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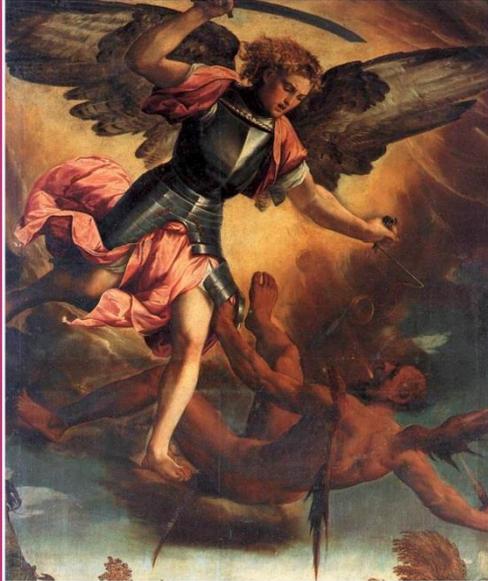
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Internal Political Developments in Laos 1950 – 1954 and the French Position

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Abstract

This paper deals with the internal political developments in Laos during 1950 - 1954, during which time witnessed important political transformations, which had a significant impact on achieving full independence in 1954 and finally getting rid of the domination of French colonialism. This period witnessed the return of most of the Lao Asara movement back to the country and aligned them with the Vientiane government, and the emergence of the Pato Lao movement in 1950, allied with the Viet and anti-Vientiane government. 1952 - 1953 As a result, the Lao Pathet announced the formation of its own government in the province of Sam Noa in 1953, which revealed to us the weakness of the French and their inability to defend Laos in light of the escalation of Viet attacks. On the other hand, political life in Laos was moving forward steadily. Political parties were first formed in the country from 1950 to 1951, after which elections were held in 1951. It gained full independence, except for some things (mostly military) that were deferred to the Geneva conference. It was revealed during this period that the continued presence of the French in Laos was thanks to American assistance, which played an important role in the convening of the Geneva Conference of 1954, which recognized the full independence of Laos with Vietnam and Cambodia. And influence the French and expel them, and the exploitation of this influence to serve their goals in light of the repercussions of the Cold War. The research was divided into several axes: 1. Historical introduction to Laos until 1949. 2. Political situation in Laos and the emergence of the Pato Lao Movement (January-August 1950). 3. The Pathet Lao activity and the evolution of the political landscape in the country (August 1950 - November 1952) (4) The entry of the Viet Minh elements into the territory of Laos and the position of the Lao and French Governments

thereon; November 1952 - April 1953). 5. Formation of the Lao Free Government and the Lao (Government) and French Positions (April-June 1953) 6. The internal political situation in France and its impact on the signing of the Friendship and Cooperation Agreement (June-October 1953). 7- The escalation of the Viet Minh activity in Laos and the Lao and French positions thereof (December 1953 - March 1954) 8. Political and military situation in Laos and the convening of the Geneva Conference (March - July 1954). 9. Final conclusions.

Desarrollos Políticos Internos En Laos 1950 - 1954 Y La Posición Francesa

Resumen :-

Este artículo trata sobre los desarrollos políticos internos en Laos durante 1950-1954, durante los cuales fue testigo de importantes transformaciones políticas, que tuvieron un impacto significativo en el logro de la independencia total en 1954 y finalmente en la eliminación del dominio del colonialismo francés. Este período fue testigo del regreso de la mayoría del movimiento Lao Asara de regreso al país y los alineó con el gobierno de Vientiane, y la aparición del movimiento Pato Lao en 1950, aliado con el gobierno de Viet y anti-Vientiane. 1952 - 1953 Como resultado, Lao Patheit anunció la formación de su propio gobierno en la provincia de Sam Noa en 1953, lo que nos reveló la debilidad de los franceses y su incapacidad para defender a Laos a la luz de la escalada de ataques vietnamitas. Por otro lado, la vida política en Laos avanzaba constantemente. Los partidos políticos se formaron por primera vez en el país desde 1950 hasta 1951, después de lo cual se celebraron elecciones en 1951. Obtuvo total independencia, a excepción de algunas cosas (principalmente militares) que se aplazaron a la conferencia de Ginebra. Se reveló durante este período que la presencia continua de los franceses en Laos se debió a la asistencia estadounidense, que desempeñó un papel importante en la convocatoria de la Conferencia de Ginebra de 1954, que reconoció la plena independencia de Laos con Vietnam y Camboya. E influir en los franceses y expulsarlos, y la explotación de esta influencia para servir a sus objetivos a la luz de las repercusiones de la Guerra Fría.

La investigación se dividió en varios ejes:

1. Introducción histórica a Laos hasta 1949.
2. Situación política en Laos y el surgimiento del Movimiento Pato Lao

(enero-agosto de 1950).

3. La actividad de Pathet Lao y la evolución del panorama político en el país (agosto de 1950 - noviembre de 1952)

(4) La entrada de los elementos del Viet Minh en el territorio de Laos y la posición de los gobiernos de Laos y de Francia al respecto;

Noviembre de 1952 - abril de 1953).

5. Formación del Gobierno Libre de Laos y las Posiciones Lao (Gobierno) y Francés (abril-junio de 1953)

6. La situación política interna en Francia y su impacto en la firma del Acuerdo de Amistad y Cooperación (junio-octubre de 1953).

7- La escalada de la actividad del Viet Minh en Laos y las posiciones de Lao y Francia de la misma (diciembre de 1953 - marzo de 1954)

8. Situación política y militar en Laos y convocatoria de la Conferencia de Ginebra (marzo - julio de 1954).

9. Conclusiones finales.

Una introducción histórica a Laos hasta 1949.

Japan captured Laos in 1941, and in 1945 invited the king of the latter, Sisavang Vong, to proclaim his country's independence from French colonialism, prior to its surrender. During this period, national sentiment grew in the country, and in September 1945 he announced the union of Vientiane and Champasak with Luang Prabang to form a government that would include all Lao areas, and at the end of the same year he announced the formation of the "Lao Issara" government, which was subject to directives. Lao Asara Movement.

This situation did not last long, as soon as French troops returned to Laos in early 1946, took control of the country and dismantled the free government of Laos. It held its first meeting in March 1947, during which it adopted the Constitution and, in August of the same year, recognized the Royal Government of Luang Prabang and Prince Souvanna Rath as Prime Minister of the country.

Following the return of the French to Laos, Lao Asara fled to Thailand in 1946, cooperating there with Viet Manh, and launching attacks on French troops and the Lao Royal Army from Thai territory, but this did not last long. The November 1947 coup in Thailand and the assumption of power by General Phibun Songkhram ceased these activities and consolidated his relationship with the French, which affected the Lao Asara movement and split it into several divisions. In 1949, some of its leaders moved to negoti-

ate with the French; Go home ().

