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Banning Garrett of the Asia Information Group has this report:

Garrett: Vietnam News Agency reported this morning that U.S. planes attacked the ~~the~~ Dai [?] River dike in Nam Ha ¹²⁷ on Saturday [26 Aug] and then returned to attack the same dike system on Sunday. Vast stretches of the dike were destroyed, the report said. On Friday, VNA reported, U.S. planes bombed the dike along the Dao [?] River in Nam Dinh [?], North Vietnam's third largest city. Nam Dinh is also in ~~Nam~~ Nam Ha province, which has had its river and sea dikes and other hydraulic works attacked on nearly 60 occasions since April. In Friday's raid dozens of planes attacked the dike protecting the city. Two ^{sized} big bombs hit the dike, VNA reported, blowing away a 50-foot section and digging craters ^{six} feet below the water level of the river. This dike, which is less than three miles long, has been attacked on seven different occasions, and several portions of the dike have been hit as many as three times.

The U.S. State Department has told reporters in Washington ^{THAT} North Vietnam had not reported any attacks on dikes in the nine days previous to Friday. But this is simply not the case. VNA reported on August 23rd that dikes in Nam Ha and Tan Hoa [?] provinces were attacked. On August 21st, that anti-personnel bombs were dropped on the dikes of the Tai Binh river system; on August 20th, that the Dong Kong [?] sluice in Haiphong province was badly damaged along with parts of the dike nearby; and that on August 17th many hydraulic works, including 50 feet of dike, were destroyed in Nam Ha province; and that on the same day U.S. aircraft

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dropped six 2,000-pound bombs on the dike on Tan Hoa province, destroying a stretch 130 feet long.

In an interview with the [garbled ~~xxxprincipal~~?] correspondent in Hanoi, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam minister of water conservancy, Ha Kay An [?], said that U.S. planes attacked dikes and other hydraulic works in North Vietnam on 29 occasions in the first 25 days of August, and that on August 5th the U.S. planes attacked the central engineering factory of the water conservancy service which produces equipment to repair hydraulic works. Since April, the minister ~~it~~ said, the U.S. has attacked the dikes and water conservancy works 206 times.

[End of item.]