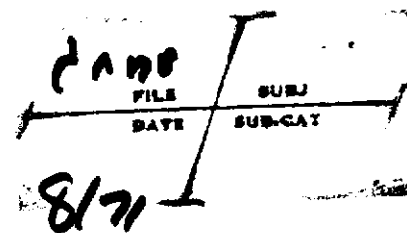


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CHOU GIVES BANQUET FOR CAMBODIAN 'SPECIAL ENVOY'

Peking NCNA International Service in English 0046 GMT 28 Aug 71 B

[Text] Peking, August 27 (HSINHUA)--Chou En-lai, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and premier of the State Council, gave a grand banquet at the Great Hall of the People here this evening to warmly welcome Mr Ieng Sary, special envoy of the interior part of the Royal Government of National Union and the National United Front of Cambodia.

Attending the banquet were Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Sihanouk, and Samdech Penn Nouth, prime minister of the Royal Government of National Union and chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Penn Nouth.

Others in the seats of honour were:

Sarin Chhak, minister of foreign affairs of the RGNUG;

Hgo Thuyen, ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to China;

Tran Binh, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Embassy of the Republic of South Vietnam in Peking;

Laotian friends General Huon Mongkhunvilay and Madame Mongkhunvilay; and

Kim Chae-suk, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Peking, and Madame Kim Chae-suk.

Attending the banquet were Chinese party and state leaders Huang Yung-sheng, Chang Chun-chiao, Yao Wen-yuan, Li Hsien-nien, Yeh Chien-ying, Wu Fa-hsien and Kuo Mo-jo; Wu Te, vice chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee; Keng Piao, head of the International Liaison department of the CPC Central Committee; Acting Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei; and comrades Lin Chia-mei, Yu Li-chun and Hsu Han-ping.

Huge portraits of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia, and Chairman Mao, the great leader of the Chinese people, were hung side by side on the curtain on the rostrum of the banquet hall. The portraits were flanked by the national flags of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the People's Republic of China. The band played a song of welcome as Samdech and Madame Sihanouk, Samdech and Madame Penn Nouth, and Special Envoy Ieng Sary entered the banquet hall in the company of Chinese leaders. The band played the national anthems of Cambodia and China at the start of the banquet. Premier Chou En-lai, Special Envoy Ieng Sary and Samdech Sihanouk made speeches amid warm applause (their speeches were released in full separately).

Premier Chou En-lai said: Mr Ieng Sary, special envoy of the interior part of the Royal Government of National Union and the National United Front of Cambodia, has come to Peking from the forefront of struggle against U.S. imperialism, bringing to the Chinese people in the rear area happy tidings of victory from the front and sentiments of comradeship-in-arms. This is a tremendous encouragement to us.

He stressed that following Chairman Mao's teachings, the Chinese people have always regarded it as their bounden internationalist duty to give support to the just struggles of the people of various countries. The Chinese people firmly support the three peoples of Indochina in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation! The three Indochinese peoples have long been determined to resolutely carry their war of resistance through to the end, and the Chinese people will firmly support them to the end!

Special Envoy Ieng Sary said the solidarity and friendship between the people of Cambodia and China are indestructible because they are born from the common determination to fight against the U.S. imperialists and their valets. Also, in spite of the fact that our two countries are far from each other, we have the same wish, the same objective which is to struggle with determination, without compromise and retreat, without bartering away principles and side by side with the fraternal Vietnamese, Laotian and Korean peoples until the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their running dogs are destroyed and driven out of Cambodia and the whole of Indochina, out of Taiwan, South Korea and all the places in Asia.

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Samdech Sihanouk solemnly reaffirmed in his speech: The Khmer people, their NUPK, their RGNUC and their People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia are prepared and ready to wage until final victory their war of resistance against the aggression of U.S. imperialism which is aided by the puppets in Saigon and Phnom Penh, even though such a war may still go on for five years, or ten years, or twenty years or longer.

He said he was satisfied and overjoyed at China's resolute support to his 24th message to the Khmer nation and its formal condemnation of the Machiavellian schemes of convening a new Geneva conference or political solution of the Cambodian problem hatched by U.S. imperialism and its Phnom Penh lackeys.

