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DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF
GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN
STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-ninth year

Letter dated 4 April 1984 from the Permanent Representative
of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement dated 3 April 1984 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the Chinese shellings of Viet Nam's territory.

I should be very grateful if Your Excellency could have this document circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 37 and 124 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) HOANG BICH SON
Permanent Representative

* A/39/50.

ANNEX

S T A T E M E N T
by the Spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the Chinese shellings
of Vietnam's territory

On April 2, 1984, the Chinese authorities ordered their armed forces to fire thousands of artillery shells on eight places in the Vietnamese border provinces of Quang Ninh, Lang Son, Cao Bang, Ha Tuyen and Lai Chau, and called this shelling a "self-defence" act in retaliation against "Vietnam's armed provocations" against Chinese border areas.

This is an off-repeated manoeuvre of China over the past five years aimed at covering up its collusion with the Thai authorities to support the genocidal Pol Pot gang against the Kampuchean people's revival and against the three Indochinese countries as a whole.

In the past five years, whenever the Pol Pot remnants launched attacks from their sanctuaries in Thailand into Kampuchean territories, China simultaneously conducted artillery shellings to cause tension along the Sino-Vietnamese border.

Since the beginning of this year, the Chinese and Thai authorities have been trying to encourage the Pol Pot clique's sabotage activities, but when the Kampuchean armed forces, with the assistance of Vietnamese army volunteers punished the saboteurs, China with Thailand's collusion concocted so-called "Vietnamese violations of Thai sovereignty" and conducted fierce artillery shellings of Vietnam's northern border areas.

It is known that the situation along the Vietnam-China border has been relatively calm lately. China's so-called "self-defence act" is clearly a calculated act aimed at putting pressure on Vietnam from two sides in order to save the genocidal Pol Pot gang from the punishing blows of the Kampuchean army and people, creating tension and undermining the developing trend toward dialogue between Indochinese and Asean countries.

This act of the Chinese authorities blatantly violates Vietnam's sovereignty, disturbs the security and disrupts the normal life of the Vietnamese people in border areas. The Vietnam army and people in northern border provinces, with their high vigilance, have duly punished the Chinese expansionists for their criminal acts.

The Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam strongly condemns and denounces to the world public and the Chinese people the Chinese authorities' policy of nurturing and supporting the genocidal Pol Pot gang who keeps committing crimes, and resolutely demands an immediate end to their hostile acts toward the three Indochinese countries, acts which run counter to the interests of the Chinese people as well as of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

Hanoi, April 3, 1984
