

Group of Khmer Residents in America

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STATEMENT OF SAMDECH NORODOM SIHANOUK
ON THE RESOLUTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCERNING CAMBODIA

Today, as Chairman of the Cambodian people's national Resistance movement (the National United Front of Cambodia, the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and the People's National Liberation Armed Forces of Cambodia) which is now waging a struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, I have the duty to make due comments to world public opinion on the form and content of the resolution adopted at the U.N. General Assembly on November 28, 1974, by a vote of 56 for, 54 against and 24 abstentions.

The comments follow:

1. The resolution concerned was passed only with a slim majority. It was in fact a majority of only one vote: with 55 for and 54 against, because, logically speaking, the so-called "Khmer Republic" should not be a "judge and party" at once and its vote was of no value at all.

Therefore, it can be said without exaggeration that those U.N. member States which supported the independent and non-aligned Kingdom of Cambodia (the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia) and opposed the so-called "Khmer Republic" -puppet of U.S. imperialism- were equal in number to those member States which helped the Phnom Penh traitors and their U.S. master by their vote (54 to 54, for logically speaking, the United States, just like the so-called "Khmer Republic", should not be a judge and party at once).

In view of these facts, people should not consider the resolution inviting the Cambodian patriots to negotiate with the Cambodian traitors as the genuine will of the United Nations to impose on the Cambodian

Resistance movement an "armistice" which is evidently intended to maintain in a sovereign country (the Kingdom of Cambodia, a member of the U.N.O. from 1955 to 1970) the neo-colonialist system of the United States and its creation -the "Khmer Republic" which came into being through a fascist coup and has been spurned by its own youth and students at Secondary Schools and Universities.

The N.U.F.C., the R.G.N.U.C. and the P.N.L.A.F.C. will consistently regard this resolution as an "infant" of the machiavellian and dishonest manoeuvres of U.S. imperialism, and not an expression of the will of the countries which uphold justice and cherish freedom and genuine peace (the peace inseparable from national independence).

2. In the resolution concerned, it is stated: "while the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, presided over by prince NORODOM SIHANOUK, exercises authority over a segment of Cambodia, the government of the Khmer republic still had control over a preponderant number of the Cambodian people."

The N.U.F.C., the R.G.N.U.C. and the P.N.L.A.F.C. hold that the above evaluation regarding the control of the Cambodian territory and population is incorrect and not based on any serious technical verification.

The great majority of the major newspapers and magazines of the "Free World" reported after serious on-the-spot investigations (we particularly cite the "Far Eastern Economic Review" of Hong Kong) that the N.U.F.C., the R.G.N.U.C. and the P.N.L.A.F.C. control no less than 80 per cent of the national territory and certainly more than 50 per cent of the Cambodian population.

In any case the following fact must be stressed: the Cambodian liberated zone not only produces sufficient rice, maize, poultry, pigs, oxen, tobacco and cotton to meet its own needs, but also exports these products to fraternal Viet Nam and the Lao liberated zone, while the so-called "Khmer Republic" can only live on rice from the U.S.A. and Thailand, tobacco and cotton from the U.S.A., tinned meat from Australia and New Zealand, and other products from Japan.

Even the rubber which the Phnom Penh regime exports to foreign countries should be imported from the liberated zone controlled by the

N.U.F.C., the R.G.N.U.C., and the P.N.L.A.F.C.!

Now, world public opinion can see who actually controls Cambodia!

Another word concerning the following paragraph of the resolution:

The U.N. implicitly recognizes the R.G.N.U.C. as one of the two governments now in Cambodia.

On this point, people are surprised at the attitude of the U.N. which, on the one hand, has not invited a representative of the R.G.N.U.C. to the tribune of the General Assembly to defend its cause in face of the intolerable accusations and slanders made by the U.S. and the so-called "Khmer Republic", and on the other, maintains the sole delegation of the "Republic" of the Khmer traitors and all its rights and privileges, a maintenance which is detrimental to the Kingdom of Cambodia (member of the U.N. since 1955).

Logically, this policy of "two weights and two measures" (keeping favour with both sides) cannot authorize the U.N. to invite the R.G.N.U.C. (non-U.N. member) to accept the mediation of His Excellency Kurt Waldheim, U.N. Secretary-General. Therefore, I will say clearly that the R.G.N.U.C. is not in the least willing to sit by the side of the delegation of the Phnom Penh traitors in the U.N. but logic and fairness demand that the U.N. expel the delegation of the Phnom Penh traitors, whereas the U.N. has closed the door to the R.G.N.U.C.

