

FORCES ENLARGED

Stevenson to Appeal for Action by U.N. on 'Open Aggression'

By **TOM WICKER**

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 4—President Johnson has ordered retaliatory action against gunboats and "certain supporting facilities in North Vietnam" after renewed attacks against American destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin.

In a television address tonight, Mr. Johnson said air attacks on the North Vietnamese ships and facilities were taking place as he spoke, shortly after 11:30 P.M.

State Department sources said the attacks were being carried out with conventional weapons on a number of shore bases in North Vietnam, with the objective of destroying them and the 30 to 40 gunboats they served.

The aim, they explained, was to destroy North Vietnam's gunboat capability. They said more air strikes might come later, if needed. Carrier-based aircraft were used in tonight's strike.

2 Boats Believed Sunk

Administration officials also announced that substantial additional units, primarily air and sea forces, were being sent to Southeast Asia.

This "positive reply," as the President called it, followed a naval battle in which a number of North Vietnamese PT boats attacked two United States destroyers with torpedoes. Two of the boats were believed to have been sunk. The United States forces suffered no damage and no loss of lives.

Mr. Johnson termed the North Vietnamese attacks "open aggression on the high seas."

Washington's response is "limited and fitting," the President said, and his Administration seeks no general extension of the guerrilla war in South Vietnam.

Goldwater Approves

"We Americans know," he said, "although others appear to forget, the risks of spreading conflict."

Mr. Johnson said Secretary of State Dean Rusk had been instructed to make this American attitude clear to all nations. He added that Adlai E. Stevenson, chief United States delegate, would raise the matter immediately in the United Nations Security Council. [The Council was expected to meet at 10:30 A.M. Wednesday.]

The President said he had informed his Republican Presidential rival, Senator Barry Goldwater, of his action and

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U.S. Attacks North Vietnamese Bases in Reprisal

JOHNSON ASSAILS NEW RAID BY REDS

Forces Will Be Enlarged
Stevenson to Urge U.N.
to Act on 'Aggression'

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had received his endorsement. Congressional leaders of both parties, the President went on, have assured him of speedy and overwhelming passage of a resolution "making clear that our Government is united in its determination to take all necessary measures in support of freedom and defense of peace in Southeast Asia."

Mike Mansfield of Montana, the Senate majority leader, said the Congressional resolution Mr. Johnson had requested would be introduced "sometime in the morning."

Mr. Johnson gave Mr. Goldwater the details of his statement by telephone. He reached the Senator at Newport Beach, Calif., late today, after three telephone calls failed. Mr. Goldwater spent most of his day aboard a yacht.

"I am sure," Senator Goldwater said, "that every American will subscribe to the actions outlined in the President's statement. I believe it is the only thing he can do under the circumstances. We cannot allow the American flag to be shot at anywhere on earth if we are to retain our respect and prestige."

Nixon Voices Backing

Richard M. Nixon, the 1960 Republican candidate, also backed Mr. Johnson. Mr. Nixon, in Washington, said he believed the President should have bipartisan support in dealing with the situation.

Mr. Johnson was long delayed tonight in making his television address. Reporters were alerted several hours before he actually appeared in the Fish Room of the White House, where television cameras had been set up.

State Department sources said he had probably been waiting for word that the attacks had been carried out on the gunboats and supporting facilities.

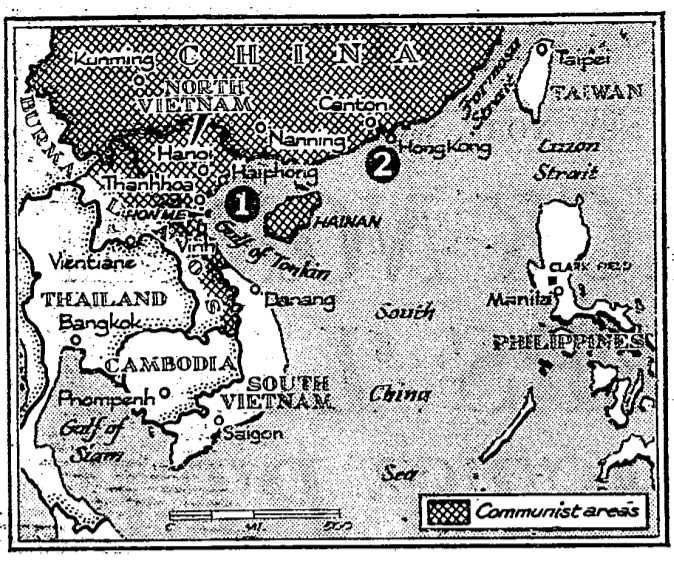
'Hot Line' Unused

State Department sources said there had been no effort to use the "hot line" between the White House and the Kremlin, and no effort to warn Communist China through intermediaries.

