

- UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION -

issued by the Joint Political Commission consisting of the Political Delegation of the Royal Government and the Political Delegation of the Pathet Lao Forces.

The Joint Political Commission consisting of:

The Delegation of the Royal Government:-

- H.E. Nou Ing RATTANAVONG, Head of the Delegation
- Mr. Tho Tane CHOUNAMONTRI, Member
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- Mr. Tho Van TANOUANG, Member
- do-
- Mr. Boua Van NORSAING, Member
- do-
- Mr. Impeng SOURAYTHAY, Secretary
- Mr. A. Mone VIMOPHAN, Secretary

The Delegation of the Pathet Lao Forces:-

- Mr. Nourak PHOUISAVAN, Head of the Delegation
- Mr. Singkape CHOUNAMALY, Member
- do-
- Mr. Maha Khamphan VIRACHIT, Secretary
- Mr. A Phet CHANDAVONG, Secretary

in the presence of their Excellencies the Deputies Phaysay VANTHAVONG, Phaysay Pan SISOUPHANTHONG, and Ba Phom Phakon KHAM and of Mr. Khamphay BOUPHA on the Pathet Lao side as observer.

met once again on 6 April 1957. The Commission jointly acknowledged that the negotiations for co-operation pursued for the past 5 months, have resulted in the signing of important agreements: on 2 Nov 56, the agreement on the realization of a policy of peace and neutrality; on 24 Dec 56, the agreement on the measures for the guarantee of civic rights for the members of the Pathet Lao; on 21 Feb 57, the agreement on the Electoral Law; besides, the Joint Military Commission signed on 31 Oct 56, the agreement on the cessation of hostile acts. The Commission acknowledged that the various aforementioned agreements constitute an important step towards a settlement of political issues concerning the two parties, in conformity with the Geneva Agreement and with the spirit of the Joint Declarations of 5 and 10 August 1956 and of the Joint Communiqués of 28 December 1956 issued by H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister of the Royal Government and H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, Representative of the Pathet Lao Forces.

The Commission acknowledged the need for making efforts in order to concretely realize the agreements signed already, and at the same time acknowledged that the question of guarantee of democratic freedoms for the People under discussion since some time could also be settled by an agreement.

Finally, the Commission started discussions on the political programme of the National Union Government and jointly saw the need for steering the discussions towards a complete agreement.

The discussions of the Commission took place in an atmosphere marked by cordiality and good understanding.