

An Appeal for the Geneva Accords

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Jakarta

The Asian Foreign Ministers Conference on Cambodia called yesterday for a reactivation of international peace-keeping machinery in Cambodia and for the early convening of a new international conference to resolve the conflict in Indochina.

Ending their two-day meeting yesterday afternoon, the 11 participating nations appealed to the participants of the 1954 Geneva Conference to cooperate in ending the Cambodian conflict.

They also decided to place their recommendations on record with the United Nations and asked the U.N. for help in assembling a broadly based international conference on Indochina.

Represented at the confer-

ence are Japan, Indonesia, South Vietnam, South Korea, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, Australia and New Zealand. A Cambodian representative is there, but not as a participant.

START

The conference appointed the foreign ministers of Japan, Malaysia and Indonesia as a "task force" to start immediate consultations with the Soviet Union and Britain, the co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference.

The Geneva co-chairmen will be asked to reactivate the three-nation international control commission on Cambodia, established by the 1954 conference but recently inactive, and to start working for the new international conference. The commission members are India, Canada and Poland.

The three-nation task force also will seek discussions with U.N. Secretary-General U Thant to generate U.N. action to help restore peace in Indochina.

Indonesia's foreign minister, Adam Malik, the chairman of the conference, conceded at a news conference that the Soviet Union has rebuffed all attempts to reactivate the International Control Commission.

INTEREST

But he added that the appeal of this conference may "make the Soviet Union show more interest."

The conference authorized Malik to continue consulta-

See Back Page

Asians Ask for Geneva Accords

Prom Page 1

tions with participants in the conference and other interested countries such as India on "further possible steps toward a peaceful solution in Cambodia."

However, Malik emphasized that this conference was not being "institutionalized."

Several of the participants, notably the Japanese, had balked at being involved in any permanent new international body concerned with Indochina. Others, including Thailand, said that the conference would be worthless as a "one shot deal."

The authorization of Malik to continue consultations represented a compromise between the two views.

As one delegate noted, "This was a very dovish conference. Everything the hawks suggested was shot down."

Despite the fact that most of the participants belong to the anti-Communist camp, there was no condemnation or even reproof of the North

Vietnamese and Viet Cong for "aggression" in Cambodia.

Nor did the final communique mention the sending of an observer team to Cambodia by the conference, a suggestion put forward by several of the participants.

A member of the South Vietnamese delegation, disgruntled by the failure of the conference to take more concrete steps to help Cambodia, insisted that even the diplomatic initiatives proposed by the conference were worthless.

Other delegations, especially the Japanese, took the view that any more concrete measures to help Cambodia would compromise long-range efforts to reach a negotiated settlement — not only of the Cambodian war but of the entire Indochina conflict.

Moreover, Indonesia, Japan and others attempted to give the conference an appearance of impartiality and objectivity despite the fact that most of them actually had forces fighting the Communists in Indochina.