Packard Hints At China Policy

The administration's decision to bomb Hanoi and Haiphong may have the approval of Chinese leaders, former Defense Undersecretary David Packard hinted last night.

"There is an interesting twist to the recent bombing which you never see mentioned in the papers," he told a GOP fund-raising dinner on the Peninsula.

"The People's Republic of China is greatly concerned about the danger of Soviet encirclement.

"Recent Soviet successes in India have hardly quelled Chinese fears. The thought of Soviet domination of Southeast Asia is anathema."

Packard made it clear he could not "speak forthrightly on this sensitive subject." But he said:

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"Let me pose this question: "If you were a top Peking official today, and you saw the Soviet Union guiding a bold North Vietnamese move to seize all of Southeast Asia, how would you feel about U.S. bombing of Soviet supplies?"

Packard, a Peninsula electronics firm executive, told the dinner guests that the nation "needs another four years of Richard Nixon in the White House" to preserve national security.