

endorsing the opposition coalition's claim to Cambodia's UN seat, our objective is to achieve a truce and genuine elections in which the Cambodian people would be free to reject the Khmer Rouge.

In comparison even with the difficult case of Namibia, achieving this outcome under international supervision in Cambodian conditions is going to be immensely challenging. The harsh reality is that the Khmer Rouge is militarily dominant in the coalition and presumably understands the likelihood of its rejection in a free election, in which case it will prefer alternative routes.

In this kind of quandary, outside countries like Canada face very uncomfortable choices and responsibilities. With the principle of non-intervention now formally restored by the Vietnamese withdrawal, it is possible to acknowledge the Hun Sen government as a plausible (and demonstrably more humane) alternative to any Khmer Rouge dominated government. Canada could act to permit humanitarian aid in Cambodia through non-governmental organizations and take additional measures to recognize the changed status of the parties and counter the real dangers that the international community may have inadvertently enhanced the prospects of a Khmer Rouge return. External Affairs Minister Clark has charged Ambassador Allan Sullivan with a special mission to seek out options, and Canadians will applaud any substantial step away from the extremely distasteful possibilities that may have been strengthened by the formalistic United Nations decision in November.

Endnotes

1. *The Independent*, 21 November 1989, page 14.
2. See Appendix I for a list of wars and war-related deaths, 1945–1989. Reproduced with permission from *World Military and Social Expenditures 1989*, by Ruth Leger Sivard. Copyright © 1989 by World Priorities, Box 25140, Washington D.C. 20007, USA.
3. Driedger and Munton "The 1989 CIIPS Public Opinion Survey," December 1989, page 44.
4. These estimates, in constant 1985 dollars, are taken from the 1989 SIPRI Yearbook.
5. *Christian Science Monitor*, 8 December 1989, page 3.