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(FOUO 2/79)

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JPRS L/8383

9 April 1979

TRANSLATIONS ON SOUTH AND EAST ASIA  
(FOUO 2/79)



A S I A



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CAMBODIA

CLANDESTINE VISIT TO POL POT CONTROLLED ZONE REPORTED

Paris PARIS MATCH in French 9 Mar 79 pp 3-8, 10, 78

[Article by Denis Reich: "Cambodian Front -- To Get Into Cambodia: a Nightmare; To Get Out: a Miracle"]

[Text] I left this morning from Kouksong. A colleague took me by motorcycle to Aranya Prathet, 25 kilometers to the north. I knew that from there, on foot, if I left early I would be able to reach the border without the risk of running into a Thai patrol. Moreover, I already knew the habits of the patrols in that sector. Two border patrol stations, 6 kilometers apart from each other, patrol 2 kilometers on either side of their base. Thus, there remains a 2 kilometer hole. That was more than I needed. The frontier of Cambodia was there, 500 meters ahead of me. In my bush I did not run any risks. I had only progressed 6 kilometers since morning. I wanted to wait until night to go across. That was asinine. On the other side, a 5 kilometer wide mine field awaited me and I did not feel up to crossing in the dark. Short of looking where I was going to put down my feet. To have a chance to see at least something if possible. But especially not to lose myself and run into a Khmer Rouge checkpoint. I would wait until tomorrow.

I rechecked the contents of my three musette-bags. One for the medicines. It is at least as important as the one with the film and the photo equipment. Aspirin, vitamins, anti-malaria pills, anti-diarrhea, salt tablets, survival rations. Another with two cartons of cigarettes and some clean underwear. A knife, a compass, a map and a canteen. With the heat, I knew that one can hold out for a long time without eating, but without drinking? I only had 1 liter. In principle, I was supposed to run across water supply points. If I managed to penetrate far enough, normally they should not fire at me without asking me what I was doing there. From what direction and how I got there. Then I would have a chance. I had somebody write me a note in Khmer: "I am a French reporter; I would like to talk to President Pol Pot."

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Monday, 7:30 a.m.

That is it, I got through. I feel like the worst is over. God was with me. Now all is well. I was dying from heat, but the sun had nothing to do with it. I made good progress; I must be 7 or 8 kilometers inside Cambodia, on the other side of the mine field.

When I started across, one fact became self-evident. I know who I love. I know who I hold dear. A test of truth. With each step I took, my left foot said "goodbye" to my right foot, and so on. I could not manage to unglue my eyes from the ground, appraising the slightest mound, the slightest bump. Try as I might to persuade myself that I was wrong, that the mines which had been planted 4 years ago would have become perfectly integrated with the topography, I went on trying to guess the location of death under the grass.

After 500 meters, I decided that I was lucky and I walked on straight up, preferring to look only for the traces of fire which logically should have made the mines explode under the effect of the heat. In places there were small craters, a few dozen centimeters wide and approximately 20 centimeters deep. Probably refugees who were not lucky. The traps, on the other hand, were visible. Thickets, the branches weighed down by the rain and drought of 4 years. Some of them were veritable pits, 2 meters long and equally deep, with bamboo spikes stuck onto them. Others were smaller, 40 to 50 centimeters, but sufficient to empale oneself.

Along the trail, I also crossed the real border, the military border. Trees which had been cut down on the spot, entwined with bushes, over a width of some 20 meters, cut by narrow passages to go through. I had been told that the Khmer patrol stations were only about 20 kilometers inland. That was not true. I saw two of them. Two shelter-like structures, three-quarters underground. One of them was empty; as for the other, farther away, I watched it for a few minutes, nothing. No apparent activity. Maybe they were sleeping. I knocked down a trap. a trunk spiked with bamboo spears, hanging between two trees. A complicated system of counterbalance, but the tip of my foot was sufficient to topple it. During the day it would have been impossible not to see it. At night my skull would have been bashed in. My first picture in Cambodia.

Monday evening.

I have walked well. A rate of approximately 4 or 5 kilometers an hour. Since morning, I have counted 18 bodies on my way. It was impossible to say whether they were civilians or Khmers Rouges, whether they were killed by bullets or died of illness or exhaustion. The only things left of them are a few shreds of clothing attached to some bones, and a skull. But if I saw 18 of them on my line of walk, I imagine there must have been many more scattered about on my left and on my right. I photographed the first, a child, mostly to give myself professional comfort. After all, I was there to take pictures.

