

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Newspaper articles

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issued by NVN~~

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North Vietnam Says 1,318 Died in the Raids on Hanoi

By The Associated Press

TOKYO, Jan. 4 — North Vietnam said today that a preliminary survey showed that 1,318 persons were killed and 1,261 wounded by United States bombing raids on Hanoi last month.

A report by a special investigating committee said, as quoted by the Hanoi radio, that in 10 days of bombing starting Dec. 18 American planes made more than 1,000 sorties against the North Vietnamese capital, among them 500 B-52 attacks.

It said that 40,000 tons of bombs were dropped and that populated areas were devastated.

In Washington, Jerry W. Friedheim, the Pentagon spokesman, said that, with peace talks under way in Paris, "we will not be responding to these statements." He said that the Pentagon hoped to be able to issue a report on the raids shortly.

The North Vietnamese report asserted that United States bombs had razed what it described as economic, social, educational and cultural establishments in 353 places. Some areas, it said, were hit as many as 10 times.

Haiphong Damage Cited

The workers' quarter of An Duong was said to have been obliterated on Dec. 21 by 600 bombs dropped by B-52's.

The report said that the

tacked Dec. 26 by 30 B-52 bombers" and 215 people were killed and 257 wounded. The investigation said that 534 houses were destroyed, 1,200 others damaged and "dozens of food shops, pagodas, temples, kindergartens, reading room and libraries ravaged."

The Hanoi radio said that United States planes "did not hesitate" to destroy the 940-bed Bach Mai hospital, where, it asserted, 28 were killed and 22 wounded.

In the port city of Haiphong, the report said, 250 civilian facilities or areas were hit during the raids.

Hanoi Building New Shelters

HANOI, North Vietnam, Jan. 4. (Agence France-Presse) — While Vietnam peace talks have resumed in Paris, the people of Hanoi are building new air-raid shelters.

Yokes and oxcarts are indispensable equipment. Some sidewalks are piled with bricks carried in baskets by women workers and stacked by them. Sand and cement are similarly transported.

On some main streets the sidewalks are full of gaping holes where people are busy digging, laying bricks and filling sandbags.

Officials have been telling foreigners that from Dec. 18 to Dec. 29 about 100,000 tons of bombs were dropped on North Vietnam by American

wide in this section, destroying 200 homes and schools, day nurseries, kindergartens, food shops and grocery stores. Casualties in this area were put at 135 killed and 126 wounded.

According to the report, "Kham Thien Street, with nearly 30,000 inhabitants, most of them working people, was at-

environs. Yet, the officials have added, only a few weeks earlier Washington was proclaiming to the world that peace was "at hand."

For the last few days the North Vietnamese press has been urging the populace to keep building individual and collective shelters.

My Jan 5 1973 NVA - USA aerial