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SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 24 October 1979 from the Permanent Representative of  
Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith for your information the text of the speech by the Head of the Delegation of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Dinh Nho Liem, at the 19 October 1979 meeting of the Viet Nam-China talks. I request you to kindly have this letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 46, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) HA VAN LAU  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative of the Socialist  
Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations

ANNEX

S P E E C H

by H.E.Mr. Dinh Nho Liem

Head of the Government Delegation

of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

at the talks between Viet Nam and China on October 19, 1979

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Along with making frenzied preparations for another war of aggression against Viet Nam, the Chinese authorities have, of late, put forward blatant distortions about the situation in Kampuchea and cooked up a fantastic story about a dry-season offensive of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea. At the same time, they have made strenuous efforts to have the so-called Kampuchean problem discussed at the 34th Session of the U.N. General Assembly.

This is a new scheme and act of Peking to launch, in collusion with U.S. imperialism, a new campaign against Viet Nam and the other countries of Indochina, and to sow hostility and division between Viet Nam and the other South East Asian countries.

What is the actual situation now prevailing in Kampuchea? After winning the great victory of January 7, 1979, overthrowing the genocidal Pol Pot - Ieng Sary regime, a stooge of Peking, and founding the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Kampuchean people, under the leadership of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, have pursued their staunch and valiant efforts to overcome all difficulties, and recorded great achievements which have thoroughly changed the face of Kampuchea. The Revolutionary Forces of Kampuchea have grown rapidly to maturity. The Kampuchean people have fully become again masters of their country. Life has returned to normal, and is increasingly stabilized. The People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea is seated in Phnom Penh capital city. It is in firm control

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of the whole country, managing all its internal and external affairs. It is a genuine revolutionary administration, truly national and democratic, representing the feelings, aspirations, will and national traditions of the Kampuchean people, acting in conformity with the trend of history, and enjoying the wholehearted support and protection of the Kampuchean people from all walks of life. It persistently pursues a foreign policy of independence, peace, friendship and non-alignment. The People's Republic of Kampuchea has become a positive factor of peace, friendship and stability in South East Asia and in the world. The Second Congress of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea held recently was a demonstration to the world, strength of the broad unity of the entire Kampuchean people who are determined to thwart all dark schemes of Peking expansionism, imperialism and stooges, to preserve their revolutionary gains, to defend and build up a peaceful, independent, democratic, neutral, and non-aligned Kampuchea advancing to socialism. The so-called "democratic Kampuchea" has been buried once and for all. The ringleaders Pol Pot and Ieng Sary have been sentenced to death for their crimes of genocide and put under a warrant for arrest by the People's Revolutionary Tribunal of Kampuchea acting in accordance with the desire of the Kampuchean people and the demand of the conscience of progressive mankind. Their military forces have been in the main wiped out and swept away from their last dens, there have remained only a handful of ragged men suffering from hunger and diseases, hiding themselves, operating stealthily like bandits, and living on plunder and hand-out from Peking. The tracking down of these bandits is a normal work of maintaining public order, and entirely belongs to the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

It is clear that today there is only one Kampuchea - the People's Republic of Kampuchea - and one administration which is the sole genuine and legal representative of Kampuchea - the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea. The revolutionary situation in Kampuchea is irreversible. The People's Republic of Kampuchea is sure to march forward steadily.

Large segments of public opinion have come to understand more and more deeply the situation in Kampuchea and to realize more and more clearly the just character of the Kampuchean people's struggle against the expansionist and hegemonistic policy of Peking and its henchmen, to regain and defend

