

March for Ouster Of Laos Premier



AP Wirephoto

SOUVANNA PHOUMA
Pathet Lao wants him out

Vientiane, Laos

Thousands of well-organized soldiers and citizens marched through the Laotian capital yesterday demanding the ouster of neutralist Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma and an end of the nominal coalition government.

The fall of Souvanna Phouma and the coalition machinery, already powerless in the past few months, would erase the last vestige of the former U.S.-backed Vientiane coalition and give complete power to the Communist Pathet Lao.

Souvanna Phouma, who was in the royal capital of Luang

Prabang during the demonstration, has headed the coalition government since it was formed on April 5, 1974.

The coalition, with representation from both the Vietiane side and the Pathet Lao, was implemented to lead the country from a decade of conflict of a gradual, democratic union of the two warring sides.

The Pathet Lao gradually and without violence moved into power following the collapse of U.S.-supported governemtns last spring in Cambodia and Vietnam and has abolished all but the skeletal structure of the coalition.

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