

# N. Vietnamese forces withdraw from Cambodian border

SAIGON (AP)—North Vietnamese forces have withdrawn from the Cambodian border battle area after suffering heavy losses in their 10-day offensive, the South Vietnamese commander of the campaign said Tuesday.

"We plan to pursue them," Lt. Gen. Nguyen Van Minh said. "We are going after them with heavy air attacks and other intensive operations."

Minh said the North Vietnamese lost 450 men killed in their

campaign on the Cambodian-Vietnam frontier.

He told Associated Press correspondent George Esper at his headquarters in Tay Ninh that South Vietnamese casualties in the border fighting were 41 killed and 289 wounded.

Minh said allied radar and other electronic detecting devices confirmed reports that the North Vietnamese had withdrawn eastward and northeastward from the main battle arena around the

highway junction town of Krek, seven miles inside Cambodia.

Minh reported the North Vietnamese pullout less than 24 hours after the heaviest fighting of the border campaign, a series of savage clashes near Fire Base Alpha, 3 1/2 miles east of Krek, over a seven-hour period Monday.

As the fighting raged, a tank-led South Vietnamese relief force pierced the North Vietnamese blockade of Alpha and relieved the garrison that had been cut

off 10 days. Two earlier attempts to crash through had failed.

Saigon headquarters claimed 134 North Vietnamese were killed in the ground fighting near Alpha and that 230 men were killed by the relentless allied air strikes and artillery bombardment. South Vietnamese losses were 10 killed and 39 wounded, the command said.

During the siege, the Alpha garrison of South Vietnamese and Cambodian troops had been

resupplied by Vietnamese C123 transport planes which made low-altitude parachute deliveries.

The cargo planes had been fitted with machine guns and they raked enemy positions on both sides to suppress ground fire as they came in.

Minh estimated that the North Vietnamese force totaled about 3,000 men in the border campaign.

He said they consisted of three regiments, all far under strength

at about 750 men each. A regiment at full strength would have 2,900 men.

The general said the objective of the North Vietnamese border offensive, which started Sept. 25, had been to disturb Sunday's presidential election in South Vietnam, to embarrass President Nguyen Van Thieu and to cause his prestige to drop.

Minh said that captured documents of the Communist command showed that the North

Vietnamese had hoped to draw South Vietnamese troops out of the Tay Ninh area and destroy them in eight days.

The plan, he said, was to lure South Vietnamese reinforcements up a main highway to go to the aid of a surrounded fire base and to ambush the column on the road. Once the task force was destroyed, Minh said, the North Vietnamese hoped to send two sapper battalions into Tay Ninh to wreck headquarters.

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### Labor leaders renew attack on policies

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Nixon worked on the next stage of his campaign against inflation Tuesday while the House took up his tax-cutting program and labor leaders renewed their attack on the President's economic policies.

"Robinhood in reverse" and "association for the rich" was the description applied to Nixon's program by Patrick E. Gorman, chief executive officer of the AFL-CIO Amalgamated Meat Cutters union.

Testifying before the House Banking Committee, Gorman urged Congress to reject the tax bill as a "bonanza for industry."

The House began debate on the measure and scheduled a vote on it Wednesday. Chairman Wilbur D. Mills, D-Ark., of the House Ways and Means Committee, predicted it will pass. He called the bill an improvement over the President's proposals.

Nixon, back from a weekend at Key Biscayne, Fla., conferred at the White House with Secretary of the Treasury John B. Connally and Director George Shultz of the Office of Management and Budget.

These men, along with members of the President's Council of Economic Advisers and other top aides, are helping the chief executive round out the program that will replace the 90-day wage-price-rent freeze that expires Nov. 13, 1971.

White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler indicated the President will be ready to announce the Phase 2 program soon, perhaps sometime over the coming weekend.

One of the final problems remaining to be settled is what type of enforcement is to be used in keeping wages and prices in check when the present freeze ends.

Sen. Gale McGee, D-Wyo., proposed legislation delaying pay raises for the armed forces as well as for civilian government workers.

McGee, chairman of the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee, said in a statement that Senate approval Monday of an additional \$381 million increase for the military on top of a \$2.4-billion raise included in the already-enacted draft bill is unfair at a time when civilian pay raises are frozen.

McGee's action followed House approval Monday of Nixon's order barring until next July 1 a pay raise that civilian federal workers had been scheduled to get on Jan. 1. The Senate is due to vote on this question Wednesday or Thursday.

The tax bill before the House contains some \$5.71 billion relief in 1971-73 for individuals, mainly those in the lower income tax brackets.

Organized labor's criticism of the bill was directed at its benefits for business and industry. AFL-CIO President George Meany said the "tax bonanza to business" would amount to \$70 billion in a decade.

### Sensing Center awarded contract

A&M's Remote Sensing Center has received a \$48,500 contract from the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, announced RSC director Dr. John W. Rouse Jr.

The center will develop and test a laboratory model of a new system developed at the center during the past two years. Dr. Rouse said the system, when operated in conjunction with airborne radar, would provide near real time identification of Arctic ice types.

Results from radar data analysis at the RSC led to laboratory tests of the system using a mock-up built around a small analog computer.