

NCNA REPORTS SIHANOUK PRESS CONFERENCE ON INSPECTION TOUR

Cambodia Tour 'Significance'

Peking NCNA in English 2303 GMT 13 Apr 73 B

[Text] Peking, April 13, 1973 (HSINHUA)--Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia, said that his inspection tour of the liberated zone proved to the world that "Cambodian people are the masters of Cambodia and we have the destiny of Cambodia in our own hands."

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk made the remarks at a two-and-half-hour press conference here this evening after his reception for the Khmer traditional New Year.

He told the more than 150 foreign and Chinese correspondents that it is the Cambodian people themselves who are fighting for the independence of Cambodia. "You can see in the film (shown at the New Year reception) that the fighters of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces of National Liberation are typical Khmers." This exploded the mendacious propaganda by the enemies that "North Vietnamese" were fighting in Cambodia.

Madame Sihanouk, Prime Minister Penn Nouth and Madame Penn Nouth, Special Envoy Ieng Sary, ministers of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and members of the royal family attended the press conference.

Samdech Sihanouk pointed out that his inspection of the liberated zone also proved that the Cambodian people's resistance movement--the National United Front of Cambodia is united as one. It is a single organization, a monolithic body. "Some people say, 'Red Khmers' do not want Sihanouk", he said, "but from the film you see how Khieu Samphan, Hou Yuon, Hu Nim and other leaders of interior part of the National United Front warmly welcomed me and my relations with them are not simply protocol but are affectionate and warm. They are proud of the fact that I am with the people in the liberated zone." "The Cambodian people who are fighting against U.S. aggression have always regarded me as the leader of the national resistance movement".

Samdech Sihanouk particularly spoke of the meetings of the council of ministers he presided over in the liberated zone and stressed that the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia is located in the liberated zone of Cambodia. Inside Cambodia, he added, Khieu Samphan, Hou Yuon, Hu Nim and Prince Norodom Phurissara are leading this government and running the country collectively. This government has its administrative organs, an army, and all necessary powers. We protest with those who call us "a government in exile."

Samdech Sihanouk said that he toured freely several provinces, and returned to the holy Angkor, symbol of the continuity and unity of the Cambodian state. All this testified to the fact that "we are masters of the destiny of Cambodia".

The samdech stressed that his recent return to the liberated zone "enables us to make a big stride along the road of victory diplomatically and politically. Such is the great significance of my return to the liberated zone."

Cease-Fire Rejected

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[Text] Peking, April 13, 1973 (HSINHUA)--Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk stressed at the press conference here this evening: "Cambodia will never accept ceasefire, nor compromise. If the USA does not stop its interference in Cambodia, we will go on fighting."

The samdech said two months ago he proposed officially on behalf of the National United Front and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia that he might have, without any pre-conditions, some contact with the U.S. side, to study together a solution to the problem of Cambodia. He said, "We should be ready to forget all the bombing and sufferings imposed on our people by the USA. We proposed to have a reconciliation with the USA." "But we maintain that the USA must put an end to its military involvement in Cambodia, put an end to aiding Lon Nol, and cease its interference in our affairs."

However the U.S. side was not ready to negotiate with us, Samdech Sihanouk pointed out, so we had no choice but to continue our armed resistance.

The samdech went on to say: "When we speak of negotiating with the USA, we mean to negotiate the question of ending U.S. interference in Cambodia, not the question of ceasefire. They are two different questions. For, in the present circumstances, ceasefire means splitting our country, means recognition of the Lon Nol-controlled zone. And this is dangerous. Instead of solving the problem of Cambodia, it will prolong the war. If the USA ceases its interference in Cambodia, the traitorous Lon Nol regime will quickly collapse. Then, the problem of Cambodia will be easily solved."

Samdech Sihanouk stressed: "We now control nine-tenths of the territory of our country. Our people's armed forces of national liberation are stronger than ever. The bombing by U.S. planes cannot make us retreat. Instead it will urge us to press forward. The USA cannot defeat us. We will never accept ceasefire, nor compromise. We do not like war. We love peace, but we have no choice."

Liberated Zone Situation 'Excellent'

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[Text] Peking, April 13, 1973 (HSINHUA)--Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk gave an account at the press conference here this evening of the current excellent situation in the political, military and economic fields in the Cambodian liberated zone.

