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LETTER DATED 6 AUGUST 1970 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CAMBODIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government and further to my letter No. 2614 of 29 July 1970 (S/9895), I have the honour to bring the following to your attention for the information of members of the Security Council:

During the night of 12/13 July 1970, at about 1.45 a.m., several hundred North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong launched massive and simultaneous attacks against the Srâkar Neak and Prèk Takén defence positions.

Considerably outnumbered by the enemy, the Khmer forces were obliged to make a tactical withdrawal.

On 13 July 1970, at about 1.15 p.m., Cambodian forces on operations clashed with some North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong who were occupying a number of cottages at Kirirom.

On 14 July 1970, at about 6.15 a.m., Khmer elements clashed with a group of North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong about 12 kilometres south of Kompong Chhnang. After a short engagement the enemy withdrew, leaving on the battlefield one dead, one automatic rifle with three magazines, one grenade and miscellaneous matériel. They carried off with them two wounded. Casualties on the Cambodian side were one man slightly wounded.

On 14 July 1970, at about 7.30 a.m., Cambodian forces succeeded after a violent engagement in dislodging the North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong from one of the cottages at Kirirom.

With reinforcements and air support, the Khmer forces continued their violent fighting to clear the town of Kirirom.

On 14 July 1970, at about 8 a.m., there was a skirmish with about a hundred North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong near Phniet, 32 kilometres south of Prey Vèng. After two hours of fighting, the enemy withdrew leaving on the battlefield nine dead, one 60 mm mortar, one machine-gun, one B-40, 4 Chinese sub-machine-guns, one 25 radio and munitions. They carried off with them several killed and wounded.

Two North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong were taken prisoner on this occasion.

On 14 July 1970, at about 9.30 a.m., there was a brief skirmish north of the village of Wat Prasat, about 8 kilometres south of Tram Khnar, in Takéo, between Cambodian and North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong patrol elements. The enemy withdrew immediately.

On the same day, at about 1.30 p.m., Cambodian forces engaged in a mopping-up operation clashed with a North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong force estimated at 200 men at Bat Rokar, 18 kilometres north of Takéo.

The enemy withdrew at about 7.30 p.m., leaving on the battlefield thirty-eight dead, one automatic rifle, four magazines, one batch of cartridges and a bicycle. They carried away with them several dead and wounded.

Casualties on the Cambodian side were four killed and nine wounded.

On 14 July 1970, there was a skirmish at the village of Phum Khnong, about 10 kilometres north of Skun, in Kompong Cham, between Cambodian and North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong elements.

During the night of 14/15 July 1970, a defence position at the town of Siemreap was harassed by the North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong.

On 15 July 1970, at about 2 a.m., the North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong harassed with mortar fire a defence position at Phnom-Chiso, about 23 kilometres north of Takéo, wounding three Khmer soldiers.

On 15 July 1970, at about 8.30 a.m., another clash took place about 10 kilometres south of Neak Luong, in Prey Vèng. After a violent engagement the enemy dispersed, leaving on the battlefield six dead, forty 60 mm mortar bombs and a ton of ammunition. They carried away with them several dead and wounded. Three North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong were captured during this engagement.

On 15 July 1970, at about 7 p.m., the defence positions at Longvek, in Kompong Chhnang, were violently attacked by the North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong. The Khmer forces counter-attacked energetically, breaking up several attempted onslaughts by the enemy.

During the night of 15/16 July 1970, at about 10.30 p.m., a Khmer Defence Force position in the commune of Sla, about 18 kilometres north of Takéo, was harassed with mortar and machine-gun fire by the North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong. Energetic retaliation by the Khmer defenders silenced the enemy's fire. Traces of blood found on the battlefield indicate that the North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong carried off with them a number of killed and wounded. Casualties on the Cambodian side on this occasion were two wounded.

On 16 July 1970, at about 11 a.m., during a mopping-up operation in the southern sector, Cambodian forces clashed with about fifty North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong 5 kilometres south of the town of Kompong Thom. After two hours of fighting, the enemy withdrew leaving on the battlefield four dead, one 30 mm automatic rifle, some grenades, a large batch of ammunition and a bicycle. They carried off with them several killed and wounded.

During the night of 16/17 July 1970, the Chhoeu Kach centre, about 26 kilometres south of Prey Vèng, was attacked by the North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong.

During the night of 16/17 July 1970, at about midnight, a defence position in the commune of Sla, about 18 kilometres north of the town of Takéo, was harassed by mortar fire by the North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong. Energetic retaliation by the Khmer defenders silenced the enemy's fire. On this occasion, five Cambodian soldiers were wounded.

