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QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND CO-OPERATION IN
SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Letter dated 25 June 1982 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith a transcript of the interview granted on 18 June 1982 by His Excellency Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, to Viet Nam News Agency on his forthcoming visit to South-East Asian countries, and request Your Excellency kindly to have this note and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 35 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) NGUYEN NGOC DUNG
Ambassador

Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
to the United Nations

* A/37/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN CO THACH ANSWERS VNA QUESTIONS
ON HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES.

HANOI VNA JUNE 18 -- Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach today gave the following interview to Viet Nam News Agency :

Question 1.

What countries in Southeast Asia will you visit ?

Answer :

I shall visit Burma to reciprocate the visit to Viet Nam in early 1981 by the Burmese Foreign Minister. Since 1980, Singapore and the Philippines have many times extended invitations to me but not until now did I have the opportunity to gratify them. Also on this occasion, Indonesia and Malaysia have extended me their invitations which I have accepted with pleasure.

Question 2 :

May you tell us the aim of this trip ?

Answer :

Viet Nam's policy toward the ASEAN countries is friendship and cooperation. My trip aims to increase mutual understanding and trust and actively contribute to the cause of peace and stability in the Southeast Asian region.

Question 3 :

Some news agencies and newspapers in the West and in the Asian countries said that you would discuss the "Kampuchean question" with the host countries. Is this true ?

Answer :

I shall discuss with them bilateral questions as well as questions concerning peace and stability in Southeast Asia. The questions which come under the sovereignty of Kampuchea must be solved by the Kampuchean people themselves. The presence of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea accords with the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between Viet Nam and Kampuchea and aims to counter the threat from China and once such threat is removed, Viet Nam and Kampuchea will agree on the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea.