He said: "The people in the liberated zone are fired with enthusiasm, they are fervent in revolution. They are waging a revolution." He said that the people in the liberated zone have, through democratic elections, established political power organs at various levels from village, township to county and province. These organs are exercising fully the power and functions of a legal government. They represent the interest of the people and of the country. Militarily, the people's armed forces of national liberation have controlled nine tenths of the country's territory. The people, including women, are vying in joining their own army. People were often seen requesting with tears in their eyes, for permission to go to the battlefield. The fighters receive warm support and assistance from the people. The army and people are fully united in the spirit of fervent patriotism. "I am proud of the heroism of the fighters in the interior," he added.

Samdech Sihanouk pointed out that the people's armed forces of national liberation have good weapons. U.S. imperialism, he said, armed the Lon Nol clique's troops with weapons. However, the people's armed forces of national liberation captured them from the hands of the Lon Nol clique. "In this sense," he said, "the people's armed forces of national liberation is an anti-U.S. army equipped with U.S. weapons."

Relying on this, we can fight for many years. If U.S. is willing to, we will keep it company and fight to the finish," he said.

Samdech Sihanouk said "I am surprised that in spite of the U.S. wanton bombings and the drought of last year, the liberated zone is very prosperous economically. Owing to irrigation, the liberated zone still won a rich rice harvest in spite of the drought. Animal husbandry is also doing well. Every village has many chickens, ducks and cows. People are well-clad, especially the women." He added "the liberated zone is strong politically, militarily and economically. These are the facts I witnessed."

Cambodia, Third World

Peking NCNA in English 2351 GMT 13 Apr 73 B

[Text] Peking, April 13, 1973 (HSINHUA)--"To support Cambodia is to support the liberty and the security of the 3rd World," said Samdech Sihanouk at his press conference here this evening. He said: "There is a link between our struggle and the cause of the 3rd World, i.e., the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America." He praised many African countries for their recognition of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.

Samdech Sihanouk said he did not expect anything from pro-imperialist countries in the "Free World". Referring to the Soviet Union and some other countries, Samdech Sihanouk said, he hope that they will take a reasonable decision that will keep their prestige and end their commitment to Phnom Penh. He said: "We hope they will change their present stand of assisting Lon Nol and against us." "We hope so, but I'm not too optimistic about it. It's just a dream. Perhaps such a dream may become true. We do not want to be their enemies and we are very sad that they do not like us. We can't change their policy," he said.

SIHANOUK ACCLAIMS SUCCESS OF NUFC CAMPAIGN

Paris AFP in French 2357 GMT 13 Apr 73 C--FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Text] Peking, 13 Apr--by AFP correspondents Serge Romensky and Pierre Comparet--Prince Norodom Sihanouk said in Peking on Friday evening that his Vietnamese brothers had recently told him in Peking that they would not authorize Saigon forces to intervene in Cambodia. [as received]

The president of the National United Front of Cambodia (NUFC) was speaking at a press conference after having presented a film at the People's Palace which he brought back from his secret trip to Cambodia. He revealed that President Nixon's adviser, Dr Kissinger, had refused to meet with him in February when Kissinger was in Hanoi and Peking.

The prince reaffirmed that, since the signing of the Paris agreements in January, Chinese weapons have not been delivered to the Cambodian internal resistance. The weapons were being sent through the Vietnamese, who acted as intermediaries. He added: It is Nixon who is violating the agreements by bombing Cambodia.

Prince Sihanouk nevertheless added that the door remains open for reconciliation with the United States if it stops its armed intervention.

Referring to the film he had just presented on the Cambodian liberated areas, the prince again emphasized that at present there was not a single North Vietnamese or Viet Cong in these areas. He said that he did not want a cease-fire but rather the end of U.S. interference in Cambodian affairs.

The prince added: With the massive support given by the U.S. Air Force to the Phnom Penh regime, the war could go on for years. He added that the withdrawal of U.S. support would lead to the immediate (?fall) of this regime and to the establishment in Cambodia of a Red (?kingdom) founded on the power of the people.

Prince Sihanouk continued: The seat of our government is not in Peking. It is in the liberated areas. It is a government of colleagues in which the three principal personalities are Defense Minister Khieu Samphan, Interior Minister Hou Yuon and Information Minister Hu Nim, whom Phnom Penh has claimed are dead.

