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LPA INTERVIEWS NFLSV LEADER ON CAMBODIA

Liberation Radio (Clandestine) in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 0500 GMT 14 July 1967--S

(Text) On 10 July, LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY interviewed Huynh Tan Phat, vice chairman and secretary general of the South Vietnam National Liberation Front Central Committee on the new development of friendship between the NFLSV and the Government of the Cambodian Kingdom. Following are LPA's questions and Huynh Tan Phat's replies:

Questions: On 31 May 1967, the NFLSV Central Committee issued a statement recognizing and pledging to respect the territorial integrity of the Cambodian Government within the existing border, recognizing and pledging to respect the existing border between the south and the Cambodian Kingdom, and, at the same time, condemning the aggressive plots and acts of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys in Saigon and Bangkok against the Cambodian Kingdom, and resolutely opposing all their plots to modify the existing border of the Cambodian Kingdom. On 22 June 1967, the NFLSV Central Committee and the Government of the Cambodian Kingdom also issued communiques officially announcing the establishment of a permanent NFLSV representation in the capital, Phnom Penh. Mr. Vice Chairman, please give us your views on this historic event?

Answer: This is a historic event of important significance. First of all, it is a very strong political blow to the heads of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys in South Vietnam and Thailand. It is a very great success achieved by the South Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples in the just struggle for independence and freedom for our southern people and for the safeguarding of the independence, territorial integrity, and neutrality of Cambodia. The fact that after Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and other countries, the Cambodian Government and the NFLSV officially announced the establishment of a permanent representation in Phnom Penh once more proved that the international position and prestige of the NFLSV in the world have been increasingly strengthened and broadened, while the Americans' puppet administration in the south has been increasingly insulted and isolated.

The Government of the Cambodian Kingdom, under the clear-sighted leadership of Chief of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk, has constantly supported our just struggle and, at present, through this recognition, has asserted and manifested more strongly its noble and courageous attitude in the face of an extremely clear reality, which is that the NFLSV has decisive power in the south, that the front is the true, sole representative of South Vietnam, and that the front is the southern people's sole, competent mouthpiece for dealing with the sincere and friendly relations between the South Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples in the spirit of respecting territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence, and in the spirit of equality, in which both sides enjoy mutual benefits and side with one another in opposing the U.S. imperialists' plot to invade all of Indochina.

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These new relations between South Vietnam and Cambodia have been settled on an objective and correct basis. As a result, both sides have achieved successes of great importance. The Americans have systematically tried to sabotage the relations between the two countries and to check the mutual assistance between the two peoples. But their plots have met with great failure.

The recent event in diplomatic relations between the Government of the Cambodian Kingdom and the NLFV has shown more clearly than ever that the brotherly Khmer and Vietnamese peoples are united more closely. Faced with the U.S. aggressive and savage ambitions, the peoples of the two countries have clearly asserted that, faced with such stubborn imperialist ringleaders as the U.S. imperialists, there is no other way than uniting with one another and resolutely struggling to the end to smash the U.S. aggressive plots. The process of the recent struggle has also provided us with a realistic basis to further assert this truth and to be more strongly confident than ever in our inevitable victory in the struggle to achieve and protect our national rights.

This new step in relations between us and the Government of the Cambodian Kingdom is also a natural and essential new development in the process of good neighborly relations and friendly relations of solidarity between two peoples who have struggled against a common enemy. These good relations have been unceasingly strengthened in the process of the past struggle. The more the enemy is defeated, the more savage and frantic he becomes, the more he carries out reckless acts in his endangered position, and the more he forces the peoples of the two countries, who have long had good relations, to side with one another more closely and to realistically and increasingly assist one another in struggle.

The Cambodian Government and people, under the clear-sighted and firm leadership of Cambodian Chief of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk, have resolutely struggled against the aggressive plots of the Americans and their lackeys in Saigon and Bangkok to protect their independence and territorial integrity and to safeguard their peaceful and neutral policy, which the U.S. imperialists' acts of threat and corruption have also failed to shake. This struggle is also a great contribution to the resistance of our southern people.

In addition, the Cambodian Government and people have also heartily supported and realistically and positively aided our just struggle, since the Cambodian Government and people have clearly asserted that Cambodia's neutral policy does not mean that it makes no distinction between just and unjust or between the aggressors and the invaded. As for us, we have not hesitated to sacrifice our lives and to endure hardships, and we have resolutely prosecuted a self-defense war to defeat the extremely barbarous and cruel war of aggression of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys in order to win independence and freedom for the fatherland and to fulfill our task toward all peoples who are struggling against colonialism and imperialism.

Our southern people are happy to make positive contributions to the common struggle of the Cambodian people and all Indochinese peoples by annihilating as much as possible the potential of the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys in South Vietnam, thus making them increasingly weak, passive, and heavily bogged down in the south and forcing them to renounce their aggressive dreams and withdraw from South Vietnam and Indochina.

