## Premier's View

SFExaminer.

## 'Laos Bombing To Continue'

VIENTIANE — (UPI) — Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma said today U.S. bombing of Laos could continue after a Vietnam cease-fire. He said there was "no hope" for peace in Laos before settlement of the wider war.

Souvanna said he had a commitment from the United States to continue its bombing in support of the Laotian government if a Vietnam cease-fire did not include Laos.

"As long as the North Vietnamese are here we cannot afford to stop the bombing," Souvanna said. "If there is no cease-fire in Laos, it means we will continue the fighting, and the bombing will continue."

## Wants Withdrawal

The Laotian prime minister, who has made withdrawal of North Vietnamese troops one of his conditions for a cease-fire, said the Communists were attempting to push back his forces.

ing to push back his forces.

"The other side has launched an offensive against us on every front,"
Souvanna said. "They may have stepped up their at-

tacks to press us to accept their conditions."

"We have no hope for peace as long as the Vietnam question is unsettled because the Pathet Lao is following North Vietnam in this matter," the prime minister said. "Their proposed peace program is exactly like the North Vietnamese program."

## 60,000 Troops

According to U.S. estimates, there are now about 60,000 North Vietnamese troops in Laos. Souvanna said that in the event of an over-all cease-fire in Indochina, the big powers would have to guarantee a North Vietnamese withdrawal from his country.

U.S. officials reported today that CIA-paid guerrilla troops succeeded yesterday in pushing an estimated two battalions of North Vietnamese troops out of tered southern province capital of Saravane help of air strikes.

Souvanna gave his views a day after government and Pathet Lao delegates held their sixth formal negotiating session.