

MAY 9 1972

Attacks on 2

China Ships

Protested

~~SF Chronicle~~ ~~SF Examiner~~

HONG KONG — (UPI) — China's Foreign Ministry today protested against alleged U.S. attacks against two Chinese merchant ships, Radio Peking said.

The ministry said U.S. warships and planes continuously attacked Chinese merchant ships, Hongoi 152 and Hongoi 116 which were anchored off Yu Tao Island of Si An Province of North Vietnam Sunday, yesterday and today.

Ships Damaged

The radio said both ships were damaged and crewmen and Vietnamese civilians were injured.

"This is a serious provocation," the statement said. "The Chinese government and Chinese people are very angry at this provocation, thereby raising strong protest against the government of the United States.

"The U.S. government should immediately stop such activities of provocation against our nation's merchant ships, otherwise, they should take on the full responsibility."