

No. 55/3

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR  
SUPERVISION AND CONTROL IN CAMBODIA

Progress Report on the Implementation of the  
Geneva Agreement  
for the period ending December 31, 1954.

INTRODUCTION

1. The two parties to the Geneva Agreement on Cambodia, namely the Royal Government of Cambodia on the one hand and the Khmer Resistance Forces and Vietnamese Military Units on the other, achieved a cease-fire throughout the country by 7th August 1954. By 20th of October they had implemented the military clauses of the Agreement. The Joint Commission, made up of a delegation from each of the two parties, was dissolved on that date.

2. Since 20th of October, the only authority with which the International Commission has had to deal for the implementation of the remaining clauses of the Geneva Agreement has been the Royal Government of Cambodia. The absence of representation of the other side in Cambodia has meant that the Commission has had, in a few cases, to refer matters to the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam through the International Commission there.

3. The main tasks which now confront the International Commission and with which the Commission is constantly concerned are:

(a) The complete reintegration of demobilized persons into the National Community in such a way that they will be guaranteed immunity from reprisals and the enjoyment of all the rights of citizenship;

(b) The continuous control of the entry of war material and military personnel into Cambodia to make sure that nothing is brought into the country which goes beyond the country's requirements for effective defence;

(c) Reporting on the observance or non-observance by the Cambodian Government of its declaration concerning the establishment of foreign military bases and the conclusion of military alliances;

(d) Keeping a watchful eye on the implementation by the Cambodian Government of its declaration regarding democratic rights and the participation of all citizens in the forthcoming elections.

MILITARY PHASE

4. Removal of Mines and Booby Traps

(a) Mine clearing operations have been carried out satisfactorily. In some cases, however, a few mines have been left because the persons who laid them cannot now be found. These mines, in inaccessible areas, have been adequately sign-posted.

Release of Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees

(b) Prisoners of war and civilian internees have been released by both sides. This important task was tackled at several meetings of the International Commission and at a few meetings between it and the Joint Commission. The International Commission was able to expedite matters by resolving differences between the Royal Cambodian Delegation on the one side and the Delegation of the Khmer Resistance Forces and Vietnamese Military Units on the other, and by exerting tactful pressure on both sides to press on with the work. The Commission was naturally anxious to expedite the liberation of prisoners on humanitarian grounds. When faced with an impasse, the Joint Commission asked the International Commission for a ruling. The latter gave the following recommendations:

- (i) Both sides were to submit lists of prisoners of war and civilian internees held by them. These lists were to be submitted to the International Commission and to the Delegation representing the other side on the Joint Commission;
- (ii) All releases were to take place between 12-15 September at places nominated separately by the two sides;
- (iii) The International Commission or their representatives were to be present at all releases;
- (iv) Any questions on the lists submitted by either side were to be dealt with later. Releases were not to be held up for this reason.

These recommendations were accepted by both sides and the first release took place at Suong on the 11th of September. The last release took place at Kompong Cham on the 23rd of September when some 337 civilian internees were set free. On the whole, the operation went smoothly and last-minute differences of opinion were settled by the Commission on the spot. A press release on the liberation was later issued by the Commission. Nothing now remains of this phase of the Commission's work except a certain number of complaints on both sides that not all prisoners of war and not all civilian internees were released. These

complaints are being investigated as they arise. Prisoners belonging to the Khmer Resistance Forces have been and are being released by the Royal Government under an amnesty proclaimed by the latter. The International Commission is not fully satisfied that the amnesty is as comprehensive as it ought to be and has therefore made representations to the Royal Government. Meanwhile, it is carefully watching the application of the amnesty in order to ensure as generous as possible an interpretation of Article 6.

#### Demobilization

(c) By 22nd August, 1954, the Khmer Resistance Forces had been demobilized. This was within the time-limit allowed by the Geneva Agreement. The International Commission did not, however, begin to function until 11th August, the Joint Commission was not set up until 20th August. As a result no supervision could be brought to bear on this operation which was carried out unilaterally. Hence, the Government of Cambodia has remained unconvinced that all of the Khmer Resistance Forces were in fact completely demobilized. A further consequence is that the Royal Government also expresses concern as to the whereabouts of the arms of the Khmer Resistance Forces, although the representatives of these forces on the Joint Commission stated categorically that all arms had been destroyed on the spot. The Government believes that these arms were hidden with a view to their being used in some future insurrection. The Government has reported the discovery of some arms, but investigations carried out by the Commission have been inconclusive. Before the Joint Commission came to an end, the Delegation representing the Khmer Resistance Forces and the Vietnamese Units had informed the Delegation of the Royal Government that the latter were free to deal according to the normal laws of the country with any bands masquerading as Khmer Resistance Forces. The International Commission welcomed this statement as a satisfactory solution to an intricate problem. It has also been accepted that the Royal Government is entitled to prosecute anyone found in illegal possession of arms after 22nd August, 1954. Nevertheless, the Government has not been very active in carrying out this mopping-up operation and appears to prefer to write to the International Commission on every incident involving the findings of arms or the alleged activities of former Khmer Resistance Forces which, they claim, are still at large in various parts of the country. Investigations carried out so far by the Teams of the Commission do not bear out the Government's claims that large armed bands of former Resistants are at large in the country.

