

WITHDRAWAL OF ICSC TEAM FROM NORTH VIETNAM

On April 5, a release by the Department of External Affairs announced the publication of a special report, dated February 27, by the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam, which dealt with the withdrawal from North Vietnam of the Commission's fixed teams "at the insistence of North Vietnamese authorities." The release described the Canadian view of this development in the following words:

The Canadian Government regards this report as having been submitted under the section of Article 43 of the Geneva Agreement that reads as follows: "The International Commission shall inform the members of the Conference in all cases where its activity is being hindered". The withdrawal of the Commission's fixed teams from North Vietnam at the insistence of the North Vietnamese authorities is an obvious and very serious illustration of the way the work of the Commission has been hindered by North Vietnam. For years the Northern teams have not been allowed to conduct meaningful controls but their presence was symbolic of the Geneva settlement and North Vietnam's acceptance of it. The demand for the withdrawal of teams and the implementation of this demand, in certain cases before the Commission's instructions to its own teams had been received, represents a clear departure from the procedures envisaged under Article 35 of the Geneva Agreement. 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.

INADEQUATE REASONS

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 the present circumstances, it is impossible for the Commission to discharge properly the responsibilities assigned to it under the Geneva Agreement in North Vietnam. Within the Commission, the Canadian delegation is pressing for action to have the North Vietnamese authorities indicate their intentions with respect to both full restoration of the teams with the freedom of movement originally intended, and failing that, with respect to the possibility of carrying out mobile controls based on Hanoi. The North Vietnamese authorities to the present time have given no satisfaction on these points, although the Hanoi office of the Commission headquarters remains intact....

* * * * *

GRANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

The Minister of National Health and Welfare recently announced the awarding of grants totalling \$83,591 to help Canadian athletes take part in international competition. The grants were recommended by the National Advisory Council on Fitness and Amateur Sport.

The British Empire and Commonwealth Games Association received \$25,000 to help cover the travel costs of the Canadian team, consisting of 125 athletes and officials, to the 1966 games in Kingston, Jamaica.

The Canadian Amateur Basketball Association received \$12,434 to help train a national team and to meet travel and living expenses for international competitions to be held in South America in June.

A grant of \$11,890 goes to the Canadian Amateur Swimming Association for international swimming and diving championships to be held in London, England, in September. The Association also received \$2,436 to assist in sending a team of 25 to this year's synchronized-swimming outdoor championships at Houston, Texas. The water-polo section of the Association received \$2,145 to assist in the cost of taking part in the Amateur Athletic Union water-polo championships in California in July.

AAU GRANT

A grant of \$11,742 goes to the AAU of Canada to assist in meeting the cost of international competition for weight-lifting, gymnastics, wrestling and fencing. Of this grant, \$5,832 will help to send eight Canadian weight-lifters and one coach to the world championships in Teheran, Iran, in September. The *gymnastic committee* received \$2,932 to assist Canadian gymnasts at the North American championships in Los Angeles from April 8 to 11. The *wrestling committee* received \$1,878 to assist Canadian competitors at the world championships in Manchester, England, in June. Assistance of \$1,100 was received by the *fencing committee* to send ten athletes and one coach to the U.S. National Championships in New York in August.

A \$9,000 grant goes to the Canadian Association of Amateur Oarsmen to assist a team competing in England's Henley Royal Regatta in July.

The Canadian Amateur Bobsleigh and Tobogganing Association will send an 11-man team to the world bobsleigh championship in Cortina, Italy, in January 1966, aided by a grant of \$5,944.

The Canadian Lawn Tennis Association will send a team of six players and one coach to the Davis Cup and Federation Cup Championships in 1965, with the aid of a \$3,000 grant.