

# U.S. Planes Attack North Again

Associated Press

## Saigon

United States planes attacked the southern panhandle of North Vietnam yesterday, breaking a 36-hour stop in the air strikes for the New Year holiday.

The U.S. Command announced that a bombing halt remained in effect in North Vietnam above the 20th Parallel, an area that includes Hanoi and Hai-phong.

Bombing above the 20th Parallel was ordered stopped Saturday by President Nixon, a move tied to the resumption of the Paris peace talks next Monday.

In a brief communique, the U.S. Command said,

"U.S. air crews resumed operations over North Vietnam at 1300 hours today after a 36-hour cease - fire." For reasons of security, the command said no other details of the strikes would be made available.

Other U.S. officials said, however, that the bombers are hitting supply routes in the panhandle in an effort to stop North Vietnam's annual dry season drive to bring men and materiel into South Vietnam across the demilitarized zone and through Laos.

## RAIDS

The command also announced that bombing raids were resumed in South Vietnam at dusk Monday at the conclusion of a 24-hour holiday cease - fire. Most of the raids, the command said, were concentrated in the northernmost part of the country below the demilitarized zone.

During the holiday bomb-

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ing halt in Vietnam, U.S. air attacks were flown against enemy targets in Laos and Cambodia, including the Ho Chi Minh supply route and base camps. American bombers also flew missions in support of royal Laotian forces battling North Vietnamese troops in the Plain of Jars in northern Laos, the command said.

Ground fighting generally was light and scattered in South Vietnam, although one major battle was reported along Highway 1 in an area

about 40 miles northeast of Saigon.

Lieutenant Colonel Le Trung Hien, Saigon command spokesman, said the fight broke out just after dawn yesterday between a government militia unit and an estimated company of enemy troops.

The fight raged throughout most of the day, Hien said, but few details were available. Initial reports said at least two South Vietnamese militiamen were killed and another wounded. Enemy losses were not known.