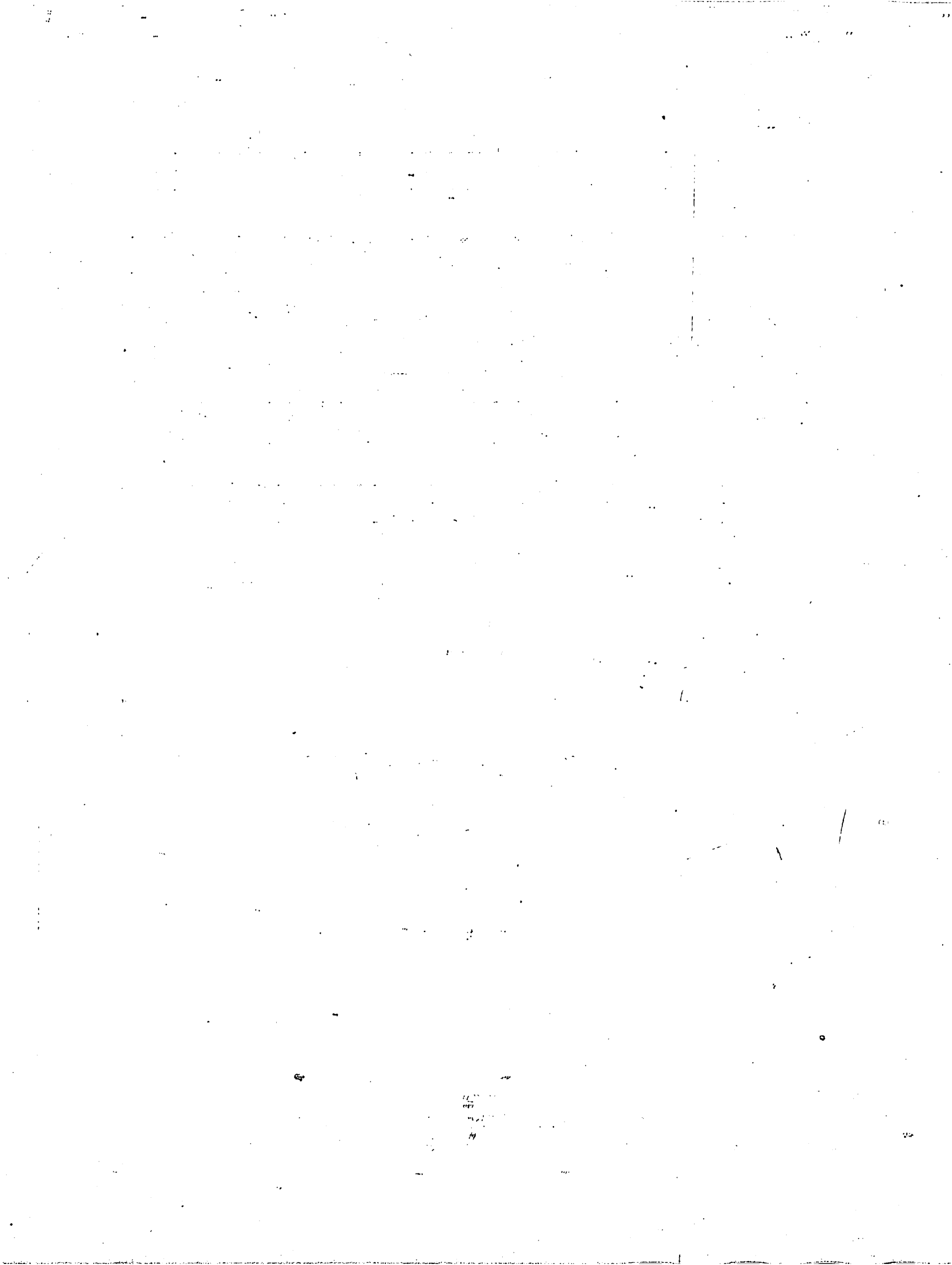


**THE CHINESE PEOPLE
WARMLY CONGRATULATE
THE GREAT VICTORIES
OF THE CAMBODIAN AND
THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLES**

Special Supplement to CHINA RECONSTRUCTS



Message of Congratulation from Chinese Party and State Leaders on the Complete Liberation of Phnom Penh

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk,

Head of State and Chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia,

Samdech Penn Nouth,

Chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front and Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia,

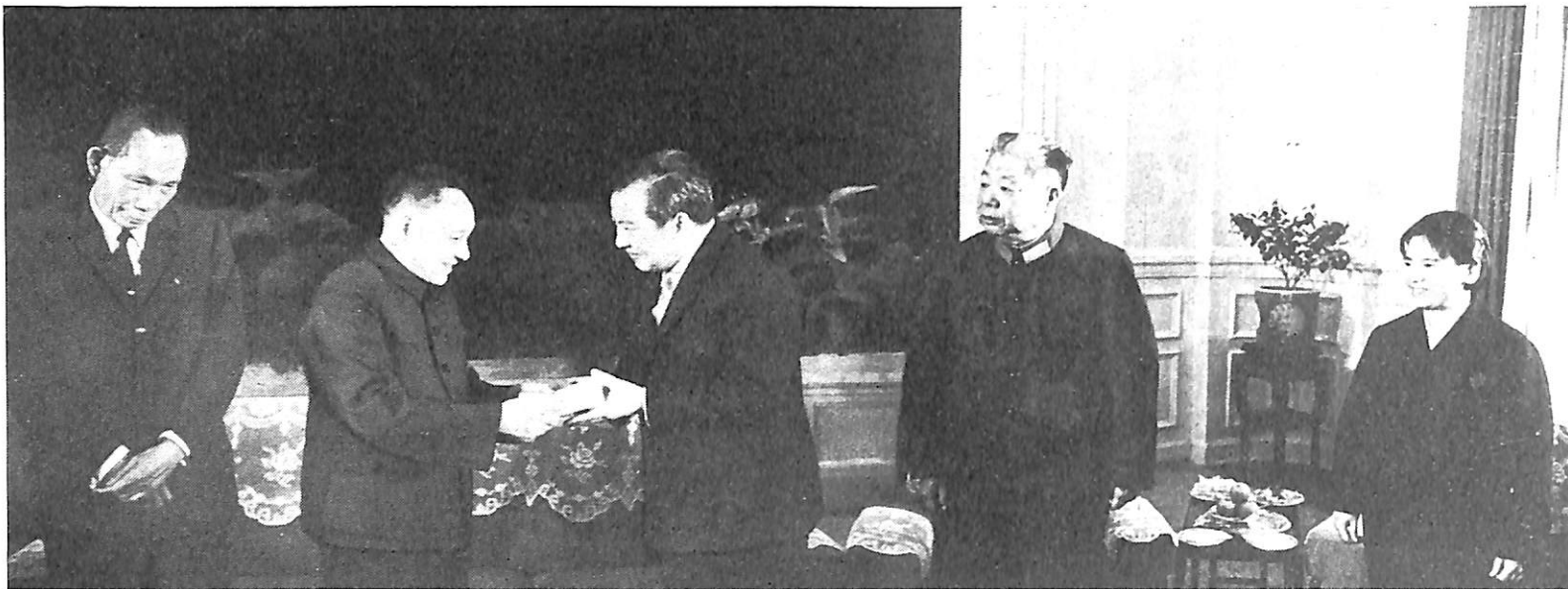
His Excellency Mr. Khieu Samphan,

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense of the Royal Government of National Union and Commander-in-Chief of the People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia,

Phnom Penh is now completely liberated by the People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia in their mighty offensive. People are overjoyed and inspired by the tidings of victory. On behalf of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese government and people, we extend our warmest congratulations and highest esteem to you, to the National United Front of Cambodia, the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, the heroic People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia and the entire Cambodian people.

Five years ago, U.S. imperialism engineered the reactionary coup d'etat by the traitorous Lon Nol clique and even brazenly sent troops into Cambodia in a vain attempt to turn an independent, peaceful and neutral Cambodia into its colony. Defying brute force, the Cambodian people, who have a glorious revolutionary tradition of combating imperialism, rose up in arms and, rallying around the National United Front of Cambodia with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its Chairman, fought bravely and stubbornly for five whole years and finally won the decisive victory in their war of national liberation after overcoming numerous difficulties. This great victory scored by the Cambodian people through armed struggle is another eloquent proof that, firmly following a correct road, a weak nation can certainly defeat a strong one, and a small nation can certainly defeat a big one.

The unyielding revolutionary spirit and dauntless heroism displayed by the Cambodian people in the long years of armed struggle have set a brilliant example for the revolutionary people of the world and won admiration and praise from the people of all countries. The great victory of the Cambodian people not only constitutes an important contribution to the anti-imperialist struggle of the Indochinese peoples but is also a powerful encouragement and stimulus to the revolutionary struggle of all the oppressed nations and oppressed peoples of the world.



On April 18 Chinese leaders Teng Hsiao-ping, Chen Hsi-lien and Li Su-wen called at the Mansion of the Head of State of Cambodia and delivered to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Prime Minister Penn Nouth a message addressed to them and Deputy Prime Minister Khieu Samphan signed jointly on April 17 by Chairman Mao Tsetung, Chairman Chu Teh and Premier Chou En-lai extending their warmest congratulations on the complete liberation of Phnom Penh. While there they extended warmest congratulations to the heroic Cambodian people on behalf of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese government and the Chinese people.

