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**Laos greets U.S. diplomat**

United Press International

VIENTIANE — America's top diplomat in Laos was greeted warmly by the "Red Prince" and the new Pathet Lao prime minister at a party celebrating the Communist takeover of Laos, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Thomas Corcoran, charge d'affairs of the U.S. mission, attended diplomatic reception given by the Communists despite a recent barrage of attacks on Americans as "aggressors" and "imperialists."

Newly installed President

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Prince Souphanouvong, long known for his connection with the Indochina communist party, greeted Corcoran in a glittering party Friday night at the Royal Palace of former King Savang Vatthana.

It was the first public presentation of the new Communist administration that took over this week, abolishing the monarchy and setting up the People's Democratic Republic of Laos.

Making his first public appearance in Vientiane was Kay-sone Phoumvihane, prime minister in the new government.