

(a) accreditation of press correspondents concurrently to the three Commissions;
 (b) travel and other facilities and codes for them;

(c) exchange of relevant information and press clippings affecting one another, and
 (d) visual publicity.

190. Correspondents accredited to the Vietnam Commission are now accredited also to the Laos Commission.

General

191. The Public Relations Section has been arranging the regular supply of newspapers and magazines given by the Delegations to the various Teams, many of them in remote corners of the country. News items relating to the working of the Commission published in the World Press are brought to the notice of the Members of the Commission and, if necessary, to that of the authorities in Laos.

192. Hitherto, the Commission has been handicapped in the absence of a film cameraman and a photographer. The Laotian Government and the French Army Services have been helpful in this regard. The proceedings of the meetings of the International Commission with the Joint Commission and the activities of the Delegates and Members of the Commission have been covered and distributed by these services. But in order that visual publicity, suited to the requirements of the Commission, may be systematically undertaken, a cameraman is being appointed for the three Commissions with Headquarters in Hanoi.

CHAPTER: XIV

CONCLUSION

Progress made

193. In the preceding chapters, an attempt has been made to give in outline an account of the activities of the International Commission in Laos, since its installation in Vientiane. The Commission has pleasure in recording that satisfactory progress has been made.

Efforts made by Parties to fulfil their obligations

194. The material difficulties which the International Commission had to face, particularly in respect of transport, seriously hindered the progress of its work, especially in the early stages. But even more serious were the difficulties that arose out of vagueness of some of the provisions of the Geneva Agreement. This accentuated the already existing divergence of opinion within the Joint Commission, constituted by the Parties, which had been made responsible for the implementation of the Agreement. Differences, however, were not unexpected, a civil strife having raged in the land for years, leaving deep scars on the body-politic which time alone could heal. Despite these differences, it must be recorded that the Parties have made a real effort to fulfil their major obligations in regard to the military aspect of the Agreement. Apart from some occasional and