

UNITED NATIONS



GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



SECURITY
COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

A/34/173
S/13237
10 April 1979
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-fourth session
Items 3 and 46 of the preliminary list*
CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE
THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 10 April 1979 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to call your attention to the fact that, for some time, a certain individual, known as Thiounn Prasith, who represents no one, since the notorious régime which he claims to represent was overthrown and swept away by the people of Kampuchea on 7 January 1979, is shamefully abusing the machinery of the United Nations to disseminate a series of untruthful statements containing defamatory material and treacherous attacks against certain Members of the United Nations, and particularly against my own country, Laos, and its leaders.

While strongly and most contemptuously rejecting all the lies, fabrications and slanderous allegations contained in those statements, the Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic wishes to make a clarification, explaining the position of its Government both with regard to the situation in Kampuchea and the representation of that country and of the people of Kampuchea in the United Nations and all its related agencies.

Since 7 January 1979, the date of the overthrow of the fascist Pol Pot-Ieng Sary régime, which was practising genocide within its frontiers and a policy of overt provocation and aggression towards the neighbouring countries of Laos, Viet Nam and Thailand, the self-styled "Democratic Kampuchea" has ceased to exist. A new régime, that of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, has been governing and is governing the country and effectively exercising control over the entire territory at present.

* A/34/50.

These are irrefutable facts which cannot be disregarded or distorted if justice is to be done to the heroic people of Kampuchea, who for three long years have suffered under a régime practising the most barbarous repression and who have not yet finished counting their dead, who amount to over three million, because of the policy of genocide practised by the defunct Pol Pot-Ieng Sary régime.

Besides, by overthrowing the tyrannical Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, the heroic people of Kampuchea have merely exercised their sacred and inalienable right to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. They have not infringed on the independence, sovereignty or territorial integrity of any neighbouring country. On the contrary, they have quenched a hotbed of war which was threatening to break out at any moment, as a result of the repeated acts of provocation and aggression perpetrated by the bellicose Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique against Laos, Viet Nam and Thailand.

However, completely misrepresenting the facts, the ousted Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, in an effort to confuse international public opinion, at the instigation and with the logistical support of its masters in Peking, set about distorting the truth, dividing and slandering neighbouring countries, such as Laos and Viet Nam, and accusing them of being behind its overthrow, which was the inevitable consequence of its practice of genocide and transformation of Kampuchea into a testing ground for the cultural revolution which went bankrupt elsewhere during the 1960s.

These are treacherous manoeuvres which no people, and none of the Governments of the three countries of Indo-China, can tolerate as they constitute blatant interference in their internal affairs and seek to represent criminals as martyrs of "independence". Worse still, behind these manoeuvres lurk the most serious dangers to peace and stability in Indo-China and South-East Asia, since they are designed to serve the interests of Peking's implementation of its policy of hegemony and great-Power expansionism in that part of the world.

The people of Kampuchea are one; the nation of Kampuchea is one and indivisible. The representation of Kampuchea in the United Nations and all its related agencies must reflect these facts, or else it would be a travesty detrimental to the proper functioning of the United Nations which, according to its Charter, should consist of sovereign and independent States and not of puppet régimes.

Consequently the self-styled "Democratic Kampuchea", which was already dead, and buried on 7 January 1979 by the people of Kampuchea, has no semblance of right or authority to appoint the Permanent Representative of Kampuchea and of the people of Kampuchea to the United Nations. Furthermore, the fact that this puppet régime, which never during its lifetime dreamed of performing this diplomatic duty, hastened to do so during the two months following its overthrow, merely provides further proof of its growing subjection to Peking, which has sought at all costs to use it in international fora as an instrument of its expansionist policy in Indo-China and South-East Asia.

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Consequently the device of publishing through the United Nations the most inventive editorials and documents, taken directly from China, which the puppet Thiounn Prasith has been employing for some time is an affront to the principles of the United Nations since it serves as a cover for the treacherous manoeuvres of the Chinese authorities, and must be stopped.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter to be issued as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 3 and 46 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vithaya SOURINHO
Acting Permanent Representative
of the Lao People's Democratic Republic
