

# PRINCIPAL REPORTS

FROM COMMUNIST RADIO SOURCES

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SIHANOUK APPEALS TO KHMER

BUDDHIST MONKS FOR SUPPORT

I. SIHANOUK APPEALS FOR SUPPORT  
OF KHMER BUDDHIST MONKS

[Feking NCNA International Service in English, 0241 GMT,  
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Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of the National United Front of Kampuchea, issued a special message to the Khmer Buddhist Monks on September 17.

The message points out that U.S. imperialism is the mortal enemy of Cambodia and that the war of aggression against Cambodia was ordered by U.S. President Nixon. It calls on the Khmer Buddhist Monks to stand on the side of the Khmer people and march toward a future which would not be in contravention of the national ideals of pure patriotism, people's democracy and genuine freedom.

Full text of the special message follows:

Venerable Monks,

I send my most respectful greetings to all of you who are now in Cambodia.

Please acquaint yourselves with the present message which I have the honor of addressing to you:

Since 1941, the year of my accession of the head of Khmer state nearly 30 years have already elapsed -- you and I have established confidential and cordial relations between each other.

Alas, now our national life has entered a period in which the Lon Nol - Sirik Matak clique has succeeded in dividing our nation and splitting the unity, union and solidarity among the Khmers.

In the course of this undermining activity, I have been obviously slandered, dragged through the mire and accused of all the most unbelievable crimes. Despite this, most of you have done me justice and preserved your respect for me.

You are accustomed to maintaining close and affectionate relations with the throne, with Her Majesty the Queen, my mother, and with me. Hand in hand and together with our people, we worked in the service of our motherland, we built our country and made it progress in all fields,

particularly in public education, public health, agriculture, water conservancy, capital construction, communications, industrialization, etc. Together with our people, we were happy to be able to constantly inaugurate innumerable big, medium and small projects of our sangkum reastr niyum (people's socialist community).

Alas, today, this era of peace, labour and progress has come to an end with "the coming into power of the Lon Nolites" who stop at nothing to separate you from me and from the Khmer throne, the throne which is supported by the people and artisans and which, together with the people, restored independence to the motherland in 1953.

If I were to believe certain cables of the American and French press, the Lon Nolites have made Samdech Head of the Mohanikay Buddhist Sect "excommunicate me" on account of my "collaboration with communism" and my "alliance with the red Vietnamese, aggressors of Cambodia!"

In this respect, I wish to express my profound regret in seeing a part of our Buddhist monks having been led by the group of Phnom Penh reactionaries into violating the rules of vinaya (rules of discipline) of Buddha, entering the political arena and condemning this or that ideology instead of observing, like the monks in other countries believing in Buddhism, strict non-interference in political and ideological affairs.

However, I am convinced that our Buddhist monks as a whole, whose wisdom and clear-sightedness are well known, will not allow themselves to be misled onto the evil, unjust and wrong road fiendishly marked out for them by the Lon Nolites .

First of all, I ask the Venerable Monks to examine carefully the real aspects of "the invasion" and "the war" of Cambodia.

In this respect, the testimony from the U.S.A. itself, master of the Lon Nolites, such as that of Senators Mike Mansfield and William Fulbright who are esteemed and respected in the whole world, shows that Sihanouk did all he could to prevent his country and the Khmer people from experiencing a war and (that he--Ed) has succeeded in making Cambodia an "oasis of peace" between 1954 (the year of the Geneva Conference which ended the first Indochina war) and March 13, 1970 (the day of the coup d'etat perpetrated by the Lon Nolites).

All honest statesmen of the U.S.A. and all its honest journals, including the big "New York Times" have affirmed or admitted that the the Lon Nol regime alone is responsible for the war, the unfortunate

consequences and the miseries brought to our people. The reasons are the murder of thousands of pro-Sihanouk Khmer demonstrators, then the genocide of tens of thousands of Vietnamese civilians, and finally the deliberate dispatch of the national army and the student youth to 'go to war' against socialist Viet-Nam whose "invasion" of Cambodia is completely imaginary.

The true invasion of Cambodia is that ordered (on April 30, 1970) by President Nixon of the U.S.A. This was expressly admitted by the American Senate, the big American press, the American people and the American youth.

So, our Buddhist monks can see clearly that even America has admitted that the invasion of our country was made by the American President who commands the metropolitan and satellite armed forces (those of Thieu-Ky in particular).

Of course, Mr. Nixon and his principal collaborators did not fail to shift the blame onto the communist Vietnamese--the so-called "aggressors of neutral and independent Cambodia".

But, should our Buddhist monks believe in the false affirmations of the Nixon imperialists, or in the honest judgement of the American senators, big journals, the people and the youth who do not betray in the least the ideals of freedom, justice and the peace of the American people?