The Chinese are believed here to be the instigators of the North Vietnamese attacks.

State Department sources said the United States had last sought to carry direct warnings to Peking on May 17. Mr. Rusk then consulted with the ambassadors of Southeast Asia Treaty Organization nations and suggested that those dealing with China convey to Peking the United States' con- cern, which was not acknowledged by Peking.

It was clear from the crisis air in the White House, from



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RETALIATION: American forces in the Gulf of Tonkin (1) struck at North Vietnam. The carrier Constellation, which had sailed from Honk Kong (2) joined in the action.

"a push to the North." As Washington stressed its opposition to an expansion of the conflict, Premier Khanh appeared to be retreating from his position.

Mr. Johnson said the retaliatory action he had ordered had been taken against "vessels and facilities used in these hostile operations."

Thus, despite Mr. Johnson's assurances that the United States sought no "wider war," it was plain that the situation in South Vietnam and the surrounding area had reached new gravity.

In South Vietnam, American forces have been advising and training the South Vietnamese Army in its resistance against Communist guerrillas.

American naval vessels have been patrolling the Gulf of Tonkin, both as a show of force and to offer naval support for situations that might develop in Southeast Asia.

The first North Vietnamese attack came Sunday when torpedo boats attacked the destroyer Maddox. They were driven off.

The new attacks came in spite of orders Mr. Johnson had given that United States naval forces destroy any attackers.

The State Department sources said there had been no time to consult with the SEATO nations or other allies. In addition, they said the need for surprise in the retaliation made consultations difficult.

Notification of allied nations began after the President's address.

Mr. Johnson was occupied all day with meetings and messages on the situation in the Gulf of Tonkin. He summoned 16 Congressional leaders of both parties to the White House for a meeting at 6:45 P.M.

The meeting lasted 90 minutes. When it ended, George Reedy, the White House press

secretary, said Mr. Johnson would appear on television.

The following Congressional leaders were at the White House:

Senators Mike Mansfield, the majority leader; J. William Fulbright, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee; Richard B. Russell, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, and Carl Hayden, President Pro Tem of the Senate, Democrats.

Senators Everett McKinley Dirksen, the minority leader; Bourke B. Hickenlooper, ranking minority member of the Foreign Relations Committee, and Leverett Saltonstall, ranking minority member of the Armed Services Committee, Republicans.

Representatives John W. McCormack, the Speaker; Carl Albert, the majority leader; Thomas E. Morgan, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and Carl Vinson, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, Democrats.

Representatives Charles A. Halleck, minority leader; Frances P. Bolton, ranking minority member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and Leslie C. Arends, ranking minority member of the Armed Services Committee, Republicans.

Cabinet Aides Attend

Also present at the meeting were Secretary of State Rusk, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, John A. McCone, Director of Central Intelligence, and Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Earlier, Mr. Johnson held his regular Tuesday luncheon with Mr. Rusk, Mr. McNamara and McGeorge Bundy, his special assistant for national-security affairs.

A regularly scheduled meeting of the National Security Council was also held at the White House.

The second attack on the destroyers was discussed at both meetings. The decision to attack the gunboats and shore facilities had been taken, with no dissent, by the time the sessions were ended.

At about 6 P.M., the National Security Council met again, this time to go over operational details and loose ends.

State Department sources said the second North Vietnamese action was considered a calculated attack that had to be dealt with promptly and decisively. Otherwise, it was feared here, the North Vietnamese might seriously miscalculate American intentions in Southeast Asia.

None of the shore facilities

under attack were near population centers, officials said.

The question of whether there would be more attacks on the gunboat facilities, state department sources said, depended on the North Vietnamese response—including developments in the guerrilla warfare in South Vietnam.