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“RENMIN RIBAO” of PEKING GREETS THE FUNK AND GRUNK DELEGATION

A.K.I. 2 April 1974

In an article entitled, “A warm welcome to our comrades-in-arms coming from heroic Cambodian territory” and dedicated to the official and friendly visit on 1 April to the People’s Republic of China of the FUNK and GRUNK delegation, “Renmin Ribao” of Peking wrote:

“In the excellent situation where the Cambodian people have won brilliant victories for national salvation in the war against American aggression, and on the invitation of the Chinese Government, the delegation of the National United Front and the Royal Government of the National Union of Cambodia – under the leadership of Khieu Samphan, member of the FUNK Central Committee Political Bureau, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence of GRUNK and Commander-in-Chief of the People’s National Liberation Armed Forces, and deputy head, Ieng Sary, Special Advisor to the Deputy Presidency of the Council of GRUNK – is expected today in Peking on an official friendly visit to our country. This is the first important delegation from the interior of Cambodia that has visited China. It will bring to the people of China, who find themselves greatly out of date, news of victories of the Front and deep feelings of friendship from our comrades-in-arms in the first line of battle. Enlivened by joyous and particularly cordial feelings, the Chinese people express their warm wishes of welcome to our comrades-in-arms from the heroic Cambodian territory and also extend their greetings to the Cambodian people, who are our brothers.

The Cambodian people are courageous and unbending. To safeguard national independence, the Sovereignty of the State and territorial integrity, they have led a long struggle against foreign aggression. After the reactionary coup-d’état incited on 18 March 1970 by Lon Nol instigated by the United States, the Cambodian people – led by the National Liberation Front, under President Samdech Norodom Sihanouk – carried out a fierce and exceptional struggle against American imperialism and the criminal gang of Lon Nol in order to fulfill the Five-Point Declaration and the political programme of the Front, showing intrepid heroism and accomplishing magnificent exploits for the cause of liberation towards national independence and Cambodia. Currently, the struggle for national salvation in the war against American aggression has brought great victories. The People’s National Liberation Armed Forces gained strength as the struggle continued. A wide extent of territory was liberated and democratic power grew increasingly solid. The free zones [or “liberated areas”] reflected prosperity everywhere. Lately, we continue to receive news of victory from the fields of operation in Cambodia. Under the devastating blows of the Army and the patriotic population, the traitor gang of Lon Nol, suffering from increasing adversities, hurtles to its end.

The article underlined:

The just struggle of the Cambodian people benefited from support and admiration of peoples throughout the world. The Royal Government of the National Union of Cambodia, under the leadership of the head of state Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, established diplomatic relations with a growing number of countries. Its prestige has grown incessantly in the world. The Chinese people warmly praise the great victories of the Cambodian people on all fronts, and

wholeheartedly wish that the Cambodian people will enjoy even greater victories in their future struggle.

At the moment, the international situation continues to develop favourably for the peoples of different countries. The countries want independence, the nations want liberation and the people

want revolution. This great historical trend is hastily progressing, and no force will hinder its progress. The struggle of the Cambodian people for national salvation in the war against American aggression and its victories have proven beyond a doubt there are peoples in different countries struggling for justice who are truly powerful – in contrast to the imperialists, who only appear to be so. The nations and the people who are victims of aggression will grow from weakness to strength and be victorious in the struggle against aggression, as long as they unite, dare to fight, persevere in the people's war, and continue drawing from the lessons learned in their struggle.

“The Chinese and Cambodian peoples are comrades-in-arms and intimate brothers. We are from the same family. In our fight against imperialism, we always encouraged and supported each other, and have established a deep friendship in combat. The struggle of the Cambodian people and their victories provide a great encouragement and strong support for the Chinese people. The latter always considered the struggle of the Cambodian people as their own, and support to their just cause as an international duty that it must fulfil. In the future as in the past, we will stand with our Cambodian brothers and give our firm support to their just cause.

“We are deeply convinced that the visit of the FUNK and GRUNK delegation in China will strengthen and advance the revolutionary friendship and solidarity in combat between the Chinese and Cambodian peoples. It will represent a new chapter in the annals of friendship between the two countries. We wish you complete success on this visit.”

