

UNITED NATIONS



GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



SECURITY
COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

A/35/96
S/13790
12 February 1980

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/
FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-fifth session
THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA
CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS
INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 11 February 1980 from the Permanent Representative
of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your information, the statement of 5 February 1980 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea on the intensification by Hanoi in using chemical weapons and committing other criminal activities to exterminate the Kampuchean people.

I should be grateful if you would have this text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "The situation in Kampuchea", "Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons" and "International Covenants on Human Rights", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) THIOUNN PRASITH
Permanent Representative
of Democratic Kampuchea

ANNEX

STATEMENT
BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF
DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

ON THE INTENSIFICATION BY HANOI
IN USING CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND
COMMITTING OTHER CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES
TO EXTERMINATE THE KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE

5 February 1980

Being driven into an impasse in its aggression in Kampuchea, at grips with increasing difficulties in all fields and bogged down deeper and deeper in the military field, unable to control Democratic Kampuchea and to break down the determination of fighting of the Kampuchean people, Hanoi is redoubling its efforts to exterminate the people of Kampuchea.

As it cannot reach the regions under the control of the Democratic Kampuchea Government, of the guerilla bases and zones, the Vietnamese army is increasingly resorting to toxic chemical products. In addition to the air-spreadings of these toxic chemical products, the Vietnamese army has conducted the systematic shellings of poison gas in every place. For instance from January 29, 1980, such shellings have taken place every day in the regions surrounding the Pailin front. Kamrieng and the mountainous area of the Bavel district (Battambang province) have also been the targets. In the provinces of Rattanakiri and Mondulhiri, in the mountains of Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom and Siemreap, in Oddar Meanchey, Preah Vihear, Koh Kong, in the Western part of the district of Leach, in the Cardamomes Chains, in brief, in all the regions aloof from the world's knowledge, the Vietnamese troops have intensified the use of chemical weapons and their war of racial extermination, for example at Pailin and Kamrieng, by always increasing the daily number of victims among the innocent population, elderly people, children and pregnant women.

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Furthermore, in the regions temporarily occupied, famine and systematic destructions since over a year of cultures, cattle, means of production and working tools have caused countless victims. The people cannot but find out and eat leaves and wild roots. Every day in each village, 5 to 6 of them die. Throughout the country, the deads number by thousands every day. In some places, 70 to 80 per cent of houses are not occupied for almost all the population has been decimated. This is the concrete situation in the villages located not far from highways in the province of Kampong Speu (in particular in the commune of Choam Sangke, district of Phnom Sruoch, and in the commune of Phong, district of Kong Pisei) and in the communes of Sre Knong and Trapeaing Reaing (district of Chhouk, province of Kampot). In the East of highway n° 3 where the density of the population is relatively high, only 50 to 60 per cent of houses are occupied. All this without including the remote regions of Rattanakiri, Mondulkiri and Preah Vihear.

Such is the tragic situation Hanoi is doing its utmost to hide from the world's knowledge by preventing the United Nations and various competent international organizations from directly distributing humanitarian relief to the Kampuchean people. As for the relief sent to Phnom Penh, the Le-Duan clique has totally appropriated to itself and used it as a mean of pressure to enlist soldiers still without much success. The population has received no distribution of humanitarian aids. Rice is exchanged with gold at a rate of about 3 grams of gold for about 20 kilograms of rice. But now, few are the Kampuchean who still have gold to exchange with food.

By so doing, Hanoi is using the humanitarian relief intended for the people of Kampuchea as a weapon to pursue its special war of racial extermination in Kampuchea, and at the same time to seize all gold the people have. As for the small quantity of rice the people have grown in difficult conditions, the Le-Duan clique has sent its troops to reap the harvest for themselves or to mine the rice fields in order to prevent the people from having access.

Moreover, the Vietnamese occupying forces are committing large scale massacres and murders. In many districts of Stung Trang (Kampong Cham province), Daray (Kampong Thom province) and in the districts of Preah Vihear province, they have installed many gillotines openly in the very centre of the chief-towns. Some gillotines are manual, some others are automatic and very often, Kampuchean people are gillotined in order to sow terror and prevent any mind of revolt when the Vietnamese occupying forces loot rice.

At the time when the Le-Duan's clique is intensifying its acts of extermination, its machine of propaganda redoubles its campaigns of lies and claims that "there is no more famine in Kampuchea", that "the situation is improving", etc... but in vain, because the world public opinion is well aware of its perfidy, its hypocrisy and its cruelty.

The Government of Democratic Kampuchea is convinced that Governments, political organizations, mass organizations and prominent personages who cherish peace and justice in the world will carry on their efforts and take all necessary measures so as humanitarian relief can reach the Kampuchea's people and the genocidal famine created by Hanoi can be stemmed. It is also convinced that all of them will condemn vigorously the use of chemical weapons by the Le-Duan's clique and take necessary measures to stop in time its criminal hand and to compel it to implement the Resolution of the 34th U.N. General Assembly demanding the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

APPENDIX

SOME CASES OF USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS
BY THE VIETNAMESE AGGRESSORS
IN KAMPUCHEA

1. On 25 and 26 July and 28 and 29 August 1979:
 - Phnom Reach Torng, North of Kirirrom;
 - 8 killed and some cases of poisoning.
2. On 5 and 6 September 1979:
 - Andaung Toek and Thmar Baing (province of Koh Kong);
 - 6 killed and 10 cases of serious poisoning.
3. September 1979:
 - Near the Kampuchea-Thai border;
 - Many killed and serious cases of poisoning;
 - Arsenic in the streams in order to poison drinking water.
4. On 1, 3 and 4 October 1979:
 - West of Battambang: from Pailin to Poipet;
 - 15 killed and many serious cases of poisoning;
 - Destruction of crops.
5. On 26 October 1979:
 - Districts of Chhouk and Koh Sla (province of Kampot);
 - Districts of Phnom Sruoch and Kong Pisei (province of Kampong Speu);
 - District of Trankak (province of Takeo);
 - Section of highway No 10: Paing Rolim-Pailin: 2 children killed and 13 cases of poisoning.
6. On 28 October and 5 November 1979:
 - Districts of Toek Phos and Baribaur (province of Kampong Chhnang);
 - 35 killed and 72 serious cases of poisoning.
- 7- At the beginning of December 1979:
 - Kampuchean refugee camp at Ban Laem (Thailand);
 - 70 cases of poisoning (a Vietnamese helicopter sprayed toxic chemical products in the stream).
8. On 10 and 11 December 1979:
 - Villages, forests and rivers of the district of Leach (province of Pursat);
 - 3 killed and 15 serious cases of poisoning.
9. On 15, 17 and 20 January 1980:
 - Western part of Leach (province of Pursat);
 - 17 people killed and 60 others poisoned.

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10. On 29 January 1980:

- Pailin region (province of Battambang);
- 4 people (1 pregnant woman) killed and 20 others
poisoned (7 children).

11. On 1 February 1980:

- Taing Sou (district of Pailin, province of Battambang);
- Aur Ta Em and in the forests and mountainous areas
South of Pailin;
- 10 people killed and 25 others seriously poisoned.

(Report issued by the Ministry of Information of
Democratic Kampuchea).
