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[Excerpts translated from the French, by year]. 1954

Vientiane: Agence Lao-presse, 1954

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1/2/54.

Communication from the command of the Lao land forces on the 31st of Jan.

The Franco-Lao Troops continue their reconnaissance missions in North Laos.

East of Muong Khoua, a brief clash took place, without results. In the same sector, 60 tons of paddy were retrieved.

A brief encounter took place in the "DROME" operation.

In the ~~Nong~~ Nong Het region, friendly forces killed 8 enemy and probably wounded several others. High losses on our side.

In the Paksane area, our aviation bombed viet-Minh supply depots.

Central Laos- 30 January our units followed their movements far north-east of Thakhek, in the calcaires region. Land mines were found and disarmed as they advanced east of Thakhek, our forces met with great difficulties due to the terrain, however, there was no advise activity, only a few light encounters.

On the RC 9 the enemy has made no move since the destruction of the bridges between Muong Phalane and Muong Phine. Our patrols are searching out the enemy in this region and south of RC9 our planes have bombed an important Vietminh supply depot.

7 February. The incidents in the last few days around muong Khoua were but a prelude to a larger NV. spreading action against north Laos. It is certain that the enemy took the 308th division from around Dien Bien Phu to Laos and that these troops have reached and forded in several places the Nam Ou around Muong Khoua. The friendly elements stationed in this area withdrew in an orderly manner when the menace became greater. They began a retarding combat which was very fruitful, with solid air support. Several serious clashes took place yesterday, south of Muong Khoua, the vietminh suffered heavy losses.

In the Xieng Khouang region, the viet-minh lost: 13 PM; one 57mm. canon of chinese origin; an ammunition supply; mines and 60 mm. mortar shells.

One clean up operation in the Paksane region is proceeding favorably; no particular incidents to report.

Middle Laos: 15 January in the Thakhek region on the edge of the calcaires our troops met with strong resistance, composed of a group of regulars larger than a battalion. The combats were to our advantage.

Important artillery and aircraft intervention the results are not yet known.

In other sectors, there are large reconnaissance and patrol operations with some light incidents.

Official communication from the 7rench high command on the 30th January 1954.

In the region of Vientiane the vietminh attacked one post and in Paksane, ~~at~~ another. We lost a few men.

Communication from the command of the land forces on February 2nd 1954.

In northern Laos our troops, supported by aircraft, in a retarding movement on 1/ Feb. caused great losses to the enemy south of Muong Khoua.

The Viet-minh were taken by surprise by this new offensive; the maneuver is unralling according to plans. The vital points, particularly Luang Prabang and Vientiane are not incnaced at the present time and the command is doing everything to stop the enemy advance.

On the heels of our moving troops, Viet-minh elements attempted a few am bushes, without sucess. East of Pakseng, a friendly unit discovered 26 tons of paddy.

In the Ban Ban region, some light patrol clashes were reported. A stock of 100 tons of rice was destroyed.

The Franco-Lao ~~pat~~ patrols controlling the region north of Vientiane ran into different scattered UM. elements.

No particular reports in the area of the clean-up operation near Paksane. Friendly units have enlarged their zone of activities without encountering UM. activity.

Middle Laos. On the 31st of Jan, several vigorous combats took place in the region south of Mahaxay. Concerted aircraft and artillery fire halted an enemy counter attack in the later afternoon. The rebel losses were recorded at more than 100 corpses, 15 prisoners 5 machine guns, one mortar, 20 pistols and other individual arms and munitions. Reconnaissance activities continue.

3 Feb. In lower Laos, Attoupeu, and posts near Muong May and Ban Phoung resisted several attacks, we lost a few men. The UM distroyed two bridges on the Savannaket. Khong Sedone road, the enemy seems to want to turn attention towards the Bolovens Plateau after their losses furthe north in the area around Thakhek and Savannakhet.

Measures have been taken to guard against all surprise attacks in this sector.

Our aircraft we e quite active in bombing the axes of enemy communication and several supply depots.

ORA:ps:8-4-71

5/2/54.

Several of our troops were prisoners of the Viet-Minh, escaped and rejoined our positions around Ban Ban, bringing armoment with them.

ORA:ps:8-6-71

6/2/54.

In the upper-mekong sector our units are following a normal regrouping pattern.

One of our units, during a fall back, clashed severely around Muong La with a rebel front-guard the enemy left 35 corpses on the battle ground these losses were aggravated by the bombing of 60 Vietminh by our aircraft.

Our position at Muong Sai were harassed during the night by mortars and automatic weapons. Our elements repositioned caused the death of several rebels.

Central Laos. Our aircraft have successfully bombed Viet minh camps and depots around Muong Phalane.

With a national army propaganda team in the Phon Hong ~~Sene~~ Sene Soum region.

We recently reported in a propaganda mission by the national army in the area around Ban Keun.

We are happy to publish today an account of a nother outing; one of a propaganda team in the region of Phon Hong. Sene Soum. This account shows how the work of national propaganda teams which is not exempt from danger, can be useful and comforting ~~th/ro~~ for the villagers visited.

We left Vientiane the 4th of January driving a truck filled with our materials a movie projector a record player; posters and leaflets small Lao flags etc... We were 10 men.

We traveled the 70 km to Phon Hong from Vientiane in two and a half hours. The road wasn't bad; we were able to make good progress.

We had barely arrived at Phon Hong when we took off for Ban Nong Sisavath, 5 km to the north this little village had the advantage of being surrounded by others. We alerted the people in the surrounding areas.

