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✓ TIES BETWEEN PRO. CAMBODIAN PEOPLE HAILED

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[Text] South Viet Nam June 14 GPA--On the occasion of the first anniversary of the establishment of R.S.V.N.-Cambodia diplomatic relations has Professor Nguyen Van Hieu, ambassador of the Republic of South Viet Nam to Cambodia, wrote the following article which appeared in the English-and French-language newspaper "South Viet Nam in Struggle" on June 10.

Saigon and Phnom Penh have ballyhooed the re-establishment of their "diplomatic relations" after Yem Sambaur's trip to South Viet Nam to beg for the Thieu-Ky-Khiem triumvirate's help and assistance. An admirer of Hitler, Nguyen Cao Ky himself went to Phnom Penh to grant "assistance" to their conveners while Saigon mercenaries were treading on Cambodia like on a conquered land. Rather infamous this association of traitors.

It is beyond any doubt that such ludicrous antics do not affect at all the ties of friendship between our two peoples. South Viet Nam-Cambodia true diplomatic relations have existed in the past as at present between the P.R.G. of the Republic of S.V.N. and the legal government of Cambodia under its Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. The history of these relations, an interesting contribution to international law, will exemplify the possibility for friendly peoples to set up fruitful connection in the conditions which do not necessarily meet the existing juridical norms, on the basis of mutual understanding and respect.

On May 4, 1969, Prince Norodom Sihanouk announced in Phnom Penh Cambodia's de jure recognition of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. and the establishment of diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level between Cambodia and South Viet Nam. It came as a great surprise to Western embassies particularly as since the end of April last they had been speculating on a brutal break with Cambodia following the provocations committed by Lon Nol and his bosses along the Cambodian frontier. This simple example shed light on the shrewdness of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk who has always had confidence in the friendship between our two peoples. It furthermore gave us an idea of the dark design of the prospective coup makers in Phnom Penh whose fate had always a most execrable brand of racism.

Prince Sihanouk very soon realized immediately after the founding of the N.F.L., that the future of South Viet Nam is in the hands of the liberation fighters. This perspicacity was enhanced by an uncanny political courage. As early as 1963 Cambodia cut off her relations with the Saigon regime and rejected U.S. aid as a U.S. imperialists' means of enslavement.

Insofar as the N.F.L. is concerned, it has already won control of nearly all the South Viet Nam countryside and assumed the responsibility of an effective and strong revolutionary administration. In foreign relations, the N.F.L. has been pursuing since its establishment--just like the P.R.G. nine years later--a policy of peace and neutrality, especially a policy of friendship and good neighbourhood with Cambodia and Laos. In fact the N.F.L., then the P.R.G., has always respected the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the neighbouring countries. The contrast between the attitude of "authentic South Viet Nam"--to use Prince Sihanouk's words--and that of the Saigon quislings, is so striking that after the aggression against Cambodia by U.S. troops and Thieu-Ky mercenaries the Western press has had to refer to it. With regard to the peoples themselves, there prevails on the borderland an atmosphere of understanding and cordiality notwithstanding the frequent provocations staged by the Phnom Penh reactionaries, working hand in glove with the Saigon quislings. The trumped-up story of "traditional enemies" between Vietnamese and Khmers reflects but the unavowed designs of the imperialists in their traditional divisive manoeuvres.

Everything contributes to bring closer our two peoples, who share the same desire to live eternally side by side like good friends. Let us pay tribute to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk for having expressed with steadfastness and perseverance the profound sentiments of his people for the Vietnamese people.

The excellent relations now existing between the P.R.G. of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia led by the F.U.N.K. evince a remarkable continuity in the policy of friendship and solidarity followed by the two governments. The naked aggression against Cambodia by G.I.'s and puppet troops has strengthened these ties which, forged in the struggle against the common enemy, will fully develop in their future co-operation as soon as our two peoples have swept away the aggressors from their national territories.