The Chinese and Cambodian peoples are very close brothers. Sympathizing with, encouraging and supporting each other throughout the long anti-imperialist struggle, our two peoples have forged a profound militant friendship. The Chinese people heartily rejoice over the victory of the Cambodian people as they would their own. The fraternal Cambodian people may rest assured that the Chinese people will for ever stand by you and march forward with you in the struggle ahead.

The liberation of Phnom Penh marks the beginning of a new historical stage in Cambodia's struggle for national liberation. We are certain that under the banner of the National United Front of Cambodia with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its Chairman, the Cambodian people, strengthening the great unity of the entire nation and people and carrying on their valiant struggle, will keep on winning new and greater victories. Cambodia will emerge with a new visage in the East.

Mao Tsetung

Chairman of the Central Committee of
the Communist Party of China

Chu Teh

Chairman of the Standing Committee
of the National People's Congress of the
People's Republic of China

Chou En-lai

Premier of the State Council of the
People's Republic of China

Peking, April 17, 1975

Speeches at the Grand Rally Celebrating the Liberation of Phnom Penh

Well over 10,000 people in the Chinese capital gathered at a grand rally in the Great Hall of the People on April 19, 1975 to celebrate the liberation of Phnom Penh. Sponsored by the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee, the rally was addressed by Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of National Defense, and Samdech Penn Nouth, Chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Cambodia and Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.

Vice-Chairman Yeh Chien-ying's Speech

Respected Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth and
Mme. Penn Nouth,

Respected Vice-President Kim Dong Gyu of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Respected Vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Comrades and friends,

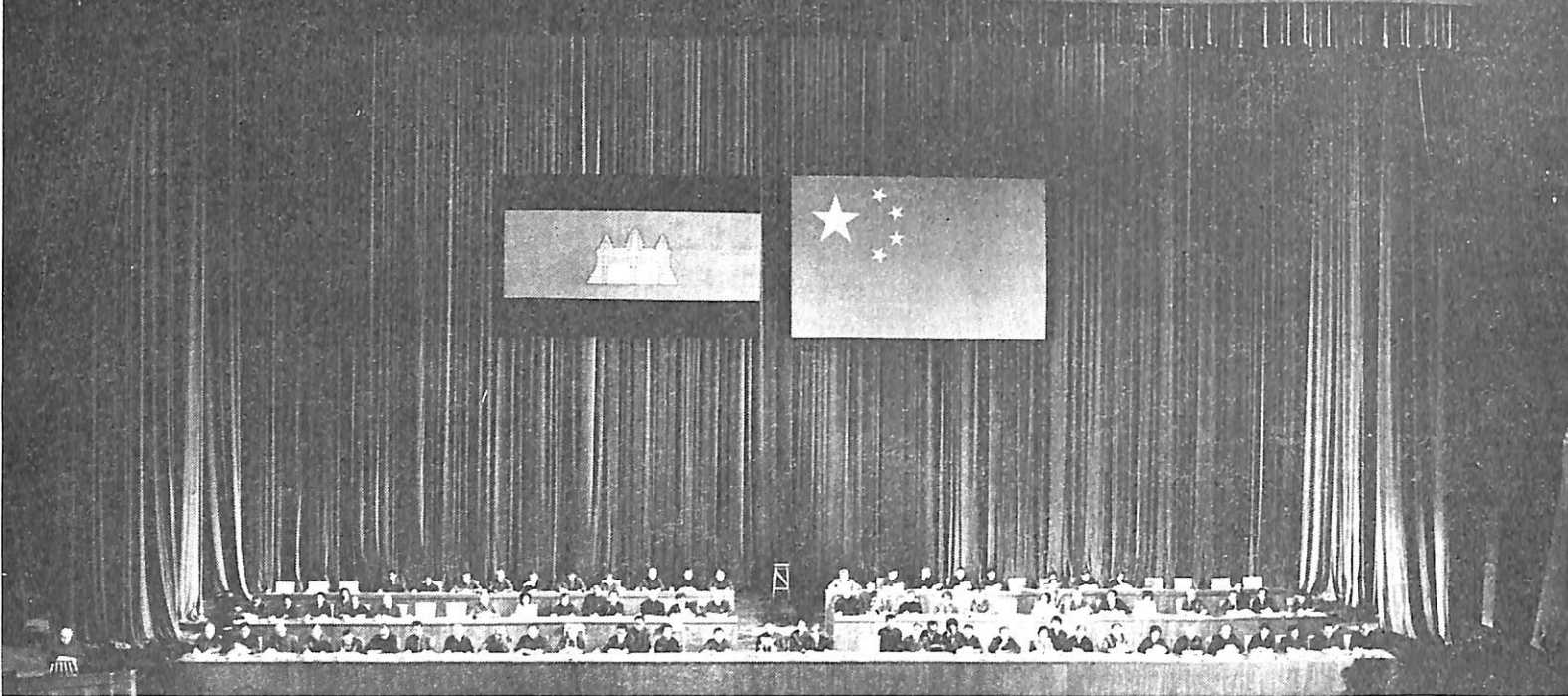
The heroic People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia have victoriously liberated Phnom Penh. Today at this grand rally people from all walks of life in our capital, gathered with boundless elation and joy, warmly hail this great historic victory of the Cambodian people. At this moment of jubilation over the victory, allow me, on behalf of the Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung, the Communist Party of China and the Chinese government and people, to extend our warmest fraternal congratulations to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Prime Minister Penn Nouth and Deputy Prime Minister Khieu Samphan, to the National United Front and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, to the brave and capable People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia and to the heroic Cambodian people.

The Cambodian people have a glorious tradition of combating imperialism and colonialism. They have waged a protracted and unyielding struggle to defend their motherland's independence and national dignity. Engineering the reactionary coup d'etat by the traitorous Lon Nol clique and brazenly sending troops to invade Cambodia in 1970, U.S. imperialism unilaterally violated the independence, peace and neutrality of

Cambodia in a vain attempt to turn Cambodia into its colony. The U.S. imperialist aggression and intervention roused the Cambodian people to blazing anger and indignation. Defying brute force, the Cambodian people rose up in arms and, rallying around the banner of the National United Front of Cambodia with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its Chairman, vigorously waged a just war to resist U.S. aggression and punish the traitorous Lon Nol clique. The People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia — the Cambodian people's own army — have expanded and grown in strength amidst the flames of war. In the past five years the patriotic army men and civilians of Cambodia have successively frustrated the invasions of U.S. aggressor troops and Saigon puppet troops, bravely combated wanton bombings by the U.S. air force and dealt devastating blows to the Lon Nol puppet troops, compelling them to retreat in panic and despair. From the beginning of this year, the people's armed forces, with dauntless revolutionary spirit and the force of a thunderbolt, launched a fierce general offensive on Phnom Penh and the few remaining isolated cities. Pressing on irresistibly, they destroyed large numbers of enemy effectives and finally liberated Phnom Penh on April 17, winning the decisive victory of the national liberation war. The traitorous Lon Nol clique rigged up by U.S. imperialism totally collapsed and was swept onto the garbage heap of history by the Cambodian people. The Cambodian people's struggle for national liberation has now entered a new historical stage.

The great victory of the war of people's national liberation of the Cambodian people is an event of major international significance. The staunch rev-

首都人民庆祝柬埔寨人民解放金边大会 ប្រជាជនទីក្រុងប៉េកាំងសម្រាប់ការសម្រេចបាននូវការប្រដាប់អាវុធប្រឆាំងនឹងរដ្ឋប្រហារស្តីប្រល័យជនជាតិខ្មែរនៅភ្នំពេញ



Presidium of the grand rally held by the people of Peking on April 19 to celebrate the liberation of Phnom Penh.

olutionary spirit and dauntless heroism displayed by the Cambodian armymen and civilians in their long war of resistance have won the admiration and praise of the people throughout the world. The practice of the Cambodian people's struggle forcefully bears out Chairman Mao Tsetung's wise dictum in his May 20, 1970 statement that "a weak nation can defeat a strong, a small nation can defeat a big. The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country, if only they dare to rise in struggle, dare to take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country. This is a law of history." The victory of the people's war in Cambodia has set a brilliant example for the people of all countries in their struggle to resist foreign aggression and defend national independence. It is providing not only an impetus to the further development of the excellent situation in Indochina as a whole, but also a powerful encouragement to the revolutionary struggles of all oppressed nations and oppressed peoples.

That the Cambodian people have, within five years, achieved the liberation of their motherland and scored such a great victory is because the patriotic armymen and civilians of Cambodia have followed a correct line. Adhering to the principles of independence, initiative and self-reliance and persisting in the road of armed struggle, they have mobilized the masses, relied on the masses, established and upheld the national united front, united all forces that can be united with, and achieved a great unity of the whole nation and people. It is inseparable, too, from the widespread sympathy and support of the people of all countries, and especially that of the third world countries which are growing in strength. The Cam-

bodian people's victory is also a common victory of the people of all countries.