We were assured of having a large turnout. During the two consecutive evenings we gave at Ban Nong Sisavath the ~~th~~ turnout was particularly numerous. Every one was delighted to see films and listen to a little music we profited from the occasion to give out news and to recommend to the villagers to remain united around their tasks.

Every thing was going well in the area. It was only taken that the difficulties began.

Once back at Phon Hong we would learn on Jan. 28 at Viet Minh presence of about 50 men 2 km from the post. We were told that the Vietminh were mounting intensive propaganda operations during the last 48 hours in the area.

Our truck break down we left our cinema equipment at Phon Hong and the Vietminh itinerary on put. We avoided the road, where an ambush is always possible and took to the brush.

Two guides took us to Ban Na Po where the 50 UM. Stayed last the village was calm. We followed the trail to Ban Na Kham 5 km away. The people were frightened speechless. After a lot of reassurance a young man confirmed the recent passage of the Viet Minh column which handed out posters and propaganda photographs.

We stayed in the village and reassured the people who little by little, rejoined some of their confidence.

We decided to push on two guides accepted to show us to the road. Night fell. The road was difficult we passed through Ban Kham; Ban Phon (Khen or Kheng) where the Nai Ban told us of the Viet Minh presence in Sene Soum. We wanted to check out the situation. After a discussion our group went towards this village. We arrived there at 10:30 at night. Taking extreme precautionary measures we went to be the Tasseng the Tasseng wasn't there frightened by the Viet Minh he was sleeping in a different house a villager went to fetch him when the Tasseng arrived he informed us that the Viet Minh had moved towards Phon Hong. It was then 11 PM we immediately began our work giving the Tasseng information on the situation, giving to him pamphlets and posters which he would distribute the next day in his village. As the Tasseng became more confident we became convinced that our passage had been extremely useful.

After a few hours of rest we returned to the road. We reached Phon Hong at 7:30 PM. finding our film team.

A few hours later we rearound that another and of Vietminh arrived at Sene Soum to surprise us around 6:00 AM. at that time we had been well on our way. That same night we went to Ban Phon Nam, about 500 meters from Phon Hong there too, the people were content and reassured by our presence.

On the ~~the~~ morning of Jan 29 we departed for Vientiane, leaving each village with its posters and leaflets. At about 2 or 3 in the afternoon we stopped at Y Lai before going to classes 150 children came to listen to the advice of their elders in the national army. We promised to clear them films soon. They illuminated their faces, and the national army marched on.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

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8/2/54.

In the Xieng Khouang sector our units went on several reconnaissance missions. One of these units ran into the rebels who lost 20 men, one of which was a company commander 4 prisoners and armament.

In northern Laos in the upper mekong sector, retarding operations are still in movement. Few contacts were reported while in central Laos, reconnaissance missions around RCQ 9. were with art incident. On the whole, the French high command confirms the situation unchanged. The Vietminh offensive against Luang Prabang has been delayed three last 3 days on a line 90 km N. of L.P. in the Muong Sai sector on the Nam Bac tributary of the Nam Ou.

Refugees from Nam Bac arrive at LP.

More than 200 refugees from the Nam Bac Tasseng arrivwd ~~at~~ Saturday at LP. they were received by the Lao women's association and by the provincial welcoming committee the medicine chief treated the sick and the babies.

Rice, salt and blankets were distributed in the presence of Pheng Phongsavanh secretary of the Interior.

The post of Attapeu at the center of the Bolovens Plateau was evacuated 3 days ago by the Franco-Lao garrison. The civilian population was moved ~~towards~~ towards Pakse, 100 km to the E. and ~~at~~ treasures were taken to lodge and feed the refugees.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

9/2/54.

THE SITUATION IN NORTH LAOS.

Declaration to the Press by his highness the crown Prince.

His Royal highness, the crown Prince Sawang Vatthana received in the royal palace a group of journalists come to find out about the military situation in northern Laos.

He made the following declaration: "Last spring we would have never thought of a Viet-Minh invasion of Laos this year, we were warned. In a few months we have managed to liquidate the enemy bases, prepared for the next campaign. We have burned most of their food and ammunition stocks-hidden in the jungle. We have succeeded in bringing most of our forces to the defense of Luang Prabang. The Viet-Minh command thought to surround and destroy our northern units. Once they were destroyed, they were going to easily take over our northern capital. Their calculations were wrong. There was no disorder among our troops. We are now certain that we can stop the enemy advance and move on to victory.

"His majesty the ~~Ki~~ King will stay in Luang Prabang.

"Tomorrow, I personally am going to visit the battalions of the Lao national army. I want to congratulate them on their exemplary conduct."

Answering questions posed by the journalists on the Viet-Minh visions for Laos, HRH. the crown Prince replied:

"For 4 or 5 years, the Viet-Minh have hured themselves towards the Red River delta. Our enemies hoped to take over this delta. Each of their tentatives have failed. The Viet-Minh burn themselves toward other objectives, political objectives everich seem to be easier to attain.

"The old royal capital of Luang Prabang seems to have greatly tempted them.

"In trying to capture Luang Prabang, the Viet-Minh hope to accomplish several things.

"First to show their expansionist force. It is incontestable that the fall of Luang Prabang would have international repercussions. This would come a great deal to them.

"The attack on north Laos seems to be part of another concerted plan to enlarge Viet-minh contact with communist china. Without china, the Vietnamese would never have existed, and the fall of Luang Prabang, open the door to Thailand and northern Burma. These are not negligible considerations. When one is talking of the future of Indochina.

"However, I will tell you this: the Viet-Minh will not long be in northern Laos. As we did last spring, we will kick them out."

