

Communists Strike Across Laos Border

VIENTIANE, Laos (UPI) — A strong force of Communist North Vietnamese regular troops struck across the border Sunday into Laos and are menacing the city of Samneua, Gen. Ouane Rathikone, Laos army commander, said

today. The general returned Tuesday from an inspection tour of Samneua, capital of the province of the same name in northern Laos bordering on Communist North Viet Nam.

He said the Communist forces captured or occupied about 80 villages along the Namwa River across a 35-mile front. He said the attacking force was 13 miles from Samneua late Tuesday. Reports received Tuesday night said

the 3,500-strong Red force was still advancing.

"They are not Pathet Lao rebels, they are Viet Minh and some Black Thai (tribesmen)," Rathikone said.

The general said the attack—second launched from Communist Viet Nam in the past two months—was kicked off last Sunday at dawn in coordinated attacks on six villages.

Laotian army troops withdrew

into the jungle toward Samneua, apparently without putting up much resistance.

"There is little or no fighting right now, that I know of," Rathikone said.

Asked if the government intended to keep pulling back its troops, the general replied with an emphatic: "No, we stop now."

He said royal troops would defend strategic Samneua against the Communist invaders.

National Debt Tops 290 Billion Dollars

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The national debt has topped 290 billion dollars for the first time in history.

On a per capita basis, that is a liability of about \$1,124 for every American adult and child.

A Treasury Department financial statement Tuesday said that as of last Thursday the gross public debt was \$250,306,000,000. The portion of the debt subject to the legal ceiling imposed by Congress stood at \$288,890,000,000. Some of the debt, mostly obligations incurred before World War I, is not subject to the legal limit.

The current temporary legal ceiling is 295 billion dollars. The Treasury expects the debt to

keep climbing until it approaches that ceiling in mid-December. Then it is expected to decline, reaching about 285 billion dollars at the end of next June, the close of the fiscal year.

The debt normally rises between July and December of each year because of a seasonal ebb in tax collections which requires heavier borrowing. It declines with the rise in tax receipts in the late winter and spring.

Checking Security Plans For Nikita

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The head of Russia's secret police, Maj. Gen. Nikolai S. Zacharoff, is now in the United States checking security arrangements for the visit of Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

Official sources said today that Zacharoff and a top aide are visiting the various cities where Khrushchev will stop and checking the routes along which he will travel during his 12-day tour beginning Sept. 15.

Zacharoff is head of Russia's KGD, the super-secret police organization charged with internal security in the Soviet Union and protection of top Russian officials.

First Visit For Zacharoff

He accompanied Khrushchev and then Premier Nikolai Bulganin when they visited England in 1956.

This is Zacharoff's first visit to the United States. But the assistant accompanying him has had a good opportunity to "case" this country. He is Vladimir T. Burdin, a KGD officer who was here earlier this year with Deputy Premiers Anestas I. Mikoyan and Frod R. Kozlov on their U.S. tour.

Zacharoff and Burdin, working with American security officers and local police, are inspecting airfields, hotels and other buildings for danger spots.

To Check Camp David

They are visiting Washington, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, Des Moines and Ames, Iowa. The Russians also will check the heavily guarded presidential retreat at Camp David, Md., where President Eisenhower and Khrushchev will hold cold war talks Sept. 25 to 27.

Official sources said Zacharoff's arrival some days ago speeded completion of the detailed schedule for the Khrushchev visit. These sources said Soviet Ambassador Mikhail A. Menshikov, in charge of arranging the tour in consultation with State Department officials, was being "difficult" on some points until Zacharoff moved in and nailed down plans in a jiffy.

Menshikov said Tuesday night, after a lengthy meeting with Undersecretary of State Robert Murphy, that Khrushchev's schedule and itinerary were complete except for "insignificant adjustments to be made."

Negroes In White Schools In Durham

United Press International Eight Negroes attend white public schools in Durham, N.C., today for the first time.

In other school integration developments, limited integration in Winston-Salem, N.C., was scheduled to begin today for the third consecutive year. As in the case of Tuesday's school openings at Arlington, Va., and High Point, N.C., where Negroes attended previously all-white and predominantly white schools for the first time, no incidents were anticipated.

Several other North Carolina cities opened schools Tuesday to integrated classes without incident.

Other Virginia cities scheduled to hold integrated classes open next Tuesday when most other southern public schools open.

One exception is the Dollarway school district in Arkansas, which postponed its opening next Tuesday until Sept. 21 to await the results of a hearing before the U.S. Court of Appeals. The Dollarway district is seeking to stay a federal district court's order which has ordered three Negroes integrated in a white high school.

Litigation was rampant in Virginia, where Negroes are petitioning boards, courts and officials for more integration.

One unusual highlight in the integration picture was the refusal of 77 Negro students to attend a Negro school at Port Tampa, Fla. The school had been erected for the Negroes when they sought to integrate the white elementary school. But Tuesday they refused to attend the new four-room Negro school and Negroes picketed the building.

Talent Contest Two Nights At Festival

Officials of the Berne fall festival announced today that because of the large number of entries, the talent contest has been expanded to two nights, Thursday and Friday, instead of Thursday night only, as originally planned.

Bob Sievers, of Fort Wayne, will be master of ceremonies both nights. Because of this change, the Swiss program will be presented Saturday night. The festival will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with many special events scheduled during the three days.

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