#### Withdrawal of Foreign Armed Forces and Foreign Military Personnel

(d) The withdrawal of French military personnel had been largely carried out before the Commission began its activities. Apart from the French Military Mission and a number of French Military and Naval instructors, there are no more French forces in Cambodia. A list of those remaining, showing the nature

of their employment, has been submitted to the International Commission. The main problem in this field concerned the Vietnamese Military Units. In a series of meetings with the Joint Commission at Banam, the International Commission was able to iron out differences between the two Delegations. These differences were for the most part over the procedure and method of withdrawal, particularly as the French authorities from South Vietnam had to provide the necessary rivercraft to transport the soldiers and also to accept them into concentration areas on their own territory before despatching them to North Vietnam. Finally, a workable plan was achieved and put into operation on the 12th October when approximately 500 Vietnamese troops were evacuated down the Mekong river from Neak Luong. On the 15th October, a further group of 834 and on 18 October, a final 1050 were withdrawn. With each group, the International Commission sent a team of its officers which remained on board the French transports up to the Cambodian border. The Commissioners were present at each evacuation and their presence was clearly welcome to both sides. Speeches expressing gratitude to the International Commission and pledging lasting friendship between Vietnam and Cambodia were made on all three occasions.

The total number involved in the withdrawal was not very large, and after the end of the operation, the Royal Government expressed to the International Commission and to the Press its belief that numbers of the former Vietnamese Military Units were still in Cambodia, having merged with the Vietnamese minority. It likewise expressed its intention of investigating on its own to establish whether, in fact, there were armed Vietnamese and Khmer Resistance Forces still in the Kingdom. The Government also alleged that some of the Vietnamese troops had withdrawn to Vietnam unnoticed carrying with them stores which were the property of Cambodia. Evidence for this latter allegation is meagre and vague and in any case such a withdrawal without supervision would be only a technical violation of the Geneva Agreement. The other charge, namely that a number of Vietnamese have been left behind is more serious and every effort is being made by the International Commission to inquire into the alleged non-compliance with the withdrawal agreement. Thus far, no armed formations have been located and, from such information as has come to the Commission's attention, it can be stated that we are unlikely to find that any substantial number of Vietnamese soldiers has been left in Cambodia. We are not yet in a position to pass judgment on the charge of infiltration by individuals or small groups, whether ex-Khmer Resistants or ex-Vietnamese soldiers.

#### REINTEGRATION

15. The implementation of Article 6 of the Geneva Agreement has presented and continues to present, difficult problems both of interpretation and practical application. The Cambodian Government took the stand from the beginning that demobilisation having been carried out unilaterally by the other side, the process of reintegration became much more difficult than it

need have been. In their view, demobilisation should have taken place in conjunction with the local authorities who could then have issued to each demobilised soldier an identity card. It may be noted here that every person above the age of 8 in Cambodia has to carry some form of identity card without which he can have neither voting rights nor even liberty of movement. The Government referred this question to the International Commission for a ruling. This was given under our letter No. IC/2/1 of 29th September 1954, a copy of which is attached at Appendix "A". The Government has responded by the proclamation of an amnesty and the sending of directions to the provincial authorities for the issue of identity cards to demobilised personnel. Latest reports indicate that batches of such personnel are reporting from time to time at various provincial headquarters. In spite of these measures, it is clear considerable numbers of former resistance personnel have not yet been reintegrated into the National Community. There is doubtless a variety of reasons for this failure to come forward. Some men and women are afraid to trust themselves to the Government's good offices, some have probably not even heard of the amnesty. Some, according to the Government, prefer to remain at large leading the life of bandits. In these circumstances, it is not surprising that the Government claims that some are engaged in subversive activities. From what has been stated above, it will be obvious that reintegration of the former members of the Resistance movement is far from complete. The Commission regards this problem as of first importance and is discussing with the Government ways and means of finding a satisfactory solution. The Commission has to reckon with great administrative slowness on the part of Cambodian officials. It is this factor rather than anything else which slows the pace of the Commission's work at this stage of its operations.

ENTRY OF WAR MATERIAL, ESTABLISHMENT OF BASES,  
MILITARY ALLIANCES.

