# Adm.McCain's Son, Forrestal Survivor, Is Missing in Raid

By R. W. APPLE Jr.
Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Oct. 27—It was almost three months ago that the young, prematurely gray Navy pilot was sitting in a villa in Saigon, sipping a Scotch with friends and recalling the holocaust that he had managed to live through.

He was John Sydney McCain 3d, a lieutenant commander. The day before, he had watched from the cockpit of his Skyhawk attack plane as flames suddenly engulfed the flight deck of the Forrestal, on which his squadron was based.

"It's a difficult thing to say," he remarked after a long time. "But now that I've seen what the bombs and the napalm did to the people on our ship, I'm not so sure that I want to drop any more of that stuff on North Vietnam."

But after a few weeks, when the Forrestal headed back to the East Coast of the United States for major re-

Continued on Page 4, Column 4

### The New York Times

Published: October 28, 1967 Copyright © The New York Times

## Adm. McCain's Son Missing in Raid Over Hanoi

Commander the deck of the Oriskany on new raids.

in July, it may have been beadmiral—four stars—and his father was one, too. No other the American Navy could boast The plane, Hanoi said, crashed terday. such a singular tradition.

the commander of the Ameri-near the power station—and in an air raid. can aircraft carriers in the Pacific during World War II. The second is now the Commander nearby Trucbach Lake. in Chief of United States Naval Forces in Europe.

"I always wanted to be in the Navy," the third John S. Mc-Cain said this summer.

"I was born into it and I never really considered another profession. But I always had trouble with the regimentation."

At the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., the third John S. McCain was constantly in trouble. At the end of his four years, he figured toward the fallen air pirate," he had marched "to Baltimore the broadcast went on. "Four and back seven times" on dis- of his captors hauled him up. ciplinary detail. His hair was Two locked both his arms seldom trimmed and he often while the others put his head wore a rumpled khaki shirt.

Yesterday, two months after afloat." his 30th birthday, Commander McCain was hurled from the which probably started when a steam catapults of the Orisk-rocket smashed into the fuel any into the blue sky over the tank beneath Commander Mc-Gulf of Tonkin for perhaps the Cain's Skyhawk, a friend asked hundredth time. The target was Commander McCain whether he the main power plant in Hanoi, thought capture by the North only a few blocks from the Vietnamese would be more horold French mansion where Ho rible than the carrier fire. Chi Minh lives.

make it. His father was informed chances. We're all professional

Continued From Page 1, Col. 2 tonight by the Defense Depart- military men and I suppose ment that he was missing in that it's our war." McCain action, and the North Vietheaded back to the Gulf of namese—who may have read of Tonkin to fly his Skyhawk from his escape from his burning As he suggested that night tailed account of his capture.

into the compound of a fac-Commander McCain fell into

enemy broadcast went on, "A the name and rank. shout rang out: 'Get him! Get him right away!""

mander McCain had been shot when captured. in the leg while still in his airplane. Before being taken to a detention camp, he was said to have been treated by a nurse for his wounds.

"Many people who happened to be on the scene swam on a bamboo tube to keep him

After the Forrestal blaze,

"No," he said, "I don't think Commander McCain did not so. Pilots get paid to take

#### **Pentagon Confirms Capture**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (Reuplane in July-broadcast a de-ters)-The Pentagon confirmed today that Lieut. Comdr. John The North Vietnamese broad- S. McCain, 3d, described by the cause he had no other trade, cast said that Commander Mc- Hanoi radio as the son of the His grandfather had been a full Cain had been "blasted down commander of United States by a ground-to-air missile be- Naval Forces in Europe, was family in the long history of fore the plane could strike." captured in North Vietnam yes-

Hanoi contended that Com-The first John S. McCain was tory-perhaps the cement plant mander McCain was shot down

> The Pentagon declined to confirm that he was the son of "From an observation post Vice Adm. John S. McCain, sayon the shore of the lake," the ing its policy was to give only

The Vietnam News Agency said that Commander McCain The broadcast said that Com- was bleeding from a leg wound

#### The New Hork Times

Published: October 28, 1967 Copyright © The New York Times