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Tuesday evening.

I am going to die of thirst. Following my idea of avoiding villages, I have also avoided water supply points. It is the dry season. I know something about that. I am thirsty. I crossed the beds of several rivers; nothing but earth. I can no longer swallow anything. I tried to chew a vitamin tablet, but the pieces stayed on my tongue, dry as sand. I spit out part of it, which I had to get out of my mouth with my fingers. The rest lodged itself in my throat for a few minutes, without melting. It may be a mistake, but I am smoking constantly. It is the only thing which is still going through. If I do not find any water tomorrow, I will have to make a decision.

Wednesday morning.

No use trying to eat. Nothing goes in anymore. Thirst, thirst. I cannot hold out much longer. I will walk a little more, to the limit. Maybe by then, by chance, luck ... I will find water. By evening I will know. According to my calculations I must be approximately 80 kilometers east of the border. It is not yet quite daylight. I preferred to start off "refreshed."

I am thirsty. And I am exhausted because I am thirsty. Now I have to make a decision. To go any further is impossible for me. Moreover, there is no reason for me to believe that I will find water further on.

They are there, 200 meters ahead of me. I think I will go see them. They are working in the rice fields. These are probably my last minutes of freedom, but I am so very thirsty. Some of them are not working. They seem to be keeping an eye on the others. Apparently nobody is armed. Thus, they will not shoot me without listening to me. Besides, at one point or another I will have to come out of hiding anyway. I had thought I might get farther, at least to 200 or 300 kilometers. Here, I must be about 110 kilometers away from Thailand. If only I had water! Too bad! I cannot go back the way I came. First of all, I would not have the strength for it and, secondly, I made the whole trip to see them. Well, here goes! This is what I came for.

Wednesday evening.

So far, so good. The surprise effect went beyond my expectations. First, those in the rice field. When they saw me walking toward them, appearing out of nowhere, as if I had come out of the ground, they came up to me. They searched me and appropriated the contents of my musette-bags. There were two of them. Overseers. They divided up the spoils: medicines, cigarettes, knife. They let me keep the cameras, which I was carrying over the shoulder, and all the film. Then they took me to the chief of the militia. Obviously, the latter could not understand it. A foreigner, alone, on foot, 110 kilometers inside the country. A Martian in the middle of the French countryside would not have had as great a success. I immediately showed him my slip of paper: "I am a French reporter; I would

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like to meet with President Pol Pot." From that moment onward I became nearly untouchable. He did not know what to do with me. The name of Pol Pot was like an electric shock. I took advantage of my small effect to fill my canteen at the well. I emptied it completely, in one gulp and filled it again. My morale returned at once.

He took me to a political commissar. I had already understood one thing about the organization of the Khmer Rouge: their clothing is a function of their importance. The most wretched ones, the civilians, the men, the women, the elderly, have tattered garments. From one day to the next, with the advent of the regime, all the clothing was dyed black. Four years later this had turned into all shades of grey. The militia and the overseer were also barefoot, like the civilians, but they were wearing plain black pajamas, and often a Mao cap. The militia was not armed. The Khmers Rouges, the soldiers, had raw rubber sandals and a weapon, the Chinese AK 47. The political commissar had an automatic pencil.

During the hour long walk to go see the latter, I managed to take my first pictures secretly, discreetly. Finally, I had made it. I was taking pictures. That is my profession.

Thursday.

The hierarchy between the various categories is very distinct. First, at the top of the pyramid, the Chinese Khmers. They are commissars or military commanders. Below, the Khmers Rouges, soldiers, for the most part kids. Average age: 17 years, but many of them are very young, 12 to 15 years old. Below them, the militia and the overseers. These are not armed. As a rule, they come from areas already under Khmer Rouge control during Lon Nol's regime. Sometimes, around the age of 25 or 30 years, former soldiers become militiamen. Finally, at the very bottom, the civilian, the slave, the one who is afraid of everything and of everyone. For the masters, he is only an instrument, a shovel or a pickaxe, and does not deserve any more consideration. He could die of exhaustion, of illness, of hunger; it is not important! It is only a tool at one bowl of rice a day!

Saturday, 3 February.

I am making the tour of the political officials. Their importance increases by the day. As long as no one among them considers himself strong enough to make a decision about me, I will be fine. My case is completely beyond them. If I continue to climb the hierarchy as I have, I may finally get to meet Pol Pot. All the interrogations are the same. Asian patience and smiles. A politeness which does not reassure me as, with the same smile, the same face, they might announce that they will gently take me back to the border or that they will shoot me within a minute.