As to my "collaboration with communism" and "with the red Vietnamese", I beg our monks to take into consideration the following details:

-- The Lon Nol group has made a fanfare in its press and its propaganda service, extravagantly lauding the U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary and East Germany -- all Communist countries-- for "standing on the side of its government", for their "friendship and cooperation with the Lon Nol government" and for having refused to recognize the Royal Government of the N. U. F. K. of which I am chairman.

The press and the propaganda service of Lon Nol affirm that these communist states follow a "just and correct line".

Consequently, I should not be the only one "condemnable" for "collaboration with communism". Why does not His Eminence, Head of the Mohanikay Sect, excommunicate all the Lon Nolites for "collaboration with several communist states"?

-- The fact that myself, the Royal Government of National Union and the N. U. F. K. maintain the best relations with the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Socialist Republic of Rumania does not signify that we betray our Buddhist belief and embrace "the red religion!"

-- Respected Monks, you know very well that, besides myself, such well-known "bourgeois nationalists" as Samdech Penn Nouth, Generals Ngo Hou and Duong Sam Ol, Ambassadors Sain Chhak, Ang Kim Khoan, Her Meas, etc. are also convinced partisans of the policy of close friendship with the socialist countries. But could you really believe that these high personalities are capable of betraying their oath of allegiance to the nation, the throne and the religion?

They should not be compared with the other bourgeois (as received), the Lonnotites, who have received from the throne the greatest honour and privileges, and benefits of all sorts, who owe everything to the throne and who, today, savagely thrown mud upon it before overthrowing it... as a token of their "Buddhist gratitude!"

Our monks should know that since the Lonnotites are capable of cruelly biting "the hand" that has brought them up, they will also be capable of ignobly betraying the motherland, the nation and the religion.

As to the nationalist members of the N. U. F. K., they have never betrayed the motherland, the nation and the religion.

-- Even the progressive intellectuals, the younger people, who have rallied round the N. U. F. K. in their hundreds and the most remarkable figures of whom are Messrs. Thiounn Mumm, Chau Seng, Keat Nhon, Thiounn Frasith, In Sokan, etc. have on their part formally expressed their total respect for the royal constitution, for the throne represented by Her Majesty the Queen, and for Buddhism which they undertake to preserve and defend as the religion of the state.

-- If we had really renounced our consistent ideals and beliefs, we would not have preserved the qualifier "royal" of our government and we would not have regarded the "Nokoreach" as the national anthem.

-- There really exists an intimate friendship between us and certain communist countries; but this should be no surprise because it is part of our traditional policy of independence and neutrality to make the greatest possible number of friends regardless of their political tendencies and ideology.

Venerable Monks, don't forget that this policy has been practised by our Royal Kingdom since 1955 when the Sangkum Reastr Niyum was founded.

-- Concerning the consistent, very large and unconditional aid from the People's Republic of China, our people have always benefited from it both in national construction and in the defense of the motherland, constantly menaced by U.S. imperialism. It is nothing new that the People's Republic of China consistently gives our people material support.

-- Concerning the question of who is the true enemy of the Khmer motherland and people, you should not form a hasty judgment under the influence of the vicious propaganda of Lon Nol-Sirik Matak - Ngoc Thanh who are heavily paid by the U.S. imperialists to lead their compatriots astray.

In this respect, Samdech Head of the Mohanikay Sect and other Buddhist dignitaries have doubtlessly not forgotten so clear-sighted a judgment made by the beloved and most lamented Samdech Sangharaja of the first rank who, when alive, knew perfectly that the enemy of the independence, neutrality and territorial integrity of our Kampuchea was neither the People's Republic of China nor socialist Viet-Nam. Our most venerable and most lamented Sangharaja knew that the arch enemy of our Kampuchea was U.S. imperialism.

When His Holiness was still living among us, he said to us one day: "I suffer enormously at the sight of the sufferings of our people (in the frontier zone) who are innocent victims of the ruthless air bombing of and armed intrusions into Cambodia by the U.S. forces. If the U.S.A. declares war on us, I will, in spite of my very old age, take off my robe and go into the jungle."

In the present period, so dark a period in our history, a great number of monks have publicly expressed their spiritual suffering at the sight of the undecipherable misfortunes of our people caused by the bombing and "strafing" by the American, Saigon, Bangkok, and Lon Nol aircraft and by the criminal acts (robbery, pillage, rapes and murders) of the soldiers of Nixon, Thieu-Ky and Lon Nol-Sirik Matak. Certain monks have even taken off their religious robes to become guerrillas in the people's national liberation army.

Many monks, without quitting their religious posts, have left the enemy-controlled zones for the liberated zones where they participate in social and cultural work and other works for the people under the N.U.F.K.

-- No one among our people allows himself to be duped by the propaganda of the Phnom Penh fascists. Our people can perfectly distinguish friends from the enemies of Kampuchea.

