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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

Letter dated 6 December 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 extracts from the address by President Heng Samrin at the solemn meeting held at Phnom Penh on 1 December 1979 to commemorate the first anniversary of the foundation of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea and to ask you to have these extracts and the present letter distributed as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 123.

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

Annex

EXTRACTS FROM THE ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT HENG SAMRIN AT THE SOLEMN MEETING HELD AT PHNOM PENH ON 1 DECEMBER 1979 TO COMMEMORATE THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE NATIONAL UNITED FRONT FOR THE SALVATION OF KAMPUCHEA

In the short time that has elapsed since liberation we have gained further new victories in all spheres.

In the military sphere:

Our revolutionary armed forces have destroyed the most important bases of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary remnants and have totally defeated them, with the destruction of the Tasseing base situated in the Kampuchea-Thailand frontier area. We have, moreover, uncovered a number of enemy networks in districts, in provinces and in towns during mopping-up operations.

These new victories constitute indisputable proof of the competence of our revolutionary armed forces in defending our territorial integrity on land, on sea and in the air. In only one year our revolutionary armed forces have restored military stability throughout the country.

In the political sphere:

We have organized and developed the political institutions of the revolutionary power throughout the country. We have strengthened our leadership cadres by augmenting the number of increasingly competent revolutionaries in order to improve the efficiency of all services. In addition, we have set up mass organizations of the people at all levels, from top to bottom.

More recently we have achieved other successes: the success of the people's revolutionary tribunal of Kampuchea which condemned the traitors Pol Pot and Ieng Sary to death, the success of the second congress of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea, which adopted a resolution calling upon all the active forces of the nation, without distinction of nationality, social class or former political beliefs, to apply the just political programme of the central committee of the Front for building a new Kampuchea and progress towards genuine socialism. All of these victories in the political sphere clearly confirm the development and building up of revolutionary power and of our capacity to manage the country's internal and external affairs.

In the economic sphere:

We have reorganized the lives of our population, and our compatriots have finally returned to their native villages and their families. They now have

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shelter and decent clothing, together with adequate food rations. All that constitutes a decisive factor in ensuring their survival. The administration of the revolutionary power, at all levels, has made great efforts to produce this result. In the agricultural sphere, our population has already attained, in an effective manner, remarkable results in stimulating national production. Throughout the country these achievements are very promising.

We have also repaired and restored communications: road networks, shipping facilities and airports. Factories and other businesses are beginning to operate, and this economic improvement determines and further strengthens our people's faith in the principle that the building of a nation must be founded on its own capacities and skills. At the same time, it helps to restore to our compatriots legitimate pride in their capacity to solve their own problems of existence and gradually to stabilize the country. Only one year has elapsed, but they are already recovering their self-confidence.

In the cultural and social sphere:

Thousands of schools and other educational institutions have been restored to serve the people throughout the country, from top to bottom. Over 10,000 teachers are instructing over 700,000 pupils, including a great many orphans. Literacy campaigns for adults are expanding.

In the sphere of social work, activities are beginning again and being intensified with the rehabilitation and establishment of hospitals, clinics and dispensaries throughout the country, at all administrative levels and among the people. The sick are being treated and very well cared for. Medicines are systematically distributed to all the population.

In the sphere of external affairs:

At the international level we have, through our bitter struggle, gained wide support for our cause and revealed the whole truth about Kampuchea, thus creating a favourable climate of opinion concerning our just revolutionary cause. Many countries have already recognized our Peoples' Revolutionary Council. So far over 30 countries voted against Pol Pot, a fact which makes it very clear that they can no longer deny the crime of genocide committed by Pol Pot and Ieng Sary in Kampuchea. We are still continuing, despite these conclusive triumphs, to explain to the world our position and the cause we are defending, a just and licit cause. We are certain that in the near future we will receive recognition and support on a more massive scale from other countries throughout the world.

This victory is attributable to the just political programme of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea under the enlightened direction of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea. It is also due to the strength of the military solidarity of all our people and to the aid and outstanding support of our brothers and friends throughout the world particularly our brothers in Viet Nam, Laos, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and other organizations which pursue justice and peace.

At present, faced with this brilliant victory of the revolution in Kampuchea, the Peking expansionists and the imperialists are adopting an extremely aggressive attitude towards us. In collusion with each other, they are reduced to choosing Sihanouk as the instrument of their evil designs in their subversive manoeuvring against the revolutionary power of our people which, against all obstacles, is still continuing to defend its just cause. In fact Sihanouk is merely playing Peking's game; Peking can no longer rely on the bloodthirsty traitors of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary. Sihanouk therefore constitutes for them their last hope of exterminating the survivors of the genocide. The final crime thus accomplished, they would instal their logistic base in Kampuchea in order to make preparations for aggression against Viet Nam, Laos and neighbouring countries, thus implementing their hegemonistic policy.

Nevertheless, the Kampuchean people, like all progressive peoples throughout the world, is well aware of this situation in which Sihanouk is embroiled. It knows only too well the nature of Sihanouk and the criminal designs of the reactionaries. Both serve only the interests of imperialism and the reactionaries, and do so on the backs of our people, shamelessly bleeding them white. Naturally, these subversive manoeuvres of the Peking clique, the reactionaries and the imperialists will necessarily end in a humiliating failure. Their ambitions cannot in any event upset the present situation in Kampuchea. The people of Kampuchea have now become masters of their own destiny. They are, in sovereignty, running the affairs of the country. The strength of the solidarity of the entire nation and people with the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, their sole authentic and legal representative, is the impregnable source of the Kampuchean people's confidence. The people of Kampuchea thus united, will allow no one to violate the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. Moreover, the steadfast solidarity of the Kampuchean people with the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries constitutes a decisive factor in its triumph in the struggle against the subversive manoeuvres and evil designs of the imperialists and of the Peking expansionists and hegemonists.

The National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea is a broad front which represents all social strata of the population and the Kampuchean ethnic minorities in the country and abroad, without distinction of class, nationality, former political beliefs or religion, those who, in a word, are determined to defend Kampuchea against the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique and against other reactionaries with a common purpose: to rebuild an independent, peaceful, democratic, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea and to make progress towards happiness and socialism.
