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## **March 27, 1957**

### **Kolisa-57 Special Report No. 2, 'Trip to Laos'**

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#### **Summary:**

Choi Duk Shin reports on his four day trip to Laos in March 1957.

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March 27, 1957

CONFIDENTIAL.

KOLISA-57 SPECIAL REPORT No.2  
TRIP TO LAOS.

Excellency,

I have the honour to submit my Special Report concerning my trip to Laos.

On March 18, 1957, the day of my departure for Laos, at 0730 hours the Laotian Minister in Vietnam came out to the airport and transmitted to me the message of welcome of his government. The plane departed at 0745 hours. At 1140 hours when our mission arrived in Vientiane, the Laotian capital, two Laotian government officials were at the airport to greet us. One is the Deputy Chief of Protocol and the other is the Director of the Defense Ministry. Our mission was guided to the governmental guest house. At noon on the same day the said Director of Defense Ministry invited us to a luncheon, and at the luncheon table I was advised by Protocol that we would be received by the Prime Minister at 1600 hours. Throughout the four days stay we were treated as guests of the Government.

I am confident that the trip was worthwhile and I report the details of the trip to Your Excellency as follows:

1. General description of Laos
2. Summary of political development since GENEVA
3. Meeting with Laotian people
4. Meeting with foreign diplomatic heads in Laos
5. Conclusions.

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1. General description of Laos.

I attach with this report a pamphlet called "The Kingdom of Laos - Land of Enchantment in Southeast Asia".

I believe in this pamphlet there is a good, concise, brief but correct description of the general situation concerning the history of the country; the government; National Defense; religion and their culture, also education and the Laotian economy.

2. Summary of political development since GENEVA.

I received a copy of an information sheet from the U.S. Embassy in Laos. It describes the political development and present situation quite clearly. I would like to attach it with this report for the information of Your Excellency.

3. Meetings with Laotian people.

a. First luncheon in Laos.

My first contact with the Laotian officials in Laos was a luncheon to which I was invited by the Director of the Defense Ministry, Colonel Abhay. At the same table there were also present the Deputy Chief of Protocol and the Chief of the Cabinet of the Prime Minister's Office.

The Deputy Chief of Protocol speaks fairly good English. The host, Colonel Abhay, could understand English conversation, but the Chief of Cabinet could understand only a little English. However, the atmosphere at the luncheon was very friendly and the whole impression I received was a good one.

At the same luncheon we were advised that the Prime Minister would see us at 1600 hours and the same evening the Prime Minister would invite us to a reception.

b. Courtesy call on the Prime Minister,  
His Highness Prince Tiao Sourvamra Phouma.

The Prime Minister, whom I had met before briefly as he was passing through Saigon on his way to Paris, is the man who

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actually has the full power to administrate the Kingdom of Laos. He is also Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister for National Defense.

At 1530 the same day of our arrival, the Deputy Chief of Protocol guided us on a 30-minute drive to the countryside mansion of the Prime Minister. It is a simple western style wooden constructed building. Not luxurious at all and more on the order of a rich farmer's house.

The Prime Minister speaks English fairly well and told me that he could understand me if I would speak slowly. Apparently, he does not like to use an interpreter, preferring rather to speak slowly in English.

I thanked him for his kindness rendered to us and for having granted us an audience with him. I then told him of my long desire to see his country dating from 1954 when the Dien Bin Phu crisis was at its highest point and when our President, Your Excellency, had offered several divisions of troops to defend the Kingdom of Laos from the invasion by the Communists. He remembered this and expressed his appreciation. He responded to me after my greeting by saying that it was a pleasure to welcome to his country for the first time a Korean.

Since this occasion was the first call on the highest official of Laos and I felt he would not be prepared to engage with me in a longer talk, I refrained my conversation to a courtesy one.

The Prime Minister listened to me with much attention. However, he did not talk much to me. This was apparently because of two reasons: one, is his ability to speak in English is handicapped; the other is that because of the delicate political situation, he is required to be very careful of his statements.

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After about forty minutes talk we said goodby to him. He reminded us that we would be invited to the reception that same evening and also told us that he would invite us to a dinner on the 19th of March. We accepted all of his invitations with great pleasure.

c. Prime Minister's Reception,  
evening of March 18th.

