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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 28 October 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 issued on 18 October 1980 by the Office of the Prime Minister concerning the situation in Kampuchea at the close of the rainy season and the onset of the 1980/81 dry season.

I should be grateful if you would have this statement circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 22, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) THIOUNN Prasith
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Democratic Kampuchea

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In addition to the military impasse in which it finds itself at the close of the rainy season, the Vietnamese enemy is facing increasingly serious political difficulties from which it will never be able to extricate itself.

1. The people of Kampuchea are resolutely squaring up to the Vietnamese enemy politically, by every means they can, each according to his or her ability.
2. The Vietnamese occupier is facing opposition from all the self-defence forces and Kampuchean soldiers it forcibly recruited.
3. The Vietnamese enemy has lost all confidence in its staff in the Phnom Penh administration. All around it, it sees nothing but forces hostile to it or allied to the Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

Thus, in Kampuchea, the Vietnamese enemy has no political backing among the Kampuchean population; it has no military force to serve as a puppet army; it has no Kampuchean manpower to service its administration established at Phnom Penh. It must count entirely on its purely Vietnamese forces, numbering 300,000 men, in other words on the 250,000 troops of the Vietnamese regular army brought in to deal with the army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea and to police the areas temporarily under Vietnamese control, and on another 50,000 Vietnamese administrative staff.

The Vietnamese enemy is totally incapable of winning the support of the people of Kampuchea. For nearly two years now it has been unable to win that support, and it never will be able to do so. All it can do is massacre the people of Kampuchea more systematically and on an ever-growing scale, in accordance with its policy of racial extermination, using all kinds of weapons, including chemical products and toxic gases sprayed over and dropped on areas inaccessible to its troops, and starvation.

As for the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea, their political situation has taken another big step forward. The people of Kampuchea as a whole, both in the areas temporarily controlled by the Vietnamese enemy and in those controlled by the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, have always supported and continue to support Democratic Kampuchea and the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea. They have clearly understood that Democratic Kampuchea is motivated by a deep love for the nation and its people, that it is determined to share the fortunes and misfortunes of the nation and the people in all circumstances, and that it is leading the struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors, in defence of the nation and people of Kampuchea. A new turn in the situation has become apparent during the past rainy season. The people have acquired ever-growing faith and confidence in the new strategic policy of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and in the political programme of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea. The Front has enlarged and consolidated its base and its organizations in villages, communes and districts throughout the country, and this has been of powerful assistance in improving the effectiveness of our military operations against the Vietnamese enemy.

Trapped in this military and political impasse, the Vietnamese enemy is also extremely isolated in the international arena. The international front backing the just struggle of the people of Kampuchea to defend their nation and their territorial integrity has been greatly expanded and consolidated. Besides upholding the just cause of the people of Kampuchea, the international front exists essentially to contain the strategy of aggression and expansion of Viet Nam and the Soviet Union in South-East Asia and the Pacific. It was very much in evidence during the victorious struggle mounted at the United Nations in order to enable Democratic Kampuchea to retain its seat. That victory is the common victory of all forces world wide which cherish peace, independence and justice and of all forces which uphold the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law, and the principles of non-alignment. It is the common victory of the forces which stand in solidarity against the Vietnamese-Soviet forces of invasion and aggression that are shamelessly violating the sovereignty of small States. The defeat of Viet Nam and the Soviet Union at the United Nations had a fateful effect on the Vietnamese troops of aggression in Kampuchea and within the Hanoi Le-Duan clique itself, and is exacerbating the hatred of the Vietnamese people against that clique. This is a further major difficulty to add to the multitude of other difficulties facing the Le-Duan clique and its Soviet masters, who, having lost still more of their trump cards, are in another strait-jacket, this time at the diplomatic level.

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The military and political situation described above illustrates the decline of Vietnamese strength, a decline which set in towards the end of the 1979/80 dry season and deepened throughout the rainy season. On the other hand, the popular war of our people for national survival, conducted under the leadership of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea, is gradually making headway.

