

Statement of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia at the end of the National Congress

(Translation)

A National Congress presided over by Mr. Khieu Samphân, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of National Defence and Commander-in-Chief of the People's National Liberation Armed Forces of Kampuchéa (PNLAFK), was held in the liberated area of Cambodia from July 19 to 21. Among the 294 people attending the Congress were all the Ministers and Deputy Ministers of the RGNUC, the cadres of the three categories of the PNLAFK, representatives of the organizations of the National United Front of Cambodia (NUFK), representatives of the Association of Patriotic Monks, of the Association of Patriotic Women, of the Patriotic Youth, of the Association of Patriotic Peasants, of Workers Unions, of the Association of Patriotic Intellectuals, representatives of the patriotic bourgeoisie of Cambodia and representatives of monks and patriots in Phnom Penh city.

The National Congress took place under the new circumstances in which the Cambodian nation and people have won splendid victories in the struggle for national liberation under the leadership of the NUFK with Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as Chairman, of the RGNUC with Samdech Penn Nouth as Prime Minister and Mr. Khieu Samphân as Deputy Prime Minister.

The Congress discussed seriously and meticulously the present situation of Cambodia. At present, the PNLAFK and the Cambodian people have launched powerful and incessant attacks and won successive, great victories, and liberated over 90 per cent of the national territory. They have launched assaults and attacks and are destroying the defence line of the city of Phnom Penh, the last lair of the traitors Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh, In Tam, Cheng Heng and Sosthene Fernandez. They have tightened their encirclement ring and exerted bigger pressure on the city of Phnom Penh every day. They have brought about the collapse – military, political and organization – of entire sections of the remaining domain of the traitors Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh, In Tam, Cheng Heng and Sosthene Fernandez. Nothing whatsoever can remedy such a disastrous situation. US imperialism itself can do nothing despite all its efforts to escalate the aerial war to save this gang of traitors.

Phnom Penh, the last lair of the traitors, is in chaos, and in an ever more desperate situation militarily, politically, economically, organizationally and morally. The traitors Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh, In Tam, Cheng Heng and Sosthene Fernandez are waiting for their dooms day. This is obviously the result of their betrayal of and vilest crimes against the nation and the people. They will inevitably be punished by the Cambodian nation and people.

In such a new situation, in conformity with the fivepoint Declaration of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and Chairman of the NUFK dated March 23, 1970 and the Political Programme of the NUFK, the National Congress decided unanimously to make public the following solemn Declaration:

Declaration of the RGNUC to the Friendly Countries and Peoples, to the Peace-Loving Peoples and Personages, to the American People and the Peace-Loving Personages in the United States

1. Cambodia is a country with a small population. The Cambodian nation and people are a gentle nation and people, who love peace and independence and like to live in

security. In their history of over 2,000 years, the Cambodian nation and people have never committed aggression against any country, far or near. Meanwhile, the Cambodian nation and people had the natural, economic, cultural and social conditions to meet their own needs. At the same time, they embrace Buddhism, a traditional and state religion which is profoundly attached to peace. That is why the Cambodian nation and people have never committed aggression against any country, or had such an intention, in the past, present or future. On the contrary, in the course of their history of over 2,000 years, the Cambodian nation and people are always the victims of sufferings and misfortune caused by successive invasions by imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism of all descriptions, such as French colonialism, Japanese fascism, US imperialism . . .

We are firmly convinced that the people of the world, including the American people have clearly discerned the peaceful, gentle non-belligose and non-aggressive character of the Cambodian nation and people who have no desire to become a power to oppress their neighbours.

2. After launching their struggle to regain independence, the Cambodian nation and people have always been cherishing peace, and wish to live in peace with the neighbouring countries and peoples and all the countries and peoples of the world. That was why the Cambodian nation and people declared and resolutely followed in 1956 a neutralist policy, did not join any bloc of alliance and did not allow anyone to install military bases in the country.

