

U.S. to End Disclosure Of Air Strikes in North

WASHINGTON, April 11 (AP)—In a change of long-standing policy, the Pentagon said today that the United States command in Saigon would no longer make daily announcements of American air strikes over North Vietnam.

Jerry W. Friedheim, the Pentagon spokesman, said the change was intended to protect United States pilots who were "flying against the most sophisticated air defenses in the history of air warfare." The daily reports indicate to the enemy the level of the United States aid effort, Mr. Friedheim said.

In the future, he said, announcements will be issued periodically at the discretion of Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, the United States commander in Vietnam.

The United States had halted its bombing of North Vietnam in 1968, but has since carried out periodic raids under conditions that the United States has described as "protective reaction."

Heavy United States air strikes on the North were resumed last week following the latest attack on South Vietnam by Communist troops. This drew criticism from several members of Congress opposed to any step-up in their air war.

Newsmen in Saigon have complained in recent months of a tightening of American information policies.