INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT

RB-50 Loss
29 July 1953

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HQ AFMPC/DPMC
RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150

#384

SAFLLI/CAPT KEHOE/57361/Betty/Nov 19 GOULET

Dear Mr. Forsythe:

This responds to your inquiry in behalf of Mr. Raymond G. Goulet concerning the status of his brother, Airman First Class Roland E. Goulet, who was declared missing in action during the Korean War.

The Department of Defense (DOD) is aware of Reverend Lindstrom and the articles released by him concerning members who were unaccounted for during the Korean War. While we do not believe his integrity is in question, we have, however, continued to make clear the official United States Government position regarding our missing servicemen. No information or intelligence reports from any source have been received to indicate that any of these men are alive and held captive in any foreign country. Regrettably, however, Reverend Lindstrom, with his public statements, continues to generate false hopes and increase the anxiety of those families concerned.

During August 1953, the Department of State issued a series of protests to the Soviet Government concerning the shooting down of the RB-50 aircraft on which Airman Goulet was a crew member, and requested that it undertake an investigation regarding any surviving members. The response to these representations was a denial that the Soviet Government rescued any survivors or had any knowledge of their whereabouts. The United States Government, in a subsequent note delivered on October 9, 1954, presented a formal diplomatic claim against the Soviet Government concerning the shooting down of this aircraft. In reply, the Soviet Government, on December 31, 1954, again stated that no information was available concerning the fate of this crew or the aircraft.

As a result of continued reports from persons freed from Soviet imprisonment, our government again (on July 16, 1956) specifically requested information from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the possibility of their holding members of air crews or any other Americans. The Soviet Government replied on August 13, 1956, stating that a careful investigation revealed no American from the Air Force or Naval Air Force was on Soviet territory.

The feelings and concern of Mr. Goulet for his brother are understandable, particularly, since no remains were recovered; however, the family was kept fully informed of all

AFDPMCA:MURPHY

known circumstances from the time Airman Coulet was reported missing on July 29, 1953 until the presumptive finding of death was made and his status was changed on November 15, 1955.

Mr. Coulet may be assured that the government continues to be alert to any possible new information, investigating all leads and suggestions, and seeking information through all available channels; however, neither the Department of State nor the DOD, to date, has ever received any reliable information or intelligence to indicate that any of these crew members are alive and held prisoner by the Soviet Union. We regret that we cannot provide hope by way of additional information.

Sincerely,

JOHN W. FARR, Lt Colonel, USAF
Congressional Inquiry Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

CONST CORRES

Attachment

Honorable Edwin B. Forsythe

House of Representatives

DPMSC/Major Ballard/3805/Drafter-Pack/cw/29 Apr 74

DPM

29 APR 1974

Commander H. H. Hayes, USN (Retired)
[redacted]

Dear Commander Hayes

The Office of the Secretary of the Air Force has asked that I reply to your letter of 19 April 1974 concerning Staff Sergeant Donald G. Hill.

Sergeant Hill was an electronics countermeasures operator aboard an RB-50 aircraft on a routine navigational training mission over the sea of Japan when he was reported missing on 19 July 1953. The aircraft, with a crew of 17, was shot down by a Russian MIG-15 approximately forty miles east of the Siberian Coast. Search efforts recovered one survivor and the remains of two other crew members. The survivor stated that one member did not leave the RB-50 and died in the crash. The Soviets denied any knowledge of the fate of any crew member. On 15 November 1955, the missing status of Sergeant Hill and the other missing crew members was terminated by a presumptive finding of death. No additional information from any source, official or unofficial, has ever been received regarding the fate of Sergeant Hill and the other missing crew members. Since he was reported missing and subsequently declared deceased over twenty years ago, it is extremely doubtful that any more information will be received pertaining to him.

While we are unable to determine Reverend Lindstrom's reasons for publicly stating his views, or on what information his remarks may be based, we consider his claim to be unfounded. Regrettably, his declaration has had a tendency to generate false hopes or to increase the anxiety of those families concerned.

Your concern for our Air Force families is appreciated.

Sincerely

/S/

L. DAVIS
B. GEN

DISTRIBUTION:
AFMPC/DPMSC Coord Cy
SAF/OS
AF/CVAE
AF/DP
AF/DPM
AFMPC/DPMSC Stybk Cy

19 April 1974

The Honorable John L. McLucas
Secretary of the Air Force
Washington, D. C. 20330

Re: HILL, Donald George, S/Sgt USAF (Deceased)

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Recently Mrs. Harrie Hill, mother of the above serviceman, requested that I assist her in trying to determine if the Air Force has obtained any additional information regarding her son who was lost (when his plane was shot down over the Sea of Japan on 29 July 1953) and subsequently declared dead in accordance with existing statutes.

Her request was precipitated by a letter from a Mrs. Betty Woods whose son was also a crewmember on the aircraft, and the enclosed newspaper clipping sent by Mrs. Woods, which apparently appeared in a number of newspapers in the southeastern part of the United States sometime in February of this year.

Undoubtedly your Department is aware of Rev. Lindstrom's work and statements and I know his allegations have been made previously. I am also aware that the Air Force and the State Department have conducted exhaustive investigations of this incident, and the sensitive nature of the subject; however, I know too, your concern in assisting people like Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Woods in their efforts to find a conclusive answer to their dilemna over the status of their sons.

Please convey to me any information or observations you have which can be released at this time and I will discuss this with Mrs. Hill, who is now nearly 80 years of age (Don was raised by Mr. and Mrs. Hill and later adopted by them.)

Thank you for your assistance in this matter, I remain

Sincerely yours,

H. H. Hayes
CDR, CHC, USN, RET.

HHH:ae

Pastor Says USSR Holds Servicemen

PARIS (AP) — An American pastor said Saturday he has documents purporting to show that a number of U.S. servicemen are being held in slave labor camps in eastern Russia.

The Rev. Paul Lindstrom, executive director of the Illinois based Christian Defense League, said the servivemen were crewmen of a U.S. bomber shot down by Russian jets in July 1953 over the Sea of Japan.

The information on the Americans came from "an individual within a Communist embassy in Algiers" who had access to "files and correspondence concerning prisoner matters," Lindstrom said.

The pastor did not specify what documents he himself had or disclose identities of the Americans.

The Pentagon confirms the plane was shot down and said one person was rescued and the other 16 crew members were presumed dead.

Lindstrom, in a telephone interview, said: "We know some of them are still alive and working in a coal mining operation." The exact number and the identities of the survivors were not known, he said.

The servicemen were being held in a cluster of five camps near the Sea of Japan where Hungarians, East Germans and Russian Jews also are imprisoned, he said. Lindstrom named the camps as Bogoshi, Yeska, Komsomolsk, Gandalsond Wangar.

The Americans, as far as he knew, had never been put on trial, Lindstrom said.

"There are other Americans at a concentration camp ... between Elgen and Debin on the Kolyma river," Lindstrom said. "They apparently have been sentenced and then State Department knows about them."

The Christian Defense League has been involved in tracking down prisoners since 1968 and has spent "considerable sums of money" obtaining information on U.S. prisoners in Russia and Southeast Asia, Lindstrom said.

He returned to Paris from Algiers on Friday and is to go to the United States Sunday. He said his organization will ask Illinois congressmen to begin a campaign of pressure to get the Nixon administration to do something about getting the prisoners released.

e Act of 7 March 1942, PL 490, 77th
legation of the Secretary of the Air
nds subject person to be dead. He was

ISSIONED SERVICE

ACTIVE DUTY		TYPE/REASON FOR SEPARATION
FROM E	TO F	G
953. For the purpose stated in said November 1955.		

REMARKS

Home address at time of enlistment; [redacted]
[redacted] Date and place of birth:
18 March 1924, Great Falls, Montana. Last duty organization: 6920th Security Group, APO 994, San Francisco, California. Attached to 91st Strategic Reconnaissance

(See Reverse Side)

TIME LOST (Inclusive dates)		
FROM	TO	NO. DAYS
None		

TO:

Mr. Harrie E. Hill
Room 1, Funk Bldg
Olympia, Wash.

DATE

6 AUG 1959

AUTHENTICATION

J. L. TARR
Colonel, USAF
Director of Administrative Services

DD FORM 13

PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED. AFCAS-9-7A/CBP/hs

C/6/SAFLLI/MR WILSON/57201/25 Mar 74/dld

WOODS JAMES H AIRMAN (DECEASED)

APR 1 1974

Dear Mr. Burke:

On February 19, 1974, you again inquired in behalf of Mrs. Coleen Hinker relative to the status of Airman James H. Woods, (Deceased).

There has been no further information concerning Airman Woods since our letter to you of April 4, 1973. As previously stated, he was reported missing and subsequently declared deceased over 20 years ago, and it is extremely doubtful that any more information will be received pertaining to him. While we are unable to determine the Reverend Lindstrom's reasons for publicly stating his views, or on what information his remarks may be based, we consider his claim to be unfounded. Regretably, his declaration has had a tendency to generate false hopes or to increase the anxiety of those families concerned.

Your concern for our Air Force families is appreciated.

Sincerely,

E. ARCHIE NeSMITH, JR., Colonel, USAF
Congressional Inquiry Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

cons ti corresp

Attachment

Honorable J. Herbert Burke

House of Representatives

CMBK BR I
AF/DPMSC

DPMEA-3-6 DATAFAX

SAF/LL: Mr Wilson A2C James E. Woods AF/DPMSCA/Maj Ballard/bp/28 Feb 1974
Deceased X3805

1. Reference is made to correspondence dated 8 February 1974 addressed to Congressman Burke from his constituent, Mrs Colleen Winker, sister of Airman Woods. Your suspense: 7 March 1974.

2. Proposed reply:

a. There has been no further information concerning Airman Woods since Colonel NeSmith wrote to you on 4 April 1973. As previously stated, since Airman Woods was reported missing and subsequently declared deceased over 20 years ago, it is extremely doubtful that any more information will be received pertaining to him.

b. While we are unable to determine Reverend Lindstrom's reasons for publicly stating his views, or on what information his remarks may be based, we consider his claim to be unfounded. Regrettably, his declaration has had a tendency to generate false hopes or to increase the anxiety of those families concerned.

c. Your concern for our Air Force families is appreciated.

3. FOR SAF/LL INFORMATION ONLY: Airman Woods was the left gunner aboard an RB-50 aircraft on a routine navigational training mission over the Sea of Japan when he was reported missing on 29 July 1953. The aircraft, with a crew of 17, was shot down by a Russian MIG-15 approximately 40 miles east of the Siberian coast. Search efforts recovered one survivor and the remains of two other crew members. The survivor stated that one member did not leave the RB-50 and died in the crash. The Soviets denied any knowledge of the fate of any crew member. On 15 November 1955, the missing status of Airman Woods and the other missing crew members was terminated by a presumptive

Airman James E. Woods cont'

finding of death.

3. To the extent required, this paper has been coordinated with interested DCS/Personnel Staff agencies. No further coordination is required.

A. W. GRATCH, Colonel, USAF
Casualty Services
Asst DCS/Personnel for Mil Pers

Data Sought On U. S. Flyer

MOSCOW, Aug. 31 (AP)—A California member of Congress discussed with a high Soviet official yesterday the shooting down of American planes near the Soviet borders. He was told: "It is doubtful if you need worry about such incidents in the future."

Representative Hillings, Republican of California, asked Deputy Foreign Minister Valerian Zorin specifically for any information on United States Air Force Maj. Francesco J. Tejeda of Pomona, Calif., one of 13 crewmen of a B-50, missing since the plane was shot down over the Sea of Japan July 29, 1953. Three others who were aboard the plane died and one was rescued from the water near the Siberian coast.

Maj. Tejeda's wife lives in Pomona. There have been reports Maj. Tejeda and other survivors were picked up by Soviet rescue workers and are being held.

Mr. Zorin told Mr. Hillings all information the Soviet government had on the incident has been given to the United States. Mr. Zorin added, however, he would make further inquiries and report if any new information had turned up.

Mr. Zorin and Mr. Hillings also discussed further expansion of tours of the Soviet Union by Americans. The Soviet official said Russia expects to open a tourist office in the United States soon. He explained a housing shortage is one of the things holding up the tourist business in Russia, since priority is given to building apartments for Soviet citizens rather than hotels for tourists.

AFPMP-S-1-C/Major Luther/jh/5 June 1961
Drafter-Obertone

AFPMP-S-1

RB-50 Aircraft Shot Down 29 July 1953

5 JUN 1961

Mrs. Stanley O'Kelley
[redacted]

Dear Mrs. O'Kelley

Your recent letter to the President regarding the crew of the RB-50 aircra shot down in the Sea of Japan on 29 July 1953, has been referred to me for reply.

Your interest in the welfare of the relatives of the other crew members of your husband's crew is admirable and understandable. The death of a loved one is always difficult to accept, particularly in this type of case where details of the events are not completely known.

I wish it were possible to alleviate some of the anxieties of these next of kin by furnishing information which would clearly establish the manner in which their loved one met his fate. Unfortunately, in the past five years since the termination of the missing status of these men, the investigative agencies of the United States Government have received no additional information regarding this crew. No positive intelligence was ever developed which would support a belief that any one of the 13 presumed dead crew members survived the crash of the RB-50, was rescued, or was ever held prisoner by the government of the USSR. Under these circumstances it would be unfair for me to encourage you, and the relatives of the other crew members, to hope that a basis exists for their survival.

Sincerely

A. P. CLARK
Major General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

Copy to:
HAFLL (3)

AFPMP-S-1
Col Scurlock
Major Luther
Capt Parker

[redacted]

May 20, 1961

Dear President Kennedy,

I am writing this letter regarding the fate of a B-50 bomber crew that was shot down off the coast of Russia July 29, 1953.

Early in February I contacted Mr. Salinger and do appreciate his efforts in checking with the Air Force on this matter. I do not expect them to change their minds on the fact they list my husband Capt. Stanley O'Kelley is dead. But I, as the rest of the crew members wives, have felt that during these past seven years nothing was done to determine the fate of the crew. We feel that every effort should be made for whomever survived.

No doubt Mr. Salinger showed you the enclosed copy from the United Nations but in case he didn't I will send it on--it is our best way of telling our story. I do not wish to burden you unnecessarily but when I ask Mr. Salinger to check it was for the whole crew, not just my husband.

Any effort you can make on their behalf would mean so very much to us all. We feel that much about this entire incident was not cleared up to anyone satisfaction.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Stanley O'Kelley

INITED TIONS

ECURITY
OUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

S/3304
12 October 1954

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 11 OCTOBER 1954 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honor to refer to the Security Council proceedings of 10 September 1954 in which the Council considered the United States complaint of an unprovoked attack by Soviet military aircraft against a United States Navy airplane over high seas on 4 September 1954. I wish to refer also to Document S/3295 which relates to another attack of this type and which was circulated to Council members at my request.

In my statement before the Council on September 10 I affirmed the determination of the United States Government to seek a negotiated settlement of claims arising out of incidents of this type and, in absence of such settlements to submit them to impartial adjudication by the International Court of Justice.

The United States Government, in a note delivered to the Soviet Government on 9 October 1954, has now presented a formal diplomatic claim against the Soviet Government on account of the destruction by Soviet aircraft of a United States Air Force B-50 aircraft in the international air space over the Sea of Japan on 29 July 1953 and has invited the Soviet Government, if it denies liability, to join in submitting this matter to the International Court of Justice. In this note, the United States Government also reiterates its demand for the release of any survivors of the destroyed American aircraft. The note, based on a thorough investigation, follows an earlier interchange of notes on this subject. It deals with another of the series of hostile attacks against the United States aircraft to which I referred in my statement before the Council.

May I ask you, Mr. President, to circulate a copy of the attached text of this note to the Members of the Council.

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.

54-27415

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Text of note presenting formal diplomatic claim by the United States Government against the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the case of USAF B-50 aircraft shot down over the Sea of Japan on July 29, 1953.

Excellency:

I have the honor to transmit, upon the instruction of my Government, the following communication from my Government to your Government:

The Government of the United States of America refers again to the destruction on July 29, 1953 by Soviet military aircraft of a United States Air Force B-50 type aircraft off Cape Povorotny in the international air space over the Sea of Japan. On January 26, 1954, following an intensive investigation and study of the incident, the United States Government delivered to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics a note requesting certain detailed information with respect to the incident and with respect to the various allegations made by the Soviet Government in prior notes of July 30, 1953, August 4, 1953 and August 26, 1953. The Soviet Government having failed to reply to the United States Government's note of January 26, 1954, the United States Government, through its Embassy at Moscow, transmitted another note on May 25, 1954 to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs inquiring when a reply might be expected to the note of January 26, 1954. The Soviet Government has made no reply or acknowledgement whatever to either note, although far more than sufficient time has elapsed to enable the Soviet Government to make a reply or to state its intentions with respect to such reply. The United States Government must conclude, therefore, that the Soviet Government is fully aware that it is not in a position to make a responsive or adequate reply to the United States Government's note of January 26, 1954.

This circumstance, the United States Government concludes, reinforces and confirms the essential accuracy of the findings of fact resulting from the United States Government's own investigation and study, as well as of the statements made in the various communications of the United States Government to the Soviet Government on this subject, particularly the United States Government's note of August 4, 1953.

The United States Government therefore takes this opportunity to place solemnly upon the record the facts relevant to the Soviet Government's liability and to prefer against the Soviet Government a formal international diplomatic claim for damages as set forth below.

I

The United States Government is prepared to prove by evidence in an appropriate forum, and it charges, the following:

1. Early in the morning of July 29, 1953 a four-engine aircraft of the United States Air Force, of the B-50 type, was duly dispatched from its base in Japan by United States Air Force authorities to perform a routine navigational mission in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan, returning to base in Japan upon completion of the mission. The officers and crew were instructed prior to departure that under no circumstances was the aircraft to fly closer to the Soviet-held land mass than twelve nautical miles.

Upon its departure the B-50 type aircraft had on board a crew of seventeen persons, all members of the United States Air Force and all nationals of the United States. They were, as the Soviet Government was informed in the United States Government's note on August 4, 1953, the following:

Stanley Keith O'Kelley - Captain - Serial No. AO 776002
John Ernst Roche - Captain - Serial No. AO 2029268
Edmund Joseph Czyz - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 2072656
Lloyd Clayton Wiggins - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 695999
James Gordon Keith - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 2092926
Warren John Sanderson - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 2066184
Robert Elbon Stalnaker - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 761337
John Cyrus Ward - Captain - Serial No. AO 865270
Francisco Joseph Tejeda - Major - Serial No. AO 726704
Frank Ernest Beyer - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 2093286
Francis Luther Brown - Master Sergeant - Serial No. AF 19 053497
Donald Wayne Gabree - S. Sergeant - Serial No. AF 19 333787
Roland Edgar Goulet - A/1C - Serial No. AF 12 323933
James Edwin Woods - A/2C - Serial No. AF 24413122
Charles Joseph Russell - A/2C - Serial No. AF 13 351658
Donald George Hill - S. Sergeant - Serial No. AF 19 353976
Earl Wilbur Radelin, Jr. - A/2C - Serial No. AF 14 370732

The B-50 aircraft proceeded on a course of approximately 315 degrees from the Japanese Island of Honshu. When it arrived in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan at a point approximately 50 miles from the coastline, the aircraft turned to the right and proceeded on an easterly heading, flying at an altitude of approximately 20,000 feet, the crew carrying out the instructions given them as above stated.

The aircraft had reached a point in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan approximately 40 miles south of Cape Povorotny, flying on a heading of approximately 95 degrees at an altitude of 20,000 feet when suddenly, at approximately 6:15 in the morning local time and without any prior warning whatever, Soviet MIG-15 type aircraft intercepted and fired upon the United States aircraft. One MIG-15 type aircraft commenced the interception and firing by coming up from below and to the left of the B-50 and shooting the No. 1 engine, rendering it inoperative. One or more additional MIG-15 type aircraft thereupon appeared behind the B-50, directed fire on the No. 4 engine and upon the right wing and other portions of the aircraft, and set the No. 4 engine on fire. When the Soviet MIG-15 aircraft appeared from behind, shooting at the B-50, one or more of the personnel on board the B-50 aircraft opened fire in self-defense against the oncoming attacking MIG-15 aircraft, but to no avail.

Immediately upon being hit, the B-50 aircraft dived sharply, losing altitude rapidly. The shots from the rear attack tore off the right wing and the tail section and caused the aircraft to disintegrate. The component parts of the B-50 then hit the water, at approximately the same position at which the interception and attack took place. The total time which elapsed between the commencement of the attack until the component parts of the aircraft hit the water was approximately two minutes.

Upon the B-50's first becoming disabled, in consequence of the actions of the MIG-15 aircraft against it, the members of the crew of the B-50 were directed by the aircraft commander, Captain Stanley K. O'Kelley, to abandon the aircraft and to seek safety by bailing out of the aircraft. The United States Government is informed and believes that, apart from First Lieutenant James Gordon Keith, all members of the crew above named bailed out of the aircraft, or parachuted, into the Sea of Japan, all coming down at points within the area of the Sea of Japan approximately 40 miles south of Cape Povorotny.

The United States Government finds, and charges, that all the actions of the MIG-15 type aircraft above described were taken upon the deliberate and willful orders of competent Soviet authorities.

When the B-50 failed to return to its base at the time required for its return, and could not be otherwise accounted for, the competent United States authorities commenced and conducted a meticulous and thorough search of the area by aircraft and by surface vessels of the United States Government and with the assistance of a naval vessel of the Australian Government in the area. The search of the Sea of Japan off Cape Povorotny succeeded in the sighting in the international waters of several survivors and disclosed the active presence in the same area of Soviet PT-type boats, trawlers and aircraft. One of the search aircraft dropped a lifeboat to a group of survivors but only Captain John E. Roche, the co-pilot, was able to reach the lifeboat and get into it. Intermittent fog hampered the rescue efforts and no other personnel could be rescued by the United States and Australian surface vessels. When the weather in the area cleared up, by dawn of July 30, 1953, no evidence of survivors, other than Captain Roche, could be seen in the international waters of the Sea of Japan by the air or surface rescue craft.

2. The United States Government finds, and charges, that in direct consequence of the Soviet Government's actions above described, the following took place:

a. The B-50 aircraft was totally destroyed.

b. First Lieutenant James Gordon Keith, navigator situated in the nose of the aircraft, was thrown from his position and mortally wounded, so that he was unable to bail out from the aircraft, and died.

c. Captain Stanley K. O'Kelley, the aircraft commander, although he succeeded in bailing out from the aircraft to the waters of the Sea of Japan, was badly injured and shocked as a direct result of the shooting by the MIG-15 aircraft, and died as a result of these physical injuries and shock and of his exposure for approximately twenty hours in the Sea of Japan.

d. Master Sergeant Francis Luther Brown, flight engineer, although he succeeded in bailing out from the aircraft to the waters of the Sea of Japan, was badly injured and shocked as a direct result of the shooting by the MIG-15 aircraft, and died as a result of these physical injuries and of shock and of long exposure in the Sea of Japan.

e. Captain John Ernst Roche, the co-pilot, was thrown headlong into the body of the aircraft, suffering numerous bodily injuries and shock as a direct result of the shooting by the MIG-15 aircraft but he succeeded in bailing out from the aircraft. He suffered further shock and exposure in the Sea of Japan from approximately 6:17 in the morning local time July 29, 1953, to approximately 4:20 in the morning local time July 30, 1953. He was rescued from the waters of the Sea of Japan by a search vessel of the United States Navy.

f. The remaining thirteen members of the crew have not so far been accounted for. The United States Government finds, however, that all of them suffered bodily injury and shock as a direct result of the shooting by the MIG-15 aircraft. It finds further that a number, if not all, of them successfully parachuted to the surface of the Sea of Japan in the area above described in which the attack and destruction of the B-50 took place. It must conclude that these persons were either picked up alive by surface vessels of the Soviet Government in the area in which they hit the water, or that in due course, dead or alive, they were carried by the prevailing currents to Soviet-held territory and into the Soviet Government's custody. Those dead, the United States Government finds and charges, were brought to their death by the injuries caused in the course of the attack on the B-50 aircraft, by shock and by exposure in the waters of the Sea of Japan. Those that were alive when they came into the custody of the Soviet Government, the United States Government finds and charges, suffered in addition injuries and anguish caused by their long detention by the Soviet Government, by the failure of the Soviet Government to inform the United States Government with respect to their whereabouts and their condition or to permit them to communicate with United States Government authorities.

These conclusions are based on the following considerations:

(1) As the United States Government has previously indicated, personnel on board search craft of the United States Government observed at least twelve Soviet PT-type boats, at least one armed trawler-type Soviet naval vessel, and Soviet aircraft, proceeding at high speed to and from the area of the scene of the incident. Other surface vessels of Soviet nationality were in the vicinity.

These observations were made as late as 3 o'clock in the afternoon local time July 29, 1953. In view of the failure of the Soviet Government to make responsive reply to questions of the United States Government in its note of January 26, 1954 on this subject, the United States Government is confirmed in its conclusion, and it charges, that these Soviet craft picked up survivors and portions of the disabled B-50 aircraft.

(ii) The prevailing currents of the Sea of Japan at the positions above mentioned and at the date of the incident, which are well known to the Soviet Government, move toward the coast, in a northerly and northwesterly direction at a rate of approximately 0.7 to 1.1 knots. Even if the Soviet Government did not have these crew members in custody, dead or alive, earlier, it must have become aware of their arrival in Soviet territorial waters or on Soviet soil by August 1, 1953.

3. The B-50 aircraft at the time of the attack upon it and its destruction, and the navigational and flying equipment thereon, were in efficient and good working order. Each member of the crew was efficient and experienced in the performance of his task. In particular, Captain O' elley, the aircraft commander, was an efficient and experienced pilot; Captain Roche was an efficient and experienced co-pilot; First Lieutenant Czyz, First Lieutenant Wiggins and First Lieutenant Keith were efficient and experienced navigators.

II

The United States Government finds as a result of its investigation that in its notes above mentioned the Soviet Government willfully and knowingly made material misstatements of fact for the purpose of creating an untrue record and of misleading the United States Government. These misstatements of fact are most explicitly made in the Soviet Government's note of August 26, 1953 on this subject, which substantially reiterates the misstatements contained in the Soviet Government's earlier notes on the same subject:

1. The Soviet Government states that the B-50 aircraft at about 6 a.m. local time "violated the state boundary of the USSR, at first in the region of Cape Gamov, and continued the flight over the territory of the USSR at Askold Island not far from Vladivostok". But the Soviet Government has refused, although

duly requested, to state where the boundary, which it claims, runs in this region. The United States Government must therefore conclude, as it has found, that the B-50 aircraft at no time crossed into territory of the Soviet Union in this area but, on the contrary, flew entirely in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan.

2. The Soviet Government states that two Soviet fighter aircraft approached the B-50 with the intention of showing the B-50 that it was within the boundaries of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and with the intention of suggesting that the B-50 leave the air space of the Soviet Union. This statement must be characterized as false, as well as misleading, since the first intimation which the crew of the B-50 had of the approach of any aircraft was the destruction of the No. 1 engine on the B-50 by fire directed from one of the Soviet MIG-15 type aircraft, which had appeared without any warning whatever to the left and from below the B-50 aircraft. This fact and the shooting which immediately followed directed by MIG-15 type aircraft coming up without warning from behind the B-50 aircraft conclusively demonstrates that it was the intention of the MIG-15 interceptors, and of the competent Soviet authorities who dispatched them and controlled their actions, to give the crew of the B-50 aircraft no warning whatever but, on the contrary, to effect the B-50's destruction without any warning or opportunity to the crew to disengage or to defend themselves.

3. The Soviet Government's statement permits the implication that the interception of the B-50 by Soviet aircraft took place within the air space over Soviet territory. This statement is false also. As has been stated above, the interception as well as the attack took place approximately forty miles south of Cape Povorotny and in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan.

4. The Soviet Government states that fire was first opened by the B-50, being directed against the intercepting Soviet aircraft. This statement is false. As the United States Government has stated above, the B-50 aircraft did not open fire until after two firing passes had been made by the Soviet intercepting aircraft. The first MIG-15 type aircraft, which as stated above without warning destroyed the No. 1 engine, flew away unscathed. When immediately thereafter one or more MIG-15 type aircraft appeared from behind, the MIG aircraft were firing and the gunners on board the B-50 were compelled in self-defense to open fire against the MIG aircraft so firing upon the B-50.

5. The Soviet Government states that the attack took place at 6:12 in the morning local time. The United States Government charges that this statement is untrue and is known by the Soviet Government to be untrue. The United States Government has found that the interception and attack took place not earlier than 6:15 in the morning local time, if not later. By this time the B-50 aircraft, as the Soviet authorities well knew, had reached a point approximately forty miles off the Soviet land mass at its closest proximity.

6. The Soviet Government states that one of the Soviet aircraft was seriously damaged by fire from the B-50 in consequence of which the Soviet aircraft was compelled to fire upon the B-50. This statement is misleading as well as false. Even if, contrary to fact, the B-50 gunners had opened fire on the MIG aircraft appearing from the rear, the destruction of the No. 1 engine by the MIG aircraft which appeared first and the hostile attitude of the MIG aircraft appearing in the rear would have justified the B-50 gunners in opening fire on the MIG aircraft.

7. The Soviet Government states that after the Soviet aircrat fired on the B-50 the B-50 "departed in the direction of the sea" and that the Soviet authorities have no further information regarding the American military aircraft. This statement must be characterized as false as well as misleading. As stated above, within seconds after the Soviet aircraft hit the right wing and fuselage the B-50 disintegrated and fell into the sea. The pilots of the Soviet aircraft could not but have seen the consequence of their actions and reported it to the competent Soviet authorities. The United States Government notes that the Soviet Government admits that the pilots, upon returning to base, if not earlier, reported what they had done and what had happened.

8. The Soviet Government indicates that it has "verified data", presumably including reports of ground observers as well as the testimony of the pilots of the Soviet aircraft involved, and that these data "refute the statement that the American airplane B-50 did not violate the boundary of the USSR and was attacked by Soviet fighters over the Sea of Japan". The Soviet Government, although duly requested in the United States Government's note of January 26, 1954, has failed and refused to produce these supporting data. The United States Government is compelled to conclude that such data as exist do not support the Soviet Government's conclusion and that these statements are therefore false.

9. The Soviet Government states that, contrary to the allegations contained in the United States Government's notes, there were no Soviet surface ships on July 29, 1953 in the area of the Sea of Japan in which the shooting incident took place, and it further implies that the weather conditions of fog and darkness were such that the observations of the crews of search craft reported in the United States Government's notes were not in fact made. These statements as above indicated, are false and misleading. The weather, during the hours of daylight, was in fact foggy but at the low altitudes at which the search aircraft flew, and on the surface of the sea at which the naval craft proceeded, there was as the Soviet Government well knows intermittent visibility permitting the observations which were made and which were reported by the United States Government.

10. The Soviet Government states that "as a result of investigation, it has been confirmed that the Soviet authorities have no information concerning the crew of the American bomber B-50". For the reasons above stated this statement must be characterized as false and misleading.

III

The United States Government finds and it charges that the foregoing actions of the pilots of the Soviet aircraft and of the competent Soviet authorities made the Soviet Government guilty of deliberate and willful violations of international law, on account of which it has become liable to the United States Government for damages and other amends.

1. Since the Soviet Government has evaded the questions in the United States Government's note of January 26, 1954 on this subject, the United States Government declares that the limit of the territory of the Soviet Government in the area of the incident extends no further than three nautical miles from the mean low water mark of the shore line of the Soviet-held land mass in this area, following the sinuosities of the coast and the sinuosities of each of the Soviet-held islands. While the United States Government in instructions to its personnel has prohibited any overflying aircraft or seagoing craft from coming closer than twelve miles to Soviet-held territory in traversing the international waters of the Sea of Japan or the air space above, the United States Government takes this opportunity

again to inform the Soviet Government that it does not recognize the claim of th Soviet Government to territorial waters in excess of three miles from its coast. In the opinion of the United States Government there is no obligation under international law to recognize claims to territorial waters in excess of three miles from the coast.

2. In the circumstances of the case it was the duty of the Soviet Governme to make every effort, following the wrongful destruction of the B-50 aircraft, to search for and pick up members of the crew, dead or alive, to cooperate with all other searching aircraft and surface craft in such search and rescue operations and promptly to turn over to authorities of the United States Government rescued personnel, the bodies of any dead personnel picked up and any portions of the aircraft salvaged, or to make arrangements for their prompt delivery to the United States Government. The failure of the Soviet Government to do so constitutes violation of international obligations.

3. It was the duty of the Soviet Government to make truthful statements to the United States Government in the notes above mentioned which the Soviet Government delivered to the United States Government in connection with this incident. The willful making of false or misleading statements in these circumstances constitutes a violation of international obligation.

4. The continued detention of survivors by the Soviet Government, and the failure of the Soviet Government immediately upon receipt of information at any time from its own sources of the observation of bodies of any of the crew members constitute violations on the part of the Soviet Government of international obligation.

5. Any shooting by the crew of the B-50 at the MIG aircraft, in the circumstances of the case, was lawful as an exercise of the right of self-defense The B-50 having been fired upon and hit without prior warning, the crew of the B-50 were justified in the exercise of self-defense in shooting at the approachin MIG aircraft.

IV

The United States has suffered the following items of damage in direct consequence of the foregoing illegal acts and violations of duty and international legal obligations, for which the Soviet Government is liable, and the United States Government demands that the Soviet Government pay the following sums on account thereof:

1. United States Air Force airplane B-50 type No. 47-145A and equipment thereon, amounting in total to $1,468,908.56.

2. Damages to the United States by the willful and unlawful conduct of the Soviet Government $491,584.38.

3. Damages to Captain John Ernst Roche, a national of the United States, for injuries to him, $25,000.00.

4. Damages to the next-of-kin, nationals of the United States, for the deaths of Captain Stanley Keith O'Kelley, Master Sergeant Francis Luther Brown, First Lieutenant James Gordon Keith, $150,000.00.

5. Damages to the next-of-kin, nationals of the United States, of the remaining thirteen crew members for all injuries resulting from the willful and unlawful conduct of the Soviet Government, including the wrongful deaths of such crew members or the wrongful and unlawful detention by the Soviet Government of such members of the crew as survived, $650,000.00.

The United States Government declares that its demand for compensation on account of the members of the crew who survived does not imply the acquiescence of the United States Government in the withholding of those crew members from return to the United States, or the suppression by the Soviet Government of information regarding their whereabouts or welfare, or the making of false statements by the Soviet Government with respect thereto. The United States takes this opportunity again to demand that the Soviet Government forthwith provide the information in this regard which the United States Government has already requested, and make provision for the prompt return of any crew members whom it may still be holding or of whose whereabouts it is informed, and in the interim to provide such crew members with the maximum degree of care and comfort and facilitate access to them by appropriate representatives of the United States

Government. The United States Government further declares that such demand for compensation with respect to members of the crew whose bodies came into custody of Soviet authorities but who were no longer alive does not imply the acquiescence of the United States Government in the failure of the Soviet Government to inform the United States Government of such facts or to turn over such bodies to the United States Government. The United States Government further reserves the right to make additional demand upon the Soviet Government for amends or other actions on account of its conduct on or since July 29, 1953 with respect to such survivors or such dead crew members.

Furthermore, the United States Government has not included in its demand for damages, specified above, any sum on account of items of intangible injury deliberately and intentionally caused to the United States Government and to the American people by the wrongful actions of the Soviet Government. In this regard the United States Government had determined to defer to a future date the formulation of the kind and measure of redress or other action which the Soviet Government should take which would be appropriate in international law and practice to confirm the illegality of the actions directed by the Soviet Government against the United States Government and against the American people.

The Government of the United States calls upon the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics promptly to make its detailed answer to the allegations and demands made in this communication.

Should the Soviet Government in its answer acknowledge its indebtedness to the United States on account of the foregoing and agree to pay the damages suffered and to comply with the demands as above set forth, the United States Government is prepared, if requested, to present detailed evidence in support of its calculations of damages suffered and alleged. If, however, the Soviet Government contests liability, it is requested so to state in its answer. In the latter event, the Soviet Government is hereby notified that the United States Government deems an international dispute to exist falling within the competence of the International Court of Justice and that the United States Government proposes that that dispute be presented for hearing and decision in the International Court of Justice. Since it appears that the Soviet Government has thus far not filed with that Court any declaration of acceptance of the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court, the United States Government invites the

Soviet Government to file an appropriate declaration with the Court, or to enter into a Special Agreement, by which the Court may be empowered in accordance with its Statute and Rules to determine the issues of fact and law which have been set forth herein.

The Soviet Government is requested to inform the United States Government in its reply to the present note of its intentions with respect to such a declaration or Special Agreement.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Memo for Record

Ltr dt 20 May 61 from Mrs. Stanley O'Kelley to President Kennedy was received from SAFLL by Suspense Case #175034 for direct reply - 6 Jun 61 suspense date. Mrs. O'Kelley is the wife of Capt Stanley O'Kelley aircraft commander of the RB-50 which was shot down by MIG-15's off the coast of Russia in the Sea of Japan on 29 July 1953. Captain O'Kelley gave the bailout order. His remains were recovered from the water near Japan. (1 crew member survived - 2 remains washed ashore - 1 determined dead in the crash of the aircraft and 13 presumed dead). It appears that Mrs. O'Kelley apparently had written Mr. Salinger in February and had not received a complete reply regarding the remainder of the crew. SAFLL, Col Stoddard, was contacted 2 Jun and states they have no knowledge of the previous answer to the alleged letter and we should formulate reply without it. Mrs. O'Kelley intimates nothing is being done by the Air Force to determine fate of crew. It appears Mrs. O'Kelley, because of her husband's status aboard the aircraft, sees herself as being responsible for the welfare of the next of kin of his crew members. Letter prepared inferring that, under the conditions, it would be unjust for us or her to encourage the other next of kin to believe a possibility of survival exists for this crew. Colonel Stoddard indicated SAFLL prefers Presidential referral letters to begin as in paragraph 1.

J. O. LUTHER
Major, USAF

CONFIDENTIAL LETTER FROM DIRECTORATE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS - IG

INV 24-5824 dated 30 Aug 1956 HAS BEEN DESTROYED.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

28 JUN 1956

24-5824

AFCSI-6C/Capt Tucker/jcb/3854

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR OF MILITARY PERSONNEL, DCS/P
ATTN: CHIEF, CASUALTY BRANCH, SPECIAL ACTIVITIES GROUP

SUBJECT: Unofficial Information Regarding the Status of Major Francisco J. Tejeda, AO 726 704 and Others

1. Reference is made to your memorandum, subject as above, dated 20 June 1956.

2. This Directorate has referred this matter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation since it does not appear at this time that bona fide military personnel are involved. The possibility exists that "Lt ARNOLD" is an individual impersonating a military officer, which would also bring the investigation within the jurisdiction of the FBI.

3. Your Directorate will be advised of the developments as the investigation proceeds.

Gilbert R. Levy

GILBERT R. LEVY
Chief, Counter Intelligence Div
Dir of Special Investigations, IG

201-Tejeda, Francisco J., Maj
AO 726 704

AFPMP-S-1-C/Maj Hawkins/bw/56755/15 Jun 56
Retype/bw/19 Jun 56

20 JUN 1956

AFPMP-S-1-C/Major Hawkins/bw/56755

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF, SPECIAL ACTIVITY BRANCH
COUNTER INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
DIRECTORATE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS, AFCIG

SUBJECT: Unofficial Information Regarding the Status of Major Francisco J. Tejeda, AO 726 704 and Others

1. Reference is made to telephone conversation between Captain J. R. Gibbs of your office and Major H. E. Hawkins, pertaining to unofficial information received by Mrs. Bess Tejeda, regarding the status of her husband, Major Francisco J. Tejeda.

2. On 11 June 1956, Major Daniel J. Boyle, 16 481A, AFPMP-A, a friend of Mrs. Tejeda, informed this office that Mrs. Tejeda had received a letter from Mrs. Hill, mother of Staff Sergeant Donald Hill who was aboard the plane with Major Tejeda when it was lost. Mrs. Hill informed her that on 6 June 1956, she had been visited by a Lieutenant Arnold, presumably from Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington, and that he had showed her a letter from the Adjutant General which alleged that Major Tejeda, Sergeant Hill and one of the other crew members were prisoners of the USSR. It was also indicated that Lieutenant Arnold sought additional information from Mrs. Hill regarding the loss of her son. Mrs. Tejeda thought it strange that the communication was from the Adjutant General since all prior information she had received came from the Director of Military Personnel.

3. Inquiry at Fairchild Air Force Base by this office reveals no Lieutenant Arnold assigned at either Fairchild Air Force Base or Geiger Field, Washington. No information is available in Headquarters USAF to indicate that subject officer or his two mentioned crew members are prisoners of the USSR.

4. Request your office take investigative action to determine the identity of the alleged Lieutenant Arnold, the source of his information, and the motive of Lieutenant Arnold, or other source, in transmitting this information to the next of kin. Further request this office be advised of results of investigative action.

