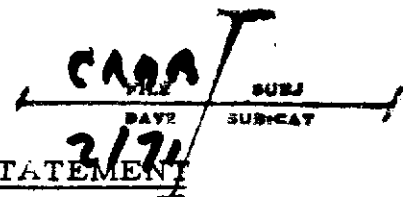


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SIHANOUK, TON DUC THANG ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT

(Hanoi VNA International Service in English, 0521 GMT, 10 February 1971)

Hanoi VNA February 10--President Ton Duc Thang and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia on February 8 signed a Viet-Nam - Cambodian joint statement in Hanoi.

Full text of the joint statement reads:

At the invitation of DRVN President Ton Duc Thang, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia and Chairman of the National United Front of Kampuchea, and Princess Monique Sihanouk paid a friendship visit to the DRVN from Jan. 26 to Feb. 9, 1971.

Samdech Head of State and Princess Monique Sihanouk were accompanied by:

Her Royal Highness Princess Norodom Sorya Rosungsy,

Her Highness Princess Norodom Keth Kanya,

His Highness Prince Sisowath Methavi, head of the office of the Head of State,

Mr. Sarin Chhak, Minister for Foreign Affairs,

Mr. Chan Youran, Minister of Popular Education and Youth,

Mr. Cheasan, Minister of Justice and Judicial Reforms,

Mr. Keat Chhon, Minister of the Premier's Office, and Mme Keat Chhon,

Mr. Thioann Prasith, Minister in charge of co-ordination of efforts in the struggle for national liberation,

Mr. Sien An, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the DRVN,

Mr Ang Kim Khoan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Mme Ang Kim-Khoan,

Mr. Kher Meas, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the People's Republic of China,

Major Ker Chhieng, member of the NUFK,

Madame Kou Roun, maid of honour of Princess Monique Sihanouk,

Madame Sar Saeroth, head of the private secretariat of Samdech Head of State,

Captain Ong Meang, Aide-de-camp of Samdech Head of State.

During their stay in the DRVN, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State, and the other distinguished Cambodian guests had cordial meetings with Vietnamese leaders, took part in the Lunar New Year festival with the Hanoi population, and visited various localities and units of the Viet-Nam People's Army. They were solemnly and warmly welcomed wherever they went.

President Ton Duc Thang and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State, had talks on problems concerning the joint struggle of the two peoples against U.S. aggression.

Attending the talks on the Vietnamese side were:

Mr. Pham Van Dong, Prime Minister of the DRVN government,

Mr. Vo Nguyen Giap, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence,

Mr. Nguyen Duy Trinh, Vice-Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs,

Mr. Huang Quoc Viet, member of the Presidium of the Viet-Nam Fatherland Front Central Committee and President of the Supreme People's Organ of Control,

Mr. Hoang Minh Giam, Minister of Culture,

Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs,

Mr. Nguyen Thuong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the DRVN to the Kingdom of Cambodia.

On the Cambodian side were:

His Highness Prince Sisowath Methavi, head of the office of the Head of State.

Mr. Sarin Chhak, Minister for Foreign Affairs,

Mr. Chan Youran, Minister of Popular Education and Youth,

Mr Chea San, Minister of Justice and Judicial Reforms,

Mr Keat Chhon, Minister of the Premier's Office,

Mr Thiounn Prasith, Minister in charge of co-ordination of efforts in the struggle for national liberation,

Mr. Sien An, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotenary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to the DRVN.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of militant solidarity, fraternal friendship and complete mutual trust. The two sides reached complete identity of views on the problems brought up.

Over the past year, the U.S. imperialists have unceasingly intensified and expanded the war of aggression in the three Indochinese countries.

In Cambodia, after having engineered the coup d'etat of March 18, 1970 seriously encroaching upon the independence, sovereignty and neutrality of this country, the U.S. sent its troops and troops of the Saigon puppets to openly invade Cambodia thus expanding the war to the whole of Indochina. Of late, it launched violent air attacks on Cambodia with the use of all kinds of aircraft, including B-52's. It has given massive support to their Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Son Ngoc Thanh lackeys and stealthily introduced a large number of U.S. military personnel into this country. They have intensified the war of aggression by Saigon puppet troops operating in co-ordination with those of Phnom Penh.