PEKING WARMLY AND SOLEMNLY WELCOMES THE FUNK AND GRUNK DELEGATION

A.K.I. 2 April 1974

The FUNK and GRUNK delegation – under the leadership of Chief Khieu Samphan, member of the FUNK Central Committee Political Bureau, Deputy Vice Minister and Minister of National Defence of GRUNK and Commander-in-Chief of the People's National Liberation Armed Forces of Kampuchea, and deputy head Ieng Sary, Special Advisor to the Deputy Presidency of the GRUNK Council – arrived in Peking on 1 April by special flight from Hanoi on a formal friendship visit in China, on invitation of the Government of the People's Republic of China.

The leaders of the Chinese Communist Party and the Government of the People's Republic of China, Messrs Chou En-Lai, Ye Kien-Ying, Tchen Si-Lien, Wou The and Sou Tchen-Houa came to the airport to greet the delegation.

The welcoming ceremony was honoured by the presence of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and President of FUNK, Samdeck Penn Nouth, President of the FUNK Central Committee Political Bureau and Prime Minister of GRUNK.

The following persons also came to the airport to welcome the delegation: Ministers and the Deputy Minister of GRUNK, Messrs Thiounn Mumm, Keat Chhon and Van Piny respectively, members of the Royal Family, experts, Cambodian students currently in Peking and diplomatic envoys from different countries accredited in China.

Messrs Sarin Chhak, General Duong Sam Ol and Thiounn Prasith, Ministers of GRUNK, as well as Mr Kao Kien-Tchong, Deputy Director of the Department of Protocol of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who went to Hanoi especially to welcome the delegation, returned to Peking on the same flight.

The members of the delegation are: Mrs Ieng Thirith, Minister of Popular Education and Youth of GRUNK, Mr Tiv Ol, Deputy Minister of Information and Propaganda, and Mr Toch Khem Doeun, Cambodian Ambassador to China.

In the city of Peking, the streets leading from Tiananmen Square to the guest palace were strewn with multicoloured pennants and national flags of China and Cambodia floating in the wind, and the majestic grandstand of Tiananmen was adorned with eight red gigantic lanterns. The buildings lining the streets were decorated with red flags and the main avenue was strewn with enormous banderoles with Cambodian and Chinese inscriptions, "We firmly support the struggle of the Cambodian people against American aggression and for national salvation", "We firmly support the just struggle of the three Indochinese peoples", "Our welcome to the heroic Cambodian people", "Long live the great friendship and militant solidarity between the Chinese and Cambodian peoples", and "Long live the great solidarity of peoples of the world!"

From the capital's airport, the national flags of the Kingdom of Cambodia and China were waving in the wind.

Around 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the head of the delegation, Khieu Samphan, deputy head Ieng Sary, and other Cambodian comrades-in-arms disembarked the plane amidst applause, drum rolls and gongs. head of state Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Prime Minister Penn Nouth, Prime Minister Chou En-Lai and Deputy President Ye Kien-Ying cordially shook their hands and embraces them warmly.

After the performance of the national anthems of the Royal Kingdom of Cambodia and China, the Cambodian hosts, accompanied by leaders of the Party and the Government of China, reviewed the honour guard consisting of fighters of the ground forces, the navy and the air forces of the PLA of China.

When the Cambodian hosts in turn toured the landing area to greet the crowd, hundreds of military men and women of the Division of the People's Militia of the capital ceremoniously saluted them. Mr Khieu Samphan and Mr Ieng Sary cordially shook hands for photographers. Very moved, the military men and women expressed their particular pleasure in having had the opportunity to welcome the FUNK and GRUNK delegation to China as well as the representatives of their comrades-in-arms in the struggle. Boys and young women holding bouquets of flowers and multicoloured ribbons performed joyous dances and continuously shouted, "Welcome, welcome, warm welcome". Messrs Khieu Samphan and Ieng Sary continually waved their hands.