Always the same question:  
- Who are you working for?

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- I am a French reporter. I work for a French magazine, PARIS MATCH.
- Yes, but who are you working for, the Russians or the Americans?

They are convinced that I am working for some power or other. Then I have to tell them the story of my life.

Sunday.

Yesterday evening, violent Vietnamese artillery fire compelled us to retreat 5 kilometers. The next day, the army of tin soldiers and I returned to the same spot. No possibility at all for an attack by the Khmers Rouges ... Whenever the Vietnamese want to, the country will be theirs!

Monday.

This morning, I was entitled to the weekly morning of rest. Five hours of political speeches. The commissar honored me with his meeting. He seemed delighted to see me taking pictures of his audience. There were 4,000 people.

Saturday.

It is the first time that I have kept the same team to accompany me. Six young people. The youngest is 12 years old. He carries his AK 47 gun as if he had been born with it. He never leaves it. The chief is 17 years old; he is at ease only when I am in a hut. He would like me to sleep as much as possible so that he can keep less of an eye on me. Yesterday's political commissar is with us. He is walking too. Walking is the only means of communication in this country. I did not see a single vehicle, except for a Jeep which was being pushed by a platoon like a wagon without oxen.

Tuesday.

This time it is all over! They took away my cameras. I can no longer work. The commissar was inflexible. I nearly begged him to let me keep at least one: "It is the only thing which still connects me with the outside. It is the only reason why I came here." Nothing doing. He took everything away. Including the film. It was fortunate that I had somewhat foreseen this. For several days, I prepared my trick. All the exposed rolls: in my briefs. I had already rolled up a total of about 20 unused rolls of film, including the small leaders, like exposed film. I had also put numbers on them. I objected a great deal as a matter of form and especially to keep him from looking elsewhere. It worked. The political commissar informed me that inquiries are being made about me. He told me that it would take a minimum of 3 months and probably 6 months before they would get a response. I am not too excited about waiting!

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Friday.

For 3 days I have been watching the habits of my guards. There are eight now, and they are equipped with an electric lamp which has just been brought. No spot is right for an escape. There is always something which does not work. Never twice the same spot. Still, I have to make a decision. It has to be here!

The guards are staying in front of the house. They never go in the back. On that side there is a serious obstacle. There are leaves on the ground, as large as fans, which make a dreadful racket. I have gathered myself a pile of rocks. Pretty soon I will make my move. I will throw the rocks through the window onto the leaves, and I will quickly get back to my observation post and see if the kids have reacted. I hope that by the tenth one they will have gotten used to it. It will be up to me to make the next move. My musette-bag is ready and my canteen is full.

Saturday.

Only a short quarter of an hour to catch my breath. I do not care about the physical effort, about the tiredness. Freedom is at the end. I have to cover more than half the way in one stretch. They will never find me. My trick has worked. The kids jumped at the first noise in the leaves. By the eighth time it was over. They no longer reacted. I made a dash for it. Fifty meters. I stopped for a few seconds to listen to the reaction. Nothing. At least I thought so, because all I could hear was my heart beating in my throat. I ran to the forest ... And I have been walking for 10 hours.

Saturday, 10 February. Late afternoon.

I did it ... I did it! I have returned from Cambodia ... The mines, once I got in them I paid no more attention. I was convinced that I would be lucky ... A woman working in the fields; she was wearing red clothes ... I crossed into Thailand. I sat down in the grass ... In the sky, the birds were flying back and forth over the border, graceful, free.

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PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. p (1)

For the first time, a reporter among the Khmers Rouges.

Our special correspondent, Denis Reich, spent a fortnight in the Cambodia of the Khmers Rouges after having clandestinely crossed 5 kilometers of mine fields. The only permit he had was a sheet of paper on which the following words had been written in Cambodian: "I am a French reporter. I would like to meet President Pol Pot." At the mere mention of this dreaded name, Denis Reich was received with a mixture of caution, apprehension, distrust and sometimes even good humor. Finally, having been kept prisoner for 3 days, he managed to escape and to get back to Thailand alone and on foot. His report tells about the submission of a people, about a war of guns against Vietnamese tanks, as well as his own adventure, his solitude and his fear.

2. p (2)

These cavalrymen from another age, armed with Soviet guns, are the elite troops of the Khmers Rouges. This patrol was photographed by our special correspondent, less than 1 kilometer from the Vietnamese front.

3. p (3)

A whole people subject to the law of the gun.

