

Nuclear Bomber Flights Reported Banned in Spain

MADRID (UPI)—The crash of a U.S. Air Force B-52 bomber with atomic weapons aboard eight days ago has resulted in the indefinite suspension of all American nu-

clear bomber flights over Spain, highly reliable sources said Tuesday night.

French sources in Madrid said the nuclear flight ban was ordered by the U.S. government and not at the request of Spanish officials.

A U.S. embassy spokesman here did not deny the report. All he would say was, "It is not in the national interest to discuss the movement of nuclear armament."

The report came as the U.S. Navy stepped up its search for a nuclear weapon still missing in the crash of the bomber. It was believed the

weapon might be on the floor of the Mediterranean Sea off the southeast coast of Spain.

Sources said the flights of nuclear bombers over Spain were halted the same day the B-52 crashed.

Atomic Bomb Believed in Ocean

VERA, Spain, Jan. 24 (AP)—U. S. and Spanish experts were looking today for a way to recover an object from the Mediterranean believed to be a nuclear bomb missing from the U.S. B52 bomber which crashed near here a week ago.

The object was reported 1,000 feet down in the sea. A pair of Spanish destroyers stood guard over the area about 600 yards off shore. Officials ear-

lier confirmed that radioactivity detection devices had pinpointed an object in the sea.

Villagers still were receiving radioactivity checkups from doctors of the Spanish Board of Nuclear Energy. About 15 civil guardsmen who Spanish doctors said had picked up traces of radiation while handling the wreckage were reported in normal condition and returned to work.

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Search Continues For Nuclear Bomb

ALMERIA, Spain (AP)—Possibly spurred by the fear that Communist agents might find it first, U.S. experts continued their search here for a nuclear bomb missing after the crash of a B52 bomber.

Another reason for urgency was the worry that other countries might follow Spain's lead and ban the flight of nuclear-armed U.S. planes over their territory if it

seemed possible a bomb could be permanently lost.

Although continuing, the search was relatively quiet in

contrast to the almost frantic activity since the B52 crashed after collision with a tanker Jan. 17.