Calling on nationals to acknowledge him without delay, the prince emphasized (?that his) trip to Cambodia had confirmed his legality and the unity of the internal resistance. However, he was not very optimistic about his de jure recognition by the Soviet bloc countries.

Returning to the subject of the performance of the internal NUFC forces, the prince said that they were now being equipped to a greater extent with U.S. weapons taken from the enemy. The NUFC fighters, he added, are all volunteers and we reject some people.

The prince, who said that the number of B-52's in Cambodia on some days is as high as 120, emphasized that the U.S. bombings are particularly affecting civilian population centers. He said: Women, children and old persons are being atrociously burned by the bombings (?and the) napalm. He added that the bombings are not causing many casualties in the liberated areas.

The head of the NFUC said that the Cambodian resistance is making efforts to evacuate the greatest possible number of people from those areas not yet liberated in order to shield them from the effects of the bombing. The prince added that the Cambodian population is very enthusiastic about the revolution and said that popular power is being established at all levels in the liberated areas. He concluded by saying that he was astonished at the economic prosperity he witnessed in the liberated areas during his trip.

SIHANOUK CLAIMS THAI TROOPS TO INTERVENE IN CAMBODIA

Hanoi International Service in Mandarin 0330 GMT 15 Apr 73 B

[Text] According to AKI, the Cuban newspaper GRANMA on 14 April published Prince Norodom Sihanouk's conversation with reporters. In his conversation he pointed out that the purpose of the visit to Phnom Penh by Haig, the deputy chief of staff of the U.S. Army and a U.S. special envoy, was to plan the entrance of Thai troops into Cambodia. Prince Sihanouk said that during his inspection tour in the Cambodian liberated area he had obtained information about possible intervention by Thai troops in Cambodian affairs at any time. He said: "Our inspection tour of the Cambodian liberated area has proven the unity between the NUFC and the RGNVC and this united strength is stronger than ever before."

SIHANOUK HOLDS RECEPTION TO MARK NEW YEAR, SHOWS FILM

Report on Reception

Peking NCNA in English 2229 GMT 14 Apr 73 B

[Text] Peking, April 13, 1973 (HSINHUA)--Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia, and Madame Sihanouk held a reception here at the Great Hall of the People today on the occasion of the Khmer traditional New Year. A historic film recording Samdech Sihanouk's inspection tour of the liberated zone of Cambodia was shown at the reception which was filled with cordiality and friendship.

Penn Nouth, chairman of the Political Bureau of the NUFC Central Committee and prime minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and Madame Penn Nouth, and Ieng Sary, special envoy of the interior part of Cambodia, attended the reception.

Chinese leaders and leading members of departments concerned present were Chou En-lai, Li Hsien-nien, Li Te-sheng, Hsu Hsiang-chien, Teng Ying-chao, Chi Peng-fei, Han Nien-lung, Li Chiang, Shen Chien, Yuan Hua-ping, Lin Chia-mei, Huang Chieh, Hsu Han-ping and Wang Chen. Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia Kang Mao-chao and his wife Madame Yang Ling were also present.

Attending the reception were also:

Ngo Thuyen, ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to China, Nguyen Thuong, DRV ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia, and Tran Binh, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Embassy of the Republic of South Vietnam in Peking;

Hyor Chun-kuk, ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and his wife; and

Diplomatic envoys to China of various countries and foreign correspondents.

In his remark prior to the film, Samdech Sihanouk said: "It is of great importance to us that Premier Chou En-lai and other Chinese leaders are present at the reception on the first day of the festive Cambodian traditional New Year."

He expressed thanks to the Chinese people led by Chairman Mao Tse-tung for their support to the Cambodian people's struggle and to Vietnam, Korea and other friendly countries for their support and their recognition of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.

Samdech Sihanouk spoke on the significance of the Cambodian people's struggle for the liberation of the fatherland with regard to supporting the Asian, African and Latin American peoples in their struggle for liberation. He dwelt upon the excellent situation in the struggle of the Cambodian people and said that the film provided a vivid proof of this.

