

EX-GENERAL BACKS

BOMBING OF NORTH

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WASHINGTON, March 13 (Reuters) — Gen. William C. Westmoreland, the former American commander in Vietnam, said today that it was too bad that President Ford did not have the authority to mine Haiphong Harbor in North Vietnam and use B-52 bombers to hit Communist supply lines in Indochina.

"The only language that Hanoi understands is the language of force," the retired general told newsmen after he conferred with Mr. Ford on the fighting in Cambodia and South Vietnam.

"I think it's too bad," he said, "that we couldn't again mine Haiphong Harbor" and that the President did not have authority to use "tactical air and B-52 strikes to hit the Communist supply lines."

General Westmoreland, who said he was making an excellent recovery from a heart attack, called the North Vietnamese "the Prussians of the Orient." He added that he supported the President's call for \$300-million more in military aid for South Vietnam and \$222-million more for Cambodia.