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LETTER DATED 24 NOVEMBER 1978 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF VIET NAM TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the statement issued by the Information and Press Department of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on 9 November 1978 rejecting the fabricated report of the Phnom Penh authorities on the so-called use by Viet Nam of toxic gas shells.

I would like to request you to arrange for the circulation of the text of this letter and this statement as a document of the Security Council.

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

Annex

Statement issued by the Information and Press Department of
the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic
of Viet Nam on 9 November 1978

On 7 November 1978, the Propaganda and Press Department of the Foreign Ministry of Kampuchea issued a press communiqué on the so-called firing by Viet Nam of 105 mm toxic gas shells at Au Yadao in Ratankiri Province. The Hsinhwa News Agency promptly repeated and commented on the report.

The Information and Press Department of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam flatly rejects the above-mentioned fabricated report of the Kampuchean side.

This is an extremely brazen and odious slanderous allegation of the Phnom Penh authorities aimed at defending themselves against world opinion, which is earnestly condemning their crimes against the Vietnamese people and their genocidal action against the Kampuchean people, and also at covering up the fact that the Peking authorities are increasingly supplying weapons of various kinds, sending more advisers and military personnel to Kampuchea in order to prepare with the Kampuchean authorities for new military adventures against Viet Nam and suppress the Kampuchean people.
