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QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA  
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING  
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY  
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES

Letter dated 23 March 1984 from the Permanent Representative  
of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the communiqué dated 23 February 1984 of the Commission for investigation of war crimes committed within five years by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists against the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

I should be very grateful if Your Excellency could have this document circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 37, 68 and 124 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) HOANG BICH SON  
Permanent Representative

\* A/39/50.

ANNEX

C O M M U N I Q U E

OF THE COMMISSION FOR INVESTIGATION OF WAR CRIMES  
COMMITTED BY THE CHINESE EXPANSIONISTS AND HEGEMONISTS  
AGAINST THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

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Having ignominiously failed in their two wars of aggression, the Chinese reactionaries have, since March 1979, increased their collusion with the U.S. imperialists, rallied the reactionaries in their pay and drawn the ASEAN countries into a frantic and multi-faceted war of sabotage against Vietnam, attempting to bring about its collapse without having to wage a large-scale war. Meanwhile, they continue to prepare for a new war of aggression.

From Beijing, Washington, Bangkok and other places, they have resorted to perfidious schemes in a campaign of sabotage against Vietnam in the military, political, ideological, economic and diplomatic fields.

They have thus added new crimes to the long list of their heinous crimes against the Vietnamese people.

1. Continuing Preparations for Aggressive War, Escalating Acts of Armed Provocation and Causing on-going Tension at the Sino-Vietnamese Border :

\* At the Sino-Vietnamese Border :

Beijing permanently maintains a force of more than 10 regular divisions close to the Vietnamese border, with 5 army corps behind them, armed with artillery, tanks, armoured cars, missiles and war-planes, in addition to the local army and border police. Along the border region, Beijing has concentrated many strategic intelligence organizations, commando and scout groups, psychological warfare and economic sabotage organizations and reactionary political groups.

There, Beijing has unremittingly built and consolidated a system of combat trenches and fortifications, continually enlarged its military airports, repaired and built new roads and railways for the daily transport of weapons, ammunition and food from inside the country to the border area. In the past five years it has increased land, aerial and technical reconnaissance. Chinese aircraft violated the Vietnamese air space 200 times and nearly 1,500 Chinese scouts and commandos entered Vietnamese territory and were detected. China has also staged many mock battles against Vietnam (over 12,000 flights of aircraft took part in combat manoeuvres near the Vietnam border in 1982 and 1983).

China has engaged in nearly 7,500 armed provocations in various regions ; some artillery shelling lasting many days used thousands of shells and some land incursions involved a battalion or regiment of Chinese troops. This has caused on-going tension along the border, and inflicted heavy losses in lives and property on the local population. First statistics show that in the past five years, nearly 1,000 people were killed or injured and 100 captured by Chinese troops ; thousands of houses were destroyed and thousands of animals killed or stolen.

Off-shore : Beijing has been working hard to build and strengthen its military base on Hainan island comprising airfields, military ports, caves and submarine bases. On Vietnam's Hoang Sa archipelago which China has illegally occupied since 1974, it has built a number of military installations. It has established naval transport linking Hainan with Hoang Sa and sent a sizable number of warships to this region. China has set up many military intelligence centres and commando bases on these islands operating on the sea and in the coastal regions. China has held repeated military exercises in Tonkin Gulf and around Hoang Sa archipelago and has twice sent warships to sail from the North to the South into the Tonkin Gulf and the Truong Sa region.

During the past five years, Chinese warships disguised as fishing boats made each day an average of more than 100 incursions deep into Vietnam's territorial waters from the Tonkin Gulf to the Gulf of Siam for reconnaissance and provocation, thus hindering the Vietnamese people's transportation and fishing operation. Particularly, in March 1982 more than 50 Chinese armed vessels at one time penetrated into the central coast of Vietnam in Binh Tri Thien province and brazenly opened fire on Vietnamese ships. China has also lent a hand to those vessels which perpetrated acts of harrassment, plunder and sabotage against Vietnam's economy on the Tho Chu, Phu Quoc, Kien Giang and Minh Hai islands.

\* On the Thai - Kampuchean and Lao - Chinese borders :

The Thai - Kampuchean and Lao - Chinese borders have been used by China as sanctuaries for the Pol Pot and Vang Pao remnants and other Kampuchean and Lao reactionary political organizations in order to undermine Kampuchea and Laos and also to sabotage Vietnam in many areas.

