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STHANOUK PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR NFLSV POSITION

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 21 Apr 68 D

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[Message of Prince Sihanouk, Cambodian Chief of State, to NFLSV Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho, via Hanoi]

[Text] I would like to thank you for your message sent to me and to my nation on the occasion of the Cambodian new year festival. I was very happy to receive this message from your excellency and return the same greetings to you.

At this time, we hope your excellency will successfully lead your people in the liberated areas, our compatriots, to continue to fight strongly in order to eliminate the Americans and their mercenaries. We hope that you will win more victories in the next few months—until you can liberate South Vietnam entirely. I would like to reassure you once again of our lasting solidarity with you and your struggle. We officially recognize only NFISV activities and we deem that you are the only representatives of the people of South Vietnam.

The Kingdom of Cambodia strongly condemns the bold action of the U.S. imperialists for waging an increasingly deceitful policy in order to colonize South Vietnam. We deem it necessary to support the Vietnamese people in their struggle. It is our duty as well as the duty of all justice-loving peoples to do so and no one can deny our cherished right. The struggling Vietnamese people have the right to obtain sustained support from any quarter. I would like to reaffirm once again that we have faith in our cooperation to protect the interests of our two nations for the sake of our mutual economic and social property. The prosperous friendship between the Kingdom of Cambodia and Vietnam is still one of our highly cherished policies.