The reception was a cocktail and buffet dinner marking the occasion of the closing of the session of the National Assembly. The Assembly has been in session continuously since last year and the congressmen wanted a recess. The Prime Minister invited all the Assemblymen and high ranking Laotian officers to attend. I found it rather strange that I could not see any foreign diplomatic representatives present except several Europeans, who are apparently Frenchmen, advisors to the Laotian Government, and we three Koreans.

On this occasion the Deputy Chief of Protocol was most kind in introducing us to the most important figures in Laos. I met the President of the National Assembly (Lower House), the President of the Royal Council (Upper House), the Acting Foreign Minister and several congressmen. There were only a very few who could speak English and my own French is really very poor. However, Protocol acted as the interpreter.

During the buffet dinner the Prime Minister several times came close to me and asked if I liked the food and also asked me to take more as the Orient host usually does. The buffet lasted until late evening. We said goodnight to the Prime Minister at about eleven o'clock. It was indeed a splendid opportunity to meet many Laotian dignitaries.

d. Reception given by the Speaker of the Assembly on  
evening of March 19th.

The Assembly ended its year-long special session on March 15 /6/ without reaching a political settlement with the Pathet Lao dissi-

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dents. He said the problem could not be solved because Pathet Lao terms were too fraught with potential dangers to the nation.

The reception given by the Speaker was on a much larger scale because it included the foreign diplomatic representatives. We were accompanied to the reception by the Deputy Chief of Protocol and there were already many people in the reception hall and he presented us to those whom we had not met at the previous evening's reception. I was introduced to all diplomatic heads in Laos. The only two diplomatic heads of missions I knew before the reception are the U.S. Ambassador and the Vietnamese Minister whom I had visited before this reception. Protocol also directed my attention to a man with a mustache saying that he was the leader of the Pathet Lao, the half-brother of the Prime Minister. I was interested to notice him and took a little more attention of him. He is a 40-year old man and looks indeed very physically strong. Hewas not active at all in this gathering and only occasionally did a few people talk to him.

This reception also afforded me a fine opportunity to meet many people in the gathering.

In this gathering I met an Assembly man who spoke fairly good English. We had a comparatively long talk. This man is one of the few English-speaking men who has had more of an opportunity to attend international conferences and who understands the international situation better. Even so he does not have a very clear picture of the Korean problem. I had to explain to him with much endurance.

Again it was a wonderful opportunity to be invited by the Speaker of the Assembly to attend such a large reception.

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e. Attended the dinner given by Prime Minister  
in honour of our Mission.

On March 19th at 2000 hours we were invited to attend the dinner given by the Prime Minister. When we arrived at his countryside mansion he was awaiting our arrival at the entrance and very cordially guided us to his salon. He had invited several of his Cabinet Members and the only foreign diplomat present was the U.S. Ambassador, J. Graham Parsons.

During the cocktail hour, the Minister of Religion, said that the Thai Ambassador in Laos was making very good propaganda for Laos by saying that just across the Mekong River is Thai territory. That the people located there would have to build strong and high walls to protect their houses, but that the people in Vientiane only now have to build a very low wall. When the U.S. Ambassador interpreted this for me, I said to the Prime Minister that I had to praise the peaceful feeling in Vientiane very highly. I further told him that I felt very secure and I did not have to lock my door before going to bed and even when we go out we do not have to worry about the things we leave behind. There are no policemen in sight, but that I felt very "secure". The Prime Minister responded in a very humble way saying that it may be true in this town but not in the villages and in the smaller towns. The Minister for Religion explained by saying that the Communist element will not allow the people to have a peaceful and quiet time in the villages and in the smaller towns.

During the dinner we could not have much conversation because the only good interpreter between us was the U.S. Ambassador and I really could not trouble him too much. Near the end of the dinner the Prime Minister proposed a toast to the Korean people and its President, Your Excellency. I responded by proposing a toast to the everlasting happiness of His Majesty the King and

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the Laotian people and also to my host. After the dinner conversation ranged from farming to culture. The Prime Minister told us he is a farmer. He has almost everything a farmer should possess.