RICHARD A. STEELE
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Chief, Casualty Branch
Special Activities Group
Directorate of Military Personnel

AFPMP-S-1
Lt Col Steele
Lt Col Davison
Major Hawkins

Memo for the Record:

Captain Wengel, Magazine and Books Branch, SAFIS 3-B was called reference a previous coordination with him relative to allegations made against Captain John E. Roche by a Mrs Elizabeth M. Woods, concerning conflicting information reference the incident in which Captain Roche and her son and others on the crew of the B-50 which was attacked by MIG-15's, and which Captain Roche was the only survivor. Captain Wengal had expressed interes in this matter and Captain Roche was sent around for interview. Captain Roche in his statement reference magazine articles allegedly appearing in "SIR" and Peoples Magazines, denied authorship, interview or renumeration for these articles.

Captain Wengel offered to make an informal check with Sir Magazine to verify Captain Reche's version. The Editor of the magazine stated to Captain Reche Wengel that: Captain Roche did not auther the article.
Captain Roche did not give the information via interview to the author.
Captain Roche received no renumeration from the magazine.

It appears therefore that the allegation made by Mrs. Woods was without foundation as to conflicting statements, given survivers.

Lt. Colonel Monroe, DOD Prisoner Officer was also advised.

19 April 56

H.E. HAWKINS
Major, USAF

201-WOODS, James E., A/2C
AF 24 413 122

AFPMP-S-1-C/Maj Hawkins/wpj/56755/15 Mar 56

AFPMP-S-1 201-Woods, James E. (Amn) 1st Ind

Dept of the Air Force, Hq USAF, Washington 25, D. C. 16 MAR 1956

TO: Commander, 137lst Mapping and Charting Squadron, Palm Beach Air Force Base, West Palm Beach, Florida

1. Attention is invited to basic communication. Captain John E. Roche, AO 2 029 268, presently assigned your organization, was the only survivor of an RB-50 aircraft which was attacked by MIG-15 type airplanes over the Sea of Japan, and crashed approximately 40 miles east of the Siberian coast. The deaths of these crew members have been definitely established. The missing status of the other crew members was terminated by a presumptive finding of death effective 15 November 1955, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended.

2. It is requested that the basic letter be brought to the attention of Captain Roche. A statement should be obtained from him concerning the allegations set forth in the letter, and returned to this Headquarters at the earliest practicable date.

BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

RICHARD A. STEELE
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Chief, Casualty Branch
Special Activities Group
Directorate of Military Personnel

cc: 54th Ftr Gp (Air Def)
Greater Pittsburgh
Airport, Pa

M/R: Ind coordinated w/Capt Wengel, SAFIS-3-D, Magazines and Books Branch, ext 72291 - Col Monroe, AFOPD, DOD POW officer, ext 53345.

Maj Hawkins

AFPMP-S-1
Lt Col Steele
Lt Col Davison
Maj Hawkins

2

HEADQUARTERS
54TH FIGHTER GROUP (AIR DEFENSE)
Greater Pittsburgh Airport
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania

PS 3 March 1956

SUBJECT: Casualty Assistance

TO: Director of Military Personnel
Headquarters USAF
ATTN: Casualty Branch
Washington 25, D. C.

1. This office is rendering casualty assistance to Mrs. Elizabeth M. Woods, of 51 College Avenue, Buckhannon, West Virginia, mother of A/2c James Edwin Woods, AF24413122, whose death occurred on 15 November 1955. Airman Woods was formerly listed as missing in action as of 29 July 1953.

2. The following information is offered for your information. Captain John E. Roche now stationed at Palm Beach Air Force Base was the only man rescued by Allied Forces from the B-50 accident on 29 July 1953 in which Airman Woods was presumed to have been killed.

3. In statements made by Captain Roche to the press and released from Tokyo on 1 August 1953 and 2 August 1953, he said, "That he saw only Captain O'kelly drown and that the rest of the crew may be alive."

4. In the September 1954 issue of "Sir" magizine an article written by Captain Roche stated that the rest of the crew may be alive. An article in the 19 October 1955 issue of "People" by Captain Roche stated the same thing.

5. A letter dated 15 September 1953 to Mrs. Woods from General Joe E. Kelly states that Captain Roche was unable to furnish any information on the fate of the rest of the crew.

6. Previous attemps by the families of the crew to contact Captain Roche have been ignored or refused by him.

7. In the first week of February 1956, Mrs. Lula Wilkinson, mother of Captain Robert Stalnaker, who was a member of the crew, called Captain Roche at his home. Mrs. Wilkinson was in Florida on vacation. Captain Roche stated curtly over the phone that all the rest of the crew had drowned.

8. These actions and confliciting statements of Captain Roche have left the families of the crew with a bad impression of the Air Force and suspicion as to the actual circumstances surrounding the accident. The families of our

servicemen who gave their lives for this country deserve the greatest respect and consideration. They should not be misinformed or ignored.

Robert B Stephens

ROBERT B. STEPHENS
2nd Lt, USAF
Personal Affairs Officer

Rd & File

Basic Ltr fr Hq 54th Ftr Gp, (Air Def), Gtr Pittsburgh Aprt, subj: Cas Assistance, dt 3 Mar 56

3d Ind

1371st Mapping and Charting Squadron, MATS, Palm Beach Air Force Base, Florida

TO: Director of Military Personnel, Headquarters USAF, ATTN: Casualty Branch, Special Activities Group, Washington 25, D. C.

1. The following information is furnished in regard to allegations set forth in paragraphs 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 of basic letter:

Paragraph 3. In regards to quotation, "that he saw only Captain O'Kelly drown and that the rest of the crew may be alive," these exact words were not stated by me in the press release, 1 and 2 August 1953.

Paragraph 4. I did not write an article for "Sir" magazine or "People." All information in these magazines is of their own volition.

Paragraph 6. Upon arrival back to the states after the incident, I saw many of the wives and families of my fellow crew members who were still stationed at Topeka, Kansas. I have also seen the next of kin in other states, i.e., in Kansas, Washington and Florida. All correspondence received from people concerned has been answered with the exception of one letter from a wife from whom I have received many letters.

Paragraph 7. Mrs. Lula Wilkinson, mother of Captain Robert Stalnaker did contact me in February 1956, in regards to what I thought of the Air Force Times announcement that all men were dead. She also inquired at this time if she could come down and visit me. I stated that I would be very happy to have her come down and see me. When she asked me what I thought happened to the rest of the crew, I stated that the Air Force may have presumed that the men did drown. This statement should have been modified to say, "or killed in the explosion of the airplane in flight." Mrs. Lula Wilkinson did not come to see me which could have left her in a more understanding frame of mind.

Paragraph 8. Since I did not write the articles in the magazines referred to, I do not feel that I have furnished conflicting information regarding the accident. I also do not feel that I have been discourteous to any family of my former crew members.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Action in reply to Basic Ltr trans to Special Actions per Maj Hawkins

JOHN E. ROCHE
Captain, USAF

201-WOODS, James E., A/2C
AF 24 413 122

AFPMP-S-1-C/Maj Hawkins/wpj/56755/15 Mar 56

AFPMP-S-1 201-Woods, James E. (Ann) 1st Ind

Dept of the Air Force, Hq USAF, Washington 25, D. C.

TO: Commander, 1371st Mapping and Charting Squadron, Palm Beach Air Force Base, West Palm Beach, Florida

1. Attention is invited to basic communication. Captain John E. Roche, AC 2 029 263, presently assigned your organization, was the only survivor of an RB-50 aircraft which was attacked by MIG-15 type airplanes over the Sea of Japan, and crashed approximately 40 miles east of the Siberian coast. The deaths of three crew members have been definitely established. The missing status of the other crew members was terminated by a presumptive finding of death effective 15 November 1955, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended.

2. It is requested that the basic letter be brought to the attention of Captain Roche. A statement should be obtained from him concerning the allegations set forth in the letter, and returned to this Headquarters at the earliest practicable date.

BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

cc: 54th Flr Cp (Air Def)
Greater Pittsburgh
Airport, Pa

M/R: Ind coordinated w/Capt Wengel, SAFIS-3-D, Magazines and Books Branch, ext 72291 - Col Monroe, AFOPD, DOD POW officer, ext 53345.

HEADQUARTERS
56TH FIGHTER GROUP (AIR DEFENSE)
Greater Pittsburgh Airport
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania

3 March 1956

SUBJECT: Casualty Assistance

TO: Director of Military Personnel
Headquarters USAF
ATTN: Casualty Branch
Washington 25, D. C.

1. This office is rendering casualty assistance to Mrs. Elizabeth M. Woods, of 51 College Avenue, Buckhannon, West Virginia, mother of A/2c James Edwin Woods, AF21113122, whose death occurred on 15 November 1955. Airman Woods was formerly listed as missing in action as of 29 July 1953.

2. The following information is offered for your information. Captain John E. Roche now stationed at Palm Beach Air Force Base was the only man rescued by Allied Forces from the B-50 accident on 29 July 1953 in which Airman Woods was presumed to have been killed.

3. In statements made by Captain Roche to the press and released from Tokyo on 1 August 1953 and 2 August 1953, he said, "That he saw only Captain O'Kelly drown and that the rest of the crew may be alive."

4. In the September 1954 issue of "Sir" magizine an article written by Captain Roche stated that the rest of the crew may be alive. An article in the 19 October 1955 issue of "People" by Captain Roche stated the same thing.

5. A letter dated 15 September 1953 to Mrs. Woods from General Joe E. Kelly states that Captain Roche was unable to furnish any information on the fate of the rest of the crew.

6. Previous attemps by the families of the crew to contact Captain Roche have been ignored or refused by him.

7. In the first week of February 1956, Mrs. Lula Wilkinson, mother of Captain Robert Stalnaker, who was a member of the crew, called Captain Roche at his home. Mrs. Wilkinson was in Florida on vacation. Captain Roche stated curtly over the phone that all the rest of the crew had drowned.

8. These actions and conflicting statements of Captain Roche have left the families of the crew with a bad impression of the Air Force and suspicion as to the actual circumstances surrounding the accident. The families of our

servicemen who gave their lives for this country deserve the greatest respect and consideration. They should not be misinformed or ignored.

Robert B. Stephens
ROBERT B. STEPHENS
2nd Lt, USAF
Personal Affairs Officer

Mr. Obertone

February 8 195[illegible]

In reply refer to
[illegible]

Dear Mrs. Ward:

I wish to express my deep regret that a reply to your letter of October 26, 1955 has been so long delayed. Your letter arrived while I was attending the Geneva Conference and, through administrative inadvertence, has just been brought to my attention.

There have been a series of communications between our Government and the Soviet Government in an effort to obtain information concerning the fate of the crew of the United States aircraft B-50, which was shot down by Soviet aircraft on July 29, 1953. The subject was taken up orally in August 1955 with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Zorin by a United States Congressman who was visiting the Soviet Union. On December 7, 1955 we reopened the subject with the Soviet Government and in a formal diplomatic note requested that Government to review all the information available with a view to informing the U.S. Government concerning the fate of the crew of this lost aircraft. On December 26, 1955 the Soviet Government informed us that renewed inquiries had brought to light no information concerning the members of the crew.

I wish that I could be more encouraging. I can assure you, however, that we will take every measure which might result in our obtaining information concerning your husband and the other crew members. I shall inform you should there be any developments in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Walter J. Stoessel, Jr.
Officer in Charge,
USSR Affairs

Mrs. John C. Ward
[redacted]

[illegible] 2/6/56

CC: Mr. R.C. Obertone
Casualty Branch, Hq. USAF

XX

781

In [illegible] refer to
[illegible] 794.3411/11-1755

Dear Mr. Billings:

I have received your letter of November 17, 1955 in which you ask to be advised whether the Department has received any information from the Soviet Government relative to the whereabouts of Major Francisco J. Tejeda subsequent to your conversation with Acting Soviet Foreign Minister Valerian Zorin last August. You also inquire if, in the absence of such information, it would be in order for our Government to make a new formal representation to the Soviet Government in this matter.

The Department has not received any information from the Soviet Government in this regard since your meeting with Mr. Zorin. The Department believes that it would be desirable to approach the Soviet Government again in our continuing effort to obtain information concerning Major Tejeda and other members of the crew of the USAF B-50 aircraft which was shot down by Soviet fighter planes over the Sea of Japan on July 29, 1953. It is contemplated that such an approach will be made in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Thruston B. Morton
Assistant Secretary

The Honorable
Patrick J. Billings,
House of Representatives.

Copy to: H

[illegible] 12/[illegible]/55

P/A P

AIR POU
PRIORITY

OFFICIAL USE C
(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
711.5622/12-2855

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, MOSCOW

296
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

December 28, 1955
DATE

REF : Embassy Note No. 381, December 7, 1955

12 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION EUR-5	DEPT. RM/R-2 OLI-7 L-2
	REC'D 1-4	INFO OTHER CIA-7 OSD-4 AIR-4

SUBJECT: Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs Note No. 129/OSA

There follows a translation of Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs note No. 129/OSA:

"No. 129/OSA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and in connection with Embassy note No. 381 of December 7 this year has the honor to state that according to renewed inquiries conducted by the Ministry, Soviet authorities have no information concerning the members of the crew of the American aircraft "B-50."

Moscow, December 26, 1955

To the Embassy of the
United States of America
in Moscow."

For the Ambassador:

John C. Guthrie
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure:

Russian text of Soviet Note No. 129/OSA

#1 OIN-3084

JCGuthrie:pm
REPORTER

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

INFORMATION COPY
Return to divisional files or destroy in accordance with security regulations.

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Finding of Death, SR&D Case #543 (29 July 1953)

FACTS

1. a. Pursuant to the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act," the following personnel were continued in a missing status at the expiration of their 12 months' period of absence. Circumstances and the lapse of more than 27 months since the missing incident occurred now warrants a reconsideration of their status pursuant to Section 5, of the Act.

Major Francisco J. Tejeda	AO	726 704
Captain Robert E. Stalnaker	AO	761 337
Captain John C. Ward	AO	865 270
Captain Edmund J. Czyz	AO	2 072 656
Captain Lloyd C. Wiggins	AO	695 999
Captain Frank E. Beyer	AO	2 093 286
Captain Warren J. Sanderson	AO	2 066 184
Staff Sergeant Donald W. Gabree	AF	19 333 787
Staff Sergeant Donald G. Hill	AF	19 353 976
Airman First Class Roland E. Goulet	AF	12 323 933
Airman Second Class Earl W. Radlein, Jr.	AF	14 370 732
Airman Second Class Charles J. Russell, Jr.	AF	13 391 658
Airman Second Class James E. Woods	AF	24 413 122

b. Of the four additional members of this crew, the remains of Captain Stanley K. O'Kelley, AO 776 002, and Master Sergeant Francis L. Brown, AF 19 053 497, were recovered along the coast of Japan; Captain John E. Roche, AO 2 029 268, was rescued and returned to military control and Captain James G. Keith, AO 2 092 926, has been determined dead under the provisions of Section 9, of the Missing Persons Act. Therefore, their status is not being considered herein.

2. a. Circumstances: The above listed personnel comprised the crew of an RB-50 aircraft which departed Yokota Air Base, Japan, at 0307, 29 July 1953, to perform a routine navigational training mission over the Sea of Japan. Approximately 40 miles east of the Siberian coast, the RB-50 was attacked from the rear, without warning, by MIG-15 type aircraft. Immediately a state of emergency was declared and following a second attack by the fighters, which extensively damaged the RB-50, visual and audio signals were given to abandon the aircraft. Later that afternoon search efforts located a group of four survivors

Classification canceled (changed to Unclassified)
by authority of Chief of Staff USAF
by [illegible]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Memo for DCS/P, subj: Finding of Death, SR&D Case #543 (29 Jul 53)

and further sighted within a radius of a mile and a half what appeared to be aircraft wreckage and survivors in two additional groups. An A-3 life raft was dropped, but, due to the closing fog and darkness, survivors were not seen to board the raft. Observations were also made of twelve unidentified small surface craft, presumably Russian, in the area, nine of which appeared to be heading toward the location where wreckage and possible survivors had been sighted. At 0400, 30 July 1953, a United States naval vessel located the A-3 life raft and rescued its occupant, Captain John E. Roche. No further leads as to the fate of the crew were developed by the organized search and it was suspended 31 July 1953, when it became apparent that further efforts would be unavailing.

b. Statements of Captain Roche reveal that on the morning of the accident the water was smooth, but became extremely rough with rolling waves by the time the A-3 life raft was dropped. The water temperature was 58 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit and, by the time he reached the raft, he was extremely ill from cramps and from swallowing salt water. Captain Roche has no other information pertinent to the fate of the crew members under consideration in this review.

c. During August 1953, the United States Department of State issued a series of protests to the Soviet Government concerning the shooting down of this aircraft and requested them to undertake an investigation regarding any surviving members of this crew. The Soviet response to these representations was a denial that the Soviet Government picked up any survivors or had any knowledge of their whereabouts.

d. At the expiration of the 12 months' period of absence of the above listed personnel, a review of their missing status was made and they were continued missing on the basis that survivors were observed and that there was a remote possibility that they had been rescued by the small surface craft. The denials of the Russian Government of any knowledge of surviving crew members of this aircraft were considered insufficient at that time to overcome such a possibility.

3. Subsequent Information: On 9 October 1954, the United States Government transmitted its latest note of protest to the Soviet Government concerning the shooting down of the RB-50. In reply, the Soviet Government on 31 December 1954 again stated that no information was available concerning the fate of this crew or the aircraft and that it saw no basis for referring the incident to the International Court of Justice, The Hague, Netherlands. Information received from the State Department reveals they do not anticipate submitting a claim to the Court. There has been no information from any source, either official or unofficial, to substantiate that any crew member was rescued and has been in the custody of a foreign country. A recent message received from the Commander,

Classification canceled (changed to Unclassified
by authority of Chief of Staff, USAF
by Beverly J. [illegible]

[redacted]

Far East Air Forces, reveals they have no additional information pertaining to the status of the crew of this aircraft.

DISCUSSION

4. Although the factors involved and the information now of record concerning the listed crew members of the RB-50 appear unfavorable for their continued survival, they are insufficient to conclusively establish their ultimate fate. These men were previously continued in a missing status because there was a slight possibility that survivors might have been rescued by personnel of small foreign surface craft, presumably Russian. In view of the lapse of 27 months since these persons became missing and the consistent denials of the USSR that they have any knowledge of the fate and whereabouts of the personnel of this aircraft, this possibility may no longer be considered. This premise is substantiated by the fact that during the period no word or hint of their being detained in a foreign country has been forthcoming, and sufficient time has now elapsed for such information to have been received through official or unofficial channels, if any personnel had survived and were detained. Consideration of these factors and the initial circumstances of missing lead to no other conclusion than that the subject Air Force personnel may no longer reasonably be presumed to be living and, under the provisions of Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended, a presumptive finding of death is now warranted.

RECOMMENDATION

5. It is recommended that, pursuant to the authority contained in Section 5, Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended, official casualty reports be issued stating that the missing status of the Air Force personnel listed in paragraph 1a, above, has been terminated by a presumptive finding of death. Further, that the casualty reports include a statement that the presumptive finding was made following a subsequent review of all available information and, as provided by and for the purpose of the cited law, the date of the presumed death has been established as 15 November 1955. Death is held to have occurred while in pay and duty status, in flying pay status, in line of duty and not the result of misconduct.

E.J. [illegible]
Maj. General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

1 Attachment
List of Source Material

Classification canceled (changed to [illegible])
by authority of [illegible]
by [illegible]

[redacted]

Memo for DCS/P, subj: Finding of Death, SR&D Case #543 (29 Jul 53)

14 NOV 1955

Under the authority delegated by the Secretary of the Air Force to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, the above recommendation is approved.

EMMETT O'DONNELL, JR.
Lieutenant General, USAF
Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

Classification canceled (changed to Unclassified)
by authority of Chief of Staff, USAF
by [illegible]

[redacted]

[illegible]-BEYER, Frank E., JR., Capt
AG 2 [illegible]

AFPMP-12-E-3/Maj Hawkins/wpj/56755/7 Nov [illegible]

NOV 1 6 1955

Mr. Frank E. Beyer, Sr.
[redacted]

Dear Mr. Beyer:

It is with deep regret that I must officially notify you of the termination of the missing status of your son, Captain Frank E. Beyer, Jr., since he may no longer reasonably be presumed to be alive.

This Headquarters has just completed a full review of the facts and circumstances pertaining to the status of your son and his crew members. As you know, Captain Beyer was continued in a missing status because a remote possibility appeared to exist that survivors of the crash may have been rescued by personnel of small foreign surface craft, presumably Russian, operating in the area. However, the government of the USSR has consistently denied having any knowledge of the fate of any of the crew. During the 27 months that your son has been missing, no further information has been uncovered or received from official or unofficial sources which would substantiate this possibility. Also, sufficient time has elapsed during which it is reasonable to assume that, had any crew member survived and been detained by a foreign country, some word of his fate would have been received. Therefore, in view of this lapse of over 27 months without receipt of any information which would support a continued presumption of Captain Beyer's survival, it can only be concluded that he may no longer reasonably be presumed to be alive.

Consequently, it has become necessary under the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act" to terminate Captain Beyer's missing status by a presumptive finding of death, the presumed date of death being recorded as 15 November 1955. This is not considered to be the actual or probable date of death, but it is established in accordance with the cited Act for the purpose of terminating pay and settling accounts. An official report of the change in his status has been issued by the Department of the Air Force.

We realize how distressing it is to receive so little information about his fate. While we can offer no assurance of further particulars, I do want you to know that the termination of his missing status will

[illegible] efforts to obtain more complete details. You may be certain that you will be notified immediately if additional information is received concerning him or his crew members.

Within a short time a Personal Affairs Officer from an Air Force installation will communicate with you. This officer is prepared to assist you in obtaining government benefits allowable as the result of the death of your loved one and will help in any other way that he can.

I am extremely sorry that this message does not lighten the grief in your home. Please accept my deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

Sincerely yours,

[illegible]
Major General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

SMP

Copy to Chief Casualty Branch
Department of the Air Force

SEP 30 1955

In reply refer to
SOV:EE

Dear Miss Messenger:

I have received your letter of September 17, 1955 in which you inquire as to action being taken to obtain more information about the members of the crew of the Air Force B-50 airplane which was shot down by Soviet aircraft over the Sea of Japan on July 29, 1953. You also ask to be advised of our assessment of the possibility that the crewmen in general and Major Francisco J. Tajeda and Lieutenant Edmund J. Czyz in particular may be released by the Soviet Government now that Soviet-American relations appear to be less tense.

Our Government is continuing through all means at its disposal to obtain information about American citizens who may be detained in the Soviet Union and every lead, no matter how small, is investigated. However, I regret to inform you that our investigation has not thus far been successful in bringing to light any reliable evidence whatsoever which would indicate that surviving members of the B-50 crew are being held in the Soviet Union. The Soviet Government has repeatedly denied any knowledge of their fate, doing so most recently in December 1954.

Sincerely yours,

Robert O. Blake
Acting Officer in Charge
USSR Affairs

Miss Elizabeth Messenger,
Leverett Road,
Shutesbury, Massachusetts.

Copies to:

SOS
SOV
L - Mr. Claus
Chief Casualty Branch -
Department of the Air Force

9/2./55

MAY 17 1954

STATEMENT OF CAPTAIN JOHN E. ROCHE, AO 2 029 268

First Lieutenant James G. Keith, AO 2 092 926, Navigator, was sitting between Captain O'Kelley's instrument panel and my panel. Forward of me and to the ~~left~~ was the bomb stabilizer. At the time the wing gave way, Lieutenant Keith snapped forward in his seat, the same as I, and he hit into the framework which supports the nose plexiglass. I was jammed to his left, head first and to the left of where Lieutenant Keith was lying with his head on the window frame and on the right side top of the bomb stabilizer. I finally got myself organized and started to climb back to bail out. I looked back at Lieutenant Keith and he had not moved, his head was in the same position and there was quite a bit of blood, both his and mine, all over the front ~~end~~ of the nose section. His eyes were open and he just lay there, glassy-eyed; there was no sign of life. I bailed out about 200 or 300 feet above the water. I do not believe that, from his position when I bailed out, Lieutenant Keith could have got out of the nose section of the airplane before it crashed into the water.

At the time the right wing gave way, I looked at First Lieutenant Llyod C. Wiggins, AO 695 999 (desk navigator) and he had on his parachute harness (chest type), but he did not have the chute pack attached. I ended up in the nose and never saw Lieutenant Wiggins again. Upon reaching the hatch during the fall, I looked into his position and he was gone; Master Sergeant Francis L. Brown, AF 19 053 497, the flight engineer, was also gone and I did not see anyone else again, other than Lieutenant Keith.

From the time the plane was hit until the wing fell off, about 45 seconds elapsed; there was about 60-45 seconds between the time the wing fell off until it crashed into the water. When the wing ~~dropped~~ broke off, it hit the rear of the fuselage and pitched the nose up. The whole aircraft was on fire - there was a flash fire in the nose section when the wing broke loose. The engines had snapped off, the nose broke off, the right wing gave way and the tail section was by itself; the left wing and center section was by itself.

I was by myself in the water for an hour or two and then I located Captain O'Kelley. Later on, after Captain O'Kelley and I got together, we heard someone shouting but could not understand who he was calling or what he was saying. We yelled back and forth for about 20 minutes and then he stopped calling. Due to the fog, which limited visibility to about 20 feet, there was no chance of locating whoever it was. My assumption is that it was Sergeant Brown. The fog started with the mountains on the land and continued to a distance of about 200 miles out into the Sea of Japan, at which time it was broken clouds.

JOHN E. ROCHE
Captain, USAF
AO 2 029 268

761

12 September 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Major Harvey S. Hawkins

SUBJECT: State Department (Mr. Klaus' role in the three aircraft missing in the Sea of Japan).

1. On 9 September 1956, I talked with Mr. Klaus of State Department with reference to new information on the B-29 (English crew) missing 7 October 1952.

2. From our conversation, I learned that his function is legal in nature - working on the presentation and submission of claims to the International Court of Justice at The Hague. It appears that both countries involved in a dispute must consent to air their dispute before any action is taken by the Court.

3. a. In the case of the B-29 (English crew) missing 7 October 1952, the State Department has presented a claim to the International Court of Justice. The USSR has formally refused to go into court in this case. Our claim still is on record and still open for possible future action along these lines by our State Department.

b. In the case of the RB-50 (Tejeda crew) missing 29 July 1953, Mr. Klaus has prepared a claim for submission to the International Court, but action has been suspended because the Department of the Air Force does not sanction its presentation to the International Court of Justice.

c. In the case of the B-29 (Veach crew) missing 13 June 1952, no claim has been prepared by Mr. Klaus. No report from the Department of the Air Force received that the aircraft was shot down. Informed them that we had a report that on 16 June 1952 radio Moscow broadcast that one survivor picked up by a Russian vessel about two days before. Mr. Klaus stated he did not have this information and requested it be sent to him.

Raymond C. Obertone

UNCLASSIFIED

HQ USAF

PRIORITY

COMFEAF TOKYO JAPAN

X

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM AFTMP-12-E

Req immed auth to downgrade to Secret the following msgs or justification for maint their higher classification: (1) FEAF msg nr VO 515 PIG, dt 30 Jul 53 (2) FEAF msg nr VC 0510 D/O COD dt 29 Jul 53 (3) 91st Strat Recon Sq msg nr CRB 306 PMSS dt 29 Jul 53.

M/R: Msg ref to RB-50 mis 29 Jul 53, still cont in mis status. Req made for downgrade so that ref msg can be filed with case and used.

UNCLASSIFIED 1 1

J. C. OBERTONE

TFMP-12-E-3/mlw/7 Dec 54 56758

R. W. SPRINGFIELD, Lt Col, USAF
[illegible], Dir of Mil Pers

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

[illegible] JUL 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Report of Death, Determination Case #203 (29 Jul 53)

FACTS

1. Pursuant to the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act," consideration has been given to the facts and circumstances set forth herein in determining the status of First Lieutenant James G. Keith, AO 2 092 926, 343d Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, who was reported missing on 29 July 1953, over the Sea of Japan.

2. a. Circumstances: Lieutenant Keith was one of two navigators of the crew aboard a RB-50 aircraft which departed Yokota Air Base, Japan, at 0307 hours, 29 July 1953, to perform a routine navigational training mission over the Sea of Japan. At 0615 hours the aircraft was attacked without warning from the rear by MIG-15 aircraft, about 40 miles east of the Siberian coast. Organized search efforts were successful in rescuing only one crew member of this aircraft. The statement of the rescued crew member, Captain John E. Roche, reveals that the aircraft became disabled as a result of the fighter attacks and shortly thereafter crashed into the sea. An area of burning gas and oil on the surface of the water was thus created at the point of impact.

b. Subsequent Information: A further statement obtained from Captain Roche on 17 May 1954, revealed that he and First Lieutenant James G. Keith were sitting beside each other in the forward compartment of the B-50 at the time of the emergency. The aircraft's wing broke off and apparently hit the rear of the fuselage causing the forward section to suddenly lunge upward. Lieutenant Keith and Captain Roche were both forcefully thrown forward head first and Lieutenant Keith struck his head against the window framework of the nose section. With considerable difficulty, Captain Roche was able to climb back to the escape hatch and, just before leaving the aircraft, observed that Lieutenant Keith had not moved from the position into which he had been thrown. His head was covered with blood, his eyes were open and glassy and there was no sign that Lieutenant Keith was alive. Captain Roche parachuted from an altitude of between 200 and 300 feet above the water, a few seconds before the aircraft crashed. It was his opinion that there was insufficient time for Lieutenant Keith to have recovered sufficiently to get out of the nose section of the B-50 prior to the time it crashed into the water.

DISCUSSION

3. An examination of the facts and circumstances in this case compels the conclusion that Lieutenant Keith did not survive the loss of the aircraft.

This conclusion is based upon a series of circumstances so unfavorable as to preclude any reasonable possibility of his survival. The observations of the surviving crew member strongly suggest that Lieutenant Keith received a fatal injury prior to the crash. However, had he only been rendered unconscious from the blow on the head, the experience of the survivor establishes that Lieutenant Keith would not have had sufficient time to recover and leave the aircraft before it crashed. Further, the crash and the resulting fire of floating gas and oil surrounding the point of impact were so severe that the likelihood of human survival under such adverse conditions could not reasonably be considered. In light of the recorded evidence it is conclusively established that Lieutenant Keith died on 29 July 1953, when his aircraft crashed into the Sea of Japan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

4. a. It is recommended that, pursuant to the authority contained in Section 9, Public Law 490, 77th Congress, 7 March 1942, as amended (Missing Persons Act), the foregoing information be accepted as an official report of death and that a casualty report be initiated stating that James G. Keith, AO 2 092 926, died (Non-battle) on 29 July 1953, as the result of an aircraft accident in the waters of the Sea of Japan. Death occurred while he was in pay and duty status, in line of duty, in flying pay status, and was not the result of his own misconduct. Evidence of death will be considered to have been received in the Department of the Air Force on the date this recommendation is approved.

b. It is further recommended that the casualty report include a statement that, for the purpose of the Missing Persons Act, James G. Keith, AO 2 092 926, is held to be entitled to benefits as a captain from 13 May 1954, the date of Special Orders #93, issued by the Department of the Air Force announcing his promotion, to the date on which evidence of death is considered to have been received. Action is being taken by Promotions and Separations Division, DCS/P to effect the posthumous promotion of the above officer under the provisions of Public Law 680, 77th Congress, as amended.

1 Attachment
List of Source Material

[illegible], USAF
[illegible] of Military Personnel

22 JUN 1954

Under authority delegated by the Secretary of the Air Force to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, the above recommendations are approved.

JOHN S. MILLS
Major General, USAF
Ass't Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

For and in the name of:
EMMETT O'DONNELL, JR.
Major General, USAF
Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

201 Keith James G., CAPT AFMP-12-E-3/Maj Buck/jrn/56755/25 Jun 54

JUN 2 7 1954

Mr. and Mrs. William W. Keith

[redacted]

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Keith:

It is with the deepest regret that I must officially notify you of the termination of the missing status of your son, James G. Keith, whose survival is no longer considered possible in light of the evidence evolved from an extensive review of his case by the Department of the Air Force.

The review just completed was initiated upon receipt of a recent report from Captain John E. Roche, the only crew member aboard your son's aircraft who was rescued. His statement reveals that in the early morning hours of 29 July 1953, the B-50 was attacked from the rear without warning by fighter type aircraft approximately 40 miles east of the Siberian coast. During the subsequent fighter attacks, a wing of the B-50 was torn off and approximately one minute later the aircraft crashed and sank into the sea leaving an area of burning gas and oil at the point of impact.

Captain Roche further revealed that he and your son were sitting beside each other in the forward compartment of the aircraft at the time of the attack. As the aircraft's wing broke off, it apparently hit the rear of the fuselage causing the forward section to suddenly lunge upward. Both officers were forcefully thrown forward headfirst and your son appeared to have suffered a fatal injury when his head struck the window framework of the nose section. With considerable difficulty, Captain Roche was able to climb back to the escape hatch and, just before leaving the rapidly descending B-50, he observed that your son had not moved from the position into which he had been thrown. Captain Roche parachuted from an altitude of between 200 and 300 feet above the water, the minimum altitude for a successful parachute jump. It was his opinion that, even if Lieutenant Keith had been conscious, there was insufficient time remaining for him to have escaped from the aircraft before it crashed into the sea.

Consideration of these facts and circumstances compels the regrettable conclusion that your son died as the result of this aircraft accident in the Sea of Japan off the coast of Siberia. Accordingly, under the provisions of Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended, "Missing Persons Act," a final determination has been made that he died on 29 July 1953, and an official report announcing his untimely death has been issued by the Department of the Air Force.

You will be interested to learn that your son was promoted while in a missing status to the grade of captain on 13 May 1954. This promotion was subject to later withdrawal, as required by law, should conclusive evidence be received that he died prior to the date of this promotion. Since it has been determined that your son died on 29 July 1953, it has been necessary to withdraw this promotion. Nevertheless, the "Missing Persons Act" provides that pay benefits of the higher grade will accrue to the individual's account from the date of promotion to the date that the determination of death is made. Public Law 490, 77th Congress authorizes posthumous promotions to such persons recommended for a higher grade while in a missing status, but does not authorize any increase in pay due to such action. In accordance with this law, the Department of the Air Force has posthumously promoted your son to the grade of captain, effective 13 May 1954. Copies of orders concerning these actions are inclosed.

I am extremely sorry that this message does not lighten the grief in your home. Please accept my deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

Sincerely yours,

2 Incls
1. Cy Pers Orders
2. Cy Ltr Orders

A. J. [redacted]
Brigadier General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

INCOMING TELEGRA... Department of State

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

27 [illegible]

Action

EUR

Info

SS
G
SP
C
FE
[illegible]
P
[illegible]
ND
[illegible]
OCR
STA
CIA
OSD
AIR

Control: 13487
Rec'd: December 31, 1954
4:53 p.m.

FROM: Moscow

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1017, December 31, 11 p.m.

PRIORITY

Following is summary of Soviet note number 115/OSA dated December 31 regarding shooting down of American B-50 off Siberian coast July 29, 1953. Extract of Soviet report was attached to note (Embassy telegram 1016, December 31).

Note reiterates that American bomber first opened fire, that encounter took place at latitude 42 degrees 38 minutes 3 seconds longitude 132 degrees 20 minutes 9 seconds near Soviet island Askold not (repeat not) far from Vladvistok and that no information available concerning fate or airplane or crew. Claims in US note of October 9, 1954 rejected and Soviet Government sees no basis for referring question to International Court.

Note also rejects US assertion that according international law territorial waters limited to three nautical miles, saying there are not generally recogized norms concerning limits which are established by littoral states on basis of national interests and interests international navigation, citing that at present more than thirty governments have territorial waters limits greater than three miles. Note states that US claim that Soviet 12 mile limit in contradiction international law does not (repeat not) have any foundation.

Translation and Russian text being forwarded.

