

Raids Stir Little Reaction in Europe

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LONDON, April 18 — The American bombing campaign in North Vietnam has so far stirred little public reaction in Western Europe, with only a few relatively small-scale demonstrations.

Groups of Europeans protesting the resumption of the heavy raids have taken to the streets briefly in Stockholm, Paris and London. But these public outbursts are far smaller than those of May, 1970, when the Americans and South Vietnamese moved into Cambodia.

Beneath this apparent indifference is official concern that the bombing could jeopardize President Nixon's scheduled visit to the Soviet Union next month.

European capitals have been anxiously awaiting Mr. Nixon's trip in the hope that negotiations there would help ease tensions and lead to an agreement on arms control. Officials make no secret of their concern over the repercussions if the new bombing forces a cancellation of the Nixon visit.

Condemned by Stockholm

In Sweden, long a center for vocal opposition to the American role in Vietnam, the Government condemned American "terror bombing" for the third time in five days.

Antiwar groups in Stockholm are maintaining a vigil outside the American Embassy. On Saturday, more than 10,000 demonstrated at the Embassy.

In Paris about 8,000 demonstrators marched in protest over the weekend. And a small group, carrying "Stop the Bombing" placards appeared at the American Embassy in London. Organizers of antiwar or-

ganizations say, however, that they are planning larger protests.

In Geneva, the Rev. Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, denounced the bombing as threatening to "lead the world yet further down the road to destruction."

The British Government has generally supported Mr. Nixon's moves on ground that he had little choice. An official statement condemned the North Vietnamese for "the flagrant invasion of South Vietnam."

Sees 'Despair' in Bombings

The Times of London commented that retaliation by bombing "has come to have about it a quality of despair rather than determination, of weakness rather than strength."

The left-wing New Statesman said: "The President knows that the war in Vietnam is lost and his sole concern is to see that the withdrawal doesn't lose him votes at home."

In West Germany, there have

been no anti-American demonstrations by leftists, although the police in Frankfurt and Munich have been alerted to the possibility of marches this weekend.

The Frankfurter Allgemeine said that the bombing could provide only a "temporary solution" and not a way out. It added that time was on the side of the North.

In Italy, the bombing coincides with the last phases of the Italian campaign for general elections and leftists are exploiting the news. The Italian Communist party issued an official statement condemning the United States, but refrained from a personal attack on Mr. Nixon.

In Amsterdam, antiwar groups say they are planning a huge 24-hour protest over the weekend featuring pop music, films and entertainment. Organizers are urging the protesters to bring tents and sleeping bags.