Imperialism and its lackeys always overestimate their own strength and underestimate the strength of the people. U.S. imperialism thought that it could put down the people's struggle for liberation and wilfully decide the fate of other countries by relying on its dollars and guns and hiring and maintaining a handful of lackeys. It swaggered and blustered like anything five years ago when it engineered the reactionary coup d'etat in Cambodia. But, under the heavy blows of the Cambodian people, it did not take long before its lackeys toppled one after another, and U.S. imperialism itself was driven from Cambodia. Facts again prove that it is not imperialism and its lackeys but the people who are really powerful. Cambodia belongs to the Cambodian people and not to imperialism and its lackeys.

The victory of Cambodia's national-liberation war has also put a superpower in a most awkward position. Five years ago, at the critical juncture when Cambodia's national existence was in peril, this superpower sided and fraternized with the traitorous Lon Nol clique, calling Cambodia's traitor No. 1, Lon Nol, by the flattering term of "president" and maintaining diplomatic relations all along with the bogus regime in Phnom Penh. On the other hand, it referred to the Royal Government of National Union — the sole legal government of Cambodia — as a government "in exile" and refused to recognize Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as the Head of State. But now five years later, when nationwide victory appeared imminent for the Cambodian people's just war of national salvation, this superpower made an about-face and struck up a

different tune, trying to describe itself as a friend "who was, is and will always be with the Khmer people in their just struggle". Its clumsy performance on the Cambodian question can deceive nobody but will only enable people to see more clearly that it is social-imperialism.

Comrades and friends,

At present, the international situation is excellent. In their contention for world hegemony, the two superpowers have perpetrated aggression, interference or subversion everywhere and committed all sorts of evil and foul deeds, thus arousing the people of the world to ever stronger resistance and becoming tightly besieged by them. The struggle against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism is mounting throughout the world. Beset with troubles at home and abroad, the two hegemonic powers have long been in the plight as described by the verse, "Flowers fall off, do what one may".

We hail the great victories of the south Vietnamese armymen and civilians in their fight to severely punish the Nguyen Van Thieu clique for its crimes of violating the Paris agreement. We firmly support the Vietnamese people in their just struggle.

We firmly support the Lao people in their just struggle for the thorough implementation of the Vientiane agreement.

We firmly support the Korean people in their just struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of their fatherland free from foreign interference.

We firmly support the Arab people in their just struggle against superpower interference and Israeli aggression and expansion and for the recovery of the lost territories and the restoration of the Palestinian people's national rights.

We firmly support the people in southern Africa in their just struggle for national liberation and against white racist rule.

We firmly support the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America and of all countries in their just struggle against superpower aggression, subversion, control, interference or bullying.

Comrades and friends,

China and Cambodia are very cordial neighbors, and our two peoples are near and dear to each other like brothers. Sympathizing with and supporting each other throughout the protracted struggle against imperialism, our two peoples have forged a profound revolutionary friendship. The great victory of the Cambodian people is a powerful support and a great encouragement to the Chinese people's revolutionary cause. In the years to come, the Chinese government and people will, as always, continue to perform our internationalist duty and render resolute support to the Cambodian people's just struggle to liquidate the remnant forces of the lackeys of imperialism and defend their national independence and state sovereignty. We are convinced that the Cambodian people, persevering in unity and in struggle under the banner of the National United Front of Cambodia, will surmount all difficulties and obstacles on their road of advance and continue to win new and still greater successes. The militant friendship and great unity of the Chinese and Cambodian peoples will certainly grow stronger and develop further in the new historical stage.

Long live the great victory of the war of people's national liberation of the Cambodian people!

Long live the great friendship and militant unity of the Chinese and Cambodian peoples!

The meeting hall.



Prime Minister Penn Nouth's Speech

Your Excellency Wang Hung-wen, respected and beloved Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China,

Your Excellency Yeh Chien-ying, respected and beloved Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of National Defense of the People's Republic of China,

Your Excellency Teng Hsiao-ping, respected and beloved Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Vice-Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China,

Your Excellency Wu Teh, respected and beloved Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee,

Your excellencies respected and beloved Chinese leaders,

Your Excellency Kim Dong Gyu, respected and beloved Vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Your Excellency Pak Sung Chul, respected and beloved Vice-Premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Your excellencies, respected and beloved heads of diplomatic missions, ladies and gentlemen,

Respected and beloved Chinese brothers and sisters,

First of all, allow me, on behalf of the Cambodian people, the National United Front of Cambodia, the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and the People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia, to express our heartfelt thanks to your respected and beloved excellencies, to the ladies and gentlemen and friends who are attending this grand rally of the people of Peking organized by the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee to celebrate the liberation of Phnom Penh by the Cambodian people, and express our thanks to His Excellency Yeh Chien-ying for his eloquent words overflowing with revolutionary fraternity for the Cambodian nation and people.

This rally is a new vivid testimony to the militant unity and fraternal friendship between the Cambodian and Chinese peoples, a new testimony to the manifold support and aid accorded by the fraternal Chinese people to the Cambodian people's struggle from its beginning to complete victory against the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys the traitorous clique.

Under the overwhelming offensive launched by the Cambodian people and PAFNLC in the dry season, U.S. imperialism, who is the boss of the traitorous clique, fled from Phnom Penh on April 12, 1975, after wreaking havoc on our beloved motherland Cambodia and committing the most savage crimes against our nation and people for more than five years. This constitutes the proof of the thorough defeat of the U.S. imperialist war of aggression in Cambodia.

At half past nine, April 17, 1975, our revolutionary army completely liberated Phnom Penh, the last den of the traitorous clique.

Thus, the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys were at last completely crushed by the Cambodian people and the PAFNLC after our armymen and civilians, our NUFC and our RGNLC, waged a heroic, resolute and arduous fight over five years and one month.

This inspiring and brilliant victory is the greatest victory in the history of several thousand years of the Cambodian people and nation.

This victory is due to the correct political line followed firmly and constantly by the Cambodian people, the PAFNLC, NUFC and RGNLC under a correct leadership and their position of independence, sovereignty, and being master of their own destiny, daring to surmount all sorts of difficulties, daring to undergo all sacrifices and daring to wage a protracted war without retreat, compromise or negotiations for genuine national independence, peace, neutrality, non-alignment and territorial integrity. This glorious page in the history of Cambodia has been written with the blood and sweat of the heroic Cambodian people.

At the same time, this great victory is due to the union and complete unity of the Cambodian people and nation in their struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys — a unity from

the viewpoint of conception, position, line and action under the ever-victorious banner of the NUFC with Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as its Chairman. Through all sorts of tests and the tempest of the war of people's national liberation of the Cambodian people, this union and this unity have been reinforced and developed until complete victory, and will grow stronger and develop further in the future.

This historic victory of the Cambodian people, of the PAFNLC, NUFC and RGNUC is won with their own blood and sweat, but also with the support of all people who love peace and justice and of all friendly countries in the world. In particular, it is inseparable from the manifold assistance in all fields rendered by the great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung, the Communist Party of China, the Chinese people and the Chinese government with His Excellency Chou En-lai as its Premier.

The Cambodian people, the PAFNLC, NUFC and RGNUC will never forget Chairman Mao Tsetung's solemn statement of May 20, 1970, which affirms that Chairman Mao Tsetung, the Chinese people, the Communist Party of China and the Chinese government firmly support the Cambodian people, the PAFNLC, NUFC and RGNUC in their struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the traitorous clique.

In our just struggle for people's national liberation, the Cambodian people, the PAFNLC, NUFC and RGNUC have always, whether circumstances were favorable or not, and however the situation might change, received many-sided support materially, politically and morally from Chairman Mao Tsetung, Premier Chou En-lai, the Chinese people, the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese government. In the five years and one month of the war of people's national liberation of the Cambodian people, the militant unity and fraternal friendship between the Cambodian and Chinese peoples have grown stronger and developed in all aspects. The People's Republic of China, which is a large country with a population of 800 million, has rendered Cambodia, a small country with a population of only 7 million, sincere and unconditional support while abiding by the principle of mutual equality and respecting the sovereignty and dignity of the Cambodian nation and people. The friendship between the Cambodian and Chinese peoples is based on the most correct principles and sincere unity. This is a brilliant example in relations between nations of the world.

The great victory won by the Cambodian people, the PAFNLC, NUFC and RGNUC clearly bears out Chairman Mao Tsetung's following dictum: "The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country, if only they dare to rise in

struggle, dare to take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country."

Therefore, we regard the complete liberation of Phnom Penh on April 17, 1975 as a victory of the fraternal Chinese people, just as the Cambodian people regard the victories achieved by the Chinese people in their socialist construction as our own.

Not long ago, Chairman Mao Tsetung reaffirmed that the fraternal Cambodian people may rest assured that the Chinese people will for ever stand by you and march forward with you in the struggles ahead. We are overjoyed at this. We are convinced that the Cambodian people and the fraternal Chinese people will, as before, continue to achieve common splendid victories.

