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LAOS

24 March 1965

**STATEMENT ON ACTIVITIES OF 'AIR AMERICA'**

Radio Pathet Lao (Clandestine) in Lao to Laos 0415 GMT 20 March 1965--S

(Statement of Radio Pathet Lao on illegal activities of "Air America" in Laos)

(Text) Everyone is aware that despite the 7 October 1962 deadline set by the 1962 Geneva agreements on Laos for the withdrawal of all foreign troops and military officers from Laos, the U.S. imperialists have continued to use "Air America" as a disguised military organization to send men and weapons to the rightist faction and to attack the liberated areas controlled by the MLMX and True Neutralist Forces.

Faced with the MLMX Party's repeated protests and the condemnation of public opinion in and outside the country the U.S. imperialists, in March 1964, changed the name of "Air America" to "Seaboard World Airlines" to enable them to continue their destructive acts through this disguised military organization. Even UPI on 10 March admitted that on 5 March a U.S. helicopter of "Air America" crashed and burned at a place 20 kilometers southwest of Luang Prabang while on a mission of transporting weapons to the rightist faction.

The fact that the U.S. imperialists continue to use "Air America" to carry out illegal activities and to develop the war in Laos in violation of the 1962 Geneva agreements on Laos clearly proves that they want to trample underfoot the sovereignty and independence of Laos and to destroy the peace in this country.

Radio Pathet Lao is authorized to condemn before public opinion in and outside the country these destructive acts of U.S. intervention in Laos and to demand that the U.S. imperialists immediately stop using "Air America" as an instrument to carry out illegal activities. The U.S. imperialists must withdraw all air organizations, in whatever disguised form, from Laos. They must strictly apply the Geneva agreements on Laos.

Sam Neua, 20 March 1965.

**GOVERNMENT BATTALION IN SAVANNAKHET REBELS**

Radio Pathet Lao (Clandestine) in Lao to Laos 0415 GMT 19 March 1965--S

(Text) According to a regional source, the 33d volunteer battalion of the rightwing faction in Savannakhet Province has rebelled against the U.S. imperialists and the Kouprasith-Sananikone clique who (several words indistinct). The same source has also revealed that the command of the military region concerned, executing the orders of the U.S. imperialists and the Kouprasith-Sananikone clique, ordered the 33d volunteer battalion to surrender within eight hours or military forces and aircraft will be employed to bomb them.

This situation has made the U.S. imperialists and the Kouprasith-Sananikone clique in Vientiane extremely worried.

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PPP 2

LAOS

#### Further Details

Radio Pathet Lao (Glandestine) in Lao to Laos 1230 GMT 23 March 1965--B

(Text) As previously reported, since 10 March the 33d volunteer battalion belonging to the rightwing party in Savannakhet had revolted and announced its opposition to the new reactionary government in Vientiane--the Kouprasith-Sananikone clique. The event has caused anxiety among the Americans and their henchmen in Vientiane. On the one hand they send a relative of the battalion commander to lure him and buy him over, and on the other threaten him with armed force.

Since 17 March they have dispatched aircraft to fly threateningly over the Houei Sane area where the volunteer battalion is temperarily posted. According to (a reliable source?), at present the above-mentioned battalion is still continuing to resolutely oppose the Kouprasith-Sananikone clique.

#### U.S. PLANE SHOT DOWN OVER XIENG KHOUANG

Radio Pathet Lao (Glandestine) in Lao to Laos 0415 GMT 24 March 1965--S

(Text) According to reports from Xieng Khouang Province, on 21 March the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys sent nine T-28 planes to bomb and machinegun those living in the Muong Khang and Muong Ngane regions, Xieng Khouang Province. To safeguard the airspace of Xieng Khouang Province and to protect the lives and property of the people, our combat units in the province firmly resisted and opened fire on these planes. One of the planes was shot down and a number of others were hit and damaged.

Our fighting forces and people throughout the country warmly congratulate our combat units in Xieng Khouang Province for their success in fulfilling their mission and for properly punishing the U.S. imperialists. Once again, we oppose and protest these cruel and savage acts of the U.S. imperialists and demand that they immediately stop their bellicose acts.

#### Further Military Activity

Radio Pathet Lao (Glandestine) in Lao to Laos 0415 GMT 24 March 1965--S

(Text) According to regional reports, in order to pursue their plans to destroy the liberated areas, on 3 March the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys used a plane to drop four of their bandits into Na Thong Canton close to the Laos-Vietnam frontier. As soon as these bandits landed on the ground they were encircled by our guerrillas and the inhabitants in the area. On 5 March, our guerrillas and the inhabitants captured one of the four bandits. They are now pursuing the rest.

#### Damage of Two Planes

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0606 GMT 21 March 1965--B

(Text) Hanoi, 21 March--The United States and its henchmen in Laos on the afternoon of 17 March sent seven F-101 and F-105 jet planes to violate the airspace over Khang Khay, Xieng Khouang Province, upper Laos, according to a report from Laos. Two aircraft were damaged by the Laotian patriotic armed forces. On the morning of the same day, the United States sent two waves of jet fighters to intrude into the airspace over Khang Khay for reconnaissance purposes.