

The Commission acknowledged receipt of the letter it informed the Royal Government that it had taken note of the regrettable incident reported by the Royal Government and that a copy of the letter under reference had been sent to the International Commission in Vietnam with the request that they take up the case with the Government of the Republic of Vietnam. The Commission expressed the hope that such cases would be settled by peaceful means in the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding between the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Republic of Vietnam and stated that a further communication would be sent to the Royal Government on receipt of the reply from the Vietnam Commission. A copy of the Royal Government's letter was sent to the International Commission in Vietnam requesting it to take the case up with the Vietnam Government and to communicate the result to this Commission.

(iv) Letter No.88/DGP/X dated 20-2-57 from the Royal Government

The Royal Government brought to the Commission's notice that according to information collected by the Directorate of the Police, Vietnamese military men were reported to have asked the inhabitants of the frontier areas of VEAL-TAMEN region to stock a part of their food-stuffs and to keep their movable properties ready so that they could be easily carried away. The letter stated that these measures gave reason for presumption that the Government of the Republic of Vietnam were contemplating starting military action.

Receipt of the letter was acknowledged and a copy sent to the International Commission in Vietnam for their information and comments, if any.

(v) Letter No.153/DGP/X dated 22-3-57, from the Royal Government

With this letter the Royal Government forwarded "for any useful purpose whatsoever", a copy of their letter No.156/DGP/X dated 22-3-57 addressed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Royal Government to the Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Vietnam. In the letter to the Government of the Republic of Vietnam, the undernoted incidents were reported:-

(a) On the 14th Dec. 56, while provincial guards, about 40 strong, were carrying out a patrol along the Cambodian-Vietnamese border, they found themselves facing a Vietnamese patrol about 200 strong who crossed the demarcation line and entered into Cambodian territory as far as 1 kilometer and then opened fire with automatic weapons and 60 mm. mortars. It was not until half an hour had passed that the Vietnamese army men undertook to withdraw to their side of the frontier.

(b) On 2nd January 1957, when the Cambodian peasants of Khum DAUNG (Svay Rieng) were reaping paddy, 300 elements of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam patrolling on the border opened fire on them and chased them inside Cambodian territory. No loss of human life was reported but a Cambodian SEK YEAN was arrested and released after a close interrogation.

(c) On 5th January 57, a group of 100 military men of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam penetrated into Cambodian territory up to Khum BANTEAY-KRANG,