

## Reports of Bomb Damage

# U. S. Witnesses in Hanoi

New York

Four Americans who were in Hanoi during intensive United States bombing attacks on the North Vietnamese capital had seen many damaged nonmilitary facilities, including a prisoner of war camp.

"We saw a hospital, housing developments, residential areas as well as airports shattered and virtually erased," said Telford Taylor, a retired brigadier general who is now a professor of law at Columbia University.

He, folksinger Joan Baez, Barry Romo, national coordinator of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and the Rev. Michael Allen, associate dean of the Yale Divinity School and dean of the Berkeley Divinity School, arrived in the U.S. Sunday night after a two-week stay in North Vietnam.

Their trip was sponsored by the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam.

Appearing at a news conference here, the four said they brought back 600 letters from American POWs in North Vietnam and 30 from men said to be held by the Viet Cong in South Vietnam.

Miss Baez said they had visited a POW camp in Hanoi and seen American pilots repairing a roof caved in during a bombing raid. She said prisoners told her of fellow inmates who had been injured by flying shrapnel and falling debris. She said she did not see or talk to any of the injured men.

One American, she said, appeared shocked and confused about the raids and kept asking her, "What's happening? What happening?" Miss Baez and the others declined to name any of the American prisoners they said they spoke to. They said they feared American reprisals against the men.

Miss Baez later flew to San Francisco, where she was greeted at the airport at about 8:45 p.m. by a small

group of friends and supporters.

"It stinks," she said of the bombing. "My most important function at this point was to have been a witness to that. I have to think now about ways in which I'll be most useful."

She said there were about 55 air raids while she was in Hanoi, and American prisoners of war she talked with were "scared stiff. It was the irony of ironies that the POWs were asking us what's going on. Some of them thought the war was about to be over, and thought that everybody in the world had been betrayed."

Miss Baez hugged her estranged husband, David Harris, played briefly with their young son, Gabriel, and left the airport, presumably for her home in Woodside.

The bombing of the Hanoi-Haiphong areas was halted Sunday by President Nixon after 12 days. It was the most intensive air attack in history, with B-52 bombers used for the first time in

the area.

North Vietnam had reported more than 2000 civilians killed in the raids and accused the U.S. of intentionally hitting non-military facilities. Pentagon and Nixon administration officials denied the charge, saying only military targets were attacked.

During the raids, foreign newsmen and diplomats in Hanoi reported widespread civilian deaths and destruction of nonmilitary property.

Taylor, who was a U. S. prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials, also told of a visit to North Vietnam's largest hospital at Bach Mai.

"The grounds are pock-marked with heavy fresh craters," he said, and buildings are either "completely knocked down or only shells."

The group left the airport last Friday on a Chinese plane. As soon as the plane landed to pick them up, Dean Allen said, an air raid hit the airport. "That plane took off like a bat out of hell," he added.

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