

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

*HS L 179:86*



National Library  
of Sweden

Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

Laos - 1959

6 Nov.

Statement by the Argentine Delegation  
on the Report of the Subcommittee on Laos

STATEMENT BY THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION ON THE REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LAOS

The Brig. Gen. Heriberto Ahrens signed yesterday, together with the other members of the Subcommittee on Laos, set up by the Security Council by the resolution of 7 September 1959, the report on the task accomplished which is left now in the hands of the Security Council for its consideration.

As it will be recalled, on 5 September last, the Government of Laos accused, before the United Nations, North Vietnam of a series of acts of armed aggression through its frontiers. As a consequence of that accusation, the Security Council resolved on 7 September to constitute a subcommittee composed of the representatives of Argentina, Italy, Japan and Tunisia. This subcommittee, created in virtue of Article 29 (procedure) of the UN Charter, should not investigate the fact but should limit itself to collecting the information which would be given to it by the interested parties and would in this way put at the disposal of the Security Council the necessary elements for judgment. The Security Council would weigh these elements of judgment and resolve accordingly.

After more than one month at work in Laos, plus about two weeks of complementary tasks at UN headquarters in New York, the subcommittee has completed a report which was presented to the Chairman of the Security Council on 4 November. This report is based on the documents put at the disposal of the subcommittee by the Government of Laos, on statements of witnesses presented to the subcommittee by the same Government and also on the examination of material, equipment and other effects exhibited in visits made to the affected frontier zone. It is of interest to point out that the opposite party did not offer nor supply to the subcommittee any information or documentation, whatsoever.

The most reveland facts pointed out by the report are these:

(1) From the 16th of July 1959 hostile forces had begun to attack Laotian military garrisons. These acts increased progressively reaching its maximum intensity between the 30th of August and the 15th of September in the frontier region north-west of the country and diminishing after that date considerably. All these actions have had character of guerrillas (or isolated armed groups) although in many cases coordinated in time and space, and from all the documents, declarations and elements of proof presented to this subcommittee it would result that the attacking forces had received support from the RDVN territory consisting mainly in equipment, arms, ammunition, food, instruction of units, etc.

(2) The hostile forces had their origin in old Laotian units (called Pathet Lao) which fought against France in the Indochina war; of which some deserted and revolted afterwards against the government of Laos.

The Laotian authority point out, however, that especially in the attacks from the 30th of August to the 15th of September, units of the RDVN Regular Army participated. The witnesses ratified that in many cases they checked the participation of armed forces of Vietnamese origin but without being able to identify their belonging to the RDVN Regular Army. The bulk of all information supplied does not determine finally with clarity the crossing of the frontier by RDVN regular troops.

6 Nov, 59