This is particularly evident in the most objective testimony of the great American journalist Richard Dudman.

Mr. Dudman admitted in his recent articles that our peasants were full of friendship and gratitude to the people's forces of Indochina and full of hatred for the U.S. and satellite forces.

The latest testimony, abundant in the same content, is that of the Frenchman Xavier Baron of the A.F.P.

Mr. Baron stressed in his cables that, for the Khmer peasants, they have only two enemies: the Americans and ... Lon Nol-Sirik Matak. This reporter added that for the Khmer peasants, Lon Nol, and Lon Nol alone is the arch culprit of the war in Cambodia, the misfortunes of the motherland, the miseries of her people, and the air bombing. "Poom-boom, Lon Nol", our peasants ceaselessly repeated to Xavier Baron.

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Now, American dollars flow continuously into the pockets of the Lonnolites who lead a "good life" in Phnom Penh and particularly in foreign capitals where they "amuse themselves": Paris, London, Djakarta, Tokyo, Saigon, Bangkok, etc. Srey Saman, Ek Yioun, From Thos, Ong Sim and Dank Sanh lead friendship or "goodwill" delegations visiting these capitals, each delegation comprising on the average 20 persons (military men, members of parliament, functionaries).

The people living under the dictatorship of the Lon Nol clique lack everything and sink deeper and deeper every day in misery and suffering. But the Lonnolites lack nothing. The coup d'etat having been pulled off, Nixon right away rewarded them with a grant of close to 10 million dollars of "aid of primary urgency" and then a "military aid" of more than 40 million dollars.

Furthermore, a much bigger reward is envisaged by the American Government for the Phnom Penh traitors. According to an A.F.P. cable from Washington on August 25, 1970, "the Nixon government, which has decided to support the Government of General Lon Nol, is studying a programme of aid ... which could exceed 100 million dollars...

The U.S. aid agency is finalizing a programme of assistance according to which the amount for the first year could reach 100 million or 200 million dollars. Prince Norodom Sihanouk decided in 1963 to interrupt the programmes of American aid which then amounted to a little over 20 million dollars a year."

May our Venerable Monks pass judgment on this!

In the year 1962, the American aid to Cambodia which, under my leadership, refused to part with its independence and neutrality, was only 20 million dollars. In 1963, I rejected the U.S. aid, because with it our country ran the grave risk of being involved in the war raging in the neighboring fraternal countries.

Today, the Lon Nol clique agrees to surrender Kampuchea to the Americans, renounce our traditional policy of independence, neutrality and territorial integrity, make our country -- the "oasis of peace" -- participate in the American war, and plunge our young people into the flames of this war to die for the Yankees: President Nixon therefore rewards the traitors with a grant of 200 million dollars or 20 billion riels in foreign currency! This is an "astronomical" sum, much greater than the annual grants to all the other satellite countries of the U.S.A., and three times as much as the national budget of independent and neutral Cambodia before the coup d'etat of the traitors.

May our Buddhist Monks seriously ponder over that!

Is it possible that the Americans, of the white race, "love" the Khmer to such a point? Is this "love", this sudden "passion" for the Khmers disinterested?

Can these Americans be "disinterested" vis-a-vis our country and its people when they decide to grant the Lon Nol clique hundreds of millions of dollars?

The propaganda of Nixon and Agnew affirms that the U.S. aid to Lon Nol serves to safeguard the independence and neutrality of Cambodia!

Our monks who, as worthy disciples of Buddha, can well distinguish truth from falsehood -- Can they believe such an affirmation? Is it believable that these white Americans take the money of their own people to fill the pockets of the Lon Nolites and give them enormous amounts of money comparable to the (Buddhist) Mount Meru for no reason other than the "love for Cambodia and its people"?



What have the common citizens, the "common people", received from the Americans? Have they received the same amount of dollars and material advantages granted to Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Ngoc Thanh?

The monks who live in our provinces outside of Phnom Penh know perfectly well that our people living near or far from their pagodas have received nothing from the Americans but bombs, napalm, lethal bullets, gas and other poisonous products, which bring them atrocious suffering, horrible death, countless destruction and reduce the survivors to despair and complete ruin.

The common people living in the provinces who "by miracle" are so far "spared" by air bombing cannot escape the maltreatment and humiliation by the evil soldiers of Thieu-Ky and Lon Nol (robbery, pillage, rape, torture and murder). The American, French and other journals have talked a great deal about this, and the whole world is well aware of it.

Is this a testimony of the American "love" for the Khmers?

May our Buddhist Monks avoid confusing the Khmers of the people with the Khmer renegades of the Lon Nol gang. May our Buddhist Monks consider carefully the policy of racial discrimination practised by the (white) American leaders against the colored compatriots under their rule (the Afro-Americans, the Red Indians, etc.)