In Laos, the U.S. has intensified the "special war". It has ordered bombing of Laos' territory by day and by night for several months ago on an unprecedented scale, particularly by B-52's, and mustered important military forces of the rightists in Laos to conduct together with the Thailand mercenaries series of nibbling attacks against the liberated zone under open control of the Neo-Lao Hak Sat and other patriotic forces in Laos.

In South Viet-Nam, the U.S. has tried its best to actively put into effect the "Vietnamization" plan to prolong the war of aggression with the illusory hope of a military victory. It has multiplied everywhere military operations with the massive use of aircraft, warships and toxic chemicals. It has striven to beef up the puppet army with forcible conscription to save the puppet administration and intensify with utter barbarity the "pacification" operations.

In North Viet-Nam, the U.S. has intensified the reconnaissance flights and air attacks on the DRVN. The U.S. authorities have invented the story of an "understanding being violated by the DRVN" as excuse to intensify the bombing and strafing of the populated areas of this country, thus posing a serious threat to the work of the Paris Conference on Viet-Nam.

Facts prove that the Nixon administration is currently exerting itself to prolong, intensify and expand the war of aggression in Indochina. The withdrawal of part of the U.S. troops and the numerous "peace" swindles such as the so-called "five-point peace plan" of President Nixon could not hide this evident fact. The affirmations that the United States is intending to put an end to the war, reduce its commitments in Asia, etc. are only lies. The allegations about "the necessity to protect the lives of American soldiers" which the United States has made use of to justify aggression against Cambodia by U.S. troops, and the new waves of air attacks against the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam as well as the intensification of its armed intervention in Laos are also aimed at camouflaging its true intention to pursue its aggression in Indochina.

Faced with the frantic intensification and expansion by the United States of its war of aggression in Indochina, the Khmer, Lao and Vietnamese peoples have tightened their ranks, fought heroically and obtained glorious victories.

The sacred resistance of the Khmer people against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Son Ngoc Thanh traitors has made quick strides forward, recorded very resounding and very great victories, and therefore have laid solid foundations for the total victory.

Under the leadership of the NUFK headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State, the Khmer people have rapidly expanded their forces, dealt hard blows at the U.S. and Saigon puppet troops, inflicted heavy losses on the Lon Nol puppet army which, encircled and isolated in Phnom Penh and some other towns, is quickly breaking down. A national power, truly democratic and efficacious, has been set up in a vast liberated zone embracing seven-tenths of the territory with nearly six-tenths of the population. The Royal Government of National Union with Samdech Penn Nouth as Prime-Minister, the sole and unique legal and legitimate government of Cambodia, is enjoying growing prestige in the world, has been recognized by many countries and supported by all the peace-and justice-loving governments and peoples.

At present, the Khmer people and the heroic National Liberation Army of Cambodia, placed under the command of Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defense Mr. Khieu Samphan is violently and relentlessly attacking the enemy everywhere, right at their last refuges in Phnom Penh, driving them into a very critical position. After winning great victories all over the country, from Highway 6 to the Kirirom Region, the Khmer people and the National Liberation Army of Cambodia have just recorded still more resounding victories, notably at Pochentong and on Highway 4. The Vietnamese people and the government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam warmly hail the glorious victories of the fraternal Khmer people and regard these victories as a powerful encouragement and precious support to their resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

Under the leadership of the Neo Lao Hak Sat headed by Prince Souphanouvong, the valiant and indomitable Lao people have put up a stubborn and heroic struggle, and recorded big successes in all fields. They have broken all U.S. puppet nibbling attacks, annihilated an important part of Vang Pao's "special forces", main prop of the U.S. imperialists, and delivered a telling blow to the "Nixon Doctrine" in Laos. By these successes, they have consolidated and expanded the liberated zone which is becoming a single vast territory stretching from the North to the South of the country.