Prince Sofano Fong was the most contacted Lao Assara leader during the period (1947-1948) when he was in Bangkok. As most Lao Assara leaders began their talks in early 1949 in Bangkok with the French, on their return to Vientiane And participate in the management of the country, most of them agreed only Suvano Fung refused the order ().

On January 20, 1949, he announced the formation of his own branch under the leadership of the Lao Assara forces. In particular, on 26 May of this year, the Lao government of exile formally relieved him of his post.

On July 19, 1949, the French and Laotian sides reached an agreement granting Laos autonomy within the French Union system. ().

The political situation in Laos and the emergence of the Lao Pathet movement

January - August 1950

In the meantime, the political scene in Laos was dominated by competition, which took many forms. The decadent Lao believe that their followers are the true patriots, and on the basis of this belief, formed a special political party that takes care of their interests and seeks to achieve their goals and political program, this party known as the “National Progressive Party” (Party The National Progressive), to maintain their bloc and to pressure the French to achieve independence Perfect. Within the context of partisan rivalry, after the formation of the National Progressive Party, Phuy Sananikone formed a political party called the Independence Party, which included most of the political symbols that opposed the Lao Asara movement, and their orientations and tendencies were more Western.).

After the signing of the July 1949 agreement, the French authorities allowed the Kingdom of Laos to apply for membership in the United Nations, and to increase the number of its own army, which would be under the command of the French commander-in-chief in Laos, because disturbance existed in some Laotian areas, despite the presence of French troops who were It extends its control over the country’s major cities and maintains order there.

In the meantime, in January 1950, the United States was considering the possibility of recognizing the Lao government, but was awaiting the ratification by the French National Assembly of legislation to change the status of Laos after the signing of the agreement. (29) The French National Assembly endorsed the legislative and political steps. Related to the

French recognition of Laos' autonomy within the framework of the French Federation, having been administered as a French protectorate. However, the People's Republic of China's recognition of the Ho Chi Minh government on 18 November, which was acknowledged by the Soviet Union on 30 June, has had a major impact in pushing the United States to move more seriously to recognize the governments of Indochina, affiliated to the French Federation, to encourage national aspirations in Non-communist countries in Southeast Asia, and the dimensions of communist hegemony over Asian countries in general.

On February 2, 1950, the French Prime Minister, Vincent Auriol, ratified the 1949 Convention, which granted Laos autonomy within the French Union. After this ratification, on February 4, 1950, the United States of America congratulated the Royal Government of Laos on this occasion. With the United Kingdom, the United States officially recognized Laos' independence, and the Government of Boun Oum Na Champassak returned to Laos as the legitimate and official Government of the country.

On February 13, 1950, Lao Crown Prince Savang Vatthana stated that the Lao Asara movement had virtually ended a week ago after most of its members had surrendered and returned to the country, which would facilitate the arrest of the Viet followers and other Chinese agitators in the country. Savang then announced that some Meo (now Hmong) tribes in the north of the country had received inflammatory propaganda from the Viet Minh, prompting him in early February to summon all Meo chiefs to Luang Prabang, after talks with them. He felt that there was trust and loyalty from them to the Royal Government of Laos.

On February 27, 1950, a new government was formed in Laos under the leadership of Foy Sananikun. Five members of the Independence Party received ministerial portfolios, while the PNP received two ministries, the Ministry of Justice and Health (one ministry), which Khammao Vilai and Khammao Vilai Planning and public works (also one ministry) handed over to Prince Souvanna Phouma, and the rest of the ministerial portfolios were distributed among the powerful tribes in the country. This government had a shortage of qualified and trained staff, but the return of Lao Asara staff after 1949 had bridged this administrative gap and became difficult to remove or dispense with a government move seeking to build modern administrative institutions running the country. After the formation of this government, the former Lao Asara followers refused to accept the French supreme commander to be commander of the Laotian army, because he had fought against them previously, and after several bargains,

Sounthone Pathamma Vong was appointed commander of the Royal Lao Army, which was quickly promoted to Rank of Colonel ().

To support and strengthen the new Lao government, on May 20, 1950, the United States announced a US economic mission based in Saigon, Vietnam, to provide economic assistance to local governments in Indochina (Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos), stabilize them, achieve economic development, and support democracy. Robert Blum was appointed head of the mission, and the United States confirmed that in future, after consultation with the French High Commissioner, bilateral agreements could be signed between the United States and each country. The three countries (). It is clear from this economic mission to the United States that it has already entered the Indochina region to take on the role of the French there, and has explicitly announced that it intends to conclude bilateral agreements with the Indochinese countries to dominate it, through its economic assistance program.

In the meantime, Suvano Fung left Bangkok with his followers, most notably Singkapo Chounramany and Prince Suk Vongsak, and set off to the east of Laos. (Phomvihane Kayson) and Nouhak Phoumsavanh Nouhak became the head of the new Lao resistance alliance in eastern Laos. He seeks moderate leaders cooperating with the fugitive Forgetting in Vientiane ().

From the east of Laos, Suvano Phong, through the Tuyen Quang region, continued to meet with the Viet Minh leaders at their headquarters in North Vietnam, where he met Ho Chi Minh. In early August 1950, Suvano Phong met with a number of Communist leaders and some At this meeting, leaders of different ethnic groups agreed on the need to plan the struggle for national liberation from French colonialism, and to form a resistance government headed by Sophano Phong, assisted by other leaders, including Kayson Vumphihan and Noahk Phumsavan. It is called the Lao Liberation Committee Sophano Fong was chosen as its leader.

Shortly afterwards, on August 13, 1950, Sophano Phong presided over the first Congress of the Resistance, which was held secretly near the borders of the provinces of Phong Saly and Sam Neua, attended by 105 people. The tribal groups and ethnic minorities in Laos, as well as representatives of leaders Kayson Phumvihan, Faydang Lobliayao, Nohak, Shhone Komadam and Phoumi Vongvichit. Two days after the meeting (August 15, 1950), the meeting announced that the name of the Lao Asara Movement had been dropped and replaced by another name, the Free Laos Front, but it was known by another more famous name, its military wing, the Pathet

Lao. “(Pathet Lao), which literally means” Lao land, “and the formation of the Laos front was similar to the Viet Minh movement, as it had a military wing and a political one, and Prince Sofano Phong has established its leader. It is clear that the front was a veto of it both in terms of formation and organization or in terms of loyalty to them, and that the presence of two wings in the front, demonstrates the strength of its organization and its willingness to fight in the midst of war with the French military and political ways, one complementary to the other.

Many military observers stated that Viet’s assistance to the Pathet Lao was not only by providing them with weapons, but also by sending Vietnamese fighters to assist them. Each of the three Lao Pathe Lao elements had one of the Viet Laet, along with each battalion Lao battalion. Since the Pato Lao was unable to buy weapons from the Viet Mino, most of the elements of the Pato Lao were fighting without any salary or money, in addition they were provided with food.

