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Item 37 of the preliminary list\*  
QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND CO-OPERATION  
IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 12 May 1983 from the Permanent Representative  
of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations completely refutes the distortional allegations contained in the letter dated 6 May 1983 (A/38/185-S/15751) from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to Your Excellency.

The truth is that in early April 1983, the armed forces of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea had to launch necessary counter-attacks in the face of Thailand's escalation over the past several months in backing remnants of the Pol Pot genocidal clique and other Khmer reactionary groups in carrying out incursions, setting up bases and increasing sabotage activities of the security in Kampuchea's border areas. These counter-attacks were entirely justifiable and legitimate.

The joint Kampuchean-Vietnamese forces made accurate and highly effective attacks on bases of the Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionary groups on Kampuchean territory. The Kampuchean fighters and Vietnamese volunteer troops were strictly ordered not to violate Thai territory. This utmost restraint was intended not to obstruct the trend of dialogue which is developing in the region, although hot pursuit has often been resorted to in international practice. If any Thai aircraft were shot down, any Thai soldiers were captured or killed, it was because they got too deeply involved in backing the genocidal Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionaries.

\* A/38/50.

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Thailand must bear responsibility for the tense situation on the Kampuchean-Thai border. All acts of colluding with the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists in nurturing the Pol Pot remnants and other Khmer reactionaries to oppose the peoples of Kampuchea and other Indo-Chinese countries will certainly fail.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam consistently respects the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Thailand and wishes that Thailand would do likewise to the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Viet Nam is sincerely desirous of an equal dialogue with Thailand in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding in the interests of the peoples of both countries, and of peace and stability in South-East Asia.

I have the honour to request that the text of this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 37 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) HOANG BICH SON  
Permanent Representative  
of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam  
to the United Nations

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