

## 4-Nation Truce Unit Is Strained by Halt

By JAMES MARKHAM

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SAIGON, South Vietnam, May 21 — With political talks between the Saigon Government and the Vietcong halted, the four-nation International Commission of Control and Supervision is beginning to show signs of severe strain.

Indonesia, professing exasperation at the continuing military activities, has threatened to pull out of the peace-keeping commission, which was set up under the Vietnam cease-fire accord in Paris on Jan. 28, 1973. Yesterday Iran, angered by an attack from Hanoi accusing her of partisanship, said

she will reconsider her membership.

The two Communist members, Hungary and Poland, have protested against attacks by the Saigon Government spokesman, who recently invited them to take "the next plane to Budapest or Warsaw."

The commission itself is deep in debt, kept afloat by infusions of dollars from the United States, which some members believe has an interest in maintaining at least the appearance of peace in South Vietnam.

But an atmosphere of disillusion prevails.

"Everything is falling apart," said a western diplomat. "I

don't even know how they fill their time. The Paris agreement has become completely illusory, it has disappeared in people's hands."

While the commission has never been an effective peace-keeping body—Canada pulled out in disgust a year ago—it has been something of a deterrent to large-scale fighting, in the eyes of some diplomats.

It has also been more than the ideologically stalemated body that some observers had expected. This has been in large part because of the energy and relative dispassion of the Iranian delegation, which replaced the Canadians.

## of Saigon-Vietcong Talks

The Iranian ambassador, Assad Khan Sadry, has put heavy pressure on the Saigon side on such sensitive issues as the exchange of prisoners and the diplomatic privileges of the Vietcong delegation.

### Commission's Finest Hour

Some observers credit Mr. Sadry with ending the stalemate over the exchange of prisoners who had been listed as captured before the cease-fire.

The exchange of military and civilian personnel was finally completed March 8 and, in many ways, was the commission's finest hour.

There was further hope that the commission might continue to move forward after both Saigon and the Vietcong requested it to investigate the shelling of a school in Cai Lay on March 9, in which at least 23 children died.

The unanimous request for an investigation was unusual, as was the investigation by the commission, which operates on the principle of unanimity. However, on March 30, a crowd stoned commission cars at Cai Lay, bringing the inquiry to a temporary halt.

Then other events intervened. On April 16, the Saigon Government broke off the political talks at La-Celle-St.-Cloud, outside Paris, and began re-

stricting the Vietcong delegation here.

On May 10, the Vietcong suspended their participation in the two-party military commission in Saigon, then also walked out of La-Celle-St.-Cloud.

The continued shredding of the Paris agreements—on the battlefield and at the conference table—has prompted all four commission members to re-examine their roles. Janos Lorincz of Hungary has returned home for consultations. Ryszard Fijalkowski of Poland will leave for Warsaw on Thursday.

"The Indonesian delegation does not want to be associated with any failure of the commission," said Ambassador Hartono Rekso Pharsono in an interview.

## The Proceedings In the U.N. Today

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Conference on International Sale of Goods—10 A.M. and 3 P.M.

Tickets may be obtained at the public desk, main lobby, United Nations Headquarters. Tours: 9 A.M. to 4:45 P.M.