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NCNA Account of Chou Speech

Peking NCNA International Service in English 1536 GMT 9 Nov 70 B

[Text] Peking, November 9 (HSINHUA) -- Following is the full text of the speech made by Premier Chou En-lai this afternoon at the rally of the people of the Chinese capital in celebration of the 17th anniversary of the National Day of the Kingdom 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, chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the N.U.F.C. and prime minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and Mme. Penn Nouth,

Distinguished guests from Cambodia, heads of diplomatic missions and Mmes., comrades and friends,

Amidst the high tide of the world people's struggle against U.S. imperialism and at a time when the Cambodian people are victoriously waging the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, we people of the capital are holding this grand rally here today to celebrate, together with our Cambodian comrades-in-arms, the 17th anniversary of the National Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

First of all, on behalf of the Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao and his close comrade-in-arms Vice-Chairman Lin Biao and on behalf of the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese Government and people, I extend the warmest festive congratulations to the Cambodian people's respected and beloved leader and the Chinese people's esteemed friend Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, to the National United Front and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and to the Cambodian people and National Liberation Army who are fighting valiantly in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, and cordial greetings and high respects to Her Majesty respected Queen Kossamak.

Over the past 17 years, the heroic Cambodian people under the leadership of Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk have waged tenacious struggles against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys in Saigon and Bangkok in order to defend national independence, state sovereignty and territorial integrity, and have scored one victory after another. Samdech Sihanouk has consistently pursued a policy of peace, neutrality, independence and non-alignment, resolutely opposed U.S. imperialist interference, subversion and aggression and firmly supported the Vietnamese and Laotian peoples in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation and has made valuable contributions to the struggle of the people of Indo-China and the whole world against U.S. imperialism.

The Kingdom of Cambodia led by Samdech Sihanouk has stood in the van of the anti-imperialist countries of the world and has thus become a serious obstacle to the U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war in Indo-China and the rest of Southeast Asia.

U.S. imperialism has always been hostile to the peaceable and neutral Cambodia.

On March 18 this year, U.S. imperialism instigated the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak traitorous clique to stage a counter-revolutionary coup d'etat and subsequently dispatched troops directly to invade Cambodia on a massive scale, thus extending its war of aggression to the whole of Indo-China. This new towering crime of U.S. imperialism and its lackeys aroused the furious resistance of the peoples of Cambodia and all Indo-China. On March 23, this year, Samdech Sihanouk issued a solemn five-point statement, kindling the raging flames of the Cambodian people's armed resistance against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys, thereby ushering in a new historical period in the Cambodian people's struggle against U.S. imperialism. The patriotic armymen and people of Cambodia have now liberated two-thirds of their country and widely set up in the liberated areas N.U.F. committees and people's power of various levels, thus laying the foundation for the complete liberation of the Cambodian nation.

The just struggle waged by the Cambodian people has won extensive international sympathy and support. The Chinese Government and people heartily rejoice over and admire the great victories won by the fraternal Cambodian people, and express warm congratulations to them on these victories.

The so-called superpower U.S. imperialism fancied that by buying over a few lackeys, staging a coup d'etat and sending out a number of aggressor troops, it could easily subdue Cambodia. However, it is the people, and not the reactionaries going against the historical trend, who determine the development of history. Far from succeeding in its aggressive schemes and wild ambitions, U.S. imperialism has been badly battered and landed in an awkward position by the heroic Cambodian people. As the Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao has pointed out, "a weak nation can defeat a strong, a small nation can defeat a big. The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country, if only they dare to rise in struggle, dare to take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country. This is a law of history."

At present, an excellent situation prevails in the war waged by the three peoples of Indo-China against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. In response to the militant call of the Summit Conference of the Peoples of Indo-China, the Cambodian, Vietnamese and Laotian peoples have united closely and formed a powerful united front against U.S. imperialism. Supporting and acting in close coordination with each other and fighting shoulder to shoulder, they have dealt heavy blows at the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, setting a brilliant example of unity against imperialism for the people of the whole world.

U.S. imperialism is not reconciled to its defeat; it is still employing counter-revolutionary dual tactics and conducting a death-bed struggle. While continuing its war of aggression, it is feverishly engaged in political deception, in a vain attempt to stamp out the flames of armed struggle of the three peoples of Indo-China. Not long ago, the Nixon government dished up a so-called "new initiative" for solving the question of Indo-China; it also stage-managed in Phnom Penh a farce of the establishment of a so-called "republic"; and in collusion with its collaborator, it is scheming to carve up Cambodia.

The Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the National United Front and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia have forcefully exposed and sternly condemned these schemes of U.S. imperialism and its collaborator.

Samdech Sihanouk made the solemn declaration long ago: "Our people, their N.U.F.C., their Royak Government of National Union and their army of national liberation are fighting and will fight in a spirit of making no retreat and accepting no compromise until the Khmer fatherland is completely liberated from their local, American, Saigonese and Bangkok oppressors and, together with the fraternal peoples of Laos and Viet Nam, until the American imperialists and their satellites and lackeys are totally swept out of the whole of our Indo-China." The Chinese Government and people firmly support this just stand. The war waged by the Cambodian, Vietnamese and Laotian peoples against U.S. aggression and for national salvation is just and will certainly triumph. No matter what plots and tricks U.S. imperialism and its lackeys may resort to, they cannot save themselves from their defeat.

The development of the present international situation is increasingly favourable to the people of all countries and unfavourable to U.S. imperialism and all its lackeys. While the three peoples of Indo-China are winning continuous new victories in their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, the struggle of the peoples of Korea, Japan and other Asian countries against U.S. imperialism and against the revival of Japanese militarism by the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries is continuing to develop in depth and the united front against U.S. imperialism is being consolidated and expanded daily. Staunch and unyielding, the Palestinian and other Arab peoples are persevering in their fight against aggression by U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism and against the imperialist plot to establish a so-called "State of Palestine". The African people's struggle against colonialism and neocolonialism and racial discrimination is mounting daily. The American people's revolutionary struggle is also developing vigorously, fiercely pounding at the reactionary rule of the Nixon government. Beset with troubles both at home and abroad, U.S. imperialism is having a very tough time.

At present, an increasing number of medium and small countries are rising one after another to strive for national equality, safeguard state sovereignty, oppose hegemony and oppose the aggression, control and subjugation by the superpowers. At the third conference of the heads of state and government of non-aligned countries held in Lusaka not long ago and during the recent activities for the 25th anniversary of the United Nations, many countries strongly condemned the superpowers for monopolizing international affairs, contending for world hegemony, dividing [up] spheres of influence and using the United Nations as an instrument to push their power politics. Even in Latin America which the United States has always regarded as its "backyard", the struggle against U.S. imperialist control and exploitation is also mounting daily. The 70's of the 20th century is no longer a time when imperialism can ride roughshod over the world. World domination by the superpowers must be shattered and can certainly be shattered.

Comrades and friends, China and Cambodia are close neighbours. Over a long period of time, our two peoples have always sympathized with and supported each other in our common struggle against U.S. imperialism. Tempered through the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and armed with Mao Tsetung Thought, the 700 million Chinese people, following Chairman Mao's teachings, will forever remain the loyal comrades-in-arms of the Cambodian, Vietnamese and Laotian peoples in their fight against U.S. imperialist aggression and for national liberation, and [will] firmly support the three peoples of Indo-China in their war against U.S. aggression and for national liberation until complete victory.

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U.S. imperialism will certainly be defeated and the Cambodian people are sure to win!
U.S. imperialism will certainly be defeated and the three peoples of Indo-China are sure to win!

People of the world, unite and defeat the U.S. aggressors and all their running dogs!

Long live the great friendship and militant unity between the peoples of China and Cambodia! Long live Samdech Sihanouk!

✓ Sihanouk Delivers Address

Peking NCNA International Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Nov 70 B

[Text] Peking, November 9 (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 rally of the people of Peking held this afternoon in celebration of the 17th anniversary of the National Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia:

Your Excellency respected Mr. Vice-Chairman of the People's Republic.