BOHLEN

KJW/3

NOTE: Mr. Stoessel (EE) notified 12/31/6:45 pm JAW.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY, IF CLASSIFIED, IS PROHIBITED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

INCOMING UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

REC. STF. MSG. DIV.
JUL 29 22 32 '53
HQ. USAF

Mis 29 Jul

...B A04S

...EPHQ JUFFB JUZMH JUPRH JUFMB 555

...AFYB 46H

...0152 ZFF

...MDR STRATRCNSQ NINE ONE YOKOTA AB JAPAN

...EPHQ/COFS USAF WASH TWO FIVE DC

...B/COMDR SRU FIVE FIVE FAFB KANS

...COMDR SCTY GP SIX NINE WO ZERO JOHNSON AFB JAPAN

...COMDR FEAF BOMCOM PROV YOKOTA AB JAPAN

...H/COMDR SAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

...H/COMDR F E FIVE MARCH AFB CALIF

...QUARTERMASTER FEC TOJYO JAPAN

...CO ZONE HQS ACRS CAMP KOKURA JAPAN

...B/COMDR USAF SCTY SVC SAN ANTONIO TEX

...550 PERS ATTN: CAS BR. AMC ATTN MCMOXG. FER ATTN: MEMORIAL DIV. CAS

...HIS RAD CONTAINS ONE SEVEN NAMES OF NON BATTLE MISSING PERS

...LFA CLN STANLEY KEITH OKELLY PD BRAVO CLN CAPTAIN PD COCOA CLN

... OSCAR SEVEN SEVEN SIX ZERO ZERO TWO PD DELTA CLN PERTAINS TO

... EXCEPT CMA RADLEIN AND HILL CMA THREE FOUR THREE STRAT RCN SQ CMA

... FIVE STRAT RCN WG CMA FORBES AFB CMA KANSAS TDY WITH NINE

... STRAT RCN SQ CMA APO E TWO EIGHT PD ECHO CLN PERTAINS

...LL CMA ONE ONE FIVE FIVE HOURS ITEM TIME TWO NINE JULY FIVE THREE

...FOXTROT CLN PERTAINS TO ALL CMA ACFT DEPARTED YOKOTA AB HONSHU

...PAN WITH INTENDED DESTINATION YOKOTA AB HONSHU JAPAN PD GOLF

...P IN : 150 (29 Jul 53) Page 1 of 6 Pages

AFHQ FORM 0-309d
15 JAN 51
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR CE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

INCOMING UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

TWO JALYB 46H

MARGARET KATHERYNE OKELLEY CMA WIFE CMA THREE THREE SEVEN ONE
E STREET CMA TOPEKA CMA KANSAS CMA FIVE MARCH FIVE THREE PD
CLN TO BE NOTIFIED BY CHIEF OF STAFF AND COMDR FIVE FIVE
T RECON WG CMA FORBES AFB CMA JANSAS INDIA CLN PERTAINS TO AL

ON FLY PAY STATUS PD JULIETT CLN PERTAINS TO ALL CMA OKELLEY
AFT COMDR SMCLN ROCHE CMA PILOT SMCLN CZYZ CMA RADAR
SMCLN WIGGINS CMA NAV SMCLN KEITH CMA NAV SMCLN SANDERSON CMA
OPR SMCLN STALNAKER CMA ECM OPR SMCLN WARD CMA ECM OPR SMCLN
DA CMA ECM OPR SMCLN BEYER CMA ECM OPR SMCLN BROWN FLT ENGR
N BABICH CMA CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL GUNNER SMCLN GOULET CMA
O OPR SMCLN WOODS CMA LEFT GUNNER SMCLN RUSSELL CMA TAIL GUNNER
N BABLEIN CMA ECM OPR MCLN HILL CMA ECM OPR PD KILO CLN PERTAINS
LL CMA RECENT FOR DUTY PD LIMA CMA FORWARDED SEPARATE
SIGNIED MSG METRO CLN ONE FIVE APRIL FOUR FOUR PD ALFA CLN
H ELDEST ROCHE PD BRAVO CAPTAIN PD COCOA CLN ALFA OSCAR ZERO TWO NINE TWO SIX EIGHT PD GOLF CLN NADENE VIRGINIA ROCHE
WIFE CMA FOUR NINE ZERO FIVE DEAL DRIVE CMA WASHINGTON TWO ONE
MA ONE TWO MARCH FIVE THREE PD METRO CLN ONE AUGUST FIVE ZERO

TR: 130 (29 Jul 53) Page 2 of 6 pages

AFHQ FORM 0-309d
19 JAN 51
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED

16—617 03-1 U S GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AI[illegible]RCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

INCOMING UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

[illegible]E THREE JAPYB 4611

(3)

ALFA CLN EDMUND JOSEPH CZYZ PD BRAVO CLN FIRST LIEUT PD COCOA CLN
A OSCAR TWO ZERO SEVEN SIX FIVE SIX PD GOLF
AO 2075?6
IRENE MARCELLA CZYZ CMA WIFE CMA ONE SIX ONE FIVE NORTH KILDARE
CMA CHICAGO THREE NINE CMA ALL CMA FIVE MARCH FIVE TREE PD METRO
(4)
TSEVEN SEPTIGE ZERO PD ALFA LLOYD CLAYTON WIGGINS PD BRAVO
ST LIEUTD COCOA ALFA OSCAR SIX NINE FIVE NINE NINE NINE PD
AO 645997
CLN JUANITA ELIZABETH WIGGINS CMA WIFE CMA TWO THREE EIGHT EAST
STREET CMA MARKSVILLE CMA LOUISIANA CMA ONE TWO MARCH FIVE THREE
(5)
METRO CLN ONE TWO JAN FIVE ONE PD ALFA JAMES GORDON KEITH PD
VO CLN FIRST IEUT PD COCOA CLN ALFA OSCAR TWO ZERO NINE TWO
AO 2092925
E TWO SIX PD GOLF CLN FARRIS P KEITH CMA WIFE CMA FIVE ZERO
SCOTT STREET CMA YUPA CITY CMA CALIF CMA NINE FEB FIVE THREE
(6)
METRO CLN ONE ZERO MAR FIVE ONE PD ALFA WARREN JOHN SANDERSON PD
VO CLN FIRST IEUT PD COCOA CLN A OSCAR TWO ZERO SIX SIX
AO 2066764
EIGHT FOUR PD GOLF CLN GLORIA MARIE SANDERSON CMA WIFE CMA THREE
EE FIVE SIX KIRKLAND CMA TOPEKA CMA KANSAS CMA ONE THREE MARCH
(7)
E THREE PD METRO CLN ONE MARCH FIVE ONE PD ALFA ROBERT ELBON
LANAKER PD BRAVO CLN FIRST LIEUT PD COCOA CLN ALFA OSCAR
AO 761337
VEN SIX ONE THREE THREE SEVEN PD GOLF CLN BETTY JAMES STALNAKER
A WIFE CMA FOUR ONE THREE PLAIN STREETCMA PIKEVILLE CMA KENTUCKY
A ONE ONE MAR FIVE THREE PD METRO CLN TWO FIVE JUN FOUR EIGHT PD ALF

[illegible]P IN : 130 (29 Jul 53) Page 3 of 6 Pages

.C FROM PA FOU

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR RCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

INCOMING UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

E FOUR JAPYB 46H

N CYRUS WARD PD BRAVO CLN CAPT PD COCOA ALFA OSCAR EIGHT SIX FIVE
AO 865 270
SEVEN ZERO PD GOLF CLN RUTHANNE WORKMAN WARD CMA WIFE CMA THREE
R ONE ONE BRANDON CMA PASADENA CMA CALIF CMA ONE TWO MARCH FIVE
EE PD METRO CLN ONE ZERO OCT FIVE ZERO PD ALFA CLN (9) FRANCISCO JOSEPH
EDA PD BRAVO CLN MAJOR PD COCOA CLN ALFA OSCAR SEVEN TWO SIX SEVEN
AO 726 794
O FOUR PD GOLF CLN ELYZABETH TEJEDA CMA MOTHER CMA FIVE NINE ONE
SALLO AVE CMA LOS ANGELES FOUR FOUR CMA CALIFORNIA CMA SIX MARCH
E THREE PD METRO CLN TWO THREE JUN FOUR TWO (19) ALFA FRANK ERNEST
PD BRAVO FIRSTEUT PD COCOA ALFA OSCAR TWO ZERO NINE THREE
AO 2 093 2 6
EIGHT SIX PD GOLF CLN PEARL LETHIA DEYER CMA MOTHER CMA GENERAL
VERY CMA SEADRIFT RMA TEXAS CMA FOUR MARCH FIVE THREE PD
RO CLN ONE MARCH FIVE
(11) BROWN
PD ALFA FRANCIS LUTHER BRAOWN PD BRAVO CLN MASTER SERGEANT PD
OA CLN ALFA FOXTROT ONE NINE ZERO FIVE THREE FOUR NINE SEVEN
AF 19 093 497
GOLF CLN GENEVA IRENE BROWN CMA WIFE CMA ONE TWO TWO FIVE
RI AVE RMA MODESTO CMA CALIF CMA FIVE MARCH FIVE THREE PD METRO
ONE SEVEN MARCH FIVE ZERO PD ALFA CLN (12) DONALD WAYNE GABREE PD
VO CLN STAFF SERGEANT PD COCOA CLN ALFA FOXTROT ONE NINE THREE
AF 19 33 3 737
EE THREE SEVEN EIGHT SEVEN PD GOLF CLN CONSTANCE EVELYN GABREE CMA
E CMA EIGHT EIGHT EIGHT RODNEY DRIVE CMA SAN LEANDRO CMA
LIFORNIA CMA FIVE MAR FIVE THREE PD METRO CLN TWO MARCH FOUR NINE
(13) ALFA CLN ROLAND EDGAR GOULET PD BRAVO CLN AIRMAN FIRST CLASS PD
COA CLN ALFA FOXTROT ONE TWO HREE TWO THREE NINE THREE THREE PD
AF 12 323 933
LF CLN DORA LEDA GOULET CMA MOTHER CMA ONE FOUR THREEASHINGTON

AFHQ FORM 0-309d
19 JAN 51
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED

16—63733-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR RCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

INCOMING UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

E FIVE JAPVB 46H

EET CMA MOUNT HOLLY CMA NEW JERSEY CMA FIVE

VE MARCH FIVE THREE

METRO CLN ONE SEVEN OCT FIVE ZERO PD ALFA CLN JAMES EDWIN

DS PD BRAVO CLN AIRMAN SECOND CLASS PD COCOA CLN ALFA CMA

TROT TWO FOUR FOUR ONE THREE ONE TWO TWO PD GOLF CLN ELIZABETH

AR WOODS CMA MOTHER CMA FIVE ONE COLLEGE AVE CMA BUCKHANON CMA

NT VIRGINIA CMA FOUR FEB FIVE THREE PD METRO CLN ONE THREE FEB FIVE

PD ALFA CLN CHARLIES JOSEPH RUSSELL PD BRAVO CLN AIRMAN SECOND

SS PD COCOA CLN ALFA FOXTROT ONE THREE THREE NINE ONE

FIVE EIGHT PD GOLF CLN FRANCES WHALEN RUSSELL CMA MOTHER CMA ONE

ONE TWO SOUTH BERNARD STREET CMA PHILADELPHIA CMA PENNSYLVANIA

ONE ONE MARCH FIVE THREE PD ALFA CLN DONALD GEORGE HILL PD

VO CLN STAFF SERGEANT PD COCOA CLN ALFA FOXTROT ONE NINE THREE

E THREE NINE SEVEN SIX PD DELTA CLN PERTAINS TO HILL AND

LEIN ONLY CMA SIX NINE TWO ZERO SECURITY GP CMA JOHNSON AB HONSH

CLN CMA ATCHD TO NINE ONE STRATRCN SQ CMA APO THREE TWO EIGHT FOR

INE ONLY REPEAT FOR FLYING CNEY PD GOLF CLN HARRIE HILL CMA FATER

BOX NINE FIVE ONE CMA KELLOGG CMA IDAHO CMA FIVE NOVEMBER FIVE TW

AFHQ FORM 0-309d
19 JAN 51
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED

16—67733-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AI[illegible]RCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

INCOMING UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

(12)

METRO CLN TWO ONE JUN FOUR NINE PD ALFA CLN EARL WILBUR RADLEIN PD BRAVO CLN AIRMAN SECOND CLASS PD COCOA CLN ALFA FOXTROT AF 14 370 753 2 FOUR THREE SEVEN ZERO SEVEN THREE TWO PD GOLF CLN EARL W RADLEIN SR CMA FATHER CMA TWO FOUR ZERO THREE EAST FIVE STREET CHATTANOOGA CMA TENN CMA ONE ONE JAN FIVE ONE PD METO CLN ONE ONE JAN FIVE ONE PD

1200Z JUL JAYD

NOTE : See DS 4593 (29 Jul 53) for supplemental information.

ACTION: PHP-12-E

INFO : ASC, COMM CTR, MSS, OOP-OP

AY IN : 130 (29 Jul 53) Page 6 of 6 Pages PH/avp

AFHQ FORM 0-309d
19 JAN 51
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

2 Sep 53

SMR #

DEFENSE - Colonel Bond
(for Colonel Springfield)

In reply refer to
EE 711.5522/8-2753

My dear Mr. Brooks:

Reference is made to your letter of August 27, 1953 concerning the incident on July 29, 1953 in which an American RB-30 plane was shot down over the Sea of Japan by Soviet aircraft. You ask to be advised of the action that has been taken to recover any American survivors who may have been picked up by Soviet authorities, and of the results that have been obtained from such action.

Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen, acting on the instructions of the Department of State, has made strong representations to the Soviet Government on this incident on three occasions. In these representations, Ambassador Bohlen has been particularly concerned to do everything possible to obtain information on any American survivors who may have been rescued by Soviet craft operating in the area of the incident, and to secure their immediate repatriation.

On July 30, as soon as the Department received confirmation that an American plane had been shot down, Ambassador Bohlen was instructed to protest in the strongest terms the shooting down of this aircraft and to demand information regarding the survivors presumed to be in Soviet custody and the arrangements being made for their repatriation. Ambassador Bohlen saw Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Gromyko on July 31 and delivered to him an aide memoire which carried out the Department's instructions referred to above. A copy of a Department of State press release containing the text of this aide memoire is enclosed.

On August 4

The Honorable
Overton Brooks,
House of Representatives.

On August 4 Ambassador Bohlen saw Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov specifically on the subject of the possibility of survivors having been rescued from the American plane. In the face of the Soviet Government's insistence that it had no information whatsoever concerning any survivors, Ambassador Bohlen urgently requested that the Soviet Government make a further, exhaustive investigation.

On August 5 Ambassador Bohlen delivered a new note to the Soviet Government, reiterating our protest of the incident and again requesting the Soviet Government to undertake a further investigation regarding any surviving members of the American crew. A copy of a Department of State press release containing the text of this note is also enclosed.

I deeply regret to say that the Soviet response to all these representations has been a denial that the Soviet Government picked up any survivors or has any knowledge of their whereabouts.

Unfortnately this Department, in view of the Soviet attitude in this matter, is extremely limited in the possibilities of conducting an investigation of the facts as to the existence of survivors. The investigation is being actively continued, however, to the extent of our abilities and with assistance from other agencies of the Government. You may be assured that we shall continue to do everything possible in behalf of any crew members who may have survived, and that any further information of interest to the families of the crew members will be promptly communicated to them.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Ben H. Brown, Jr.
Acting Assistant Secretary

Enclosures:
Press Release No. 428
Press Release No. 422

CC: Defense - Colonel Bond
(for Colonel Springfield) L - Mr. Bushong

CUR:EE: DEBoster: all 9/2/53

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON [illegible]

791

CASUALTY REPORT

[illegible] May [illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible]
	Captain
	DATE OF CASU[illegible]
	9 July
	NON-BATTLE
[illegible]	RACE
[illegible]	Caucasia[illegible]
[illegible]	COMPONENT
[illegible]	Reserve
[illegible] [redacted]	DATE OF BIRTH
[redacted]	7 Nov [illegible]
[illegible]	PRIOR SERVIC[illegible]
[illegible] [redacted]	YES
[redacted]	DATE ENTRY C[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	OUTFITTING PA[illegible]
	YES

[illegible] Captain per paragraph 8, [illegible] 70, Departm[illegible] [illegible] 15 April 1964, [illegible] from [illegible] April 1964 - This promot[illegible] [illegible] officer [illegible] missing and [illegible] subject to possible [illegible] Report Number [illegible] dated [illegible]

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

M. S. WILSON
Major, USAF
Asst Chief, Casualty [illegible]

781

...ECTED REPORT
...roy all other copies

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

CASUALTY REPORT

MISSING	DATE OF PREPARATION 27 May 1954	
...H. James Gordon	SERVICE NUMBER AO 2 092 926	GRADE Captain *
...OF CASUALTY ...ound Yokota Air Base, Honshu, Japan		DATE OF CASUALTY 29 July 1953
...OF CASUALTY ...ing		NON-BATTLE
...ORGANIZATION 343d Strat Recon Sq, 55th Strat Recon Wg Forbes AFB, ...ma TDY w/91st Strat Recon Sq APO 328 c/o PM San Francisco, Calif		RACE Caucasian
...ADDRESS (Number, street, city, zone, county and state) ...rt, Kiowa County, Oklahoma		COMPONENT Reserve
...OF KIN ...Farris P. Keith, wife, [redacted]		DATE OF BIRTH 28 Jul 1925
...ARY (Name, relationship and address) DD Form 93 dated 9 February 1953 ...Farris P. Keith, wife, [redacted] 100%		PRIOR SERVICE ☒ YES ☐ NO
...Maggie B. Keith, mother, Watonga, Oklahoma ...y Jo Osburn, sister, [redacted] ...William W. Keith, father, [redacted]		DATE ENTRY CURRENT SERVICE 10 Mar 1951
		AERONAUTICAL RATING *Acft Observer Nav-Bombdr
		ON FLYING PAY STATUS ☐ YES ☐ NO

...Flying as Navigator Prior Service Numbers 18 195 038

...Promoted to the grade of Captain per Paragraph 3, Special Orders 93, Department ...the Air Force, dated 13 May 1954, with rank from date of order.
...promotion effective subsequent to date officer became missing and is subject ...possible future action if a change occurs in his status.
...Correction for Casualty Report M-623, dated 3 August 1953

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

H. S. Wilson

H. S. WILSON
Major, USAF
Asst Chief, Casualty Branch

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, PERSONNEL 23 JUL 1954

SUBJECT: Continuance of Missing Status Beyond Twelve Months, SR&D Case #543 (29 July 1953)

FACTS

1. a. Pursuant to the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act," a full review has been made of the facts and circumstances set forth herein to determine whether the missing status of the following personnel may reasonably be continued after a year's absence, or terminated by a presumptive finding of death:

Major Francisco J. Tejeda	AO	726 704	ECM Op
Captain Robert E. Stalnaker	AO	761 337	ECM Op
Captain John C. Ward	AO	865 270	ECM Op
Captain Edmund J. Czyz	AO	2 072 656	Radar Op
Captain Lloyd C. Wiggins	AO	695 999	Nav
First Lieutenant Frank E. Beyer	AO	2 093 286	ECM Op
First Lieutenant Warren J. Sanderson	AO	2 066 184	ECM Op
Staff Sergeant Donald W. Gabree	AF	19 333 787	CFC
Staff Sergeant Donald G. Hill	AF	19 353 976	ECM Op
Airman First Class Roland E. Goulet	AF	12 323 933	Radio Op
Airman Second Class Earl W. Radlein, Jr.	AF	14 370 732	ECM Op
Airman Second Class Charles J. Russell, Jr.	AF	13 391 658	Tail Gunner
Airman Second Class James E. Woods	AF	24 413 122	Left Gunner

b. Of the four additional personnel of this crew, the remains of Captain Stanley K. O'Kelley, AO 776 002, and Master Sergeant Francis L. Brown, AF 19 053 497, were recovered along the coast of Japan; Captain John E. Roche, AO 2 029 268, was rescued and returned to military control and Captain James G. Keith, AO 2 092 926, has been determined dead under the provisions of Section 9, of the Missing Persons Act. Therefore, their status is not being considered herein.

2. a. Circumstances: These persons comprised the crew aboard an RB-50 aircraft which departed Yokota Air Base, Japan, at 0307 hours, 29 July 1953, to perform a routine navigational training mission over the Sea of Japan. At 0615 hours the aircraft was attacked from the rear, without warning, by MIG-15 aircraft at a point approximately 40 miles east of the Siberian coast. The statement of the rescued crew member, Captain John E. Roche, reveals that the first attack disabled the number one engine and an emergency was declared by giving the signal to prepare for bail-out. Shortly thereafter the number two engine was damaged by the second fighter attack and signals, both visual and audio, were given to abandon the RB-50. Seconds later, the right wing broke off causing a violent upward lunge of the aircraft's fuselage followed by its rapid

Classification canceled (changed to Unclassified
by authority of Chief of Staff, USAF

Memo for DCS/P, subj: Cont of Mis Status Beyond 12 Months, SR&D Case #543 (29 Jul 53)

descent. Captain Roche was thrown into the nose section, but was able to climb back to the nose wheel escape hatch and parachute at an altitude of from 200 to 300 feet. While making his way back through the forward compartment, he did not notice any of the subject persons still in the aircraft. Immediately after his parachute opened, he landed in the water. Later, he located the pilot, Captain O'Kelley. At one time while the two were together, shouting could be heard faintly, but they could not locate or identify the person who was calling. Late that afternoon a B-29 dropped a life raft in the area which Captain Roche was able to reach safely. The raft landed a greater distance from Captain O'Kelley and he was unable to reach it.

b. Search Efforts: When the RB-50 failed to transmit a radio identification message at the time of its scheduled return over Japan, search efforts were immediately initiated. At 1750 hours 29 July 1953, a search and rescue aircraft sighted a group of survivors and dropped a life raft. A second group of two or three survivors was sighted approximately one-half mile east of the first group. A third sighting was made of aircraft debris and possible additional survivors 1 mile east of the second group. The pilot of the search aircraft further reported twelve unidentified small surface craft in the area, nine of which were heading toward the location where aircraft debris and possible survivors had been sighted. At 0400 hours, 30 July 1953, a United States naval vessel accomplished the rescue of Captain Roche. The surface and aerial search was hindered by low hanging cloud formations which obscured large portions of the search area and was further impeded by radar and communications interference. No further evidence or leads of the fate of the subject persons were developed and the organized search was suspended 31 July 1953, when it became apparent that further efforts would be unavailing.

c. Subsequent Information: During August 1953, the United States Department of State issued a series of protests to the Soviet Government concerning this incident and requested them to undertake an investigation regarding any surviving members of this crew. The Soviet response to these representations has been an unsatisfactory denial that the Soviet Government picked up any survivors or has any knowledge of their whereabouts. A recent report from the Commander of the Far East Air Forces reveals that no new information has been received concerning the whereabouts or fate of the subject persons and recommended that their status be continued as missing.

DISCUSSION

3. Information of record reveals that the RB-50 was shot down while engaged in a noncombat mission off the Siberian coast and that an unknown number of the crew did survive the accident as revealed by aerial sightings

Classification canceled (changed to Unclassified
by authority of Chief of Staff, USAF
by [illegible]

Memo for DCS/P, subj:. Cont of Mis Status Beyond 12 Months, SR&D Case #543 (29 Jul 53)

from our search aircraft. The nature of the incident and its proximity to the coast of Russia present a possibility that some of these survivors were rescued by Russian personnel. This assumption is further strengthened by the sighting of small surface craft proceeding toward the location of the crash area. Although not identified, these vessels may be presumed to be of Russian registry because of their number, size, and closeness to Russian territory. Notwithstanding the denial of the Russian Government of any knowledge of any surviving crew member of this aircraft, past experience has demonstrated that the USSR has deliberately withheld or distorted information concerning the whereabouts or fate of United Nations personnel who have disappeared in territory controlled by the Communist countries. Therefore, until positive proof is developed that members of this crew were not rescued and detained, or until other events occur which disclose their non-survival, the available information must be considered insufficient to establish their fate, and any change in their status on this date may be premature and beyond the safe calculated risk of error.

RECOMMENDATION

4. Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 5, Public Law 490, 77th Congress, 7 March 1942, as amended, and following the mandatory review of all available information on this date, it is recommended that official casualty reports be issued stating that the personnel listed in paragraph 1a, above, will be continued in a missing status following the expiration of 12 months' absence, effective 30 July 1954.

1 Attachment
List of Source Material

R. J. REEVES
Brig. General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

26 JUL 1954

Under authority delegated by the Secretary of the Air Force to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, the above recommendation is approved.

JOHN S. MILLS
Major General, USAF
Ass't Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

For and in the name of:

EMMETT O'DONNELL, JR.
Lieutenant General, USAF
Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

Classification canceled (changed to Unclassified)
by authority of [illegible]
by [illegible]

INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT

B-29 Loss
13 June 1952

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HQ AFMPC/DPMC
RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150

#384

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

CASUALTY REPORT
(NON-BATTLE)

REPORT OF: DEATH | DATE PREPARED: 17 Nov 55 | ☐ INTERIM ☒ COMPLETE ☐ CORRECTED *(Destroy all copies of previous reports)*

NAME: BUSCH, Samuel Nathan | GRADE: Major | SERVICE NUMBER: AO 733811 | REPORT ISSUED IN IMPLEMENTATION OF PL 108 ONLY ☐ YES ☒ NO

PLACE OF CASUALTY: Departed Yokota Air Base, Japan, for mission over Sea of Japan

CAUSE OF CASUALTY: Aircraft accident (military)

DATE OF CASUALTY: 15 Nov 1955 *

COMPONENT: ANGUS

ORGANIZATION OF LAST ASSIGNMENT: 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, Med, APO 328, San Francisco, California

IN DESERTION STATUS ☐ YES ☒ NO

RACE: Caucasian

HOME ADDRESS PRIOR TO ENTRY INTO SERVICE *(City, County, State)*: Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania

DATE OF BIRTH: 17 Jan 1920

IN FLY PAY STATUS ☒ YES ☐ NO

IF PASSENGER, WAS TRAVEL BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT DIRECTED BY COMPETENT ORDERS ☐ YES ☐ NO

AERONAUTICAL RATING: Senior Pilot

NEXT OF KIN *(Adult)*: Mrs. Ruth Busch, wife, [redacted]

POSITION *(If Crew Member)*: Aircraft Commander

PRINCIPAL (P) AND ALTERNATE (A) BENEFICIARIES FOR 6 MONTHS' GRATUITY DESIGNATED ON DD FORM 93 *(In event there is no surviving Spouse or eligible Child)*: Mrs. Leah Busch, mother, [redacted]

Miss Charlotte Busch, sister, address same as mother (A)

DATE *(Current DD Form 93)*: 5 May 52

DATE ENTRY *(Current active service)*: 5 Mar 1951

PRIOR SERVICE ☒ YES ☐ NO

PRIOR SERVICE NUMBER(S): 13053332

DESIGNATED ON DD FORM 93 AS BENEFICIARIES UNDER PART I, PL 23 *(Principal-P, Contingent-C)*

None

OTHER RELATIVES OF RECORD - REMARKS

Michael F. Busch, son, address same as wife
Mr. Adolph Busch, father, address same as mother

*FINDING OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSON:
Pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of the Act of 7 March 1942, PL 490, 77th Congress as amended, and upon direction and delegation by the Secretary of the Air Force, the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel finds subject person to be dead. He was officially reported as missing as of 13 June 1952. For the purposes stated in said Act, death is presumed to have occurred on 15 November 1955.

In line of duty--not misconduct

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

G. R. Hamilton

G. R. HAMILTON
Major, USAF
Asst Chief, Casualty Branch

REPORT NUMBER 3476

DISTRIBUTION ORMF

AFHQ FORM 22 JUL 55 0-529 PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

B 5674

M-3321/22/23/3541/42

SAFLLI/MAJ Labell/dbl/57378/15 Sep 75/MONSERRAT*

SEP 16 1975

Dear Senator Schweiker:

This is in reply to your recent letter in behalf of the families of Staff Sergeant Miguel W. Monserrat, USAF (deceased), and Major Samuel N. Busch, USAF (deceased). They have again contacted you regarding additional questions pertaining to the disappearance of Sergeant Monserrat and Major Busch.

The feelings and concern of the Busch and Monserrat families for their brothers are understandable, particularly since no remains were recovered; however, the families were kept fully informed of all known circumstances from the time the airmen were reported missing on June 13, 1952, until a change in their status was made on November 15, 1955. All subsequently available information requested was provided.

Beginning in January 1975, with the request from Ms. Gloria Campisi, Philadelphia Daily News, who sought information of Sergeant Monserrat, considerable research has been expended on this case. This includes research into other incidents which occurred during the Korean War. In this regard, the Air Force has provided all the information it has in this case. As you will recall, the records pertaining to Sergeant Monserrat were destroyed in the fire that occurred several years ago at the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. Nevertheless, on February 6, 1975, Mr. Monserrat and Mr. Busch reviewed similar master personnel records pertaining to Major Busch. Through your office they were provided copies of the finding of death issued by the Department of the Air Force; copies of correspondence they requested were subsequently provided after reviewing Major Busch's record, and every effort was made to reply to their inquiries. It appears from the questions posed in their July 19, 1975, letter that they do not accept the information provided. In this respect, we are not capable of answering questions outside the Air Force scope of operation.

CMBK2

AFMPC/DPMCA

If the Monserrat and Busch families are interested in information beyond that which has already been established in this case and information outside our authority and responsibility, we suggest they be encouraged to research the Congressional Records from 1953 through the late 1960's for hearings on the cessation of hostilities in Korea and information on the meetings of the Military Armistice Commission at Panmunjon, Korea. Information on the subject of prisoners of war (POWs) would also be covered.

(Every piece of paper gathered and/or initiated while a member is carried in a missing status is not included in the individual master personnel records. After a military member's status is changed to deceased and all assistance to the next of kin is completed (over an indefinite period of time), the missing record is screened and only pertinent documents which summarize the case and copies of correspondence to and from the next of kin are maintained for file in the member's master personnel record.)

(During the Korean conflict, it was Air Force policy to file correspondence initiated within the Casualty Branch, seeking additional information, such as the letters sent to Mr. Koski, Mr. Hand, and Mr. Combs, in a file known as the Supplemental Missing Report. This file was established by the date of the incident and included the names of all members involved in the same incident. It was used to collect data on the incident rather than on an individual basis and contained any classified information on a particular incident, search and rescue efforts, results thereof, statements from witnesses and debriefing reports, if any. This file was maintained in the Casualty Branch for ten years after the status was changed to deceased, then destroyed in accordance with established file disposition procedures. Therefore, it is not possible for the Air Force at this time to fully answer many questions that have been or may be asked, without the supporting documents that were maintained in the Supplemental Missing Report. However, it can be assured that had any information been received which would have changed the facts at the time the presumptive finding of death was made, the next of kin would have been advised and the information included in the master personnel records.)

In response to the specific questions of Mr. Monserrat and Mr. Busch, the following is submitted:

Items 1 and 2. Mr. Monserrat and Mr. Busch are apparently assuming follow-up action should have been taken. It cannot be confirmed or denied that any such action was taken without access to the destroyed supplemental missing report and information contained therein. In an effort to obtain more information, intelligence personnel were contacted, who in turn spoke with Mr. Koski. Mr. Koski stated he could not provide any further information other than that contained in his letter of January 26, 1956. It is believed any information Mrs. Combs could possibly provide would be hearsay and could neither be confirmed nor denied; therefore, she was not contacted.

Item 3. Debriefing reports are made in confidence and are not placed in the master personnel records. Confidentiality of personnel debriefings is maintained because it helps surface all the information an involved serviceman witnesses. It is a protection to the individual who is being debriefed so that he may be free to divulge all he knows. The debriefing report would have been placed in the Supplemental Missing Report and destroyed at the end of the ten-year period.

Items 4, 5, and 6. The documents and information requested must be referred to the referenced agencies for reply. The Air Force Office of Special Investigations does not have information in their files pertaining to this subject.

Item 7. The Murphy Note states its purpose, and item 8 of our May 13, 1975, letter further elaborates on this by stating: "The reports that Americans were being detained in Russia presented the possibility that some could possibly be members from this B-29 aircraft and our government questioned the USSR in that regard." This is the third time the second part of this question has been addressed to the Air Force; our first was in reply to a letter submitted by Ms. Campisi and stated: "The Soviet Government replied on 13 August 1956 and categorically denied holding any United States Military personnel." The next time, we phrased our reply in this manner: "On 13 August 1956, the Soviet government replied to our 16 July 1956 note and

stated that a careful investigation revealed no American citizens from the American Air Force, or Naval Air Force were on Soviet territory." It is believed that because the Chinese questioned some of the repatriates concerning Major Busch, there was an indication that he or other crew members were being held by them. Although Mr. Monserrat and Mr. Busch may feel it was an indication, there was no proof.

Item 8. The question posed to us read: "Noble, was he C. I. A.?" Our reply states, "We do not have a detailed answer available on John R. Noble. We hope to have that for you in the near future, as we are attempting to locate official information on him." The Air Force does not have in its possession any statements from Mr. Noble, nor was a promise made to forward any statements. We have been advised that he was an American citizen (civilian) living with his family in Dresden, Germany, in 1945, when he was locally interned by the Germans. After Russian troops occupied Dresden, they took him to Russia. He has written two books which may be of interest, entitled "I Was a Slave in Russia" and "I Found God in Soviet Russia." Both books were published by Cicero Bible Press, 2301 Roosevelt, Broadview, Illinois.

Items 9, 10, and 11. Since no information was provided to the Air Force as a result of Mr. Facteau and Mr. Downey's debriefings, there is no reason to believe they possessed information on any of our personnel. We suggest the questions be referred to the Department of State.

Item 12. Evaluation of the Mr. Monserrat's picture would be of little value at this time. Even if referred to photo experts, Mr. Monserrat would have to provide more information, i.e, where and when the picture was taken, how he obtained it, and his rationale for believing the individual to be his brother.

Our government has not forgotten or written off the men who were declared killed in action after having been in a missing status. The Air Force and our government have always attempted to determine as accurately as possible what actually happens to a missing member. After repatriation of POWs and assembling all known facts, each case is individually reviewed to determine if a missing member should be continued in that status. After careful consideration, often the only realistic conclusion one can reach is that the missing member can no longer reasonably be presumed living. However, we understand the difficulty for the missing member's next of kin to accept the presumption of death without positive proof.

To the best of our knowledge, we have provided all information in our possession on this case. There is nothing more the Air Force can do to change the attendant facts and circumstances.

We understand your continued concern in the Monserrat and Busch families and trust this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

RONALD J. SHOMEPA, Colonel, USAF
Congressional Inquiry Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

Attachment Consti Corres

Honorable Richard S. Schweiker

United States Senate

SMR 564

SAF/LL: Maj Labell SSgt Miguel W. Monserrat AFMPC/DPMCA/
Maj Samuel N. Busch, Decd LC Murphy/bp/
3727/5 Sep 75

1. Reference is made to correspondence dated 31 July 1975 to Major General Maglione from Senator Schweiker in behalf of his constituents, Mr. George Busch and Mr. John Monserrat. (Your Special Instructions, 3 Sep 75, also refers).

2. The queries are again addressed in the order listed.

a. Reference Paragraph 2b (page 2). It is our understanding that during the meeting on 6 February 1975 in the Senate Office Building with members of Senator Schweiker's staff present, Air Force representatives advised these members and the families involved that Sergeant Monserrat's records were destroyed in the fire that occurred in the storage area of the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. Also, reference is made to this in the last paragraph on page 5 of our letter erroneously dated 13 May 1974, (written 13 May 1975) copies of which were provided SAF/LL and the Senator.

b. Paragraph 2b (page 3) - We do not have access to the 1953 through the late 1960s Congressional Records. We do know Congressional Hearings were held during that period and that they may be of interest to the constituents.

For Janie

In this regard, we simply support and concur with paragraph 2 of Senator Schweiker's 30 July 1975 letter to Major Silverbush, in which he indicates he asked the families to do some additional research on their own.

c. Paragraph 3 (Items 4, 5, and 6) - We cannot reply to item 5 even though it is an Air Force response. The constituents state they would like to see the integrated files of the OSI, CIC, and CID. Under the Freedom of Information Act the custodian of such records (if they in fact exist) has the authority to grant or deny access to the files. Therefore, we again suggest you refer this query to the OSI. However, the OSI, as we understand it, administers centrally directed programs, including criminal, procurement fraud, and loyalty investigations. The type of counterintelligence programs handled by the OSI includes counterespionage, investigation of possible acts of espionage upon a US installation, treason, sedition, disloyalty, sabotage, subversion or penetration of installation. It coordinates counterintelligence activities but not the type of activity involving this crew in question, who disappeared while engaged in a noncombat mission over the Sea of Japan in 1952.

d. Paragraph 3 (Item 7) - The answer to this question was first replied to in paragraph 2d of SAF/LL suspense

dated 8 January 1975 submitted by Gloria Campisi on behalf of the Monserrat family. (Also see page 3, paragraph 2 of SAF/LL 15 January 1975 letter to Senator Schweiker.) As a result of the 15 January 1975 letter, Mr. Busch and Mr. Monserrat prepared a questionnaire and the question is implied in items 6, 10, and 16 (copy attached). Item 10, page 2 of our 13 May 1975 letter contains the second reply, and paragraph 2, page 7, again summarizes the reply from the Soviet Government.

e. Paragraph 3, (Item 8) - The question was posed in item 5 of the same questionnaire by both constituents.

f. Paragraph 3 (Item 8) - The referenced questionnaire indicates to us the families are seeking information on Russia and feel that secrecy surrounds Mr. John R. Noble. We felt that the books would be educational on the treatment of prisoners by Russia and at the same time distill some of the secrecy they feel surrounds Mr. Noble. The book entitled, I Was a Slave in Russia tells that he was 21 years of ago when he was taken prisoner in 1945 by the Russians. His father was taken prisoner at the same time but later released. That his parents were German born, but naturalized American citizens/ He had a brother born in Switzerland who was also a naturalized American

citizen. He and his brother worked for their father who owned or managed a camera factory in Dresden, Germany, and that all four of them lived together in Dresden at the time. It reveals the limited number of Americans he actually saw in captivity and what happened to each. In addition, it reveals alleged information concerning other Americans being held captive, but none of whom he actually saw or learned their names. He heard eight American flyers were being held. It was after his release that the US sent the note to the Soviet Union. Therefore, the reader can assume that he was one of the persons referred to in the note who heard there were Americans in dentention in the Soviet Union. We do not have a copy of the book, I Found God in Soviet Russia but assumed it would be informative to anyone showing an interest in its author; in short, the families inquired about Mr. Noble, but in our reply we stated we do not have any information on this man. We simply suggest to read his biographical books in order to better understand the man and his life.

g. Paragraph 3 (Item 12) - We did not intend to have the picture evaluated because we did not want to encourage

further futile correspondence. Our experience with unidentified photos reveals that this course of action solves nothing, as even the best of photographic analysts never really commit themselves fully unless they can positively identify at least eight points of comparison. If the photo is of poor quality, as we suspect it is, it will only raise more questions than it answers. However, if Mr. Monserrat desires to send the picture to us, we will have our photo experts analyze it and provide him with any conclusions reached. He should also send a clear photograph of his brother for comparison. In addition, it would be helpful to know when and where the picture was made, the source from whom he obtained it, and rationale such as any identifying features or birthmarks for believing the individual is his brother.

3. To the extent required, this paper has been coordinated with all interested DCS/Personnel Staff agencies. No further staff coordination is required.

A. W. GRATCH, Colonel, USAF
Asst for Casualty Matters
Asst DCS/Personnel for Mil Pers

1 Atch
Questionnaire sub by
Mr. Monserrat and Busch

CONGRESSIONAL

3 Sep 75	PRIORITY	5 Sep 75
DATE	PAID/FREE	SUSPENSE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Washington, D. C.

MEMORANDUM FOR: AFMPC/DPMCA (RAFB, TEX) (PAX)

SUBJECT: MONSERRAT, MIGUEL W., SSGT; BUSCH, SAMUEL N., MAJ

The attached Congressional Inquiry is forwarded for the action(s) indicated. Adherence to the provisions of HOI 10-20 is imperative, with particular attention being given to meeting the suspense established above.

(✓) Request a proposed reply (double-spaced draft in duplicate.)

( ) Provide a telephone response to Action Officer.

~~( )~~ (DO NOT) return this memorandum and attachments.

MAJ Labell
Action Officer

57378.
Extension

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

(See attached)

Ralph J. Magleone

RALPH J. MAGLEONE
Major General, USAF
Director
Legislative Liaison

The Assistant Secretary for Manpower and Reserve Affairs has refused to coordinate our answer pertaining to the above subject. That office has asked that the following questions be answered before they sign off on final coordination.

(Reference your input dated 22 August)

1. Para 2b (page 2) - "As you will recall, the records pertaining to...." Is the Senator aware of this? Action Officer (A/O) could not find reference in previous correspondence.

2. Para 2b (page 3) - The families are encouraged to research the Congressional Records from 1953 through 1960. What is in these documents that might be of use to these families? A/O assumes these hearings pertain to MIAs and POWs in Korea.

3. Para 3 (Items 4, 5, and 6) - What about the OSI? This is an Air Force response.

4. Para 3 (Item 7) - "This is the third time the second part of this question has been asked;...." By whom?

5. Para 3 (Item 8) - "The question posed to us read:...." Question posed by whom?

6. Para 3 (Item 8) - Why would these books be of interest to these families?

7. Para 3 (Item 12) - How do we know we cannot evaluate the picture? We have not seen it. Do we intend to try?

SAFHR is working closely with L&L to satisfy the Senator's office and close this case once and for all. Hopefully, the answers to these questions can complete this case. We understand the work that has been involved by your staff. However, it is important to do as much as we can to resolve this matter.

For Janie

SAF/LL: Maj Labell | SSgt Miguel W. Monserrat
Maj Samuel N. Busch
(Deceased) | AFMPC/DPMCA/
LC Murphy/3727/
22 August 1975

1. Reference is made to correspondence dated 31 July 1975 to Major Gen Maglione from Senator Schweiker in behalf of his constituents, Mr. George Busch and Mr. John Monserrat. Your suspense: 22 Aug 1975.

2. Proposed reply:

a. First, I wish to apologize for the date of 13 May 1974 stamped on our 13 May 1975 letters to Mr. Busch and to Mr. and Mrs. Monserrat. I sincerely regret this administrative error.

b. Mr. Busch and Mr. Monserrat's feelings and concern for their brothers are understandable, particularly since no remains were recovered; therefore, the manner and details of their deaths are not known. However, their families were kept fully informed of all known circumstances from the time their relatives were reported missing on 13 June 1952, until a change in their status was made on 15 November 1955, and we are confident that subsequently any available information requested was provided. Beginning in January 1975, with the request from Ms. Gloria Campisi, Philadelphia Daily News, seeking information of Staff Sergeant Miguel W. Monserrat, we have expended more than 200 research hours on this case, including research into other incidents which occurred during

the Korean War, in an attempt to satisfy her and all the demands of Mr. and Mrs. John Monserrat and Mr. George S. Busch. In that regard, the AF has provided all the information it has in this case. As you will recall, the records pertaining to Sergeant Monserrat were destroyed in the fire that occurred at the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, several years ago. Nevertheless, on 6 February 1975, Mr. Monserrat and Mr. Busch reviewed similar master personnel records pertaining to Major Busch. Through your office they were provided copies of the finding of death issued by the Department of the Air Force; subsequently we provided copies of correspondence they requested after reviewing Major Busch's record, and every effort was made to reply to their queries. It appears from the questions posed in their 19 July 1975 letter that they do not accept the information provided and are seeking material on the history of the Korean conflict. In this respect they should be advised we are not an "all source agency" capable to answer questions outside our realm of operation. Unlike a detective agency able to meet the inquisitive demands of any citizen with the right fee, we can only respond to issues within our authority. In any contingency levied upon the Air Force lives may be lost but we take care of our men as best as any

military force is able to do. If the Monserrat and Busch families are interested in information beyond that which has already been established in this case and information outside our realm of authority and responsibility, we suggest they be encouraged to research the Congressional records from 1953 through the late 1960s for hearings on the cessation of hostilities in Korea and information on the meetings of the Military Armistice Commission at Panmunjon, Korea. There is an old English proverb which states: "A fool may ask more questions in an hour than a wise man can answer in seven years." To the best of our knowledge, we have provided all information in our possession on this case at this time, 23 years after the incident.

c. To aid your constituents in understanding that we have exhausted our sources and ability to reply to their queries, we will briefly explain our files and information contained therein. Every scrap of paper gathered and/or initiated while a member is carried in a missing status is not included in the individual master personnel records. After a military member's status is changed to deceased, and all assistance to the next of kin is completed (over an indefinite period of time), the missing record is screened and only pertinent documents which summarize the case and copies of correspondence to and from the next of kin are maintained for file in the member's master personnel record.

During the period of the Korean conflict it was Air Force policy to file correspondence initiated within the Casualty Branch, seeking additional information, such as the letters sent to Mr. Koski, Mr. Hand, and Mr. Combs, in a file known as the Supplemental Missing Report. This file was established by the date of the incident and included the names of all members involved in the same incident. It was used to collect data on the incident rather than on an individual basis, and contained any classified information on a particular incident, search and rescue efforts, results thereof, statements from witnesses and debriefing reports, if any. This file was maintained in the Casualty Branch for 10 years after the status was changed to deceased, then destroyed in accordance with established disposition of files procedure. Therefore, it is impossible for us, at this late date, to fully answer many if not all questions that either have been or may be asked, without the supporting documents that were maintained in the Supplemental Missing Report. However, we can assure you that had any information been received which would have changed the facts at the time the Presumptive Finding of Death was made, their next of kin would have been advised and the information included in the master personnel records.

