

II. 6 Apr 70

C A M B O D I A

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PRINCE SIHANOUK SENDS MESSAGES TO CAMBODIA

055003

Apr 2 Message

Peking NCNA International Service in English 2052 GMT 5 Apr 70 B

[Text] Peking, April 5 (HSINHUA)--Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia, issued a statement here on April 2. Full text follows:

Statement by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia:

The illegal Phnom Penh government has played the apprentice's sorcery in treacherously attacking a brotherly people fighting in difficult conditions for the liberation of the south of its country and in imposing a sanguinary dictatorship on its own people. Today it reaps what it has sown. It has just made a desperate appeal to the U.N.O. and the International Control Commission in order that the two international organizations may come to its rescue.

In my capacity as legal head of state of Cambodia and as the exponent of the will of the progressive and anti-imperialist Khmer people, I state our official stand as below:

I. In the first place, it is necessary to recall that the so-called "government" headed by Lon Nol is illegal and has by no means been installed in power in Phnom Penh by the people because the Parliament, which "deposed" me and invested the "government" with full powers on March 18, voted at bayonet point and avoided resorting to a free and normal referendum for the Khmer people to settle, in conformity with the spirit of our constitution, the suit the clique of pro-imperialist reactionaries brought against the head of state.

The U.N.O. and the I.C.C. therefore have no right to accept the request of a government which has usurped the constitutional power. The government itself created a state of "alert" to which it wishes to draw the attention of the two international organizations by murdering in broad daylight, publicly, more than 300 of its own unarmed compatriots (including women, elderly people and children in two weeks.)

II. It is I, as is recognized throughout the world, who succeeded in ensuring my motherland and my people a joyous life in peace and stability for 14 years (1955-1969).

It is not I, and never will it be, who would wish, with a light heart, to plunge my country and my people into disaster. It is the Lon Nol clique, and it alone, that deliberately brought about this disaster by staging the violent demonstrations preceding the coup d'etat and the coup itself.

I declare once again that I am not interested in power and that I only await the moment when people's power is established in Phnom Penh so as to tender to the people, without regret, my resignation from the position of legal head of state. Therefore, if the Lon Nol clique is not interested in power, it, too, should vow to resign and tender its resignation to the people. The people cannot exercise their "legitimate power" unless the antagonistic forces are disarmed or...after an armed struggle between the people on the one hand and their oppressors and ~~reactionaries~~, the fascists, on the other.

If the I.C.C. could come to our country to put an end to this bloody dispute and to guarantee, as in 1955 and in conformity with the 1954 Geneva agreements, the real restoration of peace as well as of freedom and normal conditions in which new general elections can be held without the threats of Lon Nol's mercenary army, I myself and the progressive and anti-imperialist Khmer people would only be too glad and would heartily thank the I.C.C. because peace is priceless to us on the condition that democracy is not trampled upon as it is today

But if the I.C.C. should come only to "legalize", by way of its presence, the Phnom Penh "power" of the usurpers under the pretext of "detecting" the presence of Vietnamese forces fighting against the U.S. imperialist aggressors in South Viet Nam, my people and I myself maintain that the resumption of I.C.C. activities in our country would absolutely not conform to the spirit of the 1954 Geneva agreements.

III. If the U.N.O. and I.C.C. should genuinely and sincerely wish to bring about peace in Cambodia in particular and in Indo-China in general (this peace is indivisible for our three peoples of Khmer, Viet Nam and Laos), they should have the courage to face the fact that the only cause of the "evil" lies in the absolutely illegal armed intervention in Indo-China by the U.S. imperialists and neo-colonialists.

The 1954 Geneva agreements restored peace, a complete peace, in Cambodia, Viet Nam and Laos. And according to these same agreements, independent Viet Nam should be re-unified in July 1956 following general elections that should be conducted freely and normally under the supervision of the I.C.C. But since 1955 the U.S.A. has brutally intervened in Indo-China and committed aggression against it by sending its armed forces there, thus trampling upon the 1954 Geneva agreements which have therefore become mere "scraps of paper"

The U.S.A., with the backing of its huge armed force, deprived South Viet Nam of its independence, subjected its people to the sanguinary dictatorship of Ngo Dinh Diem and his clique, opposed the reunification of Viet Nam, committed aggression against North Viet Nam by means of extremely despicable and savage bombing. In Laos, the U.S.A. has violated the 1962 Geneva agreements by changing the policy of independence and neutrality of the Souvanna Phouma government into a policy of alignment with the U.S.A., a policy which even allows the latter to extend the war and air raids to the national territory of the neighbouring brotherly kingdom. In Cambodia, the U.S. imperialists, after having failed in their repeated attempts to make me a "second Souvanna Phouma", have employed all the most dishonorable means in order to do away with me physically, and if this fails, to eliminate me politically. They have just succeeded in their March 18, 1970 "coup" in collusion with the renegades Lon Nol and Sirik Matak.

So if there is a foreign power responsible for the misery of the three peoples and countries of Indo-China and for their political and social crises, instability and absence of peace, it is no other than the United States of America, and it alone.

The day when the U.S.A. agrees to respect the 1954 and 1962 Geneva agreements in spirit and in letter, that is to say, to withdraw all its troops from South Viet Nam, the world will see that from that day on there will be no more war, misery, instability, crises in our three countries of Indo-China. As regards my country, in such circumstances, there will be no more problem of the presence of the anti-imperialist Vietnamese forces (and the presence of the pro-U.S. Vietnamese forces, which the Lon Nols have concealed painstakingly) within our frontiers, which have already been recognized de jure by the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam.

At the same time, our internal political crisis will instantly disappear, because when left alone and without the "backing" of the U.S. imperialists, the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique (just like the Thieu-Ky clique in Saigon) with not be able to maintain its rule for more than 24 hours in the face of the real people, our progressive and anti-imperialist people.

So if the U.N.O. and the I.C.C. as well as the "Geneva" powers sincerely wish to help Cambodia restore peace and stability, they should all enjoin the U.S.A., a permanent member (what a mockery!) of the Security Council, to leave the Indo-Chinese alone and leave Indo-China to the Indo-Chinese themselves without delay.

Without daring to attack the country (the U.S.A.) which is the principal and sole culprit responsible for the war and political instability in the three countries of Indo-China, the U.N.O., the I.C.C. and the "Geneva" powers absolutely have no right to poke their "nose" into the affairs which concern the Indo-Chinese only and must less the right to control or condemn the struggle which the peoples of Khmer, Laos and Viet Nam are compelled to wage together from now on till final victory, against the U.S. aggressors and interventionists and their lackeys--the only violators of the Geneva agreements on Indo-China.

Besides, the U.N.O. absolutely has no right to intervene or let its "blue helmets" intervene in Indo-China because first, only the "Geneva" (1954) powers are legally qualified to be concerned with the destiny of Indo-China, and second, because it (U.N.O.) is still far from being a "universal" organization owing to the fact that it has always refused to return to the People's Republic of China its seat in the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council. And it is known that the problems of peace and security concerning the world, Asia and particularly Indo-China, cannot be discussed and settled in a satisfactory way without China's participating.

Norodom Sihanouk, Peking, April 2, 1970.

Apr 4 Message

Peking NCNA International Service in English 2227 GMT 4 Apr 70 B

[Text] Peking, April 4 (HSINHUA)--Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia, made public here today his second message to his compatriots. Full text follows:

Your venerable majesty, respected monks (Buddhist), dear compatriots,

I am extremely grieved to learn the news of the most despicable and savage murder committed openly and in broad daylight by the infantrymen and armoured cars of Lon Nol, a murder of more than 300 of my compatriots (young and old, men and women and even children, whose only "crime" was to have demanded justice in my favor).

At this extremely sorrowful moment, I bow to honor the memory of the dear ones we have lost and I earnestly request from their families the honor to share their sorrow. Allow me to vow to the memory of the fallen heroes, to whom I owe a lot, that I have never betrayed my people, my race and my motherland as what my enemies accuse me of.

In the past and at present, I have always formulated my domestic and foreign policies entirely in the short, middle and long-term interests of the Khmer nation and country.

But as a person who bears the name of Norodom and has never tarnished it (and King Norodom himself never betrayed his people or motherland, contrary to my enemies' allegations), I must from now on wage a struggle until honor and justice are given back to me.