We then turned our talk to culture, especially touching on the religious culture of the country. I told them how strong was the influence of Buddhist culture in Korea and told him of the Buddhist religion in Korea and of the Buddhist College (Dong-Kuk College), how the Communists in North Korea destroyed completely the temples and pagodas and no religion could exist in Communist controlled areas. This was expertly and kindly translated by the U.S. Ambassador to them. The Prime Minister then expressed his willingness to invite Buddhist representatives from Korea to attend the 2500 years anniversary ceremony in the coming autumn of this year. He made this known to his Minister for Religion also. I was very glad to learn of his decision to invite Buddhist representatives from Korea and with great pleasure to report to Your Excellency that they are going to extend this invitation through my Legation here in Saigon. I humbly wish that Your Excellency will instruct the appropriate authority on this matter and establish contact with this Legation on this matter.

f. Call on the Speaker of the National Assembly.

At 0900 hours in the morning of March 20th, I paid a visit to the Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr. Pheng Phongsavan. We had about an hour's talk through the medium of Protocol's interpretation. Because it seemed to me that he was anxious to know more about our country and our people, I spoke quite clearly along the lines of those points which I will mention in (3 (k)) and also told him about the Buddhist culture and Buddhist religion of our country. I also made known to him

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the fact that the Prime Minister had decided to invite Korean Buddhist representatives to Laos in the coming 2500 Anniversary of Buddha's birthday.

I then inquired of him of the political situation of his country. He told me that the special session of the National Assembly had ended without any concrete solution on the Pathet-Lao's problem. He said that the Pathet people (the Communists) demand too much and which they cannot give.

I frankly told him that in my opinion the whole problem of Asia hangs on Red China. If the map of the Mainland of China cannot become "blue" instead of "red" then I could see no bright future for Asia. He agreed with this opinion. However, he tried to explain the "neutral" policy of Laos in connection with this. He said that because his nation was a small one and is bordering on China, North Vietnam, Burman, on the whole Northern part of his country that his country has to adopt a "neutral" position.

I told him that I could understand why his country would have to adopt the so-called "neutral" position. I further had to tell him that the tactics of the Communists, as I had experienced them, was to expound "peace" or "co-existence" when they had no confidence of winning. However, when they are ready they will not grant any "mercy" toward the "weak". They will pretend to "co-existence" or "peace" with their neighbours until they feel sure of their might to take a country at a first blow. I told him the Communists had miscalculated in Korea when they made the unprovoked attack on us in June of 1950. They did not believe the spirit of the free Korean people was so strong despite the weakness of the strength of our defense preparations. They did not believe that the United Nations would render immediate assistance to deter the aggression. They just miscalculated!

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I told him further that I as a military man sees the situation here in Laos that I hardly believed that Red China or Red Vietnam would dare to openly attack Laos with military actions. The Communists well experienced in Korea and they well know that Laos is a member of the United Nations and that she also would be immediately protected by SEATO. I told him that as I view the situation the Communists are not yet ready to risk it. Therefore, there is no immediate danger of open attack. However, there exist at all time dangers of Communist subversion, infiltration and other Communist customary tactics which we have to meet carefully.

Our talks were interpreted by Protocol who speaks fairly good English. The Speaker seemed to understand most of my talk. However, I could not detect any firm signs that he will change his thinking at once, which I did not expect either because the disease of "neutralism" already spread in this area a very long time ago.

In any event, we became quite well acquainted with him in such a frank talk. Our interview lasted about one hour.

g. Call on Minister for Religion.

Since the Kingdom of Laos is a Buddhist Nation, in the structure of the Government they created a Ministry of Religion. I called on the Minister at 1000 hours on March 20th. When I entered his office I saw a yellow-clad monk sitting in front of the Minister. The Minister introduced me to the monk. I found that he possesses a very high position amongst the monks.

The Minister then informed me that his Government had decided to invite Korean Buddhist representatives to attend the 2500 Anniversary ceremony. I expressed to him my appreciation for his kind consideration and promised to transmit their kind intention to my superiors.

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I then acquainted him with a little information about Buddhism in Korea and its culture. The Minister and the monk appeared quite interested in what I had to tell them. I then told them how the Communists had destroyed all the temples and Pagodas and that the Buddhist religion no longer exists in the Northern part of Korea which is under Communist rule. Of course, I further told them that the Communists destroy all religions because they have no respect for a man's religion. The Minister then asked me if in Red China there are religious activities. I had to tell him that Red China is only pretending to respect religion because she well knows the nations in Southeast Asia all have their own religions. Since Red China has such large ambitions to expand its territory toward these areas which are religious areas that she must "pretend" to respect religion. Even the mentioned activities of religion in Red China actually are also a part of Communist propaganda work. I told him that it was my firm belief that no religion could exist under Communist rule.