6. Article 7 of the Geneva Agreement contains the declaration of the Royal Government of Cambodia that during the period between the date of the cessation of hostilities in Vietnam and that of the final settlement of political problems in this country, it will not solicit foreign aid in war material, personnel or instructors except for the purpose of the effective defence of the territory. The Commission, through its Military Advisers, has been in touch with the Government on the matter of the entry of war material and the Government has agreed to inform the Commission of any agreement it reaches with foreign powers for military aid. The Commission has also received from the Minister of Defence fairly complete details of the country's defence programme. The Government's estimate of 4 Divisions cannot, however, be reached until well after 1956, by when, it is assumed, a final settlement of political problems in Vietnam will have been achieved. The Commission has also been informed of the two principal routes by which the war material would be brought into Cambodia.

Up to the time of the compilation of this report, no new war material had been brought into the country with the exception of 4 Fletcher (training) aircraft. The Commission's teams at Svay Rieng, Kratie and Stung Treng are also watching the entry and exit of war material belonging to, or destined for, the French and Laotian armed forces in Laos.

In the matter of establishment of bases and the conclusion of foreign alliances, the International Commission has nothing to report in the period under review.

#### FIXED AND MOBILE TEAMS

7. These tripartite teams have been stationed at strategic sites throughout Cambodia. There are five fixed teams with six officers each at Svay Rieng, Kampot, Kompong Cham, Kratie and Phnom Penh. There are four mobile teams, two at Battambang, one at Kompong Chhnang and at Stung Treng. All these teams are visited at regular intervals by a liaison mission from the International Commission's Headquarters and from time to time the members of the teams come to the capital. The Commissioners themselves have visited all the team sites except Kompong Chhnang. In these ways, the Commission has been kept informed of what goes on in the provinces. Until the dissolution of the Joint Commission on 20th October, the teams were also in liaison with the joint groups which represented that Commission in various places throughout the land. They supervised in some places the release of prisoners of war and civilian internees and the withdrawal of Vietnamese Military Units from their areas of concentration to the point of embarkation. They have undertaken and continue to undertake on-the-spot investigations at the request of the Commission. In all these ways, they serve as the eyes and ears of the Commission throughout Cambodia.

#### CONCLUSIONS

8. The work of the International Commission in Cambodia was facilitated by the system adopted from the beginning of having frequent liaison meetings with the Joint Commission at a place called Banam, half way between Svay Rieng, where the Headquarters of the Joint Commission were located, and Phnom Penh. There were seven such meetings between 27th August and 19th October, at each of which important points were taken up in order to facilitate the work of the Joint Commission, narrow down the differences between the two sides, allot tasks for completion by specified dates and generally help the two parties to reach agreed decisions. The record of the 7th meeting held on 19th October 1954 is attached as Appendix "B" not only to give an idea of the nature of the proceedings, but also to convey the points of view of the two parties and offer a general impression of the work of the Joint Commission.

9. Also attached, as Appendix "C", are extracts from a letter from Colonel Nguyen Thanh Son, President of the Delegation of the Khmer Resistance Forces and

Vietnamese Military Units on the Joint Commission, to the Chairman of the International Commission at the conclusion of the former's stay in Cambodia.

10. In a series of informal meetings of the three Commissioners in late November, a survey of the work of the Commission was made and future policy discussed. A short report on the agreed conclusions reached at these discussions was recorded at the meeting of the Commission held on 27th November, 1954. A copy of the statement is attached as Appendix "D" to this report. This should be considered as a working paper.

11. It will be seen from the above that whereas the active phase of the implementation of the Geneva Agreement has been largely accomplished, some work still remains to be done before all the loose ends can be considered to have been fully secured. In addition, of course, there are the elections which are important from the point of view of political stability.

12. As already stated in paragraph 2 of this report, the Commission has had only one body to deal with since the end of October, namely the Royal Government. Here its work has been retarded by the slowness with which things get done in this country and the apparent inability of officials to take responsibility for decisions. The Prime Minister's prolonged illness was a further impediment to progress since he is one of the few men in the Kingdom who will take decisions. After many efforts the Commission finally arranged, on the 23rd December, a meeting with him and the Foreign Minister. It is hoped that this will be the first of a series. Considerable progress was made towards clearing up outstanding problems, in particular those concerning reintegration, the Government's October 1954 amnesty, and political propaganda before and during the election campaign.

13. As the New Year opens the Commission can report the satisfactory solution of the tasks connected with the cease-fire, the release of prisoners of war and civilian internees and the evacuation of Vietnamese Military Units. Some progress has been made towards the clearing up of remaining problems, although it must be admitted that during November and December the Commission experienced much frustration in this phase of its activities. Now that the Commissioners have established frank and friendly contact with the Government it is possible to look forward to a more fruitful period of work in 1955.

14. It is a pleasure to record at the conclusion of this report that the three national delegations have worked in close harmony in discharging their joint responsibilities.

10. In a series of informal meetings of the three Commissioners in late November, a survey of the work done on was made and future policy was discussed. A copy of the statement is attached as Appendix "D" to this report. This should be considered as a working paper.