Your Excellency Respected Mr. Premier,

Respected Messrs, and Mmes, the national leaders, civil and military, of the People's Republic of China,

Respected Messrs, and Mmes, the municipal authorities of Peking,

Dear Chinese brothers and sisters, dear friends,

On behalf of the Cambodian people, the National United Front, the Royal Government of National Union, the People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia and in my own name, I request the illustrious leaders, the national (civil and military) and municipal authorities, the glorious people and the glorious Army of the People's Republic of China, No. 1 friend of the Khmer people and the independent, non-aligned, progressive and anti-imperialist Cambodia, kindly to accept our sincerest and warmest thanks for the magnificent organization of this grand rally, which is honoured by the high presence of His Excellency Tung Pi-wu, vice-chairman of the People's Republic, on the occasion of our national festival and for the inspiring speech, so friendly and noble, which has just been made by His Excellency Mr. Premier Chou En-lai, expressing very powerful and firm support to our just cause and our struggle for national salvation and national liberation.

Today, November 9, is the National Day of the independent Cambodia, the Khmer people's Cambodia and the progressive and anti-imperialist Khmers' Cambodia.

November 9, 1970, is the 17th anniversary of the complete independence of Cambodia which has achieved on November 9, 1953, after a long and heroic resistance of the Khmer people against French colonialism and after the arduous and difficult negotiations held between the Royal Government of Cambodia presided over by Mr. Penn Nouth and the Government of the Republic of France.

My country, Cambodia, is an organized and independent state whose existence dates back to before the 6th century A.D. In the period between the 6th century and the 19th century of [the] Christian era, it lost its national sovereignty several times to the benefit of certain states in the neighbourhood, far or near.

In 1863 it was colonized by France. In March 1945, Japanese imperialism, replacing French colonialism, permitted me to proclaim the restoration of independence of my country. However, such independence was illusory under the de facto protectorate of the Japanese military authorities. Our so-called independence was not even recognized by the Imperial Government of Japan, despite my request addressed to Tokyo at that time.

Subsequently, Japan surrendered after having received as "presents" from U.S. imperialism the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. British imperialism brought back French colonialism to Cambodia in October 1945. In 1949, we signed the first treaty of independence with France. But this independence was just as illusory as that of March 1945 under the Japanese.

It was not until November 1953 that the French Government finally consented to restore to us all the attributes of internal and external sovereignty and withdraw from Cambodia its armed forces and military command.

Real independence returned to us in November 1953, but we had to wait till 1955 before we could state the reconstruction of our country which had been ravaged by the war of Indo-China, for before 1955 our nation remained divided into several factions. The national unity was realized in April 1955 with my abdication of the Throne of Cambodia and with the founding of the (Khmer) Movement of National Union, the Sangkum Reastr Niyum or People's Socialist Community, in which I was elected chairman.

The Khmer people united in the Sangkum succeeded in rapidly extricating Cambodia from its state of under-development, thanks to the strenuous work and our line of conduct which consisted in relying first of all on ourselves, not accepting but resolutely repudiating conditional and poisonous aid from U.S. imperialism and only accepting the aid rendered without any compensation from a small number of reliable friendly powers, particularly the People's Republic of China.

Between 1955 and the beginning of 1969 within a very short space of 13 and a half years of independence and non-alignment, the Khmer people were able to make the following essential progress in a small and poor country with a population of 6.5 million:

I. In the field of public education, the number of primary schools rose from 2,731 to 5,857 and the number of pupils from 311,000 to 1,025,000. The number of secondary educational establishments rose from 12 to 180 and the number of students from 5,300 to 117,000. The number of technical and professional schools rose from 5 to 99. The number of faculties rose from two to 48 constituting nine universities. The number of students rose from 334 to 7,400 for technical and professional schools and from 347 to 10,800 for university faculties.

II. In the field of public health, the number of hospital establishments rose from 119 to 698.

III. In the field of agriculture, the output of rice rose from 1,484,000 tons to 3,251,000 tons. The output of rubber rose from 25,000 tons to 51,000 tons. The area irrigated by permanent irrigation systems increased from 29,000 hectares to 264,000 hectares. 728 people's cooperatives were set up. New crops were planted: Jute, coffee, coconuts and tea along with traditional crops of maize, cotton, pepper, peanuts, fruit trees, etc...

IV. In the field of industry, the number of small industrial enterprises rose from 650 to 3,700. 28 state-owned factories and 29 factories of mixed economy combining state capital with private capital were established, forming the basis of a true industrialization of the country. The annual consumption of electricity increased from 11,055 km to 70,000 km.

V. In the field of the means of communication, the total length of roads which was 4,805 km. in 1955 reached 16,697 km. at the beginning of 1969. The total length of railways increased from 386 km. [sentence as received].

