

Deputy Secretary-General from India is in charge of all work connected with administration and conferences. For the latter purpose, he is assisted by a Conference Secretary. The Deputy Secretaries-General from Canada and Poland, between themselves, are in charge of work connected with the various sections of the Geneva Agreement. Publicity work and public relations are handled by a Public Relations Officer.

8. Both in the Secretariat as well as with the Teams, difficulty was experienced in the initial stages owing to the absence of qualified English/French translators and interpreters. The French Liaison Mission in Vientiane was very helpful during this period. The situation has eased since the arrival of some interpreters recruited in Geneva and in India, though even now all the Teams do not have interpreters attached to them. Apart from this, very often the need has also arisen for translation and interpretation from Laotian and Vietnamese languages also. The absence of interpreters for those languages, particularly for the Laotian language, has often held up investigations. In some parts of the country people talk and understand only local dialects, posing peculiar problems to the Inspection Teams.

9. To assist it in its work, the International Commission has set up three Committees: the Military Committee, the Political Committee and the Administrative Committee. The Military Committee consisting of the senior-most military members of the three National Delegations is responsible for studying the military aspects of problems arising out of the work of the International Commission and making recommendations thereon to the Commission. It generally supervises the operational part of the Commission's functions, particularly, with regard to the Fixed and Mobile Inspection Teams.

Committee

10. The Political Committee, also consisting of a member from each of the three National Delegations, examines, co-ordinates and determines priorities of complaints, and studies and evaluates reports received by the International Commission from the Parties or members of the public or from its Teams.

11. Matters of administrative detail are attended to by the Administrative Committee, presided over by the Administrative Officer of the International Secretariat and with the Administrative Officers of the three National Delegations as members. This Committee holds periodical meetings with officers of the French Liaison Mission in Vientiane to discuss problems connected with accommodation, transport, supplies and general logistic problems affecting the Teams.

12. In order to carry out its functions as laid down in the Geneva Agreement, the International Commission was required to set up Fixed and Mobile Inspection Teams. Transportation difficulties, accentuated by bad weather and difficult terrain, prevented the setting up of the Teams as quickly as the Commission would have desired. There was also the question of acute lack of accommodation both at Vientiane and at the centres where the Teams were to be based. This necessitated up to the middle of October

Fixed
Mobile
Teams