3. To the best of our ability, we are responding to the questions in the same sequence provided in the 19 July 1975 letter from the constituents:

Items 1 and 2. I would like to point out that Mr. Monserrat and Mr. Busch are apparently assuming follow-up action should have been taken and was not. We cannot confirm or deny that any follow-up action was taken without access to the destroyed Supplemental Missing Report and information contained therein. In an effort to obtain more information we contacted our intelligence personnel, who in turn spoke with Mr. Koski. Mr. Koski stated he could not provide any further information to that contained in his letter of 26 January 1956. We feel, and are sure you will agree, that any information Mrs. Combs could possibly provide would be hearsay and could neither be confirmed nor denied, therefore, we did not contact her.

Item 3. Debriefing reports are made in confidence and are not placed in the master personnel records. Confidentiality of personal debriefings is maintained because it helps to surface all the information an involved serviceman witnesses. It's a protection to the individual who is being debriefed so that he may be free to divulge all he knows. The debriefing report would have been placed in the Supplemental Missing Report and destroyed at the end of the 10-year period.

Items 4, 5, and 6. The documents and information requested in these items will have to be referred to the referenced agencies for reply.

Items 7 and 8. The Murphy Note states its purpose, and Item 8 of our 13 May 1975 letter further elaborates on this by stating: "The reports that Americans were being detained in Russia presented the possibility that some could possibly be members from this B-29 aircraft and our government questioned the USSR in that regard." This is the third time the second part of this question has been asked; our first reply stated: "The Soviet Government replied on 13 August 1956 and categorically denied holding any United States Military personnel." The next time we phrased our reply in this manner: "On 13 August 1956, the Soviet government replied to our 16 July 1956 note and stated that a careful investigation revealed no American citizens from the American Air Force, or Naval Air Force were on Soviet territory." The question posed in 7A is answered in 7 above, and the statement made by Mr. Monserrat and Mr. Busch may feel it was a matter of opinion. We do not feel that because the Chinese questioned some of the repatriates concerning Major Busch that it was an indication that he or any of the other crew members were being held by them, and even though Mr. Monserrat and Mr. Busch may feel it was an indication, there was no proof. Surely, the writers cannot object to our government's efforts to live up to its promise

of not leaving any stone unturned in seeking information as to the ultimate fate of our missing personnel. This answer also applies to 7B.

Item 8. The question posed to us read: "Noble, was he C. I. A.?" Our reply states, "We do not have a detailed answer available on John R. Noble. We hope to have that for you in the near future, as we are attempting to locate official information on him." We do not have in our possession any statements from Noble, nor did we promise to forward any statements. We have been advised that he was an American citizen (civilian) living with his family in Dresden, Germany, in 1945 when he was locally interned by the Germans. After Russian troops occupied Dresden, they took him to Russia. He has written two books which may be of interest to the constituents. They are titled, I Was a Slave in Russia, and I Found God in Soviet Russia; both books were published by Cicero Bible Press, 2301 Roosevelt, Broadview, Illinois.

Items 9, 10, and 11. Since no information was provided to us as a result of Facteau and Downey's debriefings, we have no reason to believe they possessed information on any of our personnel. This question, together with questions 10 and 11, perhaps could be pursued better if referred to the Department of State.

Item 12. Our office cannot evaluate the picture that Mr. Monserrat claims to show Miguel Monserrat being marched down a Korean street in a group of 20 POW's. Even if referred to photo experts, Mr. Monserrat would have to provide more information about the picture, i.e., where and when the picture was taken, how he obtained it, and his rationale for believing the individual to be his brother. We do not feel that our government has forgotten or written off the men who were declared killed in action after having been in a missing status. When dealing with aircrew members or passengers flying over vast oceans and at times over hostile continents there have been many cases in the past, and more will be in the future, in which the ultimate fate of a crew member cannot be positively determined. A more recent example is that of Representative Hale Boggs and crew who disappeared while on a trip over the state of Alaska. No wreckage of his aircraft nor remains were ever located despite the most extensive search this country could provide. The Air Force and our government have always attempted to determine, as accurately as possible, what actually happened to a missing member. After repatriation of prisoners of war and assembling all known facts, each case is individually reviewed to determine if a missing member should be continued in that status. After careful

consideration, often the only realistic conclusion one can reach is that the missing member can no longer reasonably be presumed to be living. However, it is often very difficult for the missing member's next of kin to accept the presumption of death, without positive proof, i.e., remains returned. This is unfortunate as it leads to years of anguish and fruitless, unjustified hope which seems to ignite and renew itself each time this country faces a situation resembling that of the past.

There is nothing we can do to change the facts involved in this case. Due to the passage of time, it is now impossible for us to reconstruct all the information and logic used in determining that Sgt Monserrat and Maj Busch would not return, consequently, they were declared deceased.

4. To the extent required, this paper has been coordinated with all interested DCS/Personnel staff agencies. No further staff coordination is required.

Signed

A. W. GRATCH, Colonel, USAF
Asst for Casualty Matters
Asst DCS/Personnel for Mil Pers

JOHN L. MC CLELLAN, ARK., CHAI
WARREN G. MAGNUSON, WASH.
JOHN C. STENNIS, MISS.
JOHN O. PASTORE, R.I.
ROBERT C. BYRD, W. VA.
GALE W. MC GEE, WYO.
MIKE MANSFIELD, MONT.
WILLIAM PROXMIRE, WIS.
JOSEPH M. MONTOYA, N. MEX.
DANIEL K. INOUYE, HAWAII
ERNEST F. HOLLINGS, S.C.
BIRCH BAYH, IND.
THOMAS F. EAGLETON, MO.
LAWTON CHILES, FLA.
J. BENNETT JOHNSTON, LA.
WALTER D. HUDDLESTON, KY.

MILTON R. YO N. DAK.
ROMAN L. HRUSKA, NEBR.
CLIFFORD P. CASE, N.J.
HIRAM L. FONG, HAWAII
EDWARD W. BROOKE, MASS.
MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.
TED STEVENS, ALASKA
CHARLES MC C. MATHIAS, JR., MD.
RICHARD S. SCHWEIKER, PA.
HENRY BELLMON, OKLA.

JAMES R. CALLOWAY
CHIEF COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

July 30, 1975

Major E. Silverbush
AFMPC/DPMSCB
Randolph AFB, Texas 78148

Dear Major Silverbush:

I first wish to thank you for your efforts in researching all of the records immediately available pertaining to Staff Sergeant Miguel W. Monserrat and Major Samuel N. Busch.

Since your letter of May 13, 1974, my office has continued to discuss the circumstances of this case with Mr. and Mrs. John Monserrat and Mr. George Busch. We have asked that they do some additional research on their own and then list additional questions which they may have. These questions are listed in the enclosure.

I believe it is especially important to note the content of the letter of January 26, 1956, from William E. Koski and the detailed information he provided regarding Major Busch. Obvious questions arise regarding why Air Force personnel specifically solicited information regarding Major Busch and what efforts were undertaken to follow up the reply from Mr. Koski.

These and other points enclosed, the possible existence of information within other agencies of the government, and the continuing availability of Mr. Koski and perhaps others appear to offer plausible grounds to merit additional dimensions of research regarding these cases.

I hope that you will agree and will take appropriate steps to render assistance. Mr. John Casciotti, of my staff, who can be reached at 202-224-8187, is available to assist you in any way possible, as of course are Mr. and Mrs. Monserrat and Mr. Busch.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Schweiker
United States Senator

RSS:jcs
CC Major General Ralph Maglione
Chief of Legislative Liaison

July 19, 1975

JUL 22 1975

JUL 32 1975

Mr. John Casciotti
c/o Senator Richard S. Schweiker
United States Senator
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Casciotti:

1- Why no follow up to letters sent to (a) William Koski (b) Edwin Combs or any other released from that crew.

2- We have interviewed Koski, by phone, and he states that other than initial de-briefing, he was never contacted by Air Force Personnel. After he responded to letter sent to him, which he answered at great length, there still was no follow up investigation conducted. Edwin Combs, who is now deceased, wife interviewed, she states no follow up and no letter received!
Each of these above named persons have indicated a willingness to co-operate.

3- We would like de-briefing reports, which for some reason, have not been co-ordinated into the files of the missing personnel who are concerned (i.e. Sam Busch, Miguel Monserrat, etc)

4- It is our understanding that the CIA has what is called a "RECORDS INTEGRATION DIVISION" We would like any information from this division or, for that matter, any part of the CIA , if at any time any mention was made by anyone regarding Busch or Monserrat.

5- We would also like to see the intergrated files of the OSI;CIC; CID, our reason for asking this- it is our understanding that these intelligence units of the government debriefed released prisoners of war at service hospitals and installations through-out the country at the time of their release.

6- William Koski relates that sometime in 1957 he saw his Chinese interrogator, as part of a Chinese trade Commisson in the "FLYING TIGER" magazine. He reported this to FBI field office in Chicago and he made on further attempt to follow this through. He was told that Edwin Combs could not identify this man and as a result the charges were unsubstaniated and out of FBI hands. Koski is certain, to this day, this man was his interrogator, because he could never forget the beating this man gave him while in Chinese prison camp.

7- What was the basis of the Murphy Note? What intelligence information was received?

A- Why would they knowingly ask the Russians, and demand release of these airmen, when liberated crews, who had already been debriefed, had indicated they were being held by Chinese?
B- Reference to this-check dates of letters already sent to Koski, Combs and Hand.

3- What were John R. Nobles statements? We are still waiting for these.

9-What personnel have been identified as being held with Fecteau and Downey?

A-Whom were they questioned by?
B-Whom were they questioned about?
C-We would like any information about Busch and Monserrat mentioned in debriefing files of Fecteau or Downey.

10-Where are the intelligence summaries on this crew presently kept and why are they not included in the answer to our previous inquiry?

11-Where are the State Department files and what State Department information regarding this crew? What became of the radio monitoring information from Russia, China and Korea that was keep in Japan or Korea regarding this broadcast.

12-We have a picture of about 20 men being marched down a Korean Street - I believe one is Miguel Monserrat.

We know there is a great length of time that has passed since downing of this aircraft, and that files and records have a tendency to be mislayed and not properly cared for. We do not feel that these types of files would or could come under that category as some of the information that is in them at one time or another would have come under the classification of HARD intelligence.

We further feel, however, since its no longer hard intelligence, and has not been for many years and we are dealing now with human lives who have been either forgotten or just written off by their goverment. We do not want to beleive this is so and we are still willing to let our Arm Forces prove us wrong.

We feel the questions we asked above can be answered in a resonable amount of time, say 90 days, as this is the second time this year we are making this request.

Mr. Casciotti: This letter may seem hard and abrupt, however, we want you to understand that none of this is directed to you or to the Senator. Any additional information that we have been able to glen has been as a result of your good office.
If you have any further questions that you would like to add, please feel free to do so.

Sincerely,

George Busch
John Monserrat

George Busch (Jr.)
John Monserrat

BUSCH, SAMUEL N., Major, MIA 13 Jun 1952, KIA 15 Nov 1955

MONSERRAT, MIGUEL W., SSgt., MIA 13 Jun 1952, KIA 15 Nov 1955

MEMO FOR RECORD AF/DPEC 6 February 1975

Attended a previously arranged meeting at 1300 hours in the New Senate Office Building. Attending, in addition to the undersigned, were:

Mr. George S. Busch, brother of Major Busch
Mr. & Mrs. John Monserrat, brother and sister-in-law of Sergeant Monserrat
Mr. John Casciotti and Ms. Jean Wilson, representing Senator Richard S. Schweiker, Rep., Pennsylvania
Colonel Donald R. Keeney, SAF/LLI
Major Frank Luna, AF/JACL
Captain Michael H. Harris, SAF/LLI

Purpose of the meeting was to discuss the case of Major Busch and crew of 11, who were lost over the Sea of Japan on 13 June 1952, and to answer questions or begin research where necessary. Mr. Busch and Mr. Monserrat had previously advised Senator Schweiker's office that there were discrepancies in the Air Force report of the incident, and that they believed one or more of the crew members may be held prisoner in North Korea, China or Russia.

Mr. Casciotti began the meeting by asking me to provide a short description of procedures and laws involved with missing persons. I advised initially that I could not speak authoritatively about the procedures which were followed in the 1950s, but that the basic law had not changed significantly since then. I gave a short briefing on the Missing Persons Act and our efforts to account for MIAs and to keep families informed.

Mr. Busch and Mr. Monserrat then discussed the discrepancies they believe they have uncovered, most of which are listed in the attached sheets (questions 14 and 15 are duplicates of questions 12 and 13). They are interested in knowing exactly what happened on the flight. Most of the questions/discrepancies are prompted by press reports or hearsay information. For example, Mr. Busch has talked to a Mr. Conrad Challick, who teaches at West Chester State College. Mr. Challick, then in the AF, had supposedly participated in the SAR for Major Busch and crew. He recalls a radio transmission from Vladivostok, USSR, on 14 June 1952 which stated "airmen-officers" were captured. Some concern is also prompted by a report from a John R. Noble (see question 5) that some Americans were being held in Russia. They also related the now familiar story of Steve Kiba ("he had been written off as dead"). I explained that Kiba had never been declared dead; that he was carried as missing, then captured. They said we had tried to convince Kiba's mother that he was dead. I said our records show no such efforts. They produced a lengthy letter from Kiba, which had been distributed by VIVA (they did not provide a copy). One of Kiba's claims was that he saw a

[redacted]

fellow crewman, Paul VanVoorhis, at least 9 times after the Chinese had reported he was deceased (see questions 11 and 12).

They also wanted to know why there were 12 men on the crew. They had checked with the Boeing Company, manufacturer of the B-29, who advised that the crew of a B-29 was 8-10 depending on the mission. They wanted to know what the extra men were doing there, and specifically wanted to know what Sgt. Moore was doing. They also expressed an interest in Fecteau and Downey, who were released from China. They wanted to know how they got there in the first place (Downey allegedly said he was tried by Chinese with the crew of a B-29 shot down in 1952). Mr. Busch advised that some unnamed members of the 111 Tactical Air Support Group (ANG) at Willow Grove Naval Air Station were in on the SAR for Major Busch's crew or have knowledge of the incident. One or more of these individuals told Mr. Busch there were three transmissions from the aircraft:

- we're being observed by Soviet aircraft
- we're under attack by MIGs
- we're going to try to ditch

According to Mr. Busch, these individuals are reluctant to discuss the incident as they are approaching retirement (we may have to ask Mr. Busch to give us names). Also, according to unnamed sources, the intended route of the aircraft in our official reports is wrong; the crew was allegedly sent over the Russian mainland.

In short, because of various news reports and hearsay information, the Busch and Monserrat families questioned virtually everything in our 13 Jan 75 letter to Senator Schweiker except the date, type aircraft and number of crew members. They were surprised to read a letter from a Mr. William Koski, a repatriated Korean prisoner, which was contained in the Master Personnel Records of Major Busch, and asked for a copy of that letter and letters to Mr. Koski and two other returnees who apparently had mentioned having heard Major Busch's name while in captivity. I advised I would provide the copies (see attached letter).

At the conclusion of the meeting we agreed that the AF could deal directly with the Busch and Monserrat families on their questions, keeping Senator Schweiker's office informed by sending info copies to SAF/LL. It was emphasized that research into a 22 year old case would take considerable time, and both families acknowledged that fact, and said they wouldn't be concerned as long as they felt some efforts were being made. To preclude further inquiries to Senator Schweiker's office, we should give both families a progress report every 30 days. They seemed genuinely interested in trying to learn all they can about their brother's loss, but they appear to have been misled by alot of hearsay information. My impression is that they will be well satisfied until we advise them that our research is complete and we have no evidence their brothers are alive — then they'll go back to Senator Schweiker.

[redacted]

[illegible], Major, USAF
Asst for Equality Matters
DCS/Personnel

3 Atch
a/s

Copies to:
SAF/LLI
AF/JACI
AF/DPEC
AFMPC/DPMSC

[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Lt. Miguel [illegible] reported [illegible] June 12, 1954; plane with crew of 16 others.

1. Air Force, in letter Jan. 13, 1975, denies plane on combat mission- states plane not shot down.

2. Prefix to Turkey note, [illegible] from release, Moscow, July 14, 1954, states I-29 shot down by Russians. Also concerns navy privateer downed by Russians.

3. [illegible] informed and compelled to believe crew members [illegible] privateer, downed April 8, 1950, & I-29 shot down June 12, 1954 [illegible] held by Russians.

4. [illegible] officer of I-29 was seen in Oct. 1953, in hospital [illegible], south of Vladivostok. At least one returnee from privateer [illegible] in Soviet prison camps- 1955.

5. [illegible] Sept. 1955, two ex-POW's of a Soviet prisoner, until on [illegible] May 21, 1955, in Berlin, that eight airmen from Privateer [illegible] in prison camps. Robie, was he [illegible]?

6. [illegible] Turkey note explained for some time U.S. has received information of 8 persons freed from Soviet imprisonment that they had conversed with; seen on board reports of American airmen in actual detention in Soviet Union.

7. [illegible] Sept. Miguel Navarro and 16 others, crew member [illegible] Nov. 17, 1955 (Missing Persons Act).

8. [illegible] later, July 19, 1956, Turkey note states existence of [illegible] crew (names did not. Get information for Turkey note?)

9. [illegible] Govt. in a hurry to close case on I-29 crew?

10. [illegible] however, Berlin [illegible] of Nov., the Defense [illegible], [illegible] Army in Texas, [illegible] of Marine [illegible] in Korea.

11. [illegible] to [illegible] U.S. [illegible] in China, in July, [illegible] Chinese diplomat has said that they were holding some 12 Americans [illegible], captured during Korean conflict. China, embarrassed by [illegible] that they were holding, [illegible]'s one year after armistice, without [illegible] contacted nor, claimed air on violation this no charges. [illegible] claims that 11 men from a I-29 confirmed twelve- 3 of those [illegible] listed as dead.

12. [illegible], Courtney Jay, 4 Fighter pilots released. August 4, 1954, [illegible] of I-29 released. [illegible] of Chinese Air Force, [illegible] Communist prisoners, [illegible] Taitsuchin, 2 Nisei, 12 Chinese Navy [illegible]. Twelve-Chinese in still China.

13. [illegible] 5 years ago of Richard Peterson and John Lowney, [illegible] [illegible] were held for 20 days as guests, refused China that [illegible] who mentally survive ten [illegible].

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

[illegible]

14. 1955, Memorial Day, 4 fighter pilots released August 4, 1955, 11 crewmen of B-29 released. One of crewmen of B-29, Steve Kiba, saw fellow crewman, Paul VanVoorhis, 9 times, after Chinese declared him dead. VanVoorhis is still missing.

15. Return 3 years ago of Richard Pectenu and John Downey, CIA men who had been held for 20 and 21 years, support claim that a man can physically and mentally survive long imprisonments.

16. Senator Henry Jackson, Dem. Washington wrote Mrs. Edward Johns whose husband is missing in Vietnam, that President Ford had brought up the matter with Soviet Leader Leonid Brezhnev. Jackson said he told him that the Soviet leader promised to make "sympathetic & humanitarian representation to North Vietnamese on missing in action matter, completely forgetting the Korean P.O.W. held by the Russia

LISTING OF CREW OF B-29

1. Major Samuel Busch Philadelphia, Pa.
2. Staff Sgt. Miguel Monserrat Philadelphia, Pa.
3. Master Sgt. Mr. R. Homer Philadelphia, Pa.
4. Lt. James A. Sculley Philadelphia, Pa.
5. Lt. Samuel D. Service Berkley, California
6. Second Lt. Robert McDonnell New York
7. Staff Sgt. William Blizzard Arlington, California
8. Airman 1st. Class Leon F. Honura Texas
9. Staff Sgt. Eddie Berg Black Duck, Minn.
10. Airman 1st. Class Roscoe Decker Tillamook, Ore.
11. Airman 2nd Class Danny Pillsbury Orange, Texas
12. Technical Serg. David L. Moore-? no address

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

AIR FORCE DISCREPANCY

[illegible] TRANSMISSION HEARD BY SEARCH MISSION EMANATING FROM [illegible]. " HAVE PICKED UP AIRMEN-OFFICERS"
[illegible] JUNE 14, 1952 BY [illegible] FOR B-29, JUNE 13, 1952

AIR FORCE CLAIMED "NO WRECKAGE WAS FOUND" OF B-29, [illegible] 17, 1952 [illegible] CLIPPING STATES" THE WR[illegible]E OF THE SUPER[illegible] [illegible] FOR VISUAL AND PHOTOGRAPHIC RECONNAISSANCE WORK, WAS [illegible] IN THE SEA OF JAPAN BETWEEN KOREA AND NORTHERN HONSHU [illegible].

[illegible] CLAIMS [illegible] SINCE MEN WERE NOT ON COMBAT MISSION, THEY [illegible] AS "[illegible]" ONLY.
[illegible] ON HOKKAIDO ISLAND INFORMED GOVERNMENT [illegible] WERE SIGHT SOVIET FORCES ARE [illegible] [illegible]", "EVERYDAY WE HEAR THE BOOM OF GUNS" [illegible].

[illegible] REVIEW OF THE STATUS OF THE PERSONNEL [illegible] B-29 [illegible] IN NOVEMBER 1955 AND REVEALED THE FOLLOWING: [illegible] HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM ANY SOURCE WHICH WOULD [illegible] WHAT [illegible] ACTUALLY DEFINE THE B-29.
[illegible] 17, 1956, [illegible] NOTE STATED THAT IT WAS INFORMED [illegible] TO BELIEVE THAT SOME OF THE CREW MEMBERS ARE BEING [illegible] THE SOVIETS.

[illegible] CLAIMS [illegible] HONSHU, JAPAN AIR BASE. [illegible] OFF FROM OTARU, ON THE WEST COAST OF JAPANS [illegible] ISLAND.

[illegible] CLAIMS AIRCRAFT WAS KNOWN TO BE CARRYING THREE SIX MEN [illegible].
[illegible], [illegible], [illegible], MAKER OF B-29 CLAIMS [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] OF [illegible].

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330

REPLY TO ATTN OF: AFMPC DPMSCB
RANDOLPH AFB TEXAS 78148

13 MAY-1974
1975

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Monserrat
[redacted]

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Monserrat

As Colonel Sorrentino advised you in his response in behalf of the President, and as you were advised during your 6 February 1975 meeting with Air Force representatives and representatives from Senator Schweiker's office, we have reinvestigated the circumstances surrounding the loss of your brother, SSgt Miguel W. Monserrat. After having thoroughly researched all of the records immediately available, and on the basis of the facts and documents which have surfaced at this point in time, we have been unable to substantiate many of your concerns. Throughout the Korean as well as the Southeast Asian conflict, there were many instances where rumors and "unofficial reports" created concern and false hope among the involved families. We have tried to carefully review the information available in an effort to answer your questions. We hope you understand that we must deal with the true facts as we know them, and avoid speculation or unwarranted assumptions.

The master personnel records of six of your brother's crew members were located and retrieved. All of the concerned next of kin were provided with essentially the same information as contained in Department of the Air Force letter dated 13 January 1975 with the exception of the departure time, which should have read 10:07 A.M. rather than 10:27 A.M., an administrative error which we regret. Since then, we have carefully reviewed the information available, and have responded to your questions in the same sequence as the list you provided.

1. As far as we can determine, the aircraft was not on a combat mission nor do we know what emergency actually befell it. Executive Order 10195, dated 20 December 1950, defines the combat zone as Korea, including the waters adjacent thereto within the described limits. The B-29, of which your brother was a crew member, departed Yokota Air Base, Honshu, Japan, on a reconnaissance mission over

the Sea of Japan at 10:07 A.M., 13 June 1952. The intended route was not within the defined combat zone; rather, it was from Yokota to Sado Shimo and then over water as far as coordinates 46 degrees 30 minutes north latitude and 139 degrees 28 minutes east longitude, approximately 60 miles from the Russian Coast. In a broad sense, possibly every Air Force mission during a period of hostilities could be defined as a combat mission. However, the usual definition involves actual activity over hostile territory and a high flying, unarmed reconnaissance mission over the Sea of Japan does not fit that description. Nevertheless, the type of mission really has no bearing on what might have happened to your brother's aircraft. All we know is where they were supposed to be, and that they did not return.

2. The loss of your brother's aircraft was widely publicized throughout the United States, and various news releases referred to the aircraft as being "shot down", "missing", "downed", and "crashed." The incident appears to have been sensationalized by the press, a situation over which we, of course, have no control. Nevertheless, our official information does not reveal what actually happened to the aircraft. The Murphy note (an extract of the note is attached) stated the aircraft "came down", which was a logical assumption based on the information available.

3. We are enclosing an extract copy of the official United States note to Moscow. You will observe that the extract refers to the B-29 as "missing" and states that it "came down." (See Attachment 1). The terminology was undoubtedly chosen to jar the Soviet Union into action if they had any information.

4. The note states an officer believed by the United States Government to have been a member of this crew.

5. We do not yet have a detailed answer available on John R. Noble. We hope to have that for you in the near future, as we are attempting to locate official information on him.

6. We believe if you will read the attached copy of the note in its entirety, you will get the same impression we do. Although we had hearsay information that Americans were being held, names were not furnished with that information. To our knowledge, those reports were never substantiated.

7. Sergeant Monserrat and his 11 fellow crew members were presumed dead, 15 November 1955, under the provisions of Section 5, Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended.

8. We are not quite sure that we understand this question. As you know a finding of death was made on your brother because he no longer could reasonably be presumed to be alive. In cases of this nature we continue to seek all possible relevant information. The reports that Americans were being detained in Russia presented the possibility that some could possibly be members from this B-29 aircraft and our government questioned the USSR in that regard. The fact that eight months had lapsed since his status was changed to deceased was inconsequential to the attempts of locating him.

9. This crew was kept in a missing status 3 years, 5 months, and 2 days, as previously explained to you this is an exceedingly long period. The crew members were retained in a missing status until there was no longer any reasonable basis to presume them alive.

10. Yuri Rastvorov did not provide the names of Americans being held in captivity in Russia. On 13 August 1956, the Soviet government replied to our 16 July 1956 note and stated that a careful investigation revealed no American citizens from the American Air Force or Naval Air Force were on Soviet territory. In all frankness we must tell you, we have no reliable information or intelligence which would support the belief that your brother, or anyone of the crew members, was ever in the custody of the USSR.

11. Because of the numerous misleading statements on this incident, the following information is provided to set the record straight. The B-29 disappeared on 13 January 1953 while on a combat mission. On 21 January 1953, a propaganda broadcast from Peking, China, claimed

that the aircraft had been shot down over Manchuria and that all but three of the 14 crew members had survived and were captured. Because this information was unofficial and unconfirmed, no change was made in the status of any of these crew members. On 21 June 1954, a list containing the names of these 14 crew members and 4 fighter pilots was presented to the Chinese Communists at the Geneva Conference for an accounting. In reply, the Communists acknowledged that three members of the B-29 crew, given by name, died while attempting to parachute over Antung, China. The reply also revealed that the remaining 15 persons were in their custody. Subsequently, letters were received by the next of kin from each of the 15 personnel. Their status remained as missing in action until 20 December 1954, when it was administratively changed to captured, based on an official acknowledgement by the Chinese Communists that the personnel were being held in their custody. At no time did the Department of the Air Force even remotely consider changing their status to deceased.

12. Some of the statements allegedly made recently by Mr. Kiba are not in their entirety in agreement with statements he made immediately after repatriation, which are now the official records. Captain Van Voorhis was one of the crew members declared dead after receipt of official information from the Chinese Communists.

13. We agree with this statement.

14. and 15. are duplicates of questions 12. and 13.

16. As mentioned in the answer to question 10, we have no reliable information to support the belief that Korean veterans are being held captive in the Soviet Union.

The items on your page marked, Air Force Discrepancy, are replied to in the order listed. An unofficial report intercepted on 16 June 1952 from Radio Moscow stated that one survivor, an officer, was picked up by a Russian vessel on or about 14 June 1952. No identifying data was given, nor had the report been confirmed through official channels. In an investigation conducted by the overseas commander and the State Department, persons who had reported hearing this and subsequent broadcasts were contacted and questioned. They stated that broadcasts first believed to be related to the B-29 in question were later definitely established as pertaining to an officer who was reported missing in action on 14 January 1952.

Despite the 17 June 1952 newspaper clippings you have, the official Air Force records reveal that the wreckage of this B-29 aircraft has not been located. History reveals that it is not uncommon for aircraft on long over water flights to have disappeared without leaving a trace of personnel or wreckage. However, as you have been advised, we do know that a life raft was sighted, and possibly another one, although they could not be confirmed as being from your brother's aircraft The life rafts could have been construed as "wreckage" in newspaper reports.

The lighthouse keeper's statement may be true, but it does not establish what happened to the B-29 your brother was aboard. Your next two queries are answered in items 1 and 8 above. We have no official information which indicated the aircraft departed from anywhere but Honshu. At any rate, even if the departure was from a different location, it would not shed any light on what happened to the aircraft in question. As to the next statement concerning information you received from Boeing-Vertol, we can only reaffirm that during the Korean conflict B-29s flew with crew complements up to 15 men, depending upon the requirements of the mission. Sufficient life rafts were always carried aboard the aircraft to accommodate all crew members.

In regards to the allegation that three distress transmissions were received from the aircraft, we can only state that this is not supported by the official records. We know of no reason why anyone participating in the search efforts would have withheld such information at the time. If you know someone who has participated in this search and claims to have other information relevant to the search, we'll be glad to get in touch with such person in order to resolve any obvious discrepancies.

In reply to your question as to whether a letter was sent to Major Baumer concerning information on this incident the answer is no, nor was it necessary. We had Major Baumer's debriefing statement and he could provide no information on any of the members of this crew. In response to your query concerning Mr. Combs, our records do not contain a reply to his letter.

As previously explained to you, after 22 years our records are not complete. Numerous files similar to that of your brother were destroyed as a result of a fire a few years

ago at our storage area in St. Louis. However, you can be sure had there been any pertinent information the next of kin would have been notified of such information long ago. In reference to Sergeant Moore, he was the maintenance chief.

In closing, we think it is important to once again review here the information we have regarding your brother. Sergeant Monserrat was the central fire control gunner in a crew of 12 aboard a B-29 which disappeared while engaged in a noncombat mission over the Sea of Japan. The aircraft departed Yokota AB, Japan, at 10:07 A.M., 13 June 1952, on an intended route from Yokota AB to Sado Shimo, Japan, and then over water as far as approximately 60 miles from the Russian coast. Upon completion of the mission, the aircraft was to return to Yokota AB; estimated time of return being 7:07 P.M. The last radio contact was at 10:27 A.M. and was a routine position report indicating the aircraft had left the coast of Japan and was proceeding northward over water. The aircraft was tracked by radar until 1:20 P.M., at which time it left the radar zone over the Sea of Japan, approximately 100 miles northwest of Hokkaido, Japan, at a point 120 miles from the Russian coast. The plane failed to return to Yokota AB on schedule and, at 7:20 P.M., several attempts were made to establish radio contact with the missing aircraft. These efforts were unsuccessful and it and the crew were reported missing in flight.

The aircraft was known to be carrying three six-man life rafts, and 11 one-man life rafts, and to be equipped with enough food and medical supplies to care for the entire crew for three days. Air rescue operations were initiated at 8:30 P.M. A total of 10 aircraft participated in an intensive search of the proposed route and adjacent areas. At 2:45 P.M., 14 June, one of the search planes sighted and photographed an empty six-man life raft, which was right side up, about 300 miles off the southern tip of Hokkaido, at a point approximately 100 miles off the Russian coast. Search planes remained in the area until darkness, but were unable to salvage the raft because of prevailing conditions, nor could it be identified as belonging to the missing aircraft. An unconfirmed report indicated a second raft was seen four miles south of the first raft, but this sighting could not be verified. The search was resumed on the 15th, but results were negative and there was no further trace of either life raft. The search continued until 17 June; no wreckage was found, nor was there any sign of survivors.

At the lapse of a 12-month period, Sergeant Monserrat and the other crew members were continued in a missing status pursuant to Section 5, Public Law 489, Missing Persons Act (Section 555, Title 37, United States Code). The reasons for the determination to continue them in a missing status are as follows: Under normal conditions, the absence of any word for this lengthy period of time would tend to conclusively establish that the crew perished when their aircraft was lost. The route of this B-29 and its probable location at the time of the accident precluded such a determination. Official reports disclose that the scheduled route was such that the accident may have occurred at a point where survivors could have been rescued by foreign personnel and removed from the area before the arrival of our search aircraft on the following day. This supposition had not been substantiated through Department of State channels. However, this possibility alone, although remote, was sufficient to warrant a continuance of the missing status of the entire crew until further information could be developed. A full review of the status of the personnel of this B-29 was made in November 1955 and revealed the following: No information had been received from any source which would indicate what emergency actually befell the B-29. Sufficient time had elapsed during which it is reasonable to assume some definite intelligence would have been received, had any crew member survived. In view of the lapse of time and complete absence of information which would support a continued presumption of their survival, the missing status of Sergeant Monserrat and the other crew members was terminated by a presumptive finding of death pursuant to Section 5 of the Missing Persons Act. The date of presumed death was recorded as 15 November 1955.

On 16 July 1956, our government specifically requested information of the United Soviet Socialist Republic concerning the possibility of their holding members of air crews or any other Americans. The Soviet Government replied on 13 August and categorically denied holding any United States military personnel.

We know there is nothing we can do or say to assuage your grief as a concerned relative. However, we do hope that the information we have provided will be helpful. We hope that you also recognize the fact that the Air Force is now and always has been dedicated to mission accomplishment and full cooperation with families whose loved ones were lost. We, too, deeply feel the loss of our comrades throughout all the years that the United States Air Force has been called upon to serve its country.

We will contact you whenever any additional information is uncovered. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me if you would like clarification of what has been provided to date.

Sincerely

Ed Silverbush

ED SILVERBUSH, Major, USAF
Chief, Missing Persons
Casualty Matters
Asst DCS/Personnel for Mil Pers

1 Atch
Extract of Text to
USSR, 16 Jul 56

EXTRACT OF TEXT NOTE TO USSR
(16 July 1956)

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and has the honor to refer to the question of the detention of United States military personnel in the Soviet Union. The United States Government has for some time received, from persons of various nationalities freed from Soviet Government imprisonment during the last several years, reports that they have conversed with, seen or heard reports concerning United States military aviation personnel, belonging either to the United States Air Force or to the United States Navy Air Arm, in actual detention in the Soviet Union. The United States Government has sought in all such cases to obtain, if possible, precise identification of American nationals detained by the Soviet Government, although it notes that by international law and international practice the Soviet Government is obliged to inform the United States Government first of any American nationals whom the Soviet Goverment holds in custody or to permit such nationals to communicate with the proper United States authorities. The reports concerning such personnel have now become so persistent and detailed, and so credible, that, although the United States Government is not able to identify by name these American nationals now detained by the Soviet Government, it requests the Soviet Government to inform the United Sates Government in detail concerning each American militar person who has been detained in the Soviet Union at any timesince January 1, 1949 of whom the United States Government has not heretofore been informed by the Soviet Government, giving in each case the name of the person and the circumstances underlying his detention.

Specifically, the United States Government is inormed and is compelled to believe that the Soviet Government ha had and continues to have under detention the following:

1. One or more members of the crew of a United tates Navy Privateer-type aircraft which came down in the BalticSea area on April 8, 1950. The United States Government has snce that time received reports that various members of the cre of this

United States aircraft were, and are, detained in Soviet detention places in the Far Eastern area of the Soviet Union. In particular, it is informed, and believes, that in 1950 and in October, 1953 at least one American military aviation person, believed to be a member of the crew of this United States Navy Privateer, was held at Camp No. 20 allegedly near Taishet, and Collective Farm No. 25, approximately 54 kilometers from Taishet, said to be under sentence for alleged espionage. This American national was described as having suffered burns on the face and legs in the crash of his aircraft and using crutches or a cane.

Reports have been received from former prisoners of the Soviet Government at Vorkuta that in September, 1950 as many as eight American nationals, believed to be members of the crew of the United States Navy Privateer to which reference is made, had been seen in the area of Vorkuta and specifically, that one person who was interned at Vorkuta in September, 1950 stated that he was serving a twenty-five year espionage sentence and had been a member of a downed United States aircraft.

For the information of the Soviet Government, the crew of the United States Navy Privateer when it departed for its flight over the high seas of the Baltic consisted of the following United States Navy personnel, all nationals of the United States:

* * * (Names of entire crew were submitted) * * *

2. One or more members of the crew of a United States Air Force B-29 which came down on June 13, 1952, either over the Sea of Japan or near the Kamchatka area of the Soviet Union. An officer, believed by the United States Government to have been a member of this crew, was observed in October, 1953 in a Soviet hospital north of Magadam near the crossing of the Kolyma River between Elgen and Debin at a place called Marionburg. This officer stated that he had been convicted, wrongfully, under Item 6 of Article 58 of the Soviet Penal Code.

For the information of the Soviet Government, the United States Air Force personnel on board the B-29 which has been missing since June 13, 1952 were as follows:

* * * * * *

(Names of entire B-29 crew were submitted)

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330

27 February 1975

Mr. John D. Monserrat
[redacted]

Dear Mr. Monserrat

Thank you for your recent letter regarding your brother and his crew. I have taken the liberty of forwarding the letter to Major Silverbush at the Air Force Military Personnel Center. He is conducting the research on your questions. As I advised you, we will make every effort to locate available information on your brother. I appreciate you reminding us of the information on Major Baumer and Mr. Combs.

Sincerely

EDWARD E. LINDQUIST, Major, USAF
Assistant for Casualty Matters
DCS, Personnel

Major Edward E. Lindquist
Assistant for Casualty Matters
HQ USAF/DPEC
Washington, D.C. 20330

Sir:

My wife and I wish to thank you for your assistance in our meeting with you and the other Air Force Personnel on February 6, 1975. We received your letter, with enclosed material. We hope that you are successful in discovering another copy of my brothers file.

We hope that facts, we presented, prove to you that there is much more to be learned about this particular B-29 crew, and with your expertise and facilities, we hope that you can uncover much more material than we have, as amatures.

On reading the copies of letters sent and received, we did notice two things we would like to bring to your attention. First, Mr. Koski mentioned a Major William Baumer as possibly having more information than himself, was a letter sent to him? Second, the letter to Edwin Combs mentions a picture of Major Busch which apparently he had referred to in de-briefing. Can anything further be done to follow this through?

We are sure that you have probably already seen these two items, but we thought them unusual enough to mention again.

Perhaps, if the Air Force co-operated 23 years ago, as you have recently, there would have been hope for my brothers crew and the other 944 American Servicemen on the Korean MIA list. We hope by your further investigation that you help us, not only in our quest for the fate of my brother and the others in th crew, but also, in the restoration in our faith of concern of the government and military for its missing men, who served so well.

Very truly yours,

John D. Monserrat

[redacted]

cc'd DPEC
21 Feb 75

DPMSCB/Maj Silverbush/dcm/3714/18 Feb 75

DPMSCB

19 FEB 1975

Mr. George S. Busch
[redacted]

Dear Mr. Busch

This is to inform you that we have just recently received the list of questions/discrepancies you provided during your meeting with Mr. John Casciotti and Ms Jean Wilson from Senator Schweiker's office. As it was explained to you, we maintain contact with and provide information to families of Air Force members who are missing, captured, deceased, or who become casualties by any other means. In that sense, we will keep in touch with you.

We are in the process of gathering as many of the master personnel records as there are in existence of the entire crew of your brother's aircraft. Since this particular incident occurred over 22 years ago, the task of answering your specific queries at this point in time may prove to become a difficult task. I assure you we will do the best we can. We do not maintain the inactive files here at Randolph Air Force Base; and due to the elapsed time since the incident, it is envisioned that it will take a considerable amount of time to complete our investigation. We, therefore, ask for your understanding.

We will do all we can in our investigation and notify you of our progress as it becomes available. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office at any time.

Sincerely

"SIGNED"

EDWARD SILVERBUSH, Major, USAF
Chief, Missing Persons Branch
Casualty Services
Asst DCS/Personnel for Mil Pers

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330

11 February 1975

Mr. George S. Busch
[redacted]

Dear Mr. Busch

I enjoyed meeting you last Thursday. As we discussed, attached is a copy of the letter written to the Air Force Casualty Branch by Mr. William E. Koski, a repatriated prisoner of the Korean conflict. Also attached, per your request, are copies of letters from the Casualty Branch to Mr. Koski and to two other prisoners. Apparently, Mr. Koski was the only one who responded to the inquiry, although we will attempt to verify that while we are working on your other questions.

