

appraisal of a factor or a situation and in devising ways and means in tackling a particular situation.

32. All members of the International Secretariat and the three National Delegations carry identity cards issued by the Secretary-General. In addition to this, the members of the Teams are also provided with credentials in four languages: English, French, Laotian and Vietnamese. Most of the vehicles used by the Commission and its Teams are already painted white; painting of the others will be completed soon. All vehicles of the Inspection Teams fly white flags. The buildings occupied by the Commission and the Teams also fly the International Commission flag.

Security

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33. Article 38 of the Geneva Agreement provides that the Secretariats-General of the three Commissions shall be responsible for co-ordinating their work and for relations between them. Accordingly, in November 1954, a meeting was held at Hanoi of the three Secretariats-General, at which matters of common interest, particularly with regard to administration, staff requirements, maintenance of accounts, public relations and handling of complaints and petitions were discussed and decided on, subject to confirmation by the respective Commissions. It was also decided to hold such co-ordination meetings at regular intervals.

Co-ordination of the three Secretariats General

34. The International Commission suffered a serious loss on the 24th of December, 1954, when Mr. J.H. Thurrott of the Canadian Delegation died in a jeep accident. Mr. Thurrott had been the Canadian Delegate on the Commission for a while in September; and after the arrival of Mr. L. Mayrand, continued to render valuable service as Political Adviser to the Canadian Delegation and as a member of the Political Committee. Genial and friendly, "Jack" had won the affection of all in the Commission, and every one felt his death as a personal loss of a warm hearted friend and a valuable colleague.

Death of Mr. J.H. Thurrott

35. In this first report of its activities, the Commission would like to record its appreciation of the services rendered to the cause of peace in Laos by Mr. J.H. Thurrott.

36. In the chapters that follow will be found detailed accounts of the extent to which the terms of the Geneva Agreement have been carried out, and how far the Commission has been able to fulfil its functions till 31st December, 1954.

Progress Report

C H A P T E R: III

REGROUPMENT AND WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES

37. The following time table was laid down by the Geneva Agreement for the implementation of the clauses dealing with the indigenous and foreign forces in Laos.

Time-Table

6th August, 1954 - Simultaneous cessation of hostilities throughout the territory of Laos (Article 2).

Annex