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F O U R T H I N T E R I M R E P O R T

ON THE ACTIVITIES

OF THE

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION AND
CONTROL IN LAOS

(FOR THE PERIOD FROM 17 MAY 1957 TO 31 MAY 1958)

FOURTH INTERIM REPORT

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CONTROL IN LAOS

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INTRODUCTION

This Fourth Interim Report of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos reviews the Commission's activities and the very important political and military developments in Laos between May 17, 1957 and May 31, 1958. It should be read in continuation of the Commission's three earlier Interim Reports to the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference on Indo-China which, taken together, covered the period from the establishment of the Commission in August 1954 until May 16, 1957.

The period under review in this Fourth Interim Report saw historic developments in Laos. The Commission took great pleasure in reporting that, in November 1957, the lengthy negotiations between the Royal Laotian Government and Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao had been successfully concluded with the signing by the two Parties of Political and Military agreements providing for the reunification of the country; the creation of a coalition Government including representatives of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao; the formation of a political party - Neo Lao Iaksat - successor to the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao; and the integration of Pathet Lao Forces into the National Army and the national community. The Commission noted with satisfaction that the terms of the military agreement had been implemented in February 1958. This, together with the **Supplementary** elections, voting in which took place on May 4, would constitute the political settlement envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement.

As a result of these developments, peace has at last been restored to Laos.

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CHRONOLOGY OF IMPORTANT EVENTS (TO MAY 31, 1958)

- May 16, 1957 The Commission adopted a resolution urging the parties to continue negotiations with the utmost vigour.
- May 31 The Royal Laotian Government resigned and negotiations were suspended.
- July 15 The Commission adopted a resolution drawing the attention of the parties to its resolution of May 16, and expressing concern over the continuing suspension of negotiations.
- August 8 Prince Souvanna Phouma spoke in the National Assembly, presenting a prospective Government and outlining a programme of action.
- August 9 The National Assembly approved Prince Souvanna Phouma's new Government.
- August 14 Prince Souphanouvong welcomed the Prime Minister's programme for a peaceful settlement to unify the country.
- September 25 The Parties resumed direct negotiations.
- November 2 Political and Military Agreements were signed by the negotiating delegations and a Joint Communique forecasting a political settlement was issued by Prince Souvanna Phouma and Prince Souphanouvong.
- November 12 The Political and Military Agreements were signed by Prince Souvanna Phouma and Prince Souphanouvong, setting out the modalities for the implementation of the November 2 Joint Communique.
- November 18 The provinces of San Neua and Phongsaly were formally returned to the authority of His Majesty the King of Laos by Prince Souphanouvong.
- November 19 The National Assembly approved unanimously a Government of National Union under Prince Souvanna Phouma, which included two members of the former Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.
- The Neo Lao Haksat Party, successor of the Pathet Lao, commenced its activities as a legal political party.
- December 6 The Cabinet set May 4 as the date of the supplementary general elections.
- December 8 The province of San Neua was officially transferred to the Royal Laotian Government by Prince Souphanouvong in a ceremony in the town of San Neua.
- December 12 The province of Phongsaly was officially transferred to the Royal Laotian Government by Prince Souphanouvong in a ceremony in the town of Muong Khoua.

February 10,
1958

The Integration of the former Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao military units of personnel, in accordance with the Military Agreement of November 12, was marked by a ceremony at Plaine des Jarres.

March 20

The Prime Minister informed the Commission of a Cabinet decision to request the withdrawal of the Commission as of the date of the supplementary general elections on May 4.

May 1

The Commission adopted a resolution concerning allegations of discrimination against Neo Lao Haksat.

May 4

Voting in the supplementary general elections took place.

May 8

The Commission in principle decided to withdraw all remaining teams subject to developments. Canadian Delegation tabled resolution on dissolution of Commission.

May 22

The Prime Minister informed the Commission that the Royal Government now considered the Geneva Agreement (including the obligations undertaken by his Government at Geneva Conference) to be fully implemented and referring to his letters of 26th of November 1957 and 20th of March 1958, he asked the Commission once again to withdraw.

May 23

The Polish Delegation while rejecting the Canadian resolution on dissolution proposed reduction in activity of Commission according to Article 39 of Geneva Agreement.

The Indian Delegation also rejected the Canadian resolution and put forward 2 alternative proposals.

May 31

The Prime Minister informed the Commission that the Royal Laotian Government intends to continue to observe the obligations contained in its declaration of Geneva in 1954.

CHAPTER I

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

1. As the period under review opened, the Royal Laotian Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao were continuing their negotiations to reach a settlement in accordance with the Geneva Agreement. However, it became apparent by the end of April 1957 that the parties were encountering difficulties of various kinds and the Commission felt that the two sides should be officially encouraged to reach a settlement with the least possible delay. This the Commission did in its resolution of May 16, 1957 (Annexure I) which recommended that negotiations be continued with the utmost vigour, urged that the Joint Political and Military Committees established by the parties be utilized to the maximum extent possible and called upon the parties to observe scrupulously the Cease-Fire. Both parties expressed a willingness to accept the recommendation contained in the resolution.

2. At the end of May a political crisis developed and the Government resigned on May 31, bringing about a suspension in the negotiations between the parties. As the Governmental crisis became prolonged, doubts arose as to when the negotiations would be resumed, and it appeared possible that a complete separation might occur between the parties. The Commission felt, therefore, that action by it might serve to bring the parties closer together. On July 15 the Commission adopted a resolution (Annexure 2) drawing the attention of the parties to the resolution of

CHAPTER 1
May 16 and expressing concern over the continuing suspension of negotiations. The Commission's resolution was conveyed to the parties in a letter of July 16 (Annexure 3). In its reply of August 14 (Annexure 4) the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao welcomed the Commission's action. However, no reply was forthcoming from the Royal Government and the Commission, noting that this omission was possibly due to the delays attendant on the formation of a new Government, again requested the views of the Government in a letter dated September 4 (Annexure 5). In its reply of September 17 (Annexure 6), the Royal Government expressed its approval of the July 15 resolution and declared itself ready to accept the recommendations contained therein.

3. Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma informed the Commission on July 30 (Annexure 7) that the Laotian police and army units in Vientiane were inadequate to ensure all the necessary security services and asked whether the Commission would help ensure the security of Prince Souphanouvong and the Pathet Lao delegation. After deliberation, the Commission decided on July 31 to supply guards to assist the police for a limited period of two weeks, but noted that it was not assuming legal responsibility for ensuring security which, according to agreements reached between the parties, remained the duty of the Royal Government. The Prime Minister was informed of this decision on July 31 (Annexure 8). There was an exchange of letters on this matter between the Prime Minister and Prince Souphanouvong

about security and the temporary departure of Prince Souphanouvong from Vientiane (Annexures 9 and 10).

At the end of the two-week period, the International Commission guards were withdrawn and responsibility for the security of the Delegation was assumed by the Royal Laotian Government.

Formation
of a Coalition
Government

4. In June and July three unsuccessful attempts were made to constitute a new Cabinet, two by Mr. Katay Sasorith, Leader of the Nationalist Party, and one by Mr. Bong Souvannavong, Leader of the Lao Young Samphan Party. On August 8, Prince Souvanna Phouma presented a prospective coalition Government to the National Assembly and outlined a programme of action. In his speech (Annexure 11) Prince Souvanna Phouma gave a prominent place to the need for a political settlement to unify the country. He outlined a programme in which he foresaw the implementation of the recommendations of the December 28, 1956 Joint Communique between the Royal Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao (reproduced as Annexure 13 of the Third Interim Report) through the formation of an enlarged National Union Government, including representation of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, to be followed by national supplementary elections. Such a settlement would include the immediate re-establishment of the Royal Administration in the northern provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly and the integration of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao into the Laotian National Army and into the national community. Regarding foreign policy, the Prime Minister stated that the policy of peace and neutrality for Laos was too well established to

Laotian

need defending. The Government would entertain good relations with all its neighbours, would retain its traditional friendships, and would improve its relations with foreign countries, emphasizing the five principles of peaceful co-existence. Laos would be willing, said the Prime Minister, to accept foreign aid from any source provided that the conditions under which it was given did not conflict with the sovereignty and freedom of the Kingdom.

5. On August ~~8~~⁹ the Assembly voted its approval of the Government proposed by Prince Souvanna Phouma, thus ending the ministerial crisis.

6. In a statement on August 13 (Annexure 12), Prince Souphanouvong expressed satisfaction that the ministerial crisis had been brought to an end with the investiture of the new Government of Prince Souvanna Phouma, and welcomed the Prime Minister's programme as presented to the National Assembly on August 8. Prince Souphanouvong stated that the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao was pleased with the new Government because it had been under Prince Souvanna Phouma that the previous Government had successfully carried out the talks between the parties. Concluding his declaration, Prince Souphanouvong appealed on behalf of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao to the entire Lao people to unite and support the new Government of Prince Souvanna Phouma in the formation of a Government of National Union with adequate participation of Pathet Lao representatives in order to realize all the agreements concluded between the two parties to defend the country, religion and the King.

Commission's contribution to settlement

7. During this period, the Commission had been active in encouraging the parties to resume negotiations and for this purpose the Commissioners were in frequent touch with the Prime Minister, Prince Souphanouvong and other Laotian leaders. In particular, the Commission offered its good offices, both by direct correspondence as mentioned in Chapter II and informal discussion, to help the parties overcome various difficulties in their political and military negotiations.

Resumption of negotiations between the Parties.

8. On August 19 the Political Delegation of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, under the leadership of Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit, sent a letter to the Prime Minister with a copy to the Commission (Annexure 13) requesting the Government to appoint a negotiating delegation so that the direct discussions between the parties might be renewed. The letter stated that the delegation of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao was ready to resume negotiations at any time. On September 16 a preparatory meeting between the delegations was held and negotiations were resumed on September 25. It was soon evident that there was an atmosphere of mutual understanding and a spirit of compromise existing between the parties, and that substantial progress was being made by both the Joint Political and Military Committees. Representatives of the National Assembly attended the negotiations as observers and there appeared to be broad popular interest in and support for the discussions.

9. Agreement on a draft Bill guaranteeing the civil rights of former members of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao and their sympathizers was reached by the Joint Political Committee, and the necessary

legislation was enacted by the National Assembly on October 18.

10. The major questions still to be worked out were those of the transfer of the two northern provinces as well as integration of the civil and military personnel of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, and the enlarging of the Government to include representatives of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. Agreements was reached on November 2 by the Joint Political and Military Committee on all those questions.

Agreements.

11. On November 2, the Prime Minister and Prince Souphanouvong signed a Joint Communiqué (Annexure 10) which forecast a political settlement for Laos. The communiqué provided for:

a) The formation of a Government of National Union in which the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao would be represented.

b) The presentation of the new Government to the National Assembly subsequent to the official handing over to the Royal Government of the provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

c) The formulation of policies for the National Union Government based on the programme set out by the Prime Minister in his speech of August 8 in the National Assembly.

d) The recognition of the Neo Lao Haksat as a political party with the same

rights and obligations as other Political Parties.

e) The effective re-establishment of the Royal Administration in the provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly.

f) The hand-over to Royal Government of all arms and ammunition held by the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

g) The integration of officials and soldiers of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao in conformity with modalities to be worked out by the Political and Military Committees and entailing the de facto and de jure disappearance of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

12. The Agreement on the establishment of the Royal Administration in the provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly (Political Agreement), and the Agreement on the Integration of the Forces of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao into the National Army (Military Agreement), which had been signed on November 2 by the Joint Negotiating Committees, were signed on November 12 by the Prime Minister, Prince Souvanna Phouma and Prince Souphanouvong on behalf of the Royal Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao respectively (Annexure 15 and 16). These agreements set out the modalities for the implementation of the terms of the November 2 Joint Communique. On November 13, 1957 the Chairman of the Commission, aware that the Prime Minister had made copies of the agreements available to some Ambassadors, sent a formal request for these documents to the Prime Minister (Annexure 17). Copies of the Joint Communique and the two Agreements

were received on November 14 and forwarded to the Co-Chairmen with a covering letter dated November 16 (Annexure 18).

First stage
in implemen-
tation of
Agreements.

13. As the first step in the implementation of the settlement, Prince Souphanouvong in a symbolic ceremony on November 18, formally returned to the authority of His Majesty the King of Laos, represented at the ceremony by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, the administration of the two provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly, together with all the troops, civil servants and war material of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. The ceremony was attended by the Chairman and members of the King's Council, the National Assembly, the Royal Government, the International Commission and the Diplomatic Corps. After Prince Souphanouvong's declaration, the Crown Prince, on behalf of His Majesty the King, acknowledged with satisfaction the assurances of loyalty, sincerity, and respect for the democratic constitution of the Kingdom made by all the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao soldiers and functionaries.

Government
of National
Union.

14. In the afternoon of November 18 the National Assembly approved by unanimous vote a National Union Government led by Prince Souvanna Phouma, which included two members of the former Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, Prince Souphanouvong as Minister of Plans, Reconstruction and Urbanism, and Phoumi Vongvichit as Minister of Cults and Fine Arts. The same day, in accordance with the agreement between the parties, the Neo Lao Haksat party, successor of the Pathet Lao, started its activities throughout the Kingdom. The Co-Chairmen were informed of these developments in a telegram dated November 19 (Annexure 19), in which

the hope was expressed that the proper implementation of the Agreements would result in a satisfactory political settlement in conformity with the Geneva Agreement.

15. In a letter dated November 26 to the Chairman of the Commission (Annexure 20) the Prime Minister said that the November Agreements constituted a preliminary political settlement as envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement and that the activities of the Commission were, therefore, nearing their end. He stated that after the expiry of the period for the implementation of the Agreements, only the supplementary elections would remain to complete the mission of the Commission. The Chairman of the Commission in an interim reply dated November 29 (Annexure 21) stated that the three Commissioners would consult their Governments in this matter.

16. It was noted at a meeting of the Commission on November 29 that it was a matter of considerable satisfaction to the Commission that the Royal Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao had reached comprehensive political and military agreements designed to ensure the sovereignty of the entire country and to bring about a reunification of the Laotians.

17. At a meeting on December 6, the Cabinet decided to fix May 4, 1958 as the date of the general supplementary elections for the 20 new seats established in accordance with the revised electoral law adopted by the Assembly on March 1, 1957. (See paragraph 20, Chapter I, Third Interim Report). One additional seat, made vacant by the death of a sitting member, was also to be contested on May 4.

Prime Minister's first communication regarding Article 14.

Handover of Northern Provinces to Royal Laotian Government

18. On December 8 the Province of Sam Neua was officially transferred by Prince Souphanouvong to the Royal Laotian Government, represented by the Prime Minister in a ceremony at the town of Sam Neua attended by the Commissioners. In a similar ceremony in Muong Koua on December 12, the Province of Phongsaly was transferred to the Royal Government. Reference was made in speeches at the ceremonies to the part played by the Commission in bringing about integration.

19. During the early months of 1958 members of the Commission observed the progress of integration in the various provinces. In particular, during March 1958, the Commission's Political Committee visited the Commission team sites at Sam Neua in Sam Neua province and Boun Neua in Phongsaly Province to observe the progress of integration in accordance with the November agreements (Annexures 22 and 23).

Military Integration.

20. At a special ceremony at Plaines des Jarres on February 18 attended by the Military Committee about 1500 army personnel of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao were integrated into the Royal Laotian Army. The Commission informed the Co-Chairmen in a telegram dated March 5 (Annexure 24) that with this ceremony the terms of the Military Agreement had been fully implemented.

Government's Decision on winding up the Commission.

21. In a letter dated March 20, 1958 (Annexure 25) the Prime Minister thanked the Chairmen for the distinguished services rendered to Laos by the International Commission and informed him that the Cabinet had decided on March 13 to request the withdrawal of the Commission as of May 4, the date of the

supplementary elections. The Prime Minister stated that the Royal Lao Government considered that these elections would constitute the last act in the application of the Geneva Agreement. The text of the Prime Minister's letter was sent to the Governments of the three Supervisory Powers and on April 1 to the Co-Chairmen (Annexure 26) with a request that the Co-Chairmen communicate their views on the letter to the three Supervisory Powers as soon as possible.

the Elections

22. The electoral campaign opened on March 4, 1958, i.e. 60 days before the date established for the supplementary elections. It was agreed by the Commissioners that the role of the teams during the campaign was to act as observers and to be available to receive complaints, but not to interfere in the conduct of the election. Instructions to this effect

(Annexure 27) were issued at a Commission meeting on April 23. At the same meeting it was decided that the Political Committee should tour Xieng Khouang province and the Military Committee visit the Pakse area to observe the local conditions prior to the election. The reports of these two committees

(Annexures 28 and 29) were to the effect that the campaign was proceeding quietly in those areas. Similar reports were also received from the three Fixed Teams. No incidents requiring Commission action were reported by the three teams during the campaign and on election day itself.

allegations of discrimination

23. On April 9 a letter (Annexure 30) containing a number of allegations of discrimination and repression against members of the former Pathet Lao, of the Neo Lao Haksat party and of their sympathizers was

sent to the Prime Minister by Prince Souphanouvong, as President of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat party. Copies of this letter were sent to the President of the National Assembly as well as to the Chairman of the Commission. The Chairman wrote to the Prime Minister on April 19 (Annexure 31) stating that the Commission had noted these allegations with concern and expressing the hope that the Government would take whatever steps it considered necessary to clarify the situation. The Prime Minister replied (Annexure 32) on April 23 that the Government remained conscious of its duty to ensure the normal functioning of democratic freedoms and to repress illegal abuses and excesses. He added that a directive designed to ensure fair and equal treatment to all political parties had been circulated to officials concerned with the elections.

24. On April 27 Prince Souphanouvong sent another letter to the Prime Minister (Annexure 33) with copies to the Speaker of the National Assembly and to the Chairman, alleging additional incidents of discrimination and reprisals. The Commission on May 1 adopted a resolution (Annexure 34) expressing concern at the renewal of allegations, noting the Prime Minister's assurances that the Royal Government remained conscious of its duty to curb abuses and illegal activities, noting that as on April 30, the Commission had not been informed that the Government had replied to Prince Souphanouvong's letter of April 9, calling on all concerned to maintain an atmosphere of good will, and expressing the hope that all Laotians might participate in the elections in conditions of fundamental freedoms. Copies of the

resolution were sent to the Prime Minister, to Prince Souphanouvong and to the Speaker of the National Assembly. On May 6, the Prime Minister acknowledged receipt of the resolution in a letter (Annexure 35) stating that Prince Souphanouvong's allegations were being investigated and that such acts as were proved illegal or offensive would be dealt with according to law. He said that the allegations were matters of internal concern coming within the sole competence of national institutions. The Prime Minister also sent to the Commission a copy of his letter of May 6 on this subject to Prince Souphanouvong (Annexure 36).

25. The supplementary elections were held, as scheduled, on May 4.

26. In a letter to the Prime Minister dated May 19 (Annexure 37) Prince Souphanouvong, stating that the elections had, in general, been held in conformity with the electoral laws of the Kingdom, alleged that there had been flagrant injustices and frauds in Attapeu vitiating the election in that province, and stated he had authorized the Neo Lao Haksat candidate in Attapeu to contest the validity of the election. The Prime Minister replied on May 26 (Annexure 38) that allegations of crimes and offences during the elections should be brought before the competent courts, that the National Assembly alone was competent to judge on the regularity of election of a deputy, and that he had asked the Minister of the Interior to look into the matter. He noted that the International Commission had no competence to deal with this.

Question of Team withdrawals.

27. After the agreements between the parties had been reached, and the first steps of their implementation had been taken, the Commissioners on a number of occasions discussed the question of gradually reducing the Commission's activities, in conformity with Article 39. As a result of these discussions, a number of fixed, mobile and temporary teams were withdrawn before the start of the election campaign, and it was agreed in principle that all remaining teams would be liquidated after the supplementary elections. The question was formally discussed at the Commission meeting on May 8. The Canadian Delegation took the position that the withdrawals should be made immediately since there was no doubt now that the elections had, in fact, been held since the Laotian Government had requested the Commission to wind up its activities after May 4, and since it was desirable to move the teams as soon as possible because they had no further task to do and because of the very difficult physical and psychological conditions in which they lived. The Polish Delegation's proposal on this matter was to withdraw the teams after the elections had been officially announced as valid. The Indian Delegation was of the same opinion and it was therefore decided by the Commission, under the rule requiring unanimity on reductions (Article 39), to bring the withdrawals into effect after the official validation of the elections. According to the provisions of Article 39 the Vietnam and Cambodia Commissions were consulted on this decision.

28. On May 11, in a public speech on the occasion of Constitution Day, the Prime Minister *inter alia* stated that the reunification of the country had become a fact, the supplementary elections had been held

and the Geneva Agreement had been fulfilled. In a letter to the Commission dated May 13 (Annexure 39) the Prime Minister requested that the Royal Government be informed of measures being taken by the Commission to withdraw teams. He also requested the urgent release of the building occupied by the Fixed Team San Neua. In a letter dated May 15 (Annexure 40) the Prime Minister stated that the elections had been held on May 4; he added that according to Laotian law litigious questions arising out of the elections were within the sole competence of the National Assembly. Although the Canadian Delegation, unlike the Indian and Polish Delegations, was completely satisfied that the statements of the Prime Minister and Prince Souphanouvong (para 26 above) constituted ample notification that the elections had been held, the Commission's attitude remained unchanged, i.e. that no withdrawals could take place until the elections had been validated in the National Assembly, which had opened its regular session on May 11.

Canadian Resolution on Dissolution of Commission.

29. On May 8 the Canadian Delegation formally tabled a resolution (Annexure 41) calling for immediate dissolution of the Commission. In his statement on this resolution (Annexure 42) the Canadian Commissioner pointed out:

- a) that the Commission is competent both to judge when its tasks are completed and also to dissolve itself;
- b) that the whole of Laos had been placed under the authority of the Royal Government, the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao had been integrated into the Royal Army and the national community, and the political settlement envisaged had been achieved;
- c) that the Commission's tasks being completed the Royal Government had formally requested the Commission to withdraw from Laos.

The Polish Position

30. The Canadian draft resolution was discussed at a meeting of the Commission on May 23. The main point in the Polish statement (Annexure 43) was that the Commission should not be dissolved because, despite the political settlement envisaged in Article 14, there still remained parts of the Geneva Agreement, including obligations undertaken by the Royal Government at the Geneva Conference, which remained unfulfilled; these obligations would, in accordance with the Laotian Declaration at Geneva, exist for the Royal Government until the final political settlement in Vietnam. The Polish Delegation proposed that the Commission study the latest developments in Laos and determine the exact limits to which a further reduction of the Commission's activities could be made, in conformity with Article 39.

The Indian Position.

31. In his statement on behalf of the Indian Delegation (Annexure 44) the Chairman questioned the validity of some of the legal arguments for dissolution advanced by the Canadians and pointed out the interdependence of the three agreements. He emphasized that his Delegation and his Government were second to none in upholding the sovereignty of Laos but he maintained that the Royal Government of Laos still remained bound by commitments undertaken at Geneva. He also stated that the People's Army of Vietnam which, he said, still remained a party to the Laos Agreement, does not accept the Laotian Government's approval to wind up the Commission. The Chairman said that the Canadian proposal was bound to have serious repercussions on the working of the Geneva Agreement in all of Indochina, introduce discord and disharmony in the workings of the Laos Commission and, if followed by unilateral withdrawal, might have serious consequences for peace in Indochina. The

Chairman then formally put forward for consideration two alternative proposals concerning the future of the Laos Commission:

Alternative
Indian
Proposals

1) The strength of Laos Commission be reduced to a group of three delegates, one from each Supervisory country and only a limited staff of six more persons allowed to these three delegates, the total personnel of the Laos Commission being thus reduced to nine; or

2) The Supervisory Governments may be asked to nominate one of their personnel at present working in the Vietnam Commission as delegate for the Laos Commission, so that, these delegates will work as International Commission for Laos. These delegates will, when required, visit Laos and deal with any items of work that may require disposal by the International Commission for Laos under the Geneva Agreements on Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.

32. In reply to the Polish and Indian statements the Canadian Commissioner reviewed his Government's position and noted that the Canadian and Laotian view that the Commission should withdraw was shared by one of the Co-Chairmen and by one of the members of the Geneva Conference. He protested against the Indian suggestion that the introduction of the Canadian resolution might constitute a threat to the peace in Indochina, and asked upon what grounds the Chairman had based his statement that the alternative Indian proposals met the wishes of the Royal Government of Laos.

33. It was agreed to refer the Indian alternative proposals to the Governments of the Supervisory powers for their consideration. The text of the draft Canadian resolution and of the statements of

the three Commissioners were sent to the Co-Chairmen.

34. A renewed request from the Royal Government

that the Commission withdraw from Laos was made in a letter dated May 22 (Annexure 45) in which the Prime Minister informed the Chairman that the Royal Government "considers as fully accomplished the implementation of the agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities in Laos as well as the fulfilment of the obligations undertaken by this Government at the

Geneva Conference". In a letter dated May 31 (Annexure 46) the Prime Minister further clarified his Government's position by stating that the Royal Government intends to continue to observe the obligations contained in its Declaration at Geneva in July 1954, as set forth in the last four paragraphs of that Declaration.

35. At the close of the period under review, consideration of the question of withdrawal of teams was still being delayed as the National Assembly had not yet officially validated the supplementary elections. As the period ended, the three Delegations continued to discuss the future status of the Commission.

CHAPTER II

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

1. The military situation was generally quiet during the period under review although there were a number of incidents, mostly of a minor nature, during the first few months. Negotiations were resumed in the Joint Military Committee in October 1957, and there were no further incidents nor complaints. The military situation continued to be quiet until the end of the period.

2. The military situation in the two provinces of PHONG SALY and SAM NEUA improved considerably although there were a few incidents in the earlier months mainly round the area of Houei Thao, in the province of Sam Neua, where the Pathet Lao and the Laotian National Army troops were in close proximity.

A few exchanges of fire took place over the collection of water or recovery of paradrop packages in the Houei Thao area. In addition, the Sub-Team at Houei Thao reported on 23rd June, 1957 that four boxes of ammunition had been parachuted on to Houei Thao by Royal Government aircraft. There was an exchange of letters on this matter between the Commission and the Prime Minister (Annexures 47, 48 and 49) after which the ammunition was returned by the Commission to the Royal Government in Vientiane. The situation improved after the Commission's Team had impressed on the local Pathet Lao and Laotian National Army Commanders the necessity to adhere to the Sam Neua Agreement

(Paragraph 7, Third Interim Report).

COMPLAINTS

3. There were no complaints of mine laying from either party. One casualty due to mine explosion was, however, reported from Houei Thao on 23rd July, 1957. The Laotian National Army Commander's request for evacuation of the casualty by the Commission's helicopter was agreed to on humanitarian grounds and the casualty was evacuated on 26th July, 1957.

4. The total number of complaints received during the period under review was 20, out of which 12 were from the Royal Laotian Government and 8 from the Pathet Lao. These complaints are listed in Annexure 50. In accordance with the Agreement of August 5, 1956 (see Annexure 7 of the Third Interim Report), which provided that all complaints be dealt with by joint committees of the two parties, these complaints were, after consideration by the Commission's Military Committee, forwarded for action to the Joint Military Committee.

5. At its 235th meeting held on April 23, 1958 the Commission decided that in view of all political and military matters having been settled between the parties by themselves, no action on the Commission's part was necessary in regard to all outstanding complaints received upto November 19, 1957, the date of formation of the Government of National Union.

6. The Commission, in its letter of June 4, 1957 (Annexure 51) requested the Royal Government and the Pathet Lao to nominate representatives from the Joint Military Committee - one from each side -

to meet the Commission's Military Committee and inform them of the actions which the parties were taking or contemplating in order to maintain peace, so that it would be possible for the Commission or its Military Committee to offer its views and suggestions. On August 13, Prince Souphanouvong agreed with this proposal (Annexure 52). On September 4, the Commission wrote to the Prime Minister (Annexure 53) asking the Royal Government's views, suggesting a meeting of the two sides and attaching a copy of Prince Souphanouvong's letter of August 13.

Resumption of Negotiations

7. As a result of further efforts by the Commission (Annexure 52^(A) letter of Sept. 4) the two parties resumed negotiations and the Joint Military Committee met in Vientiane on 7 October, 1957. The Chairman of the Commission's Military Committee attended this meeting as a representative of the Commission. The negotiations culminated in the signing of the Military Agreement on November 12, 1957.

Military Agreement

8. The salient features of the Military Agreement of November 12, 1957 (Annexure 16) are:

- a) The Royal Government undertook to integrate into the National Army not more than 1,500 members of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao and their equipment, with the balance of the F.U.P.L. not integrated to be placed in the National Army reserve (Articles 1 to 4).
- b) Assistance from the Royal Government was guaranteed to widows, orphans and parents of

combatants of the F.U.P.L., as well as to their wounded and disabled, as provided by the regulations in force for the National Army.

c) The period for assembly and integration at the four centres mentioned in Article 7 of the Agreement was fixed at 60 days after the date of formation of the Government of National Union (Articles 7 & 8).

d) The International Commission was granted access to regroupment centres. The handover of arms and equipment was to be carried out in the presence of members of the International Commission (Article 9).

e) Four military Joint Sub-Committees were formed to implement the agreement, to ensure security and to facilitate the operations of integration (Article 11).

f) The implementation of the agreement was to realize entirely, from a military point of view, the settlement foreseen in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement for Laos (Article 12).

9. The agreement was to come into force on the date of the formation of the Government of National Union (Article 14). In implementation of the terms of the Military Agreement a Joint Order was issued by the Joint Military Committee on 3 December 1955 (Annexure 34). The Joint Military Sub-Committees consisting of representatives of both the parties were established at Sam Neua, Saleui, Ban Nam Saleng and Muong Khoua.

Temporary Teams.

10. Three new Temporary Fixed Teams of the Commission were established to observe the integration proceedings at the following places:

Ban Nam Saleng on 8 December 1957.

Muong Khoua on 9th December 1957.

Ban Saleui on 10th December 1957.

The Fixed Team San Neua was also instructed to observe the integration process at San Neua and additional instructions were issued to the new teams (Annexure 33).

11. Although originally the integration process was to have been carried out only at the four places mentioned above, due to difficulties in transporting stores and equipment to Ban Nam Saleng, it was subsequently decided to carry out the processing and handover of some personnel and equipment at Phong Saly. The Joint Military Sub-Committee at Ban Nam Saleng therefore went to Phong Saly for this purpose after completing its work at Ban Nam Saleng. The Commission's Fixed Team at Phong Saly was given the task of observing this work.

12. The Joint Military Sub-Committees commenced their work as soon as the personnel of ex-Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao arrived at each centre and integration was carried out in accordance with instructions issued by the Joint Military Committee.

13. In addition to the functions performed by the Commission's Teams at the rallying centres, the Military Committee of the Commission made visits

Process of Integration begins.

to the dispersal centres at Plaine-des-Jarres and Seno. Their reports are at Annexures 56 & 57. 14. Official statistics showing the details of personnel processed and integrated, and the equipment and stores handed over, are shown in the

following Annexures:

- Annexure 58: Statistics of military personnel, families and civilians processed at Rallying Centres.
- Annexure 59: Statistics of released personnel. Details of arms and equipment handed over by the ex-Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao to the Laotian National Army.
- Annexure 60: Weapons.
- " 61: Ammunition
- " 62: Explosives
- " 63: Stores and equipment.

Integration completed. 15. The whole process of integration was completed without any incident. The final phase of the integration process was carried out by a ceremony held at Plaine-des-Jarres on 18 February, 1958, where the personnel of the ex-Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao were integrated into the Laotian National Army. The Military Committee of the Commission attended the function. This ceremony marked the completion of the implementation of the Military Agreement. Accordingly, the Co-Chairman were informed by the Commission in a telegram on 5 March, 1958 (Annexure 24) that the Military Agreement had been fully implemented.

CHAPTER III

ORGANISATION AND FINANCE.

Changes of Heads of Delegations. 1. Commissioner Samar Sen, I.C.S., Chairman and Leader of the Indian Delegation left for India on 17th July, 1957 and was succeeded by Dr. Shaukatullah Shah Ansari the following day.

2. Polish Commissioner Marek Thee, relinquished his charge on 17th July, 1957 and was succeeded by Commissioner Stefan Chanachowicz on the following day.

3. Commissioner P.G.R. Campbell, Head of the Canadian Delegation, left Laos for Canada on 10th December, 1957 and was succeeded on the following day by Commissioner W.G.M. Olivier.

Fixed and Mobile Teams. 4. At the end of May 1957 (i.e. at the date of the Third Interim Report) the Commission maintained the following fixed teams:

- Sam Neua
- Phongsaly
- Pakse
- Savannakhet
- Xien, Khouang
- Vientiane

in addition, there were sub-teams at Muong Peun and Houei Thao and a mobile team at Luang Prabang.

5. During the period of integration of the Fighting Units of Pathet Lao into the Laotian National Army and the national community the following temporary fixed teams were set up for observing the integration process:

	<u>Started on</u>	<u>Closed on</u>
Muong Khoua	9.12.57	20.1.58
Ban Nan Saleng	8.12.57	4.1.58
Ban Saleui	10.12.57	23.1.58

Withdrawal of Teams.

6. After the formation of the Government of National Union in November 1957 the sub-team at Houei Thao was withdrawn on 19th December, 1957.

During February 1958 the teams at Muong Peun, Pakse and Xieng Khouang were also withdrawn. The team at Phongsaly was shifted to Boun Neua where the Commission had till then only a signal detachment. This team was finally withdrawn to Vientiane on 8th May, 1958.

Living conditions in northern areas.

7. As shown in the Third Interim Report the living conditions in the northern teams continued to be unsatisfactory as before. The Military Committee visited the teams in the month of September, 1957 and submitted a report making certain suggestions for immediate improvement in the living conditions. In accordance with the Military Committee's recommendations the Commission decided to provide certain facilities for the northern teams such as refrigerators, radios etc. The control over supplies of the French Liaison Mission was also tightened up and the number of complaints regarding the supply of bad rations etc. progressively decreased.

Helicopters

8. The helicopter services were performed with comparative efficiency during the period under review. In the month of October, 1957 the French Liaison Mission informed the Commission that the South Vietnam authorities had given them notice to remove the helicopter base from Saigon. The question of shifting the base to Seno in Laos was considered but the cost appeared prohibitive. Through the good offices of the Vietnam Commission

the South Vietnam authorities were persuaded to allow the helicopter base to continue at Saigon for six months or so.

9. In view of the shifting of the northern team of Phongsaly to Boun Neua and the abolition of the sub-team at Houei Thao it was considered desirable that the heavy expenditure on helicopters be curtailed. Accordingly the French Liaison Mission was informed that the services of the helicopters would not be required after 1st February, 1958 and the services have since then been terminated effecting a saving of £ 20,000 per month to the Common Pool.

The number of flights of the Commission courier from Saigon to Hanoi and back were reduced from three to two per week since March 1958. Also the chartered couriers to the northern and southern teams were replaced in March-April 1958 by commercial unscheduled flights, thus effecting a substantial saving to the Common Pool.

10. As a further economy measure, the following reductions of staff were made soon after the integration:

	Strength of personnel as on				Reductions	
	1.11.57		31.5.58		Delegation	Local employees
	Delegation	Local employees	Delegation	Local employees		
Canadian Delegation	38	24	20	24	18	--
Polish Delegation	40	15	19	9	21	6
Indian Delegation	73	1	33	1	40	-
IC Secretariat (including International component of the Indian Army)	174	1	68	1	106	-
Total.	325	41	140	35	185	6

Out of the present strength of 175, 35 are locally engaged employees.

It will be seen from the above that 59% reduction has been effected. After further reduction to be effected in June the strength of the Commission would be as follows:

1. International Secretariat.	..	42
2. Indian Delegation	..	22
3. Canadian Delegation	..	19
4. Polish Delegation	..	19
Total	..	<u>102</u>

(Note: Locally engaged employees not included in 102)

Living conditions at Vientiane

11. Living conditions for Commission personnel at Vientiane continued to be as hard as before. The services of the French Liaison Mission, however, improved ^{appreciably} as compared with the previous year.

Accommodation.

12. In the letter dated November 26, 1957 to the Chairman of the Commission (Annexure 20 of Chapter I) the Prime Minister said that a substantial reduction of the strength of the personnel present at Vientiane was to be contemplated. He stated that the buildings occupied by the subordinate staff in the capital were required by the Royal Government for their services and due to the growing necessities the latter wished to occupy them as quickly as possible. As a result one Barrack and a Villa were released by the Commission in March 1958.

Medical Assistance

13. The percentage of sickness continued to be high. Non-availability of medicines at Vientiane aggravated difficulties to some extent. The co-operation of the doctors, especially of the French

Hospital, was generously extended as before.

Air Accidents

14. No serious accidents occurred during the period under report excepting that on 18.7.1957 an Otter plane chartered by the French Liaison Mission, in trying to avoid an accident while landing at Sam Neua airstrip, entered a ditch resulting in the rear part of the plane being badly damaged. Fortunately there were no passengers in the plane and no injury was caused to the crew. But the plane had to be abandoned.

The Insurance Company -- Campagnie d'assurances Maritimes, Aeriennes et Terrestres C.A.M.A.T., 9-Rue des Filles Saint Thomas, Paris-2, rejected the claim for compensation on the grounds that certain derogations had been admitted by the requisition signed by the Head of the French Liaison Mission.

On receipt of this information from the Insurance Company, the French Liaison Mission approached the Commission with the demands that:

- (i) as the plane was chartered for Commission's work the Commission should bear the loss,
- (ii) the Chairman of the International Commission should delegate authority to the French Liaison Mission in writing to requisition aircraft in derogation of rules regulating civil air transport to enable it to perform such tasks as may be necessary in connection with the activities of the Commission, thus absolving them of the responsibility for such accidents.

The matter being a technical one, it was referred to the Legal Committee of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam and to the Government of India for legal opinion. The claim is for about 90,000 to 91,000 Canadian Dollars.

Compensation

15. The Commission decided with the concurrence of the Co-Chairmen to sanction compassionate grants

to the families of:-

- Lt. Col. Khushal Chand .. US Dollars 14,000
- Mr. Roland Duthu .. " 12,000
- Sergeant M. Gac ... " 9,000

who were victims of the aircrash referred to in para 12, page 77 of the Third Interim Report.

Another compassionate grant of Kips 25,898 was also allowed to the family of a truck driver who was killed on March 4, 1958 while proceeding to Xieng Khouang to bring back motor parts etc. from the team at Xieng Khouang.

Insurance 16. In consultation with the other Commissions a scheme was drawn up for personal insurance of Commission personnel and the scheme came into force on 1st April, 58.

Evacuation of casualties 17. Requisitions for evacuation of casualties from the northern areas continued to be received during the latter part of 1957 and the Commission assisted in the evacuation of 7 casualties till the end of 1957 after which no fresh cases occurred.

Provision of air transport to parties. 18. The Commission provided air transport on several occasions to members of both the parties. Helicopter flights were also provided by the Commission for the parties, particularly in the area of Sam Neua in December 1957 and January 1958 in connection with the process of integration of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao into the Laotian National Army and the National Community.

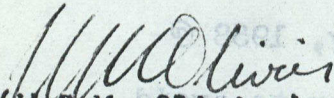
Finance, Accounts & Audit. 19. It will be recalled from the Third Interim Report (vide para 24, page 83) that the Commission found itself in a difficult position towards the end of March, 1957 on account of the sudden stoppage of finances by the French Government for the French Liaison Mission. The Head of the French Liaison Mission visited Paris with a view to regularising matters.

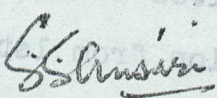
Meanwhile the services of the French Liaison Mission
to a standard as there are not in a position to

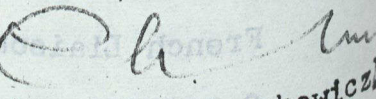
Geneva Powers also. Subsequently for administrative reasons the French Liaison Mission was requested to continue till at least the end of June or perhaps a little later. But the French Embassy at Vientiane informed the Commission on April 26, 1958 that the French Liaison Mission was being closed down with effect from May 4, 1958 and that only a small liquidating body would remain after that date for purposes of liquidation in accordance with the French Government's decision. The French Liaison Mission was officially closed on 4th May and transformed itself into a liquidating body which continued to render to the Commission such help as was required.

22. The Central Audit Party visited Vientiane during the period under review and examined the accounts of the Commission which were found to be in order.

Mission informed the Commission that the French Government were no longer in a position to maintain the French Liaison Mission establishment in Vientiane unless finances were made available by the Commission. In accordance with Commission's decision at its 234th meeting held on 25.1.58 it was decided to pay the


(W.G.M. Olivier)
Delegate of Canada


(Dr. S.S. Ansari)
Delegate of India
& Chairman


(Stefan Chanachowicz)
Delegate of Poland

this temporary arrangement with the French Liaison Mission was to last until May 31, 1958 and would be subject to review during the month of May. This arrangement was approved by the Co-Chairmen of the

The International Commission for Supervision and Control

1. Laos.

CONSIDERING that it has become advisable in view of developments and circumstances, to review the question of the final settlement of Laos,

NOTES with concern and regret from its study of the situation that the Parties have encountered difficulties of various kinds, so that they have not been able to achieve a final political settlement as foreseen in the Geneva Agreement together with the Final Declaration and the Declaration of the Royal Government of July 20th, 1954;

DECLARES its conviction that a political settlement should be achieved as a result of full and free discussions between the parties and that in these negotiations the International Commission continues to adhere to the policy that the parties should remain free to discuss and determine between them what is most equitable and acceptable.

RECALLS that it noted with satisfaction the Common Declarations of August 5 and 10, 1956 and that subsequently it addressed three letters to the Co-Chairmen forwarding the various agreements signed between the parties (viz. on October 31, November 2, 1956, December 24, 1956 and the Common Declaration of December 28, 1956). In its letter of January 11, 1957 to the Co-Chairmen the Commission described briefly their background and indicated the progress towards a settlement which in the view of both the parties these agreements marked. This letter concluded by expressing strongly the hope that "these measures which the parties affirm as representing a great step forward towards the final solution of the Laotian problem in conformity with the Geneva Agreement will soon lead to a final settlement of the Laotian problem", and pledged the Commission's willingness to "continue to assist, insofar as it lies in its power, the parties to attain a settlement satisfactory to both and in conformity with the Geneva Agreement"

NOTES that the Agreements so far signed and the terms of negotiations

so far as they are known to the Commission, are not contrary to the Geneva Agreement and the resolutions adopted by the Commission, including that of January 7, 1956;

CONSIDERS IMPORTANT the implementation of the Agreements necessary for the political settlement;

RECOMMENDS to the parties that the negotiations now in progress between them should be continued with the utmost vigour in an atmosphere of existing goodwill and mutual understanding until a final settlement on all outstanding points is reached with the least possible delay;

URGES that the machinery of the Joint Political and Military Committees established by consent between the Royal Government and the Pathet Lao should be utilized to the maximum extent possible;

CALLS UPON the parties to observe scrupulously the ceasefire; to ensure that no hostile actions or provocations should be taken or given, that force should not be resorted to and that the peace should be firmly maintained, so that the Geneva Agreement is fully observed and a proper atmosphere for a political settlement is maintained.

RESOLUTION

The International Commission for Supervision and Control
in Laos,

EXPRESSES its concern that negotiations between the Parties as a result of various factors are not continuing and its hope that they will be renewed as soon as possible;

TAKES NOTE that the National Assembly unanimously approved the agreements and joint declarations signed by the Royal Government and the Pathet Lao between August 1956 and February 1957 (texts attached) all of which declarations and agreements are self-explanatory;

URGES on the parties that they should consider important the full implementation of all the agreements necessary for the final settlement of the Laotian problem without further delay and as envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement;

WARNS the Parties that any steps or initiative to renew hostilities will be a clear and flagrant violation of the Geneva Agreement, of relevant agreements between the Parties and of the appropriate resolutions of the International Commission;

CALLS particular attention of the Parties to the International Commission's resolution of May 16, 1957.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION AND
CONTROL IN LAOS

No. F.CS(7)-ICL/57

Vientiane,
16 July, 1957

The International Commission presents its compliments to His Highness the Prime Minister, Royal Laotian Government / Head of the Pathet Lao Delegation and has the honour to forward herewith copy of the Resolution adopted by the International Commission on 15 July, 1957 (with unofficial translation in French).

The International Commission avails itself of this opportunity to renew to His Highness the Prime Minister, Royal Laotian Government the assurances of its highest consideration.

Yours ever,

SEAL
Sd/- S. Barkataki

1. His Highness the Prime Minister,
Royal Laotian Government,
Vientiane.
2. The Head of the Pathet Lao Delegation
Vientiane.

Vientiane, le 14 Août 1957

N° 112/PL

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Représentant des Forces Pathet Lao

à S.E. le Docteur ANSARI, Président de la Commission Internationale
de Surveillance et de Contrôle d'Armistice au Laos

à VIENTIANE

Excellence,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de la Résolution prise le 15
Juillet 1957 par la Commission Internationale et transmise par votre
lettre N° F-CS(7)-ICL/57 du 16 Juillet 1957.

Les Forces Pathet Lao saluent avec joie cette nouvelle Résolution
de la Commission Internationale, qui est une preuve de plus du grand
intérêt et de l'aide appréciable qu'elle ne cesse d'accorder au règlement
pacifique de toutes les questions pendantes entre les deux Parties, en vue
de parvenir rapidement au règlement politique final.

Les Forces Pathet Lao se déclarent prêtes à se conformer à toutes
les recommandations contenues dans cette Résolution.

Les Forces Pathet Lao s'en tiennent à leur position immuable qui
consiste à appliquer rigoureusement les Accords de Genève et tous les
accords conclus avec la Partie royale, et à respecter toutes les recomman-
dations de la Commission Internationale.

Quant aux lenteurs et suspensions des négociations entre les deux
Parties, elles sont essentiellement dues aux manœuvres de certaines
puissances étrangères et de leur agents dans le pays - comme j'ai eu
l'occasion de les dénoncer à différentes reprises, notamment dans mes
déclarations des 10-4-57, 30-4-57, 2-6-57, 16-6-57, 2-7-57, 20-7-57 et 13-8-57,
lesquelles ont toutes été portées, en leur temps, à la connaissance de

la Commission Internationale. Cependant, les Forces Pathet Lao ne
peuvent point d'espérer qu'après cette longue crise politique et perte
de temps de plus de deux mois, le nouveau Gouvernement royal, présidé

par S.A. le Prince Souvanna Phouma, ne tardera pas à reprendre avec elles les négociations interrompues, en vue de réaliser tous les accords conclus et de régler rapidement tous les problèmes pendants sur la base desdits accords.

De tout temps, surtout depuis le début de l'année et tout particulièrement depuis la récente crise ministérielle, certaines puissances étrangères - et leur agents qui se trouvent dans les troupes royales - ont cherché à augmenter l'effectif des troupes dans les deux provinces de Samnuea et de Phongsaly et à y multiplier leur attaques et manoeuvres de provocation et de calomnie contre les Forces Pathet Lao. Je me permets de citer les quelques exemples concrets suivants, entre plusieurs autres :

- Le 25 Juin 1957, les troupes royales ont augmenté l'armement du poste de Pakha d'un mortier de 81 m/m et d'un mortier de 120 m/m;

- Le 8 Juillet 1957, elles ont introduit dans la province de Samnuea en provenance de la province de Xieng Khouang, une grande quantité d'armes de toutes sortes et de tous calibres, destinées au Secteur de Muong Peun. Les transports se font par caravanes de 30 à 50 chevaux de bât et sans discontinuité;

- Le 9 Juillet 1957, elles ont fait venir 200 hommes pour les postes de Houa Muong, Muong Lap et Kào Poun, y compris les nouveaux officiers dont les noms suivent : Commandant Thanom, natif de Vientiane, Commandant Savat, natif de Xieng Khouang, Capitaine Phomma, natif de Vientiane, et un Lieutenant non encore identifié.

En outre, dans ce même secteur de Houa Muong, elles ont établi de nouveaux postes et un terrain d'atterrissage pour Beaver ou Morane!

- Le 25 Juillet 1957, le 4ème BIL à Pakha est venu nous attaquer à Phou-Chik-Nou, à Phou-Phao et à Nam-Y; tout en donnant l'ordre à la 231ème Compagnie à Na-Nong de nous attaquer parallèlement à Kào-Kouang et à Selaui.

Ces faits concrets suffiront pour informer la Commission Internationale des difficultés et menaces actuelles. Et les Forces Pathet Lao espèrent que la Commission Internationale voudra bien prévenir le

Gouvernement royal des dangers que de tels actes de provocation pourraient avoir pour les bonnes relations compréhensives existant entre les deux Parties, pour la bonne situation de détente qui règne depuis les déclarations d'Août 1956 ainsi que pour la reprise prochaine des négociations.

Veuillez agréer, Excellence, l'assurance de ma considération très distinguée /.

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG.

gouvernement royal des dangers que de tels actes de provocation pourraient
avoir pour les bonnes relations compréhensives existant entre les deux
parties, pour la bonne attention de détente qui régnait depuis les déclara-
tions d'août 1956 ainsi que pour la reprise prochaine des négociations.
Veuillez agréer, Excellence, l'assurance de ma considération

très distinguée. /

S.A. le Prince SOUTHANOUANG.



-TRANSLATION-

Letter No. 112/PL, dated 14 August 1957

From : H.H. Prince Souphanouvong,
Representative of the Pathet Lao Forces

To : H.E. Dr. Ansari,
Chairman of the I.C.S.C. in Laos.

" Excellency,
I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Resolution taken by the International Commission on 15 July 1957 and forwarded by your letter No. FCS(7)-ICL/57 of 16 July 1957.

The Pathet Lao Forces acclaim with gratification this new Resolution of the International Commission, which is a further proof of the great interest and appreciable help which it has always shown in the peaceful settlement of all the outstanding issues between the 2 Parties with a view to achieving rapidly the final political settlement.

The Pathet Lao Forces declare themselves ready to abide by all the recommendations contained in that Resolution.

The Pathet Lao Forces keep to their inalterable stand which consists in rigorously implementing the Geneva Agreement and all the agreements concluded with the Royal Party, and to respect all the recommendations of the International Commission.

As to the delays and suspension of negotiations between the 2 Parties, they are mainly due to the manoeuvres of certain foreign powers and their agents in the country - as I had occasion to indicate at various stages, specially in my declarations of 10.4.57, 30.4.57, 2.6.57, 16.6.57, 2.7.57, 20.7.57 and 13.8.57 which were all brought to the notice of the International Commission in proper time. However the Pathet Lao Forces do never stop from expecting that after this long political crisis and waste of time of more than 2 months, the new Royal Government presided over by H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma, will not delay in reopening with the former the suspended negotiations, in order to realise all the agreements reached at end to settle rapidly all the pending problems on the basis of the said agreements.

Ever, specially since the beginning of the year and more particularly since the recent cabinet crisis, certain foreign powers and their agents who are amongst the Royal troops, have tried to increase the strength of the troops in the 2 provinces of Sam Neua and Phong Saly and to multiply there their attacks and manoeuvres of provocation and calumny against the Pathet Lao Forces. I take the liberty to cite some of the concrete instances amongst many others:

- On 25 June 1957, Royal troops increased the armaments of Pakha post by one mortar of 81m/m and another of 120 m/m;

- On 8 July 1957, they brought in the province of Sam Neua from the province of Xieng Khouang a good deal of arms of all sorts and calibres meant for Muong Peun Sector. The transport being carried out continuously by caravans of 30 to 50 pack horses;

On 9 July 1957, they brought 200 men for Houa Muong, Muong Lao and Koo Poun posts including the following new officers: Major Thanom, native of Vientiane, Major Savat, native of Xieng Khouang, Captain Phomma from Vientiane and a Lieutenant not identified so far.