A summary of our meeting, and the list of questions/discrepancies you provided, is being sent to the Chief, Casualty Services, Air Force Military Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base near San Antonio, Texas. That office has the responsibility for maintaining contact with, and providing information to, the families of Air Force members who are missing, captured, deceased, or who otherwise become a casualty. The trained analysts in their Missing Persons Branch will be conducting most of the research into your questions. They have already requested the Master Personnel Records on the entire crew of your brother's aircraft. I will assist them in their contacts with Washington area agencies.

You should be hearing periodically from the Air Force Casualty Services Office as their investigation progresses, and we will also keep Senator Schweiker's office informed. The principal point of contact at the Air Force Military Personnel Center will be Major Ed Silverbush, mailing address: AFMPC/DPMSCB, Randolph AFB, TX 78148, telephone (toll free): area code 800-531-5501. You may call or write him directly, or if you prefer, my mailing address is: Hq USAF/DPEC, Washington, D.C. 20330, telephone: area code 202-697-8116.

Again, I enjoyed meeting you, and I hope we'll be able to answer most or all of your questions. Please feel free to call either Major Silverbush or me whenever we can be of assistance.

Sincerely

EDWARD E. LINDQUIST, Major, USAF
Assistant for Casualty Matters
DCS, Personnel

4 Atch
1. Mr. Koski's ltr, 1/26/
2. Lt Col Steele's ltr to Mr. Hand, 11 Oct 55
3. Lt Col Steele's ltr to Mr. Combs, 11 Oct 55
4. Lt Col Steele's ltr to Mr. Koski, 11 Oct 55

Mich 6. Graf

DPMSCA

19 FEB 1975

Mr. John D. Monserrat
[redacted]

Dear Mr. Monserrat

This is in further response to your letter of 27 December 1974 to President Ford regarding your brother, Sergeant Miguel Monserrat.

Reference is made to your recent meeting with Mr. John Casciotti and Ms Jean Wilson from Senator Schweiker's office. Major Lindquist, USAF Assistant for Casualty Matters, also attended this meeting, and has provided us a resume of the points of discussion. Reference is further made to the 19 February 1975 letter from Major Silverbush of this office. As you know, we have the responsibility of maintaining contact with the families of Air Force members who are missing, captured, deceased, or who have become casualties by any other means.

As Major Silverbush advised in his letter to you, we are in the process of gathering existing master personnel records of the entire crew of your brother's aircraft. Since the incident occurred over 22 years ago, the task of responding to specific queries at this point in time may prove to be a difficult task. Please by assured, however, that we will do the best we can. Inactive military personnel records files are held in the records repository at the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri, and it may take a considerable amount of time to gain the loan of available records and complete our investigation.

We will certainly do the best that we can in our investigation and will keep you posted on our progress as information becomes available. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact us at any time.

Sincerely

Signed

A. W. GRATCH, Colonel, USAF
Chief, Casualty Services
Asst DCS/Personnel for Mil Pers

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FOI
Washington, D. C.

IMMEDIATE

13 February 1975		21 February 1975
DATE	CATEGORY	SUSPENSE

MEMORANDUM FOR: AFMPC/DPMSCB

WH CASE NUMBER 5532

SUBJECT: MONSERRAT, MIGUEL SGT

SAFLLI TASK NUMBER _____

Attached are copies of a Presidential or Presidential inquiry and our interim reply. Please take the following action(s).

(XX) Send substantive REPLY DIRECT to correspondent by the above suspense date. Opening paragraph of reply will read:

"This is in further response to your letter of (date) to ....."

Provide two (2) copies (reproduced copies are acceptable) of your reply to SAFLLI within THREE (3) duty days thereafter. These copies must be on letterhead and must be devoid of the drafter's name, coordinator, etc. That information and the WH Case or SAFLLI Task Number is to be shown only on the DD 95 transmitting the correspondence to SAFLLI.

( ) Return attachment(s) to correspondent's letter to him with your direct reply.

( ) Special instructions are attached.

(XX) Return attached basic correspondence to SAFLLI.

( ) The attached copy of the basic correspondence may be retained for your file.

Correspondence/memoranda will be signed by at least a colonel or civilian equivalent.

SAFLLI Action Officer is Lt Col Thomas S. Collins. 57394

Ralph J. Maglione

RALPH J. MAGLIONE
Major General, USAF
Director
Legislative Liaison

D/R

DECLASSIFIED

February 13, 1975

Dear Mr. Monserrat:

On behalf of President Ford, I am acknowledging your recent letter to him and placing the matter in the hands of appropriate officials for their careful consideration. You will receive a further reply as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

M. L. SORRENTINO
Colonel, USAF

Mr. John D. Monserrat
[redacted]

OSD WH 5532
AF/DPMSCB - Direct Reply
Suspense: 21 Feb 75

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 7, 1975

Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
ATTN: White House Correspondence Section
The Pentagon
stop 103

Dear Sir:

The attached letters referred to the Department by the White House appear to contain subject matter that should be handled by your agency.

It would be appreciated if you would send the White House a copy of each reply to the Attention of Mr. Frank Matthews, White House Central Files, Room 68, Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C.

Sincerely yours,

John S. Pruden

John S. Pruden
Director
Foreign Affairs Document
and Reference Center

Enclosures:
Ltr to Pres fr: Mrs. Carter/Germany
Darlene Berkovitz/Pittsburgh, Pa./Nov.17, 1974
Aristides Aguilar/New York, N.Y./Nov. 7, 1974
Pvt. William Rivera/Fort Gordon, Georgia/Dec.31, 1974
Mrs. Anita Baldwin/Fort Riley, Kansas/Sept. 16, 1974
Mrs. Isabel Vigil/Vandenberg A.F.B., Calif./Nov.8, 1974
Mrs. Lesbia de Meachum/APO N.Y./Dec. 3 & 9th, 1974
Loura Moehlman/Detroit, Michigan
Mark Makowitz/Brooklyn, N.Y.
Mrs. Kenneth Ralston/Waltham, Mass.
John D. Monserrat/Philadelphia, Pa.
Mrs. Abe Jarit/NYMiss Camara J. Duty
Rodolfo R. Alejandrino/Philippines

cc:
White House Central Files
ATTENTION: Mr. Frank Matthews
Room 68
Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500

AF

WH 55322

DECEMBER 27, 1974

[redacted]

PRESIDENT GERALD FORD
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

MR. PRESIDENT:

I am writting to you out of sheer frustration. I hope this letter of mine reachs you.

My brother Sgt. Miguel Monserrat, AF 13164064, was a crew member of a B-29 that was shot down June 13, 1952. The plane took off from Otaru, on the west coast of Japans Hokkaido Island, 450 miles from Vladivostok. Plane was last seen 12 miles from Russian held Salskalin Island. The wreckage of the B-29 was found in the sea of Japan, between Korea - Honshu Island.

On July 17, 1956, the United States charged that the Russians were holding American airman from two, possibly more, downed U.S. planes. This note came from U.S. embasy to the Soviet Foreign Ministry. Sighted specifically were two crews- a Navy Privateer shot down April 8, 1950 and an air force B-29. The B-29 carried 12 men, the privateer ten. Referring to the B-29, the note said an officer believed to have been a member of the crew was reported seen in October, 1953 - in a hospital at Narionburg north of Magadan near the Kolyma River. The note declared at least one airman believed to be from the Navy Privateer was reported to be seen at a Camp near Taishet in eastern Siberia and at a collective farm in that area in 1950 and 1953. John H. Noble of detroit who spent 9½ years as a Soviet prisoner told a Berlin news agency conference January 11, 1955 that eight airmen from privateer maybe alive in Soviet prison camps. The note went on that the Soviet government has in its custody members of other United States air craft, particurlarly crew members of the aircraft engaged on behalf of the United Nations command side of military action in Korea since 1950.

Sir, my father and I served in the armed forces during World War II, My son is at present in the army. My father, my son, my brother and I all were volunteers. We did what our country asked of us, we never shirked our duty. Long before President Kennedys famous quote"ASK NOT WHAT YOU'RE COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOU'RE COUNTRY"S, we were doing it.

It seems to us that all most every man returned from Soviet or Chinese prisons have been C.I.A. men. If the men are not held by the Russian or Chinese, why are the files still classified information.

Sir, I don't presume to remind you that the one thing our country needs now is credibility in our elected officials. I consider my family the back bone of this country. We work, pay taxes, fight and die for our country when necessary. We understand that you are discussing the men missing in Viet Nam. Kindly do not forget the men missing during the Korean war. We don't want a form letter in return correspondence sir, we want definite steps taken to release these men.

Again I want to know if these men are not being held by the Soviets or Chinese, why is the file on them being kept confidential. If they are dead why hasn't the Government honored them? WE would like to make arrangements to see this file at the earliest possible time.

Respectfully

John D. Monserrat

[redacted]

SA 4 5859 SA 4 9177

DEC 26 1974

John Monserrat Hopes

Yule-Born Son Missing Since Korea

By GLORIA CAMPISI

The holidays are always tough on John Monserrat.

It is Christmas Day and he sits at the dining room table turning over in his hands an old photograph from the Korean War.

The young man in the photo is dressed in the uniform of a U. S. Air Force sergeant. He stands with an air of certainty, his hand easy on his hip.

M. Monserrat

The young man is Monserrat's son. His name is Miguel — his grandfather was a Spaniard, the old man explains. But everybody always called him Mickey, or Mike or Big Mike when he was playing football at St. John's High. "He was 6 foot 3."

Monserrat, 69, remembers the day Mickey was born.

It was Christmas Day 1928 and his wife, Marcella, had just finished decorating the tree. Monserrat, later a policeman, and now retired in Brigantine, N. J., was driving a bus then.

"I STOPPED THE BUS," he said, during one of his runs, "went in the house, and she was still decorating the tree. The doctor was there. When I came back after work, the baby was born and the doctor was gone."

Monserrat also remembers the day early in 1952 that he drove Mickey to the train station at the end of a leave. "He waved to me and said, 'So long.'" It was the last time he saw his son.

On Father's Day 1952, he received a telegram saying the B-29 his son was aboard had crashed a few days before, with no trace of survivors.

"But I always believed he was alive," Monserrat said yesterday at the home of his other son, a SEPTA employe also named John, 48, at 6603 Upland st. For 22 years, the elder Monserrat has believed it; though Mickey's mother died accepting her son's death.

In 1956, the U. S. Government sent a strongly worded note to the Russians saying it was "compelled to believe" the crews of at least two downed U. S. planes—one the B-29—were being held by the Soviets. The note said the B-29 may have been shot near Siberia.

The Russians replied that they were holding no American military personnel.

Through the years, bits and pieces of rumor and fact came to Monserrat's ears, though nothing official was learned.

BUT FRESH HOPES were stirred when two Americans captured by the Chinese in a 1952 CIA spy mission—Richard Fecteau and John Downey—were released in 1972 and 1973.

And so the Monserrat family sat around the table on Christmas Day—Mickey's birthday—reliving all the pain and uncertainty.

"It's like the pieces of a puzzle," said the younger Monserrat. "You don't know what to believe, and what not to believe."

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330

11 February 1975

Mr. & Mrs. John Monserrat
[redacted]

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Monserrat

I enjoyed meeting you last Thursday. As we discussed, attached is a copy of the letter written to the Air Force Casualty Branch by Mr. William E. Koski, a repatriated prisoner of the Korean conflict. Also attached, per your request, are copies of letters from the Casualty Branch to Mr. Koski and to two other prisoners. Apparently, Mr. Koski was the only one who responded to the inquiry, although we will attempt to verify that while we are working on your other questions.

A summary of our meeting, and the list of questions/discrepancies you provided, is being sent to the Chief, Casualty Services, Air Force Military Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base near San Antonio, Texas. That office has the responsibility for maintaining contact with, and providing information to, the families of Air Force members who are missing, captured, deceased, or who otherwise become a casualty. The trained analysts in their Missing Persons Branch will be conducting most of the research into your questions. They have already requested the Master Personnel Records on the entire crew of your brother's aircraft. I will assist them in their contacts with Washington area agencies.

You should be hearing periodically from the Air Force Casualty Services Office as their investigation progresses, and we will also keep Senator Schweiker's office informed. The principal point of contact at the Air Force Military Personnel Center will be Major Ed Silverbush, mailing address: AFMPC/DPMSCB, Randolph AFB, TX 78148, telephone (toll free): area code 800-531-5501. You may call or write him directly, or if you prefer, my mailing address is: Hq USAF/DPEC, Washington, D.C. 20330, telephone: area code 202-697-8116.

Again, I enjoyed meeting you, and I hope we'll be able to answer most or all of your questions. Please feel free to call either Major Silverbush or me whenever we can be of assistance.

Sincerely

EDWARD E. LINDQUIST, Major, USAF
Assistant for Casualty Matters
DCS, Personnel

4 Atch
1. Mr. Koski's ltr, 1/26/56
2. Lt Col Steele's ltr to Mr. Hand, 11 Oct 55
3. Lt Col Steele's ltr to Mr. Combs, 11 Oct 55
4. Lt Col Steele's ltr to Mr. Koski, 11 Oct 55

M 498953/4/5 SAFLLI/Capt Harris/cdw/57376/13Jan75/MONSERRAT

JAN 13 1975

Dear Senator Schweiker:

This is in reply to your inquiry of December 20, 1974, in behalf of the family of Staff Sergeant Miguel H. Monserrat, USAF (deceased), regarding his disappearance. Ms. Gloria Campisi contacted you.

Authorities in Air Force Headquarters report Sergeant Monserrat was one of a 12 member crew of a B-29 which disappeared while engaged in a noncombat mission over the Sea of Japan. The aircraft departed Yokota AB, Honshu, Japan, at 10:27 a.m., June 13, 1952, on an intended route from Yokota AB to Sado Shimo, Japan, and then over water as far as approximately 60 miles from the Russian coast. Upon completion of the mission, the aircraft was to return to Yokota AB; estimated time of return being 7:07 p.m. The last radio contact was at 10:27 a.m. and was a routine position report indicating the aircraft had left the coast of Japan and was proceeding northward over water. The aircraft was tracked by radar until 1:20 p.m., at which time it left the radar zone over the Sea of Japan, approximately 100 miles northwest of Hokkaido, Japan, at a point 120 miles from the Russian coast. The plane failed to return to Yokota AB on schedule and, at 7:20 p.m., several attempts were made to establish radio contact with the missing aircraft. These efforts were unsuccessful and it and the crew were reported missing in flight. (Since the Air Force has never learned what caused the loss of the B-29, the term "shot down" as used in the inquiry is an erroneous assumption. In addition, the term missing in action (MIA) is used when an individual disappears as a result of participating in combat operations. Sergeant Monserrat was not on a combat mission and, therefore, was reported in a status of missing only.)

The aircraft was known to be carrying three six-man life rafts, and to be equipped with enough food and medical supplies to care for the entire crew for three days. Air rescue operations were initiated at 8:30 p.m. A total of

CMBK 2
AFMPC/DPMSCA

10 aircraft participated in an intensive search of the proposed route and adjacent areas. At 2:45 p.m., June 14, one of the search planes sighted and photographed an empty six-man life raft, which was right side up, about 300 miles off the southern tip of Hokkaido, at a point approximately 100 miles off the Russian coast. Search planes remained in the area until darkness, but were unable to salvage the raft because of prevailing conditions, nor could it be identified as belonging to the missing aircraft. An unconfirmed report indicated a second raft was seen four miles south of the first raft, but this sighting could not be verified. The search was resumed on the 15th, but results were negative and there was no further trace of either life raft. The search continued until June 17; no wreckage was found, nor was there any sign of survivors.

At the lapse of a 12-month period, Sergeant Monserrat and the other crew members were continued in a missing status pursuant to Section 5, Public Law 489, Missing Persons Act (Section 555, Title 37, United States Code). The reasons for the determination to continue them in a missing status are as follows: Under normal conditions, the absence of any word for this lengthy period of time would tend to conclusively establish that the crew perished when their aircraft was lost. The route of this B-29 and its probable location at the time of the accident precluded such a determination. Official reports disclose that the scheduled route was such that the accident may have occurred at a point where survivors could have been rescued by foreign personnel and removed from the area before the arrival of our search aircraft on the following day. This supposition had not been substantiated through Department of State channels. However, this possibility alone, although remote, was sufficient to warrant a continuance of the missing status of the entire crew until further information could be developed. A full review of the status of the personnel of this B-29 was made in November 1955 and revealed the following: No information had been received from any source which would indicate what emergency actually befell the B-29. Sufficient time had elapsed during which it is reasonable to assume some definite intelligence would have been received, had any crew members survived. In view of the lapse of time and complete absence of information which would support a continued presumption of their survival, the missing status of Sergeant Monserrat and the

[illegible]/Sembers was terminated by a presumptive finding of death pursuant to Section 5 of the Missing Persons Act. The date of presumed death was recorded as November 15, 1955.

On July 16, 1956, our government specifically requested information of the United Soviet Socialist Republic concerning the possibility of their holding members of air crews or any other Americans. The Soviet Government replied on August 13 and categorically denied holding any United States military personnel. Please assure Ms. Campisi that no intelligence was ever received which would substantiate a belief that Sergeant Monserrat survived the incident and was ever a prisoner.

As an additional point of information, the 389 unaccounted for United States servicemen from the Korean War were declared dead under the Missing Persons Act. A fact sheet pertaining to our efforts to account for these men is attached for your information.

Your interest in behalf of Sergeant Monserrat's family is appreciated, and we trust you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

DONALD R. KEENEY, Colonel, USAF
Congressional Inquiry Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

2 Attachments
1) fact sheet
2) consti enquiry

Honorable Richard S. Schweiker

United States Senate

CASUALTY DOCUMENTATION RECORD

SUBJECT	TIME
SSgt Miguel W. Monserrat	
CALLER	**RELATIONSHIP**
Capt Harris L&L	

DISCUSSION

23 Jan 75

Capt Harris advised that Senator Schweiker's office had again called him regarding this case, and stated everyone up the line to include the Senator was satisfied with our reply; however, the sister-in-law was not. She seems to hold the edge over her husband who is the brother to Sgt Monserrat, and so far as can be determined, the only primary living NOK. At the time of Capt Harris' telecon, unless matters changed the brother is going to sign a letter to review whatever records we have on Sgt Monserrat. I again advised Capt Harris that the only thing we had on Monserrat was the C/S Memo when we made him dead and some newspaper clippings. [redacted] He asked if we did not have an incident report. I gave him a negative reply. He said, well he was just apprising me so I could get whatever we have together because he is pretty sure these people will be coming to DC to see what we have; that the Senator's office has attempted to pacify them and could not. I asked Capt Harris if this was the brother and his wife, why was her name Gloria Campisi. He advised that he had since learned Campisi was not the sister-in-law, that she was someone else. Never the less, through some means the brother was signing a letter to see the records.

Janie Beckner
JANIE BECKNER
Missing Persons Branch

TYPE OR PRINT NAME, TITLE, GRADE OF RECORDER	SIGNATURE

DPM FORM AUG 67 124

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, PERSONNEL 14 NOV 1955

SUBJECT: Finding of Death, SR&D Case #418 (13 Jun 52)

FACTS

1. Pursuant to the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act," reconsideration has been given to the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of the Air Force personnel listed below, who were initially reported missing on 13 June 1952..

DECEASED - Staff Sergeant Miguel W. Monserrat AF 13 164 064

2. Following a full review of this case pursuant to Section 5 of the Act, the subject personnel were continued in a missing status at the expiration of the initial 12 months' period of absence.

3. An examination of available reports and records pertaining to the status of the subject personnel discloses that they have not been repatriated or otherwise returned to military control and that the available information is insufficient to conclusively establish their ultimate fate.

4. a. Circumstances. The personnel listed were the crew of a B-29 which departed Yokota Air Base, Honshu, Japan, at 1007, 13 June 1952, on a classified reconnaissance mission over the Sea of Japan. The aircraft was followed by radar over the course to be flown until 1320, at which time the radar contact was lost at coordinates 46 degrees 5 minutes North, 140 degrees 40 minutes East, approximately 100 miles north of Hokkaido at a point 120 miles from the Russian coast. The aircraft failed to return to Yokota Air Base and although several attempts were made to establish radio contact, all were unavailing. The missing aircraft was known to have 3 six-man and 11 one-man life rafts aboard and sufficient food and medical supplies to care for all 12 men for three

The attached documents were forwarded in Feb 75 to Major Lindquist for Captain Harris, L&L.

days. On 14 June 1952, during the search, an empty six-man life raft was sighted, right side up, at a point about 100 miles off the Russian coast, but search planes were unable to salvage the raft due to prevailing conditions. An unconfirmed report indicated that a second six-man life raft was seen four miles south of the first raft but this sighting could not be verified. Although the search was continued through 17 June 1952, no wreckage was found, nor was there any sign of survivors.

b. A message was received from the Commander, Far East Air Forces, indicating that an official report from Radio Moscow on 16 June 1952 stated that one officer survivor was picked up by a Russian vessel about two days before. The name of the survivor was not given and efforts to confirm this report were unsuccessful. Later FEAF reported that the cited broadcast did not pertain to personnel from the B-29, basing their premise on the fact that subsequent broadcasts concerned biological warfare propaganda and mentioned the names of Air Force personnel reported missing in action on 14 January 1952. Several repatriates from Operation "Big Switch" indicated that the Chinese had asked them questions concerning this crew. However, their captors never volunteered any information as to whether or not there actually were survivors or what had happened to the aircraft.

c. A recent message from the Commander, Far East Air Forces, dated 7 October 1955, states that they have received no additional information concerning the members of this crew since they were continued in a missing status in June 1953.

DISCUSSION

5. The circumstances surrounding the missing status of the members of this crew appear unfavorable for survival but are insufficient to conclusively establish their ultimate fate. The twelve persons listed above were continued in a missing status in view of the fact that experience had shown the USSR had previously withheld or distorted information concerning the whereabouts or fate of United Nations personnel who had disappeared in territory controlled by the Communist countries. However, in view of the fact that there has never been any indication as to what emergency actually befell the B-29, or that any of the crew were able to abandon the aircraft and were picked up by foreign personnel, the likelihood that any of these twelve persons is still alive may no longer reasonably be considered. This conclusion is further substantiated by the lapse of over three years since they became missing, with no information forthcoming which would support a continued presumption of their survival. It is reasonable to assume that, had they survived, some word would have been received from or about them during this period. Therefore, under the provisions of Public Law 490, a presumptive finding of death is warranted.

Memo for DCSP, subj: Finding of Death, SR&D Case #418 (13 Jun 52)

RECOMMENDATION

c. It is recommended that, pursuant to the authority contained in Section 5, Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended, official casualty reports be issued stating that the missing status of the Air Force personnel listed in paragraph 1 has been terminated by a presumptive finding of death. Further, that the casualty reports include a statement that the presumptive finding was made following a subsequent review of all available information and, as provided by and for the purposes of the cited law, the date of presumed death has been established as 15 November 1955. Death is held to have occurred while in pay and duty status, in flying pay status, in line of duty and not as the result of misconduct.

R. J. REEVES
Major General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

1 Attachment
List of Source Material

14 NOV 1955

Under the authority delegated by the Secretary of the Air Force to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, the above recommendation is approved.

EMMETT O'DONNELL, JR.
Lieutenant General, USAF
Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, JULY 1

Text of U. S. Note on Missing Airmen

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 16—Following is the text of a United States note to Moscow about United States airmen said to be prisoners in the Soviet Union:

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and has the honor to refer to the question of the detention of United States military personnel in the Soviet Union.

The United States Government has for some time received, from persons of various nationalities freed from Soviet Government imprisonment during the last several years, reports that they have conversed with, seen or heard reports concerning United States military aviation personnel, belonging either to the United States Air Force or to the United States Navy air arm, in actual detention in the Soviet Union.

The United States Government has sought in all such cases to obtain, if possible, precise identification of American nationals detained by the Soviet Government, although it notes that by international law and international practice the Soviet Government is obliged to inform the United States Government, first of any American nationals whom the Soviet Government holds in custody or to permit such nationals to communicate with the proper United States authorities.

The reports concerning such personnel have now become so persistent and detailed, and so credible that, although the United States Government is not able to identify by name these American nationals now detained by the Soviet Government, it requests the Soviet Government to inform the United States Government in detail concerning each American military person who has been detained in the Soviet Union at any time since January 1, 1949, of whom the United States Government has not heretofore been informed by the Soviet Government, giving in each case the name of the person and the circumstances underlying his detention.

Specific Cases Are Named

Specifically, the United States Government is informed and is compelled to believe that the Soviet Government has had and continues to have under detention the following:

1. One or more members of the crew of a United States Navy Privateer-type aircraft which came down in the Baltic Sea area on April 8, 1950. The United States Government has since that time received reports that various members of the crew of this United States were and are, de-

The New York Times July 17, 1950

The United States said missing American airmen had been seen at Vorkuta (1), and near Taishet (2) and Magadan (3).

personnel, all nationals of the United States:

Name.	Rank.	Serial No.	
Fette, John H.	Lt.	320676	USNR
Seeschat, Howard W.	Lt.	264095	USN
Reynolds, Robert G.	Lt. j.g.	368573	USN
Burgess, Tommy L.	Ens.	506762	USN
Danzas Jr., Joe H.	AD1	3685438	USN
Thomas, Jack W.	AD1	2242750	USN
Beckman, Frank L.	AT1	2799076	USN
Purcell, Edward J.	CT1	2540438	USN
Riemler Jr., Joseph N.	AT1	2542600	USN
Bourassa, Joseph Jay	AL1	8539866	USN

Missing B-29 Mentioned

2. One or more members of the crew of a United States Air Force B-29 which came down on June 12, 1952, either over the Sea of Japan or near the Kamchatka area of the Soviet Union. An officer, believed by the United States Government to have been a member of this crew, was observed in October, 1953, in a Soviet hospital north of Magadan near the crossing of the Kolyma River between Elgen and Debin at a place called Narionburg. This officer stated that he had been convicted, wrongfully, under Item 6 of Article 58 of the Soviet Penal Code.

For the information of the Soviet Government, the United States Air Force personnel on board the B-29 which has been missing since June 12, 1952, were as follows:

Name.	Rank.	Serial No.
Busch, Samuel G.	Major,	AO [illegible]
Scully, James A.	1st Lt.,	AO [illegible]
Service, Samuel D.	1st Lt.,	AO [illegible]
McDonnell, Robert J.	1st Lt.,	AO 2222264
Homer, William B.	M/Sgt.,	AF 7825784
Moore, David L.	M/Sgt.,	AF 15229915
Blizzard, William A.	S/Sgt.,	AF 19244175
Monserrat, Miguel W.	S/Sgt.,	AF 13164064
Berg, Eddie R.	S/Sgt.,	AF 17281746
Bonura, Leon F.	S/Sgt.,	AF 18359162
Becker, Roscoe G.	S/Sgt.,	AF 18301813
Pillsbury, Danny H.	A/1C,	AF 18245964

3. While the foregoing specific cases involve the crew members of two aircraft, it may well be that the Soviet Government has in its custody members of the crews of other United States aircraft, particularly crew members of aircraft engaged on behalf of the United Nations Command side of the military action in Korea since 1950.

The United States Government desires that the Soviet Government make its inquiry on the foregoing subject as thoroughly as possible, but that it keep this Embassy informed of progress as soon as possible.

Specifically, the United States Government is informed and is compelled to believe that the Soviet Government has had and continues to have under detention the following:

1. One or more members of the crew of a United States Navy Privateer-type aircraft which came down in the Baltic Sea area on April 8, 1950. The United States Government has since that time received reports that various members of the crew of this United States aircraft were, and are, detained in Soviet detention places in the Far Eastern area of the Soviet Union.

In particular, it is informed, and believes, that in 1950 and in October, 1953, at least one American military aviation person, believed to be a member of the crew of this United States Navy Privateer, was held at Camp No. 20 allegedly near Taishet, and collective farm No. 23, approximately fifty-four kilometers [about thirty-four miles] from Taishet, said to be under sentence for alleged espionage. This American national was described as having suffered burns on the face and legs in the crash of his aircraft and using crutches or a cane.

Reports have been received from former prisoners of the Soviet Government at Vorkuta that in September, 1950, as many as eight American nationals, believed to be members of the crew of the United States Navy Privateer to which reference is made, had been seen in the area of Vorkuta and specifically, that one person who was interned at Vorkuta in September, 1950, stated that he was serving a twenty-five year espionage sentence and had been a member of a downed United States aircraft.

For the information of the Soviet Government, the crew of the United States Navy Privateer when it departed for its flight over the high seas of the Baltic consisted of the following United States Navy

MOORE, DAVID, L. SAFLL-1/Mr. Cramer/cb/9 Jan/57361

SAFLL - 145416 (RS 10 Jan)

Dear Senator Cooper:

This is in response to your inquiry of 20 December 1960 in behalf of Mr. Richard M. Moore concerning information relating to his brother, Master Sergeant David L. Moore. Sergeant Moore was placed in a missing status on 13 June 1952 and was presumed dead on 15 November 1955. Cathedral to Cramer attn.

Attached is a summary of the circumstances pertaining to the disappearance and current official status of Sergeant Moore. Mr. Moore's feelings and concern for his brother are understandable, particularly since no remains were recovered and the manner and details of death are not known. However, Sergeant Moore's family has been kept fully advised of all information relative to his status. If any additional facts are received regarding his fate, they will be notified immediately.

Although certain phases of the mission from which Sergeant Moore become missing remain classified, these are not relevant to the status of Sergeant Moore. The Department of the Air Force has received no positive intelligence which would substantiate that Sergeant Moore survived the incident or was ever a prisoner of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).

It is assumed that Mr. Moore's reference to his brother's records being open in "Archives" refers to Sergeant Moore's Master Military Personnel Records which are at the records depository at St. Louis, Missouri. Should Mr. Moore desire to review these Air Force records regarding his brother, it is suggested that he write to the Chief, Air Force Branch, Military Personnel Records Center, GSA, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis 32, Missouri, and make his request known. Should it be more convenient for Mr. Moore to review the records in the Washington, D. C., area he should advise the Chief, Casualty Branch, Directorate of Military Personnel, Headquarters, United States Air Force, Washington 25, D. C. He should allow sufficient time before his anticipated visit so that the records may be procured from the records depository, and arrangements can be made for a specific time for the perusal of Sergeant Moore's records.

I hope the above information will be useful. If we can do anything further to assist you, please let me know.

MR

Recd 27 Dec Not Ackned Fwded Sincerely yours, cc: COORD CMBK Mr. Cramer PMP-S-1-C
PMP-S w/sus 3 Jan extended 9 Jan
[illegible] & fwded bsd on memo

GEORGE M. LOCKHART
Colonel, [illegible]
Congressional Inquiry Division
Office of [illegible]

[illegible] Senator Cooper

[illegible] 1. Ltr frm consti

BECKER, Roscoe G., S/Sgt. AFPMP-S-1-A/Maj Chichester/cdw/56957/3 Jun 58
AF 19 391 813 POD 15 Nov 55

AFPMP-S-1-A/Maj Chichester/cdw/56957

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF, CONGRESSIONAL DIVISION,
DIRECTORATE OF LEGISLATIVE LIAISON
ATTN: MAJOR G. L. HARDIN

SUBJECT: Staff Sergeant Roscoe G. Becker, AF 19 391 813, Deceased, 15 November 1955

1. Reference is made to Suspense Case SAFLL 56602.

2. Staff Sergeant Roscoe G. Becker, AF 19 391 813, was a crew member aboard a B-29 aircraft which departed Yokota Air Base, Japan, on 13 June 1952, to perform a classified, non-combat, reconnaissance mission over the Sea of Japan. The last radio contact with the B-29 was a routine position report indicating the aircraft had left the coast of Japan and was proceeding northward over water.

3. Approximately 100 miles north of Hokkaido, Japan, at a point about 130 miles from the Russian coast, radar contact was lost with the B-29. When the aircraft failed to return to Yokota Air Base at the scheduled time, Air Rescue facilities were alerted and a full scale aerial search was initiated. The following day an empty six man life raft was sighted, right side up, at a point approximately 100 miles off the Russian coast, 300 miles off the southern tip of Hokkaido. Approaching darkness prevented the recovery of the raft. It could not be definitely identified as belonging to the subject B-29, nor could it subsequently be located. The extensive, organized search of the proposed route of the missing aircraft as well as other adjacent areas to which it may have traveled was suspended 17 June 1952. No information was obtained which would indicate the whereabouts of the B-29 or its crew.

4. Sergeant Becker and the other members of his crew were continued in a missing status until 15 November 1955. Based upon the results of a full review of the facts and circumstances involved in this case, their missing status was terminated by a presumptive finding of death pursuant to the provisions of section 5 of the Missing Persons Act. The date of presumed death was recorded as 15 November 1955.

5. Congressman Norblad may be informed that the headlines in the Journal Daily Paper of Portland, Oregon, apparently refer to the news release of our Government's note to the Soviet Union on 16 July 1956. The note stated that credible reports had been received indicating that American nationals, who could not be identified by name, might be detained by the Soviet Government.

AFPMP
LT COLONEL W. C. HEARD

AFPMP-S-1-A
Maj Chichester

Memo for Chief, Congressional Div, Dir of L&L, subj: Staff Sergeant Roscoe G. Becker, AF 19 391 813, (Cont)

The note cited two cases, one of which concerned an officer associated with Sergeant Becker's B-29, and asked the Soviet Government for detailed information concerning each American military person who may have been detained in the Soviet Union at any time since 1 January 1949. On 13 August 1956, the reply of the Soviet Government categorically denied holding any United States military personnel. Congressman Norblad may be assured that no intelligence has been received which would substantiate a belief that Sergeant Becker survived the incident and was ever a prisoner in the USSR. Sergeant Becker's family has been fully advised of all information relative to his status and if any additional facts are received regarding his fate, they will be notified immediately.

6. It is noted that the letter from Congressman Norblad implies that Sergeant Becker was reported "missing in action" in the Korean conflict. The term "missing in action" is used when an individual disappears as a result of participating in combat operations. Sergeant Becker was not on a combat mission and, therefore, was reported in a status of missing only. Mrs. Alice Becker, mother of Sergeant Becker was previously advised of the meaning of this terminology. Since the Department of the Air Force has never learned what caused the loss of the B-29, the term "shot-down", as used by Congressman Norblad's constituent, is an erroneous assumption.

7. This paper is of a routine nature and requires no additional coordination. Any inquiries may be directed to Major W. S. Chichester, extension 56957.

FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

1 Incl
Susp Case SAFIL 56602
Memo R/S dt 26 May 58
w/1 incl

W. C. HEARD
Lt Colonel, USAF
Asst Chief, Casualty Branch
Special Activities Group
Directorate of Military Personnel

201-BUSCH, Samuel N., Maj
AO 733 811, Decd 15 Nov 55

AFPMP-S-1-B/Maj Hawkins/wpj/56072/2 Nov 56
Kane

2 NOV 1956

Mrs. Ruth Busch
[redacted]

Dear Mrs. Busch:

This is in reply to your letter of 15 October 1956 concerning the payment of the Federal income tax of your late husband, Major Samuel N. Busch.

At the time your husband became missing, he was not serving in a combat zone. As you know, the crew had departed Yokota Air Base, Honshu, Japan, on a reconnaissance mission over the Sea of Japan. The aircraft was last tracked by radar at a point approximately 100 miles northwest of Hokkaido, Japan, which area was not in the combat zone as set forth in Executive Order 10195, dated 20 December 1950. The "combat zone" was defined as Korea, including the waters adjacent thereto within described limits.

I suggest that you contact the Internal Revenue office in Philadelphia and discuss this matter with one of their consultants. I am inclosing a copy of the official death report concerning your husband which you may present to the officials there.

Sincerely yours,

1 Incl
Cas Rcpt

R. J. REEVES
Major General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

M/R: Discussed this case with Lt Col Stulb, Legal Assistance, who advised that we not tell her she is not entitled to tax exemption, although he indicated from the facts presented to him, Major Busch was not entitled to combat zone exemption. AAG has map marked off showing the "combat zone" defined in above executive order. Major Busch did not go missing anywhere near the combat area.
AFPMP-S-1
Lt Col Steele
Lt Col Davison
Maj Hawkins
Maj Chichester

WITH IN ARC

2 Nov 56

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

53-H
Action
EUR

Info
RMR
SS
S
SP
O
E
L
IO
P
COP
ND
SOV
OLI
OCB
USIA
CIA
OSD
ARMY
NAVY
AIR
NIC

DOL

Control: 8476
Rec'd: AUGUST 13, 1956
4:02 P.M.

FROM: MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 365, AUGUST 13, 9 P.M.

SENT DEPARTMENT 365, TOKYO 10.

FOREIGN OFFICE NOTE 79/OSA OF AUGUST 13 REFERS TO EMBASSY NOTE 42, JULY 16, (ON AMERICAN FLIERS IN SOVIET CUSTODY) NOTE CLAIMS "CAREFUL INVESTIGATION". REVEALS NO AMERICAN CITIZENS FROM AMERICAN AIR FORCE OR NAVAL AIR FORCE ON SOVIET TERRITORY. INVESTIGATION "LEAVES US DOUBT" EMBASSY'S CLAIM HAS NO BASIS IN FACT. SOVIET GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS NECESSARY OBSERVE THAT "US GOVERNMENT WAS APPARENTLY MISINFORMED BY PERSONS WHO ATTEMPT BY FALSE INFORMATION HINDER DEVELOPMENT NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN USSR AND USA".

WALMSLEY

[redacted]

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY, IF CLASSIFIED, IS PROHIBITED

PROPOSED DRAFT

16 July 1956

AFMP

SUBJECT: State Department Note of 16 July 1956 to the Soviet Union

TO: Commander
Bolling Air Force Base
ATTN: Personal Affairs Officer
Washington 25, D. C.

1. On 16 July 1956, the State Department asked the Soviet Government for detailed information concerning each American military person who may have been detained in the Soviet Union at any time since 1 January 1949, about whom the United States Government has not heretofore been informed.

2. In particular, our Government queried the USSR about the crew of an Air Force B-29 which went down on 13 June 1952 either over the Sea of Japan or near the Kamchatka area of the Soviet Union. Names of the crew members were listed for the information of the Soviet Government.

3. One of these crew members whose casualty assistance case was assigned to your base is _____.

4. If the next of kin or any member of the family should query your base, now that the text of our Government's note to the Soviet Union has been released to the press, you should explain to them that this Headquarters has received no additional information which would change the facts related to them at the time the presumptive finding of death was made.

5. You should further advise them that they will be promptly advised by Headquarters USAF if any tangible information is received regarding the ultimate fate of this particular crew and that nothing further will be known until the Soviet Union replies to the State Department's note.

BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

R. J. REEVES
Major General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

566

12 September 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Major Harvey E. Hawkins

SUBJECT: State Department (Mr. Klaus' role in the three aircraft missing in the Sea of Japan).

1. On 9 September 1955, I talked with Mr. Klaus of State Department with reference to new information on the B-29 (English crew) missing 7 October 1952.

2. From our conversation, I learned that his function is legal in nature - working on the presentation and submission of claims to the International Court of Justice at The Hague. It appears that both countries involved in a dispute must consent to air their dispute before any action is taken by the Court.

3. a. In the case of the B-29 (English crew) missing 7 October 1952, the State Department has presented a claim to the International Court of Justice. The USSR has formally refused to go into court in this case. Our claim still is on record and still open for possible future action along these lines by our State Department.

b. In the case of the RB-50 (Tejeda crew) missing 29 July 1953, Mr. Klaus has prepared a claim for submission to the International Court, but action has been suspended because the Department of the Air Force does not sanction its presentation to the International Court of Justice.

c. In the case of the B-29 (Busch crew) missing 13 June 1952, no claim has been prepared by Mr. Klaus. No report from the Department of the Air Force received that the aircraft was shot down. Informed them that we had a report that on 16 June 1952 radio Moscow broadcast that one survivor picked up by a Russian vessel about two days before. Mr. Klaus stated he did not have this information and requested it be sent to him.

Raymond C. Obertono

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

August 20, 1956

LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Dear Mr. Bennett:

This is in reply to your letter of August 15, 1956, regarding Airman Second Class Marvin Jacob Kaminen, 16343003, whose parents have heard reports to the effect that he might possibly be held in a Soviet prison camp.

As you are already probably aware, there have been rumors from time to time concerning the possibility of American personnel, particularly airmen, being held in Soviet prison camps. Quite recently, on July 16 to be exact, the United States Government specifically requested of the USSR information concerning the possibility of their holding members of air crews or any other Americans. One of these crews was also on a B-29 type aircraft which was lost close to an area held by the Communists on the same day, June 18, 1952, that Airman Kaminen's plane was lost. Consequently, it is believed that the story which the Kaminen family has heard might possibly have made reference to this crew in some manner or another, thereby raising the hope in their minds that their son is alive and also a prisoner. At this point I might state that on August 13 the Soviet Government in reply to the United States Government categorically denied holding any United States military personnel.

