

South of the provisional military demarcation line:

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In accordance with the provisions, Article 35 of the Agreement the International Commission has located fixed teams at the above points of entry. In chapter I of this Report, a brief description has been given of the installation and work of these fixed teams. The main duties of the fixed teams are as specified under the Agreement to control the provisions of Articles 16 and 17. To facilitate the work of the team, they are assisted by a Liaison Officer of the Local Administration who enables them to obtain the co-operation of all other services concerned, viz., customs, dockyard, aerodrome, etc. The teams are to conduct checks in pursuance of notifications received under Articles 16(f) and 17(e) and in addition conduct observation in connection with their task of control. The Commission has instructed its teams to conduct their investigations as far as possible on the ground at the airports and docks. In special cases, however, where such examination is not possible, the teams have been allowed to board vessels even if they be foreign vessels in consultation and co-operation with the local administration.

Notifications are being received from the French High Command under Article 16(f). No such notifications have so far been received from the P.A.V. High Command. No notifications have so far been received from either High Command under Article 17(e). It is understood that discussions are going on in the Joint Commission as to what items should be regarded as "war material" in respect of which notification under Article 17(e) is necessary. Some confusion arose in the initial stages because certain movements of personnel and war material were internal movements only. In a few cases, the French authorities asserted that the Commission had no locus standi to examine such internal movements. But in order to check whether the movement was internal or external, it was necessary for the International Commission's fixed teams to examine all war materials which entered the ports. The Commission has, therefore, instructed its teams to check all exports and imports of war material and personnel, whether the local authorities give notice or not. If the team discovered entry of war material or personnel where no notice has been given, it was open to the local authorities to explain that no notice was given because the movement was internal. The veracity of the statements made could be checked at the Commission's Headquarters where such statements of import and export would be received from all the fixed teams.

To date, the Commission had received two specific complaints from the Democratic Republic of Vietnam alleging violations of Article 17. Regular notifications under Article 16(f) are being received.