POWs Dig Shelters Shelters

By Jean Thoraval Agence France Presse

Hanoi

American pilots held prisoner here have begun digging shelters to protect themselves from B-52 bombing raids. A number of foreign newsmen who were able to visit a camp located somewhere south of here saw 13 airmen in red-striped uniforms digging under their beds to form a shelter.

The camp had been bombed three times last week, an official source said. A number of pilots were taken to a hospital with what were described as light wounds.

The American prisoners were digging foxholes big enough for three, the number of men lodged in each

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cell at the camp.

Newsmen noted large rooms at the camp, sports facilities and gardens, as well as packs of cigarettes and tea and vacuum flasks of hot water in cells.

An American airman was quoted as saying that during the bombing raids everyone did what seemed appropriate and that "it is a very interesting experience."

In the clubhouse, brick fragments and dust covered ping pong tables and chess boards. A Christmas drawing was half torn off the wall. Photographs with women's first names dotted other parts of the walls.

Books knocked off shelves onto the floor during the bombing raids included the Pentagon Papers and a biography of Senator George McGovern."

A list of rules posted in the main rooms read as follows:

"In the detention rooms every detenees are equal with each other. Anyone does have the right to free thinking, feeling, praying, etc., and no one is permitted to coerce any other into following his own opinion."