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# Phnom Penh Post

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September 16, 1996

His Majesty  
Preah Bat Samdech Preah  
Norodom Sihanouk Varman,  
King of Cambodia

Your Majesty:

It is with great pleasure and respect that I write to inform Your Majesty that the *Phnom Penh Post* will produce a Special Supplement — as we have done now for the last four years — in honor of Your Majesty's 74th Birthday. To join in the celebrations for this auspicious occasion, we have also decided to change the date of our publication so that the respective issue of the *Post* will come out on Thursday, October 31, 1996, rather than the day after.

For each of the past four years, the *Phnom Penh Post* has undertaken the Special Supplement in honor of Your Majesty with a high degree of reverence and esteem for Your noble efforts in support of the Cambodian people and the greater cause of peace in the Kingdom.

In this regard, I would like to humbly request whether or not it would be possible for a staff photographer of the *Phnom Penh Post* to attend one or several of the numerous activities undertaken by Your Majesty in the cause of national reconciliation and reconstruction for the purposes of compiling a number of pictures which we would subsequently use in the upcoming Special Supplement.


I understand fully Your Majesty's stated desire to decline press interviews and I respect Your wishes in this regard. But, if it were possible, we would be honored to include photos of any upcoming events, at Your Majesty's choosing, which appropriately reflect Your longstanding and ever-present commitment to national reconciliation in Cambodia.

As well, as Your Majesty has done in the past, the *Post* would be most honored if You would consider contributing a personal message on

the occasion of Your Majesty's birthday for this upcoming Special Supplement so that our readers, which now comprise literally thousands of overseas Khmer and friends of Cambodia in more than 40 countries around the world, might profit from Your Majesty's wise counsel and inspired reflections on the health and future prospects of the Kingdom in 1996.

Thanking Your Majesty in advance for Your precious time and consideration, let me request that Your Majesty accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Most sincerely,



Michael G. Hayes  
Publisher & Editor-in-Chief

