

transcribed from tape

The Washington Post said today that according to a highly reliable diplomatic source the U.S. has told Souvanna Phouma it will stop all bombing in Laos next Sunday [25Feb]. The reason for the date, according to these sources, is that the Nixon Administration does not want to enter the international conference on Indochina, which begins in Paris next Sunday, while U.S. planes are still bombing Laos in support of Government troops. A spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane said there would be "absolutely no comment" on this report. The United States has been bombing in Laos since 1964.