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*Common File
Please relay
to Islamabad as telegrams
for Embassy Helms*

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R E T 310908Z JAN 74 STAFF

CITE VIENTIANE [Redacted]

TO: TEHRAN.

TELENOTE

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO H.E. AMBASSADOR RICHARD

HELM FROM [Redacted] VIENTIANE.

DEAR SIR:

GREETINGS FROM LAOS.

RLG MINISTER OF FINANCE AND DELEGUE FOR DEFENSE, SISOUK NA GHAMPASSAK WILL BE MARRIED AT THE ROYAL CAPITAL IN LUANG PRABANG ON 27 FEBRUARY. ASSUME THAT YOU AND YOUR LADY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO AGCEPT THE INVITATION TO ATTEND THE WEDDING WHICH WILL BE SENT TO YOU IN DUE COURSE. NEVERTHELESS, SISOUK WANTED YOU TO KNOW OF HIS PLANS. HIS FIANCEE IS PRINCESS MARINA RANGSY, DAUGHTER OF PALACE SECRETARY GENERAL SOUPANTARANGSI AND NIECE OF KING SAVANG.

THE MARRIAGE WILL HAVE A POLITICAL OVERTONE BECAUSE IT WILL TIE THE NA GHAMPASSAK FAMILY FROM SOUTH LAOS TO THE ROYAL FAMILY IN NORTH LAOS. POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS ASIDE, SISOUK'S FIANCEE IS A LOVELY AND VERY TALENTED YOUNG LADY.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2008

HR70-14
(U)

*DONE
RECEIVED 01/11/72*

PAGE 2 VIENTIANE [] ~~SECRET~~

THE NEWLYWEDS WILL GO TO EUROPE ON THEIR HONEYMOON. THEY ARE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE AT TEHRAN ON 6 MARCH AND DEPART FROM THERE ON THE 10TH OR 11TH OF MARCH. THEY WILL STAY AT ISFAHAN FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS BETWEEN 7 OR 8 AND 10 MARCH. RESERVATIONS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED AT THE HILTON IN TEHRAN.

SISOUK ASKED THAT I ADVISE YOU OF HIS FORTHCOMING WEDDING. HE WOULD WELCOME AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE YOU DURING THEIR BRIEF STAY AT TEHRAN AND WOULD LIKE TO PLAY A GAME OF TENNIS WITH YOU IF YOUR SCHEDULE PERMITS.

TRUST THAT YOU ARE ENJOYING YOUR ASSIGNMENT AND LIFE IN TEHRAN. HUGH TOLD ME THAT HE RECENTLY SPOKE WITH YOU WHILE IN TRANWIT. HE REGRETTED THAT TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES DID NOT PERMIT AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE YOU. YOUR OLD ASSOCIATES WILL NEVER FORGET YOUR LEADERSHIP AND WISH YOU THE VERY BEST, PROFESSIONALLY AND PERSONALLY. KEEP UP THE GOOD FIGHT. WARM PERSONAL REGARDS.

SINCERELY, [] E2, IMPDET.

~~SECRET~~