In order to help both you and the Kaminen family to better understand this situation more clearly, I can advise you that the B-29 upon which Airman Kaminen was aboard was lost approximately ninety miles from Kwajalein Island which is, as you know, in the mid-Pacific northeast of Australia. This area since World War II has been designated as the Trust Territories of the Pacific Island and is under the supervision of the United States. Additionally, the island is several thousand miles from the nearest Communist held territory. Therefore, the geographical factor in itself would most certainly preclude the possibility of members of this crew being picked up by the Communist elements.

It is certainly most regrettable that these conflicting and obscure reports have had the tendency to

renew agonizing thoughts in the minds of parents who have already suffered so much in the loss of a son who was serving his country.

If I can be of further assistance to you, please advise me accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

WADE M. FLEISCHER
Colonel, USAF
Director
Office of Legislative Liaison

Honorable John B. Bennett

House of Representatives

cc: AFPMP-5-1 Attn: Lt Col Steele
ASO/OSD Attn: Mr. Kelleher

M/R: Coordinated with AFPMP-5-1 (Lt Col Steele)

A-5697

William E. Koski
[redacted]

Richard A. Steele
Lt. Col. USAF
Chief, Casualty Branch
Personnel Services Division
Directorate of Military Personnel

Dear Sir
I recently recieved a letter from your office, dated 11 Oct. 55, forwarded to me after a considerable delay.

This letter is in relation to your investigation of the fate of Major Samual N. Busch, last of the 91st Strat. Recon. Squadron.

As you are aware the communists asked me numerous questions about Major Busch, expressing enough interest in him, to the exclusion of any of his crew members as to indicate to me the likelyhood of their holding the Major a prisoner.

I was first approached on the subject in late October or early November of 1952. This occured after the communists discovered I had been involved on a search mission looking for the Major's ship. They asked about Busch and only about him, which to me jived with the communist radio report that had been monitored in Japan on 13 June, stating that one officer airman had been picked up. (Verify w ith Major John Norton or Col. Fredrick McCoy who were then with the 91st)

They proceeded to qu$_e$stion me about Major Busch, very intensively, including questions about his personality, past history, previous service, etc. Having been aquainted with the Major at both Fairchild and Yokota I knew a little random information about him. Most of this being common knowledge,I told what I could in the belief that my verifying whatever the Major had told them would relieve some of the pressure undoubtedly being put on him.

They never would say what happened to the aircraft or that there were any survivors. On the other hand my accusations that they had shot the airplane down in international waters and were holding survivors were not denied. At no time that I can recall did they ever give any indication of the source of their knowledge or reason for their interest in Major Busch.

As I have already stated, their interest in the Major certainly seemed to me as enough indication that they were holding him. After 1500 hours of interrogation I know that they didn't bother questioning about immaterial matters. They had a definite interest in Busch and since they never asked or made mention of any of his crew I assumed he was the only survivor.

The recently repatriated Major William Baumer might have more to on this subject since he commanded the search mission on 13 June and was later a prisoner in the same jug and with the same interrogaters as I had.

This last will probably be of little interest to you since it is only my conclusions regarding the incident, a result of my experiences with the Chinks. As you know the search mission did locate a life raft, safe indication that there were survivors. Since the raft could only have been launched from the rear entrance door or the mid-upper raft compartments, why should the A/C who would have to crawl through his escape window to get out of a ditched B-29, be the only one to make it, with the exclusion of 10 or 11 other men? (The opinion of those who saw the raft in the water was that it was the type to have been la unched from the rear door rather than from the fuselage compartment, indicating that there must have been survivors from the aft section) Therefore, if there were one survivor, there should have been several, though this is in contradiction with all I could find out from the Chinks.

Generaly, I could glean considerable information from the communists by manipulating the answers I gave to their questions in such a way as to gain a fair idea as to w hat their current problem was. However, in this case I failed to do much other than establish my own conviction that survivors, including Major Busch were being held prisoner.

Other than this there isnt much Ican add except that I sincerely regret this delay in answering. This thing has intrigued me for a long time and I would greatly appreciate your letting me know if my assumptions as to the Majors fate correct or not.

Respectfully yours

William E Koski

William E. Koski
1/26/55

...L-BUSCH, Samuel N., Maj AFPMP-12-E-3/G. Huff/men/56755/1 Nov 55

NOV 1 1 1955

...r. and Mrs. Adolph Busch
[redacted]

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Busch:

It is with deep regret that I must officially notify you of the termination of the missing status of your son, Major Samuel N. Busch, since he can no longer reasonably be presumed to be alive.

This headquarters has just completed a full review of the facts and circumstances relating to the status of your son and his crew members. As you know, Major Busch was continued in a missing status because the probable route of the flight was such that a remote possibility existed that he or other members of his crew might have been picked up by Russian personnel and they been able to abandon their aircraft. Unfortunately, no information has ever been forthcoming from any source which would indicate that an emergency actually befell the B-29 and sufficient time has elapsed during which it is reasonable to assume some word would have been received, that any crew members survived. In view of this lapse of over three years since your son and his crew became missing, and the complete absence of information which would support a continued presumption of their survival, it can only be concluded that they may no longer reasonably be presumed to be alive.

Consequently, it has become necessary under the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act" to terminate Major Busch's missing status by a presumptive finding of death, the presumed date being recorded as 15 November 1955. This is not considered to be the actual or probable date of death, but it is established in accordance with the cited law for the purpose of terminating pay and settling accounts. An official report of this change in his status has been issued by the Department of the Air Force.

We realize how distressing it is to receive so little information about his fate. While we can offer no assurance of further particulars, we do want you to know that the termination of his missing status will not affect our efforts to obtain more complete details. You may be certain that you will be notified immediately if additional information is received concerning him.

I am extremely sorry that this message does not lighten the grief in your home. Please accept my deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

Sincerely yours,

A. J. KEYES
Major General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

Moore, David L, MSgt, AF 15229915, Decd 15 Nov 55
AFPMP-S-1-C/Major Luther/kds/6 Jan 61
Drafter/Obertone

SUMMARY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH

OF

MASTER SERGEANT DAVID L. MOORE, AF 15229915

1. Master Sergeant David L. Moore, AF 15229915, was a crew member aboard a B-29 aircraft which departed Yokota Air Base, Japan, on 13 June 1952, to perform a classified, non-combat, reconnaissance mission over the Sea of Japan. The last radio contact with the B-29 was a routine position report indicating the aircraft had left the coast of Japan and was proceeding northward over water.

2. Approximately 100 miles north of Hokkaido, Japan, at a point about 120 miles from the Russian coast, radar contact was lost with the B-29. When the aircraft failed to return to Yokota Air Base at the scheduled time, Air Rescue facilities were alerted and a full scale aerial search was initiated. The following day an empty six man life raft was sighted, right side up, at a point approximately 100 miles off the Russian coast, 300 miles off the southern tip of Hokkaido. Approaching darkness prevented the recovery of the raft. It could not be definitely identified as belonging to the subject B-29, nor could it subsequently be located. The extensive, organized search of the proposed route of the missing aircraft as well as other adjacent areas to which it may have traveled was suspended 17 June 1952. No information was obtained which would indicate the whereabouts of the B-29 or its crew.

3. An unofficial report intercepted on 16 June 1952 from Radio Moscow stated that one survivor, an officer, was picked up by a Russian vessel on or about 14 June 1952. No identifying data was given, nor had the report been confirmed through official channels. In an investigation conducted by the overseas commander and the State Department, persons who had reported hearing this and subsequent broadcasts were contacted and interrogated. They have stated that broadcasts first believed to be related to the B-29 in question were later definitely established as pertaining to an officer who was reported missing in action on 14 January 1952.

4. At the lapse of a 12 month period in the missing status, Sergeant Moore and the other members of this B-29 crew were continued in a missing status pursuant to the provisions of section 5, Missing Persons Act (Title 50, USC, App. 1005). The following were the reasons for this determination: Under normal conditions, the absence of any word for this lengthy period of time would tend to conclusively establish that the crew perished when their aircraft was lost. The route of this B-29 and its probable location at the time of the accident precluded such a determination. Official reports disclose that the scheduled route of the aircraft was such that the accident may have occurred at a point where survivors could have been rescued by foreign personnel and removed from the area before the arrival of our search aircraft on the following day. This supposition had not been substantiated through State Department channels. However, this possibility alone,

lthough remote, was sufficient to warrant a continuance of the missing status f the entire crew until further information could be developed. A full review f the status of the personnel of this B-29 was made in November 1955 and revealed the following: No information had been received from any source which would indicate what emergency actually befell the B-29. Sufficient time had elapsed during which it is reasonable to assume some definite intelligence would have been received, had any crew members survived. In view of the lapse of time and complete absence of information which would support a continued presumption of their survival, the missing status of Sergeant Moore and the other crew members of the B-29 was terminated by a presumptive finding of death pursuant to the provisions of section 5 of the Act. The date of presumed death was recorded as 15 November 1955.

5. On 16 July 1956 the Government of the United States petitioned the Government of the USSR in the form of a note which stated that credible reports had been received indicating that American nationals, who could not be identified by name, might be detained by the Soviet Government. The note cited two cases, one of which concerned an officer who was associated with Sergeant Moore's B-29, and asked the Soviet Government for detailed information concerning each American military person who may have been detained in the Soviet Union at any time since 1 January 1949. The reply of the Soviet Government, received on 13 August 1956, categorically denied their holding any Air Force military personnel. This incident has been widely publicized throughout the United States by the news media.

W. A. BJERKELUND
Major, USAF
Directorate of Military Personnel

AFPMP-S-1
Maj Luther

Memorandum for Record:

1. Letter fr Mr. Richard M. Moore to Senator John S. Cooper, undated and recd at the Senator's office 19 Dec 60, was forwarded to SAFLL. Mr. Cramer, SAFLL, ext 57361 forwarded ltr to AFPMP-S-1 for preparation of a draft of proposed reply with suspense date 3 Jan 61. Mr. Moore is the brother of MSgt David L. Moore, missing 13 June 1952 and presumed dead 15 Nov 55. Brother indicates Senator helped him get info before but AF Security prevented answers to all the questions (Prior congressional correspondence - Senator Cooper - SAFLL Suspense Case 06422C, dated 27 March 1953). Mr. Moore is now requesting all information pertaining to the status of his brother. He apparently is anxious to see the records as he is also requesting when MSgt Moore's records will be open in "Archives" as he understands that they will be then open to the public.

2. MSgt Moore's MPR called for from MPRC, St. Louis by Airmail Expedite. SAFLL requested to resuspend case to 9 Jan 61 since records nec and not received by the 3rd. Information in summary of proposed reply extracted fr MPR and suppl Missing Report on file AFPMP-S-1-C. With reference to "Archives" it is believed Mr. Moore is referring to the records depository. Regardless, it appears his main concern is to view his brother's records. Believe we should offer to make files available to him at St. Louis or Washington whichever is most convenient to him. Wife then residing with Sergeant Moore's mother, was offered the opportunity in 1952 to view the records but did not respond. This also will possibly convince the NOK that info is not being withheld. Mr. Moriarty, AFCAS, ext 72526, coordinated approach with reg to "Archives" question and inspection of files contained in last paragraph by telephone conv w/Mr. Obertone, AFPMP-S-1-C on 5 Jan 61.

J. G. LUTHER
Major, USAF

201 Busch, Samuel N., AO 733 811

AFPMP-12-E-2/RM/rf/41679
Rmf24 9 July 52

Mrs. Ruth Busch
[redacted]

JUL 11 1952

Dear Mrs. Busch:

Since I last communicated with you, a report has been received from the overseas commander concerning the known events leading to your husband's missing status. I know that you are anxious to learn as much as possible of what happened to your husband, Major Samuel N. Busch.

Our report states that Major Busch was the aircraft commander of a B-29 type aircraft which departed from Yokota Air Base, Honshu, Japan, 13 June 1952, on a reconnaissance mission over the Sea of Japan. The aircraft was last seen when it departed from Yokota Air Base at 10:07 a.m. and the last radio contact was a routine position transmission at 10:27 a.m. Your husband's plane was tracked by radar until 1:20 p.m. when it left the radar zone. When the aircraft failed to return as scheduled, Air Rescue Service was alerted and a search was begun. A total of ten aircraft searched the proposed route of the missing plane on 14 June 1952. An empty six-man life raft was sighted but could not be retrieved and identified as belonging to the missing aircraft. The search was resumed on 15 June and again on 17 June but all efforts to locate survivors have met with negative results. All crews on missions in the area have been and will be briefed to maintain surveillance for evidence of the missing crew. There are no known eyewitnesses or persons having knowledge of the facts surrounding the disappearance of the aircraft.

I want to assure you that if your husband is located or any other information is secured regarding him, a report to that effect will be furnished to you without delay. We will continue to record him as missing until such time as his fate is ascertained.

I join in the hope that there will soon be some definite news of your husband and that it will be favorable. My sympathy continues during this period of waiting.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN H. McCORMICK
Major General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

FILE
AF OFFICERS BASIC 201
Initials Fmw
Date 14 Aug 52

CASUALTY QUESTIONNAIRE

At 25 minutes after midnight on 4 July 1952, I had already received word there were 5 enemy aircraft in the area on an interception course. We were at 22000 feet and after I turned for the target they started passes on us from about 8 o'clock position high. They got direct blasts in the center wing tank, inboard fuel tank; #2 engine was on fire, as was the auxiliary power unit and the oxygen system. The elevators were burned away and there was fire and smoke throughout the forward compartment. We were at 22000 feet when ~~I~~ we were hit and the last time I looked at the indicator, we were 20000 feet. This ~~is~~ all happened within a 3 minute period. The navigator left his position, crossed over the open hatch and facing aft. The nose gunner left his position and was standing behind the navigator. There was no action being taken so I pushed the navigator out thru the nose hatch. I grabbed hold of the nose gunner and attempted to push him thru the exit, whereupon he took a swing at me. I left him standing beside the aircraft commander's seat and started across the hatch toward the radio operator for I did not see him go out. There was fire coming through the forward bulkhead door and I think that he may have been frozen in his position, scared or something, and that is the last I remember until I came to about 1000 feet above the ground. Just as I pulled the chute I saw an explosion on the other side of the ridge which may have been the aircraft. Nose-gunner: S/Sgt Clifford H. Mast (NOT RMC). Navigator, Lt J. E. Moreland (RMC)

Major William H. Baumer, AO 733 786. In March 1953, they started interrogating me pretty heavily as to Maj Baumer's personality and characteristics; what kind of commander he was, etc. That kept up for quite a while and I told them it seemed like an anti-climax. In the latter part of April 1953, I was taken before what was considered the chief interrogator and he dragged out of an envelope of many pictures, one of Maj Baumer. At the same time he stated that he was captured. In the picture Maj Baumer was wearing a B-15 jacket and it looked like snow on the ground in the background. The picture was a glossy finish, about 2" x 3" size - from the waist up. As late as June I asked about Baumer and they told me he was not in very good physical condition. I said I had seen a picture and the interpreter asked me if I had seen a full picture; I said no, just the upper part. I had known Baumer prior to going missing and in the picture it seemed like he had lost a lot of weight. Maj Baumer was pilot on B-29 missing on mission from Yokota AB Japan (Col Arnold's crew).

Maj Samuel N. Busch, AO 733 811 (Missing on reconnaisssance flight over Japan Sea, 13June 1952 (acft comdr). Some time during my interrogation, they ~~ground~~ brought up the fact that they knew about Maj Busch's crew being shot down off of Vladivostock. The Inter-European Languange Student from Peking University told me this. They also knew that there were life rafts there- they asked me if I knew how many were picked up and I said "no".

Francis A. Strieby, 1st Lt. USAF
AO 1 912 123

(Per personal interview in Casualty Br.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

14 NOV 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Finding of Death, SR&D Case #418 (13 Jun 52)

FACTS

1. Pursuant to the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act," reconsideration has been given to the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of the Air Force personnel listed below, who were initially reported missing on 13 June 1952.

Major Samuel N. Busch	AO	733 811
Captain James A. Sculley	AO	693 414
Captain Samuel D. Service	AO	752 509
First Lieutenant Robert J. McDonnell	AO	2 222 264
Master Sergeant William R. Homer	AF	7 025 704
Master Sergeant David L. Moore	AF	15 229 915
Staff Sergeant William A. Blizzard	AF	19 244 175
Staff Sergeant Miguel W. Monserrat	AF	13 164 064
Staff Sergeant Leon F. Bonura	AF	18 359 162
Staff Sergeant Roscoe G. Becker	AF	19 391 813
Staff Sergeant Eddie R. Berg	AF	17 281 746
Airman First Class Danny H. Pillsbury	AF	18 245 964

2. Following a full review of this case pursuant to Section 5 of the Act, the subject personnel were continued in a missing status at the expiration of the initial 12 months' period of absence.

3. An examination of available reports and records pertaining to the status of the subject personnel discloses that they have not been repatriated or otherwise returned to military control and that the available information is insufficient to conclusively establish their ultimate fate.

4. a. Circumstances. The personnel listed were the crew of a B-29 which departed Yokota Air Base, Honshu, Japan, at 1007, 13 June 1952, on a classified reconnaissance mission over the Sea of Japan. The aircraft was followed by radar over the course to be flown until 1320, at which time the radar contact was lost at coordinates 46 degrees 5 minutes North, 140 degrees 40 minutes East, approximately 100 miles north of Hokkaido at a point 120 miles from the Russian coast. The aircraft failed to return to Yokota Air Base and although several attempts were made to establish radio contact, all were unavailing. The missing aircraft was known to have 3 six-man and 11 one-man life rafts aboard and sufficient food and medical supplies to care for all 12 men for three

days. On 14 June 1952, during the search, an empty six-man life raft was sighted, right side up, at a point about 100 miles off the Russian coast, but search planes were unable to salvage the raft due to prevailing conditions. An unconfirmed report indicated that a second six-man life raft was seen four miles south of the first raft but this sighting could not be verified. Although the search was continued through 17 June 1952, no wreckage was found, nor was there any sign of survivors.

b. A message was received from the Commander, Far East Air Forces, indicating that an official report from Radio Moscow on 16 June 1952 stated that one officer survivor was picked up by a Russian vessel about two days before. The name of the survivor was not given and efforts to confirm this report were unsuccessful. Later FEAF reported that the cited broadcast did not pertain to personnel from the B-29, basing their premise on the fact that subsequent broadcasts concerned biological warfare propaganda and mentioned the names of Air Force personnel reported missing in action on 14 January 1952. Several repatriates from Operation "Big Switch" indicated that the Chinese had asked them questions concerning this crew. However, their captors never volunteered any information as to whether or not there actually were survivors or what had happened to the aircraft.

c. A recent message from the Commander, Far East Air Forces, dated 7 October 1955, states that they have received no additional information concerning the members of this crew since they were continued in a missing status in June 1953.

DISCUSSION

5. The circumstances surrounding the missing status of the members of this crew appear unfavorable for survival but are insufficient to conclusively establish their ultimate fate. The twelve persons listed above were continued in a missing status in view of the fact that experience had shown the USSR had previously withheld or distorted information concerning the whereabouts or fate of United Nations personnel who had disappeared in territory controlled by the Communist countries. However, in view of the fact that there has never been any indication as to what emergency actually befell the B-29, or that any of the crew were able to abandon the aircraft and were picked up by foreign personnel, the likelihood that any of these twelve persons is still alive may no longer reasonably be considered. This conclusion is further substantiated by the lapse of over three years since they became missing, with no information forthcoming which would support a continued presumption of their survival. It is reasonable to assume that, had they survived, some word would have been received from or about them during this period. Therefore, under the provisions of Public Law 490, a presumptive finding of death is warranted.

Memo for DCSP, subj: Finding of Death, SR&D Case #418 (13 Jun 52)

RECOMMENDATION

6. It is recommended that, pursuant to the authority contained in Section 5, Public Law 490, 77th Congress, as amended, official casualty reports be issued stating that the missing status of the Air Force personnel listed in paragraph 1 has been terminated by a presumptive finding of death. Further, that the casualty reports include a statement that the presumptive finding was made following a subsequent review of all available information and, as provided by and for the purposes of the cited law, the date of presumed death has been established as 15 November 1955. Death is held to have occurred while in pay and duty status, in flying pay status, in line of duty and not as the result of misconduct.

1 Attachment
List of Source Material

R.J. REEVES
Maj. General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

14 NOV 1955

Under the authority delegated by the Secretary of the Air Force to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, the above recommendation is approved.

EMMETT O'DONNELL, JR.
Lieutenant General, USAF
Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

167007

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

4 JUN 1953

AFPMP-12-E-3 704 Missing (13 Jun 52) SR&D Case #418

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Continuance of Missing Status Beyond Twelve Months

FACTS

1. Pursuant to the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act," a full review has been made of the facts and circumstances set forth herein to determine whether the missing status of the following personnel may reasonably be continued after a year's absence, or terminated by a presumptive finding of death:

Major Samuel N. Busch	AO 733 811	Acft Cmdr
First Lieutenant James A. Sculley	AO 693 414	Plt
First Lieutenant Samuel D. Service	AO 752 509	Radar Op
First Lieutenant Robert J. McDonnell	AO 2 222 264	Navigator
Master Sergeant William R. Homer	AF 7 025 704	Flt Eng
Master Sergeant David L. Moore	AF 15 229 915	Maint Chf
Staff Sergeant William A. Blizzard	AF 19 244 175	Radio Op
Staff Sergeant Miguel W. Monserrat	AF 13 164 064	C/Fire Con Gnr
Staff Sergeant Eddie R. Berg	AF 17 281 746	Tail Gunner
Staff Sergeant Leon F. Bonura	AF 18 359 162	Gunner
Staff Sergeant Roscoe G. Becker	AF 19 391 813	Gunner
Airman First Class Danny H. Pillsbury	AF 18 245 964	Gunner

2. a. Circumstances: The personnel listed comprised the crew of a B-29 which departed Yokota Air Base, Honshu, Japan, at 1007 hours, 13 June 1952, on a single plane reconnaissance mission of shipping activity over the Sea of Japan. The intended route was from Yokota to Sado Shimo and then over water as far as coordinates 46 degrees 30 minutes north latitude and 139 degrees 28 minutes east longitude, approximately 60 miles from the Russian coast. Upon completion of mission aircraft was to return to Yokota Air Base, estimated time of return being 1907 hours. Last radio contact with the B-29 was a routine coast-out transmission at 1027 hours. The aircraft was tracked by radar until 1320 hours, at which time it left the radar zone over the Sea of Japan, approximately 100 miles northwest of Hokkaido at a point 120 miles from the Russian coast. The plane failed to arrive at Yokota on schedule and at 1920 hours several attempts were made to establish radio contact with the missing aircraft. These efforts were unsuccessful and the crew members were reported missing in flight 13 June 1952. The missing aircraft was known to be carrying 3 six-man life rafts and 11 one-man life rafts, and to be equipped with enough food and medical supplies to care for the entire crew for three days.

Classification cancelled by authority of [illegible]
by [illegible]

AFAP-12-E-3 704 Missing (13 Jun 52) SR&D Case #418

b. Search Efforts: Air Rescue operations were initiated at 0330 hours, 13 June 1952, and the first search plane departed Yokota at 0317 hours, 14 June 1952. A total of 10 aircraft participated in an intensive search of the proposed route and adjacent areas. At 1445 hours, 14 June, one of the search planes sighted and photographed an empty six-man life raft, which was right side up, about 300 miles off the southern tip of Hokkaido, Japan, at a point approximately 100 miles off the Russian coast (coordinates 41 degrees 39 minutes north latitude, 133 degrees 55 minutes east longitude). Search planes remained in the area until darkness but were unable to salvage the raft due to prevailing conditions. An unconfirmed report indicated that a second six-man life raft was seen four miles south of the first raft but this sighting could not be verified. Search was resumed on the 15th but results were negative and there was no further trace of either life raft. Although search was continued through 17 June, no wreckage was found, nor was there any sign of survivors.

c. Weather Conditions: Unlimited ceiling and visibility of 30 miles were reported over the intended route of the B-29, with wind blowing southwest at 10 to 15 knots. Temperature of water was 46 degrees Fahrenheit, with waves of 3 to 5 feet and current flowing north to south. Estimated length of survival in water under these conditions is less than three hours.

d. Subsequent Information: A message from the Far East Air Forces indicated that an unofficial report from Radio Moscow on 16 June 1952 stated that one officer survivor was picked up by a Russian vessel about two days before. The name of the survivor was not given and efforts to confirm this report through State Department channels were unsuccessful. On 16 October 1952, FEAF reported that the cited broadcast did not pertain to personnel aboard the missing B-29, basing their premise on the fact that subsequent broadcasts from Radio Moscow concerned biological warfare propaganda and mentioned the names of Air Force personnel reported missing in action on 14 January 1952. A recent report from the Commander of the Far East Air Forces reveals that no new information has been received concerning the whereabouts or fate of the personnel missing in flight aboard the B-29.

DISCUSSION

3. Information of record reveals that the B-29 disappeared while engaged in a noncombat mission over Russian controlled waters. Whether the plane was lost because of a malfunction or through a hostile act of a foreign power is a matter of conjecture. However, in either event, official reports disclose that the aircraft was flying over waters near foreign territory, where rescue of any survivor of the accident could have been accomplished by foreign personnel. While evidence does not conclusively establish that members of the crew successfully escaped from the B-29,

sighting of one and possibly two empty six-man life rafts indicates a likelihood that some of those aboard survived and, through some unknown means, were removed from the area before arrival of our search planes on the day following the accident. This likelihood, although not confirmed by official reports, is strengthened by the release of information through Radio Moscow soon after the accident occurred, implying that the Russian Government may have some knowledge of the accident. Past experience has demonstrated that the USSR has deliberately withheld or distorted information concerning the whereabouts or fate of UN personnel who have disappeared in territory controlled by the Communist countries. Therefore, until positive proof becomes available that members of the crew were not detained, or other events occur which disclose their non-survival, conclusive evidence of their fate cannot be established and any change in their status on this date may be premature and beyond the safe calculated risk of error.

RECOMMENDATION

4. Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 5, Public Law 490, 77th Congress, 7 March 1942, as amended, and following the mandatory review of all available information on this date, it is recommended that official casualty reports be issued stating that the personnel listed in paragraph 1 will be continued in a missing status following the expiration of 12 months' absence, effective 1st June 1953.

1 Attachment
List of Source Material

JOHN H. MCCORMICK
Major General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

JUN 4 1953

Under authority delegated by the Secretary of the Air Force to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, the above recommendation is approved.

E. S. WETZEL
Major General, USAF
Ass't Deputy Chief of Staff
Personnel

For and in the name of:

EMMETT O'DONNELL, JR.
Lieutenant General, USAF
Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT

RB-47 Loss
1 July 1960

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HQ AFMPC/DPMC
RANDOLPH AFB TX 78150

#384

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

REPLY TO ATTN OF: AFPMP

SUBJECT: Report of Death (Determination Case 211)

30 JUN 1961

TO: DCS/P

FACTS:

1. Personnel Involved:

a. Pursuant to the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act," consideration has been given to the facts and circumstances set forth herein in determining the status of the following listed Air Force personnel of the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, missing 1 July 1960:

Major Eugene E. Posa	AO 2088613
Captain Oscar L. Goforth	AO 3053269
Captain Dean B. Phillips	AO 3064783

b. Of the three additional personnel of this RB-47 aircraft, Major Willard G. Palm, AO 2087476, died as the result of the incident and his remains were recovered and returned by the Russian authorities on 25 July 1960. Captains John R. McKone, AO 2210173, and Freeman B. Olmstead, 54818A, survived the incident, were held prisoner by the Soviets and were returned to the United States authorities in January 1961. Therefore, the status of these three officers is not herein considered.

2. Circumstances of Missing: On 1 July 1960 the above personnel comprised the crew of a RB-47 aircraft which participated in a navigational training mission over the North and Barents Sea. While over international waters of the Barents Sea off the coast of the USSR, the aircraft was shot down by a Soviet aircraft at 1303 hours. The remains of Major Willard G. Palm, AO 2087476, tangled in his parachute shrouds, were recovered from the water by the Russians three days later on 4 July 1960. These remains were returned to the United States authorities on 25 July 1960. Report of autopsy indicates that his death in all likelihood was caused by drowning. Two other crew members, Captains John R. McKone, AO 2210173, and Freeman B. Olmstead, 54818A, survived the incident and were rescued by a Soviet fishing trawler. They were held prisoners and returned to the United States authorities in January 1961.

3. Information from the Survivors: The RB-47 was hit by gunfire from a Soviet fighter aircraft and almost momentarily assumed a left wing down, flat spin to the left. The bailout order was given and the crew evacuated the RB-47 at approximately 28,000 feet. The lapse of time between first being fired upon and bailout was approximately one minute and there was no time to transmit a "Mayday" report. While descending in their parachutes,

Norman A. Parker Capt USAF
18 July 1961

the survivors observed what appeared to be their aircraft crash into the water and burn with intense flames of short duration. On the way down, the survivors accounted for three other crew members and possibly the fourth and last crew member. Two unidentified crew members were observed descending in their deployed parachutes, but no survival kits were seen to be attached. Also, one unidentified person was observed to fall past without his chute being deployed. Captain Olmstead thinks he also saw an unidentified figure falling to the water clothed in a black flight suit with a black chute. The two survivors landed in the water about a quarter of a mile apart and immediately got into their dinghies. The only time they were able to see each other was when they both crested the five to six-foot waves at the same time. Water currents and surface winds prevented the survivors from getting together. They did not see anyone else in the water which they reported as being a temperature of 33 degrees (not stated but assumed to be Fahrenheit). The only other thing which they saw subsequent to bailout and while adrift in the water, was a PBY type aircraft which they tried to signal with no noticeable results. Exposure suits were not available to the crew members of the RB-47. After approximately six hours adrift, the survivors were rescued by a Soviet fishing trawler which apparently knew their location as it came directly upon them. Together they were taken to the vessel's boiler room and given hot liquids. Subsequently they were separated and placed in individual cabins. The trawler remained in apparent search for approximately six hours and, to the knowledge of the survivors, no other crew members were found. They were on the trawler approximately 12 hours - six hours of which was used in the area search and six hours used in traveling in a straight course away from the search area. They were then, while out of sight of land, transferred to a speed boat. After a journey of one and one-half hours they were landed ashore and taken six to eight miles by jeep to an airfield, where they began their aircraft flight to Moscow, USSR. When they arrived at Moscow they were separated and remained isolated until their release, except for two occasions when they were brought together and jointly interrogated. They were allowed to receive mail, however, they actually received only a portion of what was sent to them. During an interrogation of Captain McKone the Soviets showed him Captain (Major) Palm's identification card.

4. Sea Conditions: Reports from the United States Navy Hydrographic Office, Division of Oceanography reveal that the mean ocean surface temperatures in the area of crash for June and July are 35 and 40 degrees Fahrenheit, respectively. The maximum water temperature for July is 48 degrees Fahrenheit. AFM 64-2 (1 July 1959) reveals that the maximum survival time of an uninjured person immersed in water of 40 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit without watertight clothing (exposure suit) is approximately six hours.

5. Soviet Position: The Soviet authorities deny having any knowledge of the three men herein under consideration.

DISCUSSION:

6. The recorded facts establish that the personnel and their aircraft came down within a relatively small area in the international waters of the Barents

6a. The data is not clear as to whether all the crew members parachuted fr[om] the MD-[illegible]. However, this is not of paramount importance in this determination of status, since to survive in any instance would require assistance within a short period of time. The available information substantiates beyond a reasonable doubt that the three subject officers did not survive the incident. This determination is supported by the following:

a. The survivors' statements reveal that it is unlikely that the other[s] had or were in a position to have used a survival kit or dinghy.

b. Any survivors would have been immersed in the cold water, exposed to its full effects, and would have succumbed in the six hour period prior to arrival of rescue facilities.

c. The presence of the search type aircraft over the area and the direct pickup of the two survivors by the fishing trawler, which conducted a six-hour area search, indicates the location of survivors had been pin-point[ed] by the aircraft and rescue efforts were assigned to this one surface vessel.

d. Had other surface vessels been in the area, any survivors undoubtedly would have been brought together with Captains McKone and Olmstead for airlift to Moscow.

e. Since there was no attempt to keep Captains McKone and Olmstead sepa[rate] during the trip to Moscow, it is unlikely that different action would have been taken for other survivors of this crew. Therefore, their survival would have been known to Captains McKone and Olmstead.

f. It is noted that after Captains McKone and Olmstead were isolated in prison they were twice brought together for interrogation. Thusly, it is log[ical] to presume that, had there been other survivors of this crew, they too would have been present on these two occasions.

g. Since the USSR has exploited this incident, admitted holding two sur[vivors] and returned them to our control, there appears no logical reason to suspect they are withholding information of any other survivors.

h. Finally, the absence of any positive intelligence during the last te[n] months which would suggest survival of any of the subject personnel tends to lend credence to the Communist's stand that they have no knowledge of these unaccounted for three missing crew members. Based upon the information set forth herein it can only be logically concluded that the officers listed in paragraph 1a, above, died 1 July 1960 as the result of an aircraft accident in the international waters of the Barents Sea off the coast of the USSR.

RECOMMENDATION:

7. Pursuant to the authority contained in the Missing Persons Act, Title 50 U. S. C. App. 1009, it is recommended that the foregoing information be accepted as an official report of death and that a report of casualty be

issued for each officer listed in paragraph 1a, stating that they died (Non-Battle) on 1 July 1960, as the result of an aircraft incident in the Panama Canal. Death occurred while in pay and duty status, and in flying duty status. Evidence of death will be considered to have been received on the date of approval of this action.

1 Atch
List of Source Material

A. P. CLARK
Maj. General, USAF
Director of Military Personnel

30 JUN 1961

Under authority delegated by the Secretary of the Air Force to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, the above recommendation is approved.

T. H. Landon

TRUMAN H. LANDON
Lieutenant General, USAF
Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

DE TMENT OF THE AIR FORCE AIR ST SUMM SHEET

ROUTE TO	ACTION	SIGNATURE (Grade and Surname)	ORIGINATOR (Symbol)	TELEPHONE NO.	DATE
AFPDC	Approval	H LANDOM	AFPMP-S-1	71084	29 MAY 19
AFCCS	Sig	[illegible]			
SAFSMR		[illegible]			
SAFOI		[illegible]			
SAFUS					

ACTION OFFICER: W A Bjerkelund (Signature)

Major Bjerkelund (Typed Grade and Surname)

TYPIST'S INITIALS: jh

SUBJECT

Proposed Termination of Missing Status - Certain Crew Members of RB-47 Shot Down 1 July 1960 (Possible Presidential Interest)

SUMMARY

1. Last January, President Kennedy showed a personal interest in the crew of the RB-47 aircraft, when its two surviving crew members were returned from Russia after having been shot down in the Barents Sea on 1 July 1960. Six Air Force personnel comprised the crew of this RB-47. Two crew members, Captains McKone and Olmstead, survived the incident and were held captive and returned by the Soviets in January 1961. The remains of one crew member, Major Willard G. Palm, were recovered from the Barents Sea by the Soviets and returned to the United States authorities in the latter part of July 1960. The remaining three crew members, Major Eugene E. Posa, Captain Oscar L. Goforth, and Captain Dean B. Phillips, continue to be recorded as missing.

2. Information from the survivors, and other pertinent factors involved, lead to a logical conclusion that these three officers died as the result of this incident. A detailed brief of information and logical reasoning to establish this conclusion is attached to the proposed letter to the Secretary of the Air Force. Based upon authority granted to DCS/P to make determination of status by SAFS Order 248.1, 23 July 1953, the status of these persons should be changed from missing to dead at this time.

3. In view of the President's prior interest in this crew, the Secretary of the Air Force should be advised prior to the completion of this contemplated action so that he may inform the President.

4. This action has been discussed with and approved by the Assistant Vice Chief of Staff. The "brief" has the concurrence of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence.

RECOMMENDATION

5. That the attached letter to the Secretary of the Air Force be signed.

John H. Chick

[illegible] CHICK
[illegible] General, USAF
[illegible] Director of Military Personnel

1 Atch
Proposed ltr to SAFS for sig of AFCCS w/1 atch

EXEC SEC DIA
VICE CHIEF OF STAFF
APR 1 11 13 21

APR 9 15 42 21

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

AFHQ FORM JAN 57 50 PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED. GPO 920327

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: AFCCS

SUBJECT: Proposed Termination of Missing Status - Certain Crew Members RB-47 Shot Down 1 July 1960 (Possible Presidential Interest)

TO: SAFS

1. Last January, President Kennedy showed personal interest in the crew of the RB-47 aircraft, when its two surviving members were returned from Russia. Headquarters USAF proposes to terminate the status of the three unaccounted for personnel of the RB-47 by a determination of death, pursuant to the "Missing Persons Act." This action is brought to your attention as it may be desirable that you advise the President prior to its completion. Action is being withheld pending your reply.

2. A detailed brief is attached concluding that these crew members died as the result of the aircraft incident in the Barents Sea. In addition to administering the intent of the Missing Persons Act properly, it is in the best interests of the Government and the next of kin involved, that the proposed action be taken at this time for the following reasons:

a. Prolonged continuation of a missing status, without a logical reason indicating survival, suggests to the next of kin that information is being withheld. This creates increased anxieties and false hopes.

b. To put off this action delays the next of kin's transition to normalcy - personal affairs remain unsettled, insurance cannot be paid, permanent homes cannot be established, and Veterans Administration and Social Security benefit payments cannot be started.

c. The suspense caused by a lengthy continuation of the missing status is extremely painful to the next of kin of the missing personnel. Since there is no evidence that these officers survived the incident, it is in the best interest of their next of kin to terminate the missing status as soon as possible. A positive official determination of death by the Government will give assurance to the next of kin that the deceased are not being subjected to Soviet imprisonment.

1 Atch
Brief of Facts and
Circumstances

Memo for Record

22 May 1961

1. Additional reasons for taking the action to terminate the missing status is as follows:

a. To retain these three officers in a missing status would only serve to raise false hopes in the minds of the next of kin who are always eager to grasp at any shred of information or the slightest situation which might indicate their loved one survived.

b. An appropriate period of time has now lapsed since the two crew members were released by the Soviet authorities to adequately evaluate their information and all other aspects of the case.

c. It is believed that the next of kin of these unaccounted for persons will at this time be most susceptible to the logical conclusion and be most able to begin to make readjustments to their lives.

2. Experience in casualty reporting shows that, if personnel are continued in the missing status for a prolonged time, without the existence of concrete evidence of survival, the next of kin interpret the status quo to mean that the Service is withholding information which proves their loved one is alive. This imposes upon them greater and needless anxieties and will later cause them to doubt the logic of a termination of the missing status which, under the circumstances of this case, is inevitable.

W. A. BJERKELUND
Major, USAF

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Mr G[illegible]e/fjb/S[illegible]MP/77690/6/13/61

June 14, 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Proposed Termination of Missing Status - Certain Crew Members of RB-47 Shot Down 1 July 1960

As the attached file indicates, it is the intention of the Air Force to declare officially dead the remaining crew members of the RB-47 shot down on July 1, 1960. This action is in line with normal procedure and is necessary before action can be taken toward settling the personal affairs of their survivors including such items as social security benefits, insurance benefits and veterans' benefits for the mens' families. However, in view of the fact that the President has just returned from discussions with Mr. Khrushchev, there is a possibility his office would have an interest in the timing of the announcement and any publicity thereto.

It is accordingly requested that clearance be obtained from the White House to permit the Air Force to take the action contemplated and to approve the proposed press release, attached hereto. It is planned if approval is obtained that Colonel Leo Geary, Office of the Inspector General, Department of the Air Force, who has spent a considerable portion of his time keeping the mens' families advised of pertinent developments will thoroughly brief the individuals concerned prior to the action being officially announced. We believe this procedure will ease any shock from the announcement of the Air Force decision.

JOSEPH V. CHARYK
Under Secretary of the Air Force

Attachs. 2
Proposed press release (Tab a)
Brief of Facts and Circumstances (Tab b)

SecDef cy
SAF file
Off of sign
Mr Goode (SAFMP)
SAFOI
AFPMP (Coord.)
AFCCS

BRIEF

FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES

OF

RB-47 SHOT DOWN BY THE SOVIETS ON 1 JULY 1960

FACTS

1. Personnel Involved:

a. Pursuant to the provisions of the "Missing Persons Act," consideration has been given to the facts and circumstances set forth herein in determining the status of the following listed Air Force personnel of the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, missing 1 July 1960:

Major Eugene M. Posa	AO 2088613
Captain Oscar L. Goforth	AO 3053269
Captain Dean B. Phillips	AO 3064783

b. Of the three additional personnel of this RB-47 aircraft, Major Willard G. Palm, AO 2087476, died as the result of the incident and his remains were recovered and returned by the Russian authorities on 25 July 1960. Captains John R. McKone, AO 2210173, and Freeman B. Olmstead, 54818A, survived the incident, were held prisoner by the Soviets and were returned to the United States authorities in January 1961.

