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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-third year

Letter dated 28 November 1988 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.  
of the Permanent Mission of Democratic Kampuchea to the United  
Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for your information, the text of a statement, issued on 25 November 1988, by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea on the following three facts:

- (a) Vietnamese troops have not been withdrawn from Kampuchea; they have not even been pulled back one span of territory from their established positions;
- (b) Vietnamese authorities have been issuing certificates of Kampuchean nationality to the Vietnamese settlers in Kampuchea;
- (c) Vietnamese authorities have their troops learn the Khmer language at Ang Chan (formerly known as Bak Touk) school and have incorporated them into Khmer soldiers' units (of the puppet army) (see annex).

I should be most grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 23, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) SISOWATH Sirirath  
Ambassador  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Statement, issued on 25 November 1988, by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea on three facts:

- (a) Vietnamese troops have not been withdrawn from Kampuchea; they have not even been pulled back one span of territory from their established positions
- (b) Vietnamese authorities have been issuing certificates of Kampuchean nationality to the Vietnamese settlers in Kampuchea
- (c) Vietnamese authorities have their troops learn the Khmer language at Ang Chan (formerly known as Bak Touk) school and have incorporated them into Khmer soldiers' units (of the puppet army)

Concrete documents received by the High Command of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK) from the battlefields inside Kampuchea, especially the testimonies of the Vietnamese and Khmer soldiers (of the puppet army) captured by or voluntarily surrendered to the NADK, clearly show the following three facts:

- (a) Vietnamese troops have not been withdrawn from Kampuchea; they have not even been pulled back one span of territory from their established positions

According to the above-mentioned reports as well as the actual fighting on the battlefields, there have been clear indications that in western and northern Kampuchea (the regions along the border with Thailand):

(a) The Vietnamese troops have not been withdrawn even one span of territory from their previously-held positions;

(b) The Vietnamese authorities have sent their army officers from North Viet Nam to take control of their troops in Kampuchea down to the company level and have sent successive fresh troops to make up for their losses in western Kampuchea. Moreover, daily fighting between the NADK and the Vietnamese troops in the region of Pailin-Samlaut-Peam Ta in western Kampuchea (Battambang and Pursat provinces) have clearly shown that, in addition to their troops already in place, such as Divisions 309 and 330, the Vietnamese have also mobilised their forces of Division 307 from Kompong Thom and Preah Vihear provinces, Division 339 from Pursat and Division 2 from Viet Nam's 5th Military Zone to help their troops in place. The fighting in that region has been fierce since May this year. The Vietnamese have not been pulled back even one span of territory from their established positions. When the NADK dislodge them out of a few strongholds, they try hard to

reoccupy them. Thus, some positions have changed hands several times before the NADK have been able to liberate them. It should also be pointed out that the fighting in that region is going on unabated.

All this clearly shows that the Vietnamese troops have not been withdrawn from Kampuchea. They have not been pulled back even one span of territory from their established positions.

(b) Vietnamese authorities have been issuing certificates of Kampuchean nationality to the Vietnamese settlers in Kampuchea

According to successive reports of the NADK units from inside Kampuchea and those of the Kampuchean population, especially from the Phnom Penh city and its suburbs, the villages and towns located on the Bassac river banks, the provinces of Kampot, Takeo, Prey Veng and Svay Rieng, the Vietnamese authorities have been issuing, in the name of their puppets, certificates of Kampuchean nationality to the Vietnamese settlers who have reached almost 1 million people. According to the same reports, this mass transfer of nationality has been carried out in accordance with the past statements of the Hanoi authorities, saying that they have partially withdrawn their troops from Kampuchea and that this withdrawal will be completed in 1990. In addition to the nearly 1 million already settled in Kampuchea, the Vietnamese settlers continue to arrive every day and also receive certificates of Kampuchean nationality.

Why are the Hanoi authorities doing so? One should certainly have no difficulty in answering such a question.

(c) Vietnamese troops are learning the Khmer language

The Hanoi authorities have set up systematic programmes for their troops to learn the Khmer language; they have sent several hundreds of them at a time to do so at Ang Chan (formerly known as Bak Touk) school, in front of the stadium in Phnom Penh. Once they have finished their language programme, those Vietnamese troops, now with the uniforms of Khmer soldiers (of the puppet army), have been incorporated into "Khmer units", which, in some cases remain purely Vietnamese and, in some others, have been mixed up with the Khmer soldiers (of the puppet army). The Vietnamese authorities have thus disguised their troops as "Khmer units" even though their soldiers speak a few Khmer words with a strong Vietnamese accent. Their objective is to mislead the international community into believing that they have really carried out their partial troop withdrawals from Kampuchea and this withdrawal will be completed in 1990.

This is the Vietnamese deceitful manoeuvre. The Kampuchean population inside Kampuchea have been able to see clearly what has been happening. But, for the international community that is far away from the scene, the Vietnamese authorities have been trying hard to sell their deceitful manoeuvres about their withdrawal from Kampuchea.

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea should like to point out the above-cited three facts to the international community so that Viet Nam and its supporters, near or far, would not be able to achieve their deceitful schemes.

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