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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA
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DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES
PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL Fortieth year

## Letter dated 14 June 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government and with reference to the letter of the Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to Your Excellency dated 7 June 1985 (A/40/364-S/17247) on Lao-Thai relations, I have the honour to bring to Your Excellency's attention a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand on Thai-Lao relations, as follows:

On 6 June 1985, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic issued a statement on Thai-Lao relations which contained slanderous accusations against the Government and people of the Kingdom of Thailand. The statement ended by proposing that the Kingdom of Thailand appoint a delegation to resume talks with a delegation of the Lao Government to solve problems of mutual concern.

<sup>\*</sup> A/40/50/Rev.1.

In this connection, the following are the pertinent facts:

- 1. On 3 December 1984, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand sent a note to the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Lac People's Democratic Republic which reattirmed that, since 13 October 1984, there had been no Thai armed forces whatsoever in the area of the three villages.
- 2. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand also informed his Lao counterpart that Thailand had always firmly adhered to the policy of promoting progressive Thai-Lao relations as well as the principle of the peaceful settlement of international disputes. In this connection, Thailand, with the sincere desire and the utmost forbearance in the face of the Lao provocation and talse accusations, had made every effort to create an atmosphere which is conducive to the normalization of Thai-Lao relations but had not received a positive response from the leaders of the Lao side, who still continue with ill will to attack endlessly the Thai Government and people. This shows that the Lao leaders, deep at heart, do not wish to see Thai-Lao relations return to normalcy. Moreover, they desire definitely to destroy the brotherly relations between the Thai people and the Lao people.
- 3. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand went on to say that, in order for the two countries to co-operate in normalizing their relations, the Thai Government and people maintain that the response from the Lao Government must be continuously positive before all else. So long as the Lao side still does not see fit to forsake efforts to intervene in the internal affairs of Thailand through attempts to divide the Thai leaders, create division between the Thai Government and people, destroy the image of Thailand by false accusations and distortions of the various facts concerning Thai-Lao relations, as well as casting aspersions on the dignity of Thailand with allegations that there are differing circles in the Thai Government, it is necessarily most difficult to create an atmosphere conducive to friendship between one another.
- 4. The Minister for Foreign Attairs of Thailand emphatically reiterated that the Thai Government and people hoped most sincerely that various activities of the Lao side mentioned above would cease quickly and that the Lao side would again help to create an atmosphere which would lead to the normalization of the brotherly relations between the Thai and the Lao nations and peoples as well as the promotion of mutual understanding and positive co-operation in accordance with the spirit of the Thai-Lao joint communiqué of 1979.
- 5. There has been no response whatsoever from the Lao side to the note of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand to his Lao counterpart of more than five months ago.
- 6. The incident of the three villages is no longer an issue. It had already been debated at the United Nations Security Council. Thai armed torces are stationed on Thai soil to detend Thai sovereighty and territorial integrity.

- 7. The Thai Government is determined to pursue a policy of good-neighbourly relations with the Lao Government regardless of differences in the political systems of the two countries, because it serves the interest of the Thai and Lao peoples. The Thai people always welcomes peaceful and constructive relations with the Lao people because we share a common culture, language and religion.
- 8. To fulfil the desire of the Thai Government and people to live in peace and engage in constructive co-operation with the Lao Government and people, it is absolutely necessary that efforts be made in good faith by both sides. It is fundamental that the Lao side refrain from harping on non-issues and abandon attempts to divide the Thai Government and the Thai people. The Kingdom of Thailand has always been an independent and sovereign nation. The Thai people live in a free and open society; the Thai Government is democratically elected by the Thai people.
- 9. The Thai Government is always prepared to respond positively to a serious proposal from the Lao Government for talks between the two sides to promote economic, social and cultural relations between the two countries. The introduction of extraneous issues into the proposed bilateral talks casts serious doubt on the sincerity and readiness of the Lao Government to engage in meaningful talks with the Thai Government. As the representative of an independent and sovereign nation, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic should not allow itself to be used to divert world attention away from the criminal acts of invasion and occupation of Kampuchea by Viet Nam which have been condemned by the overwhelming majority of the international community in the United Nations General Assembly for six consecutive years. It is a well-known fact that this is a problem, which must first be resolved between Viet Nam, the aggressor, and Kampuchea, the victim. This is the only problem that obstructs peace and stability in South-East Asia.
- 10. The Thai Government sincerely hopes that the Lao Government will be able to take the independent course of action that best serves the interest of its own people by responding positively to the note of 3 December 1984 of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand. This will certainly fulfil the real desires of the peoples of the two countries. The machinery for the promotion of Thai-Lao relations, as well as for the settlement of possible disputes between the two countries at all levels, is already at the disposal of the respective Governments. Public statements of an abusive nature, serving the interest of outside powers, which orchestrate their propaganda machines to give them further publicity, reflect the lack of a genuine desire on the part of the Lao Government to pursue traditional friendly Thai-Lao relations.

I have the bonour to request that the text of this statement be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 22, 40, 132 and 133 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