The activity of the Lao Pathet and the evolution of the political landscape of the country

August 1950 - November 1952

On August 15, 1950, the Patent Lao issued a statement outlining the general framework of the Front. Laos rejected foreign imperialist intervention, liberated and unified Laos territory, formed a coalition government with the Vientiane government, worked to achieve freedom and democracy in the country; And the development of the national economy The represented sectors of major agriculture, industry and trade, and to reduce taxes and reduce interest rates, and interest in education and the elimination of literacy and orientation for the development of national culture and unify with the culture of the peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia, and to consider the name “Albac Lao” is the National Resistance Organization in Laos name ().

On the same day (15 August), the Pathetto Lao elected its own government, with Prince Sophano Fong elected its Prime Minister, Fumi Vongvigit as his Deputy and Minister of the Interior. The cabinet comprised members of the largest clan groups in Laos, the Lao Theung, known as the Kha and the Hmong. The Pathet Lao is a revolutionary way to achieve complete independence for the country D, and in collaboration with the Viet Minh movement, which will depend upon the Lao Albac significantly during the struggle against the French stage ().

Under these circumstances, in October 1950, the Lao government signed the Pau Convention, which regulated some of the commonalities between Indochina countries, but the Lao government had reservations on some of them because it gave hegemony in Indochina to Vietnam, concerning Common services and the establishment of commercial agencies, taxes and public revenues among them.

The political currents in Laos, especially after the return of the Lao Asara elements to Vientiane and their participation in the administration of the country, varied. This was about the mechanism for achieving complete independence of the country. There were three political currents described as the right, left and moderate (or center), the right, He called for stronger ties with Thailand to secure their western border with Vietnam, which was working to penetrate and expand in Laos, in addition to obtaining Thailand's support; to achieve full independence from France, the most prominent advocates of this trend Prince Bon Om Chambasak and Prince Fumi Nosavan (Phoumi Nosavan) and Eun Sananikon (Ou Mostly lived in Champasak in southern Laos and in Vientiane. The left was represented by Prince Sofano Fong, who chose the revolutionary path to complete independence for his country, and stressed the importance of cooperation and alliance with the Viet Minh. The third, the moderate, refused to cooperate with Thailand or Vietnam, and called for Laos to be an independent, neutral and protected country from the world's great powers. As a result of this political difference, Laos has experienced fragmentation and instability.

To underestimate the left, Prince Savang said on January 2, 1951 that he was confident that within a few months the danger of the Pathetto Lao would end, because they were secretly thieves in the center and north of the country with some elements of the Viet Minh, each grouping them (20-50). "They cannot penetrate southern Laos because of the rough road, the lack of food and the hostility of the people, because the people of the south are loyal to the Royal Government of Laos." He also explained that "in some areas of northern Laos there are extremist people, and there are mobile teams investigating roads, looking for places to store food and safe ways to transport them."

In February 1951, he attended an organizational meeting sponsored by the Viet Minh, which was held in one of the regions of North Vietnam among most of the guerrilla organizations in Indochina, where the Viet Minh represented Vietnam and the Khmer Liberation Committee. (Represents Cambodia, the Lao Pathe on behalf of Laos). In March 1951, these efforts culminated in the formation of a united joint front comprising most of the

revolutionary forces opposed to the French presence in Indochina, known as the “A Joint National United Front”, which represented all armed forces in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. Its aim is to fight the French colonial forces and fight together against imperialist aggression and American intervention in their countries.

To demonstrate that Laos is an independent and autonomous state within the French Union, on August 22, 1951, the United States invited the Laos government to attend the San Francisco Conference on the signing of a peace treaty with Japan. Perhaps there is goodwill for the United States from this invitation, in order to give greater confidence to the Lao government to attend some international forums in the future, and through this communication, this government will get wider international recognition, or perhaps the United States wanted this step is to win the loyalty of the Government of Laos At the expense of the French in light of the aftermath of the Cold War, or perhaps it wanted to legitimize the peace treaty with Japan in terms of the number of signatories.

Meanwhile, a number of political parties emerged in Laos before the National Assembly elections, the most important of which was the National Progressive Party, formed by former Lao Asara elements, who returned to the country in 1949, most notably Xing Mao. (Xieng Mao), Katay Don Sasorith and Prince Sophana Foma (The Democratic Party), headed by Kou Voravong, and founded the Laos Union - National Party led by Bong. Bong Souvannavong (), and there is the Independence Party, which was led by Foy Sananikon ().

As the elections approached, some press sources predicted that the National Progressive Party (NPP) is the leading candidate to win the election results, expecting to obtain 23 certain seats and two possible seats, but because of the continuous rain in some areas of northern Laos, Sam Nua province, Luang Prabang and Hoi Sa. The results are expected to change, with 14 seats for the National Progressive Party, 3 for the Democratic Party, 3 for the UNP and 17 for the Independence Party. The government is likely to be formed in late October or November 1, 1951, and a political alliance is expected to form a coalition government between the Progressive Party, the Independence and the Democratic. It is clear from these press expectations that the victory of the Istiqlal Party is expected in all circumstances, and these expectations showed that the rest of the political parties are competing against him, which reflects the strength of the party and its popularity in the country.

Elections were held on August 26, 1951, but there are Lao areas whose in-

habitants did not participate in the elections because of the threat and fear of some elements, which were against the political process in the country, and as a result, about a third of the polling stations were suspended from work, and did not receive voters, but These circumstances did not prevent Lao politicians and ministers from running for office, and most of the former government ministers had run again. Some Lao sources reported that about 30% of the population was unable to vote because of the threat, fear and disturbance of the security situation in their areas, and about 10% of the population did not participate voluntarily in the elections because the Constitution guaranteed them the right to deliberate abstention in the election, but despite Although the constitution guaranteed them this right, these sources confirmed that the reason was the threat, fear and instability of the security situation in their areas.

The method of election was through the polling stations, each of which contained photographs of candidates registered in the constituencies, each with a special serial number, and when the voter entered, he selected the image of the candidate he wished, and placed it in a special box. The Lao authorities have identified some of the candidates' personal qualifications, such as being 30 years of age and above, holding an educational certificate, not belonging to the army, police or judiciary, and providing a deposit of 1000 Cape, and have resided In the country five years before the elections, noting that the candidates were competing for (39) allocated to the National Assembly.