These pictures are documents. They testify to the poverty and the enslavement of the Khmer people. They were taken freely by our special correspondent, Denis Reich, whose actions nobody dared to criticize after he had pronounced the dreaded name of Pol Pot. On the road, he tells us, I have come across endless columns of civilians on their way to work. I also got to know on the spot the very clear hierarchy of the new Khmer society. At the top of the pyramid, there are the pro-Chinese, political commissars or military commanders. Below, there are the soldiers, mostly kids, whose average age is 18 years. Some of them are barely 12 years old. Under this military category, there are also the militiamen and the overseers. These are not armed. Most of them are peasants who have been indoctrinated in the "free" zone by the Khmers Rouges from the time of struggle against the Lon Nol regime. Finally, at the bottom of the pyramid, there is the anonymous mass of the slaves. They are mostly townspeople, none of whom have the right to pronounce their real name. They only have the right to be called "comrade." As the families have been systematically dispersed or massacred, the children no longer even know their name or who their parents are. For Pol Pot and his cops, this laboring population of slaves is the crucible in which will be poured the new man, the perfect man, the communist man in whose name they work to death a whole people, a people whose only law henceforth is the whim of a guard and the point of a bayonet.

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These peasants are going to the fields in a wagon. The armed guard who accompanies them will not leave them the whole day.

These slaves, who are walking single file on their way to work in the rice fields, were townspeople. Separated from their families, they work 12 hours a day. For one bowl of rice.

4. p (4)

These female soldiers belong to the privileged class of the Khmers Rouges. This picture was taken in the region of Battambang.

5. p (5)

It was before this audience of 4,000 slaves, 4,000 unfortunate people tired out from work, famished, that our special correspondent had to make a speech in French at the request of the political commissar. The speech was retransmitted by a homemade loudspeaker (on the right on the table, in the picture). The battery which allowed this apparatus to work was in fact an old car battery. The audience listened patiently to Denis Reich's speech in which he had to repeat the lesson they had taught him. Nobody dared to admit or to show that he (or she) understood or spoke French. Since the takeover of power by the Khmers Rouges, the intellectuals have been systematically eliminated. Anyone who can read is suspect. Besides, those unfortunate people were too exhausted to have any reaction at all; they knew that they were going to go back to the fields and work for hours for a bowl of rice. Thus, the elimination of anyone who has the least little bit of knowledge, the systematic exhaustion through work and hunger, have caused a whole country to regress. While all the Third World countries are fighting illiteracy and advocate schooling, Pol Pot's Cambodia has abolished schools. There is no longer any other education than political indoctrination. As for the books which survived the auto-da-fe of the takeover of power by the Khmers Rouges, they have been torn up page after page to be used as cigarette paper.

6. p (6)

After 12 hours in the fields, 2 hours of propaganda.

Speech by the political commissar. Our special correspondent in turn had to make a speech in French. The audience, 4,000 unfortunate people, did not react. They knew that they would have to work another 8 to 10 hours to earn a bowl of rice.

7. p (8)

Our special correspondent, Denis Reich, and the Khmers Rouges. The two on the left are only 12 years old.

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JAPAN

BRIEFS

CHOLERA OUTBREAK--Lobsters imported from Indonesia and served by a wedding hall in Tokyo were the main cause of a mass cholera outbreak scare that swept across the country last fall, according to a preliminary report by the Tokyo metropolitan government's panel of epidemiologists. The panel agreed the same day to draw up its final conclusion on Mar 7. [Text]  
[Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English 1 Mar 79 p 12]

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LAOS

INFORMATION ON LAO MILITARY UNITS

[The following information on Lao military units was extracted from the 0400 GMT Vientiane Domestic Service broadcasts in Lao on the dates indicated unless otherwise noted. Unit designators and locations are as broadcast. The remarks include a brief summary of the information available in the source.]

