

Pathet Lao 'To Fight to Finish'

TOKYO — (AP) — The high command of the Pathet Lao armed forces has ordered its officers and men "to fight to the finish" in "a new situation" following the signing of a cease-fire agreement in Vientiane, China's Hsinhua news agency reported today.

Quoting the Khaosan Pathet Lao press agency, the official Chinese agency said the order was issued by "the supreme command of the Lao People's Liberation Army."

The order said Wednesday's cease-fire agreement was a victory "with a very glorious historical significance."

The order also called on Pathet Lao officers and soldiers to "have absolute confidence in the clear-sighted and correct line" laid down by the Pathet Lao.

"Keep high vigilance over and stand ready to thwart the other side's schemes of provocation, sabotaging peace and national concord," it exhorted.

The Laotian government has accused the Pathet Lao and their North Vietnamese allies of repeatedly violating the cease-fire that took effect at noon Thursday.

Hsinhua reported in another broadcast that the high command of "the Lao Patriotic Neutralist Armed

Forces," an ally of the Pathet Lao urged its men to "firmly maintain high vigilance, unite more closely" with the Pathet Lao "and be ready to fight and fight resolutely."

The royal Laotian government's prime minister, Prince Souvanna Phouma, claimed in Vientiane that North Vietnamese troops backing the Pathet Lao have launched major offensives at both ends of the country.

He asked for and received bombing support by American B52s — a nine-plane strike Friday in the southern sector.

U.S. Pacific Command Headquarters in Honolulu

reported there were no air strikes in Laos yesterday.

In Vientiane, the royal government reported a sharp decline in fighting yesterday.

Phoumi Vongvichit, the Pathet Lao representative who signed the cease-fire for the rebels, said his side "will deal well-deserved return blows to any acts of offense and sabotage," Hanoi reported without linking his remarks directly to the bombing.