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LETTER DATED 17 MAY 1966 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CAMBODIA  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention and to the attention of the members of the Security Council a series of clear acts of aggression, involving large-scale warlike operations, which were committed by the Thai armed forces at Preah Vihear between 14 and 22 April 1966:

After the reoccupation of the temple of Preah Vihear by Cambodia, the Thai armed forces continued to shell our positions with 81 mm and 60 mm mortar fire, in the morning from 7 to 8 a.m. and from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, and in the evening from 4 to 5 p.m.

The enemy, who were again attempting to take the temple of Preah Vihear, were repulsed on each occasion by our forces.

- On 14 April 1966, the enemy attacked twice, at approximately 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. Three Cambodians were wounded by mortar shells.

- On 16 April 1966, the enemy attacked again twice, at approximately 9.30 a.m. and at approximately 5.40 p.m.

- On 17 April 1966, reinforced by 25 G.M.C. troops, the Thai armed forces began attacking our positions at 7 a.m., more strongly than on the previous occasion. Shortly before this attack, American officers were seen with their Thai colleagues at the enemy's advanced command post situated about 300 metres from our forward lines. Our defending forces responded vigorously. Three of our troops were wounded by mortar and cannon fire. According to information obtained, the enemy losses were considerable.

- On 18 April 1966, at approximately 8 a.m. six F-105 jet aircraft flew over our positions and the temple of Preah Vihear at an altitude of about 400 metres. They penetrated more than ten kilometres inside our airspace.

- On 19 April 1966, at 4.20 p.m., the Thai armed forces launched a large-scale attack against our positions. Following heavy fire with all weapons, an enemy

detachment of about 300 men moved on our positions. Our troops succeeded in breaking this enemy attack which came to within fifty metres of our positions.

Five minutes after this first failure, enemy forces, estimated this time at more than 1,000 men, simultaneously attacked our positions in three successive assaults, all of which were broken. This attack lasted more than two hours. The enemy attack was such that the hill of Preah Vihear and the surrounding area were completely covered by smoke from the bursting of shells of all kinds.

In the course of these two attacks the enemy suffered heavy casualties estimated to be approximately 300 killed and wounded, who were evacuated throughout the night and the following day.

The Cambodian forces suffered no losses.

Thailand alone will bear all the consequences which may arise from these acts of aggression against Cambodia and from the very grave situation thus created on the Khmer-Thailand frontier.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this communication circulated as a Security Council document.

Accept, Sir, etc.

(Signed) HUOT SAMBATH  
Permanent Representative of Cambodia

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