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Enforcement and Removal

07/03/2019

ICE removes 37 Cambodian nationals



WASHINGTON – Thirty-seven Cambodian nationals, most convicted criminals, were repatriated to Cambodia, Tuesday, in accordance with their final removal orders following immigration court proceedings.

Among these 37 individuals were 35 convicted criminals, who traveled via a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) ICE Air Operations (IAO) flight from Dallas, Texas to their home country.

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Their combined criminal convictions include: three counts of murder, two counts of rape, two counts of aggravated assault, five counts of aggravated assault with a weapon, two counts of assault, sexual assault, three counts of attempted murder, burglary, child abuse, lewd act on a minor, driving under the influence, larceny, stolen property, two counts of firearm possession, two weapon offenses, traffic offence, forgery, three counts of robbery, resisting arrest, auto theft, and seven drug convictions.

“ERO carries out its mission to remove aliens who present a danger to national security or are a risk to public safety, as well as those who undermine the integrity of our immigration laws with the utmost professionalism daily, and often in the face of adversity,” said Acting Assistant Director for Removals, Jeffrey Lynch. “This most recent removal flight took 35 criminals, many convicted of the most heinous possible crimes, off our streets and made our communities safer.”

The flight arrived in Phnom Penh, Thursday, July 4, where the Cambodian nationals were turned over to Cambodian authorities.

As a result of ICE’s continued diplomatic efforts in coordination with our partners at the Department of State, the implementation of visa sanctions, and the tireless efforts of the ERO Removals Division, removals to Cambodia increased 279% from Fiscal Year 2017 to Fiscal Year 2018. However, there are still approximately 1,900 Cambodian nationals present in the United States with a final order of removal, of whom almost 1,400 are convicted criminals.

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