I further said that I believed that facts of disrespect and abuse of religions by the Communists would be good anti-Communist propaganda value.

Our talk was interpreted by Protocol and it lasted about thirty minutes.

h. Call on Deputy Prime Minister.

I made an appointment on March 20th at 1100 hours to call on the Deputy Prime Minister, Katay Don Sasurith. Protocol became suddenly ill and we thought that the Deputy Prime Minister could speak English. However, when we saw him and commenced our talk, he told me that he could understand a little of what we were saying but that he could not speak to us. Because of the language difficulty we could not have much talks at all. It is my regret that I have not been able to learn a little more French in the past

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eleven months staying in Saigon so that I could have spoken more freely to the people in Laos. Although we could not exchange much conversation, still it was a worthwhile acquaintance with him. The U.S. Ambassador told me that the Deputy Prime Minister is a very strong anti-Communist and since his appointment as Deputy Prime Minister he has tried very hard to convince the other members of the Cabinet to adopt an anti-Communist policy. There are times I understand when he is not in agreement with the Prime Minister.

i. Call on the Commander of the Laotian Armed Forces.

To visit an Army General is always my pleasure. Of course, the Laotians do not have a large army in comparison with her international situation. However, I do feel that the existing standing army consisting of some 40,000 men is a big burden on the population.

On March 21st at 1000 hours I made a call on the only General in the country, 43-age tall gentleman, Brigadier General Southone Patthammovang at his office. Since Protocol had not yet recovered from his illness, I had to ask the Director of the Defense Ministry Colonel Abhay to accompany us to see this General.

The General expressed his welcome and asked if I could tell him some of my impressions. I told him that since Communist Red China and the Red Vietnam are not in a position to openly attack his country militarily, I felt there was much more danger of the customary Communist tactics of subversion, infiltration and so on being directed against his country. I told him how the Korean constabulary type of ill-equipped small army had resisted the Communists' well prepared attack and even though small and ill-equipped and out-numbered by the enemy, still our brave fighting was caused by the high morale and patriotic spirit. I told him

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this was through the effort of education after the Republic of Korea was established and the government was formed by Your Excellency. I told him how proud I was when I saw those platoon and company leaders lead the soldiers to fight the Communists so desperately, and I was proud that no single officers had deserted or surrendered to the enemy which the enemy had expected. I was proud of this because I was head of the Officers Training School in the suburbs of Seoul, the present site of our Military Academy. I told him my first concern in training is to educate the men in the patriotic spirit and morale of independence. The other trainings are secondary. I am proud of it because most of those cadets in my training school later performed good jobs as platoon or company leaders. No desertion or surrender occurred and as we know the enemy's subversive and infiltration activities are aimed towards it.

The General said that his men are very anti-Communist. However, he is worried about the Communists infiltration and subversive works. I told him that our Army has a very strong CIC (Counter Intelligence Corps) to prevent and to watch very carefully these Communist tactics and activities. I told him the second reason that we could maintain very good integrity is due to the efforts and good works done by the CIC. He told me that his Army has a similar organization. I could not ask what good work this organization is doing.

I also pointed out how dangerous it will be when the Communist trained elements (I meant the integration of Pathet Lao) integrate the National Army. Just like one drop of red ink will spoil the whole glass of pure water!

He listened to the interpretation very enthusiastically.

I always feel that talks with a military man should be more frank. I talked as above because I was talking with a soldier who has a very grave responsibility but has little knowledge of it.

The U.S. Government has a mission (consisting only of civilians because of the Geneva Agreement) to assist the development of the Laotian Army. However, there are still quite a number of French officers and men acting as advisors. I do not think this kind of confusion will help the situation. I know the Vietnamese Army has had improvements and development because the French advisors were out and the U.S. Advisory Group took over the complete responsibility. If the Laotian Army cannot unify her advisory channel, I see very little hope.

j. Call on the President of the Royal King's Council.

The President of the King's Council (Upper House) is the eldest statesman in his country. His name is Mr. Kou Abhay. He is the father of Colonel Kouprasith Abhay, the Director of the National Defense. Since the Protocol man was still sick, I asked Colonel Abhay, ~~one of the~~ English speaking officers, to accompany us to go to see his father. Although Colonel Abhay's English is not as good as the Protocol, he tried his best to transmit the opinions between his father and me.

