Military Deny Scoring Victory

The decision to bomb North Vietnam's fuel supplies at Hanoi and Haiphong has been pictured by some as a victory for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Pentagon and other government circles dispute this, however. They say that the chiefs have served only as advisers, not advocates, in the internal Administration debate. And it is known that President Johnson has never taken any action recommended by the Joint Chiefs that was opposed by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara. But he has acted on McNamara proposals that were opposed by the JCS.