

U.S. Planes Fly Record Bomb Runs

SAIGON, Nov. 12 (AP)—American warplanes mounted their heaviest attacks against North Vietnam since the air war was restricted to targets below the 20th parallel, the U.S. Command announced Sunday.

Air Force and carrier-based planes launched more than 240 tactical strikes Saturday in a bid to disrupt a flood of fresh war materiel to the battlefronts of South Vietnam.

In addition, B-52 Stratofortresses made 36 sorties north of the Demilitarized Zone to drop more than 1,000 tons of bombs on Communist supply caches around the ports of Vinh and Dong-Hoi. The 20th-parallel bombing restriction in effect since Oct. 22, exempts the Hanoi-Haiphong region.

About 60 B-52s flew missions against Communist troop concentrations and staging areas in South Vietnam, many of them just below the demarcation line.

Presidential adviser Henry Kissinger announced Oct. 26 that Hanoi had been informed four days earlier that bombing north of the 20th parallel would be halted.

Since his announcement, tactical air strikes against the north averaged 110 a day until last Friday, when they were stepped up to 180. From Friday to Saturday, they increased to more than 200. Saturday was the third straight day in which the number of tactical air strikes against the

north was increased.

Targets included military truck convoys, rivercraft, rail and road bridges, rolling stock, warehouses and armored vehicles.

U.S. 7th Fleet pilots put 16 craters on a newly built runway at Baithuong airfield, just six miles south of the 20th parallel, the U.S. Command reported.

See INDOCHINA, A6.

C