Things seen in Luang Prabang.

The old and charming town of Luang Prabang keeps her calm in the face of the Viet-minh advance. Part of the population works to set up defenses on the edges of the town. Teams defoliate the land around the principal pressure points. Others dig holes.

The airport is quite animated. Air planes land and take off without respite transport aircraft bringing every kind of reinforcement, or parachuting supplies; observation, fighting, or bomber aircraft leaving for missions in the north.

It rained most of Saturday Sunday in Luang Prabang reducing the air operations they are the "Mango rains" which never last very long. As expected, the sun shone once again today, permitting a step-up in air operations. These rains which have turned the roads to quicksand, have a useful purpose in delaying the enemy march toward the capital.

The military authorities insist that there is no immediate threat to the capital of Laos. Numerous indications establish the bulk of the Viet-Minh forces still in the Nam Bac region, 90 km north of ~~VV~~LP. only light expeditionary forces have penetrated toward the south. These forces are also active in the low valley of the Nam Ou and the Nam Suong.

The first refugees from the Nam Ou and Nam Bac valleys have arrived at LP. all descend in covered river boats or rafts down the Nam Ou or the Mekong. One sees many of these boats and rafts lined up on the banks of the Mekong at LP. the families live on them. They rest 12 to 24 hours at LP. to receive their first help. Teams bring to them food, blankets and clothing transported from Vientiane by the government. A medical team gives the necessary care. The families then continue their sad exodus down river. Their resettlement is farther south of LP. in the rich rice lands, where they can make out a new living.

ORA:ps:8-6-71

10/2/54.

Communication from the Lao land forces.

In the upper-Mekong region, our troops have sent out numerous patrols in view of determining the enemy positions. One of these patrols surprised and scattered a light Viet-minh unit a few kilometers north of Muong Sai.

A small incident took place on the Nam Suong northeast of LP. the reparation work was immediately begun.

North of Nong Het, our mobile units intercepted a Viet-minh company escorting a donvoy of inhabitants toward the east, 5 rebels were killed and several families liberaled.

ORA:ps:8-6-71

11/2/54.

Middle Laos - follosing an attack on the Bolovens Plateau, Houei Kong was evacuated by the Lao garison which regrouped in the bush.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

12/2/54.

Communication from the command of the Lao land forces on 12/2/54.

The day was calm in most of northern Laos where only intense aircraft activity shows that the battle is still being fought and that, on both sides, plans are being made for future engagements.

On the upper Mekong sector, our patrols met with no resistance, it seems as though the rebels are avoiding our main centers of resistance. In the Nam Bac region, aircraft sought out and bombed a vietminh camp and depot: the rebels had several serious losses.

In the other sectors, our patrols went quite active, particularly about 50 Kms northeast of Vientiane where our counter-insurgency elements are hunting down the rebels in the Nam Ngum valley.

In middle Laos the small post of Lao Ngam was evacuated due to isolation.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

13/2/54.

One of our north of vientiane was harassed without results by Vietminh units which lost a few men. In this region and south of Vang Vieng our counter-insurgency operations remain active.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

14/2/54.

In middle Laos, French Lao offensive action lead to the reoccupation of Mahaxay, despite rebel opposition, while in north Laos, Muong Sai harassed by the Vietminh was reinforced by a paratroop batallion.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

~~14~~ 15/2/54.

The post of Lao Bao on RCQ. Seems to be a point of contact of an undetermined importance for Vietminh regular units.

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18/2/54.

Middle Lao 16 February. Patrol operations took place in the Mahaxai region and around Nhommarath in view of continuing our present progression. store of rice was discovered by one of our patrols.

In the region of Tehepone, Tchepone and ~~W~~ Lao Bao were harassed duirng the day andthe nith.

In sourthern Laos, a convoy was attacked on RC 13 our patrols reported light Vietminh element in the region south of Saravane.

ORA:ps_8-13-71

19/2/54.

On February 13 refugees from Attapeu among whom were M. Khan Khat, chao Muong; M. Nai Phet; directeur du groups scolaire, M. Chaum, infirmier, and M. Souvanh, Phouxouei) arrived in Saravane, and were received by the welcoming committee which gave them clothing and blankets. Many families arriving from Thateng and Lao Ngam also recieved clothing and money.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

22/2/54,

Yesterday was a particularly calm day in Laos.

Patrols circulating around Muong Xai, especially at night, ran into no enemy forces.

North west of Luang Prabang, friendly units searching the area found abandoned Vietminh camps.

Our aircraft bombed and strafed important enemy columns in the Nam Bac region as well as supply depots which burst into violent flames.

In the Paksane area, clean-up operations are continuing without incidents.

In southern and central Laos our patrols, particularly around Namommarath and Dong Hene, operated without enemy resistance. The

Ychepohe and Lao Bao were harassed.

A refugee welcoming and lodging committee was created in Vientiane.

ORA:ps:8-13-81

23/2/54.

Communication from the Lao land forces. Since February 29 the enemy has progressively yielded his hold on the land around our positions at Muong Sai. The 308th division is preparing to regroup and to go into movement.

Our artillery, infantry and aircraft for 18 days, inflicted severe losses on the enemy forces which attempted to take hold on the area surrounding Muong Sai. The 22nd, 7 of the observation units left by the Vietminh in the area were attacked by our troops, and their positions destroyed by our heavy artillery, our aircraft, and our marine. Several fresh groups surrounded the enemy emplacements.

One Vietminh battalion, in retreat, surprised in formation by our aircraft about 10 km east of Muong Sai, suffered severe losses.

