



ARTHUR D. SIMONS AND LEROY MANOR
They led commando raid on Hanoi's POW camp
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Raiders Came From States

SAIGON — (UPI) — The U.S. Army and Air Force commando raid on the former Son Tay prisoner of war camp near Hanoi appeared today to be the work of a specially trained team from the United States.

Neither of the commanders of the raid is stationed in South Vietnam, military sources said. Both are assigned to Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., where the commando team may have been trained.

Air Force Brig. Gen. Leroy J. Manor is commander of the Air Force's special operations force, an air commando group under the Tactical Air Command.

Army Col. Arthur D. Simons, who landed in the prison camp with the raiding force, according to Defense Secretary Melvin Laird, is assistant chief of staff for logistics of the 18th Airborne Corps, stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C.

However, he is assigned to temporary duty as deputy commander of the joint contingency task group of the Joint Chiefs, based at Eglin.

It was considered unlikely that on a mission so critical the two commanders would be brought in to lead men they were unfamiliar with, leading to the conclusion that the entire commando raiding force was trained at Eglin and brought to Southeast Asia specifically for the mission.

Simon's connection with the operation apparently indicated that the Army men involved were either Green Berets of the special forces. rangers or paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division, all based at Fort Bragg.

Manor's part in the operation may indicate that the Air force raiders were members of an air commando unit, similar to those formerly stationed in Vietnam and now stationed in Thailand.