

## LAOS OPENS SERIES OF ATTACKS ON REDS

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VIENTIANE, Laos, May 24 (Agence France-Presse) — Lao-tian Government forces, seizing the initiative with the advent of the rainy season are launching a series of attacks against Communist forces.

In the north, royal forces are trying to recapture the Paktha area on the Mekong River, three miles from the Thailand frontier.

Last week, the troops managed to break into the village, taken by the Pathet Lao on April 29, but could not hold it.

Maj. Gen. Vang Pao, commander of the second military region and of the special forces, is trying to retake five small forward posts of his base at Sam Thong, north of here. The base was captured by leftist forces in a surprise assault last week.

In the south, Government forces have retaken the big village of Tangvay, lost on May 9. The royal troops were pushing east toward the Ho Chi Minh Trail, 44 miles away.

The Government troops were also striving to retake two important strategic positions southeast of the Boloven Plateau. The positions fell on April 30 at the same time as the town of Attoupeu.