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30 March 1973

From: Captain James B. STOCKDALE, USN, [REDACTED]
To: Chief of Naval Personnel

Subj: Report of offenses

Ref: (a) Chapter VII, Manual for Courts-Martial 1969(Rev.)

1. I have recently been repatriated as a prisoner of war, having been detained in that status for approximately seven and one half years by the North Vietnamese.
2. During my period of incarceration I was at all times, and at the various places where I was being held captive, the senior U.S. Navy prisoner of war. At my last place of confinement, where I was held over a period of years with about 300 other U.S. military prisoners of war, the senior officer present and the person who assumed command and who exercised command and established a command structure, all in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members of the Armed Forces of the United States, was Colonel John P. Flynn, U.S. Air Force.
3. In accordance with the foregoing, it is my duty to report that during the course of this time it came to my personal knowledge, or was reported to me in my position in the prison camp command structure, that certain numbers of prisoners, in particular Captain Walter E. Wilber, U.S. Navy, and Lieutenant Colonel Edison W. Miller, U.S. Marine Corps, did on several occasions, knowingly and wilfully, violate the standing orders of Colonel Flynn by submitting certain written documents, making public speeches, and making tapes of speeches, all for use outside the prisoner of war camp and possibly in cooperation with North Vietnamese officials.
4. There were other situations wherein command orders were violated by these men. However, in addition, I have reliable information that they also overtly and purposely incited newly arriving prisoners to violate regulations, and, especially in the case of Captain Wilber, informed on fellow prisoners for violations of North Vietnamese prison camp regulations, to their detriment. It is believed several former prisoners, including Captain Ralph T. Proving, USAF, Colonel John S. Finlay, USAF, Captain Robert J. Schweitzer, USN, Lieutenant Mark Cartlev, USN, Lieutenant Commander John S. McCain, III, USN, Commander Gerald L. Coffee, USN, and Captain Allen C. Brady, USN, have knowledge of these incidents.
5. Due to the circumstances of my confinement, it was not possible for me to gather all of the requisite evidence which is necessary for a

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comprehensive and fully accurate preferral of charges under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

6. Accordingly, it is requested that the Chief of Naval Personnel take appropriate action to initiate an investigation of these matters, and that results of this investigation be provided to me for my use in preferral of charges.

James B. Stockdale
James B. Stockdale
Captain, U. S. Navy

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