Moreover in this same Houa Muong Sector, they have established new posts and a landing strip for Beaver/Morane;

On 25 July 1957, the 4th Light Infantry Battalion at Pakha came to attack us at Phou Chik Nou, Phou Phao and Nam Y while order was given to the 231st Company at Na Nong to attack us in a parallel direction at Kao Kouang and at Saleui.

These concrete instances will suffice to apprise the International Commission of the present difficulties and threats. The Pathet Lao Forces do hope that the International Commission will kindly caution the Royal Government about the jeopardizing that such provocations could cause to the good understanding and relations existing between the 2 Parties, to the nice easing situation which is predominant since the declarations of August 1956 as well as to the near reopening of talks.

Kindly accept, Excellency, the assurance of my very distinguished consideration".

The Pathet Lao Forces declare themselves ready to abide by all the recommendations contained in that Resolution. The Pathet Lao Forces keep to their inalterable stand which consists in rigorously implementing the Geneva Agreement and all the agreements concluded with the Royal Party, and to respect all the recommendations of the International Commission. As to the delays and suspension of negotiations between the 2 Parties, they are entirely due to the maneuvers of certain foreign powers and their agents in the country - as I had occasion to indicate at various stages, especially in my declarations of 10.4.57, 30.4.57, 8.6.57, 16.8.57, 2.9.57, 20.7.57 and 13.8.57 which were all brought to the notice of the International Commission in proper time. However, the Pathet Lao Forces do never stop from expecting that after this long political crisis and waste of time of more than 2 months, the new Royal Government prescribed over by H.H. Prince Savanva Phouma, will not delay in reopening with the former the suspended negotiations, in order to realize all the agreements reached at and to settle rapidly all the pending problems on the basis of the said agreements. Ever, specially since the outbreak of the Year and more particularly since the recent cabinet crisis, certain foreign powers and their agents who have managed the Royal troops, have tried to increase the strength of the forces in the 2 provinces of Sam Khouang and Phou Khouang and to multiply their attacks and maneuvers of provocation and calumny against the Pathet Lao Forces. I take the liberty to cite some of the concrete instances amongst many others: - On 25 June 1957, Royal troops increased the agreements of Pakha post by one mortar or 61mm and another of 120 mm. - On 6 July 1957, they brought in the province of Sam Khouang from the province of Xieng Khouang a good deal of arms of all sorts and caliber sent from Phou Khouang Sector. The transport was carried out continuously by caravan of 30 to 50 pack

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION
AND CONTROL IN LAOS

P. Vientiane /57
Dated 4th September, 57

No. PS(L)(101 (271)/57

Your Highness,

In its letter No.F.CS(7)-ICL/57 dated 16.7.57, the International Commission forwarded to you a copy of its resolution of July 15 concerning the relations between the Royal Laotian Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. The Commission considers that the omission to send a reply to the points raised in the Resolution by the Royal Government was perhaps due to its pre-occupations with the formation of a new Government. The Commission would now, however, appreciate receiving the views of the Royal Government concerning the Commission's Resolution and early resumption of negotiations for a peaceful settlement of the problems. The International Commission being charged with the responsibility for supervision of the implementation of the Geneva Agreements, firmly believes that this method should lead to the requisite peaceful political settlement in Laos.

Attached for your information is a letter to the International Commission from the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao of August 24, commenting on the Commission's Resolution.

Accept, Highness, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Sd/-
(Dr. S.S. Ansari)
SEAL

E.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister,
Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

Encl: 1

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION
AND CONTROL IN LAOS

W. J. ...
Dated 4th September, 57

RS(L)(101) (271) 57

His Highness,

In its letter No. F. 62(7)-101/57 dated 18.7.57, the International Commission forwarded to you a copy of its resolution of July 18 concerning the relations between the Royal Lao Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. The Commission considers that the omission to send a reply to the points raised in the Resolution by the Royal Government was perhaps due to its pre-occupation with the formation of a new Government. The Commission would now, however, appreciate receiving the views of the Royal Government concerning the Commission's Resolution and early resumption of negotiations for a peaceful settlement of the problem. The International Commission being charged with the responsibility for supervision of the implementation of the Geneva Agreements, firmly believes that this method should lead to the requisite peaceful political settlement in Laos.

Attached for your information is a letter to the International Commission from the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao of 18.7.57, commenting on the Commission's Resolution. Accept, Highness, the renewed assurances of my highest

26/-
(Dr. S. S. Anant)
SEAL

Minister
Government of Laos

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Vientiane, le 17 Septembre 1957

Le Président du Conseil des Ministres

EXCELLENCE,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre PS(L)101-

(271)-57 du 4 Septembre 1957 par laquelle vous avez bien voulu manifester votre désir de connaître les vues du Gouvernement Royal sur la résolution du 15 Juillet de la C.I.S.C. au Laos. A cette lettre étaient joints des commentaires des U.C.P.L. sur cette même résolution.

La résolution du 15 Juillet de la C.I.S.C. au Laos recommande aux deux parties de rechercher les moyens propres à appliquer intégralement les accords déjà signés et met en garde les parties contre une reprise des hostilités.

Le Gouvernement Royal approuve cette résolution et se déclare prêt à en accepter les recommandations.

Comme la résolution le fait justement remarquer, l'Assemblée Nationale Lao a approuvé à l'unanimité les accords et déclarations communes signés par le Gouvernement Royal et les UCPL. Il ne saurait donc être question de revenir sur un point quelconque de ces accords que le Gouvernement est fermement décidé à appliquer. La politique de mon Gouvernement a été clairement définie dans mon discours d'investiture devant la chambre le 9-8-57.

Le Gouvernement Royal a déjà désigné les membres de la commission chargée de faire appliquer les accords et de négocier les points encore en litige.

Il me paraît utile de commenter brièvement la lettre 112/PL du 14 Août 1957, adressée par les U.C.F.L. à la C.I.S.C. L'affirmation des U.C.F.L. que l'Armée Royale abrite des agents de certaines puissances étrangères est toute gratuite et ne mérite pas plus ample examen. Il est regrettable de constater que les U.C.F.L. attaquent le Gouvernement

Royal sur les points où ils sont eux-mêmes gravement coupables.

Je tiens à rappeler ma lettre 96/CO-PC-MP du 12 Juillet 1957, ma lettre 139/PC-MP du 2 Septembre 1957, ma lettre 140/CO-PC-MP du 2 Septembre 1957, dans lesquelles le Gouvernement Royal citait des faits.

L'approvisionnement en matériels de guerre des U.C.P.L. a continué en dépit des résolutions de la C.I.S.C., résolutions approuvées par les UCPL comme par le Gouvernement Royal, dans les zones de Sam Neua et Phongsaly - Les régions de Nemò, Muong Liét, Sop Nao, Tay Chang, Muong Hét, Muong Pao sont des zones d'entrée des convois de ravitaillement d'armes et de munitions. Certaines de ces armes sont des armes lourdes. Ces convois constituent des violations flagrantes des accords de Genève. Comme le faisait remarquer ma lettre 62/PC-MP du 2 Mai 1957, une nouvelle répartition des équipes de contrôle serait probablement susceptible de mettre un terme à ces violations caractérisées.

En dehors des deux provinces de Sam Neua et Phongsaly, les UCPL ont continué leurs activités d'ingérence et de subversion. Ma lettre 140/CO-PC-MP du 2 Septembre 1957, faisait déjà état de ces manoeuvres. Depuis cette date, de nouvelles preuves ont permis d'établir avec certitude l'organisation clandestine UCPL dans les 10 provinces administrées par le Gouvernement Royal. Je me permets de vous signaler, à ce sujet, qu'un nommé LLO, le 25-7-57, a fait spontanément une longue déclaration au sujet de la mission qu'il avait reçue des dirigeants UCPL et de l'organisation d'une administration parallèle clandestine dans la région de Muong Phine (Savannakhet).

C'est pourquoi, à plusieurs reprises et notamment dans mon discours devant l'Assemblée Nationale le 9 Août dernier, j'ai dit que " il ne saurait être question que l'Etat, et le Gouvernement qui le représente, admettent qu'un parti, quel qu'il soit, tende à s'égaler à l'Etat, à exercer, sur le même plan, une action, même parallèle à la sienne; qu'une autorité autre que celle représentée par les agents de l'Etat ait dans la vie du Pays une autorité ou une action quelconque à l'égard des citoyens. La souveraineté de l'Etat n'est susceptible

ni de partage ni de délégation. Aucun parti ne peut, en dehors de sa représentation au Parlement, interférer à un titre quelconque dans la vie de la Nation."

Je me permets de joindre à cette lettre la photocopie d'un document authentique d'origine UCPL document illustrant pleinement les violations des accords signés.

Il n'est pas dans mon intention d'engager une polémique avec les UCPL, mais il est de mon devoir d'attirer l'attention de la C.I.S.G. sur la nécessité de recommander aux UCPL d'arrêter leur provocations.

Le Gouvernement Royal est prêt à appliquer intégralement les accords signés. Les négociations peuvent être reprises immédiatement. Je renouvelle une fois de plus la ferme volonté de mon Gouvernement d'arriver à la solution du règlement politique recherché depuis 1954. Aucun effort ne sera épargné de mon côté à cette fin.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, EXCELLENCE, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Prince SOUVANNAPHOUM
(Chao Irom Mana)

SON EXCELLENCE L'AMBASSADEUR
Président de la Commission Internationale de
Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos

à

VIENTIANE

et de perlage ni de délégués. Aucun parti ne peut se débiter de sa
représentation au Parlement, interdire à un titre quelconque dans la
vie de la Nation."

Je me permets de joindre à cette lettre le prospectus d'un
document authentique d'origine UGPI document illustrant pleinement les
violations des accords signés.

Il n'est pas dans mon intention d'engager une polémique avec
les UGPI, mais il est de mon devoir d'attirer l'attention de la C.I.S.G.
sur la nécessité de recommander aux Hautes d'arrêter leur provocations.
Le Gouvernement Royal est prêt à appliquer intégralement les
accords signés. Les négociations peuvent être reprises immédiatement.
Je renouvelle une fois de plus la forme voient de mon Gouvernement
d'arriver à la solution du règlement politique recherché depuis 1954.
Aucun effort ne sera épargné de mon côté à cette fin.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Président du Comité National
(Chao from Maa)

SON EXCELLENCE L'AMBASSADEUR
Président de la Commission
Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos

VIENTIANE

Unofficial English Translation

Letter No. 155/PG-MP dt. 17 Sep. 57

From : The Prime Minister of the Royal Laotian Government

To : The Chairman of the ICSC in Laos

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. PS(L)101(272)/57 of 4 Sep. 57 by which you have kindly expressed your wish to know the views of the Royal Government on the resolution of the ICSC in Laos of 15 July 1957. The comments of the F.U.P.L. on the same resolution were attached to that letter.

The resolution of the ICSC in Laos of the 15th July recommends to the two parties to seek appropriate means for the full implementation of the agreements already signed and warns the parties against a resumption of hostilities.

The Royal Government approves this resolution and declares itself ready to accept the recommendations contained therein.

As the resolution rightly points out, the Laotian National Assembly unanimously approved the agreements and joint declarations signed by the Royal Government and the FUPL. It would therefore be quite out of the question to go back on any point of these agreements which the Government is firmly resolved to implement. The policy of my Government was clearly defined in my speech of investiture before the house on 9 Aug. 1957.

The Royal Government has already appointed the members of the Commission entrusted with the implementation of the agreements and the negotiations on the points still in dispute.

It appears to me necessary to comment briefly on the letter No. 312/PL of 14 August 57 addressed by the F.U.P.L. to the ICSC. The assertion that the Royal Army shelters agents of certain foreign powers is completely unfounded and does not deserve any consideration. The allegation could be turned down. It is regrettable to note that the F.U.P.L. are attacking the Royal Government on the points in which they themselves seriously guilty.

I wish to recall my letters No. 96/CO-PC-MP of 2 July 57, No.139/PC-MP of 2 Sept. 57 and No. 140/CO-PC-MP of 2 Sept.57, in which the Royal Government had quoted the facts.

The stocking of war material by the F.U.P.L. has continued, inspite of the resolutions of the ICSC, resolutions approved by the F.U.P.L. as well as by the Royal Government, in the zones of Sam Neua and Phongsaly - The areas of Nam Co., Muon Liet, Sop Nao, Tay Chang, Muong Het, Muong Pao are entry zones for arms and ammunition supply convoys. Some of these are heavy weapons. These convoys constitute flagrant violations.

Outside the two provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly, the FUPL have continued their activities of interference and subversion. My letter No. 140/CO-PC-MP of 2 Sept. 57 has already exposed these manoeuvres. Since the new proofs have enabled to establish with certainty the underground organization of the FUPL in the 10 provinces governed by the Royal Government. Regarding this, I take the liberty to report to you that a person called A LAO has made spontaneously on 25 July 1957, a long statement regarding the mission entrusted to him by the FUPL leaders and the organization of a parallel underground administration in the area of Muong Phine (Savannakhet).

Therefore, I have said repeatedly and in particular in my speech before the National Assembly on 9 August last that 'the State and the Government which represents it, cannot allow a party, whatever it may be, to attempt to identify itself with the State and to operate parallely on the same level as the State itself: that an authority other than the one represented by the executive agents cannot exercise any power or action on the life of the country and towards the citizens. The sovereignty of the State cannot be divided or delegated. No party, besides its representation in the Parliament can in any way interfere in the life of the Nation.

I take the liberty to attach to this letter a photostat copy of an authentic document originating from the FUPL, document

which illustrates fully the violations of the signed agreement.

It is not my intention to indulge in a polemic with the FUPL, but it is my duty to draw the attention of the ICSC to the necessity of recommending to the FUPL to stop their provocations.

The Royal Government is ready to implement fully the agreements signed. The negotiations can be resumed immediately. I renew once again the firm will of my Government to arrive at the solution of the political settlement sought since 1934, No effort will be spared from my side towards this end.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Excellency, the assurance of my high consideration".

which illustrates fully the violations of the signed agreement.

It is not my intention to indulge in a polemic with the

FUPP, but it is my duty to draw the attention of the ICSC to the

necessity of recommending to the FUPP to stop their provocations.

The Royal Government is ready to implement fully the

agreements signed. The negotiations can be resumed immediately. I

know once again the firm will of my Government to arrive at the

resolution of the political settlement sought since 1954. No effort

will be spared from my side towards this end.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you,

Excellency, the assurance of my high consideration."

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

U R G E N T

Vientiane, le 30 Juillet 1957

N° 116/PC-MP

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance de Votre Excellence que l'effectif des Forces de Police et de l'armée Lao à Vientiane n'est pas suffisant, en ce moment, pour assurer tous les services de sécurité dont la situation exige la mise en place.

Dans ces conditions, je serais vivement obligé à Votre Excellence de bien vouloir faire assurer par le Détachement des Forces Indiennes de la C.I.C. concurremment avec la Police la sécurité de la Délégation Pathet-Lao, installée à Nampassak.

Si nécessaire, l'armement et les munitions correspondantes pourraient être fournis par l'Etat Major Général des Forces Armées.

Je saisis cette occasion de renouveler à Votre Excellence les assurances de ma haute considération.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA
(Chao Krom Mana)

SON EXCELLENCE MONSIEUR LE
PRESIDENT DE LA COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE
DE SURVEILLANCE ET DE CONTROLE AU LAOS

EN VILLE

TRANSLATION

Letter from the Prime Minister, Royal Government of Laos,

Vientiane,
The 30th July, 1957.

No. 116/PCMP

Mr. President,

I have the honour to bring to your kind notice that the strength of the Police Forces and the Lao Army at Vientiane is not sufficient at present to ensure all security services which the situation is in need of.

In the circumstances, I would be much obliged to Your Excellency if the security of the P.L. Delegation installed at Nampassak could be assured by the detachment of Indian Forces of the I.C.S.C. in concurrence with the Police.

If necessary, armaments and munitions could be supplied by the Headquarters of the Armed Forces.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my high consideration.

Sd. Prince Souvanna Phouma

His Excellency the Chairman,
International Commission for
Supervision and Control in Laos,
Vientiane .

TRANSLATION

Letter from the Prime Minister, Royal Government of Laos,

Vientiane,
The 30th July, 1957.

No. 118/PGMP

Mr. President,

I have the honour to bring to your kind notice that the strength of the Police Force and the Lao Army at Vientiane is not sufficient at present to ensure all security services which the situation is in need of.

In the circumstances, I would be much obliged to Your Excellency if the security of the P.L. Delegation installed at Nampasak could be assured by the detachment of Indian Forces of the I.C.S.C. in concurrence with the Police. If necessary, armaments and munitions could be

supplied by the Headquarters of the Armed Forces.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your

Excellency the assurances of my high consideration.

3d. Prince Sovanna Phouma

His Excellency the Chairman,
International Commission for
Supervision and Control in Laos,
Vientiane.

No. PS(L)(101)(242)57

Vientiane,
31st July, 1957.

Your Highness,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 116/PC/PM dated 30 July, 1957 and to refer to our conversation of yesterday evening.

I have discussed the subject with my colleagues and as a result of this discussion it has been decided that the Commission will render the following help and assistance to the Royal Laotian Government in assuring the security of the Pathet Lao delegation at Vientiane.

We will place at your Government's disposal a detachment of the Indian Security Guard of the International Commission for Supervision & Control, Laos, for assistance to the Police in assuring the security of the Pathet Lao delegation. But it is known to your Highness that our resources in this regard are limited and we will be able to provide only fifteen men per twentyfour hours for a limited period of two weeks, after which the whole subject may be reconsidered.

In rendering this assistance the Commission would like to make it explicit that the Commission does not assume any legal responsibility for ensuring the security of the Pathet Lao delegation, which, according to agreements reached between the Parties, remains the duty and responsibility of the Royal Laotian Government.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Highness the assurances of my highest consideration and to express the hope that these measures will help in bringing about an early settlement of problems in Laos.

Sd/- S.S. Ansari
Chairman

H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister,
Royal Government of Laos, Vientiane.

Vientiane,
31st July, 1957.

PS(L) (101) (242) BV

Your Highness,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter
dated 30 July, 1957 and to refer to our conversation
yesterday evening.

I have discussed the subject with my colleagues and as
a result of this discussion it has been decided that the Commission
will render the following help and assistance to the Royal Laotian
Government in assuring the security of the Pathet Lao delegation
in Vientiane.

We will place at your Government's disposal a detach-
ment of the Indian Security Guard of the International Commission
for Supervision & Control, Laos, for assistance to the Police
in assuring the security of the Pathet Lao delegation. But it is
to be noted that our resources in this regard are
limited and we will be able to provide only fifteen men per
month for a limited period of two weeks, after which
the whole subject may be reconsidered.

In rendering this assistance the Commission would like
to make it explicit that the Commission does not assume any legal
responsibility for ensuring the security of the Pathet Lao dele-
gation, which, according to agreements reached between the Parties,
remains the duty and responsibility of the Royal Laotian Govern-

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your
Highness the assurances of my highest consideration and to express
the hope that these measures will help in bringing about an early
settlement of problems in Laos.

Sd/- S.S. Anant
Chairman

His Highness the Prime Minister,
Royal Government of Laos

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Vientiane, le 1er Août 1957

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

N° 117/CO/PC-MP

Le Premier Ministre

ALTESSE,

Lors de notre entretien du 29 courant, prenant en considération la situation politique actuelle, notamment dans la ville de VIENTIANE, je vous ai demandé de bien vouloir regagner provisoirement SIANNEUA avec la Délégation des U.C.P.L.. Cette demande ne reposait que sur le souci que cause au Gouvernement Royal, durant la crise ministérielle actuelle, la nécessité d'assurer la sécurité de votre Délégation. Par ailleurs je me permets d'insister à nouveau sur le caractère provisoire que revêtirait^{la} mesure envisagée, laquelle ne doit en aucune manière être interprétée comme un changement d'orientation dans la politique suivie jusqu'ici par le Gouvernement Royal ou dans les dispositions de celui-ci à l'égard de la Délégation des U.C.P.L.

En dépit de ces explications, vous avez bien voulu me faire connaître qu'il ne vous était pas possible de prendre en considération la demande du Gouvernement Royal et que vous estimiez devoir rester à Vientiane avec votre Délégation.

Dans ces conditions, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que, compte tenu des moyens insuffisants dont disposent la Police Nationale et les Forces Armées, le Gouvernement Royal ne saurait être taxé de négligence dans le cas où viendraient à se produire des incidents mettant en question la sécurité de la Délégation des U.C.P.L.. Je suis par ailleurs intervenu auprès de Son Excellence le Président de la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos pour que cet organisme prenne en charge, concurremment avec la Police Nationale, la sécurité de votre Délégation.

En vous demandant de bien vouloir accuser réception de la présente lettre, je vous prie d'agréer, Altesse, les assurances de ma haute considération./.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Cheo Krom Mana)

Son Altesse
le Prince SOUVANNA VONG, Chef de
la Délégation des U.C.P.L.
EN VILLE.

(Letter No.117/CO/PC/M, dt. 1.8.57 from the RLG,
P.M. to H.H. Prince Souphanouvong), Copy to
Chairman, I.C.S.C. in Laos.

Your Highness,

At the time of our talks of the 29th instant, taking into consideration the present political situation particularly in the town of Vientiane, I requested you to go back temporarily to Sam Neua with the FUPL delegation. This request was only based on the anxiety caused by the necessity of ensuring the security of your Delegation during the present ministerial crisis. Further I take the liberty of again insisting on the temporary nature of the measure envisaged and which must not in any way be interpreted as a change in orientation in the policy followed till now by the Royal Government or in the dispositions of the latter in regard to the FUPL Delegation.

Despite these explanations you have let me know that it was not possible for you to take the request of the Royal Government into consideration and that you consider that you must remain in Vientiane.

Under these conditions I have the honour to inform you that in view of the insufficient means at the disposal of the National Police and the Armed Forces the Royal Government cannot be taxed with negligence in the event of any incidents taking place as to threaten the security of the FUPL delegation. I have also intervened with H.E. the Chairman of the ICSC in Laos in order that this body takes charge of the security of your Delegation side by side with the National Police.

While requesting you to be kind enough to acknowledge receipt of the present letter I beg your Highness to accept the assurances of my high consideration.

Letter No. 117/GO/PC/M. dt. 1.8.57 from the RIG,
P.M. to H.H. Prince Sombhansuvar, Copy to
Chairman, I.C.S.C. in Luck.

At the time of our talks of the 29th instant, taking into
account the present political situation particularly in the form of
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intention. This request was only based on the anxiety caused by the
of ensuring the security of your Delegation during the present
crisis. Further I take the liberty of again insisting on the
nature of the measure envisaged and which must not in any way
be treated as a change in the policy followed till now
Royal Government or in the disposition of the latter in regard
to the Delegation.
Despite these explanations you have let me know that it was not
for you to take the request of the Royal Government into con-
sideration and that you consider that you must remain in Vietnam.
Under these conditions I have the honour to inform you that in view
of the situation means at the disposal of the National Police and
of forces the Royal Government cannot be taken with negligence in
the event of any incidents taking place as to threaten the security of the
Delegation. I have also intervened with H.E. the Chairman of the
in order that this body takes charge of the security of your
Delegation by side with the National Police.
While requesting you to be kind enough to acknowledge receipt
of this letter I beg your Highness to accept the assurances of my
highest regards.

Vientiane, le 5 Août 1957

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Représentant des Forces Pathet-Lao

à S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, Premier Ministre, Président du
Conseil des Ministres du Gouvernement Royal Laoà Vientiane(En communication à la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et
de Contrôle d'Armistice au Laosà VIENTIANE)

Mtesse,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre No.117/CO/PC/MF en date du 1er Août 1957 et de porter à votre haute connaissance la joie que j'éprouve en apprenant que le Gouvernement Royal n'a pas eu l'intention de changer sa politique à l'égard des Forces Pathet-Lao. En se basant sur les accords intervenus entre les deux parties, tout le monde se permet de prévoir et d'espérer la solution du problème entre les Lao dans un plus bref délai, laquelle est notre aspiration commune et l'aspiration la plus ardente et constante du peuple Lao.

Mais, je ne puis m'empêcher de me demander pourquoi le Gouvernement Royal, étant habilité par la constitution à assurer la sécurité à tous les citoyens Lao et ayant en main les Forces de l'Armée et de la Police, ne peut pas assurer la sécurité à la petite Délégation des Forces Pathet-Lao, étant donné que cette tâche particulière du Gouvernement Royal provient de l'exécution de l'accord du 10-3-1955 signé par les deux parties à la Plaine des Jarres et des autres documents tels que le Télégramme de Votre Altesse en date du 25 Juillet 1957 et les lettres N° 266/PC/MF en date du 14 septembre 1956 et N°293/CO/PC/MF en date du 24 Octobre 1956 et conjointement des Accords de Genève qui forment le document de base important. Ma surprise devient encore bien grande quand j'apprends que la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle d'Armistice sur votre demande, a accepté immédiatement d'assurer notre sécurité.

En outre, un tel geste du Gouvernement Royal non seulement sera mal compris par le population Lao, mais encore il suscitera des réactions

peu désirables dans la Commission Internationale ainsi que dans le milieu diplomatique, ce qui portera atteinte à la dignité et au prestige du Gouvernement Royal.

Dans l'espoir que Votre Altesse prendra en considération le contenu de cette lettre, je prie Votre Altesse d'agréer l'assurance de mes sentiments les plus distingués.

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG

Letter No. nil, dt. 5.8.57 from H.E. Prince Souphanouvong
to H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma) Copy to Chairman,
ICSC in Laos.

Highness,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 117/CO/PC/MP, of 1st August 57, and to apprise you of my joy to learn that the Royal Government has no intention of changing its policy in regard to the Pathet Lao. Taking into consideration the agreements already concluded we can thus conjecture the best hopes of seeing the Laotian problem settled very soon - which is our common object and will not cease to be the most ardent desire of the Lao people.

Nevertheless I cannot help being surprised that the Royal Government on whom the duty of ensuring the security of every citizen of the kingdom devolves and which disposes Armed and Police Forces is allegedly not in a position to guarantee the security to the small Pathet Lao Delegation - much more so when it is an obligation of the Royal Government resulting from the agreement signed on 10.3.1955 at 'Plaine des Jarres' and several correspondence such as your telegram dt. 25.7.1956 and your letters No.266/PC/MP, dt. 14.9.56, and No.293/CO/PC/MP, dt. 24.10.56, as well as the essential documents which the Geneva agreements constitute. My surprise is all the greater that the ICSC whose assistance you have asked for has immediately given its consent.

In addition such an act of the Royal Government if committed could not only be badly understood by Lao people but also evoke an unfavourable impression within the International Commission as in the diplomatic circles thus bringing the prestige of the Royal Government into disrepute.

In the hope that you would be kind enough to take the contents of this letter into consideration, I request Your Highness to accept the assurance of my deeply distinguished sentiments.

DISCOURS D'INVESTITURE de S.A. le PRINCE SOUVANNA PHOUMA,
DEVANT L'ASSEMBLEE NATIONALE, le 8 Août 1957.

MONSIEUR le PRESIDENT,
MESSIEURS les DEPUTES,

Je ne sais si je dois me réjouir ou me plaindre de devoir encore aujourd'hui m'adresser à vous par ce discours d'investiture. Si les charges du pouvoir constituent en effet le plus grand honneur qui puisse échoir au citoyen d'un pays libre, il arrive aussi qu'au bout d'un certain temps elles pèsent bien lourdement sur les épaules de qui les assure. Ayant depuis plusieurs années, de par le mandat de cette Assemblée, assumé les plus graves responsabilités, en temps de guerre comme depuis l'Armistice de Genève, je crois pouvoir me permettre d'avouer devant vous que j'aurais avec joie et sans aucun dépit passé à d'autres mains le barde de notre pirogue gouvernementale. Mais il est des moments dans la vie des Peuples, où pour chaque citoyen, retraite volontaire signifie trahison, où l'on n'a pas le droit de se soustraire à ses obligations, où il faut faire abstraction des aspirations personnelles et accepter de prendre part au travail commun.

N'eussé-je pas éprouvé ces scrupules qu'un sentiment qui nous est commun m'eût néanmoins décidé à accepter cette lourde mission et encouragé à la mener à bien : la déférence envers notre Vénéré Souverain et notre indéfectible attachement à Son Auguste Personne. Puisse notre Roi Bien-Aimé, en butte aux souffrances de Ses vieux jours, avoir la haute satisfaction et le légitime réconfort de voir derrière lui un Royaume calme et paisible, un peuple gouverné avec sagesse par des hommes de bonne volonté, uniquement soucieux d'union, de liberté, de justice et de progrès. Je suis convaincu que l'Assemblée Nationale et le Pays tout entier s'associent unanimement à ce voeu ainsi qu'à ceux que je formule ardemment pour le rétablissement de la Précieuse Santé de notre Souverain Bien-Aimé et la saine continuation de Son Règne.

Monsieur le Président,

Messieurs les Députés,

Ouverte le 29 Mai dernier par les votes de cette Assemblée et le démission consécutive du Gouvernement, la crise ministérielle que nous traversons dure depuis deux mois. C'est le plus longue vacance de l'exécutif que nous ayons connue depuis notre accession à l'indépendance, cependant que restent en suspens des problèmes de la plus grave portée pour l'avenir du pays.

Trois tentatives ont déjà été faites pour constituer un nouveau Cabinet : deux par S.E. KATY D. SASORITH, une par S.E. Bong SOUVANNVONG. Quels que soient la valeur et les mérites de ces personnalités, quels qu'efforts de conciliation qu'elles aient déployés, ces trois tentatives n'ont pas abouti.

Cette situation ne se prolongerait pas sans que de réels dangers ne viennent menacer le pays. Nous nous devons tous d'y mettre un terme : la population le demande et notre prestige à l'extérieur l'exige impérativement.

C'est dans ce double souci, sous le signe de l'urgence et de l'intérêt supérieur du pays, que j'ai pu constituer, pour le présenter à votre investiture, le Gouvernement que voici :

COMPOSITION du CABINET

- Premier Ministre, Président du Conseil des Ministres, Ministre de la Défense Nationale et des Anciens Combattants et de l'Information.

S.E. TILO SOUVANNA PHOUM

- Ministre de l'Intérieur, de l'Economie Nationale et de la Prévoyance Sociale

S.E. KATY D. SASORITH

- Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, des Travaux Publics, de la Reconstruction et de l'Urbanisme.

S.E. Phouf SILNANIKONE

- Ministre des Finances, du Plan, de la Justice et des Cultes.

S.E. Louang INSISILNOMLY

- Ministre de l'Education Nationale et des Sports et Jeunesse.

S.E. Nhouy ABHAY

Ministre de la Santé Publique et des T.T. et Télécommunications.

S.E. le Dr. Oudom SOUVANNVONG.

Fidèle à la politique qui a toujours été la mienne, j'aurais vivement désiré vous présenter un Gouvernement de large Union Nationale. Je n'ai épargné aucun effort pour aboutir à ce résultat car j'ai la conviction que, dans la situation actuelle de notre Pays, l'Union de tous les Laos est plus que jamais nécessaire. Les problèmes que nous avons à affronter s'appliquent au pays tout entier, dans son présent comme dans son avenir. Deux d'entre eux au moins - le problème des U.C.P.L. et le redressement économique et social - conditionnent l'existence même de notre Patrie en tant qu'Etat indépendant et souverain.

Le devoir est donc d'entreprendre tous ensemble la recherche des solutions. Nos divisions risqueraient d'apparaître d'autant plus regrettables que, dans le fond, nous considérons ces problèmes avec les mêmes yeux. Nul d'entre nous ne nourrit le dessein de vendre son pays aux étrangers, d'où qu'ils viennent; nul ne veut sacrifier notre antique civilisation, notre religion, nos coutumes, nos institutions sur les Autels de l'Est ou de l'Ouest.

C'est en raison de cette unanimité que je n'ai épargné aucun effort de conciliation pour que notre pays, qui doit et veut rester uni, soit dirigé par un Gouvernement d'Union.

Voilà pourquoi je déplore profondément que, pour des raisons qu'il ne me paraît pas nécessaire d'exposer à cette Tribune, le Groupe SANTIPIHAB n'ait pas cru devoir accepter de participer au Cabinet que voici. J'ai dû finalement adopter une autre formule, car il faut mettre rapidement un terme à cette crise, car il faut que le pays soit gouverné. J'ai fait appel aux Chefs des deux principaux partis, le parti nationaliste et le parti des indépendants, aux côtés desquels se trouveront, en même temps S.E. LEUAN INSISIENGMAI, Député non inscrit, quelques personnalités choisies hors du Parlement pour leur qualification et leur expérience des affaires du pays.

Je remercie très sincèrement tous ceux qui m'ont apporté leur concours loyal et je suis convaincu qu'un tel Gouvernement, malgré le nombre restreint de ses Ministres, saura oeuvrer au mieux des intérêts supérieurs du pays.

x

x

x

J'aborde maintenant l'exposé du programme gouvernemental. Je traiterai d'abord du problème des U.C.F.L., ensuite de quelques autres problèmes qui se posent dans les différents domaines de l'activité nationale.

LE PROBLEME DES U.C.F.L.

Si les précédentes tentatives de constituer un nouveau Cabinet n'ont pu aboutir, elles ont eu au moins le mérite de faire ressortir les diverses tendances qui existent dans le pays et dans cette Assemblée en ce qui concerne le règlement du problème des U.C.F.L. Il semble donc qu'il soit devenu plus facile de faire le point de cette question.

Sur plusieurs aspects de cet irritant problème, je crois que nous sommes tous d'accord :

- 1°) Le rétablissement de l'unité lao par le règlement du problème des U.C.F.L. reste l'Impératif National N° 1.
- 2°) Ce règlement doit être recherché d'une manière pacifique par la réconciliation de tous les Lao.
- 3°) Ce règlement doit s'effectuer dans le respect intégral de la Constitution et de la souveraineté indivisible du Gouvernement Royal.
- 4°) Il doit par conséquent s'accompagner du rétablissement immédiat de l'administration Royale dans les provinces de Phongsaly et de Samneua et de l'intégration immédiate des U.C.F.L. dans l'Armée Royale, après triage par une Commission Mixte.
- 5°) Après leur intégration dans la communauté nationale, les anciens membres des U.C.F.L. auront la pleine jouissance des droits et libertés des Citoyens lao, sans représailles et sans discrimination.

Sur ces cinq points, que je qualifierais volontiers de fondamentaux, notre accord est constaté principalement par les trois documents suivants que vous avez tous présents à la mémoire et auxquels je vous prie de bien vouloir, si nécessaire, vous reporter :

- Ma déclaration devant l'Assemblée en date du 27 Mai 1957,
- Discours d'investiture de S.E. MATAY D. SANSORITH le 19 Juin,
- Discours d'investiture de S.E. BONG SOUVANNAVONG le 4 Juillet 1957.

Quant à l'Assemblée, je crois que je puis considérer qu'elle s'est elle-même favorablement prononcée sur ces points puisque, par son premier vote du 27 Mai dernier, elle a approuvé à l'unanimité les Accords passés avec les Dirigeants des U.C.F.L., accords dont ces cinq points principaux constituent précisément l'ossature.

J'aurais tout dit enfin sur ces bases fondamentales de notre accord si j'ajoute - ce que nul d'entre vous n'ignore - que ces principes reçoivent l'adhésion presque unanime de nos populations, impatientes de voir se lever, après tant d'années d'épreuves, l'aube de la réconciliation lao.

Malheureusement, dès avant l'ouverture de cette crise, des malentendus sont apparus entre nous. Ces malentendus ne portent pas sur les principes des Accords; ils ne concernent que les modalités de leur application.

Je dois à l'Assemblée et au pays d'expliquer ma position avec une entière franchise, car je ne cherche pas un scrutin de complaisance: je ne vois d'issue à la situation actuelle que dans l'application stricte et loyale des accords intervenus. Notamment nous devons appliquer l'Accord du 28 Décembre dès que les modalités de détail de l'intégration des U.C.F.L. auront été définies.

Mais cette application stricte et loyale que nous nous imposons, nous l'exigerons aussi de nos partenaires. Il est bien entendu que l'application de l'Accord du 28 Décembre entraînera la disparition concomitante "de fait" et "de droit" de tous les organismes administratifs et militaires des U.C.F.L.

Par la suite, nous veillerons de très près à ce que le parti éventuellement issu des ex-U.C.F.L. ne s'organise et n'agisse que selon la stricte légalité. Je le disais le 27 Mai et je le répète aujourd'hui avec une entière conviction: "Il ne saurait être question que l'Etat, et le Gouvernement qui le représente, admettent qu'un parti, quel qu'il soit, tende à s'égalier à l'Etat, à exercer, sur le même plan, une action, même parallèle à la sienne; qu'une autorité autre que celle représentée par les agents de l'exécutif ait dans la vie du pays une autorité ou une action quelconque à l'égard des citoyens. Le souveraineté de l'Etat n'est susceptible ni de partage ni de délégation. Aucun parti ne peut, en

dehors de sa représentation au Parlement, interférer à un titre quelconque dans la vie de la nation. Tolérer, autrement, ce serait la négation de toute idée de démocratie.

Je ne pense donc pas que la moindre confusion puisse régner en ce qui concerne la ligne politique du Gouvernement que voici en matière de règlement du Problème des U.C.F.L. : d'un côté, une ardente volonté d'aboutir entre Lao à la réunification et à la réconciliation nationales par l'application loyale des Accords; mais, en regard, une volonté non moins ardente de sauvegarder la souveraineté pleine et entière du Gouvernement Royal.

J'ai la conviction que cette solution de sagesse et de mesure n'est pas impossible. A tout prendre, les inconvénients et disons-même les risques qu'elle comporte sont moins graves que ne le seraient une rupture des pourparlers ou le pourrissement de l'immobilisme.

Je m'engage d'ailleurs à tenir l'Assemblée régulièrement informée de la poursuite des pourparlers. Si des difficultés de nature à compromettre le règlement de ce problème venaient à survenir, c'est en définitive cette Assemblée qui serait juge en la matière.

Nous aurions tort cependant d'envisager l'avenir avec trop de pessimisme. La prudence et la vigilance sont certes plus que jamais de rigueur, mais nous avons déjà parcouru une bonne partie de la route et je suis convaincu que nous sommes maintenant bien près de l'heure de la solution.

Il est certes difficile en pareille matière de prévoir l'avenir avec une précision rigoureuse. Je pense néanmoins qu'un délai de deux mois sera suffisant pour mettre en application l'Accord du 28 Décembre 1956, dans toutes ses clauses.

Au terme de ce délai - c'est-à-dire vers le 1er Octobre - le Gouvernement d'Union Nationale, élargi comme prévu par une représentation des U.C.F.L., devrait pouvoir être représenté à cette Assemblée. Une de ses premières tâches consisterait alors à organiser les élections complémentaires conformément à la Loi Electorale votée par le Parlement. Les élections pourraient donc avoir lieu trois mois après, fin décembre ou début janvier, entraînant la démission constitutionnelle du Gouvernement.

élargi et l'investissement par la nouvelle Assemblée d'un nouveau Cabinet.

Ainsi pourrions nous aborder l'année 1958 dans les meilleures conditions d'ordre et de stabilité, dans l'unité et la concorde retrouvées.

LES AUTRES PROBLEMES

L' ECONOMIE

Mais il n'est pas de solutions gouvernementales valables qui soient de pure essence politique. Une fois défini le cadre idéologique dans lequel s'inscrit l'action de l'exécutif, l'essentiel reste à faire, c'est-à-dire la poursuite du progrès social, culturel et économique de la nation.

Sans pour autant reprendre la terminologie à la mode, force est de constater qu'il n'est d'action fructueuse que guidée par la notion de plan et de planification.

L'action gouvernementale est, en pareille matière, déterminée par l'aide étrangère. Celle-ci nous a été précieuse pour reconstruire et entretenir, au moins en partie, l'équipement bien sommaire de notre pays. La forme revêtue pour l'aide extérieure, qui dans sa grosse masse s'applique à l'acquisition de biens de consommation, ne permet pas de donner aux investissements de l'Etat et des particuliers, le volume nécessaire et suffisant pour être efficace. Au surplus, le fait que cette aide est fonction de budgets annuels / et que jusqu'au vote des crédits, il est impossible de savoir sur quelle masse de manœuvre il est permis de compter pour établir les programmes de travaux, rend la notion de plan illusoire. Si l'on ajoute à cela que la réalisation intégrale d'une opération donnée, peut porter sur plusieurs exercices sans que chaque tranche annuelle puisse former en soi un tout exploitable, on mesurera la grandeur des obstacles accumulés sur le route du progrès.

Le Gouvernement a donc l'intention de proposer à l'Assemblée une loi-cadre dans laquelle seront définis pour une période de 5 ans les objectifs du plan, ainsi que la masse conjecturale des crédits nécessaires. Cette loi-cadre une fois votée, considérée comme l'expression de la volonté nationale, nous permettra d'intervenir utilement auprès de nos

amis pour obtenir que leur aide tienne compte des besoins réels de notre pays. Il va sans dire qu'en contre-partie, le Gouvernement prend l'engagement d'appliquer une politique d'austérité telle que la somme des crédits affectés aux investissements productifs soit augmentée de tout ce qui pourra être dégagé en réduisant au minimum vital les dépenses se rapportant à l'acquisition des biens de consommation.

Dans ses grandes lignes, le plan comportera la mise en état de l'ossature élémentaire de notre système de transport, routier, fluvial et aérien, la création de sources d'énergie utilisant les ressources locales en charbon et en houille blanche. Doté du minimum de moyens de transports et de potentiel énergétique, le Laos, exonéré de l'obligation d'importer une partie de ses carburants pourra envisager dans le même plan, la création des industries lui permettant de produire au moins ses matériaux de construction : liants et produits céramiques.

En même temps, l'accent sera mis sur l'investissement et la prospection de nos ressources minérales en vue de recherches dans l'exportation de minerais à demi traités, les devises nécessaires à l'équilibre de notre balance commerciale.

Dans le même but, et aussi pour parer à la sous-nutrition de nos zones montagneuses et à la mal-nutrition/laquelle le Laos en entier n'échappe pas plus qu'aucun des pays de l'Asie du Sud-Est, un programme de production sera élaboré, visant à élever notre production céréalière/et notre élevage au niveau de nos besoins d'abord, quitte à dégager dans un deuxième temps des surplus exportables qui trouveront un placement facile de l'autre côté de la chaîne annamitique et amélioreront d'autant notre balance des comptes.

Ce programme agricole comporte au premier chef une action générale d'hydraulique portant sur quelques régions susceptibles d'une rentabilité immédiate et, dans le même temps, un large programme de développement dans le cadre du génie et du crédit rural. Ce programme devra atteindre un ordre de grandeur de 20% de la masse générale du plan apportera toutes les populations la preuve tangible de l'intérêt que leur portent les pouvoirs publics.

Sur le plan social, un programme d'extension de l'assistance médicale et de l'instruction publique visera à augmenter le taux d'excédent des naissances sur les décès, en même temps qu'à une pression démographique accrue, correspondra l'augmentation de valeur du capital humain, mieux nourri, mieux instruit par un large emploi des méthodes d'éducation de base et la formation de cadres qualifiés.

Le phénomène de concentration urbaine se manifeste au Laos comme partout ailleurs depuis la seconde guerre mondiale : les populations venues à la ville en quête de salaires et d'un standard de vie meilleur, auront également leur part de l'attention du Gouvernement. Une des principales causes de la vie chère réside dans le coût excessif des loyers. Ceux-ci sont facteurs de la demande qui l'emporte de très loin sur les disponibilités : le programme d'aide à l'habitat conçu sous la forme d'une participation des pouvoirs publics à la construction de logements pour ses fonctionnaires et agents, sera poursuivie et l'élargissement du crédit à la construction sera mis à l'étude.

Dans le même temps, le Gouvernement se préoccupera d'assurer le plein emploi de la main d'oeuvre et de garantir les conditions du travail par une législation appropriée.

Tout ceci, Messieurs, suppose la mise en oeuvre d'une masse de moyens financiers dont le Laos ne dispose évidemment pas. Notre pays compte et doit compter plus que jamais sur l'aide extérieure.

Certains concours nous sont acquis; la conjoncture financière de la France et des U.S.A. ne permet guère d'espérer une augmentation substantielle du volume de leur aide. A nos amis nous demanderons seulement d'harmoniser les modalités d'attribution et d'emploi des crédits avec les impératifs de notre politique. C'est pour le moment la forme la plus tangible qu'ils peuvent nous donner de leur volonté d'aider notre jeune pays à construire chez lui la Démocratie telle que nous l'entendons, c'est-à-dire, avec le respect absolu des libertés individuelles, collectives et nationales.

Appuyés sur ces principes qui sont les garants les plus sûrs de la sincérité de nos intentions, nous considérerons comme la bienvenue toute offre d'aide extérieure d'où qu'elle vienne, sous la seule réserve que ses modalités d'attribution et d'emploi ne soient pas incompatibles avec notre souveraineté, notre désir de paix, d'harmonie universelle, nos intérêts nationaux, et l'idée que nous nous faisons d'un Laos libre, démocratique, soucieux du maintien de sa personnalité et de son plein épanouissement.

L' ARMÉE

Au cours des récents débats de cette Assemblée, le problème de l'organisation de la Défense Nationale a été assez fréquemment évoqué. Tout en rendant hommage aux efforts et au courage de nos Cadres et de nos Soldats, les orateurs ^{ont} généralement estimé que notre Armée, dans sa forme actuelle, n'est pas suffisamment adaptée à sa mission ainsi qu'aux ressources du pays. Ces critiques partiellement justifiées sont un peu hâtives. La réduction des effectifs militaires ne pourra être envisagée que lorsque le problème politique des U.C.P.L. aura trouvé sa solution. Je vois là une raison de plus de lever rapidement cette lourde hypothèque. Mais ceci ne dépend pas de nos Soldats.

Néanmoins, le Gouvernement ne manquera pas d'étudier, pour être prêt à l'appliquer dès que possible, une réorganisation de la Défense Nationale basée sur la création et le développement des Forces d'Auto-Défense, appelées à faire le relèvement d'une partie de l'Armée Régulière et réparties en surface sur tout le territoire du Royaume. Nous aboutirons ainsi à un allègement de l'Armée Régulière, à une réduction des charges militaires et à une interpénétration plus étroite de la Nation et de son Armée. Les textes concernant cette importante réorganisation sont déjà en cours d'élaboration; leur application permettra de ramener l'Armée "sur le pied de paix", dès que possible, tout en maintenant en place un dispositif propre à assurer au mieux la défense du pays. En attendant, fidèles à leur tradition de discipline et de vaillance, nos Troupes, telles qu'elles existent veilleront sans défaillance à défendre l'indépendance et l'unité de la Patrie.

POLITIQUE INTERIEUR

POLITIQUE EXTERIEURE

Dans le domaine de l'Intérieur, mon Gouvernement entend faire respecter la souveraineté de l'Etat et la légalité, condition nécessaire au fonctionnement d'une démocratie réelle. Parallèlement, nous nous efforcerons de faire revivre les communautés rurales, de les aider dans tous les domaines, de rapprocher enfin l'administration et la population des campagnes.

Au cours des derniers mois, les Services ont pris plus nettement conscience de l'importance de ces problèmes et nous avons constaté l'éclosion de nombreux projets de développement rural.

Je mentionnerai notamment le Commissariat de l'Action Civique qui s'organise rapidement et qui a notamment pour but d'aider la population à améliorer son niveau de vie avec la participation des habitants.

Pour éviter l'anarchie et la dispersion des efforts, il est nécessaire de coordonner les activités et les bonnes volontés. Dans un premier temps nos efforts devront porter sur la mise en oeuvre des moyens nécessaires pour atteindre les buts fixés plus haut.

Nous devons reconsidérer d'une part, les méthodes de travail jusqu'ici pratiquées et d'autre part, notre organisation administrative, afin d'obtenir un rendement optimum, plus de rapidité et d'efficacité, une meilleure coordination, un contact aussi étendu que possible entre l'Administration et la population.

Mais les réformes apportées dans ces domaines ne vaudront que dans la mesure où nous disposerons d'un personnel apte à remplir les missions qui lui incombent : ce sont les problèmes de personnel qui, à mon sens, devront être traités en première urgence; des réformes profondes seront nécessaires en vue d'améliorer la formation professionnelle, le travail et la discipline, le dévouement à l'Etat. Je n'ignore pas la situation matérielle difficile qui est celle de la plupart des fonctionnaires : je ne veux pas faire ici de promesse inconsidérée, mais je puis dire que mon Gouvernement apportera toute son attention à ce problème : s'il n'est pas possible d'augmenter dans l'immédiat les charges budgétaires, il est possible d'augmenter le pouvoir d'achat de la monnaie.

POLITIQUE EXTERIEURE

POLITIQUE INTERIEURE

Sur le plan de la politique extérieure, je n'ai rien de nouveau ni d'original à déclarer. La politique de paix et de neutralité correspond trop bien aux aspirations et aux possibilités de notre pays pour qu'il soit nécessaire d'entrer dans de longs développements à ce sujet. D'ailleurs, lors des tentatives faites précédemment pour dénouer la crise, aucune voie discordante ne s'est élevée sur ce point et les déclarations d'investiture qui ont été faites à cette tribune ont toutes montré le désir de voir fonder nos relations avec l'étranger sur le double principe du maintien de la paix dans la neutralité et du respect des 5 principes de coexistence pacifique. Ce n'est que dans ce cadre que le Laos peut espérer survivre et chercher l'épanouissement de sa prospérité. Respectueux de ses engagements, toujours prêt à s'associer aux bonnes volontés pour le maintien de la paix dans le monde, mais en même temps décidé à préserver son entière indépendance, mon Gouvernement s'efforcera en toutes circonstances d'entretenir des relations de bon voisinage avec tous ses voisins, de maintenir ses amitiés traditionnelles et l'élargir sans cesse en les améliorant ses rapports avec les pays étrangers.

Monsieur le Président,

Messieurs les Députés,

Tel est le programme d'ensemble que le Gouvernement que je présente s'efforcera d'appliquer si l'Assemblée veut bien m'honorer de son investiture. Bien d'autres problèmes se posent, hélas, à notre pays. Je ne veux pas abuser de l'attention de l'Assemblée et je ne pense pas qu'il soit nécessaire d'en faire un exposé verbal. Je vous prie de bien vouloir vous reporter, si vous l'estimez utile, à la Fiche Annexe qui vous a été distribuée au début de ces débats.

Je crois que ce programme gouvernemental répond aux nécessités de l'heure qu'aux aspirations profondes du peuple Lao. Sans vouloir en aucune manière forcer les suffrages de l'Assemblée, j'estime

devoir appeler encore son attention, comme je le faisais au début de ce discours, sur les graves conséquences que pourrait avoir la continuation de la crise actuelle tant sur le plan interne que sur le plan externe. C'est en définitive à l'Assemblée de faire la preuve que le Laos, pleinement souverain, est à même de s'avancer, libre et uni, vers un destin de prospérité, dans la concorde et dans la paix.

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INVESTITURE SPEECH MADE BY PRINCE
SOUVANNA PHOUMA BEFORE THE NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY ON 8th AUGUST '57.

Mr. President and Deputies :

I do not know if I should be glad or complain for having to address you today by means of this speech. If the responsibilities of power constitute the greatest honour which could fall on a citizen of a free country, it also happens that at the end of a certain time they weigh very heavily on the person who shoulders them. Having assumed the greatest responsibilities in several years at the behest of this assembly, in times of war as since the Geneva Arbitration, I think I can take the liberty of admitting before you that I would have passed on to other hands - with joy and without any resentment - the reigns of Government. But there are moments in the life of peoples when for each citizen voluntary retreat signifies treason, when one has not the right to withdraw from one's obligations and one must remove personal aspirations and agree to take part in the common work.