2. Circumstances of Missing: On 1 July 1960 the above personnel comprised the crew of a RB-47 aircraft which participated in a navigational training mission over the North and Barents Sea. While over international waters of the Barents Sea off the coast of the USSR, the aircraft was shot down by a Soviet aircraft at 1803 hours. The remains of Major Willard G. Palm, AO 2087476, tangled in his parachute shrouds, were recovered from the water by the Russians three days later on 4 July 1960. These remains were returned to the United States authorities on 25 July 1960. Report of autopsy indicates that his death in all likelihood was caused by drowning. Two other crew members, Captains John R. McKone, AO 2210173, and Freeman B. Olmstead, 54818A, survived the incident and were rescued by a Soviet fishing trawler. They were held prisoners and returned to the United States authorities in January 1961.

3. Information from the Survivors: The RB-47 was hit by gunfire from a Soviet fighter aircraft and almost momentarily assumed a left wing down, flat spin to the left. The bailout order was given and the crew evacuated the RB-47 at approximately 28,000 feet. The lapse of time between first being fired upon and bailout was approximately one minute and there was no time to transmit a "Mayday" report. While descending in their parachutes,

[redacted]

the survivors observed what appeared to be their aircraft crash into the water and burn with intense flames of short duration. On the way down, the survivors accounted for three other crew members and possibly the fourth and last crew member. Two unidentified crew members were observed descending in their deployed parachutes, but no survival kits were seen to be attached. Also, one unidentified person was observed to fall past without his chute being deployed. Captain Olmstead thinks he also saw an unidentified figure falling to the water clothed in a black flight suit with a black chute. The two survivors landed in the water about a quarter of a mile apart and immediately got into their dinghies. The only time they were able to see each other was when they both crested the first to six-foot waves at the same time. Water currents and surface winds prevented the survivors from getting together. They did not see anyone else in the water which they reported as being a temperature of 33 degrees (not stated but assumed to be Fahrenheit). The only other thing which they saw subsequent to bailout and while adrift in the water, was a PBY type aircraft which they tried to signal with no noticeable results. Exposure suits were not available to the crew members of the RB-47. After approximately six hours adrift, the survivors were rescued by a Soviet fishing trawler which apparently knew their location as it came directly upon them. Together they were taken to the vessel's boiler room and given hot liquids. Subsequently they were separated and placed in individual cabins. The trawler remained in apparent search for approximately six hours and, to the knowledge of the survivors, no other crew members were found. They were on the trawler approximately 12 hours - six hours of which was used in the area search and six hours used in traveling in a straight course away from the search area. They were then, while out of sight of land, transferred to a speed boat. After a journey of one and one-half hours they were landed ashore and taken six to eight miles by jeep to an airfield, where they began their aircraft flight to Moscow, USSR. When they arrived at Moscow they were separated and remained isolated until their release, except for two occasions when they were brought together and jointly interrogated. They were allowed to receive mail, however, they actually received only a portion of what was sent to them. During an interrogation of Captain McKone the Soviets showed him Captain (Major) Palm's identification card.

4. Sea Conditions: Report from the United States Navy Hydrographic Office, Division of Oceanography reveal that the mean ocean surface temperatures in the area of crash for June and July are 55 and 40 degrees Fahrenheit, respectively. The maximum water temperature for July is 48 degrees Fahrenheit. AFM 64-2 (1 July 1959) reveals that the maximum survival time of an uninjured person immersed in water of 40 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit without watertight clothing (exposure suit) is approximately six hours.

5. Soviet Position: The Soviet authorities deny having any knowledge of the three men herein under consideration.

DISCUSSION:

6. The recorded facts establish that the personnel and their aircraft came down within a relatively small area in the international waters of the Barents

[redacted]

JAN 57 50 PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

GPO 920327

Sea. The data is not clear as to whether all the crew members parachuted from the RB-47. However, this is not of paramount importance in this determination of status, since to survive in any instance would require assistance within a short period of time. The available information substantiates beyond a reasonable doubt that the three subject officers did not survive the incident. This determination is supported by the following:

a. The survivors' statements reveal that it is unlikely that the others had or were in a position to have used a survival kit or dinghy.

b. Any survivors would have been immersed in the cold water, exposed to its full effects, and would have succumbed in the six hour period prior to arrival of rescue facilities.

c. The presence of the search type aircraft over the area and the direct pickup of the two survivors by the fishing trawler, which conducted a six-hour area search, indicates the location of survivors had been pin-pointed by the aircraft and rescue efforts were assigned to this one surface vessel.

d. Had other surface vessels been in the area, any survivors undoubtedly would have been brought together with Captains McKone and Olmstead for airlift to Moscow.

e. Since there was no attempt to keep Captains McKone and Olmstead separate during the trip to Moscow, it is unlikely that different action would have been taken for other survivors of this crew. Therefore, their survival would have been known to Captains McKone and Olmstead.

f. It is noted that after Captains McKone and Olmstead were isolated in prison they were twice brought together for interrogation. Thusly, it is logical to presume that, had there been other survivors of this crew, they too would have been present on these two occasions.

g. Since the USSR has exploited this incident, admitted holding two survivors and returned them to our control, there appears no logical reason to suspect they are withholding information of any other survivors.

h. Finally, the absence of any positive intelligence during the last ten months which would suggest survival of any of the subject personnel tends to lend credence to the Communist's stand that they have no knowledge of these unaccounted for three missing crew members. Based upon the information set forth herein it can only be logically concluded that the officers listed in paragraph 1a, above, died 1 July 1960 as the result of an aircraft accident in the international waters of the Barents Sea off the coast of the USSR.

PROPOSAL: EXEC SEBA DIA
AICE CHIEF OF STYLE

7. The Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, Headquarters, USAF, proposes to terminate the missing status of Major Poza and Captains Goforth and Phillips, by a determination, pursuant to Section 9 of the Missing Persons Act (Title 50, U. S. C.) that they died 1 July 1960 as the result of the aircraft accident in the Barents Sea.

[redacted]

GPO 920327

UNCLASSIFIED

DEFERRED
DEFERRED X AF A 2

HQ USAF

21AIRDIV FORBES AFB KANS

INFO: SAC

UNCLAS AFPMP-S-1-C 97972

Attention invited to paragraph 38b (4) AFM 30-4, regarding the three missing members RB-47 aircraft missing 1 July 1960. No prior report has been received this office. Your investigation will include all information available regarding the incident which is pertinent to a determination of status; i.e., statement from each of the two returned crewmembers which should include how, when and where the incident occurred, a summary of their escape, survival and capture, and weather and water conditions at the time; when and under what conditions the missing crewmembers were last seen; what their captors had to say regarding the status of the XXXXXXXXX others and any other information deemed pertinent upon which to base a determination of status. Further request that this report be expedited and submitted to this office soonest. MR Action taken to remind comdr of need for investigation and to get info early so that there will be time to obtain additional info if report is incomplete. 29

AFPMP-S-1
Maj Luther

MAR

AFPMP-S-1-C

copy sent A

MAJOR J. G. LUTHER/kds

W. A. BJERKELUND
MAJOR, USAF

UNCLASSIFIED

2E-761

3 March 1961

Released @ 4:20 pm by DoD

Following are notes supplied by Captain John R. McKone and Captain Freeman B. Olmstead at a news conference at Forbes Air Force Base, Kansas, today:

Our RB-47 aircraft took off from RAF Station Brize Norton, England, at 11:00 a.m. local time on July 1, 1960, to fly a mission with a pre-planned flight route which would take us north and east from the United Kingdom and then over water never to come closer than 50 miles from the Russian land mass.

About five hours after departure from Brize Norton while our plane was flying on an overwater track at an altitude of about 30,000 feet in the Barents Sea parallel to the Soviet shore line, a Soviet fighter type aircraft passed a few thousand feet above and behind our plane and turned toward the RB-47 from the seaward side. The Soviet airplane then disappeared from our view.

Shortly thereafter we took a radar fix and determined that we were on our planned flight track. Our navigational equipment functioned perfectly during the flight. Just prior to starting our planned turn to the north we observed a Soviet MIG type fighter just off our right wing. As we started

MORE

our turn to th. north the fighter crossed to th. rear and opened fire. We returned the fire. We observed gun flashes from the fighter and saw hits on numbers 2 and 3 engines of our left wing. There was immediate loss of control of the aircraft and numbers 2 and 3 engines began to burn.

Major Palm alerted the crew for possible bail out; when control of the plane could not be regained, the bail out order was given. Although there were six crew members aboard the plane, Captain Olmstead saw only three other parachutes and Captain McKone saw only two. During our descent we also saw an intense fire of short duration on the water.

We landed in the water approximately 1/4 mile apart and our dinghies inflated automatically. The weather was hazy and the sea was extremely cold and rough with waves cresting six to eight feet. As they crested, we spotted each other and attempted to paddle toward each other. However, we did not succeed because of the rough water. We did not see any of the other crew members.

About six hours later the Soviet fishing trawler picked us up. No one aboard the trawler spoke English. We were wrapped in blankets to relieve the cold and were given soup. We were then given dry fatigue type clothing although all of our personal effects were taken away from us. Captain McKone retained his watch for several hours. We were placed in separate compartments aboard the trawler.

We remained in the area for some time while the trawler was apparently searching for additional survivors. At that time the trawler took a steady course apparently heading for land which we reached some

MORE

time later.

Upon reaching the coast we were placed aboard a small boat and went up a river to a point a few miles inland. We were then transferred to a surface vehicle and driven a few more miles to a small airfield. We were put aboard a Russian aircraft similar to a DC-3 and flown to another airfield a short distance away. After a brief interrogation during which we gave only our names, ranks and serial numbers, we boarded another Russian DC-3 type aircraft and were flown directly to Moscow.

Upon arriving in Moscow we were taken to a prison and placed immediately in solitary confinement. During the first two to three weeks we were interrogated separately several times daily and there appeared to be a concentrated effort by the Soviet interrogators to link our flight to the U-2 incident of May 1960.

Our diet during the first few months in prison consisted of small but regular quantities of rice, macaroni products and boiled meat. While we were not subjected to physical punishment, living and sleeping conditions were poor and we were continually subjected to persistent questioning.

The interrogators constantly led us to believe that we would be tried by a Soviet court and continued to stress that they considered our mission to be of the same nature as the U-2 flight. They pointed out that we were being held for a serious crime possibly punishable by death. After approximately 16 days in a prison which we could not identify, we were transferred to Lubyanka in Moscow and remained in solitary confinement.

Our cells were similar -- each was about 15 by 8 feet with a solid wooden door which was kept locked. These cells each contained a table, chair and a steel bed. There was a great amount of artificial light in each cell which was left on twenty-four hours a day. There was a translucent window at about shoulder height.

The interrogations continued on a daily basis for the first few weeks in the Lubyanka prison; gradually they declined to an average of twice weekly for each of us. Occasionally, periods of ten days elapsed between interrogations.

We saw each other for the first time on September 14th at which time we were jointly interrogated by Soviet officials for about 30 minutes. During imprisonment each of us found ways to pass the time and keep our minds occupied. I, Captain Olmstead, did math problems in my head and made two sets of playing cards out of the foil from cigarette packages, one of which I gave to Captain McKone when we were allowed to meet on the day before Christmas. We both became very adept at the game of solitaire.

We were allowed to read some English language books, mostly fiction by Dickens, Thackery and others. We saw two issues of one English language newspaper published in Russia, but neither issue contained any reference to our imprisonment or the RB-47 incident. This was two weeks before our release.

We were kept completely ignorant of world affairs for the greatest part of our stay in prison. One of the interrogators said something about Senator Kennedy being elected to the presidency but this was about 3 weeks after

the election. About midway during our imprisonment, the quantity of food which we received increased; however, each of us lost more than 40 pounds during the early period of our stay in prison.

Each of us were permitted to go out doors in a solitary compound every day for a brief period to get fresh air and exercise but no one directed that we follow a physical conditioning program. We both did exercises we had learned either in school or in the Air Force. I, Captain Olmstead suffered a back injury sometime during the evacuation from the plane. During the first several weeks I was bedridden because of the injury and later began doing therapeutic exercises. I received medical attention for the injury from the prison doctor. I, Captain McKone suffered a slight stomach problem. Neither of us became seriously ill in prison. Our cells were dry but uncomfortably cold. Captain Olmstead asked for warmer clothes and received them, but even then it was cold.

We had been in prison seven weeks before either of us received a letter. I, Captain Olmstead was told that our outgoing mail would be censored but that our incoming mail would not be. Obviously, however there had been censorship of the letters received. We were allowed to have writing materials only to answer the letters that were received. Sometimes letters were delivered several at a time, but we are sure we did not get all of them. The quickest mail delivery we can recall was 19 days from date of postmark.

MORE

We were escorted at all times by guards who remained completely indifferent. We asked Soviet officials many times about the others of our crew and once they showed Captain McKone Major Palm's identity card but did not tell him what had happened to him. We both asked for a Bible but only I, Captain Olmstead, received one after some time. We were not allowed to see members of the clergy.

Neither of us received all the Christmas packages which were sent by our families. I, Captain McKone, received only two pair of socks, one pair of which I gave to Captain Olmstead during the Christmas Eve meeting. Captain Olmstead received all his clothing presents but did not receive the cigarettes, candies nor the Bible which his family had sent. Both of us were given Russian cigarettes by prison officials during our captivity. Take our word for it, they will never replace American cigarettes.

I, Captain Olmstead, made a small Christmas tree in my cell out of paper from cigarette packs and braided together the pull strings from the packs to make ornaments.

We were taken during the last two weeks of our imprisonment to see two Russian films, which we were told were being shown in the United States. One was titled "The Cranes are Flying" the other was called "Ballad of a Soldier." In the room where we were shown the movies we were not allowed to talk to each other and an interpreter translated the dialogue into English for us.

During the interrogations, each of us was asked specifically about our crew duties, our airplane and all other airplanes of the Strategic Air

Command. The Russians knew we were assigned to the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, Forbes Air Force Base, Kansas, and that we had started our mission from Brize Norton. On several occasions they handed us statements they had prepared to the effect that we had been ordered to cross the Soviet border. They wanted us to sign these but we refused to sign any such statements.

We did not learn that we were to be released until the night before it actually happened. The next day, January 25th, we were driven by Russian officials to the U. S. Embassy in Moscow and turned over to Mr. Thompson the American Ambassador. This was the first time we had seen any other Americans since we bailed out. We asked the Russians again before we left the prison about the other crew members but we did not receive any information. We spent about two hours in the Embassy and then were driven to the Moscow airport where we boarded a commercial airliner for a flight to Amsterdam. After our take-off was delayed 12 hours due to tire trouble the flight from Moscow to Amsterdam then took about six hours. At Amsterdam we were picked up by a USAF C-121 and headed for the United States. The plane stopped to refuel at Prestwick, Scotland but we slept through this stop. We flew to Goose Air Base in Labrador and remained overnight due to bad weather conditions in Washington. We got a chance to clean up, sleep and get haircuts. We also got new uniforms from the base exchange. We were told our wives would be waiting for us in Washington and we were able to talk to them on the

telephone that evening from Labrador. We were also told that President Kennedy would meet our airplane at Andrews Air Force Base.

The next morning, January 27th, we flew to Washington and were reunited with our wives. We are sure you all know what happened in Washington.

After returning to Forbes we were reunited with our children and parents. We visited the wives and children of the other members of our crew. We saw some of them in Topeka and went to California to see others. These visits were strictly personal in nature.

On February 8, we went to Puerto Rico for 2 1/2 weeks leave. The people at Ramey AFB put us up in guest houses and did everything possible to make our vacation most enjoyable. We went fishing, both deep sea and fresh water and got lots of sunshine and rest.

We returned to Forbes last weekend. Both of us are looking forward to a return to normal duty wherever we may be assigned. We both like flying and are ready to accept any job the Air Force gives us.

As a final note, we would like to express our appreciation to thousands of our fellow Americans who wrote letters and prayed for us while we were in prison. We learned at the American Embassy in Moscow that many pouches of mail, letters, cards and a Christmas message from General White, Air Force Chief of Staff, had been received at the Embassy. They had been forwarded to the prison for us but they were never delivered to us save for a small portion of them which we received upon our release.

4

It won't be possible to thank everyone individually, but we want everyone to know how much your concern meant to us and our families.

END

Memo for Record

30 January 1961

1. Colonel Baer, Executive to Secretary Zuckert, contacted this office through Colonel Ireland and Lt Col Dienz. He desired we furnish him what was necessary from the stand point of personnel actions to change the status of Goforth, Phillips and Posa from missing to dead. I advised him that we required a statement or a summary of the circumstances from Captains McKone and Olmstead to fill in the gaps in information we now have. Colonel Baer seemed satisfied and requested we give him a report of what we had done within two days.

2. Colonel Baer called back later and said he wanted us to be sure that we understood the Secretary was not of the opinion that the status should be changed, but merely to insure that any administrative work that must take place was promptly initiated.

3. Received a telephone call from Colonel Patteson, Executive to General Walsh, Assistant Chief of Staff Intelligence, concerning our wire of 27 January to Forbes and SAC requesting a report of the circumstances of the RB-47 incident. Colonel Patteson advised that General Broadhurst, Deputy Chief of Staff, SAC, had called General Walsh and advised him that they were aware of our requirements for information and why we needed it and stated that it would be submitted but not as soon as we asked for it in our wire. General Broadhurst advised the two Captains are being isolated from outside contact and will remain so for approximately one week before they are debriefed. As soon there after as the information is received it will be forwarded to this headquarters.

4. I called Lt Col Mullins, SAFOI, concerning the press release made by Lt Col Robert Eby and inquired as to the reasons for what might be a premature release. Colonel Mullins furnished this office a copy of the release, but stated his office declined to take any action and suggested that I use personnel channels. I furnished General Clark a copy of the press release without comment.

5. Apparent secrecy attached to McKone and Olmstead has been the direct result of Mr. Salingers action.

6. Called Colonel Geary, AFCIG, who has been in personal contact with the wives of all of the crew. Colonel Geary stated he was proceeding to Forbes within a matter of minutes, that he was unable to furnish any information ~~in sufficient time~~ before he had to leave (Col Geary has talked to these two officers for several hours while enroute from Amsterdam to this country).

W. A. BJERKELUND
Major, USAF

AP Release # 19. 0953

30 January 1961

A Pentagon Air Force officer disclosed last night that Captains John McKone and Freeman Olmstead don't know what happened to the 3 members of the RB-47 crew still listed only as missing.

McKone and Olmstead were relaxing today with their wives and children. They are under orders not to grant any interviews. Air Police guard their homes.

Lt Col Robt Eby, who accompanied the two flyers to Topeka, Forbes AFB Saturday, said he had talked to them and "they just don't know, the three men are still missing as far as we are concerned." Earl Odom, a Defense Department official, said last night that the flyers will be allowed private talks with wives of the missing men. There was no indication when that will be.

AFPMP-S-1/Maj Bjerkelund/ntb/71084/30 Jan

AFPMP-A

RB-47 Crew Condolence Letters

AFPMP (General Clark)

1. Attached are the letters prepared for President Kennedy on Saturday.

2. Colonel Bear, Executive to Secretary Zuckert, called and inquired as to what was necessary to change the status of three missing officers. Major Bjerkelund advised him statements from Captains McKone and Olmstead or a summary of the events prior to the time they were picked up would be desirable.

3. Apparently someone has given a "no talk" order on this subject, which would make it difficult to adquately explain to the widows, unless we can get this restriction lifted. Perhaps General Walsh could assist in this area.

1 Atch

AFPMP-S-1 AFPMP-A
Maj Bjerkelund

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

REPLY TO ATTN OF: AFPDC

30 JAN 1961

SUBJECT: Request for Debriefing Information

TO: AFCIG

1. This request is forwarded in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3b(12) HOI 11-4 which is classified Confidential.

2. Captains McKone and Olmstead have been returned from imprisonment in the Soviet Union. They are scheduled for debriefing in the immediate future. We require all available information concerning the incident to establish possible survival of other members of their crew who are presently in a missing status. We need this information to determine whether the missing status should be continued.

3. Members of the crew still in a missing status are:

Major Eugene E. Posa
Captain Oscar L. Goforth
Captain Dean E. Phillips

T. H. Landon

TRUMAN H. LANDON
Lieutenant General, USAF
Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JAN 30 12 43 PM
RECEIVED

Memo for Record 27 January 1961

1. On 1 July 1960 an RB-47 was shot down by Soviet aircraft in the Barents Sea. The Soviets picked up and interned Captain John R. McKone and Captain Freeman Olmstead, and recovered the remains of Major Willard G. Palm which they subsequently returned to American authority. The Soviets have maintained that they have no knowledge of the fate of the other three crew members, Major Eugene E. Posa, Captain Oscar L. Goforth and Captain Dean B. Phillips. The Casualty Branch of the Directorate of Military Personnel issued "missing reports" for the two interned personnel and for the other three whose fate was not definitely known.

2. Since the Soviets had exploited this incident and admitted holding two survivors there appeared to be no logical reason to suspect that they were withholding information of any other survivors, but since Captains McKone and Olmstead were being held "incommunicado" it was deemed advisable to maintain the "missing status" until Captains McKone and Olmstead could be questioned.

3. Now that Captains McKone and Olmstead have been released, they will be debriefed and it will be possible to ascertain whether they have any knowledge of the possible survival of the other three crew members. This information should be relayed as soon as possible to the Casualty Branch, Colonels Group, Directorate of Military Personnel because the Casualty Branch will have to initiate proper action as to status of the three, and make notification to the next of kin, preferably before release to news media.

W. A. BJERKELUND
Major, USAF

EUR:RHDavis:erk 9/21/60 OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TELEPHONE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: September 21, 1960

SUBJECT: RB-47 Case: Mr. Olmstead's intention to send letter to Khrushchev in New York appealing for his son's release.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. J. Elaine Olmstead, Elmira, New York
Mr. Richard H. Davis, Deputy Assistant Secretary, EUR

COPIES TO:

S/S (2)	IO	Air Force: General Thomas White
S/B	L	Major Gen. James Walsh
INR Y	P	Colonel Lambert
EUR (2) (1 cc)	G	
H	M	
SOV (2) (1 cc)	USUN, New York	
	Amembassy MOSCOW	

Mr. Olmstead telephoned me at 3:00 p.m. today "to clear" a letter he desired to send to Khrushchev in New York appealing for the release of his son and Captain McKone, the survivors of the RB-47 shot down by the Soviets on July 1, 1960. He read me the text of his proposed letter appealing for the release of the men on humanitarian grounds and asking Khrushchev to announce their release in his speech before the General Assembly on September 27. He asked whether we would have any objection to his sending such a letter.

I replied we had no objection and Mr. Olmstead said he would send us a copy for the Department's records.

Mr. Olmstead said that he and his daughter-in-law had been in touch with Col. Geary of the Air Force who invited them to come to Washington next Thursday, September 29. He asked if he would see me then. I said that as I had told him before, I would be glad to see him and Mrs. Gail Olmstead any time though I had not known of this particular approach by Col. Geary. I said I would be in touch with Col. Geary and we would make arrangements for an appointment at the State Department while he was in Washington.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

INFORMATION COPY

MISSING PERSON(S) SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

DATE OF REPORT: 20 July 1960

TO: Director of Military Personnel
Headquarters USAF
ATTN: Casualty Branch
Washington 25, D. C.

THRU: (Command channels)
2AF
SAC

FROM:
BPPA
Forbes AFB, Kansas

1. MISSING
A. DATE: 1 July 1960
B. TIME: 1032Z

2. TYPE OF MISSION: Navigation Training in North Sea and Barents Sea

3. DEPARTURE
A. TIME: 1000Z
B. PLACE: Brize Norton, England
1 July 1960

4. INTENDED DESTINATION OR TARGET
Brize Norton to Brize Norton

5. INTENDED ROUTE
On record at Hq. SAC

6. WEATHER CONDITIONS IF APPLICABLE (Include ceiling, visibility, winds, sea conditions, temperature of water, etc.)
UNK

7. LAST KNOWN LOCATION (Exact coordinates and name of place)
Barents Sea Area

8. AIRCRAFT (Check applicable box)
A. LAST SIGHTED OR SEEN | B. LAST CONTACTED BY RADIO | C. SEEN TO CRASH | X D. INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE

9. DESCRIPTION OF EQUIPMENT (If missing in aircraft)

ITEMS A		TYPE B	MODEL C	MAKE D	SERIAL NUMBERS E	WEAPONS OR SPECIAL EQUIPMENT MAKE F	TYPE G	SERIAL NUMBER H
ACFT ENGINES	1	J-47	-25	G.E.	062-842	All Acft Installed Equipment as listed in DD Form 780-1		
	2	J-47	-ST25	Studebaker	702-334			
	3	J-47	-25A	G.E.	079-920			
	4	J-47	-ST25	Studebaker	701-592			
	5	J-47	-ST25A	Studebaker	703-087			
	6	J-47	-25	G.E.	075-942			
PROPELLERS	1							
	2							
	3							
	4							
	5							
	6							

11. NICKNAME OF AIRCRAFT OR OTHER IDENTIFYING MARKINGS
UNK

10. PERSONNEL AND/OR CREW (If missing in aircraft)

CREW POSITION A	LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL B	GRADE C	SERVICE NUMBER D	CURRENT STATUS E
PILOT	PALM, Willard G.	Major	AO 2087476	Missing
CP	OLMSTEAD, Freeman B.	Capt	AO 54818A	Missing
N	McKONE, John R.	Capt	AO 2210173	Missing
Observer	POSA, Eugene E.	Major	AO 2088613	Missing
Observer	GOFORTH, Oscar L.	Capt	AO 3053269	Missing
Observer	PHILLIPS, Dean B.	Capt	AO 3064783	Missing

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

AF FORM 15 JAN 52 484

11. WITNESSES AND/OR PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF MISSING PERSONNEL OR AIRCRAFT
ATTACH PERTINENT STATEMENTS FROM EA

LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL A	GRADE B	SERVICE NUMBER C
N/A		

12. DETAILED CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DISAPPEARANCE (*Duration, extent and results of search; life-saving equipment available and/or used; if applicable, peculiarities of tides, terrain, etc., and any other details pertinent to a determination of status not included elsewhere in this report.*)

1. On record at USAFE and USAF Headquarters.

2. Following extracted from Unclas AFPMP-S-1-A 68794, 12 July 1960:

"A news release from Moscow, 11 July 1960, stated that the Soviets shot down a RB-47 at 1803 hours local time 1 July 1960 in the Barents Sea. Further that 1st Lt Freeman B. Olmstead and 1st Lt John R. McKone were in the hands of the Soviet authorities. That the remains of Captain Willard G. Palm had been recovered and that there was no trace of the remaining crewmen, Captain Eugene E. Posa, Captain Oscar L. Goforth and 1st Lt Dean B. Phillips. The information contained in this news release is unofficial and has not been confirmed. Efforts are being made through diplomatec sources to verify this information.

This Headquarters will be responsible for all future notifications regarding RB-47. No change in status of missing personnel will be made without the prior concurrence of this headquarters."

13. OPINION OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER

[X] A. CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT CONTINUATION IN A MISSING STATUS	[ ] B. CHANGE FROM MISSING TO DEAD

C. REASONS

Unverified information stated in Section 12, above.

TYPED NAME AND GRADE OF COMMANDING OFFICER	SERVICE NUMBER	SIGNATURE
WILLIAM D. KYLE JR, Colonel, USAF Commander 55th SRW, Forbes AFB, Kans 9845A		William D. Kyle

GPO 83-4185

AF Form 484, 20 Jul 60, Missing Persons Supplementary Report

1st Ind (BPPA) 26 JUL 1960

Hq 21 Air Div, Forbes AFB, Kans

TO: 2AF (DPSP), Barksdale AFB, La.

Attached are AF Forms 484, Missing Persons Supplementary Report, 20 July 1960, furnished per paragraph 321, AFM 30-4.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

ELIJAH W. SHACKLETTE JR.
Captain, USAF
Deputy Director of
Administrative Services

Copy to:
AMC (MCSQG)

3 AUG 1960

2d Ind (DPSP)

Hq 2AF, Barksdale AFB, La

TO: SAC (DPSP)

Forwarded for necessary action.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

JOSEPH R. RILEY
Lt. Col, USAF
Directorate of Personnel

OFFICE OF THE CH...

The be... has been instructed to handcarry the attached papers to

PMP

EXPEDITE --- DO NOT DETACH

THE AIR FORCE
...IEF OF S...
AIR FORC...
...N, D.C.

AUG 1960

SUBJECT: RB-47 Incident

TO: AFPMP

I have been in contact with Major Bowen of your Casualty Branch, AFPMP-S-1-b, regarding a change of status of the three officers still missing in the RB-47 incident. The Secretary has an interest in this case, and I have informed Major Bowen that a determination of death should not be made until it is cleared with the Assistant Vice Chief of Staff.

T. B. Whitehouse

T. B. WHITEHOUSE
Colonel, USAF
Executive to the
Vice Chief of Staff

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DATE 10 August 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Major Bjerkelund
PMP-S-1

In line with our conversation yesterday, request you keep me advised of any more requests from the Vice Chief's office concerning the RB-47 incident. As we discussed yesterday, after you have taken your normal action, the correspondence must be flagged so that it is brought to the attention of Col Whitehouse, or at least so that General Landon will know of this request from Colonel Whitehouse.

Robert O. Fricks

ROBERT O. FRICKS
Colonel, USAF
Executive
Directorate of Military Personnel

ROUTINE
ROUTINE AF X

HQ USAF
FORBES AFB KANS

[illegible] 2AF BARKSDALE AFB LA

SAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

[illegible] AFPMP-S-1-C

[illegible] MESSAGE: ACTION FORBES AFB INFO 2AF SAC. Reference crew [illegible] shot down by USSR aircraft over Barents Sea 1 July 1960. Soviet authorities reported: (1) they had brought down the [illegible] in the waters east of the Russian coast (2) they rescued Captain [illegible] Richard McKone, AO 2210173 and Captain Freeman B. Olmstead, [illegible] by ship from the waters of the Barents Sea (3) the remains of Major Willard G. Palm, AO 2087476 were found afloat 4 July 1960 by the vessel and recovered (4) that Soviet autopsy indicates body [illegible] in tangled parachute shrouds and death was caused by drowning [illegible] (5) a search for the three other members of the crew was unavailing. The remains of Major Palm have been returned to U.S. authorities and positively identified. Whether the emergency was 1345

AUG 1960

AFPMP-S-1-C

MAJOR J. G. LUTHER/em
56755 1 2

W. A. BJERKELIND
MAJOR, USAF
DIRECTORATE OF MILITARY PERSONNEL

HQ USAF

... and of a violent nature thus preventing Major Eugene K. Posa and Captains Dean H. Phillips and Oscar L. Goforth from escaping from the aircraft prior to its crash can only be conjectured. Regardless, had these three survived the crash of the RB-47, or parachuted into the sea, the maximum water temperature in this area in July of 48 degrees Fahrenheit with a surface air temperature of approximately the same degree would preclude their survival beyond a matter of hours without assistance. Since the USSR has exploited this incident and admitted holding survivors, there appears no logical reason to suspect they are withholding information of any other survivors. The above facts and circumstances establish, pursuant to paragraph 32g, AFM 30-4, conclusive evidence that Major Posa and Captains Phillips and Goforth died 1 July 1960 as the result of an aircraft accident. Request death reports be submitted on these three officers. Upon receipt, Headquarters USAF will notify the NOK. Captains McKone and Olmstead will continue to be carried in a missing status. Headquarters USAF will keep in contact with their NOK and monitor their future status.

AFPMP-S-1 AFPMP-A AFPMP AFPDC AFCVC
Col Whitehouse

AFCIN AFXPD

A/R: Mr. Killham of the Soviet Desk, State Department Code 182, ext 2550, concurred in terminating the missing status of Major Eugene E. Foss, and Captains Dean E. Phillips and Oscar L. Goforth. All available evidence logically points to the fact that the three personnel could not have survived and are not now in the hands of Soviet authorities. Retaining these persons in a missing status would only serve to raise false hopes in the minds of the NOK who are eager to grasp at any shred of info which would indicate their loved one is alive. It is believed that they will at this point be more susceptible to a logical conclusion and be most able to adjust their future lives. Experience in casualty reporting shows that if personnel are continued in the missing status for a prolonged time, without concrete evidence of survival, the NOK's hopes for survival soar and they believe the AF is withholding info which proves their loved one is alive.

1. At the time of the RB-47 incident, casualty assistance personnel at Forbes AFB made immediate contact with the families of each crew member to furnish all possible aid. Captain Phillips' wife is now being assisted by Mather AFB and Captain Olmstead's wife by McGuire AFB. Forbes AFB is continuing assistance to Mrs. Posa, Mrs. McKone, Mrs. Goforth and Mrs. Palm. If they move, responsibility for furnishing assistance will be transferred to the air base nearest their residence. Everything possible in the way of monetary help and any other aid necessary is being afforded these families. Close contact will be maintained while the officers are missing and this contact will continue until all benefits are paid should their status change to deceased.

2. Major Palm, Deceased. Mrs. Palm will receive $3,000.00 gratuity pay and approximately $900.00 arrears of pay for the period 1 - 28 July 1960 upon her return to Forbes AFB. Normal Veterans Administration and Social Security benefits are applicable.

3. Captains McKone and Olmstead, Illegally Detained. Pay and allowances (including flying pay) continue until death. These officers will be considered for promotion while missing under normal promotion criteria.

a. Mrs. McKone is receiving $582.50 monthly. This represents 100% of Captain McKone's pay after deductions (tax, insurance, etc.).

b. Mrs. Olmstead is receiving $400.00 monthly which is 75% of her husband's pay after deductions. Approximately $125.00 is accruing monthly to Captain Olmstead's pay account.

4. Major Posa, Captains Goforth and Phillips, Missing. Pay and allowances (including flying pay) continue until their status is changed from missing to deceased. The change of status appears to be warranted at this time. Because of the international aspect, the Department of State has been asked to concur in this action. If it interposes no objection, the officers' status will be changed to deceased.

a. Mrs. Posa is receiving $625.00 monthly which is 100% of her husband's pay after deductions.

b. Mrs. Goforth is receiving $440.00 monthly. Approximately $156.35 is accruing monthly to the officer's pay account. She has been informed of the additional money available to her.

c. Mrs. Phillips is receiving $355.00 monthly. Approximately $210.00 is accruing monthly to Captain Phillips' pay account. She has also been informed of the money available to her.

August 4, 1960

[redacted]

General Thomas D. White, USAF
Chief of Staff
United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosed is a copy of the appeal which is being sent to Mr. Khrushchev on August 5, 1960. A copy of this has also been sent to Mr. Richard Davis.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Gail B. Olmstead
Per M.M.B.

Mrs. Gail B. Olmstead

Enclosure

August 4, 1960
Plainfield, New Jersey

Premier Nikita Khrushchev
The Kremlin
Moscow
Russia

We, the wives of Lt. Freeman B. Olmstead and Lt. John R. McKone, send this personal appeal to you, Mr. Khrushchev.

Mr. Zarubin said at the Security Council,

> "With regard to any possible applications by members of the families of the surviving crew members of the RB-47, such applications will be considered by the appropriate Soviet authorities, and decisions will be made in accordance with Soviet laws."

We believe you are a people who will honor this statement, so we ask that a representative of the International Red Cross be allowed to see these men.

We appeal to you for the release of our husbands. We know they are not spies; only air men on a routine mission.

So that the World may know that the Russians are not without heart, please send these men home to their wives and children.

Please reply to Mrs. Freeman B. Olmstead
[redacted]

Anxiously Awaiting Your Answer,

Mrs. Gail B. Olmstead
Mrs. Constance B. McKone

Copy

1. AFPDC Coord

2. AFXDC Coord

3. AFCAV Approval

4. AFCCS Signature

AFXPD-FY-IA 78901

Cal Lambert

Correspondence from Mrs. Olmstead and Mrs. McKone

1. The wives of Lt. McKone and Lt. Olmstead (EB-47 crew members detained by the USSR) have requested (Atchs 4 and 5) the assistance of the Chief of Staff in consulting the Department of State for advice and guidance concerning a projected visit to the USSR.

2. Contact with the State Department on 3 August disclosed that on 1 August, the [illegible] of European Affairs (State) wrote both Mrs. Olmstead and Mrs. McKone letters of advice and guidance as to procedure in establishing contact with the Soviet Embassy, and offered such assistance as may be required.

3. Lt. Gen. Hall, Commander CONAD, has also written the Chief of Staff in the matter (Atch 6).

4. Letters of response to Mrs. Olmstead, Mrs. McKone, and Lt. Gen. Hall have been prepared for the signature of the Chief of Staff.

COORDINATION

5. It is recommended that the Chief of Staff sign the attached letters (Atchs 1, 2 and 3) to Mrs. Olmstead, Mrs. McKone, and Lt. Gen. Hall.

6 Atchs
1. Ltr to Mrs. Olmstead
2. Ltr to Mrs. McKone
3. Ltr to Lt Gen Hall
4. Ltr fr Mrs Olmstead, 30 Jul
5. Ltr fr Mrs McKone, 28 Jul
6. Ltr fr Lt Gen Hall, 28 Jul

Can Be Told

AFPDC
AFXDC
AFCAV
AFXPD
AFCVC
AFXPD-FY-IA (Cobk)
AFXPD-FY-IA (Stobk)

SB-47 Incident

Lt. Gen. William E. Hall, USAF
Commander, Continental Air Command
Mitchell Air Force Base, New York, N.Y.

Dear Bill:

1. Your letter of 28 July on the UN Security Council debate over the SB-47 incident is greatly appreciated, and your providing Mrs. Olmstead and Mrs. McKone with copies as well as transcripts of the remarks by the Soviet delegate was most helpful. Appropriate authorities in the Department of State have been contacted to ensure expeditious handling of the requests by Mrs. Olmstead and Mrs. McKone for assistance in obtaining permission to visit their husbands.

2. State has advised me that they have written both Mrs. Olmstead and Mrs. McKone letters of advice and guidance concerning making arrangements for these visits through the Soviet Embassy here in Washington and through the Soviet Government in Moscow, and have offered assistance to this end. I have so advised Mrs. Olmstead and Mrs. McKone, and hope that final approval and arrangements can be made in the immediate future.

3. Your interest and concern in the matter are greatly appreciated, and, I'm sure, have been of considerable comfort to the families of the detainees.

Sincerely,

[illegible]/Col Lambert/[illegible]/3 Aug 60

Mrs. John [illegible]

[redacted]

My dear Mrs. [illegible]:

In response to your letter of [illegible] July, appropriate authorities in the Department of State have been contacted to ensure that every effort is being made to expedite action on your request for permission to visit your husband.

I understand that on 1 August, the Bureau of European Affairs wrote you a letter of advice concerning an approach to the Soviet Government in Moscow or the Soviet Embassy in Washington for the required permission.

Your plan to utilize the assistance of Congressman Boyer should be of benefit in securing early action.

If I can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely,

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

Mrs. Freeman B. Olmstead

[redacted]

My Dear Mrs. Olmstead:

In response to your letter of 30 July, appropriate authorities in the Department of State have been contacted to ensure that every effort is being made to expedite action on your request for permission to visit your husband.

I understand that on 1 August, the Bureau of European Affairs wrote you a letter of advice concerning an approach to the Soviet Government in Moscow or the Soviet Embassy in Washington for the required permission.

If I can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely,

(Drafting Office and Officer)

~~OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TELEPHONE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: August 1, 1960

SUBJECT: RB-47 Crew

PARTICIPANTS: [redacted]
Mr. Keenan of Congresswoman Dwyer's Office;
Mr. D.S.Koster, Acting Director, Office of Soviet Union Affairs.

COPIES TO: EUR - Mr. Davis
H - Mr. Claxton
L - Mr. Mehlmayer
Air Force - Col. Lambert ✓

Mr. Keenan said that Congresswoman Dwyer had just called from Elizabeth, New Jersey, to say that she had talked with the family of Lieutenant Olmstead. Mrs. Olmstead apparently had received a letter from a Colonel Haney, Information Officer at Mitchell Field, who said he had written at Ambassador Lodge's suggestion, and wanted the wives to know that the Soviets had left the door open in the Security Council discussions for the families to make requests directly to Premier Khrushchev. The wives were anxious to do anything they could, but did not want to do anything out of line.

I said that as a matter of fact a letter was being signed this morning by Mr. Richard Davis, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European Affairs, to the wives and parents of Lieutenant Olmstead and Lieutenant McKone, calling their attention to the same statement which evidently Ambassador Lodge also had in mind. This letter was intended to provide some advice to the families on this question, and Mr. Davis would certainly be glad to answer any further questions which occurred to the families after they had received the letters.

Mr. Keenan said this would undoubtedly take care of it.

EUR:SOV:DSKoster:AHR

~~OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

GPO 985971

Air Force

August 1, 1960

Dear Mrs. Olmstead:

I know that Acting Secretary Dillon has written to assure you of the Department of State's desire to assist you in any way that it can during this very difficult period for you while your husband is under illegal detention by the Soviet Government.

