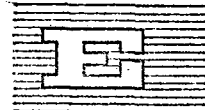


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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Thirty-sixth session
Agenda item 12

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS
IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL
AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Letter dated 25 February 1980 from the Permanent Mission of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the thirty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for your information, the text, in English, of a petition sponsored by The Kampuchea Support Committee-L.A., The Nationalist - a Cambodian community newspaper, Committee for the Independence of Laos and Concerned Thai Patriots, addressed to Mr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations. Up to 6 February 1980, this petition had been signed by 420 Kampucheans and 119 Laos residing in the United States of America, as well as by 86 American citizens.

"We the undersigned community people, students, workers and professionals of the United States of America fully support the United Nations resolution condemning the armed invasion of Cambodia by the Vietnamese government, within which the government of the United States also took a positive stand opposing the invasion. In addition, we ask of the United Nations to open discussions to specifically condemn the use of lethal poison gas on the men, women and children of Cambodia by the occupation forces of the Vietnamese government. Secondly, we urge the United Nations to investigate the use of poison gas on the population of Laos by the same Vietnamese forces, in particular against the Hmong people of Laos who are resisting the Vietnamese invaders.

"65,000 Cambodians (Kampucheans) per week die from famine and starvation due to the genocidal policies of the Vietnamese authorities, now augmented by the use of chemical warfare. In response, the international community has contributed tons of food and medical supplies to Cambodia (Kampuchea). This is indeed the utmost expression of human concern for fellow man at a critical time which must continue to rally together and take action to pressure the Vietnamese authorities

and their supporters, the Soviet Union to completely withdraw from Cambodia and to immediately halt their acts of aggression in Southeast Asia. Unless the sending of food and supplies to the starving millions in Cambodia goes hand in hand with mass pressure for the independence of Cambodia, much of the relief can and has wound up in the warehouses of the Vietnamese authorities.

"The time is now to act :!"

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Commission on Human Rights under item 12 of the agenda for the present session.

(Signed) CHAN YOURAN
Deputy Head of Delegation