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PRGRSV FOREIGN MINISTRY 18 AUG CAMBODIA STATEMENT

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[Text] On 18 August the PRGRSV Foreign Ministry issued a statement on the situation of the Cambodian people's anti-U.S. national salvation resistance, the full text of which follows:

Faced with heavy setbacks on the various battlefields in Cambodia and with vehement condemnation by the public in the United States and elsewhere in the world, on 15 August the Nixon administration had to declare an end to the exterminatory bombing raids in Cambodia. This was a great victory for the heroic Cambodian armed forces and people, who have fought stalwartly against the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, and for the NUFK-RGNUM policy of broad and firm solidarity. This was also a victory for the peoples of Indochina, who have fought shoulder to shoulder with the Cambodian people against the common enemy, and a victory for peace-and justice-loving people worldwide, including the American people.

The South Vietnamese people and the PRGRSV warmly acclaim the great victories in all respects won by the Cambodian people in their anti-U.S. national salvation struggle, victories that compelled the United States to end its bombing in Cambodia.

Despite their heavy setbacks, the stubborn and bellicose U.S. imperialists have tried by every trick to continue their military involvement and interference in Cambodia's internal affairs; and have feverishly implemented the policy of Cambodianizing the war of aggression in Cambodia. They have intensively provided armaments, war materiel, and dollars for the Phnom Penh puppet administration, and at the same time have surreptitiously sent Saigon and Bangkok mercenaries to intervene in Cambodia in hope of maintaining and using the puppet Lon Nol administration as a tool to push U.S. neocolonialism in Cambodia. They have also brazenly stated that the United States will continue its reconnaissance flights over and military transport missions in Cambodia, and will continue providing the Phnom Penh puppet administration with every military assistance.

Obviously the United States has trampled grossly on the Cambodian people's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, thus brazenly violating Article 20 of the Paris agreement on Vietnam and Article 8 of the act of the International Conference on Vietnam, and creating tension in that area.

Fully sympathizing with and supporting the Cambodian people's aspirations for independence, peace, and neutrality and their legitimate demands set forth in the RGNUM 15 August statement, the PRGRSV vehemently denounces and sternly condemns these actions continuing the criminal war of aggression by the Nixon administration and the Phnom Penh lackey clique against the Cambodian people. It resolutely demands that the United States end completely and unconditionally its aggression in Cambodia; terminate all its support and military, financial, and economic assistance to the Lon Nol puppet administration; respect the Cambodian people's fundamental national rights; and stop intervening in the Cambodian people's internal affairs.

The people and the PRG of the Republic of South Vietnam unswervingly, resolutely, and absolutely support the NUFK's correct stand stated in the five-point declaration by Samdech Chief of State Norodom Sihanouk on 23 March 1970 and in the NUFK's political platform aimed at building an independent, peaceful, neutral, democratic, and prosperous Cambodia with sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Cambodian people's anti-U.S. national salvation struggle under the clear-sighted leadership of the NUFK chaired by Samdech Chief of State Norodom Sihanouk and of the RGNUM with Samdech Penh Nouth as premier and Mr Khieu Samphan as vice premier will certainly achieve glorious victory.

South Vietnam, 18 August 1973