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LETTER DATED 3 DECEMBER 1969 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CAMBODIA  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government and further to my letter No. 9213 of 3 December 1969, I have the honour to bring to your attention, for the information of the members of the Security Council, some additional details concerning the attack made by armed United States forces against the centre of Dak Dam, which was the subject of the aforementioned letter:

On 16 November 1969, starting at 7.45 a.m., the Cambodian military post of Dak Dam and its defence positions, as well as the settlement of Dak Dam (situated about seven kilometres inside the frontier), came under a heavy attack of napalm and fragmentation bombs and machine-gun fire from United States - South Viet-Nameese F.105 aircraft. At the same time, heavy artillery was directed from the Bu Prang (South Viet-Nam) post at the Cambodian installations while several United States - South Viet-Nameese helicopters relieved each other in order to continue their devastating action.

When this critical situation was judged to be untenable, the Cambodian military commander, at about 11.45 a.m., ordered the troops at Dak Dam to withdraw - first, to the Bu Rach junction (situated five kilometres north-west of Dak Dam), and, later, to Sèn Monorom. The withdrawal of the Cambodian troops to these different points was kept under observation by the United States - South Viet-Nameese aircraft.

At about 5 p.m., the area about Bu Chric, situated four kilometres north-east of Dak Dam, was bombed by United States B.52 aircraft.

At about 5.15 p.m., eight F.105 aircraft gave support to the artillery action being directed from the Bu Prang post against Dak Dam (previously evacuated) and its vicinity, and against the road from Dak Dam to the Bu Rach junction.

At about 5.25 p.m., the F.105 extended their action by bombing the area situated two kilometres south-west of O Raing.

At about 9.50 p.m., the first detachment of the Cambodian troops from Dak Dam, with four wounded, arrived at Sèn Monorom; the rest of the troops arrived at about 6 a.m. on 17 November 1969.

On 17 November 1969, at about 8.30 a.m., some F.105 renewed their attacks on Dak Dam and the surrounding area. At the same time, other aircraft kept Sèn Monorom and the Sèn Monorom-Dak Dam road continuously under observation throughout the day, thus preventing the evacuation of casualties at Dak Dam.

Travel by vehicle between Bu Rach and Dak Dam is no longer possible because this segment is kept under continuous observation by the enemy aircraft and is struck by successive bombing and shelling.

For this reason, Sèn Monorom, being constantly under observation by United States - South Viet-Nameese aircraft, is in its turn being threatened.

Between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., there were, on two occasions, further shelling and machine-gunning of Dak Dam.

On 18 November 1969, between 5 a.m. and 6.15 a.m., the Cambodian post of Dak Dam was again subjected to US/RVNAF artillery fire from South Viet-Nameese territory.

Between 7 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., various types (F.105, B.57) of United States - South Viet-Nameese aircraft made several flights over the Dak Dam, Sèn Monorom and O Raing areas.

During the morning, a bulldozer and three ambulances, together with nurses and stretchers, were sent to Dak Dam in order that the road which had been damaged by the successive shelling and bombing since 16 November might be repaired and that the dead and injured might be brought out.

At about 11 a.m., the bulldozer and the ambulances were threatened by US/RVNAF aircraft.

At about 12.17 p.m., some survivors from Dak Dam reached Sèn Monorom, while two L.19 and one F.105 United States - South Viet-Nameese aircraft flew over the Kéo Seima area and pursued the Cambodian 37 mm battery that had been sent to Dak Dam.

At about 8.30 p.m., twelve more survivors reached Sèn Monorom.

On 19 November 1969, between 4.45 a.m. and 12.40 p.m., United States - South Viet-Nameese L.19, F.105, Dakota and Phantom aircraft, as well as helicopters, flew over Dak Dam, O Raing, Kéo Saima, Sèn Monorom and the surrounding areas.

Between 10 a.m. and 12.30 p.m., United States - South Viet-Nameese helicopters machine-gunned and bombed the Lapalkei, O Pam and Bu Ngeam (uninhabited) areas.

Between 2.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m., two United States - South Viet-Nameese helicopters and one L.19 aircraft machine-gunned and fired missiles in the area situated five kilometres east of Lapalkei.

The results of the aforementioned attacks have been tabulated as follows:

I. Personnel:

25 killed  
2 missing  
8 wounded

II. Material:

1 ANPRC/10 radio apparatus and accessory equipment destroyed;  
5 GMC destroyed;  
1 GAZ-63 lorry destroyed;  
1 Jeep destroyed;  
1 Dodge 4x4 destroyed;  
1 Land Rover ambulance destroyed;  
5 post huts burned down;  
1 infirmary destroyed (including all medical equipment);  
1 three-classroom school building destroyed;  
5 houses destroyed;  
the village hall of Dak Dam commune damaged;  
numerous personal effects and furniture in the huts and houses destroyed.

III. Ordnance:

1 37 mm canon destroyed;  
1 37 mm canon badly damaged;

5 automatic pistols, 12 rifles, 6 light sub-machine-guns, 10 heavy sub-machine-guns, 1 type-60 mortar, 2 type-30 machine-guns, 3 type-50 machine-guns and 2 carbines damaged.

IV. Livestock:

A number of head of cattle, buffaloes, horses, pigs, etc. killed.

The Royal Government has once again lodged an indignant protest against these attacks and has demanded that the Government of the United States of America take immediate action to compensate the victims, pay for the damage caused and put an end for all time to these attacks, which nothing can justify, against a sovereign and neutral country.

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

Accept, Sir, etc.

(Signed) HUOT SAMBATH  
Permanent Representative of Cambodia

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