I must above all fight to help the Khmer people and our country recover their dignity, which is being trampled on by the reactionary valets of the U.S. imperialists. As a Khmer I have the duty to make all sacrifices, including that of my life should circumstances require, so that this clique of reactionaries, lackeys of the U.S. imperialists and Western monopoly capitalists, will be smashed in the near future. These reactionaries are carrying out unbridled demagogic propaganda in an attempt to make people, our youth in particular, believe that they are new people, purer and more patriotic than anybody else, but actually they are arch criminals of corruption, usurpers of constitutional power, bloody oppressors of the people and destroyers of the country.

My great mistake with regard to my nation lies in the fact that I granted such people so much honor and power and that I was unpardonably naive in having blind faith in them, which led me to believe, for example, that the young progressive and socialist intellectuals betrayed the nation and damaged the interests of the people.

Today, my progressive and socialist young compatriots, whether living abroad or in the "jungle" of Cambodia, all pardon me for this blindness and erroneous judgement, because they are fully aware of the decisive role which the ultra-reactionary Lon Nol played in it.

Therefore, my duty is to "accompany" our people, youth and patriotic and progressive intellectuals on the "journey" they are going to make, that is, in their struggle, in their resistance and in their armed revolution. The aim of this revolution is to ensure our nation, for the first time in our history, a new life based on full social justice and a genuine people's democracy which grants that all power will be exercised directly by the people or through the progressive youth and the working people on the basis of national independence and territorial integrity and under the protection of the national religion--Buddhism.

I solemnly reaffirm that under such circumstances, I will not exercise any power, and that my compatriots should not assume my having "nostalgia" for power. When a person has experienced so many humiliations, as is my case at present in the face of my detractors, he cannot have the least regret at losing state responsibilities.

I desire no other privilege than being a fellow-traveller of our people in their historic crusade for liberating the nation from oppression by the fascist-reactionaries and their master, U.S. imperialism.

In this connection, I request my compatriots not to hold peaceful demonstrations so as to avoid being easily and savagely strafed by Lon Nol's mercenaries. Such peaceful demonstrations will unnecessarily cost us lives which would otherwise prove to be more useful if reserved for armed struggle. This armed struggle, which should be started in the "jungle", is the only road which will lead our people to victory and enable them to realize their ideals.

It is with this conviction that I earnestly request my compatriots, who have been inspired by these ideals and are filled with courage, to go into the "jungle" and join the resistance forces already there. The zones held by our guerrillas are numerous at present. Please go there and our resistance fighters will be responsible for equipping you and arming you so that you will be able to fight for the motherland.

Besides, I want to speak particularly to my compatriots who serve in the army, the police, the provincial guard, the administration and the militia at present. They should take pains to reflect on the character of the mission entrusted them by the reactionaries, a mission of oppressing and killing the people from whose ranks they themselves have come.

They should also think of the very near future in which the reactionaries will utilize them as cannon fodder in the service of the so-called "free" world and in particular its leader--U.S. imperialism and neo-colonialism. They should know that in spite of its wealth this imperialism will not be able to continue to protect for at most another one or two years its lackeys, Thieu-Ky and company in Saigon, Souvanna Phouma and company in Vientiane, Kittikachorn and company in Bangkok, and Lon Nol-Sirik Matak and company in Phnom Penh.

The future of our Indo-China and Asia will never be in the "hands" of the Americans. Their future will inevitably belong to the peoples of Indo-China and Asia. The future of Cambodia will belong to the Khmer people. And this very future will be stable and peaceful on the basis of independence, freedom and territorial integrity only when we Khmers are good at safeguarding our friendship and solidarity with our neighbours, the People's Republic of China and socialist Viet Nam in particular, and making them durable.

In saying so, I do not want to incite you to fear these neighbours or to "fall on our knees before them" as what my enemies accuse me of. I simply want you to guard against the fraudulent propaganda of the imperialist agents Sirik Matak and company, who are leading you into error with regard to the distinction between who mortally menaces our future and who on the contrary will ensure us happiness in dignity.

I am absolutely certain that our progressive young elite will have the required ability to ensure that our neighbours will always and fully respect our Kampuchea's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its existing frontiers. Socialist Viet Nam (north and south) has already recognized all this de jure and, upon the word of its very high-ranking leaders and in the presence of no less important witnesses, it has only recently again committed itself solemnly to make its nation, people and youth respect all this in the future.