With these sentiments, I wish to extend once again to His Excellency Chairman Mao Tsetung, His Excellency Premier Chou En-lai, the Chinese people, the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese government the deepest and warmest thanks of the Cambodian people, the PAFNLC, NUFC and RGNUC. We are firmly convinced that the militant unity and fraternal friendship between the Cambodian and Chinese peoples will grow stronger and develop continuously.

I would like to take this solemn occasion to express our heartfelt thanks to the people and governments of all friendly countries and all people who love peace and justice for their support to the Cambodian people's just cause.

The Cambodian people will continue to support all nations and peoples in the world, and particularly the Palestinian people and the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, in their just war for national liberation against all forms of aggression by imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, until complete victory is won.

I would like to express my deep thanks to His Excellency Wang Hung-wen, His Excellency Yeh Chien-ying, His Excellency Teng Hsiao-ping, His Excellency Wu Teh, other leaders of the Party and government of the People's Republic of China and the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee which has kindly organized this grand rally. I would like to thank the heads of the diplomatic missions for attending this rally. I would like to convey my greetings to the people of Peking, who are taking part in this rally in great numbers.

Long live the great historic victory of the Cambodian people's war of people's national liberation!

Long live the militant unity and fraternal friendship between the Cambodian and Chinese peoples!

A Great Historic Victory

—Warmly greeting the liberation of Phnom Penh by the patriotic Cambodian people and their armed forces

Renmin Ribao Editorial, April 18, 1975

WITH the momentum of a landslide and like a whirlwind sweeping away wisps of clouds, the patriotic Cambodian people and their armed forces liberated Phnom Penh on April 17, 1975. As the Cambodian people's armed forces marched in, the enemy fled in disorder, and the people raised thunderous cheers. Opposed by the people and deserted by their followers, the traitorous Lon Nol clique was totally overthrown. The liberation of Phnom Penh and the decisive victory of the Cambodian people's just war for national salvation is a brilliant page in the annals of Cambodia's struggle for national liberation. It marks the beginning of a new historical stage in the revolutionary struggle of the Cambodian people. This great victory is another great event of far-reaching historical significance for Asia in the period after World War II. It is a great encouragement to the revolutionary struggle of the oppressed nations and oppressed peoples the world over. With boundless joy, the Chinese people extend their warmest congratulations and highest respects to the great and heroic Cambodian people.

The verdict of history is merciless. When the traitorous Lon Nol clique staged the coup under U.S. instigation five years ago, they were so inordinately arrogant and unbridled that they thought they could swallow up the whole of Cambodia at one go. At that time, U.S. imperialism disbursed large amounts of money to aid this clique, rushed arms to it and even flagrantly dispatched troops to invade Cambodia. The superpower which flies the banner of "socialism" tore off its disguise as a supporter of the Cambodian people and staked all on the treacherous Lon Nol clique. But they all rejoiced too soon. A mere five years has elapsed and now the situation has changed radically. As the Cambodian people went from victory to victory in their just war for national salvation, the traitorous

Lon Nol clique rapidly fell apart and finally perished in utter ignominy. Superpower though it be, the United States had to close its "embassy" in Phnom Penh, an act which set the seal of total bankruptcy on its policy of aggression. The other superpower hastily started singing a different tune and changed its tactics, exposing before the world the predicament of a political gambler who has lost everything. In a word, these reactionaries overestimated their own strength and underestimated the might of the people, and thereby lifted a rock only to smash their own toes.

The reason why such a great change took place in the Cambodian situation in the past five years is that the heroic Cambodian people, rallying as one around the National United Front of Cambodia with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as Chairman, and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia with Samdech Penn Nouth as Prime Minister and Khieu Samphan as Deputy Prime Minister, persisted in the correct line of independence, sovereignty, self-reliance and people's war; they defied brute force and braved sacrifices to carry on their sublime, heroic and just war for national salvation. In these five years the Cambodian people advanced wave upon wave and fought valiantly. In these five years the Cambodian people fought shoulder to shoulder, solidly united in battle. In these five years the Cambodian people sang the song of victory and advanced in triumph.

The great victory of the Cambodian people's just war for national salvation is the common victory for the people of the third world and the whole world in their cause of united struggle against imperialism. The achievements of the victory will be recorded indelibly in the glorious history of the national-liberation struggle of all countries in the world. The victory has set a splendid example and provided new experience

for the struggle of the oppressed nations and oppressed peoples.

The experience of the Cambodian people in their struggle tells us that the weak can defeat the strong and the small can defeat the big. Cambodia, with a population of only a few million, dared to defy the colossus of U.S. imperialism and dared to fight it and persist in fighting it. She grew from weak to strong, proceeded from victory to victory, and in the end defeated the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys. This is of incalculable significance. The strong and the weak, the big and the small, can turn into each other under given conditions. Strong as it appears, imperialism is in fact not so frightening. So long as we cast away illusions and dare to fight, there is nothing much to it. Revolutionary and progressive forces are usually comparatively weak at the beginning of their struggle. So long as they follow a correct line, unite as one, persist in struggle and constantly increase their strength in the course of struggle, they will certainly be able eventually to defeat powerful enemies.

The experience of the Cambodian people's struggle proves that to gain genuine independence and strive for complete liberation, it is essential to build a people's armed force with combat strength and persevere in people's war. When the imperialists have forced their way in, they cannot be driven out except by relying on the people to take up arms and carrying out the most resolute struggle. Nor will they become kindhearted and serve independence and sovereignty to the oppressed people on a platter. Only by establishing and developing the people's armed forces, carrying forward revolutionary heroism, adhering to a correct line, constantly accumulating experience, giving full play to the might of people's war, can the revolutionary armed forces defeat the counter-revolutionary armed forces. Facts prove that the people's armed forces are the magical power for winning national liberation and the victory of revolution.

The experience of the Cambodian people's struggle also proves that a just cause is invincible because it enjoys abundant support, while an unjust cause has little support. The National United Front and the

Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia represent the interests of the Cambodian people. Domestically they are cherished and supported by the broad masses of the Cambodian people and internationally they have won the strong sympathy and support of the Indochinese people, the third world people and all countries and peoples which uphold justice throughout the world. The Cambodian people have friends all over the globe. Events prove that those who represent progress and justice have inexhaustible strength.

In his statement of May 20, 1970, Chairman Mao said: **"A just cause enjoys abundant support while an unjust cause finds little support. A weak nation can defeat a strong, a small nation can defeat a big. The people of a small country can certainly defeat aggression by a big country, if only they dare to rise in struggle, dare to take up arms and grasp in their own hands the destiny of their country."** The Cambodian people's great struggle has fully borne out in practice this law of history.

The Cambodian people have won a great historic victory. But the tasks facing them will be arduous. We are convinced that the heroic People's Armed Forces of National Liberation of Cambodia will continue to march forward from victory to victory and liberate the whole country by sweeping away the remnants of the enemy. The entire Cambodian people will unite more closely and continue their advance so as to win new and greater victories in safeguarding national independence, healing the wounds of war and building up the motherland.

The Chinese people and the Cambodian people are brotherly comrades-in-arms, close members of one family. In the long years of revolutionary anti-imperialist struggle, profound revolutionary friendship and militant solidarity have been forged between the two peoples. Our friendship is long-tested and indestructible. The Chinese people will always stand firmly on the side of the Cambodian people and resolutely support their just struggle. They will always be united, fight side by side and win victory together with the fraternal Cambodian people.

Message of Congratulation from Chinese Party and State Leaders on the Thorough Crushing of the South Vietnamese Puppet Regime and Liberation of Saigon

His Excellency Nguyen Huu Tho,

President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation,

His Excellency Huynh Tan Phat,

President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam,

Saigon

Comrade Ton Duc Thang,

President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam,

Comrade Le Duan,

First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party,

Comrade Truong Chinh,

Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam,

Comrade Pham Van Dong,

Premier of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam,

Hanoi

The south Vietnamese armymen and civilians, after fighting long and valiantly, have thoroughly crushed the puppet regime in south Viet Nam and finally liberated Saigon. This is a great victory for the people of Viet Nam and all Indochina who have persisted in a protracted revolutionary armed struggle. The Chinese people are greatly overjoyed and inspired by these glad tidings. On behalf of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese government and the Chinese people, we extend our warmest congratulations and highest salute to you, to the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, to the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and to the entire Vietnamese people in the north and the south.

For the sake of the independence of their fatherland and the liberation of their nation, the heroic Vietnamese people, holding high the brilliant banner of "firm resolve to fight and to win" of President Ho Chi Minh and advancing wave upon wave, waged a tenacious and extremely arduous struggle for decades, successively defeated the "special warfare", the "local war" and the "Vietnamized" war unleashed by U.S. imperialism and its lackeys and won great victories one after another. In the new situation after the signing of the Paris agreement, the Vietnamese people resolutely fought back in self-defense against the crimes of violating the Paris agreement, refusing to realize national concord and rabidly massacring the people, which were committed by the Saigon puppet clique with the backing of the U.S. government, and now finally have defeated the counter-revolutionary war with



On the morning of May 1, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Vice-Premier of the State Council Teng Hsiao-ping called at the Embassy of the Republic of South Viet Nam (left photo) and the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam (right photo) to deliver a telegram to them from Chairman Mao Tsetung, Chairman Chu Teh and Premier Chou En-lai extending their warmest congratulations on the liberation of Saigon. While there he extended warmest congratulations to the people of north and south Viet Nam on behalf of Chairman Mao, the Communist Party of China and the Chinese government and people.

revolutionary war and won the splendid victory of the complete liberation of south Viet Nam. Your victory ushers in a new era, the era of the liberation of Viet Nam, and has a great historical importance and international significance. Your victory greatly inspires all the oppressed nations and peoples engaged in struggle and sets a brilliant example in the anti-imperialist revolutionary cause of the people of the whole world. The victory of the Vietnamese people is another eloquent proof that any people, even the people of a small country, can surely defeat any outwardly strong enemy and win final victory for their just cause of defending their country's independence and freedom and winning national liberation so long as they dare to rise in struggle and take up arms in a just war to oppose an unjust war and fight persistently, fearing no difficulties, sacrifices or setbacks.