The results of the elections resulted in the victory of the Independence Party, led by Foy Sananikon (17), won the National Progressive Party (15) (), and the Democratic Party got only (4) seats, while the National Union of Laos (3) Based on the results, Xing Mao moved to form a new government, but failed in this, prompting Prince Sofana Foma to move to form a new government under his presidency. He succeeded in forming it on November 21, 1951, and will lead the country for four Years ahead (), it will have to work on the transfer of public services, the judiciary and other responsibilities of the furnace control To the new government in Laos. These figures show that the pre-election press speculation was very accurate in identifying the winning party with the number of seats.

In fulfillment of some of its obligations under the 1949 Convention, at the 603rd meeting of the United Nations on 19 September 1952, the French Government submitted a proposal for a Laotian accession resolution. Ten countries (Brazil, Chile, China, France, Greece, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) voted In

favor of the proposal to join, but the Soviet Union rejected the order, and then the proposal was completely overturned because the Soviet Union permanent member of the Security Council and has the right of veto (Veto).

The entry of Viet elements into the territory of Laos and the position of the Lao and French governments
November 1952 - April 1953

The Alliance of Guerrilla Organizations had a clear reflection on the left in Laos, paving the way for Vietnamese volunteers in Laos to fight the French, and in cooperation with the Pathets Lao, whose main objective was to obtain a suitable military base as a starting point for military operations against French colonial forces. In addition, the establishment of local governments in Laos, representing the Pathets Lao, as the legitimate government fighting for the independence of the country, which will reflect positively on the movement of the Lao people, and will be the focus of attention and interest of the French, and this activity will take A necessary and successful step to expel the pro-French Vientiane government (from the point of view of the Pathet Lau).

To alleviate these concerns, the Lao Crown Prince Savang asserted on November 19, 1952 that the Lao National Army is capable of protecting its borders and is capable of repelling any danger from China. But at the same time he stressed the need to raise the capabilities of the National Army by increasing the strength of infantry and paratroopers and the formation of special commando units (Commandos), and then the army will be able to strike any attack on the country, and stressed the importance of modernizing the army and providing aircraft, and this is vital for him ().

Despite Savang's assertions, on 15 December 1952 there were predictions of a possible invasion of Laos in the future. These predictions were based on some military reports, confirming the high probability of Laos' invasion by the Viet Minh elements.

Fears of a threat to Laos' security and stability increased from Viet Minh on December 30, 1952, and some reports indicated that they could control Lao town in Sam Nua province, some 30 miles northeast of Laos, as a base. Then on the Tokin border. As a result of these fears, the French forces have prepared themselves and the Lao army prepared, in anticipation of such expectations, and the French and Laotian authorities bet that the Viet could not penetrate the Lao border and enter its main cities, especially

Sam Noa, due to the topography of the land and the distance between Sam Noa and North Vietnam. In addition, because of the population's loathing to veto it, the military preparations in Laos have been added by the forces of the French Federation and the Lao Royal Army, which will prevent the Viet from entering Laos.

To counter the repercussions of breaking the Laotian border, the Lao government on March 19, 1953 increased the capabilities of its national army, numbering 12,000 fighters, in addition to the 6,000 National Guard forces. They need paratrooper units because they are more effective and move faster in the face of any military challenge.

Adding to these fears, French General Raoul Louis Salan said on March 20 that "the Viet Minh has the ability to break into northern Laos by directing four military battalions towards it, and he is not optimistic that they will be able to repel them." "(). This statement demonstrates how weak the French are in repelling the Viet forces and keeping them out of Laotian territory.

To counter this persistent threat, the Lao government decided on 31 August to consult with the French authorities to increase the capabilities and enumeration of the Lao army. A plan was made to add 650 troops to the Laotian ground forces in 1953, and to add 7,500 in 1954. .

In the winter of 1952-53, the Viet Minh prepared a military plan to penetrate deep into Laos to fight the French, exploiting the presence of only 3,000 French troops in Laos, and with the help of the Lao Pathets, the Viet Minh forces successfully infiltrated deep into Laos, gathered intelligence, and provided intelligence. Quantities of rice needed for feeding along the road leading to Laotian depth ().

Following this activity, Vietnamese leader Vo Nguyen Giap sent in early 1953 two military battalions to completely invade Sam Noa province and parts of the provinces of Phong Sali, Xieng Khouang and the royal capital of Luang Prabang. On Sam Noa in full, it entered about (3000) people from the Lao Phatit with a number of Vietnamese employees ().

In an official statement on 14 April of the same year, the Lao Government condemned the entry of Viet Minh forces into Sam Noa province and the infiltration of its borders, and on the same day issued an official call to the United Nations to pay attention to the fate of free peoples, to protect them from foreign interference, and requested protection from the Viet Minh. At the request of the National Union Party, the Lao Council of Ministers held an emergency meeting on the 15th of the said month, to discuss the problem of the Viet Minh penetration of the Lao border and control of some of its areas.

On April 16, the French government endorsed the Lao government statement and called for the importance of international solidarity with the efforts of the Lao government in the face of this aggression. On 17 January, the Lao Government reinforced its previous statement with a second statement, reiterating the rejection of the issue of aggression on its territory, and declaring the determination of its people and army to cooperate with the forces of the French Federation to repel the Viet Nam aggression on its territory.

On the same day (April 17), the United States reaffirmed its interest in and follow-up of developments in Laos, expressed its sympathy for the Lao people and their government, and its support for the Lao army, and reiterated its determination to examine ways and means to increase the power of Laos and the entire Indochinese countries to counter the threat. Communist threatening its existence.

Formation of the Government of Laos and the Lao (governmental) and French positions thereof

April - June 1953

After the takeover of Sam Noa province, on 19 April 1953, Prince Sofano Phong formally formed a government of resistance, and became the main bastion of the Lao Pathets in Laos. Following this incursion, the Lao court convicted the Governor of Sam Noa and sentenced him to death in absentia because he helped the Vietnamese and the Pathets. Lao in control of the province ().

The Resistance Government has formed popular military and administrative committees at all levels. Popular Resistance Committees have been formed in villages and larger regional forces than in the regions, and more organized military units have been used to fight in any region of Laos, and everyone has had to join the committees they desire. Village or regional or strictly organized committees that serve as the army of the resistance government, even monks (Buddhist clergy) had to participate in this military volunteer. In addition, it was incumbent on people under the control of the resistance government to attend some political circles, which dealt with topics aimed at instilling the political line of the Patheit Lao, and encouraged people to attend to it. It is noteworthy that the formation of these committees was not limited to Sam Noa province, but included most of the areas and villages under the control of the Lao Pathe in Laos.

After the formation of the Resistance Government, Laos became politically and administratively divided into two parts, a royal government in

Vientiane and another opposition in Sam Noa, which began to criticize the government of Vientiane, which escalated with the escalation of the Viet Minh and the Bat Lao attacks on some Lao provinces, and as a result, Laos became involved and actively involved in the First Indochina War between France and Vietnam. It has become part of the Cold War conflicts in the Asian continent.

