



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/38/134
S/15677
4 April 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-eighth session
Items 23, 37 and 98 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA
QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND CO-OPERATION
IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA
OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR REFUGEES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 1 April 1983 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my note dated 3 February 1983 and upon the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the Joint ASEAN Statement issued by the Foreign Ministers of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in Bangkok on 1 April 1983 herewith enclosed and to request that this letter and the Joint ASEAN Statement be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 23, 37 and 98 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. L. Birabhongse KASEMSRI
Permanent Representative

* A/38/50.

ANNEX

JOINT ASEAN STATEMENT ISSUED BY
THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTH-EAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN) IN BANGKOK ON
1 APRIL 1983

On 31 March 1983, several regiments of Vietnamese troops, supported by 105 and 135 mm. artillery and T-55 tanks, launched military attacks against Kampuchean encampments at Cham Ka Kor and Phnom Chat, west of Battambang Province, opposite Ban Kok Taharn, Ta Phraya District, Prachinburi Province, Thailand. These attacks inflicted heavy casualties on Kampuchean civilians. At Cham Ka Kor, huts and other structures were burnt down, and about 3,000 villagers were captured. As of 1 April, it is reported that over 200 have been killed and many hundreds seriously injured.

Such indiscriminate attacks inevitably forced more Kampuchean civilians to flee towards Thai border. As of 1 April, more than 30,000 have already fled across the border into Thailand. A much larger number of Kampuchean civilians are poised to follow in order to escape the Vietnamese onslaughts.

Moreover, efforts of the Thai authorities and other international relief agencies to extend humanitarian assistance and medical care to these 30,000 Kampucheans already in Thai territory, have been severely hampered because of the continued over-the-border shelling by the Vietnamese gunners. More than 100 artillery shells have so far been fired into Thailand, killing at least 30 more Kampuchean civilians, and injuring dozens of others.

There have been no signs that the over-the-border shelling by the Vietnamese would cease in the near future. Latest reports have indicated that the Vietnamese forces have advanced towards Nong Samet, another Kampuchean encampment situated on the Thai-Kampuchean border, south of Cham Ka Kor.

The situation has now drastically escalated in seriousness as Vietnamese troops have intruded into Thailand at two points. In the first incident, on the morning of 1 April, about 500 Vietnamese troops made an incursion two kilometres deep into Thai territory at Nong Samet and were driven back by Thai armed forces. The second incursion later in the day

/...

occurred at Phnom Chat, one kilometre deep inside Thailand, and was resisted by Thai troops who have suffered five wounded. The fighting still continues.

The five ASEAN Foreign Ministers strongly condemn these latest series of unprovoked and indiscriminate attacks mounted by the Vietnamese armed forces against Kampuchean civilians and hereby demand that the Vietnamese authorities cease these illegal and inhumane acts forthwith. They also appeal to the international community to voice its condemnation of these barbarous and criminal acts and to demand their immediate cessation. They further call on the members of the international community, individually and collectively, to provide aid urgently for the relief of these Kampuchean civilians.

The five ASEAN Foreign Ministers condemn the incursions made into Thailand by the Vietnamese troops and demand that Vietnam strictly respect Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The five ASEAN Foreign Ministers, furthermore, express their grave concern over the continued shelling into Thai territory, thus aggravating the situation along the Thai - Kampuchean border. They also reaffirmed their unreserved support for Thailand's right of self-defence through whatever means as may be necessary to safeguard her sovereignty and territorial integrity, in accordance with the United Nations Charter and international law.
