

(viii) Letter No. 218/DGP/X dated the 22nd April, 1957

The Royal Government with the above letter forwarded a copy of their letter No.217/DGP/X dated the 22nd April, 1957, to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in Vietnam, wherein the following was brought to the latter's notice:-

(a) on 25th March, 1957, two Vietnamese penetrated into the Cambodian territory at the village of Keo Cheas (Svay Rieng) and tried to carry away a buffalo belonging to a Cambodian, who, armed with a rifle chased the thieves and recovered the animal.

(b) on the 25th March, 1957, about 50 Vietnamese military elements armed with rifles came to the village Keo Cheas and opened fire on the inhabitants with a view to raiding their cattle; the Cambodian Army Units intervened and drove the aggressors towards Vietnam.

In the letter to the Secretary of State, Foreign Affairs, the Royal Government made vigorous protest to the Republic of Vietnam against such violations of territory, committed by regular units of Vietnamese Armed Forces followed by aggression, and attempts to raid cattle belonging to Cambodian persons; it was stated that the Royal Government would be grateful if the Vietnamese Government took measures to prevent the recurrence of such acts which were of a nature to create serious friction in the good relations existing between the two countries.

Copies of the correspondence were forwarded by the Commission to the Vietnam Commission for information. The Royal Government was informed accordingly.

(ix) Letter No.232/DGP/X dated the 25th April, 1957

The Royal Government forwarded a copy of their letter No. 231/DGP/X dated the 25th April 1957, addressed to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Vietnam, informing the latter of the following:-

On the 9th February 1957, about 60 Vietnamese Military men penetrated into the Cambodian territory in the village of Ban Lom Kim on the Cambodia-Vietnam border and after spending a night in that village which was inhabited by about 20 families, went away carrying with them 9 Cambodians (six men and three women) under the pretext that the latter maintained relations with the Viet Minh and rebels to the Government of Vietnam. They were sent to the Ya Dao Camp in South Vietnam. On the 13th February 1957 three men and three women got back to their homes and declared that all of them had been seriously mal-treated.

In its letter the Royal Government expressed its grief to record the facts which constituted an act of violation of territory followed by arbitrary arrest committed by regular units of army of Vietnam and it, therefore, lodged strong protest with the Government of the Republic of Vietnam requesting them to take necessary measures to order the immediate release of the three Cambodian persons irregularly detained and to inflict severe sanctions to the parties responsible for this operation. The Royal Government expressed the hope that such acts which were manifestly of a nature to trouble the good relations which existed between the two countries would not be repeated.