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the right to be masters of their country and their life. An increasing number of Governments and national liberation movements have recognized or extended support to the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, and helped the Kampuchean people to do away with the grave consequences left by genocidal regime in Peking's payroll, and promote a new life. The position of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea has been unceasingly enhanced in the international arena. If the genocidal Pol Pot - Ieng Sary clique, relying on the collusion between Peking and U.S. imperialism, is still temporarily seated at a number of international organizations or conferences, this is illegal and does in no way mean that they are qualified to represent the Kampuchean people. No matter what efforts the imperialists and international reactionaries will make to salvage it, this genocidal clique will sooner or later be removed from the life of the international community and thrown into the garbage-bin of history with the same humiliating lot as so many other reactionaries and traitors overthrown by the people. All attempts of Peking and imperialism to rally stooges of all sorts, foster them up, bring about a situation with the so-called existence of "two zones of control" and "two administrations in Kampuchea", and to interfere through other tricks in the internal affairs of Kampuchea, are doomed to total failure. President of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea Heng Samrin has pointed out: "The only solution in Kampuchea now is for the Peking expansionists and their allies - the imperialists and other reactionary forces - to give up their policy of intervention, aggression and expansion against the People's Republic of Kampuchea, stop instigating and helping reactionaries in their payroll to oppose the Kampuchean people." This correct position of the People's Republic of Kampuchea has been enjoying ever broader approval and support from the people of the world.

Peking's deliberate attempts to distort the situation in Kampuchea and to cook up the imaginary story about a "dry-season offensive of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea" and its unreasonable demand for discussions of the so-called "Kampuchean problem" at the U.N. General Assembly, are aimed at justifying its crude interference in the internal affairs of Kampuchea, to restore the genocidal Pol Pot - Ieng Sary regime, and also

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at covering up their frenzied preparations for a new military adventure against the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The world has also clearly realized the Peking authorities' schemes and acts against the Lao people and their threat of aggression against Laos. On October 3, 1979, at the U.N. General Assembly, Head of the Delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Khamphay Boupha charged Peking with "massing many divisions along the Sino-Lao border, infiltrating spies and bandits into Lao territory, fomenting social disorders, sowing division among ethnic minorities, rallying Lao reactionaries in exile into a so-called "socialist party". An act has drawn particular attention: under the signboard of "helping resettle refugees" Peking is recruiting former rightist Lao officers and men now in exile in Thailand as a nucleus of a mercenary army it is trying to set up to oppose the Lao people. At the same time, everybody is keenly vigilant at the possibility of Peking launching an attack against Northern provinces of Laos along with a new aggression against Viet Nam.

Since the large-scale war of aggression launched by the Chinese rulers against the Vietnamese people, the situation along the Viet Nam - China border has grown increasingly strained due to the actions of the Chinese side. The September 22, 1979 Memorandum of the Information and Press Department, Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, gave a systematic account of the Chinese authorities' armed provocations and war preparations against Viet Nam since March 16, 1979 when they declared to have completed the withdrawal of troops.

A serious fact is that, of late, the Chinese authorities have frenziedly stepped up in the material, psychological, and public relation fields their preparations for another aggressive war against Viet Nam. After maintaining for many months 12 infantry divisions close to the Vietnamese border and five army corps in Southern China, they are now moving in more regular divisions and war means, including bombers of various types to reinforce the military forces on the spot. Reinforcements are also being sent to Hainan island and the Sino-Lao border areas. Foreign sources have mentioned "signs" of preparations for a military attack, similar to

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those prior to February 17, 1979. Every day, thousands of trucks, dozens of railway waggons, and in some places, horses, too, are being used to carry troops and weapons to places close to Viet Nam along the entire Northern border-line. Here, Chinese troops are diligently digging more trenches, and completing the system of fortifications and solid underground bunkers, building more artillery and rocket emplacements, more military roads, and strengthening the communication network. They are staging large-scale military manoeuvres involving various branches, either separately or in coordination, including exercises in both day and night bombing, with some flights intruding deep into the Vietnamese air space. The Chinese side has stepped up armed provocations - firing with small weapons, shelling and firing rockets onto Vietnamese villages, sending troops across the border for ambushes and attacks against Vietnamese populated areas and border-guard units, which have resulted in more losses in lives and property to the population in all the six Northern border provinces of Viet Nam. It has repeatedly driven many people into Vietnamese territory to conduct espionage and psychological warfare activities, carry out divisive attempts among various ethnic groups, and foment political disorders. It has furthermore sent hundreds of ships and boats into Vietnamese territorial waters. It is noteworthy that it has arrogantly laid down "four danger areas" over the high seas or the territorial waters around the Hoang Sa archipelago of Viet Nam, and banned for an indefinite period all flights at certain altitudes over these areas, effective from October 23, 1979. This act is part and parcel of Peking's scheme to extend step by step its exclusive control over the Eastern Sea. It constitutes a flagrant violation of the territorial sovereignty of Viet Nam and of the principle of freedom of flights over international waters, and will cause tension in this region.