Under the leadership of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam, the Vietnamese people in the South, overcoming all difficulties and developing their initiative, have continued their attacks and uprisings without let-up, wiped out important live forces and a considerable quantity of war materials of the enemy, shattered step by step the U.S. puppet "pacification" plan, the backbone of Nixon's policy of "Vietnamization" of the war, and have extended their control over many more regions. They have strongly developed the struggle in the towns, throwing the Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet administration into a graver crisis and isolating it to the highest degree. The Vietnamese people

in the South have inflicted initial setbacks on the "Vietnamization" plan and will inevitably inflict a total defeat on it, thus contributing to foiling the Nixon Doctrine in Indochina and Asia.

The Vietnamese people in the North have severely punished the U.S. imperialists for every act of encroachment upon the sovereignty and security of the DRVN. They have made immense efforts and obtained great success in boosting production, remained always vigilant and combat-ready, determined to smash all new military adventures of the U.S. and fulfilled the sacred obligations of the big rear toward the heroic South and their noble international obligations toward the fraternal peoples of Cambodia and Laos.

With the victories of strategic significance already recorded, the Khmer, Lao and Vietnamese peoples have inflicted initial defeats on the "Nixon Doctrine" in Indochina and Asia. The U.S. imperialists are thus driven into a particularly confused, difficult situation and are doomed to an unavoidable total failure.

The victories of Viet-Nam and Cambodia are the victories of ardent patriotism and the traditions of indomitable struggle and national unity of each people.

These are victories of the judicious political and military line of the two countries charted on the basis of the historical experiences of their long struggle against imperialism. The victories of Viet-Nam and Cambodia are victories of the unshakable militant solidarity of their peoples, stemming from the long-standing friendship which binds them and has been continually strengthened in the long struggle against the imperialist aggressors. This close militant solidarity has tided over the hardest trials. In an attempt to divide the two peoples, the U.S. has used every perfidious and villainous trick, and even bloody methods, ordering the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Son Ngoc Thanh fascist and racist clique to massacre savagely thousands of Vietnamese residents, allow the Saigon puppet troops to freely kill, plunder, rape and perpetrate other odious crimes against the Khmer people, pit one people against another, use Indochinese to fight Indochinese... However, in spite of all these perfidious maneuvers and cruel methods, the U.S. imperialists, far from destroying the militant solidarity of the two peoples, have only rendered it even stronger.

More than ever, the Vietnamese and Khmer peoples are closing their ranks, standing side by side, resolved to fight together against the common enemy till final victory. This solidarity is a factor of victory of the fight of the two peoples against the U.S. imperialist aggressors. It constitutes a sturdy basis for the friendly relations and durable cooperation between the two countries enabling the two peoples to live for ever, generation after generation, in concord, mutual love and esteem and to give wholehearted mutual aid in the defense and building of their respective countries, each according to its own way.

The victories recorded by the two peoples are also victories of the sympathy and support given by the world's peoples, including the American people, to the Vietnamese and Khmer peoples' struggle against U.S. aggression for national salvation. The great successes of the PRG of the Republic of South Viet-Nam and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia at the Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries in Lusaka as well as the ignominious failures sustained by the U.S. and its henchmen in their plan of using the so-called "Asian Conference on Cambodia" in Djakarta to interfere in this country spell out eloquently the bankruptcy of the deceptions used by the U.S. to cover the aggressive nature of the Nixon administration and the traitorous nature of the U.S. henchmen in Saigon and Phnom Penh. As a component part of the world people's struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress, the just struggle of the Vietnamese and Khmer peoples to defeat the U.S. aggressors and the "Nixon Doctrine" in Indochina will certainly enjoy still broader sympathy and more vigorous support from the world's people including the American people.

In spite of their heavy setbacks in the defeated military, political as well as diplomatic fields, the U.S. imperialists have not given up their vicious design of aggression in Viet-Nam, Cambodia and Laos. Of late, in face of the danger of failure of the "Vietnamization of the war" program in South Viet-Nam and the major reverses of the U.S. and their henchmen in Cambodia and Laos, the Nixon Administration has undertaken new steps of war escalation in Indochina. It cynically declared that it would use without restriction its air power at any place in Indochina.