A deep-water port was constructed for maritime contacts with the outer world. For aerial connections, two international airports, four national airports and 21 provincial aerodromes were built.

In the latter half of 1969, after the resignation of Prime Minister Penn Nouth who fell seriously ill and needed to take care of himself and then spend a long period in convalescence, the group of militarists, reactionary feudalists, big capitalists, comprador-politicians and corrupt high officials, who were all thirsty for American aid and who were zealous servants of U.S. imperialism, usurped the power. Since then, the peaceful construction, the social, cultural and economic progress of the country have had to stop forth-right, for on the one hand, civil war already broke out because of the ouster of the national extreme-left to the jungle of resistance by the extreme-rightist Lon Nolites and, on the other hand, these Lon Nolites already opened the gate of "Cambodia" for murderous incursions by the ground forces of Saigon and the air forces of the U.S.A.

On March 18, 1970, taking advantage of my long absence from the country for health reasons, the Lon Nolites staged their notorious coup d'etat with catastrophic consequences well known to the whole world.

Today, Lon Nol's Cambodia has completely become the triple dependency of U.S. imperialism, the pro-U.S. government of Saigon and the Government of Thailand, no less a satellite of the U.S.A., so much so that we must painfully acknowledge that the independence of Cambodia, at least in the area not yet liberated by our people's forces, is nothing but a remembrance which appears to be very remote.

These two renegade Asian governments have always coveted after a large part of Cambodia, my country, in particular the rich provinces, the coastal islands having strategic importance, the territorial waters more abounding with fish than theirs and the ancient temples which have no parallel in their countries.

Their covetous desire remained futile before the military coup of March 18, 1970. The success of the coup was assured by the endeavours of the American secret service--Central Intelligence Agency.

Today, the traitorous government of Saigon has occupied with its armed forces the provinces, the coastal islands, the territorial waters and even the rivers of Cambodia which it coveted after.

The traitorous Government of Thailand occupies some of our ancient temples, a part of our frontier provinces, our coastal islands and our territorial waters with the consent of Lon Nol, under the pretext that this Thailand helps him to preserve Cambodia's territorial integrity from the so-called covetous desire of the socialist or progressive Vietnamese.

Now the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the sole authentic representatives of the Vietnamese people, have given the Khmer state, legal government and people the formal, official and written assurances that they have recognized de jure and will eternally respect the territorial integrity of Cambodia within its present frontiers including the frontier villages and coastal islands wantonly claimed by the puppet government of Saigon.

For its part, the United States of America, since the March 18 coup which illegally deposed me, has turned Lon Nol's Cambodia into a neo-colony politically as well as economically. Militarily, it turned Cambodia into a base of aggression and attack against the neighbouring peoples of Laos and Viet Nam and its planes, day and night, showered extensively and intensively bombs, napalm and toxic chemicals in unlimited quantity over the head of the Khmer people who fight for national liberation and over the liberated zones, committing the most atrocious and despicable crimes.

In his historic statement of May 20, 1970, the venerated and beloved great teacher of the 800 [as received] million Chinese people said: "A weak nation can defeat a strong, a small nation can defeat a big. The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country, if only they dare to rise in struggle, dare to take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country. This is a law of history."

With the tremendous encouragement and very powerful support of the People's Republic of China, and also with the fraternal encouragement and support of the other socialist, progressive and anti-imperialist peoples in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America and particularly the 24 states, governments and national fronts which have already accorded their official recognition to the Royal Government of National Union under the leadership of the National United Front of Kampuchea, the Khmer people, on the next day [as received] of the Phnom Penh fascists' coup, have dared to rise in struggle, take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country, thus proudly and heroically accepting the despicable challenge of the huge monster U.S. imperialism.

Before our people, the fraternal Vietnamese people, and then the fraternal Laotian people, have valiantly risen to fight with arms in hand against this huge monster. The brilliant victories won by these two heroic fraternal peoples have marvellously illustrated these words of the beloved and venerated Chairman Mao Tsetung: "U.S. imperialism, which looks like a huge monster, is in essence a paper tiger, now in the throes of its death-bed struggle."

Chairman Mao also said: "People of the world, unite and defeat the U.S. aggressors and all their running dogs!" The three Indo-Chinese peoples, the Khmer, Vietnamese and Laotian peoples have united immediately and very closely, thus forming a very powerful and indestructible common front of struggle.