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Northern Army School "S" Meuang Phiang	Held a ceremony on 3 February to open a military specialized training course. Participants engaged in agricultural production while studying. (14 Feb 79)
Vehicles Bn under Ministry of Interior	Attended political and cultural classes since January 1979. (14 Feb 79)
Military Training School Vientiane	Held classes to study LPLA traditions since early February 1979. (15 Feb 79)
Various Branches Diseases Prevention Institute, Vientiane	Attended a specialized and cultural training course. Also engaged in agricultural production. (15 Feb 79)
Oil Trucks Unit Army Logistics Department	Reviewed achievements over the past 3 years. (21 Feb 79)
Viang Sai Military Command	Held meeting 8 February to discuss 1979 sports events. (21 Feb 79)
Bn "GN" Vientiane	Report on 1978 achievements in carrying out patrol activities, printing documents, vaccinating people, studying politics, repairing houses, planting crops and raising animals. (20 Feb 79)

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Army Factory 104	Produced traditional medicine, food in 1978. (19 Feb 79)
Army Garment Factory Vientiane	Produced over 5,000 uniforms in past month. (19 Feb 79)
Bn "S" Vientiane	Adopted a resolution to carry out work at 19 January 1979 meeting. (19 Feb 79)
Army Music Band	Attended political course 7-11 February 1979 and engaged in agricultural production. (22 Feb 79)
Army Sports Corps	Organized sports activities and attended political training classes in 1978. (22 Feb 79)
Political Office Viang Sai Region	Held a ceremony 3 February for commendation of cadres and combatants. (22 Feb 79)
Peace-keeping Training School	Achievements in 1978. (16 Feb 79)
Army Production Unit # 3 Central Region	Visited by the Executive Committee of the Patriotic Lao Women's Union of the Army on 7 February 1979. (16 Feb 79)
Diseases Control Unit of Army Logistics Department's Medical Section in Vientiane	Achievements in specialized work in 1978. (16 Feb 79)
Communications Unit Army Staff Department in Vientiane	Scored achievements in 1978. (23 Feb 79)
Bn "A" Vientiane	Completed in studying politics in February 1979. (26 Feb 79)
Position Defense Company attached to Peace-keeping Forces Command, Louang Prabang	Carried out specialized tasks, boosted production in January, February 1979. (26 Feb 79)
Army Noodle Factory Vientiane	Emulated in producing noodles in February 1979. (25 Feb 79)
Army Medical Training School Northern Region in Louang Prabang	Studied medical documents in February 1979. (25 Feb 79)
Nam Souang Reservoir Construction Unit attached to Logistics Dept. Vientiane	Built a reservoir in January, February 1979. (25 Feb 79)

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Ground Artillery Bn "A" Vientiane	Was transplanting dry season rice 4 February 1979. (24 Feb 79)
Peace-keeping Forces Command Louang Prabang Province	Reviewed 1978 achievements 20 February 1979. (24 Feb 79)
Ground Artillery Bn "A" Sayaboury Province	Reviewed 1978 achievements 10 February 1979 and opened a campaign for new achievements. (24 Feb 79)
Army Agricultural Settlement Houai Sek in Louang Prabang Northern Region	Scored achievements in 1979. (27 Feb 79)
Battlefront 1A Hospital	Attended political courses; examined and cured patients. (28 Feb 79)
LPLA Oil Tanker Office	Specialized technical meeting ended 26 February 1979. (28 Feb 79)
Bn "GN" Vientiane	Attended political, military classes beginning 12 February 1979. (2 Mar 79)

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LAOS

## INFORMATION ON LAO MILITARY UNITS

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<u>Unit</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Army Sports Unit Vientiane	1978 sports activities reported (5 Mar 79)
Army Settlement No 1 Vientiane	Planted trees, raised pigs since early Jan (4 Mar 79)
Battalion "A" Khammouane Province	Harvested rice and other crops, raised animals in 1978 (4 Mar 79)
Air Force Women's Union Vientiane	Accepted more members in ceremony on 22 Feb 79 (3 Mar 79)
Food Production Department Khammouan Province	Harvested rice, planted vegetables, built houses for people in 1978 (3 Mar 79)
Women's Artillery Unit Vientiane	Opened cultural training Jan, Feb 1979 (3 Mar 79)
2nd Bn Vientiane	Repaired, built houses, harvested crops in 1978 (1 Feb 79)
Artillery Corps Xieng Khouang Region	Built houses, repaired vehicles, roads planted crops (1 Feb 79)

