



air force news

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HQ SEVENTH AIR FORCE

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**Tan Son
Nhut
edition**

Rockets hit Tan Son Nhut



In the biggest attack since the Tet Offensive of 1968, an estimated 53 rockets slammed into Tan Son Nhut Air Base and adjoining areas early Wednesday morning.

One USAF sergeant was killed and two other U.S. airmen injured in the attack. Eight Vietnamese were killed and 33 wounded within a four mile radius of the base.

Approximately 28 of the rockets, all confirmed to be Soviet-built, 122 mm type, landed on Tan Son Nhut beginning at 7:40 a.m. during the morning rush hour traffic. The last rocket impacted at approximately 9:10 a.m.

Two USAF HH-43 helicopters were damaged by shrapnel at "Pedro", Det. 14, 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service. The U.S. airman was killed at this location by flying shrapnel, when a rocket landed about 20 feet away.

Numerous buildings on the base were damaged by the six-foot, 102-pound rockets and subsequent flying shrapnel.

Injuries were kept to a minimum because personnel quickly took cover when the alert siren sounded and "Giant Voice" and LoneStar (101.7 FM) announced that the base was on "Red Alert."

The rocket attack was the first at Tan Son Nhut since April 14 when one rocket hit the base and two landed in a village near the