A warm atmosphere of friendship prevailed throughout the banquet. In a happy get-together, the comrades-in-arms of China, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Korea talked cordially about the great friendship and militant unity of the people of China, the three Indochinese countries and Korea cemented in the struggle against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys.

Also attending the banquet were:

Ministers of the RGNUC Chan Youran, Thiounn Mumm, General Duong Sam Ol and Madame Duong Sam Ol, Keat Chhon, Thiounn Prasith, and Second Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Van Piny and Madame Van Piny;

Princess Norodom Keth Kanya, aunt of Samdech Sihanouk; Madame Pempe Peang, mother of Madame Sihanouk Princess Monique; Madame Kou Roun; Samdech Sihanouk's sons and daughter Prince Norodom Yuvaneath, Princess Norodom Roeungsy, Prince Norodom Sihamoni, and Prince Norodom Norindrapong; Prince Sisowath Methavi, director of the Office of the Cambodian Head of State, and Madame Sisowath Methavi; Ker Meas, Cambodian ambassador to China; and Ang Kim Khoan, Cambodian ambassador to Korea, and Madame Ang Kim Khoan; and

All the members of the Vietnamese local economic study group led by Comrade Le Quang Tuan.

Present at the banquet were also: Members of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Hsieh Fu-min, Chi Fang and Lo Shu-chang; leading members of various departments of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Hsiao Ching-kuang, Wang Hsin-ting, Tien Wei-hsin, Chang Chih-ming, Wang Hung-kun, Kuang Jen-nung, Chang Nan-sheng, Pan Yung-ti, Yuan Hua-ping and Chai Cheng wen; and leading members of the departments concerned of the CPC Central Committee and of the government, and the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries Han Nien-lung, Pai Hsiang-kuo, Li Chiang, Liu Ta-yu, Kuo Lu, Chang Kuo-ming, Wang Meng, Ting Hsi-lin, Chang Chi-chih, Liu Chien-kung, Lu Ying, Ti Fu-tsai and Ting Chiao, and Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia Kang Mao-chao and Comrade Yang Ling.

Diplomatic envoys of various countries concerned attended the banquet.

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Chou En-lai Speech

Peking NCNA International Service in English 1538 GMT 27 Aug 71 B

[Text] Peking, August 27 (HSINHUA)--Following is the full text of the speech by Premier Chou En-lai at the banquet here this evening in honour of Mr Ieng Sary, special envoy of the interior part of the Royal government of National Union of Cambodia and the National United Front of Cambodia:

Respected Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Mme Sihanouk,

Respected Samdech Penn Nouth, prime minister of the Royal Government of National Union and chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Mme Penn Nouth,

Respected Mr Ieng Sary, special envoy of the interior part of the Royal Government of National Union and the National United Front of Cambodia,

Distinguished guests from Cambodia, comrades and friends,

Mr Ieng Sary, special envoy of the interior part of the Royal Government of National Union and the National United Front of Cambodia, has come to Peking from the forefront of struggle against U.S. imperialism, bringing to the Chinese people in the rear area happy tidings of victory from the front and sentiments of comradeship-in-arms. This is a tremendous encouragement to us. On behalf of the Chinese Government and people, I extend the warmest welcome to Mr Ieng Sary, the honourable envoy of the fighters in Cambodia, as well as the highest respects to the Cambodian armed forces and people who are engaged in valiant battles.

We express our hearty thanks to the Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Mme Sihanouk and to Prime Minister Penn Nouth and Mme Penn Nouth for honouring us with their presence at this banquet tonight.

In the past year and more, the heroic Cambodian people, under the leadership of the National United Front of Cambodia with Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as the chairman, have vigorously waged the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, dealing heavy blows at the U.S. aggressors and their Phnom Penh lackeys, liberating large tracts of their territory and setting up stable base areas. The valiant People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia have constantly developed and grown stronger through the fight and performed great meritorious deeds for the cause of national liberation of Cambodia.

Holding aloft the banner of fighting against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, the National United Front of Cambodia with the Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as the chairman and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia with Samdech Penn Nouth as the prime minister have won the warm support and backing of the entire Cambodian people and enjoyed high prestige both at home and abroad. The Cambodian people's struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation is an integral whole. United as one and closely coordinating with and inspiring each other in domestic struggles and international activities, the Cambodian people are advancing from victory to victory.