The brotherly, friendly relations between the two neighboring countries, which have been built on the basis of equality and mutual respect and in the realities of the solidarity in struggle against the common enemy--as they are at present with increasingly profound mutual understanding and confidence through the process of this struggle--are definitely durable relations with a firm base, which will be unceasingly strengthened and developed. I am convinced that with such constructive relations, all matters affecting the two peoples can be solved through frank and friendly negotiations.

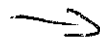
Question: After receiving statements from the NFLSV Central Committee and DRV Premier Phan Van Dong recognizing the existing Cambodian border, Cambodian Chief of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers, sent a letter to Premier Pham Van Dong, part of which read as follows: "I am happy to stress the great and historic meaning of the two statements dated, respectively, 31 May and 8 June 1967. These two statements have put an end to all resentment and distrust left over from the past and have created the most correct and firm bases for future relations between ourselves." Will you please give your views on this statement?

Answer: I warmly acclaim and highly value the accurate assessment Chief of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk has given to the new development of diplomatic relations between the Cambodian Kingdom and Vietnam. The event itself, aside from a new development in the form and organization of relations, has also marked very important new changes in the content and spirit of these relations. I think we can say we have turned forever the pages of history which left bad, regretful traces in relations between the Khmer and Vietnamese peoples, which were caused by the imperialists and colonialists and which no one wants to see happen again.

The tendency of development of our two peoples has followed the evolution of history. Present society will certainly and completely smash imperialism and colonialism in all forms and, at the same time, will not approve of any racial discrimination, expansionism, or chauvinism. Relations between the Khmer and Vietnamese peoples, which have been built in this spirit, on this new concept, and on the principle of equality, solidarity, and mutual assistance, will be extremely fine and everlasting.

Question: Mr. Vice Chairman, please tell us what new prospects the present new development of relations between the Government of the Cambodian Kingdom and the NFLSV will open?

Answer: We have asserted that this is a very important and successful step that we must consolidate and further develop. The unity in struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their bellicose lackeys in Bangkok and Saigon and for the safeguarding of peace in Indochina, Southeast Asia, and the world which is the main base for the present diplomatic relations between the two countries, will continue to develop well and will create bases for more intimate relations in the task of building our countries and protecting and consolidating peace and independence.



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In addition, the new development in the present friendly relations between the Khmer and Vietnamese peoples is also a development of the spirit of the Indochinese people's conference, a historic conference which was convened in Phnom Penh at the initiative of Chief of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Although we still face many fierce difficulties, with the stormy mounting vigor of the Vietnamese and Laotian armed forces and people who have smashed the aggressive and war-seeking U.S. plots, with the spirit of resolute struggle of the Khmer people who, under the clear-sighted and firm leadership of Chief of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk, are determined to firmly maintain their independent and neutral policy, and with the spirit of the increasingly tightened and stable brotherly friendship and militant solidarity among all peoples of the great family of the Indochinese peoples, the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys in the south and Thailand will certainly be defeated disastrously and shamefully, and the future will certainly reserve glorious successes for the Cambodian, Laotian, and Vietnamese peoples and bring about genuine and stable peace and independence for the peoples of the three countries.

Although these successes will be won with much bloodshed, once the aggressive dream of the U.S. imperialist ringleaders, the most criminal and stubborn imperialists with the greatest quantity of war means, has been completely smashed on the steel-like soil of this Indochinese peninsula, no other pirates will dare repeat the Americans' frantic and idiotic acts. Only then will the independence and freedom of the heroic Indochinese peoples be truly guaranteed in a stable and durable manner and will peace in Southeast Asia and the world be increasingly consolidated.

SIHANOUK REPLIES TO NLSV'S BORDER STATEMENT

Liberation Radio (Clandestine) in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 0900 GMT 11 July 1967--S

(Text) On 27 June, the Chief of State of the Cambodian Kingdom, Norodom Sihanouk, sent a reply to Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho's message dated 16 June concerning the South Vietnam National Liberation Front Central Committee's statement on recognition of the territorial integrity of Cambodia in its present borders. Following is the full text of the reply:

Honorable Chairman: I am glad to inform you that I received your message dated 16 June 1967 reaffirming the solemn statement on the recognition of the territorial integrity of Cambodia in its present borders and the statement issued by the South Vietnam National Liberation Front Central Committee on 31 May. I express my sincere thanks and reaffirm our appreciation of this friendly act.

I believe this has strengthened the solidarity and struggle of our two countries against the aggressive U.S. imperialists and their clique. I also believe that this historic act marks a new age in Cambodian and Vietnamese relations. We have united in the struggle against the common enemy, and we will also unite in peace so we can successfully regain Indochina. Some day, the U.S. aggressors will not fail to recognize their useless efforts in breaking the indomitable resistance of the people in South Vietnam. At that time, the Khmer and Vietnamese people will more closely cooperate together in full confidence to speed their economic and social development and to assure a peaceful and progressive future for the coming generations.