

CAMBODIA'S RULERS STRESS CHINA TIES

NY Times

Thank North Vietnamese and North Koreans for Support —Soviet Not Mentioned

BANGKOK, Thailand, May 11 (AP) — The new Government of Cambodia today stressed its strong ties with China and thanked North Vietnam and North Korea for their support in "defeating the U.S. imperialists."

"The victory of the Cambodian people is the same as the victory of the Chinese," the Phnom Penh radio said in a broadcast monitored here.

"The strategic unity between Cambodia and China, which is the base of our friendship, will last forever," the broadcast said. "We warmly respect each other's cause both internally and internationally."

The broadcast made no mention of the Soviet Union.

China Provided Most Arms

China provided most of the army and other military support for the insurgent army in its five-year war and also harbored the government in exile of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who has lived in Peking since he was ousted as Cambodian chief of state in 1970.

Although there are reported to be pro-Soviet factions in Cambodia, it appears that Chinese-oriented leaders have gained ascendancy in the new Government.

Accounts by Western witnesses say that the Soviet Embassy building in Phnom Penh was sacked by the Cambodian Communists and virtually every item in the building was either destroyed or taken away.

The Russians had maintained a caretaker status in Phnom Penh after most of the embassy staff left the capital in late 1973.

Reports Many Pardons

The radio broadcast also said a "great number" of high-ranking officers and officials of the former government had been pardoned, although the top leaders — designated as the "seven traitors" by the Cambodian Communists — were marked for execution. Only two of the seven remained in Cambodia after the insurgent vic-

tory last month—Premier Long Boret and a former premier, Sisowath Sirik Matak. Their fate is unknown.

The broadcast said that the country's seven million people, the armed forces and "95 per cent of the peasants" were working to rebuild Cambodia.

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ASEAN Seeks Peace Zone

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, May 11 (UPI)—Senior officials from five non-Communist nations met here today to draft a plan for a neutral Southeast Asian peace zone, free of defense pacts with major powers and Communist nations of Indochina.

Conference sources said that the Association of Southeast Asian Nations hoped to have a final plan ready for adoption by their foreign ministers, who begin a three-day conference Tuesday.

The non-Communist nations of ASEAN include Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Singapore. Four years ago they declared their determination to create a neutral zone that would include North and South Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Burma and the ASEAN members.

The sources said that the new plan would require members to be free of foreign military bases and would prohibit the nations from having defense pacts with outside powers. Existing bases would be accepted as temporary arrangements to be phased out.

The guidelines would require the members to renounce the use of force against each other and agree to procedures for the peaceful settlement of disputes. Steps to resolve any violations of principles by outside nations are being considered, the sources said.

Sihanouk Comments on Ties

PEKING, May 11 (Agence France-Presse)—Prince Sihanouk said here today that relations between the new authorities in Phnom Penh and Japan and the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations would be normalized only when those nations leave the American imperialist camp.

In a telegram addressed to the director of the Cambodian-Japanese Friendship Association, the text of which was published here, Prince Sihanouk said that a wide division separated the two sides.

It will be bridged, he said, only when these countries have stopped being pro-imperialist and have become truly third-world countries, if not nonaligned.

Writing in the name of the Royal Government of Khmer National Union, the National Front for Khmer Union and the People's Armed Forces for the National Liberation of Cambodia, Prince Sihanouk said that he hoped to see Japan linked with revolutionary movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America.