In the Nam Ban valley where the enemy is preparing important movements, our aircraft attacked several hundred sampans and rafts, destroyed two bridges, and bombarded enemy personnel in action.

The regional elements which had pushed to within 15 kms of Luang Prabang retreated several days ago. Our patrols are stepping up ~~up~~ their clean penetration reconnaissance.

In southern Laos, our units are continuing their clean up operations east of Thakhek, in the Mahaxai region.

In the area around Tchepone, Lao Bao repulsed a strong night attack. The B-26 bombers staunchly aided their defenders.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

24/2/54.

In Southern Laos, one of our mobile units ran across a light Vietminh element about 10 kms north of Takhek, causing several enemy deaths. In the Tchepone region, pressure points of Thakong and Lao Bao were harassed.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

25/2/54.

For the refugees in Northern Laos. MM. Sing Keo, Ouan Boudharm, and Tiao Thongsoup, respectively resident and members of the provincial refugee welcoming committee, visited yesterday the refugee centers downriver from Luang Prabang for the Nam Ou and Nam Suong refugees. They distributed large quantities of emergency commodities.

Other distributions will be held under the direction of village and district chiefs, especially the distribution of farming instrutments, axes and machetes, to permit the refugees to begin to clear their land.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

26/2/54.

Deep patrols to the north west and the north east of Muong Sai, operating in force oblige the Vietminh to retreat without battle. Vietminh emplacements for several company were discovered as well as stocks of mines and diverse munitions, which the enemy camouflaged.

Our aircraft observed several crossings of the Nam Ou toward the north, on the Mung/Khoua region. In the Luang Prabang sector a friendly patrol crossed an enemy patrol, with out result in the Pak Suong region.

In southern Laos, our patrols are progressing without incident to the east of Mahaxay, where the enemy left a certain number of mines and to the north of Dong Hene.

Lao Bao was harassed as well as Techepone. Our aircraft came to their aid.

Deep patrols continued yesterday around Muong Sai. They discovered more enemy emplacements, installed on the roads around the center of resistance. The enemy manifested no resistance and their light units fled in front of our advance.

Aircraft bombed several raft convoys going both up and down river on the Ban Ou and the Nam Neua.

No reports from the Luang Prabang area.

~~No~~ North west of Ban Ban, 7 north vietnamese defected to franco-Lao patrols. East of Paksane, an amount patrol ran into a strong ambush, causing losses of both sides. After retreating, the patrols returned to the scene under aircover.

ORA:ps:8-13-71

1-3-54

The Communication of the Commandment land forces of Laos 1/3/54 Dar forces Luang Prabang and Muong Sai continued to enlarge their region control in the north of Laos.

In case of the last days of February the enemy retureat was precipated in the West of Na-Ou under the attack of our airtrip. The Frances-Laotian have found out the enemy losses.

Yesterday our recognitions have discovered the numbers of battery site and the Mortars of 81. These pieces of ground were surrounded the big number of impact to the aircal interventions. In the BAN BAN region there were discoveries of deep offensine up to now didn't meet any serious resistance of the adverary.

At night the element of Vietminhs have been dispersed by the army patrol around Pakxane.

In ^MHAHAXAY region our offensive was developped deeply to accross the time stone and reach 40Kms and took the artillery firses of the important instillation logistil Vietminh. In the morning of 28th the Violent encounter has been produced with one element of enymy.

We continued to persue to the South of Thakhek and the enymy has attempted without success to harass the couvoy.

In the South East the same place, the army in the village has captures some Vietminhs.

ORA:FCBenson:ch:8-6-71

2/3/54

THE SITUATION IN THE NORTH OF LAOS

Vientiane (ALP) the communication of Commandment land forces of Laos announce on Monday that the VietMinh retreat precipitated in the North of Laos.

We are pleased to add to day to this good news in the following information.

The large columns of Vietminh soldiers, transported on the stretchers the wounded people who were observed for many days on the mountain roads of Northern part. The Vietminh division, located now largely in the North of NAM BAC RIVER.

Exposed to the strafing and ~~accentuated its retreat movement~~ ~~concentrated its retreat movement~~ precise information on the movements of this division were given not only by air observation and photograph but also by the small numbers of France-Laos detachments behind the enemy and hid in the jungle.

The Lao soldiers who had the habit of walking toward the difficulties and the accident in the North of Laos showed the particular ability of that kind of actions from the Camp, retrenched Luang Prabang and the positions, fortified Muong Sai. The France-Lao unity pushed largely. To the North now behind the ~~Vietminh~~ ~~Unit~~.

ORA:FCBenson:ch:8-6-71

2/3/54.

The communication of commandment land forces of Laos 2/3/54.

No detachments have pursued thier deep recognitions from the region control around Luang Prabang and Muong Sai. They have occupied many centers the people regained certain villages in the region of Muang Sai and sent the delegations to army unity in Vientiane province. The Vietminh troops persued their harass.

On 28th of February 1st of March the small post of CGN has been attacked and bubb, 20 kms to the north of the city. No regular forces have in terfered and the assaillants have avoided. Some infiltrations were signaled in the time stone that borded the road of Paksane to Thakek.

The activity of our patrols in the region of Paksane didn't report any particular incident. The offensive launched Mahsxay on February 22 to accross the lime stone region and arrived Ban Kavak in order to cut the principla lines of Vietminh provasion and internal forces in the south. The army patrol could circulate around the post of Tchepone without incidents.

ORA:ps:8-12-71

3/3/54.

The communication of commandment of land forces of Laos 3/3/54.