With these military successes, another group of Viet Minis advanced towards the royal capital of Luang Prabang, and with this advance, the French forces prepared the necessary plans to defend them, which calmed the Laotians with reminders of an ancient prophecy of a blind Buddhist monk named Pho Sathou, who stressed that The ability of the Vietnamese (Viet Minh) to invade the city ().

As the Viet forces intensified their pressure and approached Luang Prabang, on April 23 of the same year, the French authorities called on the Lao King Sisavang Fong to leave the capital because of his advances and the imminent danger of them, but the king refused and insisted on staying there. Concerned about the fear for the king's life, the French authorities feared that in the event of his arrest, he might be used as a tool or machine for communist support and promotion of his ideological ideology, which would have disastrous consequences for Indochina as a whole. Laotian from Intensity to leave the capital, but he refused to move away from the capital, despite these pressures (). This rejection clearly reflects the strength of the king's character and courage to stand up to the forces of the Viet, even if this position cost him his life, and wanted to motivate his people to stand against him.

After the seizure of Sam Noa and the breakthrough of the Laos border, calls came from some countries in late April, led by the United States of America, stressing the importance of transferring the file of the Viet Minh invasion of Laos to the UN corridors, but the French government rejected this matter, and confirmed that it had discussed The issue with the Lao government persuaded it to wait for the UN appeal, because the French believe that appealing to the UN and discussing the issue within it will encourage communist China to provide more publicly and in greater quantities to the Viet forces, as they did in the Korean War. In addition, the French government has confirmed that bringing the issue to the United Nations does not mean dealing with it quickly, but will lead to a long, sterile and futile debate, especially if they deal with the issue of colonialism in general, and according to For these expectations, it would be useless to convey the issue to the United Nations from the perspective of the French Government.

To justify the French point of view, Henri Bonnet told some US officials on April 29 that “bringing the issue to the United Nations would create many problems among the political parties within the French National Assembly, and political attacks on the government would escalate, on the pretext that they were practicing imperial policy in Indochina.” These attacks will stir French public opinion against the government, forcing it to withdraw from Indochina.” In the same context, unofficial French sources said on 30 of the same month, “France’s refusal to transfer the issue of the invasion of Laotian territory to the United Nations; The French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault has rejected it. Certainly, the French refused to transfer the case to the United Nations because they realized that if it were transferred, it would open the door to the rest of the French colonies to present their cases within the United Nations, and would set a dangerous precedent for the disintegration of the French Union. Affiliated Under the banner of these colonies.

After the French government refused to transfer the case to the United Nations, some military observers said on 6 May that “the situation in Laos is not reassuring, although the rains after a week or 10 days will stop the fighting until next fall.” They stressed the need for the French government to be given as much freedom as possible to the Lao people, to choose their own government, and to lay the foundations of internal security in the country.

In an unexpected move, Viet forces withdrew on May 9 from areas they had previously controlled in northern Laos last April, sparking speculation, including poor supplies and difficulty in accessing food supplies, because the transportation lines that separated North Vietnam from The north of Laos was long and rugged, as well as the difficulty of the flow of military supplies and access, as the French troops stationed in Luang Prabang were strong and repelled the Viet Nam towards it, preventing them from full control, which made it difficult to carry out an ongoing attack on the city. Or perhaps because of the rainy season, which has made it difficult for the Viet forces to stay as long as possible near the city, and may resume their attack after the rainy season, from their bases on the border. While some believed that the attack on the city had achieved its goal, French forces and the Lao army were busy defending it, which enabled the Lao Pate to form their own government, known as the “Free Laotian Government”, which strengthened their presence and supported their military bases. By organizing some Lao people in a government of their own, their future ambition may be fulfilled.

Despite their withdrawal from northern Laos, the Viet Minh will work to strengthen the Lao Pathe's control in Laos and increase the authority of the Lao Free Government. The Viet Minh will surely increase their presence in the border barracks in northern Laos, and will organize their affairs there further, to replicate Penetrate Laos and penetrate deep into it, and will encourage guerrilla warfare therein too.

The internal political situation in France and its impact on the signing of the Friendship and Cooperation Agreement

June 1953

In the meantime, the internal political situation in France witnessed government changes. A new French government, headed by Joseph Laniel, was formed on June 26, 1953, pledging full independence for the three Indochina countries (Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos) and transferring all remaining powers at the disposal of The French government such as its judicial, financial and military affairs ().

After the election of Joseph Lanil, the French Council of Ministers announced at its meeting on 3 July of the same year that it was time to consider the issue of regulating relations between France and the Indochina countries, because France respected human freedoms and national rights, and affirmed that the 1949 Convention It has created cooperation between the French and Laotian army over the past four years, by standing against their common enemy. In addition, there has been cooperation within Lao institutions with French civilian advisers, and Laos is ready to achieve its full independence. The French government is fully prepared to transfer the powers it has held for four years and administer them on behalf of the Lao government in various political, economic, military, financial and judicial aspects. As a result of this declaration, the French Government is ready to transfer these powers to the Lao Government as soon as possible, since the Agreement on the Transfer of Authorities will forge closer ties of cooperation and friendship between France and Laos.

The Lao King and his government expressed their satisfaction with this announcement, and the Lao government confirmed that it would hold a cabinet meeting to discuss appropriate ways to initiate talks with the French and to promote national steps to achieve full independence.

The United States and Britain revealed their happiness with the July 3 announcement, and the French government's readiness to open negotia-

tions with the Lao government to complete its sovereignty and achieve full independence. This step is important to strengthen the freedom of the Lao people, achieve internal stability, and maintain constitutional order. It is a harmonious framework among its members and achieves their common and private interests, which is necessary because it ensures the security and stability of all Southeast Asian countries.

The beginning of French-Lao negotiations began in early August 1953, when Savang, Lao 's crown prince and Prime Minister Sofana Fuma and some Lao officials, left in early August to discuss the implementation of the July 3 Declaration. After their return from France on 5 August, the Lao delegation confirmed France' s readiness With the transfer of powers from the French authorities to the Lao government gradually, with regard to the Bao Convention, the delegation stressed that they had not negotiated with the French, Vietnamese or Cambodians on new arrangements, only after one of the parties to the Convention officially announced its refusal to abide by its terms, but with regard to security Laos To protect them, they told the French they could destroy all the Viet Minh forces in Laos if France provided them with the necessary weapons before the rainy season ended. Savang said he was confident that the Viet Minh could not attack Laos even after the rainy season, because their brigades were preoccupied with political indoctrination. They sent some young people to learn some political science in the People's Republic of China, some were sent to the Soviet Union, and Savang pledged to the French to send troops from the Lao army to fight in one trench with the French against the Viet during the rainy season in some Laotian areas, and this was welcomed by the French as Thira () .

