

Chou Terms Mining A Serious Step-Up Of Indochinese War

PEKING, May 14 (Agence France-Presse)—Premier Chou En-lai today described the mining of North Vietnam's ports as a serious step-up of the war by the United States.

The Premier, speaking in public for the first time since the blockage came into force, said that the measure, "far from intimidating the heroic people of Vietnam, could only inspire them to redouble their efforts to wage, with one heart and with united hatred of the enemy, the war of resistance against American aggression, right to the end, until total victory against the American aggressors."

Mr. Chou, speaking at a dinner for the visiting head of state of Somalia, Maj. Gen. Mo-hammad Siad Barre, reiterated China's support for the Indochinese people in what he termed their "war of resistance against American aggression."

"We shall always stay on the side of the third-world countries in the struggle against aggression, subversion, control, intervention and harassment by the superpowers," he said.

General Siad said that the mining and increased bombing was a threat to international peace and security. He said that Somalia demanded "an immediate halt to the American imperialist aggression."