

**Praise for HERO FOUND**

"Dengler's actual POW experiences are the centerpiece of the book, and, thanks to Henderson's storytelling skill, these scenes often read like a first-rate suspense novel...poignant in its details. An engaging tale of a harrowing POW experience." -- *Kirkus Reviews*

"In **HERO FOUND**, Bruce Henderson's writing is meticulous and compassionate, the kind of writing that comes from observing a moment in history up close, wondering about it for decades and then returning to the scene to understand it once and for all." Amanda Ripley, *Time*

"Dramatic and powerful...Any American who has ever gone to war or known anyone who has will be deeply moved by this unforgettable story of escape and survival." --John Warner, former U.S. Senator

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Dear Colleague:

In February 1966, Ltjg. Dieter Dengler was shot down over "neutral Laos," crashing in the heart of territory controlled by the communist Pathet Lao and North Vietnamese army. Dengler found himself on the wrong side of the Annam Cordillera mountain range, with 80 miles or so of inhospitable plains and jungles to reach the coast of the Gulf of Tonkin, in which his aircraft carrier *Ranger* steamed. As news of the shootdown spread aboard the warship, there was widespread agreement that the missing pilot -- capable, daring, and prepared -- would somehow make it back alive. The German-born pilot was already a legend at the Navy's Survival Evasion Resistance Escape school in the California desert, where he had set a record by breaking out from a mock POW camp three times.

**HERO FOUND: The Greatest POW Escape of the Vietnam War (Harper/Smithsonian, July 2010)** is the dramatic true story-- made famous in acclaimed director Werner Herzog's feature film, *Rescue Dawn*, and documentary, *Little Dieter Needs to Fly*--of this extraordinary U.S. Navy pilot who led a mass escape from a POW camp deep inside Laos, becoming the longest-held American to escape captivity during the Vietnam War. It is a tale of courage and survival against impossible odds.

**Bruce Henderson** served with Dengler on the carrier *Ranger* off the coast of Vietnam, and they became friends after his miraculous escape. They planned to write a book together but Dengler died in 2001, leaving Henderson to tell the story of this larger-than-life Navy hero. This book is his tribute.

Henderson is the author or co-author of more than twenty nonfiction books, including the #1 NYT hardcover *AND THE SEA WILL TELL* (with Vincent Bugliosi) and *DOWN TO THE SEA: An Epic Story of Naval Disaster and Heroism in World War II* (Smithsonian, Fall 07). During the Vietnam War, Henderson served as a U.S. Navy Seventh Fleet weatherman (1965-67). He is a former newspaper reporter and magazine writer, and has taught nonfiction writing at several California universities. He can be found on the web at [www.BruceHendersonBooks.com](http://www.BruceHendersonBooks.com).

I hope you'll consider **HERO FOUND** for special review and/or feature coverage. Please don't hesitate to get in touch for more information.

All best,

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