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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

SECURITY COUNCIL
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Letter dated 2 October 1979 from the Permanent Representative
of Democratic Kampuchea to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your information, a statement dated 29 September 1979 issued by the Press and Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea on the new crime being perpetrated by the Le Duan clique which is carrying out large-scale ground-clearing operations with a view to destroying the rice crops and cutting off food supplies to the people of Kampuchea.

I should be grateful if you would have this text distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 123, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) THIOUNN Prasith
Permanent Representative of
Democratic Kampuchea

ANNEX

The statement dated 21 September 1979 from the Press and Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Democratic Kampuchea on the new crime being perpetrated by the Le Duan clique which is engaged in large-scale ground-clearing operations with a view to destroying the rice crops and cutting off food supplies to the people of Kampuchea

Quite clearly the aim being pursued by the Le Duan clique in Kampuchea is to exterminate the Kampuchean race in order more easily to annex its territory and integrate it into Viet Nam. Increasingly embroiled in the people's war in Kampuchea, the Le Duan clique is redoubling its cruelty and barbarity against our people.

Since their invasion of Democratic Kampuchea, the Vietnamese forces of aggression have committed large-scale monstrous crimes against the people of Kampuchea. According to provisional statistics, over 500,000 people have been massacred and over 500,000 others have died of hunger. In addition, hundreds of thousands of people have fallen victim to the famine policy of the Vietnamese aggressors and are in danger of death.

Wherever they go, the Vietnamese forces of aggression massacre, loot, burn and destroy everything. In the regions where they are temporarily in control they forbid the population to go to work in the fields and rice paddies or even to go out to look for yams. They are cutting off the population's supplies of rice and salt. This situation is not confined to the remote regions. For example, in the Snuol district, in the eastern zone on Highway No. 7, near the frontier with Viet Nam, the population is being deprived of rice and salt. In the districts of Baray, Taing Kauk and Battambang, which have always been considered as the great rice granaries of Kampuchea, and in Phnom Penh and the provincial capitals the situation is the same.

The Le Duan clique is starving millions of people and condemning them to death by hunger. The green vegetation of the fields and villages, the green-plants in rice paddies which were constructed and maintained for over three years by the labour of an entire people and were yielding crops at all seasons, have completely disappeared and been replaced by a dry desert landscape, even in the middle of the rainy season. Never in its history has Kampuchea experienced such devastation as that caused by the criminal agency of the Le Duan clique and its aggressive forces, whose cruelty and fascism far surpass those of Hitler.

But the Le Duan clique is not content to stop there. In the regions in which it is in temporary control any person who, having managed to cross the roadblocks, is found planting rice or other crops is shot. In places where rice is ripening, the Le Duan forces are compelling the population to leave the district and seizing the whole harvest. This is happening in all the villages temporarily controlled

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by them in the regions of Rattanakiri, Mondulkiri, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear, Siemreap, Oddar Meanchey, Battambang, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Speu, Takeo, Kampong Som, and Koh Kong, to mention only a few.

At the same time, since mid-September the Vietnamese forces have been launching large-scale operations to destroy the rice crops planted during the rainy season with the support of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, which are now ripe. They are systematically destroying all rice, maize, potato and other food crops. These operations, intended to cut off food supplies to the people of Kampuchea, are part of the plan to exterminate the Kampuchean people and race. This is a crime without precedent in the contemporary world.

Such operations are under way at Rattanakiri, Mondulkiri and in the central, south-west, west, north and north-west zones, that is to say, throughout the country. Vietnamese soldiers are being killed, but that matters little because the essential thing is to destroy the rice. As for the humanitarian assistance sent to the people of Kampuchea through the puppets in Phnom Penh, it is superfluous to mention it, because the Vietnamese soldiers appropriate the bulk of it.

In the name of the people and nation of Kampuchea, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea vehemently condemns the monstrous crimes of the Le Duan clique. The Government of Democratic Kampuchea, the guerrilla units and the base guerrillas, boiling with hate and maintaining their resolute struggle, are determined to strengthen their unity with the people and nation of Kampuchea within the Front of Great National Patriotic and Democratic Union in order to eliminate the Vietnamese aggressors, expansionists, annexors of territory and exterminators of races.

The Government of Democratic Kampuchea is firmly convinced that all countries, Governments, political organizations and people's organizations and all persons who are lovers of peace and justice throughout the world will condemn even more vehemently the crimes perpetrated by the Le Duan clique against the people of Kampuchea and will intensify their endeavours to prevent such crimes and devastation from continuing to be committed, particularly by exercising even greater pressure on the Le Duan clique in order to force it completely and unconditionally to withdraw its troops and forces of aggression from Kampuchea, thus leaving the people of Kampuchea itself to resolve its own problems without foreign interference. The withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea is the only means of enabling the people of Kampuchea to restore peace and to bring about a relaxation in the tense situation now prevailing in South-East Asia.
