

"My name is Smith, Richard E., major, FR57992. I was born in [name indistinct], Mississippi, 17 January 1935. I was flying an F-105 out of the 333d Tactical Fighter Squadron, (1334th) Wing, Ta Khli Air Force Base, Thailand. My job was flight leader for the whole flight. I was shot down by (135-millimeter)."

Capture of McCain, Rice

Re 1 VNA International Service in English 0537 GMT 27 Oct 67 B

[Text] Hanoi--Among the many U.S. pilots captured in Hanoi yesterday was John Sydney McCain, Lieutenant Commander of the U.S. Navy.

His plane, a phantom, was blasted down by a ground-to-air missile before it could strike. It crashed on the compound of a factory. The parachute fell into the Truc Bach lake inside the capital city. From an observation post on the shore of the lake, a shout rang out, get him, get him! The homeguard units and people's defense and security forces nearby echoed the shout, get him, get him right away! From a corner of the lake someone threw into the water two big bamboo tubes. Bui Duc Hai, a second lieutenant of the people's security service, threw himself into the water and pushed the bamboos forward while swimming. He was followed by many other young men.

From the other side of the lake many people who happened to be on the scene also swam toward the fallen air pirate. The latter, with his cumbersome outfit, sank immediately after reaching the water. Four of his captors hauled him up. Two of them locked both his arms while the other two put his head on a bamboo tube. From the pilot's inside pocket a man took out eight pistol bullets and a signal radio.

Finally, Johnson's navy man was pulled out of the water near a children's swimming pool in the Ba Dinh district. The water dripping at each staggering step he made was tinted with navy blue from the survival dye box he carried. McCain's right leg was still bleeding from a wound he received while in the plane. He was bandaged by a nurse from the Ba Dinh District before being taken to his place of detention.

Meanwhile, other U.S. jetplanes were making frenzied stunts over Hanoi to dodge the deadly groundfire.

John Sydney McCain today appears in NHAN DAN in two photos, one of which shows his capture on Truc Bach lake. The paper carries a photo of another captured U.S. pilot, Charles Donald Rice, lieutenant JO, U.S. Navy, service number 710266.

AFP Correspondent's Report

Paris AFP in English 2016 GMT 26 Oct 67 (FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

[Text] Hanoi--Bernard-Joseph Cabanes Dispatch--U.S. aircraft today attacked Hanoi for the second day running, concentrating on the electric power plant. But several rockets landed in other parts of the city as well, destroying houses and inflicting what was believed to be higher casualties than yesterday's raid. Missiles brought down two of the attacking planes over the center of the city. An open parachute was seen floating amid the puffs of exploding antiaircraft shells. An air-to-ground missile struck a house in the Rue Street district, subjected to bombing last August. The house was 50 yards (meters) from the French diplomatic delegation where shrapnel fell into the garden today. No French were injured.

The American planes came in several waves in the 35-minute raid that began at 1145 local time. Work began quickly after the raid, the clearing away of rubble as blood-covered survivors emerged from ruins and nearby one-man holes used as bomb shelters here. Another alert came 20 minutes after the end of the first raid. It was the fourth alert since the beginning of the morning. Each was marked by the sound of bombs exploding and antiaircraft fire in an area 15 to 18 miles (25 to 30 kilometers) around the capital.