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ORIGINAL: FRENCHLETTER DATED 5 JANUARY 1967 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF CAMBODIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 21 October 1966 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of Thailand (S/7560) in which the representative of the Thai Government, after denying, as usual, the crimes committed by Thai armed forces against Cambodians living near the border, tried to turn the facts upside down and demonstrate what he called "Cambodia's duplicity" with the following quotation from a report which appeared in the Agence Khmère de Presse bulletin of 9 September 1966:

"Arrivés à une profondeur d'environ 400 mètres à l'intérieur de notre territoire (et à 8,000 mètres au nord-ouest du centre de Khémarak Phoumin Ville), les éclaireurs ennemis ont sauté sur une de nos grenades piégées". (underlining by the Thai representative). Translation:  
"After penetrating some 400 metres inside our territory (at a point 8,000 metres north-west of the centre of Khémarak Phoumin Ville) the enemy scouts set off a booby trap planted by us".

However, in quoting this sentence verbatim from the "report of Thai armed incursion into Cambodian territory", the Thai representative has admitted by implication that Thai scouts penetrated into Cambodian territory. One purpose of these incursions is to plant mines, some of which have been set off by peaceful Cambodian peasants and Cambodian soldiers. The attempt to blow up the passenger train at Poipet was one example of this, among countless others (cf. my letter dated 17 June 1966).<sup>1/</sup>

This implicit admission by the representative of the Thai Government is one of the convincing pieces of evidence, in addition to the material evidence in our possession, that all the Cambodian charges thus far made against Thailand have been well founded.

<sup>1/</sup> See document S/7364.

We do not deny that we have planted booby traps in our own territory for the precise purpose of protecting our territory against these repeated Thai incursions. Such action would seem to be fully within our rights. We have no thought of protesting against the placing of mines and booby traps by the Thais within their own territory. The reason why we have protested is that our peaceful peasants and our soldiers have set off mines planted inside our country by the Thais. These unfortunate Cambodians were killed or injured precisely because these were Thai mines placed inside our territory by the Thais and therefore incapable of detection.

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