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

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 18 April 1983 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

At the request of His Excellency Mr. Hun Sen, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea dated 6 April 1983.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 23 and 37 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Xaynhonh KHAMMAVONG
Chargé d'Affaires a. i. of the
Permanent Mission of the
Lao People's Democratic Republic

* A/38/50.

ANNEX

STATEMENT BY THE KAMPUCHEAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The progressive international forces have again been witnessing the spectacle of thief crying "Stop thief!". The men who have committed and are still committing atrocious crimes against the three Indo-Chinese peoples and the peace-loving and freedom-loving peoples of the world have set themselves up as prosecutors through their lies and slanders. They have shouted from the roof-tops that the Vietnamese army volunteers have invaded Thai territory and attacked refugee camps.

The Kampuchean people, who have survived the threat of genocide created by the Mao Tse-tung doctrine, intend to ask the leaders in Washington and Peking, who are protecting those criminals, as well as the leaders in Bangkok and the ASEAN countries, who have joined in the campaign of slander, for what purpose they have launched this campaign.

The whole world knows that the Pol Pot criminals were overthrown by the Kampuchean people on 7 January 1979. Today they are nothing more than a handful of bandits living in desperate straits under disastrous conditions in Thai territory. Nevertheless, those in power in Peking, in collusion with the United States imperialists and other reactionary forces, have fabricated the pretext of "humanitarian aid" so as to rescue those genocidal criminals, who are hated and reviled by all progressive elements. During the past four years, the remnants of the Pol Pot forces have been replenished with arms and supplies. They are being trained to sabotage the renaissance of the Kampuchean people, create tension along the border between Kampuchea and Thailand, and cause instability in South-East Asia. Developments during the past four years have shown that no cruel force is capable of reversing the situation in the People's Republic of Kampuchea, which is continuing the irresistible march towards development and consolidation. The Kampuchean people are now scoring remarkable victories in the national defence effort. All attempts to resuscitate the genocidal régime, under false labels, have failed.

China's leaders have recently been seeking to increase military aid to the reactionary *Khmers*. A number of Chinese and Thai advisers are currently training the Pol Pot bandits in several parts of Thailand. Arms and munitions continue to be transported from China to the refugee bandits in Thai territory. What do they intend to do during this rainy season? Have they not committed enough crimes to slake their thirst? On what authority do they dare speak of the right to life? The desire to reinstate the genocidal régime in Kampuchea is mere wishful thinking. Recently, the Kampuchean people and their armed forces meted out due punishment to the Pol Pot bandits, who, under cover from Thai artillery, had ventured to infiltrate into Kampuchean territory. It can be stated for a fact that Thailand has been directly involved in acts of armed provocation against Kampuchea; it has gone so far as to send F5E jets to bomb the border regions of Kampuchea and has mobilized some of its infantry forces to participate in attacks by the bandits,

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thus causing the local population heavy losses in property and human life. This is a particularly serious case of interference by Thailand, which must therefore bear full responsibility for the consequences.

In order to interfere in the internal affairs of Kampuchea, which is a sovereign and independent nation, free to exercise its right of self-defence, Reagan, Zhao Ziyang and the political leaders of the ASEAN countries have resorted to all kinds of lies and slander. They must have felt, however, the staggering blows which the Kampuchean people have inflicted on their thugs. The Kampuchean people and their armed forces were thus issuing a serious warning, and are determined to punish the bandits if they continue trying to undermine the revolutionary cause and the renaissance of Kampuchea.

The Kampuchean people earnestly aspire to live in peace and friendship with all their neighbours, and, in particular, with the Thai people. It was for that reason that the Kampuchean people proposed the establishment of a demilitarized zone along the border between Kampuchea and Thailand. That proposal was, however, rejected for no good reason. In their spirit of patience, they also proposed the establishment of a security zone along the border between the two countries. That new proposal was also rejected. Why do the Thai authorities persist in following orders from Peking and Washington? They are only damaging the interests of the Thai people.

As always, Kampuchea advocates a policy of peace and international co-operation. All it wants is to live in peace and bring prosperity to its country and happiness to its people. It may be added that all the peace initiatives put forward by the conferences of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the three Indo-Chinese countries, in particular the declarations of the Vientiane summit conference of the three Indo-Chinese countries, bear the stamp of good will and sincerity.

The best way to settle the differences is to have the countries of the region initiate a dialogue on the basis of the principles of equality and mutual respect for interests, without the ideas of one country being imposed on another and without outside interference.

Phnom Penh, 6 April 1983
