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SIHANOUK THANKS PHAM VAN DONG FOR DRV'S TET HOSPITALITY

[CAMBODIAN INFORMATION AGENCY [Clandestine] in French to East Asia 1102 GMT 21 Feb 75 BK

[Text] Cambodia, 21 Feb, AKI--Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chief of state and chairman of the NUFC, has sent a telegram to DRV Prime Minister Pham Van Dong expressing thanks to the Vietnamese people and their leaders for the welcome given him during his recent stay in Hanoi on the occasion of the Tet lunar new year festival.

The telegram, dated 15 February, reads:

During the unforgettable visit that I had the honor and good fortune to make to the glorious DRV on the occasion of Tet, 1975, Your Excellency, the Vietnamese Government and the Vietnamese people once again accorded me the warmest welcome and exceptional, gracious, generous and fraternal hospitality in all aspects as well as providing many tokens of great friendship and total support.

On my arrival in Hanoi, your prestigious capital, His Excellency President Ton Duc Thang and His Excellency VWP First Secretary Le Duan welcomed me at the guest house, while His Excellency Chairman Truong Chinh, Your Excellency and His Excellency General Vo Nguyen Giap, throughout my stay in your great nation, gave me many heartfelt examples of the exceptional friendship and unbreakable solidarity that unites our peoples and countries forever.

On behalf of the Cambodian people, the NUFC, RGNUC, Her Majesty Queen Kossamak and in my own name, I avail myself of this opportunity to express our profound gratitude to you, respected and beloved excellency, to the great fraternal Vietnamese people, to their party, their government and to all their illustrious leaders. The DRV has constantly provided the most important multiform support and assistance as a timely and powerful contribution to the victory of our national liberation struggle. For this we wish to express our eternal gratitude to the DRV. At the same time, we express our warmest congratulations and admiration for the great achievements recorded by the DRV in its historic cause of national reconstruction and socialist construction, and for the encouraging victories won by the Vietnamese people in their struggle against the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, the violators of the 1973 Paris agreement.

Tet of 1975 was celebrated in the DRV amid the joy and prosperity of an extremely heroic, industrious, talented and intelligent people. The new year has arrived in the midst of the recent most important victories won by our two peoples over the common enemy and his henchmen. The new year offers us, therefore, magnificent prospects for the future--a conclusion we reached in the course of our cordial meetings and harmonious conversations in Hanoi.

With the ardent hope of seeing the DRV and Your Excellency again at the next Tet of 1976, I ask you to please convey my respectful greetings and fervent wishes of good health and a long life to His Excellency President Ton Duc Thang and to accept for yourself the assurances of my lofty and fraternal regards together with my best wishes for good health, a long life and complete success in your patriotic mission.

HISTORY OF THE VIETNAM WAR ON MICROFILM