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C A M B O D I A

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CAMBODIA

FILE

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SIHANOUK MESSAGE TO QUEEN URGES PEOPLE TO FIGHT

Peking in Cambodian to Cambodia 1200 GMT 23 Mar 70 D

[23 March message from Cambodian Prince Sihanouk to Her Majesty the Queen, the Khmer bonzes, and people--recorded]

[Text] I, Norodom Sihanouk, chief of state of Cambodia, respectfully salute Her Majesty the Queen, the two major religious orders, the venerables, my fellow countrymen, young and old, men and women, militarymen and civilians: I would like to express to you my best and eternal regards. I am an unlucky man with a bad destiny, the victim of a group of reactionary high personages who owe their distinction and honor to the Sangkum Reastr Niyum and its president. At this moment, after receiving all kinds of power and favors from the Throne and the Sangkum, they have showed their gratitude by committing very serious acts.

They have not only overthrown--in violation of the Constitution--their own Euv but also have insulted, humiliated, and discredited me to an unprecedented degree. In addition, they have condemned me as a traitor to the nation, as a man who has sold out his country, and condemned me like they would an animal to slaughter. My personal indignation cannot be compared with the magnitude of my indignation and concern for the sad fate of our country, which has been voluntarily enslaved by these traitors.

These traitors have trampled on the Constitution and turned the country--which has a good reputation in the world as an island of peace and stability, and as an exemplary country--one among the number of anarchic nations, and thrown it into the furnace of the war of the Americans. At present, the freedom, democracy, progress, unity, and solidarity of the nation have been completely destroyed. The armed forces have been turned against those fellow countrymen who dare to oppose the new fascist power which serves the U.S. imperialists' interests.

This is not a personal accusation but a worldwide judgement. The Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Cheng Heng clique have also severely condemned and accused me of being a traitor, a man who has sold out and humiliated his country--after all I have done to win a good reputation for our country on the international scene and prevent it from falling victim to a great danger [words indistinct] like Vietnam or the giant Americans [words indistinct]. My loyalty to the nation has been condemned as treason. But such accusations by these ungrateful, ambitious, power-and-money hungry, cowardly traitors, who have not hesitated to stab Sihanouk in the back, are unimportant to me.

This group of persons cannot deter me from defending the highest interests and national freedom of the motherland. Millions of our fellow countrymen who are now in the country and thousands others outside the country will certainly rise up to liquidate the reactionary group of Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Cheng Heng, and their American masters.

And they will build--after final victory--a new Kampuchea with the power vested in the people's hands [words indistinct] and pure progressive spirit which will enable the people to build a nation with maximum prosperity, social justice, and equality. The evil acts of the reactionaries have opened my eyes and restored my perspicacity. I have been ignorant and mindless in believing that these high personages in the government and the parliament--who have just staged the coup d'etat--could bring prosperity, freedom, democracy, and security to the country.

The recent coup d'etat engineered by the U.S. imperialists in Cambodia contradicts, above all, the ardent desire and interests of the Cambodian people and it is bound to arouse the progressive forces of the country to a powerful resistance.

The Cambodian people who know well of the heinous nature of U.S. imperialism through their grim experiences of life for a long period, have realized more clearly through this event that the independence and sovereignty of the country and national dignity cannot be defended without a relentless struggle against U.S. imperialism.

As Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia, made clear in his recent statement, the ultra-rightists in Cambodia, lackeys of the U.S. imperialists, will inevitably meet their end in the near future and the Cambodian people will be liberated from the oppression by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys and win complete freedom and the genuine independence and prosperity of the country.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors will bring down on their heads ever heavier retaliatory blows from the people in Indochina, if they attempt to find a way out of the defeat in the expansion of the flame of war against the entire people of this region, the heroic Vietnamese people included.

The people of the whole world are denouncing the U.S. imperialists as the truculent aggressor destroying the independence of Cambodia, the very one plunging the Indochinese peninsula into the flame of a war of aggression and the heinous strangler of peace and independence, and expressing firm solidarity with the fighting peoples of Indochina.

The U.S. imperialists and their stooges should look straight at this stark reality and act with discretion. If the beasts act rashly, blind to such reality, they will only face ever greater defeat and doom.

SPA DELEGATION CONCLUDES TOUR OF MIDDLE EAST

Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 17 Mar 70 B

[Text] The Supreme People's Assembly delegation headed by SPA Vice President Kang Yang-uk returned home by air on 17 March after finishing its tour of Arab countries.