As a continuation of the draft negotiations with the French, Sofana Foma confirmed on 3 October of the same year that he would leave for Paris on the 4th of the same month, to head his country's delegation during the negotiations, according to the contents of the July 3 Declaration, and will stay in Paris for three weeks, to resolve most of the files Sticking between them. In a separate context, he regretted the amount of US aid sent to France to which Laos received none, although the assistance is intended to help Indo-Chinese countries. The roads to Vientiane Airport need reconstruction and development, and there is a need to improve Sino airport. Seno), and the construction of bypass roads on the highway linking Vientiane and Vietnam, which will hopefully be opened in November 1953, and after revealing these necessary projects, Sofana Foma renewed his country's need for financial support.

In his speech, Sophana Foma reviewed the military situation in the country, revealing his frequent visits and accompanying him to military patrols, which are located (100 km) northeast of Luang Prabang, to see the security situation, and stressed that there are no elements of Viet Minh near Luang, only They are in Sam Noa and are likely to attack the Tonkin Delta aggressively, and if they are repulsed there, they may attack Laos. In anticipation of this and to build a strong army, the officer training school in Laos trained 520 officers and non-commissioned officers and completed preparations for the formation of four battalions to be stationed in Vientiane, Savannkhet, Pakse and Luang Prabang. Other military teams, once fully trained, will be deployed in Luang Prabang, Vientiane and Palese. Despite the shortage of weapons and ammunition, Sofana Fuma hopes the Lao army will reach 30,000-50,000, and as a result of this military build-up, There is pressure on civil servants, and there is a clear shortage of the country's workforce The completion of strategic projects, and on the sidelines of this review, confirmed that the French commander in Laos, General Garrett, was dismissed from his position, at the request of the Lao government, because he ignored some sensitive matters in the country, and Colonel Jean-Boucher de Crevcor was appointed Boucher de.

After a series of negotiations between the two sides, they reached an appropriate conclusion on the morning of October 22, 1953, when the two sides signed an agreement known as the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation (A Treaty of Friendship and Association), which lifted the remaining restrictions on the full independence of Laos. ().

This Convention guaranteed the full independence and sovereignty of Laos, whereby France recognized Laos as an independent and fully sovereign state. As a result of this recognition, Laos will replace France in exercising all rights and fulfilling all obligations under any international or special agreement concluded by France on behalf of Laos prior to the signing of this Convention. . France affirmed the freedom of Laos to join the French Federation and its Supreme Council, which is led by the French President, and pledged to support the independence and sovereignty of Laos and their right to join international bodies and organizations. The two sides agreed to join together in any negotiations aimed at amending any agreement between them and treating their nationals the same. The status of their populations in their countries of origin, and the organization of the economic relationship between them, so as to ensure the granting of mutual privileges, especially in the area of tariffs, and the development of special agreements that determine the ways of their relationship, as

all treaties should be repealed and replaced The agreements entered into between them and the conclusion of other agreements reflecting the new phase between them, knowing that this agreement will enter into force from the date of signature, which will be through the constitutional bodies of the two countries, and signed by representatives of the two countries in the French capital Paris on October 22, 1953 (). .

Escalation of Viet Viet in Laos and Laotian and French positions
December 1953 - March 1954

Following the signing of the agreement, Sofana Foma stated on 12 December 1953 that the political and military situation in the country had improved substantially in the past few months, mainly because of Laos' success in mobilizing the military to fight the Viet Minh and cooperating with the French Union forces to launch Successful military operations against them and, secondly, Laos gain full independence from France, gave Laos a stronger political position and strengthened its international standing than it once was. However, despite the political and military successes, the economic situation in the country, described by Sofana Foma, is fragile and weak; Imported goods, and most of these things will stand in the way of the public works program in the country, which may reach the level of half, and will also affect the economic construction, and will affect investment in the state. To address part of this economic crisis, Sofana Fuma confirmed that he intends to attend the January 1954 Economic Conference in Paris to discuss economic and financial affairs, through which Laos' economic and financial problems will be presented to the countries present at the conference.

In spite of the military improvement in the country, in late December 1953, there appeared signs suggesting the movement of Viet to invade some areas of Laos, and according to some press sources, the Viet equipped a large military force to invade the central regions of Laos this time, not the North, these indicators were With the withdrawal of the French Union forces from the province of Thakhek (Thakhek) and control of the Viet Minh, the danger of this occupation on the French forces more than the danger to the Lao government, because the city is located on the Mekong River, which is the most important direct transport links to Thailand, and can cut lines Transport that connects South Laos in the north, but at the same time does not pose any threat to either Vientiane or Luang Prabang, as the first is about (400 km) from Thakik, but it poses a threat to the French base Sino, which is 80 km away, and as a result of this invasion Repeatedly for his country's

territory, Sofana Foma issued an appeal to world public opinion and the heads of independent states, urging them to protect Laos independence and sovereignty, and called on friendly countries to defend his country. ``The invasion wants to impose communist ideology on the Lao people, who rejects it and will always reject it ``.).

In the meantime, some military sources stated on 27 December that the military force that took control of Thakik had a number of (8-9) battalions. Although Thakik is close to Savannakhet, it does not pose a threat to it because it was reinforced by military force in case of any emergency. The move, however, lies in the possibility of interrupting land links between southern and northern Laos.

In spite of the large presence in Thachik, the French Union forces expelled the Viet elements from it in January 1954, and stepped up their presence near the Sino military base to protect them from any sudden invasion of the Viet, who had the ability to control the main road between Pax and Sino. , A vital way to supply the French ().

During their withdrawal from Thachik, they looted 4,000 bags of rice from government warehouses in the city, disappeared in the hills, and gathered there again with the support of some Lao tribes. It is worth mentioning that most of these invasions were carried out by the Viet forces and not the Pathets Lao, and some sources went to say that Prince Sofano Fong had allowed them to play this role, because he believes that they are more hateful of the French, they wanted revenge on them (). But perhaps not only that, but because the Viet is more numerous and more organized than the Pathets, or perhaps the prince did not want to venture into high-level military battles with the French, so as not to adversely affect the Pathets if the French triumphed over them. He wanted to be the first to begin with, to learn about the military capabilities of the French compared to his capabilities. Or perhaps it is beyond the control of the Pathets Lau and the prince himself, as it is not excluded that it is imposed on them by Ho Chi Minh and the Viet Minh; to prove to the French that they are able to open their battlefield with the French to the whole of Indochina, or possibly the Viet wanted to win over him. The Lao people by appearing as defenders of their independence, freedom and sovereignty of the French.

Although they were defeated in Thachik, the Laotians feared that the Viet Minh would attack their cities. Luang Prabang was needed to protect, with seven battalions of Viet Minh in central Laos, especially in the northern province of Savannakhet. Three of them are expected to move south with Some military patrols; to cut the upper lines of the Mekong River, which

connects to the capital Vientiane ().

