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THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA

Letter dated 21 November 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 for your information the text of the statement of 15 November 1979 made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the so-called resolution on "The situation in Kampuchea" adopted by the General Assembly on 14 November 1979 and request you to kindly have this letter and its enclosure circulated as a document of the General Assembly under the 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

S T A T E M E N T

by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam on the so-called Nov. 14, 1979 resolution of the U.N. General Assembly on "The Situation in Kampuchea"

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam states the following:

1. The People's Revolutionary Council who is in control of the whole country and directing all affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the sole authentic and legal representative of the Kampuchean people had, on many occasions especially on Nov. 11 just before the Nov. 12 Meeting of the General Assembly, categorically rejected the inclusion in the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly's 34th Session of the so-called "Situation in Kampuchea", and considered the U.N. General Assembly's debate on this problem without the agreement and participation of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea an interference in the internal affairs of the Kampuchean people and all resolutions passed by such a debate would be absolutely null and void.

The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam fully supports that principled position of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea.

2. In the debate on this problem, the representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and those of many peace- and justice-loving countries have clearly presented the essence of the situation in Kampuchea and tabled a draft resolution in conformity with the realities in Kampuchea, respect for the sovereignty of the Kampuchean people and in keeping with the interest of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and in the world.

Regardless of reason, the Peking expansionists and hegemonists, the U.S. imperialists and the reactionaries among the ASEAN countries induced a number of countries in adopting a resolution which grossly distorted the situation in Kampuchea, aimed at opposing the Kampuchean and Vietnamese peoples, covering up the Peking expansionists and hegemonists' crimes with

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an attempt to re-install the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary genocidal regime in Kampuchea. Following the abuse of an erroneous majority on 21 September 1979 by the Peking expansionists and hegemonists, the U.S. imperialists and the reactionaries among the ASEAN countries to keep the seat for the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary clique, the murderer of more than 3 million Kampuchean, this resolution is even more seriously erroneous and detrimental to the prestige of this international body.

3. It is a just action completely in conformity with morality and international law, with the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations for the Vietnamese armed forces to exercise their legitimate right to self-defense and at the same time respond to the appeal of the National United Front for the Salvation of Kampuchea and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea in assisting the Kampuchean people's offensive and uprising to overthrow the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary clique, to save the Kampuchean from the genocide catastrophe, defend Kampuchea's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, foil the Peking expansionists and hegemonists, the imperialist and reactionary forces' maneuver of opposing the fundamental rights of the Kampuchean people and their plot of restoring the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary genocidal regime in Kampuchea.

The presence of the Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea is in accordance with the Peace, Friendship and Cooperation Treaty signed between the two countries. The withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea is totally within the competence of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Council and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, nobody has the right to interfere.

4. The Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam categorically rejects the above-said absurd and illegal resolution.

It should be recalled that in the past when the U.S. imperialists sent 500,000 troops to make aggression in Viet Nam, Laos and Kampuchea, committing monstrous crimes against the Viet Nam, Lao and Kampuchean peoples, and recently when the Peking expansionists and hegemonists sent over 600,000 troops to invade and savagely destroy the six Northern border provinces of Viet Nam, the United Nations did not condemn the aggressors, the United Nations also ignores the illegal presence of millions of U.S. troops in their thousands of military bases all over the world against the will of the people.

The situation in Kampuchea is being gradually stabilized. The Kampuchean people are making every effort to overcome the consequences left over by the Pol Pot - Ieng Sary genocidal regime, building their new life and pursuing a foreign policy of peace, friendship and cooperation with neighbouring and other countries, thus contributing to ensure peace and stability in Southeast Asia and in the world. That situation is irreversible.

All attempts to impose "a political solution" or to convene "an international conference on the Kampuchean problem" constitute interference in the internal affairs of the Kampuchean people, provide a helping hand to Peking expansionists and hegemonists, the U.S. imperialists and the reactionaries among the ASEAN countries and will certainly meet with the Kampuchean people's strong opposition and be defeated.

Ha Noi, November 15, 1979
