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## Pathet Lao Hardliner Is Given Post

VIENTIANE, July 7 (UPI)—Phoumi Vongvichit, the ranking member of the Pathet Lao, left Laos today for Hanoi on medical leave. He was replaced as acting foreign minister by a hard-line Communist.

Phoumi, who was both deputy prime minister and foreign minister in the coalition government, will be succeeded by Pathet Lao Gen. Phoume Sipraseuth, the secretary general, of the Laotian People's (Communist) Party.

The naming of Phoume as acting foreign minister was viewed by some sources as an indication that other moderate Pathet Lao officials might be replaced by hardliners more sympathetic to North Vietnam.

Phoumi, who is believed to be suffering from heart trouble, is one of four top Pathet Lao Cabinet members who have either left or will leave soon for medical treatment or on holiday.

• The North Vietnam news agency said that country has agreed to search for missing Americans in Vietnam but the offer was linked to U.S. reconstruction of both Vietnams.