From the hundreds of brave Americans held captive during the Vietnam War, the North Vietnamese singled out the eleven most uncooperative, influential, and subversive – Vietnam’s own Dirty Dozen. These leaders were exiled to a dreadful prison called Alcatraz, where despite torture and isolation, the leadership, resilience, and defiance of the “Alcatraz Eleven” became legend.

While North Vietnam imprisoned these men for more than seven years, their remarkable wives soldiered on at home; some didn’t learn their husbands’ fate for years. These women struggled with the U.S. and North Vietnamese governments alike, finally breaking official policy to start a nationwide movement to bring their loved ones home. Their legacy lives on in the National League of POW/MIA Families and its ubiquitous black-and-white flag.

DEFIANT recounts the epic and inspiring triumph of courage, faith, and honor in the darkest of circumstances.

Advance praise for DEFIANT

“DEFIANT is a riveting tribute to the unyielding men who endured years of brutal captivity as POWs in Vietnam and the families they left behind. The men of the “Alcatraz Eleven” are true American heroes and their extraordinary stories will serve as an inspiration for generations to come.” – Senator John McCain, POW, 1967-1973

“These heroic men and women remind us how courage, devotion, and faith can triumph even in the darkest of times. In DEFIANT, Alvin Townley masterfully tells the inspirational and unforgettable story of our Vietnam POWs and the Alcatraz Eleven.” – President Jimmy Carter

“Alvin Townley's story of the courage, valor and honor of eleven indomitable POWs and their wives is a new American classic that will be read as long as the breezes kiss Old Glory. As I read it I wept.”
– Stephen Coonts, New York Times best-selling author

“DEFIANT is Unbroken meets Band of Brothers – and then some.” – Representative Pete Sessions
Best-selling author Alvin Townley has traveled the world to discover powerful stories of inspiration, adventure, and purpose. His journeys have led to his nationally-acclaimed books, *Legacy of Honor*, *Spirit of Adventure*, *Fly Navy*, and *DEFIANT*. His books have garnered praise from President Jimmy Carter, Secretary Robert Gates, Peyton Manning, Michael Bloomberg, Tom Wolfe, John McCain, and many others. A graduate of Washington & Lee University, he lives in his hometown of Atlanta, Georgia.

**Contacts**

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National book tour

To share the powerful and important story of America’s Vietnam POWs, Alvin Townley and a group of POWs will embark on a national book tour, beginning February 4, 2014. The tour will include numerous civic, corporate, university, museum, and military/veteran-related events from coast-to-coast. For more information, contact Suzanne@AlvinTownley.com.

What Defiant and our POWs can teach us

- How to endure and move beyond difficult trials and achieve long-term success
- How to lead others honorably toward a goal, even amidst daunting circumstances
- The value of faith and the importance of character and purpose
- The value of teamwork, humor, communication, and brotherhood
- How to persevere, to forgive, and to be resilient

Sample events and audiences

- Leadership and ethics forums
- Civic group meetings
- Corporate meetings; client development events
- Military and veterans groups/events
- Faith-based audiences
- University history, ethics, leadership classes/events
- Military, history, and aviation museums and organizations

POW speakers and panels

Alvin Townley is partnering with numerous former POWs to deliver keynote speeches and participate on panel discussions, thus adding personal perspective to Defiant’s message. This format has received powerful acclaim and is an available option. See the 2013 Tailhook panel discussion at: http://tinyurl.com/POWpanel

Alvin Townley with POW panelists at 2013 Navy Tailhook Convention.

DEFIANT
AND THE ONE WHO NEVER RETURNED
THE WOMEN WHO FOUGHT FOR THEIR
VIETNAM'S MOST INFAMOUS PRISONERS

by Alvin Townley

Advance praise for Defiant

"George W. P. Mahon, author of The Last Great War: A History of the Korean War

"Defiant is an inspiring story of courage, dedication, and sacrifice. Alvin Townley's vivid narrative captures the harrowing experiences of the women who fought for their loved ones. A must-read for anyone interested in understanding the impact of the Vietnam War on American society."

-James Fallows, author of The Next America: The Battle for the Soul of an Urban Nation"