

Mr. FAIRWEATHER: I am not criticizing the selection, but I understand the land was acquired in 1957?

Mr. CADIEUX: Yes. This is an important item of construction and the problem is whether to provide only for offices or whether to look into the matter of availability of quarters for staff.

Mr. FAIRWEATHER: You have 12 acres of land?

Mr. CADIEUX: Yes. We have provided a wall; there is a wall around it now. This is in an interesting district. There are a number of chanceries and diplomatic establishments in the district which already are operating.

Item agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN: On item 15:

15. Canada's civilian participation as a member of the international commissions for supervision and control in Indo-China including authority, notwithstanding the Civil Service Act, for the appointment and fixing of salaries of commissioners, secretaries and staff by the governor in council \$308,400

Mr. DEACHMAN: How many people do we have in that group?

Mr. CADIEUX: In the three missions we have 102. In Viet Nam the Department of External Affairs has 14 and the Department of National Defence has 53. In Cambodia the Department of External Affairs has three and the Department of National Defence three. In Laos the Department of External Affairs has six and the Department of National Defence 23.

Mr. DEACHMAN: Can you distinguish between the duties of these three groups? Can you give us a word in respect of their functions and any idea how long the Canadian government is expected to carry on there?

Mr. CADIEUX: The circumstances are different in each of the three countries. As you know, in Viet Nam the task there is to observe the implementation of the cease fire—the armistice—and to see what are the long range prospects with relation to eventually achieving unification. In the interval there are alleged activities on the part of the north in the south, and the commission has accepted some responsibility for viewing what is happening there. In Laos there is a different problem.

At a conference in Geneva a few years ago it was decided that the idea would be to see what could be done there to promote co-operation between parties and maintain the independence of the country. There is a problem involved in arranging to send teams there to observe in certain places. This can only be done if the three members of the commission agree and if the elements in the government also are in agreement. In Cambodia you do not have the problem of a divided country. There the problem is more one of concern about relations with neighbouring Thailand and Viet Nam.

There is a feeling on the part of the countries involved that the commissions have a useful role to play. The Canadian government always has felt that if they were required to play a role they would provide the staff necessary to do this.

Mr. DEACHMAN: Can you tell us what is the total cost of these three missions?

Mr. CADIEUX: Yes. We absorb the salaries and the allowances, but other expenditures are paid by the two co-chairmen. There is a contribution made by the host countries in the case of Cambodia and Laos. In the case of Viet Nam I believe the French government pay a certain sum.

Mr. DEACHMAN: The total would represent the figure only in respect of the Department of External Affairs?

Mr. CADIEUX: Yes. I do not have the national defence figure.