

UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/12930  
17 November 1978  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

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LETTER DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1978 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF DEMOCRATIC  
KAMPUCHEA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to document S/12919 of 8 November 1978, the delegation of Democratic Kampuchea has the honour to transmit to you a copy of a statement issued by the Department of Press and Information of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea, on 7 November 1978 condemning the use of toxic gas bombs by the Vietnamese forces of aggression in the territory of Democratic Kampuchea.

The delegation of Democratic Kampuchea requests you to arrange for the circulation of the text of this letter and this statement as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tim HOK  
Ambassador Extraordinary  
and Plenipotentiary

Annex

Statement issued by the Department of Press and Information  
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea  
at Phnom Penh on 7 November 1978

Viet Nam has suffered increasingly heavy defeats on the Kampuchea front and is struggling ever more frenziedly to pursue its aggression against Kampuchea.

Since their infantry has been defeated, the Vietnamese aggressors have resorted to using their air force. But the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea has brought down the Vietnamese aircraft, which have proved to be ineffective, one after the other. Faced with a serious impasse, the Vietnamese aggressors have become ever more furious and are redoubling their cruelty. On 28 and 29 October and 1 and 2 November 1978, they used 105 mm guns to fire toxic gas bombs at the territory of Kampuchea, at Au Yadao in the province of Ratankiri.

The people of Kampuchea and the Government of Democratic Kampuchea denounce and strongly condemn this new crime by Viet Nam. The use of toxic gas bombs by Viet Nam is a further proof, clearly demonstrating the serious situation of defeat and impasse currently faced by Viet Nam and its masters, the Soviet international expansionists, in their aggressive and expansionist acts aimed at the annexation of territory and the elimination of the Kampuchea nation. The peoples of the world see ever more clearly the barbarous and fascist face, resembling that of Hitler, of the Vietnamese and their masters. The people of Kampuchea and the Government of Democratic Kampuchea appeal to public opinion in South-East Asia, Asia and the world to oppose these barbarous acts by Viet Nam and the great Soviet expansionist Power. The conflict between Kampuchea and Viet Nam is not an ordinary frontier conflict. It is an act of aggression aimed at the annexation of territory and the extermination of the Kampuchea nation. Once Viet Nam and the great Soviet expansionist Power have succeeded in taking possession of Kampuchea, they will use it as a springboard to pursue their expansion in South-East Asia.

The people of Kampuchea and the Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea, under the just and clear-sighted leadership of the Communist Party of Kampuchea, are resolutely continuing the struggle to defend Democratic Kampuchea and the Kampuchea nation and to ensure their continued existence, thus making their contribution to the just cause of the defence of national independence and peace in South-East Asia, Asia and the world. The Vietnamese aggressors have suffered successive heavy defeats. They will assuredly suffer even heavier defeats.

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