

EMBASSY IN PEKING DENOUNCES SIHANOUK ENTOURAGE

Hong Kong AFP in English 1152 GMT 25 Oct 75 OW

[By Georges Biannic]

[Text] Peking, Oct 25 (AFP)--About 50 members of Cambodian Head of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk's suite, who have chosen exile in France rather than return to their homeland, were attacked as "a handful of traitors" by the Royal Cambodian Embassy in Peking today. A statement issued by the embassy accused the members of the prince's entourage of "slandering the people of Kampuchea (Cambodia), NUFC (the Cambodian Front for National Unity) and the Royal Cambodian Government of National Unity (RGNUC)."

The prince's followers, who spent 5 years with him in exile in the Chinese capital after the March 1970 coup d'etat led by General (later Marshal) Lon Nol, explained in a statement to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS that they had chosen to go to France because conditions in Cambodia following the Khmer Rouge victory there in April were "entirely out of line" with the political programme adopted by NUFC in Peking soon after the Lon Nol coup. They said the guarantees of fundamental freedoms laid down by this programme were not being honoured by the new Khmer Rouge government in Phnom Penh. The members of the prince's suite made the statement on Oct. 12 as the last of their number were leaving China. All were members of NUFC. At the same time, several members of Prince Sihanouk's entourage gave details of current conditions in Cambodia. These included a long interview by Nounth Chhoeun, the prince's former press attache, published by the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW of Hong Kong on life in Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge and the prince.

The embassy statement said that "these individuals are no more than a handful of traitors who were infiltrated into NUFC by our enemies to carry out sabotage and to sow disunity in its (NUFC's) ranks. Having failed completely in these sapping operations because of the broadly based and solid unity and the vigilance of the people of Kampuchea, NUFC and RGNUC, these individuals are trying desperately to continue with their treacherous acts of division and disunity," the embassy declared. The statements by the prince's suite were "an act of treason and condemned as such by the people and the nation of Kampuchea," the embassy added.

Prince Sihanouk has also attacked the decision to seek exile in France taken by the members of his suite. He described them as "rightists" in an interview given recently in Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea. The prince was expected to return from Pyongyang to Peking at the end of this month in order to celebrate his birthday here.

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U.S. IMPERIALIST REGIME HEADING FOR COLLAPSE

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 25 Oct 75 BK

[International News Feature]

[Text] In today's "International News Feature" we will report on the economic and social crisis in the United States, the country of imperialism and monopoly capitalism.

1. Price increases: Last Wednesday, 22 October, the U.S. Government officially confessed that during the past 9 months, that is, from January to September, retail prices went up 5 percent. The main reason was the excessively high cost of transportation, education, hospital treatment, medicine and clothing. The U.S. Labor Department has admitted that in September 1975 wholesale prices soared. The wholesale prices of food rocketed by 4.3 percent. The prices of oil, metals and other raw materials for industrial goods also jumped. The rate of increase for consumer goods in September 1975 was the highest for the past 11 months. The current situation in the United States, in which the value of the dollar is depreciating while the prices of goods are soaring, is almost intolerable. This country has plunged into a deepening economic and social quagmire, and the American people have encountered more hardships and troubles. Those most affected are the poor, needy American workers and laborers.

The escalation of the imperialistic and monopoly capitalist regime in the United States has further kindled flames of indignation in the hearts of the American people and pushed them to further close ranks in a struggle against this regime.

2. Higher rate of unemployment: The U.S. Labor Department revealed that in September the total number of unemployed in the United States was 7.8 million, or 8.3 percent of the entire labor force. The number of black and white middle-aged unemployed, including those formerly serving in well-to-do homes, was greater than in previous months. In big industrial enterprises, the number of unemployed workers remained high.

Considering just these two aspects, we can see that the economic-social crisis in the United States is becoming more severe. We came to this conclusion even before considering the energy, financial and political crises. The trend of the U.S. imperialist regime is toward worse emergencies. No administration will be able to counteract them. These crises have made the working people and the general public in the United States more politically conscious and have greatly stimulated the mass movement fighting against imperialist and monopoly capitalist regime. Therefore, it is clear that the U.S. imperialist regime is heading toward total collapse under the blows of the struggle waged by the people of the United States and the world.

HISTORY OF THE VIETNAM WAR ON MICROFILM

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SIHANOUK ASSOCIATES STATE OPPOSITION TO KHMER ROUGE

Paris Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Oct 75 LD

[Text] A total of 42 of Prince Sihanouk's former associates, who refused to return to Phnom Penh, stated this morning in Paris that they remained faithful to the prince but that they were opposed to the Khmer Rouge. Their spokesman stated that the Khmer Rouge had not respected the political program adopted by all the parties hostile to the former regime and that Prince Sihanouk did not agree with the present team but felt obliged to remain in Cambodia.