Also present at the event were: Messrs Keng Piao, Chief of the Department of International Liaison of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), Ki Peng Fei, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Li

Kiang, Minister of Foreign Trade, Lieou Siang-Ping, Minister of Public Health, Siao Kin-Kouang, Deputy Minister of National Defence, Li Ta, deputy head of State-Major General of the PLA in China, Lin Kioa-Tche and Hou Yu-Tche, members of the Permanent Committee of the National People's Assembly, Hen Nien-Long, Chen Kien, Han Tsong Tchen, Wang Hai-Hong, Tchang Tsong-Siun, Wei Po-Ting, Man Ning, Kong Tchao-Nien, Tchou Houei-Fen, Ting Siue-Song, Sie Li-Fou and Tcheou Jong-Kouo, the respective Heads of the Departments, Kang Mao-Tchao, Chinese Ambassador to Cambodia, and Lu Yi, President of the Revolutionary Committee of the Chinese-Cambodian peoples' friendship commune.

THE GRAND BANQUET IN PEKING IN HONOUR OF THE FUNK AND GRUNK DELEGATION

A.K.I. 2 April 1974

Yesterday evening, Mr Chou En-Lai, Prime Minister of the Council of Foreign Affairs, offered a grand banquet in honour of the FUNK and GRUNK delegation, led by the Deputy Prime Minister Khieu Samphan and Special Advisor Ieng Sary.

The banquet was also attended by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, President of FUNK, and Neak Monéang Monique Sihanouk, Samdech Penn Nouth, Prime Minister of GRUNK and President of the FUNK Central Committee Political Bureau, and his wife.

The members of FUNK, the Ministers of GRUNK, the members of the Royal Family and other Cambodians currently in Peking were also invited to the banquet.

Representing China were the leaders of the Party and the Government of China, including: Ye Kien-Ying, Li Sien Nien and his wife, Tchen Si-Lien, Wou Teh and Sou Tchen-Houa, as well as Messrs Keng Piao, Chief of the Department of International Liaison of the CC of the CCP, Ki Peng-Fei, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Li Kiang, Minister of External Trade, Lieou Sian-Ping, Minister of Public Health, Siao Kin-Kouang, Deputy Minister of National Defence, and Li Ta, deputy head of State-General Major of the PLA in China.

Also present were: members of the Permanent Committee of the National People's Assembly of China and the heads of the Departments of CC of the CCP, representatives of the Government, PLA of China, the Revolutionary Committee of the Municipality of Peking and the Association of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries.

Diplomatic envoys from various countries accredited in China also attended.

Prime Minister Chou En-Lai and Deputy Prime Minister Khieu Samphan gave speeches at the banquet.

The orchestra played the national anthem of the Royal Kingdom of Cambodia following the speech of Prime Minister Chou En-Lai and the China's national anthem following the speech of Deputy Prime Minister Khieu Samphan.

The banquet took place in a warm atmosphere marked by the solidarity in combat between the peoples of Kampuchea and China. The orchestra once again performed the Cambodian revolutionize songs, "the People's Armed Forces National Liberation Song" and "Cambodians from different nationalities, let's unite together under the FUNK flag", the song composed by

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, “Missing China”, and the Chinese revolutionary songs, “The Flowers of friendship are blossoming” and “March of Solidarity and Friendship”

SPEECH OF THE PRIME MINISTER CHOU EN-LAI TO THE BANQUET

A.K.I. 3 April 1974

On 1 April, Mr Chou En-Lai, Prime Minister of the Council of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China, gave a speech to the banquet, in honour of the FUNK and GRUNK delegation, led by Deputy Prime Minister Khieu Samphan, Chief of the delegation, and Special Advisor Ieng Sary, deputy head.

