

Canadian Foreign Intelligence History Project

DND DHH Finding Aid 2005/24 - ICSC Vietnam and Laos Fonds

**International Commission for Supervision and Control in
Vietnam and International Commission for Supervision and
Control in Laos fonds
(2005/24)**

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**International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam and
International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos fonds
. – 55 cm of textual records (3 boxes) -- 1953-1955.**

Scope and Content

Fonds consists of 4 volumes on intelligence, the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos and the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam during 1954-1955. Documents for the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos include statements, draft resolutions, progress reports, correspondence and various other documents covering such topics as opening speeches, incidents, political negotiations and agreements, conventions, disputes, elections, proceedings and investigation, plans of action, minutes of meetings, reports on attacks and missions, policies and administrative forms. Documents for the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam include press correspondence, war agreements and various other documents covering such topics as political meetings, political development, petitions and complaints, transfer of locations, foreign accomplishments, demonstrations, infiltration and subversion, interzonal consultation, socio-demographic information and statistics, cases, refugee status, referendums, security positions, and prison components.

Administrative History

The International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos (ICSC), in which Canada was invited to participate, were set up for the sole purpose of supervising the implementation of the Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities in Vietnam concluded at the Geneva Conference on Indochina on 20 July 1954. The functions of the Commission are set forth in Chapter VI of the agreement. Briefly they include:

1. Movement of armed forces as provided for in the regroupment plan;
2. The demarcation lines between the regrouping areas and the demilitarized zone;
3. The release of prisoners and civilian internees; and
4. Introduction into the country of military personnel and of all kinds of arms, munitions and war materials.

It is clear from the agreements that the ICSC's functions are supervisory, judicial and mediatory. It made the recommendations to the parties of the agreement, but had no power itself to enforce these recommendations.

The International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam and the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos were established in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The Canadian representative for Vietnam, Mr. R.M. Macdonnell, commenced to function at Hanoi on 11 August 1954. He was replaced by Mr. Sherwood Lett on 1 November 2012. The Canadian representative for Laos in 1954 was Mr. Leon Mayrand.

Classification

Classified files are stored in Box 3. Boxes 1-2 are unclassified.

File List

Box	File	Subject and Contents	Dates
1. International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos			
1	1.1	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission Laos. Volume 1. Part 1 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement on Nong Khang; • The Polish Statement concerning SEATO; • Draft Resolution concerning presence of LNA forces in the two northern provinces of Laos; • Chinese National remnants in North Laos; • Resolution concerning the Houei Thao Incident; • Progress Reports; • Letters; • Statements from Prince Souphanouvong; etc. 	March 1955-April 1955
1	1.2	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission Laos. Volume 1. Part 2 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Speech at Plaine-des-Jarres; • First Interim Report of the Activities of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos; • United States Financial Assistance to Laos; • Abolition of Sub-Commissions and Joint Groups; • Prospects for a Political Settlement; • Instructions to Teams; • Political Aspects in Laos; etc. 	Sept 1954-March 1955
1	2.1	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission Laos. Volume 2. Part 1 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel of the International Commission in Laos; • Despatches; • Telegrams; • Pathet Lao accusations against Royal Government; • Muong Peun incident; • Weekly Progress Reports and political negotiations; • Sen's visit to Hanoi and Sam Neua; • Sen's meeting with Prince Souvannavong; Communist propaganda in Laos; • Graves Convention; Nong Khang resolution; etc. 	July 1955-Aug 1955
1	2.2	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission Laos. Volume 2. Part 2 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boundary disputes; • Lao Press Articles on implementation of Geneva Agreements; • Elections in Laos; 	April 1955-July 1955

Box	File	Subject and Contents	Dates
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of Royal Administration; • Weekly Progress Reports; • Convention on Graves of Military Personnel and Prisoners of War; • Bandung Joint Declaration; • Negotiation for political settlement; etc. 	
1	3.1	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission Laos. Volume 3. Part 1 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Cease fire Resolution; • Summary list of RLG complaints received by the ICSC in Laos; • Copy of proceedings and investigations; • Minutes of the 114th meeting of the ICSC in Laos; • Laotian Election and Geneva Agreement; • Weekly progress reports; • Commission Action; etc. 	Jan 1955- Feb 1956
1	3.2	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission Laos. Volume 3. Part 2 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathet Lao Official “Choosing Freedom”; • Sen’s proposed plan of action; • Graves Convention; • Weekly progress reports; • Katay-Souphanouvong Talks; • Reintegration of Pathet Lao forces; • Plan for political settlement; • Report on the Malitao and Outay investigation; etc. 	Oct. 1955
3	1-3	[9380-34-181-1 Vol. 4] Intelligence – Political – International Supervisory Commission Laos – Includes telegrams, despatches, reports summary lists and other documents. [Protected “B”] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report – Investigation at Boun Neua • Minutes of the 155th Meeting... • Report – Investigation report on Ban Na Keng 	Dec 1955 – Feb 1956
1	4.1	Political Intelligence Vietnam. Part 1 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franco-Vietnamese Relations; • Mau’s visit to London; • Affair of the two French Officers arrested and help by the South Vietnamese authorities; • Withdrawal of French Expeditionary Corps; • Franco-Vietnamese military negotiations; etc. 	July 1955-Aug 1955
1	4.2	Political Intelligence Vietnam. Part 2 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vietnam – Attack on Commission Headquarters in Saigon; • Franco-Vietnamese discussions; 	Oct 1954- July 1955