Do not believe that the reactionaries who now employ you will have a future. They do not have any future. But your own future will inevitably be "in the hands" of the Khmer people and youth who are fighting imperialism and its lackeys, the reactionaries of Phnom Penh.

Victory will certainly belong to our people and youth because they are not and will never be alone. They have and will always have faithful allies: the fighting peoples of Asia, both in our vicinity and in distant areas. Therefore, you should show your loyalty to your people whom the reactionaries pay you to "liquidate". But even if you try to suppress them, our people will never be exterminated.

Remember the tragic end of the anti-popular and reactionary army of Chiang Kai-shek. Likewise, the Khmer reactionary army will inevitably be defeated and smashed by the people.

So if you take pains to think it over a little longer, your conscience will eventually make you feel ashamed of serving the cause of the enemies of your own people. And if you acknowledge this truth, you should have no regret at losing your present, little and ephemeral comfort.

You should make up your mind to go to the "jungle" where you will establish ties of patriotic friendship and solidarity with our pioneering resistance fighters. When our people win complete victory over their domestic and foreign enemies, history will gratefully record your contribution to this victory.

I now conclude my message to the nation

I express my most faithful sentiments and extend my most affectionate greetings from afar to our venerable Queen, to our Buddhist clergy and to our patriotic people, with the assurance that I shall soon return to our beloved motherland, that is to say, to the jungle of the popular resistance.

Long live Kampuchea! Peking, April 4, 1970.

MEETING WITH PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS REPORTED

[Editorial Report--D] Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1330 GMT on 25 March broadcast a 2-hour recording of a meeting held earlier in the day and called by the government to inform the country's provincial governors of the current situation in the country and the events which led to the legal removal of Prince Sihanouk as Chief of State. The meeting was chaired by First Deputy Premier Sirik Matak and attended by newly elected Sangkum President In Tam.

Sirik Matak opened the session by informing the audience that Prince Sihanouk is no longer Chief of State, that the situation is becoming calm, and that the national salvation government is acting according to the people's desire. Reviewing the recent demonstrations in Svay Rieng, Phnom Penh, and other provinces, Sirik Matak stressed that they were triggered by the people's indignation at the occupation of Khmer territory by Viet Cong troops. He added that during a military operation conducted in Ratanakiri, he saw with his own eyes that "Viet Cong troops had entirely occupied this province." He recalled that the government had discussed this matter several times with the Viet Cong representative via diplomatic channels, but in vain.

Speaking of the recent bonzes' meeting, he said that on hearing explanations by the government and two houses of Parliament, all the bonzes approved the legal deposition of Prince Sihanouk and placed their confidence in the national salvation government's handling of the situation.

After telling the audience about Prince Sihanouk's activities in Peking and his several statements and appeal to the armed forces and youth to rise against the government and National Assembly under the pretext that they had sold themselves to the Americans and led the country from the road of independence and neutrality, Sirik Matak pointed out that Prince Sihanouk seemed to have really aligned himself with the Vietnamese and even considered using Vietnamese troops to attack the Khmer people. Sirik Matak added: "The medicine recently delivered to Cambodia from France was planned by Prince Sihanouk to be sent to the Viet Cong. Seventeen tons of this medicine are in the Government's hands at Pochentong. This shows that Prince Norodom Sihanouk has supported the Viet Cong and let the blame fall entirely on Cambodia."

Refuting Sihanouk's accusation that the army and houses of Parliament have sold themselves body and soul to the Americans, Sirik Matak stated that his party has always wanted Cambodia to be as strictly neutral as Switzerland. He informed the audience that his government has taken diplomatic measures to compel the Viet Cong troops to leave Khmer territory and that in a few days all National Assembly deputies will go to their respective constituencies to study the situation. After urging the governors to contact the people and explain to them that he and his colleagues removed Sihanouk as Chief of State not to assume power themselves, but to safeguard the nation and preserve its Khmer nature, Sirik Matak added: "Perhaps the Prince Chief of State has sold himself body and soul to the Viet Cong, or to whom I do not know." Then he invited In Tam to tell the governors about tasks which need to be carried out.

