

decisions to be ratified later at informal and finally formal meetings. It is still uncertain when the Report will be completed and signed.

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*Le commissaire de la Commission internationale de surveillance  
et de contrôle pour le Vietnam  
au sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
Commissioner, International Commission for Supervision  
and Control for Vietnam,  
to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

LETTER NO. 185  
CONFIDENTIAL

Saigon, August 11, 1961

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION CONTROLS, VIETNAM

1. Among many problems connected with the carrying out of controls by the ICSC Fixed and Mobile Teams in Viet-Nam, three are a matter of particular concern, Muong Sen, the Demilitarized Zone and Gia Lam Airport.

2. *Muong Sen*

(a) When the two Fixed Teams at Muong Sen in the North and Tan Chau in the South were withdrawn in December, 1960, in accordance with a directive from the Co-Chairman, it was agreed with all concerned that controls of these areas would be carried out on a fortnightly basis by the Fixed Teams at Vinh and Saigon respectively. Since that time, the PAVN have presented excuses such as poor transport and bad roads to prevent any visit to the Muong Sen area by the Fixed Team at Vinh. They have twice requested that the frequency of this control be reconsidered and in both cases the Commission has re-affirmed the need for fortnightly controls.

(b) The second time that the PAVN request was considered by the Commission was at the 620th Meeting held 4 Aug 1961 in Hanoi. At that time we put forward to the Commission a proposal that, as it had been impossible to carry out any controls of Muong Sen since the withdrawal of the team and only two controls of Tan Chau had been made in the South because of security problems, a letter should be sent to the Co-Chairman recommending that the two Fixed Teams be re-established in order to ensure that their directions regarding the need for continuing efficient controls of these two areas, were carried out. As a second proposal we made a motion that a strongly worded letter which might eventually enable us to obtain control, or a citation for non-co-operation, be sent to the PAVN.

(c) Unfortunately, a mild letter to the PAVN which made no progress whatsoever towards obtaining either a citation or controls of Muong Sen was put forward by the Indian Delegation and it was immediately approved by the Poles. We dissented on the basis that the letter made no progress towards solving the problem.

(d) If, as we suspect, there is no change in the attitude of the PAVN towards controls of Muong Sen as a result of the approved Commission letter, we propose to continue to press for a letter to the Co-Chairmen outlining the situation and recommending re-establishment of the Fixed Team Muong Sen and if necessary, Tan Chau.