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LETTER DATED 17 FEBRUARY 1979 FROM MR. THIOUN PRASITH,
AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF
DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA, ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that the intensification of the Vietnamese aggression and invasion of Democratic Kampuchea is being speeded up at both the military and the political level.

At the military level, besides sending several additional divisions to Kampuchea, the Vietnamese invasion forces (approximately 150,000 men) are increasing their attacks and their barbaric crimes against Kampuchea and the Kampuchean people. They are destroying towns, villages, fields and rice paddies. They are plundering harvests and the works of art and cultural treasures of Angkor. They are massacring the population and are raping women and girls and then killing them. Wherever the Vietnamese hordes go, they are spreading devastation, death and suffering. What is involved is a deliberate policy of genocide aimed at annihilating the nation and people of Kampuchea and completely obliterating the national identity of Kampuchea in order to swallow up Kampuchea and turn it into a Vietnamese province as they did in the seventeenth century in the case of the Kingdom of Champa, which is now central Viet Nam, and in the eighteenth century in the case of certain parts of the territory of Kampuchea, which are now southern Viet Nam.

At the political level, the Vietnamese leaders are engaged in a charade of negotiations and treaties with the Vietnamese administration which they have created out of whole cloth in Phnom Penh, the purpose being to legalize their aggression and invasion of Kampuchea and the absorption of Kampuchea by Viet Nam. The fact that the Vietnamese delegation which is in Phnom Penh on an inspection visit includes the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs, the Deputy Prime Minister in charge of Economic Affairs, the Chief of Staff and the Minister of Culture shows clearly that Viet Nam is preparing to "legally swallow up" Kampuchea and to annihilate Kampuchea as a nation and people in a military, political, economic and cultural sense.

The people of Kampuchea and the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea under the leadership of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea are carrying on a determined struggle for the survival of Kampuchea as a nation, for the survival of Kampuchean civilization.

In the light of this rapid development of the situation created by the Vietnamese aggression and invasion of Democratic Kampuchea and on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to renew my request of 14 February 1979 (S/13085) for an urgent meeting of the Security Council to take up once again and condemn the Vietnamese aggression and invasion of Democratic Kampuchea and to take the necessary action to ensure that Viet Nam halts its aggression and invasion of Democratic Kampuchea, withdraws all its forces of aggression from Kampuchea and respects the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Democratic Kampuchea as well as the right of the people of Kampuchea to decide their own destiny.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Thiounn PRASITH
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
of Democratic Kampuchea