In Tam took the floor and stressed that the National Assembly and Council of the Kingdom have supported the people's desire to get rid of the presence of foreign troops on Khmer soil and that the two houses decided to remove Sihanouk as Chief of State accordingly. He also reiterated that groups of deputies will be sent to the provinces to explain the situation to the people, and urged province governors and bonzes to help in this task. Concerning the new Chief of State, In Tam said: "Cheng Heng has become Chief of State according to the constitution. In conformity with Article 34 of the Constitution, if Cambodia has no king or crown, the National Assembly chairman will assume power. It is the Constitution which has prodded Cheng Heng into the post of Chief of State. He has not assumed this function because of a coup."

In Tam urged governors and responsible persons to clearly explain to the people that Sihanouk's removal was not an act of treason, but was designed to defend the people's future interests. Concerning Sihanouk himself, In Tam said that he disregarded the people's will, that his inconsistent policy caused the deaths of many Khmer citizens, and that he allowed himself to be led politically by his wife, Monique. In conclusion, In Tam announced that he will call a meeting of all deputies in the evening to explain what they have to do during their trips to the provinces.

Takeo Province Governor Tum Kim Heng took the floor and invited In Tam to participate in a mass rally scheduled for 27 March in his province. In Tam accepted the invitation.

The Kampot Province governor then announced his plan to hold a mass rally in Sre Umbel, with Deputy Un Tramuch attending.

Sirik Matak took the floor again and asked the National Assembly chairman to make a note of the mass rally. He then read an AFP dispatch in French which disclosed that Prince Sihanouk has chosen to rally the socialist camp and is planning to cooperate with the Viet Cong and perhaps the Pathet Lao as well to struggle against the Cambodian Government. Sirik Matak noted that Sihanouk has aligned himself completely with the communists and asked the audience to reflect on what this AFP dispatch reported. On the international plane, he announced that great countries have approved Cambodia's legal deposition of Prince Sihanouk and remarked that only People's China and the Soviet Union have said nothing about it.

After Sirik Matak expressed confidence in the new provincial governors, In Tam took the floor again and told the audience of his visit on the previous day to the supreme chief of the Mohanikay order. The Mohanikay chief told In Tam that a deputy bonze chief in Kratie Province proposed that all other bonzes send a motion to Prince Sihanouk telling him that he had been divested of his functions as Chief of State because his deeds did not match his words, and that he should keep quiet abroad and not send Vietnamese troops to kill the Khmer people, which would be a treacherous act. In Tam added that he had approved the bonze's proposal.

Sirik Matak then said he had just received news that the Cambodian Embassy in Peking had broken relations with Prince Sihanouk. He read a cable in French saying: "The Cambodian Embassy in Peking has parted with Prince Norodom Sihanouk and rallied to the salvation government on 23 March. Embassy personnel are deeply concerned with the fact that the stand of Prince Sihanouk, who relies on the forces of socialist countries, risks endangering Cambodia's rapprochement with the United States." After reiterating that embassy personnel have refused to deal with Sihanouk, Sirik Matak urged the participants to do their utmost to overcome the present crisis without provoking bloodshed. He added that the Khmer armed forces will counter any move made by Sihanouk against Cambodia.

When asked by Phnom Penh municipal governor Chhe Kim Hong about the attitude of the Cambodian Embassy in Moscow, Sirik Matak replied that this embassy had sent a telegram to the government without clearly defining its stand, and that the government would study this matter as well as the case of other Cambodian embassies abroad, some of which, he said, had not given a clear indication of their attitude. After announcing that from now on there will be neither Khmer Reds nor Khmer Blues but only Khmers, he stressed that what the salvation government has done it did solely for country, and that it was not a coup because no soldiers forced the National Assembly to do anything and no one was shot.

Speaking of the situation in the border province of Svay Rieng, where the Viet Cong troops have taken refuge in mass with their wounded, Governor Hem Keth Sana said that the local authorities could apply the country's law of neutrality only with scattered groups of Viet Cong troops and not with the bulk of their forces. He said that following the 8 March demonstrations of the people voicing indignation at the Viet Cong presence on Khmer territory, the Viet Cong troops withdrew in some areas but reappeared some days after and even dug trenches as a defensive measure. Concerning Prince Sihanouk's ouster, he told the audience that being royalist, the people were at first surprised by the news but the situation became normal and calm after they listened to the radio broadcasts. He added that people in schools and shops then took down Sihanouk's pictures. This, he said, was proof of the people's will.

