



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/37/152
S/14915
22 March 1982
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-seventh session
Items 20 and 54 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA
CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL
(BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-seventh year

Letter dated 19 March 1982 from the Permanent Representative
of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your information, the statement issued on 9 March 1982 by the Ministry of Information of Democratic Kampuchea condemning the intensification of the criminal use of chemical weapons by the aggressor Hanoi clique in an attempt to exterminate the Kampuchean population.

I should be very grateful if you would transmit this text to the Group of Experts to Investigate Reports on the Alleged Use of Chemical Weapons, and if you would have it circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 20 and 54 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) THIOUNN Prasith
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Democratic Kampuchea

* A/37/50.

Annex

STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION OF DEMOCRATIC
KAMPUCHEA CONDEMNING THE INTENSIFICATION OF THE CRIMINAL USE
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS BY THE AGGRESSOR HANOI CLIQUE IN AN
ATTEMPT TO EXTERMINATE THE KAMPUCHEAN POPULATION

On 1 and 2 March 1982, the aggressor Hanoi clique sent its planes to discharge "yellow rain" over the villages of our people in the Pailin district, Battambang province (north-western region). There were 189 casualties, including three dead.

On 26, 27 and 28 February, in the same Pailin district, the Vietnamese aggressors fired shells containing toxic gas from 105-mm guns and 82-mm mortars. They also used planes to discharge "yellow rain" over the villages of Sala Krao and Phnom Kuy, and along route 10. Two villagers were killed and 28 are in very critical condition. Nine have been seriously affected and many others have been more or less poisoned.

It should be noted too that between 25 January and 13 February, Vietnamese planes also discharged toxic chemicals in the Western Leach region, causing several casualties, including six persons now in critical condition, who would have died in 12 or 24 hours had they not received adequate treatment in time.

In addition, the aggressor Hanoi clique is sending Vietnamese agents to infiltrate all parts of the regions temporarily under the control of Viet Nam and to poison the water supply and inject poison into food-stuffs sold at markets, and even into fruit still hanging on trees, with a view to exterminating the Kampuchean population in a most criminal and vile fashion.

Even as the international community is urging Viet Nam and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to halt this criminal use of universally-prohibited chemical weapons, the Hanoi authorities, flouting this reasonable demand, are stepping up the use of such weapons even more frantically than ever - especially as the Soviet Union is lavishing on Viet Nam chemical weapons of every description. The number of Kampuchean casualties has steadily increased from day to day.

The aggressor Hanoi clique, having failed to get the better of Kampuchea, which it had expected to be a walk-over, and seeing instead its 250,000-man strong aggression force become more and more bogged down in the battle-fields of Kampuchea, has, as a last resort, turned to this chemical warfare with the aim of overcoming the determination of the people and National Army of Democratic Kampuchea and of finally realizing its expansionist strategy.

On behalf of the victims and on behalf of the people of Kampuchea as a whole, the Ministry of Information of Democratic Kampuchea denounces and condemns, with the utmost vigour, the crimes of genocide perpetrated, by means of chemical

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weapons, by the aggressor Le Duan clique against the Kampuchean people. The Ministry appeals to peace-loving and justice-loving Governments, political parties, peoples' organizations and individuals throughout the world to condemn the use of chemical weapons in Kampuchea by the Hanoi authorities and to demand an immediate halt to that practice. In particular, it calls on the United Nations to send, as a matter of urgency, a commission of inquiry to Kampuchea, as was decided at the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly in connexion with the use of chemical weapons by the Vietnamese and Soviet aggressors in Kampuchea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Afghanistan, to collect concrete evidence on the spot and to take appropriate action to stop, in time, the extermination of the Kampuchean population by Vietnamese chemical weapons. The Ministry of Information of Democratic Kampuchea takes this opportunity to express its approval of the reports on the results of the analysis of blood samples from nine Kampuchean victims of Vietnamese chemical weapons towards the end of 1981, reports which the Permanent Representative of the United States of America produced and transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 24 February 1982 (A/37/102, dated 25 February 1982).

With a view to halting, in the near future, the criminal chemical warfare waged by the aggressor Hanoi clique in Kampuchea and in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and by the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, the Ministry of Information of Democratic Kampuchea would also like to appeal to the Governments of the peace-loving and justice-loving countries to support the initiative of the United States, which has suggested the holding of an international conference for the purpose of combating the use of chemical weapons. We hope that it will be possible to hold such a conference as soon as possible, for a number of Kampuchean, Laos and Afghans are the daily victims of the chemical weapons used by the Vietnamese and Soviet criminal aggressors.

Democratic Kampuchea
9 March 1982

Ministry of Information
of Democratic Kampuchea
