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Letter dated 13 January 1986 from the Acting Permanent
Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your information, the communiqué dated 8 January 1986 issued by the Commission for Investigation of the Chinese Expansionists and Hegemonists' War Crimes against Viet Nam.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the communiqué circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Question of peace, stability and co-operation in South-East Asia" and of the Security Council.

(Signed) BUI XUAN NHAT
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Communiqué dated 8 January 1986 issued by the Commission for
Investigation of the Chinese Expansionists and Hegemonists'
War Crimes against Viet Nam

In 1985, the reactionaries within the Chinese ruling circles continued their hostile policy towards the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam through more and more perfidious schemes and tricks and through the combination of their multifaceted war of sabotage and the border-nibbling war, committing many new crimes against the Vietnamese people:

1. In order to divert public opinion at home and abroad and cover their war crimes, the Chinese reactionaries, on the one hand, raised a hue and cry about their "wish to restore the Sino-Vietnamese friendship and preserve stability and peace along the two countries' common border". On the other hand, they kept a large number of their troops along the Chinese-Vietnamese border, including many army corps and regular divisions, many of which have been mobilized from various great military regions. Chinese troops were mostly concentrated in areas opposite the Vietnamese provinces of Ha Tuyen, Cao Bang and Lang Son. More war planes were sent to the airfields near the Vietnamese border. A large quantity of equipment and war means were transported close to the border. Moreover, they consolidated their fortifications and built more roads, even on Vietnamese hills they have illegally occupied, in order to maintain permanent pressure on Viet Nam and permanent tension all along the Sino-Vietnamese border.

Each time before launching their border-nibbling attacks, the Chinese rulers slanderously charged Viet Nam with invading China, thus forcing it to "fight back for self-defence". Many delegations of Chinese high-ranking officials toured the border areas either to inspect the battleground or to arouse anti-Viet Nam feelings among the Chinese people and army. At the same time, many Chinese leaders arrogantly stated time and again that they would give Viet Nam "a second lesson" or would keep the permanent state of confrontation in the Sino-Vietnamese area, etc.

2. The Chinese expansionists and hegemonists continuously carried out their land-nibbling war, grabbing each piece of land and each hill of Viet Nam in the border area. They moved border posts to change the status quo on the borderline as provided for in the 1887 and 1895 Accords, and they heavily shelled many northern border areas of Viet Nam:

(a) On many occasions, Chinese troops of battalion or regiment size, covered by artillery, mounted attacks in an attempt to seize a number of Vietnamese areas in Vi Xuyen district (Ha Tuyen province) and Ha Lang district (Cao Bang province). In the district of Vi Xuyen alone, Chinese troops conducted 150 land-grabbing attacks last year.

(b) Chinese gunners fired more than 1 million rounds of artillery, mortars, rockets and other firearms on many places in the Vietnamese northern border region, some of which lie from 10 to 20 kilometres inside Viet Nam, especially in January,

February, March, June, July and September. The district of Vi Xuyen (Ha Tuyen province) alone was subjected to 20 shelling with more than 800,000 artillery and mortar rounds; some of the shelling lasted 10 days. Fifty thousand rounds a day were fired on the villages of Thanh, Thuy, Thanh Duc, Phuonq Tien, Minh Tan etc.

(c) Hundreds of Chinese spies and various groups of scouts and commandos made 285 incursions into six northern border provinces of Viet Nam to gather intelligence, conduct psychological warfare, lay ambushes, kidnap Vietnamese cadres and civilians and sabotage Viet Nam's economic construction through many devious acts, including burning of forests.

(d) Chinese warships and armed boats on nearly 500 occasions intruded into Vietnamese waters from Quang Ninh to Binh Tri Thien province (central Viet Nam) to conduct espionage activities and threaten Vietnamese fishermen's lives and daily work.

(e) Chinese aircraft made hundreds of flights close to the Vietnamese border, some of which intruded from 5 to 10 kilometres deep into the airspace of Lai Chau, Ha Tuyen and Cao Bang provinces.

All these above-mentioned criminal acts committed by the reactionaries within the Chinese ruling circles have created permanent tension along Viet Nam's land border with China and caused heavy losses in lives and property to the Vietnamese people.

Ninety-two people were killed, 167 were wounded and 30 others were kidnapped to China.

Five hundred houses of the people, three basic general schools and more than 20,000 hectares of food and industrial crops and timber forests were destroyed.

More than 1,000 buffaloes, cows, oxen and horses and a great quantity of other domestic animals were slaughtered or taken to China.

3. Most recently and barbarously, during the flood season the Chinese expansionists dropped mines into rivers flowing to Viet Nam from China in order to kill civilians and disrupt the Vietnamese people's peaceful labour. Since May 1985, Chinese mines exploded on more than 100 occasions in the provinces of Ha Tuyen, Vinh Phu, Ha Son Binh, Ha Nam Ninh, Thai Binh and Hai Hung and in the suburbs of Hanoi and Hai Phong, watered by the Lo (Clear) and Red Rivers, killing more than 30 people and wounding 60 others.

4. The reactionaries within the Chinese ruling circles in collusion with other international reactionaries continued stepping up their psychological warfare in an attempt to undermine Viet Nam politically and ideologically. They intensified their propaganda to split Viet Nam from Laos, Kampuchea, the socialist countries and progressive forces in the world, hoping to isolate Viet Nam internationally. At the same time, they rejected all Viet Nam's well-meaning and positive proposals aimed at normalizing the relations between the two countries through negotiations.

All these moves and schemes of the reactionaries in the Beijing ruling circles in 1985 have shown all the more clearly that their hostile policy towards Viet Nam has not changed a bit, but instead has become more perfidious.

The Vietnamese people always wish to have peace in order to rebuild their country and life and to restore their traditional friendship with the Chinese people. But they are resolved to strike back at all acts of land-grabbing, shelling and provocation committed by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists to firmly defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.
