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Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 20 July 1979 from 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 for your information the text of the speech by the Head of the delegation of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Dinh Nho Liem, at the third meeting of the second round of Viet Nam-China talks, on 18 July 1979, and request you to have this letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 46 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) CU DINH BA
Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
to the United Nations

* A/34/150.

Annex

Speech by the Head of the delegation of the Government of the
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Dinh Nho Diem, at the third
meeting of the second round of Viet Nam-China talks on
18 July 1979

Since the large-scale February 1979 war of aggression against Viet Nam, the situation along the border between the two countries has remained very tense due to the Chinese rulers' continued schemes and acts of hostility to the Vietnamese people. To remove the danger of resumed hostilities and bring about a favourable atmosphere for the restoration of normal relations, the Vietnamese side has always held that the two sides should, as an immediate step, discuss the urgent measures to ensure peace and stability in border areas. Point 1 in the three-point proposal (see A/34/201-S/13257, annex) and the draft agreement on refraining from armed provocations effective as of 5 July 1979, proposed by the Vietnamese delegation (see A/34/351-S/13434, annex), have embodied this desire of the Vietnamese and practical first step to ease the border tension, meeting aspirations of the two peoples and contributing to the preservation of peace and stability in South-East Asia and of world peace.

If the Chinese side had really desired peace and tranquillity in border areas as it has repeatedly claimed and if it had abided by the purposes of the talks as laid down by the two sides, it would have positively responded to these Vietnamese initiatives. And had that been the case, the border tension would have relaxed since 5 July 1979, a new atmosphere would have arisen and initial favourable conditions would have been created for the talks to progress. Regrettably, the Chinese side has not acted that way. It has evaded the Vietnamese side's proposal on the urgent measures to ensure peace and stability in border areas, unreasonably turned down the Vietnamese draft agreement. Furthermore it has stepped up armed provocations and committed repeated and increasingly serious incursions into Vietnamese territory, thus aggravating the border tension. In its note of 10 July 1979 addressed to the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the recent provocations of the Chinese side. This has borne out the sheer hypocrisy of the Chinese professions of "sincerity" and "hope" to bring the talks forward. The Chinese side's real intention is to maintain a permanent border tension in an attempt to exert pressure in the negotiations and also to give itself a pretext for eventual aggression against Viet Nam at any moment.

While taking this irresponsible attitude and entertaining this dangerous adventurous scheme, the Chinese rulers, working hand in glove with imperialism, have of late initiated a noisy campaign on the so-called "Vietnamese refugees" question, frenziedly slandering and opposing Viet Nam in the international arena. They have used these negotiations as a forum to further this dark design.

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Then it should be pointed out that it is none other than the United States imperialists and the expansionist Peking rulers who have provoked an "exodus" of hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese, Laos and Kampucheans. They must bear full responsibility for the difficulties created by the illegal flow of emigrants and confronting at present Viet Nam, Laos, Kampuchea and a number of other South-East Asian countries. During their flight from south Viet Nam and immediately after the complete liberation of Viet Nam, the United States imperialists, made bitter by the resounding victory of the Vietnamese people, resorted to all kinds of distortions and deceptions about a "bloodbath" and "human rights" and all perfidious tricks in a frantic attempt to induce, through instigation or coercion, the departure from Viet Nam of their former collaborators, of those people who did not approve the new régime and of those who did not want to adapt themselves to the life of work in post-war conditions, and they insisted on Viet Nam's letting such people go abroad freely.

From early 1978, while overtly stepping up through the stooge Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, their aggressive war at the south-western border of Viet Nam, the Peking rulers circulated reports to the effect that "a Sino-Vietnamese war will break out inevitably" and "whoever fails to return to the motherland will be regarded as a traitor". In this way, they instigated or constrained hundreds of thousands of Hoa people to leave for China, then fabricated the story of Viet Nam's so-called "persecution and expulsion of Chinese residents". By so doing, they attempted to cause Viet Nam political, economic and social disturbances and difficulties, stir up enmity and hatred between the two peoples, and prepare for an aggressive war against Viet Nam from the north. A fairly great number of Hoa migrants had been organized and trained by Peking into spies, commandos and guides for the 600,000-strong army which invaded Viet Nam in February 1979. At present, the Chinese rulers have not yet stopped using every trick, including the "Hoa people question", to undermine Viet Nam from within. They have continued driving trained Hoa back to Viet Nam or to other South-East Asian countries to reinforce their "fifth columns" already there, in pursuance of their expansionist ambitions. By maintaining continued border tension and repeatedly threatening Viet Nam with one or even many more aggressions, they have caused uneasiness of mind among a number of Hoa, thus led to seek ways and means of fleeing abroad. The wicked United States and Peking campaigns to induce through instigation or coercion a massive exodus of Vietnamese and Hoa people in the past few years have resulted in the separation of hundreds of thousands of families which are now seeking ways to reunite.

