

The Horoscope of John McCain

By Bill Meridian

John Sidney McCain was born on August 29, 1936 at 9 am EST in Coco Solo Air Base in Panama. His birth time, however, is likely earlier as we will see.

He is well-known as a warrior and is said to have a short temper. He was a wrestler and a lightweight boxer and became known for clashes with authority figures. Naturally, an astrologer would first look at the position of Mars, which we find at 12 Leo 19 in the 10th house, ruler of the 7th house. Adding in the Uranian planets, we see Zeus at 14 Leo and Kronos at 14 Taurus. McCain's dad and grand dad (Kronos represents authority figures) were admirals, and Zeus is symbolic of fire, explosions and machinery. Kronos also rules elevation or heights. It is no wonder that McCain became a naval fighter pilot.

We can see this potent combination in action in his life in 1967. McCain was almost killed in action on July 29 of that year while serving on the carrier Forrestal, operating in the Gulf of Tonkin. The Forrestal fire occurred when a rocket accidentally launched across the carrier's deck and hit planes, including McCain's. McCain escaped from his burning jet and was trying to help another pilot escape when a bomb exploded (the video of this event is on YouTube). He was struck in the legs and chest by shrapnel. The flames killed 134 sailors and took 24 hours to control. John McCain's capture and imprisonment began on October 26, 1967. He was flying his a mission over North Vietnam, when his plane was shot down by a Soviet missile over Hanoi. McCain broke both arms and a leg, and then nearly drowned when he parachuted into a lake. A mob beat him, crushing his shoulder with the butt of a rifle and bayoneting him. He was then transported to Hanoi's main prison, nicknamed the "Hanoi Hilton" by American POWs.

This was certainly a memorable ordeal. In 1967, his progressed MC was moving over Mars and Zeus. His natal birth time at 9 am is likely too late. A birth time of 8:46 to 8:36 is more likely for several reasons. The latter time places his progressed MC on Mars and Zeus in 1967 more exactly than does his 9 am time. But, the single most active degree in the span that encompasses Mars and Zeus is 10 Leo 53. This degree contacts many midpoints, bringing Mars/Uranus and Kronos into the picture. Note that he was involved in a sudden fire and explosion and was brought down from his Kronos heights. Another reason to favor this earlier time and this degree is because there was an eclipse in the autumn of 1967 at 9 Scorpio, closely opposite his natal Uranus, making it the 'hottest' of the planets in the grouping. This 8:36 am birth time would place his natal MC at 10 Cancer 50, the north helio Node of Jupiter, which would explain his popularity and public image, as does Bill Clinton's MC near the same degree. An 8:46 birth time also fits the 1967 incidents by solar arc, but it gives him an MC is less descriptive of his general success in life. This 8:46 MC is square to Hades and does not describe McCain's success as well as an MC conjunct the north helio node of Jupiter. Thus, 8:36 appears to be the best time to use.

All of the birth times under consideration show that the Uranian planets Hades and Admetos are opposite the natal ascendant, certainly descriptive of confinement and

torture. Hades opposing the ascendant also suggests some unsavory associates. This became apparent from 1987 to 1989 when McCain underwent a federal investigation as a member of the "Keating Five," a group of senators who were accused of improperly intervening with federal regulators on behalf of Charles H. Keating Jr. He was a bank chairman whose Lincoln Savings & Loan Association eventually became one of the biggest failures in the S&L disasters of the late 1980s. He was eventually cleared of the charges, although investigators declared that he had exercised "poor judgment" by meeting with the regulators. He must steer clear of unsavory associates, but this will likely be difficult.

His Sun at 6 Virgo is conjunct the Uranian Apollon at 11 Virgo, a positive combination that symbolizes the success of his father and grandfather as admirals, a likely motivation for his own quest for fame. It also explains why he moved so much early in his life. His dad was in the military, and Apollon explains why he has traveled far and wide. His Sun is also only half a degree from Cupido, the planet of integration, thereby representing groups and organizations. McCain is the ideal company or organizational man. His Mercury is within one degree of the Uranian planet Poseidon, a fortunate combination that brings great mental clarity. But this pair is square the Node, so it is difficult for McCain to understand the needs of others. Saturn in the 6th suggests health difficulties and problems with his subordinates. Saturn opposes Venus, suggesting a lack of sensitivity in personal relationships, and an indication of skin afflictions such as the skin cancer that he has been treated for. But Venus also rules treaties and agreements, so McCain will likely be a poor negotiator, too rigid in his dealings. This is not the only sign of female problems; his Moon at 27 Capricorn is opposite Pluto in the 10th at 28 Cancer. Women in his life can be possessive and controlling, and this can affect his reputation because the Moon rules the 10th. His Moon also sits on the Uranus/Hades midpoint, a most difficult combination suggesting that difficulties with women will be a major problem, whether they are health issues of the women or indiscretions on his part. Moon in Capricorn is emotionally stiff and restrictive.

During the primaries in the spring of 2008, it was suggested that he does not grasp economic principles. This appears to be reflected by the ruler of the 8th, Venus, opposing Saturn. The ruler of the 2nd, Pluto, opposes the Moon. Jupiter squares Neptune. These afflictions likely represent balance of payments and deficit hassles. He is likely to choose the optimistic way out, supporting more spending and inflation. But, Apollon is the planet of free trade, and it is conjunct his Sun. He will support free trade agreements, but his only business experience was as director of public relations with an Arizona beer distributor.

He certainly possesses the leadership abilities, fire and zeal to be a leader. In fact, he is likely to become temperamental and to react too quickly. He gets mixed planetary grades on the economy. With Chiron in the 9th, he is likely to be a maverick in foreign relations, tending to react without thinking. He will be more supportive of social programs than most people imagine.

