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VII. DRV REJECTS CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT'S
PEACE TALKS PROPOSAL

[Hanoi VNA International Service, in English, 1625 GMT,
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The Vietnamese people sternly denounce and categorically reject the "peace talks" proposal of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique of traitors in Phnom Penh, said Nhan Dan in a commentary today. The paper quoted AP on October 17 as saying that the Lon Nol clique had declared its willingness for "peace talks" with North Viet-Nam and is "prepared for important compromises."

The paper said: First of all, this is a maneuver of the U.S. aggressors and their Phnom Penh henchmen to misrepresent the situation in Cambodia where the liberation armed forces and people have, under the leadership of the National United Front of Kampuchea and the national salvation banner of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, recorded ever greater victories in their fight for national liberation against the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys. The national liberation army and the Khmer people have since March 18 this year put out of action nearly 110,000 enemy troops including 38,000 American and Saigon troops, wiped out, heavily decimated or disbanded nearly 100 enemy battalions, captured or destroyed tens of thousands of tons of weapons, and liberated from the U.S.-Phnom Penh grip over two-thirds of the territory with nearly three million people. Continuing their offensives, the liberation forces and people last September scored many new victories in Takeo, Preyveng, Kompong Cham, Kompong Speu, Battambang and other places, killing, wounding or capturing more than 4,500 Lon Nol troops. The Phnom Penh reactionary army is being stalemated in its current major operation involving nearly 100,000 men purported to clear highway 6, and has lost nearly 2,500 men killed, wounded or captured in a month.

Phnom Penh still is practically under siege. The enemy's defense perimeter around it has been under continual attack by the patriots. The Khmer people's liberated area has been consolidated and expanded day by day. Revolutionary power has been set up from village up to province level.

The international movement of support to the Khmer people's struggle for national salvation is growing. Twenty four countries in the world have officially recognized the Cambodian Royal Government of National Union.

In such a situation, by declaring its "willingness for peace talks" with North Viet-Nam, the U.S. imperialists and their flunkies want to slander the Vietnamese people and disown the just struggle to the Khmer people. It also aims to sow division between the Vietnamese and Khmer peoples, cover the aggression of the U.S. and Saigon clique, and lend support to Nixon's proposal for a "Indochina Peace Conference" made in his October 7 address.

But this scheme of the Lon Nol-Matak clique definitely can deceive nobody. Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk stated at the Indochinese people's Summit Conference last April: "The Khmer people have known and know only one aggressor -- U.S. imperialism."

The paper continued: How can the Lon Nol gang make black white and conceal the aggression and abominable crimes committed by the U.S. imperialists who had sent tens of thousand of U.S. , Saigon and Thailand troops to trample upon Cambodia, and who are daily and hourly sowing death and destruction on that country? By proposing "peace talks" at this moment, the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen have only shown their embarrassment in face of the repeated and all-round victories of the Khmer people in their just fight.

The Vietnamese people sternly condemn and categorically reject the perfidious allegations of the Lon Nol-Matak clique.

Loyal to the Joint Declaration of the Indochinese People's Summit Conference, the Vietnamese people fully support the just stand enunciated in the October 11 statement of the Cambodian Royal Government of National Union urging an unconditional, total and immediated cessation of all bombings and strafings of the Cambodian territory by the U.S. and puppets' air force, complete, unconditional and immediate withdrawal from Cambodia of the U.S. advisors and Thieu-Ky and Thanom-Praphas troops, complete cessation of all acts of war provocation and interference by the U.S. government and its puppets in the internal affairs of the Cambodian people, so that the latter may be free to settle their own affairs without foreign interference.