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Guerrillas in Mouang Samtai Houa Phan Province	Attended political and cultural courses worked in agricultural production in 1978 (1 Feb 79)
Reception Unit Vientiane	Attended political and cultural courses, repaired schools, cleared land, planted vegetables, fruit in 1978 (1 Feb 79)
Engineering Bn on Route 7	Built houses, repaired roads, vehicles. Built bridges in 1978 (1 Feb 79)
Construction Unit Northern Region in Louang Prabang	Held Ceremony on 14 Jan to review achievements, open new campaign (22 Jan 79)
Political Training School Army Political Department, Vientiane	Celebrated 30th LPLA anniversary on 18 Jan (24 Jan 79)
Louang Prabang Northern Regional Command	Hailed outstanding units on 16 Jan (24 Jan 79)
Provincial Military Command Savannakhet	Organized two military and political training courses in 1978 (24 Jan 79)
Combined Specialized Combat School of LPLA Logistics Department	Officially opened 3 Mar for 1000 stu- dents (6 Mar 79)
Political Office of Military Command of Khammouan Province	Scored achievements in food production, construction work in 1978 (6 Mar 79)
Photography Unit Army Political Department	Fulfilled specialized tasks in Feb (6 Mar 79)
Projection Team Army Political Department, Vientiane	Presented film shows to various Army units in Feb (6 Mar 79)
Film Projection Unit under Xieng Khouang Military Region	Showed films to local units in Jan- Feb (7 Mar 79)
LPLA Animal Husbandry Unit Xieng Khouang Region	Built houses, cleared land (7 Mar 79)
Army Cultural School Vieng Sai	Held ceremony on 13-14 Feb to review achievements (7 Mar 79)
Local Guerrillas of Sivilai, Paksan Cantons, Paksan District Command	Held tactical training for combat, peace-keeping duties for 40 personnel from 2-8 Jan (KPL 11 Jan 79)

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Non Pek Local Forces Xieng Khouang Province	PHOTO of females and anti-aircraft machine gun (SIANG PASASON 5 Jan 79 p 3)
No Unit	PHOTO of jet aircraft of Lao Air Force partially obscured by people. (SIANG PASASON 23 Jan 79 p 3)
Local Guerrillas of Tasseng Mang Meuang Louang Prabang District, LP Province	From 7-10 Jan 79, 43 personnel (includ- ing 3 women) received training in peace- keeping work from local District and Province Military Command (KHA) SAN KATHET LAO 24 Jan 79 p A3)
Regional Armed Forces Meuang Samtai, Houa Phan Province	Stepped up patrol activities, boosted production in 1978 (13 Mar 79)
Regional Armed Forces Meuang Houa Meuang, Houa Phan Province	Planted fruit trees, starchy crops in Feb (13 Mar 79)
Production Unit No 5	Studied political, military, special- ized subjects, promoted production (13 Mar 79)
Bn "GN" Central Region	Fulfilled, specialized tasks, promoted production, helped people in past 2 months (13 Mar 79)
Army Livestock Raising, Crop Cultivation Unit Xieng Khouang Province	Boosted production in Feb (12 Mar 79)
Army Publishing House Vientiane	Printed documents, engaged in agri- cultural production in Feb (11 Mar 79)
Public Security Force Meuang Vapi, Saravane Province	Conducted patrol operations Jan-Feb (11 Mar 79)
Army Band Vientiane	Harvested dry season rice since 7 Mar (10 Mar 79)
Construction Unit under Khammouan Provincial Command	Built, repaired houses, warehouses (10 Mar 79)
Logistics Office under Khammouan Provincial Command	Transported goods, built, repaired warehouses, harvested rice last year (10 Mar 79)

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LAOS

## INFORMATION ON LAO MILITARY UNITS

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<u>Unit</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Bn "A" Vientiane	Attended political course on 12 March (14 Mar 79)
LPLA Auto Repair Shop Vientiane	Scored achievements in specialized work since early 1979 (14 Mar 79)
Projection Unit, LPLA Command Office, Northern Region	Showed films to units in February (14 Mar 79)
Tasseng Pakbak Guerrilla Unit Meuang Siang Ngeun, Luang Prabang Province	Several hundred troops including 69 women received tactical training in peace-keeping task. They were trained by Meuang Siang Ngeun Regional Forces command (KHAOSAN PATHET LAO 30 Jan 79)
District Military Unit Meuang Sai District, Oudomsai Province	Successfully performed peace-keeping missions, studied and performed tactical training. Attempted to become self- sufficient (SIANG PASASON 5 Feb 79 p 1)
Tasseng Phon Than Commune Guerrillas, Houa Meuang District, Houa Phan Province	Expanded their organization to make 2 companies: one mobile, one static. Were given 5 day course in combat tac- tics and peace-keeping work by Houa Meuang District Regional Military Com- mand (KHAOSAN PATHET LAO 7 Feb 79 p A2)