With Samdech Sihanouk himself as the narrator, the film reproduces the vivid scenes of Samdech and Madame Sihanouk's inspection tour of the liberated zone in the company of Special Envoy Ieng Sary. Samdech Sihanouk drove to the liberated zone of Cambodia through the Ho Chi Minh Trail and from the moment he stepped on the soil of Cambodia, he was enthusiastically welcomed by Khieu Samphan, deputy prime minister of the RGNUC and general commander of the people's armed forces of national liberation, and ministers Hou Yuon and Hu Nim and other Cambodian leaders.

The moment he set foot on his country, Samdech Sihanouk scooped up a handful of soil and smelled it. The film records the moving scenes of rousing welcome given by army men and civilians of the liberated zone and their meticulous care for their beloved head of state. It also records the meetings of the Council of Ministers presided over by Samdech Sihanouk and the magnificent sight of the rally of ten thousand people at Koulen Mountain in celebration of the third anniversary of the NUFU and the PAFNU. [as received] At this rally Samdech Sihanouk warmly met the local people of all walks of life and reviewed the armed forces. He declared to the crowd: "All members of our armed forces are pure patriots. A great part of their weapons are captured from the hands of the enemy." In the film there are shots showing the Samdech's visit to Angkor Wat. The film aroused a long ovation.

Then Premier Chou En-lai cordially shook hands with Samdech Sihanouk and congratulated him once again on the great success of his inspection tour.

After the film, guests and hosts attended a buffet party at which Samdech Sihanouk proposed a toast to the health and long life of Chairman Mao and the constant growth of the friendship of the people of all countries.

Premier Chou En-lai said that he felt very happy to have the opportunity at this New Year reception to see the film about Samdech and Madame Sihanouk's inspection tour of the liberated zone in the company of Ieng Sary. "It is an exciting, historic document of heroism," he said. He proposed a toast to the health and long life of Her Majesty Queen Sisowath Monivong Kossamak Nearirat, to the health and long life of Samdech Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia, and Madame Sihanouk, to the health of Prime Minister and Madame Penn Nouth, to the health of Special Envoy Ieng Sary, and to the health of the whole family of Samdech Sihanouk.

Attending the reception were also ministers of the RGNUC Sarin Chhak and Madame Sarin Chhak, Chan Youran, Thiounn Mum, General Duong Sam Ol and Madame Duong Sam Ol, Huot Sambath, Chea San, Keat Chhon and Madame Keat Chhon, and Thiounn Prasith; Vice-Minister Van Piny and Madame Van Piny; and Prince Norodom Yuvaneath and Madame Yuvaneath, Princess Roengsy and her husband, Princess Keth Kanya, Madame Penne Peang, Prince Sisowath Methavi and Ambassador Toch Kham Doeun and Madame Toch Kham Doeun.

Report on Film Presentation

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[Text] Peking, April 13 AFP--by Pierre Compere--Prince Norodom Sihanouk presented today a 95-minute film on his recent voyage to Cambodia which he described as a highly important offensive and defensive weapon in our political, diplomatic, and psychological struggle.

The film of the one-month trip was projected in the presence of Premier Chou En-lai, several other members of the Chinese Government, representatives of the diplomatic corps and foreign correspondents.

It was a 16 mm black-and-white film which had not yet been edited because, Prince Sihanouk said, he preferred to show it in raw form so that it would preserve all its authenticity.

He said that this historic document would be shown throughout the world, and in particular by an American television network.

The prince added that China represented an irreplaceable platform for his movement's political and diplomatic struggle.

In the main, the film showed the same scenes as those portrayed in photographs brought back by Sihanouk and exhibited yesterday at the Peoples Palace. But it added movement and gave greater life to the leaders of the Cambodian resistance.

Particularly striking were the sequences showing the meeting between Sihanouk and the three main internal leaders of the resistance, whom Phnom Penh had reported as dead-- Vice-Premier Khieu Samphan, Information Minister Hu Nim, and Interior Minister Hou Yon. When Sihanouk met them, they embraced warmly.

Sihanouk commented: Here are the three men who, according to Lon Nol's propaganda, have been shot by Sihanouk and buried near the royal palace. Without being a magician, I show them to you very much alive.

It is they who are leading today's Cambodia, and it is inevitably they who will lead the Cambodia of tomorrow.

One of the most moving scenes showed the arrival of the prince in Cambodian territory. After embracing the persons who greeted him, Sihanouk knelt down and picked up several handfuls of soil which he placed in a handkerchief and then carried to his lips.

