

Son Tay Photos



Son Tây prison camp. The walled compound is center left next to the river.

This is a US Government reconnaissance photograph of the Son Tay prison camp in (then) North Vietnam, around October or early November 1970 (date not known). It is a US government created image and is not subject to copyright. Found at the URL [\[1\] Georgewilliamherbert](#) 10:00, 12 March 2006 (UTC)



Practice formation showing helicopters drafting on their Combat Talon navigation escort. The HH-3E used in the assault is third from the right as viewed.

Son Tay Raid - n 1970 U.S. forces attempted to rescue POWs from captivity in North Vietnam. American officials decided a daring operation in the heart of North Vietnam was worth the risk, and President Richard Nixon asked the Pentagon to explore "some unconventional rescue ideas."

USAF Museum <http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/shared/media/photodb/web/071106-F-1234S-001.jpg>



A U.S. Air Force Sikorsky HH-3E *Jolly Green Giant* helicopter (s/n 66-13290) of the 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron taking off from Da Nang Air Base, South Vietnam, in 1968.

Scan from Dana Bell, *Air War over Vietnam, Volume II*. Arms and Armour Press, London, Harrisburg (PA), 1983, [ISBN 0853685738](#), p. 18, cites U.S. Air Force as source.

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Son Tay raiders in one of the helicopters used for the raid. *Blueboy* assault group aboard *Banana* HH-3E at the start of the mission. CPT Richard Meadows is seated in the left foreground. [\[91\]](#)[\[92\]](#)[\[n47\]](#)

<http://www.sontayraider.com/SontayRaiderPreparationforinsertion.htm>

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HH-3 Banana 1 deliberately crash landed in Son Tay camp

HH-3 *Banana* in prison compound looking east. The guard tower is directly over the east entrance gate.

<http://www.hurlburt.af.mil/shared/media/photodb/photos/071120-F-6420S-003.JPG>



Wreckage of HH-3 *Banana* looking toward west compound wall, with the river beyond



Equipment left behind by Son Tây raiders.

Equipment left behind by Son Tay raiders put on display by the North Vietnamese

<http://www.hurlburt.af.mil/shared/media/photodb/photos/071120-F-6420S-005.JPG>



Post-raid [Oval Office](#) debriefing of Simons and Manor (3rd and 4th from left respectively)