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DRV PROTESTS U.S. 15 MARCH BOMBING, SHELLING

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[Statement by DRV Foreign Ministry spokesman issued 16 March]

[Text] Four U.S. F-4 planes launched attacks with demolition and steel-pellet bombs against a certain number of areas of Bo Trach district, Quang Dinh Province, on 15 March 1969. On the same day a U.S. infantry force under tank cover carried out a mopping-up operation in the southern part of the demilitarized zone. At the same time U.S. artillery also fired at random into Vinh Quang village of Vinh Linh, causing losses in life and property among the local people.

These serious facts, along with the daily violations of the sovereignty and security of the DRV by U.S. aircraft, show that the Americans continue to step up their acts of war against the Vietnamese people and to brazenly provoke world and U.S. progressive opinion.

The DRV Government strongly denounces these acts of war by the United States and resolutely urges that the United States give up forever all acts of war against the DRV. The United States must bear full responsibility for all the consequences of its acts of war.