
Gartley Downed by U.S. Missile--Navy

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — The Navy said yesterday Lt. Mark Gartley, one of three prisoners released by Hanoi in September, was shot down by a missile fired by another U.S. pilot during a dogfight with North Vietnamese Mig fighters.

Gartley was shot down Aug. 17, 1968, over North Vietnam. At the time he was an F4 Phantom jet pilot assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Constellation.

"The best evidence available indicates that Lt. Gartley's plane was hit and downed by a missile fired from a friendly aircraft during a dogfight with North Vietnamese Migs," a Navy spokesman said.

It was the first confirmed instance of a type of accident military officials long have predicted could happen during a dogfight.

"You get a heat-seeking missile in the air, and it doesn't differentiate whose tail it goes up," one military source said.