I might not have experienced these scruples had it not been for a sentiment - which is common to us - which made up my mind to accept this important mission : "The deference towards our venerated sovereign and our unshakable attachment to his august person. May our well beloved King, faced with suffering in his old age, have the great satisfaction and the legitimate comfort of seeing behind him a calm and peaceful kingdom, a people governed with wisdom by men of goodwill, solely desirous of union, liberty, justice and progress. I am convinced that the National Assembly and the country as a whole unanimously associate themselves with this wish, added to those which I have for the recovery of the precious health of our beloved sovereign and the happy continuance of his reign".

Mr. President and Deputies :

The ministerial crisis which started on 29th May last, consequent to a voting in this assembly and the subsequent resignation of the Government is lasting since two months. It is the longest vacation of the Executive that we have known since our independence though problems of the gravest importance for the future of the country remain in suspense. Three attempts have already been made to constitute a new Cabinet :

Two attempts by H.E. Katay Sasorith

One by H.E. Bong Souvannavong.

Whatever be the worth and the merits of these personalities, whatever efforts of conciliation which they might have made, these three attempts did not succeed. This situation could not prolong without real dangers threatening the country. We owe it ourselves to put an end to it - the population demands it and our prestige abroad demands it imperatively. It is in this double anxiety, urgency and in the higher interests of the country that I have been able to constitute the following Government and present it/your investiture:

H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma - Prime Minister, President of the Council of Ministers, Minister of National Defence and Ex-servicemen and Information.

H.E. Katay Don Sasorith - Minister of Interior and Social Security

H.E. Nhouy Abhay - Minister of National Education, Sports and Youth.

H.E. Oudom Souvannavong - Minister of Health, P.T.T. and Telecommunication.

H.E. Leuam Insisongmay - Minister of Finance, Planning, Justice.

H.E. Phoui Sannikone - Minister of Foreign Affairs, Public works, Reconstruction.

Faithful to the policy which has always been mine, I would have greatly desired to present to you a Government of broad national union. I have not spared any effort to arrive at this result for I have the conviction that in the present situation of our country, the union of all Laotians is more than necessary. The problems that

we have to face apply to the whole country in its present state as in its future. Two amongst them at least - viz. the problem of the FUPL and the economic and social development - condition the very existence of our country as an independent and sovereign State. Our duty therefore is to undertake to seek solutions. Our divisions would run the risk of appearing so much more regrettable since at heart we consider these problems with the same eyes. None amongst us nourishes the design of selling his country to foreigners wherever they come from; no one wants to sacrifice our old civilization, our religion, our customs, and institutions on the altars of the East or the West. It is in view of this unanimity that I have not spared any effort at conciliation so that our country which must and wants to remain united, is led by a Government of Union. That is why I deeply deplore that, for reasons which it does not appear necessary to expose before this Assembly, the Santiphab group did not think that it should agree to participate in this Cabinet. Finally I had to adopt another formula, for we must rapidly put an end to this crisis because it is necessary that the country should be governed. I appeal to the Chiefs of the two principal parties, the National Party and the Party of Independents, besides whom will be found H.E. Leuam Insisiengmay (unaffiliated Deputy) and some personalities chosen outside the Parliament for their qualification and their experience in the country's affairs.

I sincerely thank all those who gave me their loyal help and I am convinced that such a Government in spite of the restricted number of its Ministers, can work best for the higher interests of the country. I now take an expose of the governmental problem. I shall first deal with the problem of the FUPL, then with some other problems which are posed in the different fields of national activity.

(c) Investiture speech by H.E. Hong Souvannavong
19th July 1955

The problem of the FUPL:

If the previous attempts to constitute a cabinet have not succeeded, they have at least had the merit of bringing to surface the various trends which exist in the country and in this Assembly in regard to the settlement of the FUPL problem. It seems therefore that it has become easier

to understand this question. On several aspects of this irritating problem, I think we are all in agreement. That is to say:

(i) Re-establishment of the Laotian unity by the settlement of the FUPL remains the No. 1 national imperative

(ii) This settlement must be sought in a peaceful manner by means of reconciliation of all Laotians.

(iii) This settlement must be effected under conditions of full respect for the constitution and the indivisible sovereignty of the Royal Government.

(iv) Consequently it must be accompanied by the immediate re-establishment of Royal administration in the provinces of Phongsaly and Sam Neua, on the immediate integration of the FUPL in the Royal Army, after the choosing by a Joint Commission.

(v) After their integration in the national community, the former members of the FUPL will be fully able to enjoy the rights and liberties as Laotian citizens without reprisals and without discrimination.

On these five points which I would like to call as fundamental, our agreement is principally confirmed by the three following documents which we all know and to which I would request you to refer, if necessary:-

- (a) my statement before the Assembly dated 27th May '57
- (b) investiture speech by H.E. Katay D. Sasorith dated 19th June, '57
- (c) investiture speech by H.E. Bong Souvannavong dated 4th July '57.

As regards the Assembly, I think that I can consider that it is favourably disposed on these points, in view of its first vote dated 27th May '57 when it approved unanimously the agreements concluded with the leaders of the FUPL, the agreements whose five principal points constitute the framework. I would be saying everything finally on these fundamental bases of our agreement if I add - what none amongst you ignores - that these principles receive the almost unanimous approval of all our population who are impatient to see the dawn of Laotian reconciliation after so many years of tests.

Unfortunately before this crisis started, some misunderstandings appeared amongst us. These misunderstandings are not on the principles of these agreements, they only concerned the modalities of their implementation. I owe to the Assembly and to the country to explain my position with complete frankness that I do not seek a complacent vote. The only issue I see at the present situation is in the strict and loyal implementation of the agreements concluded. Broadly, we must implement the agreement dated 28th December '56 since the modalities of detail of integration of the FUPL have been defined. But this strict and loyal implementation, which we shall impose on ourselves, is also incumbent on our partners. It is understood that the implementation of the agreement dated 28th December '56 will bring in its wake the concomittant disappearance de facto and de jure of all administrative and military organisations of the FUPL. Consequently we shall closely see to it that the party which would eventually evolve from the vex-FUPL is organised and acts only according to strict legal forms.

I said it on 27th May '57 and I repeat it today with entire conviction "there could not be any question that the State and the Government which represents it tolerate any party which attempts to equate itself to the State and acts as the former. It could also not be admitted that a party

other than that represented by the executive agents should exercise any action towards the citizens. The sovereignty of the State does not admit of any sharing or of delegation. No party can, beyond its representation in the Parliament, interfere in the life of the nation in any capacity whatever. To tolerate that it is otherwise would be the negation of the idea of democracy".

I do not therefore think that could be the least confusion in regard to the political line of the Government (as given below) in regard to the settlement of the FUPL problem:-

On one side a great desire amongst Laotians to succeed in the reunification and the national reconciliation through the loyal implementation of the agreements but also a not less ardent desire to safeguard the full and entire sovereignty of the Royal Government.

I have the conviction that this wise solution is not impossible. On the whole the inconveniences and let us even say the risks which it contains are less grave than they would be if there were to be a rupture in the talks. I pledge to keep the Assembly regularly informed of the progress of talks. If some difficulties, which are of a nature to compromise the settlement of this problem occur, it would finally be this Assembly which would be the judge in the matter. We should, however, be wrong to envisage the future with too much pessimism. Care and vigilance are, of course, more than ever the rule but we have already travelled a good part of the route and I am convinced that we are now very near a solution. It is certainly difficult in similar matters to foresee the future with rigorous precision. I nevertheless think that the period of two months will be sufficient to put into application the agreement dated 28th December '56 in all its clauses.

At the end of this period, that is to say towards the 1st October, the Government of National Union enlarged as

provided for by means of a representation of the FUGL could be presented to this Assembly. One of its first tasks would then consist in organising the supplementary elections in accordance with the electoral law voted by the Parliament. The elections could therefore take place three months later, end of December or beginning of January bringing about the constitutional resignation of the enlarged Government and the investiture of a new cabinet by the new Assembly. Thus we could face the year 1958 under the best conditions of order, stability, unity and concord.

THE OTHER PROBLEMS

Economy

But there are no valid governmental solution which are of purely political nature. Once the ideological framework under which the acting of the executive is defined the essential remains to be done that is to say the pursuit of social, cultural and economic progress of the nation. Without again taking the customary terminology it is sufficient to state that no action is fructuous except when guided by the notion of planning. The governmental action is in similar matters determined by foreign aid. The latter has been precious to us in order to re-construct and entertain at least in part the summary equipment of our country. The form taken by external aid which in its gross mass is applied to the acquisition of consumer goods, does not permit giving the necessary and sufficient volume to special and State investment in order to be effective. At the most the fact that this aid is dependent on the annual budgets and that with the voting of the credits it is impossible to know on what mass of manoeuvre is it permitted to count upon in order to establish work programmes, thus rendering the notion of planning illustring. If one adds to it what the full realisation of a given operation can produce on one or several financial years without each annual portion forming in or itself an exploitable whole, the magnitude of the obstacles accumulated on the scale of progress will be gauged.

The Government has therefore the intention of proposing to the Assembly a bill in which the objectives of the plan as well as the conjectural mass of the necessary funds will be defined for a period of 5 years. Once this bill is voted and considered as expression of national desire it will enable us to intervene usefully with our friends in order to see that their aid takes into account the real needs of our country. It goes without saying that against this the Government takes the pledge of implementing a policy of austerity, such as the credit allocated for productive investments is increased while reducing to the vital minimum the expenses in regard to the acquisition of consumer goods.

In its broad outlines the plan will take in hand the building up of an elementary bone work of our system of road, river and air transport, the creation of sources of energy while utilising the local resources in the charcoal and coal Laos which is endowed with the minimum means of the transport and energy potential and freed from the obligations of importing a part of its coal products, can envisage in the same plane the creation of industries enabling it to produce at least its building material; ceramic products etc.

At the same time the accent will be put on the inventory and the prospection of our mineral resources with a view to seeking in the export of minerals (under conditions of bilateral treaties) the necessary foreign exchange for the equilibrium of our commercial balance. With the same object and also to combat the under nutrition of our mountainous regions and the malnutrition from which Lao suffers like any other country in South East Asia, a programme of production will be elaborated, aimed at increasing our cereal production and our animal husbandry, firstly to the level of our needs and after achieving this to find exportable surpluses which will find an easy market on the other side of the annamite ranges and thereby improve our balance account.

This agricultural programme will comprise in the first place of a general hydraulic scheme affecting certain regions where this can be implemented immediately and at the same time a broad aid programme of the peasantry according to their rural credit and their particular needs. This programme which would attain an order of 30% of general mass of the plan and will bring to the population tangible proof of the interest evinced by the public services. On the social field a programme of extension of medical assistance and public instruction will aim at increasing the rate of excess of birth over death and will increase the worth of the human material - better fed, better instructed through a wide improvement of methods of basic education and training of qualified cadre.

The phenomenon of urban concentration is manifested in Laos as everywhere else since the Second World War: population have come to the town in search of jobs and better living standard and they will also have their share of the government's attention. One of the principal causes of high cost of life remains in the excessive cost of lodging. The aid programme conceived in the form of participation of public services in the construction of lodging for its officials will be continued and the enlarging of credit for construction will be studied. At the same time the government will occupy itself to ensure the full employ of labour and to guarantee conditions of work by appropriate legislation. All this, gentlemen, entails the putting into work of a mass financial means which Laos evidently does not possess. Our country counts and must count more than ever on foreign aid. We have acquired some competition: the financial juncture of France and U.S.A. scarcely enables us to hope for a substantial increase of volume of their aid. We shall only ask our friends to harmonise the modalities of attribution and employment of the credits with the imperatives of our policy. It is for the moment the most

tangible form that they can give us of their desire to help our small country to build up democracy as we understand it, that is to say under conditions of absolute respect of individual, collective and national liberties. Basing on these principles which are the surest guarantees of sincerity of our institutions, we welcome all foreign aid wherever it comes from, with the sole reservation that its modalities of attribution are not incompatible with our sovereignty, our desire for peace, universal harmony and national interests and the idea that we make ourselves into a free democratic Laos anxious for the maintenance of its personality and its full development.

Army

During the recent debates of the Assembly the problem of organisation of national defence was rather frequently mentioned. While paying homage to the efforts and the courage of our cadres and our soldiers the speakers generally consider that our army in its present form is not sufficiently adapted to its mission as well as to the resources of the country. These partially justified criticisms are a little hasty. The reduction of military strength can only be envisaged when the political problem of the FULP finds its solution. I see in it one more reason of rapidly raising this heavy mortgage but this does not depend on our soldiers.

Nevertheless the Government will not fail to be ready to implement as soon as possible the re-organisation of the national defence based on the creation and development of self-defence forces and call to relieve a part of the regular army and distribute it throughout the territory of the Kingdom. We shall thus succeed in lightening the regular army and arrive at a reduction of military expenses and a closer interpenetration between the nation and its army.

The texts regarding this important re-organisation are already in the process of elaboration. Their mission will permit the army to be put on a peace footing as soon as possible while maintaining the force sufficient to ensure the defence of the country. In the meantime faithful to their tradition of discipline and courage our troops as they exist now, will see to the defence of the independence and unity of the country.

Internal policy

External Policy

In the field of interior my Government expects to respect the sovereignty of the State and the law, conditions which are necessary for the functioning of a real democracy. Parallely we shall try to revive the rural communities to help them in all spheres and to bring the administration and the population of the countryside closer. During the last months the services have more clearly taken note of the importance of these problems and we have confirmed the appearance of several rural development projects. I shall particularly mention the Commissariat a l'Action Civique which is being rapidly organised and which has the object of aiding the population to improve its standard of life with the participation of in-habitants. To avoid anarchy in the dispersal of efforts it is necessary to coordinate the activities and good will. In the first time our efforts will have to be directed towards getting the necessary means to attain the man power. We shall have to reconsider the methods of work till now practised on one hand and on the other hand our administrative organisation with a view to obtain the optimum yield, greater rapidity and efficient, better coordination and as extensive a contact as possible between administration and the population.

But the reforms in these fields will be worth only to the extent when we have the staff which is capable of fulfilling the missions which are incumbent on it: these are the problems of personnel which in my view will have to be treated as urgent; profound reforms will be necessary with a

The texts regarding this important re-organisation are already in the process of elaboration. Their mission will be to improve the professional study, work and discipline and devotion to State, I do not ignore the difficult material position of most of the officials. I do not wish to make here in-considerate promises but I can say that my Government will focus its attention on this problem. Though it is scarcely possible to increase the budgetary expenses in the near future it is possible to increase purchasing power.

Internal Policy

External Policy

In the field of external policy I have nothing new nor original to state. The policy of peace and neutrality corresponds too well to the aspirations and the possibilities of our country for it to be necessary to enter into long developments. Further at the time of the attempts made previously to solve the crisis no discordant voice was raised on this point and the statements of investiture which were made at this Assembly have all shown the desire of seeing our relations with countries abroad founded on the double principles of maintenance of peace under conditions of neutrality and respect of the five principles of peaceful co-existence. It is only under this framework that Laos can hope to survive and build up its prosperity. Respectful of its pledges always ready to associate itself with good will for the maintenance of peace in the world but at the same time determined to preserve its full independence my Government will try in all circumstances to entertain neighbourly relations with all its neighbours to maintain its traditional friendship and to enlarge ceaselessly its relations with foreign countries.

Mr. President, Deputies, such is the overall programme which the government which I present will try to implement, if the Assembly wishes to honour me with the investiture. Although several other problems are posed in our country I do not wish to abuse the attention of the Assembly and I do not think it is necessary to make a verbal expose thereof. I request you to refer, if you consider it useful, to the annexure which has been distributed to you at the beginning of these debates.

I believe that this governmental programme responds to the necessity of the hour and to the deep aspirations of the Lao people. Without wishing in any way to force the Assembly I consider that I should again call its attention as I did in the beginning of the speech on the grave consequences which the continuation of the present crisis can have on the internal as well as on the external field. It is finally for the Assembly to give the proof that Laos, fully sovereign, is in a position to advance, free and united, towards the destiny of prosperity and under conditions of peace and concord.

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ANNEXURE 12

N° 103/PL

De : Délégation Politique des Forces Pathet Lao
A : Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle
d'Armistice au Laos
à VIENTIANE.

La Délégation Politique des Forces Pathet Lao présente ses compliments à la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle d'Armistice au Laos et a l'honneur de lui transmettre ci-joint, à titre d'information et pour suite utile, la Déclaration en date du 13 courant de S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Représentant des Forces Pathet Lao, concernant le dénouement de la crise ministérielle.

La Délégation Politique des Forces Pathet Lao saisit cette occasion pour renouveler à la Commission Internationale, l'assurance de ses sentiments les plus respectueux./.

Vientiane, le 14 Août 1957

Le Chef de la Délégation Politique
des Forces Pathet Lao

Signé : Phagna Phoumi VONGVICHIT

(Enclosure to Annexure 12).

DECLARATION de S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG,

Représentant des Forces Pathet-Lao,

concernant le dénouement de la crise ministérielle.

La crise ministérielle, ouverte fin Mai, vient d'être dénouée le 29 Août courant par l'investiture du nouveau Gouvernement de S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA.

Les Forces Pathet-Lao sont sincèrement heureuses de ce dénouement pour plusieurs raisons.

D'abord, c'est que S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA reste Président du Conseil comme dans le précédent Gouvernement lequel a sous sa direction, mené à bien les négociations, posant les bases et modalités essentielles dont l'application inaugurerait l'ère de l'unification et réconciliation nationales dans la paix.

Ensuite, c'est que le programme préconisé par le nouveau Gouvernement contient plusieurs points dont la réalisation sincère et intégrale coïncidera avec l'intérêt supérieur de la Patrie et du Peuple Lao et contribuera par conséquent à renforcer le prestige du Gouvernement Royal aussi bien dans le pays qu'à l'extérieur. Ces points concernant:

- le règlement pacifique de l'unification et de la réconciliation de tous les Lao par l'application loyale de tous les accords conclus, en particulier, du Communiqué Commun du 28 Décembre 1956;

- l'édification d'une économie nationale indépendante par l'augmentation de la production nationale et une exploitation plus efficace des ressources du pays, ainsi que par l'acceptation de l'aide extérieure de tous les pays qui seraient prêts à nous l'accorder sans poser de conditions politiques aucunes;

- l'établissement des relations de bon voisinage, l'amélioration des relations existantes et l'élargissement des relations diplomatiques avec tous les pays sans distinction, particulièrement avec ceux qui sont nos voisins immédiats.

Nous nous rendons compte plus que jamais que la réalisation d'un tel programme nécessite l'union du peuple Lao tout entier autour du Gouvernement Royal présidé par S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, d'autant plus que cette réalisation rencontrera de multiples obstacles et qu'en particulier certains points du programme comme la question de l'unification nationale pourraient susciter une sérieuse opposition au sein même du Gouvernement. En outre, il ne faut point oublier les complications dues aux manoeuvres d'ingérence de certaines puissances étrangères et de leurs agents dans le pays, comme nous en avons tous été témoins dans un passé récent, telles que par exemple :

- tentatives de provocations armées en vue de pousser notre peuple dans le précipice des tueries fratricides;
- arrestation et répression de patriotes (anciens résistants ou sympathisants du Pathet-Lao) dans les dix provinces sous contrôle royal;
- intrigues incessantes en vue de semer la discorde dans les partis politiques et d'approfondir la division dans notre peuple;
- propagation, pendant la crise politique, de rumeurs destinées à semer la panique, telles que dissolution du Parlement, modification de la Constitution, restriction des libertés civiques, coup d'Etat, etc...;
- tentatives d'isoler les Délégations du Pathet-Lao et de les forcer à quitter Vientiane en prétextant l'impossibilité d'assurer leur sécurité à Vientiane;
- intrigues provoquant la démission du précédent Gouvernement et la crise subséquente, etc...

Conscientes des difficultés et menaces existantes, les Forces Pathet-Lao sont cependant convaincues que l'union et le patriotisme du peuple Lao auront finalement raison de toutes les manoeuvres des ennemis de la paix et de l'unification nationale.

Les Forces Pathet-Lao, toujours fidèles aux intérêts supérieurs de la patrie et du peuple Lao, ont une position immuable qu'elles ont maintes fois déclarée et qui consiste à négocier pour coopérer avec le Gouvernement Royal dans un large esprit de concession réciproque et de compréhension mutuelle, sur la base des Accords de Genève et de tous les accords conclus et à appliquer rigoureusement ces accords de concert avec le Gouvernement Royal, en vue de réaliser la réconciliation et l'unification nationales et d'engager progressivement notre pays dans la voie de la paix et de la neutralité.

Les Forces Pathet-Lao font appel au peuple Lao tout entier pour s'unir étroitement et soutenir le nouveau Gouvernement Royal présidé par S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, dans la lutte contre toutes les ingérences étrangères et pour la formation d'un Gouvernement d'Union Nationale avec participation honorable de représentants du Pathet-Lao, en vue de réaliser tous les accords conclus entre les deux parties, de défendre la Patrie, la Religion et le Monarque, objets d'amour et de culte de notre nation.

Nos efforts conjugués feront de notre Royaume un pays pacifique, démocratique, uni, indépendant et prospère, où tous ses fils tourneront sans crainte leur regard vers l'avenir.

Vientiane, le 13 Août 1957

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG

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Nos efforts conjugués tendent de notre Royaume un pays pacifique, démocratique, uni, indépendant et prospère, et nous nous efforçons sans cesse de leur regard vers l'avenir.

Vientiane, le 15 Août 1957
 S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

ANNEXURE 12

Letter No. 103/PL, dated 14th August, 1957.
From : The Political Delegation of the Pathet Lao Forces.
To : The I.C.S.C. in Laos, Vientiane.

"The Political Delegation of the Pathet Lao Forces presents its compliments to the I.C.S.C. in Laos and has the honour to forward herewith, for information and necessary action, the statement made by H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, Representative of the Pathet Lao Forces on the 13th instant regarding the denouncement of the cabinet crisis.

The Political Delegation of the Pathet Lao Forces avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the I.C.S.C. the assurances of its most respectful sentiments."

(Enclosure to letter No.103/PL, dated 14.8.57)

"STATEMENT OF H.H. PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG,
Representative of the Pathet Lao Forces regarding
the denouncement of the cabinet crisis.

The cabinet crisis, started at the end of May, has just ended on 9th instant by the investiture of the new Government of H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma.

The Pathet Lao Forces are sincerely happy of this outcome for several reasons:

First of all, H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma remains as President of the Council as in the previous Cabinet which has, under his direction, successfully carried out the talks, laying the basis and essential modalities the implementation of which will open the era of unification and national reconciliation in peace.

Then, the program laid down by the new Government contains several points of which the sincere and entire realisation will meet the higher interests of the Fatherland and the Lao people and will therefore contribute to enhance the prestige of the Royal Government within the country as well as abroad: These points relate to :

- the peaceful settlement of the unification and reconciliation of all Laos by the loyal implementation of all concluded agreements, in particular, the joint communique of 28 December 1956;

- the building up of an independent national economy by increasing the national output and by a more efficient exploitation of the country's resources as well as by the acceptance of external aid from all countries which might be ready to extend it to us without any political conditions;

- the establishing of neighbourliness, the improving of the existing relations and the widening of diplomatic relations with all countries without distinction, particularly with those who are our nearest neighbours.

We understand more than ever that the realisation of such a program necessitates the rallying of the entire Lao people around the Royal Government presided by H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma, more especially as this realisation will encounter numerous obstacles and, particularly since some points of the programme like the question of national unification may create a serious opposition even inside the Government. Moreover, one should not ignore the complications due to the intrigues of interference of some foreign powers and their agents in the country, as we have all witnessed in the recent past, as for instance :

- attempts at armed provocations in order to push our people in the precipices of fratricidal slaughter;

- arrest and repression of patriots (ex-resistants or sympathisers of the Pathet Lao in the ten provinces under royal control);

- ceaseless intrigues in order to sow discord in the political parties and to deepen the dissensions among our people;

- propagation, during the political crisis, of rumours calculated to sow panic such as dissolution of the Parliament, modification of the Constitution, restriction of civil liberties, coup d'état etc.....;

- attempts to isolate the Pathet Lao Delegations and to force them to leave Vientiane alleging as a pretext the impossibility of ensuring their security at Vientiane;

- intrigues provoking the resignation of the previous Government and the subsequent crisis etc.....

Fully aware of the difficulties and the existing menaces, the Pathet Lao Forces are however convinced that the union and the patriotism of the Lao people will finally overcome all the intrigues of the enemies of peace and national unification.

The Pathet Lao Forces ever faithful to the higher interests of the Fatherland and the Lao people have an unchanging position which they have declared many times and which constitutes in negotiating in order to cooperate with the Royal Government in a broad-minded spirit of reciprocal concession and mutual understanding on the basis of the Geneva Agreement and all concluded accords, and to implement rigorously these agreements in concert with the Royal Government, in order to realise the national reconciliation and unification and to engage progressively our country in the path of peace and neutrality.

The Pathet Lao Forces appeal to the entire Lao people to unite closely and to support the new Royal Government presided by H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma, in the struggle against all outside interferences and for the formation of a Government of National Union with the adequate participation of Pathet Lao representatives in order to realise all the agreements concluded between the two parties, to defend the Fatherland, the Religion and the King, objects of love and worship of our nation.

Our joint efforts will make our Kingdom a peaceful, democratic, united, independent and prosperous country where all our sons will turn their look fearlessly towards the future."

The Father Lao Forces appeal to the entire Lao people to unite closely and to support the new Royal Government presided by H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma, in the struggle against all outside interferences and for the formation of a Government of National Union with the adequate participation of Father Lao representatives in order to realize all the agreements concluded between the two parties, to defend the Fatherland, the Religion and the King, objects of love and worship of our nation.

Our joint efforts will make our Kingdom a peaceful, democratic, united, independent and prosperous country where all our sons will turn their look fearlessly towards the future."

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P A T H E T L A O

Paix - Démocratie - Unité - Indépendance - Prospérité

De: Délégation Politique des Forces Pathet Lao

A: Son Altesse le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, Premier

Ministre du Gouvernement Royal du Laos

à VIENTIANE

(En communication à la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos et à l'Assemblée Nationale Lao).

Altesse,

Après que Son Altesse, au nom du Gouvernement Royal et

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, au nom des Forces Pathet Lao,

avez signé les Déclarations Communes des 5 et 10 Août 1956,

la Commission Mixte Politique composée des Délégations des deux

parties s'est ouverte à Vientiane depuis le 25 Septembre 1956

et a pu signer un accord sur les modalités d'application de la

politique de paix et de neutralité le 2 Novembre 1956, un accord

sur la question de garantie des droits civiques des personnes

appartenant aux Forces Pathet Lao le 24 Décembre 1956 et un

accord sur la Loi électorale le 21 Février 1957. A la date du

29 Mai 1957, pendant que les deux Délégations poursuivaient les

négociations dans une atmosphère pleine de cordialité et de bonne

compréhension mutuelle et étaient sur le point de signer les

accords sur la garantie des libertés démocratiques pour le peuple

et sur le programme politique en vue de former le Gouvernement

d'Union Nationale qui constitue le commencement de la coopération

entre les deux parties conformément au Communiqué Commun signé

le 28 Décembre 1956 par Son Altesse et S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG,

il s'est produit une crise ministérielle qui est la cause de

l'interruption des négociations depuis plus de deux mois.

Maintenant le Gouvernement Royal est formé. Ce nouveau

Gouvernement est encore présidé par Son Altesse et a une

politique de paix, de neutralité et de coopération pacifique

avec les Forces Pathet Lao.

Les Forces Pathet Lao accueillent ce fait avec satisfaction, surtout l'exposé de Son Altesse qui est approuvé par l'Assemblée Nationale et qui dit que: "le rétablissement de l'unité Lao par le règlement du problème des UCPL reste l'impératif N° I", car cela correspond aussi bien aux ardents désirs de notre peuple qu'aux Accords de Genève.

C'est là une politique juste à laquelle aspiraient depuis toujours les Forces Pathet Lao comme le peuple Lao tout entier, lesquels se sont efforcés activement de la réaliser, et espèrent en même temps que le Gouvernement Royal fera lui aussi tous ses efforts en vue de parvenir à la même réalisation, pour que notre Royaume Lao ait réellement la paix, l'unité et l'indépendance. Quant aux Forces Pathet Lao, elles ont toujours le désir sincère de régler le plus rapidement possible la question d'unité Lao.

C'est pour cela qu'au nom des Forces Pathet Lao je suggère au Gouvernement Royal de nommer sa Délégation Politique chargée de continuer les négociations avec nous, afin de procéder ensemble à l'exécution des accords conclus, particulièrement du Communiqué Commun du 28 Décembre 1956 et d'arriver à un accord pour les questions pendantes, cela, en vue du règlement complet et définitif du problème Lao.

La Délégation Politique des Forces Pathet Lao, dont je suis moi-même président, conserve son ancienne équipe sans aucun changement. Cette Délégation est restée à Vientiane pendant toute la durée de la crise gouvernementale pour attendre la reprise des pourparlers et est toujours prête à continuer les négociations ensemble avec la Délégation du Gouvernement Royal, en vue de parvenir à l'unité et la réconciliation nationale et de faire du Laos un pays pacifique, démocratique, uni, indépendant et prospère conformément aux aspirations du peuple Lao.

Je saisis cette occasion pour renouveler à Son Altesse l'assurance de nos sentiments les plus distingués./.

Vientiane, le 19 Août 1957
Le Chef de la Délégation Politique
des Forces Pathet Lao,
Thao Phoumi VONGVICHIT

Letter No. 117-PL

From: The Political Delegation of the PL Forces.

TO : H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Laos.

Your Highness,

After H.H. in the name of the Royal Government and H.H. Prince Souphanouvong in the name of the P.L. Forces had signed the joint declarations of 5th and 10th August '56, the joint Political Commission composed of the delegations of the two parties opened in Vientiane since 25th September 1956 and was able to sign an agreement on the modalities of implementation of the policy of peace and neutrality on 2nd November 1956, an agreement on the question of guarantee of civil rights of persons belonging to the PL Forces on 24th December 1956, and an agreement on the electoral law on 21st February 1957. On 29th May 1957 while the two delegations continued the negotiations in an atmosphere marked with cordiality and mutual understanding and were on the point of signing agreement on the guarantee of democratic liberties for the people and on the political programme with a view to forming the Government of National Union, which forms the beginning of cooperation between the two parties in accordance with the joint communique signed on 28th December 1956 by H.H. and H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, the ministerial crisis appeared which is the cause of interruption of negotiations since more than two months.

Now the Royal Government is formed. This new Government is still headed by H.H. and has the policy of peace, neutrality and peaceful cooperation with the PL Forces.

The PL Forces welcome this event with satisfaction, above all the expose of H.H. which is approved by the National Assembly and which says "the re-establishment of Laotian unity by means of the settlement of the FUPL problem remains the national imperative No.1." for this corresponds to the ardent desire of our people as also to the Geneva Agreements. It is just this policy to which the PL Forces as well as the whole Laotian people

were always aspiring and who tried actively to realise it and at the same time hope that the Royal Government will also make every effort to arrive at the same realisation so that our Laotian Kingdom really has peace, unity, and independence. As regards the PL Forces, they always have the sincere desire to settle as rapidly as possible the question of Laotian Unity.

It is for that that in the name of PL Forces

I suggest to the Royal Government to nominate its political delegation charged with continuing the negotiations with us in order to proceed together to the execution of the agreements concluded, particularly the joint communique of 28th December 1956 and to reach an agreement for the pending questions, with a view to reach complete and final settlement of the Lao problem

The Political Delegation of the PL Forces of which I myself am the Chairman, retains its former team without any change. This Delegation remained in Vientiane throughout the period of the governmental crisis awaiting the resumption of talks and is always ready to continue the negotiations together with the delegation of the Royal Government with a view to arriving at unity, and national reconciliation and to make Laos into a peaceful, democratic, unified, independent and prosperous country in accordance with the aspirations of the Laotian people.

I take this opportunity to renew to H.H. the assurances of our most distinguished sentiments.

Signed: Phoumi Vongvichit

19.8.57

JOINT COMMUNIQUE

by H.H. Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, Prime Minister of the Royal Government and H.H. Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao Forces:

In the higher interest of the nation, in order to comply with the deep aspirations of the people, for the peace and for the general reconciliation between all the Laotians, in conformity with the recommendations of the Geneva Agreement and in implementation of the joint declarations of 5 and 10 August 1956, the joint communique of 28 December 1956 and various agreements reached.

H.H. Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, Prime Minister of the Royal Government and H.H. Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Representative of the Fighting Units of Pathet Lao, exchanged views during the talks which were marked with cordiality.

The Prime Minister of the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao agree on the formation, by enlarging the present Cabinet, of a Government of a large National Union comprising of previous members of Pathet Lao. The presentation of the new Government will be preceded by the official handing over to the Royal Government of the Provinces of Phongsaly and Sam Neua and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

As regards the political programme of the new Government of National Union, the Prime Minister of the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao agree to adopt the policy of the present Government as contained in the speech made by H.H. Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA on 9th August 1957.

The Prime Minister of the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao agree to admit the Neo Lao Haksat as a political party which will enjoy the same rights and which will be subject to the same obligations as the other political parties legally formed in the Kingdom, as soon as the formalities of its creation are completed in conformity with the laws and regulations in force.

The Prime Minister of the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao agree to re-establish effectively the Royal administration in the provinces of Phongsaly and Sam Neua and to integrate the officials and the combatants of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao in conformity with the modalities to be determined by the political and military committees; this integration will entail the de facto and de jure disappearance of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

Regarding the combatants of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, the Royal Government undertakes to integrate them all in the National Army. Within the limits of the budget provisions, those who wish to continue their services in the Army will enroll themselves in the active service of the National Army, in accordance with the conditions determined by the regulations in force. Those who would wish to leave the service in order to return to their home will be integrated in the reserves of the National Army. The Royal Government agrees to provide them, as well as their family, with necessary means of transport so that they would return to their village, as well as all facilities in order to enable them to earn their livelihood.

The Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao agrees to hand over to the Royal Government the totality of the war equipment, more particularly the arms and ammunition held by the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

Regarding the civil employees of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao who fulfil the conditions required by the rules pertaining to Public Service, the Royal Government agrees to appoint them to suitable posts in the various administrative and technical services of the Kingdom according to the modalities of implementation which will be determined by the Political Committee.

The Prime Minister of the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao admit by common consent that the agreement on the cessation of hostile acts signed on 31 October 1956, no longer fulfils the needs of the changed situation. The present situation demands that the cessation of hostile acts to be more effective. With this aim, the Military Committee will determine urgent measures aiming to realise immediately the absolute cease-fire and will increase to number and the means of the mobile sub-committees.

The Prime Minister of the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao recognise that the difficulties of implementation still exist and the general reconciliation yet remains a complex task. As there is complete agreement on principles they consider that the time has come to settle in every small detail through settlement under negotiation the practical methods of implementation. Substantial progress has been already made by the political and military committees since the recent resumption of talks. The agreement at present under discussion deal more specially with the steps of a practical nature to be adopted for the de facto re-establishment of the royal administration in the provinces of Phongsaly and Sam Neua and for the integration of the officials and combatants of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. These texts will bring the talks to an end. The Prime Minister of the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao recommend therefore to the two committees to continue actively and resolutely their task and expect from them that the settlement under negotiations be terminated in the earliest possible time.

The Prime Minister of the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao are satisfied with the results of their present talks which seem to augur the complete and early success of the general reconciliation.

The Prime Minister of the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao are firmly confident of the goodwill, sincerity and the efforts of the two Parties and hope that the talks will end very soon in final agreements.

Done at Vientiane, 2 November, 1957.

In the name of the Royal
Government

In the name of the Fighting Units
of the Pathet Lao.

Sd/ H.H. Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

Sd/ H.H. Prince SOUPHANOUVONG.

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION.A G R E E M E N T

on the re-establishment of the Royal Administration in the Province of Sam Neua and Phongsaly.

PRELIMINARY NOTE.

In the spirit of this agreement, the term "Government" means the Government of His Majesty the King.

The expression "Former officials of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao" means the officials formerly employed by the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

A G R E E M E N T

reached between the Political Delegation of the Royal Government and the Political Delegation of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

In conformity with the provisions of the Joint Declaration, dated 28 December 1956, of H.H. Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, Prime Minister of the Royal Government and H.H. Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Head of the Delegation of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, declaration which follows the talks between the two parties and which concerns the integration of all Lao citizens into the National Community.

The Political Delegation of the Royal Government and the Political Delegation of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, with the following membership:

For the Royal Government

Mr. Thao Tan CHOULAMONTRI	President
Mr. Inpeng SOURYADHAY	Member
Mr. Thao Van TANOUAN	Member
Mr. Thao Bouavan NORASING	Member
Mr. Anon VIMONPHAN	Secretary

For the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao

Mr. Phoumy VONGVICHIT	President
Mr. Nouthak PHOUM SAVAN	Vice President
Mr. Singkapo CHOUNLAMALY	Member
Mr. Maha Khamphanh VIRACHIT	Member
Mr. Apheuy CHANDAVONG	Secretary
Mr. Khamphay BOUPHA	Observer

met at Vientiane from 16 September 1957 to 22 October 1957 in an atmosphere marked with cordiality and mutual understanding.

The two delegations affirm that the formation of a Government of National Union, the settlement of the administrative and military problem and the integration of the members of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao into the National Community are to be considered as necessary phases for the reestablishment of the National Unity and

constitute at the same time the implementation of the clauses of the Geneva Agreement, the Joint Declaration of 28 December 1956 and the previous agreements approved by the National Assembly in its session of 29 May 1957.

The two Delegations affirm, besides, that the national reconciliation constitutes the basis for peace, for the safeguard of Democracy, Independence and progress. Imbued with this idea, the two Delegations have agreed on the following:

CHAPTER ONE

Administrative reorganization of the Provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly.

A) ADMINISTRATION

Article one: From the date of publication of the Declaration of handing over of the two Provinces to the Royal Government, the two Provinces shall effectively be placed under the dependence of the Kingdom. All the laws in force in the Kingdom shall be applied there. They shall be governed by the Constitution and the laws of the Kingdom.

Article 2: In order to show the good faith of the two Parties, the administration of the Provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly shall be ensured by officials of the Royal Government and former officials of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao in the conditions determined as under:

- The province of Sam Neua shall be headed by a Chaokhoueng of the Royal Government; the province of Phongsaly shall be headed by a former official of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

The Chaokhoueng of Sam Neua shall be assisted by a former official of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao; the Chaokhoueng of Phongsaly shall be assisted by an official of the Royal Government.

- The Chaomuong the officials of the Khoueng and Muong offices as well as the officials of the other services shall be nominated, for half of the strength, among the former officials of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. Their posting shall be announced by the Royal Government on the proposals of a special commission.

The duties of chaomuong of the chief town of Sam Neua shall be ensured by a former official of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. The functions of chaomuong of the chief town of Phongsaly shall be ensured by a functionary of the Royal Government.

The strength and ranks of the officials are those already fixed by the Government who is at liberty to modify them, by reduction or increase, according to the needs of the service.

Temporarily the tasseng and naibans shall continue to assure their duties till new regular elections. These shall take place within a maximum delay of three months with affect from the date of handing over of the two provinces to the Kingdom.

B) OFFICIALS.

Article 3: In conformity with paragraph 3 of the above article 2, the two Delegations shall appoint a Special Commission which will receive the former officials of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao and distribute them in the

various services according to a list, to be provided by the Delegation of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.

Article 4: The officials who, previously belonged to the cadres of the Kingdom, shall be reintegrated in their original cadre. If they have changed their situation the Government shall endeavour to maintain them in their new position provided that they possess the required ability.

Their services done outside the cadres of the Kingdom shall be considered by the Royal Government as effective services in respect of their rights to pension.

Their promotion shall be subjected to the rules which govern presently the amelioration and revision of the Public Service regulation.

Within the cadre of the regulations on the Public Service in the Kingdom, the officials and the agents formed by the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao shall be as far as possible maintained in the present duties.

Article 5: During the period of three months corresponding to the period of integration of the members of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao into the national community, the Government shall take into account their present situation. They shall not be transferred except for health reason or on their request.

Article 6: Prior to their joining duty the former officials of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao integrated into the cadres of the Kingdom shall take an oath of fidelity to the King and the Constitution.

Article 7: The former officials of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao who will not wish to be integrated in the cadres of the Kingdom and who want to return home as free citizens shall receive as well as their families aid and assistance from the Government so that they can rejoin their native village. The Government shall help them in the first instance, in finding means of existence.

CHAPTER TWO

Section I.

Article 8: Prior to the Government of National Union being presented to the National Assembly for a vote of investiture, the head of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao shall make a declaration of handing over to His Majesty the King the provinces of Phongsaly and Samneua as well as the military units and officials.

Article 9: The Prime Minister of the Royal Government gives its accord for the functioning the patriotic front called Neo Lao Haksat with all the rights, freedoms and responsibilities enjoyed by the other political parties formed in the territory of the Kingdom on the condition that the statutes of the Neo Lao Haksat are in conformity with the laws at present in force.

Article 10: After the formation of the Government of National Union, the Government shall institute in each of the two provinces as commission charged with the handing over of the services to the Chaokhoueng, Chaomuong and head of the technical services as specified in Articles 2 and 3 of this Agreement.

The handing over of the services shall be carried out on the basis of the provisions of the article 8 above.

Article 11: After the handing over of the services, the commission shall proceed to the installation of the officials of the cadres of the Kingdom and the former officials of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao nominated and appointed by the Government, informing them that they shall henceforth exercise legally their duties pending the publication of the ordinance or decree sanctioning their new status.

After the installation of the officials an effective handing over of the services including all registers and records shall be done. The taking over of registers and records shall be recorded by administrative minutes.

The handing over of the services at the level of the Muong shall take place in similar conditions.

Article 12: Movable and real estate held by the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao shall be handed over to the Government, compensations and subventions in favour of the populations of the two provinces will be the responsibility of the Government according to the rules at present in force.

Article 13: The transportation upto their place of origin of the persons assembled by the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao in the province of Phongsaly and Sam Neua shall devolve upon the Government on proposal by an ad hoc commission.

Article 14: The Government shall ensure the publication of this agreement in the whole of the Kingdom so that everybody, officials, policemen, soldiers, populations, be informed of the intergration of all the Laotians into the national community and the return to the peace through reconciliation.

Article 15: This agreement shall enter into force with effect from the date of its signature.

Article 16: The Government shall prepare supplementary elections which shall take place in the whole of the Kingdom within a period of four months.

Done at VIENTIANE on 8 August 1957

Thao Tan CHOULAMONTRI
The Head of the Fighting Units
of the Pathet Lao

Phoumy VONGVICHIT
The Prime Minister of the
Royal Loatian Government

Prince SOUPHANOUVONG

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

MILITARY AGREEMENT ON THE INTEGRATION
OF THE FIGHTING UNITS OF THE PATHET
LAO FORCES INTO THE NATIONAL ARMY.

The Joint Military Committee, created as a result of the joint declaration of 5th August 1956 made by His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister of the Royal Government and H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, President of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao Delegation, consisting of the following members:

Delegation of the Royal Government:

Colonel Ouan Rathikoun	President
Lt. Col. Lamnegeun Phrasavath	Member
Commandant Somly Manibod	Member

Delegation of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao

Colonel Phoun Sipraseuth	President
Lt. Col. Phaophim Phrachanh	Member
Commandant Pradith Thiengtham	Member

The two delegations having proceeded with the exhaustive and detailed exchange of views from 7th October to 1st November 1957, in an atmosphere marked with cordiality and mutual understanding,

Referring to the Agreements already reached between the Royal Government and the Representative of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, more particularly to the Joint Declaration of 5th August 1956, the final Declaration of 10th August 1956, and the Agreement of 31st October 1956, on the implementation of the cease-fire.

Prompted by the desire to put an end to fratricidal strifes and to contribute thus to the reconciliation of all the Laotians and the reunification of the Fatherland.

Have unanimously adopted the following Agreement:

ARTICLE 1

The Royal Government undertakes to integrate the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao into the National Army by taking over the entire personnel of these units and the entire equipment held by them.

Within the limits of the budget provisions, the combatants of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao who wish to continue their service in the Army shall enrol themselves in the active service of the National Army in conformity with the clauses of the present agreement. Those who wish to leave the service and return home shall be integrated into the Reserves of the National Army.

ARTICLE 2

The combatants of the Pathet Lao Fighting Units integrated into the National Army in conformity with the clauses of the present agreement shall be treated without discrimination. They shall enjoy the same moral and material rights as their colleagues in the National Army, within the limit of the rules in force in this army.

ARTICLE 3

(A) Taking into account the ceiling limit of the budgetary strength of the National Army in 1957 and in 1958, the strength of the combatants of the Pathet Lao Fighting Units which can be integrated into the National Army cannot be more than 1500 men (Officers - NCOs - Rank and file).

The distribution of the strength which is to be integrated according to the ranks shall be worked out in conformity with the clauses of Article 9 below.

(B) The units newly formed from the Pathet Lao Fighting Units shall be organised according to the norms in force in the National Army.

During the transition period, pending a perfect understanding and collaboration between the various units, the combatants of the Pathet Lao Fighting Units shall remain grouped in units created at the time of the integration. Nevertheless, transfers in the National Army can be decided by the General Staff of the Armed Forces in order to obtain more control in the matter of administration and command.

(C) The units composed of Pathet Lao Fighting Units shall be posted in the Military area of their origin, that is if these units consist of a majority belonging to that region.

(D) The cadres and the specialists of the Pathet Lao Fighting Units integrated into the National Army shall be posted in the new units formed from the Pathet Lao Fighting Units in conformity with the strength rosters of the National Army and the budgetary strength of this army. The remaining shall be integrated in the National Army as far as possible.

(E) The General Staff of the Armed Forces shall appoint a certain number of cadres and specialists who shall collaborate with the integrated cadres and specialists as soon as the operations of the integration are carried out, in order to create harmony between the units of the National Army and those of the new formation in the matter of command and administration.

ARTICLE 4

The cadres and the troops of the Pathet Lao Fighting Units who shall not be integrated, shall be put in the position of the Reserves of the National Army, relieved from military service and sent to their homes in conformity with the clauses of the present agreement. During the releasing operation and till they reach their selected destination they shall be dependent on the National Army. They shall be in possession of an individual certificate of release, worked out on the model used in the National Army.

ARTICLE 5

The rightful claimants of the combatants of the Pathet Lao Fighting Units who sacrificed their life shall be entitled for the assistance from the Royal Government and their widows to pensions, pensions to orphans or parents in the conditions determined by the rules in force regarding military pensions in the Kingdom. The combatants

of the Pathet Lao Fighting Units disabled or wounded during the war shall be entitled to the same moral and material assistance as those disabled or wounded during the war in the National Army.

ARTICLE 6

In order to avoid any incident, all kinds of forces of the National Army stationed in the provinces of Phongsaly and Sam Neua shall remain in their positions until the end of the period fixed by the present agreement for the completion of the operations of integration of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. After this period the responsibility for guarding the frontiers and for the security in the provinces of Phongsaly and Sam Neua shall devolve, on the high authority of the Royal Government, and upon the command of the National Army. This command will be empowered to take in these two provinces as in the other provinces of the Kingdom, measures in conformity with the law and fit to ensure the defence of the territory of the Fatherland, the safeguard of the National independence, the security of the properties and the life of the population and the respect of the Royal Government's authority.

ARTICLE 7

Modalities of handing over to the National Army of the Fighting Units of Pathet Lao which are to be integrated.

In order to facilitate the operations of integration and the transportation of the released personnel and their families to their selected destinations, the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao shall assemble at the four following centres:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| Province of Phongsaly | ... | Ban Nam Saleng
Muong Khoua |
| Province of Sam Neua | ... | Sam Neua
Saleui |

ARTICLE 8

Periods:

The period for assembling and integration is fixed at 60 days with effect from the day of the formation of the Government of National Union.

The operations of assembling, of normal preparation, of integration, of handing over of arms and equipment, the moves of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao shall be within the limit of 60 days, compulsory time limit. Serious incidents shall be settled by the Royal Government.

ARTICLE 9

(A) After the signature of the present agreement and the formation of the Government of National Union, the Joint Military Sub-Committees shall be posted in the four regroupment centres.

The International Commission will have access to these centres.

(B)1. The handing over to the representatives of the High Command of the National Army of the list of the personnel, arms, equipment, registers, arms, depots, ammunition, tools and other means shall be carried out by the representatives of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao on the same day on which the official handing over of the administration of the two provinces to the Royal Government will take place.

2. In order to organise the reception of the combatants of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao and the movement of the released personnel, a detailed list will be supplied to the Joint Military Sub-Committees in each of the four regroupment centres, basing on the above said overall list, and taking into account the strength of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao to be integrated in each centre.

(C) The actual handing over of the arms and equipment will be carried out in stages, in the presence of the members of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos.

(D) The released personnel will be handed over to the Joint Military Sub-Committee. They shall benefit of the means of transport and will be in possession of individual certificate of release on the model in use in the National Army. The release shall take place in stages in accordance with the delays necessary to integration operations.

(E) The military personnel of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao who will be integrated in the active service of the National Army will be handed over to the Joint Military Sub-Committee on presentation by the Pathet Lao Command in conformity with the strength rosters of the National Army.

The formalities of integration fulfilled, the Joint Sub-Committee will inform the Joint Military Committee which will fix the date of the ceremony of the handing over of the integrated units to the National Army.

The ceremony of handing over will be held by corps and the oath taking will be held in the traditional way.

After the above mentioned ceremony, the movements of the integrated units will be decided by the General Staff of the National Army.

(F) Arms and equipment will be taken over by the Joint Military Sub-Committees of regroupment centres.

(G) All the integrated and released military personnel of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao will be dependent on the Pathet Lao from the day of signature of the present agreement to their arrival at the regroupment centres.

From the day of their arrival in the regroupment centres (Ban Nam Saleng - Muong Khoua - Sam Neua - Ban Saleui) they as well as their families will become the responsibility of the National Army until they reach their homes.

ARTICLE 10

Priorities will be given to the old people, ladies, children, to the disabled combatants, to the wounded or sick for their transport by plane, vehicles, boats or pirogues to their places of destination.

The Royal Government and the High Command of the National Army shall take all appropriate measures so that the movements of the detachments of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao directed towards their homes are carried out in all security. The utilisation of the routes and the access to the quarters at the halting places put at the disposal of these detachments shall be prohibited to armed persons.

The Royal Government shall issue orders to the military and administrative authorities as well as to the National Police for the strict implementation of the present agreement so that the authorities give their help and accord facilities to the home-bound combatants of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao as well as to their movement and the means of earning their livelihood, in conformity with the modalities implemented as regards the military men released from the National Army. The regional authorities, Khoueng and Muong shall give them all facilities and shall take appropriate steps for the reception, means of road transport so that the detachment of the released men and their family reach their homes with all facilities and in security.

ARTICLE 11

(A) Four military sub-committees shall be formed in order to implement the agreement reached and to ensure the security and to facilitate the operations of integration.

Besides, they shall ensure the transport and transfers of the military personnel and of the released Pathet Lao Fighting Units who are admitted in the Reserves as well as the transfer of their families until they reach their homes.

(B) The Joint Military Committee shall institute the teams which are deemed necessary for the help, protection and security during the travels and all facilities for the soldiers under transfer till they complete their journey.

ARTICLE 12

The implementation of the present agreement within the time limit determined in Article 8, realises entirely in a military point of view, the settlement foreseen in the Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Laos.

ARTICLE 13

The present agreement shall be widely published in the Kingdom of Laos.

ARTICLE 14

The present agreement shall come into force on the date of the formation of the Government of National Union.

ARTICLE 10

Done at Vientiane, the 2nd November 1957.

Colonel Ouan Rathikoun
President of the Military
Delegation of the Royal
Government.

