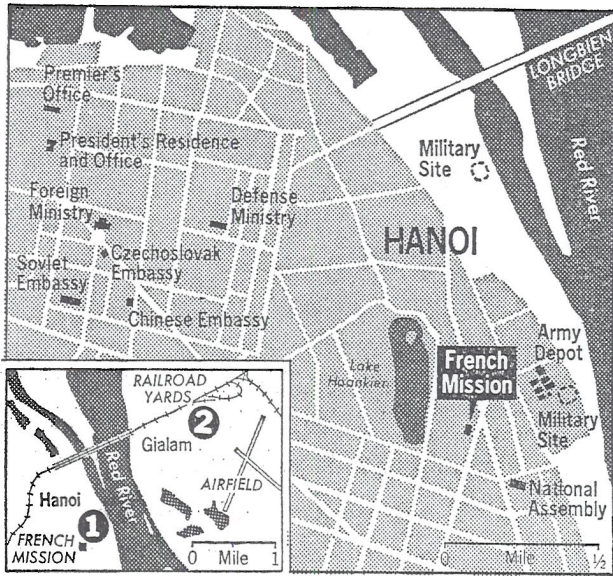


(Companion story, "U.S. Is Regretful," by Bernard Gwertzman, pasted separately.)

FRANCE'S MISSION IN HANOI WRECKED DURING A U.S. RAID



The New York Times/Oct. 12, 1972

Inset map shows relationship of French mission (1) to the railroad yard (2) across the Red River that U.S. said was among military targets that were bombed.

attack. The French Government formally protested to the United States against what President Pompidou called "a deplorable act."]

The jets, approaching at about 11:30 A.M., apparently caught Hanoi's air-raid warning system by surprise, as the first explosions could be heard before the sirens began sounding the alarm.

Then a huge explosion and a cloud of ochre-colored smoke could be seen bursting from the center of the French mission complex, whose buildings house the residence, the chancellery and cinema. The residence was almost destroyed.

Mr. Susini, who is 52 years old, was pinned under rubble and concrete beams, with only his head, bloodied from an injury, protruding.

But he retained consciousness and spoke to people trying to free him, asking about the others in the building at the time.

Freed after frantic efforts by mission staff members and rescue workers, Mr. Susini was rushed to St. Paul's Hospital, where his condition was described as serious. But, doctors said, "We are going to save him."

Late in the day, it was still not clear how many casualties had been caused at the mission. While one North Vietnamese employe was known to be dead, rescue workers were still hunting through the rubble for three others who were missing—a valet, a carpenter and a switchboard operator.

About 20 planes could be counted overhead during the raid.

Other places in central Hanoi that were damaged included the Algerian Embassy building, whose roof was ripped off, and a school of music, which was near the French mission.

The French mission, known as a general delegation, is accredited to the North Vietnamese Premier rather than to the head of state. However, it has full diplomatic privileges and immunity.

It was set up shortly after the 1954 Geneva accords that ended the French Indochina war. North Vietnam opened a trade mission in Paris in 1961, and four years later estab-

lished a reciprocal general delegation.

France Makes Protest

By FLORA LEWIS

Special to The New York Times

PARIS, Oct. 11—The French Government formally protested the bombing of its Hanoi diplomatic mission today.

The attack, which president Pompidou called "a deplorable act" and the United States Ambassador, Arthur K. Watson, called "a tragic accident," came during extended talks here between Henry A. Kissinger, President Nixon's national security adviser, and North Vietnamese leaders.

The North Vietnamese spokesman here denounced the Nixon Administration for "these serious and repeated attacks, which reflect a bellicose policy." He issued a statement that said that high explosive and pellet bombs killed and wounded many Vietnamese civilians in the raid.

The French said that their delegate general in Hanoi, Pierre Susini, was gravely injured but that his life was not in danger. The five buildings of their compound in central Hanoi were seriously damaged, they said, but they were getting sketchy reports through the Swedish Ambassador in North Vietnam because their own communications were disrupted.

The North Vietnamese statement said that a woman member of the French mission's staff "had two legs cut off by the bomb bursts and died on the spot." Four Vietnamese staff members were killed and a fifth was injured, the statement added.

DIPLOMAT IS HURT

OCT 12 1972
North Vietnam Says
5 Others Are Killed
—Paris Protests

NYTimes

By Agence France-Presse

HANOI, North Vietnam, Oct. 11—The buildings of the French diplomatic mission to North Vietnam were wrecked today during an American bombing raid on the Hanoi area, and Pierre Susini, its chief diplomat, was seriously injured.

[In Paris, the North Vietnamese delegation to the peace talks said, as did the Hanoi radio, that a woman on the mission's staff and four North Vietnamese employes were killed during the