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LETTER DATED 16 FEBRUARY 1979 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CHINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a note sent by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China to the Vietnamese Embassy in China on 16 February 1979, most strongly protesting against the Vietnamese authorities' dispatch of armed personnel to encroach upon China's territory, kill Chinese personnel and raid Chinese trains, creating new grave incidents of bloodshed.

I would request that this note be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

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

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Annex

CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S NOTE OF PROTEST AGAINST
VIETNAMESE ENCROACHMENT UPON CHINESE TERRITORY AND
CREATION OF BLOODSHED, DATED 16 FEBRUARY 1979

In disregard of the repeated warnings made by the Chinese Government, the Vietnamese authorities continued to dispatch large numbers of armed personnel to encroach upon Chinese territory, kill and wound Chinese border guards and inhabitants, creating many grave incidents of bloodshed.

In a short period of five days from 8 to 12 February 1979, Vietnamese armed personnel encroached upon Chinese border areas on nearly 30 occasions in Fangcheng, Ningming, Longzhou, Jingxi and Napo Counties of the Guangxi Chuang Autonomous Region and Funing, Maguan, Malipo, and Hekou Counties of Yunnan Province, killing or wounding 34 Chinese personnel. Ten of them were killed and 18 wounded by mines laid by Vietnamese personnel who stole into Chinese territory; the other four were killed and two wounded by gun fire.

At 1706 and 1830 hours on 12 February, train 8704 and train 2992 of the Kunming Railway Sub-administration, running from Hekou to Kaiyuan, Yunnan, came under heavy rifle and sub-machinegun fire of Vietnamese armed troops at a point 2.5 kilometres away from Hekou. The trains caught many bullets and were seriously damaged. Chinese railway transport in this section was thus suspended and the people's economic life and the safety of passengers were gravely threatened.

The Chinese Government feels immensely indignant at the grave incidents repeatedly created by the Vietnamese authorities along the Sino-Vietnamese border and lodges the strongest protest with the Vietnamese Government against its barbarous atrocities of repeatedly dispatching armed personnel to encroach upon Chinese territory, kill Chinese personnel and raid Chinese trains. The Chinese side warns the Vietnamese authorities in all seriousness that they must immediately and completely stop all their armed provocations, assaults and killing of Chinese armymen and people in the border areas, or they should bear full responsibility for all the consequences arising therefrom.
