

Laos Communique Plays Up Fighting

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP) — Some shots have been fired again in the Laotian civil war and Premier Prince Boun Oum's government issued a communique yesterday playing up the action as fierce fighting. Informed Western sources played it down as minor skirmishing.

Communist North Viet Nam was accused anew of reinforcing the neutralist-Pathet Lao rebels behind lines largely dormant since the proclamation of a cease-fire last May. The communique named two North Vietnamese regiments which allegedly moved into Xieng Khouang Province.

There was speculation among Westerners that the communique was aimed to revive fears of a new and perhaps broader war in retaliation for U.S. pressure on Boun Oum to bow out

and cooperate in the formation of a national unity government under Prince Souvanna Phouma, the neutralist premier-designate.

Western military men, who have taken previous charges of North Vietnamese intervention with several grains of salt, said they had no confirmed evidence of Red reinforcements or any major resurgence of battlefield activity.

The point of agreement was that there had been trouble, what ever its scope, on the Tha Thom sector southeast of Xieng Khouang.

Western sources reported there was some fighting there, not on any great scale. The government said the rebels launched a violent attack on Tha Thom after Soviet planes dropped them weapons and supplies. By its account, rebel 105mm howitzers fired more than

150 shells at the defenders.

U.S. army officers in the field as observers and U.S. reconnaissance fliers keep in close touch with developments across the jungle kingdom.

The government's communique, its second of an alarmist nature within 24 hours, was authorized by Gen. Phoumi Nosavan, pro-Western deputy whose army has been built up with American help from 25,000 to 70,000 men.

Boun Oum reneged last month on his agreement to join in such a regime—to include rightists, neutralists and the Pathet Lao of pro-Communist Prince Souphanouvong, Souvanna's half-brother.

The 14-nation Laotian conference in Geneva unanimously invited the feuding princes—whose Vientiane summit conference collapsed at its outset Dec. 27—to settle their differences in Geneva.

The main argument is on whether rightist, neutralist or Pathet Lao men should hold the key ministries of the interior police and defense.



Souvanna Phouma

Conferences Set on Slate For Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy returned to Washington last night for conferences which will bear heavily on the fate of his program in the congressional session opening next week.

The chief executive's big jet landed at Andrews Air Force Base in nearby Maryland at 5:56 p.m. EST after a flight of an hour and 38 minutes from West Palm Beach Fla.

Kennedy left at once for the White House by car.

Mrs. Kennedy and the couple's two children will remain a few days longer at the Palm Beach oceanfront estate where the first family spent the holidays.

The President plunges today into meetings with congressional leaders he will call on to put through the legislative proposals he will offer the session which begins Wednesday.

With a few hours out for a political sortie to Ohio today Kennedy plans to work right through the weekend.

Between discussions of legislative strategy, he will meet with his top Berlin lieutenant and his intelligence chief to review foreign problems.

Before leaving Florida Friday, Kennedy visited his ailing-but-improving father, took a boat ride and got an encouraging report on U.S.-space progress.

Radar Speed Checking Passes First Legal Test

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pennsylvania's newest weapon against highway speeders—radar—passed its first legal test yesterday.

Presiding Judge Benjamin Lencher of Allegheny County Court upheld constitutionality of the radar speed law in finding truck driver W. L. Bartley of Irwin guilty of speeding

on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Bartley is liable to a fine of \$10. But his counsel, Atty. A. A. Bluestone said the verdict would be appealed to the State Superior Court.

The test case arose last Sept. 17 when Bartley, a driver for the Kramer Bros. freight line, was stopped and given a ticket by state police who had clocked his speed with radar.

Officers said Bartley was traveling 60 miles an hour in a 50-mile zone between the Butler Valley and Allegheny Valley interchanges. Bartley claimed he was driving at 49 miles an hour.

He later received a summons to pay a \$10 fine and \$5 costs, but he posted bond and appealed to the county court.

A vehicle being checked by radar goes through the narrow radar beam in only a fraction of a second, but that is long enough to pinpoint its speed with almost perfect accuracy according to state police.

Army Reaches Top Manpower

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army has cut sharply its draft calls for the next two months because it has reached its manpower goals, including personnel to man two new regular divisions ordered activated this week.

