

055361

ASIA / CAMB
FILE / SUBJ.
DATE / SUB-CAT.
3/71

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

CAMBODIAN AMBASSADOR RELATES FUNK ACHIEVEMENTS

[Report based on press conference with Ambassador Sien An ; Hanoi, Nhan Dan, Vietnamese, 23 March 1971, p 3]

Yesterday, 23 March, Mr Sien An, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to North Vietnam from the Kingdom of Cambodia, held a press conference on the occasion of the first anniversary of Prince Norodom Sihanouk's Five-Point Proclamation and the founding of the FUNK (23 March 1970).

Attending besides the foreign and domestic correspondents were Phan Lac Tuyen, member of the Special Mission of the Republic of south Vietnam [in North Vietnam], and Phao Phimphachan, member of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Hak Sat [NLHS] and Director of the NLHS Information Office in Hanoi.

After pointing out the historical significance of 23 March, Ambassador Sien An recalled the developments which have taken place under the FUNK during the past year. Mentioning the great and total victories of the Cambodian people and their army in their undertaking against the U.S. for national salvation, the ambassador stated that under the correct leadership and guidance of the FUNK, its chairman, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, and the Royal Government of National Union under the FUNK led by its Prime minister, Prince Penn Nouth, the Cambodian people and their army have pressed hericially for the last year fighting and leveling many strongholds, annihilating many of the enemy forces. They have liberated 70 percent of the territory and 60 percent of the population. Each day, the liberated area grows larger and stronger, forming a firm base to establish the foundations of a truly democratic government. The prestige of the FUNK and the Royal Government of National Union continues to grow both within and outside of the country. Their great victories have crushed United States imperialism and the Lon Nol -- Sirik Matak -- Son Ngoc Thanh clique. The Ambassador stated that these big and total victories bear a great strategic significance: they are the victories of righteous struggle, of the correct leadership policies of the FUNK. They are the victories of the closely united peoples of Indochina against their common enemy: United States

imperialism. These victories have not cut us off from the empathy and strong support of the peoples of the world, including some of the American people, concerning the righteous struggle of the Cambodian people.

Ambassador Sien An enthusiastically denounced and passed judgment upon American imperialists. Despite their continued defeats, they refuse to give up their invasion: they refuse to desist in their plot to "use Indochinese to fight Indochinese." They have recently shown that they are commanding the invasion of southern Laos by the puppet regime in Saigon.

The ambassador emphasized the iron-willed determination of the Cambodian people and their army. He spoke in the spirit of the joint statement of the summit conference of the peoples of Indochina who are standing shoulder to shoulder with the peoples of Vietnam and Laos in their fight and victory over the United States invaders and their lackies. They stand with us in the liberation of the Fatherland and the accomplishment of that sacred national goal: the establishment of an independent, peaceful, neutral, democratic and prosperous Cambodia.

The ambassador then answered some questions from the correspondents.