Box	File	Subject and Contents	Dates
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vietnam elections; • Vietnam- Freedom of movement; • Situation in South Vietnam; • The Sainteny Mission; • Vietnam- General Collin' Report; United States Policy in Vietnam; etc. 	
1	5	Intelligence Reports. Appreciations by J.I.B. on N.A.T.O. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NATO defence expenditure; • Transit and receipt forms. 	1953-1954
2. International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam			
2	1.1	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission Vietnam. Volume 1. Part 1 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of Press Correspondence in Hanoi; • Exchange of Prisoners of War (Article 21 of the Geneva Agreement); • Weekly Progress Reports; • President Ho Chi Minh's Reception in Honour of the Soviet Ambassador; • Freedom of Movement; • Handling of Escaped Prisoner; etc. 	Nov 1954- Dec 1954
2	1.2	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission Vietnam. Volume 1. Part 2 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political Developments in North Vietnam; • Reports on Fixed Team Locations; • Status of Press Correspondents; • Petitions and Complaints; • Personal Freedom; Instructions for Fixed and Mobile Teams; • Transfer of Hanoi Perimeter; etc. 	Sept 1954- Nov 1954
2	2.1	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission. Vietnam. Volume 3. Part 1 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air support of the commission after; • Freedom of Movement; • Transfer of City of Haiphong; • Weekly Reports; • Political situation in South Vietnam; • Situation in Saigon; etc. 	April 1955-May 1955
2	2.2	Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission. Vietnam. Volume 3. Part 2 of 2. Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom of movement reports of mobile teams; • Weekly Progress reports; • Political Situation in South Vietnam; 	Feb 1955- April 1955

Box	File	Subject and Contents	Dates
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Traders in North Vietnam; • Prisoners of War, Deserters, etc.; • Press of Democratic Republic; • Freedom of Movement; • Control over Introduction of War Material; etc. 	
2	3.1	<p>Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission. Vietnam. Volume 4. Part 1 of 2.</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom of Movement; • Chinese Railways; • Saigon demonstrations; • Commission's visit to Saigon; • Parliamentary reply on Saigon riots; • Elections Vietnam; • Prisoners of War; • Infiltration and Subversion – Alleged Activities of DRVN Agents during the Haiphong Transfer; • DR Relations with Communist China; • Elections in Vietnam; etc. 	Jun 1955-Aug 1955
2	3.2	<p>Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission. Vietnam. Volume 4. Part 2 of 2.</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interzonal consultation; • Progress on procedure re prisoners of war; • Freedom of Movement; • Elections in Vietnam; • Activities of “Revolutionary Committee” in South Vietnam; • Aircraft Operations for the International Commission in Indochina; • “Starvation” in North Vietnam; • Case of Father Phung Viet My; • Infiltration and Subversion in South Vietnam; • The partisans of Pkha; • Evacuation of Refugees by the Polish Ship S.S. Kilinski; etc. 	April 1955-June 1955
2	4.1	<p>Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission. Vietnam. Volume 5. Part 1 of 2.</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifth National Assembly of DR.; • French Views on Eve of Referendum in Saigon; • Reaction of North Vietnam to Political Stalemate; • South Vietnam Referendum and Recognition of Diem; • Freedom's Committee Report on Freedom of Movement; • Demilitarized zone; • Visit by Commissioners to Foreign Minister Mr. Vu Van Mau; 	Sept 1955- Oct 1955

Box	File	Subject and Contents	Dates
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly telegraphic reports; etc. 	
2	4.2	<p>Intelligence Political International Supervisory Commission. Vietnam. Volume 5. Part 2 of 2.</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-electoral Commission on Democratic Freedom; • Vietnamese Prisoners-of-war Detained by the Viet Minh; • Draft of Fourth Interim Report; • Freedom of Movement; • Infiltration and Subversion; • Security Positions in South Vietnam; • Weekly telegraphic reports; • Civilian Internees at Chi Hoa and Poulo Condore Prisons; • Evidence of DRVN Activities against Free Movement of Catholics to South Viet Nam; • Commission's Visit to Saigon-Commission's Position in South Vietnam; etc. 	Aug 1955-Sept 1955