The Defense Department announced yesterday a February draft call of 8,000 men and one for March of 6,000, all for the Army. The Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force do not intend to ask the Selective Service for any draftees.

The March figure is the same as that for last July before the threat to Berlin set off quick reinforcement of U.S. military strength. The draft quotas rose to 13,000 in August and hit a peak of 25,000 in September. They have been easing off since.

One big factor in reaching the "strength objective," the department said, was a big jump in voluntary enlistments — a 20 per cent improvement.

Half of the manpower increase during the buildup has come from inductions. This figure does not include the callup of 119,000 National Guardsmen and Reservists in that period.

Peru Kills Special Powers

LIMA, Peru (AP)—Peru's Senate Thursday night adopted a House-approved bill repealing the country's law giving President Manuel Prado special powers to repel Communist infiltration. The vote was unanimous.

New Candidates Join Hopetuls In Governorship, Senate Races

HARRISBURG (AP)—Pennsylvania's major parties have lots of unofficial candidates for governor and/or the U.S. Senate this year, but only three have identified themselves as actively seeking a top post.

The list of announced candidates for governor grew Thursday night when Sen. George N. Wade, R-Cumberland, reported he is seeking the chief executive job and has the backing of four county chairmen.

He would be seeking the Republican nomination against Elkins Wetherill, Montgomery County commissioner.

The third announced candidate from the major parties is U.S. Sen. Joseph S. Clark, who said early last year that he plans to seek re-election.

That leaves a large field of unannounced "candidates." Superior Court Judge Robert E. Woodside has made no public pronouncement of his candidacy, but reportedly has the inside track for the gubernatorial nomination.

Rep. James E. Van Zandt, Blair County has indicated his

availability for either post. The political speculation casts him in the role as GOP candidate for the Senate.

Richardson Dilworth, Philadelphia mayor, is virtually unopposed as a prospect for the Democratic nomination for governor.

Clark appears to be unopposed for the Senate seat. If he should change his mind, Gov. Lawrence, who cannot by law succeed himself as governor — could be available.

THE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
A GALLERY TALK BY HERBERT AACH
AT HIS ONE EXHIBITION
HETZEL UNION BUILDING GALLERY
TUESDAY JANUARY 9, 1962 - 7:00 P.M.

Indian Peace Policy To Continue—Nehru

PATNA, India (AP)—Prime Minister Nehru declared yesterday India's "policy of peace will continue" despite the fact some American and British newspapers have called him a hypocrite because of India's occupation of Portuguese Goa and other territories by force.

In a one-hour speech to India's ruling Congress party convention, Nehru said: "These newspapers described me as a double-faced man, a humbug and a hypocrite."

"They said I was pretending to be an angel of peace on one hand and a tyrant on the other."

The United States and Britain, he said, were angered because "they do not like Asia and Africa moving forward and progressing. They do not like the world changing and changing so fast and so rapidly."

One reason India acted in Goa was that it might become a foreign military base, especially since Portugal was a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and threaten India's neutrality, Nehru said.

Nehru spoke after a Congress

committee adopted a resolution toning down war talks against Communist China and Pakistan.

The resolution, drafted by Nehru and certain to be accepted by the full convention, accused India's neighbors of being "in illegal and forcible occupation of our territories," but said the government "should seek all avenues of peaceful settlement."

Bus Company, Union Agree

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (AP)—A federal mediator reported yesterday that a tentative agreement has been reached between the Edwards Motor Transit Co. and its union bus drivers and mechanics.

LAST TIMES TODAY WALT DISNEY'S SENSATION "BABES IN TOYLAND"

1:30 - 3:30
5:30

CATHAUM

TONIGHT 7:30 - 9:15 - 11:00 P.M.

'61-INTERNATIONAL AWARD—"ONE OF 10 BEST"

"ABSOLUTELY STAGGERING...BRILLIANT!"
—Crowther, N. Y. Times

"Brawling and exhilarant abandon on the screen!" —Time

"A GEM!"
—Beckley, Herald Tribune

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with SHIRLEY ANNE FIELD, RACHEL ROBERTS and starring HYLDA BAKER

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SUNDAY at 2:05 - 3:50 - 5:35 - 7:25 - 9:13

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★ **BLOOD ROSES** ★
at 2:30 - 5:20 - 8:10 P.M.