

This article specifies that agreement between the International Commission and the party concerned is necessary before any changes in the location of the teams can be made; it also specifies that the teams shall have the right to move freely and that they shall receive from the local civil and military authorities all facilities they may require for the fulfilment of their tasks.

The Canadian Government regards the reasons adduced by North Vietnam for the withdrawal of teams as insufficient. Only two out of the five fixed teams were located in the general area of recent air strikes. Moreover, in all cases, because the North Vietnamese authorities had been intent on the teams being as ineffective as possible, the team headquarters had been located in such a way as to ensure that Commission personnel would be as remote as possible from any installations which would be legitimate objects of Commission observation and which would constitute potential targets for air strikes. Finally, the Commission had indicated clearly to the North Vietnamese authorities that its officers were prepared to take reasonable risks in discharging Commission responsibilities.

Faced, however, with North Vietnamese insistence on the removal of fixed teams, which were intended to be the Commission's "eyes and ears", the Commission had no choice but reluctant compliance.

The Canadian Government believes that in present circumstances, it is impossible for the Commission to discharge properly