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## **NEW ADMINISTRATIVE TERRITORIAL DIVISIONS: LAOS**

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**March 1988**

*Author: Ly Burnham*

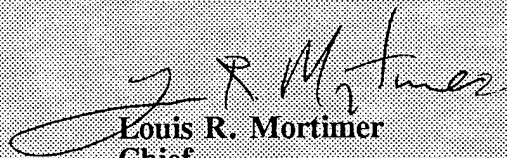
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Louis R. Mortimer  
Chief  
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## Preface

This study provides information on new administrative territorial divisions in Laos. Three provinces and one municipality were added between 1983 and 1985, bringing the total number in the country to 18 provinces and one municipality. Maps are included to indicate the adjusted administrative boundaries of affected provinces.

Laos presently has 19 major administrative territorial divisions, consisting of 18 provinces and one municipality. Prior to 1982, there were 15 provinces. Three new provinces--Bokeo, Bolikhamsai and Xekong--and one municipality--Vientiane--were added between 1982 and 1985.

Bokeo's area was carved from the provinces of Louang Namtha and Oudomxai, Bolikhamsai from Khammouan, and Xekong from the provinces of Saravan, Champasak and Attapu. Vientiane Municipality, formerly part of Vientiane Province, became an independent city but remains the administrative center of Vientiane Province. The country's major territorial divisions and their administrative centers are listed below in alphabetical order:

<u>Province/Municipality</u>	<u>Administrative Center</u>
01 Attapu	Attapu
02 Bokeo	Ban Houay
03 Bolikhamsai	Muang Pakxai
04 Champasak	Pakse
05 Houaphan	Xam Nua
06 Khammouan	Muang Khammouan
07 Louang Namtha	Louang Namtha
08 Louangphrabang	Louangphrabang
09 Oudomxai	Muang Xay
10 Phongsali	Phongsali
11 Saravan	Saravan
12 Savannakhet	Savannakhet
13 Vientiane	Vientiane
14 Vientiane Municipality	Vientiane

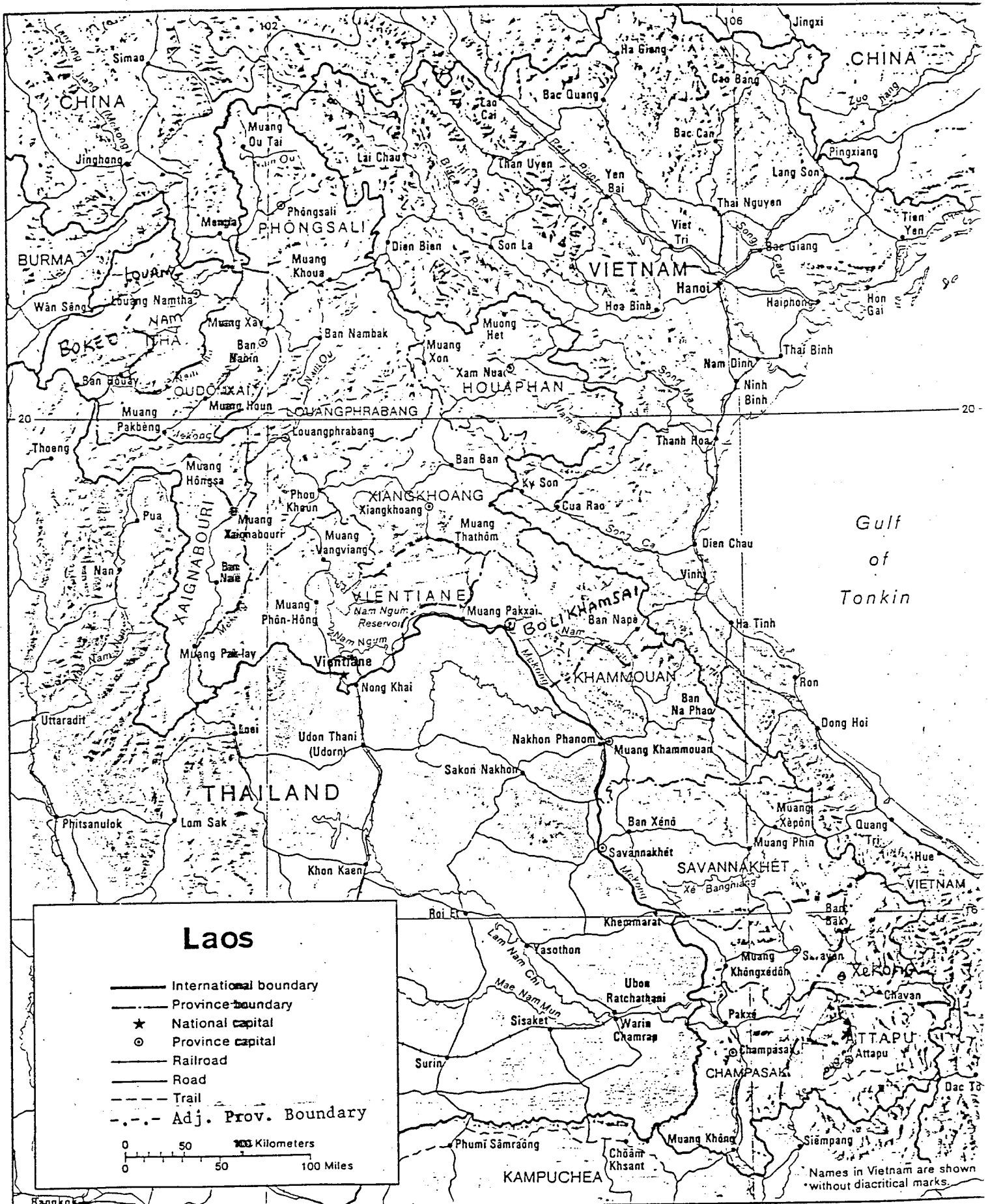
15 Xaignabouri  
16 Xekong  
17 Xiangkhouang