China and Viet Nam are closely-related neighbors like the lips and the teeth, and our two peoples are comrades-in-arms and brothers sharing hardships and difficulties. We Chinese people have always regarded the Vietnamese people's struggle as our own struggle and their victory as our own victory. In the protracted revolutionary struggle of the past, our two peoples have supported and encouraged each other. In the days to come, the Chinese people will continue unswervingly to unite and fight together with the Vietnamese people. We sincerely wish that the south Vietnamese people will ceaselessly win new and greater victories in their continued struggle to carry through their national and democratic revolution. A new Viet Nam that is independent, free, unified and prosperous will certainly come into being.

Mao Tsetung

Chairman of the Central Committee
of the Communist Party of China

Chu Teh

Chairman of the Standing Committee
of the National People's Congress of
the People's Republic of China

Chou En-lai

Premier of the State Council of the
People's Republic of China

Peking, April 30, 1975

Speeches at the Grand Rally Celebrating the Liberation of Saigon and the Whole of South Viet Nam

On May 2, 1975, well over 10,000 people in the Chinese capital gathered at a grand rally in the Great Hall of the People to celebrate the liberation of Saigon and the whole of South Viet Nam by the south Vietnamese people. Sponsored by the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee, the rally was addressed by Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of National Defense; Tran Binh, Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of South Viet Nam, and Nguyen Trong Vinh, Ambassador to China of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Vice-Chairman Yeh Chien-ying's Speech

Respected Charge d'Affaires a.i. Tran Binh,
Respected Ambassador Nguyen Trong Vinh,
Respected Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth,
Comrades and friends,

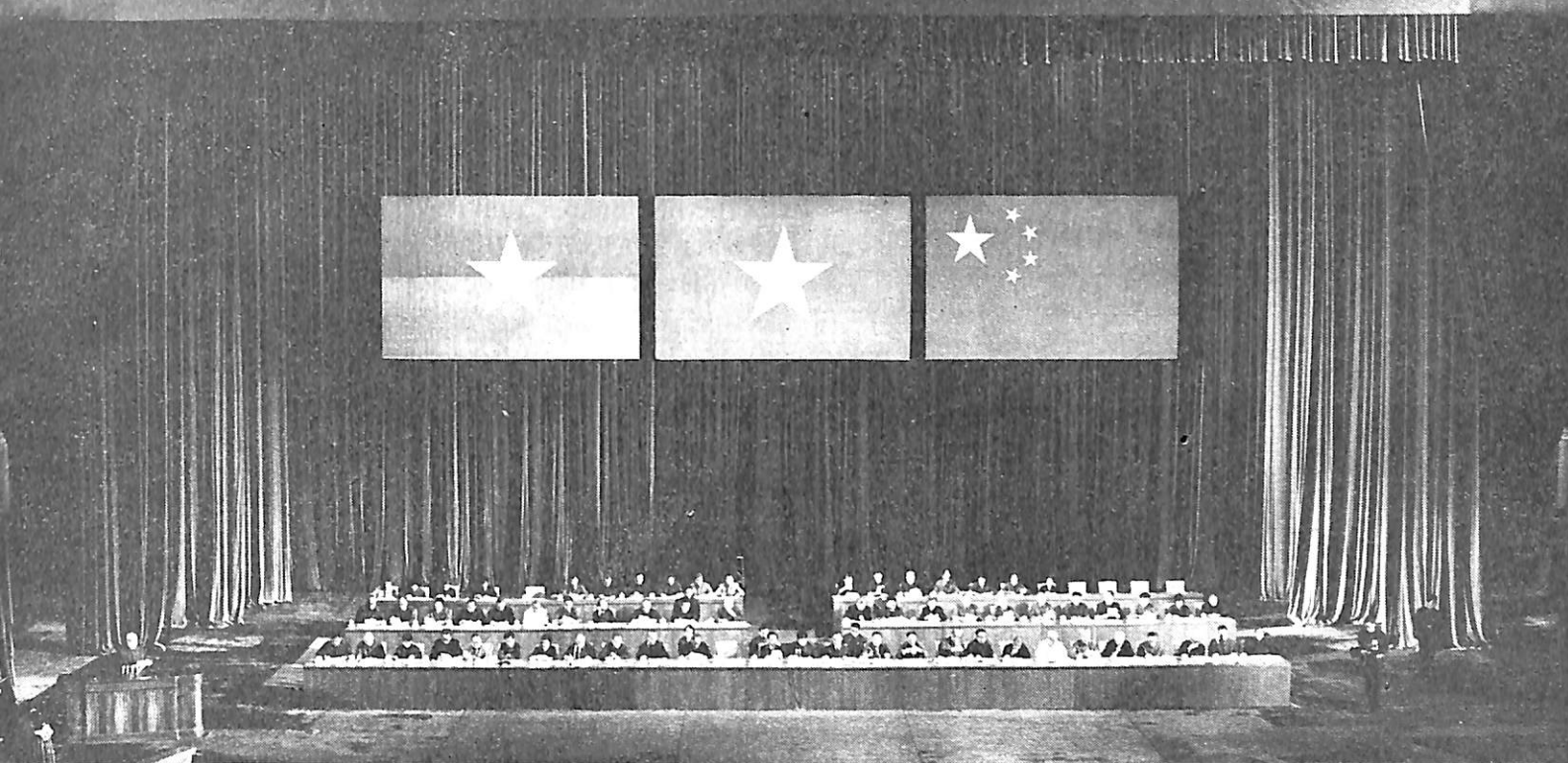
A fortnight ago we celebrated here the great victory of the liberation of Phnom Penh by the heroic Cambodian people. Today the people of all circles in

our capital are again jubilantly holding a grand rally here to warmly celebrate the great victory of the capture of Saigon and the complete liberation of south Viet Nam by the heroic south Vietnamese people and share the joy of victory with our Vietnamese comrades-in-arms. Now please allow me, on behalf of the Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung, the Communist Party of China and the Chi-

The rally.



首都人民庆祝越南南方人民解放西贡大会 CUỘC MIT TINH CỦA NHÂN DÂN THỦ ĐÔ CHÀO MỪNG NHÂN DÂN MIỀN NAM VIỆT NAM GIẢI PHÓNG SÀI GÒN



Presidium of the grand rally held by the people of Peking on May 2 to celebrate the liberation of Saigon and the complete liberation of south Viet Nam by its people.

nese government and people, to extend our warmest congratulations and high salute to the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of south Viet Nam and the heroic South Vietnamese People's Armed Forces, to the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and to the fraternal Vietnamese people in the south and the north.

The Vietnamese people's war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation is the most fierce and protracted of all anti-aggression wars since the Second World War. It will be recalled that as soon as the Geneva agreements were signed in 1954, U.S. imperialism perfidiously and brazenly tore up the agreements and stretched its claws of aggression into south Viet Nam, groomed the Ngo Dinh Diem puppet clique, rabidly massacred south Vietnamese people and perpetrated sanguinary suppression of the Vietnamese revolution. But where there is oppression there is resistance. The Vietnamese people, who have a glorious tradition of combating imperialism and colonialism, were not cowed by the ferocity of imperialism and its lackeys. Holding high the banner of "firm resolve to fight and to win" of President Ho Chi Minh, they waged a vigorous people's war, defying brute force, fearing no sacrifice, advancing

wave upon wave and fighting relentlessly and valiantly against the reactionary U.S.-puppet clique.

Amidst the flames of the revolutionary war, the South Vietnamese People's Armed Forces grew from small to big and from weak to strong and were steeled and became a powerful people's army. They successively smashed the "special war", the "local war" and the "Vietnamized" war unleashed by U.S. imperialism. Under the leadership of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government and with energetic support and assistance from the people in north Viet Nam and throughout the world, the south Vietnamese army-men and civilians grew stronger as they fought. Firmly holding the initiative in the war and ceaselessly launching fierce attacks on the enemy, they annihilated large numbers of enemy effectives, frustrated the various schemes of aggression of the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys and finally compelled the United States and the puppet regime to sign the Paris agreement in 1973. All the U.S. aggressor troops were compelled to withdraw from south Viet Nam.

