

**Democrats Widen Attacks**

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WASHINGTON, April 18—The Democratic Presidential candidates have sharpened their attacks on President Nixon's war policy since the weekend bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong, but their criticisms so far have drawn a distinctly muted response.

Thus, while the war has clearly been revived as an issue, it has yet to grip the public with the immediacy of domestic issues.

An exception to this pattern has been the enthusiastic response received by Senator George S. McGovern to his sharply worded condemnations of the expanded bombing.

Campaigning across Massachusetts today, the South Dakotan drew bursts of cheering and applause at every stop when he denounced the expanded bombing as "the most

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reckless step" of the entire war.

Between appearances at a plastics factory in Worcester and a shopping center in Pittsfield, Mr. McGovern told a reporter: "People have been telling me I had risked my whole career by seeming to be a one-issue candidate, but now I gather from what I see here that President Nixon has succeeded in making Vietnam the No. 1 issue again."

Another exception,

at the opposite end of the political spectrum, has been Gov. George Wallace of Alabama, who generally has avoided mentioning the war in favor of his standard issues of tax reform and busing.

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Pressed for his views at a news conference today in South Bend, Ind., he said that he supported "whatever action is deemed to be absolutely necessary to insure the safe withdrawal of American personnel."

**Accepts Official View**

He then added what appeared to be a conditional endorsement of the expanded bombing when he said he "accepted" the Administration's explanation that the air strikes were prompted by a desire to protect American soldiers.

The other major candidates have all intensified their criticisms of the war policy in recent days, but with less success than Mr. McGovern.

Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine, who has hammered at the issue for three days running, was not interrupted by applause once last night during an impassioned hour-long speech here devoted exclusively to the war.

The partisan audience of \$125-a-plate contributors held its applause to the end, despite the Senator's accusation that Mr. Nixon had "undermined the sense of decency in our country" by accelerating the bombing.

**Students Jeer Humphrey**

Commenting on this today, A Muskie campaign aide said that in his view, "the people seem bored—almost numb—on the war." But he added that the bombing had revived Mr. Muskie's sense of "moral outrage" and intensified his desire to defeat Mr. Nixon.

Senator Hubert H. Humphrey has also assailed the bombing in the last two days, but in some cases the added emphasis has backfired. As he has been before, the former Vice President was heckled and jeered today by a student audience at the University of Pennsylvania. At one point, a student snatched the microphone from his hand and denounced him to the audience as "America's No. 2 war criminal."

Even before more friendly audiences, Mr. Humphrey's denunciations of the bombing as "dangerous retaliation" have evoked only modest applause, according to reporters traveling with him.

The accelerated bombing has posed a special problem for Senator Henry M. Jackson of Washington, whose views on

Vietnam have been closer to Mr. Nixon's than those of his fellow contenders.

Speaking in Yungstown, Ohio yesterday, Mr. Jackson said he supported whatever bombing was necessary to halt the movement of North Vietnamese troops. But he added that in his view, the air strikes against Haiphong harbor had come "six years too late," and that he was puzzled at the President's decision to expand the bombing at a time when most American troops had been withdrawn