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**POW Relatives****An Angry Blast  
At McCloskey****Washington**

Leaders of the Nation's largest organization of POW relatives bitterly attacked Representative Paul N. McCloskey (Rep-Calif.) yesterday for suggesting that American captives might be used as hostage targets by North Vietnam to prevent U.S. bombing raids.

Mrs. Stephen Hanson of El Toro, Calif., said she hoped McCloskey would withdraw and apologize for the statement. If not, she proposed his colleagues in the House should consider censuring him.

Mrs. Hanson, whose Marine Corps pilot husband has been missing in Laos for five years, is chairman of the board of directors of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia.

**STATEMENT**

During an appearance on NBC's Today Show Wednesday, McCloskey said: "There are 700 prisoners over there. If I were General Giap (Nguyen Van Giap, North Vietnamese defense minister) I'd be putting one of them in the town square of each one of my 700 biggest towns. When we bomb today, we bomb with B-52s, with cluster bombs, and with all of the weapons that make up this arsenal we use, we might very well be killing our POW's."

McCloskey, a critic of administration Vietnam policy and a decorated Marine veteran of the Korean War, said U.S. officials have little knowledge of where American POW's are.

Mrs. Hanson acknowledged that "of course mis-

takes can be made" but she said the league has been assured by the administration that the slightest indication that a POW might be in an area was enough to remove that sector from the approved airtarget list.

**HANOI**

"In the long five years as a wife of a missing-in-action American I have never heard a more shocking statement, nor one more dangerous to my husband and 1700 other prisoner and missing men in Southeast Asia," Mrs. Hanson said

"Whether or not the con-

gressman meant this as an actual proposal is not the issue," she said. "The fact remains that this sort of serious discussion by American officials may seem to justify such actions to Hanoi."

Representative Louise Day Hicks (Dem-Mass.), said, "it is outrageous for a member of Congress to be giving military advice to the enemy, particularly advice that threatens he lives and safety of our prisoners of war."

*United Press*