

PART THREE OF SIHANOUK'S 20TH MESSAGE TO KHMER NATION

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[Text] Peking, March 13 (HSINHUA)--Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, issued here today his 20th message to the Khmer nation (part three). It reads in full as follows:

Dear compatriots, in the third part of the 20th message which I have the honour to address to our nation, I will present to you in the first place some irrefutable proofs of the national treason of Lon Nol and his gang to the profit of U.S. neo-colonialist imperialism, and then important testimonies about the unpardonable crimes of the U.S. aggressors against our people, and finally, serious testimonies from which we can conclude that U.S. imperialism will be inescapably and irreversibly swept out of Cambodia and the whole of Indochina.

Here are the proofs and testimonies about Lon Nol and his gang's out-and-out surrendering of the Khmer nation to U.S. imperialism:

--The American journal NEWSWEEK reported on February 1, 1971: "What distressed some observers about the U.S. moves was that they seemed to be one more step toward a full U.S. commitment to Cambodian Premier Lon Nol's decidedly shaky government. . . . One State Department official sardonically equipped, 'what that really means is that we are committed to Lon Nol unless he has a twin brother.'" This is a terrible confession of the U.S. Government that there are no other traitors as obedient to U.S. imperialism as Lon Nol!

--A.P. reported from Washington on February 14, 1971 that Elmer B. Staats, the U.S. controller general, admitted in a statement that the United States had bought over the Cambodia of Lon Nol. He said: "We (Americans) have decided to include Cambodia in our review in addition to . . . Korea (South), Taiwan"

To add Cambodia to the list of U.S. colonies well known to the whole world, such as South Korea and the island of Taiwan (which will have to return to the motherland, the People's Republic of China) means "everything". No comment is needed.

--U.S.I.S., Washington, January 15, 1971--The U.S.I.S. is the information and propaganda service of the U.S. Government itself--called the Lon Nol Government "the American-oriented government of Premier Lon Nol". This needs no comment either!

In the same cable of the U.S.I.S., it is also revealed that President Nixon has in the past taken a secret action in Cambodia (in order to buy over the country from the gang of Lon Nol): ". . . previous action he (Nixon) secretly took in Cambodia".

--A Washington cable of A.P. on February 14, 1971, quoted Senator W. Fulbright as saying: "The large military economic aid . . . involved the United States more deeply."

--U.S. Secretary of State W. Rogers declared on January 28, 1971: "We acknowledge clearly that the survival of a free Cambodian government (that is to say, so-called satellite of our free world) is useful to our cause." (I.P.S.)

--Pro-Nixon U.S. Senator Hugh Scott (Senate Republican leader), according to whom, the escalation of the war in Cambodia, which has been sold out by Lon Nol to the U.S.A., is "a protection of ourselves, Americans", declared on February 2: "This is not an escalation (in) Cambodia; we have to protect ourselves." (U.P.I.-- Washington)

--The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR reported on December 14, 1970, "U.S. troops may be leaving but the American presence is as strong as ever The withdrawal of United States ground-combat troops is counter-weighted by increased use of U.S. bombing (a more or less free hunting license for American planes. . .) and by the delegation of actual fighting to troops from Cambodia, South Vietnam and Laos."

The important U.S. Christian journal has thus admitted that the presence of U.S. imperialism in Indochina is more striking than ever because the withdrawal of Yankee soldiers is largely counter-balanced by the permission given to the U.S. Air Force to destroy at will the free Indochinese countries and massacre at will the three peoples there, and by the hiring of the troops of Lon Nol, Thieu-Ky and Souvanna Phouma to suppress the patriots.

As a mercenary as well as a henchman of the U.S. Government, Lon Nol is obliged to report to U.S. Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, chief of staff of Nixon, on the military situation in Cambodia. REUTER said in a cable by James Pringle dated January 12, 1971: "Premier Lon Nol is . . . to give the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff a . . . report on the situation."

