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LETTER DATED 27 SEPTEMBER 1971 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government and further to my letter No. 2449/1604 of 23 August 1971 (S/10302, 31 August 1971), I have the honour to communicate the following to you for the information of the members of the Security Council:

On 24 August 1971, the Venerable Ek San, 65 years old, Head of the Krâ Ngok Méas Loeu pagoda, at Prey Kry in Kompong Chhnang, accompanied by a religious assistant named San Tuon and by two villagers named Kang Or and Kang Morn, went by motor boat to the camp of the Viet-Cong - North Viet-Nameese in order to secure the release of two villagers the latter had captured the same day.

The Venerable Ek San and those accompanying him were atrociously murdered by the Viet-Cong - North Viet-Nameese. The bodies of the four victims were found on 28 August 1971, floating with their limbs tied, near the village of Kompong Aus.

The body of the Venerable Ek San bears many wound marks, particularly about the throat. The same is true of the bodies of the other three victims, who were executed under almost identical conditions.

I wish to reiterate before international public opinion the firm and vigorous protest of the Khmer Government against these odious and extremely barbarous crimes committed by the Viet-Cong - North Viet-Nameese against the inherently pacifistic Khmer religious and civil population. These criminal acts constitute a flagrant violation of international laws and customs and clearly reveal the true imperialist aims of these invaders.

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The Government of the Khmer Republic holds the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and the so-called Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet-Nam fully responsible for all the extremely grave consequences of this situation and reserves the right to take the necessary action to protect its population and the principles of freedom recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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

(Signed) TRUONG CANG
Permanent Representative of
the Khmer Republic
