

May 16 and expressing concern over the continuing suspension of negotiations. The Commission's resolution was conveyed to the parties in a letter of July 16 (Annexure 3). In its reply of August 14 (Annexure 4) the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao welcomed the Commission's action. However, no reply was forthcoming from the Royal Government and the Commission, noting that this omission was possibly due to the delays attendant on the formation of a new Government, again requested the views of the Government in a letter dated September 4 (Annexure 5). In its reply of September 17 (Annexure 6), the Royal Government expressed its approval of the July 15 resolution and declared itself ready to accept the recommendations contained therein.

3. Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma informed the Commission on July 30 (Annexure 7) that the Laotian police and army units in Vientiane were inadequate to ensure all the necessary security services and asked whether the Commission would help ensure the security of Prince Souphanouvong and the Pathet Lao delegation. After deliberation, the Commission decided on July 31 to supply guards to assist the police for a limited period of two weeks, but noted that it was not assuming legal responsibility for ensuring security which, according to agreements reached between the parties, remained the duty of the Royal Government. The Prime Minister was informed of this decision on July 31 (Annexure 8). There was an exchange of letters on this matter between the Prime Minister and Prince Souphanouvong