

Laos 1959-1961 -  
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*HS L 179:87*



Dag Hammarskiöld's saml.

Laos - 1959

12 Dec.

Sahlén, Stig (1899 - ), Ambassador, Swedish  
Embassy, Copenhagen

- 1 letter from D.H.

Alexander Stig Sahlén,  
Swedish Embassy,  
Copenhagen, Denmark.

12 December 1959

Dear Stig,

May I revert to the question of Laos. In the light of your first reaction and in spite of the fact that I did not ask for any reply until we meet, I have tended to look at your silence as indicating that you regard the matter with continued hesitation. Without in any way committing myself, and as I shall be away from the end of next week until the end of January, while the Laos operation should start full swing in February, I have, therefore, considered it necessary to explore possible alternatives. I wish to inform you about this as you should have a full picture of the situation.

The alternatives which I am exploring are two: one is a good Swiss - ex-minister to Belgrade - who has promised to take a short-term assignment with us but who, in the first place, should be going to Guinea, which presents a parallel problem for which he is especially well equipped through a previous solid African experience. The other one is Nykopp, who, if he were to reflect on the matter at all, might see me in Stockholm when I come there.

This, of course, should not influence your decision in any direction; you should not look at my wish to get you for this task as any less urgent because of the fact that I may save the situation with a Swiss candidate if you do not accept, and that I have felt that I had to explore Nykopp's reaction in order not to be stranded were you to find it difficult to go ahead.

Anyway, this is just for your information, and I hope that we may have two words about it at Kastrup on the 19th.

Ambassador Stig Sahlin,  
Swedish Embassy,  
Copenhagen, Denmark.