

Sihanouk Bars a Truce With Lon Nol

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Washington, April 10 - Prince Norodom Sihanouk has declared in a speech in Hanoi that the insurgent groups in Cambodia would under no circumstances accept a cease-fire with the Government of President Lon Nol.

The Prince, who was deposed as Cambodia's chief of state in March, 1970, asserted also that North Vietnam and China had already supplied the anti-Lon Nol forces with enough weapons to keep on fighting until 1975.

The speech was given yesterday at a reception in Hanoi honoring Prince Sihanouk after his reported trip to Cambodia, and was broadcast today by the Hanoi radio, which was monitored here. The Lon Nol Government has expressed doubt that Prince Sihanouk visited areas of Cambodia controlled by the insurgent forces, and the State Department said today it was unable to confirm or deny that he had made such a visit.

At the reception, the North Vietnamese Premier, Phan Van Dong, hailed Prince Sihanouk as "the holder of the legality, authenticity and continuity of the Cambodian state." The Premier's speech was also broadcast by the Hanoi radio.

Prince Sihanouk said he had found during the month he spent in Cambodia a unity and solidarity among the various insurgent groups.

The "cement" for this solidarity among the insurgent groups, he said, is the political program of the Communist-led National United Front of Cambodia.

Throughout his speech, Prince Sihanouk repeatedly challenged suggestions that the insurgent groups were divided and unable to present a common front against the Lon Nol Government in Phnom Penh. Such a suggestion [was] repeated today by Marshall Green, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs, who contended in a speech before the Overseas Writers Club that the insurgents were divided into three distinct groups.

The largest, he said, is a group whose leadership was trained in North Vietnam. He said the others were the Khmer Rouge, an indigenous Communist group that is anti-Sihanouk in outlook, and the Khmer Rumbah, which is oriented toward Peking and Prince Sihanouk. Mr. Green described this as the smallest of the three.

[Complete.]