

# U.S. Resumes Raids After Holiday Halt

SAIGON, Dec. 26 (AP)—U.S. planes and war ships resumed on Tuesday the bombardment of North Vietnam, ending a 36-hour Christmas pause in the war's heaviest raids.

The U.S. Command, in its first announcement on the holiday suspension, also said that a 24-hour bombing pause in South Vietnam ended at dusk Monday.

North Vietnam claimed that eight more U.S. B-52 bombers and an F-4 fighter-bomber were shot down Tuesday after the raids were resumed. A broadcast from Hanoi said "many aggressor pilots" were captured.

The broadcast said that five B-52s were shot down over Hanoi, two over the port of Haiphong and one north of Hanoi. There was no reaction from the U.S. Command. It does not ordinarily comment on Hanoi claims.

(The Soviet news agency Tass in a report from Hanoi Tuesday night said that U.S. bombs hit Hanoi's main railway station and demolished buildings at Gialam airport. "The Gialam suburb of Hanoi now looks like a severe earthquake had struck," Tass said.)

Command spokesmen refused to say why the bombing suspension over the North had lasted longer than that in the South.

Other U.S. officials indicated that the Northern suspension was extended hour by hour while President Nixon awaited some indication from Hanoi that it was willing to resume the stalled secret peace talks. In recent years, U.S. holiday truces have applied only to South Vietnam.

Maj. Jere K. Forbus, spokesman for the U.S. Command, refused to link the raids on the North with peace negotiations, although he said there were different reasons behind the suspensions in the North and the South. Forbus said U.S. military authorities had known from the start how long the pause over the North would last.

The raids resumed under the same mantle of secrecy that masked the suspension and the escalation of bombing in the Hanoi-Haiphong area last week. Forbus said no new limitations had been imposed on the renewed strikes, and

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refused to comment on the number of raids or their targets.

(In Washington, Defense Department spokesman Jerry W. Friedheim said, "All of our aircraft are taking part" in the renewed attacks. Since Dec. 18, with the exception of the 36-hour truce period, 100 B-52s and 500 fighter-bombers were reported to be taking part in the attacks.)

Asked why the holiday suspensions of attacks were not announced in advance as in the past, Forbus replied, "Given the conditions, we believed an advantage would accrue to the enemy by virtue of foreknowledge of the stand-down."

Asked why no word was forthcoming until nearly 24 hours after the Southern pause ended, he said the command deemed it "reasonable to announce it only after it had terminated as a package."

Other officials said the Hanoi-Haiphong heartland was again being hit. Hanoi Radio claimed that a U.S. F-4 Phantom fighter-bomber was shot down northeast of Hanoi shortly after the attacks resumed at 1 p.m. Tuesday. It did not mention the two crewmen.

North Vietnam claims that it has shot down 55 U.S. planes—including 18 B-52 bombers—since Dec. 18. The U.S. Command has acknowledged 18 aircraft lost—including 11 B-52s—and 70 fliers missing. The Command does not give exact figures on missing fliers in the hope that some may be rescued.

North Vietnamese propaganda broadcasts showed no readiness to make concessions. Hanoi's Vietnam News Agency, monitored in Saigon, broadcast a Christmas Day dispatch which vowed, "The Vietnamese people will fight on even more resolutely." It

demanded again that the United States stop the bombing and all military involvement in South Vietnam and "respect the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Vietnam."

"Unity" is a key word, because a major obstacle to agreement is the allies' insistence that there are two states of Vietnam and the other side's refusal to acknowledge the South Vietnamese government.

A lull persisted in ground fighting in South Vietnam. The South Vietnamese command reported 63 enemy attacks—about average over recent weeks—during the enemy's announced Christmas truce period from 1 p.m. Sunday to 1 p.m. Monday.

Thirty-two of the attacks resulted in 38 government troops and five civilians killed and 51 South Vietnamese troops and 10 civilians wounded plus 60 enemy killed, the Saigon command said.

The U.S. Command said no Americans were killed or wounded in cease-fire violations, but that one U.S. serviceman was wounded in a 35-round rocket attack that hit Danang Air Base and nearby residential areas in the north. Two civilians were reported killed and two wounded. A U.S. Army helicopter was reported destroyed and four helicopters and five U.S. buildings damaged.

## Hanoi Ready to Talk If U.S. Halts Raids

From News Dispatches

PARIS, Dec. 26—North Vietnam reaffirmed its willingness today to reopen Vietnam peace talks if the United States stops bombing raids north of the 20th parallel.

Nguyen Thanh Le, spokesman for the Hanoi peace delegation here, said in a statement, "If the Nixon administration truly wishes to settle the Vietnamese problem through serious negotiations, it must immediately stop all acts of war escalation against the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, give up threats of ultimatums of using force, and above all revert to the situation which was obtained before Dec. 18."

A similar statement was issued by General Delegate Vo Nguyen Sung, Hanoi's highest

ranking representative to France, after he met for 20 minutes today with French Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann. Schumann was scheduled to confer afterward with Jack Kubisch, U.S. charge d'affaires in Paris.

## Polish Primate Asks Aid of U.S. Catholics

From News Dispatches

WARSAW, Dec. 26—Poland's Roman Catholic primate, Stefan Cardinal Wyszynski, has appealed to American Catholics to stop "the bloodshed of the innocent children and brothers in Vietnam."

In a Christmas day message to a congregation of 2,000 at Warsaw's St. John's Cathedral, the cardinal said, "I express my hope that the American episcopate, realizing the appeal of the Pope, will do its best so that the blood of the innocent children and brothers in Vietnam will not be shed."

There was criticism elsewhere of the renewed U.S. bombing of the Hanoi-Haiphong areas:

• Bangladesh students set fire to the U.S. Information Center at Rajshahi, about 90 miles northwest of Dacca, causing considerable damage. Police maintained a strong guard around a similar U.S. facility in Dacca, which has been the scene of student demonstrations since the bombing was resumed.

• India's ruling Congress Party adopted a resolution condemning Washington's "senseless desire to impose" its will on North Vietnam by "indiscriminate bombing of its civilian population."

• Austrian police maintained a special guard at the U.S. Embassy in Vienna after a telephone caller said it would be bombed in protest against U.S. attacks on the Hanoi-Haiphong area.

• Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's exiled former head of state, said in a message to the North Vietnamese people that "no escalation of the armed aggression of the U.S.A. can bend our knees," according to a New China News Agency report from Peking.