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QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND CO-OPERATION
IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-seventh year

Letter dated 8 January 1982 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith the statement made on 5 January 1982 by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the United States use of the Utapao base in Thailand and kindly request Your Excellency to have this letter and its enclosure circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Question of peace, stability and co-operation in South-East Asia", and of the Security Council.

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

ANNEX

S T A T E M E N T
BY THE SPOKESMAN FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
ON THE UNITED STATES USE OF UTAPAO BASE IN THAILAND

According to the Thai newspaper "The Nation", on December 26, 1981, U.S. and Thai officials including Utapao Commander officially admitted that since November 1981, aircraft of the U.S. Seventh Fleet have been authorized to re-use the Utapao air base in Thailand allegedly to refuel and carry out the U.S. - Thailand Joint Training Programme.

At a time when the U.S. imperialists are colluding with the Chinese expansionists in interfering in Kampuchea and opposing the three Indochinese peoples, the above-mentioned action only increases tension in this region.

It should be recalled that during its aggression against the three Indochinese countries in the past, the United States used Thailand as a staging base for its aircraft and warships including B.52 bombers to commit piling crimes against the Vietnamese, Lao and Kampuchean peoples. Following its failure in Indochina and in face of a strong protest from the American and Thai peoples, the United States had to pull out of Thai bases.

At present, refusing to learn from its past failure, the United States is scheming to return militarily to South-East Asia and to tie up Thailand once again to its war machinery. This is a very dangerous move which seriously jeopardizes the peace and security of the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos, Kampuchea and other South-East Asian countries. Nevertheless, all U.S. attempts at reversing the course of history will face strong condemnation by the peace-loving and progressive peoples in South-East Asia and the rest of the world, including the American and Thai peoples, and will end in humiliating failure.

The Thai authorities, by lending a hand to the United States and acting counter to the Thai people's national interests and to the aspiration for peace and stability of other South-East Asian nations, must bear full responsibility for their wrong doing.

The Vietnamese people cannot help following attentively such a dangerous action of the United States and demand that the Reagan administration immediately end all its military adventures.

Ha Noi, January 5, 1982