The Red Indians are the first occupants of the American land. The whites from Europe occupied this land (conquered with violence) only several centuries later.

May our monks (on the subject of the Red Indians) pay attention to the following testimony of an occidental, Mr. Van Geirt, published in the August issue of the Magazine "L'Actualite":

"A road ..... or rather a sodden mud track through the city refuse depot. There, merely several metres away, are by chance four or five houses, for it is better to give them a name. This impression of misery is comparable only to the 'favellas' (slums) of La Paz. Because even in the poorest villages of Africa or Asia, it is a luxury compared with 'here'. 'Here' has no name in the dictionary of shame. There live, or rather survive, those whom the great Manitou has not yet recalled to the big prairies of heaven. The bodies of cars serve as poultry coops, but the poor chickens stroll lamentably from dirt to dirt in search of an earthworm. Some beautiful children with traits of purity, with dirt thick

as an armour, play as all poor children do with whatever they can lay their hands -- on empty boxes, pebbles, pieces of rubber to make slings. They are illiterate like their parents whom American civilization has chosen to forget by the side of a refuse depot. To these Indians, one ought not speak of ..... justice. "

May our monks think hard and long of this testimony.

Can we Khmers believe that Messrs. Nixon and Agnew are sincerely more concerned with our fate than that of their colored compatriots, the Afro-Americans, the Red Indians?

The Afro-Americans no longer have any illusion about the Washington government. They have chosen to struggle against this government, using revolutionary violence against reactionary violence. They have formed their front of struggle and they unite with our Asian fronts of struggle in order to defeat more surely and rapidly the common enemy who oppresses and exploits us all -- U.S. imperialism

Our monks who are faithful to the teachings of Buddha have the duty to stand on the side of the common people, the city poor, the exploited workers and the peasants. They should not side, and still less cooperate, with the reactionary personages and the traitorous princes who have sold the country to U.S. neo-colonialism.

In this regard, the "republicanization" of Cambodia by the Lon Nol group does not deserve enthusiasm on the part of certain monks, because it is in fact an odious political fraud.

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The "republic" of the Lon Nolites is/the same "stamp" as the Saigon republic of Thieu-Ky, that of Pak Chong-hui (in Seoul) and that of Chiang Kai-shek (in Taipei) which are all militarist, fascist and reactionary regimes and dictatorships resorting to "special laws" and martial law to oppress their people; dictatorships selling themselves to U.S. imperialism for survival and selling their own young people to the same imperialism which needs "cannon-fodder" in its undertaking to colonialize the countries of Asia, particularly the countries of Indochina.

In order to oppose this neo-colonialist undertaking of the Americans, it is necessary for the people of Asia to reconcile with one another, unite and fight together, regardless of their beliefs and ideology.

It is absolutely wrong to distinguish religious believers from atheists, non-Communists from Communists. For the safety, freedom and independence of our Asian countries, it is necessary for us to create a union and solidarity among all the Asians determined to fight for an Asia free from imperialism and neo-colonialism. It is necessary for us to expose the renegades in Asia and to fight against them who, prompted by ambitions and personal interests, serve the unjustifiable cause of U.S. imperialism.

This is the "big problem" of our Asia.

May our monks be fully/<sup>aware</sup> of this: If I really were a "candidate" for treason and enormous fortunes as the Lon Nolites so unjustly accuse me, I would not have been so anti-imperialist and so anti-American; I would not have established such solidities of friendship with the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam; and Lon Nol - Sirik Matak would not have been able to overthrow me because it would be very easy for me to acquire the "favour" of President Nixon... even before Lon Nol and Sirik Matak!

It is because I have always categorically refused to part with the independence of my motherland, its neutrality and its territorial integrity that U.S. imperialism "labelled" me as its worst enemy.

As to the people's regimes such as the P.R.C., D.P.R.K. and D.R.V.N., they would have never regarded me as one of their best friends and they would not have so firmly supported me and so honoured me if I were a "corrupted and traitorous feudal Prince"

To say that I and my partisans have "sold" ourselves to the Communist countries is a shameless lie that any person capable of thinking will easily see through.

The Communist nations conduct a simple and austere life. They are not "croesus" like "Uncle Sam", chieftain of the capitalist world, which has enough money at its disposal to buy the conscience of the candidates for treason living in the third world.

May our monks examine the following cases:

--- Mr. Thiounn Mumm is the only one among the 7 million Khmers to have graduated from the School of Polytechnology of France, the most difficult of the world's schools of higher learning. Before the establishment of the N.U.F.K., he had a fine position in France where he earned several thousand Francs in hard currency a month. He is married to a French woman and has children in his charge. Some American industrialists proposed that he work in their enterprise with a salary three times higher than he earned in France. At the announcement of the creation of the N.U.F.K., he left his wife, children and position to join me in Peking. As Minister of the R.G.N.U.K., he draws a very modest salary.

