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P.O.W. Is Welcomed
By Band Near Elmira

ELMIRA, N.Y., Feb. 24 (AP) — Navy Capt. W. Eugene Wilber, a prisoner of war in North Vietnam for four and a half years, was welcomed home yesterday by a band from his high school alma mater and a group of Boy Scouts who rolled out a red carpet.

"I've always felt this was our home and that the people of this area would have taken care of my family," Captain Wilber told a happy crowd of 3,000 gathered at the Chemung County Airport outside Elmira to greet him. "It was a great comfort to me to know my wife and children were here with you," he said.

Captain Wilber, 43 years old, who was in the first group of American POW's to be released, came home for a weekend visit with his wife, Jeanne, and his four children. They live in Coryland, Pa., 20 miles south of here. "I want to say to you that I love you, and may God bless you," he told the crowd.
