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TASS CITES SIHANOUK STATEMENT ON CONTROL OF CAMBODIA

Moscow TASS in English 1749 GMT 17 Dec 73 L

[Text] Hanoi December 17 TASS--As is reported by the KHMER INFORMATION AGENCY, the Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of the National Unity Front of Cambodia Norodom Sihanouk has said that his government was fully in control of 5 out of 17 provinces of Cambodia, and in the rest 12 provinces Lon Nol holds only provincial centres. Sihanouk refuted the allegations of the Phnom Penh regime that on the territory of Cambodia there are military units of the DRV and of the South Vietnam National Liberation Front. He pointed out that the people's armed forces of national liberation of Cambodia get weapons and equipment themselves, capturing them in battle. All these are American-made.

In a message to Congress and Government of the United States, Norodom Sihanouk demanded that military and financial assistance to the Lon Nol regime be ended and that the Khmer people be given the right to decide its future itself without foreign interference.