11. (R. DUDER, Representative of CANADA)

11. (W. GROSZ, Representative of POLAND)

12. Certified True Copy.  
PHNOM PENH, (K.D. Bhasim Dy. Secretary-General International Secretariat, I.C. in Cambodia, Phnom Penh.)  
January 1, 1955

13. As the New Year opens the Commission can report the satisfactory solution of the tasks connected with the cease-fire, the release of prisoners of war and civilian internees and the evacuation of Vietnamese Military Units. Some progress has been made towards the clearing up of remaining problems, although it must be admitted that during November and December the Commission experienced much frustration in this phase of its activities. Now that the Commissioners have established frank and friendly contact with the Government it is possible to look forward to a more fruitful period of work in 1955.

His Excellency G. PARTHASARATHI

No. IC/2/1  
29th September 1954.

His Excellency the Minister for  
Foreign Affairs,  
Royal Government of Cambodia,  
PHNOM PENH.

Your Excellency,

I have your letter No. 699-DGPX. of 22nd September in which you ask the International Commission to make recommendations to the Joint Commission with particular reference to articles 5 and 6 of the Geneva Agreement.

After consultation with my colleagues, I should like in reply to make the following points:

(1) Article 5 is clear on one point only, namely that the Khmer Resistance Forces shall be demobilized on the spot within thirty days after the cease-fire order has been proclaimed. It does not follow from the wording of this Article that the two parties were intended to bring this about jointly. If that had in fact been the intention, more time would have been allowed for so difficult an operation involving places far apart. You will recall that for the cease-fire order an extra fortnight was allowed in Article 2.

(2) The Royal Khmer Government made no attempt to announce and put into force the "necessary measures" under Article 6 in the earlier stages of the return to peace. Joint responsibility for demobilization and the question of issuing identity cards were first brought up on August 24, two days after the expiry of the thirty-day period, by the Minister for National Defence. Any objections to the method of demobilization could and should have been done well within the period laid down in the Geneva Agreement.

(3) It would be, in our view, impossible to carry out a re-mobilization of the Khmer Resistance Forces merely in order to hand them demobilization cards. You should, therefore, accept the fact of the demobilization as a step which cannot now be retraced.

(4) The Declaration made by the Delegation of Cambodia at the Geneva Conference and enshrined in Article 6 is a solemn obligation undertaken by your Government. It involves reintegration without discrimination and without reprisals.

(5) The International Commission does, however, understand the desire of the Royal Government to ensure that the declaration is, in deed as well as in word, fully carried out. The International Commission, therefore recommends that the following measures should be taken:

(a) Proclamation by the Royal Government-- through all media of information--of a policy of broad reconciliation which would make clear that according to the letter and spirit of Article 6 and in terms of Paragraph 9 of the Final Declaration by the Nine Powers at Geneva nobody shall be discriminated against for having "collaborated in any way with one of the parties during the War." No investigation into the problem of who was or was not a member of the Khmer Resistance Forces should be undertaken.

(b) The Proclamation shall also state that after a certain date any citizen found in possession of illegal arms will be prosecuted by due process of law. This date is to be determined by the Government, but should not be prior to August 22.

The International Commission makes these recommendations with the profound conviction that they provide the best means of bringing about the national reconciliation which the Royal Government of Cambodia so ardently desires.

Please permit me, Your Excellency, to convey to you expressions of my highest esteem.

Sd/- G. PARTHASARATHI

CHAIRMAN.

Copy to:

- (1) Col. Lon Nol, President of the Delegation of the Commander-in-Chief of Khmer National Armed Forces.
- (2) Col. Ngyuen Thanh Son, President of the Delegation of the C-in-C of Khmer Resistance Forces and of the C-in-C of the Vietnamese Military Units.

Certified True Copy

(Sgd.) K.B. Dhasim

Dy. Secretary General,  
International Secretariat, I.C.S.C.  
in Cambodia, Phnom Penh.

Colonel Lon Nol said that since the last Liaison Meeting a private meeting had been held between the Presidents of the two Delegations. At this meeting a large measure of agreement had been reached on the main outstanding issues. The minutes of the 7th Meeting of the International Commission with the Joint Commission held at Banam at 0903 hrs on 19th October 1954.

(a) It was conceded by both the parties that on the whole the execution of "cease-fire" was effected within the time-limit set out in the Geneva Agreement. Mine-clearing operations had been carried out satisfactorily. It was agreed by both the Delegations that the High Command of the Vietnamese Military Units would inform the Khmer Royal Government and the International Commission of places where mines could not be removed yet due to persons who laid the mines not being available for removing them.

Present:

International Commission.

Mr. G. Parthasarathi, Chairman.

Mr. R.M. Macdonnell, Commissioner (Canada).