--U.P.I. said in a cable from the United Nations dated October 23, 1970: Koun Wick made public in New York that his gang was clinging to U.S. imperialism as a shipwrecked man clings desperately to a life-buoy. "Koun Wick said the United States had an obligation to protect these countries"--"these countries" mean the U.S. colonies in Southeast Asia: the Cambodia of Lon Nol, the South Viet Nam of Thieu-Ky, South Korea, Thailand, etc. . . .

There is nothing more contemptible than this treason against the independence of one's motherland. Bestial Koun Wick lost all sense of shame when he told the international press at the United Nations in New York that the U.S.A. had the obligation to maintain Cambodia, his own country, and other countries dependent on the United States.

--Important decisions concerning the destiny of Cambodia are not at all taken by the so-called "government" of Lon Nol-Sirik Matak but by the Washington government. The status of colony is quite worse than that of "protectorate" under French colonialism.

Please, our Buddhist monks and other compatriots who are living in the illegal "republic" of Lon Nol, ponder over a confession about the U.S. domination of the regime of the Phnom Penh fascists (the confession is by Admiral Thomas Moorer): "We will observe the situation with great attention. Mr. Swank, U.S. ambassador in Phnom Penh, will keep us informed. Then, we will make our decisions." (an A.F.P. report from Phnom Penh in January, 1971)

The best proof that the master of the so-called "Khmer Republic" will be Nixon instead of Lon Nol-Sirik Matak is found in the following testimony: A.F.P. reported from Washington on January 18, 1971 that President Nixon has gathered around him a "little council of war" to examine the developments in Cambodia. Among those who assisted in holding the secret meeting were, in particular, Secretary of Defense M. Melvin Laird, . . . Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Thomas Moorer who has made a lightning visit to Phnom Penh and Mr. Richard Helms, director of information and anti-espionage service (C.I.A.). The developments of the military situation in Cambodia . . . disquieted the United States, already engaged in giving direct support to the troops . . . of Cambodia. . . . President Nixon will consult the director of the C.I.A. . . . with a view to completing his evaluation of the situation.

After learning of the testimony, our clergy, intellectuals and youth under Lon Nol's rule should no longer cherish any illusion about the origin of the coup d'etat of March 18, 1970 and about the so-called "independence" of the "Khmer Republic". The disclosure of A.F.P. clearly proved that it is Nixon who has pulled the strings of Phnom Penh puppets and that it is the C.I.A. of Mr. Richard Helms who has always been instructed by Nixon to rule "with a rod of iron" over the gang of Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Ngoc Thanh-Cheng Heng-Hang Thun Hak-In Tam-Koun Wick, Tim Nguon, etc "running dogs" of U.S. imperialism.

The Frenchman Jean-Claude Pomonti, who had been driven out of Phnom Penh by Lon Nol-Sirik Matak for having written about some "harsh" facts about their anti-popular and anti-national regime, denounced, in the journal LE MONDE, the U.S. militarists as being "influential" in the "republic" of Lon Nol. He wrote: "All taken into account, in the intervention . . . in Cambodia, the American Army seemed to have played an essential role without which nothing could be done The restrictions imposed upon the (international) press alone can hardly make people forget the American glaring involvement in the operations . . . in Cambodia. . . . the White House is trying to cover up the width of its intervention . . . but . . . can deceive nobody."

--A.P. January 18, 1971--In Washington, Mr. W. Friedheim, spokesman of the Pentagon, undertook to confirm J.C. Pomonti's accusation by confessing that the U.S. Army, particularly "U.S. aircraft have free reign to operate anywhere in Cambodia". REUTER, in its cable of January 18, 1971, signed by Ralph Harris, said clearly for its part: "Pentagon spokesman Friedheim said today U.S. policy was that American military activities could be conducted anywhere in Cambodia."

The bestial Hang Thun Hak recently went to the Philippines, another notorious colony of the U.S.A. and the Pentagon, and declared that the "intellectuals and the peasants consider Sihanouk as a traitor surrendering his country to the foreigners".