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The Chinese people express the warmest congratulations to the fraternal Cambodian people on the great victories they have won in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation!

The present revolutionary situation in Indochina is unprecedentedly fine. Since the beginning of this year, the heroic peoples of Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos, supporting and assisting each other and fighting shoulder to shoulder, have launched fierce offensives on the various battlefronts in Indochina and won many important victories of strategic significance. The U.S. aggressors and their lackeys are now in a passive position of having to receive blows everywhere, they are riddled with internal contradictions and are in utter chaos. In order to save itself from defeat, U.S. imperialism is still doing its utmost to push the so-called "Nixon doctrine" and its plan of "Vietnamization", in a wild attempt to hang on in Indochina. However, the initiative on the battlefields is completely in the hands of the three Indochinese peoples, and the development of the situation is favourable to the Indochinese peoples. In trying to drag out the war, the U.S. aggressors will only suffer even more ignominious defeats. Victory surely belongs to the three Indochinese peoples who are fighting valiantly.

Comrades and friends, at present, the whole world is in the midst of a great upheaval and the situation is excellent. The U.S. imperialist position of hegemony established after World War II has been shaken to its very foundation, and the imperialist colonial system is collapsing. The power politics practised by the superpowers has met with universal opposition from medium and small countries; voices for defending state sovereignty and national independence are resounding throughout the world; the raging tide of revolution of the people of various countries against imperialism and all reactionaries are surging vigorously with irresistible force. Though U.S. imperialism and its lackeys are continuing their sabotage and trouble-making, the general trend of history cannot be altered. The people of the world, united together, will surely defeat U.S. imperialism and all its lackeys.

Following Chairman Mao's teachings, the Chinese people have always regarded it as their bounden internationalist duty to give support to the just struggles of the people of various countries. The Chinese people firmly support the three peoples of Indochina in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. The three Indochinese peoples have long been determined to resolutely carry their war of resistance through to the end, and the Chinese people will firmly support them to the end!

The Chinese people firmly support the Korean people in their struggle for the peaceful unification of their fatherland! The Chinese people will, together with the peoples of Korea, the three Indochinese countries, Japan and other Asian countries, wage resolute struggles against the revival of Japanese militarism by the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries! The Chinese people firmly support the revolutionary struggles of the peoples of the world!

U.S. imperialism is bound to be defeated! The three Indochinese peoples are sure to win! The people of the world are sure to win!

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Now I propose a toast

To the great victory of the Cambodian and other Indochinese peoples in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation,

To the great friendship and militant unity between the Chinese and Cambodian peoples,

To the great friendship and militant unity between the peoples of China, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Korea,

To the health of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Sihanouk,

To the health of Samdech Penn Nouth, prime minister of the Royal Government of National Union and chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Penn Nouth,

To the health of Special Envoy Mr Ieng Sary,

To the health of all the distinguished guests from Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos and Korea present,

To the health of the heads of diplomatic missions and their wives present, and to the health of our comrades and friends present here!

Ieng Sary Speech

Peking NCNA International Service in English 1629 GMT 27 Aug 71 B

[Text] Peking, August 27 (HSINHUA)--Following is the full text of the speech made by Mr Ieng Sary, special envoy of the interior part of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and the National United Front of Cambodia, at the banquet given here this evening by Premier Chou En-lai in his honour:

Your Excellency Respected Premier Chou En-lai,

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen and dear Chinese friends present here,

Respected Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and Chairman of the NUFC, and Neak Moneang,

Respected Samdech Penn Nouth, chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the NUFC and prime minister of the RGNUC, and Lok Chumteav,

Your Excellencies respected heads of diplomatic missions and mesdames,

Ladies and gentlemen and dear friends present here,

At this magnificent banquet which Your Excellency Premier Chou En-lai has kindly organized to welcome and honour the special envoy from the interior part of the RGNUC which is directly leading the struggle in Cambodia, I, on behalf of the interior part of the RGNUC, the Khmer people and the fighters of the PAFNLC, express profound gratitude to Your Excellency Premier Chou En-lai and Your Excellencies all the Chinese leaders and to the great and valiant Chinese people.

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This banquet is a new manifestation of the constancy of the militant solidarity and fraternal friendship between our two peoples, Chinese and Khmer.