Monsieur W. Grosz, Commissioner (Poland).

Joint Commission.

Colonel Lon Nol, President of the Delegation

of the Commander in Chief of the Khmer

National Armed Forces.

Colonel Nguyen Thanh Son, President of the

Delegation of the Commanders in Chief

of the Khmer Resistance Forces and

Vietnamese Military Units.

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1. Consideration of the minutes of the 6th Liaison Meeting.

The minutes of the 6th Liaison Meeting were passed.

2. Business arising out of the minutes.

No points arising out of the minutes were raised.

3. Progress of the work of the Joint Commission.

The next item was then taken up. The Chairman said that he would like the Presidents of both the Delegations to apprise the International Commission of the progress of the work of the Joint Commission on the main outstanding issues since the 6th Liaison meeting held on 14th October, 1954.

Colonel Lon Nol said that since the last Liaison Meeting a private meeting had been arranged between the Presidents of the two Delegations. At this meeting a large measure of agreement had been reached on the outstanding issues, and he went to Phnom-Penh to consult the Cambodian Government on these points. Subsequently, a formal meeting of the Joint Commission was arranged with the following results:

- (a) It was conceded by both the parties that on the whole the execution of "cease-fire" was effected within the time-limit set out in the Geneva Agreement. Mine-clearing operations had been carried out satisfactorily. It was agreed by both the Delegations that the High Command of the Vietnamese Military Units would inform the Khmer Royal Government and the International Commission the location of places where mines could not be removed yet due to persons who laid the mines not being available for removing them.
- (b) With regard to the prisoners of war and civilian internees, a certain number of persons had been released from both sides and lists of prisoners who had already been released had been circulated. On the whole, both the Delegations were agreed that investigations about the prisoners of war not yet released should proceed further, after the dissolution of the Joint Commission, between the High Commands of the two Delegations, with the help of the International Commission.
- (c) Regarding the withdrawal of troops, Colonel Lon Nol said the International Commission were themselves aware of the progress made about the retreat of the Vietnamese soldiers.
- (d) Regarding demobilisation, the Cambodian Government had agreed not to press the point under dispute. The Khmer Resistance Forces, Colonel Lon Nol continued, was now nothing more than historical memory and from this time onwards, the Royal Government of Cambodia would only refer to them as Cambodian citizens.
- (e) Regarding arms and weapons in the possession of the Khmer Resistance Forces, Colonel Lon Nol said that Colonel Thanh Son had informed him that after demobilisation had been effected and the troops disarmed, the weapons had been destroyed. It was agreed that Colonel Thanh Son would indicate direct to the International Commission the places where the weapons had been collected and destroyed.
- As to armed persons still appearing before the Khmer National Armed Forces after demobilisation Colonel Lon Nol said that Colonel Thanh Son had informed him that the Khmer National High Command would be free to treat such persons as coming within the scope of the normal laws of the country.
- (f) As to the problem of reintegration of ex-prisoners of war and ex-civilian internees into the national community, Colonel Lon Nol informed the International Commission that a general amnesty had been announced by the Khmer Royal Government on the basis of the Geneva Agreement. Another order had

been issued by the Khmer Royal Government relating to the delivery of identity cards to the members of the former Khmer Resistance Forces to assist their enrolment in the electoral list during the next elections. Having regard to these measures, Colonel Lon Nol added, both the Delegations were agreed that the Khmer Royal Government had done all that was necessary to ensure the integration of the ex-prisoners of war and ex-civilian internees into the national community. Colonel Thanh Son had, however, proposed, said Colonel Lon Nol, that these identity cards should not contain any reference or indication about the surrender or submission of the persons concerned to the Royal Khmer Government to which Colonel Lon Nol said that his High Command had agreed. Another point raised by Colonel Thanh Son, said Colonel Lon Nol, was that the time-limit set for the issue of the identity cards which had already expired should be extended. Colonel Lon Nol said that the Khmer Government were quite prepared to reintegrate, in a spirit of conciliation, all persons who wanted to be so integrated into the national community. In the case of such persons who did not want to be so integrated, Colonel Lon Nol added, the problem was purely a domestic one for the Khmer Government.

(g) Colonel Lon Nol then continued that the other measures which had been mutually agreed upon at the last meeting of the Joint Commission were:

(i) Colonel Thanh Son had agreed that his Delegation would prepare a draft propaganda pamphlet for circulation in order to put a stop to isolated propaganda that was still being launched against the Khmer Government. If such a pamphlet were issued by the other side, Colonel Lon Nol said the Royal Khmer Government would, on their part, stop any counter-propaganda of their own.

(ii) The Joint Commission would hold, if possible, another meeting before the midnight of 20th October to agree on the text of the pamphlet to be drafted by Colonel Thanh Son.

(iii) The members of the Joint Commission would be happy to have lunch at Svay Rieng on 20th October at which the International Commission would be requested to preside.

