

# FINAL DECLARATION ON INDOCHINA

(July 21, 1954)

2. The Conference expresses satisfaction at the **ending of hostilities** in Cambodia, Laos and Viet-Nam . . . .

4. The Conference takes note of the clauses in the Agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Viet-nam prohibiting the introduction into Vietnam of **foreign troops and military personnel as well as all kinds of arms and munitions**. . . .

5. The Conference takes note of the clauses in the Agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Viet-nam to the effect that **no military base under the control of a foreign State** may be established in the regrouping zones of the two parties, the latter having the obligation to see that the **zones** allotted to them shall not constitute part of any military alliance and shall not be utilized for the resumption of hostilities or in the service of an aggressive policy. . . .

6. The Conference recognizes that the essential purpose of the Agreement relating to Viet-nam is to **settle military questions** with a view to ending hostilities and that the **military demarcation line is provisional and should not in any way be interpreted as constituting a political or territorial boundary**. The Conference expresses its conviction that the execution of the provisions set out in the Declaration and in the Agreement on the cessation of hostilities creates the necessary basis for the achievement in the near future of a political settlement in Viet-nam.

7. The Conference declares that, so far as Viet-nam is concerned, the settlement of **political problems**, effected on the basis of respect for principles of independence, unity and territorial integrity, shall permit the Vietnamese people to enjoy the fundamental freedoms, guaranteed by democratic institutions established as a result of free general elections by

secret ballot. In order to ensure that sufficient progress in the restoration of peace has been made and that all the necessary conditions obtain for free expression of the national will, general elections shall be held in July 1956, under the supervision of an international commission . . . .

8. [E]veryone in Viet-nam [must] . . . decide freely in which **zone** he wishes to live.

10. The Conference takes note of the declaration of the Government of the French Republic to the effect that it is ready to **withdraw its troops** from . . . Viet-nam . . . within periods which shall be fixed by agreement between the parties except in the cases where . . . a certain number of French troops shall remain at specified points and for a specified time.