

SFE Examiner

# Witness Aghast at Bombing

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By Michael MacLear

HANOI — (AP) — I witnessed the attack which destroyed the French diplomatic residence, seriously injuring the delegation head, Pierre Susini, and killing a French woman diplomat and

five of his Vietnamese staff.

We were filming one mile away when at least three jets swooped repeatedly over the heart of the capital today. It was lunch hour.

I counted at least a dozen sorties by jets and watched as one, defying heavy anti-aircraft fire, dived very low, dropping two bombs.

There was no possibility of pilot error. They were attacking very low over the center of the capital. The

area hit is the diplomatic quarter and there are no Vietnamese ministries or factories anywhere near.

I witnessed and filmed dead taken from rubble of the French residence, which was shorn in half.

French Consul Christian Calvy told me the attack came without warning. He called it too horrible for words. He said he could not

—Turn to Page 12, Col. 4

## Bombing

—From Page 1

even imagine French and world reaction.

There were at least three bombings.

**'Probably 7 Dead'**

There are five unknown dead in the central area, and probably seven.

Tonight I saw the French delegation head (Susini) at St. Paul's Hospital in Hanoi.

He had extreme facial burns and was still unconscious.

A doctor said it was difficult to say if the diplomat would survive, but the doctor believed he could.

One French diplomat theorized that the bombs were a forced drop from a damaged jet, but this diplomat added he was inside the residence at the time of the attack and did not see the plane.

**'Several Planes'**

I did, and the low-hitting jet was not damaged.

Several planes made several sorties. I saw at least three jets. The Canadian military attache here, a Maj. Dupuis, says he saw

five or six over the city center.

Susini had been greeting the Albanian ambassador outside the residence when the bombs dropped. The Albanian escaped with lesser injuries.

Another French diplomat said: "This happens in Vietnam every day and the world pays no attention. Now it will."

A British attache said, "The United States has gone too far."