

CHAPTER VII.

CONCLUSIONS.

50. Appendix I of the Fourth Interim Report gave the latest position in a statement form of the action taken till August 10, 1955 and that to be taken in future under various Articles of the Agreement. The action still to be taken remains the same.
51. Further political developments involving the transfer of authority in the zone of the French High Command have made it increasingly difficult for it to carry out by itself its obligations under the Agreement in respect of the Commission's activities in that zone. As a result of these developments, the French High Command, which is the signatory of the Agreement, in most cases can only take action to fulfil its obligations with the specific concurrence of the authorities of the Republic of Vietnam, which did not sign the Agreement and do not consider themselves bound by it, and in cases where they decline to act, the French High Command can only transmit their views to the Commission.
52. In paragraphs 44 and 45 of the Fourth Interim Report, the Commission, with the Canadian Delegation submitting a minority report, drew the attention of the Co-Chairmen to the transfer of authority by the French High Command to the Republic of Vietnam, which did not subscribe to the Geneva Agreement. This had created uncertainties about the sanction for its operations in the zone south of the demarcation line and had faced the Commission with the prospect of continuing its activities indefinitely. The majority asked the Co-Chairmen and the Geneva Powers to resolve these difficulties at an early date.
53. The review of the four months activities presented in this report, in the view of the majority of the Commission, shows a further deterioration of the situation in Vietnam, causes serious concern about the implementation of the Geneva Agreement particularly in view of the continued non-acceptance of the Geneva Agreement and the Final Declaration of the Geneva Conference by the Republic of Vietnam, and also confirms the fear expressed by the majority of the Commission in the Fourth Interim Report that the Commission cannot work with any effectiveness unless the difficulties mentioned in these paragraphs are resolved by the Co-Chairmen and the Geneva Powers without further delay.
54. The Canadian Delegation considers that the position set forth in the Canadian Minority Note in the Fourth Interim Report has not substantially changed during the period covered by the present report. Despite certain difficulties, in the view of the Canadian Delegation, there have been indications of an increased measure of practical cooperation with the Commission on the part of the authorities of the Republic of Vietnam, which was not a signatory of the Agreement. At the same time the Canadian Delegation restates its view that the present arrangement is unsatisfactory under which the Commission must in fact depend more and more on the protection, assistance and cooperation of the Government of the Republic of Vietnam, although it can only claim this support through the agency of the French High Command. The Canadian Delegation reaffirms the hope expressed in its minority report that the parties directly concerned would be able to work out a more durable and dependable arrangement which will place the