

## 2 Women

# Burned

POWS

## Alive; POW

CLARK AIR BASE (Philippines) — (AP) — Two American women missionaries were burned alive by Communist troops after they were captured in Laos five months ago, according to a Canadian missionary captured with them.

The charred bodies of the women, Evelyn Anderson, 25, and Beatrice Kosin, 35, were found in the burned-out ruins of Kengkok, a town in southern Laos, a few days after their capture. Their hands were tied behind their backs.

The Canadian, Lloyd Oppel, 20, of British Columbia, told newsmen before he boarded a hospital plane for America he would not make any statement before he returned to Canada.

One of the crowd of people at the airport to bid farewell to the last group of POWs was Canadian-born Mrs. Shirly Jones, wife of a civilian employe at Clark.

Mrs. Jones said she was unable to see Oppel in the hospital. But she said she learned how the two women missionaries died from Oppel's escort officer, who had been told by Oppel.

"Mr. Oppel, the two women and another man (Samuel A. Mattix, 29, of Centralia, Wash.) were captured when the Viet Cong took the village," she said.

"They tied the two women up in a nipa (thatched grass) hut and set fire to it. The women were still alive and were tied to poles," Mrs. Jones said she was told.

Miss Anderson, 25, was from Quincy, Mich.; and Miss Kosin, 35, was from Fort Washakie, Wyo. They represented the Christian Missions of Many Lands.