U.S. evacuated Cambodia and how Nixon’s misjudgment of the situation in Cambodia led to the Khmer Rouge takeover.


This source is a comprehensive chronology of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia. It gives a step-by-step view of how the courts were formed and the problems that the international community faced in trying to establish war crimes trials for the Khmer Rouge
leaders who cause the Cambodian genocide. I used information from this source to explain when
the U.S. adopted the Cambodian Genocide Justice Act.


Vincent Cook is a contributing writer for The Museum of Communism at George Mason University in Virginia. The museum is an online, "virtual" museum that provides historical, economic, and philosophical analysis of the political movement known as Communism. In this article he discusses the rise of Pol Pot’s Khmer Rouge party and its impact on Cambodia. It helped me understand that Pol Pot tried to totally implement the ideals of Karl Marx. I used this information in my introduction to Pol Pot.


This paper covers environmental issues that Cambodia faces today. Even though many of the land mines have been removed, the deforestation and the remaining land mines have caused 35% of Cambodia’s land to remain unusable today. I used this information to explain the result of America’s carpet bombings and land mines on Cambodia.


This is an image of one of the mass graves in Cambodia. I used it in my appendix to show the genocide that occurred because of Khmer Rouge government policies to purge ethnic and political enemies and educated people from Cambodia.


This article discusses how Lon Nol took over the Cambodian government from Prince Sihanouk. It helped me understand that when the United States left Vietnam in 1973, Cambodia and South Vietnam could no longer defend themselves against communist forces. Lon Nol’s forces were finally defeated by the Khmer Rouge in April 1975, which eventually caused the “killing fields” in Cambodia. I used this information to explain why Cambodia and South Vietnam fell to communism as a result of the U.S. leaving the area.

This website focuses mainly on the history of Cambodia. What helped me the most was the explanation of the impact that the Khmer Rouge had on the Cambodian people. They basically turned everyone into slaves, and anyone who disagreed with them was killed. This helped me explain the effect that the Khmer Rouge government had on Cambodia at the time they were in power.


This document is a timeline of events in Cambodia beginning in 1863 and ending in July 2011. This helped me understand when specific events happened in Cambodia and made it easier for me to keep all of the details about Cambodia in chronological order.


This article is published by the United Nations Organization and explains the background on the role the U.N. took in Cambodia after Khmer Rouge forces were defeated. The Security Council could not take any action at first because permanent members of the U.N. disagreed. For ten years, though, the U.N. called for the Vietnamese to withdraw from Cambodia and provided relief assistance to approximately 300,000 Cambodian people who went to Thailand. Finally, France arranged a meeting with the three opposition parties of the Cambodian government, Prince Shianouk, the United National Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC], and the Khmer Rouge [PDK] and the Prime Minister of the Cambodian government, Hun Sen. I used this information to explain U.N. reaction to the Vietnamese takeover of Cambodia.


This article helped me understand the connection between Marxism and Vladimir Lenin. I used it to discuss the first time Marxist ideals were used to start a revolution.

Images


This is an image of the domino theory showing America on one side and the Viet Cong on the other. I used it in my appendix to show a visual of the domino theory because that was a major factor in why America became involved in Vietnam and its bordering countries in Southeast Asia during the Cold War.

This is a photo of one of the excavation pits in Cambodia, exposing the bones of people who were executed and buried during the genocide. I used it in my appendix to show an image of the destruction caused by the Khmer Rouge.


This is a map of the Ho Chi Minh Trail that I used in my appendix to show the routes from Sihanoukville to North Vietnam used by the Chinese and Viet Cong.


This is a photo showing in red the areas hit by U.S. carpet bombs from 1965 – 1973. I used this photo in my appendix to show the areas affected by covert American bombing attacks.