

5. I made following points to Parthasarathi: We regarded situation in Vietnam as potentially explosive and dangerous and felt Commission had a role to play in reducing tension. Procedures of Commission which had been allowed to develop over years had unfortunately reduced its effectiveness in dealing with urgent and important allegations. Nam and subversion case however presented a new unique opportunity to develop effectiveness of Commission as well as to relieve tension and shore up preventive aspects of Commissions presence.

6. In most previous cases allegations had been made by one party concerning actions which had taken place on territory of the other. In many of more important cases Commission, even when prepared to investigate, has found it impossible to do so because of lack of cooperation of party concerned. Nam case however presented possibility of an investigation on territory of country making the allegation. It dealt with an allegation that aggression had already taken place. This required priority consideration by Commission. I did not repeat not stress this point as Parthasarathi is still inclined to regard all allegations as equals.

7. With regard to his feelings that Commission could not repeat not function with a quorum of two, I said that I too felt that maintenance of Polish participation was important in long term interests of Commission but that this must not repeat not be interpreted by Poles as an automatic veto on investigations agreed by the majority. If this happened value of Commission would certainly be reconsidered by countries mainly concerned.

8. With regard to decision on Nam case I said that we recognized problems which would confront investigators. The case was complicated and varied and we might expect decision to be complicated as well. If however the evidence were proved we would see a citation against North. Form of citation would be for discussion. I agreed that action taken on Nam case should be taken with a view to development of the inventive aspects of Commission's presence in Vietnam. I threw out suggestion that one of advantages of setting up a mobile team for investigation might be to establish mobile team as a body ready to undertake investigation of any futile allegations. I stressed that investigation of an allegation in no repeat no way implied acceptance of its validity by Commission. Unfortunately this false idea had been used for delay in past (group corrupt) must be eradicated. I suggested that Parthasarathi think about possibility of including in Nam decision a provision for maintenance of a special mobile team for future investigations.

9. My assessment of the situation at present is that we can probably get ahead with an investigation of Nam case but that as it progresses there will be a danger if not repeat not a probability that all factors which have contributed to Indian hesitation in past will be brought into play. I therefore think that more forthcoming Indian attitude must still be taken with reservation and that we must at least foresee possibility that when a decision has to be made they will look for some middle course.

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