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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Thirty-ninth session
Item 9 of the agenda

THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND
ITS APPLICATION TO PEOPLES UNDER COLONIAL OR
ALIEN DOMINATION OR FOREIGN OCCUPATION

Letter dated 8 February 1983 from the Permanent
Representative of Democratic Kampuchea to the
United Nations Organization at Geneva addressed
to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

I should be very grateful if you would kindly arrange for this text to be circulated as an official document of the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

(Signed) TE SUN HOA
Permanent Representative

Annex

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

On 1 and 2 February 1983, Vietnamese troops launched a further murderous tank and heavy artillery attack against the innocent civilian population of Kampuchea. With their customary savagery, the Vietnamese forces attacked the Nong Chan camp for Kampuchean refugees near the Khmer-Thai frontier.

The Nong Chan camp was the refuge of more than 30,000 Kampucheans, all of them (men, women, children, babies and old people) unarmed civilians whose only "crime" was and is their refusal to live under the colonialist domination of the Vietnamese, the masters of the group of Heng Samrin, traitor to the Khmer motherland.

The result of this latest criminal attack by the Vietnamese is horrible: the Nong Chan camp for civilian refugees has been destroyed, reduced to ashes, together with its hospital, clinics, schools ... The 30,000 inhabitants of the camp were forced to flee in fear and desperation. There were more than 100 dead or severely wounded, including old people, women, children and babies.

Thanks to the kind concern and customary generosity of the Kingdom of Thailand, our wounded are now being treated in Thai territory.

I condemn with the utmost vigour the fresh crime by the Vietnamese colonialists against the person of the civilian population of Kampuchea, against whom the Vietnamese army has repeatedly employed chemical weapons, including poison gas and "yellow rain", inflicting upon the victims atrocious physical suffering and irremediable harm.

I urge the international community, the countries and peoples that treasure justice, peace, freedom and progress, the United Nations and the great family of the non-aligned nations clearly to condemn the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam for the innumerable crimes it has committed within Kampuchea against my innocent people.

I demand the expulsion of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam from the family of non-aligned countries.

Norodom Sihanouk
President of Democratic Kampuchea

Beijing, 3 February 1983