This excellent situation and these successes can be accounted for as follows:

1. They are due to the efforts of our people, our national army and our guerrillas at the front who, under the leadership of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea, have risked life and limb in their fight. They have exerted all their efforts: on the military front, to fight the Vietnamese enemy, and on the political front, to implement the political programme of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea in order to mobilize all the forces of the broad union of the Kampuchean nation and people.
2. This excellent situation cannot be dissociated from the efforts made in the international arena by the ASEAN countries. The latter have shown themselves to be a force which is playing an important role in uniting world-wide forces that cherish peace, independence and justice, in defence of peace and stability in South-East Asia and the Pacific and to ensure the containment of the war in that region, in particular by defending Democratic Kampuchea's seat at the United Nations and demanding, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/22, the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops of aggression from Kampuchea, in order to

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enable the people of Kampuchea to decide their own future free from outside interference of any kind.

3. Neither can these victories be dissociated from the efforts of the overwhelming majority of countries, governments, peoples, mass organizations and individuals world wide that cherish peace, independence and justice.

The Government of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea wishes to seize this opportunity to renew the expression of their deeply-felt gratitude on behalf of the entire Kampuchean nation and people. The support of those countries, governments, peoples, mass organizations and eminent individuals for the cause of the Kampuchean people in their struggle bears witness to their firm determination to defend the United Nations Charter, international law and the principles of non-alignment, in the face of the jungle law of the Vietnamese and Soviet expansionist aggressors. That support has greatly contributed to the favourable turn which the struggle on the Kampuchean front has taken and has considerably encouraged the Kampuchean people in their tenacious and persevering struggle to defend their nation and their territory. The Kampuchean people have made enormous sacrifices in the struggle that they are obliged to wage in order to drive out the Vietnamese enemy. Although it is true that these sacrifices are made primarily in order to ensure the survival of the Kampuchean nation, at the same time they objectively constitute an effective contribution, in flesh and blood, to the cause of the defence of peace and stability in the regions of South-East Asia and the Pacific. The Kampuchean people are greatly encouraged by the fact that the world is realizing more and more clearly what is at stake in their struggle. They are determined to raise ever higher the banner of the struggle to defend their national cause and, through that struggle, to make their contribution to the struggle to counter the strategy of aggression and expansion of Viet Nam and the Soviet Union in the region.

In the present international situation - where the struggle is increasingly bitter between, on the one hand, the forces of aggression and expansion of the Soviet Union, Viet Nam and their allies, and, on the other hand, all forces that cherish peace and justice in the world - Democratic Kampuchea, the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea and the Kampuchean people must make a choice in order to ensure the survival of the Kampuchean nation. They have chosen to side resolutely and unequivocally with the international front of all the forces that oppose the strategy of aggression and expansion of Viet Nam, the Soviet Union and their allies.

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The Vietnamese enemy is confronted with insurmountable difficulties in all fields. It has been driven into a situation from which there is no escape. It will, however, make every possible effort to maintain its grip on Kampuchea:

1. By persistently sending further military reinforcements to Kampuchea in order to fill the void left by its troops that have been eliminated and to pursue its genocidal war in Kampuchea;
2. By massacring the Kampuchean people on an even greater scale;

3. By continuing to engage in a variety of perfidious diplomatic manoeuvres.

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Our nation, our people, our cadres and our combatants, both men and women, must redouble their vigilance, overcome all obstacles and use every possible means to complete the tasks of the 1980/81 dry season:

1. On the military front, we must continue to step up and strengthen our attacks on the Vietnamese enemy in order to wipe out its manpower; the plan we have established for the 1980/81 dry season sets the number of Vietnamese soldiers to be put out of combat at 70,000.

2. Politically, we must continue to implement fully the new strategic policy of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, the political programme of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea, and the guiding principles of the directives of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, and to consolidate further the forces of union of the nation and the people, both inside and outside the country, in order to put even greater vigour into every aspect of the struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressor.

3. And we must continue to mobilize the support of all forces in the world that cherish peace, independence and justice so that they may exert pressure on the Vietnamese enemy with a view to obliging it to withdraw all its troops from Kampuchea and in order to bring about the failure of its perfidious manoeuvres.

