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LETTER DATED 16 DECEMBER 1950 FROM THE
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

New York, 16 December 1950

I am sending you herewith a statement by Mr. Pak Heun Yong, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, delivered by him on 12 December 1950 to the heads of foreign embassies and legations, relating to the brutal slaughter of the Korean population and the barbarous destruction of towns and villages in Korea by the American and Syngman Rhee forces.

I shall be grateful if the above-mentioned statement can be distributed as an official General Assembly document.

(Signed) Y. MALIK

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STATEMENT BY MR. PAK HEUN YONG, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF KOREA, TO THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN CONNEXION WITH THE BRUTAL SLAUGHTER OF THE KOREAN POPULATION AND THE BARBAROUS DESTRUCTION OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES IN KOREA BY THE AMERICAN AND SYNGMAN RHEE FORCES

Retreating to the South under the blows of the People's Army of Korea, the American and British interventionists and their hirelings, the mercenary clique of Syngman Rhee, are engaging in deliberate mass slaughter of the peaceful civilian population, burning and destroying towns and villages and blowing up buildings and installations.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea has facts at its disposal and can affirm that on the orders of his overseas masters, Shing Sung Mo, Minister of Defense of Syngman Rhee's puppet Government, has ordered the retreating forces to shoot without regard to sex or age all the peaceful inhabitants who support and sympathize with the People's Democratic Government. This order is being carried out by all the Syngman Rhee and American military units. The People's Democratic Government of Korea is daily receiving information about the bestial slaughter of members of the Workers' Party, the families of men serving with the People's army and all sympathizers with the People's Democratic Government. The American and Syngman Rhee forces are carrying out this order without sparing pregnant women, children or old people.

Information which is far from complete shows that in the province of Kangwon-do alone, more than 15,000 peaceful citizens have already been shot; and in the small village of Oktonri in the Pyongyang district of that same province the families of 32 men serving in the People's army have been shot, including pregnant women and young children. On the roads along which the American interventionists and the Syngman Rhee forces have been hastily withdrawing lie the corpses of thousands of peaceful unarmed citizens who were guilty of no offense - women, children and old people, brutally slain and tortured by a band of enraged maniacs.

The withdrawing forces of the American interventionists, who conceal their acts of brigandage in Korea beneath the banner and authority of the United Nations, are leaving behind them a desert, setting fire to towns and villages, blowing up and destroying all large houses, public buildings and installations. On 5 December 1950, the Commander of the American first corps cynically described

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on the radio the activities of the special destruction squads which form part of the so-called United Nations forces, and spoke eulogistically of their "success" in the annihilation of towns and bridges and the destruction of schools, hospitals, kindergartens and theatres.

These brutal methods were used by the Hitlerite fascist monsters with their fantastic plans for the establishment of a world hegemony, when they attempted to destroy whole nations. History knows how that Hitlerite adventure ended. The bosses of Wall Street and their puppets in the White House should be reminded of that example. A nation which is defending its independence from interventionists, and is filled with the determination to carry on that struggle to the end, cannot be destroyed. The time will come when those who are guilty of these unheard of crimes against the Korean people will stand before the judgment of history and answer for their misdeeds.

I beg you to inform the Governments of all countries and the world at large of these acts of monstrous violence and of barbarous slaughter committed against the peaceful population of Korea.

I am confident that world public opinion will share our indignation at the above-mentioned fascist methods of exterminating an unarmed peaceful population, whose only offense is that it wants to live in its own free and independent country. I hope your Governments will submit to the United Nations the question of the immediate cessation of such acts, which have already been condemned by all progressive humanity, as well as the question of bringing to account those who have been guilty of these capital crimes.

PAK HEUN YONG,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the
People's Democratic Republic of Korea

12 December 1950