U.S. Said to Agree Bombs Hit Mission HE NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1972

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15-The that pilot error might have been

missions in Hanoi last week, a also said they had recovered want to comment in any way high ranking official said today, bomb fragments from the debecause the negotiations "are how in a very serious and very lian P. Rogers, in a television Damage was also reported other sources had said that missile, were probably responsible to the diplomatic quarter of Hanoi private talks in Paris last week, the for the damage done to the The North Vietnamese have Mr. Rogers said he did not cluded in private that off-tara North Vietnamese antiaircraft can plane drop bombs in the missile, were probably responsi-dinformatic quarter of Hanoi get American bombs, and not serted that they saw an Ameri-the war. interview, left the ctear imprestion that he did not care to by the Algerian and Indian emthe talks last week were the Administration has con- responsible.

fighter-bomber had dorpped the bombs,although he said a "final determination" had not been argue with reports of witnesses bassies in Hanoi, both near that a United States Navy F-4 the French mission.

An Administration official

'Concensus' Cited

pened. We nave expressed been responsible. The official George McGovern's recent peace our regrets to those countries said that there was a "con plan for Vietnam, saying it whose embassies were involved, said that there was a "con plan for Vietnam, saying it but faulty bomb drops do ocur sensus" in the Administration amounted to "an offer to suppon occasion." Mr. Rogers said, that they had been. The State render." "It is regrettable that it hap- felt that American bombs had pened," "We have expressed."

had struck railyards and tran- dents," he said. "The President He said that he was pessishipment points across the Red has said consistently that we mistic because "as I under River from the French mission, would continue the bombing of stand it, our position still returned three miles away. It said that military targets in the North, quires the maintenance and damage to the French and other There is going to be no change power of the Theu regime and missions could have been in policy." statement asserting that United "We would certainly hope or within any reasonable time.

States Navy F-4 Phantom jets there would be no further accit thereafter" in Vietnam.

had struck railyards and tran-dents," he said. "The President He said that he was pessi-Defense Department issued a nam.

cident had not been completed.

Railyards the Target would be no change in Amer-After initial reports of the ican policy of bombing "mili-amage last Wednesday, the tary targets" in North Vietdespite But Mr. Rogers stressed that espite the incident, there

ment was contemplated today evidence seemed to point to the because investigation of the in-

Mr. Rogers said "I think there Department, in particular, has made up his mind yet about will be some statement by the felt there was no point in convented to continue Defense Department on this." tinuing to claim that an errant in office if President Nixon tagon spokesman, said no state-

of Defense imize any civilian damage."

But

Secretary

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN Melyin R. Laird, in a news conspecial to The New York Times ference, conceded the same day Answers" over the American Various witnesses have as-with North Vietnam on ending Rogers refused to provide any details on the negotiations

Asked about Henry A. Kis-

most substantive and l polemical of any held in 1969. But many differences reseries dating from

main, they said. McGovern Plan Criticized

was asked whether Mr. Rogers Mr. Rogers attacked Senator

thought "the chances are very dim of securing a political settlement before the election Broadcasting Company pro-gram "Meet th Press" that he McGovern, said on the National security adviser 8 Senator

that blew up when it fell to cidents" and would "do every- cal compromise in my view is and the political compromise in my view is that blew up when it fell to cidents" and would "do every- cal compromise in my view is the political compromise and a political compromise in my view is the political compromise and a political compromise in my view is the political comp

SFExaminer

SFExaminer to set 12

US Bomb

inadvertent." sion in Hanoi, saying it "was bombing of the French mismitted responsibility for the The United States today ad-WASHINGTON - (AP) -

"failure of the ordnance to release properly." The Pentagon blamed

admission of the Oct. 11 inci-Pierre Susini, who died of chiel, sons, including the mission dent, which killed six perand five Indochinese emburns in Paris last night ployes. This was the first formal Delegate General

State William Rogers cabled condolences" over the death found regrets and personal Maurice Schumann "Pro-French Foreign Minister of Susini Meanwhile, Secretary of

whether the United States man Charles Bray said he compensation State Department spokesno information on offering to pay.

week that the French build-Laird tried to suggest Defense Secretary Melvin -Turn to Page 20, Col 5

aged by a North Vietnamese antiaircraft missile falling ing could have been damback to earth.

Friedheim told newsmen inwhich dropped the bomb and able to identify the plane vestigators have not been mands or recriminations." here to engage in reprithat "there is no intention Pentagon spokesman Jerry

in the rules under which changes are being made that the episode will not de-And he indicated strongly American bombers operate. military targets. ter American attacks on Friedheim said no

statement read by Friedheim said The Pentagon's formal

the French Mission in Hanoi ty of sources indicates that available to us from a variea U.S. bomb. was inadvertently struck by "All information now

and away, it slips out on a

tary targets, railroad yard and transshipcurred, U.S. aircraft were attacking authorized miliment point across the Red "When the accident ocincluding po

-From Page 1 River approximately three erty. miles from the French prop-

accident is the failure of the aircraft that was involved in ordnance to release properly. We have not been able to identify any specific U.S. this regrettable accident. "One possible cause of the

facilities. icy to target only military "It continues to be our pol-"The U.S. government has

expressed its regrets to government of France." cated that interviews with ment, sources in Saigon indibomb" is one that fails to the carrier Midway pointed to a "hung bomb" as the probable cause. Navy pilots who flew from stead, after a drop as it is supposed to; in-Ahead of the official statejet pulls up A "hung the

other sources." He did not and what he termed "a few cident from pilot accounts and reconstruction of the inwild course government after analysis of post - strike photography Friedheim said judgments

were reached by the U.S. identify the latter.