On 17 July 1970, after several unsuccessful attacks on Longvèk, in Kompong Chhnang, the North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong confined their activities to sporadic attacks on the forces defending that locality. The provisional estimate of casualties was as follows: several killed and wounded on the enemy side and one killed and approximately a dozen wounded on the Khmer side.

On the same day, in the course of a search operation, Cambodian forces clashed with a group of North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong some 7 kilometres east of Kompong Chhnang. As a result of the engagement several of the enemy forces were killed and wounded. One member of the Khmer forces was killed and two were slightly wounded.

On the same day, another skirmish took place at Tuol Khnal, some 6 kilometres north of Kompong Chhnang, after which the North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong withdrew, carrying dead and wounded with them.

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On 18 July 1970, North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong forces, estimated at several hundred, attacked the forces defending Chhnoc Trou, some 40 kilometres north-west of the town of Kompong Chhnang.

On 18 July 1970, at about 12 noon, in the course of a reconnaissance operation, Cambodian forces clashed with North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong 16 kilometres west of the town of Svay Rieng. The enemy withdrew leaving behind eight dead and four Chinese rifles. However, three North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong were captured. Two members of the Cambodian forces were wounded.

On 18 July 1970, at about 2 p.m., in the course of a search operation, Cambodian forces clashed with North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong near the Pagoda at Thippadey, some 28 kilometres north-west of the town of Siemreap. Re-enforcements were sent to the scene and the fighting lasted until midnight.

On the same day, at about 5 p.m., two military lorries were attacked by North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong on National Route 1 some 20 kilometres north-west of the town of Svay Rieng. Vigorous retaliation by the Khmer forces obliged the enemy to withdraw with losses. Three Cambodians, including two civilians, were wounded.

On 18 July 1970, at about 5.15 p.m., a skirmish took place south of the village known as Phum Kay ROUNG, some seven kilometres north of Tram Khnar, in Kompong Speu. After two hours of fighting the enemy withdrew, carrying dead and wounded with them.

One member of the Khmer forces was wounded.

On 18 July 1970, at about 5.15 p.m., Cambodian forces clashed with some hundred North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong at a village called Phum Khnong, some 9 kilometres north of Skoun in Kompong Cham. After several minutes of shooting the enemy dispersed in order to avoid combat, taking dead and wounded with them.

Two members of the Khmer forces were slightly wounded.

On 18 July 1970, during the evening, some hundred North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong attacked a defence position at Saang, in Kandal.

During the night of 18/19 July 1970, at about 8.15 p.m., a defence position in the town of Siemreap was strafed by North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong. With air support, the Khmer forces vigorously retaliated, forcing the enemy to withdraw.

On 19 July 1970, at about 1 a.m., Cambodian forces clashed with some hundred North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong at Kirirom. After an engagement lasting about twenty minutes, the enemy withdrew and took up a position in a country house, from which it continued to fire sporadically at the Khmer forces. The toll resulting from that engagement was as follows: four North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong killed outright, weapons and ammunition captured, including one 82-mm mortar, one 12.7-mm machine-gun, four American rifles, four Russian sub-machine-guns, twenty-nine anti-tank machine-guns, six Mas-36 rifles, twelve M1 Garand rifles, four cases of 60-mm mortar shells, four 82-mm mortar shells, four cases of grenades, three cases of 12.7-mm cartridges, four cases of Russian cartridges and some damaged weapons.

One member of the Cambodian forces was killed and five were wounded.

On 19 July 1970, shortly before dawn, the town of Kompong Thom was harassed with mortar fire by the North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong. No losses were reported.

On 19 July 1970, at about 8 a.m., Cambodian forces on operations clashed with North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong some 20 kilometres west of the town of Svay Rieng. After several hours of combat, with assistance from Khmer artillery and air forces the enemy was put to flight, leaving behind forty-two dead, one 60-mm mortar, two light machine-guns, one B-40, nine anti-tank sub-machine-guns, one rifle, about fifty grenades and a radio set.

One member of the North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong forces was taken prisoner.

On 19 July 1970, Cambodian forces on operations clashed with North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong south of Tonlé Bet, in Kompong Cham, after which the enemy retreated, taking dead and wounded with them and leaving one dead man behind.

On 19 July 1970, Cambodian forces clashed with a large unit of North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong some 20 kilometres south-west of the town of Svay Rieng. After heavy fighting the enemy withdrew, leaving forty-two dead behind.

During the night of 19 July 1970, North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong forces, estimated at one thousand, attacked Chhnoe Trou. The enemy was put to flight the following afternoon with assistance from the Khmer air force.

During the night of 19/20 July 1970, North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong forces attacked the administrative building at Srâng, some 20 kilometres south-east of Kompong Speu.

