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Laos - 1959

6 Nov.

Statement of the U.N.'s spokesman
(Note to correspondents)

Note No. 2072
6 November 1959

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

In response to questions, a United Nations spokesman made the following statement today:

Mr. Hammarskjold has not yet decided on what course of action in relation to Laos would be most useful for him, as Secretary-General, to undertake at the present time.

The possibility of a visit to Laos, as one course of action, has been under consideration by him, in consultations with the Government of Laos, for several weeks.

Such a visit, if it were to be made, would not have any connection with the report of the Security Council Subcommittee, as suggested in one story this morning. It would represent an independent step and not be undertaken at the request of any other parties, as suggested in the same story.

Mr. Hammarskjold would make the visit in his capacity and within his responsibilities as Secretary-General at the invitation of the Government of Laos. In this connection it may be recalled that the Secretary-General and the Laotian Government had been in communication on the latter's problems quite independently of the Security Council for a considerable time before the Government of Laos raised the matter on 4 September in the form of a request for an emergency force.

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