Alongside those activities, China has repeatedly threatened Vietnam with war, saying that "China would retaliate against Vietnam militarily if Vietnam attacked Democratic Kampuchea". Most recently, Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, in a February 1, 1984 visit to Guang Xi province in the company of several senior Chinese military officers, repeated China's fallacious charge that Vietnam was actively planning armed provocations against China, and urged the Chinese army and people to stand combat ready. This is aimed at misleading the world people, covering up China's anti-Vietnam acts, and at the same time, causing tension and intimidating Vietnam.

2. Carrying out a Land-grabbing War against Vietnam on the Northern Border :

\* On Vietnam's Northern Border :

In earlier years, the reactionaries in the Beijing ruling circles had forsaken their commitment to respect the historical border drawn by the two conventions signed by the French Government and the Man Qing dynasty of China in 1887 and 1895. China used every means to legalize their occupation of 150 parts of Vietnam annexed by the Man Qing dynasty, the Chiang Kai Shek regime and the People's Republic of China itself prior to February 1979.

After its defeat in the Feb. 17, 1979 invasion of Vietnam, China had to pull out of Vietnam but still occupied more than ten new areas. In the past five years, China has annexed several more areas of Vietnam ; it encroached upon many hills on Vietnam's border and step by step broadened the areas it has occupied. The following are typical cases :

- In October 1980 and May 1981 China used regiment sized units supported by artillery and tanks to attack hill 1992 in Xin Man district, Ha Tuyen province, Hills 1800A, 1800BN and 1688 in Vi Xuyen District also in Ha Tuyen, and the area of Hill 400 in Cao Loc district of Lang Son province.

- China has widened many areas it occupied at the Huu Nghi Quan (Friendship Gate) in Lang Son, Xin Phonsung at marker posts 2 and 3 in Muong Khuong district, Hoang Lien Xon province, Chu Phia and Ta Lung in Quang Ba district, Ha Tuyen province, etc.

It gave all these places Chinese names and turned them into strongholds, forming a defence line along the border in the service of future wars of aggression as well as the present multi-faceted war of sabotage against Vietnam.

\* Off-shore : In the Tonkin Gulf China tried to shift the border line which had been clearly delineated in the documents signed by the French Government and the Qing dynasty of China. It broke off the Sino-Vietnamese negotiations on the Tonkin Gulf , taking advantage of this situation to openly carry out illegal exploration for oil and gas there in large part in Vietnamese territorial waters.

China continues to occupy the Hoang Sa archipelago of Vietnam and has not ceased to covet the Truong Sa archipelago of Vietnam. It has begun to refer in the press to these islands, beaches and rocks by Chinese names. China has arrogantly defined four "danger zones" cutting through the busy international air route from Thailand via Vietnam to many other countries, in an attempt to legalize its illegal occupation of Vietnam's Hoang Sa archipelago.

It urged the International Aviation Organization to change its navigation system in the air space over the East Sea, to give to China flight control of the entire air space over the territorial waters of the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes which has always been controlled by Vietnam. China has also announced that it has begun operation of a radio guidance system on the Lincolns

Island in the Hoang Sa archipelago of Vietnam and demanded a monopoly to transmit on 101 radio frequencies in the East Sea with the aim of gaining de facto recognition of its sovereignty over the whole of the East Sea.

### 3. China's Policy of Sabotage against Vietnam's Economy :

China withdrew its aid and specialists from Vietnam staged the "Nanchiao" (victimized residents) incident in 1978, implemented the total destruction policy, destroying all facilities and property during its aggressive wars against Vietnam in 1978 and 1979, and incited the "Hoa" reactionaries living in Vietnam to engage in economic sabotage in the South of Vietnam from 1975-1979.

#### Since 1979 :

The Chinese reactionaries, in close collaboration with the U.S. imperialists, have done everything in their power to sabotage Vietnam's international economic relations, put pressure on a number of countries and international organizations to stop granting loans and aid to Vietnam including humanitarian aid, and used their lackeys who had wormed their way into the Vietnamese export and import service, in collaboration with those in Thailand, Hong Kong and Singapore, to sabotage Vietnam's foreign trade operations.

