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U. S. SAYS NORTH GETS SOME CARGO

Use of Barges Is Reported

—Many Reported Hit
NYTimes

SAIGON, South Vietnam, June 21 (AP)—United States military sources said today that North Vietnam was trying to circumvent the mining of its harbors and rivers by unloading supplies from Chinese ships anchored offshore and hauling them inland aboard barges.

The sources said that the effort had been under way for about 10 days and had had only limited success, primarily because United States Navy planes had destroyed many of the barges and receiving points on shore.

"It is not a maximum effort," one source said. However, it is the first reported attempt by the North Vietnamese to bring in supplies in volume since the mining began May 9.

The unloading operations have been under way at two coastal islands, one off Haiphong and the other 250 miles to the south near Vinh, the sources said. They added that a total of four ships, all of Chinese registry and of trawler size or larger, had been identified.

Attacks Near Vinh Revealed

United States military spokesmen announced today that American jets yesterday attacked two North Vietnamese navy bases near Vinh as part of an effort to prevent the unloading of war supplies from Chinese ships anchored off the port.

Spokesmen for the Seventh Fleet said that the raids destroyed a pier at the Vinh boatyard four miles northeast of the port and damaged a pier at the Haiyen naval base two miles away.

Anchoring in the shelter of islands inside the 12-mile limit, the ships unloaded into wooden barges and sampans varying in size up to 40 feet, the sources said. The barges then made the run to coastal waterways that have not been mined by the United States.

United States Navy planes have destroyed many of the barges, some at sea and some inside the inland waterways, the sources said. The Navy has reported one barge sunk at sea by gunfire from a destroyer.

On one day the Navy listed 50 barges destroyed by air attacks.

Some Secondary Blasts

There have been secondary explosions on some of the barges, indicating they were carrying ammunition, but the sources said little was known about the supplies being moved.

The Chinese ships have not been attacked and will not be, the sources reported, since United States officials stated when the ports were mined that there would be no other type of attack on non-Vietnamese ships.