Muang Xaignabouri  
Xekong  
Xiangkhouang

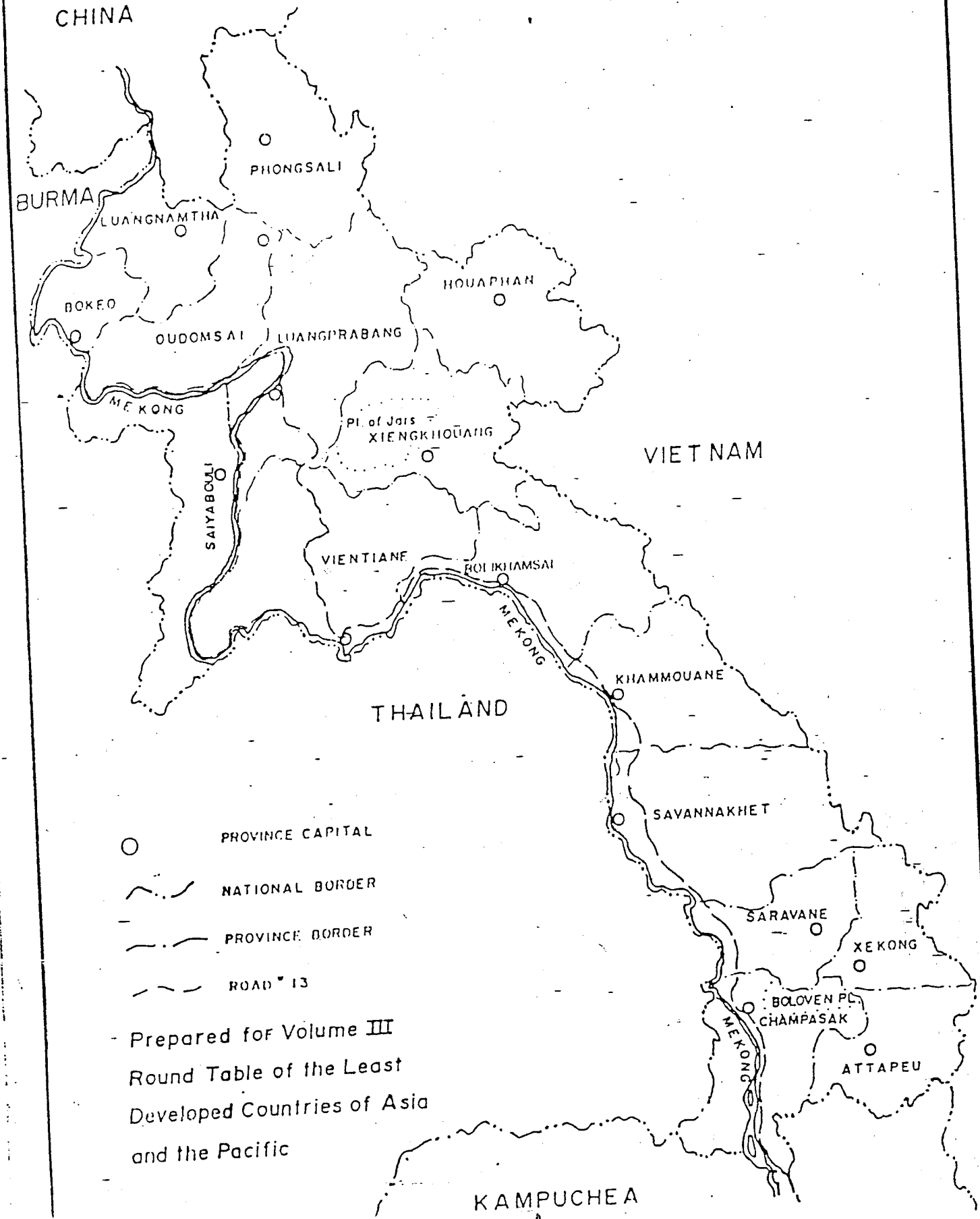
Note: Vientiane Municipality occupies an area of 333,400 hectares or 33.34 square kilometers.

Sources: "Population Census Press Conference in Vientiane" in Foreign Broadcast Information Service, Asia/Daily Report, 20 June 1985.

Rapport sur la situation économique et sociale [de la] République  
Démocratique Populaire Lao (Report on the Economic and Social  
Situation [of the] Lao People's Democratic Republic), Geneva:  
United Nations, April 1986.



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