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LETTER DATED 16 FEBRUARY 1971 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government and further to my letter No. 464 of 9 February 1971, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention for the information of the members of the Security Council:

On 18 January 1971, a clash took place between Khmer and Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese elements at Bovear Sâr Krom, 33 km south-east of Phnom Penh on the east bank of the Mekong in Kandal, resulting in a number of enemy dead and wounded who were carried away by their side.

The same day, the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese harassed a Khmer position at Prek Yuon opposite Lovear Sâr Krom, wounding 5 persons.

During the night of 18-19 January 1971, about midnight, Khmer troops engaged in clearing National Highway 1 between Prey Vèng and Neak Luong were harassed by Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese 10 km south-east of Prey Vèng near the villages of Prey Ang Kounh and Chan. After return fire from Khmer forces with air support, the enemy was dispersed shortly thereafter.

On 19 January 1971, at approximately 9 a.m., a violent clash took place between Khmer elements engaged in mopping-up operations and some 1,200 Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese about 10 km north-east of Kep in Kampot. Fighting was still continuing at approximately 5 p.m.

The same day, at about 4 a.m., Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese harassed a Khmer position at Srê Khlong in Kampong Speu for some 30 minutes, using automatic weapons, mortars and 75 mm recoilless weapons.

The same day, at approximately 7 p.m., Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese fired five 82 mm mortar shells at a Khmer position at Kompong Seila in Kompong Seila.

The same day, a violent clash took place some 12 km south-west of the Pich Nil pass on National Highway 4. Our forces lost 4 killed and 10 wounded while the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese lost 33 dead on the battlefield and several dead and wounded carried away, with 2 men, 2 B40 rocket launchers, 6 AK and a considerable quantity of ammunition captured.

The same day, a violent clash took place at Phum Chhoeu Teal Chrum, 7 km south-east of Tram Khnar, in Takeo, resulting in 3 wounded on the Khmer side and 2 dead on the battlefield and 5 wounded carried away on the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese side.

During the night of 19-20 January 1971, Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese harassed a Khmer position at Lovear Sâr Loeu, 32 km south-east of Phnom Penh, in Kandal.

On 20 January 1971, at approximately 7.45 a.m., a clash took place between Khmer elements and some 200 Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese at Phum Kay Rong, 5 km south of Tram Khnar in Takeo. It lasted two hours and Khmer casualties were 2 dead and 9 wounded, while the enemy suffered 9 dead on the battlefield and several killed and wounded which they carried away.

The same day, a clash took place 14 km north-west of the town of Svay Rieng.

The same day, another clash took place near Vat Chék, approximately 5 km north-west of the town of Svay Rieng, resulting in 1 dead and 1 wounded on the Khmer side and 5 killed on the battlefield and several dead and wounded carried away on the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese side.

The same day, at approximately 6 a.m., a clash took place at Ta Miev, some 10 km north-west of Maung in Battambang, resulting in 2 killed and 3 wounded on the Khmer side while the enemy losses consisted of 6 killed on the battlefield and 1 Chinese sub-machine-gun, three automatic pistols, one B40 rocket launcher and four grenades captured.

The same day, at approximately 7.25 a.m., another clash took place 4 kilometres north-east of the Pich Nil pass in Kompong Seila. It lasted some 20 minutes, after which the enemy withdrew in disorder.

The same day, at approximately 7 a.m., Khmer forces engaged in clearing National Highway 4 clashed violently with Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese occupying fortified bunkers on either side of the road at the entry to the Pich Nil pass.

Hand-to-hand fighting broke out at approximately 6 p.m. Casualties were tentatively estimated at 7 killed and 56 wounded on the Khmer side and 51 killed on the battlefield, 4 taken prisoner and some weapons captured on the enemy side.

The same day, at approximately 7.30 a.m., a clash lasting some two hours took place 7 kilometres south-west of Tram Khnar in Kompong Speu, resulting in 2 dead on the Khmer side and 9 killed on the battlefield and several killed and wounded carried away on the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese side.

The same day, at approximately 7.35 p.m., Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese again harassed Srê Khlong in Kompong Speu.

On 21 January 1971 at approximately 2.30 p.m., Khmer troops successfully occupied the chalet at Pich Nil after a vigorous mopping-up operation to eliminate all pockets of enemy resistance. The result of the operation was 2 killed on the Khmer side whereas the enemy lost 10 killed on the battlefield and 2 Chinese automatic pistols and a large quantity of ammunition were captured.

During the night of 21-22 January 1971, Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese attacked a Khmer defence position at Rocarkong and another at Kambaul, situated 32 kilometres north-east and fifteen kilometres south-west of Phnom Penh respectively.

The same night, the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese, using heavy weapons, harassed the town of Kompong Cham and the locality of Tonlé Bet in Kompong Cham.