In the Luang Prabang region our recognitions pursued in the valley of Nam Pa vigorously. Only one encounter has been registered in the north east of Pak Pa.

In the sector of Xieng Khouang the friendly element launched encounter the rebellion in Nong Het and caused encounter deaths, and the armament 2 the area around Paksane there was friendly patrol activity, an ambush was set by our forces for roving vietminh ~~elements/patrol~~ elements and caused several an numbered deaths.

The area in the south of Laos the ~~the~~ friendly elements reached Ban Kavak and dig out a hole of the land-mine, left by the adversary.

The patrol continued to circulate around Tchepone and have launch encounter with the Viet minhs.

The garrison the Muong Muong (30 kms south and soutwes to ~~Lao~~ Bao) composed with laotianswas hidden conformably. On February 27 the attack was occured by the Vietminh battalion that his presence has surrounded for 10 days operations.

Important progress of our offensive (ALP).

The military authority considered like the important result of the occation by the Franco Laotian forces of Ban Kavak this village, located in the middle of the basin of lime stone region. Stood the important movement of Vietminh provision toward the south of Laos.

This operation was the center of Vietnam (Anciant colonial road) That went through the lime stone toward Phalane and Khong Sedone.

It explains the interest of Vietminh attackment to occupy the Palane post one of the important links of this movement in occupying Ban Kavak the Franco Laotian forces cut the provition lines of Vietminh toward the south of Laos.

They therefore waited for the next time to develop the military situation in the south of Laos.

ORA:ps:8-12-71

4/3/54.

The communication of commandment land forces of Laos. 4//3/54/

The discoveries around Muong Sai went to all directions particularly toward the north east. The vietminh element attempted to oppose the continuence of the friendly unity and used the mortar fire in the north of Muong Sai the people have signaled the presence of a certain viet-minh tombs and injured vietminh near Muong Sai.

Around Luang Prabang, any incide t was to signal. The friendly unities persued the center of resitenace. In the sector of Paksane the acti-vity of our patrols maintin his attempt to trouble vietminh. The action of properganda led by the light elements. The encounter without succeess was produced approximately around Paksane.

In the southern part of Laos any important event, our troops persued the excavetion around Ban Kavak While the guarrel constrained consi-derably the adversary to cut his principal line of communication between their elements of the north and the south. Around the Tchepone the Vietminh seemed to have lost their attention offensive and the patrols of discovery, have not met any elents left by the adversary to ensure the surveillance.

ORA:ps:8-12-71

5/3/54.

The Franco-Laotian troops obtained the important success in the south of the country.

Vientiane (ALP). The important success have been obtained these last by the Franco-Laotian troops in the south province. The column progress around all Mahaxay toward the east has attained: The 1st of March Ban Kavak, located in the large basin. Ban Kavak stood on the principal movement of provision of Viet Minh toward the south of Laos. This movement of Thanh Langxa in the center of Vietnam in order to get through the wood toward Phalane and Khong Sedone to seize Ban Kavak. The Franco-Laotian troops renewed the drilling of soldier who permitted to regain Thakhek on January 20.

Ceasing the road that was stopped to expose to Vietminh ambushes, they got through the wood in borrowing the mountain roads the FAR won the second success yesterday near RCG. the party column of Dong Henh passed Muong Phalane toward the east there fore one of second million of the movement of Vietminh communication toward the south of Laos.

The abandonment of Phongsaly Saigon (ALP) the Vietminh radio has announced the liberation of the city of Phongsaly last day.

City frontier, located in the middle of the mountains of Laos, 115km high in the south east of Aai Chau the military authority remarked this subject that Phongsaly is located in the area surrendered by Franco-Lao forces. They realized that this local had been occupied successfully and surrendered last December by the rebellions.

The communication of commandment land forces of Laos 5/3/54.

The recognitions pursued their prudent actions in the Muong Sai and Luang Prabang regions have not given any particular event.

In the East of Ban Ban. The friendly elements have imposed the adversary losses that caused many people die in the south of Laos the area around Ban Kavak the friendly unity have launched encounter the Vietminh elements.

The cleanness of time stones in the north of Mahaxay pursued without incidents on the RCG. the friendly elements have passed toward the east of Muong Phalane without meeting the opposition of Vietminh. The works were to repair this road.

The garrison of Lao Bao around the enemies could have effected without incidents.

ORA:ps:8-11-71

8/3/54

The Communication of Commandment land forces of Laos 7/3/54.

For small contacts on the territory together inspite of intensification of the activity of our elements. Around Muong Sai our recognitions persuaded the deep action all around the local. In the north the new fresh tombs have been discovered. The isolated elements that have exploded while the offensive Viet Minh rejoined our positions.

Nor east Luang Prabang near Nam Pa the friendly unit was successful in encountering attack the Viet Minh element and imposed many deaths and the armament was recuperated.

In the zone of southern Laos, our units have intensified their discoveries particularly in the region of Ban Ka Vak and Mahaxay where the soft contacts were produced, Dong Henh and Muong Palane on the north of Pakse the small element that took care of the bridge on RLGB has been attacked.

The communication of commandment land forces of Laos 6/3/54.

Any important event on the same territory. The adversary refused to launch encounter attack. In the north of Laos the discoveries of our elements and the patrol system didn't meet any resistance in the Paksane region the activity of our patrol were persuaded.

In the east of the location one depot of 100 tones rice has been taken away, Viet Minh position. In the south of Laos (In the zone of southern Laos) the Viet Minh are avoiding our troops in progression or are organizing observation elements.

