

# Laos: Another domino falls to the Reds

United Press International

HONG KONG — The Communist Pathet Lao announced yesterday it had seized power in the kingdom of Laos and established a revolutionary government, the New China News Agency said.

The announcement culminated four months of a gradual takeover by the Communists of what had been a coalition government.

The announcement had been expected since Friday, when Laotian authorities stopped permitting all but invited guests to enter the country.

It made no mention of the fate of neutralist Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma or the role to be played in the new regime by titular Pathet Lao head Prince Souphanouvong.

Acting Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Phou Sipaseuth was quoted by the news agency as saying the provisional National Union Government had "overthrown the decaying old regime and reactionary old system and set up the new people's administration. This is a just action and a natural outcome of historical developments."

Laos is the last country in  
Turn to Page 25A, Col. 6

☆☆☆☆ Page 25 Section A

## Laos finally falls to Red Rebels

—From Page 1

Indochina to be taken over by its communist rebels. The South Vietnamese and Cambodian governments fell in April.

The New China News Agency said the announcement of the takeover was made at a mass rally in Vientiane attended by "more than 100,000 people."

Thao Moun, chairman of the so-called Power Seizure Committee, "exposed and condemned at the meeting the criminal acts of U.S. aggression and intervention and its practice of neocolonialism in Laos in the past two decades and the ultrarightists' suppression and exploitation of the people," NCNA said.

There is still a U.S. embassy. There will be a change d'affaires in Vientiane, where Americans have been harassed by extremist students and Pathet Lao troops.

Phou called on members of the new administration to strictly carry out policies and the principle of "Exercising dictatorship over the enemy and practicing democracy among the people."