

Laos 1959-1961 - correspondence, official documents, press clippings, chrono...

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Laos - 1959

19-21 Aug.

Messages from UPI

MUPI-71

(LAOS)

THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN WERE REPORTED TODAY TO BE URGING A QUICK UNITED NATIONS CHECK ON THE SITUATION IN LAOS, COMMUNIST-INFILTRATED KINGDOM IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS BELIEVED SOME SORT OF "INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATION" IS URGENTLY NEEDED TO SPOTLIGHT AND REPORT ON RED GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES IN THE TINY COUNTRY'S NORTHEASTERN PROVINCES.

OTHER SOURCES SAID THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN ARE URGING U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL DAG HAMMARSKJOLD TO SEND A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO LAOS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. HAMMARSKJOLD APPEARS AGREEABLE, THEY ADDED.

THE U.S. VIEW, ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS HERE, IS THAT SOME SORT OF INDEPENDENT CHECK, AGREEABLE TO THE LAOTIAN GOVERNMENT, SHOULD BE MADE.

THE UNITED STATES FULLY SUPPORTS LAOS' REJECTION OF COMMUNIST DEMANDS FOR REACTIVATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL COMMISSION, OFFICIALS SAID. THE COMMISSION, COMPOSED OF CANADIAN, INDIAN AND POLISH REPRESENTATIVES, WAS SET UP AFTER THE 1954 GENEVA CONFERENCE TO OVERSEE THE INDO-CHINA SETTLEMENT.

THE COMMUNIST SUGGESTION IS CONSIDERED OUT OF ORDER HERE BECAUSE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LAOS AS A NEUTRAL STATE WAS COMPLETED LONG AGO AND THE PRESENT TROUBLE STEMS ENTIRELY FROM RED EFFORTS, DIRECTED FROM COMMUNIST CHINA, TO HARASS AND OVERTHROW AN INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENT.

8/19--GE1152A

UPI-90

(LAOS)

UNITED NATIONS--THE GOVERNMENT OF LAOS TODAY ASKED U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL HAMMARSKJOLD TO STUDY THE SITUATION IN LAOS AND SUGGEST A SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT THERE.

THE REQUEST WAS IN A LETTER DELIVERED TO HAMMARSKJOLD BY NGON SANANIKONE, SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE LAOTIAN GOVERNMENT.

NGON DECLINED TO REVEAL DETAILS OF THE LETTER. HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WAS MAKING NO PROPOSALS, BUT WAS ASKING THE U.N. TO EXPLORE THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN KINGDOM.

"WE ARE PLACING ALL OUR HOPES IN MR. HAMMARSKJOLD," NGON SAID, SPEAKING IN FRENCH. NGON, WHO ARRIVED HERE YESTERDAY AS THE SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE GOVERNMENT HEADED BY HIS BROTHER, PREMIER PHOU SENANIKONE, SAID HIS MISSION WOULD BE LIMITED TO HIS MEETINGS WITH HAMMARSKJOLD.

HE SAID A SECOND MEETING HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW.

ASKED IF HE HAD DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF SENDING ONE OR MORE U.N. OBSERVERS TO LAOS, NGON SAID THAT IN THEIR MEETING THE TWO MEN HAD NOT YET HAD TIME FOR A "TOUR OF THE HORIZON."

NGON SAID HE HAD NO PLANS TO MEET OTHER DELEGATIONS TO THE U.N. HE SAID SPECIFICALLY HE WOULD NOT MEET THE UNITED STATES OR THE BRITISH DELEGATION, AND ALSO SAID HE HAD NO INTENTION OF GOING TO WASHINGTON.

8/20--GE108P

UPI-23

(LAOS)

TOKYO--COMMUNIST CHINA WARNED TODAY THAT ANY UNITED NATIONS "INTERFERENCE" IN THE INDOCHINESE KINGDOM OF LAOS WOULD LEAD TO "SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES" AND THREATEN THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE FORMER FRENCH PROTECTORATE.

THE WARNING CARRIED SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS BECAUSE OF OFFICIAL LAOTIAN ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT COMMUNIST-LED REBELS WERE HEAVILY INFILTRATING INTO SIX NORTHERN PROVINCES OF THE COUNTRY AND THREATENING THE CAPTURE OF TWO OF THEM.

LAOS WARNED THAT A GENERAL COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE WOULD COME AT ANY TIME WITH THE DRIVE CONCENTRATED AGAINST SAM NEUA AND PHONGSALY PROVINCES IN THE NORTH. THESE PROVINCES WERE COMMUNIST-CONTROLLED UNTIL TWO YEARS AGO.

THE PEIPING BROADCAST FOLLOWED A VISIT TO U. N. SECRETARY GENERAL DAG HAMMARSKJOLD BY NGON SANANIKONE, BROTHER OF LAOTIAN PREMIER PHOUI SANANIKONE, TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF SOME U. N. ACTION IN THE TROUBLED COUNTRY.

INFORMED SOURCES AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK AND LAOS WAS NOT SEEKING ACTUAL INTERVENTION BUT WAS ASKING HAMMARSKJOLD TO SEEK SOME MEANS OF SETTLING THE DISPUTE BETWEEN LAOS AND NEIGHBORING NORTH VIET NAM, THE COMMUNIST NATION REPORTED SENDING TROOPS INTO LAOS.

THE PEIPING BROADCAST WAS MADE IN THE FORM OF A "COMMENTARY" IN THE OFFICIAL PEIPING PEOPLE'S DAILY.

IT SAID THE UNITED STATES WAS WORKING BEHIND THE "SCENES FOR" A PLAN FOR "ILLEGAL UNITED NATIONS INTERFERENCE" IN AN ATTEMPT TO TEAR UP THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS OF 1954 ENDING THE FRENCH-COMMUNIST FIGHTING IN INDOCHINA.

8/21--PA 926A