It is frenziedly stepping up the war in Laos. After launching an extremely barbarous campaign of bombing on Laos it has recently sent tens of thousands of Saigon puppet troops and Thai mercenaries supported by U.S. aircraft and troops and with the participation of the Vientiane puppet troops to invade Southern Laos. Meanwhile, the U.S. imperialists have used the troops of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Son Ngoc Thanh lackeys and those of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique as well as U.S. air and naval forces and U.S. military personnel to push forward and enlarge their aggressive war against Cambodia along with preparing for new military adventures against the DRVN.

It is evident that the Nixon Administration is prolonging, intensifying and expanding its aggressive war in Indochina, instead of putting an end to it. It has not reduced, but enlarged its military commitment to the stooge administration in its pay in Indochina. In spite of its bitter defeats in Viet-Nam, Cambodia and Laos, the Nixon administration remains very obstinate and bellicose. It continues to resort to the "maximum military pressure" in an attempt to bring the Indochinese peoples to their knees and realize its neo-colonialist schemes. With its new military adventures, the Nixon Administration is creating a very dangerous situation in Indochina.

thus posing a serious threat to peace in Asia and the world. World public opinion, including the American opinion, has been deeply indignant at these crimes and vehemently condemned them.

The hysterical acts of the U.S. imperialists have in no way proved that they are strong, but only shown still more patently their grave setbacks in the application of the "Nixon Doctrine" in Indochina and their policy of "Vietnamization" of the war in South Viet-Nam as well as the big difficulties they are facing in Indochina, the United States and the rest of the world. The more the U.S. imperialists persist in their scheme of prolonging, intensifying, and expanding the war, the heavier defeats they will suffer.

The Vietnamese and Khmer peoples who have long-standing traditions of staunch and indomitable struggle and who have been fighting stubbornly for a just cause along a judicious line and with a strong determination will not let themselves be intimidated by whatever menace. They will not step back before any sacrifices and are determined to promote their offensive from the victorious position in order to bring the glorious patriotic resistance to the U.S. imperialists, for national salvation, to total victory.

The two sides energetically denounce the perfidious schemes of the U.S. aimed at prolonging, intensifying and expanding their aggressive war in Indochina through fresh military adventures. They severely warn that the Nixon administration has to shoulder full responsibility for the serious consequences of its acts.

The U.S. must respect the independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of Cambodia as made clear by Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk in his proclamation of March 23, 1970. It must cease immediately, totally and unconditionally its air attacks against the Cambodian territory, withdraw immediately, totally and unconditionally the advisors and military personnel of the U.S. and troops of Thieu-Ky-Khiem, and all its acts of war provocation, and intervention as well as those of its henchmen against Cambodia.

The Vietnamese problems must be settled on the basis of the all-round 10-point solution and the eight-point clarification of the South Viet-Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet-Nam, the essential points of which are: The U.S. imperialists must withdraw totally and unconditionally its troops and troops of the other foreign countries in its camp from South Viet-Nam and set a time limit for this total withdrawal. They must cease all support to the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique, leave the South Vietnamese population alone to form a provisional coalition government and organize truly free and democratic general elections in South Viet-Nam. They must definitively renounce all encroachments upon the sovereignty and security of the DRVN.



The two sides unreservedly support the February 4, 1971 statement of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Hak Sat (Lao Patriotic Front--VNA Ed) concerning the aggression of southern Laos by American troops and Vientiane and Saigon puppet troops, unreservedly support the five-point solution proposed 6 March 1970 by the NLS Central Committee on the settlement of the Lao problem on the basis of the Geneva Agreements of 1962 on Laos and based on the realities of the present situation in that country. They demand that the United States end its intervention and aggression in Laos and totally and unconditionally withdraw its troops, military personnel and war materiel as well as the Thai and South Vietnamese mercenaries; first and foremost, it must completely and unconditionally cease the bombing of Lao territory and let the Lao parties concerned settle together the internal affairs of Laos.

