

56. A copy of the Joint Communique issued in New Delhi at the conclusion of the talks between Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, is attached as Appendix "I". The reference to the Geneva Agreement in this communique has, in our opinion a relevance to this report.

GENERAL ELECTIONS:

57. On March 15, the Royal Government of Cambodia announced in a communique that it had abandoned the proposal to hold a referendum on the reform project. The communique also announced that parliamentary elections would be held on September 11 and that the electoral period, in accordance with the Cambodian constitutional convention, would commence on July 4. The text of the Government communique is attached as Appendix "J".

CONCLUSION:

58. It will be clear from the preceding paragraphs of this report that the work of the International Commission in the period under review was mainly of a political nature. The referendum, the ex-King's project of reform, his abdication and the accession of his parents to the throne of Cambodia caused an interruption of the normal working arrangements which the Commission had had with the Royal Government. Nevertheless, the work of investigation and supervision went ahead and the list of specific tasks to be done was gradually reduced. The false and irresponsible attacks in the foreign press appeared for a time to jeopardize the position of the International Commission which, however, rode out the storm. At the beginning of April there is every reason to believe that the relations between the Royal Government and the Commission have been unimpaired and that for the remainder of its stay in Cambodia the Commission will be permitted to do its work with the support of the authorities. It is not thought that its activities will be very great until the electoral period commencing on July 4 and ending with the elections on September 11. After the elections -- and possible before then -- consideration might be given to a reduction in the numbers and hence the cost of the Commission.

(Sgd.) G. PARTHASARATHI

Representative of India,  
Chairman of the  
International Commission.

(Sgd.) R. DUDER

Representative of Canada.

(Sgd.) W. GROSZ

Representative of Poland.

With the signing of this report, His Excellency M. Wikter Grosz, Chairman of the Polish Delegation, concludes