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# U.S. Women's Day in Hanoi

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## Hanoi

A wife and a mother of two American prisoners of war traded beauty secrets with a half dozen North Vietnamese women yesterday a few hours before a ceremony in which the men were released.

Olga Charles, wife of Navy Lieutenant Norris Charles, and Minnie Lee Gartley, mother of Navy Lieutenant Markham Gartley, were having their hair and nails done in a Hanoi

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beauty parlor for the occasion.

The two American women and a delegation of anti-war activists had arrived Saturday.

### ALERT

Mrs. Charles' hair was only half dry when an air raid alert sent everyone down to a basement bunker.

No bombs or shooting were heard and no planes came over the city, so the women went back upstairs. (American pilots reportedly were ordered to stay away from the capital city while the prisoners and their relatives are there.)

Mrs. Gartley said the equipment in the beauty parlor reminded her of America in the 1940s.

The women were given a tour of devastated buildings in Hanoi's suburbs, which the North Vietnamese guides said were bombed by U.S. planes earlier this year.

About 20 local and foreign reporters trailed after the Americans as they stumbled over twisted courtyards and hunks of broken concrete walls and roofs.

"What do you think of all

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this?" an Eastern European journalist asked of Mrs. Gartley, thrusting a microphone in her face.

"I hate to see destruction like this whoever might do it," she replied, looking at a row of two-story buildings the North Vietnamese guide said were workers' homes, bombed June 27.

The guide said 16 people were killed and 27 wounded by four 2000-pound bombs.

"To see these homes destroyed so senselessly and needlessly brings home the horrors of war that we are protected from in America, it is more than our feelings and consciousness can absorb," Mrs. Gartley said.

### 'TERRIBLE'

Mrs. Clark said, "It is terrible to see this destruction."

At another area of wreckage that guides said were workers' homes bombed July 4, Mrs. Gartley said: "We thought we were prepared for what we had to see, but we were not."

The two women were also taken to a hospital in Hanoi that guides said had a wing destroyed in a raid.

A doctor said 29 persons

had been admitted to the hospital with wounds suffered in a bombing attack near Hanoi late Saturday afternoon — the same attack that led to the alert that sent the two women to the bunker in the basement of a Hoa Binh Hotel. The doctor said one of the patients died.

Both women were excited to learn that their loved ones had made the same tour of the bomb-damaged regions the previous day and were in fact already unofficially released and staying in Hanoi.

At a meeting with officials Saturday evening, Mrs. Charles was told her husband had asked, when he learned of her arrival in the North Vietnamese capital, "Is she still skinny?"

Both women were cautioned by North Vietnamese officials "to show restraint and coolness" during the release ceremony. Mrs. Gartley said. "They want to make it a very serious affair," she added.

Mrs. Charles said she was told to "be quiet and don't say anything and don't touch your husband until after the ceremony."