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HEAVY U.S. RAIDS ON NORTH GO ON

One Strike Every 7 Minutes
Reported in Southern Area

NYTimes

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SAIGON, South Vietnam, Tuesday, Nov. 14—The United States command reported yesterday that American planes bombed North Vietnam heavily in a continued effort to block the rush of supplies to Communist forces in South Vietnam.

At the same time, the United States was sending supplies into South Vietnam to bolster South Vietnamese military stocks before any cease-fire.

American Navy and Air Force jets bombed the southern provinces of North Vietnam at a rate of one strike every seven minutes Sunday flying



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Baithuong (1) was among targets in North bombed by U.S. Saigon marines fought foe near Quangtri (2). Communist units were said to have moved away from Saigon region (3). In northern Laos, Luang Prabang (4) was shelled.

150 strikes, the command's daily news release said. There also were 11 B-52 missions, totaling as many as 33 planes.

The release did not disclose the total number of bombs dropped on the North, but given the usual loads carried, the planes probably dropped 3,000 to 6,000 bombs, ranging in size from 250 pounds to 1,000 pounds each.

About twice that many bombs were reported to have been dropped in South Vietnam during the same period.

Effect Is Not Clear

Whether these attacks stemmed the flow of supplies southward was not clear. The command's news release said that "preliminary bomb damage-assessment reports indicate" that the planes damaged or destroyed seven railroad cars, four trucks, two highway bridges, one railroad bridge, an airfield and a boat.

The airfield that was a target was described as a MIG base at Baithuong, seven miles south of the 20th Parallel, the northern limit for United States bombing in North Vietnam. The command said that at least six craters were left in a newly constructed runway. The base was also attacked Saturday.

Meanwhile, ground fighting was said to have tapered off slightly. The South Vietnamese armed forces' General Political Warfare Department, which provides information to journalists in Saigon, reported there had been 62 incidents, including 39 shelling attacks, initiated by North Vietnamese and Vietcong troops throughout South Vietnam in the 24-hour period that ended at 6 A.M. yesterday.

An Unreported Incident

One incident that it did not report was the destruction of 1,500 tons of South Vietnamese Army ammunition stored in a dump a few miles south of Saigon. Vietcong saboteurs reportedly blew up the dump early Sunday morning. Fires there burned all day, and smoke drifted through Saigon's trees.

Units of the North Vietnamese main force that had previously been reported by military intelligence to have been grouped in an area 15 to 25 miles north of Saigon were said by intelligence officers yesterday to be there no longer.

These units, believed to be three understrength regiments, were said to have moved farther away from Saigon, possibly to be refitted.

There have also been unconfirmed reports from similar sources saying that North Vietnamese troops were moving on closer Government positions in preparation for a cease-fire. Still other reports, which also could not be confirmed, suggested that North Vietnamese troops were moving away from Government positions and into remote jungle regrouping areas in preparation for a cease-fire.

Significant fighting between South Vietnamese marines and North Vietnamese troops reportedly continued north of Quangtri city, near the demilitarized zone. Almost 1,000 artillery, mortar and rocket shells were reported to have been shot into marine positions.