What "intellectuals" does he mean? He means undoubtedly the handful of vile "intellectuals" who have sold themselves to U.S. imperialism and renounced all dignity and honour (Littaye Suon, Douc Rasy, Leng Sarin, Chhut Chhoeur, Kenthao de Monteiro and their like). The intellectuals who are worthy of the name, who are not corrupted and who are courageous patriots have already left Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Ngoc Thanh and gone into the jungles and joined in the N.U.F.C. (for example, Doctor Thiounn, diplomat Ros Chet Thor, engineer Men Nitho, and their respective families).

As for the peasants, they know too well the hideous features of U.S. imperialism and the ever more despicable features of the fascist, feudal and comprador-capitalist Lon Nol regime to believe their vile propaganda!

The Washington chieftains themselves have affirmed to the whole world that in Cambodia of Lon Nol the U.S.A. has "free-reign".

Only traitors such as Koun Wick and Hang Thun Hak dare to speak of their (sham) national independence with a straight face abroad. But in fact, their propaganda originates exclusively in the capitals of the satellites of the United States, such as Manila, Saigon, Djakarta, Seoul, Canberra, Wellington and Bangkok! And in these satellite capitals they "forget" wilfully (and with reason!) to tell that they can only survive in Phnom Penh thanks to Nixon. Just as the magazine U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT wrote on February 1, 1971, "U.S. officials in Phnom Penh emphasize that their main assignment is 'to keep the (Lonolite) Cambodians alive--nothing more!'" It is quite lamentable!

Now here are important evidences and testimonies concerning the unpardonable crimes which U.S. imperialism committed against ordinary Khmer people and against our entire nation with the complicity of the Lon Nol gang.

U.P.I. reported from New York on October 23, 1970 (in a cable signed by R.M. Sorge):
" . . . Koun Wick said today the United States military intervention in his country had given the Cambodians (namely, the Lon Nolites) time to strengthen their own forces".

This proves that the Lon Nol gang willingly delivered Cambodia, oasis of peace under Sihanouk, to Nixon's criminal and bellicose folly, and the same bestial gang of traitors of Phnom Penh asked the U.S. troops to come to Cambodia to plunge it into fire and bloodshed and murder the inhabitants of our provinces who dare to protest against the Lon Nolites' policy of treason.

The U.S. troops which entered Cambodia in full force at the beginning of their war of aggression have been as savage and inhuman toward our people, our Khmer peasants, women and children as the Saigon troops of Thieu-Ky, and it suffices to mention this. This is proved by the impressive testimony of Leon Daniel, U.P.I., datelined May 7, 1970, from Snuol, Cambodia: "American troops Wednesday smashed through and looted what little was left of this town they blasted from the face of Cambodia. This is not just the story of the death of a town, it also is a story of damage to a goal many Americans deem worthy As we rumbled forward we could see the smouldering ruins of Snuol, a once beautiful town, destroyed the previous afternoon by massive air strikes and tanks Our tanks crashed through a children's playground. There is something infinitely sad about a Sheridan tank crushing a see-saw When we rolled into the town . . . (we) saw some dead people: four Cambodian civilians, one of them a little girl horribly maimed by what must have been napalm . . . Tankers were helping themselves to what little was left in an area of shops that had been completely leveled . . . GIs took suitcases, mirrors and shoes. I saw a blue motorscooter strapped to one tank . . . A Catholic church . . . had taken a direct hit in its roof The only dead I saw obviously were Cambodian civilians, but the U.S. Army claimed later it had killed 88 communist troops I doubt it The big losers are the Cambodians who lived in Snuol When those who fled to the relative safety of the forests return they will find their town destroyed. They also will find that . . . their personal property is missing."

This is what Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Sim Var, Hang Thun Hak, Trinh Hoanh, In Tam, Koun Wick and Tim Nguon as well as Littaye Suon, Douc Rasy, Danh Sang and Leng Sarin call "the salvation" of the Khmer people by the "great" American "friends".

What these vile traitors call "Vietcong and North Vietnamese" are poor Cambodian civilians and even children whom they ask Nixon's soldiery to plunge into bloodshed and complete ruin without pity.

