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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

Letter dated 24 January 1980 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Viet Nam to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement made by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea on 22 January 1980 concerning the "March for the Survival of Kampuchea" and request you kindly to have the statement and this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under the agenda item entitled "The situation in Kampuchea".

(Signed) NGUYỄN NGOC DUNG
Ambassador
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

ANNEX

STATEMENT MADE BY THE SPOKESMAN OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KAMPUCHEA CONCERNING THE "MARCH FOR
THE SURVIVAL OF KAMPUCHEA"

Reports from Western sources indicate that at a press conference held in Paris on 15 January 1980 the organization "Doctors without frontiers" announced a plan entitled the "March for the Survival of Cambodia". Under this plan the organization has mobilized a number of people, mostly Americans and French, to meet at the Thai town of Aranyaprathet before entering Kampuchean territory with 20 trucks to distribute assistance directly to the population. The same sources announced that on 18 January Dr. Claude Malhuret, a member of the organization, arrived in Bangkok to prepare the operation.

This vile action is part of the plan of the imperialists and reactionaries to incite public opinion against the People's Republic of Kampuchea and to support the efforts of the Khmer reactionaries to undermine the peaceful work of the people of Kampuchea.

For more than a year, under extremely difficult conditions, the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea has repaired and restored various airports, port facilities and railways and has received and distributed to the population hundreds of thousands of tons of assistance furnished by Viet Nam, the Soviet Union, other fraternal socialist countries and various international organizations. These efforts have been noted and recognized by many foreign visitors, including representatives of international organizations seeking to assist the Kampuchean people. In conjunction with this international assistance, efforts in the food production sector have made it possible to overcome the famine. The Kampuchean people have just enthusiastically celebrated the first anniversary of their resurrection and are fervently working to build a new life.

In the meantime, the Thai authorities, who claim to be "neutral", in fact have allowed and continue to allow the international imperialists and reactionaries to use Thai territory along the Kampuchean frontier as a sanctuary for educating, supplying and training Khmer reactionaries who disturb the security of the frontier region. Bangkok has refused to grant aircraft coming from the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Hungary, Bulgaria and other countries authority to fly over Thailand in transporting humanitarian assistance to Kampuchea, but Bangkok has allowed the reactionaries to disguise themselves under the insignia of international organizations to provide assistance in the frontier region so as to draw refugees to the region and encourage illegal crossings of the frontier and so forth.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea states once again that the People's Republic of Kampuchea is ready to receive humanitarian assistance from whatever source through the indicated access routes. If international organizations are truly acting in the name of humanity they must

channel their assistance through the access points. The People's Republic of Kampuchea, an independent and sovereign country, cannot allow anyone to infringe its territorial sovereignty on whatever pretext. The instigators and accomplices of operations which infringe the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Kampuchea must bear the entire responsibility for all consequences deriving from their illegal acts.

Phnom Penh, 22 January 1980
