



U.S. Air Force Colonel Hubert Clifford Walker, Jr. (Ret.) Prisoner of War Served in Vietnam, 1968 to 1973

Colonel Hubert Clifford Walker, Jr., arrived at Takhli Royal Thai Air Force Base in Thailand on November 28, 1967, and began flying combat missions for the 41st Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron. He was shot down six weeks later on January 14, 1968. All seven on board were successfully ejected. Walker along with three others landed in a valley where they were immediately captured by the North Vietnamese. According to the prisoners, they were transported separately to Hanoi by foot, bamboo raft and jeep. As they neared the city, each man's treatment grew worse. The civilians abused the men as they were paraded like trophies through towns and villages along the route. Once in the prison system, they were beaten by guards during military interrogation. There was never enough food and water, and medical treatment was rare.

Walker spent 1,886 days or 6 years and 2 months in captivity and was released on March 5, 1973. Upon returning home he found that his wife had filed for divorce while he was a prisoner of war. Walker received a Silver Star for gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force and his outstanding display of professionalism and courage in the face of hostile fire from unfriendly forces.

Walker graduated from the University of Tulsa in 1963. He earned a B.A. in Chemical Education and a B.S. in Mathematics. After graduation he joined the U.S. Air Force and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant through Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas in November 1963. He was then trained as a Deputy Combat Crew Commander for the launch of the Atlas F ICBM, and then went to Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi for Communication Electronics Officer School. After completing Undergraduate Navigator training, he went through Electronic Warfare Officers training school and transitioned to the EB-66C aircraft.

Walker continued his career in the U.S. Force upon his return from Vietnam. He served in various roles in Alabama, West Germany, Greece, and Turkey. In his final role he served as Director of Communications for NATO in Izmir, Turkey. Walker retired from the U.S. Air Force on September 1, 1993. He wears Senior Navigator Wings and has flown as aircrew on the EB-66C Destroyer, C-141 Starlifter, and WC-130H Hercules aircraft.

Walker currently resides in North Bethesda, Maryland, with his wife Viki. They have one son together. Walker has two daughters with his former wife.