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SIHANOUK LEAVES PEKING FOR HANOI CONSULTATIONS

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[By Jean Leclerc du Sablon]

[Excerpt] Peking, 27 Oct--A usually well-informed diplomatic source reports that Prince Norodom Sihanouk left Peking Thursday evening for Hanoi, where he will hold consultations with the North Vietnamese leaders.

It is believed that the head of the Royal Government of National Union will be back in Peking Sunday. He is scheduled to host a banquet on Sunday.

Observers think this surprise trip, which was kept a secret, is due to increasing reports of a possible halt soon to the fighting in Vietnam.

[For reportage on Sihanouk's visit to Hanoi, see the North Vietnam section of this DAILY REPORT, pages K 16-26. For reportage of the banquet in Peking, see the International Affairs section of the 30 October People's Republic of China DAILY REPORT, pages A 8-23.]