I brought that soil back to Peking with me, he said.

The film showed the daily life of Sihanouk and his wife, Princess Monique, during the voyage. They climbed into a white Mercedes camouflaged by leaves to make their trip into the interior of the country.

In the region of Angkor, the couple lived in a modest but pleasantly arranged house where one noted, for example, embroidered pillows. Everywhere he went, Sihanouk was accompanied by one or several of the internal ministers.

The film [word indistinct] cabinet meetings presided over by Sihanouk and the big public meeting held March 23 near Angkor Wat.

Commenting on the film after the showing, Premier Chou said, this film will serve as testimony. Later, proposing a toast, he said; I am sure that the Cambodians of Phnom Penh will be liberated very rapidly.

SIHANOUK SHOWS EVIDENCE IN PEKING OF VISIT TO CAMBODIA

Paris AFP in French 0000 GMT 13 Apr 73 C--FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[Excerpt] Peking, 13 April (AFP)--by Pierre Comparet--Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who just made a 1-month visit to the Cambodian liberated areas and returned to Peking on Thursday, showed Premier Chou En-lai and several other Chinese leaders on Thursday evening photographs taken during his visit. These photographs were exhibited at the entrance hall of the People's National Assembly Palace. Prince Sihanouk will present a film on Friday.

The photographs exhibited at the People's Palace were taken to prove groundless the rumors claiming that the three principal ministers of the Cambodian Royal Government of National Union--Khieu Samphan, deputy prime minister and head of the armed forces, Information Minister Hu Nim, and Interior Minister Hou Yon--are dead. Many of the photographs showed Prince Sihanouk with the three men.

The photographs showed the places that Prince Sihanouk visited after he left the Vietnamese air base of Dong Hoi. The prince was photographed on the Ho Chi Minh Trail, at the sacred mountain of Phnom Koulen, and at Angkor. Several photos were taken at kilometer posts, one of them showing that Phnom Penh was 525 kms away, another showing that Kratie was 189 kms away.

PRIME MINISTER PENN NOUTH ISSUES CAMBODIAN NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Peking NCNA in English 2043 GMT 14 Apr 73 B

[Text] Peking, April 14, 1973 (HSINHUA)--Samdech Penn Nouth, prime minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, issued on April 12 a Khmer New Year (April 13) message, expressing on behalf of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and in his own name, best wishes to all the compatriots in Cambodia, calling on them to annihilate completely the Lon Nol traitorous clique and build together hand in hand a new Cambodia.

The message said: "Our well-beloved country is still being ravaged by the flames of war imposed by the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their running dogs--the anti-national, anti-religious and anti-popular Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh and In Tam traitorous clique."

The message said: "We have been carrying on together the struggle for national salvation. We have undergone all sorts of difficulties. The successive victories won during the past three years by our patriotic people, the Cambodian People's National Liberation Armed Forces, workers, peasants, functionaries and businessmen, have brought us near final victory."

The message said: "Now, we have liberated 90 per cent of the national territory with 80 per cent of the population. The traitors only control temporarily Phnom Penh and several provincial capitals. Phnom Penh--their last lair is visibly shrinking."

After recalling the great victories won by the Cambodian people during the past three years, the message said: "These victories of our struggle for national salvation are the fruits of our firm solidarity within our great front which unites all patriotic social sections and classes of our valiant people. We are now entering a new stage of our struggle, that is the stage of definite final victory."

The message said: "But the road that leads us to the realization of our fundamental objectives, namely to drive the U.S. imperialists out of our country and annihilate completely the traitorous clique, is still beset with innumerable difficulties. For the U.S. imperialists are very obdurate. They not only refuse to abandon their running dogs but also intensify more savagely than ever their aggression against us. So, as we have been doing during the past three years, we still have to make sacrifices and be determined to combat the enemy, without compromise and retreat, and undergo all sorts of difficulties whatever the duration may be. However obdurate and perfidious the U.S. imperialist aggressors may be, we are sure to win."

The message said: "I warmly congratulate our combatants and cadres of the Cambodian People's National Liberation Armed Forces who have admirably accomplished their task in concert with our people, our workers and peasants, and have won great victories. I congratulate the functionaries, soldiers and policemen that have deserted the ranks of the traitors and rallied to the National United Front of Cambodia."