Colonel Phoum Sipraseuth
President of the Military
Delegation of the Fighting Units
of the Pathet Lao,

Sd. Ouan Rathikoun

Sd. Phoum Sipraseuth

The Head of the Delegation of
the Fighting Units of the
Pathet Lao,

Prime Minister/President of the
Council of Ministers of the
Royal Government,

Sd. Prince Souphanouvong

Sd. Prince Souvanna Phouma
Chao Krom Manes

ARTICLE 11

(A) Four military sub-committees shall be formed in order to implement the agreement reached and to ensure the security and to facilitate the operations of intercession. Besides, they shall ensure the transport and transfers of the military personnel and of the released Pathet Lao Fighting Units who are admitted in the Reserves as well as the transfer of their families until they reach their homes.

(B) The Joint Military Committee shall institute the teams which are deemed necessary for the help, protection and security during the travels and all facilities for the soldiers under transfer till they complete their journey.

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The implementation of the present agreement within the time limit determined in Article 8, realizes entirely in a military point of view, the settlement foreseen in the Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Laos.

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ARTICLE 14

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ANNEXURE 17

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION
AND CONTROL IN LAOS.

No.PS(L)(201)(327)/57

VERY URGENT
Vientiane,
13th November, 1957

Your Highness,

I understand that you received today certain Ambassadors and handed over to them documents relative to the political settlement of the Pathet Lao question as envisaged in the Geneva Agreement. Since this matter is of primary concern to the International Commission, which is an autonomous body unconnected with diplomatic missions, you will realise, I am sure, that it would be embarrassing and might cause difficulties for the International Commission to be unable to formulate a position because of ignorance of the Government's action and intentions in this matter.

I take this opportunity of renewing to Your Highness the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sd/-Dr. S.S. Ansari

H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister of the Royal
Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

No. PS(L)(139(332)/57

Vientiane,
November 16, 1957

Sir,

From time to time the Commission has forwarded to the Co-Chairmen the various agreements reached between the Royal Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. In this connection the Commission's letters to the Co-Chairmen of January 11, 1957 and July 27, 1957, are relevant. I now forward to you copies of the following three documents, relating to the political settlement in Laos, which were transmitted on November 14th by the Royal Laotian Government to the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos:-

- (a) Joint Communiqué signed on November 2 by the Prime Minister, Prince Souvanna Phouma, for the Royal Government, and by Prince Souphanouvong, for the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao.
- (b) Agreement on the Establishment of the Royal Administration in the Provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly, signed by the negotiating delegations of the two parties on November 2, 1957, and by the Prime Minister and Prince Souphanouvong on November 12, 1957.
- (c) Military Agreement on the Integration of the Forces of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao into the National Army, signed by the negotiating delegations of the two parties on November 2, 1957, and by the Prime Minister and Prince Souphanouvong on November 12, 1957.

These agreements resulted from negotiations renewed by the two parties on September 16, 1957 and represent a further step towards the execution of the Geneva Agreement. The International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos hopes that their proper implementation will result in a political settlement in full and satisfactory conformity with Geneva Agreement.

I take this opportunity to renew to you, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sd/- Dr. S.S. Ansari

CHAIRMAN

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR
SUPERVISION & CONTROL IN LAOS.

The Rt. Honourable Selwyn Lloyd. M.P.,
Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary
of State for Foreign Affairs, LONDON.

His Excellency Andrei V. Gromyko,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union
of the Soviet Socialist Republics, MOSCOW.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION
AND CONTROL IN LAOS.

(PRESS RELEASE)

(Released at 12 noon on 20 November 1957)

The following telegram has been sent by the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos to the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference :

- (1) The Rt. Honourable Selwyn Lloyd, M.P.
Her Britannic Majesty's Principal
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
LONDON
- (2) His Excellency Andrei V. Gromyko,
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the
Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics,
MOSCOW.

OUR LETTER OF NOVEMBER 16 TO THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE FORWARDED TEXTS OF AN AGREEMENT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ROYAL ADMINISTRATION IN THE PROVINCES OF SAM NEUA AND PHONGSALY AND AN AGREEMENT ON THE INTEGRATION OF THE FORCES OF THE FIGHTING UNITS OF THE PATHET LAO INTO THE NATIONAL ARMY, BOTH DOCUMENTS HAVING BEEN SIGNED ON NOVEMBER 12 BY THE PRIME MINISTER, PRINCE SOUVANNA PHOUMA, FOR THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT AND BY PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG, CHIEF OF THE FIGHTING UNITS OF THE PATHET LAO (.) WE ARE NOW PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT AT A SOLEMN AND SYMBOLIC CEREMONY ON NOVEMBER 18 PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG REMITTED TO THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF LAOS, WHO WAS REPRESENTED BY THE CROWN PRINCE, ADMINISTRATION OF THE TWO PROVINCES OF SAM NEUA AND PHONGSALY, TOGETHER WITH ALL TROOPS, FUNCTIONARIES AND WAR MATERIAL OF THE FIGHTING UNITS OF THE PATHET LAO (.) FURTHERMORE ON NOVEMBER 19 A NEW GOVERNMENT WAS FORMED IN LAOS INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE FORMER PATHET LAO (.) IT IS HOPED THAT THE PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE ACTS AND AGREEMENTS WILL RESULT IN A SATISFACTORY POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GENEVA AGREEMENT (.) INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL IN LAOS (.)

Letter No. 200/PC/MP, dated 26th November, 1957.

From: The Prime Minister, Royal Government of Laos

To H.E. The Chairman, International Commission
for Supervision and Control in Laos,
Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to draw your attention to the fact that the signature of the agreements with the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao and the inclusion of two Ministers from the Pathet Lao in the present Cabinet constitutes the preliminary political settlement as stipulated in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement.

By this fact, the activities of the International Commission are near reaching their normal end. After the expiry of the period of implementation of the agreements of 12th November 1957, only the supplementary elections will remain to be held to complete the mission of the International Commission for Supervision and Control.

It is desirable, and seems possible, that, while waiting for that date, the Commission takes without delay a certain number of steps to reduce its functions and its personnel to the extent which corresponds to its present needs.

Firstly, the teams set up outside the provinces of Phongsaly and Sam Neua can be removed from now onwards without inconvenience.

Their maintenance will be, in my opinion, an unnecessary expenditure of personnel and of material.

Secondly, a substantial reduction of the strength of the personnel present at Vientiane is to be contemplated. The lower staff, especially, occupies in the Capital the buildings which are lacking to the Services of the Royal Government and which, the latter under the pressure of growing necessities, should wish to occupy as quickly and as wholly as possible.

Finally, after the completion of the elections, there will apparently be no necessity of keeping the teams at Phongsaly and Sam Neua and their presence will become unnecessary. The modalities of their withdrawal are to be envisaged from now on.

I have no doubt that you will give this letter the importance that the Royal Government attaches to it. It results entirely from the desire of asset through its own means the full sovereignty of the Nation on the whole of the territory, because in the case of Laos, unlike in that of Cambodia, more particularly due to the consent of all the Laotians, the world armistice itself will, in the near future, be devoid of any significance.

I request Your Excellency to kindly accept the assurance of my high consideration.

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Vientiane, le 26 Novembre 1957

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

N° 200/PC-MP

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur d'attirer votre attention sur le fait que la signature des Accords avec les U.C.P.L., l'inclusion de deux Ministres issus des Pathet Lao dans le Cabinet actuel, constituent le règlement politique préalable stipulé à l'article 14 de la Convention d'Armistice de Genève.

De ce fait les activités de la Commission Internationale sont sur le point de parvenir à leur terme normal. Il n'y aura plus, à l'expiration des délais d'exécution des accords du 12 Novembre 1957, que le cap des élections complémentaires à franchir pour que soit complètement parachevée la mission de la Commission Internationale de Contrôle.

Il est souhaitable, et semble du reste possible, qu'en attendant cette date, la Commission prenne sans tarder, un certain nombre de mesures d'allègement de ses implantations et de ses effectifs, dans la mesure où ils ne correspondent plus désormais à une nécessité démontrée.

En premier lieu les postes installés en dehors des provinces de Phongsaly et Sam Neua peuvent disparaître dès maintenant sans inconvénients.

Leur maintien correspondrait à mon sens à des dépenses inutiles en matière de personnel et de matériel.

En second lieu une réduction substantielle des effectifs du personnel présent à Vientiane serait à envisager. Le petit personnel, notamment, occupe dans la Capitale des immeubles qui font défaut aux services du Gouvernement Lao, et que ce dernier, poussé par des nécessités tous les jours plus urgentes, souhaiterait pouvoir récupérer aussi rapidement et aussi complètement que possible.

ANNEXURE 20

Enfin il n'y aura normalement plus aucune nécessité de maintenir à Phongsaly et aux Houa Phan, dès l'achèvement des élections, les équipes dont la présence sur le territoire sera à ce moment sans objet. Les modalités de leur départ seraient à prévoir dès maintenant.

Je ne doute pas que vous ne donniez à cette lettre sa véritable signification dans la pensée du Gouvernement Royal. Elle procède, en tout et pour tout, du désir de manifester par ses propres moyens la pleine souveraineté de la Nation sur l'ensemble du Territoire, puisque dans le cas du Laos, comme dans celui du Cambodge, du fait surtout de l'acquiescement de tous les Lao, le terme même d'armistice sera, dans l'avenir proche, dépouillé de toute signification.

Je prie Votre Excellence d'agréer l'assurance de ma haute considération. /.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

A Son Excellence le Président de la Commission Internationale de Contrôle et d'Armistice au Laos

à VIENTIANE

ANNEXURE 21

No.PS(L)(101)(346)/57

Vientiane,
29th November, 1957

Your Highness,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 200/PC/MP dated the 26th November, 1957. As you know, I am proceeding at once for consultations with the Government of India with regard to the Political Settlement according to the Geneva Agreement, which involves the future of the International Commission. These consultations will also include the proposals contained in your letter. My Canadian and Polish colleagues are similarly consulting their Governments. I shall communicate with you on these matters as soon as possible.

I avail this opportunity to renew to Your Highness the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sd/- Dr. S.S. Ansari

H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister of the Royal
Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

Vientiane,
29th November, 1957

No. P2(L)(101)(3+6)757

Your Highness,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 200/PC/MP dated the 26th November, 1957. As you know, I am proceeding at once for consultations with the Government of India with regard to the Political Settlement according to the Geneva Agreement, which involves the future of the International Commission. These consultations will also include the proposals contained in your letter. My Canadian and Polish colleagues are similarly consulting their Governments. I shall communicate with you on these matters as soon as possible. I avail this opportunity to renew to Your Highness the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sd/- Dr. S.S. Ananti

H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister of the Royal
Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

REPORT OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE ON
VISIT TO SAM NEUA ON MARCH 1, 1958.

On March 1, 1958, the Political Committee to the International Commission for Supervision & Control in Laos consisting of Mr. N. Thomas for Indel, Mr. S. Dembowski from Poldel and Mr. M.D. Copithorne from Candel, flew to Sam Neua for a one day visit. The courier aircraft left Vientiane at approximately 8 a.m., stopped briefly at Xieng Khouang and landed at Sam Neua at about 10.15 a.m. The Committee was met at the airport by the members of the Commission's Fixed Team at Sam Neua as well as the Assistant Chaokhoueng of Sam Neua province and his staff. The Assistant Chaokhoueng welcomed the Committee on behalf of the Chaokhoueng who was unfortunately away from Sam Neua.

2. Later, the Committee was received in the Government offices by the Assistant Chaokhoueng who invited the members of the Committee to ask questions. The Committee learnt that integration was proceeding smoothly. Approximately 60 officials had been sent to Sam Neua by the Royal Government of whom 20 were working in the Chaokhoueng's office, and 40 in the offices of other Government departments in Sam Neua. It was reported that these officials were working in complete harmony side by side with former members of the Pathet Lao. It was learnt that a further unspecified number of former P.L. civil servants remain to be formally integrated. This will be done as soon as lists of these officials are submitted to the Chaokhoueng by the Special Commission created to receive the officials and appoint them to the various departments. At present these former P.L. officials are in Sam Neua and the surrounding villages. Unfortunately, the Chairman of the Commission's Fixed Team at Sam Neua was unable to arrange a meeting for the Political Committee with the members of the Special Commission.

3. The Assistant Chaokhoueng said that there was a shortage of food in Sam Neua because of a poor harvest. The Royal Government Health Unit had been established in Sam Neua on January 8, and was staffed by one Doctor and four Nurses.

4. In the afternoon the Political Committee visited the area headquarters of the Laotian National Army at Sam Neua and was received by the Acting Commander who explained that the Commander was away in Vientiane. The Committee was told that an atmosphere of calm existed throughout the province. Six battalions of the L.N.A. were in the province of Sam Neua, with three battalions stationed along the border where the Army positions were between 7 to 8 kilometres apart. The turn over of arms from the former P.L. troops was complete. By and large the Acting Commander reported, the people of the province were cooperating with the L.N.A.

5. The Committee stayed the night with the members of the Fixed Team, Sam Neua in the Commission building and left the following morning by commercial aircraft for Vientiane.

Sd/- S. Dembowski
POLDEL

Sd/- M.D. Copithorne
CANDEL

Sd/- N. Thomas
INDEL
CHAIRMAN

REPORT OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE ON VISIT TO SAM NEUA ON MARCH 1, 1958.

On March 1, 1958, the Political Committee to the International Commission for Supervision & Control in Laos consisting of Mr. W. Thomas for Indel, Mr. S. Dembowski from Poland and Mr. M.D. Gopitborne from Canada, flew to Sam Neua for a one day visit. The courier aircraft left Vientiane at approximately 8 a.m., stopped briefly at Xieng Khouang and landed at Sam Neua at about 10.15 a.m. The Committee was met at the airport by the members of the Commission's Fixed Team at Sam Neua as well as the Assistant Chao Khong of Sam Neua province and his staff. The Assistant Chao Khong welcomed the Committee on behalf of the Chao Khong who was unfortunately away from Sam Neua.

Later, the Committee was received in the Government offices by the Assistant Chao Khong who invited the members of the Committee to ask questions. The Committee learnt that integration was proceeding smoothly. Approximately 80 officials had been sent to Sam Neua by the Royal Government of whom 20 were working in the Chao Khong's office, and 40 in the offices of other Government departments in Sam Neua. It was reported that these officials were working in complete harmony side by side with former members of the Pathet Lao. It was learnt that a further unspecified number of former P.L. civil servants remain to be formally integrated. This will be done as soon as lists of these officials are submitted to the Chao Khong by the Special Commission created to receive the officials and appoint them to the various departments. At present these former P.L. officials are in Sam Neua and the surrounding villages. Unfortunately, the Chairman of the Commission's Fixed Team at Sam Neua was unable to arrange a meeting for the Political Committee with the members of the Special Commission.

The Assistant Chao Khong said that there was a shortage of food in Sam Neua because of a poor harvest. The Royal Government Health Unit had been established in Sam Neua on January 8, and was staffed by one Doctor and four Nurses.

In the afternoon the Political Committee visited the area headquarters of the Pathet National Army at Sam Neua and was received by the Acting Commander who explained that the Commander was away in Vientiane. The Committee was told that an atmosphere of calm existed throughout the province. Six battalions of the L.V.A. were in the province at Sam Neua, with three battalions stationed along the border where the Army positions were between 7 to 8 kilometers apart. The turn over of arms from the former P.L. troops was complete. By and large the Acting Commander reported, the people of the province were cooperating with the L.V.A.

The Committee stayed the night with the members of the Fixed Team, Sam Neua in the Commission building and left the following morning by commercial aircraft for Vientiane.

CHAIRMAN
INDIEL
S.A. - M.D. Gopitborne
S.A. - W. Thomas

S. Dembowski
POLAND

Report of the Political Committee on a
visit to Boun Neua on March 21, 1958.

The Political Committee consisting of Mr. Thomas, Indian Delegation, Mr. Dembowski, Polish Delegation, and Mr. Copithorne, Canadian Delegation, paid a brief visit on March 21st to Boun Neua in Phong Saly province.

2. The courier aircraft arrived about 10.30 in the morning and the Committee was greeted by the members of Fixed Team Boun Neua. The Committee walked to the village of Boun Neua at the end of the runway where it was received by the Nai Khong, or Chief of the Post, who is in charge of civil administration. The Nai Khong had been a member of the Pathet Lao and was formerly secretary to the Mayor of Phong Saly. The Committee was informed that Boun Neua comes under the Chaomuong of Boun Tai district of Phong Saly province.

3. Before the integration agreements, there was a sizeable population in the vicinity of Boun Neua consisting mainly of people who were unable to cross the armistice lines that were adjacent to the village, but since the agreements the population has largely dispersed, chiefly to the town of Phong Saly. The population of the district is 2,853 and it is estimated that Boun Neua village, old and new, has now less than 100 residents.

4. The Committee members observed numerous election posters and the campaign appears to be proceeding smoothly.

5. The Committee then had the opportunity of directing a few questions to the adjutant or sergeant, in charge of the LNA post at Boun Neua. The Committee was informed that while one company of about 70 to 80 men is nominally stationed at Boun Neua, the present strength is only 30 men. There is one male nurse attached to the LNA post who also services the civilian population.

6. The Committee was struck by the isolation of Boun Neua and the difficult conditions in which the Commission's team lives. The site is located adjacent to the airstrip in the flood plain of a river and during the rainy season, the runway is partially covered with water and the team site is subject to flooding. Two of the delegations live in tents which the third lives in the shed formerly used by the helicopter pilots. No supplies are available locally apart from water and firewood and the team is therefore entirely dependent on the courier service which, the Committee understands, is irregular because of poor flying weather. Now that integration is complete and only a few families remain in the vicinity of Boun Neua, it is evident that no useful job is being done by the team. It should be noted that living under such adverse conditions where no work is being done imposes considerable psychological strain on the members of the team.

S. DEMBOWSKI
POLDEL

M.D. COPITHORNE
CANDEL

N. THOMAS
INDEL CHAIRMAN

OP/IMMEDIATE
DPO: 091230

UNCLAS
Org.No.054/PS/58

FROM: INDEL VIENTIANE
TO: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

DESAI from ANSARI (.) Grateful if you would despatch following telegram to Co-Chairmen from International Commission (.)

QUOTE(.) TO (1) THE RT. HONOURABLE SELWYN LLOYD, M.P., HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, LONDON (2) HIS EXCELLENCY ANDREI V. GROMYKO, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNION OF THE SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, MOSCOW (.)

Para (.) In our letter of November 16, 1957 to the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference, we reported that Agreements on the establishment of the Royal Administration in the provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly and on the integration of the forces of the fighting units of the Pathet Lao into the National Army, had been signed on November 12, 1957 (.) We now wish to inform you that complete integration of former Pathet Lao Military Personnel into the Laotian National Army has been achieved in accordance with the above-mentioned ceremony at Plaine des Jarres (.) The Agreement of November 12, 1957 on the integration of the forces of the fighting units of the Pathet Lao has therefore been fully implemented (.) INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL IN LAOS (.) UNQUOTE (.)

Sd. Dr. S.S. Ansari,
Chairman.
5.3.58.

ROYAUME DU LAOS

ANNEXURE 25

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

Le Premier Ministre

Vientiane, le 20 Mars 1958

N°589/PC-PD

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance de votre Excellence qu'en sa séance du 13 Mars courant, le Conseil de Cabinet a décidé de demander la suppression de la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos pour compter de la date des Elections Complémentaires (4 Mai 1958). Le Gouvernement Royal considère en effet que les Elections Complémentaires du 4 Mai constitueront le dernier acte d'application des Accords de Genève du 20 juillet 1954 sur la cessation des hostilités au Laos.

En remerciant Votre Excellence des éminents services rendus au Laos par la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle, je serais reconnaissant à Votre Excellence de bien vouloir porter la décision du Gouvernement Royal à la haute connaissance de LL.EE.MM. les Co-Présidents de la Conférence de Genève.

Je saisis cette occasion de vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, les assurances de ma haute considération.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

Son Excellence, Monsieur
Président de la Commission Internationale
de Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos

à

VIENTIANE

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION
& CONTROL IN LAOS

TRANSLATION

Letter No.589/PC-PD dated 20 March, 1958.

From: The Prime Minister of the Royal
Government of Laos

To: H.E. the Chairman of the ICSC in Laos,
Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to bring to the kind notice of Your Excellency that in its session of 13th of this month, the Cabinet Council has decided to ask for the winding up of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos with effect from the date of supplementary elections (4 May 1958). The Royal Government considers in fact that the supplementary elections of 4 May 1958 constitute the last phase of the implementation of the Geneva Agreements of 20 July 1954 on the cessation of hostilities in Laos.

While thanking Your Excellency for the distinguished services rendered to Laos by the International Commission for Supervision and Control, I should be grateful if Your Excellency could kindly bring the decision of the Royal Government to the esteemed notice of Their Excellencies the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Chairman, the assurances of my high consideration.

ENCLAIR

Org.No.072/PS/58

FROM: INTERCOM VIENTIANE

TO: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

DESAI from ANSARI (.) Grateful if you would communicate following message from International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos to Co-Chairmen of Geneva Conference (.) Begins (.) Quote (.)

"To (1) The Right Hon'ble Selwyn Lloyd, M.P.,
Her Britannic Majesty's Principal
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
London.

(2) His Excellency Andrei A. Gromyko, Minister
for Foreign Affairs of the Union of the
Soviet Socialist Republic, Moscow."

Following letter received from His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister, Royal Government of Laos is forwarded to you (.) It is also being forwarded to the Governments of India, Canada and Poland by the Commissioners (.) We should be grateful if you would communicate your views on this letter to the three Supervisory Powers as early as possible (.) International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos (.)

Para (.) Text of letter begins (.) Quote (.)
Monsieur le Président, J'ai l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance de Votre Excellence qu'en sa séance du 13 Mars courant, le Conseil de Cabinet a décidé de demander la suppression de la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos pour compter de la date des Elections Complémentaires (4 Mai 1958) (.) Le Gouvernement Royal considère en effet que les Elections Complémentaires du 4 Mai constitueront le dernier acte d'application des Accords de Genève du 20 Juillet 1954 sur la cessation des hostilités au Laos (.)

Para (.) En remerciant Votre Excellence des éminents services rendus au Laos par la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle, je serais reconnaissant à Votre Excellence de bien vouloir porter la décision du Gouvernement Royal à la haute connaissance de LL. EE. MM. les Co-Présidents de la Conférence de Genève (.)
Unquote (.) Text of letter ends (.)

Message ends

International Secretariat,
Vientiane, Dt. 24th April 58.

F.6/(2)/ICL/58

SECRET MEMO

Sub: Instructions to Teams

The attention of I.C. Teams is invited to the following in connection with the forthcoming Supplementary Elections in Laos:

- (1) The teams will forward to the Commission relevant information in regard to the manner in which the elections are conducted.

(Attention is drawn to the excerpt from the Laotian declaration at the Geneva Conference reading "Affirms that all Laotian citizens may freely participate as electors or candidates in general elections by secret ballots").

- (2) For this purpose, the teams will move about in their respective zones of action and make necessary observations.
- (3) On the day of election, i.e. 4 May, teams will remain at the teamsites, receive complaints, if any, and forward them to the International Commission according to usual procedure (see standing instructions re: Receipt of complaints).
- (4) It should be clearly understood that the teams are in no way to interfere with the election proceedings and the observations as indicated above should be made as unobtrusively as possible.
- (5) All possible precautions should be taken not to get involved in any incidents, even in the face of provocation.

Sd. Dr. S.S. Ansari,
SECRETARY-GENERAL.

REPORT OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE

May 6, 1958.

In accordance with the instructions of the Commission, the Political Committee consisting of Mr. Copithorne, Political Adviser of the Canadian Delegation, Mr. Dembowski, Political Adviser of the Polish Delegation, and Mr. Balak Ram, representing the Indian Delegation, visited Xieng Khouang province to observe the general situation. The Committee flew to Phong Savan on Wednesday, April 30 and proceeded by jeep provided by the Laotian National Army to Xieng Khouang where the Committee stayed with a group of French Professors teaching at the Xieng Khouang College.

2. The following day the Committee called on the Chaokhoueng and inquired about the local situation. The Chaokhoueng was most helpful in providing the Committee with information on the local situation and the Committee received the impression from him that the province of Xieng Khouang was one of the most prosperous and stable in Laos. The Chaokhoueng stated that there were approximately 150,000 residents of the province of which about 78,000 were eligible to vote. The campaign was proceeding quietly and there has been no incidents to date. In the 1955 elections, the Chaokhoueng stated, approximately 90% of those eligible had cast their votes as failure to do so was considered to be "un-Laotian". The Committee had intended to visit the candidates and the Laotian National Army Commander at Plaines des Jarres, but unfortunately the jeep used by the Committee broke down and the members were obliged to stay in Xieng Khouang. Throughout the area in which the Committee did travel election posters were in evidence and the Committee came to the conclusion that the campaign was active, but peaceful.

3. The Committee returned to Vientiane on Friday, May 2.

Sd. S. Dembowski,
Pol. del.

Sd. M.D. Copithorne,
Can. del.

N. Thomas,
In. del.

MILITARY COMMITTEE'S VISIT TO PAKSE ON 2 MAY 58

1. In accordance with the decision taken at the 235th meeting of the I.C.S.C. in Laos, held on 23 April 1958, the Military Committee visited Pakse on 2 May, 1958.
2. The Committee was met by a liaison Officer from the Military District Commander's staff. He advised the Committee that Colonel Amkha Soukhavong would return to Pakse by 1200 hours. In the meantime he placed two staff cars at the disposal of the Committee.
3. The Committee went to the Office of the Chaokhoueng and discussed the current situation with him with particular reference to the coming Supplementary General Elections. The following information was given by the Chaokhoueng:-
 - a) So far there has been no report of any incidents or disturbances in any part of the Province in connection with the election campaign.
 - b) There are fourteen candidates for the two seats allotted to the province of Champassak.
 - c) There are 228 polling booths in the province. The voting is to start at 0700 hours and end at 1800 hours on 4 May 58 and the counting of votes will take place immediately afterwards. From most places results would be known on the next day but some outlying places may take two or three days more.
 - d) He hoped that there would be no breach of law and order on the Election day in the province.
4. The Committee next visited the office of the Chief of Police, Colonel Souvath, but could not meet him as he was out with the Minister of National Economy who had arrived at Pakse the same day.
5. The Committee called on Colonel Laurent, French Military Adviser to the 4th Military Region Commander. He stated that he had heard of no incidents and that in his opinion the campaign was unusually quiet and orderly.
6. The Committee met Colonel Soukhavong Amkha, the Commander of the 4th Military Region informally at a reception followed by a lunch given by him to the Committee. He had gone to the interior of the province to ensure security during the election and the period preceding it. According to him everything was peaceful and tranquil. He did not expect any trouble in his region which comprises the three provinces of Champassak, Attapeu and Saravane. However, the army had been told to be in readiness, should it be required to go out in aid of the Civil Police. He expressed the appreciation of the whole country for the work which the IC has done to bring peace and unity in the country.
7. The Committee went round the town and found that everything appeared normal and seemed to corroborate with the statements of the officials. The local authorities were very cooperative and appeared to be genuinely grateful to the Commission for their continued interest in the peaceful settlement of the country's problems.
8. The Committee left Pakse at 1500 hours and was seen off by Colonel Amkha and other Army Officers of the Station.

Vientiane, le 9 Avril 1958

N^o 44

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Président du Comité Central du
Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT,

A.S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, Premier Ministre, Président
du Conseil du Gouvernement Royal du Laos

à VIENTIANE.

(En communication à :

S.E. Phagna PHENG PHONGSAVAN, Président de l'Assemblée Nationale
du Laos

à VIENTIANE.

S.E. le Docteur S.S. ANSARI, Président de la Commission
Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle de l'Armis-
tice au Laos

à VIENTIANE)

Altesse,

J'ai l'honneur de vous rendre compte des divers faits ci-
après dûment constatés par mes soins. Ces faits, survenus dans
toutes les provinces du Royaume depuis la mi-Janvier 1958 (date de
l'intégration effective des Unités Combattantes Pathet Lao) ont
augmenté de fréquence et d'intensité depuis début Mars (date de
l'ouverture de la campagne électorale). Ces faits visent tous à
ranimer, susciter et envenimer les haines anciennes, les désirs
de représailles et de vengeance personnelles. Ils visent donc à
détruire l'esprit de réconciliation et de concorde qui venait de
revivre grâce à l'exécution des accords d'intégration et d'uni-
fication; ils visent par conséquent à raviver la discorde et la
division, afin que nos concitoyens, une fois de plus, reprennent
l'odieux chemin des luttes et tueries fratricides, profitables
uniquement à certains milieux étrangers.

Dans le concret, il est regrettable de constater que
ces faits visent à la suppression ou répression des ex-Pathet-Lao,
du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT et de leurs sympathisants, à la faveur de

mesures, toutes systématiquement discriminatoires et antidémocratiques, prises par certaines personnalités gouvernementales et par certaines autorités administratives et militaires du Royaume.

Ci-après quelques-uns de ces faits :

(I) Des fascicules et tracts anonymes ont été imprimés et distribués dans tout le Royaume, sous les yeux approbateurs de l'Administration, de la Police et de l'Armée. Ils visent tous à surexciter la population contre les ex-Pathet-Lao et le Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT, en les calomniant et en les taxant gratuitement de "Communistes", dans l'intention évidente de susciter l'hystérie anti-communiste et la peur panique du communisme.

Exemples de tels fascicules :

- L'entrée du rideau de fer.
- S'entr'aider pour préserver la religion.
- Prenons le deuil.
- Liberté. Vu, entendu et diffusé de bouche en bouche.

Exemples de tels tracts :

- Résultats des trois ans de gestion du parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT à Sam Neua.
- Vérité historique.
- A nos concitoyens Lao. Signé : Un groupe de Lao qui veulent le bien du pays.
- Les dix points concernant la réunion des Lao.
- Au Chef du village et à la population. Signé : le groupe du pieu rouge.
- La voix du peuple Lao par tout le Royaume, etc...

Ce dernier tract va même jusqu'à demander au Gouvernement Royal de laisser faire et de couvrir tous actes de répression présents et à venir contre les ex-Pathet-Lao et le NEO-LAO-HAKSAT.

(2) Actes de représailles et mesures discriminatoires :

- Arrestation des ex-Pathet-Lao, et des membres du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT sous des inculpations gratuites ou inventées de toutes pièces. Une fois arrêtés, ils ont été l'objet de menaces, de

voies de fait et de tortures, destinées à leur faire accepter ou avouer des crimes qu'ils n'avaient ni accomplis ni médités, tels que fomenter le renversement du Gouvernement Royal, constituer des dépôts d'armes clandestins, constituer des groupements armés etc...

Exemples :

- Arrestation le 12-3-58, de Thao Sènsay, originaire de Ban Houei Sing (canton Khong Lao, district Santeu) incarcéré au poste militaire de Muong Yeuang (district Santeu) province de Sam Neua);

- Arrestation, le 20-3-58, de Mai Van, originaire de Ban Sanet (canton Nakham, district Phiafay, province Champassak), incarcéré à la caserne de Phongsikhay puis transféré à la prison de Paksé depuis le 29-3-58;

- Arrestation, le 22-3-58, de Naileng, originaire de Ban Houei Man Pao (canton Nong Phan, district Champassak) incarcéré à la caserne de Phongsikhay puis transféré à la prison de Paksé depuis le 28-3-58;

- Assassinats, ouverts ou secrets, des ex-Pathet-Lao, tels que le cas de Muong Bèng (province de Luang Prabang) où deux ex-Pathet-Lao ont été fusillés par l'Armée, et le cas de Muong Kao (province Attapeu) où le représentant du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT, Thao Soy, a été tué d'un coup de fusil chez lui le 8-4-58 vers 19 heures.

- Usages de grenades et de produits toxiques contre les ex-Pathet-Lao, tels que le cas de Savannakhet où le candidat NEO-LAO-HAKSAT Thao Sisana Sisan a échappé de justesse à une grenade jetée le 4-4-58 par un sous-lieutenant de l'Armée Nationale, en pleine réunion électorale, et le cas de la troupe artistique du Ministère des Beaux Arts, composée en majeure partie d'ex-Pathet-Lao (des boules à funées toxiques ont été lancées sur elle, au cours de ses récentes représentations à Vientiane et dans la pagode du That Louang).

- Certains ministres et Chaokhouèngs ont même réuni les fonctionnaires, chefs de canton et chefs de village pour leur ordonner de faire gagner certains candidats, et les menacer de

licenciement s'ils laissaient passer les candidats du NEO-LAO-HAKSAT ou leurs sympathisants.

- Certains détachements de l'Armée ont reçu l'ordre d'aller déchirer et détruire tous les portraits et feuilles de propagande desdits candidats jusque dans les villages.

- Des groupes de soldats et de policiers en civil ont reçu l'ordre de suivre les candidats et les propagandistes du NEO-LAO-HAKSAT et leur sympathisants pour leur interdire de lire et d'étudier la loi électorale et la loi de garantie des libertés démocratiques.

- Les autorités administratives ne donnent des bulletins de vote qu'à ceux qui consentent à voter pour certains candidats et les refusent à ceux qui votent pour le NEO-LAO-HAKSAT ou leurs sympathisants.

Tels sont les faits, lesquels viennent s'ajouter à ceux dont M. Phoumi VONGVICHIT et moi-même avons eu l'honneur de vous entretenir verbalement, à plusieurs reprises, afin que vous-même, Altresse, vous interveniez de toute votre autorité pour mettre un terme à une telle situation.

Les ex-Pathet-Lao et tous les membres du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT considèrent sincèrement que Sa Majesté le Roi et les Hautes autorités royales sont pour ainsi dire leur père et mère et qu'en intégrant dans la communauté nationale ils pensaient trouver aide et protection, compréhension et bons sentiments. Or, d'après ce qui a été dit plus haut, il semble que la plupart d'entre eux n'ont trouvé qu'incompréhensions, préjugés, menaces, brimades, coups et blessures, prisons, et même la mort.

Le Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT, dont le Comité Central comprend les principaux dirigeants de l'ex-Pathet-Lao, reste ipso facto le dépositaire des intérêts de l'ex-Pathet-Lao et de ses sympathisants, tels qu'ils sont inscrits dans les accords d'application intervenus entre le Gouvernement Royal et l'ex-Pathet-Lao.

Il se doit donc de porter ces faits à la connaissance du Gouvernement Royal, de l'Assemblée Nationale et de la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle de l'Armistice au

Laos afin de leur demander que cessent immédiatement toutes mesures discriminatoires à l'encontre des ex-Pathet-Lao, du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT et de leur sympathisants, que des mesures efficaces soient prises pour que de tels actes discriminatoires ne puissent plus se renouveler et pour que les prochaines élections complémentaires se déroulent avec toute la garantie de justice et de calme, conformément aux lois du Royaume et aux accords d'application sus-mentionnés.

Ce n'est qu'à ce prix que le Gouvernement Royal aura strictement et intégralement exécuté les accords signés, pourra garantir à tous les citoyens l'usage des libertés démocratiques prescrites par nos lois et notre Constitution, et consolider l'esprit de concorde et d'union nationale conformément aux aspirations du peuple Lao tout entier.

Dans l'espoir que mon présent rapport sera pris favorablement en considération par le Gouvernement Royal, je vous prie d'agréer, Altesse, l'assurance de mes sentiments respectueusement dévoués./.

Signé S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG

... afin de leur demander que cessent immédiatement toutes mes-
 ses discriminations à l'endroit des ex-Patrol-Law, du Parti
 LAO-LAO-HAKSAT et de leur sympathisants, que des mesures efficaces
 soient prises pour que de tels actes discriminatoires ne puissent
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Ce n'est qu'à ce prix que le Gouvernement Royal aura
 complètement et intégralement exécuté les accords signés, pour
 garantir à tous les citoyens l'usage des libertés démocratiques
 reconnues par nos lois et notre Constitution, et conséquen-
 tement de concorde et d'union nationale conformément aux appli-
 cations du peuple lao tout entier.

Dans l'attente de mon prochain rapport sans prix
 complétement en considération par le Gouvernement Royal, je vous
 prie d'agréer, Messieurs, l'assurance de mes sentiments respectueux
 et dévoués.

Signé S.M. le Prince SOMKHITHVONGSA

Letter No. 44, dated 9 April 1958.

From: H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, President of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat Party.

To: H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister, President of the Council of the Royal Laotian Government, VIENTIANE.

With copies to: H.E. Phagna Pheng Phongsavan, President of the National Assembly of Laos, VIENTIANE.

H.E. Dr. S.S. Ansari, Chairman of the ICSC armistice in Laos, VIENTIANE.

HIGHNESS,

I have the honour to report to you the various incidents given below which have been properly noted under my care. These incidents which have occurred throughout the provinces of the Kingdom since the middle of January 1958 (date of the effective integration of the Fighting Units of Pathet Lao) have increased in their incidence and intensity since early March (date of the opening of the election campaign). These incidents are all aimed at reviving, rousing and poisoning the old hatred and wishes for reprisals and personal vengeance. They are, therefore, calculated to destroy the spirit of reconciliation and concord which had just been revived, thanks to the implementation of the Agreements for the integration and unification; they are therefore aimed at rekindling discord and division, so that our co-citizens take up once again the odious path of fights and fratricidal slaughters which solely benefit certain foreign circles.

In brief, it is regrettable to note that these incidents aim at the suppression or repression of the ex-Pathet Lao, of the Neo Lao Haksat Party and of their sympathisers, by means of systematic discriminatory and anti-democratic measures adopted by certain governmental personalities and by certain administrative and military authorities of the Kingdom.

The following are some of the incidents:-

1) Anonymous pamphlets and tracts have been printed and distributed throughout the Kingdom under the approving eyes of the Administration, the Police and the Army. They are all aimed at inciting the people against the ex-Pathet Lao and the Neo Lao Haksat Party, by vilifying them and gratuitously accusing them of being communists with the obvious intention of inciting anti-communist hysteria and panicky fear of communism.

Instances of such pamphlets -

- The entry into the iron curtain,
- Mutual help to preserve the religion,
- Let us take to mourning,
- Freedom. Seen, heard and propagated from mouth to mouth.

Instances of such tracts -

- Results of 3 years administration by the Neo Lao Haksat Party in Sam Neua.
- Historical truth.

- Letter No. 44, dated 9 April 1958.
- To our Lao co-citizens - Signed: A group of Laotians who want the welfare of the country.
 - The ten points concerning the reunion of the Laotians.
 - To the Chief of the village and the population. Signed the group of the red post.
 - The voice of the Lao people throughout the Kingdom, etc...

The last mentioned brochure goes even to the extent of asking the Royal Government to allow the doing and to excuse all acts of repression, present and future, against the ex-Pathet Lao and the Neo Lao Haksat.

2) Reprisal acts and discriminatory measures:-

Arrests of ex-Pathet Lao and members of the Neo Lao Haksat Party under gratuitous or invented charges of all sorts. Once arrested, they have been subjected to threats, blows and tortures, intended to make them accept or confess crimes which they had neither committed nor envisaged such as fomenting the overthrowing of the Royal Government, building up of underground arms depots, organising of armed groups etc.

Instances:-

On 12-3-58 arrest of Thao Sensay, native of Ban Houei Sing (canton Khong Lao Samteu Dt.) imprisoned in the Military post at Muong Yeuang (Dt. Samteu, Province of Sam Neua).

Arrest on 20.3.58 of Nai Van, native of Ban Sanot (canton nakhone Dt. Phiafay, province of Champassak) jailed in the barracks at Phonsikhay and later transferred to the Pakse jail since 29.3.58.

On 22-3-58, arrest of Nai Iang, native of Ban Houei Man Pa (canton Nong Pham, Dt. Champassak) imprisoned in the barracks at Phonsikhay and later transferred to the Pakse jail since 28-3-58.

Overt or secret assassination of ex-Pathet Lao such as the Muong Beng incident (province of Luang Prabang) where two ex-Pathet Lao were shot by the army, and the Muong Kao incident (province of Attapeu) where the representative of the Neo Lao Haksat Party, Thao Soy was shot dead with a rifle in his house on 8-4-58 at about 19.00 hours.

Use of grenades and poisonous products against the ex-Pathet Lao, as was the case in Savannakhet where the Neo Lao Haksat candidate Thao Sisena, narrowly escaped a grenade thrown on 4-4-58 by a Second Lieutenant of the National Army before the whole electoral meeting and the case of the artistic group of the Fine Arts Ministry, consisting of a good deal of ex-Pathet Lao (poisonous smoke balls were thrown on the group during its recent performances in Vientiane and in the That Louang pagoda).

Certain Ministers and Chaokhouengs have even called meetings of officials, chiefs of cantons and village headmen, for issuing orders to them so as to make certain candidates successful and threatening them of dismissal if they allowed the successful election of Neo Lao Haksat candidates or of their sympathisers.

Certain detachments of the Army have received the order to go and tear off and destroy all portraits and propaganda notices of the said candidates even in villages.

Groups of soldiers and policemen in mufti have received orders to follow the candidates and propaganda agents of the Neo Lao Haksat and their sympathisers to prevent them from reading and studying the electoral law and the law guaranteeing democratic freedom.

The administrative authorities give the voting papers only to those who consent to vote for certain candidates and refuse them to those who vote for the Neo Lao Haksat or their sympathisers.

Such are the facts, which add up to those which Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit and I had the honour to inform you verbally, many a time, so as to get, Highness, your personal intervention with all your authority in order to put an end to such a situation.

The ex-Pathet Lao and all the members of the Neo Lao Haksat Party sincerely consider that His Majesty the King and the Distinguished Royal Authorities are, so to say, their father and mother and that by integrating into the national community they thought of finding help, protection, understanding and good feelings. Now, according to what has been stated above, it appears that most of them have found only a lack of understanding, prejudices, threats, vexations, blows and injuries, jails and even death.

The Neo Lao Haksat Party, whose Central Committee includes the chief leaders of the ex-Pathet Lao remain IPSO FACTO the trustees of the interests of the ex-Pathet Lao and its sympathisers such as they are laid down in the implementation agreements reached between the Royal Government and the ex-Pathet Lao.

It therefore owes it to itself to bring these facts to the notice of the Royal Government, of the National Assembly and of the ICSC of armistice in Laos so as to ask them for the immediate cessation of all discriminatory measures affecting the ex-Pathet Lao, the Neo Lao Haksat Party and their sympathisers and for the adoption of necessary measures to prevent the recurrence of such discriminatory acts so that the forthcoming supplementary elections be held with all the guarantees of justice and peace in conformity with the laws of the Kingdom and the afore-mentioned implementation agreements.

It is only with this price that the Royal Government would have strictly and fully implemented the signed agreements and that it can guarantee to all citizens the benefit of democratic freedoms laid down in our laws and our Constitution and can consolidate the spirit of concord and national union in conformity with the aspirations of the entire Laotian people.

In the hope that my present report will be favourably considered by the Royal Government, I request you, Highness, to accept the assurances of my respectful and devoted sentiments.

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The administrative authorities give the voting papers only to those who consent to vote for certain candidates and refuse them to those who vote for the Neo Lao Haksat or their sympathizers.

Such are the facts, which add up to those which Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit and I had the honor to inform you verbally, many a time, so as to get, Highness, your personal intervention with all your authority in order to put an end to such a situation.

The ex-Father Lao and all the members of the Neo Lao Haksat Party strongly consider that His Majesty the King and the distinguished Royal Authorities are, so to say, their father and mother and that by integrating into the national community they thought of finding help, protection, understanding and good feelings. Now, according to what has been stated above, it appears that most of them have found only a lack of understanding, prejudices, threats, vexations, blows and injuries, jails and even death.

The Neo Lao Haksat Party, whose Central Committee includes the chief leaders of the ex-Father Lao remain 1950 and the progress of the interests of the ex-Father Lao and its sympathizers such as they are laid down in the implementation agreements reached between the Royal Government and the ex-Father Lao.

It therefore owes it to itself to bring these facts to the notice of the Royal Government, of the National Assembly and of the 1950 Committee in Laos so as to ask them for the immediate cessation of all discriminatory measures affecting the ex-Father Lao, the Neo Lao Haksat Party and their sympathizers and for the adoption of necessary measures to prevent the recurrence of such discriminatory acts so that the forthcoming representative elections be held with all the guarantees of justice and peace in conformity with the laws of the Kingdom and the above-mentioned implementation agreements.

It is only with this purpose that the Royal Government would have strongly and fully implemented the signed agreements and that it can guarantee to all citizens the benefit of democratic freedom laid down in our laws and our Constitution and can consolidate the spirit of concord and national union in conformity with the aspirations of the entire Laotian people.

In the hope that my present report will be favorably considered by the Royal Government, I request you, Highness, to accept the assurances of my respectful and devoted sentiments.

No.PS(L)(101)(086)/58

Vientiane, 18th April 1958.

His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister and President of the Council
of the Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

Copies to : H.E. Phagna Pheng Phongsavan,
President of the National Assembly of Laos,
Vientiane.

H.H. Prince Souphanouvong,
President of the Central Committee of
the Neo Lao Haksat Party,
Vientiane.

HIGHNESS,

I have the honour to refer to letter No. 44 of April 9 addressed to Your Highness by Prince Souphanouvong, in his capacity as President of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat Party.

2. As Your Highness is aware, the role of the International Commission has been to assist whenever possible in the implementation of the Geneva Agreements in the best interests of the Laotian people. In so doing the Commission followed closely the negotiations leading up to the settlement between the Royal Laotian Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, and had great pleasure in informing the Co-Chairmen of the various stages of implementation of the Geneva Agreements as well as of the agreements between the two Parties. It was with concern, therefore, that the Commission noted the allegations in the letter of His Highness Prince Souphanouvong that various incidents throughout the country are threatening to weaken the spirit of reconciliation and concord which made possible the accords reached last November between the Royal Laotian Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao. The Commission hopes that Your Highness' Government will take whatever steps it considers appropriate to clarify the situation.

3. The Commission is sure that, as the main architect of the unification of Laos and reconciliation of her people, Your Highness will agree on the importance of an early reply to the letter of His Highness Prince Souphanouvong in order to avoid the possibility that the successful implementation of the Geneva Agreement for Laos might be endangered and that the forthcoming supplementary elections, which are the substantial part of the agreements between the parties and which will complete the political settlement envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement, might be jeopardized.

4. In the name of the Commission, I request Your Highness to accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sd/- Dr. S.S. Ansari
Chairman

His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister and President of the Council
of the Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

Copies to: H.E. Phana Pheng Phongsavan,
President of the National Assembly of Laos,
Vientiane.

H.H. Prince Souphanouvong,
President of the Central Committee of
the Neo Lao Haksat Party,
Vientiane.

HIGHNESS,

I have the honor to refer to letter No. 44 of
April 9 addressed to Your Highness by Prince Souphanouvong,
in his capacity as President of the Central Committee of
the Neo Lao Haksat Party.

As Your Highness is aware, the role of the International
Commission has been to assist wherever possible in the
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followed closely the negotiations leading up to the
settlement between the Royal Laotian Government and the
Peking Units of the Pathet Lao, and had great pleasure
in informing the Co-Chairman of the various stages of
implementation of the Geneva Agreements as well as of the
agreements between the two Parties. It was with concern,
therefore, that the Commission noted the allegations in
the letter of His Highness Prince Souphanouvong that various
holdouts throughout the country are threatening to weaken
the spirit of reconciliation and accord which made possible
the records reached last November between the Royal
Laotian Government and the Peking Units of the Pathet
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will take whatever steps it considers appropriate to
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of the unification of Laos and reconciliation of her
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implementation of the Geneva Agreement for Laos might be
jeopardized and that the forthcoming supplementary elections,
which are the substantial part of the agreement between
the Parties and which will complete the political settlement
envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement, might
be jeopardized.

In the name of the Commission I request Your Highness
to accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

SA-TH-23. ANANT
Chairman

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

Vientiane, le 23 Avril 1958

Le Premier Ministre,

N° 338/PC-PD

Excellence,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre

N° PS(L)101 (036/50) du 18 Avril 1958 relative à la lettre N° 44 datée du 9 Avril qui m'a été adressée par S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG en qualité de Président du Comité Central du Parti Néo-Lao-Haksat.

Jé tiens à assurer la Commission Internationale que le Gouvernement Royal n'a jamais cessé de veiller à une bonne application des arrangements intervenus en exécution des Accords de Genève.

Les Elections Complémentaires qui donnent lieu à la présente campagne électorale s'inscrivent dans le cadre de la Constitution et d'une loi antérieure à l'intervention des arrangements.

Aucune opération électorale particulière n'est prévue par les Accords de Genève. Mais conformément à l'Article 14 de ces Accords et à la Déclaration annexe, l'heureux aboutissement des négociations avec les Représentants des U.C.P.L. permet à tous les citoyens lao, sans aucune distinction ni discrimination, de participer aux Elections Complémentaires qui avaient été décidées par l'Assemblée Nationale.

Dans tous les pays où joue librement l'exercice des libertés démocratiques, une campagne électorale est toujours marquée d'une certaine fébrilité. La situation pendant cette période délicate doit être considérée avec sang-froid. Il est essentiel de veiller à ce qu'aucun élément extérieur, étranger au jeu des Partis et des hommes en cause, ne vienne contribuer à l'aggraver inconsidérément.

Le Gouvernement Royal demeure conscient du devoir qui lui incombe d'assurer le fonctionnement normal des libertés démocratiques et de réfréner les abus et les excès contraires à la légalité. Des directives ont été adressées à cette fin par lettre du 4 Avril 1958 aux Départements de la Justice. Cette lettre a été ensuite diffusée auprès des Autorités administratives, militaires et des notables. Le Gouvernement tiendra la main à ce que ces directives soient suivies, mais il est bien évident que, du jour où on leur a donné libre cours, les passions d'ordre politique ou personnel ne manquent pas de se manifester.

Je suis persuadé que la Commission Internationale, qui a si largement contribué à sauvegarder le respect du principe essentiel de la souveraineté du Gouvernement Royal, ne manquera pas de considérer sous son véritable aspect le déroulement des affaires intérieures du Royaume.

Je tiens à assurer la Commission Internationale de Contrôle que, comme par le passé, le Gouvernement Royal demeure résolument attaché au maintien de l'esprit de compréhension réciproque et d'union nationale dont j'ai fait pendant si longtemps et malgré les difficultés et critiques de toute provenance, le principe inébranlable de ma politique.

Je saisis cette occasion de renouveler à Votre Excellence les assurances de ma haute considération./.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Kron Mana)

Son Excellence

Monsieur le Président de la Commission
Internationale de Surveillance et de
Contrôle au Laos

VIENTIANE.

(Enclosure to Annexure 32).

ROYAUME AU LAOS

Vientiane, le 4 Avril 1958

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

N° 19/CO/PC-MP

LE PREMIER MINISTRE, PRESIDENT DU CONSEIL,
Ministre des Postes & Télécommunications
et de l'Information Nationale

Leurs Excellences les Ministres

- de la Justice

- de l'Intérieur et

- de la Défense Nationale

à VIENTIANE

I/- D'après des renseignements de sources diverses, des groupements ou des partis se livrent dans les campagnes, à l'occasion des prochaines élections, à un certain nombre d'activités illégales. La liste ci-jointe énumère quelques unes de ces

II/- Il me paraît opportun de rappeler ci-après quelques

directives ou principes qui doivent régler le déroulement des

activités politiques:

1) Les élections supplémentaires de 1958 ne sont pas

organisées pour tel ou tel parti, mais pour tous les partis

et tous les habitants même non affiliés à un parti. Les habi-

tants sont libres d'adhérer à un parti ou de le quitter quand

il leur plaît. Il n'est pas nécessaire d'adhérer à un parti

pour exercer le droit de vote.

2) Le Gouvernement et les fonctionnaires n'ont pas à

prendre parti dans les activités politiques. Leur rôle est

d'assurer le libre fonctionnement des institutions dans le

respect des Lois, notamment en ce qui concerne le déroulement

normal des opérations électorales.

