

A P P E N D I X 'H'

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LETTER NO. 820/C.M.L. DATED 10th OCTOBER, 1954  
FROM THE FRANCO-LAOTIAN DELEGATION ADDRESSED TO  
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

During the last plenary assembly of the International Commission and the Joint Commission held in Vientiane, you had asked the Heads of both the Delegations for a concise Aide-mémoire defining the point of view of each one of them on the question of Phong Saly and Sam Neua provinces.

I have the honour to enclose the Aide-mémoire drafted by the Franco-Laotian Delegation to the Joint Armistice Commission in Laos.

A I D E - M E M O I R E

DRAWN UP FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION TO DE-  
FINE THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE FRANCO-LAOTIAN DE-  
LEGATION ON THE JOINT COMMISSION ON THE QUESTION  
OF "PHONG SALY" - "SAM NEUA"

I. ORIGIN OF THE PROBLEM

- 1)- Units of the Laotian National Army are stationed in the two provinces of Phong Saly and Sam Neua. The adverse Party officially denies the existence of these units, at the same time fighting against them in order to destroy them before any control has been made by the International Commission.

It is up to the International Commission to verify the presence of these units and to have the "cease-fire" respected in these two provinces as in the rest of Laos.

- 2)- The Agreements and Final Declaration of the Geneva Conference recognise that the sovereignty of the Royal Laotian Government extends over the whole of the territory of Laos. That Government, therefore, must be able to reposition its administration in the provinces of Phong Saly and Sam Neua, as an expression of its sovereignty.

It is the duty of the International Commission to see to it that the adverse Party does not continue to oppose this.

- 3)- Article 12 of the Geneva Agreement provides that "Pathet Lao" forces be stationed in 12 Provisional Assembly Areas, i.e. of one area per province. This means that there is an area in each of the provinces of Phong Saly and Sam Neua (1).

N.B.:- (1) Since the territory of Laos comprises 12 provinces, Phong Saly and Sam Neua are included.