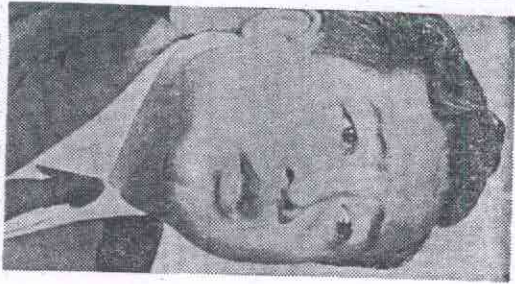


Radio Hoax Suspected in Laos



PRINCE SIHANOUK
... voice is similar

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—A radio station that claims to speak for exiled Cambodian Prince Norodom Sihanouk but which actually undercuts the former chief of state is part of a psychological war being waged against the Communists in Cambodia.

On several occasions, according to Khmer-speakers who have monitored the transmitter's broadcasts, a man pretending to be Sihanouk has given a nearly perfect imitation of the prince's high-pitched speechmaking. Well-informed sources suspect that the station is lo-

ated in southern Laos inside a secret paramilitary camp run by the Central Intelligence Agency.

The radio station calls itself the voice of Sihanouk's United National Front of Kampuchea, or FUNK. It dedicates much of its three-hour-long broadcasts daily to violent attacks on Marshal Lon Nol, Cambodia's prime minister, and members of his cabinet.

But when the speakers are not engaged in antigovernment tongue-lashing, they mouth slogans and statements aimed at portraying Sihanouk as a puppet prince manipulated by foreign Communists.

Thus, the station's programs wind up with the statement that the voice of FUNK is "commanded by Prince Norodom Sihanouk and governed by the thoughts of Chairman Mao Tse-tung." Sihanouk has been in Peking since his ouster from power 16 months ago.

On one occasion, the listeners report, the phony Sihanouk went on the air to urge Cambodian girls living in Hanoi controlled regions to sleep with North Viet-

namese and Vietcong soldiers. Another statement broadcast by the bogus prince accepted responsibility for damage inflicted upon the temple of Angkor Wat in fighting earlier this year. The North Vietnamese soldiers who caused the damage, the statement said, were mere youngsters who did not know how deeply the Khmers venerate the ruined temples and were unaware of their priceless historic value.