Thus it clearly appears that the cause of the flight abroad of a number of Vietnamese lies in the aftermath of the United States imperialists' aggressive war, their former neo-colonialist régime and their past disruptive activities and also in the Peking rulers' aggressive war and extremely perfidious designs and acts.

On the question of Vietnamese going abroad, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam made clear its policy in the 20 June 1979 statement of the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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It is necessary to point out that while many countries and international organizations have extended increasing co-operation to that policy and while the work is progressing favourably, the Peking rulers have repeatedly put forward extremely base distortions and slanders in an attempt to arouse public opinion against Viet Nam. They have pronounced themselves against the correct stand for a solution of this question from a humanitarian viewpoint. At the same time, with a familiar hegemonistic tone, they have urged "punishment" of Viet Nam in an attempt to spark off an anti-Viet Nam campaign as the United States imperialists did in the past. They have instigated illegal departures and opposed the implementation of the seven points agreed upon between Viet Nam and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees so as to cause Viet Nam difficulties in arranging legal and organized departures, and to provoke tensions between countries in the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Viet Nam. World public opinion is exposing and condemning the brazen actions and contentions of the Peking rulers who attempt to use the "Vietnamese refugees" issue as they used the so-called "victimized Chinese residents" problem for nasty political purposes, and it is demanding that they put an immediate end to this dirty business. For all their schemes and tricks, they can in no way divert world public opinion from condemning their crime in causing in Kampuchea a genocide without precedent in human history and waging an extremely ruthless and devastating war of aggression against the Vietnamese people, nor can they distort the clear and correct policy of the Vietnamese Government or wreck the efforts the latter is making to work out jointly with the UNHCR and the countries concerned a proper solution of the problem.

Public opinion has also pointed out that Peking itself is driving out Chinese by the thousand daily. According to Western press reports, Chinese refugees coming to Hong Kong alone have reached a monthly rate of tens of thousands. As culprits responsible for the massive exodus of Hoa people from Viet Nam and for the outflow of many Chinese, which has created countless difficulties to the receiving ends, the Chinese rulers have no quality and no right whatsoever to raise a hue and cry about the question of Vietnamese going abroad.

In order to sow division between Viet Nam and other South-East Asian countries, the Peking rulers have also repeated again and again odious distortions of the situation in Kampuchea and the so-called Vietnamese "threat" to Thailand.

Indeed, a tense situation is now prevailing in the Indo-Chinese peninsula and in South-East Asia. The cause of the tension in South-East Asia lies in nothing else but the Chinese rulers' policy of great-Power expansion and hegemony in this region, as was made clear by the Vietnamese side at previous meetings, especially the meeting of 5 July.

Immediately after the firing of American aggression stopped on the Indo-Chinese peninsula, the Peking rulers, who had made preparations well in advance, took over the United States imperialists' role as international gendarmes and neo-colonialists and brought war back to this part of the world. They

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feverishly armed the stooge Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique and used them to carry out a genocide in Kampuchea, where 3 million people were massacred, and the remaining 4 million were subjected to savage treatment. At the same time, they waged by their instrumentality a bloody war of aggression against the Vietnamese people at their south-western border. Following the heavy defeat of their great-Power hegemonistic policy in Kampuchea, they mobilized 600,000 troops and directly embarked on a large-scale war of aggression, devastating six northern provinces of Viet Nam. With these wars and genocide, they have crudely trampled underfoot the fundamental national rights of the peoples of Viet Nam, Kampuchea and Laos, leaving behind untold heavy consequences and seriously jeopardizing peace and stability in South-East Asia. Mankind will remember forever these crimes.

The Chinese rulers are now trying to prop up the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary remnant bandits with arms, ammunition, food and money, and political and diplomatic manoeuvres of all kinds. In an attempt to reimpose their ruthless genocidal régime and their neo-colonialist rule on Kampuchea, which is to serve as a springboard for aggression against Viet Nam and expansion to other South-East Asian countries. They completely ignore a harsh fact, namely, that the situation in Kampuchea cannot be reversed.

