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CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Letter dated 29 June 1979 from the Charge d'Affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of Poland to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to draw Your Excellency's attention to the abnormal and indeed deplorable situation in which a private person is usurping the right to represent Kampuchea at the United Nations. I cannot but strongly protest the illegal presence on the premises of the United Nations of a representative of the no more existent, genocidal régime, once headed by the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, which brought untold sufferings upon the people of Kampuchea.

This Organization has been based on the fundamental principle that membership in the United Nations is open to peace-loving States, able and willing to carry out their obligations under the Charter. As early as last January, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, Mr. Hun Sen, informed Your Excellency that "the Revolutionary People's Council of Kampuchea has been established, with the functions of the State and Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, and is the sole authentic legal representative of Kampuchea. It has reaffirmed the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Kampuchea: peace, friendship, non-alignment and respect for the United Nations Charter" (A/33/559, annex). On 18 May 1979 Minister Hun Sen reiterated in his letter to Your Excellency that "anyone who is not appointed by the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea has no right to act or speak on behalf of Kampuchea at any forum of the United Nations or any other international organizations" (A/33/566, annex). Deriving as they do from the purposes and principles of the Charter, both the nature and the contents of those declarations carry all the legal and political weight in support of the absolute legitimacy of the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to be duly represented in the United Nations.

* A/34/50.

In the opinion of the Government of Poland, to ignore the undisputed validity of the case would be tantamount to disregarding the generally recognized rules of international law and to an unwarranted and inadmissible interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea, undermining the prestige and authority of this Organization. It has been encouraging to note that similar views on Kampuchea's representation were recently voiced by Member States of the United Nations at the resumed thirty-third session of the General Assembly.

I trust appropriate steps will be taken to rectify without further delay the present untenable situation, whereby a private individual, paid and protected by a foreign Power, is abusing the privileges exclusively reserved for Member States and their Governments.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 3 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Henryk J. SOKALSKI
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
