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SMITH MILLER KAUFMANN
FM DUNNING CC: BROWN NATHAN

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FOLLOWING SUMMARY OBSERVATION ON SOVIET HANDLING OF LAOS SITUATION IN BROADCASTS TO CHINA COULD SUGGEST SOME INTERESTING FOLLOWUP, IF YOUR SOURCES COULD PROVIDE TEXT OF BROADCAST REFERRED TO. UNFORTUNATELY IT IS NOT AVAILABLE HERE AS YET. PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU WANT AND CANNOT GET IT:

SUMMARY OF THE MARCH 27 PRAVDA OBSERVER ARTICLE ON LAOS BROADCAST BY MOSCOW TO CHINESE LISTENERS IS SO EDITED AS TO HARDEN ITS TONE AND TO MAKE THE SOVIET POSITION SEEM MORE IN HARMONY WITH PEKING. THUS THE VERSION BROADCAST IN MANDARIN EXCLUDES PORTIONS WHICH DEAL WITH THE BRITISH PLAN, APPROVE SOME OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS, AND ALLUDE TO THE NEED FOR A SETTLEMENT THAT WILL SATISFY "ALL" THE INTERNAL POLITICAL FORCES IN LAOS. THE NET RESULT IS TO BRING THIS VERSION MORE INTO LINE WITH THE CPR'S OWN EARLIER ACCOUNTS OF THE OBSERVER ARTICLE. PEKING'S ACCOUNTS PLAYED UP THE PORTION OF THE ARTICLE WHICH EMPHASIZED U.S.-SEATO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SITUATION AND CONVEY THE USSR'S ASSURANCE THAT "PEACE-LOVING SORCES" WILL NOT STAND BY INDIFFERENTLY.

SUCH TAILORING OF SOVIET MATERIAL FOR CHINESE LISTENERS TO ACCOMMODATE CPR ATTITUDE IS VERY UNUSUAL FOR RADIO MOSCOW. SOVIET BROADCASTS IN MANDARIN HAVE FREQUENTLY CONTAINED STATEMENTS SHARPLY AT VARIANCE WITH PEKING'S LINE.
END OF SUMMARY.
REGARDS.