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CAPTAIN WANAT AT HIS NEWS CONFERENCE
'Really not a Christian thing to say'

Ex-POW Denies Red Brutality

Phoenixville, Pa.

Army Captain George W. Wanat Jr., a former prisoner of war, said yesterday a statement attributed to him regarding bitterness toward his Viet Cong captors was "not the Christian thing to say."

Wanat, 27, of Foxboro, Mass., held a news conference at the Valley Forge Army Hospital and was asked about statements made by his father, George Wanat Sr., after his son's release.

The elder Wanat told reporters his son had told him his captors attempted to break him and had chained

him in cages with ants and snakes for five months.

The elder Wanat said his son told him:

"I'd kill those bastards if I ever saw them again."

Wanat was asked at his news conference if this was "an accurate quote."

Wanat replied:

"I guess that's really not a Christian thing to say."

He said the report that he was put in a cage with snakes and ants was not true and there was no kind of physical punishment.

Wanat is being treated at the hospital for malaria and malnutrition.

United Press