

# Bombs Razed Haiphong Port

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Agence France-Press

HANOI, Jan. 6 — Recent American air raids virtually razed Haiphong's western industrial area on Jan. 3, Vietnam's biggest concentrations of factories and caused widespread destruction in residential areas.

Haiphong municipal officials told journalists that the port city yesterday that between Dec. 22 and 26, the United States made strikes against the port area.

They said 303 persons were killed, including 76 children. There were 822 wounded, they said.

The raids destroyed homes and other buildings, the officials added.

The relatively low casualty toll is explained partly by the eacy of Haiphong's air raid shelters and partly by the fact that almost two-thirds of the population had been evacuated.

The observers saw some miles that had been a desert of mud rubble, metal fragments or white heaps of debris of all kinds.

Six miles from the city there are craters in the paddies, hundreds of feet from any building.

## Hit Saturos

The municipal authorities said the B-52 bombers concentrated on the outlying industrial areas and residential districts. They made about 30 strikes against these areas in successive waves during the night of Dec. 22, and again during the night of Dec. 26, while fighter-bombers hit at the center of the city and the port.

The results of the bombing attacks can be seen in immense oval-shaped scars of destruction two of them one to two miles long and almost one mile wide.

There are five oval craters on the edge of the Haiphong area to the southwest.

To the west the village of Hungvong and the district of Thyongly were hit by the bombers. The district is Haiphong's main industrial area and had been raided, but less severely damaged, by B-52s last April.

One major plant produced cement and is now only a blackened ruin. There were also oil storage tanks, now split open, a food factory and a shipyard. Today, they present a picture of torn metal and mud.

roofed houses where about 30,000 people once lived.

Another of the bombed districts is Anbin, a working class district where hundreds of houses were built last year. Next to the district, a brick building, half of which was seen today.

Children searched through the rubble with their bare hands, and were also helping to clear the debris. A young boy said he had seen a dead child and another child who was still alive. The child was lying on the ground, surrounded by other debris.

At the Soviet consulate, a guard is standing at two entrances. There is a sign in the street that has been damaged.

The municipal theater square, in the center of the city, was hit by several bombs that smashed into the central lawn and flower garden. One of them struck a shelter and rescue workers later recovered 11 dead and 15 wounded.

The port itself appears deserted, its warehouses empty. At least three warehouses have been destroyed.

There are about 10 freighters docked at the harbor, including the Polish ship, Josef Conrad, which was hit by a bomb killing four sailors.

Other ships were damaged as was a Haiphong Chinese secondary school, a movie house and a hospital.

The hospital had been evacuated Dec. 22, a day before two bombs hit the building. One landed in the courtyard and the other flattened half of the contagious diseases ward. Several other parts of the building were damaged by the blast but no one was injured.

## Chinese Refugees

HONG KONG, Jan. 6 (AP) — Seventy-three refugees from China were arrested entering Hong Kong this week, a record number for this time of year, reliable sources said today. No explanation was given.

*The mud also covered straw*