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 list\*  
 THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA  
 QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND  
 CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST  
 ASIA

 SECURITY COUNCIL  
 Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 9 July 1990 from the Permanent Representative of China  
 to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith, for your reference, the transcript of an interview by reporters from the Xinhua News Agency with a leading member of the Asian Department of China's Foreign Ministry on 28 June 1990 concerning the informal exchanges of views between China and Viet Nam (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 32 and 38 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) LI Daoyu  
 Permanent Representative of the  
 People's Republic of China  
 to the United Nations

\* A/45/50.

**ANNEX**

On 28 June 1990, reporters from the Xinhua News Agency interviewed a leading member of the Asian Department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry concerning the informal exchanges of views between China and Viet Nam. The main content of the interview is as follows:

Question 1: How do you assess the informal exchange of views between China and Viet Nam in June?

Answer: Early this month, Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin went to Hanoi as a guest of the Chinese Ambassador to Viet Nam and had an informal exchange of views with Viet Nam's Vice Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co over the question of Cambodia. When Viet Nam's First Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem was in Beijing in early May of this year for an exchange of views, the two sides reached some common understanding. However, differences still remained over the question of transitional authority and the disposition of the troops of the four factions in Cambodia. The Vietnamese side expressed its willingness to study the views of the Chinese side upon returning to Viet Nam and keep the latter informed of the result. Assistant Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin went to Hanoi mainly to learn about the Vietnamese side's views over the aforementioned two questions.

Unfortunately, however, no progress was made during this round of exchanges and the differences between the two sides failed to be narrowed.

Question 2: What are the differences in principle between China and Viet Nam over these two questions?

Answer: (1) As regards the Supreme National Council (SNC) of Cambodia, the Chinese side put forward two options: a) The SNC shall be the sole legal interim organ of the highest authority in Cambodia with temporary legislative power and administrative authority in the transitional period. It shall be composed of representatives from all conflicting factions in keeping with the principle of non-exclusion and non-domination of any faction, and Prince Sihanouk shall be the Chairman. b) The SNC authorizes the United Nations to execute administration during the transitional period. Viet Nam's position is: It opposes the United Nations' administration of Cambodia on the one hand and objects to the transfer of the temporary legislative and important administrative power to the SNC on the other, while insisting that the power of the Phnom Penh regime should remain intact and the power and functions of the SNC be confined to the scope of "playing a coordinative role between the two existing governments". (2) As for the disposition of the troops of the four factions, the Chinese side advocates that, for the maintenance of peace and prevention of a civil war, the armed forces of all factions in Cambodia should first of all assemble at locations designated by the U.N. International Control

Mechanism and then be completely disarmed or drastically reduced. However, Viet Nam has objected to the complete disarming or drastic reduction. It is opposed to cantonment at the locations designated by the U.N. International Control Mechanism, and even more to the sending of international peace-keeping forces into Cambodia by the United Nations.

It is not difficult to see from the aforementioned that Viet Nam stands for keeping the Phnom Penh régime and its armed forces intact so as to maintain the fait accompli created by the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia and continue its control over Cambodia. By taking this attitude, Viet Nam has gone against the aspirations of the Cambodian people, and also against the propositions of the international community, especially of the ASEAN countries. That is the very reason why the recent informal exchange of views between China and Viet Nam failed to make any progress.

Question 3: Viet Nam claims that these two questions are the internal affairs of Cambodia and their discussion constitutes an interference in the internal affairs of Cambodia. What's your comment?

Answer: Viet Nam is the only country that has interfered in the internal affairs of Cambodia. It sent out a large number of armed forces to invade Cambodia and overthrow its legitimate government. This is precisely what constitutes a gross interference in Cambodia's internal affairs. It is to eliminate the aftermath of the Vietnamese interference in the internal affairs of Cambodia that the United Nations and the international community have been making efforts, over the past decade or so, for a just and reasonable solution to the Cambodian question. Playing the trick of "A thief crying 'stop thief'", Viet Nam should even accuse others of interfering in the internal affairs of Cambodia, simply to keep its vested interest gained from its aggression against Cambodia.

Question 4: Did the two sides discuss the question of normalization of relations between the two countries in the course of the informal exchange of views?

Answer: The Vietnamese side expressed its hope to normalize Sino-Vietnamese relations as soon as possible. China has the same desire. The deterioration of relations between China and Viet Nam is a result of the Vietnamese aggression against Cambodia. It is impossible to end the past and open up the future before the Cambodian question is settled. Just like "climbing a tree to catch fish", Viet Nam is obstinately trying to maintain the fait accompli of its invasion of Cambodia on the one hand and seeking normalization of relations between China and Viet Nam on the other.