The entire speech is shown below:

Honourable Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and Madame Sihanouk,

Honourable Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth and Madame Penn Nouth,

Your Excellency Honourable Khieu Samphan, head of the delegation,

Your Excellency, Honourable Ieng Sary, Deputy head of the delegation,

Distinguished hosts of the FUNC and GRUNK delegation,

Friends and comrades,

At the invitation of the Chinese Government, the delegation of the United National Front and the Royal National Union Government of Cambodia – under the leadership of Deputy Prime Minister Khieu Samphan and deputy head Ieng Sary, Special Advisor – made an official friendly visit in our country. The delegation brought us good news on victories won by the Cambodian people in the war of resistance for national salvation in the war against American aggression and conveyed the deep feelings of friendship towards the Chinese people felt by our comrades-in-arms of the Front. We are more than happy about the visit. On behalf of the Government and the Chinese people, I express my warmest wishes of welcome and my high esteem to the Chief of the delegation, Khieu Samphan, deputy head of the delegation, Ieng Sary, and to the other distinguished hosts of the delegation.

Further, we are delighted that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Chief of the State of Cambodia, and Mrs Sihanouk, as well as Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth and Mrs Penn Nouth honour us with their presence at the banquet this evening. We would like to express our sincere gratitude towards them.

Four years ago, American imperialism shamelessly encouraged the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak gang to instigate a reactionary coup d’état and engaged in massive aggression against Cambodia. At this crucial moment where its homeland was in danger, the Cambodian people, without any hesitation, took up arms and united under the banner of the National United Front of Cambodia, under the leadership of the head of state, President Samdech Nordom Sihanouk. They engaged in a spontaneous war of resistance against for national salvation in the war against American aggression. During the four ensuing years, the brave Cambodian people – refusing to surrender to force, irrespective of their sacrifices, pursuing independence

and relying on their own efforts – persevered in the people's war and were successful in numerous, brilliant victories; they gained an excellent position. The People's National Liberation Armed Forces of Cambodia gained strength in the ravishes of war; closely tied to the masses, they fought with heroism, decimating large, strong enemy armies and freeing over 90 percent of the national territory inhabited by over 80 percent of the population of the country, firmly guaranteeing themselves control over the war. Since the beginning of the current dry season, they have started offensives on different battle fields, launched attacks against enemies lurking in Phnom Penh or in other points of support, and achieved triumphant victories. The people of China rejoice in, and are encouraged by, every single victory of our Cambodian brothers. We would like to take this opportunity to express our warmest congratulations.

Cambodia, which has only seven million inhabitants, has the courage to stand against the imperialism of America, described as a "superpower", winning victory after victory – this is an extraordinary event. This is further proof, therefore, made that "the people of a small country shall doubtlessly triumph over the aggression of a large country if it dares to stand up to the fight, take up arms and take the destiny of their country in their own hands." Your struggle has strongly motivated the oppressed nations and peoples of the entire world, setting a brilliant example for the revolutionary struggle of peoples everywhere against imperialism, and invaluable contributing to their struggle.

A just cause benefits from wide support, whereas an unjust cause finds little. The just struggle of the Cambodian people has received sympathy and support of peoples in the world right from the start. The Royal Government of the National Union of Cambodia, as the only legal government of the Cambodian people, has been recognized by a growing number of countries since its formation. It firmly stands alongside the countries of the Third World. This government and these Third World countries show mutual solidarity and support. Moreover, the former plays an active role and enjoys high prestige internationally.

Friends and comrades,

At the moment, the international situation strongly favours the revolutionary struggle of the peoples of the world against imperialism. The great upheavals throughout the world have driven the imperialists into chaos; at the same time, they have awakened the people and have prepared them for battle. They have also contributed to promoting the growing revolutionary struggle of peoples everywhere against imperialism. The struggle led by the countries of the Third World in Asia, Africa and Latin America against imperialism, hegemonism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and Zionism has further developed in depth and scope. The countries want independence, the nations want liberation, and the people want revolution. It has already become an irresistible trend in history. Faced with the rising waves of the anti-imperialist revolution of the peoples of the world, the two superpowers have uttered assertions left and right on the so-called "détente" in the vain attempt to dissimulate their true rivalry and to paralyse the combativeness of the peoples. However, numerous facts have long reduced their lies to smithereens. The revolutionary peoples give no credit to would-be "lasting peace" or "peace for a generation". As long as there is imperialism, revolution and war are inevitable. The whole world will always progress through violent upheavals.