It is they who have taken the place of the United States imperialists in fostering and commanding the bandit groups of Vang Pao, Kongle, etc., organizing stooge groups, massing troops close to the border, indulging in trouble-making, subversive and aggressive activities, seriously threatening the independence, peace, stability and territorial integrity of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos.

It is they who are quibbling and refusing to make any commitment whatsoever to South-East Asian Governments which are urging them to stop nurturing and using compliant political and armed opposition organizations, using "fifth columns" recruited from the tens of millions of overseas Chinese in South-East Asia for attempts at domination, trouble-making, interference and subversion against various countries in this region.

It is they who are striving hard to arouse ethnic enmity and hatred among the three peoples of the Indo-Chinese peninsula, seeking by every possible means to undermine the friendship between the Thai and Vietnamese peoples, stirring up anti-Viet Nam feelings among the former and hindering the development of good-neighbourly relations between Thailand and Viet Nam. It is they who are resorting to every base trick to sow division between ASEAN countries and Viet Nam and maintain a permanent instability in South-East Asia.

Indeed, the Indo-Chinese and South-East Asian peoples are being confronted with a threat - the collusion of Chinese expansionism and hegemonism with imperialism, in the first place United States imperialism, against them. However, the South-East Asian peoples have come to realize more and more clearly the true features of Peking's great-Power hegemony.

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After their defeat in the unjust war against the Vietnamese people, the Chinese rulers have maintained a very great tension along the Viet Nam-China border. Most recently, after the Chinese side's rejection of the Vietnamese proposal for an agreement on refraining from armed provocations, a Chinese Vice-Premier told the United States magazine Newsweek that in February they had not taught Viet Nam a full lesson, and that a new war of aggression could not be ruled out. A Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese Army told the Japanese paper Mainichi Shimbun that China might launch another attack on Viet Nam. But this blatant threat, no matter how many times it is repeated, can in no way shake the rock-like determination of the Vietnamese people and armed forces, who are always ready to cope with any eventuality and who will manage to defend with effectiveness the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their fatherland and to build socialism successfully.

Obviously, through wars and threats of war, aggressions and threats of aggression, intervention and subversion, and attempts to pit one country against another, the Peking rulers are the very people responsible for provoking tensions, threatening national independence, sowing division, jeopardizing peace and stability in South-East Asia, running counter to the aspirations of the peoples in this region. Misrepresentations of facts, conducting of slanderous campaigns against Viet Nam, are precisely devices to camouflage their dark designs and to prepare for new military ventures against Viet Nam.

Right at these talks, they have refused to discuss any question whatsoever in the relations between Viet Nam and China; instead, they have insisted on discussing and settling the so-called "Kampuchean problem". This is also an attempt to side-track South-East Asian and world public opinion which is condemning them for provoking the genocide in Kampuchea and the aggressive war against Viet Nam. It is an attempt to cover up their continued brazen interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and their threats of aggression against Viet Nam and Laos, seriously jeopardizing peace and stability in South-East Asia. On the other hand, it is also a hegemonistic method of negotiation which consists in trying to settle the affairs of other countries behind the latter's back as the Chinese rulers did in the past. Once again, the Vietnamese delegation reaffirms the position of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam: the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea is the sole legitimate and legal representative of Kampuchea: the affairs of Kampuchea are to be decided by the Kampuchean people; the questions relating to Viet Nam and Kampuchea, two sovereign countries, are to be decided by themselves. Nobody has the right to interfere.

It is a constant desire of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to promote relations of friendship and co-operation with the other South-East Asian countries and to contribute actively to the maintenance of peace and stability in their region. Nobody can distort this correct and consistent policy. The Peking rulers' campaign to arouse South-East Asian public opinion against Viet Nam is doomed to failure.

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Let the Chinese side turn back to the purposes of these bilateral talks as have been laid down to solve the problems in the relations between Viet Nam and China. We have put forward a three-point proposal on the main principles and contents of a settlement of the problems concerning the relations between the two countries. In view of the great border tension still prevailing, we have taken the initiative of advancing a draft agreement on the two sides' refraining from armed provocations to ease that tension and create a favourable atmosphere for the talks to progress. Although 5 July 1979 has now gone by, we reiterate this proposal and stand ready to discuss with the Chinese side a new date to make the above agreement effective as soon as possible. We are patiently awaiting a response from the Chinese side. In order to promote the progress of the talks, we are prepared to discuss whatever question in the relations between Viet Nam and China will be raised by the Chinese side, according to the method of the two sides' raising in turn questions of interest for exchanges of views at each meeting. Let the Chinese side prove its professed "sincerity" by deeds.
