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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 28 November 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 the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea concerning the tension created by Thailand on the frontier between the two countries, and request you to have the statement and this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 123, 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

Statement dated 24 November 1979 by the Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea concerning the  
tension created by Thailand on the frontier between the two  
countries

Despite the attitude of good will and the policy of peace, friendship and co-operation with neighbouring countries of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, which have been amply demonstrated both in statements and by specific acts, the authorities in Thailand, which have never ceased to proclaim that they would "remain neutral vis-à-vis Kampuchea", have in reality become more and more deeply involved in their policy of collusion with the Peking expansionists, the United States imperialists and the other reactionary forces, upholding and assisting the Pol Pot and Ieng Sary genocide criminals in their opposition to the people and the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The authorities in Thailand not only allowed Pol Pot and Ieng Sary to pass through Thailand to flee to China, but they have even tolerated the use by them of Thai territory as a starting point for the penetration of Kampuchea. What is more serious, the Thai authorities have not sought to conceal these facts.

The following passage has been taken from an Associated Press dispatch dated 17 November, from which it appears that a correspondent, with the authorization of Thailand, visited one of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary bases situated in Thai territory:

"Thailand, officially neutral, has authorized the Pol Pot army to establish supply centres in Thai territory, and the Thai army is co-operating with Pol Pot-Ieng Sary in their activities along the frontier. An Associated Press photographer accompanied 15 Thai marines on a patrol of the frontier, the group including two Pol Pot soldiers. The supply centre visited by this correspondent is in the village of La-en, approximately 500 metres inside Thai territory. This centre is supervised by Pol Pot supporters, who have established their control post inside the territory of Thailand, only a few hundred metres from the barracks of the Thai marines."

During the first half of June 1979, approximately 2,000 men from the remnants of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary army were fed, re-equipped and reintroduced into Kampuchea with a view to conducting activities aimed at undermining law and order, security and the revolutionary work of the Kampuchean people. On several occasions, boats have illegally penetrated the territorial waters of Kampuchea in the region of Koh Kong to supply the Pol Pot bandits with weapons and food and to support them in their resistance to the operations carried out by the revolutionary armed forces of Kampuchea. The Thais have several times opened artillery fire from Thailand into the territory of Kampuchea. Thai aircraft have, on several occasions, penetrated sometimes up to 20 km into Kampuchean air space. What is more dangerous, as the AP dispatch quoted above shows, mixed army units of Thai and Pol Pot forces have been formed, some of which have already undertaken

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sabotage operations in the region between the Kampuchean province of Battambang and the Thai province of Aranya Prathet. Recently, taking advantage of the campaign to bring aid to the victims of famine in Kampuchea and to the Kampuchean "refugees", the Thai authorities have set up a whole logistical network of supply centres and "sanctuaries" along the frontier between Thailand and Kampuchea for the Pol Pot remnants. They have acted in concert with the Peking expansionists in their manoeuvre to hire Kampuchean refugees as mercenaries.

The above-mentioned incidents are only some of the acts committed by Thailand against the People's Republic of Kampuchea, acts which are all part of its collusion with the Chinese reactionaries and the United States imperialists and of which Kampuchea has all the evidence. That proves that the current tension on the frontier between Kampuchea and Thailand has been created by Thailand. The allegation made by Thailand concerning the so-called "danger of an expansion of the armed conflict by the revolutionary armed forces of Kampuchea and Viet Nam" is nothing but a slanderous manoeuvre designed to camouflage the intensification by Thailand of acts of provocation and violations of the territorial sovereignty of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. Those acts are contrary to the interests of the Kampuchean people, as well as those of the Thai people; they create a situation of tension on the frontier between Kampuchea and Thailand, and threaten peace and stability in the whole South East Asian region. Those acts benefit only the Chinese expansionists, the United States imperialists and the other reactionary forces.

The People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea denounces and strongly condemns those dangerous acts on the part of the Thai authorities and demands that they cease forthwith. The Thai authorities must forthwith abandon their misguided and dangerous schemes vis-à-vis the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea appeals to public opinion which loves peace and justice to compel the Thai authorities to put an end to their adventurist acts and it draws the attention of the United Nations to the situation so that it may avoid making a second error by permitting the United States imperialists, the Peking expansionists and the Thai authorities to abuse its good name to serve their ignoble aims.

As President Heng Samrin stated in his message dated 23 October 1979 addressed to the Prime Minister of Thailand, Kriangsak Chomanan, the People's Revolutionary Council maintains a foreign policy of independence, peace, friendship, co-operation, non-alignment, and respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring countries. At the same time, it is resolved to defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kampuchea within its present frontiers. The People's Republic of Kampuchea would be very happy to establish relations of good neighbourliness and co-operation with the Kingdom of Thailand, based on the principles of mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of the other country, equality and mutual advantage.

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The People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea hopes that the Government of Thailand will adopt a reciprocal attitude and immediately put an end to its misguided schemes. That would be in the interests of the people of both countries and in the interests of peace and stability in the region.

All the acts undertaken by the Thai authorities in collusion with the Peking expansionists, the United States imperialists and the other reactionary forces, acts which run counter to the interests of the Kampuchean people and of the Thai people, are doomed to total and certain failure, and the Thai authorities must bear the full responsibility for the consequences resulting from their acts.

Phnom Penh

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