Mr. Thiounn Mumm is our Minister of Finance. In that capacity he can tell you that our budget is very modest and that the money in the budget is from a loan on trust from the P.R.C.

What Mr. Thiounn Mumm (he is a grandson of the late Samdech Chaufea Veang Thiounn) "got" by joining the R.U.F.K.? Nothing but a sentence of death by the "tribunal" of Lon Nol.

-- Another case is that of Sahachivin Keat Chhon, an atomic engineer. The Lon Nol regime sent him on a mission to France and America and permitted him to spend a lot of money there. He had the possibility of living "a fine life" in the so-called free world after the fashion of Grey Saman, Prom Tep Savang, etc. He refused this "fine life" and preferred to join me in Peking, separated from his family. As Minister of the R.G.N.U.K. he has at present a salary much less than "a petty functionary" of Lon Nol. Besides, in Phnom Penh, the Lonolites have ransacked his house and condemned him to death.

-- Still another case is that of Samdech Penn Nouth. His property, possessions, children and grand children are all in Phnom Penh. The Lon Nol regime has let him know that if he agrees to leave me to collaborate with "Phnom Penh", he will be laden with wealth and honour. Samdech Penn Nouth has chosen to struggle uncompromisingly against the usurpers of constitutional power and their master, U.S. imperialism. Despite his poor health, he has accepted to assume the crushing charges and responsibilities of Prime Minister of the Government of struggle. These charges bring him no material advantage whatsoever but, on the contrary a sentence of death by the "tribunal" of Lon Nol, the confiscation of all his movable and immovable property by the same tribunal.

-- All my sahachivine (companions) such as Generals Ngo Hou and Duong Sam, Ambassadors Sarin Chhak, and Kim Khoan, Ker Meas, Fuot Sambath, Chea San, Chan Youran, Chem Snguon, ect. have voluntarily agreed to all sacrifices. Their present salaries are slender. Their families are dispersed. Their property was completely confiscated by Lon Nol whose "tribunal" has naturally sentenced them to death.

-- A considerable number of high functionaries, high-ranking officers and professors sent on mission or on probation to Europe by Lon Nol have shown their pure patriotism of officially joining the N.U.F.K.. Some of them (for example, the case of a professor) have their families in Phnom Penh in the hands of the Lonolites. Nevertheless, they agree to make all sacrifices for the salvation of the people and the motherland.

-- Hundreds of students outside of the country, by joining the N.U.F.K., have been deprived of their allowances while their families (fathers and mothers in particular) are subjected to the threats and maltreatment by the Lonolites.

May our Buddhist monks, with Samdech Head of Sect as leader, think over all these cases .

What did they get, these high personages, high functionaries, high-ranking officers, intellectuals and young students who agree to live in austerity and work at my side? Those students living abroad who agree to "support" Lon Nol have received big rewards (some have even been given 300 U.S. dollars each).

The student members of the N.U.F.K. (in Europe) remain poor. They lack money, and sometimes they have only one meal a day.

Let our monks and Samdech Head of Sect take pains to ask themselves why all these young and old patriots agree to such sacrifices and such hardships?

Let them ask themselves why our citizens of the provinces, young and old, men and women, yesterday in hundreds and today in thousands, agree spontaneously to leave their houses, rice fields, farmland, livestock and carts etc. in order to join the people's heroes Khieu Samphan, Hu Kim and Hou Yuon in the jungle?

Let them ask themselves why the fighters of the national liberation army agree to shed their blood and sacrifice their lives without asking for pay, grade, medals or even uniforms? Let them compare these fighters with the mercenaries of Lon Nol and Nixon!

The answer to all these questions is simple: the members of the N.U.F.K. are pure and ardent patriots and they are loyal to the people. They are loyal to the national ideals of freedom, democracy and justice. They are loyal to the national independence of the motherland. They cherish the dignity of the nation, the country and their own dignity as well-bred Khmers. To them, dignity is above material and financial privileges, above honorary distinctions, above comfort and quietude and above the joy of life and security.

This has been confirmed by Mr. Richard Dudman: "Several guerillas" he wrote, "told us, in almost identical words: 'to live without our freedom and independence is as good as being dead. To die for the revolution is nothing.' "

Our monks and Samdech Head of Sect should know that the solidarity of the Khmer, Laotian, Vietnamese, Chinese and Korean people is not a question of communist ideology.

This solidarity is of vital necessity to the Asian people who must liberate or defend their countries suffering from U.S. imperialist domination, aggression or menace. This imperialism is odiously helped in its anti-Asian undertaking by the Asian traitors who are responsible for the humiliation and endless miseries of their people.

