

Reds Shell Hue Defense Line

Saigon

For the first time since the cease-fire Communist forces fired artillery and mortar barrages into South Vietnamese positions as close as eight miles from Hue yesterday.

The government command said the Hue defense line was hit by nearly 600 shells in the 24-hour period that ended at noon.

Among the weapons used were Soviet-made 130-mm cannons, the largest in the North Vietnamese arsenal, with a range of 17 miles. They were the key artillery guns used in the capture of South Vietnam's northernmost province capital of Quang Tri during last spring's major offensive.

Although Communist forces frequently shelled Hue all last summer, they never got their 130s within range of the city. Military

sources have said recently the Communists are building up in the Hue area.

Between dawn and mid-morning, more than 100 artillery and mortar shells were fired at the positions up to eight miles from Hue, the command said.

On the truce front, Polish Brigadier General Marian Ryba, this month's chairman of the International Commission for Control and Supervision, yesterday authorized an investigation into alleged U.S. bombing inside South Vietnam.

The Viet Cong truce delegation said it has been notified of the authorization and is ready to take part in the investigation starting this morning.

The Viet Cong charged U.S. planes attacked villages across the border from Cambodia in the area just northwest of Saigon, in one

Second Meeting Of Kissinger, Le Duc Tho

Paris

Henry A. Kissinger and Hanoi's Le Duc Tho yesterday held their second closed-door meeting designed to shore up the shaky Vietnam cease-fire agreements and agreed to meet again this afternoon.

After nine hours of consultations, Hanoi deputy foreign minister Nguyen Co Tach told newsmen it is still "too early to say whether there is any progress."

Tach said that at least "four or five more" meetings will be needed.

He said the discussions concerned "all the clauses" of the January 27 cease-fire agreement that Kissinger and Tho negotiated.

L.A. Times Service

attack killing and injuring nearly three dozen civilians.

United Press