In spite of the deep respect of the N.U.F.C., the R.G.N.U.C. and the P.N.L.A.F.C. for the U.N. and its Secretary-General, they will never accept the mediation which is actually aimed at making them capitulate to the U.S. -a new protectorate in Cambodia.

The 90-year (1863-1953) fierce and obstinate struggle waged by the Cambodian people against the French protectorate was certainly not to make themselves live at last (how many centuries?) under the U.S. protectorate which is a thousand times worse than the French protectorate.

3. In the resolution, there are also such lines: "The Cambodian people themselves should be allowed to solve their own political problems peacefully, free from outside interference.... Such political settlement should be reached by the Indigenous parties concerned without external

influence...calls upon all the powers which have been influencing the two parties to the conflict to use their good offices for conciliation between those two parties with a view to restoring peace in Cambodia".

The N.U.F.C., the R.G.N.U.C., the P.N.L.A.F.C. and myself solemnly declare once again:

There is no problem in Cambodia which divides the Cambodian people. The only problem with us is that of aggression, interference and of neo-colonialist activities of the U.S.A., which does not allow the Cambodian people to reject its protectorate already established in many other countries in Southeast Asia.

The problem of "R.G.N.U.C.-Khmer Republic" is a false problem.

The war in Cambodia is not a civil war.

The U.S. spends every year as much as 700 million dollars to artificially prolong the feeble existence of the so-called "Khmer Republic" and continue its genocide war against the Cambodian people.

The U.N. resolution about the restoration of peace in Cambodia is simply "out of the subject", because the U.N. did not demand an end to all U.S. interference in Cambodia, instead it imposed on the Cambodian people a resolution, the author of which, though "masked" by 22 accomplices, is exactly U.S. imperialism, the super-criminal assassin of the peace and independence of Cambodia.

As to the problem of interference and "influence" of other countries in the Cambodian people's affairs and the Cambodian war, it is unreasonable that the resolution states such things might have happened.

The N.U.F.C., the R.G.N.U.C. and the P.N.L.A.F.C. are not puppets of any foreign power.

4. "The U.N. hopes that the present sufferings of Cambodia and its people will not continue."

We solemnly reaffirm that the U.S. alone has created and continued these indescribable sufferings and is responsible for them. It is the U.S., and the U.S. alone that the U.N. should turn to in order to restore peace in Cambodia.

If the U.S. stops sending rice to the "Phnom Penh regime" for six months, that regime would irremediably die of hunger. And the "problem of war and peace in Cambodia" would be solved eventually.

5. "The continuation of war in Cambodia has disturbed particularly the neighbouring countries of Southeast Asia."

It is for a very good reason.

Actually, who are the "neighbouring countries" so "kind" to the Cambodian people?

Among them are Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines... which have adopted a very reactionary system and are willing to serve as faithful accomplices of American-British-Japanese imperialism and neo-colonialism in their attempt to completely exploit Southeast Asia. The people of these countries in Southeast Asia can provide a plenty of "cheap" labour and immense resources (including petroleum).

To allow the people of Cambodia, a small country, to win liberation would be very dangerous to the above-mentioned "consortium", because other people in this area would inevitably follow the example of the Cambodian people to complete their own indispensable revolution, shake off the shackles of the consortium to recover their freedom and national independence and realize economic independence, do away with the decrepit national customs stemmed from the most harmful "American way of life", exterminate the unlimited corruption of their present leaders and achieve social justice.

This is the true stake in the war in Cambodia. The antagonists of the war are on the one side imperialism, neo-colonialism and local reactionaries, and on the other side, the progressive Cambodian people who are fully faithful to the cause of genuine and total liberation (political, military, economic, cultural and social) of the Third World and the cause of non-alignment.

Therefore, international opinion must understand, just as the 54 sovereign States who have nobly defended the cause of the R.G.N.U.C. in the U.N. always understand, that this stake is very important for the future of the Third World. For this reason, the N.U.F.C., the R.G.N.U.C. and the P.N.L.A.F.C. cannot submit to the "resolution of 56" masterminded by the U.S.A.

November 30, 1974

Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK
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United Front of Cambodia.