The greatest miseries come from war. This war was willed, provoked and conducted against our Asian people and in particular against our people of Indo-China by the U.S. imperialist aggressor. This imperialism is a colossal super-power and immensely rich. How could we defeat it if we remain divided and if we Asians refuse to unite ourselves in a common front of struggle under the sham pretext that we have different beliefs or ideologies?

The nature of U.S. imperialism is such that it always attempts to sabotage by every means the friendship and solidarity among the Asians and among the people of Indo-China and that it will always incite the religious sects and the believers of different religions to oppose the revolution of their people who cherish justice, freedom and progress.

U.S. imperialism and its Phnom Penh lackeys odiously slander the people's forces who are fighting against them by accusing them of having profaned and destroyed the places of worship and maltreated religious believers.

But our monks and our people in the provinces, districts and villages know perfectly that only the soldiers of Thieu-Ky, paid by Mr. Nixon, have profaned and destroyed the monasteries and cathedrals and maltreated and tortured the monks and priests.

The blame of all the crimes committed by the mercenaries of the fascist regime of Saigon, patron of the Lon Nol gang, has been deceitfully shifted by this gang onto the resistance fighters of socialist Viet Nam, comrades-in-arms of the Khmer people, who have endured the same sufferings as our people in the arduous struggle for the liberation of our Indochina from the yoke of U.S. imperialism.

The Lon Nol gang has made the Catholic bishops accuse the people's forces of liberation of having tortured and even murdered Catholic priests. But the whole world is aware of the abominable crimes that the Lon Nol's troops committed in the Catholic villages and of the tortures and murders (the work of the Lon Nolites) of which numerous Catholics are the victims, mostly Vietnamese. It is the Lon Nol gang itself which is responsible for the destruction of many monasteries and churches: this was disclosed by the cables of the western press. (See appendix 1)

The U.S., Saigon, Bangkok and Lon Nol planes bomb and strafe almost every day the Buddhist temples and Islamic mosques.

These planes do not even spare the temples of Angkor because Lon Nol gives them a "blank cheque".

The accusation according to which the people's liberation troops have profaned places of worship is very unjust because the monks and the inhabitants of the villages concerned can bear witness that the guerrillas are absolutely correct towards and respectful of the Viharas (Buddhist temples), statues and statuettes of Buddha and the monks themselves. (see appendix 2)

Nevertheless, a country in war cannot always avoid its places of worship being hit by the war. In this regard, Lon Nol's troops are always the first to establish their "system of defense" in these places .

Our monks who live in the countryside have often told reporters of the "free" world that the guerrillas are irreproachable in their attitude and behaviour towards the clergy and believers. (See appendix 2)

Mr. Xavier Baron of the A.F.P. recently wrote: "Their attitude towards the population is irreproachable. If they want a chicken or a fruit they pay for it immediately ... When we left a farm or a new place ..., everything was put back in their place. This attitude had consequently won the sympathy of the population; so much the more as the peasants often receive quilts, plates and dishes, etc. retrieved from abandoned houses".

Mademoiselle Lydie Nicaise wrote in the big journal "France-Soir": "The desire to integrate the soldier with the people is constant. The essential principle is to make the soldier live like the poor peasants. I often noticed this.



Apart from fighting, the soldiers help the population in transplanting rice or doing other kinds of work. Everywhere the notion of kinship is of prime importance. Respect for the elderly people is as sacred as that for Euddhist priests. To win their favour is a constant concern of the Sihanoukists. It must be said that the influence of the Euddhist monks on the people remains considerable." (See appendix 3)

Our Euddhist monks possess an old and venerable tradition: that is to be always with the common people.

I ask our monks in Phnom Penh not to confuse the Lonnotites with the common people. The Lon Nol gang is not the Khmer people. The young historian and writer Phippe Devillers has aptly called the Lon Nol gang "the class of officials, soldiers and compradors".

The "republic" of the Lonnotites is no more than an oligarchy; the "republic" is not "public", but the "republic" of a handful of reactionary personages and of big capitalists who reserve all the power, prerogatives and privileges and who in no way represent the Khmer people, but serve the cause of foreign imperialists, neo-colonialists, capitalists and monopolists of the so-called "free" world, headed by the Americans.

These people in their propaganda "present" me to the world as the "prototype" of a "despotic prince oppressing his people" (sic).

If this had been really so, Chairman Mao Tsetung and the 800 million (figure as received) Chinese of the People's Republic of China which symbolizes the purest of socialism and people's regimes, would never have given me esteem, friendship and exceptional honour.

As to the regime headed by me, it suffices to refer to the list of sovereign states which have recognized de jure the Royal Government of National Union to know that it is truly a regime of the people and serves the people and the motherland completely in its uncompromising independence.

An examination of the list of the countries which have recognized de jure the Lon Nol regime will show to all that it is not a regime of the people and serves neither the Khmer people nor the interests of Cambodia.