In the South of Vietnam, taking advantage of Vietnam's economic difficulties and mismanagement, Beijing has ordered its henchmen to burn warehouses, destroy machinery and equipment in several factories, disrupt communications and transport, engage in speculation and hoarding, cause price hikes, fake commodities and circulate counterfeit money, etc... Beijing has also organized smuggling rings from Thailand and China and "black markets" on the sea to bring luxury goods to Vietnam and spirit away Vietnam's gold, precious stones, and other valuables to other countries, and also to gather intelligence and carry out psychological warfare.

On Sino-Vietnamese border area they have carried out many treacherous manoeuvres to damage Vietnam's economy : burning down forests, destroying dams, provoking disturbances to prevent crop cultivation and harvesting and organizing "border markets" to smuggle counterfeit money and sell goods in short supply in return for gold, silver, medicinal herbs and food. China has also sent agents to buy "novel goods" such as buffalo eyes and hoof, roots of anise trees, etc at high prices from the border population with the perfidious design of killing the draught animals and destroying the precious medicinal plants of Vietnam.

### 4. Sabotage in the Ideological and Political, Security arenas and Instigating Treasonous Activities within Vietnam :

Through the mass media of China, the United States and client governments and at international forums, Beijing has daily dished out numerous fabrications and lies to cover up their schemes and crimes against Vietnam and to mislead world opinion about the situation and policy of Vietnam. It has put out hundreds of counter-revolutionary newspapers, bulletins, pictorials, recording tapes, leaflets and posters in Vietnamese, circulated them among overseas Vietnamese and at every opportunity smuggled them to Vietnam together with depraved and reactionary

literature. Along the Sino-Vietnamese border, the Chinese reactionaries have set up a high powered loudspeaker system to propagate their falsification and slanders in Vietnamese and the languages of various ethnic groups living on the Vietnamese side of the border. They have brought into Vietnam more than 200 kinds of leaflets and used the mobile shops and markets to conduct psychological warfare and espionage. The Chinese reactionary clique, in collusion with U.S. imperialism has also conducted an intensive campaign to incite the reactionaries among the Vietnamese who fled abroad to carry out anti Vietnam activities in the countries where they are residing, and has taken every opportunity to send them back to Vietnam to engage in sabotage. Beijing has been using Hoang Van Hoan, a Vietnamese defector, as a tool to rally reactionary groups for counter-revolutionary activities along the Sino-Vietnamese border and for sabotage activities inside Vietnam.

China has organized Vietnamese refugees in Thailand into armed groups with a view to sending them to South Vietnam and the Central Highlands to carry out sabotage. It has established the "Thailand-Central Highlands corridor" to supply arms and money to the Fulro remnants or sent the latter for military and political training before covertly sending them back into the Central Highlands. In some western countries, China has ordered a number of officers of the Saigon regime to rally the reactionary emigres from Vietnam into armed units which would go into action when the occasion presented itself.

Inside Vietnam, the Chinese ruling circles continued to direct the operations of the henchmen they have left behind, rallied the reactionaries among the former officers and functionaries of the old regime, among the counter-revolutionaries under the cloak of religion and the "black market" traders among the "Hoa". They organized them into political organizations to carry out anti-government activities, encourage and organize illegal departures, to conduct espionage, sabotage the economy, disrupt security and public order, in anticipation of an opportunity to rebel or to serve as a "fifth column" in an eventual new war of aggression against Vietnam.

#### 5. Attempt to Isolate Vietnam Internationally and Refusing to Resume Negotiation with Vietnam Aimed at Solving Bilateral Problems :

In collusion with U.S. imperialism and other reactionary forces, the reactionary circles in the Chinese leadership have made all out efforts to slander and discredit Vietnam and isolate it in the international arena. Capitalizing on the issues concerning refugees, human rights and the alleged use of toxic chemicals, etc, they have launched anti-Vietnam campaigns to tarnish the fine image of Vietnam among the world people.

Exploiting the so-called "Kampuchean problem" Beijing has harped on the allegation that "Vietnam is trying to establish an Indochinese federation" to foment anti-Vietnam sentiment among the Lao and Kampuchean peoples, thus using Indochinese to oppose Indochinese, and undermining the militant solidarity and close friendship and cooperation between the three Indochinese peoples. At the same time, it has used the "Kampuchean problem" to rally the imperialist and other reactionary forces to oppose Vietnam and the Soviet Union in this region and

elsewhere. It has gone all out to cause confrontation, prevent a dialogue between Vietnam and the other two Indochinese countries and the ASEAN countries, and pit Southeast Asians against Southeast Asians with a view to weakening both groups of countries in furtherance of its long cherished desire for expansion and hegemony.

