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# Americans Feel Ill Will In Laos City

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LUANG PRABANG, Laos, Oct. 29—In this tiny royal capital, where the Communist-led Pathet Lao has made its most pronounced impact since the coalition Government was formed last April, there is a slight air of anti-Americanism.

The Pathet Lao members who have entered into Luang Prabang's life more confidently and more fully than that in Vientiane, the administrative capital—have recently been showing propaganda films of the intensive American bombing that was directed against their territory during the Indochina war. The films were shown first to schoolchildren, later to the general public.

Some of the few Americans who live here are not convinced that the Pathet Lao is trying deliberately to generate anti-American feeling, but that seems to be the effect.

"Kids make funny noises at you when you walk by," one long-time American resident complained. "That never used to happen." Another, who speaks Laotian, says that children on the street now chant, "Foreigner! Foreigner!" when he passes.

## Suspicion of C.I.A. Links

One civilian, not employed by the Government, is continually accused of being in the Central Intelligence Agency. "Maybe they had these feelings all along and now just feel free to express them," He speculated. "Or maybe I'm just paranoid."

Associating with Americans seems to carry a certain stigma for Laotians in Luang Prabang. A Laotian who drives a big American car for the United States aid mission here has asked for a more proletarian vehicle, one official reports.

"Friends hesitate to come to our house," another American said. "One came one night by making a feint toward Souphanouvong's house." He was referring to Prince Souphanouvong, who is the titular head of the Pathet Lao.

He said that another old friend, a rightist Government official, "hardly talks to us anymore."

The American went on to describe several instances in which Laotian acquaintances had demurred from keeping company with him in public. In one case, he recalled, when he suggested having a drink in a crowded hotel bar, his Laotian guest nervously chose a remote — and virtually deserted — place on the bank of the Mekong River.

One of the clearest indices of the state of Laotian-American amity is the Laotian-American Association, an organization funded by the United States Information Service and devoted to joint cultural and linguistic endeavors.

## Attendance Delining

Peter Coombs the director of the organization's Luang Prabang branch, says that since the Pathet Lao moved into town, the number of Laotians attending association functions had dropped.

The enrollment in English language courses, for example, has fallen to 300 from 400. And although Mr. Coombs recalls having been able to invite about 20 Laotian friends to his house for movies at an earlier time, "I'm lucky now if four show up."

"People keep asking when the L.A.A. is going to close," he said.

## Different Mood in Vientiane

The atmosphere is completely different in Vientiane, 130 miles to the southeast, whose population is generally regarded as less enthusiastic about the Pathet Lao. There the Pathet Lao contingent has not made its presence felt so acutely as in Luang Prabang.

There have been some demands from workers for the expulsion of foreigners from certain skilled jobs in Vientiane, but on balance American affluence and exclusivity are tolerated there.

American officials who have water tanks by their spacious houses in Vientiane get water delivered by United States Embassy trucks when city water pressure is low. When an American official moves into a house, the residence is wired to an embassy generator so he will not have to depend on the erratic Vientiane power system.

Even the ultimate in Americana still exists—Kilometer 6, an American-style suburb at the edge of Vientiane, complete with huge American automobiles in the driveways of ranch-type houses. According to intelligence reports, the Pathet Lao has not yet decided what to do about Kilometer 6.

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