The communication of commandment land forces of Laos 8/3/54.

The little event occurred in the same territory. The discovery of the army who continued to plough the land around the Muong Sai and Muong Luang Prabang didn't meet any resistance of influence of the adversary. They've permitted the north of Muong Sai the recuperation of the important friendly unit who from the brutal onslaught of the offensive Viet Minh, escaped the destination to seek the refuge in the jungle. In the north west of Muong Sai the Lao unity stationed in the region has imposed any adversary loss of men and armament. The propaganda/region-tions continued to join their village to earn a living as usual the airtrip was demonstrated

particularly in the Buckly of Pak Ou. Muong Khoua region where the influence occured the Viet Minh elements removed toward the north.

In the operation region of the south any important event was signaled.

ORA:ps:8-11-71

10/3/54.

Gift - infavour of Lao soldiers Sayaboury (ALP).

The Lao women association of Sayaboury has proceeded before yesterday, in the presence of the civil authority and military of the city. Cigarettes and food productions were provided to favor the sick of the agglomeration. On the other hand it did to give Lao soldiers in the passage that theses tributes orgginally came from Chao Khoueng Sayaboury.

Other province of Lao have been already proceeded of the same distributed to favor the refugees of Lao soldiers. Injoured or sick they hoped that the gesture of solidarity would added all the countries that caused many to trauble by the injust war that the vietminh impose on those places.

ORA:ps:8-12-71

11/3/54.

The communication of commandment ~~at~~land forces of Lao 11/3/54.

In the north Laos there was any new evetns while there were many movement in a place of some contracts in the south.

In Muong Sai and Luang Prabang region our recognitions continued digging land and regaining the contact with the population in case of the encounter in the north east region of Luang Prabang the adversary has some loses.

In the northwest of Ban Bam the enemy elements were attacked by the friendly patrols who estroyed many Vietminh combats. The outside combat in Paksane gegion the local actions of sanitation was persued to trouble the Vietminh in his provision and his country of propaganda.

In the zone of Southern Laos our units extended thier zone of action in Ban Kavak region they hurt the Vietminh elements by the intervention of artillery.

The enemy was pushed back and surrendered some armaments on the ground in Mahaxay region any incident ended of our recognitions all around the local other contacts were in Tchepone. Paksane and Saravane. At the end they noted from some days that Viet minhs prevened their attainment around the posts of Tchepone and Lao Bao. The defenders of these two posts that supported for many weeks heroice sieze reported with ternacity of the attack during the day and night that succeeded without interruption. They proved to send the patrols around their positions without meeting the real enemy resistance.

In fact the light Vietminh element seemed to subsist alone. It is possible to conclude that were watching the Vietminh retreating in the south of Laos.

It must wait again for some days to be able to answeré this question.

ORA:ps:8-12-71

22/3/54.

The communication of commandment land forces of Laos 21 March 54.

In the north of Laos, reoccupation of Pakseng. In the general parts of Laos there are many encounters of the patrols. In Nam Ban region any contact was not produced. The Franco-Laotian units in case of the recognitions have discovered one stock of 20 tones rice and the boxes of munitions. The friendly army combat may have recuperated. In the north east of Luang Prabang, Pakseng has been attained near the workmanship who is surprised of the adversary. Here nothing opposed the progress of our troops and his reaction was too late to be effective. In the north of Thakhek there were new contacts. The combats, signaled yesterday in Ban Kavak region, have cost more than 100 deaths and wounded of adversary the engagements of the patrols were produced in the same region. Different nightly actions led by our elements in the Tchepne region have arranged many combats. VM. outside combat and the armament has been recuperated.

Evacuation of the wounded of Dien Bien Phu. Vientiane (ALP). Many helicopters assured evacuation of the wounded of Dien Bien Phu on Muong Sai. They were arrived at the weakened to Vientiane. After working hard they came and went to support on the mountain in order to transport the wounded of retrench camp of Dien Bien Phu. It was necessary to proceed the revision of their motors at the end.

In discussing about the subject of life saving of the wounded of Dien Bien Phu the pilots of helicopters have declared "the trail of Dien Bien Phu was submissive to the bombardment of Vietminh mortars, and the pieces of 105 without stopping; we stationed on the land suffering 15 minutes by means of keeping the right time to embark the six wounded that one of the apparatus can have his board taken. Up to now the adversary has refused to stop fighting at the end in order to permit the sanitary evacuations. Fortunately the number of shells that were thrown by Vietminh batteries didn't explode. The certain shell grane on the bottom of 1945 that was proved they are not the new fabrication. The Vietminh shots were all precisions, we have heard that they were adjusted by the Chinese artillerymen to make war of Korea.

The French hunters always increased around Dien Bien Phu. They were infuriated particularly on the adverse batteries setting fire to namalm and bomb incendiaries the slopes, dominated the Dien Bien Phu basin were occupied by the enemy, but many adverse batteries were installed, in the hole of the rock of solid protector that is very hard to discover all parts the other, changing the place constantly and returned to their lodging difficultly. The defenders of camp retrench went and came under the bombardments without causing trouble on the land where the shell raised the small clouds of dusts, we have seen the mechanic, sould with a stethoscope every body's quiet one of the helicopters was in the reparation and every one pursued his work with astonishing mistake of danger.

ORA:ps:8-12-71

23/3/54.

Communication of commandment land forces of Lao 23/3/54.

In the north Laos the activity supported the Franco-Laotian troops didn't give any particular incident.

At the beginning of March the Vietminh groupment came to Kham Keut and attempted to reach the Mekong between Paksane and the Tha Khek slackened by our guerilla, then continued on our position they faced the difficult situation and were pursued that by our light elements.

