

# Nixon Assailed

SF Chronicle

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## Europe Outrage At Resumption Of Bombings

London

President Nixon's decision to resume massive bombing of North Vietnam produced bitterness and criticism yesterday in most of Europe as well as in the Communist bloc.

Pope Paul VI deplored the "sudden resumption of harsh and massive war actions" in Vietnam. He made no mention of the bombing in telling his weekly audience that Vietnam was again for him "the object of daily grief."

The strongest Western criticism came from Scandinavia.

Foreign Minister Ahti Karjalainen of Finland declared: "It is especially difficult to understand on what arguments the vast bombardments of the North Vietnam territory have been based."

### HOPE

Denmark officially condemned the resumption of U.S. bombings and said the hopes for peace and the rebuilding of Vietnam "suffered a tragic setback." It issued a statement instead of lodging a formal protest.

"The parties, and particularly the United States, assume a heavy responsibility," the Danish government said in a statement of protest signed by Premier Anker Joergensen.

The official declaration came as an unprecedented wave of indignation swept Denmark with newspapers describing Mr. Nixon as "bloody Nixon" and his policies as a reflection of "Stone Age mentality."

In Sweden, Foreign Minister Krister Wickman condemned the "blind and brutal" U.S. bombings.

### BRANDT

At The Hague, the Dutch government denounced the

resumption of bombing and said it will appeal to the U.S. to end the attacks.

Chancellor Willy Brandt of West Germany through a spokesman expressed regret over failure to reach a Vietnam peace settlement and expressed hope that negotiations "will soon achieve results."

Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann of France said his nation "cannot resign itself to a new surge in the war" and will continue to work for a negotiated settlement.

In Brussels, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said the Belgian government is "concerned over the fresh outbreak of hostilities in Vietnam and particularly over the resuming of large-scale bombings over North Vietnam."

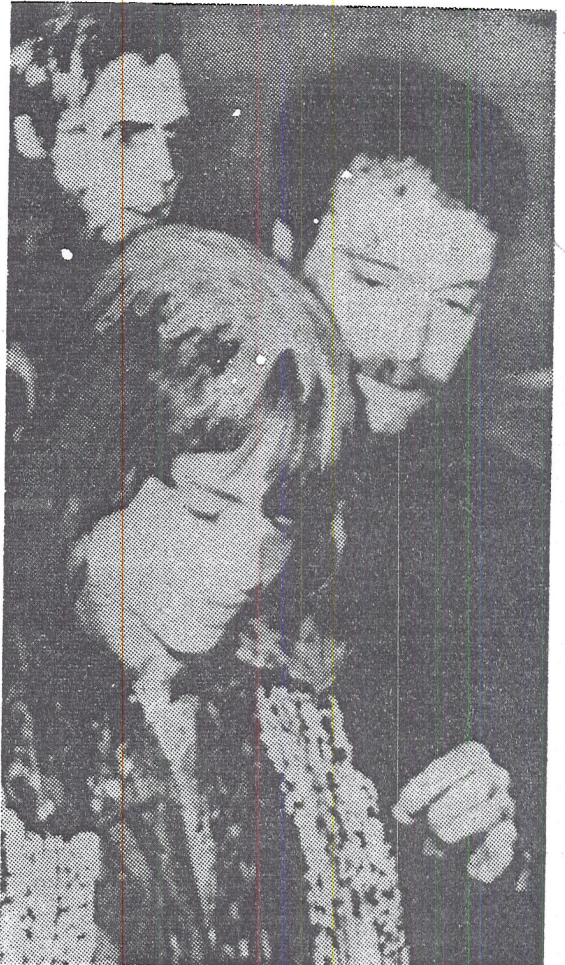
Foreign Secretary Mitchell Sharp of Canada observed: "We've made clear our opposition to bombing and to any escalation of the war."

In the Communist bloc the Soviet leadership "strongly condemned" what it termed U.S. efforts to obstruct a just political settlement in Vietnam. Soviet newspapers carried substantial articles on the bombing.

### ACTIONS

Izvestia, the organ of the Soviet government, said: "The Soviet people and the people of all continents decisively condemn criminal actions of the U.S. military and affirm their solidarity with heroic Vietnam."

Pravda, the Communist party newspaper, declared: "Nixon is trying to use bombs and other weapons in order to force the Vietnamese people to surrender and to agree to the solution of the Vietnamese problem on American conditions."



AP Wirephoto

## Splashed

About 10,000 Swedes marched last night in Stockholm to protest the renewed U.S. bombing of civilian centers in North Vietnam. Jane Fonda, who told the crowd that "all the peace maneuvers of Nixon were intended to win the election," was splashed with red paint by an unidentified woman.

In Yugoslavia, the parliamentary Vice President Gustav Vlahov opened a "week of solidarity" with the peoples of Indochina.

In Poland, Trybunda Ludu, the official Communist party paper, spoke of "this terrorist blackmail employed as a method of negotiation which has aroused indignation, protests and the condemnation of the world and of at least part of American public opinion."

China's Foreign Ministry issued a statement in Peking saying the bombing in the Hanoi-Haiphong area was "a most serious step taken by U.S. imperialism to pro-

long and intensify its war of aggression."

The statement demanded that the U.S. stop all "bombing raids, mining, blockading and other acts of war" against North Vietnam and "speedily sign the agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam."

Not all the comment was hostile. Foreign Minister Adam Malik of Indonesia told a news conference "U.S. bombing is a continuation of the war. It is only a tactic of one side in response to the other." He added that both sides were at fault for failing to reach an agreement.

Associated Press



Washington Post,  
21 Dec 72, carried  
basically the same  
quotations used by  
the Chronicle, but  
included:

Japanese news media generally predicted the increased bombing would fail as a means to force a quick settlement of the war on U.S. terms.

In Paris, the respected newspaper Le Monde criticized the United States in one of its more outspokenly emotional editorials in months on Vietnam.\*

Comparing the new bombing to the bombing of Guernica during the Spanish Civil War, Le Monde ironically suggested that logic would suggest also the bombing of Saigon to eliminate political prisoners who have been staging a hunger strike in Chihoa jail for the last 10 days.

"Perpetually seeking victory, Mr. Nixon is thus brought to strike out harder and harder and everywhere, since his adversaries are everywhere.

"For many people, he still benefits from attempts to explain or justify (his actions) since he has been re-elected and because the United States is not a totalitarian country.

"But cannot one question the precise validity of this outdated liberal mechanism, betrayed by the logic of an imperial system. Turned away from its original values, it allows such abominations, such a crushing of a little people."

One of the harshest of Western Europe newspaper criticism came from the Manchester Guardian: "It is the action of a man blinded by fury or incapable of seeing the conse-

quences of what he is doing. Does

Mr. Nixon want to go down in history as one of the most murderous and blood-thirsty of American presidents?"

(End)

\* N.Y. TIMES  
21 DEC 72