I expressed our best wishes and respects to his country, his people and he himself, the eldest statesman in his country. He welcomed us by saying that this is the first time that Koreans had come to his country and he expressed his sorrow that we had not had earlier communication with each other. He told me that what the Laotian people know about Korea is: firstly, In-Sam and, secondly, the Korean War.

I told him that I found the Laotian people to be religious. That the Buddhist religion has a very glorious history in Korea and the cultural influence was very strong. I talked with him concerning this matter along the lines I had talked with the Minister for Religion earlier in this report.

*Handwritten notes in the left margin:*  
Kouprasith Abhay  
is a very good  
English speaking  
officer

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He served us champagne and toasted Your Excellency, our country and our people. We reciprocated his toast and we had a very pleasant half an hour talk.

k. Meeting with the Secretary of State  
delegated to Foreign Affairs.

According to the structure of the government organization there are two levels of rank in the Cabinet:

One, is the Minister rank, who had to be selected from the Congressmen, and

the other is called the Secretary of State who is selected from non-Congressmen.

Mr. Bousay is Secretary of State delegated to charge Foreign Affairs. Since the Prime Minister himself is the Foreign Minister, Mr. Bousay is actually acting Foreign Minister. I talked with him twice: once at the cocktail party of the Prime Minister and secondly on the day of our departure when we made a call on him to express our sincere thanks for the hospitality of his government rendered to us and also to ask him to kindly transmit our best thanks to his superior, namely, the Prime Minister and also the Foreign Minister. On the same morning, the Prime Minister Phouma was out to meet his elder brother Prince Phetsarath's return from Thailand after eleven years exile-life. As I could not say goodbye to the Prime Minister directly I asked the acting Foreign Minister to transmit our good wishes to the King and the members of the Royal family because of the illness of the King we could not go to pay our respects.

The second man in the Laotian Foreign Affairs, Mr. Bousay, has come back from the U.N. General Assembly meeting. He was a member of the Laotian Delegation.

He told us that his Delegation had abstained from voting for the admission of Korea and Vietnam to the United Nations. He

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explained his reason by saying that his delegation could not vote for South Vietnam for many reasons. Since the admission of Korea was dealt with together with South Vietnam, his delegation had to abstain from the voting. I am not very clear with the situation of the debating and voting in the U.N., however, he gave me the impression that our admission should not be dealt with together with Vietnam. I do not believe he had thought of this before he met us and talked with us. However, this expression of his opinion toward us is so frank that it gave me the impression of the possibility of voting for us the next time if some effort is made far ahead.

I found that the Laotian people are not aware of the situation of our country and her people. Especially, the Laotians compare the Government of the Republic of Korea with the North Communist Puppet regime equally and because of that kind of wrong thinking the Laotian will compare the "Korean" problem exactly as the "Vietnam" problem. There are several similarities between Korea and Vietnam. However, there are also quite big differences which they ignore because they do not know. Although I did not make direct comparisons, I did clarify their thinking to the acting Foreign Minister and also to the other people doing my conversations with them. I tried to brief them following along the points listed below:

- 1) Our country, the Republic of Korea, is a sovereign of the United Nations. Through the U.N. resolution and supervision of election we created the Republic of Korea in 1948.
- 2) Russia's Puppet North Korean Communist aggression occurred in June of 1950 and the 16 nations of the UN Forces came to Korea to repel the aggression.



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3) Although the Republic of Korea is not yet a member of the UN because of the veto of Russia, she is, however, a member of almost every specialized agency of the United Nations Organization.

*How many*

4) The population in the territory under the Republic of Korea's control is more than 23 millions and that the population in the territory under Communist control is decreasing from ten million in 1945 to less than five million in 1955.

5) There have been more than three million refugees who have come down from the North to the South since the Communist rule in the Northern part of Korea.

6) The only obstacle to hinder our unification is the fact that Red China's large forces are in North Korea. That Red China was condemned as an aggressor by the United Nations' Resolution.

4. Meetings with Foreign Diplomats.

a. U.S. Ambassador.