4. The Chairman remarked that he had received a copy of letter No.1979/PCM/BM dated 16th October 1954 from the President of the Council of Ministers to His Excellency the Minister for Interior about the procedure to revise the electoral rolls. He wanted to be clear as to what would happen to those persons who had not yet appeared before the Cambodian authorities for identity cards.

Colonel Lon Nol replied that, as already stated by him, his Government would be prepared to extend the time-limit for the issue of the identity cards, which had already expired on 23rd August, with a view to integrating those persons who were willing to be

so reintegrated. If the International Commission would like to have a ceiling date for such reintegration, then he suggested that his Government would have to be approached.

In response to an enquiry from the Chairman as to whether the term K.I. appearing in the body of the letter quoted above represented Khmer Issarak, Colonel Lon Nol replied in the affirmative.

5. Colonel Thanh Son then said that he agreed with what had been said by Colonel Lon Nol regarding the results of the meeting of the Joint Commission after the last Liaison Meeting on 14th October 1954.

(a) With regard to mine-clearing operations, Colonel Thanh Son said that these operations had been carried out except at some places deep in the forests near Kampot where removal could not be effected because the persons who had laid these mines had either died or left the country. However, his Delegation had marked these places with suitable sign-posts and the Khmer Royal Government and the International Commission would be officially informed of the measures taken by his Delegation to remove these mines.

(b) Regarding the release of prisoners of war and civilian internees, Colonel Thanh Son said that the two parties were agreed that this problem had not been entirely solved. His Delegation had already released the prisoners of war taken at Kratie and Stung Treng. The provincial authorities, while recognising this fact, however alleged that these persons were prohibited by the Vietnamese Military Units from going back to their homes. So far as he knew, Colonel Thanh Son continued, they never prohibited these prisoners of war from going back to their homes and it appeared to him that they did not return for fear of being enlisted again in the Army. Since the Vietnamese Military Units had now left the country and the Khmer Resistance Forces were no longer in existence, Colonel Thanh Son said, it was absolutely impossible for them to prevent these persons from returning to their homes now. As to the Cambodian prisoners of war who belonged to the French Army, Colonel Thanh Son said that his High Command had already given orders for them to be set free. It was agreed, continued Colonel Thanh Son, by both the Delegations that the consideration of the problem of the released prisoners should continue and lists of prisoners who had not yet been liberated should be exchanged and processed between the two High Commands with the help of the International Commission.

(c) Regarding the arms and weapons of the demobilised forces, Colonel Thanh Son said that these had been destroyed. He added that he could indicate to the International Commission the places where they were collected and destroyed. But it would be quite easy for the Khmer Government, he continued, to locate the other places, as they were mentioned by his Delegation to the provincial authorities during discussions at the appropriate time.

(d) Regarding the amnesty declared by the Royal Khmer Government, Colonel Thanh Son remarked that although this was a step towards progress, it was only a partial measure since it applied only to some of the people involved. He was of the opinion that this matter should be considered by the International Commission. He, however, hoped that all the prisoners whose names were contained in the list of persons not yet free and furnished by him to Colonel Lon Nol would be released.

(e) Regarding identity cards mentioned in the Prime Minister's letter dated 16th October 1954 to the Minister of Interior, Colonel Thanh Son agreed that a very effective step had been taken towards reintegration. He however had requested Colonel Lon Nol to ensure that the identity cards should not contain any reference or indication about "surrender" in order to safeguard the dignity and honour of the members of the former Resistance Forces.

(f) As to the pamphlets to be drafted by his Delegation, Colonel Thanh Son continued, it would be an appeal not only to the Issarak but also to all those who made any hostile propaganda against the Khmer Royal Government. The aim of issuing such a pamphlet was to strengthen the spirit of reconciliation with a view to uniting the people of Cambodia and in securing peace. He concluded by saying that he associated himself with Colonel Lon Nol in the invitation extended to the International Commission to participate in the Lunch arranged by the Joint Commission on 20th October and preside over it.

6. The Chairman replied that the International Commission accepted their invitation with pleasure.

7. The Commissioner for Poland remarked that, after having listened to the Presidents of both the Delegations about the problems which still remained unsolved, the International Commission would be interested to know why the two parties had reached decisions with such "telegraphic" speed.

Colonel Thanh Son said that he had expressed the views of his Delegation at the last Liaison Meeting, namely, that the members of his Delegation were anxious to go back to their country and therefore would like the Joint Commission to terminate as early as possible. He added that he had obtained the permission of his High Command to prolong the life of the Joint Commission by a week or ten days, as suggested by the Chairman of the International Commission, but was given to understand that the Royal Khmer Government had decided not to extend the period but to terminate the Commission on the midnight of 20th October 1954. He continued that in a spirit of conciliation, his Delegation had agreed to the winding up of the Joint Commission with "telegraphic" speed, as described by the Ambassador for Poland.