3) Le Gouvernement a le devoir d'assurer conformément à la

Constitution le fonctionnement normal des libertés démocratiques.

Liberté ne signifie pas que les partis ou les individus sont libres de dire ou de faire n'importe quoi. Toutes les libertés de parole, d'association, de réunion etc... s'exerce dans le cadre de lois qui ont précisé ce qu'il est interdit de faire ou de dire. Si ces règles précises ne sont pas observées, il n'y a plus de liberté pour les autres citoyens. La campagne électorale doit se dérouler dans la sécurité et la tranquillité.

4) Le Gouvernement et les fonctionnaires ont le devoir impérieux de faire respecter le principe de la souveraineté de l'Etat. Sa Majesté et les Institutions représentent légalement le Pays Lao. Toute activité de groupement ou d'individus dirigée contre l'Administration doit être réprimée sans hésitation.

III/- Les activités signalées plus haut constituent des infractions aux lois. Certaines sont graves car elles mettent en cause la Souveraineté de l'Etat. Il convient de les poursuivre sans délai. Dans chaque province, les autorités responsables de l'ordre et de la sécurité se réuniront immédiatement et étudieront les faits qui sont parvenus à leur connaissance.

Des poursuites devront être engagées, dans des cas précis, sur l'initiative des Chaomuongs, Officiers de la Police judiciaire, les preuves rassemblées, la qualification de l'infraction précisée.

Les prévenus seront transférés sans délai au Chef Lieu de la province. Les procureurs du Roi devront requérir le jugement rapide de ces affaires.

IV/ La population doit être informée des conditions dans lesquelles les activités politiques doivent se dérouler. Les directives et principes qui font l'objet du paragraphe II ci-dessus devront être diffusées sous forme d'avis, dans chaque Tassèng par les soins des Chaomuongs avant le 20 Avril.

V/- Ci-joint le relevé de quelques activités illégales.

P. LE PREMIER MINISTRE, PRESIDENT DU
CONSEIL ET PAR DELEGATION,
Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
chargé de l'expédition des Affaires
courantes de la Présidence du Conseil
des Ministres,

Signé: Phoui SANANIKONE

RELEVÉ DE QUELQUES ACTIVITÉS ILLEGALES.

- Constitution de dépôt d'armes ou de ravitaillement.
 - Organisation d'une administration clandestine, dépassant les activités légales d'une Association, et appuyée dans certains cas sur des groupements armés vivant en forêt et aidés par des éléments étrangers.
 - Organisation défiliale de partis politiques sans déclaration d'existence.
 - Ordres donnés dans certaines régions excentriques de refuser l'utilisation de la langue Lao dans les rapports entre la population et l'administration.
 - Mesures visant à empêcher la population de connaître les directives du Gouvernement Royal.
 - Propagande, dans certaines régions excentriques, invitant la population à refuser les billets de la Banque Nationale Lao.
 - Propagande contre l'Armée Nationale.
 - Recrutement forcé d'adhérents par certains partis (par pression morale le plus souvent).
 - Menaces contre les habitants qui voteraient en faveur de certains partis.
 - Menaces de guerre ou d'interventions de volontaires étrangers si la population ne vote pas pour certains partis.
 - D'instructions données à des groupements d'employer tous les moyens pour détruire le Gouvernement Royal.
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REVUE DE QUELQUES ACTIVITES ILLICITES.

- Constitution de dépôt d'armes ou de revêtement.
- Organisation d'une administration clandestine, dépassant les activités légales d'une association, et appuyée dans certains cas sur des groupements armés vivant en forêt et aidés par des éléments étrangers.
- Organisation défilée de partis politiques sans déclaration d'existence.
- Ordes données dans certaines régions excentriques de refus de l'utilisation de la langue française dans les rapports entre la population et l'administration.
- Mesures visant à empêcher la population de connaître les directives du Gouvernement Royal.
- Propagande, dans certaines régions excentriques, invitant la population à refuser les billets de la Banque Nationale.
- Propagande contre l'Armée Nationale.
- Recrutement forcé d'adhérents par certains partis (par pression morale le plus souvent).
- Menaces contre les habitants qui voteront en faveur de certains partis.
- Menaces de guerre ou d'interventions de volontaires étrangers et la population ne vote pas pour certains partis.
- Distractions données à des groupements d'employer tous les moyens pour décrire le Gouvernement Royal.

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TRANSLATION

Letter No. 838/PC-PD, dated 23rd April, 1958, from the
Prime Minister, Kingdom of Laos.

To H.E. the Chairman, ICSC in Laos.

Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your
letter No. PS(L)101(086/7)/58 of 18 April '58, relating
to letter No. 44 dated 9th April, which was forwarded to
me by H.H. Prince Souphanouvong in his capacity as
President of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat
party.

I wish to assure the International Commission that
the Royal Government has never ceased to watch for a good
implementation of the arrangements involved in the applica-
tion of the Geneva Agreement.

The Supplementary Elections which entail the present
electoral campaign come within the ambit of the Constitution
and of a law framed prior to the intervention of the
arrangements.

No particular electoral operation is envisaged in
the Geneva Agreement. But in conformity with Article 14
of this Agreement and to the annexed declaration, the
happy conclusion of negotiations with the representatives
of the Fighting Units of Pathet Lao enables every Lao
citizen, without any distinction or discrimination, to
participate in the Supplementary Elections which were
decided upon by the National Assembly.

In all the countries where the exercise of democratic
freedom has full play, an electoral campaign is always
marked by a certain amount of feverishness. The situation
during this delicate period must be viewed with coolness.
It is essential to see that no outside element, alien to
the game of Parties and men involved, comes to contribute
to the thoughtless aggravation of the situation.

The Royal Government remains conscious of the duty
which devolves on it to ensure the normal functioning of
democratic freedom and to repress any abuses and excesses
contrary to legality. To this effect instructions have
been issued in a letter dated 4th April, 58, to the
Departments of Justice, Home Affairs and National Defence.
This letter has later been publicised amongst the
administrative and military authorities and dignitaries.
The Government will firmly see that these instructions
are respected, but it is quite obvious that, from the day
when they are given free play, the passions of a political
or personal nature do not fail to manifest themselves.

I am convinced that the International Commission,
which has in so large a measure contributed to safeguard
the respect for the essential principle of the Royal
Government's sovereignty, will not fail to consider in
its true perspective the development of the internal affairs
of the Kingdom.

I wish to assure the International Supervisory Commission that, as in the past, the Royal Government remains resolutely attached to the maintenance of the spirit of mutual understanding and of national union of which I have so long and despite difficulties and the criticism from all quarters, made the inflexible principle of my policy.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my high consideration.

I wish to assure the International Commission that the Royal Government has never ceased to watch for a good implementation of the arrangements involved in the application of the Geneva Agreement.

The Supplementary Elections which entail the present electoral campaign come within the ambit of the Constitution and of a law framed prior to the intervention of the arrangements.

No particular electoral operation is envisaged in the Geneva Agreement. But in conformity with Article 14 of this Agreement and to the annexed declaration, the happy conclusion of negotiations with the representatives of the Fighting Units of Pathet Lao enables every Lao citizen, without any distinction or discrimination, to participate in the Supplementary Elections which were decided upon by the National Assembly.

In all the countries where the exercise of democratic freedom has full play, an electoral campaign is always marked by a certain amount of feverishness. The situation during this delicate period must be viewed with coolness. It is essential to see that no outside element, alien to the game of parties and men involved, comes to contribute to the thoughtless aggravation of the situation.

The Royal Government remains conscious of the duty which devolves on it to ensure the normal functioning of democratic freedom and to repress aggressions and excesses contrary to legality. To this effect instructions have been issued in a letter dated 24 April, 58, to the Departments of Justice, Home Affairs and National Defence. This letter has later been published amongst the administrative and military authorities and districts. The Government will firmly see that these instructions are respected, but it is quite obvious that, from the day when they are given free play, the passions of a political or personal nature do not fail to manifest themselves.

I am convinced that the International Commission, which has in so large a measure contributed to safeguard the respect for the essential principle of the Royal Government's sovereignty, will not fail to consider in the long perspective the development of the internal affairs of the Kingdom.

Letter No. 19/CO/PC-MP, dated 4th April, 1958.

From: The Prime Minister, President of the Council of Ministers, Minister of Posts & Tele-communications and National Information.

To Their Excellencies the Ministers for Justice; Home Affairs; National Defence.

I. According to information from various sources, groups or parties are taking to a certain number of illegal activities in the villages on the occasion of the forthcoming elections. The attached list enumerates a few of these activities.

II. It appears opportune to me to recall hereunder a few directives or principles which should govern the course of political activities:

- 1) The supplementary elections of 1958 are not organised for this or that party but for all parties and all inhabitants, even those who are not affiliated to any party. The inhabitants are free to adhere to a party or to quit it whenever they please. It is not necessary to adhere to a party in order to exercise the right of vote.
- 2) The Government and officials have not to take part in the political activities. Their role is to ensure the free functioning of institutions, in conditions of respect for the Laos, in particular with regard to the normal course of electoral operations.
- 3) The Government has the duty to ensure, in conformity with the Constitution, the normal functioning of democratic freedoms. Freedom does not mean that the parties or individuals are free to say or to do anything. All freedoms: of speech, of association, of meeting etc., are practised within the framework of Laws which have laid down what is prohibited to do or to say. If these specific rules are not observed, there is no more freedom for the other citizens. The electoral campaign must unfold itself in a secure and peaceful manner.
- 4) The Government and the officials have the **primordial** duty to enforce the principle of the sovereignty of the State. His Majesty and the Institutions legally represent the Lao country. Any activities of groups or of individuals directed against the Administration must be repressed without hesitation.

III. The activities reported above constitute infringements of the laws. Some of them are grave for they involve the very sovereignty of the State. It is expedient to take up legal proceedings against these without delay. In each province, the authorities responsible for the order and security shall immediately meet and study the facts which have been brought to their notice.

Prosecutions shall be started, in specific cases, on the initiative of the Chaomongs, judiciary police officers, and on the collection of evidence and when the exact nature of the infringement is specified.

The accused shall be transferred without delay to the Chief town of the province. The King's prosecutors shall demand a rapid judgment of these affairs.

IV. The population must be kept informed of the conditions under which the political activities should take their course. The directives and the principles dealt with in paragraph II above must be publicised in the form of a notice, in each Tasseng by the Chaomuongs before 20th April.

V. Attached herewith the statement of some of the illegal activities.

For the Prime Minister, President of the Council of Ministers, and by delegation,

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, incharge of Current Affairs and of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

Sd/-Phoui Sananikone

STATEMENT OF SOME OF THE ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

Building up of arms or supplies depots.

Organisations of a clandestine administration, exceeding the legal activities of an association, and supported in certain cases by armed groups living in forests and helped by foreign elements.

Organisation of branches of political parties without declaration of their existence.

Orders issued in certain far off regions for the refusal of the use of the Lao language in relations between the population and the administration.

Measures aimed at preventing the population from knowing the directives of the Royal Government.

Propaganda, in certain far off regions, calling upon the population to refuse the Lao National Bank currencies.

Propaganda against the National Army.

Forced recruitment of adherence by certain parties (most often by moral pressure)

Threats against the inhabitants who might vote in favour of certain parties.

Threats of war or interventions of foreign volunteers in case the population does not vote for certain parties.

Instructions issued to groups for using all the means to destroy the Royal Government.

Vientiane, le 27 Avril 1958

N° 51 /

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Président du Comité Central du Parti
NEO-LAO-HAKSAT

à S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, Premier Ministre, Président du
Conseil des Ministres du Gouvernement Royal du Laos

à VIENTIANE

(En communication à :

S.E. Phagna Pheng PHONGSAVAN, Président de l'Assemblée Nationale
au Laos à Vientiane

S.E. le Docteur S.S. ANSARI, Président de la Commission Interna-
tionale de Surveillance et de Contrôle de l'Armistice
au Laos

à Vientiane)

Altesse,

Comme suite à ma lettre No.44 du 9 Avril courant, à
laquelle je m'étonne qu'aucune satisfaction n'ait été ni promise
ni donnée jusqu'à ce jour, j'ai l'honneur de vous rendre compte
d'autres faits qui ne font que corroborer les précédents et
prouvent manifestement l'existence dangereuse de discrimination
et représailles systématiques de la part de certains Ministres et
de certaines autorités royales militaires et civiles, à l'encontre
des ex-Pathet-Lao, des membres et sympathisants du Parti NEO-LAO-
HAKSAT, dans toutes les provinces du Royaume.

Les faits les plus saillants sont:

PROVINCE DE SAMNEUA:

Le 9-3-58, arrestation par l'Armée Nationale de Thao Vong et Thao
Somveng (de Ban Xieng Kho), de Thao Khamphan (de Ban Sop Mone), et
de Chane Khampheng (de Ban Veung, canton de Muong Long), du dis-
trict de Xieng Kho. Le 11-3-58, arrestation de Thao Thongsouk, de
Thao Thong Sing, tous deux représentants du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT
du district de Xieng Kho; de Thao Phèng (de Ban Hap) et de Thao
Livan (de Ban Sop Pit), du district de Xieng Kho.
Le 13-3-58, arrestation de Thao Oudone (de Ban Hap, district de
Xieng Kho).

Le 2-4-58, arrestation de Thao Hien Ban (de Ban Muong Kang, district de Muong Soi).

Le 22-4-58, Thao Lao Yao, représentant du parti Neo-Lao-Haksat du district Muong Sone fut arrêté.

Le 23-4-58, une grenade fut lancée sur le siège de la filiale du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT à Samneua même.

PROVINCE DE PHONGSALY:

Le 11-3-58, les soldats du Sous-lieutenant Kham Sèng (poste de Sop Kay) arrêtaient Thao Dy et Thao Lang (de Ban Kok Ngiou, canton Chom Tane), district Muong Khoa.

- Thao Hèo (de Ban Nam Mène, canton Na Lam) fut tué par les soldats de la II^e Compagnie.

Le 12-3-58, Thao Hak (de Ban Pong Sy, canton Luang Lat) fut arrêté par les soldats du poste de Pak Phè, tandis que Thao Chay (de Ban Ko Khame, canton Luang Lat) fut frappé jusqu'à être malade pendant deux jours.

Le 20-3-58, des soldats venus de Muong Say arrêtaient Thao Chom (25 ans, de Ban Kok Ngiou, canton Chom Tane, district Muong Khoa) et Thao Phom (34 ans, de Ban Tang Kala, canton Chom Tane, district

Muong Khoa), et Thao One (de Ban Om Luang, canton Chom Tane).

- Le Sergent Savay (poste de Sop Kay) arrêta et envoya sur Muong Say les nommés Thao Phom (Chef de canton de Chom Tane), Thao Chom (Secrétaire dudit Chef de canton) et Thao Kham Phèng (ex-Pathet Lao); puis frappa et incarcéra le nommé Thao Kham de Ban Kouttala.

Le 25-3-58 les soldats du Sous-Lieutenant Sèng arrêtaient Thao Douang (Chef de canton de Sop Nao), Xieng Tane et Thao Phao Dan, de Ban Sop Nao.

Le 27-3-58, arrestation du Chef de canton de Sop Houn, du Chef de village Thao Lang et de Thao Say.

PROVINCE DE LUANG PRABANG:

Les soldats du Sergent Van Mom (poste de Muong Muoi, canton Pa Phay, district Paksèng) a matraqué et grièvement blessé Thao Xien² Tho et Thao O Mout.

PROVINCE DE SAVANNAKHET:

Depuis le 1er-4-58, le Commandant de la 3ème Région a envoyé ses officiers et soldats sur toutes les routes des provinces de Thakhek et de Savannakhet dans nombreuses Jeeps sans numéro et portant la simple plaque "essai", afin de participer, paraît-il, au maintien de l'ordre dans les divers bureaux de vote. En fait, ces officiers et soldats ont pour unique tâche de faire pression sur l'électorat en faveur des seuls candidats dits "gouvernementaux", c'est-à-dire inscrits aux partis national-progressiste et indépendant. Ils disent partout ouvertement et impunément à la population: "Si vous votez pour d'autres candidats, nous brûlerons vos villages à coup de bombe, ou nous vous tuerons tous, ou nous prendrons le maquis pour faire une guerre de résistance". Ils procèdent, en outre, à de nombreuses arrestations arbitraires des ex-Pathet-Lao, des membres et sympathisants du parti Neo-Lao-Haksat.

Le 8-4-58 vers 21 heures, le nommé Xieng Kou, sympathisant du parti Neo-Lao-Haksat, fut assassiné chez lui à Ban Tha Khong (canton Kèng Khan, district Tchépone).

Le 13-4-58, les photos des candidats Thao Sisana, Thao Soune et Thao Serk furent enlevées du bureau de vote de Ban Sop Nak (district Tchépone).

Le 14-4-58, une bombe, posée dans la voiture du candidat Thao Fan n'a pas éclaté.

- Le Lieutenant Khambone, chef du poste de Kong Nhak (district Song Khone) envoya 5 soldats, dont Thao Keua et Thao Than, pour chercher et amener les nommés Boun Sy, Phoumi, Khambone et Poua, de Ban Sa Nhèk; puis frappa et menaça ceux-ci, disant: "Rentrez chez vous et ne revenez pas ici participer au vote; sinon, je vous tuerai tous, ça vous servira de leçon à soutenir le parti Neo-Lao-Haksat".

Le 17-4-58, le même Lieutenant Khambone écrivit au candidat Boun My (parti indépendant), lui demandant de l'essence nécessaire à la campagne de pression en faveur de ce dernier.

Le 19-4-58, le même Lieutenant Khambone et le sergent Phay dirent à la population de Ban Na Phèng (canton Kaabo, district Song Khoue) ces paroles menaçantes: "Si vous élisez les candidats des partis Neo-Lao-Haksat, démocrate ou Union nationale, ça voudra dire que vous désobéissez au Gouvernement; alors, mes soldats et moi nous prendrons le maquis pour faire une guerre de résistance avec des armes ultra-modernes."

Le 18-4-58, le capitaine Khôm (poste de Muong Fong) interdit à la population de Ban Naphèng de sortir du village.

- Le sous-lieutenant Hom (poste de Houei Mune) fit de même; il interdit toute réunion de plus de 5 personnes sous peine de mort, et fit enlever ou brûler toutes les photos, feuilles de propagande, copies de la loi électorale et de la loi sur les libertés démocratiques, que les candidats des partis Neo-Lao-Haksat, démocrate et union nationale avaient distribuées à la population. Il ajouta: "Je ne respecte pas ces lois idiotes, ma seule loi c'est mon fusil".

- Thao Tong, chef du poste administratif de Muong Nong, a donné l'ordre aux chefs de canton et de village de forcer à voter pour les candidats Thao Tane, Thao Boun My et Chao Son, et, en outre, de chasser la population loin des urnes au moment du comptage des bulletins de vote, et même de ne pas faire ce comptage dans les bureaux de vote, mais d'emmener toutes les urnes au bureau du poste administratif.

PROVINCE D'ATTOPEU:

Les ex-Pathet-Lao, les membres et sympathisants du parti Neo-Lao-Haksat arbitrairement arrêtés jusqu'à ce jour comprennent notamment les nommés Som (minorité Lavè, de Ban Phia Ha), Kla (minorité Lavè, de Ban Phia Ha, poste administratif Phouvong), Meu (minorité Lavè), Vak, Po et Vén de Ban Chandong, Teuk de Ban Kou Noy, Pone de Ban Phia Sathane, Choun, Phèng, Ky et Khop de Ban Chéng Neua, Piu de Ban Chéng Phok, Dég de Ban Som Khot, Chouang, Bounkong et Chane Douang de Ban Sésao (Canton Muong Kao), Lassy, Ly, Yèou (minorité Kasèng) et Why (minorité Kasèng) de Ban Saisy (canton Fang Dèng - les 4 derniers arrêtés chez eux en

pleine nuit le 10-4-58 - et Chane Pane de Ban Hat Nhao, arrêté le 19-4-58.

En outre, le 19-4-58, le Chaokhouèng vient de donner l'ordre d'arrêter les nommés Hien, Moune, Niou, Sim, Sun, Nang Vone et Nag Sing de Ben Thong Nhao (canton Din Dèng, Se Nam Noy), Theuang (chef de canton de Ban Nam Kong), Pane de Ban Hat Nhao, Thalone de Ban Thè, Chane Ma, Thiou et Ha de Ban Hai.

PROVINCE DE CHAMPASSAK:

Les nommés Chouang de Ban Houei Ngeun Kang (canton Nong Pham, district Passak), One Sy et Ta My ont usé d'argent et de menace pour forcer la population à voter pour le candidat Inpèng SOURYATHAI en disant: "ceux qui ne votent pas pour Inpèng seront réprimés ou tués; rien que dans le canton de Nong Pham, nous avons déjà 200 soldats armés prêts à gagner le maquis".

Le 7-4-58, S.E. Katay Don Sasorith, à l'hôtel du Chaokbonèng, après la fête du serment, dit aux chefs de canton et de village et aux fonctionnaires réunis: "Il faut voter pour les candidats gouvernementaux Nhouy Abhay et Inpèng Souryathai. Ceux qui n'exécutent pas cet ordre seront déplacés ou emprisonnés".

Peu après, S.E. Song Sitthimolada, Chaokhoueng de Champassak, est allé à Paksong réunir les chefs de canton et de village pour y répéter exactement le même ordre.

Le 14-4-58, S.E. Katay Don Sasorith réunit tous les chefs de canton et de village du district de Passak pour leur dire: "Souphanouvong et Phetsarath sont de pauvres individus qui sont tolérés grâce à ma protection. Ils ne savent que pondre des tracts et rédiger les lois idiotes pour le peuple, lois que je n'ai jamais acceptées et que j'interdis à la population de lire ou d'appliquer sous peine d'emprisonnement".

Le 17-4-58, des soldats du poste de Done Talat arrêterent le nommé Chan de Ban Houei Ngeun (canton Nong Pham) district Passak).

PROVINCE DE VIENTIANE:

Le 7-4-58, S.E. Phoui Sananikone dit à Ban Kèng-
(district Borikhane): "Ne votez pas pour Souphanouvong, Maha
Bouddhy et Boun Nak, car ceux-ci projettent de faire entrer
notre pays dans le bloc russe, en vue de détruire la religion
et de piller les biens des riches au profit des pauvres. Tous
les villages qui osent arborer les photos de Souphanouvong et
voter pour lui seront passibles d'emprisonnement".

Le Sergent Boun Sy (poste de Paksan) dit à Ban Khao Lom:
"Tout ce district de Horikhane est sous ma coupe directe et sans
partage. Défense absolue de lire ou de répandre les textes des
accords et lois intervenus entre Souphanouvong et Souvanna
Phouma, lesquels n'ont jamais été acceptés par les autorités
royales. Ceux qui osent les lire ou les détenir seront
emprisonnés ou tués purement et simplement. En outre, seuls les
hommes ont le droit de voter; je défends qu'on parle des droits
de la femme".

Le Sergent Chouang (poste de Muong Kao), district
Borikhane), répète partout: "Les ex-Pathet-Lao sont venus faire
leur soumission au pouvoir royal. Souphanouvong est en résidence
forcée à Vientiane, surveillé de près par nos troupes. Nous
mettrons tous les ex-Pathet-Lao en prison.

Le 11-4-58, le nommé Phan (de Ban Nam Ngiep) district
Borikhane), réserviste et propagandiste pour le candidat Thao
Oun Sananikone, dit à Ban Hat I-Et: "Si Souphanouvong, Maha
Bouddhy et Boun Nak sont élus, ce sera inévitablement la guerre
immédiate, car à Paksan nos soldats sont prêts à l'attaque".

Le 14-4-58, les soldats du poste de Muong Kao (district
Borikhane), sous la conduite du Sergent May, arrêtèrent les
nommés Thao Am de Ban Boky (canton Paksa), Chane La et Chandèng
de Ban Kham Bone, Ang et Aieng May de Ban Khamphay, Thao Phan,
Thao Thong Chan de Ban Hat Nieng (canton Souan Ya).

Le 18-4-58, le candidat Thao Oun Sananikone dit à Ban
Chèng (canton Lingsan): "Si je suis élu et tiens le pouvoir, je

ferai empaler et exposer tous ces ex-Pathet-Lao. Si je ne suis pas élu, je prendrai le maquis à la tête de mes 3000 hommes pour faire la guerre de résistance dans les parages de Phou Khao Khouay. Je ne ferai pas comme les guerilleras de Souphanouvong qui ont vécu sur la population, puisque j'aurai des avions pour me ravitailler en tout".

Le 21-4-58, Chane Kham (chef de canton de Ban Phone Khame) dit: "J'arrêterai tous ceux qui viennent ici comme observateurs dans nos bureaux de vote. En outre, je ferai arrêter par l'Armée tous ceux qui ne voteront pas pour Thao Oun Sananikone".

Le Sous-Lieutenant Som Lith (chef de poste de Ban Tha Bok) a donné l'ordre d'arrêter presque toute la population vivant sur les rives de Nan Sane et au pied de la montagne Phou Dou sans tenir aucun compte de la loi. "La loi c'est moi", déclare-t-il.

Le candidat Khamsing a répété partout que si la population n'élit pas les candidats du parti National Progressiste, lui-même avec ses 5000 hommes prendront le maquis pour faire une guerre de résistance, sans besoin de vivre sur la population, car, dit-il, les Américains viendront leur parachuter vivres et munitions en abondance.

Quant à la distribution des brochures et des tracts destinés à semer l'hystérie anti-communiste, en calomniant les ex-Pathet-Lao et le Parti Neo-Lao-Haksat, gratuitement accusés comme des communistes, elle n'a fait que croître et embellir, puisqu'on utilise des Jeeps et même des avions à cette fin.

Autres exemples de telles brochures:

- Le régime communiste (en langue française).
- Comment se présente le danger communiste? (id)
- Le Laos sera-t-il en proie au danger communiste? (en langue Lao).

Autres exemples de tels tracts:

- Tract disant que le Parti Neo-Lao-Haksat et le groupe Santiphab (Paix) sont communistes.
- Tract aux citoyens Lao, signé Gouvernement Royal du Laos interdisent de collaborer ni de soutenir de tels partis.

- Tract calomniant personnellement le Prince Souphanouvong.

- Tract aux citoyens Lao, signé : un groupe de Lao qui veulent le bien du pays, interdisant de voter pour les candidats du parti Neo-Lao-Haksat et du groupe Santiphab, traités de communistes.

Outre cette propagande calomnieuse par tracts et brochures, est venue s'y ajouter la propagande par radiodiffusion clandestine émettant sur bande de 46m entre 20 et 21 heures avec l'indicatif Mékhone, spécialisée dans les attaques calomnieuses contre le parti Neo-Lao-Haksat et le Prince Souphanouvong.

En conclusion, nous sommes amenés tristement à constater que certains Ministres, certaines autorités administratives et militaires du Royaume ont pris et continuent de prendre systématiquement mesures discriminatoires et répressives contre les ex-Pathet-Lao, et contre les membres et sympathisants du parti Neo-Lao-Haksat.

De telles mesures sont manifestement contraires aux accords d'intégration et d'unification intervenus entre le Gouvernement Royal et l'ex-Pathet-Lao. Elles contribuent, en outre, à détruire l'esprit de réconciliation et de concorde, si nécessaire à la reconstruction nationale et à la consolidation de notre indépendance politique et économique. Surtout, elles portent atteinte au prestige et à la dignité du pouvoir royal - en l'espèce, du Président du Conseil du Gouvernement et de l'Assemblée Nationale - , en ébranlant la confiance que le peuple témoigne au pouvoir royal. Sans compter tout le préjudice qu'elles portent aux ex-Pathet-Lao, aux membres et sympathisants du parti Neo-Lao-Haksat qui ne cesseront de réclamer justice et réparations de la part du Gouvernement Royal.

Il est certain et nous sommes convaincus que les exécutants de ces mesures - qu'ils appartiennent à l'administration, à l'armée ou à la police - savent bien que ces mesures sont iniques et impopulaires, uniquement imposées par certains hauts

personnages qui ne veulent ni de la tranquillité ni de la réconciliation nationale, suivant, en cela, la volonté de certains milieux étrangers.

En conséquence, dans l'intérêt supérieur de la paix générale, de notre pays et de notre peuple, nous demandons instamment au Gouvernement Royal, en même temps qu'à l'Assemblée Nationale et à la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle de l'Armistice au Laos, de vouloir bien prendre les mesures immédiates ci-après :

- (1) Relâcher immédiatement tous les ex-Pathet-Lao, membres et sympathisants du parti Neo-Lao-Haksat arbitrairement détenus;
- (2) Prendre des sanctions exemplaires contre les coupables et les assassins;
- (3) Faire cesser toutes mesures discriminatoires contre les ex-Pathet-Lao et contre les membres et sympathisants du parti Neo-Lao-Haksat;
- (4) Prendre des mesures urgentes et efficaces pour que les élections complémentaires du 4 Mai se déroulent avec toute la garantie de justice et de calme, conformément aux lois du Royaume, notamment garantir à tous les électeurs des deux sexes leurs droits d'avoir leur bulletin de vote et de voter librement.

Ces mesures n'ont d'autre but que de garantir à tous les citoyens sans exception ni discrimination l'usage des libertés démocratiques fondamentales accordées par les lois et la Constitution du Royaume, et de rétablir et consolider l'esprit de concorde et d'union nationale auquel aspire le peuple Lao tout entier.

Confiant dans l'esprit de réalisme et d'équité du Gouvernement Royal, de l'Assemblée Nationale et de la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle de l'Armistice au

Laos, j'ai le ferme espoir que ma présente lettre recevra une prompte suite favorable.

Je vous prie d'agr er, Altesse, l'assurance r it er e de mes sentiments respectueusement d vou s.//.

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG.

(1) R f cher imm diatement tous les ex-P ter-Lao, membres et sympathisants du parti Neo-Lao-Hakass arbitrairement d tenus;

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(4) Prendre des mesures urgentes et efficaces pour que les  lections constituantes de 1945 se d roulent avec toute la garantie de justice et de s curit .

occasionnellement aux lois du Royaume, notamment garantir   tous les  lecteurs des deux sexes leurs droits d'avoir leur bulletin de vote et de voter librement.

Des mesures n'ont d' tre prises que de garantir   tous les  lecteurs une excellence et une participation lib re.

Les  lections constituantes d roul es par les lois et la Constitution, et de r citer et consolider l'unit  de ce pays.

Le peuple lao tout entier dans l'attente de r sultats et d'unit  de

ce pays, de l'Assembl e nationale et de la Commission nationale de l'Unit  et de la Constitution.

No. 2265-ICL/58 Vientiane, 1st May, 1958
Letter No. 51 dated 27 April 1958

From: Prince Souphanouvong, President of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat Party.
To: H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister, President of the Council of the Royal Government of Laos at Vientiane

Copy to : H.E. Phagna Pheng Phongsavan, President of the National Assembly of Laos.
H.E. Dr. S.S. Ansari, Chairman of the ICSC for Armistice in Laos at Vientiane.

Highness,
Further to my letter No. 44 of 9 April 1958, for which, to my astonishment, no satisfactory action has either been promised or taken to date, I have the honour to report to you other incidents which go only to corroborate the previous ones and manifestly prove the dangerous existence of systematic discriminations and reprisals on the part of certain Ministers and Royal military and civil authorities, to the detriment of ex-Pathet Lao members and sympathisers of the Neo Lao Haksat Party in all the provinces of the Kingdom.

The most salient incidents are:
Province of Sam Neua:

On 9-3-58, the National Army arrested Thao Vong and Thao Somvang (of Ban Xieng Kho), Thao Khampian (of Ban Sop Mone), and Chane Khampeng (of Ban Beung, Canton Muong Long) of Xieng Kho district.

On 11-3-58, arrest of Thao Thongsouk, and Thao Thong Sing, both representatives of the Neo Lao Haksat Party of the Xieng Kho district and arrest of Thao Livan (of Ban Sop Pit) of Xieng Kho district.

On 13-3-58 arrest of Thao Gudone (of Ban Hap, Xieng Kho district)

On 2-4-58 arrest of Thao Hien Ban (of Ban Muong Kang, district of Muong Soi).

On 22-4-58, Thao Lao Yao, representative of the Neo Lao Haksat Party in the Muong Some was arrested.

On 23-4-58, a grenade was thrown on the office of the Neo Lao Haksat Party's branch in Sam Neua itself.

Province of Phongsaly:
On 11-3-58, the soldiers of 2nd Lieutenant Kham Seng (post of Sop Kay) arrested Thao Dy and Thao Lang (of Ban Kok Ngiou, canton Chom Tane, district of Muong Khoa).

Ghzo Heo (of Ban Nam Mene, canton Na Lam) was killed by soldiers of the 112th Company.

On 12-3-58, Thao Hak (of Ban Pong Sy, canton Luong Lat) was arrested by the soldiers of the Pak Phe post, while Thao Chan (of Ban Ko Khamé, canton Luong Lat) was beaten to the extent of being sick for two days.

On 20-3-58, soldiers coming from Muong Say arrested Thao Chou (25 years of Ban Kok Ngion, Canton Chou Tane, district of Muong Khoa), Thao Phon (34 years of Ban Tang Kala, canton Chou Tane, district Muong Khoa) and Thao One (of Ban Om Loung, canton Chom Tane).

Sergeant Savay (post of Sop Kay) arrested and sent the following persons to Muong Say: Thao Phom (Chief of the Canton Chaom Tane), Thao Chom (Secretary of the aforesaid chief of the canton) and Thao Kham Pheng (ex-Pathet Lao); they then beat and imprisoned Thao Khem of Ban Kouthala. On 25-3-58, the soldiers of 2nd Lt. Seng arrested Thao Douang (Chief of the canton of Sop Nao) Xieng Tan and Thao Phao Dam, of Ban Sop Nao.

On 27-3-58 arrest of the Chief of Sop Houn canton, village headmen Thao Lang and Thao Say.

Province of Luang Prabang:

The soldiers of Sergeant Van Mom (post of Muong Mouei, canton Pa Phay, Dt. Pakseng) seriously injured Thao Xieng Tho and Thao O-Mout by beating them with a bludgeon.

Province of Savannakhet:

Since 1st of April 1958, the 3rd military Region Commander sent his officers and men on all the roads of the provinces of Thakhek and Savannakhet in numerous jeeps without numbers bearing only the plate "for trial" for the professed purpose of participating in the maintenance of order in the various polling stations. In fact, these officers and men have as their unique duty to exercise pressure on the electorate in favour of the only candidates called 'government candidates' that is to say, those enrolled in the National Progressive and Independent Parties. With impunity, they openly tell the people "if you vote for other candidates, we will burn down your villages with bombs, or we will kill you all, or we shall go into the jungles and wage a war of resistance". They further made numerous arbitrary arrests of the ex-Pathet Lao members and sympathisers of the Neo Lao Haksat Party.

On 8-4-58 at about 2100 hours, Xieng Khou, a sympathiser of the Neo Lao Haksat Party was assassinated in his house at Ban Thao Khong (canton of Keng Khan, Dt. of Tchepone).

On 13-4-58, the photos of candidates Thao Sisana, Thao Soune and Thao Serk were removed from the polling station at Ban Sop Nak (Dt. Tchepone).

On 14-4-58 a bomb placed in the vehicle of candidate Thao Fan did not burst.

Lt. Khambone, Chief of the Kong Nhak Post (Dt. Song Khone) sent 5 soldiers, amongst whom were Thao Keua and Thao Than to look for and bring back Boun Sy, Phoumi, Khambone and Pone of Pan Sa Nhak; the latter were then beaten and threatened as follows: "Go back home and do not return here to participate in the voting; otherwise I will kill you all; that will serve you as a lesson for supporting the Neo Lao Haksat Party".

On 17-4-58, the same Lt Khambone wrote to candidate Boun My (Independent Party) asking him for petrol needed for the pressure campaign in the latter's favour.

On 19-4-58 the same Lt. Khambone and Sgt. Phay said to the population of Ban Na Pheng (canton of Kabao, dt. of Song Khone) these threatening words: "If you elect the candidates of the Neo Lao Haksat, Democratic or National Union Parties, it would mean that you are disobeying the Government; my soldiers and myself will then go underground in order to fight a war of resistance with ultra modern weapons".

On 18-4-58 Capt. Khim (Muong Fong Post) prohibited the population from coming out of the village.

2nd Lt. Hom (Houei Mune Post) did likewise; he prohibited all meetings of more than 5 persons under the pain of death and got the removal or destruction by fire of all the photos, propaganda notices, copies of the electoral law and of the law on the democratic freedoms which the candidates of the Neo Lao Haksat, Democratic and National Union Parties had distributed amongst the population. He added: "I do not respect these idiotic laws, my only law is my rifle".

Thao Tong, Head of the administrative post of Muong Nong, issued orders to the Chiefs of the cantons and of the village to compel for voting in favour of candidates Thao Tane, Thao Boun My and Chao Son and also to drive away the population from the ballot boxes at the time of the counting of the ballots and even not to carry out this task in the polling booths but to bring all the ballot boxes to the administrative post.

Province of Attopeu: The ex-Pathet Lao, the members and sympathisers of the Neo Lao Haksat Party arbitrarily arrested to this day, include, in particular Som (belonging to the Lave's minority group, of Ban Phia Ha), Kla (Lave's minority of Ban Phia Ha), administrative post of Phouvong), Meo (Lave minority), Vak PO and Ven of Ban Chandong, Tenk of Ban Kou Noy, Pone of Ban Phia Sathane, Choun, Pheng, Ky and Khop of Ban Cheng Neua, Piu of Ban Cheng Phok, Deng of Ban Som Khot, Chouang, Bounkong and Chanc Douang of Ban Sesas (canton Muong Kao), Lesoy, Ly, Yeon (Kaseng minority) and Nhy (Kaseng minority) of Ban Saisy (canton Fang Deng). The last four were arrested in their house in the middle of the night on 10-4-58 and Chane Pan of Ban Hat Nhao was arrested on 19-4-58.

Further, on 19-4-58, the Chaokhoueng issued orders for the arrest of Hien, Moune, Niou, Sim, Sum, Nang Voic and Nang Sing of Ban Thone Nhao (canton Din Deng, Sen Nam Noy) Theuang (Head of the canton of Ban Nam Kong) Pane of Ban Hat Nhao, Thalme of Ban The, Chene Ma, Phio and Ha of Ban Mao.

Province of Champassak: Chouang of Ban Houei Ngeun Rang (Canton Nong Pham, Dt. Passak), One Sy and Ta My used money and threats in order to compel the population to vote for the candidate Impeng Souryadhay, telling them: "Those who do not vote for Impeng will be repressed or killed; in the Nong Pham canton alone we have 200 soldiers armed and ready to take to the jungle".

On 7-4-58, H.E. Katay Don Sasorith at the Chaokhoueng's residence after the oath taking ceremony, told at a meeting of the chiefs of canton and village and officials: "You must vote for the government candidates Nhouy Abhay and Impeng Souryadhay. Those who do not execute this order will be transferred or imprisoned".

A little later, H.E. Song Sithimolada, Chaokhoueng of Chmpassak went to Paksong, where he repeated exactly the same order after calling a meeting of the Chiefs of Canton and village.

On 14-4-58, H.E. Katay Don Sasorith called a meeting of all the chiefs of the canton and village of the district of Passak and told them: "Souphanouvong and Phetsarath are simpletons tolerated because of my protection. They know only to produce pamphlets as a hen lays eggs, and draft idiotic laws for the people, laws which I have never accepted and which I forbid the population to read or implement under pain of death".

On 17-4-58, the soldiers of the Done Talat post arrested Chan of Ban Houei Ngeun (Nong Pham canton, Dt. Passak).

Province of Vientiane:

On 7-4-58, H.E. Phouï Sananikone told in Ban Keng (Dt. Borikhan): "Do not vote for Souphanouvong, Maha Bouddy and Boun Nak, for the latter are scheming for getting our country into the Russian bloc, with a view to destroying the religion and plunder the belongings of the wealthy for the benefit of the poor. All the villagers who dare to harbour the photos of Souphanouvong and vote for him will be liable to imprisonment.

Sgt. Boun Sy (post of Paksan) told Ban Kaho Lom: "The entire district of Borikham is under my direct and uncontested jurisdiction. It is absolutely prohibited to read or distribute the tracts of agreements and laws entered into between Souphanouvong and Souvanna Phouma; these have never been accepted by the Royal authorities; those who dare to read or keep them will be purely and simply imprisoned or killed. Further, only the men have the right to vote; I forbid all talk about rights of women".

Sgt. Chouang (post of Muong Kao, dt. Borikhan) repeated everywhere: "The ex-Pathet Lao have come and surrendered to the Royal authority. Souphanouvong is under house arrest and closely watched by our troops in Vientiane. We will incarcerate all the ex-Pathet Lao".

On 11-4-58 Phan (of Ban Man Ngiép, dt. Borikhan) reservist and propaganda agent for candidate Thao Oun Sananikone in Ban Hat told: "If Souphanouvong, Maha Boudhy and Boun Nak are elected, it will definitely mean an immediate war for in Paksan our soldiers are ready for the attack".

On 14-4-58 the soldiers of Muong Kao Post (Borikham district) under the command of sergeant May arrested Thao Am of Ban Boky (Paksan canton) Chane La and Chanaleng of Ban Khám Bone, Mug and Xieng May of Ban Kampbay, Thao Phom, Thao Thong Chan of Ban Hat Nieng (Souan Ya Canton).

On 18-4-58, candidate Thao Oun Sananikone said at Ban Cheng (Lingsan canton): "If I am elected and I hold power, I will impale and expose all those ex-Pathet Lao - If I am not elected I will go in the jungle at the head of my 3000 men to carry out a war of resistance in the area of Phon Khao Khonay. I will not do like the guerillas of Souphanouvong who lived upon the population, since I will have planes for supplying everything.

On 21-4-58, Chăne Khăm (Head of the Ban Phone Khóum) said: "I will arrest all those who come here as observers in our polling stations. Moreover, I will get all those who will not vote for Thao Oun Sananikone arrested by the army".

Second Lieutenant Sóm Lith (Chief of Ban Thá Bok Post) issued orders to arrest almost the entire population living on the banks of Nam Sam and at the foot of the Phou Dou mountain without taking any consideration of law". "I am the Law" he declared.

Candidate Khamsing repeated everywhere that if the population did not elect the candidates of the National progressive party he will himself take his 5000 men to the jungle to start a war of resistance without living upon the population, for, he added, the Americans will come to parachute foodstuff and ammunition in plenty.

As for the distribution of booklets and pamphlets meant to sow anti-communist hysteria, while slandering the ex-Pathet Lao and the Neo Lao Haksat, gratuitously accused as Communists, it has only increased and embellished because jeeps and even planes were used for this purpose. Some instances of such brochures:

- The Communist regime (in French language)
- How the Communist danger is presenting itself (in French)
- Will Laos fall a prey to Communist danger?
(In Laotian language)

Some examples of such pamphlets:

- Pamphlet saying that the Neo Lao Haksat and the group Santiphab (Peace) are communists.
- Pamphlet to Lao citizens signed - Laotian Government prohibiting the collaboration and support to such parties
- Pamphlet slandering individually Prince Souphanouvong.
- Pamphlet to Lao citizens signed by a group of Laotian well-wishers of the country, prohibiting the vote in favour of the candidates of the Neo Lao Haksat and Santiphab group, branded as communists.

In addition to this slandering propaganda by pamphlets and booklets, the clandestine radio, broadcasting in the 46 metre band, between 20 and 21 hours, under the name of Radio Mekong is also specialised in slandering attacks against the Neo Lao Haksat and Prince Souphanouvong.

In conclusion we are regretfully led to note that some Ministers of the Royal Government, some administrative and military authorities of the Kingdom have adopted and continue systematically to adopt discriminatory and repressive measures against the ex-Pathet Lao and against the members and sympathisers of the Neo Lao Haksat Party.

Such measures are clearly against the agreements of integration and unification concluded between the Royal Government and the ex-Pathet Lao. Moreover, they contribute to destroy the spirit of reconciliation and concord so indispensable for the national reconstruction and the consolidation of our political and economic independence, in addition to the detriment that they entail to the ex-Pathet Lao who will continue to demand justice and damages from the Royal Government.

We, therefore, earnestly request the Royal Government as well as the National Assembly and the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos to kindly take the following urgent measures.

1. to release immediately all the ex-Pathet Lao members and sympathisers of the Neo Lao Haksat party who are arbitrarily detained.
2. to award exemplary punishments to the culprits and murderers.
3. to stop all discriminatory measures against the ex-Pathet Lao and the members and sympathisers of the Neo Lao Haksat Party.
4. to take urgent and efficient steps so that the supplementary elections of 4th May are held with the full guarantee of justice and peace in conformity with the laws of the Kingdom, especially ensuring to all voters of both sexes their rights for the ballot papers and the freedom of vote.

These measures are only aimed to guarantee to all citizens, without any exception and discrimination the use of the fundamental democratic freedom granted by the laws and the Constitution of the Kingdom and to re-establish and consolidate the spirit of concord and national union for which the entire Lao people aspire.

Convinced in the spirit of realism and equity of the Royal Government, the National Assembly and the International Commission for Supervision and Control of the Armistice in Laos, I have the firm hope that this letter will receive a prompt and favourable action.

I request you to accept, Highness, the renewed assurance of my respectfully devoted sentiments.

In addition to the slandering propaganda by pamphlets and booklets, the clandestine radio, broadcasting in the 40 metre band, between 20 and 21 hours, under the name of Radio Mekong is also specialised in slandering attacks against the Neo Lao Haksat and Prince Souphanouvong.

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We therefore, earnestly request the Royal Government as well as the National Assembly and the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos to kindly take the following urgent measures.

RESOLUTION

The International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos,

HAVING WELCOMED with considerable satisfaction the implementation of the various stages of the November 1957 Agreements between the Royal Laotian Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, and in particular the formation of the Government of National Union, the handing over to the authority of the Royal Government of the two northern provinces, and the integration of the former Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao into the national community and the National Army on February 18, 1958, as envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreements;

RECALLING the provisions of Article 15 of the Geneva Agreement which stipulates that "each Party undertakes to refrain from any reprisals or discrimination against persons or organisations for their activities during the hostilities and also undertakes to guarantee their democratic freedoms";

RECALLING the declaration of the Royal Government of Laos at Geneva noted in paragraph 3 of the Final Declaration of the Geneva Conference.

NOTING that allegations of discrimination against former Pathet Lao personnel and Neo Lao Haksat sympathizers were made in a letter dated April 9, 1958 sent to H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister, by H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, President of the Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat Party;

NOTING that in reply to the Commission's letter of April 18 referring to these allegations, Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma gave assurances that the Royal Government remains conscious of its duty to assure the normal functioning of democratic liberties and to curb abuses and illegal activities;

NOTING that, as of April 30, the Commission had not been informed that the Royal Government had replied to Prince Souphanouvong's letter of April 9;

EXPRESSES CONCERN over the renewal of allegations of discrimination in Prince Souphanouvong's letter of April 27 to Prince Souvanna Phouma;

HOPES that all Laotian citizens will be able to participate in the forthcoming supplementary elections in conformity with the Constitution of Laos and in conditions of respect of fundamental freedoms;

DECIDES TO URGE all concerned to maintain the atmosphere of goodwill, mutual understanding and compromise attending the signature of the Agreements of November 1957.

RESOLUTION

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NOTING that in reply to the Commission's letter of April 18 referring to these allegations, Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma gave assurances that the Royal Government remains conscious of its duty to assure the normal functioning of democratic liberties and to curb abuses and illegal activities;

NOTING that, as of April 30, the Commission had not been informed that the Royal Government had replied to Prince Souphanouvong's letter of April 9;

REITERATING CONCERN over the renewal of allegations of discrimination in Prince Souphanouvong's letter of April 27 to Prince Souvanna Phouma;

DETERMINED that all Laotian citizens will be able to participate in the forthcoming supplementary elections in conformity with the Constitution of Laos and in conditions of respect of fundamental freedoms;

WISHES TO USE all concerned to maintain the atmosphere of goodwill, mutual understanding and compromise attending the signature of the Agreements of November 1957.

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Président du Conseil des Ministres

No 919/PC-PD

Vientiane, le 6 Mai 1958

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre No F.C.S. (5)ICL/58/1148 du 2 Mai 1958 me transmettant un exemplaire de la Résolution adoptée par la Commission Internationale dans sa 236^e réunion tenue le 1er mai 1958.

Le Gouvernement Royal remercie la Commission Internationale d'avoir bien voulu prendre acte de son attitude en vue d'assurer le fonctionnement normal des libertés démocratiques et par conséquent de permettre à tous les citoyens Lao de participer sur un pied d'égalité aux élections complémentaires sans aucune discrimination ni actes de représaille.

Il importe avant tout à mon Gouvernement de sauvegarder l'esprit de réconciliation et de compréhension mutuelle qui a finalement prévalu dans les accords de Novembre 1957 et dans les différentes phases de leur exécution réalisées jusqu'à présent. Je ne souhaite rien tant que de voir ces réalisations se poursuivre en témoignant de la loyauté et de la bonne foi que chacune des Parties se doit d'y apporter.

En ce qui concerne le comportement des divers candidats, ou de leur partisans, de quelque parti que ce soit, pendant la bataille électorale, le Gouvernement Royal ne peut être mis en cause. Les plaintes déposées font l'objet d'une enquête. Les faits reconnus illicites ou délictueux seront jugés de la même façon dans tous les cas par les instances compétentes conformément à la loi.

Les allégations présentées par le Parti Nèo-Lao-Haksat ne peuvent faire l'objet d'une procédure exceptionnelle particulière, ce qui témoignerait d'une discrimination inadmissible.

Au cours des nombreuses tournées que j'ai effectuées dans le Royaume pendant ces dernières semaines, j'ai personnellement recueilli beaucoup d'informations précises sur des actes ou des paroles légalement repréhensibles auxquels se sont livrés des partisans du Nèo-Lao-Haksat, sans parler des faits de même nature qui ont été rapportés au Gouvernement Royal.

Je n'ai à aucun moment songé à faire état de telles constatations auprès de la Commission Internationale, car j'estime qu'il s'agit là d'affaires intérieures qui relèvent de la seule compétence des institutions nationales.

Le Gouvernement Royal fait confiance à la Commission Internationale pour que ne soit pas dénaturée au regard des arrangements de Novembre 1957, la portée réelle des allégations qui lui ont été soumises.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération./.

Monsieur le Président
de la Commission Internationale de
Surveillance et de Contrôle
au Laos.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

--VIENTIANE--

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 919/PC-PD, dated 6 May 1958.

From: The Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Laos.

To : The Chairman, ICSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No.F.CS(5)ICL/58/1148 of 2 May, 1958 forwarding a copy of the Resolution adopted by the International Commission at its 236th Meeting held on 1st May, 1958.

The Royal Government thanks the International Commission for having kindly taken note of its (RLG's) attitude for enabling the normal functioning of democratic liberties and thus enable all Laotian citizens to participate on an equal footing in the Supplementary elections without any discrimination or acts of reprisal.

It is necessary able all to safeguard the spirit of reconciliation and mutual understanding which has finally prevailed in the agreements of November 1957 and in the different phases of its implementation effected so far. I do not wish anything more than to see the pursuance of these achievements by testifying the loyalty and honesty that each Party is expected to show.

The Royal Government cannot be held responsible for the behaviour of various candidates and their followers during the election campaigns irrespective of their Party. Investigation has been ordered on receipt of the complaints. The acts proved as illegal or offensive will be in each case dealt with according to law by competent authorities.

The allegations made by the Neo Lao Haksat Party cannot therefore be considered in a special and exceptional way which will amount to an inadmissible discrimination.

During the many tours made throughout the Kingdom in these recent weeks, I have personally gathered precise information on acts and speeches legally reprehensible, carried out by the followers of the Neo Lao Haksat Party besides acts of the same nature reported to the Royal Government.

