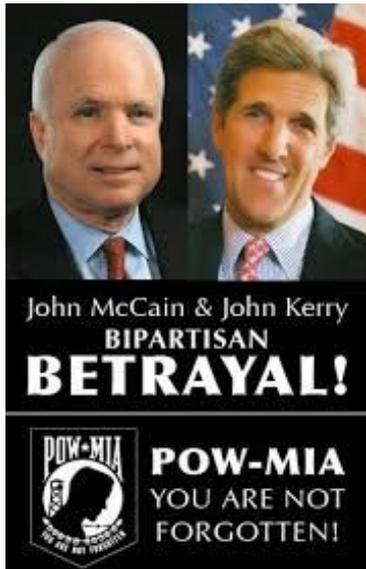


<http://www.mccainbetrayspows.org/#/home-2/4530778844>



McCain betrays POW/MIAs

Conservative Republicans explain why Sen. McCain obstructs POW/MIA investigations

Nearly everyone interviewed in this non-partisan film, which seeks to get to the truth of our missing service personnel, levied various charges against Senator McCain and this was coming from a very broad spectrum of citizens with no ulterior political motives. All have sacrificed much of their time and energy to find the truth of what happened to our POW/MIAs.

The documentary film does not deal with many of the charges levied against John McCain because this is not the intent of the film. What is pertinent to the film in regards to Sen. McCain is that he obstructed U.S. Senate investigations into POW/MIA affairs.

Regardless of what Senator McCain may or may not have done during his years of captivity in adherence to or violation of POW Code of Conduct, what cannot be refuted is that he is considered one of the most notable obstacles to seeking out the truth of our POW/MIAs.

As unlikely as that assertion seems on the surface, a deeper look into the facts reveals a story that puts into question the POW hero image Senator McCain has aggressively and ceaselessly groomed to mythic proportions since he was repatriated from Vietnam.

This story is weaved together by former POWs, Special Forces and combat veterans, authors, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, conservative Republican members of Congress, POW/MIA national organization heads, and POW/MIA family members and advocates.

This might be viewed as a "Swiftboat" attack on Sen. McCain if it weren't for the fact that this sentiment is shared by such an honorable, broad-based mix of citizens who arguably would not stand on the same platform advocating for any other issue.

This website is dedicated to all our POW/MIAs that have never returned home. It is also dedicated to their family members and all those who continue to fight for their cause. You are not forgotten. Your loved ones are not forgotten. And John McCain's betrayal is not forgotten.

Whenever criticism is lodged against Sen. John McCain's military record or his post-war involvement with the POW/MIA issue, many are quick to dismiss the detractors as liberals, anti-American, anti-military and many more superlatives that would fill this page.

Such arguments are easily dismissed here because the "detractors" featured on this page are mostly respected, conservative Republicans and many are military veterans with stellar service records.

None of these prominent Americans can be off-handedly dismissed by anyone who considers him/herself to be intelligent and judicious individuals.

One characteristic all of these people have in common is their dedication to serving the cause of America's Prisoners-of-War and Missing-in-Action.

Ross Perot

"McCain is the classic opportunist--he's always reaching for attention and glory. Other POWs won't even sit at the same table with him. There's evidence, evidence, evidence and McCain was adamant about shutting down anything to do with recovering POWs."

fmr. Rep. Bob (B-1 Bomber) Dornan (R-CA)

"Where are those (propaganda broadcasts)? Believe me, they're in the archives of the museum; the bragging, phony museum in Hanoi. McCain could not have wanted those to turn up in the middle of a Presidential race."

Ted Sampley

Vietnam Veteran, Green Beret - Special Forces. Founding member of the National Alliance of POW/MIA Families

"For years, McCain has been an unchecked master at manipulating an overly friendly and biased news media. The former POW turned Congressman, turned U.S. Senator, has managed to gloss over his failures as a pilot and his collaborations with the enemy to become America's POW-hero presidential candidate."

Col. Earl Hopper (ret.),

Army Airborne Officer, Intelligence Officer, Korean War, Vietnam War Special Forces

"McCain was responsible for the deaths of fellow American Pilots in Vietnam"

"Within five or seven days after being captured McCain made a deal to trade medical care in exchange for highly classified military information including specific details of the package routes for bombing North Vietnam. He also told them the primary bombing targets. We lost 60% more aircraft and men because of the information McCain gave to the North Vietnamese. After about a month things had gotten so bad that we called off bombing North Vietnam."

Click [HERE](#) to watch video of Col. Hopper interview.

