

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1971

**NEW REPORT TELLS  
OF C.I.A.'S LAOS ROLE**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13 (UPI)—A transcript of secret Senate testimony described today the Central Intelligence Agency's role in secretly training and supporting 30,000 guerrilla troops in Laos since 1962. The material was contained in published closed-door hearings before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

G. McMurtrie Godley, United States Ambassador to Laos, told the committee that the guerrilla units financed by the Central Intelligence Agency, "have been the backbone of the military effort in Laos" to repel the North Vietnamese forces.

"The irregular forces in Laos today . . . number about 30,000 men," he said. "These forces are organized into S.G.U. [Spe-

cial Guerilla Unit] battalions and these battalions now comprise about 330 to 360 men each."

Last month a 23-page report was made public detailing the involvement of the C.I.A. in the Laotian war. That report was prepared for the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on foreign commitments by James G. Lowenstein and Richard M. Moose, two former Foreign Service officers.

Mr. Godley said that the guerrilla units operated everywhere in Laos except in the area around the capital, Vientiane.