Colonel Lon Nol said that his Delegation had received orders from the Royal Khmer Government that it was decided to terminate the activities of the Joint

Commission on 20th October at midnight which indeed represented the longest time-limit that had been provided for in the Geneva Agreement. He continued that if his Government had insisted on this stand, it was because they considered that most of the important tasks assigned to the Joint Commission, namely, withdrawal of foreign troops and demobilisation on the spot, had been completed. As to reintegration in the national community, the Khmer Government, Colonel Lon Nol continued, regarded the matter as a domestic problem, and having regard to the measures already taken or being taken by Government, this problem could be said to have been solved or being in the process of solution. Should however any new problem arise, Colonel Lon Nol said, his Government would be available to the International Commission for any information that might be required. As to the other less important questions, Colonel Lon Nol added that his Government did not consider it necessary that the Joint Commission should continue functioning any more. He particularly referred to the question of release of prisoners of war and said that he had submitted a list of 900 prisoners not yet liberated by the other side. The reply that his Delegation had so far received on this point was evasive, viz., that the prisoners had migrated to Vietnam or were afraid to go back to their home for fear of being enlisted again. If discussions continued in this way, Colonel Lon Nol said, they would be sitting for, say, another six months without coming to any conclusion.

8. The Commissioner for Poland enquired, without going into the merits of the decision of the Khmer Government, whether Colonel Lon Nol had reported to his Government that it was the unanimous view of the International Commission that the Joint Commission should be prolonged by a week or ten-days after the midnight of 20th October in order to settle the outstanding issues.

Colonel Lon Nol replied in the affirmative. He said that he had sent a message to the Chairman of the International Commission at Phnom Penh indicating the decision of his Government. He added that the Cambodian Government would be prepared to discuss with the International Commission any outstanding issues after the Joint Commission had ceased functioning.

(At this stage there was a recess for five minutes)

9. After the meeting had reassembled, the Chairman referred to Colonel Lon Nol's statement and said that the International Commission did not agree that October 20th had been fixed for the termination of the Joint Commission under the Geneva Agreement. He continued: "I must say that we were disappointed that the Government of Cambodia have turned down our suggestion for extending the life of the Joint Commission by a few days. Our idea in making the suggestion was to provide some time to both the parties to consider the outstanding questions at some leisure in order to reach mature decisions. However, we are happy to find that both the sides have achieved a great measure of agreement in the discussions they have had during the

last few days. From the speeches made by Colonel Lon Nol and Colonel Thanh Son, we can see that a great spirit of goodwill and cooperation has prevailed in the discussions. On behalf of the International Commission, I would like to congratulate both the parties on this achievement. As to the outstanding questions still remaining to be solved, particularly the question of democratic liberties, I would like to say that the International Commission is charged with the task of safeguarding these liberties and seeing that the obligations which the Cambodian Government have undertaken under Clause 6 of the Geneva Agreement are discharged. We welcome the measures taken by the Government of Cambodia during the last few days to implement Article 6 and we are confident that they will fulfil their obligations to our satisfaction. This is the end of our Liaison Meetings at Banam.

(Sgd.)

Secretary.

Phnom Penh,

22nd October 1954.

Certified True Copy.

(Sgd.) K.D. Bhasim

Dy. Secretary General

International Secretariat, I.C.S.C.

in Cambodia, Phnom Penh.

'O.P.'

All the combatants of the Vietnamese Military Units have been able to realise for themselves in the course of their withdrawal the great attention and assistance that the members and officers of the International Commission and the International Teams have given them.

The Vietnamese Military Units in Cambodia belonging to the popular army of Viet-Nam will never forget the gesture of the international officers who looked after their injured comrades at the centre of Takman, they particularly noticed as a moving sign of noble sentiments of peace and cordiality the gesture of the officer of the Indian Army who one night offered to carry the baggages of wounded Vietnamese soldier.

We offer to His Excellency PARTHASARATHI, Chairman of the International Commission, and to their Excellencies the Ambassadors of Canada and Poland, as well as to all the officers and personnel of all the

Extracts from a letter from Colonel NGUYEN THANH SON, President of the Delegation of the Commander-in-Chief of Khmer Resistance Forces and the Commander-in-Chief of the Vietnamese Military Units No. 177/HBK dated Svay Rieng, the 18th October, 1954.

To His Excellency PARTHASARATHI, President of the International Commission of Cambodia.

The work of the Joint Commission will finish on the 20th October 1954. The official mission of our delegation within the Joint Commission will also, therefore, terminate.

