

# American Bombs Pound Cambodia To Tame Rebels

SAIGON (AP)—American B52s and F111 swing-wing fighter-bombers pounded insurgent forces Tuesday in some of the heaviest air attacks of the Cambodian war, U. S. sources reported.

Every available B52 in South-east Asia participated in the massive bombings, apparently designed to beat Cambodia's Khmer Rouge rebels and their North Vietnamese allies into accepting a peace settlement, the official American sources added.

The wide-ranging aerial assault was reported to extend beyond tactical support for Cambodian government ground forces and suggested a new turn in the three-year war.

The bombing got under way Monday night and continued until shortly after dawn Tuesday, the sources said. The Pentagon spokesman said in Washington, however, that there has been "no dramatic change in the last few days" in the bombing level.

"We have had a major effort for some time," he added, without disclosing the number of attacks.

Hanoi radio denounced the attacks as a "criminal act against the innocent Cambodian people" and warned the United States of "dangerous consequences."

Senior U. S. officials in Cambodia expressed belief the Communists think they are on the

brink of victory, and consequently see no point in peace negotiations.

"The Communists in Cambodia think time is on their side and that it will bring them complete victory," said one senior U.S. official in Phnom Penh. "Our bombing aims to persuade them that they could be wrong."

The sources compared the massive raids in Cambodia to the bombardment of Hanoi and Haiphong last December. That intense bombing was designed to force the North Vietnamese into accepting a peace agreement in Vietnam.

The United States has about 200 B52 bombers on Guam and

in Thailand and normally about 60 per cent of them are operational at any one time. Each of the eight-engine aircraft carries 30 tons of bombs.

U. S. air attacks have concentrated on Communist forces edging closer to the capital of Phnom Penh and isolating it from the rest of the country by cutting off highways leading into it.

Continued American bombing has raised a storm in the U. S. Congress, where critics of the Nixon administration have questioned the President's authority to continue bombing now that U.S. troops are out of Vietnam.

The Khmer Rouge are nomi-

nally headed by the onetime chief of state, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who now lives in Peking. The insurgents have about 40,000 combat troops in the field. They are trained, supplied and led down to platoon level by North Vietnamese, of whom there are about 23,000 in the country.

Ranged against them are about 180,000 government troops. But the army and administration are plagued by corruption and there has been mounting discontent against Premier Lon Nol as a result of rising prices and general war weariness.

## Bulletin Board

**TONIGHT**  
National Association of Home Builders will meet in the Architecture Building Auditorium at 8 p.m. to hear George Stock of the Municipal Inspectors Training and Engineering Service.

Finance Association will meet in Room 202 of Francis Hall at 8 p.m. for election of next year's officers.

Barry Wood Crusade will feature Cynthia Clawson at 7:30 p.m. in the Bryan High School Stadium. A bus will be in front of Krueger-Dunn at 7 p.m. to provide free transportation.

**THURSDAY**  
Rio Grande Valley Hometown Club will plan for a beer bust at 8 p.m. in the Krueger-Dunn Commons Conference Room.

Phi Sigma Beta Fraternity will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Lounge F.

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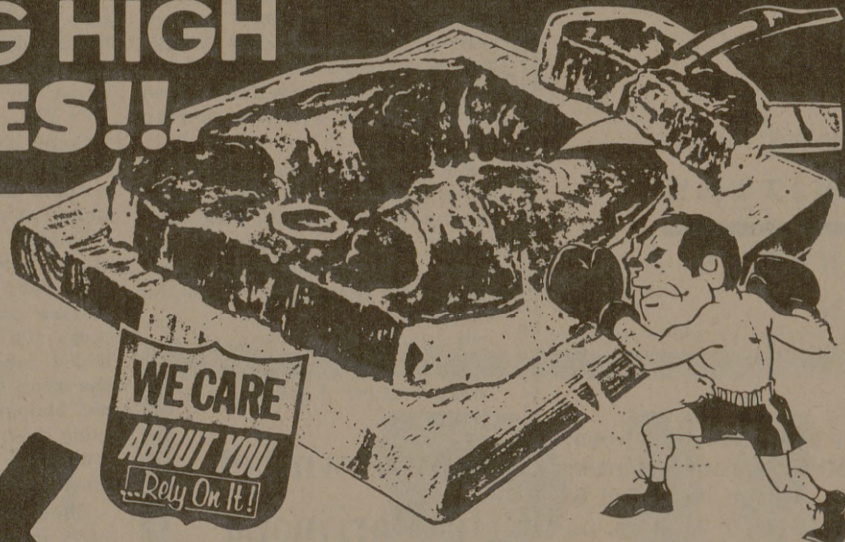
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