The countries which most firmly and officially support me, the so-called "anti-popular prince", are socialist, virtuous and people's republics which are one hundred per cent independent, and one hundred per cent anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist. Some of them had even waged a revolution which overthrew their former anti-popular monarchs and other feudal leaders.

The people's socialist states of Asia, Europe and Latin America which have recognized de jure the R.G.N.U. are the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the

People's Republic of Albania, the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the Socialist Republic of Rumania and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. To these states should also be added the Neo Lao Haksat (the Laotian Patriotic Front).

The anti-feudal, progressive and uncompromisingly anti-reactionary, anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist Arab countries which have recognized de jure the R.G.N.U. are the Syrian Arab Republic, the Republic of Iraq, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the Democratic Republic of

Sudan, the Libyan Arab Republic, the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the United Arab Republic and the Arab Republic of Yemen; to these countries should be added the Palestinian Revolution (Al Fateh).

The African countries, the anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist champions, which have recognized de jure the R.G.N.U. are the People's Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Guinea, the Republic of Tanzania, the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Somalia.

Therefore, the countries in the world whose revolutionary leaders have, with the agreement of their people, put an end to the rule of despotic monarchs, feudal lords and corrupted reactionaries and which have struggled or are struggling resolutely against colonialism and imperialism of the so-called "free" world have unanimously decided to support me and to recognize de jure the R.G.N.U. and the N.U.F.K.

The states which have recognized de jure the illegal and anti-popular regime of Lon Nol are:

1. The U.S.A. which all the people of the world recognize as the chieftain of the bellicose, colonialist, neo-colonialist and imperialist governments;

2. The United Kingdom (Great Britain) which was the No. 1 colonialist power and is recognized by all the people of the world as the "right hand" of present-day U.S. imperialism;

3. The Empire of Japan, which was a militarist, bellicose and imperialist fascist power and which today acts as the "left hand" of present-day U.S. imperialism;

4. The so-called "Republic" of Indonesia, whose present leaders are, like Lon Nol and his like, putschist militarymen having despicably betrayed their legal head of state and hero of the national liberation (President Sukarno), having on their conscience (like the Loncolites) killed large numbers of opposers; (as received) Having sold (like Loncolites) the independence and non-alignment of the country to the American C.I.A. and consenting to be the "third secular arm" of U.S. imperialism;

5. Australia, subordinated to the "Crown of England" and in fact a satellite of the U.S.A. It has sold thousands of its "boys" to Uncle Sam to serve as "cannon-fodder" and die for the young Yankees in South Viet Nam;

6-7-8 and 9. The Kingdom of Thailand, the so-called "Republic" of Saigon, that of Seoul, that of Taipei whose rulers are all Asian renegades, traitors who sold themselves to U.S. imperialism, and lackeys of U.S. imperialism which uses them in carrying out aggression against Cambodia and killing the Khmer, Laotian and Vietnamese people for the profit of the U.S. neo-colonialists and monopolist-capitalists.

An examination of this not at all glittering list of the states and "regimes" supporting the regime of Lon Nol, our monks can arrive at an adequate conclusion on the true nature of the false "republic" of the Lonolites and their "republican" humbug. (as received)

A "favourite" argument of the Lonolites, impostor "republicans", consists in the affirmation of the so-called "support" that the communist states of eastern Europe would give them and this would constitute the best "proof" of their devotion to the Khmer people.

In this regard, I would like to state precisely for our Buddhist monks that first, the said communist states of eastern Europe have not given their official recognition to the government of Lon Nol which was born of the coup d'etat of last March 18;

Secondly, some of these very European communist states have recognized officially, while others admitted publicly, that Norodom Sihanouk remains the legal Head of State of Cambodia;

Thirdly, the political parties, the people's fronts and the people of these very countries have officially given their recognition to the N.U.F.K. as the only representative of the Khmer people and have time and again and most expressly affirmed their support to our people and their N.U.F.K. in our struggle against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys and for national salvation and the liberation of the Khmer motherland;

Fourthly, the refusal by certain European communist governments recognize the R. G. N. U. by no means signifies that they support or "like" the regime of Lon Nol; this refusal might be explained by certain interests of their own of these governments.

This should lead our Euddhist monks to think over the policy, attitude, manoeuvres and actions of certain powers in Asia which seem unwilling to see the Asians become complete masters of the destinies of their Asia and of their Asian countries.

Let's come back to the internal political affairs of Cambodia. It is important that our monks should examine attentively the process of the establishment (for the first time in our history) of the people's power (thanks to the N.U.F.K.) in all the liberated areas and sectors, that is to say, in the five completely liberated provinces of Stung Treng, Rattanakiri, Kratie, Mundolkiri and Preah Vihear, and in half of the provinces of Siemreap, Oddar Meanchey, Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, Kandal, Kompong Speu, Kompong Chhnang, Tonle Sap, Pursat, Eattambang, Koh Kong, Takeo, Kampot and Kompong Som.