The same night, the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese attacked a Khmer position at Kompong Châk, 10 kilometres north of the town of Svay Rieng.

On 22 January 1971, at approximately 5.45 a.m., Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese were ambushed by friendly forces some 21 kilometres east of Kompong Seila. The enemy withdrew, leaving 31 dead on the battlefield.

The same day, at approximately 12 a.m., Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese harassed a Khmer position 2 kilometres south-west of Stung Chral. Following counter-action by the Khmer forces, 4 of whom were wounded, the enemy withdrew leaving on the battlefield 1 MAS 36, 1 MAT 49 automatic pistol and 2 Chinese automatic pistols with 4 full magazines.

The same day, Khmer elements engaged in mopping-up operations clashed with Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese at Samrong, some 10 kilometres west of Phnom Penh in Kandal. The Khmer side suffered 3 killed and 20 wounded while the enemy suffered 10 killed and some 20 wounded.

During the night of 22-23 January 1971, Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese attacked a Khmer position at Tuk Khleang and another at Phlau Trei, situated some 22 kilometres south-east of Phnom Penh on the east bank of the Mekong in Kandal.

The same night, at approximately 11 p.m., Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese attacked the petrol depot at Prèk Phneou, some 12 kilometres north-west of Phnom Penh in Kandal. Heavy return fire by the Khmer defenders forced the enemy to withdraw at approximately 11.50 p.m. leaving on the battlefield 3 dead, 1 B40 rocket launcher and 8 shells, 30 plastic charges and a full Chinese sub-machine-gun magazine and carrying away some 30 killed and wounded.

The same night, the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese harassed the Khmer defence complex at the town of Prey Veng.

On 23 January 1971, a clash occurred between Khmer and Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese at Svay Thom, 7 kilometres east of the town of Siemreap, lasting approximately 30 minutes.

The same day, the enemy briefly harassed a Khmer position 10 kilometres north-west of the town of Kompong Cham.

The same day, at approximately 5.45 a.m., Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese attacked a Khmer position at Saang in Kandal, wounding 2 of the Khmer forces.

The same day, the enemy harassed a Khmer position at Neak Ta Samrong, 25 kilometres south-east of Phnom Penh in Kandal.

During the night of 23-24 January 1971, Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese intermittently harassed a Khmer position at Trapeang Thnot, some 23 kilometres north-west of Phnom Penh in Kandal from 6.45 p.m. until dawn, without causing any damage.

During the same night, at approximately 7.15 p.m., a Khmer position at Wat Thla, on the northern outskirts of the capital, in Kandal, was also harassed. Heavy return fire by the Khmer forces forced the enemy to withdraw, leaving one dead on the battlefield.

During the same night, at approximately 11 p.m., Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese harassed a Khmer position at Kompong Tuol, 2 kilometres west of Kompong Kantuot, in Kandal.

During the same night, Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese harassed a Khmer position at O Sandey, 9 kilometres north-west of the town of Svay Rieng, with

mortar and automatic-weapons fire. Counteraction by the Khmer forces, 2 of whom were wounded, forced the enemy to withdraw, leaving one dead on the battlefield.

During the night of 24-25 January 1971, at approximately 8.10 p.m., Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese harassed a Khmer position at Prèk Phneou, wounding one man.

During the same night, they also harassed a Khmer position at Bat Doeung and another at Kambaul, situated respectively 25 kilometres north-west and 15 kilometres south-west of Phnom Penh, in Kandal.

During the same night, about midnight and about 4 a.m. on 25 January 1971, Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese again harassed the Pochentong air base with mortar and automatic-weapons fire.

On 25 January 1971, from 1.30 a.m. to 4 a.m., the enemy harassed a Khmer position at Phum Ta Kauk, 11 kilometres west of Kompong Travèk, in Prey Veng. The Khmer forces, 3 of whom were wounded, took vigorous counteraction, forcing the Viet-Cong - North Viet-Nameese to withdraw leaving 4 dead and 4 rifles on the battlefield.

I wish to reaffirm the firm and vigorous protest of the Government of the Khmer Republic against the illegal and permanent occupation of Khmer territory, followed by savage attacks perpetrated by the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese forces against a neutral and peace-loving country to which they have no right and with which they have no ethnic affinity, in flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter, of international law and of the 1954 Geneva Agreements. These criminal attacks reveal for all to see the annexationist aims of the Viet-Cong-North Viet-Nameese communist imperialists, and represent a dangerous threat to peace and security not only in the Khmer Republic, but throughout the region of South-East Asia.

The Government of the Khmer Republic holds the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and the so-called Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam entirely responsible for all the extremely grave consequences resulting from this situation and reserves the right to take any necessary action to defend the independence, neutrality, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country.

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

(Signed) KHIM TIT
Permanent Representative
of the Khmer Republic
