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Prince Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia speaking at a news conference here yesterday upon his arrival from Paris. Keat Choon, of Cambodia's political bureau, is at right.

Sihanouk Arrives for Address at U.N.

By IVER PETERSON

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's titular head of state, arrived in New York yesterday and said that he would not "assume the responsibility of government" in Phnom Penh but that neither would he become the "roving ambassador" that Western diplomats have speculated would be his chief role under the new Communist regime.

Accompanied by his wife, Princess Monique, the Prince arrived at Kennedy International Airport from Paris on the last leg of his trip to the United Nations Assembly, where he will speak Monday.

At a crowded news conference at the airport, Prince Sihanouk rose halfway from his seat to answer a question on his present role in Phnom Penh:

"The Government is controlled by the people," he said in English. "They deserve to lead the Government, so I do not assume the responsibility of Government. But I am not an ambassador, I am Chief of State. You have many countries, like Great Britain and Italy, where the heads of state do not rule the state, they are symbols of government. So you must not be surprised that I am president of Cambodia, that I am the head of state, but that Cambodia is ruled by the people and not by the head of state."

There had been speculation in the West that Prince Sihanouk's role would be limited to that of traveling spokesman for Cambodia's interests while real power would remain in

the hands of the political and military leaders who wrested power from Marshal Lon Nol in April.

The Prince asserted that after a week's stay in New York—his fifth American visit—he would travel to countries that had supported the Cambodian Communists during their drive for power. He said he would visit North Korea, then "make a big tour of Africa. After that, I will return to Cambodia."

Would he stay there permanently, he was asked.

"My place is not in foreign countries," he replied. "My place is in Cambodia."

The Prince was ousted as Cambodia's ruler in the spring of 1970, and lived in exile in Peking before returning to Phnom Penh Sept. 9.