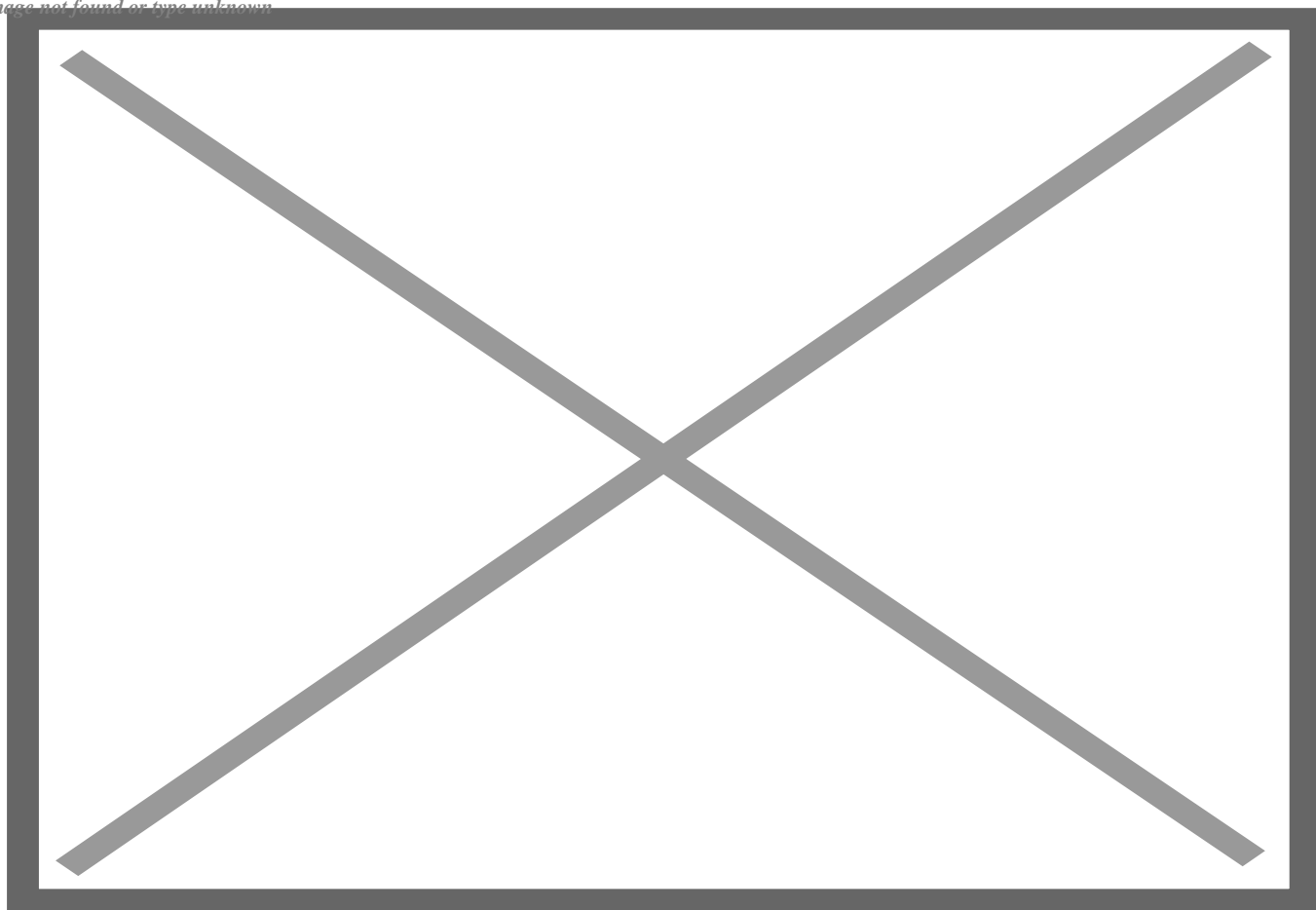


# *Cuba's deputy foreign minister begins visit to Cambodia*

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**Gerardo Peñalver**

Phnom Penh, September 1 (RHC)-- Cuba's First Deputy Foreign Minister Gerardo Peñalver is beginning a three-day visit to Cambodia on Thursday, the second stage of a working tour of Indochinese nations.

A Prensa Latina report says that while in the country, the Cuban diplomat will arrange the exchange of high-level visits between the two countries and discuss the plan to increase the bilateral relationship, quoting Cuban Ambassador Liurka Rodriguez.

According to the program, Peñalver will meet the president of the Cambodian National Assembly, Heng Samrin, deputy prime minister and head of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Prak Sokhonn.

Cambodia and Cuba established diplomatic relations on April 15, 1960, and according to the island's first deputy minister, bilateral political ties are excellent.

Peñalver arrived in Phnom Penh from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, where he completed an intense work program.

There he held meetings with the deputy secretary of the Communist Party, Nguyen Van Hieu, to whom he thanked for a donation of 250 thousand dollars to contribute to the recovery of the damages caused by a devastating fire in the industrial zone of the western Cuban province of Matanzas.

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