



អង្គការសហប្រជាជាតិ  
United Nations in Cambodia

នាយកដ្ឋាន អន្តរជាតិ	
លេខ	1656
ថ្ងៃទី	11 ខែ 5 ឆ្នាំ 2017
ម៉ោង	9:30

10 May 2017

Excellency,

**Subject:** Attack against a convoy of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA)

I have learned the sad news of the attack against a convoy of MINUSCA on 8 May that has caused four Cambodian peacekeepers to lose their life, one to be missing and other to be injured while in service.

On behalf of the UN System in Cambodia, I wish to express our deepest condolences upon the passing of the four very brave and committed Cambodian peacekeepers to their families and to the Royal Government of Cambodia, and our best wishes of prompt recovery to the injured.

In his message issued on 9 May, the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, offered his deepest condolences to the bereaved families and the Governments of the concerned troop contributing countries, and wished a swift recovery to the wounded. The Secretary-General said that "Attacks against United Nations peacekeepers may constitute a war crime." He called on the Central African Republic authorities to investigate the attack in order to swiftly bring those responsible to justice.

As the United Nations Resident Coordinator, over the past years I have seen contingents of Cambodian peacekeepers off and welcomed others safely home. We honour and pay our highest tribute to the peacekeepers who have lost their life while in service. They have served under the UN flag with pride, distinction and courage.

Please accept, Excellency, our renewed expression of sympathy and the assurance of our highest consideration.

Claire Van der Vaeren  
UN Resident Coordinator

**H.E. Prak Sokhonn**

Senior Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation  
and Chairman of National Coordination Committee for  
Sending Peacekeeping Forces to United Nations Peacekeeping Mission

Embassy of Canada



Ambassade du Canada

May 10, 2017

H.E. Mr. Prak Sokhonn  
Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation  
Kingdom of Cambodia

Excellency,

It was with a heavy heart that I read the news that four brave Cambodian peacekeepers had been killed in the Central African Republic, with eight others wounded.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, please allow me to extend my condolences to the Royal Government and people of Cambodia on the loss of life and the injuries sustained. It is a tragedy.

The Government of Canada recognizes and appreciates Cambodia's remarkable contribution to UN peacekeeping. Excellency, I was present the day that Samdech Prime Minister Hun Sen dispatched Cambodia's first peacekeepers on your country's initial mission to Sudan. He emphasized that Cambodia was proud of its peacekeepers and asked them to behave in a way that would bring honour to their country. They have certainly done that.

I hope that you will pass on my condolences to the family of the peacekeepers who were killed and my hopes for a fast and full recover to those that were injured.

Please allow me, Excellency, to avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurance of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donica Pottie'.

Donica Pottie  
Ambassador of Canada

**Canada**



*Embassy of the United States of America  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia*

May 10, 2017

H.E. Prak Sokhonn  
Senior Minister and Minister  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation  
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Your Excellency:

On behalf of the American people and the U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh, I would like to express my deepest sympathy over the killing of four Cambodian peacekeepers while serving on a United Nations Peacekeeping operation in the Central African Republic. Your soldiers Im Sam, Seang Norint, Mom Tola, and Mao Eng gave their lives to the cause of world peace. I send my sincerest condolences to the Kingdom of Cambodia; the National Center for Peacekeeping Forces, Mines and ERW Clearance; and to the families of the peacekeepers for this tragic loss.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration during this time of sadness and mourning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William A. Heidt".

William A. Heidt  
Ambassador Extraordinary  
and Plenipotentiary



*Ambassador of the Republic of Korea  
Phnom Penh*

*11 May 2017*

*H.E. Mr. Prak Sokhonn  
Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs  
and International Cooperation  
Kingdom of Cambodia*

*Your Excellency,*

*I am deeply saddened to learn about the tragic death of four  
Cambodian UN peacekeepers in the Central African Republic.*

*On behalf of the Government and people of the Republic of Korea, I  
would like to extend my deepest condolences to Your Excellency and the  
people of the Kingdom of Cambodia, especially to the bereaved families  
who have lost loved ones.*

*It is my firm conviction that their noble sacrifice and contribution to  
the world peace will be remembered for ever.*

*My thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims and the  
Cambodian people during this difficult time.*

*Kim Weon-jin*  
Kim Weon-jin



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From the Ambassador

HE Prak Sokhonn  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

11 May 2017

*Excellency*

I was greatly saddened to learn of the tragic loss of four Cambodian peacekeepers on active duty in the Central African Republic. It is a poignant reminder of the price that is often paid in pursuit of international peace and security.

On behalf of the British Government, please accept, Excellency, my deepest condolences to the families and colleagues of those who lost their lives.



Yours sincerely,

Bill Longhurst  
HM Ambassador

## Central African Republic: UN honours fallen 'blue helmets'



Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix takes part in a ceremony honouring five peacekeepers killed in an attack on their convoy on 8 May 2017 in southeast Central African Republic (CAR). Photo: MINUSCA

12 May 2017 – The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) held a memorial ceremony today in honour of five peacekeepers who lost their lives after their convoy was attacked in the south-eastern part of the country earlier this week.

On a special visit to the Central African Republic, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, the UN Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, UN Mission in Colombia, presided over the ceremony, in the presence of Government officials and alongside the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of MINUSCA, Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General Najat Rochdi, and MINUSCA Force Commander Lt. Gen. Balla Keita.

The deadly attack on the MINUSCA convoy – perpetrated by suspected anti-Balaka elements – occurred Monday, 8 May, near the village of Yogofongo. During the exchange of fire, one Cambodian peacekeeper and eight anti-Balaka elements were killed. There were a number of injured on both sides. Three of the four peacekeepers reported missing after the fire fight were found dead the next day. The fourth was found dead yesterday.

Mr. Lacroix paid tribute to “the five soldiers serving under the UN flag and who made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of peace,” emphasizing that “their sacrifice must not be forgotten and will not be in vain.” He saluted the courage of the 10 Cambodian and Moroccan peacekeepers injured in the attack and wished them a speedy recovery.

MINUSCA peacekeepers undertake a difficult and honourable endeavour. Their critical work protecting civilians, opening roadways and building bridges helps to bring unity to a divided country.



Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix visits a peacekeeper injured in an attack on the convoy on 8 May 2017 in southeast Central African Republic (CAR). Photo: MINUSCA

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