

# Sihanouk Sets Up Rival Government

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HONG KONG, May 5—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, exiled former Cambodian Chief of State, announced in Peking today the formation of a new government.

The new regime was promptly recognized by Communist China as the legal government of Cambodia.

A proclamation issued by Prince Sihanouk declared the new government "ready to make all sacrifices for achieving final victory over the American imperialists and their lackeys, the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique"—a reference to Premier Lon Nol and the First Deputy Premier, Prince Sisowath Sirik Matak.

The proclamation said the

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foreign policy of the new regime would be one of "national independence, peace, neutrality and nonalignment."

Prince Sihanouk's announcement was relayed here tonight in a dispatch from Hsinhua, the Chinese Communist press agency.

The establishment of the new regime and its prompt recognition by Peking are taken here as signifying the strong backing that Communist China is prepared to give the Sihanouk forces in their efforts to regain control of Cambodia.

Formation of the government increased speculation here that Communist forces in Cambodia hope to soon establish a secure zone in the kingdom in which the Sihanouk regime can install itself.

The new regime was proclaimed under the leadership of the National United Front of Kampuchea, a recently formed organization headed by Prince Sihanouk. [In Peking, Prince Sihanouk said the united front included Communists, Agence France-Presse reported.]

Penn Nouth, the aged former Premier of Cambodia, who has been the chief political counsellor to Prince Sihanouk since the Prince was overthrown on March 18, was named Premier in the new government. Sarin Chhak, former Cambodian Ambassador to Cairo, was made Foreign Minister. The two men, together with 10 other ministers named by Prince Sihanouk, are with him in Peking.

## Cuts Ties With Pnompenh

Recognition of the new government by Communist China was conveyed in a letter from Premier Chou En-lai to Prince Sihanouk. The letter said that the Chinese Government simultaneously "severs all diplomatic relations already long severed with the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak rightist traitorous clique and will withdraw the Chinese diplomatic mission, personnel and experts from Pnompenh."

Mr. Chou's letter, reported here in a Hsinhua dispatch, said establishment of the new government "marks a new historical stage in the Cambodian people's patriotic struggle against United States imperialism." It said the Chinese Government was convinced that the new regime, "persevering in armed and protracted struggle will surely win complete victory in its patriotic struggle against United States imperialism."

Prompt recognition of the new Sihanouk government by North Vietnam and the Vietcong's provisional revolutionary government in South Vietnam was expected. North Korea was also expected to accord quick recognition.

Other ministers in the new regime are Chau Seng, minister for special missions; Chan Youran, popular education and youth; Dr. Ngo Hou, public health and religious and social affairs; Thiounn Mumm, economy and finance; Khieu Samphan, national defense; Maj. Gen. Duong Sam Ol, military equipment and armament; Hu Nim, information and propaganda; Huo Sambath, public works, telecommunications and reconstruction; Hon Yuon, interior, communal reforms and cooperatives; and Chea San, justice and judicial reforms.

The proclamation by Prince Sihanouk said the mission of his new government was to execute the program of the national united front, that is, to unite all Cambodians to fight against "the American imperialists" and overthrow "the dictatorship of their valets headed by Lon Nol-Sirik Matak" and after complete victory build an "independent, peaceful, neutral, democratic and prosperous Cambodia."

A political program issued by Prince Sihanouk and distributed tonight by Hsinhua called for the creation and strengthening of a national liberation army "to destroy to the maximum the enemy armed forces and expand the liberated areas." The program called on regular Cambodian Army units to "coordinate their actions with those of the liberation army in striking at the American imperialists and their flunkies."