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COUNTRY LAOS
DATE OF INFO 1 FEBRUARY 1965
SITREP AS OF 2100 HOURS LOCAL TIME 1 FEBRUARY 1965
PLACE AND DATE ACQ. LAOS, VIENTIANE (1 FEBRUARY 1965)
SOURCE AND APPRAISAL: SEE PARA 1
DISTR. 1 FEBRUARY 1965
REF NONE
FIELD REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

1.5(c)
3.4(b)(1)

1. THIS IS A LAOS SITUATION REPORT PREPARED BY CAS AT 2100 HOURS LOCAL TIME ON 1 FEBRUARY. SOURCE: QUALIFIED AMERICAN OBSERVER.

2. THE AGREEMENT REACHED THIS MORNING BETWEEN THE LEADER OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GROUP, COLONEL BOUNLEUT SAYCOCIE AND THE GENERAL STAFF UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA STARTED FALLING APART LATE IN THE AFTERNOON. COLONEL BOUNLEUT DID WITHDRAW HIS TROOPS FROM SEVERAL POINTS IN VIENTIANE BUT SENT THEM TO WATTAY AIRPORT OLD PASSENGER TERMINAL AREA WITHOUT PRIOR COORDINATION. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT COLONEL BOUNLEUT HAS APPROXIMATELY THREE COMPANIES THERE. HE ALSO FAILED TO ORDER WITHDRAWAL OF HIS TROOPS FROM THE LAO NATIONAL RADIO STATION WHICH HIS TROOPS CONTINUE TO CONTROL. WHEN FAR LEADERSHIP ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT HIM FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THESE MOVES THEY WERE UNABLE TO FIND HIM.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
29 JUL 1997

3. THE GENERAL STAFF IS INSISTENT THAT COLONEL BOUNLEUT'S TROOPS, INCLUDING THOSE AT THE RADIO STATION, WITHDRAW COMPLETELY FROM VIENTIANE BY TONIGHT BUT IT IS NOT CLEAR WHAT THEY INTEND TO DO IF THEIR ULTIMATUM IS IGNORED. THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE LAO ARMED FORCES DISPOSES OF AT LEAST FOUR BATTALIONS WITHIN VIENTIANE; ONE IN THE VICINITY OF WATTAY AIRPORT, ONE AT THE ORDANCE DEPORT, ON IN THE VICINITY OF THE SIGNAL ENGINEER DEPOT AND ONE AT THE PALACE GROUNDS, WHERE IT IS PROVIDING PROTECTION TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL STAFF. THE MAJOR IN COMMAND OF BOUNLEUT'S TROOPS AT WATTAY AIRPORT HAS REQUESTED FROM THE GENERAL STAFF PERMISSION TO BED HIS TROOPS THERE DURING THE NIGHT. THE GENERAL STAFF HAS NOT ANSWERED THE REQUEST.

4. IN THE MEANTIME, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NATIONAL POLICE SIHO LANPHOUTHAKOUL BROUGHT INTO VIENTIANE BETWEEN ONE AND THREE BORDER PATROL COMPANIES TO REINFORCE THE POLICE CAMP AT PHON KENG ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF VIETIANE. THE GENRAL STAFF OF THE LAO ARMED FORCES HAS NOT BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SIHO OR WITH GENERAL PHOUMI NOSAVAN SINCE LATE AFTERNOON. THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS OF POLICE INTENTIONS FOR THIS NIGHT. BOUNLEUT'S TROOPS AT WATTAY AIRPORT HAVE STATED THAT THEY EXPECT REINFORCEMENTS FROM THE SECOND MILITARY ZONE, BUT THE GNERAL STAFF HAS NO INFORMATION INDICATING THAT ANY REINFORCEMENTS ARE MOVING IN FROM THE SECOND ZONE.

5. THIS EVENING THERE IS A PLATOON OF ARMORED CARS AT THE AIRPORT AND ARMORED CARS AT THE PALACE, ALL OF WHICH BELONG TO THE FIFTH MILITARY ZONE BASED AT CAMP CHINAIMO. A CURFEW HAS BEEN IMPOSED ON ALL UNAUTHORIZED MOVEMENT IN VIENTIANE FROM 2300L TO 0600L.

6. FIELD DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR USAID CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC (ALSO SENT [REDACTED] AND SAIGON)

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1.5(c)
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