

DEC 22 1972

# Raids Raze SFChronicle Main Hanoi Rail Station

By Jean Thoraval  
Agence France-Presse

## Hanoi

American warplanes yesterday destroyed the main building of Hanoi's central railroad station and also hit the nearby Cuban Embassy.

The raid, the 27th American attack on Hanoi since last Monday, came shortly after midday. It followed virtually a night-long pounding of Hanoi's suburbs by fighter-bombers and B-52s. In those earlier raids a large stretch of main runway at the Gia Lam airport was put out of action but air traffic apparently was not halted altogether.

This correspondent visited the airport after the raid and saw that a 700-yard stretch of the 1¼-mile runway was unusable.

After yesterday's early attack, and that of Monday night, most of the main airport buildings no longer exist.

The area around the airport is pock-marked with craters from the bombs, which fell into rice fields and gardens nearby.

A North Vietnamese air traffic official, showing visiting American singer Joan

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# Airman Downed SFChronicle On Last Mission

Silver Spring, Md.

Captain Robert G. Certain, 25, was to have left Vietnam for his home yesterday, but his B-52 was shot down on his last scheduled mission and he was captured by the North Vietnamese.

Certain had been due to arrive home by Christmas, his family said.

But the Air Force called Certain's home Tuesday and told his parents he and six other airmen had been shot down and captured. He apparently was not seriously hurt.

"We are sure he is all right," said Certain's sister, Glenell Certain Vann of Columbia, S.C., who said members of the family already were gathered at the home here for the annual Christmas get-together when the word came.

North Vietnamese broadcasts about the downing of two B-52 jet bombers did not specify how Certain, a

navigator, was found after landing by parachute. A picture released by North Vietnam showed Certain downcast but apparently not injured.

The North Vietnamese news agency reported "all bore some traces of their plight - a head swathed in bandages, a scar on the cheek, a lame leg or a tattered suit and all stooped and blinked."

Certain's wife, Robbie, whom he married two months before going off to his second Vietnam tour, was traveling from her home near Blytheville Air Force Base Ark., to Silver Spring.

Mrs. Vann said her brother planned to go into the ministry after returning home.

She said another brother, Air Force Captain John N. Certain, 26, is on his third tour in Southeast Asia as a tanker aircraft pilot in Thailand.

Associated Press

Baez around the airport, said that the damage had not interrupted air traffic.

The official told this corre-

spondent that yesterday's regular flight from China should be able to touch down as normal.