On the day of 22 our operant forces in the north of Ban Kavak have made the new bound toward the north. The Vietminh has opposed them then one fierce resistance about 15 kms to the south of Va Phao.

During the violent combat our troops have imposed the adversary of great losses. They have occupied the objectives that was fixed them at the end of the day.

The Vietminh element has been despensed by the friendly detachment in the Tchepone region near the short engagement. In Pakse region the ~~ad~~ adversary has lost many wounded during the encounter was provoked by one of our reconnaissance.

ORA:ps:8-12-71

23/3/54.

The sanitary helicopters of Muong Sai. (ALP) (Muong Sai).

From time to time Muong Sai became the point of contact of the small ~~sa~~ squadron of helicopter employed to save the wounded of Dien Bien Phu as a result of this Muong Sai is the airport where the camp retrench about 90 Kms of the flight led to Thongsai by helicopters, the wounded were finally transported by sanitary airplane to the Hanoi hospitals.

We would like to render us on the manific work, fulfilled by the helicopters of Muong Sai every day. The airplane that flew around the basis of Muong Sai before landing we observed the places. The helicopters are the big complete quarter of the trail. They are like the big locusts putting on the small stone. The trail of Muong Sai henceforth promoted the order of aerodrome, was surrounded the multitude of the washed level and the deducted. This is the pressure points of the camp retrench that resisted a good month of all vietminh assaults.

On our arrival, the small squadron of helicopter was prepared precisely to get this flight in the direction of Dien Bien Phu. One by one the locusts rise in the sky. They were grouped and despaired toward the north many of them that assisted this scenery succeeded in hiding their emotion difficultly each one consequently knew that the ~~Viet~~ Viet Minh fired all places that attempted to be near the camp retrench.

Two hours passed it is the time for the small squadron to effectuate going and coming between Muong Sai and Dien Bien Phu every one has the eye fixed toward the sky in the direction of the north but it is that the small dart points appeared to horizon, the small squadron is successful in passing and coming back. It bring back the new contingent wounded the sanitary dakota waited on the land. Their two big posts closed. It is ready to receive the wounded of Dien Bien Phu. Most of them that come to arrive are not injured too much the great wounded of the week disposed seeme all escaped to the Hanoi hospitals now. The lasts between them were saved by dokotas that manage on the land at night of Dien Bien Phu 48 hours age. Almost all of them who arrived got pain of the bombardments none of two has not escaped at the right time and the shell caused him some scathes and recieved grenade on the foot.

On Sunday 14 March there was a strong attack of North Point.

It rested about 2 hundreds wounded ~~100~~ escaped but the more grave attain his place. The pilots who told us these detail, and accounted us about their trips. In spite of our strict sanitary role and great red cross write on the side of our apparatus. They explain to us. The Vietminh encounter us when we arrived the violent barrier of DCA we have to pass the higher summit above. In order to ~~escape~~ escape from the counter attack we have managed to put us in exiguous place near the surgical yard arm. Exactly in ~~15~~ 14 minutes we had embarked our contingent of the wounded and gone away.

Finally the enemy reached outside and we were regrouped in order to pass

on the mountains and attacked Muong Sai. For a while we went away for our second term of the day and we wished you to believe that all the wounded of Dien Bien Phy would be saved by sanitary dakota we were good defenders of deducted camp.

ORA:ps:8-12-71

25/3/54.

Communication of commandment land forces of Laos 23/3/54.

In the north of Lao the Franco-Laotian patrols and reconnaissance troops persued to ~~regain~~ regain a contact with the populations and explore the land. In the Vientiane region the garrison of the post has been attacked and has suffered the losses.

Generally in Laos the violence of the engagements was attennated the encounter of large adverse forces. The Vietminh elements have been dispersed near Ban Sa Ang and the repid intevention of artillery defeated the assembling of Vietminh unit and caused them certian losses. We have recuperated the rice the material telephonic and the bicycles.

ORA:ps:8-12-71

27/3/54.

The other escapees of Sam Neua have arrived Vientiane.

Vientiane (ALP) We have begun yesterday the account of the notable super survivor of disaster in Sam Neua this notable tells us today about the life of the villagers who are under the occupation of Vietminh all the villagers were organized in brigades semi-military extremely rigid who carried us away from liberty.

They were divided into many groups possessing each one by one responsible chief. Groups of the children from six to ten years old who were especially charged to take the message. Groups of the young from 10 to 17 years old were in charge of the work. Groups of the adults from 18 to 55 years old are good for fatigue duty done by soldiers to keep up the trail. Groups of the old men who had good stamina take the torch a night to observe the column of porter. These groups were divided into two groups one is the women and another is men they see therefore that only the children at the breast was not organized in brigade of the contract that condemned all to work about every day.

The population was reunited in the village to listen the speech of the propagandist at finally they designed the statute labour the small ones and the big ones. Theoretically they demanded the notice of assistance on the decisions taken but practically the one who had dared to give the opposite notice to the chief could be avoided the worst even. Every one therefore said nothing.

The Viet minh required all healthy people of two carriages per year. each one could endure three months by means of six months for two carriages.

They followed the troops in operation to carry the over loaded like the beasts exposed in the danger with machine bombardment and the ambush. Those who rested in the village were subjected to the regime. It was possible for him to set bad behaviors and was displeased to ~~every thing~~ every thing. No one dared to say any words. It is the same as his neighbors they were happy to speak about the rain and the beautiful time and a little bit about the small events that existed without being able to say something that is like the critical matter of the new order.

