

Viet Cong Say Kin Can Write POWs

PARIS — (AP) — The Viet Cong invited the families of presumed American war prisoners today to write them through Viet Cong diplomatic missions in Moscow, Peking or Hanoi.

At the same time, the Viet Cong delegation at the Paris peace talks said mail to the prisoners "faces numerous difficulties" because of American and South Vietnamese military action.

Delegation spokesman Ly Van Sau, asked how many American prisoners were held by the Viet Cong, told newsmen: "I have no information on that subject."

Unlike North Vietnam, the Viet Cong has never published a list of its prisoners.

At today's 139th session of the Vietnam peace talks, U.S. negotiator William J. Porter asked how the families of presumed prisoners of

the Viet Cong could write to them.

Viet Cong delegate Nguyen Van Tien curtly replied that Porter's question was a "technicality" outside the competence of the talks.

But at the regular news briefing later, Sau said a procedure for writing to prisoners established by the Viet Cong's Red Cross in 1964 was still in force.

He said the families should write to the Viet Cong embassies in Moscow or Peking or to the Viet Cong delegation in Hanoi, addressing each letter to the prisoner care of "Detention Camp of American Military Captives in South Vietnam."

Each letter should be written on a single sheet of paper measuring 7 inches by 9½ inches, and should leave a ¾-inch margin used to fold over and stick down the sheet.