I never thought of referring such matters to the International Commission, as I think that these are internal affairs which come under the sole competence of national institutions.

The Royal Government relies on the International Commission so that real bearing of the allegations made to it (IC) is not exaggerated in the context of the agreements of November, 1957.

I avail of this opportunity to renew, Mr. Chairman, the assurance of my high consideration.

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 919/PC-PD, dated 6 May 1958.

From: The Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Laos.

To: The Chairman, ICSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. T.CS(5)ICL/58/1148 of 2 May, 1958 forwarding a copy of the Resolution adopted by the International Commission at its 236th Meeting held on 1st May, 1958.

The Royal Government thanks the International Commission for having kindly taken note of its (RIG's) attitude for enabling the normal functioning of democratic liberties and thus enable all Laotian citizens to participate on an equal footing in the supplementary elections without any discrimination or acts of reprisal.

It is necessary also all to safeguard the spirit of reconciliation and mutual understanding which has finally prevailed in the agreements of November 1957 and in the different phases of its implementation effected so far. I do not wish anything more than to see the pursuance of these achievements by testifying the loyalty and honesty that each party is expected to show.

The Royal Government cannot be held responsible for the behaviour of various candidates and their followers during the election campaigns irrespective of their party. Investigation has been ordered on receipt of the complaints. The acts proved as illegal or offensive will be in each case dealt with according to law by competent authorities.

The allegations made by the Neo Lao Haksat party cannot therefore be considered in a special and exceptional way which will amount to an inadmissible discrimination.

During the many tours made throughout the Kingdom in these recent weeks, I have personally gathered precise information on acts and speeches legally reprehensible carried out by the followers of the Neo Lao Haksat party besides acts of the same nature reported to the Royal Government.

I never thought of referring such matters to the International Commission, as I think that these are internal affairs which come under the sole competence of national institutions.

The Royal Government relies on the International Commission so that real hearing of the allegations made to it (IC) is not exaggerated in the context of the agreements of November, 1957.

I avail of this opportunity to renew, Mr. Chairman, the assurance of my high consideration.

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

Vientiane, le 6 Mai 1958

No 918 /PC-PD

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer, ci-joint, pour l'information de la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle, copie de la lettre N°913/PC-PD du 5 Mai 1958 adressée à S.A. Tiao Souphanouvong, Président du Comité Central du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT en réponse à sa lettre du 27 Avril, dont la Commission a reçu communication.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération./.

Monsieur le Président
de la Commission Internationale de
Surveillance et de Contrôle
au Laos

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

-VIENTIANE-

Vientiane, le 6 Mai 1958

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer, ci-joint, pour l'information de la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle, copie de la lettre No 913 \PC-PD du 5 Mai 1958 adressée à S.A. Tiao Souphanouvong, Président du Comité Central du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT en réponse à sa lettre du 27 Avril, dont la Commission a reçu communication.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Monsieur le Président

de la Commission Internationale de

Surveillance et de Contrôle

au Laos

-VIENTIANE-

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Maïna)

(Enclosure to letter No. 918/PC-PD dated 6 May 58).

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

Vientiane, le 5 Mai 1958

No. 913/PC-PD

LE PREMIER MINISTRE, PRESIDENT DU CONSEIL
Ministre des Postes & Télécommunications
et de l'Information Nationale

à

Son Altesse le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG,
Président du Comité Central du Parti
NEO-LAO-HAKSAT

à VIENTIANE

Monsieur le Président,

En réponse à votre lettre N° 51 du 27 Avril 1958,

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que, dès réception, je suis intervenu auprès des Ministres mis en cause pour que les faits signalés fassent sans délai l'objet d'une enquête.

J'ai, en particulier, prescrit que soient immédiatement relaxées, les personnes qui n'auraient pas été expressément reconnues coupables d'activités délictueuses.

Il ne vous aura pas échappé que certains des propos prêtés à de hautes personnalités paraissent fort sujets à caution. On est amené à se demander la part d'exagération qui peut être contenue dans les autres informations.

En tout cas, des excès individuels et, malgré tout, isolés ne sauraient être interprétés comme le signe d'une action généralisée et systématique de discrimination et de représailles.

Dans ce genre de faits, il faut tenir compte de la part qui revient à la provocation.

Les précédentes campagnes électorales nous ont déjà appris à juger de l'importance réelle qu'il convient d'attribuer aux excès nés du désir de remporter des suffrages.

La dignité personnelle de ceux qui s'y livrent en est davantage affectée que l'esprit d'union Nationale.

Je suis persuadé qu'il en sera encore ainsi dans la conjoncture présente.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de

ma haute considération.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

Son Altesse le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA
Président du Comité Central du Parti

MEMO-IAO-HAKSAT

à VIENTIANE

Monsieur le Président,

En réponse à votre lettre No 51 du 27 Avril 1958,

j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que, dès réception, je
sans intervenir auprès des Ministres mis en cause pour que les
faits signalés passent sans délai l'objet d'une enquête.

J'ai, en particulier, prescrit que soient immédiatement

relaxées, les personnes qui n'auraient pas été expressément

reconnues coupables d'activités délictueuses.

Il ne vous aura pas échappé que certains des propos

prêtés à de hautes personnalités paraissent fort sujets à caution.

On est amené à se demander la part d'exagération qui peut être

contenue dans les autres informations.

En tout cas, des excès individuels et, malgré tout,

isolés ne sauraient être interprétés comme le signe d'une action

généralisée et systématique de discrimination et de représailles.

Dans ce genre de faits, il faut tenir compte de la

part qui revient à la provocation.

Les précédentes campagnes électorales nous ont déjà

appelés à juger de l'importance réelle qu'il convient d'attribuer

aux excès nés du désir de remporter des succès.

Translation

Letter No.918/PC-PD dated 6 May, 1958.

From: The Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Laos

To: The Chairman of the ICSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to forward herewith for the information of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos, a copy of letter No. 913/PC-PD dated 5 May, 1958 addressed to H.H. Tiao Souphanouvong, President of the Central Committee of Neo Lao Haksat Party in reply to his letter of 27 April which has already been communicated to the Commission.

I avail of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Chairman, the assurances of my high consideration.

Translation

Letter No. 918\PC-PD dated 6 May, 1958.
From: The Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Laos
To: The Chairman of the ICSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to forward herewith for

the information of the International Commission for
Supervision and Control in Laos, a copy of letter No. 913\
PC-PD dated 5 May, 1958 addressed to H.H. Tiso Souphanouvong,
President of the Central Committee of the Lao Haksat Party
in reply to his letter of 27 April which has already been
communicated to the Commission.

I avail of this opportunity to renew to you,

Mr. Chairman, the assurances of my high consideration.

TRANSLATION

Letter No.913/PC/PD dated 5 May, 1958.

From: The Prime Minister, Royal Government of Laos.

To : H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, President of the
Central Committee of the Neo Lao Haksat Party,
Vientiane.

Mr. President,

In reply to your letter No. 51 dated 27 April, 1958, I have the honour to inform you that on my receiving it I intervened with the Ministers concerned so that the facts pointed out are investigated without delay.

In particular, I have instructed to release immediately all persons who were not proved guilty of punishable activities.

You would have noticed that some of the statements attributed to high personalities seem to be highly unreliable. One is led to wonder how much exaggeration is there in the other informations.

In any case, individual instances of abusive acts and, above all isolated ones, could not be interpreted as a sign of a general and systematic action of discrimination and repression.

In such cases one should take into account the part played by the provocations.

The previous electoral campaigns have already taught us how to judge and give importance to the excesses resulting from the desire to win the election.

The personal dignity of those who indulge in it is more at stake than the spirit of National Union.

I am convinced that it will be more so at the present juncture.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurance of my high consideration.

Vientiane, le 19 Mai 1958

N° 54

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Président du Comité Central
du Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT

à S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA, Premier Ministre,
Président du Conseil du Gouvernement Royal du Laos

à VIENTIANE.

(En communication à:

S.E. Phagna PHENG PHONGSAVAN, Président de l'Assemblée
Nationale du Laos

à VIENTIANE

S.E. le Docteur S.S. ANSARI, Président de la Commission
Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle

de l'Armistice au Laos

à VIENTIANE

Altesse,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de vos lettres

N° 905/PC-PD du 5 Mai courant, réponses respectives à mes lettres

N° 44 du 9 Avril et N° 51 du 27 Avril dernier.

Mes lettres précitées avaient pour objet essentiel de
faire mettre un terme aux nombreux actes et mesures de
discrimination et de représailles généralisés et systématiques,
perpétrés par certaines haute personnalités Royales, civiles
et militaires, et qui étaient de nature à compromettre sérieuse-
ment la "mise en pratique de l'esprit de réconciliation et de
concorde" entre tous les Lao, et, notamment, à fausser, dans
certains endroits, les élections complémentaires du 4 Mai.

A l'heure actuelle, ces élections ont été tenues. Bien
que les actes de discrimination et de représailles précités
aient été gravement préjudiciables au Parti NEO-LAO-HAKSAT -
puisque ses membres et sympathisants ont été arbitrairement
arrêtés par centaines et sauvagement assassinés par dizaines -

ces élections se sont passées, d'une manière générale, conformément à la loi électorale du Royaume.

Je ne puis, cependant, passer sous silence le flagrant délit d'injustice et de fraude qui entache manifestement les élections dans la province d'Attoupeu, du fait de l'abus de pouvoir et du mépris des lois et des instructions présidentielles pratiqués odieusement par le Chaokhouèng Khamsène BOUGNASENG.

J'ai, en conséquence, habilité notre Candidat, M. Thao KAYSONE PHOMVIHANE, à porter plainte afin que justice soit faite, que soient refaites les élections dans toute la province d'Attoupeu, avec toutes les garanties contre les fraudes et irrégularités, que soient immédiatement relâchées toutes les personnes injustement arrêtées (actuellement au nombre de 105), et que des sanctions sévères soient infligées aux coupables.

Je voudrais demander spécialement à Votre Altesse de vouloir bien user de toute son autorité pour exiger que satisfaction soit promptement donnée à nos réclamations légitimes et solidement fondées.

Veillez agréer, Altesse, l'assurance réitérée de nos sentiments respectueusement dévoués./.

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 54 Dated 19 May, 1958.

From: H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, President of the Central Committee of Neo-Lao Haksat Party.

To H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma, Prime Minister, President of the Council of Ministers of the Royal Government of Laos, Vientiane.

Copy to: H.E. Phagna Pheng Pnongsavan, Speaker of the National Assembly of Laos, Vientiane.

H.E. Dr. S.S. Ansari, Chairman, International Commission for Supervision & Control of the Armistice in Laos, Vientiane.

Highness,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 905/PC-PD of 2 May and No. 913/PC-PD of 5 May 1958, in reply to my letters No. 44 of 9 April and No. 51 of 27 April 58.

The main purpose of my above quoted letters was to put an end to the numerous systematic and generalised acts and measures of discrimination and repression perpetrated by some high Royal, civil and military personalities and which were of a nature compromising seriously the "putting into practice of the spirit of reconciliation and of concord" among all Laotians, and especially to swindle, at certain places, the supplementary elections of 4 May.

By now, these elections are over. Although the above quoted acts of discrimination and repression have been seriously detrimental to the Neo Lao Haksat Party -- because its members and sympathisers have been arbitrarily arrested in hundreds and savagely murdered by tens -- these elections were held, in general, in conformity with the electoral laws of the Kingdom.

I cannot however pass over in silence the flagrant offence of injustice and fraud which openly vitiates the elections in the province of Attapeu, as a result of abuse of power and defiance of laws and presidential instructions odiously practised by the Chaokhoueng Khamsene BOUGN-SENG.

I have, therefore, authorised our candidate, Mr. Thao KAYSONE PHOMVINANE, to lodge a complaint so that justice is done, that the elections are held once again in the whole of the Attapeu province with all guarantees against frauds and irregularities so that all persons unjustly arrested by immediately released (at present numbering 105) and that serious punishments are inflicted on the culprits.

I would like especially to request Your Highness to kindly use all his authority to insist so that satisfaction is promptly given to our legitimate and well founded claims.

Please accept, Highness, the reiterated assurance of my respectful and faithful sentiments.

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

Vientiane, le 26 Mai 1958

No. 1093/PC-PD

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer, ci-joint, pour l'information de la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle, copie de la lettre No 1084/PC-PD du 24 Mai 1958 adressée à S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Président du Parti Nèc-Lao-Haksat en réponse à sa lettre No 54 du 19 Mai, dont la Commission a reçu communication.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération./.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

Monsieur le Président
de la Commission Internationale de
Surveillance et de Contrôle
au Laos

-VIENTIANE-

Vientiane, le 26 Mai 1958

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

ROYAUME DU LAOS

No. 1093/PC-PD

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer, ci-joint, pour

l'information de la Commission Internationale de Surveillance

et de Contrôle, copie de la lettre No 1084/PC-PD du 24 Mai 1958

adressée à S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Président du Parti

Réo-Lao-Hakat en réponse à sa lettre No 54 du 19 Mai, dont la

Commission a reçu communication.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur

le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chac Krom Neng)

Monsieur le Président

de la Commission Internationale de

Surveillance et de Contrôle

au Laos

-VIENTIANE-

- 5 - Vientiane, le 24 Mai 1958

N° 1084/PC-PD

LE PREMIER MINISTRE, PRESIDENT DU CONSEIL,
Ministre des Postes à Télécommunications
et de l'Information Nationale

à

Son Altesse le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG,
Président du Parti Nèo-Lao-Haksat

à VIENTIANE

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre
N° 54 en date du 19 Mai. Je regrette de voir que cette lettre
a été communiquée à S.E. le Président de la Commission Inter-
nationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle qui n'a aucune qualité
pour connaître d'une question d'ordre intérieur.

Ainsi que je l'ai indiqué dans ma lettre N° 913 du
5 Mai, les excès qui ont pu être commis par les concurrents
pendant la bataille électorale n'engagent que la responsabilité
de leurs auteurs. Il est donc déraisonnable de représenter ces
faits comme traduisant des mesures de discrimination et de
représailles.

Les crimes et délits, s'il en a été commis, doivent
faire l'objet de plaintes précises devant les tribunaux
compétents. En matière aussi grave, des affirmations pures et
simples ne peuvent être prises en considération.

En ce qui concerne la régularité de l'élection des
Députés, il appartient à l'Assemblée Nationale seule d'en juger
sur le rapport de la Commission spéciale instituée par la Loi,
selon les dispositions de l'article 26 de la Constitution du
Royaume.

J'invite le Ministre de l'Intérieur à me rendre compte
d'urgence de l'application dans la province d'Attapeu de mes
instructions antérieures sur le contrôle des arrestations
opérées depuis le 1er Avril. Ces instructions précisent que

toute personne arrêtée, contre laquelle des charges suffisantes n'auraient pas été relevées, doit être remise en liberté immédiate.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération./.

à
Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

Copie à:

- S.E. le Président de la C.I.C.
- S.E. le Président du Conseil du Roi.
- S.E. le Président de l'Assemblée Nationale.
- LL.EE. les Ministres et Secrétaires d'Etat du Gouvernement Royal

" Pour information ".

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 1093 dated 26 May, 1958.

From: The Prime Minister, Kingdom of Laos.

To : The Chairman, ICSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to forward to you, herewith, for the information of the International Commission for Supervision and Control, a copy of letter No. 1084/PC/PD dated 24 May, 1958 addressed to H.H. Prince Souphanouvong, President of the Neo Lao Haksat, in reply to his letter No. 54 dated 10 May of which copy was sent to the Commission.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Chairman, the assurance of my high consideration.

Sd/Prince Souvanna Phouma
(Chao Krom Mana)

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 1093 dated 26 May, 1958.

From: The Prime Minister, Kingdom of Laos.
To: The Chairman, IGSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to forward to you, herewith,
for the information of the International Commission for
Supervision and Control, a copy of letter No. 108+PC/PD
dated 24 May, 1958 addressed to H.H. Prince Souphanouvong,
President of the Neo Lao Haksat, in reply to his letter
No. 54 dated 10 May of which copy was sent to the Commission.
I avail myself of this opportunity to renew
to you, Mr. Chairman, the assurance of my high consideration.

Si Prince Souvanna Phouma
(Chao Krom Maha)

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 1084/PC-PD dated 24 May 1958.

From: The Prime Minister, President of the Council
of Ministers, Minister of PTT & National Information.

To : H.H. Prince Souphanouvong,
President of the Neo Lao Haksat Party,
VIENTIANE

Mr. President,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 54 dated 19 May. I regret to notice that the said letter has been communicated to H.E. The Chairman of the ICSC who is not competent to know about a question of internal nature.

As I have already indicated in my letter No. 913 of 6 May, the abuses committed by rival candidates during the election campaign involve only the responsibility of their authors. It is, therefore, unreasonable to represent these facts as part of the measures of discrimination and reprisals.

Crimes and offences, if committed, should be brought in the form of precise complaints before competent courts. In such serious matters, mere assertions cannot be taken into consideration.

As regards the regularity of the election of Deputies, it is upto the National Assembly alone to judge it on the report of the Special Commission set up by law, in accordance with the provisions of Article 26 of the Constitution of the Kingdom.

I am requesting the Minister of Interior to let me know immediately about the implementation, in the province of Attoupeu, of my previous instructions on the control of arrests made since 1st April. Those instructions specify that any person arrested and against whom no sufficient charges have been made, should be released immediately.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurance of my high consideration.

Sd/ Prince Souvanna Phouma
(Chao Krom Mana)

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 10847C-PD dated 24 May 1958.

From: The Prime Minister, President of the Council of Ministers, Minister of PTT & National Information.

To: H.H. Prince Souphanouvong,
President of the Neo Lao Haksat Party.

VIENTIANE

Mr. President,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 74 dated 19 May. I regret to notice that the said letter has been communicated to H.E. The Chairman of the ICSC who is not competent to know about a question of internal nature.

As I have already indicated in my letter No. 213 of 6 May, the abuses committed by rival candidates during the election campaign involve only the responsibility of their authors. It is, therefore, unreasonable to represent these facts as part of the measures of discrimination and reprisals.

Crimes and offences, if committed, should be brought in the form of precise complaints before competent courts. In such serious matters, mere assertions cannot be taken into consideration.

As regards the regularity of the election of deputies, it is up to the National Assembly alone to judge it in the report of the Special Commission set up by law, in accordance with the provisions of Article 36 of the Constitution of the Kingdom.

I am requesting the Minister of Interior to let me know immediately about the implementation, in the province of Attapeu, of my previous instructions on the control of arrests made since 1st April. Those instructions specify that any person arrested and against whom no sufficient charges have been made, should be released immediately.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurance of my high consideration.

Sy Prince Souvanna Phouma
(Chao Koon Han)

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Vientiane, le 13 Mai 1958

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

N° 981/PC-PD

Monsieur le Président,

Me référant à votre lettre N° PS(L)(101)(346)/57 du 29 Novembre 1957, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que le Gouvernement Royal serait heureux d'avoir connaissance des dispositions prises par la Commission Internationale concernant le rappel des équipes stationnement actuellement en différentes localités.

Je me permets d'attirer en particulier l'attention de la Commission Internationale sur l'urgence que présente la remise à la disposition du Chaokhouèng de Sammeua, du logement de fonctions de cette autorité, ce logement ayant été provisoirement affecté à l'installation de l'équipe de Sammeua.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération./.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

Monsieur le Président
de la Commission Internationale de
Surveillance et de Contrôle
au Laos

-VIENTIANE-

Vientiane, le 13 Mai 1958

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

No 981/PC-PD

Monsieur le Président,

Me référant à votre lettre No 28(L)(LOI)(346) 27 du 29 Novembre 1957, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que le Gouvernement Royal serait heureux d'avoir connaissance des propositions prises par la Commission Internationale concernant le rapel des équipes stationnement actuellement en différentes localités.

Je me permets d'attirer en particulier l'attention de la Commission Internationale sur l'urgence que présente la remise à la disposition du Gouvernement de Samnang du logement de fonctions de cette autorité, ce logement ayant été provisoirement affecté à l'installation de l'équipe de Samnang. Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chac Hrom Mays)

Monsieur le Président

de la Commission Internationale de

Surveillance et de Contrôle

du Laos

-VIENTIANE-

TRANSLATION

Letter No.981/PC-PD, dated 13 May, 1958.

From: Prince Souvanna Phouma,
(Chao Krom Mana)
Royal Government of Laos,

To : The Chairman,
ICSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

With reference to your letter No.PS(L)(101)(346)/SP, dated 29th November, 1957. I have the honour to let you know that the Royal Government would be glad to be informed of the measures taken by the International Commission regarding the closure of the teams installed at present in various places.

I take the liberty to draw the attention of the International Commission particularly to the urgency of surrendering the Government buildings at present placed provisionally at the disposal of the team Sam Neua to the Chaokhoueng of Sam Neua.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Chairman, the assurance of my high consideration.

Sd/ Prince Souvanna Phouma
(Chao Kron Mana)

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 981\PC-PD, dated 13 May, 1958.

From: Prince Souvanna Phouma,
(Chao Kron Mans)
Royal Government of Laos.

To: The Chairman,
ICSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

With reference to your letter No. 92(L)(101)(3+6)\SP,
dated 29th November, 1957, I have the honor to let you know
that the Royal Government would be glad to be informed of the
measures taken by the International Commission regarding the
disposal of the teams installed at present in various places.

I take the liberty to draw the attention of the
International Commission particularly to the urgency of
rearranging the Government buildings at present placed
provisionally at the disposal of the team Sam Neua to the
headquarters of Sam Neua.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you,
Mr. Chairman, the assurance of my high consideration.

Sd/ Prince Souvanna Phouma
(Chao Kron Mans)

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

Vientiane, le 15 Mai 1958

N° 1003/PC-PD

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que les élections législatives complémentaires, pour lesquelles un scrutin a été ouvert le 4 Mai 1958, sont actuellement terminées. Tous les résultats des bureaux de vote répartis dans les différentes provinces du Royaume sont parvenus au Gouvernement Royal.

Ces opérations électorales ont permis aux citoyens Lao qui n'étaient pas aux côtés des forces gouvernementales pendant les hostilités, de consacrer, par leur participation, leur intégration dans la communauté nationale, sans aucune discrimination.

Elles se sont déroulées sans incident notable, selon les principes régissant normalement l'exercice des libertés démocratiques.

Selon la loi en vigueur dans le Royaume, les questions contentieuses qui pourraient être posées à l'occasion de ces élections sont de la compétence de l'Assemblée Nationale.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, les assurances de ma très haute considération./.

-Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA-

Monsieur le Président
de la Commission Internationale de
Surveillance et de Contrôle
au Laos

-VIENTIANE-

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

Vientiane, le 12 Mai 1958

N° 1003/PC-72

Monsieur le Président,

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que les élections législatives complémentaires, pour lesquelles un scrutin a été ouvert le 4 Mai 1958, sont actuellement terminées. Tous les résultats des bureaux de vote répartis dans les différentes provinces du Royaume sont parvenus au Gouvernement Royal.

Ces opérations électorales ont permis aux citoyens laos qui n'étaient pas aux côtés des forces gouvernementales pendant les hostilités, de consacrer, par leur participation, leur intégrité dans la communauté nationale, sans aucune discrimination.

Elles se sont déroulées sans incident notable, selon les principes régissant normalement l'exercice des libertés électorales.

Selon la loi en vigueur dans le Royaume, les questions constitutionnelles qui pourraient être posées à l'occasion de ces élections sont de la compétence de l'Assemblée Nationale. Je saisis cette occasion pour vous remercier, Monsieur le Président, les membres de la Haute Commission.

Prince Souvanna Phouma

Monsieur le Président
Assemblée Nationale
Présidence et le Contrôle
en Laos

TRANSLATION

Letter No.1003/PC-PD dated 15 May, 1958.

From : Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

To : The Chairman,
ICSC in Laos,
Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to inform you that the Supplementary General Elections for which the polling was held on the 4th May 1958, are now over. All the results of the polling booths distributed in various provinces of the Kingdom have been received by the Royal Government.

These electoral operations have enabled the Laotian citizens who were not siding the Government forces during the hostilities to be integrated into the national community by their participation.

They were carried out without any noticeable incidents according to the principles governing normally the practice of democratic liberties.

According to the law in force in the Kingdom the litigious questions which could arise on the occasion of the elections are within the competence of the National Assembly.

I avail myself of this opportunity Mr. Chairman, to renew the assurance of my high consideration.

sd/ Prince Souvanna Phouma

.....

TRANSITION

Letter No. 1003/70-72 dated 15 May, 1958.

From : Prince Sovanna Phras,
Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

To : The Chairman,
IGSC in Laos,
Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to inform you that the Supplementary
General Elections for which the polling was held on the 4th
May 1958, are now over. All the results of the polling booths
distributed in various provinces of the Kingdom have been
received by the Royal Government.

These electoral operations have enabled the Laotian
citizens who were not aided by the Government forces during
the hostilities to be integrated into the national community
by their participation.

They were carried out without any noticeable incidents
according to the principles governing normally the practice
of democratic liberties.

According to the law in force in the Kingdom the
elections questions which could arise on the occasion of the
elections are within the competence of the National Assembly.

I avail myself of this opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to
express the assurance of my high consideration.

Prince Sovanna Phras

CANADIAN RESOLUTION

The International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos,

RECALLING that the Commission was established by the terms of The Agreement on the cessation of Hostilities in Laos (The Cease-Fire Agreement), signed at Geneva on July 20, 1954, for the purpose of supervising the execution of the provisions of the Agreement;

RECALLING the various agreements reached between the Royal Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao, and, in particular, the "Agreements on the Establishment of the Royal Administration in the Provinces of Sam Neua and Phongsaly" and the "Military Agreement on the Integration of the Forces of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao into the National Army", both signed on November 12, 1957;

CONSIDERING that, in implementation of the above mentioned agreements, the whole of the national territory of Laos has been placed under the authority of the Royal Government, and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao have been integrated into the Laotian National Army and into the national community;

CONSIDERING that the political settlement envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreements has been achieved;

CONSIDERING that the Commission should not impose itself on a sovereign and independent Laos against its wishes;

CONSIDERING that in his letter of March 20 Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma informed the Chairman of the Commission that the Royal Government considered that the Supplementary elections on May 4 would constitute the final act of the Geneva Agreements for Laos, and that at its meeting on March 13 the Government had decided to request the withdrawal of the Commission from Laos, with effect from May 4;

RESOLVES to dissolve itself immediately and inform the members of the Geneva Conference accordingly.

CANADIAN STATEMENT

It is the view of the Canadian Government that, for the reasons set forth below, the International Commission in Laos has completed its task and should now dissolve itself.

It is almost four years since, in the summer of 1954, agreement was reached at the Geneva Conference on the terms and methods to put an end to the tragic fighting which had, for many years, ravaged Indo-China. There has been some difference of opinion as to whether there was, in fact, one Geneva settlement or three. Certainly, before the Geneva Conference, the three states of Indo-China were interdependent. It is also true that the three Cease-Fire Agreements for Indo-China have certain elements of interdependence. On the other hand it is equally certain that there resulted from the Geneva Conference, international recognition of three distinct sovereign states of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, and that for each of these states the Conference produced a separate Cease-Fire Agreement, under the terms of which three separate International Commissions for Supervision and Control were established.

There has also been some difference of opinion on whether the Commission is competent to put an end to its own existence. The wording of Article 39 of the Cease-Fire Agreement for Laos, which is identical to Article 46 of the Vietnam Agreement and Article 25 of the Cambodia Agreement, leaves no doubt that each Commission separately has the power, by a unanimous vote of its members, to reduce its own activities without reference to anybody or authority other than the remaining Commissions. The natural meaning of the words "reduce its activities" in Article 39, is in my Government's view amply wide enough to include an eventual reduction of activities to nothing. A reduction of activities to nothing must logically involve the reduction to nothing of both the Commission's personnel and the means required to carry out such activities, that is, it must logically involve the Commission's disappearance.

I think we will all agree that in accepting membership in the International Commission, all three Supervisory powers did so as independent nations and as principals; they are not the agents of the Geneva Powers or of the Co-Chairmen. Furthermore, although governed by the terms of reference prescribed for it in the Geneva Agreement, the Commission is independent of the Co-Chairmen and of the States concerned in producing these Agreements; submission of reports to the Geneva Powers does not affect this independent status. The Commission is therefore competent both to assess when its task is completed in Laos and, if it considers appropriate to dissolve itself, without prior permission of either the Geneva Powers or the parties or both.

Even if the foregoing is accepted, it may be argued that one Commission cannot dissolve itself in advance of the other two because of the provision for prior consultation in all three Geneva Agreements; those who hold this view argue that, because of this provision, all three Commissions must dissolve simultaneously. My Government finds it difficult to believe that this could have been the intention of the framers of the Geneva Agreements, especially if due weight is given to the words "having regard to the development of the situation in the other two countries". Development of the situation must

of course, include development to the point where the tasks of the Commission in any one country have been completed and its raison d'être therefore removed. It would be stretching the imagination too far to believe that the framers of the Agreements envisaged that this point would be reached simultaneously in all three countries. It is equally difficult to believe that they intended that a Commission should remain in being indefinitely with the sole function of waiting to be consulted under the terms of the Articles quoted above. We can only conclude the Commissions were meant to come to an end when they no longer had a function to perform.

The next question to be considered is whether the termination now of this Commission is appropriate or desirable. In the view of the Canadian Government it is appropriate and desirable. The whole of the national territory of Laos has been placed under the authority of the Royal Government which has fulfilled its obligations under the Cease-Fire Agreement. The Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao have been integrated into the National Army and into the community and the Pathet Lao no longer exists as a party to the Agreement. The Commission has formally recognized in its telegram of March 5, 1958 to the Co-Chairmen that the Military Agreement of November 12, 1957 between the two parties had been fully implemented. Both parties to the settlement in Laos, and the Commission itself in its letter of April 18 to the Prime Minister, have recognized that the supplementary elections of May 4 completed the Political Settlement envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement. Furthermore - and this is a most important consideration - the Royal Government at its meeting on March 13, decided to request the withdrawal of the Commission from Laos with effect from May 4.

As the terms of the Geneva Agreement for Laos have been fully implemented, the tasks of the Commission are completed. Because of this, and because of the Laotian Government's request to withdraw, the Commission cannot remain on in Laos, which, as a sovereign and independent State, must not be saddled unwilling and unnecessarily with a body whose very presence therefore constitutes a derogation of complete sovereignty. Furthermore, my Government holds the strong view that International Commissions of this sort should disappear when their tasks are completed. Indefinite extension of their activities can bring the whole concept of International supervision into disrepute and will make it more and more unpopular within countries which may be saddled indefinitely with these agencies.

I therefore, on behalf of the Government of Canada, have the honour to move the following resolution which I most urgently commend to the Governments of India and Poland.

GS.

STATEMENT BY POLAND

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Commissioner, Gentlemen,

The Polish Delegation has given careful attention to the Canadian draft resolution and to the statement of my distinguished Canadian colleague aiming to explain this draft. This careful consideration of the Canadian proposal was based on two reasons: First, because it concerns the future of the International Commission, thus the body established by the Geneva Conference for the implementation of strictly determined task. Secondly, because this proposal has been submitted by the member of this Commission, whose share in the Commission's work, both in the past and presently was highly recognized and appreciated by the other members of this Commission.

Studying point by point the Canadian Draft Resolution, we strengthened our conviction that, there is no controversy between us. Nobody of us here can doubt the assertion that our Commission has been established to supervise the implementation of the Geneva accords. If in this assertion the word 'control' has been omitted, we are inclined to take it as an oversight. Nobody of us here can doubt the fact, that an agreement has been reached in November last between the Royal Government and the F.U.P.L., especially the agreement on establishment of the Royal Administration in the two northern provinces and the agreement on integration of the FUPL forces into the Royal Army.

Also the following third assertion, that both above mentioned agreements have been fulfilled, raises no doubts among us. On the contrary, this assertion could be supplemented by the fact, that apart from administrative and military integration, due to the implementation of November 1957 agreements reached between the parties the Government of National Unity in Laos has been formed with participation in it of the representatives of the former PL. Furthermore in result of these agreements the supplementary elections were held on the 4th of May, validity of which will be most probably in a few days announced by the National Assembly.

This supplement of the assertion contained in para three of the draft resolution seems to us so desirable because each of these agreements were reached and later implemented with the active participation of our Commission for Supervision and Control in the frames foreseen by the Geneva Agreement. I should like to remind here for example two recent interventions of the Commission during the electoral campaign, caused by complaints received from Prince Souphanouvong, the Leader of Neo Lao Haksat.

Because none of the three assertions contained in the Canadian draft resolution raises any objections, also the fourth assertion cannot raise any objections because it is the logical consequence of the previous three, reading that the political settlement envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement has been implemented. To be strict it should be added, that both, in fact and formally political settlement in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement will be fully implemented while the National Assembly will announce that the supplementary elections of 4th May were valid. This is based upon the fact that the supplementary elections were integral part of the agreements reached between the Royal Government and FUPL and that only the implementation of all resolutions contained in these agreements could mean full political settlement envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement.

However, if the Canadian Commissioner, prior to the only authoritative verdict of the National Assembly regarding the supplementary elections of May the 4th, states in his draft resolution, that the political settlement envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement, has been already achieved, results it from nothing else but the deep desire this political settlement for Laos to become the fact. This deep desire was always typical for the whole Commission. When informing the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference of the implementation of various agreements reached by the parties, this Commission was never camouflaging its deep desire and instead of limiting itself to report only the plain facts, usually added, that it is hoped that the political settlement envisaged in Article 14 of the Geneva Agreement will be achieved.

Nevertheless if we neglect these small corrections and supplements - the I, II and III assertions as well as summarizing assertion IV raise no objections. Therefore more surprising is final conclusion insisting on immediate dissolution of the Commission. This conclusion cannot be met without surprise because basing on implementation of only one regulation of the Geneva Agreement it imposes sufficient reason to dissolve the Commission. The same Canadian draft in the introduction correctly asserts, that there are further regulations and that our Commission has been established by the Geneva Conference for supervision and control of these regulations. The careful study of Canadian resolution and statement explaining its point demonstrates that the Canadian Commissioner has not noticed that the Geneva Agreement for Laos apart of regulations relating to political settlements contains also numerous regulations as well as obligations of Royal Laotian Government undertaken at the Geneva Conference and which constitute the integral part of the agreement, and validity of which does not expire at the moment of implementation of political settlement foreseen in Article 14. The same oversight can also be found in Prime Minister's letter of the 20th March 1958, to which refers Canadian draft resolution. If however this method of Canadian interpretation of the Geneva Agreement would be accepted as proper one, namely that fulfilment of one article gives evidence of implementation of the whole agreement, then it could be recommended to refer for example to Article 13 and would come to conclusion that the Geneva Agreement has been already implemented in 1954 and that since that time Commission remains in Laos unnecessary. The Canadian Commissioner overlooked in his draft resolution the whole Chapter II of the Geneva Agreement also the Final Declaration of the Geneva Conference which confirms Royal Laotian Government's statement in Geneva/ Prime Minister of this Government was at that time Prince Souvanna Phouma/, and which decisions are binding Laos already happily united. Here should be sufficient to quote for illustration Article 9 of the Chapter II of the Agreement reading:

"Upon the entry into force of the present Agreement and in accordance with the declaration made at the Geneva Conference by the Royal Government of Laos on the 20th July, 1954, the introduction into Laos of armaments, munitions and military equipment of all kinds is prohibited, with the exception of a specified quantity of armaments in categories specified as necessary for defence of Laos".

In order to have no doubts for how long this and similar prohibitions will bind Laotian Government it is necessary to quote the relative para of the Declaration, which the Royal Laotian Government made at the Geneva Conference and to this Declaration refers directly Article 9 reading:

"During the period between cessation of hostilities in Vietnam and the final settlement of that country's political problems, the Royal Government of Laos will not request foreign aid, whether in war material, in personnel or in instructors, except for the purpose of its effective territorial defence and to extent defined by the agreement on the cessation of hostilities".

It seems unnecessary after reading the introduction of Geneva Declaration of the Royal Laotian Government any further evidence, that there are in the Geneva Agreements resolutions validity of which does not expire at the moment of implementation of political aspects in Laos, namely at the implementation of Article 14. Also no further evidence is required for assertion - which is in controversy to para 7 of the Canadian Commissioner's statement, that our Commission has not yet completed its function because Article 27 of the Agreement which precisely determines the task of the Commission under para 'C' entrusts us supervision and application of those regulations referring to introduction of military personnel and war materials in Laos.

Our distinguished Canadian colleague should have all reasons to complain, if we would stop our analysis of this draft resolution at this point. It would mean that the assertions contained therein regarding the sovereignty of Laos have been omitted. This matter seems to be specially worth mentioning because the Canadian Delegation at our meetings repeatedly expressed its doubts whether the existence and activities of our Commission was not in conflict with the sovereignty of this country. In the draft resolution it reads: "The Commission should not impose itself on a sovereign and independent Laos against its wishes". We are convinced however that those doubts will be dispersed by recalling that the three Supervisory Powers, which Governments we represent here in this Commission have acknowledged the sovereignty and independence of Laos, that the participants of the Geneva Conference or in other words authors of the Geneva Agreements, thus also the Agreement for Laos in Article 12 of the Final Declaration admit themselves also to respect in relations with the three Indo-China States their sovereignty and independence, it means also the sovereignty and independence of Laos.

If however these arguments would not be sufficient to disperse doubts of the Canadian Commissioner, namely whether fulfilment by the Commission of the decisions and obligations contained in the Geneva Agreement is not in conflict with the sovereignty of Laos, it is then worth mentioning, that the Declaration containing numerous and still actual obligations, which became integral part of the Geneva Agreement was issued by the Royal Government as a Government of a sovereign state. The Laos Delegate on August 4th, 1954 in New Delhi promised the Commission for Supervision and Control support, co-operation and wished success in its task (New Delhi communique of 6th August 1954) stated above also on behalf of the sovereign Kingdom of Laos.

Carefully studying both the Canadian draft resolution and statement, which claimed to support its fairness, we can find no reasons to accept this proposal and no reasons for the decision to dissolve this Commission. However when speaking about the Commission and its future the Polish Delegation would like by this opportunity to draw once more the attention to the necessity of reconsideration of the developments in Laos and bring about the conclusions by the Commission.

Such reconsideration will show us, which of the functions entrusted us by the Geneva Agreements are no more actual because of the developed situation, which functions are still actual and will enable us to determine exact limits of the following reduction of the Commission's activities in conformity with Article 39 running:

"The International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos may, after consultation with the International Commissions in Cambodia and Vietnam, and having regard to the development of the situation in Cambodia and Vietnam progressively reduce its activities. Such a decision must be adopted unanimously."

Our Commission in the recent few months has already twice reduced its activities, taking into consideration developments in Laos, each time consulting the other two Commissions. This Commission has not failed to observe the supplementary elections in this country and has decided to dissolve remaining in the country inspection teams as soon as the elections will be officially declared valid.

Nobody who is objective can blame this Commission for being slow in observing developments.

Therefore bearing in mind this good name of our Commission, which has been worked out by all three Delegations, bearing in mind good reputation of the idea of international supervision, which was mentioned in Canadian Commissioner's statement, we should not take the decision which is contrary to the Geneva Agreements. The participants of the Geneva Conference have entrusted the control of implementation of the Geneva Agreements to India, Canada and Poland with the only conviction, that we shall implement this honourable task well and to the very end, in order not to increase the tension in Indo-China and in order to secure peace.

STATEMENT BY INDIA

1. I have the honour to refer to the resolution tabled by my distinguished colleague from Canada and to the statement made by him in support of the resolution calling for the dissolution of this Commission. It is my painful duty to oppose this resolution - a duty which has been made all the more poignant, because this will be the first time during my tenure as Leader of the Indian Delegation here that I have been compelled to undertake such a task. I would, therefore, like to explain the reasons which govern this decision.

2. My distinguished colleague from Canada has based his resolution mainly on the plea that under the Cease-Fire Agreement for Indo-China, three separate and independent Commissions were established in 1954 and that as Laos Commission has completed the task entrusted to it, there is no more raison d'etre for its continuance. A perusal of his statement reveals that my Canadian Colleague himself has used, - quite advisedly, I am sure - the term 'interdependence' to describe the relations between the three States in Indo-China at the time of the Geneva Conference. In the Geneva Agreement itself, especially in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Final Declaration of the Geneva Powers based on the Declaration made by the Royal Laotian Government at Geneva, which states that "during the period between the cessation of hostilities in Vietnam and the final settlement of that country's political problems etc. etc." one would find that this question of interdependence among the three States correctly reflects the views of the Geneva Powers while framing the Geneva Agreement. The position of the Indian Delegation is that, in view of Articles 25, 39 and 46 of the Geneva Agreements on Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam respectively, the three International Commissions have to continue till political settlement is completed in all the three countries, namely, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. The Articles referred to above provide for reduction in the activities of a particular Commission in the light of the development of the situation in the other two countries, but there is no provision in the Geneva Agreements for the winding up of any of the Commissions independently of the completion of political settlement in the other two countries.

3. My distinguished colleague from Canada while referring to Article 39 of the Geneva Agreement says that the words "reduce its activities" in his Government's view were wide enough to include the eventual reduction of activities to nothing. This interpretation is a disputable one; and even the Canadian view recognises that this interpretation is a questionable one and that in fact, the Agreement makes no provision at all for dissolution. If the framers of the Geneva Agreement had this interpretation in view, then they would have undoubtedly and specifically used the word 'dissolution' instead of 'reduction of activities', whose scope, according to any interpretation, could only be restricted.

4. My distinguished colleague from Canada has also referred to the question of the Commission imposing itself on an unwilling, sovereign Government of Laos. I hasten to declare that my Government and my delegation are second to none in upholding the sovereignty of the Royal Government of Laos. My country which was for a long time deprived of its sovereignty regained it only recently after a long and arduous struggle. We have paid a heavy price for our liberty and, therefore, are in a better position to appreciate the importance of the sovereign rights of a country and its people. It is far from the intention of my Government or my delegation to ask for an indefinite stay of this Commission in Laos. It will, however, be accepted, I am sure, by all

concerned that any sovereign Government having freely and willingly entered into an international agreement should abide by the terms and conditions of such agreements. If not, unilateral denunciation of International agreements will result in grave consequences which will affect normal relations between nations and might endanger the peace of the world.

5. There is another aspect of this legal position, which the Indian Delegation would like to point out. There are two parties to the Geneva Agreement on Laos: one party signed for the Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the French Union in Indo-China, from whom the Royal Laotian Government derive their authority, and the other party signed for the Commander-in-Chief of the fighting units of the Pathet Lao and for the Commander-in-Chief of the Peoples' Army of Vietnam. The second party, namely, the one represented by the Vice Minister of National Defence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, does not accept the proposal to wind up the Commission made by the Prime Minister of the Royal Laotian Government. In effect, therefore, the proposal of the Canadian Delegation which supports the view advanced by one of the parties of the Geneva Agreement on Laos is bound to have serious repercussions on the working of the Geneva Agreements not only in Laos but also in other parts of Indo-China.

6. The Indian Delegation cannot support the Canadian resolution and would like to point out to the members of the Commission that a resolution which proposes to amend not only the Geneva Agreement on Laos but the Geneva Agreements on Cambodia and Vietnam as well, requires unanimous decision in the Commission and the concurrence of the other two Commissions. The introduction of the resolution by the Canadian Delegation on the Laos Commission introduces discord and disharmony in the hitherto smooth and effective working of the Laos Commission and, what is worse, may, if followed up by unilateral withdrawal of the Canadian Delegation from the Laos Commission, result in immobilising the International Commission in Laos and the operation of the Geneva Agreements in Indo-China. This would create a grave situation which might lead to a resumption of hostilities in Indo-China.

7. The Indian Delegation has kept the Government of India fully informed about the views of the other two Delegations on the Commission and the views of the Royal Government of Laos. The Government of India have carefully considered these views and have made the following alternate suggestions to the Co-Chairmen:

(i) The strength of Laos Commission be reduced to a group of three delegates, one from each Supervisory country and only a limited staff of six more persons allowed to these three delegates, the total personnel of the Laos Commission being thus reduced to nine; or

(ii) The Supervisory Governments may be asked to nominate one of their personnel at present working in the Vietnam Commission as delegate for the Laos Commission, so that, these delegates will work as International Commission for Laos. These delegates will, when required, visit Laos and deal with any items of work that may require disposal by the International Commission for Laos under the Geneva Agreements on Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.

These suggestions meet the wishes of the Royal Government of Laos without impairing the effective working of the Geneva Agreements on Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.

8. We have, in the past three years and a half, dealt with various complicated and delicate situations in the working of the Geneva Agreement on Laos and by mutual discussion promoted peaceful solutions of various problems. In the same spirit of constructive and purposeful co-operation in the interests of maintaining peace in Indo-China, the Indian Delegation would request their Canadian and Polish colleagues on the Commission to consider the alternate

suggestions made by the Government of India to the Co-Chairmen and arrive at a unanimous decision on one of these alternatives, so that the Commission can recommend to the Co-Chairmen the adoption of that particular alternative as the most satisfactory way of meeting the wishes of the Royal Government and maintaining the effective working of the Geneva Agreements on Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Gentlemen, I formally propose that the Commission discuss these two alternatives and inform the Co-Chairmen of its decision.

...tions made by the Government of India to the Co-Chairmen
arrive at a unanimous decision on one of these alternatives, so
the Commission can recommend to the Co-Chairmen the adoption
of that particular alternative as the most satisfactory way of
giving effect to the wishes of the Royal Government and maintaining the
effective working of the Geneva Agreements on Laos, Cambodia and
Vietnam.

Gentlemen, I formally propose that the Commission discuss
the two alternatives and inform the Co-Chairmen of its decision.

Vientiane, le 22 Mai 1958

Le Président du Conseil des Ministres

Monsieur le Président,

Me référant à ma lettre N°200/PC-MP du 26 Novembre 1957 et à ma lettre N°1.003/PC-PD du 15 Mai 1958, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que le Gouvernement Royal considère comme intégralement accomplies l'application de l'Accord sur la cessation des hostilités au Laos ainsi que l'exécution des engagements pris par ce Gouvernement devant la Conférence de Genève. Les dernières élections complémentaires ont consacré l'intégration complète de tous les citoyens Lao dans la Communauté Nationale.

La Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos voit ainsi s'achever avec succès la mission qui lui a été dévolue par la Conférence de Genève.

Le Gouvernement Royal tient à lui exprimer sa profonde gratitude pour le concours efficace qu'elle lui a apportée pour rétablir dans le Royaume une situation normale dans le respect de son unité, de sa Souveraineté et de son indépendance.

Le Gouvernement Royal serait reconnaissant à la Commission Internationale de bien vouloir lui faire part des dispositions qu'elle a pu prendre en vue de son prochain départ du Laos.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

Monsieur le Président
la Commission Internationale
de Surveillance et de Contrôle
au Laos

-VIENTIANE-

Vientiane, le 22 mai 1955

Le Président du Conseil des Ministres

à Monsieur le Président,

Je réfère à ma lettre N° 1030/10-17 du 20 février 1955 et à votre lettre N° 1000/10-17 du 12 mai 1955, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que le Gouvernement Royal considère comme intégrales les obligations de l'application de l'accord sur la cessation des hostilités en Laos ainsi que l'extension des engagements pris par le Gouvernement devant la Conférence de Genève, les dernières dispositions complémentaires ont consacré l'intégration complète de tous les citoyens Laos dans la Communauté Nationale.

La Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle du Laos voit ainsi s'achever avec succès sa mission qui lui a été confiée par la Conférence de Genève. Le Gouvernement Royal tient à lui exprimer ses profondes remerciements pour les services qu'elle lui a rendus et souhaite dans la mesure du possible continuer à travailler avec elle dans le but de contribuer à la consolidation de la paix et de la prospérité du Laos. Le Gouvernement Royal s'associe au souhait de la Commission Internationale de bien vouloir lui faire savoir ses dispositions à cet égard et de lui adresser ses vœux de succès. Le Président, l'assurance de sa haute considération.

Princ ROYANNAH

(Chef du Gouvernement)



Le Président
de la Commission
Internationale
de Surveillance
et de Contrôle

Princ ROYANNAH

ANNEXURE 45

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 1070/PC-PD dated 22 May, 1958.

From : The President of the Council of Ministers,
Royal Government of Laos.

To : The Chairman,
International Commission for Supervision and
Control in Laos,
Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

Referring to my letter No.200/PC-MP dated 26 November 1957 and to my letter No. 1003/PC-PD of 15 May, 1958 I have the honour to inform you that the Royal Government considers as fully accomplished the implementation of the agreement on the Cessation of hostilities in Laos as well as the fulfilment of the obligations undertaken by this Government at the Geneva Conference. The last supplementary elections have consecrated the complete integration of all the Laotian citizens in the National Community.

The International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos thus sees the mission which had been entrusted to it by the Geneva Conference drawing successfully to a close.

The Royal Government wishes to express to the International Commission its profound gratitude for the efficacious assistance which it has extended to it, in order to re-establish in the Kingdom a normal situation in respect of its unity, sovereignty and independence.

The Royal Government shall be grateful to the International Commission if it could kindly inform it about the arrangements which it has been able to make regarding its impending departure from Laos.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Chairman, the assurance of my high consideration.

sd/ Prince Souvanna Phouma,
(Chao Krom Mana)

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 1070/PC-PD dated 22 May, 1958.

To : The President of the Council of Ministers,
Royal Government of Laos.
From : The Chairman,
International Commission for Supervision and
Control in Laos,
Geneva.

Mr. Chairman,

Referring to my letter No. 1007/PC-PD dated 22
November 1957 and to my letter No. 1007/PC-PD of 15 May, 1958
I have the honor to inform you that the Royal Government
considers as fully accomplished the implementation of the
agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Laos as well as
the fulfillment of the obligations undertaken by this Government
at the Geneva Conference. The last supplementary elections have
consolidated the complete integration of all the Laotian citizens
in the National Community.

The International Commission for Supervision and
Control in Laos has seen the mission which has been entrusted
to it by the Geneva Conference being successfully to a close.

The Royal Government wishes to express to the
International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos
its appreciation for the assistance which it has extended to it in order
to re-establish in the Kingdom a normal situation in respect of
its unity, sovereignty and independence.

The Royal Government shall be grateful to the
International Commission if it could kindly inform it about the
arrangements which it has been able to make for the
imminent departure from Laos.

I avail myself of this opportunity to thank you,
Mr. Chairman, for the assistance of which consideration.

Mr. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
(also for Laos)

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Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

N° 1140/PC-PD

Monsieur le Président,

Dans ma lettre No.1070/PC-PD du 22 Mai 1958, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que le Gouvernement Royal considérerait comme intégralement accomplies l'application de l'accord sur la cessation des hostilités au Laos, ainsi que l'exécution des engagements pris par ce Gouvernement devant la Conférence de Genève.

Pour éviter toute équivoque à ce sujet, je tiens à préciser que le Gouvernement Royal entend continuer à observer l'engagement contenu dans sa déclaration faite à Genève concernant le Statut Militaire et exprimé en ces termes:

"Le Gouvernement Royal du Laos est résolu à ne prendre jamais part à une politique agressive et ne permettra jamais que le territoire du Laos soit utilisé au service d'une telle politique.

"Le Gouvernement Royal du Laos ne se joindra à aucun accord avec d'autres Etats si cet accord comporte pour le Gouvernement Royal du Laos l'obligation:

"1°- d'entrer dans une alliance militaire non conforme aux principes de la Charte des Nations Unies et aux principes de l'Accord sur la cessation des hostilités et aussi longtemps que sa sécurité ne sera pas menacée;

"2°- d'établir des bases pour les forces militaires des puissances étrangères en territoire Laotien (exception faite des bases prévues par l'article 8 de l'accord de Genève).

"Le Gouvernement Royal du Laos est résolu à régler ses différends internationaux par des moyens pacifiques de telle manière que la paix et la sécurité internationale ainsi que la justice ne soient pas mises en danger.

