Chet Duong Daravuth

Background:

Chet Duong Daravuth was a reporter for the Neak Prayuth (The Fighter) newspaper.

Details of Incident:
Daravuth was killed in a grenade attack on 30 March 1997, while covering a Khmer National Party (KNP) rally outside the National Assembly, at which opposition leader Sam Rainsy was speaking. Eyewitnesses suggest that four grenades were thrown into the crowd. Estimates vary, but around 20 people were killed in the attack, and over 100 injured, 18 of them being journalists.

Numerous eyewitnesses reported that the heavily armed soldiers (Hun Sen's personal bodyguards, the notorious 'Brigade-70'), standing 200 meters behind the demonstrators allowed two people who were seen throwing grenades to run past them and to escape. However, when demonstrators attempted to pursue them, they were stopped at gun-point by the bodyguards.

Aftermath:
A team of investigators from the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) visited Cambodia to investigate the attack. The FBI was close to solve the case when its lead investigator was suddenly ordered out of the country by the US ambassador, who told them that they had been targeted for assassination and could not be afforded adequate protection.

According to US government sources, a report produced by the FBI team tentatively pinned responsibility for the blasts, and the subsequent interference, on Brigade-70. The report also indicated that Cambodian police had previous knowledge of the attack.
None of the killers has come to trial-

Sources:
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