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NEW ORLEANS

*People in the News***Ex-POW Assails
U.S. Treatment**

A soldier who spent more than two years in Viet Cong captivity before being released last month says he is being held in tighter security at an Army hospital than he ever was by the enemy.

"Hell, they had me more guarded here than they did with the VC," S.Sgt. **John Sexton Jr.** of Warren, Mich., told the Detroit Free Press in a copyrighted interview.

"At least I got away from the Viet Cong twice, but here there's no getting out," he said. He is a patient at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Aurora, Colo.

According to the Free Press story, Sexton complained bitterly of his closely guarded treatment at the hospital, where he is being treated for malnutrition and other injuries and illnesses picked up in captivity.

"I was finally free and I wanted to get out and meet people," he said. "I got upset and said a few things. They sent the psych head (psychiatrist) in and I explained that a lot of things bothered me and I wanted someone to talk to. Not some old woman, but a girl, you know, my own age."

He said that after talking to the psychiatrist, he was allowed to visit other patients

in the hospital, but only in the company of an Army nurse.

Sexton, 23, also said he was unhappy about Army attempts to keep him from meeting **H. Ross Perot**, a Dallas millionaire who has been active in efforts to free prisoners of war.

"I really wanted to see the man because my parents told me what he'd done for the prisoners," Sexton said. "The Army tried to say he shouldn't come up because he might have had bad ideas or something. That really got me mad because I wanted to talk to the guy."

"They finally let him in, but I got the impression they told him to hurry up and run off."