Al Santoli,

fmr. Republican, Congressional Chief of Staff, Vietnam War veteran, author, Honor Bound: American Prisoners Of War In Southeast Asia, 1961-1973 (Vice Adm. James Stockdale has called the work "a monumental achievement, not only in its depth and breadth of treatment but in its honesty and accuracy.")

"Even POWs we knew who wanted to see their own debriefings were not permitted to because of the McCain regulation. (re: The Truth Bill which would punish politicians and bureaucrats for impeding investigations on POW/MIAs) The bill passed unanimously in the House and in the Senate only one Senator got in the way of opposing the bill. That Senator was John McCain. (through McCain's crafty manipulation, the bill was not passed.)"

Garnett "Bill" Bell,

mr. Chief of the U.S. Office for POW/MIA Affairs, 33-year Army veteran, Vietnam Veteran (2 tours) Awarded Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Cross of Gallantry. One of the last American's to leave the fall of Saigon.

McCain had roughly 20 hours in combat. Since McCain got 28 medals that's equal to about a medal-and-a-half for each hour he spent in combat. There were infantry guys -- grunts on the ground -- who had more than 7,000 hours in combat and I can tell you that there were times and situations where I'm sure a prison cell would have looked pretty good to them by comparison. The question really is how many guys got that number of medals for NOT being shot down.

Tracy Usry,

fmr. U.S. Senate (Republican) Minority Staff Chief Investigator, U.S. Army Warrant Officer (ret.)

"In no instance would he ever, ever give in and say there were POWs left behind and my first question is, how would he know or not know. So, that which is reasonable he never exhibited and I don't know why. Maybe it's a guilt complex. Maybe he promised the Vietnamese something...maybe he actually believes that. That would be the saddest of all."

Sgt. Maj. John "Top" Holland (ret.),

WWII - U.S. Marines, Infantry; Korean War - U.S. Army Paratrooper; Vietnam War - Special Forces

"Col Ted Guy, USAF, another returned POW, was in the process of drawing-up charges against McCain for giving Order of Battle information to the enemy in exchange for individual medical care that was not available to the other POW's; for freely making radio broadcasts for the enemy, knowing they were being used to affect the morale of American troops, and for violating the 'Code of Conduct for Prisoners of War', by giving unauthorized interviews to foreign nationals.

McCain got off the hook when President Nixon gave a 'blanket pardon' to all who had committed offenses while incarcerated as POW's during the Vietnam War."

Click [HERE](#) to read the 1970 McCain interview in the Havana Granma

Dr. Joseph Douglass, Jr.,

Defense Analyst, Author of Betrayed: The Story of America's Missing POWs and The Soviet Theater Nuclear Offensive

Sen. McCain seemed to be one of the people (on the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs) who was an obstructionist, who was not interested in the truth coming out, who tried to attack people rather than learn what they had to say. He probably did more harm to get the truth out than any single person through his efforts to block the release of classified intelligence.

FACT SHEET: Military record of John Sidney McCain III

Both McCain III's father and grandfather were Admirals in the United States Navy. His father Admiral John S. "Junior" McCain was commander of U.S. forces in Europe - later commander of American forces in Vietnam while McCain III was being held prisoner of war. His grandfather John S. McCain, Sr. commanded naval aviation at the Battle of Okinawa in 1945. McCain III, like his father and grandfather, also attended the United States Naval Academy.

McCain III finished near the bottom of his graduating class in 1958.

McCain III lost five U.S. Navy aircraft:

- 1 - Student pilot McCain III lost jet number one in 1958 when he plunged into Corpus Christi Bay while practicing landings.
- 2 - Pilot McCain III lost another plane two years later while he was deployed in the Mediterranean. "Flying too low over the Iberian Peninsula, he took out some power lines which led to a spate of newspaper stories in which he was predictably identified as the son of an admiral.
- 3 - Pilot McCain III lost number three in 1965 when he was returning from flying a Navy trainer solo to Philadelphia for an Army-Navy football game. McCain III radioed, "I've got a flameout" and ejected at one thousand feet. The plane crashed to the ground and McCain III floated to a deserted beach.

4 - Combat pilot McCain III lost his fourth on July 29, 1967, soon after he was assigned to the USS Forrestal as an A-4 Skyhawk combat pilot. While waiting his turn for takeoff, an accidentally fired rocket slammed into McCain's plane. He escaped from the burning aircraft, but the explosions that followed killed 134 sailors, destroyed at least 20 aircraft, and threatened to sink the ship.

