

Laotians Charge Two U.S. Diplomats With Spy Activities

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BANGKOK, Thailand, Aug. 14 (UPI)—The Laotian Government has accused United States Embassy officials in a diplomatic protest of "spy and sabotage activities" in photographing a government compound.

The note was delivered yesterday by the Foreign Ministry's chief political officer to the chargé d'affaires, Thomas Corcoran. Embassy officials said there would be no answer.

The substance of the protest was broadcast by the Vientiane radio and printed in Laotian newspapers.

It said that two embassy officials had taken photographs on three occasions at Kilometer 9,1 the former compound of the Agency for International Development.

"The aforesaid acts of the two Americans are acts violating Laotian law as well as international law, in particular the Vienna Treaty of April 18, 1961 on diplomatic relations and privileges," the note said.

It said the picture-taking constituted "spy and sabotage activities in Laos."

"The Laotian Foreign Ministry hereby demands that the United States Embassy be responsible for any consequences that might arise from the aforesaid acts," it added. "The Laotian Foreign Ministry warns the United States Embassy for the first and the last time to prevent the recurrence of such illegal acts."