However, US imperialism and its local and foreign valets did not allow the Cambodian nation and people to live in peace. The military organization of SEATO, the late US secretary of state Foster Dulles, admiral Harry Felt, the diplomats R. MacClintok, Victor Matsui, Carl Strom, Trimble (under the administrations of previous US presidents – AKI), Ngo Trong Hieu (in the period of the late Ngo Din Diem – AKI), the traitors Dap Chhuon, Sam Sary, Son Ngoc Thanh, Song Sak . . . had constantly carried out acts of subversion, division, rebellion and sabotage against the neutral and non-aligned policy, and the policy of independence and peace of the Cambodian nation and people. US imperialism and its valets also committed armed aggression against the Cambodian nation and people, particularly, after 1963 when they bombed certain places, villages, and residents along the Cambodia-South Vietnam frontier, especially Oyadav in Rattanakiri province, Dak Dam and O Reang in Mondul Kiri province, Snuol in Kratie province, Memot, Krek, Anlorn Kreh, Thlok Trach in Kompong Cham province, Phoum Daung, Tralauk Bek, Taei, Chhak Mtes, Chantrea . . . in Svay Rieng province, Kompong Trabek in Prey Veng province, Phnom Den in Takeo province, Kompong Trach in Kampot province . . .

At the same time, the US imperialists and their Bangkok lackeys who are always hostile to Cambodia, carried out subversion, incited rebellions and unceasingly made troubles along the Thai-Cambodian frontier, in particular in Preah Vihear, Oddar Mean Chey, Battambang, where the Phnom Melay incident broke out, and in Koh Kong.

The act of subversion, sabotage, rebellion, and the armed aggression of the US imperialists and their Saigon and Bangkok lackeys by air and land, had taken place unceasingly till the March 18, 1970 coup d'état hatched by the US imperialists and their Phnompenh lackeys, which destroyed the independence, peace and neutrality of Cambodia, and transformed Cambodia into a military base of aggression and a US neo-colony, causing immeasurable misfortune and sufferings to the Cambodian people.

What is more serious the US imperialists sent on April 30, 1970 hundreds of

thousands of their air, naval and ground forces, including Saigon puppet troops, to Cambodia, to commit direct aggression against this country and launch the most savage war, bringing unimaginable havoc to Cambodia.

Then, after the signing of the January 1973 Paris Agreement on Vietnam and the February 1973 Agreement on Laos, the US imperialists intensively escalated their war of aggression against Cambodia to an unprecedented degree. On the one hand, they make every effort to pursue the policy of "Khmerization" of the war in Cambodia under the Nixon doctrine, on the other, they escalate their aggressive war through the "Americanization" of the air war against Cambodia, by mobilizing all their air forces in Southeast Asia and in the Pacific region to conduct genocidal bombing against the Cambodian nation and people.

3. In the situation in which the US imperialists and their lackeys of all hues are directly or indirectly, continuously and massively carrying out acts of subversion, destruction, aggression and invasion against Cambodia, destroying its independence, peace and neutrality, bringing about endless havoc to Cambodia, what should the Cambodian nation and people do? We are convinced that all the peoples of the world including the American people understand us perfectly and that their reply is without doubt the same as ours, because all the peoples of the world and the American people cherish their independence, want peace for their country and have struggled and made every sacrifice for independence and peace.

As for our nation and people, though our country is small and thinly populated, they cherish greatly independence, peace and neutrality, and in this capacity, they have their virtue and honour that they must preserve and defend. Therefore, our nation and people should not be inactive in face of the acts of subversion, destruction, aggression and invasion of the US imperialists and their lackeys inside and outside the country. Our nation and people had continuously waged struggle till the US imperialists and the traitors Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh, In Tam, Cheng Heng and Sosthene Fernandez hatched the March 18, 1970 coup d'etat. Since then, they have continued this struggle, under the banner of the NUFK with Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its Chairman and of the RGNUC with Samdech Penn Nouth as Prime Minister and Mr. Khieu Samphân as Deputy Prime Minister, in conformity with the "five points" expounded in the March 23, 1970 Declaration of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and with the NUFK Political Programme.

