To the men in Hanoi, the American prisoners are so many pawns for their politicians to use in bargaining with the Americans.

The fact that wives and children of these men are causing heartbreaking publicity in America is, to the North Vietnamese, just an added bonus.

Some of the prisoners of Hanoi have been held for six years. The conditions of their confinement is harsh. They are not afforded the common necessities of life.

The more concern there is in America for the release of the prisoners, the more valuable they will become in the twisted minds of the Hanoi commissars. The American airmen are being held to ransom by the North Vietnamese who hope to use them to blackmail America into ending the war in the south.

No amount of pleading by the dedicated young men and women of Pensacola will persuade the Vietnamese Communists to release any more than a token handful of the pitiful prisoners of this long and deadlocked conflict.

Another Genghis!

FOR hundreds of years, the name of Genghis Khan has echoed through history as a byword for cruelty and butchery.

In the 20th century, it seems a Pakistani namesake of the great killer is determined to out-do his grisly predecessor.

Pakistani General Tikka Khan, with modern nicety known as the “pacifier” of rebellious East Pakistan — is commanding fierce Punjabi and Pathan troops who are running wild in a fearsome bloodbath.

There is overwhelming evidence of murder, of senseless slaughter of children, of rape, of prostitution organised by and for senior army officers, of wholesale, maddened, crazed, blood-thirsty, determined massacre.

Genghis Khan, for all his bloody faults, at least built up an empire in the course of his career.

Tikka Khan and his gang of uniformed cut-throats will be remembered for trying to destroy the people of half a nation.

the high summer of success eight months ago when hijackers were screeching down on to Airstrip" north of Amman operated their own checkpoints main northern highway and, if claiming Jordan as the new least posed a direct challenge to Hussein.

Now, after being mauled in civil war and forced out of Irbid in April, the remnants 4,000 commandos in all between Jordanian armour and ruins that have seen greater. Excavated in the 1920s, Jerash was one of the world's most preserved Graeco-Roman prov. Its foundations are believed to be established by Alexander the Great 330 B.C., added to by his successors, Ptolemaic rulers of Graeco-Egypt, who elevated Jerash to wealth, power and the Romans 60 years before Christ.

For three centuries the city was a luxury and prestige of membe league of Decapolis cities whir along the caravan routes carrying silk, incense, gems and ivory to the Tigris. Then, as Rome did Jerash.

Fortification

The Crusaders under Baldwin the temple into garrisons an other structures with fortifications. Today much of the city still vast oval forum, two public baths a theatre and thirteen Byzantine towers. The remains of the remains and Jordan now in possible some in Jerash, would be remarkable if the unscathed.

Small-arms fighting took place in Jerash, Sir...