



~~TOP SECRET~~
[Handwritten signature]

US MILITARY COURSES OF ACTION IN LAOS IN
ORDER OF INCREASING SEVERITY

1. Initiate the employment of high explosive bombs by Laos Army T-6 aircraft to coincide with initiation of paragraph 4 below.
2. Obtain from Thailand and deploy now to Laos four "volunteer" 105mm howitzer batteries.
3. Regularize PEO activities by establishing an overt MAAG in Laos headed by a Major General or Lieutenant General; concurrently authorize US uniformed personnel to accompany FAL units now.
4. Initiate offensive air operations in Laos utilizing sterile B-26 aircraft with available armament to include napalm from a base in Thailand, commencing with 8 aircraft on 28 March, 12 aircraft on 2 April and all 16 by 6 April.
5. Deploy a US CASF (1500 personnel) to Thailand. (Can be undertaken now.)
6. Increase readiness forces in CONUS which support CINCPAC OPLAN 32-59, Phase II, Laos.
7. Authorize air reconnaissance of Laos utilizing US combat aircraft.
8. To counter successful Pathet Laos advance toward Vientiane or Luang Prabang, authorize offensive air operations in Laos utilizing US tactical fighter aircraft.
9. Deploy US ground forces consisting of a reinforced airborne battle group, a regimental landing team/Marine air group, and necessary support forces to Thailand (10,000 personnel).
10. Request SEATO nations to prepare to execute the SEATO Plan for Laos (35,000 personnel), concurrently provide assurances to the RTG for use of Thai "volunteer" forces (4000 personnel) in Laos.
11. Assuming no SEATO response (para 10 above) request the governments of Thailand, Pakistan and the Philippines to provide forces (8,200 personnel) for combined allied forces for operations in Laos.



[Handwritten notes and signatures]
JCS Ltr. (Ref. 77-587)
[Handwritten signature]



[REDACTED]

12. Assuming no SEATO response (para 10 above), execute CINCPAC OPLAN 32-59, Phase II, Laos. (22,000 personnel which includes 10,000 in paragraph 9 above)

13. Make plans to protect Taiwan, Korea and Japan.