These fears escalated when 14 battalions of Viet Minh headed towards Luang Prabang in early February, about 60 miles from the north, in a continuous move, but were expected to be repulsed by the French Union forces. But on February 11, the Viet forces arrived 30 to 40 miles from the city, but were suffering from a shortage of supplies.

As they approached the city further, Sisavang Fung, Savang and Sofana Foma on 17 of the same month expressed their confidence that Viet could not enter it, asserting that the Lao people were ready to defend it, and would be forced to leave the project of control, and would be forced to leave the Muong area. If they take control of Luang Prabang, the Lao government will adopt a Scorched Earth Policy, but due to the difficulty of getting military and food supplies to the Viet, it is certain they will retreat from the project to control Luang. March of the same year for this pain Initiation; because of the difficulty of supply and immunization of her great. With this military pressure from the Viet, Savang expressed confidence in Colonel Crevcor's military ability to defend the northern regions of Laos, but at the same time criticized the French forces and their commanders in charge of defending the central regions of the country, and hoped that this would be the last military incursion of Viet In Laos with their exit from areas under their control ().

In response to his criticism of the Central Command, the French General Maurice Dejean confirmed on the 17th of the same month that "the French leadership is not concerned about the situation in Laos," and revealed that there are indications suggesting the withdrawal of some Viet units from central Laos to the north, The French military intelligence revealed that about 10% of the Viet elements had dysentery and about 50% of them were suffering from various diseases ().

Meanwhile, on February 26, Sofana Fuma expressed his deep concern over the proposal by Indian leader Jawahar lal Nehro to call for a truce in Indochina. Acceptance of the fait accompli would mean control of three quarters of Laos. "The invasion of Laos is purely political, because it coincides with the Berlin meeting," he said. "Despite the conditions in the country, Sovana Foma reiterated his optimism about the situation in the country. The French agreed to increase the Laotian army (because France was the one to spend on the army Because many Laos wanted to join his ranks, to defend their country, it consisted of 24,000 fighters, in addition to 50 companies, each of which had 125 fighters, which is a supportive army.).

In the framework of economic cooperation between the Indo-Chinese countries, Sofana Fuma called on Cambodia on the same day to abide by the existing economic partnership under the Bao Agreement and achieve monetary and customs cooperation. "If Cambodia emerges from this cooperation, it will be difficult for Laos alone to continue such cooperation," he said. "Vietnam's economic superiority will make Laos' negotiating position weak with Vietnam. In addition, Vietnam has yet to pay Laos' share of last year's customs revenue of 230 million piasters, equivalent to almost half of Laos' budget." ().

Political and military situation in Laos and the Geneva Conference March 1954

The crisis of the Viet Minh attack on Luang Prabang came to an end when French General Rene Cogny declared on 1 March 1954 that the danger to Luang Prabang and Muong Sai had ended, and the Viet Minh had lost some of its military units on 28 February of the same year due to lack of supplies and ammunition. As a result, some of their units went to the Dien Bien Phu area.

To end the conflict in Indochina in general, Nong Kimny, Cambodian ambassador to the United States on April 1, demanded that Indochinese countries attend the Geneva Conference to end the Korean War. The US government supported this demand and stressed the need for The Indo-chinese States of the Conference as full members and not as observers or participants only.

In the meantime, some military sources reported in April the same year that the Lao Phaet had succeeded as a result of their ongoing military activity since 1953, which had received the support of the Viet and gave them control of an area of 40,000 km² of the total area of Laos.

This area consisted of total control of Sam Noa province and a large part of Xing Khwang and Phong Sali provinces. This area was estimated to be about four-fifths of the total area of the country. Fit and Batu Lao troops, estimated to be 1,500-3,000 fighters, were divided. According to the same sources, most of these areas have been entered by the Viet Minh and the Laith Pataths without much resistance from the French and the Lao Royal Army. In a related context, many military observers stated that the Lao Pathe and the Lao Royal Army (20,000) fighters, they did not meet in any direct battle, as long as there are no French forces fighting alongside the Royal Army, there was more like It was reported that some children in the

areas under the control of the Lao Pathe were playing with some Lao Royal Army officers in some of their border areas.

Under these circumstances, in early May, French troops moved 15 battalions of the French Federation in Laos and would settle either in the Tonkin delta or in some coastal areas, but the relocation of the battalions outside Laos has frightened some military observers. The Viet may take advantage of this situation, and then carry out sudden offensive military operations on Laos, aimed at terrorism and sabotage of cities, but the French assured everyone, and stressed their ability to defend Laos with full force ().

After the decision of the Indochinese countries to participate in the Geneva conference, there were differences between the capitalist and socialist camps, regarding whether or not to reserve a seat for the Pathetto Lao. An important part of the Lao people. The United States and some of its Western allies have argued that the Lao Pathe is a revolutionary military group or group used politically by the Viet Minh, a puppet of North Vietnam, and does not deserve to sit at the Geneva conference table. After these rivalries, everyone agreed not to invite Bathit to attend the conference, and the United States and its allies triumphed in imposing their views ahead of the conference.

Following this Western attitude towards the Lao Pathe, on 3 June 1954, Svana Fuma expressed his gratitude to the United States, Britain and France for not recognizing the Lao Free Government (the Lao Pathe Lao Government) and for not allocating a seat to them at the conference, which would deal with the ceasefire and peace in Indochina. ().

The military situation in Laos in June 1954 was calm, and in the north also stable, but there was fear of the Viet take control of the Tonkin Delta, and then it will be difficult to defend South Laos, and only five battalions will be able to enter southern Laos, but they can reoccupy the city THAKE YOU EASILY. The political scene was also stable, and at the end of June or early July 1954, Sofana Foma would leave the country for Paris, for economic talks with the French.

Under the circumstances, the French High Commissioner in Laos on June 19 revealed to some of his staff that they would welcome Prince Fitzarath if he decided to return home from his voluntary exile in Bangkok, and could easily become prime minister with popular support, perhaps even greater than that of Prince Sofana Foma. In the event he worked to serve his country and stability, and not to oppose the royal family of the country. In the same vein, the High Commissioner assured them that there was no

need for French military intervention if the Lao people unanimously elected a national government to represent them, but if a small group (intended to pathe Lao) or Viet Nam sought to stage a coup against the government of Laos, the troops The French will have a role in curbing this coup, to protect the Lao government. “ Certainly the French will intervene to protect the Lao government, because their interests are contingent on the existence of this government.