It has left no stone unturned in attempting to cause a split or weaken the relations between Vietnam and the Soviet Union and the socialist community. It has blatantly demanded that the Soviet Union cease its support to Vietnam as a precondition for normalizing Sino-Soviet relations.

After their invasion of Vietnam in February 1979, in the face of Vietnam's judicious stance and goodwill, the Chinese authorities were compelled to sit down and talk with Vietnam about resolving the problems of bilateral relations. But, due to their hostile policy and big-nation chauvinism, the Beijing rulers imposed absurd conditions and refused to discuss any questions raised by the Vietnamese side. In March 1980, they unilaterally suspended the negotiations. Since then, although the Vietnamese side has, time and again, proposed resumption of the negotiations in which proposals made by both sides would serve as basis for discussions the Beijing authorities have obstinately imposed preconditions. In fact, they are scheming to maintain tension in the relations between the two countries in furtherance of their expansionist and hegemonist design.

The multi-faceted war of sabotage conducted by the Chinese rulers against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam over the past five years has resulted in great losses and difficulties for the Vietnamese people. It is part and parcel of the long-standing Chinese designs against the Vietnamese people's struggle for national independence, sovereignty, reunification and territorial integrity. China has persisted in its designs against Vietnam from the days of Vietnam's resistance against the French colonialists and the U.S. imperialists to its total victory in the patriotic war for national independence and reunification and up to the present task of national construction. Having failed in their devious and underhanded moves, the Chinese rulers brazenly waged two wars of aggression. Failing again in their invasion, they started a multi-faceted war of sabotage while actively preparing for a new war of aggression.

Their hostile policy toward Vietnam has unmasked the counter-revolutionary nature and big-nation expansionist and hegemonist ambitions of the reactionary circles in the Chinese leadership.

They are stubbornly harbouring the ambition to place Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos under their control, subjecting the three Indochinese countries to invasion and annexation with Vietnam as the prime target in their expansion into Southeast Asia. Over the past few years, due to setbacks and difficulties at home and abroad the Chinese reactionaries have been forced to talk of peace. They have hypocritically reversed friends and foes, and improved their relations with many countries while remaining adamant in their hostile policy toward Vietnam and the other two Indochinese countries. The more setbacks they sustain, the more hostile their policy has become and the more perfidious and treacherous the moves they have employed.

The reactionary circles in the Chinese leadership are the dangerous and immediate enemy of the Vietnamese people. They are , at the same time, a brutal international reactionary force which is jeopardizing national independence, peace and stability in Indochina and Southeast Asia as a whole.

The Vietnamese people, just emerging from a long and extremely arduous struggle for national independence and still bearing the scars of war, have no heartfelt desire than to live in peace and to rebuild their homeland and their lives. But never will they permit any enemies to weaken, subjugate or annex their country. With their own strength and with the strong support and solidarity of the progressive people throughout the world, the Vietnamese people have repeatedly thwarted all hostile schemes of the reactionary circles in the Chinese leadership, firmly defending their national independence, and advancing national construction, thus actively contributing to the defence of national independence, peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world as a whole. The Vietnamese people will heighten their resolve , sharpen their vigilance. They stand ready to fight and defeat all hostile acts of the Chinese reactionaries.

The Vietnamese people earnestly call on the world people to continue their support for Vietnam, resolutely stay the criminal hand of the reactionary forces in the Chinese leadership, prevent them from violating and blatantly trampling upon the fundamental principles of ethics and international law. They call on progressive mankind to condemn and prevent China's crimes of aggression, genocide and war, and crimes against peace and friendship among nations, and make them respond to the legitimate aspirations of the peoples of Vietnam, of Indochina and the longing of all nations in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world for peace and stability.

The Vietnamese people, who harbour no enmity towards the Chinese people, have always treasured and remained true to the friendship and mutual support and assistance between the peoples of Vietnam and China. Never have they provoked China, a neighbouring country much larger than their own. The Vietnamese people call on the Chinese people to act in their own genuine interest, for the sake of friendship between the two nations and for peace and morality, to resolutely protest against and bring about an end to the malicious policy of the reactionary forces in the Chinese leadership.

Justice and peace will prevail.

Hanoi February 23, 1984

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