But at the same time, the Nguyen Van Thieu puppet clique, instigated and backed by the United States, unscrupulously violated the Paris agreement,

refused to effect national concord, constantly encroached on the liberated areas in south Viet Nam and rabidly suppressed and massacred the south Vietnamese people. In the face of these criminal activities, the patriotic south Vietnamese army men and civilians firmly launched a righteous counter-offensive in self-defense and gave the reactionary Saigon clique a fatal punishment.

On April 26 this year the People's Liberation Armed Forces started the operation named the Ho Chi Minh campaign. With overwhelming and all-conquering might, they thoroughly routed the Saigon puppet troops, crushed the puppet regime and finally, on April 30, completely liberated Saigon — the glorious city of Ho Chi Minh — to win the most splendid victory of Viet Nam's war for national liberation.

The great victory of the Vietnamese people's war for national liberation is of tremendous international importance and far-reaching historic significance. The history of their war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, which lasted for more than a decade, is a history of the victory of a protracted people's war over a frenzied imperialist war of aggression as well as shining proof that a small country can defeat a big one and a weak country can defeat a strong one. The great victory of the Vietnamese people's war against aggression gives powerful encouragement to the anti-imperialist revolutionary struggles of the people of all countries and sets a glorious example for all the oppressed nations and oppressed peoples in their struggles for liberation.

The war of aggression waged by U.S. imperialism in south Viet Nam for more than a decade was a most brutal neo-colonialist war. U.S. imperialism not only equipped a million or so puppet troops but dispatched several hundred thousands of its own troops. It used all modern lethal weapons — including toxic chemicals — short of the atom bomb, dropped a greater tonnage of bombs than was used throughout the Second World War and employed all kinds of vicious strategies and tactics. All this brought enormous suffering to the Vietnamese people. However, the course of the war in Viet Nam is also an eloquent proof that the people, and not weapons, are the main factor deciding the outcome of a war. The Vietnamese people, though a people of a small and weak country, are able to defeat a big and strong enemy because their struggle is a just one and because they dare to defy all seemingly powerful enemies and persist in a relentless and brave protracted armed struggle and are good at using revolutionary dual tactics to frustrate counter-revolutionary dual tactics. The victory of the Vietnamese people's liberation struggle provides valuable experience for the liberation cause of the oppressed na-

tions and oppressed peoples of the world and has made a great contribution to the cause.

Comrades and friends,

At present the international situation is excellent, and the situation in Indochina is all the more inspiring. The victories of the Cambodian people and the Vietnamese people have definitely struck imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism a most crushing blow. In this favorable situation, the people of all countries will further uphold unity and persevere in struggle and win new victories in the fight against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism.

China and Viet Nam are close neighbors linked by mountains and rivers and mutually dependent like the lips and the teeth. Our two peoples are dear and near comrades-in-arms and brothers. They have always sympathized with and supported each other and have forged a profound militant friendship in the protracted revolutionary struggle. Our friendship was personally cultivated by the Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung and the Vietnamese people's great leader President Ho Chi Minh. It has been tested by protracted revolutionary wars, and no force on earth can destroy it. Both in the war years of the past and in the present period of socialist revolution and socialist construction, the Chinese people have continuously received the sympathy and support of the fraternal Vietnamese people. We take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to our Vietnamese brothers. We wish also to reiterate that we Chinese people always regard the Vietnamese people's struggle as our own struggle and their victory as our own victory. Today, the entire fraternal Vietnamese people are jubilantly celebrating the complete liberation of south Viet Nam; we Chinese people, following Chairman Mao's teachings, will continue to perform our internationalist duty, resolutely support the Vietnamese people in their just cause of consolidating the fruits of their victory and reunifying and building their fatherland. We are firmly convinced that, under the leadership of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the Vietnamese people in the south and the north will surely overcome all difficulties and obstacles on their road of continued advance and win ceaseless new and great victories.

Long live the great victory of the Vietnamese people's war for national liberation!

Long live the great friendship and militant unity of the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples!

Charge d'Affaires a.i. Tran Binh's Speech

Respected Comrade Wang Hung-wen, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China,

Respected Comrade Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Chairman of the CPC Central Committee,

Respected Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping, Vice-Chairman of the CPC Central Committee and Vice-Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China,

Respected Comrade Wu Teh, Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee,

Respected Samdech Penn Nouth, Chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Cambodia and Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia,

Respected Comrade Nguyen Trong Vinh, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam to China,

Respected Heads of Diplomatic Missions, Charges d'Affaires and Mesdames,

Respected comrades and friends,

Today, in a delightful and joyous atmosphere we would like to express our thanks to Comrades Wang Hung-wen, Yeh Chien-ying, Teng Hsiao-ping and Wu Teh and other comrade leaders of the Party and government and representatives of all people's strata of Peking capital for organizing this solemn meeting in congratulation of the complete liberation of south Viet Nam.

We feel deeply moved and sincerely thank Vice-Chairman Yeh Chien-ying for his extremely beautiful words about the great victory recorded by the south Vietnamese people, about the friendly relations between the peoples of Viet Nam and China and reaffirming once again the wholehearted support extended by the Chinese people to the south Vietnamese people.

On this occasion we would like comrades to convey the best regards and greetings of militant solidarity extended by the leaders of the National Liberation

Front and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the south Vietnamese people to respected Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the other leaders of the Chinese Party and government and the fraternal Chinese people.

Comrades and friends,

Over the past 20 years and more, the U.S. imperialists have grossly trampled underfoot the Geneva agreement, carried out an extremely barbarous war of aggression in south Viet Nam, scheming to turn it into a neo-colony of the United States, thus perpetuating the partition of Viet Nam.

Under the glorious banner of great justice of the National Liberation Front and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the south Vietnamese people have bravely waged a great resistance war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. Enjoying extremely great support and assistance and encouraged by the splendid exploits and the boundless sacrifices of the kith-and-kin northern compatriots for the cause of liberation of south Viet Nam, the south Vietnamese armed forces and people have enhanced revolutionary heroism to the greatest extent, persistently and indomitably fought and overcome all sacrifices and hardship in order, together with the people throughout the country, to defeat the many strategies of war of aggression pursued by the U.S. imperialists, thus compelling them to sign the Paris agreement on Viet Nam.

For many years, especially since the signing of the Paris agreement on Viet Nam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam has put forth many fair and reasonable proposals and invariably worked hard for the realization of the south Vietnamese people's most imperative aspirations for peace, independence, democracy, national reconciliation and concord, stabilization and improvement of living conditions and proceeding to the ultimate peaceful reunification of the fatherland. But as far as the United States is concerned, it has refused to put an end to its military involvement and interference in the internal affairs of south Viet Nam. It

has made every effort to exercise its dangerous and perfidious scheme of maintaining the Saigon puppet administration, sabotaging in a very serious manner many provisions of the Paris agreement on Viet Nam, continuing the perpetration of crimes against the south Vietnamese people and eluding its response to the south Vietnamese people's fundamental demands.

Being fully aware of beloved President Ho Chi Minh's teaching: "Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom", and determined to achieve their lofty objective in the impetus of the victories, the armed forces and people in the south have launched successive attacks and vigorous uprisings in punishment for all violations and sabotage of the Paris agreement by the United States and puppet administration. Within a short period of time they have recorded many victories of strategic significance, creating good conditions for the advance toward the complete liberation of south Viet Nam.

This is a solemn moment in history for the Vietnamese nation, and the Viet Nam revolution is now marching at a new pace. The armed forces and people, from their position of superiority over the enemy, on April 26, 1975 began a campaign codenamed the Beloved President Ho Chi Minh Campaign in which they spearheaded their attacks at the last bastion of the U.S. and its puppet in Saigon. On April 30, 1975 at 9:25 A.M. the puppet administration and its army capitulated unconditionally and at 11:30 A.M. on the same day the banner of great justice of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam was fluttering over all of south Viet Nam including the city of Saigon.

Saigon, which bears the name of great President Ho Chi Minh, and south Viet Nam as a whole were completely liberated, the war of aggression waged by U.S. imperialism in south Viet Nam was completely frustrated, and the Saigon puppet administration, an instrument of the United States, was completely liquidated.

This great victory is not only one for the Vietnamese people but also a victory for the close militant solidarity of the three Indochinese peoples, for the sympathy and support extended by the Chinese people, the peoples of other socialist and non-aligned countries and friends in the five continents, including the progressive American people.

Dear comrades and friends,

Viet Nam and China are two dear fraternal neighborly countries. The great friendship and close militant solidarity between the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples which have been long fostered by President Ho Chi Minh and Chairman Mao, now are

blossoming and bearing fruit. This finds its expression in a famous verse composed by our boundlessly beloved Uncle Ho and which is carried in every Vietnamese heart:

"The profound relationship between Viet Nam and China is that of comrades and brothers."

In the course of struggle against U.S. aggression, the south Vietnamese people have always enjoyed the sympathy, the great precious and effective support and assistance given by the Party and the government of China and the Chinese people. The armed forces and people in south Viet Nam always bear in mind the statement by Chairman Mao Tsetung, the great leader of the Chinese people, a respected friend of the Vietnamese people: "The 700 million Chinese people provide a powerful backing for the Vietnamese people, the vast expanse of China's territory is their reliable rear area." Following respected Chairman Mao's teachings, the fraternal Chinese people have actively given their support to the revolutionary struggle of the south Vietnamese people. The products given by the Chinese people to the south Vietnamese people have to undergo many bombings and shellings of the U.S. aggressors to reach our compatriots and fighters. They carry with them the feeling of the rear for the front, thus making a real contribution to the victories recorded by the south Vietnamese armed forces and people.

