LAOS

The buildup of both Kong Le’s and Phoumi’s forces in and around Vientiane is continuing. Soviet IL-14s reportedly delivered from four to six 120-mm mortars for Kong Le on 12 December, in addition to the howitzers brought in the day before. Four 90-mm antiaircraft guns have also been brought in; a minimum of two howitzers and all of the antiaircraft guns are said to be in place along the Pak Sane road and at the Vientiane airfield. There are indications in communications intelligence that the Soviet airlift capacity from Hanoi may be augmented.

John S.D. Eisenhower