

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO: PARIS, SAIGON, PHNOM PENH, CINCPAC

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Las - Political

FROM : Amembassy VIENTIANE,

DATE: November 6, 1964

SUBJECT : Exchange of Aide Memoires on Territorial Integrity of Laos and Cambodia

REF : Embtel 714 and Deptel 404 - *Je - Hercheid*

Pheng Phongsavan, RIG Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Huot Sambat, RKG Minister of Foreign Affairs, exchanged aide memoires on October 2 and October 7, respectively, in Cairo in which Laos denied having any claims to Khmer territory and in effect recognized the territorial integrity of Cambodia in exchange for Cambodian recognition of the territorial integrity of Laos in the Geneva Accords of 1962.

The text of the RIG aide memoire [] is given 25X1
in the enclosure; that of the Cambodian aide memoire was transmitted
through other channels [] 25X1

For the Ambassador:

Emory C. Swank
Emory C. Swank
Deputy Chief of Mission

Enclosure: *all in box*
Text of RIG aide memoire

*(From memo -
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Drafted by: ECSwank:mq 11/3/64 Contents and Classification Approved by:

Clearances:

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TEXT OF RLG AIDE MEMOIRE

1. The fraternal friendship which binds the Kingdom of Cambodia to the Kingdom of Laos is legendary. Our prestigious monarch Fagum who shaped the territorial and spiritual unity of Lane Xang was able to accomplish his great deeds of national heroism only with the help of the filial affection as well as the support of the Cambodian court in materiel and manpower. Since then the centuries have not dimmed this great friendship, sealed more than all others by ties of the same royal blood which flows to this day in the veins of our respective monarchs.

Again recently, Prince Sihanouk, the Cambodian Chief of State, has helped the Kingdom of Laos rediscover its national path of neutrality, in this way strengthening the perennial character of the international personality of the Lao nation. Thanks to his inestimable support Prince Souvanna Phouma, our Prime Minister, was able to achieve the stature of undisputed national leader and unquestionable author of Lao neutrality. This fact has earned him the respect and sympathy of important personalities among the family of non-aligned states.

2. The lack of understanding which currently characterizes the relations between our two brother states is, in our opinion, due to a misinterpretation of our nation's true intentions.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Laos would like to direct the attention of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Khmer Kingdom to the following points on the one hand in order to clear up any lack of understanding and on the other hand to achieve a united front in the struggle towards the triumph of the position of neutrality upon which the future of both our countries depends.

a) The Kingdom of Laos has never made any claims upon Khmer territory.

b) In view of the fact that Cambodia, under the Geneva Accords of 1962, "recognizes and respects the sovereignty, independence, neutrality, unity, and the territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Laos and will accommodate itself to this position in all cases", it would be ungrateful, illogical, and inconsistent if Laos were not to accord Cambodia the same treatment. At the core of the Cambodian point of view, Cambodia by this international agreement, recognizes

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and will respect, among other clauses, "the territorial integrity",
to use the proper term of international law, of the present Lao
frontiers.

3. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Laos will be grateful to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Cambodia if the latter would transmit these explanations to the high consideration of HRH Prince Sihanouk, Chief of the Cambodian State, who enjoys the highest esteem and the deepest affection of the entire Lao people. Prince Souvanna Phouma, Chief of the Royal Lao Government, has instructed me to ask you to transmit to Monseigneur, the Cambodian Chief of State, his assurances of his most affectionate and grateful sentiments.

dated 2 Oct 1964

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