

Navy Captain Walter Wilbur, who made anti-war broadcasts while a prisoner in North Vietnam, said today that he was never tortured or beaten and never saw or heard others being mistreated. Wilbur acknowledged that some of his fellow prisoners told him that they had been tortured. He said in an interview, "They sounded convincing but no one had any evidence to show." He said that conditions had improved for the prisoners by the time he arrived in 1968 and that the treatment he received was better than he expected. Wilbur pointed out, "There are 600 stories about life in prison and everyone's is a little different."

Referring to a statement that Jane Fonda has called the POW allegations of torture lies, Wilbur said, "If I were Jane Fonda I wouldn't have made that statement."

He said he was only threatened orally during the 20 months he spent in solitary confinement. When asked about rumors that fellow prisoners are making charges against him for possible collaboration with the enemy, Wilbur answered, "I don't think there is any truth to that."

[Complete.]