On hand to greet the delegation at the airport were Comrades Yi Chong-ok; So Chol; Choe Yong-chin; Paek Nam-un, SPA speaker; Yi Kung-no and Ko Chun-taek, chairmen of the Fatherland Front Central Committee; Pak Mun-kyu, secretary general of the SPA Presidium; Chin Mun-tok, minister of city construction; Finance Minister Choe Yun-su; Vice Foreign Minister Kim Chae-pong; and Vice Communication Minister Chon Tok-Hui.

Soviet Ambassador Sudarikov and UAR charge d'affaires (Ahmed Abraham Ader) were also at the airport to greet the delegation.

The great danger that I have just experienced is an unforgettable lesson for me. Therefore I swear that I will never assume the post of Chief of State when our people have won (?complete) victory over this reactionary and traitorous clique and their imperialist American masters, and will let the progressive youth and people [words indistinct] assume responsibility and take measures in total freedom to build and defend the nation. At present my mission has not been accomplished yet. I formally refuse to let the reactionary traitors destroy and trample on our ideals, rights, and basic national principles by using American dollars or bayonets.

In this regard, I want to solemnly declare that: 1) in my capacity as legal Chief of State, a title the Khmer people have conferred on me, I want to assure that I work to resolutely dissolve the Lon Nol government and the two houses which have betrayed their oath and the constitution; 2) I beg my fellow countrymen and foreign peoples resolutely not to recognize and respect their announcements, decrees, measures, circulars, judgements, or decisions, which are the evil works of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak-Cheng Heng clique and their lackeys; 3) my children must set up a new government of national unity and a provisional parliamentary council composed of representatives from various circles including bonzes, farmers, workers, tradesmen, industrialists, militarymen, policemen, provincial guards, youths, intellectuals, functionaries, and women, and so forth; and 4) a national liberation army must be formed.

And 5) All Khmers both inside and outside the country--including the faithful, religious people, militarymen, civilians, and men and women who cherish the ideals of independence, democracy, neutrality, progressivism, socialism, Buddhism, nationalism, territorial integrity, and anti-imperialism--must unite to form the National United Front of Kampuchea. The mission of this front is: A) to liberate our country from the enslavement of the reactionary fascists led by Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, and Cheng Heng; B) to struggle against the American imperialists--who are the aggressors against Indochina and who have brought about injustice, wars, destruction, [word indistinct], disunity, and all kinds of misfortune to the Khmer, the Vietnamese, and the Laotian peoples--by cooperating with, and with formal support from, the socialist, progressive, and anti-imperialist countries throughout the world; 3) to rebuild the country after the victory over the enemy, which will entail building the country in solidarity and national unity during difficult times [sentence as heard].

I am thinking of my venerable mother constantly, of all the bonzes--who are my benevolent teachers, of all my children, and of the country because [words indistinct]. If I do not die in the struggle--which is indispensable for the nation, for its future and its prosperity--I am certain that I shall return to kiss my mother's feet and my children. But at present it is necessary for me to serve the nation from outside the country.

I call on all children, both militarymen and civilians who cannot stand to remain under the traitors' power, or who are courageous and out of love and concern for the nation are determined to liberate the fatherland, to seek all means and possibilities to take refuge in jungles to fight our enemy. If the children have already got weapons, I will take measures to bring them ammunition and even new weapons to strengthen them. If the children have not got weapons yet and want to undergo training courses for national liberation, I will take measures to help you flee to the military school of the National United Front of Kampuchea which will be set up deep in a forest to avoid enemy detection.

For those children who are in Europe or the neighboring countries of Europe, and who wish to come to serve the nation within the framework of the liberation army or the national front, I would like to ask you to come to Moscow or Peking to see me. Long live Cambodia!

CAMBODIAN EMBASSY IN PEKING SUPPORTS NEW REGIME

[Editorial Report--D] Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0710 GMT on 24 March carried a 4-minute item on messages of support from Cambodian diplomatic representations abroad to the government. The message from the Cambodian Embassy in the DPRK said the embassy personnel and Khmer students in North Korea fully support the policy of the national salvation government.

The message from the Cambodian Embassy in Peking said: "All of us approve of the legal deposition of Prince Norodom Sihanouk by the congress of the houses of Parliament."

