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STATUS REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

COVERT ANNEX - LAOS (11-24 July)

- 1. On 21 July an estimated force of 1,000-1,500 Vietnamese Communist and Pathet Lao began a "mop-up" operation against the central Laos counterguerrilla force. These guerrilla forces were forced to withdraw to a predesignated rallying point. There is no indication at this time on the extent the enemy is or will follow up their initial success. Friendly casualties were three killed, six injured, and two missing. Enemy casualties were estimated at 40-50 wounded and killed. The enemy captured one radio and a 100-man weapons unit. The friendly force was able to destroy all their heavy weapons prior to their withdrawal.
- 2. In order to prevent support to the Meo program being considered violation of the Geneva Accords, has ceased all ammunition drops to the Meos with the signature of the Geneva agreements. Weapons drops were discontinued on 27 June. Rice and other non-military supply drops will continue.

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