During the night of 19/20 July 1970, at about 9 p.m., the camp at Romeas, in Kompong Chhnang was strafed by North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong. Vigorous counteraction by Khmer forces silenced the enemy fire. The North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong forces left behind one casualty and carried away a number of dead and wounded.

During the night of 19/20 July 1970, at about 11 p.m., a defence position in the town of Kompong Chhnang was sporadically strafed by North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong.

The village of Srâng, in Kompong Speu, which had been under attack by North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong since the night of 19/20 July 1970, was relieved by Cambodian forces the following night at about 9 p.m. The enemy retreated into the mountains nearby and continued from there to harass the village with fire from heavy weapons. The estimated losses on the enemy side are twenty-one killed outright and ten Chinese sub-machine-guns captured, and one killed and twelve wounded on the Khmer side.

On 20 July 1970, Cambodian forces on patrol clashed with North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong at Kompong Daung, some 36 kilometres north-west of Kompong Chhnang. After a brief engagement the enemy withdrew leaving behind three dead and one light machine-gun, taking away several dead and wounded.

The losses on the Cambodian side were two dead and seven wounded.

On 20 July 1970, at about 3.30 p.m., the town of Kompong Thom came under heavy artillery fire from North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong.

On the same day there was a clash with some fifty North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong about 3 kilometres from the town of Kompong Thom.

At about 8 p.m. on the night of 20 July 1970 the Romeas camp in Kompong Chhnang was again attacked by North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong.

From 3 a.m. to 5 a.m. on the night of 20/21 July 1970 North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong fired continuously on one of the defence positions on the Kirirom plateau. The vigorous return fire of the Cambodian forces made the enemy withdraw, leaving behind five dead and carrying away several killed or wounded. One person on the Cambodian side was injured.

During the nights of 20/21 and 21/22 July, at about 8 p.m., North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong opened up heavy fire on the town of Siemreap. The return fire of the Cambodian fighters forced the enemy to withdraw after suffering losses.

On 21 July 1970 North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong attacked a military convoy carrying provisions a few kilometres from the centre of Kirirom. Four lorries were damaged in this attack.

On 21 July 1970, Cambodian forces operating near Srâng, in Kompong Speu, clashed with North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong; the enemy withdrew leaving one dead and carrying away dead and wounded. Two Cambodians were killed and five wounded.

At about 11.45 a.m. on 21 July 1970, during a reconnaissance operation, Cambodian forces had an encounter with an estimated 200 North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong some 17 kilometres north-west of Kompong Cham.

On the same day a position occupied by Cambodian forces some 60 kilometres west of Kompong Cham came under heavy fire from North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong. The Cambodian forces replied vigorously, forcing the enemy to withdraw, carrying his wounded with him. There were two wounded on the Cambodian side.

On 21 July 1970, during a sweep operation, there was a clash some 20 kilometres north of Neak Luong, in Prey Veng. The enemy withdrew in disarray, leaving behind two dead. Six North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong were captured.

During the night of 21/22 July 1970, the enemy again attacked the Romeas Camp, in Kompong Chhnang. After several unsuccessful assaults, the North Viet-Nameese - Viet-Cong withdrew, carrying dead and wounded with them. Nine persons were wounded on the Cambodian side.

On 22 July 1970, the defence positions at Srê Khlong, 27 kilometres south-west of Kompong Speu, came under heavy fire from North Viet-Nameese - Viet Cong. The Cambodian forces replied vigorously and forced the enemy to withdraw, carrying dead and wounded with him. Five of the Cambodians were slightly injured on this occasion.

The people of Cambodia are being subjected to extreme personal suffering through these relentless and overt criminal attacks by the imperialist North Viet-Nameese and Viet-Cong, who kill everybody in their path (women, children, the aged, the infirm and even clergy of all denominations) and destroy everything (hospitals, schools, monasteries, historic monuments, roads, bridges, and houses of no possible military value).

The people of Cambodia deplore the indifference - to put it mildly - of those who call themselves defenders of peace and whose duty it is to assist the victims of aggression.

However that may be, the hopes of the people and Government of Cambodia still rest on countries inspired by the spirit of peace and justice and, in particular, on the United Nations, whose essential aim is to promote peace and its Secretary-General, U Thant, a man of great Buddhist wisdom who spares neither time nor trouble in coming to the aid of weak peoples who wish only to live in peace and freedom.

For myself, I refuse to believe, despite the manoeuvres of powerful nations which consider only their own interests, that this international organization is going to follow the example of its defunct predecessor, the League of Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this communication distributed as a Security Council document.

Accept, Sir, etc.

(Signed) KHIM TIT
Permanent Representative of Cambodia
