

AMERICAN PLANES BEGIN A FIFTH DAY OF RAIDS IN NORTH

Hanoi Broadcast Reports
Four More F-4's Down—
Claims Total of 11
DEC 29 1971
30
U.S. MAINTAINS SILENCE

Enemy Lists Names of Two
Airmen Reported Killed
When Jet Crashed

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Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Thursday, Dec. 30 — United States planes began their fifth successive day of bombing and strafing over North Vietnam this morning as the heaviest air raids against the North in more than three years continued without let-up.

The Hanoi radio reported in a broadcast monitored here that four more F-4 Phantom jets were shot down yesterday, in addition to the one Hanoi said was brought down Tuesday. This brings to 11 the number of Phantom fighter-bombers North Vietnam says have been shot down since the raids began last Sunday morning.

[In Washington, despite growing criticism from opponents of the war, the Nixon Administration remained silent on the details and duration of the raids, citing "sound tactical security reasons." Page 3.]

Radio Gives Names

A spokesman for the United States command in Saigon would not discuss the raids, their targets or the cost in planes and pilots, until the raids are completed. The command has a stated policy of not commenting on Hanoi broadcasts.

The enemy radio also broadcast the names and serial numbers of two American airmen who it said died when their plane was shot down Sunday. The broadcasts have not mentioned the fate of other Phan-V tom crews except to say that a number of men have been killed in crashes and others have been captured.

Over 200 Air Force, Navy and Marine jets are believed to be taking part in the raids, flying from bases in Thailand and South Vietnam and from two carriers off North Vietnam.

Stockpiles Are Target

The American command says the raids are of "limited duration" and designed to protect the American troops remaining in South Vietnam.

The main targets are presumed to be the North Vietnamese air installations and anti-aircraft gun, missile and radar sites that are used in the North's sharply growing resistance to American bombing of the Ho Chi Minh trail network. The raids are also providing support for anti-Communist troops in Northern Laos.

Targets also include war supplies stockpiled in preparation for the trip down the Ho Chi Minh trail to enemy troops in Laos, Cambodia and South Vietnam, reliable military

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sources said.

The bombing of just about any installation that contril utes to the North Vietnamese war effort could be construed as defending American troops in the South, one Army officer said.

According to the Hanoi broadcasts, the raids are concentrated in Thanhhoa, Nghe-an and Quangbinh provinces. Quangbinh, adjoining the demilitarized zone, which straddles the border between North and South Vietnam, is a final staging area for supplies headed for the trail network. Two entrances to the trail, the Mugia and Bancarai Passes, lead from Quangbinh into Laos. They are frequent targets in the daily raids on the spidery infiltration network.

Five of the eleven planes that Hanoi says were shot down were reported hit over Quangbinh.

Hanoi has denounced the raids and said that American prisoners of war held in North Vietnam would not be released so long as the air war continued. Yesterday, the Government radio urged people in the countryside to renew their efforts to capture American pilots alive.

One rumor is that South Vietnamese aircraft have taken part in bombing Quangbinh to a depth of 60 miles north of the demilitarized zone. The Saigon command has denied the report. Two weeks ago, President Nguyen van Thieu said that Saigon would not be drawn into the air war over the North because to do so would cause "political complications."

The heavy bombing of the North has resulted in a sharp curtailment of raids in Vietnam. Accordi
United State