"Pendant la période qui s'écoulera entre la date de cessation des hostilités au Vietnam et celle du règlement définitif

des problèmes politiques dans ce pays, le Gouvernement Royal du Laos ne sollicitera d'aide étrangère en matériel, personnel ou instructeurs que dans l'intérêt de la Défense efficace de son territoire et dans les limites fixées par l'Accord sur la cessation des hostilités.

Je saisis cette occasion pour vous renouveler, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

Monsieur le Président
de la Commission Internationale de
Surveillance et de Contrôle
au Laos

-VIENTIANE-

TRANSLATION

Letter No. 1140/PC-PD dated 31 May, 1958.

From : The Prime Minister, Royal Government of Laos.

To : The Chairman, ICSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Mr. Chairman,

In my letter No. 1070/PC-PD dated 22 May 1958, I had the honour to let you know that the Royal Government considered as fully accomplished the implementation of the agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Laos as well as the fulfilment of all the obligations undertaken by this Government at the Geneva Conference.

In order to avoid any ambiguity on this subject, I wish to specify that the Royal Government intends to continue to observe the obligation contained in its declaration made at the Geneva regarding the military agreement and expressed in these terms:

"The Royal Government of Laos is resolved never to pursue a policy of aggression and will never permit the territory of Laos to be used in furtherance of such a policy.

"The Royal Government of Laos will not join any agreement with other States if this agreement includes the obligation for the Royal Government of Laos--

"1. To enter into a military alliance not in conformity with the principles of the Charter of United Nations and with the principles of Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities and as long as its security is not threatened;

"2. To establish bases on Laotian territory for military forces of foreign powers (exception made of bases envisaged by Article 8 of the Geneva Agreement).

"The Royal Government of Laos is resolved to settle its international disputes by peaceful means so that international peace and security and justice are not endangered.

"During the period between the cessation of hostilities in Vietnam and the final settlement of that country's political problems, the Royal Government of Laos will not request foreign aid, whether in war material, in personnel or in instructors, except for the purpose of its effective territorial defence and to the extent defined by the Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities."

I take this opportunity to renew to you, Mr. Chairman, the assurance of my high consideration.

Sd/Prince Souvanna Phouma
(Chao Krom Mana)

TRANSACTIONS

Ref No. 1140/PC-PD dated 31 May, 1958.

The Prime Minister, Royal Government of Laos.
The Chairman, IGSC in Laos, Vientiane.

Chairman,

In my letter No. 1070/PC-PD dated 22 May 1958, I had
honour to let you know that the Royal Government considered
fully accomplished the implementation of the agreement on
cessation of hostilities in Laos as well as the fulfilment
of the obligations undertaken by this Government at the
Geneva Conference.

In order to avoid any ambiguity on this subject, I
to specify that the Royal Government intends to continue to
the obligation contained in its declaration made at the
Geneva Conference regarding the military agreement and expressed in these

The Royal Government of Laos is resolved never to
pursue a policy of aggression and will never permit
the territory of Laos to be used in furtherance of
such a policy.

The Royal Government of Laos will not join any
agreement with other States if this agreement involves the
obligation for the Royal Government of Laos.

1. To enter into a military alliance not in conformity
with the principles of the Charter of United Nations
and with the principles of agreement on the cessation
of hostilities and as long as its security is not
endangered;

2. To establish bases on Laotian territory for military
forces of foreign powers (exception made of bases
envisaged by Article 8 of the Geneva Agreement).

The Royal Government of Laos is resolved to settle its
international disputes by peaceful means so that
international peace and security and justice are not
endangered.

During the period between the cessation of hostilities in
Laos and the final settlement of that country's
political problems, the Royal Government of Laos will not
take any military or other action which is contrary to the
purpose of the agreement on the cessation of hostilities
and so the extent defined by the
agreement on the cessation of hostilities.

I take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. Chairman,
for your kind consideration.

Very sincerely yours,
Phoukhan (Gen. Lam Satho)

ANNEXURE 47

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION & CONTROL IN LAOS

No.8/(3)-ICL/57/1931

Vientiane
8 July 1957

The International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos presents its compliments to the Mixed Military Committee and wishes to report that it has received information to the effect that four boxes of ammunition were paradropped at Houei Thao on 23 June 1957.

These ammunition boxes are held by the IC's Fixed Team at Sam Neua with instructions to hold them there until the Mixed Military Committee issues instructions for the disposal of same.

The International Commission avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Mixed Military Committee the assurances of its high consideration.

Seal
S. BARKATAKI

Mixed Military Committee,
Vientiane.

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Présidence du Conseil des Ministres

Nº 1597/PC/CM

M. le Président,

Comme suite à votre note N°8/3/ICL/57/1931 que la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos a bien voulu transmettre à la Commission Militaire Mixte le 8 Juillet 1957, j'ai l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance de Votre Excellence que c'est dû à une erreur que les 4 caisses de munitions ont été parachutées au poste de Houei Thao.

Je vous serais bien obligé, Excellence, si les ordres jugés nécessaires sont émis pour que les munitions en question soient remises au Commandant d'Armes à la Plaine-des-Jarres durant la prochaine livraison aérienne.

Je saisis cette occasion pour renouveler à votre Excellence les assurances de ma haute considération.

S.A. le Prince SOUVANNA PHOUMA

(Chao Krom Mana)

A Monsieur le Président
La Commission Internationale de
Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos

VIENTIANE

ROYAUME DU LAOS

Ministère du Conseil des Ministres

N° 1587/61

M. le Président,

Comme suite à votre note W3/2/TO/57/1581 que la Commission internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos a bien voulu transmettre à la Commission Militaire Mixte le 2 juillet 1961, et l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance de votre Excellence que c'est de à une erreur que les 4 casiers de munitions ont été percutés au poste de Hanoi Thao.

Je vous serais bien obligé, Excellence, si les ordres nécessaires sont émis pour que les munitions en question soient renvoyées au Commandant d'Armes à la Paine-des-Terres dans le prochain livraison aérienne.

Je saisis cette occasion pour renouveler à votre Excellence mes sentiments de haute considération.

Le Colonel Général

(Signature)

M. le Président

Commission internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle au Laos

ANNEXE



ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Letter No.1597/PC/CM, dated 9 August 1957 from the Prime Minister of the Royal Government to H.E. The Chairman of the ICSC in Laos.

Mr. Chairman,

Further to your note No.8/3/ICL/57/1931 which the ICSC in Laos has been good enough to forward to the Joint Military Commission on 8 July, 1957, I have the honour to bring to the esteemed notice of Your Excellency that it is due to an error that 4 cases of ammunition could have been para-dropped at the Houei Thao post.

I should be obliged to Your Excellency for any instructions which may be deemed fit to be issued so that the ammunition in question be returned to the Commandant of Arms at Plaine-des-Jarres in the course of the forthcoming air liaison.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Letter No. 1287/PC/OM, dated 3 August 1987 from
the Prime Minister of the Royal Government to
H.E. The Chairman of the ICGG in Laos.

The Chairman,

Further to your note No. S/3/101/87/1081 which the
ICGG in Laos has been good enough to forward to the Joint
Military Commission on 8 July, 1987, I have the honour to
reply to the aforesaid notice of Your Excellency that it is
due to an error that a case of ammunition could have been par-
ticipated at the Houei Than post.

I should be obliged to Your Excellency for any
instructions which may be deemed fit to be issued so that the
ammunition in question be returned to the Commandant of Arms
of the Houei Than post in the course of the forthcoming six
months.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your
Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL IN
LAOS

No.PS(L)(101)(266)/57

Vientiane
3rd September, 1957

Your Highness,

Reference your letter No.1597/PC/CM dated 9th August, 1957, and previous correspondence on the subject. I am herewith attaching a copy of a letter addressed by the Military Committee of the International Commission to the Joint Military Committee for Your Highness's perusal. The Commission has carefully considered the disposition of the ammunition and in view of Your Highness's communications regretting the incident, the Commission has decided to return the boxes of ammunition to the Royal Laotian Government in Vientiane.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Highness the assurances of my high consideration.

(Sd) Dr. S.S. Ansari
CHAIRMAN, ICSC, LAOS

H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister,
Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

LAOS

PS(L)(101)(266)77

Vientiane
3rd September, 1957

Your Highness,

Reference your letter No. 1597/PC/CM dated 9th August, 1957, and previous correspondence on the subject. I am herewith attaching a copy of a letter addressed to the Military Committee of the International Commission for the Joint Military Committee for Your Highness's attention. The Commission has carefully considered the position of the ammunition and in view of Your Highness's communications regretting the incident, the Commission has decided to return the boxes of ammunition to the Royal Laotian Government in Vientiane. I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Highness the assurances of my high consideration.

(Sd) Dr. S.S. Anasri
CHAIRMAN, ICSC, LAOS

Minister,
Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

ENCLOSURE TO ANNEXURE 49

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL IN
LAOS

No. 4(4)NDI/57 Vientiane,
the 3rd September, 1957

1. The Military Committee of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos presents its compliments to the Joint Military Committee and has the honour to state that it notes with concern the recent incident of Paradrropping of Ammunition at Houei Thao.
2. On 23rd June 1957, a Dakota of the Royal Laotian Government dropped supplies for the L.N.A. Post at Houei Thao, some of the drops falling in the Pathet Lao area. Pathet Lao troops collected the drops falling in their area and advised Sub Team Houei Thao that they suspected ammunition in some of the packages. Sub-Team Houei Thao carried out a check, while taking over on 25th June 1957, and found that there were 4 boxes of ammunition that had been dropped along with other commodities. Three of these boxes contained 384 rounds of small arms ammuntiiion .30 calibre, the fourth containing 192 rounds .30 calibre ammunition.
3. The incident is a violation of para 6(b) of the Sam Neua Agreement of October 1955 and subsequent agreements. Such an action may cause a deterioration of the military situation and affect adversely further negotiations.
4. The Military Committee recalls that the Commission noted with satisfaction the Joint Declaration of 5th August 1956 wherein it was agreed that pending complete settlement of all outstanding problems between the parties, the troops of each side must respectively remain in their present position; they must not resort to any provocative or encroaching activities; they must not increase their strength in the two provinces in men or armaments.

5. The Military Committee, therefore, requests the Joint Military Committee to consider this incident in the light of various agreements, with particular reference to Article 1 of the Agreement of 31st October 1956. The Military Committee further requests the Joint Military Committee to take steps to prevent recurrence of such incidents so that negotiations for a settlement of all outstanding problems relating to the Kingdom of Laos, in conformity with the Geneva Agreement, may be conducted in a peaceful atmosphere.

6. The Military Committee of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos renew to the Joint Military Committee the assurances of its highest consideration.

Yours ever,

Sd/- Shiv Charan Das,
Lt. Col.
Secretary,
Military Committee.

Joint Military Committee,
VIENTIANE.

LIST OF COMPLAINTS

Sr.No.	Date of complaint	Nature of complaint	Place and date	Action taken.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)

1. Royal Laotian Government
20 May 1957
List of alleged aggressions carried out by Pathet Lao
SAM NEUA Province during April & May 57
Forwarded to the Pathet Lao
2. Royal Laotian Government
23 May 1957
Alleged taking away of articles by the Pathet Lao during attack on 17-5-57
PHONGSALIX Province 17-5-57
Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee
3. Royal Laotian Government
25 May 1957
Alleged firing with automatic weapons on Air Lao Company Aircraft
HOUEI THAO area 10 & 12 May 57
Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee
4. Pathet Lao
24 May 1957
Alleged violation of SAM NEUA AGREEMENT by Royal Laotian Govt.
HOUEI THAO area 21/22 May 57
Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee
5. Pathet Lao
28 May 1957
Alleged firing by Royal Laotian Govt troops
HOUEI THAO 27/28 May 1957
Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee
6. Pathet Lao
1 June 1957
Alleged damage to the Pathet Lao property
PHONGSALIX April/May 1957
Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee
7. Pathet Lao
10 June 1957
Alleged restrictions on the free movement of Pathet Lao Delegation.
VIENTIANE 6 June 1957
Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee
8. Royal Laotian Government
12 June 1957
Alleged attacks by Pathet Lao on 17-5-57
PHONGSALIX 17-5-57
Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee
9. Royal Laotian Government
23 June 1957
Alleged taking over of paradropped stores by Pathet Lao troops
HOUEI THAO 23 & 25 June 1957
Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|------------------|---|---|---|
| 10 | Pathet Lao | 26 June 1957 | Alleged paratropping of ammunition by Royal Lao Government (This letter on turned out to be an error and not intentional) | HOUEN THAO
25 & 25 June 57 | Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee |
| 11 | Royal Laotian Government | 12 July 1957 | Alleged firing on Dakota by Pathet Lao | SAM NEUA Province
29-6-57 & 4-7-57 | Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee |
| 12. | Royal Laotian Government | 15 July 1957 | Alleged obstruction of use of water points by Pathet Lao | HOUEN THAO
July 57 | Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee |
| 13. | Pathet Lao | 1 August 57 | Alleged attack by Royal Laotian Government soldiers | PHONGSALLY Province
20 & 26 July 57 | - |
| 14. | Pathet Lao | 12 August 57 | Alleged violations committed by Royal party | Both provinces from
6 Aug 56 to 28th May '57 | Forwarded to the Royal Laotian Government |
| 15. | Royal Laotian Government | 22 August 57 | Alleged infiltration into Muong Peun by Pathet Lao | MUONG PEUN
17/18 Aug 57 | - |
| 16. | Pathet Lao | 24 August 1957 | Alleged arrest of three officers of Pathet Lao forces at Muong Peun | MUONG PEUN
24 August 57 | Information obtained by the Commission revealed that the Pathet Lao officers had not been under arrest of the Laotian National Army at any time. Pathet Lao was informed. |
| 17. | Royal Laotian Government | 2 September 1957 | Alleged exciting of the population by Pathet Lao Agents | Province of Attapeu
7 August 1957 | Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee |

18. Royal Laotian Government 2 September 57 Alleged attacks by Pathet Lao soldiers on persons of National Army. SAM NEUA Province 11/12 September 57 Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee
19. Royal Laotian Government 9 October 1957 Alleged firing on aircraft SAM NEUA Province 11/13 September 1957 Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee
20. Royal Laotian Government October 1957 Alleged building of new posts by Pathet Lao SAM NEUA Province 21 October 1957 Forwarded to the Joint Military Committee

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No.PS(L)101(135)172/57

VIENTIANE

June 4, 1957.

Sir,

In the resolution adopted by the Commission on 16 May, a copy of which has already been forwarded to you, the Commission called upon "the parties to observe scrupulously the cease-fire, to ensure that no hostile actions or provocations should be taken or given, that force should not be resorted to and that the peace should be firmly maintained, so that the Geneva Agreement is fully observed and a proper atmosphere for a political settlement is maintained". On all possible occasions the Commission has emphasized, as indeed is enjoined on it by the Geneva Agreement, the need for maintaining complete peace and tranquility between opposing forces. In spite of this, the military situation in the two northern provinces continues to concern the Commission which is most anxious that any deterioration must be prevented. The Commission was encouraged by the establishment of the Mixed Military Committee and their activities to hope that calm and peace should prevail in all areas; the Commission continues to feel that further efforts of the Mixed Military Committee and their teams will contribute substantially in maintaining a complete cease-fire.

2. We should therefore be grateful to receive from you, as soon as possible, an account of their current functions; for this purpose it would be advisable if the Mixed Military Committee would nominate two representatives - one from each side - to meet the Commission's Military Committee and inform them of the actions which the parties themselves are taking or contemplating in order to maintain peace fully. We should be glad to know whether this suggestion is acceptable to you and if so, what representative of the Royal Government/Pathet Lao is being designated as its Liaison Officer with the Commission's Military Committee. This officer should of course be a member of the Mixed Military Committee. The time and place of reporting may be fixed by the Liaison Officers' in consultation with the Commission's Military Committee; it would be preferable if the two Liaison Officers appear before the Commission's Military Committee at the same time. More than one meeting between the Liaison Officers and the Commission's Military Committee may be necessary for it is our thought that the latter should receive a full and up-to-date review of the various aspects of Mixed Military Committee's activities.

3. After the Commission's Military Committee has been made au courant with the activities of the Mixed Military Committee, it would be possible for the Commission or its Military Committee to offer views and suggestions which may lead to fruitful and healthy results.

4. After the review foreseen in paragraph 2 above is completed, the International Commission will consider the best method for maintain contact between the Commission and the Mixed Military Committee to enable the Commission to discharge its fundamental duty under the Geneva Agreement

to control and supervise the cessation of hostilities in Laos more effectively. The Commission is anxious that all measures which serve this need should be taken.

We take this opportunity to renew to you, Sir, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Sd/- " S. Sen.
 H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
 Prime Minister,
 Royal Government of Laos, Vientiane.

H.H. Prince Souphanouvong,
 Representative of the Pathet Lao,
 VIENTIANE.

We should therefore be grateful to receive from you, as soon as possible, an account of their current functions; for this purpose it would be advisable if the Mixed Military Committee would nominate two representatives - one from each side - to meet the Commission's Military Committee and inform them of the actions which the parties themselves are taking or contemplating in order to maintain peace fully. We should be glad to know whether this suggestion is acceptable to you and if so, what representative of the Royal Government/Pathet Lao is being designated as the Liaison Officer with the Commission's Military Committee. This officer should of course be a member of the Mixed Military Committee. The time and place of reporting may be fixed by the Liaison Officers' consultation with the Commission's Military Committee; it would be preferable if the two Liaison Officers appear before the Commission's Military Committee at the same time and have one meeting between the Liaison Officers and the Commission's Military Committee may be necessary for it is our thought that the latter should receive and up-to-date review of the various aspects of the Mixed Military Committee's activities.

After the Commission's Military Committee has been made an account with the activities of the Mixed Military Committee, it would be possible for the Liaison Officers or the Military Committee to offer views and suggestions which may lead to fruitful and healthy negotiations. After the review foreseen in paragraph 2 above is completed, the International Commission will consider the method for maintaining contact between the Commission and the Mixed Military Committee to enable the Commission to discharge its fundamental duty under the Geneva Agreement.

Vientiane, le 13 Août 1957

No.107/PL

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG, Représentant des Forces Pathet Lao
à S.E. le Docteur S.S. ANSARI, Président de la Commission
Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle d'Armistice
au Laos à Vientiane.

Excellence,

En réponse à votre lettre N° PS/L/101(135)172/57 du 4 Juin 1957 et comme suite à ma lettre N° 34-PL du 28 Mai 1957, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que les Forces Pathet Lao, toujours fidèles au règlement pacifique et négocié du problème Lao posé par les Accords de Genève, saluent avec satisfaction toute suggestion de la Commission Internationale de nature à aider au maintien du cessez-le-feu et de l'atmosphère de détente favorable à l'application des diverses clauses du règlement politique, surtout dans les circonstances actuelles où les ennemis de la Paix et de l'Unification du Laos sont en train de fomenter manoeuvres, intrigues et provocations en vue de rétablir l'atmosphère de méfiance, d'hostilité et de tension, utile à leurs plans de division et de guerre.

Nous avons transmis votre suggestion à notre Délégation à la Commission Militaire Mixte aux fins d'examen et de décision de concert avec la Délégation du Gouvernement Royal.

Si aucun résultat appréciable n'a pas encore été obtenu jusqu'à ce jour, il est probable que cela est dû à la longue crise ministérielle de la Partie royale, qui a suspendu toutes activités dans les négociations.

Veillez agréer, Excellence, l'assurance de ma considération très distinguée.

S.A. le Prince SOUPHANOUVONG.

Vientiane, le 13 Août 1957

N° 107/P

Le Prince SOUTHANOUONG, Représentant des Forces Patnet Lao

Le Docteur S.A. ANSANT, Président de la Commission

Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle d'Armées

au Laos à Vientiane.

Excellence,

En réponse à votre lettre N° 73/WI(155)173/57 du 4 Juin

et comme suite à ma lettre N° 34-PL du 28 Mai 1957, j'ai

l'honneur de vous faire connaître que les Forces Patnet Lao,

fidèles au régime pacifique et négocié du problème

posé par les Accords de Genève, saluent avec satisfaction toute

action de la Commission Internationale de nature à aider au

cesser-le-les et de l'atmosphère de détente favorable

l'application des diverses classes de règlement politique, surtout

les circonstances actuelles où les esprits de la paix et de

l'union du Laos sont en train de s'élargir.

et provocations en vue de rétablir l'équilibre de

l'hostilité et de tension, afin à long terme de divi-

er de guerre.

Je vous prie de transmettre votre suggestion à notre Délégation à

la Commission Internationale de Surveillance et de Contrôle des

avec la Délégation du Gouvernement Royal.

Je vous prie de croire, Excellence, à ma haute estime et à

l'assurance de ma haute estime et de ma haute estime.

Le Prince SOUTHANOUONG, Représentant des Forces Patnet Lao

(Signature)

Le Prince SOUTHANOUONG, Représentant des Forces Patnet Lao

(Signature)

S.A. le Prince SOUTHANOUONG

Translation.

Letter No.107/PL, dated 13 August, 1957.

From: H.H. Prince Souphanouvong,
Representative of the PL Forces.

To: H.E. Dr. S.S. Ansari,
Chairman of the I.C.S.C. in Laos.

Excellency,

In reply to your letter No.PS/L/101(135)172/57 of 4 June 1957 and further to my letter No. 34/PL of 28 May 1957, I have the honour to inform you that the Pathet Lao Forces, ever faithful to a peaceful and negotiated settlement of the Lao problem laid down in the Geneva Agreement, welcome with gratification every suggestion of the International Commission so as to help in maintaining the cease-fire and the atmosphere of relaxation which is favourable for the application of various clauses of the political settlement, particularly under the present circumstances when the enemies of peace and unification of Laos are fomenting manoeuvres, intrigues and provocations calculated to restore the atmosphere of distrust, hostility and tension conducive to their plans of division and war.

We have forwarded your suggestion to our Delegation with the Joint Military Commission for a joint consideration and decision with the Delegation of the Royal Government.

If no appreciable result has yet been obtained to this day, it is likely that it is due to the protracted ministerial crisis of the Royal party, which suspended all activities in the negotiations.

Kindly accept, Excellency, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

Translation.

Letter No. 107/Pt., dated 13 August, 1957.

Mr. H. H. Prince Saphanovong,
Representative of the H. Forces.

Mr. E. E. Dr. S. S. Anant,
Chairman of the I.C.S.C. in Laos.

Excelsior,

In reply to your letter No. 12/101(135)173/57 of 4
1957 and further to my letter No. 24/Pt. of 23 May 1957,
I have the honour to inform you that the Father Lao Forces,
in their efforts to a peaceful and negotiated settlement of the
problem laid down in the Geneva Agreement, welcome with
entire satisfaction every suggestion of the International Commission
to help in maintaining the cease-fire and the atmosphere
of the political settlement, particularly under the
present circumstances when the enemies of peace and unification
are fomenting manoeuvres, intrigues and provocations
to restore the atmosphere of distrust, hostility and
division and war.

We have forwarded your suggestion to our Delegation
to the Joint Military Commission for a joint consideration
in consultation with the Delegation of the Royal Government.

If no appreciable result has yet been obtained,
it is likely that it is due to the protracted
negotiations of the Royal party, which suspended all
activities in the negotiations.

Kindly accept, Excellency, the assurances of my
distinguished consideration.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL IN LAOS

No. PS(L)(101)(270)/57

Vientiane,
4th September, 1957.

Your Highness,

On June 4, 1957, the International Commission wrote to you concerning the work of the Mixed Military Committee of the Royal Laotian Government and the Pathet Lao, and suggested that an Officer from each side might meet with the Military Committee of the International Commission to discuss the actions the parties are taking to maintain peace. The Commission's action and its desire to follow closely the work of the Mixed Military Committee resulted from its anxiety to prevent any deterioration in the military situation in the two northern provinces and was prompted in part by Your Highness's letters to the International Commission of May 2 and 10 in which a similar anxiety was expressed. Prince Souphanouvong, to whom the Commission addressed an identical letter, has sent the attached reply of August 13 to the International Commission, expressing his agreement with its suggestion. The Commission would also appreciate learning from you as soon as possible the views of the Royal Government concerning this proposal. Arrangements for a meeting could be fixed by the Liaison Officers of the two sides in consultation with the Commission's Military Committee.

Accept, Highness, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Sd. Dr. S.S. Ansari,
SEAL

H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister,
Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

No. PS(L)(101)(269)/57.

Vientiane,
4th September, 1957.

Your Highness,

In your letter to the International Commission of May 2 and 10, you discussed the military situation in the provinces of Phong Saly and Sam Neua and made several complaints concerning Pathet Lao behaviour in these two provinces. An interim reply was sent to you on May 29, 1957. At the same time, the International Commission forwarded to the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao copies of these letters, asking for their comments. Prince Souphanouvong has sent the attached letter of August 12 in reply.

You will note that in his letter, Prince Souphanouvong has stated that as a result of agreements arrived at between the two parties since August, 1956, the Royal Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao have been settling all disputes among themselves, rather than lodging complaints with the International Commission, and expresses his surprise that this procedure should be discontinued. The International Commission would be interested in learning from the Royal Government whether this procedure agreed upon by the two parties is still valid. The International Commission would also be glad to receive any comments you may care to make concerning the list of complaints enclosed with the letter from Prince Souphanouvong.

Accept, Highness, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Sd. Dr. S.S. Ansari.
Chairman

H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma,
Prime Minister,
Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

Encl.

Vientiane,
4th September, 1957.

No. PS(L)(101)(269)157.

Your Highness,

In your letter to the International Commission of May 2 and 10, you discussed the military situation in the provinces of Phou Sai and Sam Nuan and made several complaints concerning Pathet Lao behaviour in these two provinces. An interim reply was sent to you on May 29, 1957. At the same time, the International Commission forwarded to the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao copies of these letters, asking for their comments. Prince Souphanouvong has sent the attached letter of August 12 in reply.

You will note that in his letter, Prince Souphanouvong has stated that as a result of agreements arrived at between the two parties since August, 1956, the Royal Government and the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao have been settling all disputes among themselves, rather than lodging complaints with the International Commission, and expresses his surprise that this procedure should be discontinued. The International Commission would be interested in learning from the Royal Government whether this procedure agreed upon by the two parties is still valid. The International Commission would also be glad to receive any comments you may care to make concerning the list of complaints enclosed with the letter from Prince Souphanouvong.

Accept, Highness, the renewed assurances of my kindest consideration.

Sd. Dr. S.S. Anant,
Chairman

H.E. Prince Savanna Phouma,
Prime Minister,
Royal Government of Laos,
Vientiane.

ENCLOSURE TO ANNEXURE 53(A)

Translation

Letter No. 106/P.L., dated 12 August 1957.

From: H.H. Prince Souphanouvong,
Representative of the Pathet Lao Forces.

To: H.E. Dr. Ansari,
Chairman of the I.C.S.C. in Laos.

Excellency,

In reply to your letter No. PS(L)101(135)161/57 of 29 May 1957, requesting for my comments on two letters addressed to you by the Prime Minister of the Royal Government, I have the honour to inform you the following:

Since August 1956, the two Parties have adopted the principle according to which the two Parties will jointly and amicably settle all incidents and disputes which might arise between them since that time, so as to maintain and improve the good atmosphere of cordiality and understanding which had just been restored. In fact, since that date, all the incidents and disputes, most of which had been inspired by forces hostile to the interests of the Lao people, have been comprehensively settled by direct contact between representatives of the two Parties. The International Commission has been informed of it informally from time to time. Even in the few cases where ill informed local Commanders had lodged complaints with the International Commission, through its local teams, the two parties have always agreed for obtaining the withdrawal of the said complaints.

I could not therefore help being astonished at noting the contents of the Royal Party's afore-mentioned letters, much more so since these letters, beside certain tendentious and unfounded accusations, constituted in themselves an unilateral violation of the modalities of work accepted by the two parties.

The Pathet Lao Forces have always respected, are respecting and will respect the concluded agreements, the principles and modalities agreed upon with the Royal Party. The proof is that, during the period from 6 August 1956 to 28 May 1957, the Pathet Lao Forces have not addressed to the International Commission any complaint relating to incidents that occurred during the said period and listed in the attached statement or to other incidents not mentioned in the said statement, - which, in conformity with the agreed principle, have been directly brought to the notice of the Royal Party, at the time of occurrence, for a concerted examination and settlement.

The Pathet Lao Forces Delegation at Vientiane are at your disposal to furnish to you more complete and detailed information.

Kindly accept, Excellency, the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

S T A T E M E N T

of the acts of violation committed
by the Royal Party from 6 August
1956 to 28 May 1957

- On 6.8.56, soldiers from the post of Boun Neua made a sortie and arrested an inhabitant of Ban Tongkhong who has not yet been released (Phongsaly).
- On 7.8.56, the Royal Party paraded 7 parachutes and 52 bags of rice at Houei Thao; 30 parachutes, 60 bags of rice at Kohay and 3 parachutes at Phou Sang Khao (Sam Neua).
- On 9.8.56, soldiers of the post of Boun Neua extended their area close to our position (Phongsaly).
- On 10.8.56, the Royal side increased the strength of the post of Pakha (Sam Neua) by one company of commandos of the 2nd Battalion from Xieng Khouang.
- On 16.8.56, the Muong Peun post sent two platoons to lie in ambush on our track on the bank of the Nam Peun and attacked our men on the outskirts of Nakong, we have lost some belongings (Sam Neua).
- On 16.8.56, 150 Commandos of the post of Vang Ngou cleared Ban Khoungkalum and attacked us in the neighbouring village of Yang Teui (Muong Khoua, Phongsaly).
- On 19.8.56, at 1900 hours, the posts of Kohay and Nakeng fired 10 81mm mortar shots, 20 from a 60 mm mortar, and 30 bands of machine gun shots and at the same time the post at Ticklang fired 10 120 mm mortar shots on our position near Nakeng (Sam Neua).
- On 21.8.56, at 2000 hours, the post of Nakeng fired at our position 6 shots with 81 mm mortar, 10 shots with 60 mm and the post of Ticklang fired 3 shots with 120 mm mortar on our position (slope 1528 Sam Neua).
- On 23.8.56, 23 soldiers from the Royal party coming from Muong Ngoi caught a certain number of cattle at Ban Nabong and fired on our men (corridor linking the 2 provinces).
- On 23.8.56, soldiers from the Royal party fired on Xieng Oun at Ban Hat Ngo. Xieng Oun was seriously wounded (corridor linking the 2 provinces).
- On 24.8.56, at 0800 hours, the post of Ticklang fired on our position (slope 1528) 82 shots with 81 mm mortar and 12 gun shots, 4 machine gun belts, 14 Bren gun belts and at 2000 hours, they fired again 2 shots with 81 mm mortar (Sam Neua).
- On 25.8.56, at 2100 hours, the post of Tickland fired upon our position (slope 1528) 4 shots of 81 mm and 2 cartridge belts of Bren gun (Sam Neua).

- On 25.8.56, the Royal troops arrested 18 young villagers from Muong Lam and plundered the properties belonging to the population of Phongsaly.
- On 26.8.56, the post of Poug Nhang sent 20 men in ambush at 1500 metres away from Pha Chon (Muong Khoua - Phongsaly).
- On 26.8.56, the posts of Pha Kouk, Ban Ngon sent a company to attack us at Ban Pho, the latter took off Thao Than (Sam Neua).
- On 27.8.56, the Royal troops came and settled down at Ban Sop Sang, compelling the inhabitants to abandon their village. They plundered and carried off the belongings of the population, they fired at the buffaloes, beefs and pigs belonging to the villagers of the Ban Hat Ngo, Ban Phia Nhot, Ban Sen, besides they forced the villagers of the 3 neighbouring Bans to clear out the road leading to Ban Xe. While clearing, the troops violated the women, for instance they took off the wife of Thit Phoui of Ban Hat Sa (corridor linking the 2 provinces).
- On 28.8.56 at 1900 hours, the post of Nakeng fired upon our position one cartridge belt of Bren gun (Sam Neua).
- On 22.9.56, 40 soldiers of Ban Xe post sallied to Houei Pot where they created troubles, and beat the inhabitants and fired upon those who have asked them to account for (corridor linking the 2 provinces).
- On 3.9.56, they went again to Ban Na Veung where they were compelled to withdraw to Houei Pot due to the inhabitants of that village who came to block the route 2 km away from the village.
- On 2.9.56, an airplane from Royal party dropped in the neighbourhood of Sop Sang some tracts calumniating our political Delegation alleging that the latter has surrendered our delegates out of them H.H. Souphanouvong in the post of kneeling down towards 5 men of the Royal party standing with hands on their hips (corridor linking the 2 provinces).
- On 6.9.56, 20 men of the Houng Nhang post created troubles at Ban Choum with an idea of attacking us and arrest the inhabitants of that village. In order to prevent these incidents, our men avoided them (Phongsaly).
- On 8.9.56 at 1100 hours, the post of Tickland fired upon our position (slope 1528) 2 shots of 120 mm mortar and 16 shots of 81 mm mortar (Sam Neua).
- On 6, 8 and 11.9.56, the Royal party brought from Xieng Khouang 80 new commandos to Houei Nha (Sam Neua).
- On 13.9.56, the post of Ai Fang (north west of Phongsaly) sent a platoon to attack us at the village of Phong Kai Chay (Northern Phongsaly) but we did not repulse them due to the care in implementing the agreements signed at Vientiane (Phongsaly).

- On 12.9.56, at 2000 hours, the post of Pakha sent a group to fire on our men at Ban Houa Xieng causing one wounded (Sam Neua).

- On 13.9.56, the post of Ban Xe sent 100 men to reinforce Sop Sang (corridor linking the 2 provinces).

- On 18.9.56, the Royal party dropped 2 parachutes at Chom San (Sam Neua).

- On 23.9.56, at 0700 hours, the Royal party fired on our position of Phaden near Houa Muong with weapons of different calibres (Sam Neua).

- On 26.9.56, 30 soldiers of the post of Pakha under the command of Sergeant Kham Dy came at Ban Houei Thon and Ban Houei Phouk to loot pigs and fowl of the villagers and performed propagandas: Population forbidden to work with Lao Issala, by saying that people's democratic camp consists of only 4 countries whereas 9 countries are helping their camp. - Those who came from 10 provinces should all go back to their home; when the Royal party will come to occupy Sam Neua, nobody will be able to fight them. - The Pathet Lao have already surrendered to H.H. Prince Souvanna Phouma. - The Issala are recruiting the people as coolis. They have told that the Government of the 2 parties has nominated Sergeant Kham Dy and Thao Hai to come and perform the propagandas in the canton of Houa Xieng, saying that the 2 parties have already agreed about it but they have not succeeded. - H.H. Souvanna Phouma went to China and Vietnam to locate the places for throwing atom bombs. Those who do not want to die must send their names to Thao Hai to the Post of Phathi (Sam Neua).

- On 26.9.56, in the morning, the 24th battalion sent a company from the post of Phakouk, Ban Ngon, to the east of Muong Peun, to attack our units at Ban Phongkhammy, Ban Pho, inflicting on us 6 death and 11 others deaths of grown up and children among the population of Ban Phao (Sam Neua).

- On 27.9.56, the post of Pakha sent a company to lay an ambush at Ban Bouam Phieng, they fired 51 shots of 60 mm mortar and set fire on 3 houses of the villagers. We did not return fire. (Sam Neua).

- On 28.9.56, 30 men from the post of Ban Sop Sang made a clearance operation in a place where the refugees of Ban Sop Sang were staying (corridor linking the 2 provinces).

- On 29.9.56, the soldiers of Sop Sang carried away 3 women whose names are: Nang Phong and Nang Chan, they took away 10 pigs belonging to the population of Ban Xe (corridor linking the 2 provinces).

- On 2.10.56, the Royal party paradropped 7 parachutes at Ban Ngone, 5 at Papek, 20 at Kohay and 10 at There Not (Sam Neua).

- On 5.10.56, the post of Pakha sent 30 men to bring 20kg of Pork and 50 Kg of rice from the villagers of Ban Houei Thong (Sam Neua).

- On 16.10.56, the Royal party dropped at Pakha (Muong Peun) 17 parachutes (Sam Neua).
- On 18.10.56, the Royal party dropped at Papek 5 parachutes with armaments, at Phou Liou 10 parachutes, at Houei Thao 6 parachutes and 46 bags of rice, at Ticklang 5 parachutes (Sam Neua).
- On 19.10.56, at 2000 hours, the post of Pong Nhang fired 81 mm mortar shots on our position close by (Phongsaly).
- On 22.10.56, the 2nd Battalion at Pakha sent 60 men to occupy Ban Bouam Phieng to the S.E. of Pakha (Sam Neua).
- On 26.10.56, the Royal party sent two platoons to settle in Ban Choum, situated on the East of Muong Khoua and at 7 km on the western side of Pong Nhang (Phongsaly).
- On 29.10.56, a platoon of the Royal troops entered Houei Hok to arrest two villagers and seize twelve rifles belonging to the population, then it seized the three positions of our side situated at Hat Bhao (Sam Neua).
- On 29.10.56, at 1100 hours, a section of the Royal troops coming from the posts of Pathi, Vang Veune, made a clearance operation at Houei Hok (Sam Neua).
- On 30.10.56, at 1100 hours, the soldiers of the Royal party at Muong Ngeun (Luang Prabang) came to Long Nay situated at 25 km to the South of Boun Tay and fired on our men, occupying that place. We retaliated and they withdrew. One of our combattants was wounded (Phongsaly).
- On 31.10.56, at about 1600 hours, 30 men from the post of Pathi, Vang Veune came to Ban Houei Hok, Ban Mak Fay (Muong Sone) and fired AT (anti-tank?) and 60 mm mortar shots on our men causing 3 casualties (Sam Neua).
- On 3.11.56, the post at Pathi fired AT (anti-tank?) shots on Ban Mok Fay which started a fire.
- On 11.56 (sic), 60 men from the Royal side carried out clearance operations along the bank of Nam Ou (Phongsaly).
- On 4.11.56, the post of Pakha (Muong Peun) sent 40 men in the "ray" (cereal field) of the population at Ban Bouak where they arrested a villager (Sam Neua).
- On 5.11.56, the troops at Phou Pha Ngou carried out a clearance sortie at Ban Phou Pha Ngou, Ban Chak (Muong Sone). They fired on the population of Ban Nam Tip inflicting one death (Sam Neua).
- On 6.11.56, at about 10 A.M., the soldiers of the post of Nakeng came to attack our men, occupying the N.W. peak of Ban Nakeng and seized this post (Sam Neua).

- On 6.11.56, at about 1500 hours, soldiers of the Royal party attacked two of our groups at Sida causing one casualty and inflicting a loss of some belongings to us (Phongsaly).
- On 6.11.56, soldiers of the Royal party attacked our two platoons at Houei Mao (Phongsaly).
- On 8.11.56 soldiers of the Royal party armed with guns and Bren guns made a clearance sortie at Ban Nam Tip destroying the houses and carrying the death of an old woman (Sam Neua).
- On 8, 9, and 10.11.56, a platoon of the Royal troops entered the outskirts of Ban Pa Kong, Ban Pa Kalouang, Nam Pong (at 10 km from Phongsaly) compelling the population to gather in the "Ray" (cereal fields) in order to hear the propogandas aimed at distorting the elections and vilifying us (Phongsaly).
- On 11.11.56, at 1330 hours, a company of the Royal side attacked one of our platoons at 1500 metres from Sida, causing a casualty. They had to finally withdraw (Phongsaly).
- On 13.11.56, at about 1300 hours, two companies of the Royal troops came to attack us and surrounded Ban Choum, inflicting the death of two of our men and 6 casualties. They seized our position (Phongsaly).
- On 11.11.56, at about 1600 hours, 2 platoons of the Royal troops attacked our men thrice at Ban Pha Choum, we launched a counter attack forcing them to withdraw (Phongsaly).
- On 14.11.56, the 10th Battalion sent its men from Xieng Khouang to occupy the post of Pakha at 20 km from Muong Peun on the S.E. (Sam Neua).
- On 18.11.56, 20 men of the Royal troops set fire to the house of the inhabitants at Ban Tang (at 4 km to the North of Phongsaly) and launched a vilifying propaganda (Phongsaly).
- On 18.11.56, soldiers of the Royal side attacked us at Ban Thaleng and withdrew later on. On the same day, 20 men of the Royal party in co-operation with the Ko Min Tang coming from the Burmese frontiers entered the Muong Khoua region and set fire to the houses of the villagers (Phongsaly).
- On 20.11.56, 40 men from Houei Chiet (Pathi) entered Ban My where they fired rifle shots and took away an old woman (Sam Neua).
- On 20.11.56, 10 well-armed men of the post of Houei Thao came out and fired rifle shots on the population of Ban nong Deng, canton of Nong Khang in order to prevent them from looking after their work in the fields (Sam Neua).
- On 20.11.56, 100 men from the Royal side came to seize our position at Nam Oun, to the S.E. of Muong Ham (Sam Neua).

- On 22.11.56, two groups of the Royal troops made a sortie in Ban Phong Mun at 10 km from Boun Neua and arrested two inhabitants (Phongsaly).

- On 23.11.56, the Phou Liou post fired 81 mm mortar shots on Muong Sang (Sam Neua).

- During three consecutive nights (24, 25 and 26.11.56) the Houei Thao post sent 20 men to fire rifle shots on Ban Nacheng (Sam Neua).

- On 24.11.56, the post at Pakha (Pathi) sent 20 men to attack us at Ban Nong Deng canton of Nong Khang. They arrested our followers and cadres (Sam Neua).

- On 25.11.56, the Houei Thao post fired 8 rifle rounds on our position (Sam Neua).

- On 24.11.56, the Royal party dropped 10 parachutes and 260 rice bags on the Boung Nhang post (Phongsaly).

- On 25.11.56, the Royal side dropped on the Tik Lang post 18 parachutes (Sam Neua).

- On 26.11.56, the Royal side dropped on the Nakeng post 7 parachutes and 6 in Papek (Sam Neua).

- On 27.11.56, the Royal side dropped 24 parachutes at Kohay (Sam Neua).

- On 27.11.56, 110 men of the Royal side (30 from the 1st Battalion and 80 from the C.30 and C.34 of the 7th Battalion) came to attack us at Phou Sa. Later on they encircled us and fired on us at Phou Y Sang Noi (Phongsaly).

- On 28.11.56, the Royal side dropped 6 parachutes at Phou Thene Not and 3 at Ban Ngone (Sam Neua).

- On 28.11.56, the Royal side got 20 pirogues of rice and arms to be despatched from Muong Ngoi at Poug Nhang (Phongsaly).

- On 28.11.56, the Nhao Fang Post (North of Phongsaly) sent their men to attack us at Ban San (North of Phongsaly) and arrested the population to enroll as soldiers.

- On 10.12.56, the Royal side dropped 29 parachutes and 74 bags of rice at Phou Liou (Sam Neua).

- On 13.12.56, the 24th Battalion at Kohay has again added another post (Sam Neua).

- On 14.12.56, the Royal troops at Ban Xe (Luang Prabang) arrested 6 villagers viz., Xieng Pheng, Thit Phouma, Xieng Khamdi, Xieng Van Di, Thit Lom, Xieng Khan Ty under the charge of being in touch with the Pathet Lao (corridor linking the 2 provinces).

- On 22.12.56, the post of Kohay sent soldiers to Samong to arrest 2 inhabitants (Sam Neua).

- On 22.12.56, the post of Nanong fired on our positions at about 10 h. one 81 mm mortar shot at about 1700 hours, 2 gun shots and at about 1900 hours one sten gun belt (Sam Neua).
- On 24.12.56, the Commander of the Pakha post sent a provocative and villifying letter to our cadres and combatants threatening to attack and take back Sam Neua and to drive us away within 15 days and vilifying that H.H. Prince Souphanouvong had already surrendered to the Royal Government (Sam Neua).
- On 25.12.56, the post of Boun Neua sent a company of reinforcements to Yao Fang (Phongsaly).
- On 25.12.56, two battalions of the Royal troops coming from Xieng Khouang took positions along the track from Muong Lap to Muong Peun (Sam Neua).
- On 26.12.56, the Royal side dropped 5 parachutes on the post of Nakeng and 5 at Papek (Sam Neua).
- On 28.12.56, the Pakha post (Muong Peun) sent 2 platoons to sow trouble amongst the population of Ban Boung Phieng preventing the latter from freely earning their livelihood (Sam Neua).
- On 28.12.56, the post at Yao Fang sent a company to attack us at the post of Tahoua Ty with a view to seizing the territory under our control (North of Phongsaly). They continued to attack us till 29.12.56. But in while strictly implementing the concluded agreements, we had to withdraw and settle a little farther. We returned to take up our position in one previous post, when the said company withdrew (Phongsaly).
- On 28.12.56, the Royal side launched vilifying propagandas against us, stating that "the Pathet Lao has already surrendered to the Royal Government" (Phongsaly).
- On 28.12.56, an aircraft of the Royal party dropped a gun on the Pakha post (Sam Neua).
- On 29.12.56, the post at Pakha laid an ambush for us alongside Houei Leuk near our position. They fired on us inflicting the death of 2 men and wounding another (Sam Neua).
- On 30, 31.12.56 at noon, the Royal troops of the posts at Houei Nha, Phathi, Pakha, gathered together in order to attack and seize our position at Phou Den Din slope 1643 (Sam Neua).
- On 31.12.56, the Royal troops of the posts of Houei Leuk (Pathi) Phakha assembled to attack our position at Houei Leuk; armed with a 81 mm mortar, a gun and two machine guns, they set fire to our houses and carried away our belongings; but in strict implementation of the agreements signed at Vientiane, we did not fire any round on them. Later they seized Houei Leuk. At the same time, they sent a certain number of soldiers to wait in ambush at Poug Tom and Houei Heung. At the moment, they have already withdrawn from Houei Leuk (Sam Neua).

- Towards the end of December 1956 the Royal side sent the 25th and 22nd Battalions in order to relieve those of the 11th and 20th at Muong Peun, Phou Liou, but the last two battalions have not yet been withdrawn (Sam Neua).
- On 1.1.57, the Royal side dropped 5 parachutes at Ticklang (Sam Neua).
- On 1.1.57, the Nanong post fired 5 gun shots on our position nearby (Sam Neua).
- On 1.1.57, 150 soldiers of the Houei Nha, Phou Liou posts made a sortie in the direction of Phou Piet and fired on our position; and on 4.1.57 they attacked our men at Houei Houang and Hong Non, where they profusely fired rounds (Sam Neua).
- On 1.1.57, from 0700 to 1000 hours, the post of Phou Liou fired on our position on the slope 1340 with arms of all calibres (Sam Neua).
- On 2.1.57, from 8 to 1100 hours the Royal party fired endlessly on our position on the slope 1340 (Sam Neua).
- On 4.1.57, the Royal side dropped 8 parachutes at Kohay, 18 bags of rice at Thene Not and 4 parachutes at Nanong (Sam Neua).
- On 3.1.57, a group from the Pakha post laid an ambush for us in the "Ray" (opium field) at Ban Houa Xieng at 3 km to the S.E. of this village (Sam Neua).
- On 5.1.57, at about 1400 hours the Houei Thao post fired 15 rifle rounds on our position (Sam Neua).
- On 5.1.57, the Royal side dropped 12 bags of rice at Houei Thao (Sam Neua).
- On 6.1.57 the Royal side dropped at Nakeng 7 parachutes and 56 rice bags at Phou Liou (Sam Neua).
- On 7.1.57, the Nanong post sent 27 men, well-armed with 2 Bren guns to take up positions on a peak near the Route No. 6 at 700 metres of their post (Sam Neua).
- On 7.1.57, the Tiklang post set up two new posts at 40 m from their own. In the night these posts fired rifle rounds and threw grenades on our positions (Sam Neua)
- On 8.1.57, the Ticklang post sent 44 men to take up position on the hill at Ban Na Sam and situated at 100 m from the village and 2 days later they returned to Ticklang (Sam Neua).
- On 8.1.57, the posts of Houei Nha, Thene Khoua sent a company to seize Hong Non, 300 m off our position at Phou Chik Nou (Sam Neua).
- On 12.1.57, the Royal party dropped 12 parachutes and 12 rice bags on the post of Kohay and for a second time at Kohay 80 rice bags and 6 parachutes at Ticklang (Sam Neua).

- On 12.1.57, at 8 A.M. the Nakeng post fired machine gun shots on our position North of Nakeng (Sam Neua).
- On 13.1.57, at 1300 hours, a Dakota flew over the region of Pathi then Pakha, Kohay and returned (Sam Neua).
- On 15.1.57, the Pakha post sent 1 company to occupy Phou Houei Keng and started creating trouble amongst the population of Ban Bouam Phieng compelling the latter to go and take refuge nearby our position at Ban Houei Hay (Sam Neua).
- On 15.1.57, a platoon from the Keo Poun (Houa Muong) carried away the poultry and pigs belonging to the inhabitants of Ban Sop Pa, Nam Tane. They took away with them a certain number of villagers (Sam Neua).
- On 16.1.57, the Keo Poun post sent 35 men under the command of Chief Chouang to carry out clearance operations in Ban Sop Pa where they carried away all the belongings of the population, they burnt down all properties which they could not take and threw away on the ground the rice and salt. They beat the inhabitants compelling them to bring alcoholic drinks. While returning they took along with them Sao Louam, Nang Bao Phom, Nang Hao Keo and That Khouang whom they have jailed illegally to this day (Sam Neua).
- On 16.1.57, soldiers of the post of Keo Poun, under the command of Chief Say, laid mines on the track leading to the "Ray" fields of the inhabitants of Ban Nam Tane. Thao Khan, an inhabitant of this village had his foot blown off by a mine (Sam Neua).
- On 16.1.57, at 2200 hours the post of Houei Thao threw two grenades on our position (Sam Neua).
- On 16.1.57, the Royal party sent the 22nd, 25th Battalions with the alleged purpose of relieving the 26th and 11th at Houei Nha, Phou Liou and Muong Peun, but the two previous battalions have not so far gone away (Sam Neua).
- On 17.1.57, the Royal party reinforced the post of Keo Poun with 50 commandos, the post of Chom Sane with 50 others and the post of Houa Muong with an unknown strength (Sam Neua).
- On 17.1.57, the Royal party dropped 8 parachutes on the post of Kohay, 8 at Ticklang and 9 at Chom Sane (Sam Neua).
- On 18.1.57, the Bouam Phieng post fired 3 shots from a 60 mm mortar and 5 rifle rounds on our men (Sam Neua).
- On 18.1.57, the Pakha post sent a company to occupy Phou Houei Ak on the bank of the Nam Peun at 4 km to the N.W. of our position at Houei Hay (Sam Neua).

- On 19.1.57, the Royal party increased the armaments at the Pong Nhang post by 12 Thompsons and 4 machine guns (Phongsaly).
- On 19.1.57, the Royal party dropped on Ban Bouam Phieng 2 parachutes and 60 rice bags (Sam Neua).
- On 23.1.57, the Phou Liou post sent 2 platoons to attack us at Phou Thone, then they went and took up position at 200 m from Phou Thone and finally they came closer and settled at 80 km from our position on the slope 1340, but we obstructed the way, thereby forcing them to withdraw (Sam Neua).
- On 23.1.57, a Dakota dropped 14 Thompsons and a certain number of machine guns on the Pong Nhang post (Phongsaly).
- On 23.1.57, a detachment from the post of Pakha (Muong Peun) attacked our followers at Ban Houei Man terrorising the population (Sam Neua).
- On 23.1.57, the Royal party dropped 6 parachutes and 25 rice bags on the Kohay post and 3 parachutes and 18 rice bags on Thene Not (Sam Neua).
- On 24.1.57, the post of Hat Sa reinforced with a platoon the post of Pong Nhang and with a company the post of Muong Heup (Phongsaly).
- On 25.1.57, Muong Ngoi sent 30 men to reinforce Sop Sang (corridor linking the 2 provinces).
- On 26.1.57, the Chom San post sent a detachment to attack us (Sam Neua).
- On 28.1.57, a platoon of the Ticklang post under the command of 2 2nd/lieutenants came to Ban Nasam (Sam Neua).
- On 29.1.57, the Royal party sent its troops to seize Phou Nam Song Noi, between Tha Song, Pha Nang and Pha Deng, 40 men to seize Ban Sop Pa and 40 to seize Ban Sop Say (Sam Neua).
- On 29.1.57, the Pong Nhang post sent soldiers to Ban Pha Chone to kidnap young girls (Phongsaly).
- On 29.1.57, the Chom Sane post at 12 km to the S.W. of Houa Muong, sent a platoon to occupy the hill situated at 1500 m from our position at Pha Deng; but this platoon had to retrace its steps having been attacked on their way by our partisans (Sam Neua).
- On 30.1.57, at about 1100 hours, 13 well-armed men of the Ticklang post came to Ban Nasam. On being asked by our combatants who were in that Ban (village) they replied that they had come to set up a new post situated at 300 m from Ban Nasam, and that they will return to their previous post only when the Joint Military Team will have finished its investigation mission. The setting up of this new post has frightened the population of that village (Sam Neua).