The message from the Cambodian Consul General in Hong Kong said the ambassador and all the personnel, as well as their families, approve of the deposition of Prince Sihanouk in accordance with the Cambodian Constitution. The Cambodian Embassy in Paris sent a telegram fully approving the correct resolution of the Parliament. The message from the Cambodian Embassy to Japan said: "All of us are resolved to respect all orders of the national salvation government and we approve the resolution of the two houses of Parliament." Cambodian Ambassador to London Samreth Soth sent a telegram to the Foreign Ministry approving the deposition of Prince Sihanouk. Cambodian ambassador to Australia Tim Neun, and Cambodian ambassadors to Havana and Indonesia, also sent similar messages of support.

SANGKUM ANNIVERSARY MARKED; OFFICIALS ELECTED

[Editorial Report--D] Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0710 GMT on 24 March carried a 23-minute recording of a general assembly of municipal and provincial committees of the Sangkum Reastr Niyum on the occasion of the Sangkum's 15th anniversary. The assembly was held at 0900 on the same date in Chadomuk conference hall, and was chaired by Chief of State Cheng Heng.

Chief of State Cheng Heng's 4-minute inaugural speech--read by the announcer--denounced Prince Sihanouk's bad attitude, which he called contrary to all principles of the Sangkum movement and to the national interest, which therefore exposed the country to danger.

After the speech Cheng Heng ordered that the Sangkum Reastr Niyum Central Committee be elected from a total of 29 candidates, with the following results: In Tam was elected chairman, and the Central Committee is composed of Trinh Hoanh as secretary general; Douc Rasy Prom Thos, and Keo Sranas as undersecretaries; Op Kim Ang as treasurer general, with Tuon Lang and Pin Toeun as assistants; and Sim Var, Yem Sambaun, Hang Sokhom, Srey Sun, and Khim Tith as political counselors, with Un Tramuch, Chhe Kim Hong, and Phuong Ton as assistants.

New Sangkum chairman In Tam then delivered a 4-minute speech voicing loyalty to the Sangkum Reastr Niyum and read the above list of newly elected members. He promised to serve the Sangkum according to the people's will and democratic principles.

After branding the former regime of Prince Sihanouk as bad, he pledged to carry out an overall reform and urged government officials at all echelons to assume responsibilities, but did not go into detail. In conclusion, the Chief of State declared the assembly closed, amidst cheers of participants.

PREMIER LON NOL EXPLAINS SITUATION TO BONZES

[Editorial Report--D] Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0755 GMT on 22 March carried a 2-hour recording of a meeting between a large group of Buddhist priests and Premier Lon Nol and National Assembly Acting Chairman In Tam, held in Phnom Penh at 0300 GMT on 22 March.

Secretary of State for Interior in charge of Cult and Religious Education Dy Touch, representing First Deputy Premier Sirik Matak, declared the session open and thanked the chief Bonzes for coming from the provinces to participate in the meeting. He asked them to please excuse the absence of Sirik Matak, who was being interviewed by a French television team on the current situation in Cambodia and the Viet Cong presence.

National Assembly Acting Chairman In Tam then spoke of the recent events in Cambodia, saying that "the most important was the withdrawal of confidence in Prince Norodom Sihanouk in his function as Chief of State" and that "this withdrawal of confidence in the Prince by the two houses of Parliament was consistent with the provisions of our Constitution." After noting the constitutional provisions concerning the nomination of persons to a function through royal decree and their revocation, In Tam said that the divesting of Prince Sihanouk of his functions of Chief of State was a case in point. He recalled that Sihanouk had continued to swerve from the lines set forth by the Khmer people, that he exercised "personal power" in disregard of the Constitution and the people's will, and that he cajoled and deceived them while allowing foreigners to come and occupy Khmer territory. In Tam blamed Sihanouk for his abortive 1963 economic reform, his creation of state stores to compete with cooperatives selling goods to peasants, his opening of a gambling house, and his responsibility for the transit activities which involved smuggling. In Tam asked the bonze chiefs to understand the situation so they will be able to correctly explain it to the faithful.

