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MAHATHIR-KAMPUCHEA

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KUALA LUMPUR, AUG 23 (BERNAMA) -- PRESIDENT OF THE COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA (CGDK) PRINCE NORODOM SIHANOUK TODAY OUTLINED TO DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD THE DANGER OF +VIETNAMISATION+ OF KAMPUCHEA WHICH IS OCCUPIED BY VIETNAMESE FORCES.

PRINCE SIHANOUK TOLD THE PRIME MINISTER IT WAS PROJECTED THAT WITHIN A DECADE, THE NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IN KAMPUCHEA WOULD REACH TWO MILLION FROM THE 700,000 AT PRESENT.

HE SAID THE KHMER PEOPLE WERE VERY MUCH AGAINST THIS SITUATION AND WERE GIVING ALL THEIR SUPPORT TO CGDK RESISTANCE FORCES AGAINST THE VIETNAMESE TROOPS.

PRINCE SIHANOUK SAID THIS IN HIS 90-MINUTE DISCUSSION WITH DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE HERE, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TAN SRI MAINAL ABIDIN SULONG TOLD REPORTERS AFTER THE MEETING.

WITH THE HELP OF THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE, THE RESISTANCE FORCES HAD BEEN ABLE TO PENETRATE VERY DEEP INTO KAMPUCHEA, EVEN INTO AREAS AROUND PHNOM PENH, PRINCE SIHANOUK WHO IS HERE FOR A FIVE-DAY VISIT SAID. -- MORE

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MEANWHILE DESCRIBED AS VERY +HEARTENING+ THE SUCCESSES OF THE RESISTANCE FORCES AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE CGDK STRUGGLE WOULD ATTAIN ITS OBJECTIVE.

THE PRIME MINISTER REITERATED THAT MALAYSIA WOULD COUNTINUE TO DO ITS BEST IN PURSUING THE KAMPUCHEAN CAUSE AT INTERNATIONAL FORA, PARTICULARLY AT THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT IN HARARE NEXT WEEK WHICH HE WILL BE ATTENDING.

PRINCE SIHANOUK ALSO GAVE AN ASSURANCE TO THE PRIME MINISTER THAT EXTRA EFFORTS WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN TO ENSURE UNITY IN THE TRIPARTITE CGDK AS ITS UNITY WAS IMPORTANT IN ENSURING THE SUCCESS OF THE STRUGGLE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HAD STRESSED IN HIS SPEECH AT A DINNER IN HONOUR OF PRINCE SIHANOUK LAST NIGHT THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE CGDK TO CONTINUE TO WORK FOR GREATER UNITY AMONG KAMPUCHEAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS.

THE TWO LEADERS ALSO DELVED IN GREAT DETAIL INTO THE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THE KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM INCLUDING THE CGDK'S EIGHT-POINT PROPOSAL MADE IN MARCH THIS YEAR.

PRINCE SIHANOUK TOLD DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HE BELIEVED CHINA'S POSITION ON THE QUESTION OF KAMPUCHEA REMAINED STRONG AND UNAFFECTED DESPITE THE LATEST GORBACHEV PROPOSAL THE CGDK PRESIDENT DESCRIBED AS NOT OFFERING ANYTHING NEW AS FAR AS KAMPUCHEA WAS CONCERNED. -- BERNAMA

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