

LAOTIAN AIDE SEES NEED FOR SAIGON ARMY'S HELP

Vientiane, Laos, May 15 (Agence France-Presse) - A Laotian Defense Ministry spokesman expressed today the growing concern of the military command over the situation in southern Laos and suggested that, from a military point of view, it was necessary that South Vietnamese forces intervene to help "clean up" Laos.

The spokesman, Col. Thong Phanh Knosky, said during a news conference that the North Vietnamese on May 9 had seized the large village of Tang Vay, 57 miles from the town of Savanaket, and today were encircling the Nong Boua Government post 19 miles from Tang Vay. He suggested that the North Vietnamese wanted to open new communications links in Laos to increase their supplies from North Vietnam to South Vietnam and Cambodia.

"From a strictly military point of view a South Vietnamese intervention to cut the Ho Chi Minh trail would be a necessity," the colonel said.

The North Vietnamese were today increasing their threat to the city of Saravane northeast of the Bolovens Plateau in southern Laos where 2,400 civilians have been evacuated in the last few days, Colonel Knosky said.
