

OCT 13 1975
SIHANOUK EXPECTS

NO SOVIET TIE SOON

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Cambodia has decided on a slow timetable for resuming diplomatic relations with other countries, and plans to restore ties with the Soviet Union in two years, according to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the country's titular head of state.

After reviving diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, Cambodia will exchange ambassadors with France, and then with the United States sometime after that, Prince Sihanouk said in an interview with Time magazine's diplomatic editor, Jerrold Schecter.

Prince Sihanouk acknowledged in the interview, published in the magazine's current issue, that his role in the Cambodian Government was now ceremonial. "Like Queen Elizabeth, I am the symbol of the nation," he said. The Prince was visiting in New York to address the United Nations General Assembly.

Describing the Soviet Union and the Eastern European countries as "friends of the 22d hour," Prince Sihanouk said "they did not support us during the war." He said France was a "friend of the 23d hour," and the United States "will be our friend of the 25th hour."