

# LAOTIANS CONFER ON A GOVERNMENT

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Both Sides Also Discuss  
Peace-Keeping Procedure

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VIENTIANE, Laos, March 5

— Two delegations from the Vientiane Government and Communist-led Pathet Lao met today to discuss formation of a new coalition government and carrying out of peace-keeping procedures.

Both sides described the two meetings as having been friendly but said that no agreements or decisions had been reached.

Nearly two weeks have passed since the two sides signed a cease-fire agreement, which stipulated among other things that a new provisional coalition government would be created within 30 days.

With less than three weeks to go, there still seems little sense of urgency in the discussions. On the Pathet Lao side only relatively low-ranking officials have participated, although work may be accelerated starting tomorrow with the scheduled arrival here of Gen. Phoune Sipraseuth.

## Truce Violations Charged

General Phoune Sipraseuth, head of the regular Pathet Lao peace delegation, left here for consultations in Hanoi and Samneua, the Pathet Lao capital, after the peace accord was signed. With him was Phoumi Vongvichit, Secretary General of the Pathet Lao's party, Neo Lao Hak Sat, or Laotian Patriotic Front, who signed the accord for his side.

A Pathet Lao spokesman said today that Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit would return to Vientiane,

but that it was not known when.

Meanwhile, the Laotian Defense Ministry charged the Pathet Lao with only 11 violations of the cease-fire during the 24-hour period ended at 10 A.M. today. This brought the number of alleged Communist violations since the Feb. 22 cease-fire to 171.

The most serious fighting reported continued to be in the vicinity of Pak Song on the Bolovens Plateau in southern Laos, which was said to have been seized by North Vietnamese forces after the truce took effect. Despite clashes and shelling the situation at Pak Song apparently remained unchanged, with Government forces reportedly still within two miles of the town but unable to retake it.

Fighting continues in various parts of Laos, but on the whole the cease-fire is becoming increasingly effective, military sources reported.