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**VETERANS TESTIFY
ON HOSPITAL RAIDS**
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**3 Tell Senators They Either
Helped Select Targets or
Participated in Bombing**

By SEYMOUR M. HERSH
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8—
Three veterans told the Senate Armed Services Committee today that while serving in Vietnam they participated either in the designation of North Vietnamese and Vietcong hospitals as bombing targets or in the actual destruction of them.

One veteran, Allen Stevenson of San Francisco, testified that he routinely selected enemy hospitals and suspected hospital sites as targets during a tour in 1967-68 as an intelligence sergeant in Quang Tri Province in northernmost South Vietnam. The target information, he said, was supplied every day to higher headquarters for nightly radar-guided Air Force bombing strikes.

"The rationale for looking for hospitals was that there were probably other targets there—maybe a company or battalion protecting it," the former sergeant said.

Third-Level Priority

Therefore, he said, hospital sites were considered to be a third-level priority for the Air Force strikes, ranking below fixed enemy fortifications such as supply areas, and troop concentrations of company size or larger.

"This wasn't something that was hush-hush," Mr. Stevenson said of the routine selection of hospitals as targets. "We really didn't consider it that nasty an item."

The United States is a party

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to the 1907 Hague Convention and the 1949 Geneva Convention, which prohibit the destruction of hospitals or of religious or cultural buildings. So does the Army's Law of Land Warfare. In addition, international law recognized by the United States forbids the use of cruel or inhumane war tactics unrelated to normal military objectives.

Asked about the allegations in subsequent testimony today, Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, the Army Chief of Staff who was commander of all military operations in Vietnam from 1967 to 1972, denied any knowledge of such attacks, which he said were contrary to international law.

"It was certainly not a policy nor an action required by our forces," he said. If he had learned of such incidents, he added, he would have taken action against those involved.

Abrams Discusses Raids

The bulk of the general's testimony this afternoon before the committee, meeting in special session this week, was concerned with the secret B-52 bombing of Cambodia in 1969-70 and the subsequent tactical bombing deep inside Cambodia that lasted until May of 1971. That bombing was first disclosed during Senate testimony yesterday.

General Abrams acknowledged that he was fully informed of those operations, which he said were authorized by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He denied any responsibility for the falsification of reports, although he did testify that there were a number of specially authorized reporting procedures for both the secret B-52 raids and the tactical bombing raids in Cambodia.

"From a purely administrative viewpoint," the general complained at one point, "the whole thing had become so complicated that I couldn't keep all these things in my mind."

"I had to have specialists to tell me where to go for each mission."

The Armed Services Committee spent the morning listening to testimony about reported attacks on hospitals.

A second veteran, Robert L. Dickey, told of participating in an infantry attack on a known Vietcong hospital near An Loc in 1969. At least one American battalion was flown into the hospital area by helicopter, an action that initiated an extensive battle, said Mr. Dickey, a former lieutenant.

"We tried for two or three days to get into the complex,"

he added. "We called in artillery, air strikes and Australian bombers."

Mr. Dickey, who now lives in Rockville, Md., near Washington, objected when Senator Strom Thurmond, Republican of South Carolina, attempted to suggest that the hospital was attacked because it was not clearly marked.

'No Guilty Feelings'

"The people I worked with knew it was a hospital," Mr. Dickey replied. Although he had once taught the elements of the Geneva convention to basic trainees in the Army, he noted, "I had no guilty feelings at the time about attacking hospitals and suspected hospitals, and I still don't."

"The Geneva convention didn't apply to this war," he said.

The third witness, Gerald J. Greven of Miami, a former Air Force captain, repeated an account of the planned bombing of a Vietcong hospital in 1969 that he provided to The New York Times three weeks ago.

Mr. Greven testified that he was provided intelligence information and subsequently directed Air Force jets to bomb what was suspected to be an enemy hospital in a jungle area near Cambodia. His account was sharply challenged by the Air Force.

In a preliminary report on the Greven allegations made available to the Senators less than an hour before the former pilot's testimony, the Air Force said it could not "positively confirm or deny" that Mr. Greven had been provided with intelligence information showing where the suspected hospital was.

Challenge by Air Force

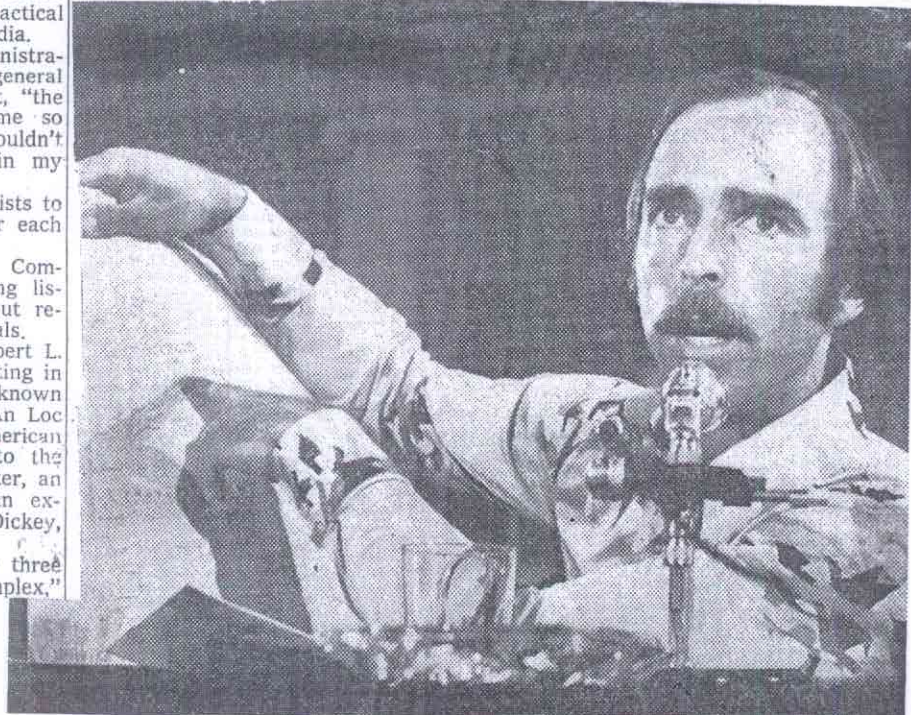
But the thrust of the six-page Air Force statement was such that Senator Harold E. Hughes, Democrat of Iowa, told Mr. Greven, "You've been called a liar in this letter."

In turn, the former pilot, who now works for a commercial airline, complained that the summary was seriously distorted because it omitted that one witness had also told Air Force investigators of searching for hospitals to bomb.

Following the testimony, Senator Hughes released two letters he had received in recent weeks reported other deliberate hospital attacks.

Rowan D. Malphurs, a former Army captain from Miami who served in photo intelligence in Southeast Asia during the secret B-52 raids, said he saw several bombed-out enemy hospital sites in Cambodia while reviewing reconnaissance film.

On one occasion, he wrote Senator Hughes, "I observed a Red Cross on a building that was partially destroyed by a bomb."



Gerald J. Greven, one of three veterans who testified on bombing in Cambodia, used in United Press International