- On 2.2.57, 40 commandos of Outay attacked us by surprise at Ban Nale, to the N.E. of Phongsaly. At the same time they laid ambushes at Ban Kodeua in which 3 of our combatants, one deputy platoon leader and a deputy group leader were killed and two others wounded (Phongsaly).
- On 3.2.57, the Royal party dropped 10 parachutes of arms and ammunition on Phou Liou, 4 parachutes on Ticklang and 4 on the Road No. 6 (Sam Neua).
- On 4.2.57, at about 1400 hours, the Houei Thao post fired 5 sten rounds on our post (Sam Neua).
- On 5.2.57, at about 1500 hrs the Houei Thao post fired 3 sten rounds on our positions (Sam Neua).
- On 5.2.57, the Royal party sent 2 platoons to occupy the hill situated near Sop Pa, and a 3rd platoon with a 60 mm mortar to seize the hill near Ban Sop Say (Sam Neua).
- On 5.2.57, the post of Phou Liou sent 2 platoons to occupy Phou Thone at 350 m to the West of our position on slope 1340. This new position serves as an outpost to Phou Liou (Sam Neua).
- On 5.2.57, the post at Outay sent a detachment to lay an ambush on the way to Ban Ko Deua; we were able to arrest a Captain and two soldiers (Phongsaly).
- On 7.2.57, the post of Tiklang sent a platoon to seize the hill where the inhabitants of Nasam cultivate the "Ray" at 600 m to the South of Nasam (Sam Neua).
- On 7.2.57 at 0800 hours, the Tiklang post fired a 60 mm mortar shot, a gun shot, a machine gun belt on our position (slope 1528) Sam Neua.
- On 9.2.57, the Royal party dropped 8 parachutes and 28 rice bags at Kohay (Sam Neua).
- On 10.2.57, 19 parachutes were dropped on the Chom Sane post (Sam Neua).
- On 11.2.57, 20 men of the Royal troops at Outay came to fire on the inhabitants of the villages of Kiou Bouak and Houei Leng causing the death of two persons (Phongsaly).
- On 13.2.57, the post of Hat Sa sent a company to reinforce Pong Nhang (Phongsaly).
- On 14.2.57, the post of Phou Kiou fired 20 81 mm mortar shots on the "Ray" fields of the people and on the outskirts of this post. The Royal troops freshly set up at Hong Non fired 7 shots from a 60 mm mortar and opened machine gun fire on our position at Phou Chik Non. The Phou Liou post fired 30 gun shots on our position at Phou Tone and on the slope 1340 (Sam Neua).
- On 14.2.57, the Muong Peun post again sent a reinforced platoon to Phou Liou (Sam Neua).
- On 15.2.57, ammunition for mortars and other arms were paradropped at Muong Peun (Sam Neua).

- On 16.2.57, the Houei Thao post fired 7 Tulle (sic) shots on our position (Sam Neua).

- On 16.2.57, 5 parachutes and 9 rice bags were dropped at Muong Peun (Sam Neua).

- On 17.2.57 the Royal party sent a Dakota to make a reconnaissance flight over our positions at Phou Pakang, Phou Louang and Phou Pan frontiers of Ban Saleui during 50 minutes. Then a reconnaissance plane flew at a very low altitude for 30 minutes over the same region (Sam Neua).

- On 18.2.57, the Royal troops freshly positioned in Nasam sent a letter to our men the contents of which state; "the Pathet Lao have lived from 2 to 3 years in the jungle. We have received your return with open arms at Vientiane. Our Fatherland has already got its independence. Do not listen to the false statements of foreigners". (Sam Neua).

- On 18.2.57, the Pong Nhang post sent 100 men at Phou Nhot and Sop Sang to attack us. They were able to finish their trenches for combat (Phongsaly).

- On 20.2.57, the Royal party sent a plane to make 3 reconnaissance rounds over our positions at Phou Chik Nou near Pakha (Sam Neua).

- On 25.2.57, the Royal party organised a festival at Muong Peun to make propaganda for the recruitment of young people aged 17 for the defence of the Fatherland (Sam Neua).

- On 26.2.57, the Royal party sent a reinforcement of 300 men from Muong Nhut for the post of Pakha (Phathi). These soldiers armed with 81 mm mortars and cannons were mostly natives of South Laos (Sam Neua).

- On 26.2.57, the post of Phou Liou sent a group to Ban Houei Mane (Sam Neua).

- On 27.2.57, the post of Boun Tay sent 30 men to fire at the population of Ban Tong Pi thus causing the death of an inhabitant of that village (Phongsaly).

- On 27.2.57, the post of Hat Sa sent a reinforcement company to Pong Nhang and performed the following propaganda: "Do not cooperate with the Pathet Lao, whosoever desires to cooperate can do it; but I have only my leg to cooperate" (sic) (Phongsaly).

- In the morning of the same day, an airplane coming from Luang Prabang brought for the post of Boun Neua, 1 gun, 1 machine gun and 2 mortars and 60 mm. In the evening the post of Boun Neua fired on our position 4 gun shots, 4 shots of 60 mm mortar and 4 cartridge belts of automatic rifles (Phongsaly).

- On 27. and 28.2.57, the Royal party paradropped at Phou Liou 14 parachutes and 49 rice bags; at the same time the old post fired upon our position of Phou Liou and of the slope 1340, 110 rifle shots. At Phou Liou they dug trenches for attack and for the installation of rifles up to their bunker (shed) (Sam Neua).

- On 28.2.57, the Royal party dropped 8 parachutes and 40 rice bags at Houei Thao (Sam Neua).

- On 1.3.57, the post of Houei Say fired on our position one shot of 81 mm mortar (Sam Neua).
- On 3.3.57, at about 1500 hours, the Royal troops of Phou Liou sallied out to lay an ambush and inflicted on us a casualty (Sam Neua).
- On 3.3.57, a plane paratropped at Phou Liou 5 parachutes and 61 bags of rice, at the same time the post of Phou Liou sent a detachment to fire on our partisans, and inflicted on us a casualty (Sam Neua).
- On 4.3.57, the post of Nakeng fired on our position 11 shots with 60 mm mortar; at the same time the post of Na Nong fired on our position 1 shot of 81 mm mortar (Sam Neua).
- On 3.3.57, the post of Houei Thao fired on our positions and the vicinities, 3 cartridge belts of submachine gun (Sam Neua).
- On 8.3.57, the Royal troops of Pong Nhang have enlarged their post situated at Ban Ban Taloi, which is at 3 km from our position of Sida (Phongsaly).
- On 8.3.57, the post of Phou Liou fired on our position 3 rifle shots (Sam Neua).
- On 8.3.57, at 0700 hrs, the Royal troops of Muong Hiem sallied out for clearance operation in the neighbourhood of the Muong Kout canton belonging to the Muong Sone district. They arrested 3 of our soldiers with their arms and created terror among the population who are in difficulties to earn their living (Sam Neua).
- On 9.3.57, the post of Ou Tay sent 20 soldiers to occupy Ban Ngai Tay situated in the North of Ban Ngai Neua on the way to Phou Nhot (Phongsaly).
- On 9.3.57, the Royal troops occupied Phou Nhon Noi situated in the West of our Phou Nhon position and occupied Talantha 100 metres further South West of our position Tahouaty (Phongsaly).
- On 10.3.57, the Royal troops sallied out to fire 60 mm mortar and machine gun on our troops of Phou Thone; we counter-attacked and forced them to withdraw; on 11.3.57 they came back to attack and we drove them away. Since that day the post of Phou Liou fired on our position with all sorts of weapons and the firing went on increasing day by day. On 18.3.57 we counted 42 mortar shots and 1 gun shot over our position of Phou Thone (Sam Neua).
- Once the Royal troops had occupied Sop Khay (Houa Muong) on 29.1.57 they returned to the post of Keo Poun and only on 1.2.57 they came back to suppress the inhabitants: they killed 1 villager in his house and seriously wounded Thao Sisouphan, the brother of the latter, his wife Nang Sisouphan and a child. They took away the post of Keo Poun Thao Kha, Thao Sene Khanh, Thao Phoune, Thao Thong Pheng, Thao Thong Say and Thao Chanthovong (Sam Neua) in order to imprison them.
- On 10.3.57, the Royal party sent a mortar of 120 mm to the post of Kohay Sam Neua and a gun to the post of Boun Neua (Phongsaly).

- On 15.3.57 at about 1430 hrs the Royal troops recently established at Ban Na Nong fired 4 shots of gun on our position, then they sent two platoons equipped with 9 60 mm mortar and 3 machine guns, submachine guns and rifles in order to attack our position of Ban Na Nong (Sam Neua).

- On 15.3.57 a Dakota from the Royal side dropped 4 parachutes on the post of Tiklang and 3 on the post of Nakeng (Sam Neua).

- On 16.3.57, the Royal troops came and destroyed one of our stores situated between Ban Tham and Song Khao, 5 km East of Pakha (Sam Neua).

- On 17.3.57, at about 2100 hours a score of Royal troops from the post of Na Nong sallied out and surrounded to arrest our cadres based at Ban Houei Soi (in the neighbourhood of Muong Ham), they killed Thao Pa Seut and took away Thao Hay (Sam Neua).

- On 18.3.57, the posts of Tik Lang, Phou Sam Pom and Phou Nakeng fired on our position: slope 1528 with all sorts of weapons (Sam Neua).

- On 19.3.57, the post of Kohay fired with all sorts of weapons on our position at Keo Salong (Sam Neua).

- On 21.3.57, the 6th commando of Pakha sallied out to occupy Phou Keo Lom situated at 2200 m West of Phou Phao; 2 km to the North of Pakha and 4 km to the South of Houa Xieng (Sam Neua).

- On 22.3.57, the Royal party paradropped 3 parachutes and 48 bags of rice on the post of Nakeng, 3 on Tiklang and 3 on Kohay (Sam Neua).

- On 24.3.57, at about 1600 hrs, the 6th Commando freshly stationed at Phou Deng Din sent 2 platoons equipped with one gun, in order to attack for one hour our position of Phou Chik Nou, we had to drive them away (Sam Neua).

- On 27.3.57, the post of Pakha sent two platoons to set fire to our outpost of Ban Houei Cha Pong Noi (on the track between Houa Xieng and Pong Tom) 4 km away from Houa Xieng (Sam Neua).

- On 28.3.57, the post of Pakha sent a detachment in ambush on the supply-track and inflicted on us one death. The same detachment went and set up a new post at the water point of Houei Phou Bouk, 3km from their post (Sam Neua).

- On 28.3.57, the post of Na Nong sent a detachment to wait in ambush on our supply track between Saleui and Ban Houei Hap (Sam Neua).

The post of Phou Liou (Sam Neua) has fired:

- on 21.3.57, 20 shots with 81 mm mortar, 3 gun shots, 500 shots of machine gun, 75 shots of sten gun, 350 rifle shots on our position of Phou Thone (slope 1340);

- on 24.3.57 they fired 49 shots of 81 mm mortar, 13 shots of 60 mm mortar, 35 shots of machine gun, 41 rifle shots, 25 shots of submachine gun and 325 machine gun (FM) shots.

- On 25.3.57, they received paradrops of 5 parachutes and 35 rice bags and fired 5 shots of submachine gun and 10 rifle shots.
- on 26.3.57, they sallied out in our supply track between Phou Thone and Ban Na Kham.
- on 27.3.57, they fired one 81 mm mortar shot, 150 shots of machine gun on our position.
- on 28.3.57, the post of Chom San fired 28 cartridge belts of machine gun, and 50 gun shots on our troops stationed at Sop Pa (Sam Neua).
- On 29.3.57, the post of Houei Nha sent a company of Meo and Lao troops, equipped with 1 gun, 1 mortar of 60 mm, 3 machine guns and other weapons, in order to attack our sentry party at the foot of Phou Chik Nou, round about 1500 hours, then they withdrew (Sam Neua).
- On 30.3.57, the post of Boun Neua sent 30 soldiers in disguise to perform vilifying propaganda against Pathet Lao at Nam Lam and La Phou Chai (Phongsaly).
- On 31.3.57, the posts of Houei Nha and Pakha (Pathi) sent 3 well-equipped companies in order to attack our position of Phou Chik Nou; we counter-attacked them and forced them to withdraw (Sam Neua).
- On 1.4.57, in the evening, the post of Houei Thao fired 5 mortar shots of 60 mm on our position (Sam Neua).
- On 4.4.57, at about 1100 hrs, the post of Muong Ngoi (Luang Prabang) sent a reconnaissance plane over Ban Se and along the banks of the rivers: Nam Ngoi, Nam Mu, Nam Nhao for about 10 minutes (Sam Neua border).
- On 4.4.57, the post of Chom Cheng sent 50 soldiers in order to create troubles in the region of Ban Ta Eui (Phongsaly).
- On 4.4.57, the post of Phou Liou fired numerous shots of all calibres on our position, at 1300 hrs for about 20 minutes and later at 1530 hrs for about 30 minutes. They fired on every moving object, on our soldiers as well as on innocent villagers (Sam Neua).
- On 4.4.57, the Royal party paradropped 4 parachutes and 10 rice bags on the post of Tiklang, 4 parachutes and 10 rice bags on the post of Nakeng, and 4 parachutes on the post of Ko Hay (Sam Neua).
- On 5.4.57 at about 1700 hours, the Royal troops recently settled down at Houei Keng, sent a detachment to attack our position. During that period, the post of Pakha sent a company for patrols near our position of slope 1440 (Sam Neua).
- On 10.4.57, in the night, the Royal troops recently settled at Talan Tha, in the North of Phongsaly, fired on our position of Ta Houa Thi (Phongsaly).
- On 11.4.57, the Royal troops killed 2 Meo villagers of Ban Tioung Tia, Thao Liao and Thao Heng of Ban Na Lam, whereas they had killed the mother, the younger brother and the sister of Thao Khoune on 6.4.57 and took away 2 buffaloes, personal effects, gold and silver belonging to the villagers (Phongsaly).

- On 11.4.57, at 1300 hours, the Royal troops newly settled at Na Sam, fired on our position with machine guns; on 12.4.57 at 1200 hrs they fired 8 shots of 81 mm mortar and 4 shots of machine gun (Sam Neua).

- On 11.4.57, an airplane paradropped on the post of Kohay 4 parachutes and 38 rice bags (Sam Neua).

- On 12.4.57, the post of Sop Sang dug trenches for attack at Hat Kou, 1 km from Sop Sang, between Sop Sang and Tha Dam (corridor linking the 2 provinces).

- On 12.4.57, an airplane paradropped on the post of Houei Hay 5 rice bags, 3 cases of ammunition and 1 blue parachute (Sam Neua).

- On 14.4.57, the post of Nakeng sent 5 spies to our zone (Sam Neua).

- On 16.4.57, the post of Phou Liou fired without respite gun shots on our position and fired on the villagers of Ban Pha Meu who came for barter. They killed 6 of them; all the properties of the above mentioned villagers were plundered. At the same time the post of Deng Din fired continuously 81 mm mortar shots on our position of Phou Chik (Nou) (Sam Neua).

- On 16.4.57, 3 companies of Royal troops, 2 others from Pakha and the third one from Sam Tong came and attacked our position at Houei Hay, from dawn to 0800 hours, then they encircled the villagers of Ban Houei Na Sala and Ban Houei Hay and looted all the properties of the villagers (Sam Neua).

- On 20.4.57, the post of Van Ngou sent soldiers to terrorise village Oum Kok and to make arrests. They killed 2 women when they atrociously butchered to remove their bile (to appease their anger?) (Phongsaly).

- On 20.4.57, the soldiers fired at random on village Oum Kok injuring seriously a villager (Phongsaly).

- From January to April 1957, the post of Boun Neua took away 21 buffaloes belonging to the inhabitants of that village without paying anything (Phongsaly).

- On 30.4.57 at about 1600 hours, the posts of Poug Nhang and Pak Bout sent 3 platoons armed with a cannon to attack our group at Ban Taloi; they entered the village and set fire to all houses; then they burnt or carried off all belongings, pigs, ducks, chicken and about 5 tons of rice belonging to the inhabitants (Phongsaly).

- On 6.5.57, 10 soldiers of Muong Peun post came to Ban Na Pik (canton of Ban Hao) to requisition 4kg 500 of meat and 12 kg of rice; then they entered village Na Douang to take 2 rifles belonging to the villagers. These soldiers laid mines in the mountain on the track leading to Muong Vene which caused the blowing off of the leg of Thao Ouane of Ban Khong. Besides, they made propaganda saying that "the Royal troops will triumph in the month of August 1957 and will install their post at Muong Vene to terrorise the population siding the Pathet Lao" (Sam Neua).

- On 6.5.57, the post of Houei Thao sent 3 soldiers (1 Lao and 2 Meo) to carry out propaganda in the villages and sow troubles; we arrested the Lao soldier at Bo Mat at about 1800 hours (Sam Neua).

- On 8.5.57, the posts of Houei Nha and Pakha made preparations for battle food (buffalo meat in bamboo tubes) as well as ammunition and equipment. The same day a plane dropped at the post of Houei Nha 20 parachutes and 100 bags of rice. They spread the news accusing that the Pathet Lao attacked them first and saying that even if Tiao Phetsarath arrives at Sam Neua, they will still attack the PL. That the Royal troops are going to attack and recapture the 2 Pathet Lao provinces. They forced the inhabitants of Ban Hong Non to pay taxes (Sam Neua).

- On 12.5.57, the Royal troops came to sow troubles at Ban Houei Man (Sam Neua).

- On 13.5.57, the Royal troops laid an ambush on the Phou Houei Piet track to fire at our troops. The inhabitants of Ban Houei Hap and Houei Man were afraid on hearing that a battalion of the Royal troops will come to settle down at Houei Hap (Sam Neua).

- On 13.5.57, a plane dropped 5 parachutes and 22 bags of rice on the post of Kohay and 5 parachutes on the post of Nakong (Sam Neua).

- On 17.5.57, the post of Thene Khoua sent 15 soldiers to fire on the buffaloes belonging to the villagers and to kidnap 4 inhabitants. These soldiers have also killed 4 buffaloes belonging to Ban Muong Sang villagers and wounded 5 others. They arrested also a villager aged 70 and a child (Sam Neua).

- On 20.5.57, the post of Pakha sent a platoon to fire on the population of Ban Houei Mun and Ban Sung Sao and inflicted on them 2 deaths, 2 families were taken away to their post (Sam Neua).

- On 21.5.57, the post of Pakha sent a platoon to plunder the villagers of Ban Houei Hap; they looted the costly things and 51 piasters in coins belonging to the villagers (Sam Neua).

- On 22.5.57, the post of Boun Neua sent 70 soldiers to attack us at Ngai Neua and thus inflicted on us 2 deaths (Phongsaly).

- On 27.5.57 at 0500 hours in the morning, the Royal troops of Houei Thao, in violation of the concluded agreement, sallied out of the zone limit to fire on our position with weapons of all calibres (Sam Neua).

- On 28.5.57, at 0800 hours in the morning, the Royal troops of Houei Thao again in violation of the concluded agreement fired 25 cartridge belts of machine gun, 3 mortar shots, 8 shots of A.T. on our position, and inflicted on us one death (Sam Neua).

These acts of violation have cost us:

57 deaths

27 seriously wounded

56 kidnapped

Total: 140 men

A D D E N D U M

On 8.5.57, the posts of Houei Nua and Pakha made preparations for battle (bamboo tubes) as well as ammunition and equipment. The same day a plane dropped at Statement of acts of violation committed by the Royal party from 6 Aug 1956 to 28 May 1957. That the Royal troops are going to attack and recapture the 3 Patheo provinces. They forced the inhabitants of Ban Hong Non to pay taxes (Sam Neua).

On page 7

After paragraph 7, please read:

- On 28.12.56, the Royal party sent a battalion from Muong La to capture Sop Chay (Phongsaly).

After paragraph 10, please read:

- On 29.12.56, the Royal troops attacked us at Phou Houei Leuk, causing 2 deaths and one wounded (Sam Neua).

- On 29.12.56, the Royal troops came to attack our position at Houei Heuang, causing one wounded and at about 0900 hours they fired 3 shots of gun on our position at Houei Leuk.

On page 9

After paragraph 10, please read:

- On 18.1.57, the Royal side dropped 6 parachutes and 63 rice bags at Houei Thao. In the night this post fired grenade launchers on our position (Sam Neua).

On page 10

After paragraph 8, please read;

- On 26.1.57, a helicopter carrying 4 Frenchmen was sent to evacuate the sick and landed on our position at Houei Hay (Sam Neua).

On page 3

After first paragraph, please read:

- On 13.9.56, the post of Ai Fang (north west of Phongsaly) sent a platoon to attack us at the village of Phou Xai Chay (Northern Phongsaly) but we did not repulse then due to the care in implementating the agreements signed at Vientiane (Phongsaly).

57 deaths
87 seriously wounded
50 kidnapped
140 men

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

JOINT ORDER REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MILITARY AGREEMENT DATED THE 12TH NOVEMBER 1957.

1) For an effective implementation of the operations of F.U.P.L's integration into the National Army, the Joint Military Committee agrees to create 4 Joint Military sub-Committees which will be positioned in the rallying centres of F.U.P.L.

a) L.N.A. Teams

Province of SAM NEUA

1st Centre (SAM NEUA)

- Lt. Colonel SOUNTHONE SITHIDED..... Delegate
- Commandant THONG TANH..... Member
- Lieutenant SOUVANH..... Member
- Adjutant LY..... Secretary

2nd Centre (SALEUI)

- Commandant KHAM PHET THOUNSAVAD..... Delegate
- Lieutenant SUONTHON..... Member
- Lieutenant SOUBANH..... Member
- Chief Sergeant SAY..... Secretary

Province of PHONGSALY

3rd Centre (MUONG KHOUA)

- Commandant KHAM THAO SOUTH..... Delegate
- S/Lt. BOUN HAO..... Member
- S/Lt. PHAN ANOURAK..... Member
- Sergeant THAO MANH..... Secretary

4th Centre (B. NAMTHELENG)

- Lt. Colonel KANE..... Delegate
- Captain KHAM THANH BOUPHA..... Member
- S/Lt. PHENG MISAY KONE..... Member
- Chief Sergeant KAY NAMKEO..... Secretary

b) F.U.P.L. Teams

Province of SAM NEUA 1st Centre (SAM NEUA)

- Mr. SAY HELASY..... Delegate
- Mr. KIM..... Member
- Mr. KASY Member
- Mr. KHAM PHET..... Member
- Mr. KHAM LECK..... Member
- Mr. THAO TOUI..... Secretary
- Mr. KHAM..... Secretary

2nd Centre (B. SALEUI)

- Mr. KO OUTHEN Delegate
- Mr. KHAM PHANH Member
- Mr. BOUN THEUNG Member
- Mr. THAO METH Secretary
- Mr. THAO SING Secretary

Province of PHONGSALY

3rd Centre (MUCNG KHOUA)

- Mr. THAO CHALEUN Delegate
- Mr. PADIT THIENG THAM Member
- Mr. OUTAMA Member
- Mr. PALAT LOUANE Member
- Mr. HONG Member
- Mr. SING KHAM Member
- Mr. BOUN NHONG Member
- Mr. THAO XA NHONH Secretary
- Mr. THAO SIBOUN Secretary

4th Centre (NAMTHALENG)

- Mr. OUN HEUAN Delegate
- Mr. AMPHONNE Member
- Mr. PHONNE SAY Member
- Mr. THAO TANH Secretary
- Mr. THAO THONG BAY Secretary

2) Each of the reception centres established in the 10 provinces will be visited by a representative of the F.U.P.L. who will reassure the released persons and receive their grievances in order to keep the Joint Committee informed.

3) Besides the above-mentioned provisions, a "Support Section" in charge of the technical part of the integration operations of the former F.U.P.L. is created in each sub-Committee.

These sections will be composed as follows:-

- Signal Team 3 men
- Supply Team 3 men
- Transport Team 2 men
- Recruitment Team 5 men
- Medical Team 2 men
- Material Team 2 men
- Servitude Team 5 men

These teams are under the orders of the Head of the

L.N.A. Delegation in each centre.

4) Role and task of the Joint Military Sub-Committee.

- Prepare the official handing over of the two provinces for 8.12.57 in the first instance.
- Guide the functionaries of the 2 parties, newly appointed by the Royal Government, in taking over their new posts.
- Ensure order and security.
- Direct the reservists, their family and the civilians of the 10 provinces towards the destination of their choice.
- Prepare the operations of transition of the integrated soldiers from the F.U.P.L. formations to those of the National Army.
- Look after the supplies, accommodations, means of transport, preparations for the integration ceremonies, inventories, of personnel and war materials.

- Distribute the rations or the corresponding allowances (25 kips per day per head) and medicines before the departure of men.

- Issue the various certificates (identity card, release certificates, military and civil family certificates).

- Monetary assistance will be granted later on to the persons released by the Royal Government.

5) Movement of the Joint Military Sub-Committee in the 4 integration centres.

Province of SAM NEUA:

- Both the teams: by plane upto Sam Neua. The Ban Saloui Team will leave Sam Neua for Saloui by foot and pass through Muong Ham.

Province of PHONGSALY:

- Both the teams: by air upto Luang Prabang.
- The Nam Thalong Team will proceed from Luang Prabang to Boun Noua by air then by foot upto Nam Thalong.
- The Muong Khoua Team will go up the NAM OU by motor boat upto Muong Khoua.

6) The approximative number of Pathet Lao army personnel and civilians in each rallying centre is fixed as follows:

- Sam Neua Centre	3995 men (including about 395 sick and disabled).
- Saloui Centre	1915 men
- Muong Khoua Centre	950 men
- Nam Thalong Centre	290 men

TOTAL	7150 men

7) Preparation of the nominal roll of:

- disabled and sick persons.
- military personnel released on the spot in the two provinces.
- military personnel from the other provinces.
- army personnel integrated into the National Army.
- civilians and families of army personnel.
- civilian functionaries.

8) Itineraries fixed for the return of former F.U.P.L.

In order to facilitate transport and supplies, the former F.U.P.L. (soldiers, families and civilians) on the way back to their homes, will be sent via Luang Prabang and Plaine Des-Jarres.

a) Disabled and sick

SAM NEUA - By air from Sam Neua to Plaine des Jarres -

from Plaine des Jarres to Seno.

SALEUI - By road upto Muong Peun and then by air to Plaine

des Jarres and Seno.

MUONG KHOUA - By motor boat from Muong Khoua to Luang Prabang

then by air upto Seno.

BAN NAMTHALENG - By road upto Boun Neua, from Boun Neua to

Luang Prabang - Seno.

b) After the issuing of necessary papers the F.U.P.L. (soldiers,

families and civilians) shall leave the integration centres

in the following conditions:

1/- Provisions similar to those of the 4 integration centres will be taken for the former F.U.P.L. of the 2 provinces.

2/- Soldiers released and belonging to the 10 other provinces.

a) For the Sam Neua and Saleui integration centres the ~~it~~

itinerary is fixed as follows: SAM NEUA-MUONG HAM-SALEUI-

MUONG PEUN-MUONG O-HOUA MUONG-MUONG LAP-THAM LA-SOP O-

MUONG NOI-LAT BOUAK-PLAINE des Jarres.

- Those belonging to the province of Xieng Khouang will first go to Plaine des Jarres then to their villages.

- Those from the Nam Tha region will be sent to Luang Prabang-Nam Tha and Muong Sing by air.

- Those from Sayaboury-Luang Prabang will proceed by air to Luang Prabang and by boat from Luang Prabang to their villages.

- Those from Vientiane by air upto Vientiane and by car from Vientiane to their villages.

In case of sickness or accident in the course of the journey

the persons released will be sent to the nearest medical centre where they will stay till complete recovery.

b) The former F.U.P.L. units integrated in the National Army.

SAM NEUA The dispatch of former F.U.P.L units will be done from SAM NEUA to Plaine-des-Jarres immediately after the departure of the persons released and their families.

PHONGSALY The dispatch of former F.U.P.L units from Phongsaly will be done in similar conditions upto Luang Prabang. It will, as much as possible, and in accordance with the availability of transports, be done concurrently with the dispatch of released persons.

The regroupment in these two centres (Luang Prabang - Plaine des Jarres) will enable the supply and transport operations to take place in favourable conditions.

9) SUPPLIES.

a) Conditions for the stocking of supplies in the reassembly centres and on the routes used by the released persons and their families. Stocking of supplies on these itineraries will be made in proportion with the number of days of road journey.

PROVINCE OF SAM NEUA

Sam Neua stock 60 days food supply for 4000 men

Saloui stock 60 days food supply for 2000 men

Constitution of stock of reserve route rations for 6000 men and 4 days.

Houa Muong for 6000 men one day

Tham Lafor 6000 men 3 days

PROVINCE OF PHONGSALY

Dan Ham Salong for 300 men 40 days

Dan Lik Na for 300 men - 2 days

Houa Phou for 1000 men - 3 days

Phong Naoi for 1300 men - 5 days

On their arrival at Luang Prabang-Plaine des Jarres and some the released persons and their families will be taken into charge by the Military Area Commander till they reach their homes.

b) The disabled servicemen, wounded and sick will be sent to medical centres by the National Army till complete recovery in conformity with their wishes. They will rejoin their families and will have the means to earn their livelihood or will be received in Cities for Disabled soldiers of the National Army.

10) The minutes of the handing over of war material and troops will be made in 7 copies and dispatched to the following authorities:

- Prime Minister, President of the Ministers Council : 2 copies
- Head of the Delegation of the ex-F.U.P.L. : 2 copies
- Chairman of the International Commission : 1 copy
- Chairman of the Joint Committee : 2 copies

11) Joint Military Sub-Committee will report to the Committees by letter or message every 10 days.

The activities of all types will be subject to consultations between the members of the Sub-Committees.

The differences of opinions will be brought to the knowledge of the Joint Military Committee which will take a final decision in collaboration with the I.C.S.C. in Laos.

A close collaboration will be established between the local
and military
civil/authorities

12) Liaison and communication:

Each reassembly centre will dispose of a signal team for the liaison with the joint military committee.

VIENTIANE, 3 December, 1957

The Head of the Delegation of
the former FULP

The Head of the Military
Delegation of the LNA

(b) The disabled servicemen, wounded and sick will be sent to medical centers by the National Army till complete recovery in conformity with their wishes. They will retain their families and will have the means to earn their livelihood or will be received in Cities for Disabled Soldiers of the National Army.

(c) The minutes of the handing over of war material and troops will be made in 7 copies and dispatched to the following authorities:

- Prime Minister, President of the Ministers Council : 2 copies
- Head of the Delegation of the ex-F.U.P.I. : 2 copies
- Chairman of the International Commission : 1 copy
- Chairman of the Joint Committee : 2 copies

The Joint Military Sub-Committee will report to the Commission by letter or message every 10 days.

The activities of all types will be subject to consultations between the members of the Sub-Committee.

The differences of opinions will be brought to the knowledge of the Joint Military Committee which will take a final decision in collaboration with the I.C.S.C. in Laos.

A close collaboration will be established between the local and military authorities.

Liaison and communication:

Each assembly center will dispose of a signal team for the liaison with the joint military committee.

VIETNAM, 3 December, 1957

The Head of the Military Delegation of the LVA

Head of the Delegation of the LVA

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE THREE TEMPORARY FIXED
TEAMS AND FIXED TEAM SAM NEUA

The new temporary fixed teams at SALEUI, MUON KHOUA and BAN NAM SELENG and fixed team SAM NEUA will observe the integration process of the FUPL Forces as provided in Article 9(c) of the Military Agreement dated 2nd November, 1957, on the integration of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao Forces into the National Army. In this task, the teams will be guided by current instructions to Fixed, Mobile and Sub-Teams. In addition, they will forward to the International Commission lists of personnel (divided into categories of (a) personnel take on effective strength, (b) personnel sent to reserve), arms and equipment handed over for integration in accordance with the Military Agreement. These lists should be obtained from the Laotian Joint Military Sub-Committees at the four regroupment centres as the handovers occur.

Incidents will be dealt with by the Royal Laotian Government but teams should report incidents.

Sd/- Major
(J.H. Gray)

DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (OP.1)

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE THREE TEMPORARY FIXED TEAMS AND FIXED TEAM SAM NEUA

The new temporary fixed teams at SAILUI, MUON KHOUA and BAN NAM SEIENG and fixed team SAM NEUA will observe the integration process of the FULF Forces as provided in Article 3(c) of the Military Agreement dated 2nd November, 1957, on the integration of the Fighting Units of the Pathet Lao Forces into the National Army. In this task, the teams will be guided by current instructions to Fixed, Mobile and Sub-Teams. In addition, they will forward to the International Commission lists of personnel divided into categories of (a) personnel take on effective strength, (b) personnel sent to reserve, arms and equipment handed over for integration in accordance with the Military Agreement. These lists should be obtained from the Laotian Joint Military Sub-Committee at the four regroupment centres as the handovers occur.

Incidents will be dealt with by the Royal Laotian Government but teams should report incidents.

2d - Major
(J.H. Gray)

DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (OP-1)

MILITARY COMMITTEE'S VISIT TO PLAINE-DES JARRES

In accordance with the verbal instructions from the Commissioners, the Military Committee consisting of Major General Tara Singh Bal, Chairman, Indel, Major G.F. Halliwell, Candel, and Lt. Col. Alfons Olkiewicz, Poldel, on the morning of 7th January left Vientiane for Xieng Khouang in order to carry out a supervisory function arising from the recent political and military integration in Laos.

The Committee flew on the 7th January in a helicopter from Xieng Khouang to Plaine-Des Jarres and along the tract to Lat Boua and beyond to see the progress of ex-Pathet Lao foot convoy coming from Sam Neua to the dispersal centre at Plaine-Des Jarres. The Committee whilst flying over Lat Boua, saw some parachutes pitched and as Lat Boua is one of their halting camps en route, on return journey, the Committee landed there for 10 to 15 minutes. There they met LNA Detachment responsible for looking after ex-PL personnel on route to Plaine-Des Jarres. Big quantity of rice was stored there for feeding these personnel. The Committee also discovered from the LNA representative that some 400 people had passed through Lat Boua yesterday and that they would be reaching Plaine-Des Jarres today. The Committee was also informed that on the track some three to four kilometres towards Plaine-Des Jarres, Royal Government had established a hospital to look after the sick. The Committee landed at a place mistaking it to be a hospital and not finding the exact position of the hospital, returned to Plaine-Des-Jarres flying over the track. Some 6 to 7 kilometres away from Plaine-Des Jarres, the Committee saw a long foot convoy of approximately 350 to 400 people marching towards Plaine-Des Jarres. On arrival at Plaine-Des Jarres, they visited the LNA Headquarters, which is responsible for receiving, accommodating and dispersal of the personnel. There they met Commandant Tamsook who regretted his inability to take them round the camp in the absence of instructions from

Laotian Army Headquarters at Vientiane. The Committee appreciated his position and told him that the Committee was working in conjunction with the Joint Military Committee and their sole job was to make personal contacts and find out if there are any difficulties being experienced so that they could assist if required. Returning from the office of the Commandant to the airfield, the Committee saw the foot convoy, which they had seen sometime ago whilst flying over in a helicopter approaching the reception camp. The Committee halted at the track for a little while and saw these people walk past. The convoy also contained women. They were carrying their haversacks and packs and appeared to be healthy and cheerful.

Later on in the evening at Xieng Khouang the Committee was informed that the Commandant at Plaine-Des Jarres had now received an intimation from Vientiane and that he would be pleased to take the Committee around the camps which had been organised for the purpose.

On the 8th morning the Committee reached Plaine-Des Jarres by plane and Commandant Tamsook received them at the airfield and then in his own jeep took them round the camp. The camp is organised to receive approximately thousand people at a time and has a sick-bay. The welfare of the people had been taken into account and a stage had been erected for showing cinema and variety shows. During their visit to the Camp, the Committee met Col. Thao Phawa (one of ex-PL members of the Joint Military Committee) and Mr. Thao from Sam Neua, an official of the ex-PL. These two officials have been detailed by ex-PL to supervise and help in consultation with Royal Government in the arrangements of receipt and dispersal of the personnel. The Committee, in the presence of Lt. Col. Thao Phawa and Mr. Thao, and Commandant Tamsook spoke to a number of people who had arrived from Sam Neua and from the talk the Committee formed the impression that they were ex-PL personnel and appeared happy and cheerful to go back to their old places after a period of over four years or so and that the Royal Government had made the good arrangements for

the reception, accommodation and dispersal. The people looked happy and healthy and showed no signs of under-feeding. They mentioned that they had no shortage of rice on the way.

Commander Tamsook also informed the Committee that process of integration was going on well and that he had no major difficulties in performing his task. So far he had received 1119 people. The total number, he was expecting was 4500 and he did not think that his task will be completed by the 18th January, the last day of completion of the integration. After 18th Jan. it is possible that a number of personnel will continue to pass through Plaine-Des Jarres in order to be despatched to their homes. However the actual integration in his opinion would be completed by the deadline 18th Jan. He said that it may even continue in the month of February. He told that the whole route from Sam Neua to Plaine-Des Jarres took 13 days to accomplish and it was divided into sectors. In addition to the rations and stores at various stages, the local villagers were made responsible for looking after the convoy and for rendering any assistance which was necessary. They convoys are divided into groups with suitable persons in charge of each group for the purpose of command and control. The Commandant also told the Committee that there was no difficulty experienced here by the ex-PL in accomplishing the daily stages which were in the vicinity of 20 to 25 kilometres and it took them 13 days to come to Plaine-Des Jarres including 3 to 4 days halt on route. The collecting posts on route were 4 in number namely, HUA MUONG, TAM LA, M NOOI and LAT BOUA and they were connected to Plaine-Des Jarres by means of wireless communication. So by this method Plaine-Des Jarres was kept in fairly good picture as to the progress of the convoy. The total distance to be covered by foot is 250-275 kilometres. The general impression of the Committee was that the Royal Loatian Government had made adequate arrangements, both administrative and welfare, for the foot convoy coming and that there was general contentment and happiness over integration. Fixed Team Xieng Khouang is regularly in contact with the LNA

headquarters at Plaine-Des Jarres and are submitting situation reports periodically to the IC.

mentioned that they had no shortage of rice on the way. Commander Tamsok also informed the Committee that

process of integration was going on well and that he had no

major difficulties in performing his task. So far he had

received 119 people. The total number, he was expecting was 4500

and he did not think that his task will be completed by the 18th

January, the last day of completion of the integration. After

18th Jan. it is possible that a number of personnel will continue

to pass through Plaine-Des Jarres in order to be despatched

to their homes. However the actual integration in his opinion

would be completed by the deadline 18th Jan. He said that it

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kilometres. The general reputation of the Committee was that the

Government had made adequate arrangements, both

logistical and welfare, for the foot convoy coming and that

there was general contentment and happiness over integration.

Commander Tamsok is regularly in contact with the INA

MILITARY COMMITTEE'S VISIT TO SENO AND SAVANNAKHET

1. The Military Committee visited Seno and Savannakhet on 14 February 1958. The Committee was met on arrival at Seno airfield by Colonel Singh, Commander of the 3rd Military Region, the officer-in-Charge of the ex-Pathet Lao reception centre, Colonel Baylong, Commander of the French base at Seno, and the International Commission Team from Savannakhet.
2. Prior to a tour of inspection of the centre, the Military Committee was offered an opportunity to ask questions and a meeting was arranged in the Commander's office. It was found that there were 750 persons in the centre at the moment and that approximately 1200 had already been sent to their villages. There had been no incidents since the beginning of the operation and no complaints except for a few concerning food. On inquiring into this, the Committee found that the rations provided consisted of meat, poultry, fish when available, rice and vegetables. The Commander of the Centre stated that in fact the rations supplied were equivalent to those provided to the National Army. While at the centre, all transients were issued with clothing. Movement of the 750 persons in the Centre was to begin on 15 Feb. and it was expected that all would have been cleared by the end of the month. Repatriation to villages is carried out by trucks.
3. On touring around the Centre, the Committee found that personnel were accommodated in aircraft hangers except for the sick who were cared for in huts. In general, conditions were found to be good and the accommodation clean. Morale seemed good and of the ones questioned, all replied that they were happy to return to their villages.
4. After the tour of the reception Centre, the group proceeded to Savannakhet where a reception was given by Colonel Singh, the Commander of the 3rd Military region, followed by a luncheon offered by the Chaokhoueng at his residence. During the lunch period informally impression was obtained that everything was going on smoothly from the Civil administration point of view.

MILITARY COMMITTEE'S VISIT TO SENO AND SAVANNAKHET

The visit to Savannakhet was concluded with a brief visit to the team site after which the Committee returned to Seno for the night back to Vientiane.

Colonel Bayong, Commander of the French base at Seno, and the International Commission Team from Savannakhet.

Prior to a tour of inspection of the centre, the Military Committee was offered an opportunity to ask questions and a meeting was arranged in the Commander's office. It was found that there were 750 persons in the centre at the moment and that approximately 1200 had already been sent to their villages. There had been no incidents since the beginning of the operation and no complaints except for a few concerning food. On inquiring into this, the Committee found that the rations provided consisted of meat, poultry fish when available, rice and vegetables. The Commander of the Centre stated that in fact the rations supplied were equivalent to those provided to the National Army. While at the centre, all transients were issued with clothing. Movement of the 750 persons in the Centre was to begin on 15 Feb and it was expected that all would have been cleared by the end of the month. Repatriation villages is carried out by trucks.

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INTEGRATION OF FUPL
STATISTICS OF MILITARY PERSONNEL, FAMILIES
AND CIVILIANS PROCESSED AT RALLYING CENTRES.

Rallying Centre	Fit Personnel				Sick and disabled Army personnel	Total
	Army personnel for release	Army personnel for integration into LNA	Families	Civil		
SAM NEUA	3049	1352	671	126	395	5593
SALEUI	278	--	140	6	9	433
MUONG KHOUA	827	149	14	70	10	1070
BAN NAM SALENG	130	--	38	-	-	168
GRAND TOTAL	4204	1501	863	202	414	7264

STATISTICS OF MILITARY PERSONNEL, FAMILIES AND CIVILIANS PROCESSED AT HALDIGHAT CENTRES.

INTEGRATION OF PUPIL

Total	Sick and disabled Army personnel	Fit Personnel			
		Army personnel for release	Army personnel for release	Army personnel for release	Army personnel for release
2523	252	1252	871	1352	3042
433	3	140	6	--	278
1070	10	70	14	142	821
168	--	--	38	--	170
4564	414	1501	863	1501	4504

INTEGRATION OF FUPL
STATISTICS OF RELEASED PERSONNEL BY PROVINCES

Province	Military Personnel	Families	Civilians	Total
SAM NEUA	302	-	50	352
PHONG SALY	-	-	38	38
LUANG PRABANG	1079	102	--	1181
VIENTIANE	1151	330	44	1525
KIENG KHOUANG	193	50	--	243
KHAMMOUANE	227	55	--	282
SAVANNAKHLT	303	40	--	343
CHAMPASSACK	260	83	--	343
SARAVANE	388	124	--	512
ATTOPEU	336	79	--	415
NAM THA	17	-	70	87
SAYABOURY	28	-	--	28
GRAND TOTAL	4284	863	202	5349

ANNEXURE 59
INTEGRATION OF PUPIL
STATISTICS OF RELEASED PERSONNEL BY PROVINCES

Province	Military Personnel	Families	Civilians	Total
ANDHRA	302	-	50	352
ASSAM	-	-	38	38
BHARAT	1079	102	--	1181
BHOPAL	1124	330	44	1522
BOMBAY	193	50	--	243
GUJARAT	227	22	4	288
KARNATAKA	303	40	--	343
KERALA	280	83	--	343
MADHYA PRADESH	388	124	--	512
MADHARAJAPUR	336	79	--	415
MADRAS	17	-	70	87
WEST BENGAL	28	-	--	28
TOTAL	4584	863	505	5952

INTEGRATION OF FUPL

RECORD OF ARMS AND EQUIPMENT HANDED OVER TO LNA

WEAPONS

Category of Arms	D E P O T								Total
	Muong Phoune :Bong:	Kang Pa :	Sam Neua :	Sal eui :	Muong Sone :	Xieng Lou- :ang	Muong Khoua :	Phong Saly :	
Machine Gun Reb	--	--	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
" " MAC	10	--	--	-	-	-	2	-	12
" " Browning	2	--	--	-	-	-	1	-	3
Cannon 57	4	--	6	-	-	-	2	-	12
Mortar 81 mm	2	--	6	-	-	4	4	-	16
" 60 mm	14	1	11	-	-	1	9	-	36
" 50 mm	5	--	--	-	-	3	5	-	13
<u>Sub Machine Gun</u>									
Bren MK I	6	9	5	--	2	6	25	10	63
Bren MK II	21	-	23	-	-	50	-	-	54
Browning 24.29	7	-	--	-	-	4	-	-	7
	31	-	33	-	4	26	34	7	135
Carabine	1	3	30	-	2	-	4	-	40
Thompson	39	45	9	7	13	68	84	47	312
MAT 49	19	48	234	1	3	43	166	28	542
MAT 38	54	2	5	-	7	23	11	2	104
MAD SEN	22	1	2	-	-	21	-	37	83
STEN	120	11	16	-	6	97	142	-	392
Automatic Rifle	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Muskot	5	-	4	4	-	-	25	-	39
Japanese Rifle	36	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	47
English Rifle	55	-	-	-	-	158	61	-	274
U.S. Rifle	68	219	75	-	39	37	-	-	438
Mausers	285	115	1	-	-	191	-	-	593
Mas. 36	23	13	264	-	16	56	438	72	882
Spare gun 12 m 7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
SubMachine Gun BAR	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	4
F.S. MK I	-	-	44	-	149	-	-	69	262
SubMachineGun MK 3	-	-	11	3	-	-	-	-	14
F.S. 83	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	20
F.S. Garant	-	-	-	-	3	12	9	-	24
P.A. Colt.	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
English Rifle MK 3	-	-	143	-	-	-	73	-	216
E. TCHICK	-	-	-	-	-	-	82	-	82
F. Remington N 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	35
GRAND TOTAL	831	477	952	11	244	770	1214	276	4775

INTEGRATION OF FUPL

RECORD OF ARMS AND EQUIPMENT HANDED OVER TO LNA

AMMUNITION

Category of ammunition	D E P O T								Total
	Muong Phoune	Kang Pa bong	Sam Neua	Sa- leui	Muong Sone	Xieng Lou- ang	Muong Khoua	Phong Saly	
Rifle Cartridge	--	-	348	-	-	-	-	-	348653
Rifle Grenades	--	-	653	-	-	-	-	-	91
Shell 81 and 80	--	-	1855	-	-	-	934	164	2253
Cartridges 9 mm	--	-	50	-	-	-	14663	-	14713
" 7/7	--	-	86	-	-	-	920	-	1006
Misc. Cartridges	--	-	-	5800	-	-	-	-	5800
Cartridges 11/43	--	-	-	-	-	-	7925	-	7925
" 7/62 MI	--	-	-	-	-	-	441	-	441
" 7/62 M2	--	-	-	-	-	-	1745	-	1745
" 7/5	--	-	-	-	-	-	21022	-	21022
Gun Shell 57	--	-	238	-	-	-	32	260	520
Bazooka Shell	--	-	55	-	-	-	-	-	55

INTEGRATION OF FUPL
RECORD OF ARMS AND EQUIPMENT HANDED OVER TO LNA.
EXPLOSIVES

Category of Explosives	D E P O T								Total
	Muong Phoune	Kang Pabong	Sam Neua	Sal-eui	Xieng Louang	Muong Sone	Muong Khoua	Phong Saly	
Hand Grenades	-	..	1581	-	-	-	260	-	1841
Smoke Grenades	-	..	-	-	-	-	103	60	163
Mines	-	..	1129	-	-	-	139	205	1473

INTEGRATION OF FUPL

RECORD OF ARMS AND EQUIPMENT HANDED OVER TO LNA

STORES & EQUIPMENT

Category of Stores and Equipment.	D E P O T								TOTAL
	Muong	Kang	Sam	Sal-	Xiong	Muong	Muong	Hong	
	Phou-	Pa-	Neua	oui	Lou-	sone	Khousa	Saly:	
Leather	-	-	304	-	-	-	332	-	636
Cartridge Case	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Loader PA rifColt	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	14
" Rifle	-	-	12	-	-	-	1019	-	1336
" PM MAT 49	-	-	317	-	-	-	91	-	699
" PM Thompson	-	-	608	-	-	-	355	-	800
" SubMachine	-	-	445	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Gun 24x29	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	-	344
" SubMachine	-	-	250	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Gun Bren	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	50
" PM MAT 38	-	-	49	-	-	-	38	-	38
Carrying case 4 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	19
" Thompson	-	-	18	-	-	-	46	-	46
" SubMachineGun	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Garrison Belt TAP	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	7
Loader Machine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Gun 30	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
FM BC 1306	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Receiving set	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" BC 1306	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Rey G/N	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Bautca BatteryCord	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Cask CD 620 U	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
PL 540	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Feeding Chords GN	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
G.C. 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
S/N Unifilive	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
G.N. 68	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
EME 301 No.783	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Recap R301 No.697	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Boy BXBA No.724	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
PL 55	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
C.410	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
CD 201	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
JK 26	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
R.30 B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Laying instruments</u>									
Mortar 80	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mortar 80	-	-	568	-	-	-	-	-	568
Sten Loader	-	-	-	-	-	-	2062	-	2062
Misc. Loaders	-	-	143	-	-	-	-	-	143
Bayonets	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	26
MAC-Machine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Gun Belts	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Epaulottes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Cannon 57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Continued page 2.

STORES & EQUIPMENT

Category of stores and Equipment.	D E P O T							TOTAL
	Muong Phou-no	Aang Pa-bang	Sam Neua	Sai-lou	Along Lou-ang	Muong Sone	Muong Khoua	
Sponge	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Roneo	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Axe	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	11
Spake	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	9
Shovel	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	29
Pick	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	13
Sickle	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	17
RT 77/GRC 9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
G.N. 58	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
G.C. 7	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
C.D. 1119	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
L.G. 2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
L.G. 2 3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
C.D. 1004	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
F.3. 90	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
A.N. 160	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1

9) Signal Equipment



Loader Machine
 Gun 30
 FM BC 1308
 Receiver set
 BC 1308
 Rev G/N
 Receiver Afterford
 Gask GP 820 U
 PL 840
 Receiver GORDON GN
 G.C. 7
 S/W Uniflative
 G.N. 88
 301 No. 783
 301 No. 787
 Boy EXBA No. 784
 PL 88
 G.410
 GD 801
 JK 28
 R.30 B

Laying Instruments
 Mortar 80
 Gun Loader
 Also Loaders
 Bayonets
 MG-Machine
 Gun Siles
 3 projectiles
 Cannon 37