

*Post 6/4/67*  
**Value of Bombing  
In North Vietnam  
Doubted by Ball**

The United States cannot stop bombing North Vietnam without a reciprocal concession as long as military leaders and the American people think the attacks protect American troops, a former Administration official said yesterday.

Former Under Secretary of State eGorge W. Ball said he does not regard the bombing as useful, but doubted that the United States can unilaterally stop it.

"I happen to think that the bombing of the North is not useful, that the political costs are too high and the risks too great, and that the overriding military advantage has not been adequately demonstrated," Ball said.

"But there is a great difference between a decision to begin bombing and a decision to stop it.

"I find it hard to see how any United States Government could unilaterally cease air attacks on the North without some quid pro quo from the other side, so long as American military opinion asserts, and the American people believe, that that bombing protects American fighting forces in the South and thus operates to save the lives of American men."