

# AIRGRAM

POL 32-2 LAOS-VIET  
POL 32-2 CAMB-LAO  
FOR RM USE ONLY

RM/R	REP	AF
1	1	
ARA	EUR	FE
	5	
NEA	CU	INR
		5
E	P	IO
	2	
L	FBO	AID
3		12
3/5	6/11	4/1
7	1	1
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
		5
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	20	5
OSD	USIA	NSA
91	10	3
		235
		2

A-335  
NO.

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GDF  
HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

1966 JUN 13 AM 11 38

INFO : Bangkok, Paris, Saigon

*Geo-Political*

RM/AN  
ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION  
BRANCH

FROM : Amembassy, VIENTIANE

DATE: June 8, 1966

SUBJECT : RIG Study of Its Frontiers

*Return to JH*

REF :

DIST:

- AMB
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1966 JUN 13 PM 2 47

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1. The RIG Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Geographical Service have undertaken a study of Laos' frontiers, particularly the Vietnam and Cambodia borders. RIG interest in the undelimited or undemarcated frontiers was stimulated by the sharp DRV note accusing RIG planes of bombing North Vietnamese villages in the Lao panhandle just north of the 17th parallel in late 1964. The MFA has searched its files for documents, memoranda, maps, etc., which could assist the RIG in presenting its view of the border, but has found very little since most documents had apparently remained with the French Government. In 1965, the MFA asked its Embassy in Paris to ask the French Government to make available to the RIG texts of treaties and other documents concerning the border, but the French Government refused to cooperate, implying that it did not wish to be a party in any way to the disputes among its former colonies in Indochina. However, in February 1966, the MFA was informed by its Embassy in Paris that the French Government had reversed this decision. The MFA has recently received the texts of various documents, including the Dalat Agreement on Indochinese frontiers. In 1965, the RIG also asked the Government of South Vietnam for similar assistance, and found to its dismay that the GVN apparently accepts the position of Hanoi in the various areas disputed between Laos and North Vietnam, in particular the corridor area near the 17th parallel.

2. When all the relevant material is assembled, the MFA and the Geographical Service will prepare a dossier for the examination of the Cabinet, which is then expected to release a public document aimed particularly at refuting the DRV's claim to various parts of Lao territory as shown in its map of 1964. The RIG will be assisted in the preparation of this report by Roger de la BOURBELIERE, a French expert with a degree in international law who is now an advisor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

FORM 4-62 DS-323

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Drafted by:

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POL:MSPratt:jcs 6/6/66

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*WACH*  
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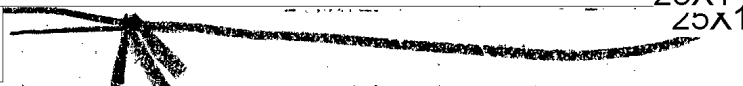
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A-335 from VIENTIANE

2

3. The Lao MFA has asked for the cooperation of the USG in preparing its brief concerning its frontiers; in particular, the MFA wishes the American opinion of the portions of the Cambodian note concerning frontiers (sent to the "Regime of Saigon" on January 10, 1965).

4. Since the recent International Boundary Study of Laos - Viet-Nam Boundary (No. 35, revised June 3, 1966) is unclassified, the Embassy intends to give a copy of it to the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Embassy would also appreciate being informed of any other information which the Embassy could provide to the RIG to assist it in its study of the Lao border problems



SULLIVAN

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Sullivan'.

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