

U.S. DENIES STRAFING

Special to The New York Times.

Seoul, South Korea, June 8 - American military officials here denied today a North Korean charge that "United States imperialist" planes had strafed the North Korean patrol boats that captured a South Korean Navy ship in the Yellow Sea Friday.

They said that the United States forces had no planes in the area at the time of the incident.

In view of past North Korean practice of referring to South Korean forces as part of "the United States imperialist aggressor forces," it is believed that the North Koreans were referring to South Korean planes.

The South Korean Defense Ministry has confirmed that a flight of F-5A Freedom Fighters of the South Korean Air Force was sent to the area in an attempt to rescue the navy broadcasting ship which had 20 crewmen on board. The Ministry said, however, that the jet fighters could not do anything to prevent the ship's capture because it was already being tugged well inside North Korean waters. The vessel apparently sank later.

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