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SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 23 July 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of the statement issued on 15 July 1980 by the Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and request you kindly to have this letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 22 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. L. Birabhongse KASEMSRI
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Statement issued on 15 July 1980 by the Information Department
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand

Regarding Viet Nam's recent allegation that Thai troops intruded into Kampuchea at Ban Nimit, 5 km inside Kampuchea as reported in the 27 June issue of the Bangkok MATICHON following the 23 June 1980 incursion into Thailand by Vietnamese forces, the Royal Thai Government denies the allegation as utterly groundless. Following are the facts:

1. No Thai troops have intruded into Kampuchea as alleged by Viet Nam. Had Thai forces really intruded as deep as 5 km into Kampuchea as alleged by Viet Nam, there must be evidence, as was the case with Viet Nam when it intruded only 2 km into Thai territory and left as many as 80 corpses and 7 prisoners.

2. The allegation that Thai troops intruded into Kampuchea is therefore a distortion aimed at creating tension. Thailand was only acting in self-defence when it took action to repulse Vietnamese forces which intruded into Thailand. In his interview with MATICHON, the Commander of the Thai defence forces stated that Thai troops had been instructed by the Government to maintain their positions along the border.

In the history of world relations, Viet Nam has always resorted to misrepresentation and distortion of facts without paying due regard to generally recognized principles. Viet Nam's allegations against Thailand are once again aimed at covering up the wrong it has committed through its armed violation of Thailand's sovereignty, and to mislead world opinion. This manoeuvre will not be effective because all justice-loving people and those who genuinely wish to resolve world tensions will correctly understand the true situation.
