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LETTER DATED 15 APRIL 1970 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES  
AD INTERIM 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. 1806 of 13 April 1970 (S/9750), I have the honour to bring the following to your attention, for the information of the members of the Security Council:

In the night of 8/9 April 1970, at about 11 p.m., approximately 100 Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese attacked, for about an hour, the Cambodian position at Samrong Thom, in Loeuk Dek, province of Kandal, which was held by a company of infantry of the Khmer armed forces.

In the morning of 9 April 1970, members of the National Khmer Defence Forces, carrying out a mopping-up operation in the infested area, clashed with a group of Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese at Dei Dos, to the north of Samrong Thom, in Loeuk Dek in the province of Kandal. The Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese were supported by the Viet-Nameese living in the area. After a brief engagement, the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese withdrew to the south, leaving eighteen dead on the battlefield. The Cambodian forces suffered one killed and several wounded.

In the night of 9/10 April 1970, the accomplices of the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese tried for the first time to sabotage the central railway station at Phnom-Penh.

The intervention of the railway defence commandos and the soldiers on duty at the station prevented the saboteurs from carrying out their criminal project. Some material damage was done to a locomotive and to one compartment of a rail-car.

In the same night, from 11.40 p.m. until dawn, several hundred Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese attacked the centre of Prasaut, in Svay Rieng. The counter-attack of the Khmer forces, supported by artillery and aircraft, forced the enemy to withdraw, leaving behind twelve dead. Furthermore, the enemy probably carried off about fifty killed and wounded. During this attack, seven soldiers and four civilians belonging to the mixed Khmer defence forces were wounded.

On 11 April 1970, at about 5 p.m., the Khmer forces launched search operations in the region situated on the bank of the river of Kompong Trabek, about two kilometres from the centre of Kompong Trabek in the province of Prey Veng, a region which is inhabited by Viet-Nameese and infested with Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese.

About fifty Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese fired on the Khmer forces from each abandoned dwelling. One Khmer soldier was seriously wounded. The Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese left seven dead on the battlefield and carried off their other dead and wounded. The Khmer forces captured four chargers for Chinese automatic pistols and sixteen sacks of rice. A number of dwellings were destroyed.

On the same day, the centre of Prasaut was again attacked by the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese. At about 11 a.m., fifteen members of the mixed Khmer forces composed of armoured cars and infantry who were going to the defence post outside the centre were attacked by about fifty Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese two kilometres to the east of Prasaut. The intervention of the Cambodian artillery, later supported by aircraft, forced the enemy to withdraw, leaving one enemy soldier dead on the field and carrying off several dead and wounded. During this attack, two Khmer soldiers were killed and five others wounded, and one armoured car carrying a machine-gun was damaged.

The Government of Cambodia wishes to draw the attention of the members of the Security Council and of all the countries of the world to the increasing frequency and scope of these open attacks committed by the Viet-Cong and North Viet-Nameese forces against the Khmer defence forces and defence posts within Cambodian territory, in flagrant violation of international law, the 1954 Geneva Agreements and the solemn commitment of their respective Governments to recognize and protect the territorial integrity of Cambodia within its existing frontiers.

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While vigorously stigmatizing these acts of aggression by the North Viet-Nameese and Viet-Cong forces, which are daily becoming more intensive and have spread to numerous points in Khmer territory, the Cambodian Government must warn the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam of the serious consequences which might result from their current policy of aggression and expansionism against Cambodia, a neutral and peaceful country which is a Member of the United Nations, thus endangering international peace and security.

The Khmer Government, which seeks peace and justice and is still pursuing its policy of strict neutrality, intends to continue using all possible peaceful means, political, diplomatic and so on, to bring about the withdrawal of the North Viet-Nameese and Viet-Cong forces from Khmer territory.

However, it wishes solemnly to declare that, despite the great patience it has shown thus far, it reserves the right to take, if necessary and at the appropriate time, any steps it deems useful to ensure the security and survival of a Cambodia which is independent, neutral, peaceful and free from all foreign interference, irrespective of the consequences.

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

Accept, Sir, etc.

(Signed) OR KOSALAK  
Deputy Permanent Representative of Cambodia  
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim

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