In Indochina, the development of the situation is extremely encouraging. While important progress has been made in Cambodia towards national salvation in the war of resistance to American aggression, the Vietnamese and Lao peoples have continued to achieve victories in their just struggle. The signing of the Paris Agreement on Vietnam and the Vientiane Agreement on Laos have marked the beginning of a new

phase in the struggle led by the Vietnamese and Lao Peoples. Holding the flag of the conference high above the Indochinese peoples, that is, in unity and combat, the three Indochinese populations support and encourage each other, thus accelerating the development of their revolutionary cause. Certainly, they are still facing arduous tasks of combat. With the support of and instigated by the United States, the gang of puppets from Saigon continually violated the cease fire agreements, followed the "pacification" policy, launched military operations of "encroachment" and trampled on democratic liberties and rights of the South Vietnamese population, thus seriously breaching the Paris Agreement. The extreme rightwing forces in Vientiane still attempt to hinder the total compliance of the Vientiane Agreement. With regard to Cambodia, the United States continues to supply the traitor gang of Lon Nol with considerable military and economic assistance, and to send advisors and experts to save the wobbling puppet regime. Nevertheless, nothing can stop the advance of the Indochinese peoples. We are deep convinced that victory will be on the side of the three heroic Indochinese peoples.

The Chinese and Cambodian peoples are close comrades-in-arms and intimate brothers. They have always shown mutual sympathy and support, establishing a deep military friendship. China is a socialist country; we are proletarian internationalists. As President Mao has taught us: "The people who have triumphed in their own revolution should help those still struggling for liberation." In keeping with this teaching, we firmly support the just struggle of the Cambodian people. We firmly support the Five-Point Declaration of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, and FUNK's Political Programme reaffirmed by the National Congress of Cambodia held in 1973. The Chinese people stand firm with the Cambodian people; as in the past, they will support and assist the Cambodian people, with all their strength, in their fight for national salvation against American aggression until a total victory.

And now, I would like to make a toast.

To the great victories of the Cambodian people who are engaged in the war of resistance against American aggression and for national salvation,

To the great friendship and militant solidarity between the Chinese and Cambodian peoples,

To the great friendship and militant solidarity between the people of China and the people of Indochina.

To the health and long life of Her Majesty the Queen Sisowath Kossamak,

To the health of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia, and Mrs Sihanouk,

To the health of the Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth and Mrs Penn Nouth,

To the health of the head of the delegation, Khieu Samphan, and the deputy head of the delegation, Ieng Sary,

To the health of the high-ranking hosts, members of the delegation,

To the health of other Cambodian friends who are here today,

To the health of the Heads of the Diplomatic Mission and their wives who are here today, and

To the health of our comrades and friends attending this banquet!

PRESIDENT MAO TSE-TUNG MEETS THE FUNK AND GRUNK DELEGATION

A.K.I. 3 April 1974

Yesterday, President Mao Tse Tung met with the FUNK and GRUNK delegation currently on a formal friendly visit in the People's Republic of China. The delegation was led by Mr Khieu Samphan, member of the FUNK Central Committee Political Bureau, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of National Defence of GRUNK and Commander-in-Chief of FAPLNK, and Mr Ieng Sary, Special Advisory to the Deputy President of the GRUNK Council and deputy head of the delegation.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and President of FUNK, and Samdech Penn Nouth, President of the FUNK Central Committee Political Bureau and Prime Minister of GRUNK, participated in the meeting.

Also present on this occasion were Messrs Chou En-Lai, Chinese Prime Minister, Wang Hong-Wen, Vice President, and Wang Hai-Long, Ministerial Aide, and others.

President Mao Tse Tung exchanged a long handshake with each of the Cambodian hosts, wishing them a warm welcome. Deputy Prime Minister Khieu Samphan said, "All the fighters and all the Cambodian high-ranking officials in the country have charged me with wishing President Mao good health, thanking him, the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people for their support to the Cambodian people in their struggle for national independence."

The meeting, which began at 9 in the morning, finished at 10:40. It took place in a warm atmosphere, filled with cordiality, friendship and militant solidarity.