All were shocked terribly by the necessity in the village where 2 discovered. It was not like in Sam Neua. The Vietminhs had not requisitioned all. It was very bad to see them making meal a little bit copious because the respected the ancient region where they ate well or the French way who ate too much they excited the poor the sick the villager were set up against the former officials. The husband could not require his wife to bring the glass of water nor the father order his son to work less.

On the 2nd of February at night 2 was invited to represent myself in front of Tasseng the next morning. I am waiting may be returned to the prisoner camp and maybe went to work hard for three months that were deadly between us at the same night 2 spoke with my brother. Late of the month we arrived all in Ban Ban we had unknown the alert road and insolvent my arrival in Vientiane in decated me long treatment in the hospital for 2 have suffered.

The ones who had not known the life that we led for one year could not understand.

In Laos the Vietminhs attempted to take land and they were worst to understand nothing our country.

ORA:ps:8-17-71

17/9/54.

The aggression of Vietminh in province of Sam Neua.

Vientiane (ALP)

Not many days later the Lao army who built fort in Sam Neua province have been attacked many times, day after day the fighting was crowded.

On September 8, 9 the Lao army who stayed in Houa Xieng, about 60 kms to the south of Sam Neua have been invaded violently by Vietminh of more than 70 people. Lieutenant Thao Phia who commanded those Lao army has been wounded and captured by Vietminh and 38 Lao army lost.

Next, the information said that the Vietminh had violated Lao army in two positions. One troop of Lao army was in Ban Tao area to the southeast part of Sam Neua. Another Lao troop was in Hao Nong region about 20 kms to Sam Neua. Two regions of Lao fort have been attacked by Vietnamese. After that Lao army were disappointed because they didn't hope so that there was going to be fighting after the treaty was signed to stop fighting a month ago. The aggression happened in a place where the Vietminh joined each other in the group to arrange rebellion until September 5.

In this case the Lao government denominated the violation of the treaty to the committee of Khang Khay to consider.

During the month of August the Vietminh soldiers agitated the Lao army in the area around Sam Neua then the Lao government denounced but the international committee who stopped fighting in Laos didn't come to live in Vientiane now the committee between the nations had permanent residence they hoped to send the representatives to Sam Neua and Phongsaly as soon as possible in order to investigate and make the condition of two provinces better.

Saravanh people were suffering from lack of food. Saravan: As the fighting of Vietminh occurred in Saravan from the beginning of the month. Saravan people could not raise crops as the season. The rice that stored in the house to support when they were hungry had already finished so things got worse and expensive the Lao government worried too much about the poverty of Saravan people therefore 100 tones of rice were provided and the Lao women association were responsible for distributing as the wife of Mr. Liab Chao Khoueng Saravan.

Many people including boys and girls men and women more than hundred people came to the city of Saravan to get food. On the other hand the members of women association had been sent to a place where it is far to distribute rice to villagers. The receivers were very happy to receive goods and didn't know how to thank you.

ORA:ps:8-5-71

22/9/54.

Lao~~s~~ government advertisements the Lao government were in agreement with Wietminh to withdraw the soldiers as:

1. Let the French troop organize in Luang Prabang, Vientiane, La Plaine Des Jarres, Pakse, Savannakhet Seno and after that the French troop had to stay in Seno where it was permanent.

2. Permitted the French troop of 1.500 people to live in every camp of Lao army.

3. Release the Vietminh orgnized each other in.

- A. The Northern part of Phongsaly
- B. Sop Nao Xieng Khoueng Sam Neua
- C/ Thoulakhom Vientiane
- D. Senoy Thakhek
- E. Muong May Attoupeu

4. Before September 5, 1954 the Vietminh troopp was permitted to live in

- A. Muong Ngou Luang Prabang
- B. Muong Pheuang Vientiane
- C. Muong Mok Muong Ngane Xieng Khouang
- D. Sebagn Hieng Muong Nong Savannakhet
- E. Lao Ngam Saravane
- Ø. Phia Phay Champassak.

Ø.

The Sam Neu-aand Phongsaly provinces had not been arranged the troops yet and the Lao Veit could come and go between the two provinces from Sop S ng to Muong Hebb.

5. The numbers of Lao-Viet who would be liberated might return their home without ~~punishment~~ punishment.

6. For Lao-Viet who didn't need to free would move from their land and go to Sam Neua and Phongsaly (before November 21. The Lao Viet soldiers in Muong Ngoy would have to move to Phongsaly one the other troops in another $\frac{1}{2}$ part ~~will~~ would have also to move to Sam Neua through Vietnam.

ORA:ps:8-4-71

24/11/54.

THE VIET-NAMESE FORCES REMAINING IN LAOS.

Vientiane (ALP)

The Vietminh radio announced that the number of Vietnamese forces had already left Laos Sunday night of November 16, but the social committees didn't know and accept this.

Besides that the information said that the Lao army troop, locted in Pong Nang of Phongsaly has been attacked violently on November 18, by the Vietminh troop and Pong Nagg is located on the right side of the ~~bank~~ bank of these fore lthe event happened near Luang Prabang.

When this ocured it had to be inform~~ed~~ the social committees to show that how much the Vietminh respect the treaty. It was to be remembered on March 4, the Vietminh troop agrees to respect the Lao government ~~and~~ ~~and~~ and its policy in Phong Saly and Sam Neua provinces. According to the Vietminh radio it was not true tosay that ~~Vietminh~~ Vietminh had all gone from Lao region on November 16.

ORA:ps:8-4-71