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SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 28 March 1979 from the Permanent Representative of China
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the texts of two notes dated 19 and 26 March 1979, respectively, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. I request that these notes be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 11 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) CHEN Chu
Permanent Representative of the
People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

* A/34/50.

ANNEX I

Note dated 19 March 1979 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the People's Republic of China to the Ministry of Foreign
Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

1. In its note of 15 March (A/34/121-S/13174, annex) the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam fabricated falsehoods and vicious slanders against the Chinese frontier troops and even groundlessly accused the Chinese side of moving boundary markers and changing the historical boundary. Even before the negotiations start, the Vietnamese side has already concocted strange tales and frenziedly tried to stir up opposition and hostility to China and place serious obstacles in the way of negotiations. The Chinese side expresses its deep regret at the lack of good faith on the part of the Vietnamese side.
2. In order to settle the disputes between the two countries, restore their normal relations and ensure peace and tranquillity in the areas along the Sino-Vietnamese border in the interest of preserving the traditional friendship between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples, the Chinese Government has repeatedly proposed prompt negotiations between the Chinese and Vietnamese sides. Now we welcome the Vietnamese side's agreement to the holding of negotiations.
3. The Chinese Government specifically proposes that Sino-Vietnamese negotiations at the level of Vice-Foreign Ministers start about 28 March, that the negotiations be held in turn in Hanoi and Beijing, capitals of the two countries, with their first round to be held in Hanoi, to show the sincere desire of the Chinese side. The Chinese side will send a Government delegation of the People's Republic of China headed by Vice-Foreign Minister Han Nianlong. It is proposed that the two sides discuss measures for the restoration of normal relations between the two countries and preservation of the traditional friendship between the two peoples; that they consult on ways to ensure peace and tranquillity in the areas along their border and then proceed to settle the boundary and territorial disputes and that they settle the other disputes existing between the two countries.
4. The Chinese Government has always highly valued the traditional friendship between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples and made efforts to uphold it, and stood for the settlement of disputes through negotiations. In order to facilitate negotiations, the Chinese side hopes that the Vietnamese side will set store by the traditional friendship between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples, change its erroneous policy of opposition and hostility to China and stop all armed provocations and incursions into China.

ANNEX II

Note dated 26 March 1979 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the People's Republic of China to the Ministry of Foreign
Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

1. In its reply note of 21 March 1979 to the Chinese Foreign Ministry (A/34/127-S/13186, annex II), the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry continued to repeat its slanders and attacks against the Chinese side and placed grave obstacles in the way of negotiations between China and Viet Nam at the level of Vice-Foreign Ministers, which by agreement between the two sides was to be held, so that there is the danger that the negotiations may not be able to begin soon. The Chinese Government cannot but express its great regret at this.
2. The Vietnamese side alleged in its reply note that Chinese troops were still stationed at over a dozen places in Viet Nam and that the Chinese side had moved boundary markers and sent out armed forces to intrude into Vietnamese territory. All these charges are pure fabrications. Obviously, the Vietnamese authorities have used such groundless pretexts to obstruct the holding of negotiations in order to suit their domestic and external needs, which are: internally, continued whipping up of anti-China hysteria, nation-wide military mobilization and intensified militarist rule so as to suppress the people and divert their discontent; and externally, fooling international opinion and diverting the attention of Governments and peoples who strongly demand the withdrawal of the Vietnamese aggressor forces from Kampuchea, so that they may step up their military operation to annex Democratic Kampuchea and realize their plan for an "Indochinese Federation".
3. It should be pointed out that recently Viet Nam has been busy moving up its troops and massing them along the Sino-Vietnamese border, where they are building fortifications and in several areas making armed provocations by continually firing at and shelling Chinese territory. One high-level officer of the Vietnamese army even openly called for a "counterattack" against China. Why should the Vietnamese authorities deliberately perpetuate tension on the Sino-Vietnamese border to the detriment of the Vietnamese people? This cannot but arouse the grave suspicion and concern of the Chinese people and the people of all countries.
4. The Chinese Government solemnly reaffirms that all Chinese frontier troops were withdrawn to Chinese territory as of 16 March, without leaving a single soldier on Vietnamese territory. China has carried out its word in earnest. But now the Vietnamese side is creating side issues and prevaricating to obstruct the holding of negotiations. This only further exposes the Vietnamese authorities' intention of continuing to create tension and their lack of sincere desire for a negotiated settlement of the disputes. The Vietnamese side must bear full responsibility if, on account of the above, negotiations between China and Viet Nam at the level of Vice-Foreign Ministers fail to begin in the near future.

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5. It is hoped that the Vietnamese authorities will cherish the Vietnamese people's fundamental interests and value the traditional friendship between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples, and retract from the road of practising militarism, pursuing a hostile anti-China policy and pulling chestnuts out of the fire for other people. A negotiated solution of the problems would be better. The Chinese Government sincerely hopes to see negotiations start soon. It has put forward reasonable proposals on their time, place and topics and appointed the head of the delegation. It awaits a positive response from the Vietnamese side to its specific proposals.
