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TRANG BANG, South Vietnam, Jan. 28—At exactly 8 A.M. today the American Armed Forces Radio began reading President Nixon's proclamation of thanksgiving for "the end of the war in Vietnam" and the "beginning of a new era of world peace."

As the announcer's voice came over a portable radio, a 50-pound bomb dropped from a South Vietnamese fighter plane and exploded with a shattering crash 250 yards up the highway. It was followed by many more bombs.

As the cease-fire officially came into effect, a day-long battle began between a large

force of South Vietnamese troops and Communists soldiers along Route 1 about 31 miles northwest of Saigon.

There were many similar incidents in the area around Saigon.

The blame for the continued fighting will undoubtedly become a matter of dispute. The sequence of events indicated

that the difficulty lay in interpretation of the cease-fire agreement.

Before dawn yesterday Communist forces, possibly North Vietnamese, had closed the highway to the provincial capital of Tay Ninh by moving into Gia Loc, a hamlet about one and a half miles west of Trang

Continued on Page 12, Column 3

Battle Rages on Route 1 After Cease-Fire Begins

Continued From Page 1, Col. 7

Bang. Government troops could not break through the roadblock yesterday.

This morning armored cars and infantry from the 50th Regiment of the South Vietnamese 25th Division again tried to break the roadblock. They were met by shells from a 57-mm. recoilless rifle and by automatic weapons fire.

At 8:02 A.M., propeller-driven South Vietnamese fighter-bombers began bombing on both sides of the road.

They were followed by flights of South Vietnamese jets. Twenty-six bombs were dropped in the 35 minutes of bombing.

Infantrymen crouched in pits forward reported by radio that the Communist forces were starting to run.

Cognac and Gunfire

Col. Dang Nhu Tuyet of the 50th regiment, standing on the asphalt highway, turned to a captain commanding more than a dozen armored personnel carriers and said, "I want you to clean this up for me. How many bottles do you want?"

The chunky captain grinned in uncertainty.

Colonel Tuyet, an immaculate little man in carefully starched and pressed fatigues, muttered to an American observer, "Any time, anywhere, I always have reserves with me."

He then lifted from his jeep an elegant leather liquor case, much like those that can be seen in the stands at a Harvard-Yale football game. Nestled inside in well-fitted compartments were glasses and two bottles of Martel cognac. Colonel Tuyet handed a bottle to the captain.

The captain waved his men forward, and the armored cars churned into dry, harvested

rice fields and stopped, facing a tree line south of the highway.

Government troops began firing M-79 grenade launchers, which put up ugly blossoms of gray smoke. The machineguns on the armored cars began firing into the woods and the scattered houses of Gia Loc.

In return Communist mortar, rifle and automatic-weapons fire began cracking over the road. Everyone hit the ditches. Colonel Tuyet, carrying a silver-chased bamboo swagger stick, was cool, but moved back down the road.

The Wounded Return

At 9:17 A.M. a Government soldier was led back by a comrade, blood streaming down his face. He had been hit in or near the eye by a fragment from a mortar shell. Another man with an abdominal wound was carried back on a litter. The walking wounded limped into a small house.

The fight continued until well after lunch. Government tanks fired their 90-mm. guns into the foliage and the houses of the hamlet. The din of shooting was continuous.

Ambulances occasionally brought back wounded. A man with a bandaged chest wound rode on the hood of one particularly crowded ambulance.

Colonel Tuyet declared the road open at 2:30 P.M., and some civilian cars, buses and scooters went through without trouble. But other South Vietnamese soldiers said, "No olive drab vehicles can go." By 4 P.M. shooting resumed on a fairly intense scale. It was continuing at dusk.

'We Feel Sorry'

"Where is the I.C.C.? grumbled a South Vietnamese soldier, referring to the International Commission of Control and Supervision that is to police the truce. "We feel sorry

about this; we want to stop shooting," another soldier said.

Meanwhile, there were other incidents in the area. As early as 10:23 A.M. Government artillery began shelling hamlets just north of Trang Bang because Communist units had moved close to them, evidently before the cease-fire. Such shelling was continuing sporadically over a wide arc in this area in late afternoon.

A patrol of militiamen was seen trudging back to the highway at 4:20 P.M. They said they had been sent out to take down Vietcong flags put up overnight in the trees around hamlets.

Officer Blames Communists

A South Vietnamese captain asserted that the Communists had started the fighting near Trang Bang at 8:02 A.M. "If the VC keep fighting, we have got to fight them back in self-defense," he said. "We can't just stand on the road and wait."

He acknowledged, however, that the other side's firing began when the Government armored vehicles moved toward the Vietcong roadblock.

Although the Paris agreement seemed to call for a standstill cease-fire at 8 A.M., it seemed unmistakably clear that the South Vietnamese took the position that they would not tolerate a Vietcong presence on roads and in hamlets that the Government had more or less controlled until a few hours before the cease-fire.

The agreement also permits only "unarmed" aircraft flights for training purposes. The South Vietnamese Skyraiders were "on station" when 8 A.M. came.