

External Affairs
Supplementary Paper
Message from the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference on Indochina to the Countries Participating in the International Conference for the Settlement of the Laotian Question

No. 61/2 Laos -- Documents Respecting
Cease-Fire Arrangements

April 24, 1961.

Message from the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference on Indochina on the Cease-Fire in Laos

The Co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference on Indochina, represented by the Governments of the Soviet Union and Great Britain, are following with great concern the situation which has developed in Laos.

They proceed from the fact that if this situation is not changed the position in Laos may become a serious threat to peace and security in Southeast Asia. They note at the same time that real conditions exist for normalising the situation in Laos in accordance with the national interests of the Laotian people on the basis of the Geneva Agreements of 1954. The Co-chairmen have in view the understanding already reached that an international conference to settle the Laotian problem is to be called in Geneva on the 12th May this year.

The Co-chairmen call on all military authorities, parties and organizations in Laos to cease fire before the convening of the international conference on Laos and they call on appropriate representatives to enter into negotiations for concluding an agreement on questions connected with the cease-fire.

The Co-chairmen call on the people of Laos to co-operate with the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos and to render it assistance when it arrives in the country on their instructions in exercising supervision and control over the cease-fire.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Great Britain:
Home.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:
A. Gromyko.