

5. I think you will agree that even if we cannot repeat not obtain the revision which MacDonald will try to get Pushkin to accept, Pushkin's draft article on voting corresponds closely to the suggestion submitted to you in paragraph 12 of our telegram 1843 November 6† which you approved in your telegram Y-613 November 9.† May I assume therefore that we may now tentatively agree to this draft on understanding of course that MacDonald shall try if possible to obtain Pushkin's acceptance of our amendment.

6. Article on Co-Chairmen: In paragraph 2 your telegram Y-626 November 16† you approved of proposal submitted in paragraph 5 our telegram 1903 November 13† which outlined reasons for proposing reopening Co-Chairmen article which had already been agreed; as a result of more recent negotiations Western Four now propose following redraft which MacDonald believes Pushkin will consider favourably if an agreement is reached on voting article: "In addition Commission shall immediately report to Co-Chairmen any important information which may assist them in their functions and shall immediately inform them of any violations or threats of violations of this agreement." Rest of sentence remains unchanged. This formula does not repeat not make specific reference to articles listed in our former proposal because it has become evident that Chinese would not repeat not permit Pushkin to accept that formula. Pushkin has suggested that it would be preferable to make a general reference to "functions" of Co-Chairmen rather than specifically listing relevant articles. You will remember that Harriman has attached greater importance to Co-Chairmen's functions in supervising the observance of Laotian neutrality than to any other aspect of whole agreement. He therefore agrees that a general reference to "functions" may have advantage not repeat not only giving Co-Chairmen a wider scope than a reference to specific articles previously listed did but he also believes that reference to function of the Commission in assisting Co-Chairmen in carrying out their functions will give Commission some of the responsibilities for which French article 1 was designee.

7. Pushkin, who at first objected to reopening article on role of Co-Chairmen because he said this article had already been agreed, now requests that since article is being reopened he proposed that letter "s" be deleted from word "declarations" in the second last sentence of article. He maintains that Vongvichit will insist upon this in the restored session which will consider the article and Pushkin thinks that Conference will be forced to accept this demand as it will certainly be backed by representative of coalition government as otherwise there remains the implication that Laotian sovereignty is violated. Pushkin believes it would be wiser to make this change now rather than be forced by the Laotians to accept this change. Pushkin also argues that since the Laotian declaration will be quoted in full in our declaration it is unnecessary to refer to both declarations as reference to our declaration will automatically include the Laotian declaration Western delegations point out that both sides already agree (see paragraph one (5) of Laos document 29 August 21) that Thirteen Power Declaration and the forthcoming Declaration of Laos will be regarded as constituting a single international agreement. Furthermore Pushkin is prepared to agree to an exchange of letters between Gromyko and Home which will interpret the second last sentence of Co-Chairmen article is giving the Co-Chairmen the authority to supervise Laos as well as the thirteen signatories of declaration.

8. Article on inspection teams: (Access) Pushkin has now proposed that following sentence "the length of stay of the Commission and its teams, and the places where they go for investigation shall be determined in relation to requirements of particular investigation" replace our sentence "the places to which the Commission and its teams shall go and the length of their stay in those places shall be determined in relation to the requirement of the particular investigation." While Pushkin's sentence is more clumsy and less precise it nevertheless preserves our position and meets the requirements to which you attached importance in your telegram Y-627 November 18.† I think you will agree that this sentence together with article