

inability of the four-party joint military commission to function smoothly should not necessarily be permitted to bring a halt to the attempts of the International Commission to meet its obligations.

We have been pleased to note the progress of the exchange of prisoners-of-war and foreign civilian personnel. This has been an operation in which the four parties, despite some initial difficulties, have exhibited an ability to co-operate and co-ordinate their activities. We can only hope that the co-operative spirit that has characterized this operation will be extended to the implementation of all other provisions of the agreement.

Simultaneously with its attempts to deal with substantive issues and to deploy its field machinery, the Commission has been engaged in setting up its headquarters in Saigon, establishing its procedures, securing support facilities, and organizing a secretariat. This has been a complex and lengthy process, which has not yet been completed, despite concentrated effort. Among the difficulties the Commission has encountered in this area of its work is the fact that neither the agreement nor its protocols made provision for a secretariat, even though the necessity of establishing one was obvious. Personnel additional to the ceilings established in the protocol will be required if delegates are to be in a position to staff the secretariat adequately.

Fellow delegates, this, then, is the Canadian view of the status of the International Commission of Control and Supervision as of the last day or so. There are continuing problems of implementation and there remains the matter of a reporting authority for the Commission and its members. Implementation is the responsibility of the parties to the agreement assisted as best it can by the International Commission of Control and Supervision. However, the matter of providing an adequate international political authority as a basis for the operation and reporting of the International Commission of Control and Supervision and its members is clearly the main responsibility of this conference. My delegation will spare no effort in helping to achieve this objective on which we think so much depends. Thank you.

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