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OPPOSE THE INTERVENTION OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM
IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF LAOS
COMMUNIST CHINESE ATTITUDE

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OPPOSE THE INTERVENTION OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM
IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF LAOS

Following is the translation of an article by the international reviewer of Kuang-ming Jih-pao, Peiping, 20 August 1960, page 4.

A political coup took place in Laos on 9 August. A Political Reform Committee, led by Captain Kong Le, commander of the 2nd battalion of the Royal Laotian Paratroopers, took over control of the capital city, Vientiane. The extreme pro-Western government toppled. Premier Souvana Phouma has already formed a new government. He announced new policies: Stop the civil war; regain peace and security in the country; induce harmony between the different nationality groups; establish a genuinely neutral foreign policy; respect all treaties and agreements, including the Geneva Treaty; accept unconditional aid from all countries, etc. This new development in the Laotian situation is but a reflection of the long harbored wishes of the people for peace in the country, for the maintenance of independence, and for a neutral policy. This is why the new government is receiving the enthusiastic support of the people.

The Laotian coup this time is by no means an accident. In recent years, American imperialism has been directing the pro-American government. They openly broke the 1954 Geneva Treaty and the agreement of Vientiane between Pathet Lao and the Royal Laotian Government of 1957 which was based on the Geneva Treaty. Laos was forbidden to take the path of national independence, nor was she free to adopt a peaceful neutral policy. The Americans planned to colonize Laos and turn it into a big military base. American imperialists and their stooges carried out reactionary policies, and thus brought nothing but misery to the Laotians. The Political Reform Committee released an open letter to all Laotians pointing out that, "We carried out a revolution because we want peace and security in our country. We want to stop this mass murder between our own people". The Laos pro-American reactionary government "murdered people without any justification. They arrested and jailed patriotic Laos citizens in exchange for American aid. These so-called public servants were serving their own interests". "The army headquarters gave orders to the army to suppress and threaten peace-loving people. Many of our brothers' house and food were burned in raids". American imperialism, through its long presence among the Laotian public, has taught all patriotic Laotians an unforgettable lesson. They have

recognized that the root of all their miseries today can be traced to American aggression. The Political Reform Committee, led by Captain Kong Le, refused to recognize the elections held by the pro-American government. This action reflects quite distinctly the intense hatred of the people for the American imperialist's puppet government.

At present, the new government under Prince Phouma has been established. The policies announced by the new government reflect the urgent needs of the people and harmonize with the peaceful interests of Indo-China and Southeast Asia. Therefore, the new government received the enthusiastic support of the Laotian people of all levels. The Laos Patriotic Defense Line Party announced its support of the major policies of the Political Reform Committee. The people wrote thousands of letters to the Political Reform Committee, asking it to persist in the implementation of the announced policies. There was a big demonstration by the people of Vientiane ridiculing the "dependence on foreign powers" of the pro-western government of Sung-sa-nite [transliterated from Chinese]. The peaceful neutrality policy of the new government has won the acclaim and approval of other nations in Asia and all over the world.

Attention should now be directed to new intrigues of American imperialism. The American imperialists are attempting to intervene in the domestic affairs of Laos through the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization. A spokesman for the American State Department, White, commented on 11 August on the Laos situation in a threatening note, declaring that "America recognizes only the Sung-sa-nite [transliterated from the Chinese] government as the legal government of Laos". The secretary of the American controlled Southeast Asia Treaty Organization Chang-sha La-hsin [transliterated from the Chinese] insisted that the political coup in Laos would effect the "security" of Southeast Asia, and that thus there was a need for an emergency meeting of all member nations of this Southeast aggressive military alliance to intervene in Laos. Premier Sarit Thanarat of Thailand announced that the political coup in Laos would affect Thailand by imposing "a serious threat to Thailand". Premier Sarit Thanarat further used an inciting tone, calling on the Laotian people to resume their civil war. The Thailand army and police received orders for "a special alert" along the borders, and the whole country was placed on a "war-alert" basis. All this serves to prove that American imperialism and the Southeast Asia aggressive alliance are waiting eagerly for an opportunity for armed intervention in order to destroy the Laos Political Reform Committee. With the support of American imperialism and the Southeast Asia aggressive military alliance, the leader of the pro-American cliche, General Phoumi Nosavan, is now recruiting forces in the south for a counter-attack. As long as the Laotian people remains united and alert, they will without a doubt crush this evil restoration effort of American imperialism and its stooges!

China is a close neighbor of Laos and also a cosigner of the 1954 Indo-China Treaty of Geneva. The Chinese people believe that the Geneva Treaty should be carried out, and that the hopes of the Laotian people for peace, democracy and neutrality should be realized. We sympathize

and support the struggle of the Laotian people for peace and neutrality. We are determined to oppose any intervention from American imperialism in Laos. We also believe that as long as the Laotian people persist in unity and continues its struggle, no imperialism or reactionary organization can prevent its progress. The righteous struggle in Laos will inevitably achieve a complete victory!