

K
MAY 12 1972

Hospital in Hanoi Bears Marks of the Air War

NYTimes

By JOEL Agence Fr by Joel Henri Agence France-Press

HANOI, North Vietnam, May 11—The Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Hospital and its grounds had a surrealistic appearance today, with roofs, masonry, trees and vehicles twisted and riddled with shrapnel.

During American air raids on the Hanoi area yesterday, six Shrike missiles and a 500-pound bomb reportedly fell on the hospital site, which extends over several acres in the city center. When the bomb landed, most staff members and patients were in a shelter below, the chief doctor said today as he took foreign newsmen around the establishment.

The only people working, he said, were surgeons and their aides.

A patient being operated on was reported seriously injured in the blast. Mrs. Mau Don, an anesthetist, said a surgeon was struck on the head and "a colleague took over for him."

All the windows in the operating theater were blown out. Cupboards were lying on the floor, and blood was splattered on the walls.

A Strike fragmentation

missile was said to have pierced a wall and exploded in a pharmaceutical room.

Outside, several parked ambulances were riddled with holes. The blast reportedly tossed a jeep on top of them.

United States planes raided the Hanoi area again today, but the attack, which began at 2:30 P.M., appeared to be less intense than yesterday's.

Phantom jets in formations of three wheeled in the clear blue sky over an area apparently stretching about 20 miles around the capital. Surface-to-air missiles could be seen leaving the launch sites and chasing the aircraft, which made steep dives on targets around the city.

I witnessed the attack, which lasted about an hour, with a group of newsmen while on the way to Hatay Province southwest of Hanoi, an area attacked four days

ago. We could see antiaircraft missiles fired a few hundred yards away from where we halted by the roadside. One of the bombs dropped in the raid fell about 500 yards away behind a clump of trees.