The Kampong Province governor then took the floor and talked about Viet Cong coming to take refuge at the Cambodian border and exchanging fire with Khmer national defence forces. He said that a provincial guard lieutenant and some soldiers were killed and that the Viet Cong troops ignored the Khmer authorities and acted as if the areas they occupied belonged to them.

At Sirik Matak's invitation, the Siemreap Province governor spoke of the situation in his province, where he said he had given orders to keep the local people fully informed of the current situation. As a result, he said, the people were calm and submitted notions supporting the salvation government.

In Tam again stressed the need to launch a propaganda campaign to help the people clearly realize the current situation. He also urged the responsible provincial authorities to expedite the delivery of birth certificates and identity cards to the people and not to think of their personal interests.

Speaking of the situation in the capital, Phnom Penh city, Governor Chhe Kim Hong said that the people were pleased that peace and order were being maintained and that the city's facilities were still functioning. After pointing out that an intensive propaganda campaign had been waged to win the people over to the salvation government's side, he dealt with the plan to build new markets to meet the citizens' needs and to renovate public shelters for the use of cyclo drivers and the homeless poor.

He added that, being a deputy of a border constituency, he had seen with his own eyes the local people go out to chase the Viet Cong from Khmer territory. He said the people later told him that the Viet Cong retorted that they had bought the land. He proposed that this piece of information be brought to the people's attention.

Sirik Matak congratulated the Phnom Penh city governor for his propaganda campaign among the citizens and urged other governors to follow his example in making the people clearly understand the situation. He then announced that Oum Manorin, secretary of state for surface defense [including police] had resigned and that this portfolio is now under his direct command. He said that since the police service is within the competence of the Interior Ministry, of which he is in charge, he would like to delegate this service to the provincial governors. Adding that National Security Secretary Sosthene Fernandez had also resigned, Sirik Matak said that he is also responsible for this department. He then introduced the new national security secretary, Kong Thouch, an ex-general of the Royal Khmer Armed Forces who was willing to serve in the present government.

In Tam again came to the rostrum and told of his meeting with a bonze who, he said, congratulated the national salvation government for having deserved this name. Concerning Sihanouk's activities, In Tam said: "If Prince Norodom Sihanouk plans to wage war against us, then we shall resist. In our resistance if the bonzes and people follow the road we have indicated, we will easily win victory in this war." Pointing to the need to improve the situation and heighten the moral of government officials, he urged them to fulfill their functions with a full sense of responsibility and to serve the people expeditiously. He requested governors to post at least a representative at their office during their absence so that there be somebody to answer the people's needs whenever they apply to the authorities. He exhorted governors to put in practice the suggestions made during this meeting. After some governors voiced their views on ways to better render service to the people, Sirik Matak advised governors, when back in their respective provinces, to organize, in conjunction with deputies, joint visits to various areas to tell the people that the situation has become calm. He also appealed to foreign residents to remain calm because the current events are purely Khmer affairs. He warned them against opposing the Khmer nation lest the government take measures against them. Finally, he declared the meeting closed and thanked the audience.

UNG HONG SATH RESIGNS FROM COUNCIL OF THRONE

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0500 GMT 2 Apr 70 D

[Text] Ung Hong Sath, a member of the Council of the Throne, has sent the following letter to Cheng Heng:

After the legal deposition of Prince Sihanouk at about 1300 on 18 March 1970 by the two houses of Parliament, a move totally supported by all the Khmer people, a new page in Cambodia's history has been turned. Prince Sihanouk's dictatorship has thus been ended for the sake of the Khmer people's survival and genuine democracy. Under these circumstances I fully understand that the function of the Council of the Throne has become unnecessary and that it can no longer serve the national interest. Therefore, I would like to submit my resignation as a member of the council effective 1 April so I will be able to serve the government of salvation in any capacity it wants at a time when our beloved country and our fellow countrymen are facing grave events.

I pledge to devote my capabilities and efforts to the national construction works. You can rely on me as a nationalist Khmer citizen; please accept my deepest respect.

PEOPLE ASKED TO MAKE KNOWN VIEWS ON REPUBLIC

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1502 GMT 4 Apr 70 D

[Salvation government appeal to the nation read by Lon Nol--recorded]

[Text] Dear fellow countrymen, since the events of 18 March 1970 up to the present, certain national circles have sent motions to the salvation government expressing their views about and aspirations concerning a republican regime, which they believe Cambodia should adopt in the near future. The salvation government has taken these motions into consideration and attaches to them the greatest importance. However, desiring to obtain the opinion of the majority of the nation and to conform to it with the full knowledge of all the facts, the salvation government invites the constituted groups and all social classes to send it additional motions clearly voicing their stands and views on this matter. These motions will be examined most carefully in order to prepare, according to law, for the future political institutions of our country.

