



UPI Telephoto

MAJOR FLOYD THOMPSON AT VALLEY FORGE HOSPITAL
He was captured by the Viet Cong in March, 1964

Longest-Held Is Back

McGuire AFB, N.J.

Army major Floyd J. Thompson, the longest held American military prisoner of war, led 11 fellow repatriated prisoners off the plane at McGuire AFB yesterday to an enthusiastic reception from several hundred well wishers.

"The most beautiful thing," said Thompson, "is to know that our 'Star Spangled Banner yet waves over the land of the free and the home of the brave.' God bless you all."

The Green Beret's parents live in Lodi, N.J., his wife lives in Hudson, Mass., with the couple's four children, the youngest of whom was born March 27, 1964, the day after Thompson was captured by the Viet Cong.

Thompson, 39, was released just ten days short of nine years in captivity. He and four other POWs later were sent to Valley Forge Army Hospital in Phoenixville, Pa.

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