Mr. Xavier Faron, in his A.F.P. cable dated August 30, 1970, confirmed in these terms the process: "To be a candidate (for the people's administration), he should have been active against the government of Phnom Penh and be upright, honest and enjoy the people's confidence. The work of the committees is controlled by the people. Every superior directive of the N.U.F.K. should be discussed and approved by a popular meeting. These sessions, at least one in 15 days, give the people the occasion to criticize the action of the committee. Everyone is on an equal footing, and there are no great dignitaries. Therefore, the people see that they themselves are the masters of their future."

Let our monks compare this authentic people's democracy, established by the N.U.F.K., with "that" of the so-called "republic" of Lon Nol, the regime whose deputies (all of them issues of the class of the corrupted high officials, the feudal bourgeois and big capitalists) refuse to (or dare not) return to their electoral districts to resume contact with their electors (of 1966). The "government" of the regime of Lon Nol ruthlessly oppressed the people under its administration with an inhuman martial law, and its mercenary army is authorized to rob, pillage, rape and kill the urban and rural population in the so-called "operational" zones!

Therefore, if our Euddhist monks and Samdech Head of Sect, like our whole nation, agree to look these realities straight in the face, I am sure that they will not fail to march on the just road towards a future which would not be in contravention of the national ideals of pure patriotism, people's democracy and genuine freedom.

The special message I am addressing to the Euddhist monks of Cambodia ends here.

Long live the Khmer people!

Long live Buddhism!

Long live Kampuchea!

#### APPENDICES

I -- The A.F.P. on August 29 revealed: "A Cambodian plane bombed on Saturday a Roman Catholic church at Moat Krasas Krao, over the east bank of the Mekong 10 kilometres away from the capital."

II -- Mr. Richard Dudman, an American journalist, testified: "We noticed that when our guards passed a pagoda they unobtrusively removed their hats. It was a gesture of respect for local religious beliefs".

-- Mr. Xavier Baron, a French journalist, testified: "At Angkor Wat, I saw only some refugees ... the temple has not been transformed into a fort ... I did not go to other temples, but according to the testimony I had collected, they have not been occupied. When some responsible persons of the pro-Sihanouk front came to enquire into my identity several days passed before they set me free, they reassured me: "We carry out the directives from the Royal Government and the N.U.F.K. and do our utmost, with the aid of the population, to respect and protect the sacred places. (sentence as received) This is an important task for us... Inside the temples it is Euddhists and the monks who are in charge of preserving the monuments. And we just stand outside'."

--Mademoiselle Lydie Nicaise, a French journalist, testified: "I just got the demonstration that the American and South Vietnamese planes strafed the park of Angkor. (Sentence as received) The temples are not threatened by the partisans of Sihanouk as claimed in Phnom Penh, but by the adversary forces."

III -- The reactionary clique of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak and Ngoc Thanh has spread the news that Samdech Head of the Mohanikay Sect insulted, in the presence of correspondents of the international press, the members of the people's army of socialist Vietnam, comrades-in-arms and brothers of our Khmer people, by calling them "bandits" (sic).

I boldly hope that Samdech Head of the Mohanikay Sect has really not uttered words so unjust. Unjust because the U.S.I.S. itself, that is, the official information service of the United States of America, in a very recent cable (dated September 11, 1970) publicly admitted before the whole world that the only "bandits" are the soldiers of the Thieu-Ky mercenary army (in the pay of President Nixon). Here are the most "eloquent" passages from the cable of the U.S.I.S. in question:

-- Corruption and indiscipline are revealing themselves to be major liabilities of the ARVN in its operations in Cambodia, according to observers.

-- "Lack of respect for Cambodian people and customs, looting of shops in towns, theft of livestock and food in the countryside, and organized racketeering are among the complaints held against the ARVN.

-- "While the ARVN is helping defeat the communists militarily, it is helping turn the Cambodians toward the communists politically.

-- "In fighting around Oudong... the ARVN soldiers behaved so badly that the senior Cambodian Euddhiet priest in the area reportedly said to a Cambodian officer: 'Please, if the Viet Cong comes next time, don't send us the South-Vietnamese soldiers. We can handle the Viet Cong better than we can handle the South-Vietnamese.

-- "The North Vietnamese soldiers are reported to go far out of their way to show their respect to the Cambodians.

-- "There has never been reported a single case of extortion, racketeering (as received) by North-Vietnamese on any highway in Cambodia".

The regime of the traitors Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Ngoc Thanh renders a disservice to Euddhism, our religion, which these traitors pretend to "venerate", by attributing to His Eminence Huot Tath, head of the Mohanikay Sect, extremely unjust and want-only injurious words against our heroic North Vietnamese brothers.

Norodom Sihanouk.