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LETTER DATED 6 MARCH 1967 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
CAMBODIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On the instructions of my Government, and further to my letter No. 777 of 13 February 1967, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention for the information of the Security Council:

On 2 February 1967, a band of some fifty men armed with individual automatic weapons coming from Thailand penetrated into Khmer territory at a place known as Cham Neap Kandol, situated some fifteen kilometres from the frontier and some thirty kilometres north-west of the Khum of Ampil Pram Doeum, Srok of Rattanak Mondul, Province of Battambang. At about 3 p.m., the aggressors arrested forty-one Khmer workmen and seized eight lorries belonging to Mr. Bun Pa and Mr. Sok Kim Tieng, lumberers living at Battambang town.

Some moments later, the aggressors released one lorry and four workmen with instructions to deliver to the lumberers letters demanding from each of them a sum of 200,000 riels, together with food and clothing. The ransom was to be delivered to them the following day, 3 February, either by the lumberers themselves or through a confidential agent.

During the night of 4-5 February and during the morning of 5 February 1967, the thirty-seven other workmen succeeded in escaping one by one from the band of aggressors and returned to the Phum of Sampeou Loun with two other lorries. A mopping-up operation carried out later by our security forces drove back the band of aggressors out of Cambodian territory and allowed the five other lorries to be recovered.

It is to be noted that an armed member of the band of aggressors asked to surrender to the Khmer authorities of Sampeou Loun, Khum of Ampil Pram Doeum, on 5 February 1967, handing over:

- 1 Thompson machine-pistol;
- 3 chargers with ammunition; and
- 1 grenade.

Two other armed men sent from Thailand on a sabotage mission in the Srok of O-Chreou (Province of Battambang) also surrendered to the Khmer military authorities of Kaup, on 4 February 1967, handing over the following weapons:

- 1 carbine
- 1 rifle
- 1 machine-pistol
- 2 mines
- 7 grenades, and
- matériel of various kinds.

The Royal Government has lodged a vigorous protest against this act of outright aggression, deliberately committed in Khmer territory by armed elements coming from Thailand, against peaceful and defenceless Khmer peasants inhabiting the frontier region, and has demanded that the Government of Thailand should put an immediate end to the continual acts of terrorism and armed raids organized from Thailand.

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