He said: "At present the National Assembly has passed a resolution, in conformity with the law, relieving Prince Sihanouk of his function as Chief of State and forbidding him to return to Cambodia. But Sihanouk is still looking for means to return. What means would he use? There is only one means--accompanied by Vietnamese or other troops. If he does this he will prove himself to be a real traitor, and he will be hit really hard. At present we would like to tell him to stay where he is and keep quiet. On our part, we will work to liberate our country. We know that you [Sihanouk] are sentimentally indebted [to the Vietnamese] and (?bound by) accords on many things [with them]. The venerables know very well how much money the Vietnamese have offered to Neak Moneang Monique each month." In Tam said she received so much money that a Swiss bank refused her deposits, because her account was full.

Premier Lon Nol took the floor to explain the recent events to the bonzes and reaffirmed that the National Assembly and Council of the Kingdom correctly applied the constitutional provisions in deposing Sihanouk, that the move was not a coup because the government did not use the armed forces to threaten anybody, and that the Prince, who is now in Peking, is now merely a private citizen.

A bonze chief of the Mohanikay order said he understood the present situation and congratulated the government in its success in maintaining order and peace in the country during the recent events.

In a passage marred by heavy interference, Premier Lon Nol was heard to say that the government had to take certain measures during the demonstrations because it feared that certain organizations might interfere in Cambodian domestic affairs.

Several bonzes chiefs in turn voiced their understanding of the situation and praised the government for its success in maintaining order in the country.

Premier Lon Nol told them that after holding a debate on the demonstrations, the two houses of Parliament decided to support the nation and not Sihanouk, and that the moment the two houses issued a resolution to this effect, "Prince Sihanouk became a private citizen and was no longer Chief of State."

After a chief bonze voiced support for the resolution of the two houses of Parliament and the decisions of the government of national salvation, Premier Lon Nol took the floor again to thank the bonzes for their support. He drew a parallel between the current situation and that of the Banteay Long Vek--ancient Khmer city--period, when Cambodia lost part of its territory to Thailand.

Speaking about Cambodia's genuine neutrality and independence, Lon Nol said: "Concerning the groundless rumors spread by certain circles, who are friends of the Vietnamese, which say that we want to align with the CIA on the American side, I want to state clearly that these rumors are completely false. As a matter of fact, what we want is genuine neutrality, which is why our government has taken measures to invite the Vietnamese and the Chinese to an official meeting. Through diplomatic channels, we have formed committees to carry out verification [presumably of the presence of Vietnamese troops]. On the other side, the Vietnamese have acknowledged [as heard] that they have troops on Khmer territory. This verification is in progress."

After stressing Cambodia's strict neutrality, Lon Nol said that he has asked the Geneva conference cochairmen to send the International Control Commission back into Cambodia to check the infiltration of foreign troops into Khmer territory, and that he has also notified all UN members of the presence of Vietnamese troops on Khmer territory in violation of the Geneva accords.

In conclusion, he said: "The Vietnamese who are carrying out aggression against our territory may either continue their aggression or they may do something else. It is possible that Samdech Sihanouk will invite the Vietnamese to fight us. But this would also be in violation of the Geneva agreements." He asked the bonzes to explain the current serious situation to their faithful, then thanked them for their attention.

SOUPHANOUVONG SENDS MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO SIHANOUK

PATHEP LAO NEWS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English 0702 GMT 24 Mar 70 B

[Text] Sam Neua March 24 (KPL)--Prince Souphanouvong, chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front, on March 22 sent the following message to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of the Kingdom of Cambodia:

"In execution of their scheme of aggression against the Indochinese countries, the U.S. imperialists whole escalating the war in Laos and pursuing the war in Viet Nam have instigated their henchmen to stage the March 18 coup d'etat in Phnom Penh. On behalf of the Lao Patriotic Front and the Lao people, I wish to express to Samdech and the Khmer people our high indignation at the adventurous acts of the U.S. paid extreme rightist group in Phnom Penh.

"I assume Samdech of the friendship and the (?inevetible militant solidarity of the Lao people toward the) fraternal Khmer people in the struggle against our common enemy, the U.S. imperialist aggressors.

"The Lao Patriotic Front unreservedly supports the struggle of (?Samdech and the Khmer) people for the overthrow of the U.S. paid (?extreme rightist group to defend the) independence, sovereignty (?and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Cambodia) as was stressed in your statement of March 20, 1970.

"I am convinced that this struggle, with the correct line of Samdech and the (?valiancy) of the Khmer people, with the constant reinforcement of the militant solidarity between the Khmer people and the Lao people and between the Indochinese peoples and with the sympathy and support from justice and peace-loving people in the world will tide over all trials and win final victory.