It is true that Cambodia and the People's Republic of China are several thousand kilometres apart from each other, but the Mekong which runs through the whole of Indochina from its source in China's Tibet is the image of the natural and close ties of fraternal solidarity and friendship which have existed for a very long time between the Khmer people and the Chinese people, as between the Khmer people and the Vietnamese and Laotian peoples.

In the common struggle of the Khmer people and the Chinese people, the natural solidarity and friendship between our two peoples have been transformed into a militant solidarity, a militant and fraternal friendship which is close and indestructible, because they are born from the common determination to fight against the U.S. imperialists and their valets. Also, in spite of the fact that our two countries are far from each other, we have the same wish, the same objective which is to struggle with determination, without compromise and retreat, without bartering away principles and side by side with the fraternal Vietnamese, Laotian and Korean peoples until the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their running dogs are destroyed and driven out of Cambodia and the whole of Indochina, out of Taiwan, South Korea and all the places in Asia. That is why the Khmer people and fighters, who are now engaged in a heroic struggle in the front lines against the barbarous aggression of the U.S. imperialists and their valets of Saigon and Bangkok, are firmly confident of winning total victory.

Your Excellency the premier has said: "The Chinese people are determined to follow the teachings of their great leader Chairman Mao and pledge themselves to provide powerful backing to the three peoples of Indochina and give firm support to the peoples of Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos in carrying through to the end the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation." This is a concrete assistance and an immense encouragement to our people.

During my stay in China, I have been deeply moved by the friendly and warm reception which has been accorded to me by the Chinese people and government in an atmosphere of militant solidarity and fraternity. In the course of fulfilling my mission and in my relations with the Chinese people and government, I am even more moved to note the true and pure sentiments of patriotism and internationalism which the Chinese people show for our people.

The Great Cultural Revolution initiated and led personally by great Chairman Mao has won brilliant victories. The great thoughts of Chairman Mao have gone deep into and taken root in the hearts of the great Chinese people. These brilliant thoughts of Chairman Mao have been transformed into an immense moral and material force in the Chinese socialist revolution. At present, the socialist construction and socialist revolution of the Chinese people are rapidly advancing by leaps and bounds. Within a short period of time, the Chinese people have freed themselves from the semi-colonial and semi-feudal regime and have turned their country into a powerful socialist country. The tremendous victories of the Chinese people have favourably influenced, aided and encouraged all the countries of the world in their struggle for national liberation, national independence, sovereignty and peace against colonialism and neo-colonialism with U.S. imperialism as the chieftain.

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In the struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their domestic and foreign valets, the puppets of Saigon, Bangkok and Phnom Penh, the Khmer people and their PAFNLC have raised their national consciousness with a long tradition of struggle and a brilliant past and have developed their position of independence which consists in being the masters of their own house and relying on their own strength and in surmounting all difficulties. In this struggle carried out under the wise leadership of the NUFC presided over by Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the RGNUC with Samdech Penn Nouth as the prime minister and Mr Khieu Samphan as the deputy prime minister, the Khmer people and their PAFNLC are winning brilliant victories in all fields.

Thus our PAFNLC was born and developed from scratch in the raging flames of the struggle against the imperialist war of aggression. Our fighters have learned much from their fellow fighters of the Chinese People's Liberation Army which possesses a rich experience and great revolutionary heroism and which was born and grew in difficult conditions and has gone through long revolutionary tempests under the leadership of the great and venerated leader of the Chinese people, Chairman Mao. Our guerrilla forces, our regional forces and our regular forces are being educated, developed and consolidated in quality and quantity, in their political consciousness, in combat capability, in organization as well as in military technique.

Young but tempered in the accomplishment of their heavy but worthy tasks which bring them honour, our PAFNLC are determined to surmount all obstacles to overthrow forever the U.S. imperialists and their running dogs of Saigon and Phnom Penh and to win independence, sovereignty, neutrality, peace, democracy and territorial integrity for our beloved motherland. Our PAFNLC are firmly convinced that they are able and are determined to accomplish these heavy tasks which bring them honour, because, in addition to their own determination, they have drawn lessons from the valuable experience of struggle of the heroic Chinese people and of the Chinese people's army against imperialist aggressors.

