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UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/7694
23 January 1967
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 19 JANUARY 1967 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
CAMBODIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On the instructions of my Governments and further to my letter No. 237 of 12 January 1967, I have the honour to bring to your attention, for the information of the members of the Security Council, the following:

On 10 December 1966, at about 11.30 p.m., the members of the National Defence Forces of the village of Trapeang Veng, in the course of reconnaissance patrol in the vicinity of their village, which is situated about ten kilometres north-east of Samrong Centre, Province of Oddor Meanchey, surprised four armed men coming from Thai territory. The Thai intruders fled back to their territory only after being fired upon by the Cambodian patrol.

On 11 December 1966, at about 9.15 p.m., about thirty armed men from Thai territory, in a harassing action, opened fire with automatic weapons and mortars on barracks No. 34-BC, which is situated about twenty kilometres north-west of Samrong Centre, Province of Oddor Meanchey. Some mortar shells fell near the barracks.

On 12 December 1966, at about 12.30 p.m., members of the Cambodian counter-guerilla force from the Chamcar Chek post, while on patrol, surprised about twenty armed persons coming from Thai territory about 2,500 metres south of the Cambodian post of O Smach. The Cambodians opened fire on the Thai intruders, who then fled towards their own territory.

On the same day, at about 1.15 p.m., a mine which armed elements from Thai territory had laid at a point situated about 2,500 metres north-west of Bac Nim village, which is about twenty kilometres east of Samrong Centre in the Province of Oddor Meanchey, exploded, killing an ox and seriously injuring another.

On 14 December 1966, at about 8 a.m., the members of the National Defence Forces of Kbal Tonsong village, while on patrol, surprised a group of armed men from Thai territory at a point about ten kilometres from the frontier and about

ten kilometres north of Thmar Puok, Province of Battambang. The Cambodians immediately opened fire on the Thai intruders, who then fled to their own territory.

On 15 December 1966, at about 10 a.m., members of the Thai Armed Forces from the Hat Lek post fired with automatic weapons on Cambodian soldiers who were on patrol at Chhne Khsach in Cambodian territory at a distance of about 300 metres from the frontier. The enemy ceased firing only after an energetic response on the part of the Cambodian defenders.

On 17 December 1966, at about 8 a.m., a man and wife from Khvao village, Khum of Svay Chek, Srok of Thmar Puok, Province of Battambang, who were travelling by ox-cart, set off a mine which armed elements from Thai territory had laid at a point about twelve kilometres from the frontier and about twenty kilometres south-west of Thmar Puok Centre (Battambang).

The explosion of the mine killed Pin Yen, the husband, on the spot, seriously injured Yean Yoeun, the wife, and also the two oxen, and badly damaged the cart.

A short time later, another enemy mine was discovered close to the place of the explosion by Cambodian elements who had been called to the scene of the incident.

On 19 December 1966, at about 6.30 a.m., a buffalo-cart driven by an inhabitant of the village of Daun Noy set off a mine laid by armed elements from Thai territory at a point about twenty kilometres from the frontier and about eleven kilometres south-west of Thmar Puok Centre, Province of Battambang.

The explosion of the mine injured Sean Soeung, the driver of the cart, killed a female buffalo, injured two male buffaloes and severely damaged the cart.

On 21 December 1966, at about 1.30 p.m., the explosion of another mine laid by Thai intruders at a point about fifteen kilometres east of Samrong Centre and about twenty-five kilometres from the frontier severely damaged an ox-cart.

On 22 December 1966, at about 2 p.m., a man and wife from the village of Khtum, while travelling by ox-cart, set off a mine laid by armed elements from Thai territory at a point west of the village of Bac Nim; the said village is situated about twenty-seven kilometres from the frontier and about twenty kilometres east of Samrong Centre, Province of Oddor Meanchey.

The explosion of the mine injured the driver, Lao My, seriously injured his wife, Chheth Moeung, their son and an ox, and severely damaged the cart.

On the same day, at about 3 p.m., another ox-cart travelling on the Khtum-Prasath Rovieng road set off a mine laid by armed elements from Thai territory at a point some fifteen kilometres east of Samrong Centre and about 1,500 metres south-east of the site of the 21 December explosion.

The explosion of the mine injured three villagers, including one in serious condition, severely injured two oxen and damaged the cart.

On 27 December 1966, while on a reconnaissance patrol, a group of mixed Cambodian elements from the village of Bos Thom, Srok of Samrong, Province of Oddor Meanchey, consisting of soldiers and of members of the National Defence Forces, was caught at about 2 p.m. in an ambush laid in Cambodian territory by a group of armed elements from Thai territory at a point about three kilometres south of the said village, about twenty kilometres north-east of Samrong Centre (Oddor Meanchey) and about twelve kilometres from the frontier.

Cambodian casualties were the following:

Four members of the National Defence Forces - Liv Khath, Louch Lem, Norng Khlin and Phor Khor - were killed.

Two members of the National Defence Forces - Kroch Lem and Khip Ort - were seriously wounded.

Three men - Ith Dith, Private Second-Class, and Kork Sorn and Liv Khlam, members of the National Defence Forces - were slightly wounded.

Three Cambodian elements on patrol near the site of the incident, alerted by the firing, proceeded to the site and were able to disengage their comrades after a brief exchange of fire with their Thai aggressors. The latter fled by an indirect route towards Thai territory, pursued by the Cambodian elements.

On 30 December 1966, at about 4.30 a.m., armed elements from Thai territory, in a harassing action, opened fire with automatic weapons and mortars on the Cambodian post of Kalar, situated about twenty kilometres north-west of Thmar Paok Centre, Province of Battambang, and about 1,000 metres from the frontier.

The Cambodian elements of the post retaliated vigorously against the Thai aggressors, forcing them to retire towards their own territory some forty minutes later.

Cambodian casualties on this occasion were six occupants of the post seriously wounded, including four soldiers, one woman and one girl.

On the same day, at about 4.30 p.m. Thai aggressors again harassed the same post while the elements of the post were engaged in evacuating the wounded by helicopter.

As soon as the harassment of that morning had been reported, an action detachment from the 30th BC, commanded by Captain Lek Khan, was dispatched to the spot, and a clean-up operation in the vicinity of the post was begun at once.

At about 5 p.m., during the operation, the said action detachment set off an enemy mine. The explosion of the mine wounded thirteen men, including:

Five men mortally wounded:

Captain Lek Khan

Chief Corporal Lim Thai

Private First-Class Var Lum Chamroeun

Private Second-Class Yean Chlean

One member of the National Defence Forces.

Eight men in more or less serious condition, including soldiers and members of the National Defence Forces.

During the night of 30-31 December 1966, at about 9.30 p.m., Thai aggressors again fired mortar shells from their territory at the same post of Kalar. The firing lasted some twenty minutes.

On 31 December 1966, at about 9.15 a.m., Chum Mang and Cham Mak, two inhabitants of the village of Chhoeu Slap, set off a mine planted by armed elements from Thai territory, about 3,000 metres east of the said village, which is situated about eleven kilometres from the frontier and about fifteen kilometres north-east of Samrong Centre, Province of Oddor Meanchey.

Chum Mak, aged thirty-one years, was killed instantly, and Chum Mang, aged twenty-three years, was gravely wounded.

The Royal Government of Cambodia has lodged a vigorous protest against these criminal acts of aggression and provocation deliberately committed in Cambodian territory by armed Thai elements and has demanded their immediate cessation by the Royal Government of Thailand.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this communication circulated as a Security Council document.

Accept, Sir, etc.

(Signed) HUOT SAMBATH
Permanent Representative of Cambodia