During my stay in Vientiane, I saw the U.S. Ambassador, J. Graham Parsons, three times. The first time was the same day of our arrival just after my courtesy call on the Prime Minister. I got from him a very clear briefing on the political situation of Laos. He stated that he believed that the Mission must be worthwhile not only in encouraging the Laotian leaders and people, who fear the Communists very much, and they are very weak in standing against the Communists, but also worthwhile in promoting mutual understanding between Korea and Laos. At the first meeting with him he promised me to render any kind of assistance while we were staying in Laos, and he designated one of his staff, Second Secretary, Mr. Dean, to be the Liaison officer between my staff, Mr. Chang, and his. 113

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My second meeting with him was at the luncheon to which I was invited by him in honour of me. The Thai Ambassador, Vietnamese Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Commander of Laos Armed Forces, were present.

At the end of the luncheon the Ambassador made a short table speech praising our struggle against Communism very highly. In my reply to his kind words, I told them that we, Korea can never forget how the American soldiers and other allied forces came to rescue us from falling into the sea and also told them what we, Korea, experienced is that the American people and government have no territorial desire and not the slightest imperialistic of intentions.

I appreciated his luncheon very much.

The third time I met the U.S. Ambassador was my call on him just before my departure. I expressed my sincere thanks for what his office had rendered me in assisting in my understanding of Laos. I also briefed him on my activities in Laos in the past three days. He praised our mission's activities in what we had accomplished in such a short time. He said this visit is very worthwhile.

b. Meeting with British Ambassador.

When I called on the British Ambassador Holliday on March 20th at 1030 hours, he disclosed to me that the British Government has a special interest in Laos, that is, to prevent Laos falling into the Communist camp. He said if we lose Laos then the Red China will have a land route to connect the Peking with Singapore.

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c. Meeting with French Ambassador.

I called on the French Ambassador on March 21st. He did not care to discuss the Laotian political problem with me. However, I know that the French have a very strong influence on the Laotian Government. My call was purely a courtesy one.

d. Meeting with the Thai Ambassador.

I called on the Thai Ambassador at his Chancery on March 20. He has served in Laos already for four years. According to his observations, the Laotian people are generally anti-Communist. Many governmental officials and politicians also dislike the Communists. However, they fear the threats from Red China and Red Vietminh. They hope that the "neutral" status will help to maintain their independence.

e. Meeting with Vietnamese Minister.

The Vietnamese Minister, Nguyen Don Duyen, was my old acquaintance back in August 1955 when he was governmental representative in Central Vietman and I headed the Military Mission to have visited him.

I made a courtesy call on him on March 19th and on March 21 he gave us a dinner in order that we could have an opportunity to talk.

5. Conclusions.

a. The trip to Laos was a very worthwhile one. We opened the doors for further communications in the future. The people were easy to acquaint and they were very friendly towards us.

b. The Laotian people have only very limited knowledge on Korea. We should endeavour through the medium of our Information Office to give foreign people a better and true understanding of our country and our people.

c. The Laotian leaders expressed their hope that other people would understand their difficult geographical position

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and be sympathetic towards their "neutral" policy. They are generally fearful of Red China's big population and huge army.

d. The foreign diplomatic representatives from the U.S.A., Great Britain, Thailand and Vietnam were aware of the danger of Communist infiltration and subversion. They are very closely and carefully watching the situation and are making every effort possible to prevent Laos from falling to the Communist camp. The foreign diplomats felt relieved when the National Assembly closed the session with the Pathet Lao problem unsettled. The diplomats said that the unsettlement may prove that the Laotian leaders are awakening.

e. The return of the former Viceroy of Laos, Prince Phetesarath to Laos on March 22, the same day as our departure from Laos, will give new tensions to the "politics in the palace". Prince Phetesarath is the elder brother of the Prime Minister Phouma and also of the Prime Minister's half-brother the leader of Pathet Lao. People say that the elder brother will have very strong influence on his brother the leader of the Pathet Lao. He has been in exile in Thailand for eleven years. The future politics may depend a good deal on his thinking and action.

f. If we use it properly the "religion" issue could become very good ammunition in the anti-Communist psychological warfare, especially in those countries who are religious states. It would be a good idea to accept their invitation to the religious ceremony this coming autumn.

With sentiments of deepest loyalty and highest esteem.

Respectfully,

*Choi Duk Shin*

Choi, Duk Shin  
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister  
Plenipotentiary, Republic of Korea  
to Vietnam

His Excellency  
President of Republic of Korea.

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Attachments: Pamphlet on Laos  
Political Information Bulletin