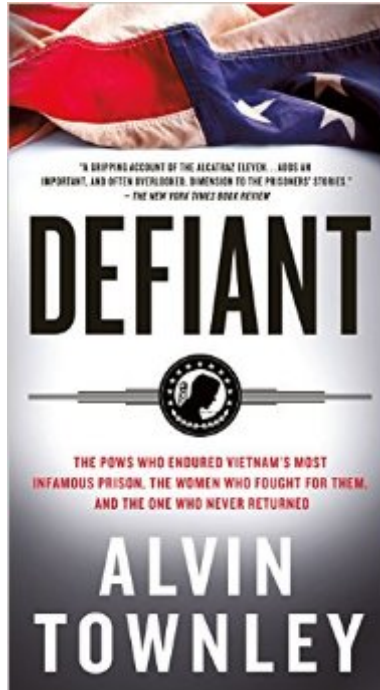


The book was found

Defiant: The POWs Who Endured Vietnam's Most Infamous Prison



Synopsis

Unbroken meets Band of Brothers and then some. Congressman Pete Sessions During the Vietnam War, hundreds of American prisoners-of-war faced years of brutal conditions and horrific torture at the hands of North Vietnamese guards and interrogators who ruthlessly plied them for military intelligence and propaganda. Determined to maintain their Code of Conduct, the POWs developed a powerful underground resistance. To quash it, their captors singled out its eleven leaders, Vietnam's own "dirty dozen," and banished them to an isolated jail that would become known as Alcatraz. None would leave its solitary cells and interrogation rooms unscathed; one would never return. Inspirational. Kirkus Reviews As these men suffered in Hanoi, their wives back at home launched an extraordinary campaign that would ultimately spark the POW/MIA movement. When the survivors of Alcatraz finally returned, one would go on to receive the Medal of Honor, another would become a U.S. Senator, and a third still serves in the U.S. Congress. A story of survival and triumph, courage and brotherhood, Alvin Townley's *Defiant* is a compelling work that no reader will soon forget. A riveting tribute to true American heroes. Senator John McCain, POW (1967-73)

Book Information

Paperback: 640 pages

Publisher: St. Martin's Paperbacks; Reprint edition (August 2, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1250061881

ISBN-13: 978-1250061881

Product Dimensions: 4.4 x 1 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (196 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #267,459 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Military Families #183 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Military > Vietnam War #250 in Books > History > Military > United States > Veterans

Customer Reviews

Defiant is not a book that you will read quickly and or get through in a normal amount of time. Usually it doesn't take me long to devour a book and then post a review, but this book took me forever. Why, you ask? Because I found myself at a loss for the emotional strength to continue

reading at times. The pain and agony that these men went through who were prisoners of the North Vietnamese is just too hard to bear at times. Having lost many friends in Viet Nam I was not sure how I would react to this book. But here goes. Prisoners of war should be treated according to the Geneva Convention. BUT, since this wasn't a war the North Vietnamese decided these prisoners were war criminals, not prisoners of war. Thus they treated them as badly as they could. Torture, solitary confinement, poor food, no health care and then more torture. This was the daily regime of these prisoners. It took its toll. But to read of the men's strong desire to serve their country and make their families, fellow soldiers and their country proud is amazing. They wanted to give up hope. They at times wanted to die. BUT, they never wavered on the desire to stand fast and make America proud. But this book was hard to read because it brought back way too many difficult memories. Then to add to those memories to read how these men were treated just made me angry. Further, to read of the lack of any respect or human dignity being shown by their captors made me wonder what type of human beings communist could be. This book **MUST BE READ** but anyone who wonders about what went on at the Hanoi Hilton and how our men survived. It **MUST BE READ** by anyone who questions the drive and loyalty of a person serving the military.

Growing up in Va. Beach during the 70s, I distinctly remember wearing my mother's POW bracelet to school in 1st grade, even though I had no clue what it really meant. I also vaguely remember Jeremiah Denton's celebrated return (he was stationed in Va. Beach) in 1973. But, aside from reading Denton's "When Hell Was in Session" years ago and the occasional media quip simply reminding us that John McCain was a POW, I really never received a proper understanding of the suffering experienced by American POWs in Vietnam until I read Alvin Townley's **DEFIANT**. Townley's collective account of eleven men who stood united and strong after almost a decade of unimaginable physical and mental torture proved to be an emotional read from beginning to end. Townley's book details the experience of the "Alcatraz Eleven": eleven men who distinguished themselves as being so defiant to their captors that they were transported to a special prison within the POW system specifically designed to break their will by any means necessary. Paralleling the story of the long-term misery of these men is the account of a different misery experienced by their families back home, desperately trying to learn more about the status of their husbands/fathers but encountering frustrating bureaucratic incompetence and red tape. **DEFIANT** is presented chronologically, starting with the first of the "eleven" captured with the remaining men individually brought into the story as they are in-turn captured. Even before the core group of eleven are in the same camp, a hierarchy is established according to military rank and the prisoners are expected to

abide by the US military Code of Conduct which details how the men are to behave (resist) in captivity.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Defiant: The POWs Who Endured Vietnam's Most Infamous Prison The Vietnam War: Soldier Stories: Untold Tales of Soldiers on the Battlefields of the Vietnam War (Vietnam war, soldier stories, Gunship Pilot, Marine Corp, Vietnam History, Vietnam memoirs) Vietnam War: The Vietnam War in 50 Events: From the First Indochina War to the Fall of Saigon (War Books, Vietnam War Books, War History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 6) Marines and Military Law in Vietnam: Trial by Fire - Legal Duty in Combat Zone, War Crime Conviction, POWs, Drugs, Fraggings and Murder, Homicide on Patrol, Racial Conflict, Deserters, Uniform Code of Military Justice: The Most Infamous Pickup Book In The World The \$64 Tomato: How One Man Nearly Lost His Sanity, Spent a Fortune, and Endured an Existential Crisis in the Quest for the Perfect Garden Honor and Betrayal: The Untold Story of the Navy SEALs Who Captured the "Butcher of Fallujah" - and the Shameful Ordeal They Later Endured Enchanted by Vietnam: A Journey of Flavours through Vietnam The Ghosts of Happy Valley: Searching for the Lost World of Africa's Infamous Aristocrats Morbid Curiosity: The Disturbing Demises of the Famous and Infamous Infamous Relations: A Pride And Prejudice "What If?" Tale Infamous Scribblers: The Founding Fathers and the Rowdy Beginnings of American Journalism Escape From Davao: The Forgotten Story of the Most Daring Prison Break of the Pacific War Rescue at Los Banos: The Most Daring Prison Camp Raid of World War II Rescue at Los Baños: The Most Daring Prison Camp Raid of World War II Escape from the Japanese: The Amazing Tale of a POWs Journey From Hong Kong to Freedom Given Up for Dead: American POWs in the Nazi Concentration Camp at Berga War of Vengeance: Acts of Retaliation Against Civil War POWs America's Captives: Treatment of POWs from the Revolutionary War to the War on Terror (Modern War Studies (Hardcover)) Soldiers of Misfortune: Washington's Secret Betrayal of American POWs in the Soviet Union

[Dmca](#)