On this occasion, we would like first of all on behalf of the Delegation and ourselves to offer our sincere and respectful thanks to the International Commission and in particular to His Excellency the Ambassador for India, Chairman of the Commission, as well as to the members of all the organs of the Commission for the aid which we have always received, and for the far sighted recommendations that we have always obtained on delicate questions. According to reports from our representatives on the various Joint Groups established in the provinces of Cambodia, the high consciousness of the mission of peace control and impartiality of all the members of the International Organisations have facilitated the implementation of the agreement on the cessation of hostilities and helped in consolidating the atmosphere of good understanding and cordiality between the two parties.

All the combatants of the Vietnamese Military Units have been able to realise for themselves in the course of their withdrawal the great attention and assistance that the members and officers of the International Commission and the International Teams have given them.

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We offer to His Excellency PARTHASARATHI, Chairman of the International Commission, and to their Excellencies the Ambassadors of Canada and Poland, as well as to all the officers and personnel of all the

organs of the International Commission our respectful wishes for their good health, and we beg to express to them the complete and respectful confidence we have in the mission of peace they are carrying out in Cambodia.

(Sgd.) COLONEL NGUYEN THANH SON.

Certified True Copy.

(Sgd.) K.D. Bhasim

Dy. Secretary General,  
International Secretariat, I.C.A.C.  
in Cambodia, Phnom Penh.

1. All three Members of the International Commission consider Articles 1 to 5 inclusive as carried out on October 19). They consider also as carried out Article 8. Civilian internees having been completed by both sides should in their opinion be settled by direct contacts between the Government of the Republic of Viet Nam and the International Commission.

2. The Government of Cambodia has not yet fully carried out Article 6 which provides for a reintegr- tion of the former K.R.F. and guarantees all citizens of Cambodia the enjoyment, without any discrimination whatsoever, of all rights and freedoms for which the Constitution provides. While we have reports from certain centres that some former K.R.F. have offered themselves for reintegration into the National Community, we have not as yet a sufficiently com- prehensive report on this process to enable us to conclude that the process has been satisfactorily completed. We are also disturbed by reports coming from various centres that some former K.R.F. has been arrested or detained.

3. In these circumstances it is the carrying out by the Royal Government of Article 6 that must be the present concern of the International Commission. This task is considered by the International Commission as not only important but also extremely urgent.

4. The next step for the International Commission should be a clear and unambiguous formulation and presentation to the representatives of the Govern- ment of the International Commission's position. An effort should be made to persuade and convince the Government that cooperation with the International Commission in these common tasks will not only enable us to discharge successfully our responsibilities but also contribute to a lasting political settlement in Cambodia.

5. In discussions with the Government, special stress must be laid on the fact that the International Commission cannot remain indifferent to the parliament- elections in Cambodia. In terms of Article 6 of the Agreement, the Declaration of the Royal Government at Geneva on the subject of elections and point 3 of the Nine Powers Declaration, the International Commission has a measure of responsibility. It has to keep a watchful eye on the implementation by the Cambodian Government of its declaration that all citizens participate in the coming elections in conditions of respect for democratic freedoms as guaranteed by the Constitution of Cambodia. The International Commission does not contemplate supervising the elections which

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION  
AND CONTROL IN CAMBODIA

1. All three Members of the International Commission consider Articles 1 to 5 inclusive as carried out (ref. to minutes of the last liaison meeting at Banam, on October 19). They consider also as carried out Article 8, the scheduled release of P.O.W.'s and Civilian internees having been completed by both sides. Residual claims should in their opinion be settled by direct contacts between the Government of Cambodia and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam with the help of the International Commission.
2. The Government of Cambodia has not yet fully carried out Article 6 which provides for a reintegration of the former K.R.F. and guarantees all citizens of Cambodia the enjoyment, without any discrimination whatsoever, of all rights and freedoms for which the Constitution provides. While we have reports from certain centres that some former K.R.F. have offered themselves for reintegration into the National Community, we have not as yet a sufficiently comprehensive report on this process to enable us to conclude that the process has been satisfactorily completed. We are also disturbed by reports coming from various centres that some former K.R.F. has been arrested or detained.
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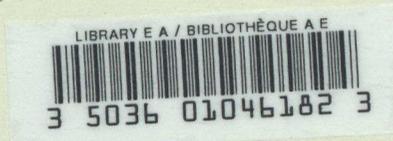
it agrees, are to be held according to the laws and regulations of the country. Its sole concern is to assist the Government in fulfilling the obligations which it undertook at Geneva.

Certified True Copy.

(Sgd.) K.D. Bhasim

Dy. Secretary General,  
International Secretariat, I.C.S.C.  
in Cambodia, Phnom Penh.

Phnom Penh,  
27th November, 1954.



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which it undertook at Geneva.

Certified True Copy.

(Sgd.) K.D. Bhasim

Dy. Secretary General,  
International Secretariat, I.C.S.C.  
in Cambodia, Phnom Penh.

Phnom Penh,  
13th November, 1954.