"I take this opportunity to extend sincere thanks to Samdech and (?the fraternal Khmer people for their) constant support for the just (?cause of) the Lao people against the U.S. aggressors.

"Please accept my highest consideration."

SOCIALIST YOUTH GROUP SUPPORTS NEW REGIME

Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 20 Mar 70 D

[Motion of support by the personnel of the Directorate of the Royal Khmer Socialist Youth]

[Text] On hearing of the National Assembly's and the Council of the Kingdom's 18 March 1970 decision to withdraw confidence in Prince Norodom Sihanouk and (?relieve) him of his function as Chief of State of Cambodia.

With the understanding that under current circumstances only the government of national salvation led by Lt Gen Lon Nol can lead Cambodia to security and safeguard the territorial integrity, independence, and neutrality in order to chase the enemy--in particular the Viet Cong--from Cambodia.

On hearing of the legal decision made by the two houses to accord full power to the government of national salvation,

All us youth working at the Directorate of the Royal Khmer Socialist Youth have decided to fully support the legal decision made by the two houses. All of us want to solemnly declare that we do not recognize Prince Sihanouk as Chief of State of Cambodia and President of the Royal Khmer Socialist Youth Movement as of 18 March. We have decided to support the government of national salvation and agree to serve it at any time.

SOUPHANOUVONG MESSAGES TO PRINCE SOUVANNA PHOUMA

10 March Message

Radio Pathet Lao (Clandestine) in Lao to Laos 0415 GMT 23 Mar 70 D

[10 March message from Prince Souphanouvong to Prince Souvanna Phouma]

[Text] To Prince Souvanna Phouma in Vientiane, Your Excellency:

The present tense situation in Laos is the result of the intensified U.S. war of aggression. The U.S. imperialists have ceaselessly violated and undermined the Geneva agreements on Laos. They have overthrown the Laotian national coalition government and destroyed Laos' peace and neutrality, which is recognized by the Geneva agreements. Laos is now experiencing a very serious destructive war. Since July 1969, implementing Nixon's policy, the United States has escalated its war in Laos to an unprecedented degree. It has brought in U.S. military personnel, a large number of U.S. weapons and other war materiel, and Thai infantry and artillery to join with Laotian special forces and launch nibbling attacks against areas controlled by the Lao Patriotic Forces. The United States and its satellites have also intensified U.S. bombing raids on the said areas throughout the country. The U.S. war escalation in Laos reached its most violent point when the United States began using B-52 bombers to systematically bomb and strafe [as heard] the Plaine Des Jarres-Xieng Khouang area. Many villages were completely destroyed and many local people were killed or wounded as a result. The U.S. war crimes against the Laotian people are beyond calculation.

World public opinion, including in the United States, has daily denounced the Nixon administration for escalating the war and creating a tense situation in Laos. I have affirmed many times to Your Excellency that it is the U.S. imperialists who are causing the nation difficulties and bringing suffering to the people, and that the only way to solve the Laotian questions is for the United States to end its aggression in Laos and let the Laotians settle their internal affairs without interference.

I have informed Your Excellency many times that the NLHX, which has always wanted peace in Laos, decided that it must counter all aggressive acts to maintain Laos' independence and sovereignty. Nevertheless, the U.S. imperialists have stubbornly continued their aggression in our country. Thus the Laotian people have no choice but to suitably punish and defeat them. He who plays with fire will certainly be burned.

I am deeply sorry that Your Excellency has never paid any attention to what I have said. Your Excellency must personally bear full responsibility for the dangerous situation in Laos. To maintain the sacred national interests, the NLHX, as always, desires that Laos become a truly independent, peaceful, and neutral country. To achieve this, on 6 March 1970 the NLHX set forth new political solutions to peacefully solve the Laotian questions and end the U.S. war of aggression in our country. These solutions are based on the 1962 Geneva agreement on Laos and the true situation in Laos at present.

These solutions correspond to the broad aspirations of the Laotian people and suit the interests of peace and security in Indochina, Southeast Asia, and throughout the world. They are the correct basis for solving the Laotian problems. Their realization will release our country from this violent destructive war and lead the people to peace and independence so they can make Laos a peaceful, independent, neutral, democratic, unified, and prosperous country. Let me again stress that the Laotian questions must be solved by the parties concerned in Laos.