

Laos Embassy: 12 American

VIENTIAN, May 19 (AP) —Three American officials detained in the southern Laotian town of Savannakhet, plus five more not previously reported as held, sent two radio messages to the U.S. embassy today assuring that they are safe and well, an embassy spokesman said.

These eight Americans, mostly staff of the U.S. Agency for International Development mission and their four American family members were confined to their houses following a student takeover of the town on Wednesday. Seven other foreigners also were held. The U.S. embassy published an updated list of detainees.

All were unharmed. The embassy had expressed con-

cern for their welfare after not hearing from them for more than 36 hours until this morning.

The students have refused to let the foreigners leave until the Vientiane coalition government, dominated by the Communist-led Pathet Lao, agrees to demands including neutralization of three Mekong River provinces, complete disbanding of U.S. agencies and restrictions on the number of Americans in Laos, who now number 1,200.

Officials of the joint committee of the Pathet Lao, rightists and neutralists set up to implement the 1973 cease-fire agreements are in Savannakhet trying to negotiate release of the Americans.

The Americans had radioed asking the embassy to "use its best offices" to get high-ranking officials to come to Savannakhet and talk with the students.

Interior Minister Pheng Phongsavan, a rightist, and his Pathet Lao deputy, Col. Deuane Souapnarath, were scheduled to go two days ago but are still in Vientiane for unexplained reasons.

Updating its list of Americans and other Westerners in Savannakhet, the embassy said that beside the three AID staffers who had been held originally, there were others who had been told to stay at home.

The original three area Sanford Stone, 58, of Cleveland Charles R. Percy, 63, of Salem, W. Va., a property

officer, and Daniel P. Ster, 28, an economic affairs officer from Columbus, Ind. Stone's American wife and daughter as well as Percy's American wife are also detained.

Added to the list were: Peter S. Flynn, 36, an agricultural adviser from Ipswich, Mass., and his Thai wife; Clement P. Letvinas, 55, a highway administrator from Tamaqua, Pa., and his American wife; John Tucker, 30, and AID staff member of Akron, Ohio; Chris Nottingham, 28, an International Voluntary Services worker from Muncia, Ind., and Donal Baxter, 54, a retired U.S. Army officer, and his German wife. Baxter's hometown was not known.

Hostages Are Safe

Two British subjects were on the list: Michael N. Clark, 25, of Surrey and U.N. employee Paul Porter. Porter was listed as having three dependents.

In Vientiane the political scene was quiet as Laotians paraded around with huge

model palluses and moving toys depicting sexual acts for their annual fertility festival. The festival, at the beginning of the rice planting season, also involves firing large rockets into the clouds to encourage the rainy monsoon.