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Reception Office Vientiane	Received guests, planted fruit trees (16 Mar 79)
Bn "S" Northern Region	Attended political courses last year (16 Mar 79)
Vientiane Provincial Military Command	Held meeting for local cadres/combatants from 5 to 12 March to study resolution of 6th Plenum of CC (17 Mar 79)
LPLA Medical Unit Saravane Provincial Command	Cured patients last year (17 Mar 79)
Hospital "103" Vientiane	Studied 6th Resolution of CC since 6 March (19 Mar 79)
Bn "NG" Northern Region	Studied politics, military and special- ized subjects, boosted production in past 2 months (19 Mar 79)
Army Kommadam Military Training School, Vientiane	Held ceremony 17 March to mark conclu- sion of courses (20 Mar 79)
Army Logistics Department	Held meeting on 13 March to study reso- lution of 6th Plenum (21 Mar 79)
Bn "J" Vientiane	Attended classes to study resolution of 6th Plenum (21 Mar 79)
LPLA Fish Sauce Factory Vientiane	Produced 37,263 bottles of fish sauce in January-February (21 Mar 79)
1st Construction Corps Vientiane	Built houses, repaired roads, vehicles transported goods, cured patients, harvested rice, raised animals in 1978 (22 Mar 79)
Military Training School Vientiane	Cleared land at Nam Souang Dam site (22 Mar 79)
Vientiane Construction School	Emulated to carry out specialized tasks (22 Mar 79)
School of Specialized Corps LPLA Logistics Department	Held training course to study resolution of 6th Plenum of party Central Committee (24 Mar 79)
Infantry Bn "S" Northern Region	Scored achievements this year in food production, public service work (25 Mar 79)

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LPLA Bn "A" Central Region	Reclaimed land, built irrigation canal in February (25 Mar 79)
Company "B" attached to Ground Artillery Bn "Y" in Sayaboury Province	Scored achievements in food production in January-February (25 Mar 79)
Medical Cadres, Primary Kommadam School, Southern Region	Treated army men, people August 1978- March 1979 (25 Mar 79)
LPLA Agricultural Settle- ment #1, Vientiane	Carried out production work January- March 1979 (27 Mar 79)
Kommadam Primary School Southern Region	Completed final exams of 1st semester (27 Mar 79)
LPLA Air Defense Bn "A" Vientiane Capital	Studied politics since 7 March (26 Mar 79)
Auto Transport Bn Southern Region	Transported goods in first 3 months of 1979 (26 Mar 79)
Mechanized Company, 23d Agricultural Settlement, Southern Region	Completed plowing (26 Mar 79)
Infantry Bn "A" Southern Region	Attended political training course from January to mid-February (28 Mar 79)
Art and Literature Troupe of Political Office, Central Region	Performed shows along Route 9 10 February-15 March (29 Mar 79)
Mekong River Transportation Unit, Vientiane	Scored achievements in repairing boats, engines; distributing spare parts; transporting various supplies (29 Mar 79)
Bn "NG" Meuang Siang Ngun, Northern Region	Carried out planting of starchy crops, raising animals, felling logs, trans- porting goods (29 Mar 79)
Infantry Bn "A" Vientiane	Studied 6th Resolution of Central Com- mittee 9-14 March (30 Mar 79)
Various Construction Units	Repaired 132 km of Route 9, built 12 bridges in 1978 (30 Mar 79)

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Military Training School Viangsak Region	Opened training course for 100 students on 22 January (30 Mar 79)
LPLA Command, Lakhonpheng District, Saravane Province	Organized political training for local guerrillas in two cantons in February (31 Mar 79)
LPLA Motorized Transport Unit "GN," Vientiane	Scored achievements in specialized tasks from January to March (31 Mar 79)
LPLA Ground Artillery Bn "A" Vientiane	Cleared land for crops last month (31 Mar 79)
Mekong Transport Route Unit Army Logistics Department, Vientiane	Completed 90 percent of second big boat (1 Apr 79)
Regional Forces, Champhon District, Savannakhet Province	Carried out security tasks in past few months (1 Apr 79)
Local Guerrillas of Mahasai, Pholek Cantons, Khammouan Province	Carried out security duty in first 3 months of 1979 (1 Apr 79)
LPLA Infantry Bn "S" Vientiane	Organized political training for cadres, combatants 30 March (1 Apr 79)
LPLA Ground Artillery Bn "GN" Vientiane	Completed irrigation canal (1 Apr 79)
Air Force Command Vientiane	Marked official closing of intermediate engineering course 28 March (2 Apr 79)
Bn "D" Route 9 Construction Corps	Organized cultural classes (2 Apr 79)
Central Region Command	Held training courses to study resolu- tion of 6th Plenum of Central Committee (2 Apr 79)