At the Geneva conference, Prince Sofana Fuma, on June 29, unveiled the decision of the Lao Council of Ministers that the Viet forces should withdraw from his country, and their keenness to reject any concession to the communists. In the same vein, Crown Prince Savang expressed his personal fear of the intentions of the French government in this regard, as most members of the Lao government were concerned that France would make concessions to the Viet and Communists in exchange for the signing of the ceasefire agreement, and this will be at the expense of the sovereignty of Laos and safety He asserted that if the French come to terms with such a deal, he will reject it and continue the struggle alone, asking the United Nations to intervene to save Laos, and called on the United States to provide direct assistance to Laos without French mediation.

After these remarks, Savang confirmed on July 1 of the same year that he had personally explored four weeks ago of the so-called “Lao Free Government”, where he found a few elements of the Lao Pathe, but who guarded him was the Viet. They have, and are not present in his alleged government headquarters in Sam Noa (according to Savang poll). After this survey, it was discovered that the Viet Minh forces were obtaining ammunition and food from the People’s Republic of China by road, and in the event of their attack on Laos, his Government would be unable to repel any aggression without external assistance.

Meanwhile, Lao Foreign Minister Foy Sananikon led his country’s delegation to the Geneva conference, and peace talks on Indochina began. A number of relevant countries, including the United States, the Soviet Union, France, Britain, the People’s Republic of China, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, attended the conference. There are representatives of resistance movements in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, and after a debate among the attendees, the Geneva Conference sessions resulted in the signing of two agreements, one dealing with the ceasefire in Indochina, and the other concerned with peace.

The Ceasefire Agreement was issued on July 20, 1954, part of which dealt with the fate of Laos, affirming the independence of Laos and respecting

its sovereignty, with Viet Nam troops to be withdrawn from the Laotian areas under their control. As for the Lao Pathets, they will retain control of the Phong Sali and Sam Nua provinces, northeast of Laos, and be merged with the Lao Kingdom after the elections in 1955. The agreement rejected the establishment of foreign military bases in Laos, except for the French military bases in Both the provinces of Savannakhet and Xing Huang also called for the liberation of prisoners of war and civilian detainees within 30 days, and on the French and Laotian sides (Patheit Lau). Any reprisals on the political side, whether against individuals or their families, will be rejected. Exterminated Prisoners of war and civilians willing to move intellectually from communist ideology to another and vice versa without any problem.

As for the Peace Agreement, it was issued on the 21st of the same month, confirmed the end of hostilities in Laos, which will be implemented under the supervision of an international committee, to monitor the process of completing the provisions of the Convention, and recognized the attendance of the independence and full sovereignty of Laos on its territory In return, Laos should take the necessary measures to allow all Lao citizens to take their natural place within the social fabric of the country, and to be allowed to participate in the elections to be held in 1955, in accordance with the Lao Constitution, and in accordance with the rules of secret voting. Under the terms of respect for the fundamental freedoms of the citizens, the Convention obliges Laos after requesting external assistance in the form of military materials or the use of personnel or trainers, except for the purposes of defending the country to a limited extent. If the United Nations does not comply with the Ceasefire Agreement signed on the 20th of the same month, or if its territory is not subjected to aggression, or if this coalition obliges it to establish military bases on its territory, the coalition is contrary to the principles of the peace agreement. The agreement obliges the Lao government not to carry out any individual or collective reprisals against persons who have cooperated in any way with any party acting against the royal government in Vientiane during the period prior to the signing of this agreement. Formerly the Royal Government. For its part, the French government pledged its readiness to withdraw its troops from Laos at the request of the Royal Government, and within a specific agreement between the two sides. It also pledged that it would move forward in resolving the problems associated with the restoration and consolidation of peace in Laos in terms of the principle of respect for Laos independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity. In the same vein, the Lao Gov-

ernment undertakes to respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam and Cambodia, and not to interfere in its internal affairs. In return, the Governments of Vietnam and Cambodia undertake the same commitments to Laos. They confirmed that the implementation of the provisions of the two conventions would be overseen by an international committee of three States, namely Canada, Poland and India, of which the Committee would be chaired.

Before the conference ended, the head of the Lao delegation, Voi Sananikon, made a declaration on the same day on behalf of his government, affirming that the policy of aggression was not pursued. It did not comply with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations or the terms of the Ceasefire Agreement, did not participate in any military alliance unless its territory was threatened or insecure, and committed not to approve the establishment of foreign military bases on its territory. It affirms its commitment to the peaceful resolution of its international dispute, does not endanger international peace and security, and does not request any external assistance in the form of military materials, personnel or trainers, except in the most extreme case, and shall cease to seek such assistance pending the end of the threat to it. Desiring to achieve harmony and cooperation among the Lao people, the Government of Laos is determined to take the necessary measures to integrate all citizens without discrimination in society and to ensure the enjoyment of all the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution of the Kingdom, In addition, by secret ballot, appropriate arrangements will be issued to allow for a special representation of the provinces of Sam Noa and Phong Sali in the administration of the Kingdom between the ceasefire and the holding of general elections in 1955. At the end of the conference, All States present shall respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Laos and refrain from interfering in their internal affairs. At the end of the conference, the French colonial era officially ended and Laos' national independence began. At the conference, Laos received official recognition from all the present countries, thus leaving Laos with significant gains.

Final Conclusions: -

The research reached several things including: -

1 - 1950 is an important year in the political history of Laos, witnessed the formation of the Pathe Lao movement allied with the Viet Minh, the most

prominent of the struggle against the French in order to achieve independence according to their line of thought.

2 - The escalation of the Pathet Lao against the French (1952 - 1954), and organize its internal ranks through the formation of their own government in Laos, and bring it closer to the anti-French forces in Indochina in general.

3. This period saw the emergence of political parties for the first time in the history of Laos, with the stability of the political situation in the country.

4. The interaction of the Lao people with the political landscape of the country, which was expressed through participation in the elections.

5 - There was no decisive role for the king in achieving independence for the country, but he was cooperative with the French and clearly, because he does not want to line up with the Pathet Lao, and does not want to plan another path to independence other than a peaceful political solution with the French.

6 - The emergence of the Viet Minh movement during (1952 - 1954) as the strongest fighting the French on the Laotian territory, and the most assisting the direction of the Pathet Lao.

7 - The weakness of the French military in Laos in (1952 - 1954), as they lost many military confrontations with the Viet Minh, and lost a lot of areas.

8. The year 1953 is an important year in Laos' contemporary political history; the signing of the Independence Agreement with France, reinforced by the 1954 Geneva Conference resolutions, came into force, and Laos became an independent state in the map of the free and independent world.

9. This period (1950 - 1954) proved the strength of the American role in Laos, from the official recognition of its government in 1950 to the Geneva Conference in 1954, which gave a clear indication that the American role had started in Laos and the French role had declined.

10. The absence of the role of the United Nations in bringing about the Lao issue during this period, and was shy at the 1954 Geneva Conference.

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