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200 Scholars Ask Congress To End War

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BOSTON, Jan. 6—More than 200 American scholars who are experts on Asia have signed a statement urging Congress to take "immediate action to withhold funds for the further prosecution" of the war in Vietnam and saying that recent U.S. bombing in North Vietnam "seems to all the world like a savage and irresponsible use of American power."

At a news conference at Harvard University called to release the statement, John K. Fairbank, one of the nation's most eminent scholars in Chinese studies, condemned the most recent turn in U. S. policy.

"Bombing has been used on many people, including Asians—many people, except for the American people. The American people don't understand what is involved," said the Harvard scholar, who has just returned from a trip that included stops in Europe, the Soviet Union and Japan. He visited China last summer.

"Pearl Harbor is peanuts compared to what happened in North Vietnam," he said. "We are stigmatized as being on a par with the beasts of the past, the Nazis in particular. But we even exceed the Nazis because of the advances in technology" which can be used for terror.

Fairbank said the United States now finds itself in the position of opposing Asian nationalism, "one of the most powerful forces in the world."

"The fact is, the Americans have killed more Japanese than any other country. The Americans have killed more Koreans than any other country. The Americans have killed an awful lot of Chinese—there were one million casualties in Korea. And the Americans certainly have killed more Vietnamese," Fairbank said.

"Instead of being a delight of the world, as our heritage says," the United States finds its image lowered everywhere, he said.