

instructions to its fixed teams on this subject and, in particular, to those teams which are situated in the provisional assembly areas.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGROUPMENT PLAN SOUTH OF THE DEMARCATION LINE

FORCES OF THE PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIET-NAM

Ham Tan and Xuyenmoc provisional assembly area ... 80 days

Central Viet-Nam provisional assembly area - First instalment ... 80 days

Plaine des Jones provisional assembly area ... 100 days

Central Viet-Nam provisional assembly area - Second instalment ... 100 days

Pointe Camau provisional assembly area ... 200 days

Central Viet-Nam provisional assembly area - last instalment ... 300 days

58. The withdrawals and transfers were effected before the due dates in the provisional assembly areas of Ham Tan, Xuyenmoc, Plaine des Jones and Quang Ngai and were with the exception of Plaine des Jones observed by the Commission's mobile teams.

59. In the case of the provisional assembly area of Central Viet-Nam, however, withdrawals had to be conducted in three instalments as indicated in the Article. Although three instalments have been mentioned, one at the end of 80 days, the second at the end of 100 days and the third at the end of 300 days, the Agreement is silent on the extent and nature of these instalments. It is for the parties to arrive at a mutually satisfactory agreement on the slices to be transferred at each stage. Though the parties have not yet arrived at such a settlement on the basis of agreed principles, provisional protocols were signed between them and withdrawal from and transfer of certain agreed areas have been carried out at the end of 80 days and 100 days in the Central Viet-Nam provisional assembly area. The dispute has been placed before the International Commission for settlement. The French authorities have taken the view that Central Viet-Nam should be evacuated in three equal and proportionate stages. The Democratic Republic authorities, however, claim that they had already withdrawn from certain areas at the end of 80 and 100 days though there was no provision in Article 15f(2) for such territorial withdrawals from the provisional assembly area of Central Viet-Nam.

In accordance with this protocol, several thousand prisoners were exchanged in the first few days. Some physical and technical difficulties,