The two sides reaffirm their strict loyalty to the joint declaration of the Indo-Chinese Peoples' Summit Conference; proceeding from the principle that the liberation and the defense of each country are the business of its people, the various parties pledge to do all they can to give one another reciprocal support according to the desire of the party concerned and on the basis of mutual respect.

The two sides are determined to preserve and develop the fraternal friendship and good neighbour relations between the two countries, in order to support each other in the fight against the common enemy, as well as to co-operate in the future and for a long term in the building of their countries, each according to its own path. In the relations between the two countries, the two sides are determined to apply the five principles of peaceful coexistence; mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, nonaggression, mutual respect for the political regime of each country and non-interference in the internal affairs of the other country, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. The two sides declare their respect for the fundamental principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indo-China. The Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam reaffirms that it recognizes the territorial integrity of Cambodia within the present borders and that it commits itself to respect this. Both sides reaffirm that in their relations all problems between the two countries can be solved through negotiations in the spirit of mutual respect, mutual understanding and mutual assistance.

The Vietnamese and Khmer peoples, together with the brother Lao people, in close solidarity, and bringing into full play the powerful strength of the 50 million people of Indo-China, are determined to fight and totally defeat the American imperialist aggressors so as to defend the sacred national rights of each nation, safeguard the fundamental principles of the 1954 and 1962 Geneva Agreements, make Indo-China a peaceful region

embracing independent states, and allow South Viet-Nam, Cambodia and Laos to take the path of independence, peace and neutrality and ensure for each Indo-Chinese people the right to settle themselves their own affairs, without foreign interference.

In response to the appeal dated January 13, 1971, made by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the Political Bureau of the National United Front of Kampuchea and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, the Khmer people of all social strata, inspired by ardent patriotism, are marching forward valiantly in the flush of their victory and inflicting telling blows on the American imperialists and their lackeys, the Lon Nol-Cirik Matak-Son Ngoc Thanh traitors, and driving them into unprecedented isolation.

In response to the December 13, 1970 appeal of the Viet-Nam Workers' Party Central Committee and the government of the DRVN the Vietnamese people throughout the country, implementing the sacred testament of venerated President Ho Chi Minh, are determined to pursue with perseverance and step up the resistance against the U.S. aggression till total victory.

This is the appropriate answer of the Vietnamese and Khmer peoples to the U.S. imperialists who are obstinately and blindly intensifying and expanding their war of aggression, a war without issue which is doomed to inevitable defeat.

The two sides are gratified to note that the front of the world's people in support of the Indo-Chinese peoples fighting against the U.S. aggression is being expanded and consolidated with every passing day. The two sides sincerely thank the socialist countries, the peace and justice-loving countries, the political parties, the international peace and democratic organizations, the national liberation movements, the American people and the other peoples of the world for the precious sympathy and support which they consider an important factor guaranteeing the victory of their just struggle. The two sides call on the brotherly and friendly countries in all continents to resolutely condemn the U.S. imperialists, check their criminal hands, compel them to put an end to the war of aggression and let the Indo-Chinese peoples settle themselves their own affairs.

For the extremely warm and unforgettable welcome accorded it during the visit of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, the Cambodian party expresses its most profound gratitude to President Ton Duc Thang and the government and people of the DRVN. This friendship visit which has been, in all aspects, a complete success has contributed to the consolidation of the militant solidarity of the two peoples in the new situation and to the reinforcement of the durable trustful co-operation between the two sister nations.

The present situation is extremely favourable to the struggle of the three peoples of Indo-China against the U.S. aggression, for national salvation. The three peoples of Indo-China are going forward to victory. The whole progressive mankind is on their side.

They are more than ever determined to turn into account the factors of victory, perseveringly and vigorously push forward their fight to drive out the U.S. aggressors, achieve the independence and freedom of their respective countries, ensure the happiness of each people, and at the same time contribute to the struggle of the peoples in the world for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress,

The sacred war of resistance of the three peoples of Indo-China will be crowned with glorious victories.