

# UNITED NATIONS



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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE  
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 28 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, for your information, the text of the note dated 27 March 1979 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China and request you to have this note circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 46 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) HA VAN LAU  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative  
to the United Nations

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\* A/34/50.

ANNEX

Note dated 27 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 makes clear the views of the Vietnamese side on the note dated 16 March 1979 from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

1. To justify their criminal war of aggression against Viet Nam and delay the Viet Nam-China talks at the Vice-Foreign-Minister level, the Chinese rulers have once again made right wrong by criticizing and grossly slandering Viet Nam. The Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs fully rejects these utterly unreasonable allegations.

2. It is necessary to make clear that the Chinese rulers' assertion that by 16 March 1979 all their troops had been withdrawn to China, without leaving a single soldier on Vietnamese territory, is sheer deception.

Prior to 17 February 1979, when the Chinese authorities started their war of aggression on Viet Nam, the Chinese side had nibbled off many areas in Vietnamese territory and tried to use the so-called "status quo border line" to occupy the areas they had encroached upon.

Recently, following their heavy defeat on the battlefield and in the face of strong condemnation by world public opinion and opposition by the Chinese people, the Chinese rulers had to take their troops home. Yet, to this day, Chinese troops still occupy more than 10 places in Vietnamese territory which were administered by Viet Nam before 17 February 1979. These places include:

(a) In Lang Son Province: Keo Lac Vai (marker-posts 19-20, Friendship Gate); Po Coc Phung (marker-posts 17-18, Friendship Gate); a former French garrison (marker-post 19, Friendship Gate); Na Hinh (marker-post 6, Van Lang District); and Po Pun-Leo Cao (marker-posts 15-16, Van Lang District).

(b) In Cao Bang Province: Chong Mu Hill (marker-posts 62-63, Trung Khanh District); Ly Van (marker-posts 48-49, Trung Khanh District); and Can Yen (marker-post 121, Thong Nong District).

(c) In Ha Tuyen Province: Thuong Phung (marker-posts 20-21, Meo Vac District).

(d) In Hoang Lien Son Province: Nam Mit of Bat Xat District.

3. While refusing to take all their troops home and continuing to mass Chinese armed forces close to the Vietnamese and Lao borders and to fire artillery

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and other kinds of weapons on Vietnamese territory, the Chinese authorities declared that they reserved the right to "counter-attack" in an attempt to prepare for new military adventures against Viet Nam, just as they recently used the pretext of "counter-attack in self-defence" to justify their war of aggression. Moreover, the Chinese rulers have uttered brazen slanders against Viet Nam's correct domestic and foreign policies. It is starkly clear that the note dated 26 March 1979 from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs aims at delaying and evading the negotiations at the Vice-Foreign-Minister level between the two countries.

Meanwhile, the Chinese rulers have made contentions to cover up their continued interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea and their acts of sabotage and threats of aggression against Laos. These actions have further exposed their wicked expansionist and big-nation hegemonist design.

4. In the note dated 21 March 1979 from the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (A/34/127-S/13186, annex II), the Vietnamese side clearly stated that, if by 28 March 1979 all Chinese troops had been taken home, it proposed that the talks begin on 29 March 1979 and be held in Hanoi and Peking alternately; the first round of talks would be in Hanoi. But so far, the Chinese side has not yet responded to this fair and reasonable proposal.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam once again affirms that, one day after the withdrawal of Chinese troops from the places they still occupy on Vietnamese territory, the Vietnamese side will start negotiations with the Chinese side. The Vietnamese Government has appointed Vice-Minister Phan Hien head of its negotiating delegation; the Chinese Government delegation will be welcomed if it is present in Hanoi at that time.

Let the Chinese side honour the friendship between the peoples of our two countries, as well as peace and stability in this region and in the world, and seriously respond to Viet Nam's proposal so that the talks at the Vice-Foreign-Minister level may begin soon.

Responsibility for the delay of the talks rests entirely with the Chinese side.

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