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SAIGON (UPI) -- A COMMUNIST ROCKET SLAMMED INTO A SUBURBAN SAIGON HAMLET, KILLING THREE VIETNAMESE, MILITARY SPOKESMEN SAID TODAY. A PREGNANT WOMAN AND TWO OTHER PERSONS KILLED BY THE 70MM ROCKET BLAST 10 MILES SOUTHEAST OF SAIGON WERE THE FIRST CIVILIANS DEAD IN RED SHELLINGS SINCE ALL BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM STOPPED. FIVE OTHER CIVILIANS SUFFERED WOUNDS.

THE SHELLING WEDNESDAY COINCIDED WITH A BATTLE ON THE NORTHERN COAST THAT POSSIBLY MARKED THE END OF WHAT MILITARY OBSERVERS HAD BEEN CALLING A MONTH-LONG LULL IN MAJOR GROUND FIGHTING.

U.S. HEADQUARTERS TODAY SAID 150 AMERICANS DIED IN ACTION LAST WEEK, THE HIGHEST TOLL IN THREE WEEKS. ANOTHER 1,214 WERE WOUNDED. SOUTH VIETNAMESE BATTLE DEATHS ALSO ROSE, TO 129 KILLED, AND COMMUNIST LOSSES WERE PUT AT 1,393 DEAD.

THE NORTHERN COASTAL BATTLE ERUPTED 20 MILES SOUTH OF THE U.S. BASE AT DA NANG. A PATROL OF U.S. MARINES RAN INTO A COMMUNIST FORTRESS AND SUMMONED TANKS AND JET PLANES TO BATTER THE STRONGHOLD.