

Witness Aghast at Bombing

Michael Maclear is a Canadian correspondent based in London for Canada's independent television network, CTV. He is now in Hanoi on assignment.

By Michael Maclear

HANOI — (AP) — I witnessed the attack which destroyed the French diplomatic residence, seriously injuring the delegation head, Pierre Susini, and killing a French woman diplomat and

five of his Vietnamese staff. We were filming one mile away when at least three jets swooped repeatedly over the heart of the capital today. It was lunch hour.

I counted at least a dozen sorties by jets and watched as one, defying heavy anti-aircraft fire, dived very low, dropping two bombs. There was no possibility of pilot error. They were attacking very low over the center of the capital. The

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Witness Describes Attack by U.S. Jets

NYTimes

The author of the following dispatch is a Canadian correspondent based in London for Canada's independent television network, CTV. He is now in Hanoi on assignment—his third trip to North Vietnam. He filed the following report to CTV and The Associated Press.

By MICHAEL MACLEAR

Special to The New York Times

HANOI, North Vietnam, Oct. 11—I witnessed the attack that destroyed the French diplomatic residence. We were filming one mile away today when at least three jets swooped repeatedly over the heart of the capital. It was lunch hour. I counted at least a dozen sorties by jets and watched as one, defying heavy anti-aircraft fire, dived very low, dropping two bombs. The planes were attacking

very low over the center of the capital. The area hit is the diplomatic quarter and there are no North Vietnamese ministries or factories anywhere near. I witnessed and filmed bodies taken from rubble of the French residence, which was shorn in half. The French Consul, Christian Calvy, told me the attack had come without warning. He called it too horrible for words. He said he could not even imagine French and world reaction. There were at least three bombings. There are at least five unidentified bodies in the central area, and probably seven.

Tonight I saw the French delegation head, Pierre Susini, at St. Paul's Hospital in Hanoi. He had extreme facial

burns, and was still unconscious. A doctor said it was difficult to say if the diplomat would survive, but the doctor believed he could. One French diplomat theorized that the bombs were a forced drop from a damaged jet, but this diplomat added he was inside the residence at the time of the attack and did not see the plane. I did, and the low-hitting jet was not damaged.

Several planes made several sorties. I saw at least three jets. The Canadian military attaché here, a Major Dupuis, says he saw five or six over the city center. Mr. Susini had been greeting the Albanian Ambassador outside the residence when the bombs dropped. The Albanian escaped with lesser injuries.

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Bombing

—From Page 1

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Another French diplomat said: "This happens in Vietnam every day and the world pays no attention. Now it will." A British attaché said, "The United States has gone too far."