After the signing of the Paris agreement on Viet Nam comrade state and Party leaders of China and the Chinese people once again reaffirmed their unswerving stand to give all-out support to the revolutionary struggle of the south Vietnamese people until the total victory is won. The non-refund economic aid given by China to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam has made a contribution to healing the Vietnamese people's wounds of war and to the struggle in defense of the Paris agreement on Viet Nam.

Today we would like, with warm feeling, to express our profound gratitude to the great, precious and effective support extended by respected Chairman Mao, the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese government and the fraternal Chinese people to the revolutionary cause of struggle of the south Vietnamese people. We will do our best to contribute to strengthening the militant solidarity and the great, evergreen and everlasting friendship between Viet Nam and China.

We wish to extend our warm congratulations on the complete victory of the fraternal Cambodian people, and on the new victory recorded by the fraternal Lao people. We would like to express, from

our hearts, our gratitude to the Lao and Cambodian peoples, who have been fighting shoulder to shoulder with us in the same trench against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, for their sympathy and great support to the glorious cause of revolution of the south Vietnamese people. Loyal to the Joint Communiqué of the summit conference of the Indochinese countries, the south Vietnamese people pledge to make every effort to contribute to the consolidation and development of great friendship and close militant solidarity with the fraternal Lao and Cambodian peoples.

We are thoroughly aware that in our past struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation as well as in our struggle for the strict implementation of the Paris agreement, the south Vietnamese people have always enjoyed the sympathy and the great and precious support and assistance extended by the governments and peoples of other socialist and non-aligned countries, by the progressive peoples including the progressive people in the U.S. On this occasion we would like to express our deep thanks for their sympathy and great and precious support and assistance.

Dear comrades and friends,

During the past few days we, the whole Vietnamese people, have been living in a seething mood

of victory for having realized our beloved President Ho Chi Minh's teaching: "To drive the U.S. out, and to overthrow the puppet" in the complete liberation of south Viet Nam, thus bringing the revolutionary struggle in the south to a new stage.

We are firmly convinced that the south Vietnamese people, upholding their glorious revolutionary tradition, at the same time enjoying the unconditional assistance of the kith-and-kin northern compatriots, the sympathy and great support from the Indochinese peoples, the Chinese people, other peoples in the socialist and non-aligned countries and friends in the five continents, will quickly rebuild a peaceful, independent, democratic south Viet Nam of national reconciliation and concord and will stabilize and improve their living conditions, then proceed to the peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

May the great friendship and close militant solidarity between the peoples of Viet Nam and China be evergreen and everlasting.

May I wish: Great successes to the Chinese people!

Great successes to the Vietnamese people!

Great successes to the three Indochinese peoples!

Ambassador Nguyen Trong Vinh's Speech

Respected Comrade Wang Hung-wen, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China,

Respected Comrade Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Chairman of the CPC Central Committee,

Respected Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping, Vice-Chairman of the CPC Central Committee and Vice-Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China,

Respected Comrade Wu Teh, Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee,

Respected Prime Minister Samdech Penn Nouth,

Comrade Charge d'Affaires Tran Binh,

Their excellencies ambassadors, charges d'affaires a.i. and their wives,

Comrades and friends,

First of all, on behalf of the Vietnamese people we sincerely thank all the Party and state leaders of China, Samdech Penn Nouth, ambassadors, charges d'affaires and their wives and all representatives of the people from all walks of life and friends in Peking present here today at this meeting held by the Revolutionary Committee of Peking Municipality to welcome the great victory won by our Vietnamese people.

We feel greatly encouraged by and thankful for the praise and congratulations full of militant friendship and fraternal solidarity with the Vietnamese people that Comrade Yeh Chien-ying has just, on behalf of the Chinese people, expressed in his speech.

Comrades and friends,

Suffering from exploitation and oppression under colonial rule, the Vietnamese people, generation after generation for nearly one hundred years, have been rising up to struggle persistently. Especially since 1930 when our Party came into being and began taking up the leadership, the revolutionary struggle of the Vietnamese people has been carried out even more fiercely. At times underground, at times publicly, it combined political struggle with armed struggle multifariously and versatily.

In August 1945, with seething revolutionary spirit, the entire Vietnamese people rose up to seize power from the Japanese fascists and founded the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam (D.R.V.N.). Right after that the French colonialists mobilized aircraft, warships, staging an aggression for a comeback in an attempt to enslave our nation once again. In the spirit of "rather die than being enslaved", our entire nation with only rifles, spears and bamboo pikes stood up to carry out an arduous and protracted resistance war and ultimately won the brilliant victory of Dien Bien Phu which put an end to the old French colonialism in our country.

Succeeding the French imperialists, the U.S. imperialists jumped into south Viet Nam for aggression, with all barbarous, cruel and perfidious schemes. Four different strategies were adopted in four successive terms of the U.S. presidency. Enormous economic and military potentials were massively mobilized to realize their aggressive schemes; a large quantity of weapons, and most up-to-date means of warfare were put into use and the "greatest bombardment ever seen in the world" was carried out. In it even chemical weapons were used, killing hundreds of thousands of our countrymen, destroying everything regardless of hospitals, schools, factories, paddy fields and natural resources with greatest brutality in an attempt to push Viet Nam back to "the stone age".

In fact, our country has been badly devastated, our people have shed lots of their blood, Viet Nam has endured great sacrifices. However, at last the will of the Vietnamese nation to wrest back independence and freedom has not been crushed, but on the contrary, it is the aggressive ambition of the ringleader of the imperialists, the most powerful international gendarme that has been smashed. The neo-colonial war by the U.S. imperialists has been completely lost, their supremacy has been deeply buried. They have become weaker than ever.

On April 30, 1975, when the last U.S. aggressor quitted, the Saigon puppet and traitorous regime col-

lapsed, and the flag of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam was flaunting on top of the "presidential palace". The Vietnamese nation won the greatest, most wonderful, heroic and brilliant victory in her history of struggle against foreign aggression. A new page has turned in the annals of the Vietnamese history. The Vietnamese nation has entered a new stage of brilliant development: the country has won complete independence, the nation has been completely liberated. The people of the whole country are really living in freedom and genuine peace, steadily advancing to build up a new prosperous and happy life in the united country. On this most grand and glorious festive occasion in the history of the nation, the Vietnamese people are overjoyed that they have materialized the lofty wishes in the last testament of President Ho Chi Minh — our great, beloved and venerated leader.

Our historical victory today is the result of the correct line put forward by the Party and President Ho Chi Minh, the firm and creative leadership and guidance in the course of revolutionary struggle. Grasping the persistent revolutionary spirit and basing itself on a correct analysis of the balance of forces between the enemy and the revolutionary forces, our Party has brought into full play the potential strength of a just cause. It has built up the unity of the entire people, the oneness of mind of the people in both north and south Viet Nam, in a firm resolve to fight and to win by all suitable means. It has brought into full play the strength of people's war, mobilizing the whole people in a common fight against the enemy, carrying out a combination of armed, political and diplomatic struggles, using the tactic of "combining three categories of forces for one campaign". Military offensives were combined with people's uprisings and with propaganda and agitation campaigns among the enemy troops.

Our Party has combined patriotism with proletarian internationalism; on the one hand the Party has brought into full play the spirit of independence and keeping the initiative in its own hands, on the other hand it has unceasingly promoted international unity on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. This correct leadership has also manifested itself in the spirit of resilience, determination and flexibility, in creating favorable opportunities and seizing the right opportunity for timely actions in order to win decisive victory. Under the leadership and education of our Party, the people and armed forces have developed our nation's fine tradition of dauntlessness and staunchness, fully grasped the spirit of "nothing is more precious than independence and freedom", and at the same time, they have been fully conscious of

their international duty to the national independence movements and the revolutionary movements of the oppressed peoples all over the world. They have fought valiantly, fearing no sacrifices and hardships, overcoming all difficulties and advancing resolutely forward to new victories.

Our historical victory today is the result of the correct line put forward by the Party and President Ho Chi Minh, the firm and creative leadership and guidance in the course of revolutionary struggle.

Today's great victory is also the victory of the superiority and vitality of socialism in north Viet Nam — the powerful revolutionary base of the whole country.

Our people's victory today has also stemmed from the three torrents of revolution of our time, the effective strength of the great international support and assistance for our just cause.

It is the strength of militant solidarity and mutual assistance among the three nations: Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia in their struggle against their common enemy for common victory. The great and historical victory of liberating Phnom Penh on April 17, 1975 won by the heroic Cambodian people and our complete liberation of Saigon on 30th of the same month are the most brilliant and concrete result of such a militant solidarity.

For their precious aid, we are very grateful to the fraternal countries Laos and Cambodia who have been fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Vietnamese people and they have shed their own blood for the closer relations among them. We pledge ourselves to keep such a solid unity for ever.

