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DRV ECHOES SIHANOUK'S DENUNCIATION OF
KHMER REPUBLIC

[Hanoi VNA International Service, in English, 1822 GMT,
October 15, 1970].

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam today issued the following statement on the so-called "Khmer Republic" in Phnom Penh:

Recently, the reactionary Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique, henchmen of the U.S. imperialists in Phnom Penh announced the founding of the so-called "Republican regime" in Cambodia.

The September 27, 1970 statement of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the Joint Statement of October 10, 1970 of Samdech Head of State the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Kampuchea and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia laid bare the deceitful and illegal character of that deed and the anti-popular, anti-democratic and anti-national character of the Phnom Penh regime.

As everybody knows, in the past 16 years, the Khmer people, under the clear-sighted leadership of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, have persisted in the policy of independence, peace, and neutrality. The Khmer people have efficaciously defended their fundamental national rights and marched forward steadily in the building of a peaceful and prosperous Cambodia.

It is the U.S. imperialists who have long attempted to sabotage the independence, peace and neutrality of Cambodia, used their henchmen to stage a coup d'etat on March 18, 1970 against the Khmer people, and brought their extremely brutal war of aggression to Cambodia with a view to turning this country into their neo-colony and military base.

It is the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique that have sold out Cambodia's independence and sovereignty to the U.S. imperialists, brought in U.S. and Saigon puppet troops to make war in Cambodia, carried out bloody repression of the Khmer people, and savagely persecuted and massacred Vietnamese residents living an honest life in Cambodia.

Due to the aggressive policy of the U.S. imperialists and the treacherous acts of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique, Cambodia, well known as an oasis of peace, is becoming a hell on earth.

Faced with severe condemnation by the people through the world and tough resistance by the Khmer people, they have put up the signboard of fake "independence, peace and neutrality" in an attempt to cover up their heinous crimes. But they have failed and can deceive nobody.

Carrying forward their nation's tradition of indomitable struggle, and responding to the national salvation call of March 23, 1970 of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, the Khmer people, under the clear-sighted leadership of the National United Front of Kampuchea, have risen up like one man to defend their fatherland, and fought back resolutely against the U.S. aggressors and their flunkies. The political programme of the NUFK has charted the right road for the Khmer people to struggle for a truly independent, peaceful and neutral Cambodia and to build up a democratic and prosperous Cambodia. This political programme has vigorously encouraged the Khmer people to push forward their fight, with the resolve to defeat the U.S. imperialists' aggression and show down the dictatorial, fascist and racist regime of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak traitors.

In their fight for their noble goals expounded in the political programme of the NUFK, the Khmer people have won tremendous victories and enjoyed ever greater sympathy and support from the world's peoples. A system of national, genuinely democratic and efficacious power has been established in broad liberated zones covering two thirds of Cambodian

territory. The Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia headed by Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth enjoys ever greater prestige in the international arena and is recognized by more and more countries as the sole legal and legitimate government of the seven million Khmer people.

The reactionary power of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique, an instrument for aggression of the U.S. imperialists, is isolated at home and abroad and facing the danger of collapse.

It was in this conjuncture that they had to hastily declare the establishment of the "republican regime" in Cambodia. This is a new trick aimed at covering up the criminal aggression of the U.S. imperialists, covering up the anti-national, anti-democratic and anti-popular features of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique, in an attempt to carry out the U.S. imperialists' scheme to enslave the Khmer people.

At present, the U.S. keeps using tens of thousands of Saigon puppet troops to trample upon Cambodian territory and daily massacre the Khmer people. The U.S. still sends aircraft to sow destruction and death on villages and towns, destroy pagodas and precious historic relics of Cambodia. To survive, the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique have to rely on the bayonets of the Saigon occupationists, on U.S. bombs and bullets, and on the fascist laws created by them. In face of this glaring truth, all U.S. maneuvers, no matter how perfidious and cunning, certainly can deceive nobody.

The Khmer people flatly reject Lon Nol-Sirik Matak's "Republic" fraud as well as their fake "independence, peace and neutrality", and will persist in and step up their struggle, successfully carry out the correct political programme of the National United Front of Kampuchea.

The Vietnamese people and the DRVN Government resolutely support the September 27, 1970 statement of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk and the joint statement of October 10, 1970 by Samdech Head of State, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the NUFK and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and wholeheartedly support the fraternal Khmer people's united and bound-to-be-victorious struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation till complete victory.