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OUR POSITION HAS ALWAYS BEEN PLAIN

Of late, through the mass media of some Western countries, the Beijing authorities have made a great fuss about the so-called "China's stand" on the Kampuchean problem.

Through sophistry and the presentation of the problem, through formal logic the Beijing authorities have concentrated their arguments on the presence of a number of Vietnamese units in Kampuchea, considering this to be the reason for the deteriorating relations between China and Vietnam, between China and the Indochinese countries, and even between China and some other countries. Accordingly, they demand the unilateral withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea as a precondition for the breakthrough in the abnormal relations between China and these countries. These abnormal relations, of course, have been caused by China itself.

There is no logic or rule whatsoever that permits China's ruling circles to have a free hand in carrying out threats to the security of Vietnam and Kampuchea, and to deny to Vietnam and Kampuchea the solidarity and the unity in their efforts to get rid of these threats. The Chinese authorities demand an unilateral and total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. Yet they refuse to give up their policy of threat and their hostile acts against the three Indochinese countries, to terminate their support for the Pol Pot genocidal clique and other Khmer reactionary forces. One can say that the Chinese demand only means to give themselves a free hand to bring the Pol Pot genocidal clique back to Kampuchea and to continue slaughtering the Kampuchean people. Beijing's stand is absurd and more over perfidious.

While presenting their position, the Chinese authorities have deliberately confused the cause and effect of the problem. They speak about the normalization of relations with Vietnam but they dare not mention the causes which have brought about the abnormality in the relations between the two countries and the country responsible for it. Is it the presence of some Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea that has made the relations between China and Vietnam become tense ? Absolutely not. The key reason that has made the relations between the two countries worse is Beijing's hostile policy towards Vietnam, and not the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea. In fact, Sino-Vietnamese relations became abnormal long before the presence of some Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea. As early as 1978, when there was not a single Vietnamese soldier in Kampuchea, China had already withheld its aid from Vietnam, repatriated all its experts from Vietnam and unilaterally launched hostile propaganda, and ideological and psychological war against Vietnam. Back in 1975, when the Vietnamese people had just successfully ended their anti-U.S. resistance war and started their peaceful national reconstruction, the Chinese authorities appeared to be displeased. The Chinese authorities then used the Pol Pot genocidal clique to wage an extremely brutal war against Vietnam from the Southwest. In February 1979, China used up to 600,000 troops to invade Vietnam from the North.

It is obvious that Sino-Vietnamese relations became worse cannot be attributed to the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea. It was due to China's threat to the security of Vietnam and Kampuchea that some Vietnamese troops had to be sent there. Thus, to make it possible for the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, the root cause for their presence there must be eliminated, i.e., the Chinese threat. In this context, the Chinese authorities' demand for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea as a precondition for the normalization of relations between the two countries is insolent and absurd. If the Beijing authorities truly wish to improve and normalize the relations with Vietnam, they should put an end to their hostile policy towards Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos and promptly and positively respond to the fair and reasonable proposals of the three Indochinese

countries. In doing so, they will make it possible for the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

We have more than once clearly stated that the internal affairs of Kampuchea must be solved by the Kampuchean people themselves. For our part, we only recognize the People's Republic of Kampuchea as the sole authentic government in Kampuchea. While presenting their position the Chinese authorities have also said that they "respect" the aspirations of the Kampuchean people. If so, why do they not dare to recognize the fact that the present Administration of the People's Republic of Kampuchea was elected by the Kampuchean people themselves in a free and democratic general election throughout the country ?

Beijing ruling circles claim that they are not exploiting the situation for their vested interests in Kampuchea. Then, what is the motive for their demand to set up in Kampuchea a coalition government of their choice which will include representatives of all political parties and groups ? They talk about the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea. But is there any principle which allows them to demand that the Kampuchean people re-elect their own administration under the U.N. supervision ? Would they tolerate it if someone asked them to do the same in China ?

Moreover, in their insolence and absurdity, the Chinese authorities demand the neutralization of Kampuchea so that it will not be used to oppose other countries. It is common knowledge that Kampuchea has been a victim of China's aggressive policy and, in fact, over the last 40 years, Thailand has been constantly used as a spring-board for interference and invasion against the Indochinese countries. The fact of the matter is that China must stop the use of Thai territory to oppose the three Indochinese, and it is not the question of the neutralization of Kampuchea.

Obviously, the so-called stand of China on the Kampuchean problem is in no way a new one. Our position has always been plain. We aim to try our best to solve problems in our relations with China through peaceful negotiation on the basis of the principles of non-interference in each other's affairs, equality and mutual benefit and it is categorically forbidden to mention problems

of a third country. It will be absurd if the Beijing authorities insist on using problems of a third country as a precondition to solve problems which are entirely bilateral between the two countries. The situation is similar with our disapproval of Beijing's collusion with Washington to oppose the revolutionary and peace forces in the world. Nevertheless, we do not consider the ending of their unhealthy relations with Washington as a precondition for the normalization of relations with us.

The question of the presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea concerns only Vietnam and Kampuchea and belongs to their jurisdiction. It does not threaten any one and no one has the right to interfere in it. It is definitely not the cause for the worsening of relations between China and Vietnam or between China and any other socialist country. Therefore, China's demand for the unilateral withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea as a precondition of improving its relations with Vietnam or with a certain socialist country is completely absurd and definitely unacceptable.

Our correct stand has been fully supported by the USSR, the other fraternal socialist countries and world wide public opinion. The Soviet Union has rejected China's absurd demand for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea as a precondition to improve the relations between the two countries and has resolutely protested against China's demand for discussing a third country's problems. Over the past several decades, long before the presence of some Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea, China's erroneous policies have made its relations with the socialist countries abnormal. This has been detrimental to the Chinese people and has been severely harmful to the international prestige of the People's Republic of China. If the Beijing authorities really wish to improve this situation, they must give up their wrong policy. If they keep beating around the bush with their false arguments to justify their mistakes, no problem can be really solved. It will only isolate them further./.