It is with these sentiments of militant and fraternal solidarity and friendship that I raise my glass to drink a toast

- To the militant, fraternal and ever-lasting solidarity and friendship between the Khmer and Chinese peoples and between Cambodia and the People's Republic of China,
- To the militant solidarity and revolutionary fraternity between the Khmer, Vietnamese and Laotian peoples,
- To the strengthening of the anti-imperialist front of the 5 countries. Cambodia, China, Vietnam, Laos and Korea,
- To the great common victory of the peoples of the world over imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and Japanese militarism,
- To the health and long life of His Excellency Chairman Mao Tsetung and His Excellency Vice Chairman Lin Biao,
- To the health and long life of His Excellency Premier Chou En-lai and Their Excellencies the other Chinese leaders and their wives,

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--To the health and long life of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Neak Moneang,
--To the health and long life of Samdech Penn Nouth and Lok Chumteav,
--To the health of Their Excellencies the heads of diplomatic missions and their wives present, and
--To the health of the ladies and gentlemen and friends present here!

Address by Sihanouk

Peking NCNA International Service in English 1721 GMT 27 Aug 71 B

[Text] Peking, August 27 (HSINHUA)--Following is the full text of the speech made by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, at the banquet given here this evening by Premier Chou En-lai in honour of Mr Ieng Sary, special envoy of the interior part of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and the National United Front of Cambodia:

Your Excellency respected Premier Chou En-lai,

Your Excellencies esteemed messieurs and mesdames the national authorities (military and civil) of the People's Republic of China,

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, esteemed friends of the Khmer people,

Dear compatriots,

First of all, allow me to express my warmest gratitude to His Excellency Chou En-lai and to the Government of the People's Republic of China who have been so kind as to hold this grand and magnificent banquet in honour of Mr Ieng Sary, special envoy and eminent representative of the NUFC, the RGNUC and the PAFNLC (the National United Front, the Royal Government and the People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia) in the interior of our country.

The great and glorious Chinese people are thus giving us a new illustrious testimony of their unswerving fraternal friendship, total support and militant solidarity, which constitute the greatest encouragement for our entire Khmer people and give them sure confidence to defeat their enemies and realize national salvation.

I would avail myself of this happy occasion to inform you that in the interior of my country, the Khmer people, their NUFC, their RGNUC and their PAFNLC are extremely satisfied and overjoyed at the resounding publication of the commentary of the PEOPLE'S DAILY dated August 3, 1971 which, in the name of the Chinese people and government, expressed resolute support to the inviolable position of the Kingdom of Cambodia with regard to the Cambodian problem, a position which was explicitly stated in my 24th message to the Khmer nation dated July 30, 1971. On this matter, allow me to cite the following phrases from the PEOPLE'S DAILY of August 3, 1971: "The key to the solution of the Indochina question lies in the total and unconditional withdrawal of the U.S. aggressor troops and its accomplice troops from Indochina, leaving the Indochinese peoples to solve their own problems themselves."

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"U.S. imperialism...has instigated its Phnom Penh lackeys to spread the word that a new Geneva conference would be convened. This is a sheer fraud which is ridiculous and absurd. It is known to all that the 1954 Geneva agreements have long been thoroughly sabotaged by U.S. imperialism. Today when the U.S. aggressors have been badly battered by the heroic people of the three Indochinese countries, it is absolutely impossible for U.S. imperialism to try to turn the tide and seek a way out by calling a new Geneva conference.... The question...is not one of convening any new Geneva conference. It is that U.S. imperialism must withdraw its aggressor troops from the whole of Indochina totally, unconditionally and immediately.... The Chinese Government and people resolutely support the people of the three Indochinese countries in carrying their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation through to the end."

In complete accord with Mr Ieng Sary, official representative of the Khmer resistance in the interior of our country, I can solemnly reaffirm today that the Khmer people, their NUFC, their RGNUG and their PAFNLC are prepared and ready to wage until final victory their war of resistance against the aggression of U.S. imperialism which is aided by the puppets in Saigon and Phnom Penh, even though such a war may still go on for 5 years, or 10 years, or 20 years or longer.

We, Khmer patriots and members of the resistance, will never yield on the following point: All responsibility for the present war in Cambodia must absolutely rest with U.S. President Richard Nixon and U.S. imperialism, without whom the so-called "Cambodian problem" and the so-called "Khmer republic" would not exist.

