

His Excellency G. PARTHASARATHI

No. IC/2/1  
29th September 1954.

His Excellency the Minister for  
Foreign Affairs,  
Royal Government of Cambodia,  
PHNOM PENH.

Your Excellency,

I have your letter No. 699-DGPX. of 22nd September in which you ask the International Commission to make recommendations to the Joint Commission with particular reference to articles 5 and 6 of the Geneva Agreement.

After consultation with my colleagues, I should like in reply to make the following points:

(1) Article 5 is clear on one point only, namely that the Khmer Resistance Forces shall be demobilized on the spot within thirty days after the cease-fire order has been proclaimed. It does not follow from the wording of this Article that the two parties were intended to bring this about jointly. If that had in fact been the intention, more time would have been allowed for so difficult an operation involving places far apart. You will recall that for the cease-fire order an extra fortnight was allowed in Article 2.

(2) The Royal Khmer Government made no attempt to announce and put into force the "necessary measures" under Article 6 in the earlier stages of the return to peace. Joint responsibility for demobilization and the question of issuing identity cards were first brought up on August 24, two days after the expiry of the thirty-day period, by the Minister for National Defence. Any objections to the method of demobilization could and should have been done well within the period laid down in the Geneva Agreement.

(3) It would be, in our view, impossible to carry out a re-mobilization of the Khmer Resistance Forces merely in order to hand them demobilization cards. You should, therefore, accept the fact of the demobilization as a step which cannot now be retraced.

(4) The Declaration made by the Delegation of Cambodia at the Geneva Conference and enshrined in Article 6 is a solemn obligation undertaken by your Government. It involves reintegration without discrimination and without reprisals.

(5) The International Commission does, however, understand the desire of the Royal Government to ensure that the declaration is, in deed as well as in word, fully carried out. The International Commission, therefore recommends that the following measures should be taken: