

IV. 11 Jul 74

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SIHANOUK STATEMENT ON PEACE OFFER, U.S. WAR ROLE

Hong Kong AFP in English 0957 GMT 10 Jul 74 B

[Text] Peking, July 10 (AFP)--Whether there was war or peace in Cambodia depended on the United States, the attackers of my country, Prince Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia said here today. In a statement issued here commenting on reports from Phnom Penh that the Cambodian Government of president Lon Nol had proposed opening unconditional negotiations with the other side, Prince Sihanouk said: It is senseless to criticise the Cambodian National United Front (NUFC), the Cambodian Royal Government of National Union (RGNUC), the Popular Armed Forces for the National Liberation of Cambodia (CPNLAF), or myself for refusing peace.

Last night Prince Sihanouk, who is head of NUFC, rejected President Lon Nol's proposal in the name of the Cambodian resistance, reaffirming its invariable and irreversible position in refusing any compromise or negotiations.

Peace? That is the very thing we are demanding, and we want it right away, the prince declared in today's statement. But we could not accept a peace which did not restore to Cambodia 100 percent its sovereignty, its national independence, its territorial integrity, its national unity and its unity as a state, he continued. We shall always categorically refuse a "Pax Americana" which would impose partition on our country or a "coalition government" with traitors, quislings and Pierre Laval who should be shot but whom we could never welcome around the cabinet table or even around the negotiating table, Prince Sihanouk declared, referring to European World War II collaborators with the Nazis.

He went on, the return of peace to Cambodia does not need negotiations or an international conference. Peace can be realised immediately. It only needs the United States to cease its meddling in Cambodian affairs and to stop giving military aid to the Lon Nol clique for the Cambodian problem to be solved ipso facto.

Prince Sihanouk described new U.S. Ambassador in Phnom Penh John Dean as absolute master of the self-styled Khmer Republic and said it was his idea and decision to launch the new offensive of charm under the guise of a general Cambodian reconciliation and of peace accompanied by the formation of a Lao-style national coalition government. The self-styled Khmer Republic, he said, was nothing more than a stooge and a lifeless, soulless puppet of the United States, and whenever some peace proposal or another seemed to come from its mouth, in reality it came from the mouth of the United States which shamelessly manipulated it. Prince Sihanouk also accused the U.S. Congress of being the accomplice of Richard Nixon by according him huge funds to ensure the survival at all costs of the Khmer Republic.

The NUFC chief concluded: In the name of the NUFC, RGNUC and CPNLAF (forces of the Cambodian People's National Liberation Army) I demand that the American Government, of which Mr. Richard Nixon is president, unconditionally and immediately cease interfering in Cambodian internal affairs and unconditionally and immediately dismantle the neo-colonialist system installed in Phnom Penh and other Cambodian cities.

If this is not carried out, then UFR, RGNUC, CPNLAF and Norodom Sihanouk will fight the enemy to the death. We shall never accept any compromise with him, and even less with his treacherous and despicable servants.

Whatever difficulties we may encounter in the future--for let us not forget that our opponent is the largest and richest power in the world and the best-equipped, most cruel, cynical, immoral and obstinate imperial force of all time--and even if we have to fight and suffer for another 10 or 20 years we shall never go down on our knees. We shall never accept any "Pax Americana" and we shall certainly achieve peace in Cambodia, as history will bear witness.

RGNUC Envoy in Algiers

Algiers Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 9 Jul 74 L

[Excerpt] The peace proposals of the Lon Nol administration show, if there were any need for it, its disintegration, and they seem more like a form of surrender than demands for talks. The RGNUC of Prince Norodom Sihanouk will, as in the past, reject this type of proposal and, as always, maintains that it only wants to negotiate with the real aggressors--the Americans. This is the crux of the statement made this morning to ALGERIE PRESS SERVICE by the RGNUC ambassador in Algiers.

We do not know if the latest statement from the Phnom Penh regime may interest us to any extent, said RGNUC Ambassador in Algiers Chem Snguom, because one cannot in any way advance the solution of the conflict with the clique in power in Phnom Penh. There is no civil war in Cambodia, the ambassador said. The Cambodian patriots are facing typical American aggression, and if we must negotiate with anybody it is with the United States and not the instruments of the aggression, that is the present administration in Phnom Penh, the Cambodian ambassador added.

Sihanouk's Rejection Said Ignored

Hong Kong AFP in English 1635 GMT 10 Jul 74 D

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh, July 10 (AFP)--Prince Sihanouk's statement in Peking last night rejecting President Lon Nol's proposal for unconditional negotiations with "the other side" was greeted with complete indifference here. Government sources said, "Sihanouk does not represent anything anymore. Ieng Sary or Khieu Samphan could be valid interlocuters."

Opposition parties here called President Lon Nol's proposal a "clever diplomatic maneuver" in view of the approaching UN debate on Cambodian representation. Sources close to the Democrat Socialist Party called the president's proposal "exclusively the work of Premier Long Boret and the Americans and not a concerted work."

The republic party led by General Sirik Matak, which has refused to take part in the Cabinet, issued a statement saying it "unreservedly approved and firmly supported proposals contained in the presidential message." In private, certain influential members of the party indicated that the regime would have to have a more solid base on the political level before it would be able to negotiate with the other side.

POLITICAL, PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FOR TALKS PROPOSAL CITED

Republican Party

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0730 GMT 11 Jul 74 D

[Republican Party resolution]

[Text] Hearing the message dated 9 July 1974 by the president of the republic concerning the new proposals for negotiations with the Cambodians of the other side without preconditions, and realizing that these initiatives could restore the peace so desired by the Cambodian people, the Republican Party fully agrees with and strongly supports all the proposals contained in the message of the president of the republic.

Social Republican Party

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0730 GMT 11 Jul 74 D

[Social Republican Party resolution]

[Text] Regarding the message dated 9 July 1974 by the president of the republic concerning the proposals for negotiations without preconditions with the Cambodians of the other side, the Social Republican Party, convinced that national reconciliation is the basis for the preservation of the Cambodian patrimony:

1. Fully agrees with the proposals contained in the president's message;
2. Urges all party members to help publicize, implement and support these proposals;
3. Suggests and requests that all international movements for peace and the protection of justice and human rights, all the peace and justice-loving countries help us, so that the Cambodian people can live in peace with independence, neutrality, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Cambodian APU Group

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0730 GMT 11 Jul 74 D

[Resolution of the Cambodian Asian Parliamentary Union Group]

[Text] Hearing the president of the republic's message to the nation on 9 July 1974, which appeals to the other side to accept negotiations without preconditions for a cease-fire and restoration of peace in Cambodia, realizing that without national unity, independence and peace the preservation of the Cambodian nation cannot be achieved, and realizing that the aspiration of the people is to live in peace with justice so that they can work in peace, the Cambodian Asian Parliamentary Union [APU] Group:

1. Fully agrees with the proposals contained in the message of the marshal president of the Khmer Republic, addressed to the nation on 9 July 1974;
2. Urges all members of Parliament to expend every effort so that all Cambodians understand that the only solution leading to the conclusion of this conflict lies in national reconciliation;
3. Urges parliamentarians of all countries, members of APU, all the peace and justice-loving international organizations and countries to help Cambodia to succeed in the very near future in its search for peace, independence, national unity and territorial integrity.