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LETTER DATED 30 APRIL 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. 1919 of  
27 April 1970 (S/9769), I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text  
of a communiqué issued by the Khmer Government regarding the losses in property  
and human life caused in Cambodia by the imperialist Viet-Cong and North  
Viet-Nameese invaders:

"COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA

"The dissemination of slanted reports by correspondents of a  
certain foreign Press in Phnom Penh with regard to alleged persecution of  
Viet-Nameese nationals in Cambodia has caused some agitation in certain  
foreign capitals. The dissemination of these reports has been even more  
disturbing to Cambodian public opinion, which is highly indignant over  
the state of mind prevailing in these foreign circles which are  
misinformed about the true facts.

"The Government of Cambodia wishes to deny these unwarranted  
allegations most categorically. The fact is that the violent fighting  
now under way between the Khmer National Armed Forces and the imperialist  
Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese invaders has caused heavy losses in human  
life and property among the defence forces and the Cambodian civilian  
population, to wit:

- 725 dead and missing in Kompong-Cham
- 1,252 dead and missing in Svay-Rieng
- 734 dead and missing in Kandal
- 436 dead and missing in Takéo
- 225 dead and missing in Kratié and Mondulkiri
- 182 dead and missing in Kampot

More than 700 buildings set on fire or destroyed, including homes, salasroks (administrative buildings), infirmaries, schools, barracks, etc.

"The savagery of the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese aggressors is intended to spread terror among the population; the victims have included a number of civil servants, deputies, members of the defence forces, village notables and ordinary peasants, whose bodies have been mutilated and cut to pieces. These massacres have, moreover, been accompanied by the theft of property of all kinds - crops, cattle, etc.

"The public wishes that certain foreign Press media and other circles would give some attention to these atrocities which have been committed by the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese invaders. If, within the context of the exercise of the right of self-defence against foreign invasion, it has happened that some Viet-Nameese nationals have been killed in the combat areas, that fact is attributable solely to the hazards of the war which has been deliberately brought about by the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese expansionists.

"In localities where there are both Khmer and Viet-Nameese inhabitants, the Viet-Cong have employed a combat tactic of mingling with the civilian population. This has occurred in a number of villages in Kandal and Kompong-Cham and, in particular, at Bathou in Svay-Rieng. The bodies of Viet-Nameese victims have been deliberately left on the scene or thrown into rivers in order to create the impression that the Cambodian defence forces were responsible for the massacre, while the bodies of Viet-Cong dead and those of massacred Cambodian civilians have been carried away by the Viet-Cong and buried far from where anyone could see them. In spite of this, we have identified, even among those floated down the river, the bodies of many Cambodians who have been unwilling to bow to the law of the invaders. In many cases, our soldiers have been attacked from the rear by camouflaged, armed Viet-Nameese inhabitants - Viet-Cong and accomplices of the Viet-Cong - who fired from their homes while our forces were contending with frontal attacks by the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese. This justified counter-measures by our defence forces, but such measures were never extended to other military operations in which Viet-Nameese nationals did not take action to help the Viet-Cong exploit a critical situation to our disadvantage.

"It should also be pointed out that, as a result of the invaders' deep penetration into our territory, some Viet-Nameese nationals living in Cambodia - particularly those in Phnom Penh, Svay-Rieng, Prey Veng, Kandal, Kompong-Cham, Takeo and Kampot - have actively supported the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese by giving them information, providing them with food and engaging in subversive activities among the Khmer population. They have even taken part in attacks on Khmer defence posts,

villages and administrative centres; this has occurred at Krèk, Mimot, Komchai Mea (in Kompong-Cham), Chipou, Prasaut (in Svay-Rieng), Kompong Trabèk, Peam Chor (in Prey Veng), Samrong Thom, Chrey Thom, Prek Chrey and Koh Thom (in Kandal), Anlong Tien, Kompong Yaul, Angkor Borey, Tonleap, and Takéo Centre (in Takéo). They have placed plastic bombs on our locomotives at the main railway station in Phnom Penh, they have mined and burnt bridges, and they have blown up the Phnom Penh-Kompong Som rail line at a number of points.

"From what has been said above, it is apparent that the Cambodian Government has the right to ask world opinion to balance the two elements in the situation: on the one hand, Cambodia, a country which is suffering aggression and has already lost several thousand of its people as compared with a few dozen Viet-Nameese who have accidentally lost their lives in the confusion of battle, and, on the other hand, the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese invaders, who have deeply penetrated the territory of neutral, peaceful Cambodia in defiance of international law and the United Nations Charter.

"The Government of Cambodia once again calls upon the United Nations, its Secretary-General, His Excellency U Thant, and all international organizations to take action to compel the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese troops to put an end to their aggression against Cambodia and the Khmer people. It is also requested that the International Control Commission should be reactivated in order to put an end to this foreign aggression which has brought about the present situation.

Phnom Penh, 19 April 1970"

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

Please accept, Sir, etc.

(Signed) KHIM TIT  
Permanent Representative of Cambodia  
to the United Nations