Our victory is also a victory for the great, wholehearted and effective assistance in many fields by the fraternal Chinese Communist Party, government and people.

In the glorious victory of Dien Bien Phu won by the Vietnamese people there was valuable contribution made by the Chinese Communist Party and people. In the struggle against the powerful enemy — the U.S. imperialists, the effects of the "great rear area" that the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao reserve for the Vietnamese people, were seen even more clearly. All our people can see clearly the support and assistance from the Chinese people ranging from parts of the roads or bridges to necessities of daily life; in many aspects of daily life and fighting, every combatant among us could see obviously the support and assistance of the Chinese people. When the U.S. imperialists, meeting with bitter failure, wildly blockaded the north, the Chinese Party, government and people were very active in

helping us with transport in order to meet the demands of the front line.

I should say that whenever we met any difficulty, the Chinese people were with us, and in every victory of ours there was contribution made by the Chinese people. This is a splendid manifestation of the spirit of proletarian internationalism, of the militant friendship sharing weal and woe together. Such fine relations our Party, government and people will never forget. Once again, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Party, the Vietnamese government and people, I would like to express our sincere thanks to respected Chairman Mao, the fraternal Chinese Communist Party, government and people. In fulfilment of our beloved President Ho Chi Minh's teachings and our Viet Nam Workers' Party's policy, the Vietnamese people will, as always, for ever unite with the Chinese people for the vital interests of revolution in our two countries. The victory of the Vietnamese people can't be separated from the extremely important and essential assistance from other socialist, fraternal countries, without it we could not have smashed the enemy so early. The Vietnamese people will for ever keep in their minds this great assistance and contribution.

The support and encouragement rendered by the communist and workers' movements, by the countries struggling to win and safeguard independence, by the progressive movements of justice and peace-loving people the world over including the progressive American people, are an active impetus to and a valuable source of encouragement for the Vietnamese people in their just cause of struggle. The Vietnamese people would like to extend to our friends all over the world our sincere thanks.

Comrades and friends,

Once again I wish to express our sincere thanks to the Revolutionary Committee of the Peking Municipality for holding this grand rally today to welcome the great historical victory of the Vietnamese people, and I wish to express our thanks to the Peking people for their warm sentiments toward their comrades-in-arms and their intimate brothers. I am sincerely thankful to the Party and state leaders of China, Samdech Penn Nouth, to the foreign comrades and friends who have kindly come to share with us great and jubilant joy and happiness on the occasion of the historic and glorious victory won by our Vietnamese nation.

Long live the great victory of the Vietnamese people!

Long live the eternal, fraternal and militant unity between the peoples of Viet Nam and China!

A Great Victory of World Significance

— Warmly congratulating the south Vietnamese armed forces and people on liberation of Saigon

Renmin Ribao Editorial, May 1, 1975

STRIKING with the momentum of an avalanche and the force of a thunderbolt on April 30, 1975, the heroic South Viet Nam Liberation Armed Forces liberated Saigon at one stroke in their victorious advance to punish the south Viet Nam puppet clique severely for violating the Paris agreement. Collapsing instantly, the Saigon puppet regime is finished. The people greet liberation with hilarious joy. The liberation of Saigon signifies the great historic victory won by the Vietnamese people in their struggle for liberation and opens a new epoch in this struggle. This is a great event of world significance in the 1970s. With boundless joy, the Chinese people extend their warmest congratulations and loftiest respects to the fraternal Vietnamese people.

The Vietnamese people are a heroic people, the Vietnamese nation is a great nation. To achieve independence and liberation, they carried on a protracted and indomitable struggle against imperialism for dozens of years. For more than the last 10 years in particular, the south Vietnamese people, holding aloft President Ho Chi Minh's glorious banner of "firm resolve to fight and to win" and under the leadership of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, waged a heroic and tenacious struggle against U.S. imperialism and its lackeys and finally won a great victory in the war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation by bringing into full play dauntless heroism and unswerving revolutionary spirit, persisting in independence, sovereignty and self-reliance, and persevering

in protracted people's war. The Vietnamese people's victory is an impressive song of victory of people's war and a glorious example of the people of a small country resisting and defeating the aggression of a big imperialist power in the period after World War II. It has not only made a great contribution to the cause of solidarity against imperialism by the people of the third world and in the whole world, but also vigorously inspired and promoted the revolutionary struggle of all oppressed nations and oppressed peoples throughout the world. Its illustrious merits will be recorded in the glorious history of the world's national-liberation struggles. The new and rich experience of struggle it provides has great historical and international significance.

The south Vietnamese people's victory is a great victory for perseverance in protracted armed struggle. At different times, U.S. imperialism launched the most brutal "special warfare" and "local war" in south Viet Nam and carried out so-called "Vietnamization of the war", etc., in an attempt to force the south Vietnamese people to submit. In the face of the ferocious enemy, President Ho Chi Minh, the great leader of the Vietnamese people, called on the armed forces and people of Viet Nam to "fight perseveringly, harder and without let-up", and "so long as there remains a single aggressor on our land, we still must fight on to sweep him away". With the powerful backing of their compatriots in the north, the south Vietnamese people who were mobilized on the most extensive scale threw themselves into the just war against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, fighting shoul-

der to shoulder and united as one. No matter how frantic the enemy and no matter how hard the circumstances, the south Vietnamese people were always full of confidence in victory. Advancing indomitably wave upon wave, they fought persistently for more than ten years on end. This is rare in the history of the world's national-liberation movement. Through perseverance in protracted people's war and gradual accumulation of strength in this way, the south Vietnamese people grew from small to big, from weak to strong, and won complete victory.

The great victory of the Vietnamese people has proved once again that what is decisive for victory or defeat in war is the people and their feelings, and not sophisticated weapons. No up-to-date weapons can save imperialism and the reactionaries. In its war of aggression in Viet Nam, U.S. imperialism spent hundreds of billions of dollars and used all kinds of sophisticated arms except nuclear arms, including laser-guided bombs, toxic chemicals and depression bombs. Defying difficulty and sacrifice, the Vietnamese people fighting for justice brought into full play the spirit of lofty revolutionary heroism and fired bullets of hatred from every corner of south Viet Nam, with every person becoming a fighter swearing to wipe out the enemy. The graveyard of the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys was everywhere, whether in hilly areas, forests or plains, enemy-controlled cities or remote villages. The U.S. aggressors and their stooges were swamped in the vast ocean of people's war and suffered complete defeat.

The south Vietnamese people not only dare to struggle, they are also good at waging struggles. They have persistently used revolutionary dual tactics against counter-revolutionary dual tactics and thus remained invincible. Basing themselves on armed struggle, they struck hard at the enemy on the battlefield and carried out a principled struggle at the negotiation table. The Paris agreement signed in 1973 is an important victory for the Vietnamese people. But they know that the nature of imperialism and reactionaries will never change and that they will not lay down their butcher's knives and immediately become Buddhas even if there is an agreement. Therefore, holding fast to their arms and maintaining high vigilance, the Vietnamese people launched resolute and powerful counter-attacks against the enemy's crimes of violating the Paris agreement, refusing national concord and wildly massacring the people, and guided the struggle through to victory in line with its course of development.

The south Vietnamese people's victory is another proof that a just cause is invincible because it enjoys

abundant support while an unjust cause has little support. The Vietnamese people's struggle won the sympathy and support of all justice-upholding countries in the world, and enjoyed the solidarity and assistance of the people throughout the world, including the American people. The people of the world rejoice at every victory won by the Vietnamese people, but show strong indignation and condemnation at every step the United States took for aggression in Viet Nam. The victory of the Vietnamese people is a common victory for the Indochinese peoples in their united struggle and a common victory for the people of the third world and the whole world as well.

At present, the world is undergoing a profound and sharp change. The historical trend in which countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution, is surging forward vigorously. The people of the world are awakening and growing in strength in the upheaval. The two superpowers are running into snags everywhere in the world in the pursuit of their policies of aggression and expansion. Beset with difficulties at home and abroad and besieged ring upon ring by the world's people, they are declining steadily. One superpower is trying desperately to secure its position. The other superpower, which carries the signboard of "socialism", is also in an awkward predicament, but is burning with ambition and engaging in frantic expansion, fully revealing its ugly features of social-imperialism. The situation is becoming more and more favorable to the people of the world and unfavorable to the superpowers. The great victories of the Indochinese peoples have brought about a new situation. Indochina belongs to the Indochinese peoples and not to the reactionaries, still less to the imperialists. Nobody and no force can stop the victorious advance of the Vietnamese people and the other peoples of Indochina.

China and Viet Nam are neighbors as closely related as the lips and the teeth. The Chinese and Vietnamese peoples are brothers sharing weal and woe. In the protracted revolutionary struggles, the people of our two countries have always sympathized with, supported and encouraged each other and have forged a profound militant friendship. Our two peoples are "of the same family" and "both comrades and brothers". The struggle and victory of the Vietnamese people are powerful support and tremendous encouragement to the Chinese people. The friendship between us is long tested and unbreakable. In the future, we will, as always, firmly support the just struggle of the Vietnamese people. We profoundly believe that an independent, free, united and prosperous new Viet Nam will certainly come into being.

