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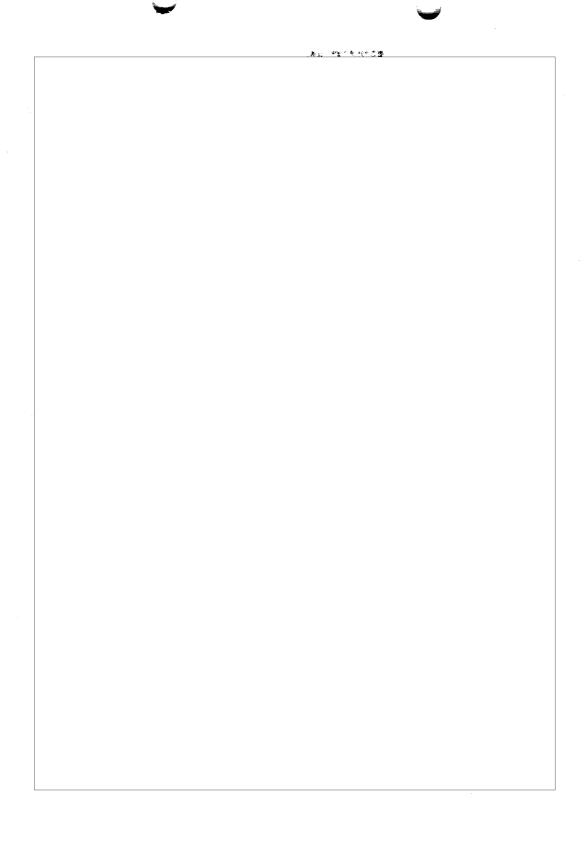
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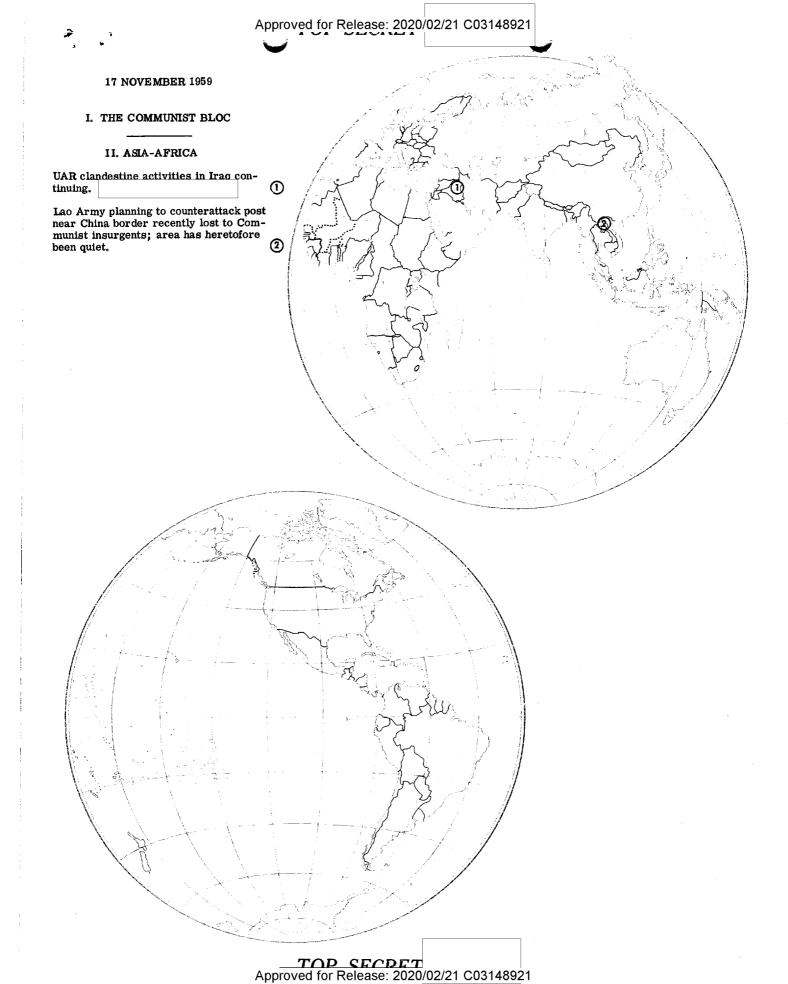
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

17 November 1959

DAILY BRIEF

SIRAB

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

II. ASIA-AFRICA

<u>UAR-Iraq</u>: UAR clandestine activities in Iraq are continuing. According to UAR messages, preparations are being made to deliver additional arms to Iraqi nationalists in Baghdad. Two Iraqis believed to have been involved in the assassination attempt against Qasim were scheduled to arrive in Cairo on 13 November, and the UAR's agent who maintains contact with Iraqi conspirators in Baghdad is en route to Damascus. In Baghdad, UAR contact with members of the group which attempted the assassination has resumed despite tight surveillance by Iraqi security authorities.

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Laos - Communist China: The Lao Army is preparing to counterattack a post near the China border in Phong Saly Province which was lost last week to Communist insurgents. The China border area, in contrast to the border with North Vietnam, has previously been quiet. There have been unconfirmed reports

the mixed insurgent force which took the post contained Chinese Communist elements.

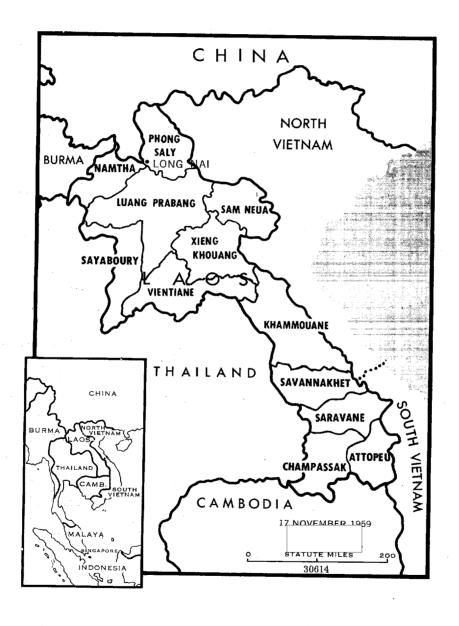
The arrival of UN official Sakari Tuomioja, a Finnish economist, in Laos on 16 November for a four-week economic and political survey will give UN Secretary General Hammarskjold time to find another more permanent representative and try to place him in position without the active opposition of the USSR.

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TOP SECRET



I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Laos

The Laotian Army is preparing a counterattack aimed at retaking Long Nai, a small post near the China border in Phong Saly Province which was occupied by a Communist insurgent band on 10 November. According to unconfirmed reports the insurgent force which took Long Nai included Lao Communists, elements of tribes which straddle the Laotian-Chinese frontier, and an unspecified but presumably small number of Chinese Communist "cadres." This would be the first known instance of Chinese Communist personnel support for the Lao Communist dissidents.

The China border area has previously been quiet, in contrast to Laos' boundary with North Vietnam. The Lao dissidents are believed to have received North Vietnamese logistic support and tactical guidance, and North Vietnamese paramilitary elements may have participated occasionally in insurgent attacks on government posts.

UN Secretary General Hammarskjold plans to establish a permanent personal representative in the area in two stages. The first stage will be a four-week economic and political survey by Sakari Tuomioja--currently the executive secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Europe and a former Finnish prime minister, foreign minister, and ambassador to Great Britain. The four-week period will allow Hammarskjold time to find another longer term representative and try to place him in Laos without the open opposition of the USSR.)

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