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STAFF NOTES:

Developments in Indochina

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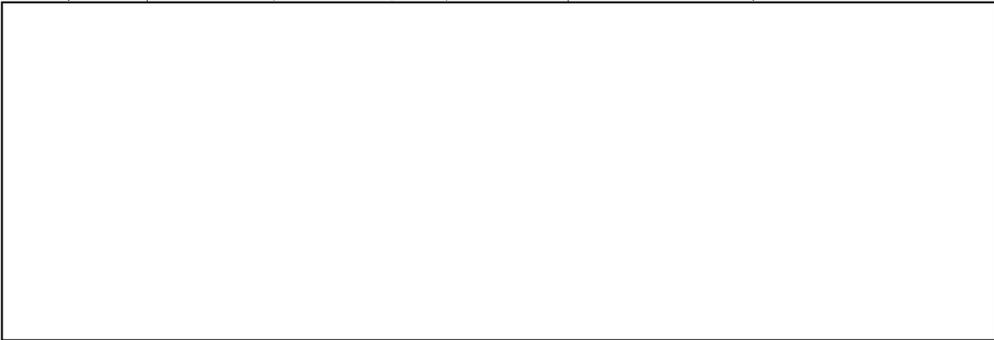
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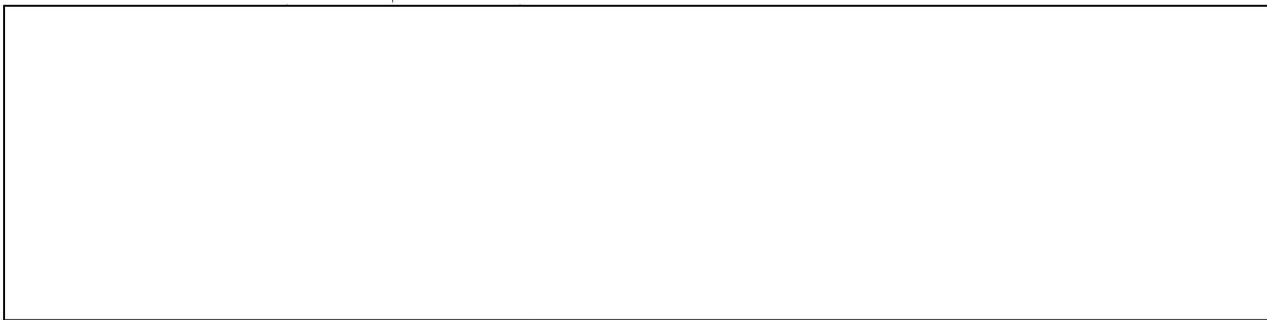


DEVELOPMENTS IN INDOCHINA

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Communists Release More POWs



The second phase of the prisoner exchange agreement called for by the 1973 Lao accords took place as scheduled on September 29.

Sixty-four Thai and 44 Lao prisoners were released by the Pathet Lao at Phong Savan in Communist-controlled territory on the Plaine des Jarres, the site of the initial exchange ten days earlier. This raises the total number of prisoners thus far repatriated by the Lao Communists to 214 Thai, 64 Lao, and 1 American--civilian contract pilot Emmet Kay. The non-Communist side released all of its captives--173 North Vietnamese and 7 Lao--on September 19.

No precise date has been set for the next series of releases which are expected to take place in the Luang Prabang and Paksong sectors of northwestern and southern Laos.



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