

JUN 30 1972
**MOORER DESCRIBES
LAVELLE'S REPORTS**

NY Times

WASHINGTON, June 29 (UPI)—Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said in Congressional testimony released today that "it was impossible to tell" from Gen. John D. Lavelle's reports that he had ordered unauthorized bombing raids in North Vietnam.

Senator John C. Stennis, Mississippi Democrat and chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, which is considering Admiral Moorer's nomination for a second two-year term as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, asked the Admiral whether General Lavelle's report had been falsified.

"The reports did not indicate that there was—it was impossible to tell from the reports that there was a violation," Admiral Moorer replied.

General Lavele was relieved as commander of the United States 7th Air Force in Vietnam in March. He admitted ordering 28 bombing raids against North Vietnam in violation of the rules of engagement between November, 1971, and March.

Senator Harold Hughes, Dem-

ocrat of Iowa, asked Admiral Moorer at a June 23 committee session:

"In your opinion were the rules of engagement sufficiently specific that they could not have been mistaken?"

"In my opinion the rules of engagement were very clear," Admiral Moorer replied.