



Jimmy Carter Library & Museum **News Release**

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For Immediate Release

Date: April 4, 2005

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Release: NEWS05-16

Carter Library Documents Describe the Fall of Cambodia *30th Anniversary of U.S. Evacuation of Phnom Penh on April 12th*

ATLANTA, GA. – The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library marks the 30th anniversary of the U.S. evacuation of Cambodia with the opening of personal files of the former U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia, John Gunther Dean. In April, 1975 *Newsweek* magazine and numerous newspaper front pages carried the dramatic photograph of Ambassador Dean and his staff leaving the embassy in Phnom Penh with the American flag. Their departure became a symbol of America's withdrawal from Indo-China after years of warfare.

At the same time, the evacuation and the period preceding it enabled an American team in Phnom Penh to save thousands of Cambodians, other Asians, Europeans and Americans who otherwise could have been taken by the Kmer Rouge.

Ambassador Dean donated his personal papers to the Carter Presidential Library in 2004. His files covering the period March 1974 through April 1975 are now open for research. These papers are of particular interest at this time because of the possibility of the holding of a trial of Kmer Rouge rule in the months ahead. Also available are files documenting Ambassador Dean's career from 1959 to 1978 in Togo, Mali, France, Vietnam, Laos, and Denmark.

For additional information, contact the Carter Presidential Library at 404-865-7100 or visit our website at www.jimmycarterlibrary.org.