Pho Phouang, village chief of Ban Bouak.

"Once in 1968 a jet dropped butterfly bombs on our village. They were very small like a leaf. If you stepped on one it would explode and blow off your leg. These bombs came in two different colors, green and brown like the color of a dried leaf. No they weren't the same as bombi. (At this point, Pho Phouang cut two leaves one green and one dry and brown in order to show me what the butterfly bombs were like.) They only dopped these bombs once. And only one plane. But there were many. A thousand. More than a thousand. Ten buffalo were killed from stepping on the butterfly bombs. When the jet dropped the butterfly bombs there were no soldiers in the whole area. The bombs were very dangerous but we learned that it was safe to pick them up by one of the three corners. If we touched either of the wrong corners the bombs would explode and we would be killed. Yes, they were very dangerous."
Than Chanphet, Sub-district chief of Tasseng Thai

"All of the villagers had to live in holes for two years—1968 and 1969. The planes shot everything, the houses and the buffalo, just everything, it all burned.

In 1966 only the T-28s came to bomb. But by 1968 there were more jets than T-28s. There were two kinds of jets, F105s and F-4s. In those last two years we had to stay in our holes all the time. We dug a hole 10 meters into the side of the mountain.

"The planes shot up our village 12 times, T-28s and jets. On the day that nine villagers died there were 22 planes. First there was an Eller 19 which shot smoke bombs. Then there were two T-28s and the rest were jets. They came at 9 in the morning and shot all through the day. There were no soldiers around, only villagers. A large group of villagers, maybe 30 people, had gone to get rice in the ricefield near Ban Chuay. When they were returning to the holes a spotter plane saw three of four of the villagers and must have ordered the jets. They probably thought that there were many people in the hills on both sides of the valley. That day they dropped mostly 150 kilogram bombs. Twelve of the villagers were caught in the valley halfway between the ricefield and the holes...

"The planes didn't know if they were villagers or soldiers or what. So they just shot, shot everything. Our life was very difficult. We didn't have any money or gold or houses. Just our own bodies and our lives. We were lucky not to lose our lives."
Thao Khan, Ban Bouak.

Thao Khan described how his 15 year old daughter, Nang Khong, was killed by a 500 kilogram bomb dropped by a jet in December, 1967.

"Three children had gone to look for fish when the plane came. But the plane, an F-4 jet, dropped big bombs in the area of the hole where they had hidden. The children were afraid and they ran out and Nang Khong was killed and the other two were wounded."
Nai Moui, Ban Sang.

Nai Moui described how his ten year old son Thao Bouala was wounded by bombs from a jet in March 1969.

"Thao Bouala fled for the hole when the jets came but he didn't make it. He was hit by fragments from a bomb. He survived but lost the use of his left arm. The bomb was about the size of a bucket. There were no soldiers in the village.

"At that time the planes were always around. From seven in the morning until four in the afternoon there were always planes around, mostly F105 and F-4-hat jets. The F-28's didn't bomb very much then."

( Nai Moui then drew a picture of the type of plane which dropped the bombs which incapacitated his son.)
Xieng Pa, Ban Bouak.

Xieng Pa described how his two daughters, 3 year old Nang Khamphanh and 2 year old Nang Phon were killed in May 1967 by "big bombs" dropped by a jet.

"Most of the adults in the village had gone to work in the upland ricefield. Khamphanh and Phon were in the village. They hid in a hole when the jets came. But the jets dropped big, big bombs--500 kilogram bombs--and both of my daughters were killed. There were no soldiers around. They never came to stay in the village."
A��田难民 drew these pictures of what he called "bomb" or anti-personnel bombs. Refugees reported that these kinds of bombs were dropped repeatedly throughout the plains of Jars.
Chan Panya, Ban Phou Houm.
Chan Panya described how his 13 year-old son, Thao Van was killed by a bomb fragment on April 11, 1968. "The planes shot up the houses but my son did not reach the holes in time. There were no soldiers in the village."
Sao Chanta drew this picture in the dust. It was this kind of plane which dropped the 'big bombs' which killed her husband and three daughters.
Sao Chanta told how her husband and three daughters, Sao Bouavan 12, Sao Bouathong 9, and Sao Tui 8, were killed during the summer of 1968 or 1969. She wasn't sure which year it was. The father and three children had gone to work in a ricefield north of their village. They hid in a hole when the planes came, but the planes dropped "big bombs" near the hole. All four were killed by bomb fragments. Sao Chanta said that the planes which dropped the bombs were jets, but she didn't know which kind. "There were no soldiers in our village when the planes bombed."
Nai Phouang, village chief of Ban Bouak.

This village chief described how his 12 year old daughter, Sao Ba, and his young nephew, Bai Enly, were killed by big bombs from T-28 aircraft in December 1965.

"The children had been playing in the sun. Sao Ba was wearing a white blouse. The plane saw them playing in an open space. We had told the children not to run back to the big holes when the planes came because they would see where the big shelters were and then everyone would die. Both Sao Ba and Bai Enly were killed. There were no soldiers around.

Life was very difficult then because the planes came all the time. We had to live with the pigs and eat with the dogs."