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SECURITY COUNCIL Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 3 March 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the note sent by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China on 2 March 1979 and request you to have it circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 46 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(<u>Signed</u>) HA VAN LAU

Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

^{*} A/34/50.

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ANNEX

Note dated 2 March 1979 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam wishes to make clear as follows the views of the Vietnamese side regarding note No. 10-40/79 of 1 March 1979 addressed by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Vietnamese Embassy in China:

1. Over the past few years, in spite of the Chinese rulers' intensifying provocations and threats, the Vietnamese people and Government, for the sake of peace and the traditional friendship between the two peoples, have shown the utmost self-restraint and tried by every means to reach a negotiated settlement of all problems in the relations between Viet Nam and China.

In the border issue, not counting the many talks between border provinces of the two countries, the Vietnamese Government on two occasions sent its delegation to Peking for talks with the Chinese Government's delegation. The Vietnamese side made clear its just stand of strictly respecting the frontier left by history in keeping with the spirit of the agreement reached between the two sides in 1957-1958; at the same time, it clearly showed its goodwill, however, as the Chinese side, with its big-Power expansionist and hegemonist ambitions, showed no desire whatsoever to settle the problem, the talks did not bring about any result.

2. On 17 February 1979, the Chinese rulers brazenly launched a massive military attack on the whole length of the Viet Nam-China border, thus starting a war of aggression against Viet Nam. On the same day, the Hsin Hua News Agency made public a statement justifying the Chinese rulers' aggressive designs and putting forward, in an attempt to fool public opinion, the idea of the two sides sitting together for discussions about the so-called "restoration of peace and security on the border between the two countries".

In face of the aggression, the Vietnamese people, united as one man, have risen up with the firm resolve to fight in defence of the independence, sovereignty and sacred territorial integrity of their fatherland; they have dealt the aggressors first telling blows.

The Chinese rulers' aggression against Viet Nam has immediately aroused a wave of indignation around the world. Right from the first hours, the peoples have completely sided with Viet Nam, strongly supporting the Vietnamese people's just fight, energetically condemning the Chinese rulers' war of aggression, and urging them to stop the aggression and pull all Chinese troops out of Viet Nam.

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In face of this situation, the Chinese rulers, on the one hand, have frantically sent reinforcements of troops and war means and materials to the China-Viet Nam border and on the very territory of Viet Nam, on the other hand, they have put forward a proposal for talks between the two sides, so-called "to end the present border conflict between the two countries". Obviously, this is a Johnson-type trick which consists in proposing "peace talks" at each escalation of the war. The Chinese rulers, having followed the ruts of the United States imperialists and hysterically waged an aggressive war on Viet Nam, have completely imitated the United States deceptive trick of "peace talks". They are bound to fail as the United States imperialists have failed.

3. The stand of the Vietnamese people and Government is clear:

The Chinese rulers, having started the war of aggression in Viet Nam, must put a permanent end to the aggression, they must withdraw immediately, completely and unconditionally their troops to the other side of the historical frontier which the two sides have agreed to respect, they must strictly respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Viet Nam.

In this way, the Vietnamese side is ready to enter into talks with the Chinese side with a view to restoring normal relations between the two countries, thus meeting the legitimate aspirations of the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples and the desire of the world's peoples.