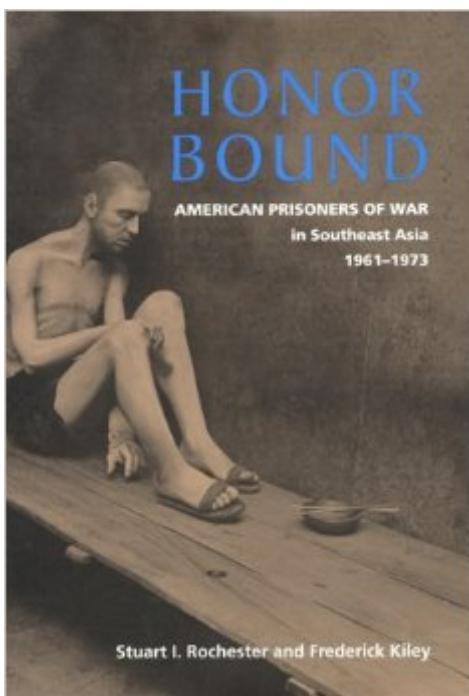


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# Honor Bound: American Prisoners Of War In Southeast Asia, 1961-1973



## **Synopsis**

Two respected scholars offer a comprehensive, balanced, and authoritative account of what happened to the eight hundred Americans captured in Southeast Asia.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

A brilliant, highly accessible account of the history of the POWs in Southeast Asia. The text is very readable and concisely written. The photographs alone speak volumes and the maps provide a nice illustrative point of reference. Before you read any other POW-related book, take the time to read "Honor Bound" cover to cover. Not only will you feel you are getting to know these men - heroes all - personally, you will gain a brutally clear perception of the conditions these men were forced to endure and the way they managed to maintain their honor and dignity in the face of such terrible adversity. The human element is very strong. This is not, mind you, a book for the weak-stomached. The book is unflinching in its cataloging of the various tortures the POWs underwent, the often rancid food they were forced to subsist on, and the day to day challenges their captors and the climate inflicted upon them. Surprisingly, however, while the reader is horrified, he or she will leave the book strangely uplifted. It reaffirms one's faith in the human spirit and humanity in general.

As a Vietnam veteran and friend of several POW's I found that this book told their story better than any I have read to date. It took me back to times when I sat with those friends and they told me of the terrible times they went through. This book will bring you as close to being able to share in their experience and my visits with my friends as you will ever get.

Thank you to Stuart Rochester and Frederick Kiley, for an unbelievable account of the POW's that served in Viet Nam. This is not an easy book to read, but it is a page-turner. As an American, I am overwhelmed by the sacrifice extended for the freedom I enjoy. My praise for the written words and for the service to our country so clearly evident in this riveting book. G.K. Smith Cape Cod USA

After reading many individual POW memoirs and similar material, it was immediately evident to me that Honor Bound is the premier and defining work on American POW's in Vietnam. For its sheer scope and immensity, this is the best reference material ever composed on this subject. Beginning with history of French occupation in Vietnam and the follow on role of United States involvement, an intimate portrayal is drawn of every aspect of captivity faced by U.S. personnel. In minute detail, Northern and Southern Vietnamese POW camps are put under the microscope revealing the harrowing physical and psychological experiences that affected U.S. servicemen in appalling conditions which equated to a daily battle for survival. Also examined is the known information on captivity in Laos which continues to be controversial even today due to the unknown fates of many Americans still missing in that country. Complimenting the brilliant narrative which leaves nothing to the imagination, Honor Bound contains dozens of excellent photographs, prison maps, generous footnotes, and several appendixes containing Vietnam war data and prisoner information. This book is a lasting tribute to patriots, heroes, and even legends who gave and maintained their very best in continual times of the absolute worst. I highly recommend Honor Bound to everyone interested in accounts of POW captivity. A superb, powerful, and very satisfying reading experience.

This book is a must for anyone who wants a serious library of works on the Vietnam War. This book is not easy or fun to read -- it is 596 pages long, it is detailed, and it contains graphic descriptions of the torture and deprivations inflicted on US POWs in SEAsia. More than that, though, it is a tribute to the human spirit and to the courage of these men.

As the son of a former Viet-Nam Prisoner of War, "Honor Bound" has inspired me and made me proud to know that men like Rochester and Kiley still strive to tell the story of these 20th century heroes. The amazing detail the authors put forth is a testament to their expert ability as historians and their commitment to our country as patriots. I recommend this book to Viet-Nam War buffs and all other citizens alike. If everyone knew this story, our country would be proud of the amazing sacrifices our POW's made for all of us, for freedom, and for honor.

This book tells the story of Vietnam from the background of the war to the release of the prisoners in 1973. It is told dispassionately, but it brought me to tears many times. It stays in my mind: what these men went through, how they survived (or not) mentally and spiritually, the differences between the prisoners in North Vietnam and South Vietnam. It is an amazing book, and should be required reading for anyone studying that era.

An excellent book for the researcher or history buff. The attention to detail, personal thoughts of the returnees, separation of fact and fiction makes this a superb book. It is easy to follow, backed by hundreds of sources from all sides of the "P.O.W. issue." Knowing the "1st edition" was reviewed, edited, and CORRECTED by the returnees for the final printing makes this a "must have" for any library.

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