5 - Combat pilot McCain III lost a fifth plane three months later (Oct. 26, 1967) during his 23rd mission over North Vietnam when he failed to avoid a surface-to-air missile. McCain III ejected from the plane breaking both arms and a leg in the process and subsequently parachuted into Truc Bach Lake near Hanoi.

After being pulled from the lake by the North Vietnamese, McCain III was bayoneted in his left foot and shoulder and struck by a rifle butt. He was then transported to the Hoa Lo Prison, also known as the Hanoi Hilton.

1973 New York Daily News labeled POW McCain III a "PW Songbird." On McCain III's fourth day of being denied medical treatment, slapped, and threatened with death by the communist (they were demanding military information in exchange for medical treatment), McCain III broke and told his interrogator, "O.K., I'll give you military information if you will take me to the hospital." U.S. News and World Report, May 14, 1973 article written by former POW John McCain.

It was then that the communist learned that McCain III's father was Admiral John S. McCain, the soon-to-be commander of all U.S. Forces in the Pacific. The Vietnamese rushed McCain III to Gai Lam military hospital (U.S. government documents), a medical facility normally unavailable for U.S. POWs.

By Nov. 9, 1967 (U.S. government documents) Hanoi press was quoting McCain III describing his mission including the number of aircraft in his flight, information about rescue ships, and the order of which U.S. attacks would take place.

While in still in North Vietnam's military hospital, McCain III gave an interview to prominent French television reporter Francois Chalais for a series titled Life in Hanoi. Chalais' interview with McCain III was aired in Europe.

Vietnamese doctors operated on McCain's Leg in early December, 1967. Six weeks after he was shot down, McCain was taken from the hospital and delivered to a U.S. POW camp.

In May of 1968, McCain III allowed himself to be interviewed by two North Vietnamese generals at separate times." May 14, 1973 article written by former POW John McCain.

In August 1968, other POWs learned for the first time that John McCain III had been taken prisoner.

On June 5, 1969, the New York Daily News reported in an article headlined Reds Say PW Songbird Is Pilot Son of Admiral, ". . . Hanoi has aired a broadcast in which the pilot son of United States Commander in the Pacific, Adm. John McCain, purportedly admits to having bombed civilian targets in North Vietnam and praises medical treatment he has received since being taken prisoner . . ."

The Washington Post explained McCain III's broadcast: "The English-Language broadcast beamed at South Vietnam was one of a series using American prisoners. It was in response to a plea by Defense Secretary Melvin S. Laird, May 19, that North Vietnam treat prisoners according to the humanitarian standards set forth by the Geneva Convention."

In 1970, McCain III agreed to an interview with Dr. Fernando Barral, a Spanish psychiatrist who was living in Cuba at the time. The meeting between Barral and McCain III (which was photographed by the Vietnamese) took place away from the prison at the office of the Committee for Foreign Cultural Relations in Hanoi (declassified government document). During the meeting, POW McCain sipped coffee and ate oranges and cakes with the Cuban.

While talking with Barral, McCain III further seriously violated the military Code of Conduct by failing to evade answering questions "to the utmost of his ability" when he, according to government documents, helped Barral by answering questions in Spanish, a language McCain had learned in school. The interview was published in the in January 1970.

McCain III was released from North Vietnam March 15, 1973.

In 1993, during one of his many trips back to Hanoi, McCain asked the Vietnamese not to make public any records they hold pertaining to returned U.S. POWs. McCain III claims, that while a POW, he tried to kill himself.

McCain III was awarded "medals for valor" equal to nearly a medal-and-a-half for each hour he spent in combat. For 23 combat missions (an estimated 20 hours over enemy territory), the U.S. Navy awarded McCain III, the son of famous admirals, a Silver Star, a Legion of Merit for Valor, a Distinguished Flying Cross, three Bronze Stars, two Commendation medals plus two Purple Hearts and a dozen service medals.

"McCain had roughly 20 hours in combat," explains Bill Bell, a veteran of Vietnam and former chief of the U.S. Office for POW/MIA Affairs -- the first official U.S. representative in Vietnam since the 1973 fall of Saigon. "Since McCain got 28 medals," Bell continued, "that's equal to about a medal-and-a-half for each hour he spent in combat. There were infantry guys -- grunts on the ground -- who had more than 7,000 hours in combat and I can tell you that there were times and situations where I'm sure a prison cell would have looked pretty good to them by comparison. The question really is how many guys got that number of medals for NOT being shot down."

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