Our Buddhist monks and our compatriots in Phnom Penh may acquaint themselves with this testimony of A.P. (May 8, 1970): "Two American Cobra gunships fired . . . (and) destroyed all the houses . . . Came running out . . . Cambodian civilians begging for mercy. They pleaded . . . to spare their children. Many were wounded, including a mother and her two babies who were covered with blood."

In Phnom Penh's newspapers and on its radio these "Cambodian civilians", these "mother and babies" become the "Vietcongs" and "North Vietnamese invaders!" And their poor houses riddled with U.S. bullets become ipso facto "communist bunkers!"

I hope that our monks and other inhabitants in Phnom Penh can fully recognize the horror of this criminal propaganda of the despicable Lon Nolites.

After the withdrawal of the U.S. ground forces from Cambodia, the Lon Nol gang asked Nixon to plunge the people of our provinces into a misery one thousand fold greater because a "carte blanche" has been given to the U.S. Air Force to destroy thoroughly all cities, villages and zones where the people dare to resist the usurpers of constitutional power in Phnom Penh and their U.S. master.

A.F.P. in a cable dated January 16, 1971, gave the following statistics of U.S. air raids against the Khmer people: In November, 1970: 550 raids. In December, 1970: 1,700 raids.

As to the situation since the beginning of the New Year 1971, A.F.P. said, "the number of U.S. air raids in Cambodia has reached its peak". It added that, according to the Pentagon itself, these "U.S. raids in Cambodia serve additionally the interests of the Lon Nol government."

Please, our compatriots living under the arch-criminal "republic" of Lon Nol, think seriously over this odious confession of the U.S. Pentagon which makes it clear that the genocide of the Khmer people and the destruction of Cambodia serve principally the interests of the U.S.A. and additionally (let's underline this word: additionally) the interests of the gang of the Lon Nolite traitors.

A U.P.I. dispatch dated February 23, 1971 even revealed that, according to U.S. leaders, to protect the interests of the Lon Nol government is to protect the proper investment (sic) of the U.S. Government: "U.S. sources said today 'it's a protection of our investment'."

The traitorous Lon Nolites show no pity to our peasants. They make the ground forces of Thieu-Ky and the aircraft of Nixon kill our peasants cold-bloodedly. And once they get killed, the propaganda of Lon Nol "labels" them "Vietcong" or "Vietminh". This intolerable trick has been denounced even by some journals in Phnom Penh. A proof of this is the A.F.P. dispatch dated February 17, 1971: "One paper of Phnom Penh affirms that the government forces have, with air support, attacked a village southeast of the capital, where no North Vietnamese element nor Vietcong had been discovered and not a gunshot had been fired on the Khmer forces."

Can our Buddhist monks and our compatriots living in the zones not yet liberated remain indifferent to such great treason, to so many crimes and lies that the Lon Nolites "bestow" on them?

The Americans are killing the Khmer people and destroying the Khmer country. The Lon Nolites consider that this is not enough. They even invite the Americans to complot with them to rob Cambodia of its irreplaceable treasures of art, those of Angkor. This monstrous and unpardonable crime was exposed in a dispatch of the American news agency U.P.I. from Hongkong dated January 24, 1971. The dispatch said: "Cambodian art looted from the historic temples of Angkor Wat since the start of the Cambodian war is being brought into this (town) for sale, the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST reported today. The English-language daily...quoted Hongkong archeology Society Professor S.G. Davis as saying that...what has come seems to have been transported by American servicemen."

IV. 16 Mar 71

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CAMBODIA

Our monks, intellectuals and other compatriots, please think over this very special "salvation" of the Khmer civilization by U.S. imperialism, master of the Lonolites!

Dear compatriots,

I ask you the permission to read you the last part of this 20th message to our nation next week in order not to take too much of your time today.

I present my very respectful homage to Her Venerated and Beloved Majesty the Queen.

I present my profound respects to the venerable monks.

I present my very affectionate greetings to the Khmer people.

Long live the Khmer nation!

Long live our national religion (Buddhism)!

Long live the Khmer people, heroic member of the National United Front of Cambodia!

Long live independent and non-aligned Cambodia!

Down with U.S. imperialism and its shameless lackeys!