

# Laos Official Says A Coalition Cabinet Is Due in a Month

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VIENTIANE, Laos, April 10 (Reuters) — Formation of a provisional coalition cabinet in Laos will be announced within a month, Interior Minister Pheng Phongsavan said here today.

Mr. Pheng Phongsavan said that there had been "serious progress" in talks with the pro-Communist Pathet Lao on establishing a coalition and settling the country's political future following the cease-fire agreement Feb. 27.

Mr. Pheng Phongsavan has been leading the Government side in ongoing private talks with the Pathet Lao. He said he could not at this stage disclose the names of cabinet ministers in the planned coalition.

The coalition, with equal participation from the Government in Vientiane and the Pathet Lao, was to have been formed at the end of last month, according to the cease-fire agreement.

Informed sources said last week that the coalition government would be headed by Prince Souvanna Phouma, the present Premier.

They also said that members of the Government in Vientiane would hold the ministries of defense and war veterans, interior, social welfare and rural affairs, finance, education, youth and religious affairs, and planning.

Cabinet posts for the Pathet Lao are to include health, foreign affairs, public works, information and economy, the sources added.

The planned government, which has 22 ministerial posts and an equal number of state secretaries, will also include two "peace personalities," according to the sources.