In the meantime, the Chinese side, in close coordination with U.S. imperialism, has stepped up the anti-Viet Nam campaign in the international arena and tried to prevail upon a number of countries to bring pressure to bear on Viet Nam, it has also used those thugs who murdered women, children

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and old folk during the recent aggressive war against Viet Nam, and who are called heroes of the counter-attack in self-defence, for a propaganda campaign to arouse an anti-Viet Nam psychosis among the Chinese people and army whom it wants to push into another aggression against Viet Nam.

The Chinese side's intensified war preparations and armed provocations against Viet Nam are bringing about a very tense situation along the Viet Nam-China border; they are fraught with the danger of a new war of aggression against Viet Nam breaking out at any moment; they seriously jeopardize the security of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and pose a threat to peace and stability in South East Asia. The Vietnamese people and Government strongly condemn these new crimes of the Chinese authorities, and firmly demand that they put an immediate end to these extremely dangerous actions.

In an attempt to justify and camouflage the preparations for new military ventures against the Vietnamese people, and to side track public opinion which is following them with vigilance, the Chinese side, right at this negotiating table, cooked up a story about Viet Nam so-called "frantic war preparations against China. This blatant slander can fool nobody. It may be asked: Why does the Chinese side, while raising a hue and cry about a forthcoming "war" made by Viet Nam "against China" adamantly refuse to reach agreement on the urgent measures, proposed by the Vietnamese side on repeated occasions, to secure peace and stability in border areas and to prevent a resumption of hostilities? Evading these reasonable and sensible measures while frantically preparing for war and arrogantly giving themselves the right to "teach" Viet Nam another lesson, the Chinese authorities have fully laid bare their expansionist and hegemonistic designs, their extremely warlike nature and their collusion with U.S. imperialism in their stepped up anti-Viet Nam policy.

The white book issued on October 4, 1979 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam under the title "The Truth about Viet Nam - China Relations over the Last 30 Years" has pointed out : the extremely serious deterioration of the relations between Viet Nam and China as obtaining now is entirely due to the Chinese authorities' pursuance of great power expansionism and hegemonism and their  
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systematic policy of hostility to Viet Nam. The Vietnamese people have always treasured and tried hard to preserve the long-standing friendship binding them to the Chinese people. They persistently stand for a negotiated settlement of all the problems in the relations between the two countries.

Should the Chinese rulers recklessly launch another war of aggression against Viet Nam, the Vietnamese people, united as one man, will stand up once again in a resolute struggle to defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of their fatherland, to preserve their correct line of independence, sovereignty and international solidarity, in the sacred interests of the Vietnamese nation, and for the sake of genuine friendship between the two peoples, of peace and stability in South-East Asia and of world peace.

The Viet Nam - China negotiations have lasted six months with twelve meetings, but have made no headway. This is due to the Chinese side's clinging obdurately to its great power hegemonistic stand and attitude, trying to impose arrogant demands and preconditions on the Vietnamese side, refusing to discuss any question whatever in bilateral relations, and adamantly insisting on the settlement of the problem of a third country behind the back of its people. In order to bring the conversations forward, and meet the wishes of the two peoples and of world public opinion, let the Chinese side turn back to the purpose of the talks as laid down by the two sides: to discuss the urgent measures to secure peace and stability in border areas, to restore the normal relations, and eventually to settle the border and territorial problems between the two countries. In view of the extreme tension now prevailing along the border between the two countries, it is imperative first and foremost that the Chinese side joint without delay the Vietnamese side in discussing the urgent measures to remove the danger of renewed hostilities.

Whether or not the talks could make headway, peace and stability could be secured at the border, and normal relations restored between Viet Nam and China at an early date depends entirely on the Chinese side./.

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