* * *

At this juncture, when the successfully completed tasks of the wet season lie behind us and we are about to enter the 1980/81 dry season, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea appeal to the entire Kampuchean people, to all fellow citizens both inside and outside the country: to continue to raise ever higher the banner of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea; to consolidate further all the forces of the nation and the people; and to unite in a single bloc in order to wage the struggle, in all its forms, against the Vietnamese aggressors of the Le-Duan clique, until they disappear altogether from the territory of our beloved Kampuchea, for which we are quite ready to sacrifice our lives. The Government and the Front call upon all the cadres and combatants, both men and women, of our national army and on all our guerrillas and on the senior staff and the personnel of all our administrative and governmental bodies to pursue their glorious tradition of struggle and to raise ever higher the standard of battle in order to discharge the manifold tasks of every kind incumbent on them, displaying to the full their sense of responsibility for the fate of the Kampuchean nation and people, and thus help to perform successfully the tasks of the 1980/81 dry season in all areas, in order to bring about further great victories until the final victory is achieved over the Vietnamese aggressors of the Le-Duan clique.

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On this same occasion, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea appeal to

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countries, governments, peoples, mass organizations and eminent individuals that cherish peace, independence and justice to continue to support vigorously the cause of the Kampuchean people in their struggle:

By continuing to exert pressure on Hanoi to withdraw all its troops from Kampuchea, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/22, and allow the Kampuchean people to decide their future themselves without any outside interference;

By pursuing their concerted efforts to thwart the perfidious manoeuvres of Hanoi so that it cannot maintain its grip on Kampuchea;

By pursuing their action to prevent the Vietnamese forces of aggression from continuing to massacre the Kampuchean people with weapons of all kinds, including starvation and chemical devices;

By continuing to grant sufficient humanitarian assistance, to distribute it on the Thai-Kampuchean border and to take measures to distribute it directly to the Kampuchean population living in regions temporarily under the control of the Vietnamese enemy.

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On this occasion the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea also appeal to the Vietnamese people to step up and intensify their struggle against the war of aggression of the Le-Duan clique in Kampuchea with a view to rapidly putting an end to the tragedy of the Kampuchean people and to the misfortunes and sufferings of the Vietnamese people themselves. The Vietnamese people have derived no benefit from this war of aggression, which has brought them nothing but ruin, sorrow and separation. They were already broken by over 30 years of war and had suffered very deeply. The Le-Duan clique has now dispossessed them of the little property, money and food they still had in order to feed its war of aggression in Kampuchea. Their sons and daughters and their husbands and wives are being snatched from their arms and thrown into the flames of the war of aggression in Kampuchea. The increasingly cruel policies of impoverishment, fascism and terror to which the Vietnamese people are being subjected by the Le-Duan clique are a consequence of the impasse in which that clique finds itself in its war of aggression in Kampuchea. As long as the Le-Duan clique continues this war it will become increasingly bogged down and will intensify all the more its policies of impoverishment, fascism and terror. At the same time, it will make Viet Nam a colony of the Soviet Union, destined to be an even more contemptible pawn of the latter. The Vietnamese people and youth will then be indefinitely condemned to be enlisted as cannon fodder to serve the needs of the Soviet Union's strategy of aggression and expansion.

Moreover, the Le-Duan clique has no hope whatsoever of winning this war of aggression it is waging in Kampuchea. How can the Le-Duan clique of Hanoi avoid ultimate defeat when it is undermined by internal discord and must face the growing insecurity that is spreading throughout Viet Nam and stronger and stronger opposition from the people, when it is denounced and condemned by the entire world,

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and when Viet Nam's economy is tottering and is bled further daily? Its master, the Soviet Union, has a very heavy burden to bear in the Vietnamese war of aggression in Kampuchea. It will not be able to save the Le-Duan clique from ultimate defeat, whatever it does, particularly since it is itself becoming bogged down in Afghanistan and must, in addition, bear the burden of the deterioration of the situation in Poland.

It is therefore only once the Le-Duan clique has withdrawn all its forces of aggression from Kampuchea that, simultaneously, peace and security will be restored to the Kampuchean people and the Vietnamese people will have peace and tranquillity.

The Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea have already stated repeatedly that, provided that the Le-Duan clique withdraws all its troops from Kampuchea, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, the Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union of Kampuchea and the Kampuchean people will harbour no grudges and will demand no compensation. Our two countries and our two peoples will, moreover, be able to coexist as good neighbours, in peace and tranquillity, on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

Democratic Kampuchea,
18 October 1980

Office of the Prime Minister
