Hanoi Hits

Nixon 'Whopping lie'

By United Press International

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Hanoi today assailed President Nixon's avowed peace goals as "a whopping lie" and the chief Viet Cong negotiator at the stalled Paris peace talks left abruptly for home to receive "new directives" in the face of resumed U.S. bombing raids over North Vietnam.

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, the Viet Cong's foreign minister and chief negotiator, left for Hanoi via Moscow "to report to my government and ask for new directives." She termed the situation in Vietnam "very grave" and said her return to Paris will depend "on the situation."

She declined to say if her delegation would attend to-morrow's scheduled 171st round of the regular peace talks. And Xuan Thuy, the North Vietnamese delegation leader, would not say if he would be present at a scheduled "technical" level session today with his U.S. counterpart, William C. Porter.

A U.S. delegation spokesman said as far as he was concerned the meeting was still on.

Presidential emissary Gen. Alexander M. Haig arrived in Vientiane, Laos, today on the third leg of his Southeast Asian tour to explain the U.S. posture at the Paris talks. Earlier in the day, Haig briefed President Nguyen Van Thieu in Saigon on the U.S. position.

Vietnamese sources said neigher Thieu nor Haig, an aide to presidential adviser Henry Kissinger, offered any new compromises in the Washington-Saigon dispute over peace terms with the Communists.

In a broadcast monitored in Saigon, Hanoi Radio today said, "The Nixon Administration's claim that it is trying its best to restore peace in Vietnam is a whopping lie."

The dispatch said the new air raids had made a "huge battle site" out of Hanoi and said B52s killed many civilians and wrecked populated areas in both the North Vietnamese capital and Haiphong.

In a dispatch from Moscow, the official news agency Tass said the Soviet Union last night condemned the renewed air strikes as a tactic to pressure Hanoi into a peace settlement.

Tass also warned that "the governing circles of the Soviet Union are giving the most serious consideration to the situation created by the step-up in U.S. military action" against the north.

Japanese, Hungarian and Soviet news agencies all carried dispatches from Hanoi saying six U.S. fliers, captured when their B52 was shot down yesterday near Hanoi, were put on display along with the wreckage of their bomber at a news conference last night.