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LETTER DATED 26 MAY 1969 ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CAMBODIA

On instructions from my Government and further to my letter No. 3505 of 5 May 1969, I have the honour to communicate to you, for the information of the members of the Security Council, the following:

From 18 April to 2 May 1969, aircraft of the United States - South Viet-Nameese air forces continually scattered defoliants every two days over a vast area of Cambodia stretching along the Khmer - Viet-Nameese frontier and extending to a depth of twenty kilometres from the frontier, in the districts of Krek and Mimot, province of Kompong Cham. These defoliants caused great havoc to rubber plantations, to orchards and to the forest. The damage surveyed up to 2 May 1969 amounts to 7,000 hectares of rubber plantations destroyed, of which 4,500 hectares are owned by the large companies (mostly French) and 2,500 hectares are indigenous family plantations. Five thousand jack-trees were killed and a vast wooded region was seriously damaged. The losses are extensive and seriously affect the national economy of the Kingdom.

The Royal Government has, with deep indignation, protested to the Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Viet-Nam against these acts of unspeakable destruction committed by aircraft of the United States - South Viet-Nameese forces against Cambodia's plantations, crops and forest resources. It demands that the Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Viet-Nam should take immediate steps to end this scattering of defoliants and to make good the damage caused to the property and resources of Cambodia.

I should be obliged 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