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LETTER DATED 4 FEBRUARY 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. 873 of 28 January 1969 (S/8986), I have the honour to communicate to you, for the information of the members of the Security Council, the following:

On 29 December 1968, at about 11 p.m., members of the United States - South Viet-Nameese forces at the post of Ong Tan (Kien Tuong) fired several shells into the Cambodian commune of Thmei, Kompong Rau district (Svay Rieng), seriously injuring a resident named Beng Khlaing.

On 4 January 1969, at about 7.30 a.m., a mine laid by members of the United States - South Viet-Nameese forces exploded, killing a villager named Neang Song Kris and seriously injuring a young peasant woman named Neang Nay Khem. The incident occurred at Tuol Tatom, near the frontier, in the commune of Taor, Kirivong district (Takeo).

On the same day, at about 10.30 a.m., three helicopters of the United States - South Viet-Nameese armed forces flew over Cambodian territory along the frontier, over the commune of Bavet (Svay Rieng) and scattered a poisonous powder which fell, as a result of the prevailing wind, near the Cambodian villages of Taboth and Prey Chidaun, causing very serious health damage to the inhabitants, two of whom, Sam Sopha and Sam Spohat, were seriously affected and had to be hospitalized.

On 6 January 1969, at about 9 a.m., two launches of the United States - South Viet-Nameese navy, coming from Hatien on a patrol along the Giang Thanh river, scattered powdered chemicals over crops belonging to the Cambodian inhabitants of the commune of Prek Kroeus, Kompong Trach district (Kampot). The crops in several fields affected by the chemicals were destroyed.

On the morning of 6 January 1969 a mixed Cambodian patrol fired on a helicopter of the United States - South Viet-Nameese air forces which violated Cambodian air space over the region north-east of Bu Sra in the province of Mondulhiri. The aircraft was seen to fall in flames in the same region and the wreckage was brought to Phnom-Penh.

On the same day, from 9.30 a.m. to about 8 p.m., United States - South Viet-Nameese armed forces at the Cai Vang and Vinh Dien posts kept up cannon fire into Cambodian territory. Several shells fell in the region of Prey Montea, Kompong Trabek district, Prey Veng province, causing considerable damage to the extensive rice-growing areas.

On subsequent days, during the nights of 7 and 8 January 1969, these same forces again fired hundreds of shells into the same region, several of which fell inside the military post and the local station of the Royal Police. Three soldiers were wounded, one of whom is in serious condition.

The above-mentioned region of Peam Montea has been subjected to intensive bombing by the United States - South Viet-Nameese forces ever since 20 December 1968.

On 10 January 1969, at about 8 p.m., United States - South Viet-Nameese forces disembarked commando troops dressed in black on the Cambodian bank of the Prek Beng-Gi, at the village of Chrey Thom, Koh Thom district (Kandal).

These commandos opened rapid fire on a Cambodian patrol which discovered them, killing a Cambodian soldier named Kom Vong. They then retreated into South Viet-Nam under cover of heavy fire from the South Viet-Nameese post of Long Binh on the other side of the frontier.

On 13 January, at about 6.30 a.m., a mine laid by members of the United States - South Viet-Nameese forces in the commune of Peam Montea (Prey Veng), approximately 200 metres from the Cambodian - South Viet-Nameese frontier, exploded, seriously injuring an inhabitant named Reath Chin.

The Royal Government of Cambodia has protested vigorously against the hostile acts committed by the United States - South Viet-Nameese armed forces against the peaceful inhabitants and security forces of Cambodia. It had called upon the Governments of the United States of America and of the Republic of Viet-Nam to take appropriate measures to put an end to such acts and to compensate the victims.

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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