

SFChronicle JAN 20 1973
**2nd Pilot
 Charged in
 War Refusal**

Washington

The Air Force disclosed yesterday that a second pilot has been charged with refusing to fly a combat mission against North Vietnam during the heavy Christmas bombing campaign.

The officer was identified as Captain Dwight J. Evans Jr., 26, pilot of an F-4 Phantom fighter - bomber assigned to the 34th Tactical Fighter Squadron in Thailand.

Evans and Captain Michael J. Heck, 30, of Chula Vista, Calif., a B-52 pilot, are accused of failing to obey a lawful order and face possible courts-martial.

The Strategic Air Command, in a January 10 announcement of the charges against Heck, described him as "the first and only" B-52 crew member to refuse to fly combat missions in the Vietnam War.

REFUSAL

Heck, a veteran of 275 combat missions, said he refused to go on because the "goals do not justify the mass destruction and killing."

In acknowledging charges against Evans, the Air Force also revealed two pre-

vious cases of B-52 crewmen in the U.S. having been discharged as conscientious objectors. However, the Air Force stood by its assertion that no other B-52 pilots in Southeast Asia refused orders. The Air Force denied earlier reports that other bomber crewmen were quietly sent home after re-

fusing to fly missions over Hanoi.

The Air Force said Evans balked at bombing North Vietnam on December 18, the day President Nixon launched the big air attacks against the Hanoi-Haiphong area. Heck refused December 27, three days before the attacks were cut back to below the 20th parallel.

Evans' home town is not available and the Air Force refused to release details of his combat record.

ASSIGNMENTS

Both pilots are now assigned to administrative duties at their bases in Thailand while undergoing investigation to determine whether they can be brought to trial.

Conviction could bring a two-year prison sentence.

A total of 19 other officers "had been removed from combat flying in Southeast Asia" over the past nine years "for fear of flying," the Air Force also disclosed. They received either honorable or general discharges.

In the U.S., there was a B-52 crewman at Beale Air Force Base, Calif., who was alerted for combat in Southeast Asia in 1969 and applied for release as a conscientious objector. The Air Force said he was discharged. And there were the cases of three B-52 crewmen at Fairchild AFB, Wash., including a navigator and two electronic warfare officers who applied for conscientious objector status in 1971. The Air Force said all three, members of the 92nd Bomb Wing, were "honorably separated" from the service.