

66. A major difficulty facing the Commission arises from the failure to hold consultations between the two parties and free nationwide elections with a view to re-unification of Viet-Nam. The Co-Chairmen in their message of the 8th of May, 1956, to the parties had asked them to indicate the time required for the opening of these consultations and, in their message of the same date the Commission, had informed it that they attached great importance to the maintenance of the cease-fire under the continued supervision of the International Commission for Viet-Nam. There has been no progress in the matter of the consultation and the election to the knowledge of the Commission. The Commission is naturally anxious about the duration of its stay in Viet-Nam which is conditioned by the political settlement in this country, as envisaged in the Final Declaration of the Geneva Conference.

67. In the Sixth Interim Report the Commission expressed great concern over cases where the parties gave their own interpretations, which differed from those of the Commission, on the provisions of the Agreement. The Commission notes with regret that this tendency continued during the period under report. The Commission must point out that for its effective functioning, it is essential that all the provisions of the Agreement should be strictly applied by the parties.

68. In spite of the difficulties described in previous Chapters, the Commission, as directed by the Co-Chairmen, has persevered and will continue to persevere in its efforts to maintain and strengthen peace in Viet-Nam on the basis of the fulfilment of the Geneva Agreements with a view to re-unification of the country through the holding of free nationwide elections in Viet-Nam. The Commission is glad to report that there has been no resumption of hostilities in Viet-Nam. The Commission would, however, request the Co-Chairmen, and through them, the Members of the Geneva Conference, to give their early consideration to the difficulties mentioned in this Report and take such measures as they may consider appropriate in order to facilitate the effective fulfilment of the Geneva Agreements.

CONCLUSIONS

Sd. T.N. KAUL
INDIA

Sd. T. Le M. CARTER
CANADA

Sd. J. GOLDBLATT
POLAND

SAIGON,
July 12, 1957.

The Joint Commission, which is an important part of the machinery for the implementation of the Geneva Agreements, has not resumed its activities since May, 1956.

The Commission had requested the Co-Chairmen to give urgent consideration to the situation mentioned in its letter of the 14th of September, 1956. There has been no progress towards a solution of those difficulties. In fact they have further increased.

While this major development had its origin during the period of the Sixth Interim Report, it was during the period under review that its effect on the work of the Commission were felt fully.

New had stated that it was prepared to offer effective co-operation to the Commission but that it was not prepared to assume responsibility for the implementation of the Geneva Agreements in Viet-Nam. As was mentioned in the Chairman's message, the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam (Appendix A), the Commission had referred to the situation which arose as a consequence of the withdrawal of the French High Command from Viet-Nam.

Chairmen (Appendix A), the Commission had referred to the situation which arose as a consequence of the withdrawal of the French High Command from Viet-Nam. As was mentioned in the Chairman's message, the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam had stated that it was prepared to offer effective co-operation to the Commission but that it was not prepared to assume responsibility for the implementation of the Geneva Agreements in Viet-Nam. While this major development had its origin during the period of the Sixth Interim Report, it was during the period under review that its effect on the work of the Commission were felt fully.