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Hayden Blasts POWs as 'Liars'

Los Angeles

Anti-war activist Tom Hayden, husband of actress Jane Fonda, yesterday labeled returning American prisoners of war liars, hypocrites and pawns.

Hayden, who was one of the "Chicago Seven," said neither he nor his wife felt hurt by statements from the returnees that the anti-war movement prolonged the war or worsened conditions for the prisoners.

"If they think the peace movement prolonged the war, they ought to ask themselves what the Pentagon does," Hayden said.

"I think on the whole, these guys are liars, hypocrites and above all, pawns

of President Nixon," he said.

"They are liars if they suggest that they were abused by the Vietnamese. By all accounts, they were the best-treated prisoners in any war in history.

"They are hypocrites because they are trying to pose as heroes when they killed many more people than they would care to mention," Hayden went on.

"They are pawns because they are being used by the President to make evil good and black white. They are being used to make professional killers look like heroes. Nixon is turning them into heroes to cover up the fact that he really lost the war," Hayden said.

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