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SRI LANKA

SRI LANKA CP GENERAL SECRETARY PRAISES SOVIET ANTICOLONIALISM

Tashkent KOMMUNIST UZBEKISTANA in Russian No 1, Jan 79 signed to press  
4 Jan 79 pp 85-86

[NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY article "especially for KOMMUNIST UZBEKISTANA" by Pieter Keuneman, general secretary of the Communist Party of Sri Lanka, in the column "From the Life of Communist and Workers' Parties": "The Guarantee of Our Victories"]

[Text] Sixty years ago three-fourths of the globe was occupied by colonies, semi-colonies, dominions, and dependent territories. Today these forms of colonial rule have virtually disappeared from the face of the earth. All this was made possible by the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which led to the building of socialism in the USSR and the emergence of a world socialist system.

The October Revolution brought about the decline of the so-called golden age of colonialism. It marked the beginning of the crisis of the colonial system, an integral part of the general crisis of capitalism, and served as a fine, inspiring example to oppressed peoples. Great October encouraged their hope of victory and gave them confidence in their own strength. They saw in Soviet Russia a new state, a great power, that rejected the policy of colonial conquest and exploitation and was a true friend of all who were oppressed.

V. I. Lenin not only subjected imperialism to a scientific analysis but also worked out the basic line of the anti-imperialist struggle, and always actively supported oppressed peoples. He wrote fiery articles in defense of the revolutions in Iran, Turkey, and China that broke out after the Russian Revolution of 1905 and waged a broad political campaign in support of "awakening Asia." V. I. Lenin angrily condemned colonial tyranny in India, Egypt, and other countries. In the early 20th century the party of Lenin was the only political party to support the revolutionary movement in Asia.

Immediately following the repulse of the imperialist intervention and the victory over internal counterrevolution, the young Soviet state offered its

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help and support to neighboring states in their struggle against colonialism. With the building of socialism Soviet assistance to national liberation movements became more comprehensive.

In the years preceding World War II the political and ideological influence of the October Revolution on the peoples of the colonial and dependent countries increased still further.

The Soviet Union was not affected by the general capitalist crisis of the 1930s, which further impoverished the peoples of the colonial and dependent countries. This fact increased the stature of the USSR in their eyes, as did the speeches of the Soviet Union's League of Nations representatives in support of the national aspirations of the colonial and dependent peoples.

During World War II the Soviet Union made enormous sacrifices and played a decisive role in defeating the most aggressive detachments of world imperialism: German and Italian fascism in Europe and Japanese militarism in Asia. With the defeat of fascism came the victory of socialist revolutions in a number of European and Asian countries and the formation of a world socialist system.

Since 1957 dozens of countries with a population of about 1.5 billion people have achieved political independence. Some of these countries had to wage an armed struggle against their imperialist oppressors, while others achieved independence without resorting to weapons. But all of them invariably made use of the moral, political, or material support of the Soviet Union. This noble mission undertaken by the USSR is well known. The Soviet Union's broad and multifaceted assistance to the peoples of Asia and Africa in their struggle for independence will never be forgotten.

The USSR has invariably helped them withstand imperialist attempts to export counterrevolution. Examples are the Soviet Union's assistance to Egypt in repelling imperialist aggression in 1956 and to Syria and Jordan during the Israeli aggression of 1967; and of course the comprehensive assistance and support of the Soviet Union for the heroic and victorious struggle of the Vietnamese people against the aggression of the United States of America.

Nowadays the majority of young states have consolidated their political independence. It will therefore be correct to say that the achievement of economic independence, social progress, and a thorough socioeconomic transformation is the new stage of the national liberation struggle. Such a sequence of events fully confirms Lenin's thesis that the national liberation struggle does not end with the winning of political independence but continues on toward the achievement of full economic independence and social progress.

Experience has shown that this new stage will apparently last longer and be more difficult than the previous one, for it is at this stage of

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development that young states face the problem of economic and technological backwardness and must repel the counterattacks of imperialist forces. Economic cooperation with the USSR is all the more important for these countries. Soviet economic assistance to developing countries is fundamentally different from the so-called assistance of the imperialist powers, since it carries with it no political conditions or military obligations. It is intended to strengthen developing countries in their struggle against monopoly capital and to enable them to make rapid economic and cultural progress.

The peoples of the developing states recognize that firm friendship with the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist commonwealth is their best guarantee of final victory.

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