The government takes this opportunity to ask all compatriots to unite closer than ever to cope with the Viet Cong aggressors, who violate their pledges and the UN Charter and who attack our people and army on our territory.

Four April 1970.

DEPUTY TRINH HOANH DELEGATED INFORMATION MINISTER

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 5 Apr 70 D

[Text] A Cabinet reshuffle was announced by decree dated 4 April. The decree said that Prime Minister and Defense Minister Lon Nol has delegated his third portfolio as information minister to Deputy Trinh Hoanh. A ceremony to mark the change, held at the Information Ministry yesterday, was attended by Second Vice President of the Council of Ministers Yem Sambaur, who was representing Gen Lon Nol, Trinh Hoanh, and Under Secretary of State for Information Ung Hiem.

In his brief remarks Yem Sambaur said that Trinh Hoanh's nomination as information minister helped ease the heavy duties assumed by the President of the Council of Ministers. He also said the nomination was in answer to the wishes expressed in a National Assembly motion.

Trinh Hoanh held four different portfolios between 1956 and 1962. He therefore is not new to the Information Ministry.

BRIEFS

DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY--On 2 April Foreign Minister Yem Sambaur received in turn the Singapore and Czechoslovak ambassadors. [Text] (Phnom Penh Domestic Cambodian 1200 GMT 3 Apr 70 D)

II. 6 Apr 70

NORTH VIETNAM

K 1

U.S.-SAIGON PUPPETS CONDUCT ATTACKS AGAINST CAMBODIA

Coordination With Lon Nol Clique

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1613 GMT 5 Apr 70 B

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 5--The reactionary ruling circles in Svay Rieng Province agents of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique, on March 28 last secretly met the governor of Tay Ninh Province (South Vietnam) to discuss joint action to repress the Khmer people and the Vietnamese residents in Cambodia, according to GPA.

Since that meeting, the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen in South Vietnam have frequently conducted air and artillery attacks against many frontier areas in Svay Rieng province. On March 31, over 10 air and artillery attacks were carried out against Ta Mo area, demolishing many houses and killing or wounding a number of Khmer civilians. On April 1st the U.S. and Saigon puppets again attacked the said area on three occasions.

In coordination with the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen in South Vietnam, the reactionary rulers in Svay Rieng Province on March 28 sent a company to the Ba Vet border area to repress the Cambodian supporters of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk. They brutally beat up 14 civilians and took away 11 others. Besides, they looted jewelry, textiles and other property of the local population.

The following day, the U.S. and Saigon puppets sent helicopters based in Tay Ninh Province to drop supplies to the Cambodian reactionaries entrenched at Torapeng Pholong position (Kompong Cham Province) on Highway 22 near the South Vietnam-Cambodian frontier. On March 31, following several days of siege, this position was razed to the ground by the Khmer insurgents.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Commentary

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0612 GMT 6 Apr 70 B

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 6--The "Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique are feverishly preparing public opinion for U.S. military intervention in Cambodia," commented the army paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN today.

The paper referred to a statement made by Lon Nol at a press conference in Phnom Penh on March 30 that Cambodia might seek foreign aid "in the form of armaments" and that this might be requested from the United States or other "friendly countries." It also quoted a report the same day that the State Department "leaves open the possibility" of the United States providing military aid to Cambodia if asked.

The paper said: "It is clear from those well-synchronized statements that the U.S. authorities and the pro-U.S. ultra-rightist in Cambodia are laying the groundwork for a deeper intervention by the U.S. in Cambodia with the aim of converting that country into a neo-colony and a springboard for the U.S. policy of aggression in South-East Asia. Now it is an open secret that the U.S. imperialists and the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique has worked in 'close collaboration' to topple Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, and make Cambodia a satellite of the U.S."

The French paper "LE MONDE" disclosed on April 1 that Cambodia had received the first shipment of U.S. armaments on board the ship 'Columbia Eagle' which entered Sihanoukville at the very moment when the coup d'etat took place.