The "Cambodian problem" will be resolved and peace in our country restored ipso facto the moment Nixon stops intervention in the internal affairs of Cambodia under the form of "U.S. aid", U.S. Air Force interventions and protection of the anti-popular regime in Phnom Penh by the mercenary armed forces of Saigon.

May the People's Republic of China allow us to reiterate to her all our gratitude for her formal condemnation of the Machiavellian schemes of "international conference" or "political solution of the Cambodian problem", and may she rest assured that the Khmer Kingdom and her people will forever unite with her by the links of indestructible friendship and anti-imperialist solidarity and will unswervingly support the historic struggle of the heroic Chinese people for the liberation of Taiwan, an integral and inalienable part of the People's Republic of China. The Khmer Kingdom and people demand that U.S. imperialism put an immediate end to its vile scheme of creating "one China, one Taiwan" in the UNO, which must restore from this year to the People's Republic of China her seat in the Security Council and the General Assembly and definitely expel the representation of the Chiang Kai-shek clique therefrom.

With these sentiments I raise my glass and ask your permission to drink, together with Samdech Penn Mouth and all my compatriots present here,

To the health and long life of His Excellency Chairman Mao Tsetung,

To the health of His Excellency Vice Chairman Lin Biao,

To the health of His Excellency Premier Chou En-lai,

To the health of Their Excellencies the national authorities of the People's Republic of China and Mesdames,

To the health of our compatriot Ieng Sary who has the pleasure tonight to be the guest of honour of His Excellency Chou En-lai and the Government of the People's Republic of China,

To the health of the distinguished members of the diplomatic corps and mesdames,

To the health of all our dear brothers and sisters and all our friends present here,

To Khmer-Chinese fraternal friendship and militant solidarity,

To the common victory over U.S. imperialism by the peoples and countries victimized by it, and to friendship and peace among the peoples of the world!

U.S. 7TH FLEET 'EVIL TOOL FOR AGGRESSION IN ASIA'

Peking in Mandarin to Taiwan 0515 GMT 25 Aug 71 B

[Commentary: "The U.S. 7th Fleet Is an Evil Tool for Aggression in Asia"]

[Text] Last May and June, the U.S. 7th Fleet and the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Forces held a large joint military maneuver in the sea east of Korea with great fanfare. Their intention was to intimidate the Asian people. Soon afterward, U.S. Defense Secretary Melvin Laird went to Japan and South Korea to further promote collaboration between the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries and develop the aggressive forces of Japanese militarism. Japan was required to take over military duties from the U.S. 7th Fleet.

For its aggression and expansion abroad, U.S. imperialism has deployed many fleets all over the world. Among them is the 7th Fleet, which serves as the military force for U.S. imperialism to carry out its policies of aggression and war in the Far East and Southeast Asia. It belongs to the U.S. Pacific Fleet and has its headquarters in Yokosuka, Japan. It is a huge fleet, with some 70,000 men, 120 vessels and 475 airplanes, and its sphere of action extends from the Bering Straits in the north to Oceania in the south, and from 600 miles off the east coast of Guam to the Indian Ocean in the west. Such is the size of its sphere of action for carrying out war or the threat of war. At the same time, it is used by U.S. imperialism to control its Asian lackeys. Last year, the U.S. reactionaries even decided to extend this sphere of action to the east coast of Africa.

The U.S. 7th Fleet has committed numerous crimes in Asia. During our war of liberation, it helped Chiang Kai-shek fight the civil war and slaughter our countrymen. Since 1950, U.S. imperialism has used the 7th Fleet in occupying our territory of Taiwan, and it has been a menace and a source of disturbances in the Taiwan Strait. It has helped the Chiang Kai-shek clique dispatch armed agents to harass our coastal areas. It has sent spy ships and airplanes many times to encroach on Korean and Chinese territorial waters and air space for the purpose of espionage.

During the war of U.S. aggression in Korea, the warships and airplanes of the 7th Fleet carried out indiscriminate bombing in Korea and slaughtered Korean people. In the war of aggression in Vietnam, it sneaked into the Gulf of Tonkin for war provocations and has dispatched warships to the sea off North Vietnam to bombard the DRV.