

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

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Dag Hammarskjöld's sent.

Laos - 1959

15 Oct.

Lodge, Henry Cabot (U.S. Mission to the U.N.)

- 1 letter from D.H.
- 1 encl. (1 letter from D.H. to Ch. A. Herter)

15 October 1959

Dear Cabot,

.... Enclosed please find a letter to Chris Herter with  
additional information on my consultations. As usual, I  
.... include a copy for you.

Dag Hammarskjöld

H.E. Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge,  
Permanent Representative to the United Nations,  
United States Mission to the United Nations,  
2 Park Avenue,  
New York, N.Y.

15 October 1959

Dear Chris,

As an addendum to my letter of 10 October, I wish to tell you that I have now run over the ground re Laos with the Foreign Minister of Malaya. I gave him a full account of my views as regards the situation there as well as regarding our strategy and tactics, affording him his chance to think matters over. Agreeing with my analysis, however, he said that he could promise me the full support of his Government right away. This would include my right to state that the measures I would like to see implemented are being taken "in consultation with all the governments of the region".

With surprise and some concern, I note today's news that Prime Minister Phoui Sananikone is leaving for New York on Saturday, supposedly accompanied by the Foreign Minister and Minister of Defence. This move, which in no way rhymes with the impression given me by Khampan Panya at the time of his departure, not many days ago, follows the much publicized story about General Peng which, in view of what we know about the findings of the Committee, has a strong appearance of being planted by somebody. Unavoidably, this puts some questions in my mind which I hope are unwarranted.

In this context, I note the coincidence of these developments with renewed attacks on the French and with a press statement of Sisouk today here in New York which, in an extreme way, anticipates the possible findings of the Committee; I think in particular of this sentence which you may have observed already yourself:

"By means of already tested schemes of communist aggression, the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam has brutally unmasked its face by launching its fighting forces against the provinces of Laos..."

I am looking forward to my meeting with Cabot. We have agreed that he will come to see me on Monday morning. It is most helpful that before then I shall have had an opportunity to get the first-hand story from our people in Vientiane.

Dag Hammarskjöld

The Honorable Christian A. Herter,  
Secretary of State,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D.C.