4. According to this stand including the five-point Statement and the NUFK Political Programme, the struggle of the Cambodian nation and people is not aimed at aggression and threat against a country, far or near, and still less at committing aggression, creating trouble or carrying out subversion against the nation and people of the United States of America. Our struggle is not aimed at becoming a big power. The Cambodian nation and people are struggling for the liberation of the Cambodian nation and Cambodia's genuine independence, peace and neutrality. The struggle of the Cambodian nation and people is for:

First: To force US imperialism and all its foreign lackeys to stop the aggression against and bombing of Cambodia, withdraw their troops and military personnel from Cambodia and let the Cambodian people settle their own internal affairs without any foreign interference;

Second: With regard to the traitorous Phnom Penh gang headed by arch-anti-people, extreme fascist and most corrupt gangsters Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh, In Tam, Cheng Heng and Sosthene Fernandez, the Cambodian

nation and people will seal their fate and overthrow them under the circumstances of no foreign interference.

Third: The NUFK with Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as Chairman and the RGNUC with Samdech Penn Nouth as Prime Minister and Mr. Khieu Samphân as Deputy Prime Minister will control Phnom Penh and lead the genuinely independent, peaceful, neutral, sovereign and democratic State of Cambodia on the basis of territorial integrity.

5. According to the five-point stand and the Political Programme, the NUFK and the RGNUC are the sole and legal representative of the Cambodian nation and people carrying out clear cut policies, domestic and foreign.

At home, the national liberation struggle is to be carried on so as to let the Cambodian nation and people regain independence and peace, and the people's living standards are to be solved and raised so that the people will have enough grain, houses, clothing, schools and hospitals and enjoy the rights of democratic liberties both in politics, economy and culture, and materially and spiritually. All these are based on great national unity, regardless of political tendencies and of religions and beliefs with the exception of the handful of the traitors Lon Nol, Sirik Matak, Son Ngoc Thanh, In Tam, Cheng Heng and Sosthene Fernandez.

In external affairs, there is firm pursuance of the policy of genuine peace and neutrality; non-participation in any bloc of alliance; absolutely no permission to build any base of foreign countries on Cambodian territory; absolutely no aggression against any country, far or near; at the same time, absolutely no permission for any country, far or near, to launch aggression against Cambodia; establishment of relations with all countries on the basis of mutual-benefit, mutual-respect and non-interference in one another's internal affairs; and acceptance of unconditional economic and technical aid from all countries.

6. In conformity with the domestic and foreign policies of the Cambodian nation and people of cherishing genuine peace and neutrality and in conformity with their gentle nature and the traditional belief in Buddhism, we are convinced that the people of all countries, including the American people and all peace-loving personages in the world, including those in the United States, will discern the just stand of genuine peace and neutrality of the Cambodian nation and people, the NUFK and the RGNUC. We are also convinced that all the friendly countries in the five continents, near or far, peace-loving people and personages of all countries and the people and peace-loving personages of the United States will give stronger support to the just stand of the Cambodian nation and people, the NUFK and the RGNUC. They will step up the struggle in various forms to demand that US imperialism and all its foreign lackeys stop bombing and all other military activities in Cambodia, withdraw all their troops and military personnel from Cambodia and let the Cambodian people settle their problems themselves without any foreign interference.

The Cambodian nation and people, the NUFK and the RGNUC will always unite with all nations and people the world over who support peace, independence and democracy. The Cambodian nation and people, the NUFK and the RGNUC express the most profound gratitude to all friendly countries, far or near, and especially to Vietnam, Laos, China and Korea, to the peace-loving people and personages of all countries in the world, and to the people and peace-loving personages of the United States, thanking them for all their support and assistance to us in the just struggle for national liberation. We consider these support and assistance as the symbol of the most precious and brotherly friendship which we will always maintain, strengthen and develop.

KHIEU SAMPHAN *Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence of the RGNUC and Commander-in-Chief of the PNLAFC.*

HOU YUON *Minister of Interior, Communal Reforms and Cooperatives*

HU NIM *Minister of Information and Propaganda.*

In the Cambodian Liberated Area, July 21, 1973.