

Extra Credit for *Robbie Risner: Resist to the Utmost*

About POWs in Vietnam

Book: Hirsch, James S. *Two Souls Indivisible: The Friendship That Saved Two POWs in Vietnam*. Boston : Houghton Mifflin, 2004.

Book: Myers, Walter Dean. *A Place Called Heartbreak: A Story of Vietnam*. Austin , Tex. : Raintree Steck-Vaughn, 1993.

Website: [Vietnam-era POWs & MIAs](#). Maintained by the Library of Congress.

Website: [Biographies of POWs & MIAs](#). Maintained by POW Network.

About the Vietnam War

Book: Dowsell, Paul. *The Vietnam War*. Milwaukee , WI : World Almanac Library, 2002.

Book: Dudley, William. (Ed.) *The Vietnam War: Opposing Viewpoints*. San Diego , CA : Greenhaven Press,1998.

Book: Murray, Stuart. *Vietnam War*. New York : DK Pub., 2005.

About the Geneva Conventions

Website: [Geneva Conventions](#). Maintained by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Website: [Reference Guide to the Geneva Conventions](#). Maintained by the Society of Professional Journalists.

About Torture and Human Rights Abuses

Book: Hunt, Lynn Avery. *Inventing Human Rights: A History*. New York : Norton, 2007.

Book: Kellaway, Jean. *The History of Torture and Execution*. New York : Lyons Press, 2000.

Website: [Torture Has a Long History of Not Working](#). Maintained by LiveScience.com.

Website: [International Law of Torture](#). From the Harvard Human Rights Journal.

Website: [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#). Adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1948.

Website: [Human Rights](#). Key principles from the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL), U.S. Dept. of State.

About the Air Force and the Air Force Cross

Book: Hamilton, John. *The Air Force*. Edina , MN : ABDO Pub., 2007.

Book: Camelo, Wilson. *The U.S. Air Force and Military Careers*. Berkeley Heights , NJ : Enslow Pub., c2006.

Book: Donovan, Sandra. *The U.S. Air Force*. Minneapolis : Lerner Publications, 2005.

Website: [U.S. Air Force](#). Official website.

Website: [Recipients of the Air Force Cross](#).

Fun Stuff

[Robinson Risner Criss Cross](#)

[Robinson Risner Word Search](#)

Discussion Questions

- How did Robbie become a prisoner of war (POW) to the North Vietnamese?
- What sequence of events led to the Feb. 7, 1971 “Church Riot”?
- What leadership qualities did Robbie display during his years in the Hanoi Hilton? What did he find was the key to keeping up the morale of the captured Americans?
- What do you think motivated Robbie to take the kind of risks that resulted in physical and psychological torture? Would you have behaved in the same way if you found yourself in his situation? Why or why not?
- How was Robbie able to withstand hours of brutal torture without revealing key information to the North Vietnamese? Name three things that gave him the strength to endure.
- Mahatma Gandhi said, “You can chain me, you can torture me, you can even destroy this body, but you can never imprison my mind.” How does the sentiment expressed in Gandhi’s quote relate to Robbie Risner’s experiences?

