



BACK TO VIETNAM

Earlier this month, former Vietnam War prisoner of war **Capt. Charlie Plumb** (left) returned to southeast Asia and to the city and places where he was held captive for nearly six years.

South Dakota filmmaker **John Mollison** accompanied Plumb on his journey as part of a documentary that is being produced on Plumb's return to Vietnam.

PHOTO LEFT: Courtesy of Charlie Plumb; ALL OTHER PHOTOS: John Mollison



RIGHT: Vietnam POW, U.S. Navy fighter pilot Captain "Charlie" Plumb comes face to face with the director of the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison system, Mr. Tran Trong Duyet at his Haiphong, Vietnam residence. The meeting was arranged as part of an upcoming episode of "Old Guys and Their Airplanes" featuring the return of Plumb to meet former foes. The photo in the foreground shows Duyet addressing a group of POWs on their release some time in 1973. "It took a long time to come back, but I am glad I did," said Plumb. **ABOVE:** The POW bracelet of Capt. Charlie Plumb, U.S. Navy. Millions of these bracelets were produced during the Vietnam War to help Americans remember the POW plight, each one representing a particular serviceman. The date below the name indicates the date of capture; Plumb was shot down on May 19, 1967.



Plumb presents artwork of the two aircraft that mark his wartime service to the Hoa Lo Prison Museum in Hanoi. The artwork, created by aviation artist and historian John Mollison, shows the F-4B Phantom he was flying when shot down on May 19, 1967 as well as the C-141 Starlifter that he rode upon his release from prison Feb. 18, 1973.



Plumb walks to the spot where he left Hanoi after nearly six years of captivity. Released by the North Vietnamese, Plumb and 19 other American POWs were driven by the North Vietnamese to Gia Lam Airport where they boarded C-141 Starlifter aircraft on Feb. 18, 1973 and flew to Clark, AFB. Nearly 600 POWs were released from February through the end of March in order of their capture. The first flight out of Hanoi took place on Feb. 12 and the last on March 29. "It was good to leave then," Plumb stated. "But it is also good to return today under these better circumstances and friendship." Plumb's return to Vietnam will be documented in a future episode of "Old Guys and Their Airplanes."



LEFT: Plumb visits an all-too-familiar cell block at the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison, now the Hoa Lo Prison Museum in Hanoi, Vietnam. Plumb had vivid memories of the hardships he and nearly 600 fellow American prisoners endured throughout the Vietnam War. **ABOVE:** Plumb talks to an unidentified woman who claimed to have lost her leg as a girl during the December bombing of Ha Noi, 1972. Plumb was impressed with the woman's intelligence and desire for peace and friendship. Later, he remarked that they had both endured excessive hardship during the war and looked forward to better days for future generations.

Shipwreck May Be From Late 1700s

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Scientists using underwater vehicles and sonar have found a shipwreck off the North Carolina coast that may date back to the American Revolution, Duke University said Friday.

The expedition led by Duke marine scientist Cindy Van Dover found the previously unknown wreck in mile-deep waters on July 12 using an underwater robot and a manned submarine.

They've found artifacts including an iron chain, glass bottles, an unglazed pottery jug and navigational instruments including a metal compass. Archaeologists who examined photos of the artifacts say the wreck appears to date back as far as the late 18th century, which would make it a rare find.

"This is an exciting find, and a vivid reminder that even with major advances in our ability to access and explore the ocean, the deep sea holds its secrets close," Van Dover, director of the Duke University Marine Laboratory, said in a news release.

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