Having People's China as their reliable great rear area, our three peoples have marched from victory to victory in the whole of Indochina. As regards the Khmer people, they have achieved the following successes on the battlefield of Cambodia:

Two-thirds of Cambodia have been liberated completely and henceforth administered by the revolutionary Khmer people in accordance with the political programme of the N.U.F. of Cambodia.

Between March and October 1970, the armed forces of national liberation and the Khmer people killed or wounded and put out of action more than 110,000 enemy soldiers, including more than 38,000 Americans and Saigonese mercenaries, about 100 enemy battalions were decimated or disintegrated, tens of thousands of tons of arms and ammunition were taken from the enemy or destroyed.

Phnom-Penh, the capital and the last entrenchment of the Lonolite fascists, is practically isolated from the rest of the country. Our people's forces have established themselves some 10 kilometres from this city.

At the present moment, the enemy is making desperate efforts in an attempt to relieve themselves from encirclement by the people's forces and the latter's constant pressure on Phnom-Penh. This enemy (composed of several divisions of South Vietnamese mercenaries sent to Cambodia on Nixon's orders by the traitorous Generals Thieu and Ky) launched the so-called big offensives against our people. But all these offensives have failed lamentably and given our armed forces of national liberation a chance to win new victories and liberate new territories, including the vicinities of Phnom-Penh.

As Chairman Mao has always taught us, the people will win victory so long as they persevere in protracted struggle. This is what the Khmer people are doing and will do, fighting side by side on the Indo-Chinese front with the heroic Vietnamese and Laotian peoples against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys.

The most brilliant Chairman Mao also said: "In the world of today, who actually fears whom? It is not the Vietnamese people, the Laotian people, the Cambodian people, the Palestinian people, the Arab people or the people of other countries who fear U.S. imperialism, it is U.S. imperialism which fears the people of the world. It becomes panic-stricken at the mere rustle of leaves in the wind."

This is very correct and shows the panic of the government of Richard Nixon at present, which has desperately put forward the deceptive proposals of "peace" for Indo-China.

The Khmer people, like the fraternal peoples of Laos and Viet Nam, forever loyal to the joint resolutions of the Summit Conference of the Indo-Chinese Peoples dated April 25, insist and will insist strictly on the legitimate demand for an Indo-Chinese peace and on the categorical rejection of a "pax Americana".

That means that the U.S.A. and its allies and satellites, (Australians, New Zealanders, South Koreans, Thailanders, etc...), the only aggressors against our Indo-China, must immediately, totally and unconditionally withdraw all their ground, air and naval armed forces from Indo-China and let each of the three Indo-Chinese peoples solve their national problems without any foreign interference.

This also means that, for our Cambodia, any international conference is unnecessary, that any international control (like the I.C.C.) is not admissible in our sovereign country, victim of the aggression exclusively by the armed forces paid by Mr. Nixon, president of the U.S.A., for committing such unjustifiable crime against the person of our people, and that any partition of Cambodia, be it [even] provisional, will not be accepted.

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The Khmer people united in the N.U.F.C. and led by the R.G.N.U.C. will carry on their fight against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys until total victory and the complete and definitive liberation of the fatherland, knowing that in their sacred struggle they will never fail to get the multifarious aid and complete support of the People's Republic of China, that they will always benefit from the militant solidarity of the fraternal Vietnamese and Laotian peoples, that those reliable friends who have kindly accorded de jure recognition to their legitimate government will always stand firmly on their side and that all the peoples of the world, including the American people, will always accord them moral support, sympathy and esteem.

Through my voice, the Khmer people express the most profound and eternal gratitude to the People's Republic of China, to highly respected and beloved Chairman Mao Tsetung, to respected and beloved Vice-Chairman Lin Piao, to respected and beloved Vice-Chairman Tung Pi-wu, to respected and beloved Premier Chou En-lai, to the other eminent and respected leaders (military and civil) of the People's Republic of China, to the great, heroic and most glorious Chinese people, [and] to the fraternal peoples and the friendly governments and peoples of the world.

Long live the independence of progressive and anti-imperialist Cambodia!

Long live Chairman Mao Tsetung, the greatest champion of the solidarity of the peoples fighting for their liberation or their national independence!

Long live the fraternal friendship uniting forever the Khmer and Chinese peoples!