

After drawing attention to recent air attacks against the territory of the DRVN, this telegram formally requested the withdrawal of the ICSC Fixed Teams in North Vietnam on security grounds.

4. The request was considered by the International Commission and on 19th February, 1965 a telegram was sent (which is at Appendix 'B') outlining the far-reaching implications of the request affecting the work of the ICSC under the Geneva Agreement, the fact that all controls by these Fixed Teams had been stopped, that the International Commission was prepared to take reasonable risks, but that if the PAVN felt obliged to maintain their decision, the International Commission would have no alternative but to withdraw its Fixed Teams with great reluctance. (The Statement of the Polish Delegation on this telegram is at Appendix 'D').

5. A reply to the International Commission's telegram was received on the 20th February, 1965 from the PAVN Liaison Mission (which is at Appendix 'C') which reiterated their demand. This was further corroborated orally at 1500 hours on the 20th February, 1965 by a representative of the PAVN Liaison Mission to the Chairman of the International Commission Bureau, Hanoi.

6. The Fixed Teams were withdrawn from Dong Dang, Hai Phong and Vinh on the night of 20/21st February, after being informed by the local authorities that immediate evacuation must take place for security reasons; and from Lao Kay and Dong Hoi on the following day. Thus, by the 22nd February, 1965, all the five Fixed Teams of the ICSC had been withdrawn to Hanoi from their locations in the DRVN.

7. As the attached exchange of correspondence will indicate, the International Commission had no alternative but to order with great reluctance the withdrawal of its Fixed Teams from their sites on DRVN