

A Sharp Increase In U.S. Air Raids On North Reported

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Saturday, Nov. 11 (AP) — A substantial increase in the number of American air strikes on the southern panhandle of North Vietnam was reported yesterday by the United States command.

It said that 180 strikes were flown Thursday, or double the daily average since President Nixon ordered the raids on North Vietnam restricted to below the 20th Parallel on Oct. 22. Most of the strikes, the command said, were against trucks carrying war materiel south and against

fuel pipelines leading into South Vietnam.

"We've increased our air attacks to match their increase in supply efforts," one official said.

In all, military sources reported, United States planes flew more than 700 strikes over North and South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

B-52 bombers reportedly dropped more than 15 tons of explosives yesterday in and on both sides of the demilitarized zone, in the eighth day of intensified raids aimed at stopping North Vietnamese supplies from reaching the South.

Ground fighting in South Vietnam, meanwhile, was small and scattered, with a total of 84 enemy attacks reported in the 24-hour period that ended at dawn yesterday. Fifty-seven of these were rocket and mortar attacks.