In this connection, I want to call to your attention a statement which the Soviet Delegate to the United Nations, Mr. Kuznetsov, made when he vetoed the resolution in the Security Council calling upon the Soviet Government to admit representatives of the International Red Cross to see your husband and Lieutenant McKone. Mr. Kuznetsov said:

> "With regard to any possible applications by members of the families of the surviving crew members of the RB-47, such applications will be considered by the appropriate Soviet authorities, and decisions will be made in accordance with Soviet laws."

Should you wish to attempt to arrange for a visit with your husband, either by yourself or by another member of the family, I suggest that you apply for permission directly to the Soviet Government in Moscow or through the Soviet Embassy in Washington. I would urge, however, that no travel to Moscow be undertaken unless written assurances have been received from Soviet authorities that the member of the family concerned will be able to see Lieutenant Olmstead. The Department is ready to assist you, or another member of the family, in any feasible way to arrange a visit. I believe that you will also want to keep the Air Force informed of any plans that you may make.

In

Mrs. Freeman B. Olmstead,
Care of Mr. Stanley Burner,
[redacted]

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: November 15, 1960

SUBJECT: RB-47

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. J. Blaine Olmstead, father of Captain Freeman B. Olmstead
Mr. John M. McSweeney, Director, Office of Soviet Union Affairs

COPIES TO:

S/S (2)	SOA	American Embassy, Moscow
S/S	L	Air Force - Col. Lambert
INR	EUR - 2	
H	P	
SOV - 3 (1 cc)	O	

Mr. Olmstead said that he had heard of a radio report which said that Captains Olmstead and McKone had been released. He inquired if the Department had any confirmation of this story. Mr. McSweeney told him the Department had heard a news story emanating from Germany in the last two days to the effect that rumors were current in Moscow that the two men would not be tried and would be released. Mr. McSweeney said Embassy Moscow had been asked if there were confirmation of this story and assured Mr. Olmstead that he would be informed as soon as any credible news might be received regarding his son. Mr. Olmstead expressed his appreciation.

Mr. Olmstead then asked if it would be possible for him to send a Christmas package, containing perhaps cigarettes, books, etc., to his son. Mr. McSweeney said a message would be sent to Moscow to ascertain whether such a package might be sent. Mr. Olmstead asked if it would be possible also to find out what particular items would be acceptable in such a package. Mr. McSweeney promised to telephone Mr. Olmstead as soon word is received from Embassy Moscow.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

INFORMATION COPY

In providing you with the above information, I wish to make it clear that the Department does not wish to influence you one way or another in coming to a decision whether you should or should not attempt to visit your husband in Moscow. Your Government is continuing its efforts to have a representative of our Embassy in Moscow see him and will do all it can to secure his release and return home.

We shall also be glad to send to our Embassy in Moscow any letters which you may wish to have delivered to your husband. Our Embassy would transmit these letters to the Soviet Foreign Ministry for delivery to your husband. If you prefer, you might also attempt to communicate with your husband through the facilities of the Red Cross.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you, and please call upon me at any time if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Richard M. Davis
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for European Affairs

Concurrences:

L - Mr. Wehmeyer P - Mr. Kilduff H - Mr. Claxton

S/S - Mr. Day IO - Mr. Sweeney

Air Force - Col. Lambert SCA - Mr. Donaldson

EUR:SOV:DMBoster:ANP/dy
7/30/60

Air Force

August 1, 1960

Dear Mrs. McKone:

I know that Acting Secretary Dillon has written to assure you of the Department of State's desire to assist you in any way that it can during this very difficult period for you while your husband is under illegal detention by the Soviet Government.

In this connection, I want to call to your attention a statement which the Soviet Delegate to the United Nations, Mr. Kuznetsov, made when he vetoed the resolution in the Security Council calling upon the Soviet Government to admit representatives of the International Red Cross to see your husband and Lieutenant Olmstead. Mr. Kuznetsov said:

> "With regard to any possible applications by members of the families of the surviving crew members of the RB-47, such applications will be considered by the appropriate Soviet authorities, and decisions will be made in accordance with Soviet laws."

Should you wish to attempt to arrange for a visit with your husband, either by yourself or by another member of the family, I suggest that you apply for permission directly to the Soviet Government in Moscow or through the Soviet Embassy in Washington. I would urge, however, that no travel to Moscow be undertaken unless written assurances have been received from Soviet authorities that the member of the family concerned will be able to see Lieutenant McKone. The Department is ready to assist you, or another member of the family, in any feasible way to arrange a visit. I believe that you will also want to keep the Air Force informed of any plans that you may make.

In

Mrs. John R. McKone,

[redacted]

In providing you with the above information, I wish to make it clear that the Department does not wish to influence you one way or another in coming to a decision whether you should or should not attempt to visit your husband in Moscow. Your Government is continuing its efforts to have a representative of our Embassy in Moscow see him and will do all it can to secure his release and return home.

We shall also be glad to send to our Embassy in Moscow any letters which you may wish to have delivered to your husband. Our Embassy would transmit these letters to the Soviet Foreign Ministry for delivery to your husband. If you prefer, you might also attempt to communicate with your husband through the facilities of the Red Cross.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you, and please call upon me at any time if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Richard H. Davis
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for European Affairs

Concurrences: L - Mr. Wehmeyer P - Mr. Kilduff H - Mr. Claxton

S/S - Mr. Day IO Mr. Sweeney Air Force-Col. Lambert

EUR - Mr. Donaldson

EUR:SOV:CTBoster:AMR/dy
7/30/60

Air Force

August 1, 1960

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Olmstead:

I know that Acting Secretary Dillon has written to assure you of the Department of State's desire to assist you in any way that it can during this very difficult period for you while your son is under illegal detention by the Soviet Government.

In this connection, I want to call to your attention a statement which the Soviet Delegate to the United Nations, Mr. Kuznetsov, made when he vetoed the resolution in the Security Council calling upon the Soviet Government to admit representatives of the International Red Cross to see your son and Lieutenant McKone. Mr. Kuznetsov said:

> "With regard to any possible applications by members of the families of the surviving crew members of the RB-47, such applications will be considered by the appropriate Soviet authorities, and decisions will be made in accordance with Soviet laws."

Should you wish to attempt to arrange for a visit with your son, either by yourself or by another member of the family, I suggest that you apply for permission directly to the Soviet Government in Moscow or through the Soviet Embassy in Washington. I would urge, however, that no travel to Moscow be undertaken unless written assurances have been received from Soviet authorities that the member of the family concerned will be able to see Lieutenant Olmstead. The Department is ready to assist you, or another member of the family, in any feasible way to arrange a visit. I believe that you will also want to keep the Air Force informed of any plans that you may make.

In

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Olmstead,

[redacted]

In providing you with the above information, I wish to make it clear that the Department does not wish to influence you one way or another in coming to a decision whether you should or should not attempt to visit your son in Moscow. Your Government is continuing its efforts to have a representative of our Embassy in Moscow see him and will do all it can to secure his release and return home.

As you know, we shall also be glad to send to our Embassy in Moscow any further letters which you may wish to have delivered to your son. Our Embassy would transmit these letters to the Soviet Foreign Ministry for delivery to your son. If you prefer, you might also attempt to communicate with your son through the facilities of the Red Cross.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you, and please call upon me at any time if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Richard H. Davis
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for European Affairs

Concurrences: L - Mr. Wehmeyer P - Mr. Kilduff H - Mr. Clarkson

IO - Mr. Sweeney SCA - Mr. Donaldson

AirForce - Col. Lambert S/S - Mr. Day

EUR:SOV:DEBostersen/dy
7/30/60

Air Force

August 1, 1960

Dear Mr. and Mrs. McKone:

I know that Acting Secretary Dillon has written to assure you of the Department of State's desire to assist you in any way that it can during this very difficult period for you while your son is under illegal detention by the Soviet Government.

In this connection, I want to call to your attention a statement which the Soviet Delegate to the United Nations, Mr. Kuznetsov, made when he vetoed the resolution in the Security Council calling upon the Soviet Government to admit representatives of the International Red Cross to see your son and Lieutenant Olmstead. Mr. Kuznetsov said:

> "With regard to any possible applications by members of the families of the surviving crew members of the RB-47, such applications will be considered by the appropriate Soviet authorities, and decisions will be made in accordance with Soviet laws."

Should you wish to attempt to arrange for a visit with your son, either by yourself or by another member of the family, I suggest that you apply for permission directly to the Soviet Government in Moscow or through the Soviet Embassy in Washington. I would urge, however, that no travel to Moscow be undertaken unless written assurances have been received from Soviet authorities that the member of the family concerned will be able to see Lieutenant McKone. The Department is ready to assist you, or another member of the family, in any feasible way to arrange a visit. I believe that you will also want to keep the Air Force informed of any plans that you may make.

In providing you with the above information, I wish to make it clear that the Department does not wish to influence you one

way

Mr. and Mrs. Jean A. McKone,

[redacted]

way or another in coming to a decision whether you should or should not attempt to visit your son in Moscow. Your Government is continuing its efforts to have a representative of our Embassy in Moscow see him and will do all it can to secure his release and return home.

We shall also be glad to send to our Embassy in Moscow any letters which you may wish to have delivered to your son. Our Embassy would transmit these letters to the Soviet Foreign Ministry for delivery to your son. If you prefer, you might also attempt to communicate with your son through the facilities of the Red Cross.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you, and please call upon me at any time if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Richard H. Davis
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for European Affairs

Concurrences: L - Mr. Wehmeyer
P - Mr. Kilduff
H - Mr. Claxton
S/S - Mr. Day
IO - Mr. Sweeney
Air Force - Col. Lambert
SCA - Mr. Donaldson

EUR:SOV:DEBostersork/dy
7/30/60

JUL 29 1960

Dear Mr. and Mrs. McKone:

I know how great your disappointment must be that the meeting of the United Nations Security Council, which have just been concluded, not result in any action by the Soviet Government leading to the relief of your son, Lieutenant McKone. We all deeply sympathize with you in this matter.

I want to assure you at this time, however, that your Government will continue to do everything that it can to obtain the release of Lieutenant McKone and Lieutenant Olmsteed.

While I know that you have been able to follow the exchange of notes between our Government and the Soviet Government in the press, I am enclosing for your convenience copies of our two notes in which we have demanded the return of the two men and immediate access to them by our Moscow Embassy. As you know, Ambassador Lodge has also requested the Soviet Government to permit the International Red Cross to see the men so that it may reassure you as to their well-being, and the Italian Delegate to the United Nations Security Council introduced a resolution similarly calling upon the Soviet Government to allow access to the men by the International Red Cross. Unfortunately, the Soviet Government vetoed this resolution.

If there are any developments concerning your son, you will be promptly informed. In the meantime, the Department will be glad to assist you in any way that it can, and I hope you will feel free to call upon us at any time.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ [illegible]

Acting Secretary

EUR - Mr. Davis
SCA - Mr. Donaldson
H - Mr. Claxton
P - Mr. Berding
IO - Mr. Sweeney
Air Force - Col. Lambert

Enclosures:

1. Press release No. 388 of July 12, 1960.
2. Press release No. 401 of July 18, 1960.

S/S-RO

JUL 30 1960

A true copy of signed original

Mr. and Mrs. Jean A. McKone,
[redacted]

[illegible] 7/27/60 Retyped in S/S-RO: 7/29/60

JUL 29 1960

Dear Mrs. McKone:

I know how great your disappointment must be that the meetings of the United Nations Security Council, which have just been concluded, d not result in any action by the Soviet Government leading to the reloa of your husband, Lieutenant McKone. We all deeply sympathize with you in this matter.

I want to assure you at this time, however, that your Government will continue to do everything that it can to obtain the release of Lieutenant McKone and Lieutenant Olmstead.

While I know that you have been able to follow the exchange of not between our Government and the Soviet Government in the press, I am enclosing for your convenience copies of our two notes in which we have demanded the return of the two men and immediate access to them by our Moscow Embassy. As you know, Ambassador Lodge has also requested the Soviet Government to permit the International Red Cross to see the men so that it may reassure you as to their well-being, and the Italian Delegate to the United Nations Security Council introduced a resolution similarly calling upon the Soviet Government to allow access to the men by the International Red Cross. Unfortunately, the Soviet Government vetoed this resolution.

If there are any developments concerning your husband, you will be promptly informed. In the meantime, the Department will be glad to assist you in any way that it can, and I hope you will feel free to call upon us at any time.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ DOUGLAS DILLON

Acting Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Press release No. 338 of July 12, 1960.
2. Press release No. [illegible] of July 18, 1960.

FUR - Mr. Davis
SCA - Mr. Donaldson
H - Mr. Claxton
P - Mr. Bording
IO - Mr. Sweeney
Air Force - Mr. [illegible]

Mrs. John B. McKone,
[redacted]

[redacted]

[illegible] 7/25/60

S/S-RO

JUL 30 1960

A true copy of signed original

Returned in [illegible]

EUR

JUL 29 1960

Dear Mrs. Olmstead:

I know how great your disappointment must be that the meetings of the United Nations Security Council, which have just been concluded, did not result in any action by the Soviet Government leading to the release of your husband, Lieutenant Olmstead. We all deeply sympathize with you in this matter.

I want to assure you at this time, however, that your Government will continue to do everything that it can to obtain the release of Lieutenant Olmstead and Lieutenant Medina.

While I know that you have been able to follow the exchange of notes between our Government and the Soviet Government in the press, I am enclosing for your convenience copies of our two notes in which we have demanded the return of the two men and immediate access to them by our Moscow Embassy. As you know, Ambassador Lodge has also requested the Soviet Government to permit the International Red Cross to see the men so that it may reassure you as to their well-being, and the Italian Delegate to the United Nations Security Council introduced a resolution similarly calling upon the Soviet Government to allow access to the men by the International Red Cross. Unfortunately, the Soviet Government vetoed this resolution.

If there are any developments concerning your husband, you will be promptly informed. In the meantime, the Department will be glad to assist you in any way that it can, and I hope that you will feel free to call upon us at any time.

Sincerely yours,

[illegible]

Acting Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Press release No. 366 of July 12, 1960
2. Press release No. 401 of July 18, 1960

S/S-RO

JUL 30 1960

A true copy of signed original

Mrs. Freeman B. Olmstead
Care of Mr. [redacted] Durnan
[redacted]

MER - Mr. Davis
SCA - Mr. Donaldson
H - Mr. Claxton
P - Mr. Berding
IO - Mr. Sweeney
AIR FORCE - Col. Lambert

[illegible] 7/27/60

retrued S/S-RO 7/29/60

JUL 29 1960

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Olmstead:

I know how great your disappointment must be that the events of the United Nations Security Council, which have just been concluded, did not result in any action by the Soviet Government leading to the release of your son, Lieutenant Olmstead. We all deeply sympathize with you in this matter.

I want to assure you at this time, however, that your Government will continue to do everything that it can to obtain the release of Lieutenant Olmstead and Lieutenant Sutton.

While I know that you have been able to follow the exchange of notes between our Government and the Soviet Government in the press, I am enclosing for your convenience copies of our two notes in which we have demanded the return of the two men and immediate access to them by our Moscow Embassy. As you know, Ambassador Lodge has also requested the Soviet Government to permit the International Red Cross to see the men so that it may reassure you as to their well-being, and the Italian Delegate to the United Nations Security Council introduced a resolution similarly calling upon the Soviet Government to allow access to the men by the International Red Cross. Unfortunately, the Soviet Government vetoed this resolution.

As Mr. Thomas Jennings in Secretary Herter's office has informed you, we received from him your letter to your son and immediately forwarded it to our Embassy at Moscow for delivery. You will be promptly informed when we have received word of its delivery.

If there are any developments concerning your son, you will be promptly informed. In the meantime, the Department will be glad to assist

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Olmstead,
[redacted]

assist you in any way that it can, and I hope you will feel free to call upon us at any time.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ DOUGLAS DILLON

Acting Secretary

Enclosures:

1. Press Release No. 355 of July 12, 1960
2. Press Release No. 401 of July 18, 1960

S/S-RO
JUL 30 1960
A true copy of signed original

ENR - Mr. Davis

SCA - Mr. Donaldson

H - Mr. Claxton

P - Mr. Harding

IO - Mr. Sweeney

AIR FORCE - Col. Lambert

ENR:SOV:DZEnster:ANR
7/27/60

Retyped in S/S-RO 7/29/60

Drafted/Of/C[illegible]

CONCUR[illegible]

CONTINENTAL AIR COMMAND
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
MITCHEL AIR FORCE [illegible]

COMMANDER

28 July 1960

General Thomas D. White, USAF
Chief of Staff
United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Tommy:

At the conclusion of the UN Security Council debate on the RB-47 incident Tuesday night, Ambassador Lodge pointedly mentioned a matter about which I feel you should be informed.

Mr. Lodge emphasized that the Soviet Representative, Mr. Kuznetsov, in a summation on the incident on 26 July, had intentionally left a door unlocked through which the families of the two crewmen, now in the hands of the Russians (Capt. McKone and Lt. Olmstead) could make an appeal to the Russians for permission either to visit or to obtain information on the whereabouts and condition of the two officers. This, Mr. Lodge believes, is significant since obviously the Soviet Representative knew in advance that his government would veto the Italian resolution as well as the American resolution [illegible] for an impartial investigation. I have extracted the pertinent paragraphs from the Russian's remarks and they are attached as an inclosure. [illegible] apparent upon perusal of these excerpts that the usual pattern of castigation [illegible] was advanced before the Russians opened the door slightly.

[illegible] this [illegible] wives that he believed the Russian Representative made [illegible] and for [illegible]. [illegible], therefore, advised the wives [illegible] was the last recourse left to them, they should take the opportunity [illegible] to the Russians. He advised them to initiate an appeal to Russian authorities, obtaining guidance from the Air Force and State Department. He [illegible] to be sure to quote the remarks of Mr. Kuznetsov, those in paragraph [illegible] of my inclosure, in their appeal.

[illegible] this advice from Mr. Lodge, I feel sure the wives will ask for a [illegible] to Russian authority. Therefore I wanted you to have the full [illegible] on this matter.

I believe you will be interested to know that Mr. Lodge also stated that the presence of the wives at the Security Council and [illegible] of great assistance to him and that they had conducted themselves in such a manner as to reflect credit on the Air Force and the nation.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM E. HALL
Lieutenant General, USAF
Commander

Copy furnished

Attch
Excerpt fm remarks by
Gov Rep, UN Sec Coun, 26 Jul 60

FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE EXTRACTED FROM REMARKS MADE BY SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE BEFORE THE U N SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATING THE RB-47 INCIDENT ON 26 JULY 1960.

Further, it is impossible to pass over in silence the fact that the representatives of the United States and its partners in the aggressive bloc in a clear attempt to divert attention from the threat to peace constituted by the systematic incursions of United States aircraft into Soviet air space continue shamelessly to exploit the very understandable feelings of members of the families of the crew members of the RB-47 aircraft. The hypocritical statements by the organizers of the provocative flights, of course, have nothing in common with genuine feelings of humanity; they only show once again that they will not shrink from any means of concealing the responsibility for everything that happened in connection with the RB-47 aircraft.

In this connection, it is quite understandable that the draft resolution submitted by the representative of Italy does not pursue any humanitarian aims, in spite of the statements to that effect propounded by the representative of Italy with so much warmth. This draft resolution is aimed at diverting attentention from the necessity to condemn the organizers of the aggressive actions. Moreover, the Italian draft resolution is directly aimed at interfering in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union and with the normal processes of justice which are now being carried out in regard to the two crew members, McKone and Olmstead, of the RB-47 aircraft which committed the aggressive incursion into the air space of the Soviet Union for espionage purposes. When the examination of their cases has been completed, they will appear before a Soviet tribunal

This represents an implementation of the sovereign rights of the Soviet Union, in which no interference by any outside organisations will be tolerated.

WITH REGARD TO ANY POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE FAMILIES OF THE SURVIVING CREW MEMBERS OF THE RB-47, SUCH APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE APPROPRIATE SOVIET AUTHORITIES, AND DECISIONS WILL BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SOVIET LAWS.

STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 13467 (9 Aug 60) Z/dfc

INFO : PMP-S-1, ASC

SMD A 002

KZCHQD947ZCYJA402

RR RJEZHQ

DE RJWXBR 319

R 082055Z

FM SAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

TO RJWFFB/21AIRDIV FORBES AFB KANS

INFO RJEZHQ/C OF S USAF WASH DC

RJEBKF/2AF BARKSDALE AFB LA

BT

UNCLAS DPS 11695 (INFO USAF FOR AFPMP-S-1) INFO 2AF FOR DPSP). SUBJECT IS CASUALTY REPORTS ON THREE MISSING RB-47 CREW MEMBERS. INFO RECEIVED IN THIS HQS ON 8 AUG 60 FROM HQ USAF INDICATES THAT CHANGE OF STATUS FROM MISSING TO DEAD IS NOT REPEAT NOT YET APPROPRIATE. REQUEST YOU WITHHOLD ANY ACTION TO CHANGE STATUS PENDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM HQ USAF.

BT

08/2058Z AUG RJWXBR

RB-47

Jesse was tel conv of Major B. with SAC on 8 Aug 60

ARMED FORCES INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE DIRECTOR

RHF/WHD/ks

DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY
AMERICAN REGISTRY OF PATHOLOGY

MEDICAL MUSEUM
MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION SERVICE

[illegible]-PE

5 August 1960

SUBJECT: Preliminary Report on Maj. W. C. Palm, AFIP Acc. No. 969935

TO: Captain Luther
AFPMP-S-1
Rm. 5E313, The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Inclosed please find a copy of the preliminary report on the examination of Major Willard C. Palm, AO 2037476, AFIP Accession No. 969935.

2. This copy is forwarded as per your telephone request of 5 August 1960 to Captain W. H. Davidson, USAF, MC, of the Aerospace Pathology Branch, AFIP.

1 Incl
a/s

ROGER H. FULLER
Captain, MC, USN
Acting Director

469933

[illegible] OF PATHOLOGY
5525 16TH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

FMT/WED/hs

-PE

SUBJECT: Preliminary Report on Examination of Body of Major Willard G. Palm, AD 2087476, AFIP Accession No. 969935

TO: Major General O. K. Nicos, USAF, MC
The Surgeon General
[illegible]arters, USAF
[illegible]ington 25, D. C.

1. The body of Major Willard G. Palm was received at the AFIP Morgue at approximately 0830, 31 July 1960. It had previously been examined by U.S.S.R. forensic-medical experts G. P. Pagov, B. D. Levchenkov, and L. V. Alisievich on 4 July 1960 at the hospital in Sam District of the Murmansk Region. The Soviet protocol of autopsy examination states the following under the heading of "Preliminary Information:"

> "On the 4th of July, 1960, northeast of the promontory of Svyatoi Nos, the dead body of Willard George Palm, entangled in the shrouds of the parachute, was found in the water."

The Soviet examination showed greatly wet clothing and liver mortis over the face, head, neck and upper shoulder girdle. They found "compact foam of fine bubbles and of whitish-rosy color," oozing from the nares and mouth. Multiple subcutaneous hemorrhagic areas and abrasions were present on the extremities. Internally the trachea and bronchi were filled with thick foamy fluid. The lungs were congested with fluid blood. The skin had a "goose flesh" appearance. The Soviet conclusion was that the death

> "was come from asphyxia as a result of the closure of the respiratory pathways by fluid in consequence of drowning in water. The injuries detected . . . could have been caused shortly before death by blunt hand objects, and they were of a light nature, not endangering life . . ."

The Soviets took tissues for chemical and histologic examination, and embalmed the body with a phenol, formalin, glycerol and alcohol mixture.

2. On 26 July 1960, Major Claude K. Leeper, USAF, MC, examined the remains at the USAREUR Mortuary at Frankfurt/Main, Germany. Dr. Leeper found all organs in the body cavity in haphazard arrangement. He concluded, after gross and microscopic examination, that no conclusive statement as to cause of death could be made in absence of detailed information about the nature of the incident. His diagnoses were:

1. Lacerations, abrasions and ecchymoses of body surface, minimal severity, due to unknown cause.
2. Hemorrhage, minimal, lungs, spleen, adrenal and mesentery, due to unknown cause.
3. Vascular dilatation, moderate to severe, generalized internal tissues and organs.
4. Hashimoto's Disease of thyroid.
5. Ulcer (2) superficial of esophagus.
6. Chronic cholecystitis, early.

3. Re-examination of the body of Major Palm was done by Capt. W. H. Davidson, USAF, MC, and Maj. F. W. Lovell, USAF, MC, at the AFIP Morgue between 0900 and 1500 31 July 1960. This examination confirmed Dr. Leeper's gross findings. Complete roentgen examination revealed no fracture and only minor degenerative osteoarthritic change of vertebral bodies. Extra dural hemorrhage was present in the spinal canal. The tympanic membranes were intact. Small hemorrhages were present in the lateral vertebral ligaments adjacent to L1 and L2. The areas described by the Soviets as showing lividity (head, neck and shoulders) showed dark red to black discoloration with a mummified-leathery consistency.

4. Microscopic examination of the lungs shows marked congestion of capillaries and veins, distension of alveoli, some with air and some with eosinophilic amorphous material and infrequent intra-alveolar hemorrhage. Alveolar macrophages are prominent. Vascular dilatation in the submucosa of the trachea and bronchi is prominent. Focal collections of neutrophiles are present in veins and alveoli. Bacterial growth is moderately heavy without acute inflammatory reaction. Skin sections show subcutaneous hemorrhage and denudation of epithelium with hyalinization of the corium and dilated vascular channels.

5. In conclusion, it is believed the cutaneous wounds represent ante-mortem trauma probably occurring during ejection. Whether they prevented Major Palm from getting into his life raft (if one were available) is conjectural, but in view of the absence of bone fractures, this is doubtful. One aspect which must be considered is the water temperature in this area. The U. S. Navy Hydrographic Office, Division of Oceanography, states that mean ocean surface temperature for June is 35°F and for July 40°F. Variations occur due to northerly or easterly winds. Survival-time in such temperatures is a matter of a few hours. The microscopic examination of the lungs is considered consistent with but not pathognomonic of drowning. An attempt is being made to recover diatoms from lung by acid digestion.

The significance of the subdural spinal hemorrhage is at present undetermined. The cutaneous wounds microscopically appear to be ante mortem. Others appear to be abrasions with loss of epidermis. Thus, death by drowning remains a strong possibility as suggested by the Soviets. This may have occurred after several hours of exposure in the water.

FRANK H. TOM[illegible]
Colonel, USAF, MC
The Director

cc:
Col. C. L. Green, AFCIN
Col. W. H. Gilman, SAPOI

Examination and Report by:

Capt. W. H. Davidson, USAF, MC

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FO
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

[illegible] : 5643 (30 Jul 60) N/bc

[illegible]: PMP-S-1
[illegible] : ASC, COM CTR, MSS-CS-3, CIS CIG

[illegible] 173

C[illegible] 100ZCWJA113

[illegible] ZHQ

[illegible]

[illegible]

PP [illegible] BKF RJEZHQ RJWXBR

DE [illegible] BFB 18

P [illegible] 50Z ZFF2 RJEZHQ

FM [illegible] IRDIV FORBES AFB KANS

T[illegible] ZHQ/COFS WASHDC

I[illegible] JWXBR/CINCSAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

RJE[illegible]/COMAF 2BARKSDALE AFB LA

BT

U[illegible] CASAULTY MESSAGE FROM BPPA 1346. FOR

I[illegible]ATE ATTENTION CASUALTY BRANCH. SUBJ: CASUAL[illegible]

[illegible] REFERENCE YOUR UNCLASSIFIED AFPMP-S-1-A 73650.

F[illegible]FICIAL USE ONLY. THE FOLLOWING NON BATTLE DEATH

R[illegible] IS SUBMITTED:

A[illegible]M, REPEAT PALM, WILLARD GEORGE.

B[illegible]OR.

C. A[illegible]2087476 REPEEAT A02087476.

D. 343D STTRAT RECON SQ, 55TH STRAT RECON WG, FORBES AFB, KANS. TETTCHED 3920TH COMBAT SUP GP, BRIZE NORTON, ENGLANDD

RB-49
Dett Palm

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FC
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

[illegible]: 5643 (30 Jul 60)

REPUR PAGE SMD B 173

PAGE TWO RJEBFB 18

N BARENTS SEA AREA.

F-C-L ON FILE YOUR HEADQUARTERS.

I. READY.

J. NADIA PALM, WIFE, [redacted]

SYBIL STARR PALM, MOTHER, [redacted]

K. ON FILE YOUR HEADQUARTERS, REFERENCE YOUR UNCLAS-
SIFIED SFPMP-S-1-A 65794.

L. 323-12-6879.

M. SPOUSE.

N. NADIA (NMI) PALM, WIFE, [redacted]

O. 27 MAY 1960, AF FORM 246-3.

P. NO.

Q. PRESENT FOR DUTY. ACTIVE DUTY.

R. O.R.

S. $510.00

T. YES. CREW MEMBER.

U. AIR FORCE RESERVE.

V. PRESBYTERIAN.

W. CAUCASIAN.

X. NOT APPLICABLE.

Y. NADIA PALM, WIFE [redacted]

35

[illegible]30Z JUL RJEBFB

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DECISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 4293 (29 Jul 60) R/N/gs
ACTION MSS-GS-3
INFO : PMP S-1
SMDB179

RB-47

CHB157ZCUJA215

PP RJEZHQ

DE RUFYAX 07

ZNR

P R 291320Z

FM CO USAQMORTSYS FRANKFURT GER

TO RUEPC/DA WASHDC

RJEZSB/COMAPOE DOVER AFB DEL

RJEZHQ/CSUSAF WASHDC

RUFPBW/CINCUSAFE WIESBADEN GER

INFO RUFGAE/CG USAREURCOMZ ORLEANS FRANCE FOR AECZQ-O

DA GRNC

BT

UNCLAS MO-889. DA FOR QMGME-D. REMAINS SHPNG REPT PER PAR 53C 638-40 REF OUR MSG MO-882 DTD 28 JUL. 1. AIRLIFTING REMAINS OF CAPT WILLARD F PALM A02087476 FORBES AFB KANSAS ABT 29 JUL ETA DOVER AFB DEL 30 JUL

2. REMAINS DLVR RHEIN MAIN AFB 29 JUL

3. FLT NR FURN BY RHEIN MAIN AFB

4. MW PROT

5. TRF CASE NR 97

6. 290 LBS

RMKS: THIS REMAINS BEING SHIPPED IN ACD W/INSTR FURN THIS HQ BY HQ

CFN MO-889 53C 638-40 MO-882 28 1 A02087476 29 30 2 29 3 4 5 97

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FC
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 4293 (29 Jul 60)

PAGE TWO RUFYAX 07

USAFE WIESBADEN GERMANY. REQ TRF CASE NR EU-97 BE RTN HQ USA QM MORTUARY SYS EUR FRANKFURT GER BY ATCO DOVER AFB DEL

BT

CFN EU-97

29/1330Z

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

AF M. 4101 (29 Jul 60) INCOMING

PMP-S-1

COMM CTR, ASC, MSS-GS-3, CIS, CIG

118-47

SMD B 140

CZCHQD680ZCNJA935

OO RJEZHQ

DE RJFPBW 120

O 291330Z ZFF2 RJEZHQ

FM HQ USAFE

TO COFS USAF

BT

UNCLASSIFIED FROM PPSPA 118638. ACTIONCOFS. CASUALTY MESSAGE, DEATH REPORT, NONBATTLE.

A. PALM REPEAT PALM WILLARD GEORGE.

B. CAPTAIN.

C. A02087476 REPEAT A02087476.

D THROUGH H. INFORMATION ON FILE YOUR HEADQUARTERS.

I. READY.

J THROUGH Y. INFORMATION ON FILE YOUR HEADQUARTERS.

BT

29/1430Z JUL RJFPBW

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 4320 (29 Jul 60) R/wgs

INFO : MSS-GS-3, PMP-S-1

RB-47

SMD A 192

ZCZCHQB166ZCBFA799

PP RJEZHQ

DE RJEZBF 46

P 291718Z ZEX ZFF2

FM 3245 ABW L G HANSCOM FLD MASS

TO RJEXDH/WESTOVER AFB MASS

INFO RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH D C

RJEZSB/DOVER AFB DEL

RJEZFF/ARDC ANDREWS AFB MD

BT

/UNCLAS/FROM CWBBP 7-28-60. ATTN PERSONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER WESTOVER.

CASULATY REPORT, DEATH REPORT, NON-BATTLE

PART I REF AFMSS GS-3-73077 FROM HQ USAF AND CONFIRMS TEL CONVERSATION WITH THE FOLL: MR H. MONROE HQ USAF, MAJ GEORGE DOVER AFB, MSGT ZASTRO WESTOVER AFB. BASED ON PRIOR COORDINATED PLAN BETWEEN L G HANSCOM FLD AND WESTOVER AFB. WINCHENDON, MASS FALLS WITHIN T E AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY OF WESTOVER AFB. FOR FURNISHING MIL HONORS. WESTOVER AFB WILL FURNISH MIL HONORS IN COMPLIANCE WITH PAR 126E AFM 143-1 FOR A/B MARSH A MARTIN AF21279638, PART II INFO FURNISHED WESTOVER. REMAINS OF A/B MARTIN BEING SHIPPED BY DOVER TO LAFRAMBOISE FUNERAL HOME, 20

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR ?CE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISI..
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 4320 (29 Jul 60)

PAGE TWO RJEZBF 46

MECHANIC ST WINCHENDON MASS. NOK FATHER, MR MARSHAL H. MARTIN 12 WOO

LAND ST WINCHENDON MASS RACE CAUCASIAN RELGION CATHOLIC. PART III TC

DOVER. PLEASE ADVISE WESTOVER ETA REMAINS OF SUBJECT AMN. WINCHENDON

ATTN: PERSONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER.

BT

29/1718Z JUL RJEZBF

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FOR
STAFF/MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 4428 (2_ JUL-60) 7/Jms

ACTION: SAFS

INFO : SMD, MSS-GS-3, PMP-S-1

CP 3 220

ZCNIE043ZCNJC727

PP RJEZHQ

DE RJFPBW 282

P 291655Z

FM USAFE LINDSEY AS GERMANY

TO SAF WASH D C

BT

UNCLAS FROM OII 172349. FOR SAFOI-3 LT COL THOMPSON.

REMAINS OF LATE CAPT WILLARD PALM DEPARTED RHEIN MAIN AB

AT 1537Z 29 JUL ABOARD C-118 NR 7655 TO DOVER VIA LAGES. ESTIMATE

22 HOURS ENROUTE. LIGHT PRESS COVERAGE OF DEPARTURE

WITH MOST NEWS SERVICES COVERING EVENT VIA TELEPHONE.

BT

29/1710Z JUL RJFPBW

RC-47 Palm

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR F E
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 2923 (28 Jul 60) R/wgs

N
INFO : MSS-GS-3, PMP-S-1

SMD A142

ZCHQE846ZCUJC178

RR RJEZHQ

DE RUFYAX 07

ZNR

O R 281600Z

FM CO USAQMORTSYS FRANKFURT GER

TO RUEPC/TQMG DA WASHDC

INFO RJEZHQ/CSUSAF WASHDC

RJFPBW/CINCUSAFE WIESBADEN GER

RUFGAE/CG USAREURCOMZ ORLEANS FRANCE FOR AECZQ-O

DA GRNC

BT

UNCLAS MO-882. REF IS MADE TO MSG MQ-881. PLEASE DISREGARD MQ-881. RE REMAINS CAPT WILLARD G PALM A02087476. USAF REP THIS COMD ARNG BY TELECON FOR RTN OF REMAINS TO CONUS (USIP) ASAP AFTER CFM OF FINGERPRINT IDENT BY FBI. REQ UR OFF CORD ARNG FOR MOVT OF REMAINS W/USAF REP AT UR LEVEL AND ADVISE THIS HQ ASAP AUTH FOR REL AND SHIPPING INSTR. XPD

BT

CFN MO-882 MO-881 MO-811 A02087476

28/1602Z

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 2903 (28 Jul 60) K/hgh

INFO : MSS-GS-3, PMP-S-1

SMD C2211

0748-47

CZCHQC330ZCUJB187

RR RJEZHQ

DE RUFYAX PY

ZNR

O R 281520Z

FM CO USAQMORTSYS FRANKFURT GER

TO RUEPC/TQMG DA WASHDC

INFO RJEZHQ/CSUSAF WASHDC

RJFPBW/CINCUSAFE WIESBADEN GER

RUFGAE/CG USAREURCOMZ ORLEANS FRANCE FOR AECZQ-O

DA GRNC

BT

UNCLAS MO-881. RE REMAINS CAPT WILLARD G PALM A02087474. USAF REQ THIS COMD ARNG BY TELECON FOR RTN OF REMAINS TO CONUS (USIP) ASAP AFTER CFM OF FINGERPRINT IDENT BY FBI. REQ UR OFF CORD ARNG FOR MOVT OF REMAINS W/USAF REP AT UR LEVEL AND ADVISE THIS HQ ASAP AUTH FOR REL AND SHIPPING INSTR. EXPD

BT

CFN MO-881 A02087476

28/1522Z

EUR:SOV:DEBoster:erk 7/ /60 OFFICIAL USE ONLY

761.5411/7-2760

(33)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TELEPHONE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: July 27, 1960

SUBJECT: RB-47 Case

PARTICIPANTS: Miss O'Dell, Congressman Avery's Office
Mr. D.E. Boster, SOV

COPIES TO: H - Mr. Hoghland (2)
EUR - Mr. Davis (2) (1 cc)
L/EUR - Mr. Kearney (2)
Air Force - Col. Moore
SOV - (5) (2 cc)

(12)

Miss O'Dell telephoned me today with reference to an inquiry they had received from a Kansas State Legislator about the possibility of a member of the McKone family going to Moscow to see Lieutenant McKone. In our discussion, I referred Miss O'Dell to the account of the Security Council meetings in today's New York Times in which Kuznetsov had stated that his Government might consider appeals by the families of the survivors for the right to communicate with the prisoners. I said it would be our advice that members of the families should not attempt to go to Moscow unless and until they had assurance from the Soviet Government that they would be permitted to see the officer concerned. We agreed that Khrushchev was probably the most effective person to whom a request should be addressed. I suggested to Miss O'Dell that anyone making such plans should, of course, be in touch with the Air Force.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

INFORMATION COPY

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 1422 (27 Jul 60) K/au
INFO : MSS-GS-3, PMP-S-1

SMDC193

ZCHCCJ89ZCSBA275

PP RJEZHQ

DE RJEZSB 16

P R 271505Z ZEX

FM 1607AIRTRNSPWG DOVER AFB DEL

TO RUFYAX/HQ USAREUR QM MTY SVS DET 7770TH ARMY UNIT FRANKFURT GER

RJFPAX/1614SSQ RHEIN MAIN AB GERMANY

INFO RJEZHQ/COFS USAF WASHDC

AF GRNC

BT

UNCLAS FROM 1607TH ABG/MORTUARY 27-G-1 FOR MORTUARY BR. REQUEST CLOSE COORDINATION OF THE REMAINS OF CAPTAIN WILLARD PALM. IT IS DESIRABLE THAT SUBJECT REMAINS ARRIVE DOVER AFB DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS OF NORMAL DUTY DAY. ALSO REQUEST MAXIMUM ADVANCE NOTICE OF ETA.

BT

27/1513Z JUL RJEZSB

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

AF IN : 2052 (28 Jul 60) INCOMING E/cas

INFO : MSS-GS-3, PMP-S-1, SAFS

NNNN

SMD A 017

ZCZCHQA338ZCYJC434

MM RJEZHQ

DE RJEDAA 177

M 272128Z ZEX

FM MATS SCOTT AFB ILL

TO RJEZFW/EASTAF MCGUIRE AFB NJ

INFO RJEZHQ/;HQ USAF WASH DC

RJWXBR/SAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

RJEBKF/2AF BARKSDALE AFB LA

BT

UNCLAS MAOTO/CO 27 G 98

ACTION EASTAF INFO HQ USAF FOR AFMSS-GS-3 SAC 2AF. SUBJECT: RETURN OF RB47 CREW MEMBER REMAINS. THE REMAINS OF CAPTAIN PALM, PRESENTLY AT RHEIN-MAIN AB GER, ARE TO BE RETURNED TO THE CONUS VIA MATS CHANNEL TRAFFIC AIRLIFT. IT IS INTENDED THAT AN HONOR/RELIGIOUS CEREMONY BE CONDUCTED AT RHEIN-MAIN PRIOR TO DEPARTURE OF THIS TRIP AND AGAIN AT DOVER UPON ARRIVAL OF THIS TRIP. EASTAF IS AUTHORIZED TO ADJUST SCHEDULE AS NECESSARY TO PERMIT DEPARTURE FROM RHEIN-MAIN AT 1600 LOCAL STANDARD TIME AND ARRIVAL AT DOVER 1000 EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME. PRESENT PLANNING INDICATES TRIP WILL DEPART RHEIN-MAIN 29 JUL 60;

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 2052 (28 Jul 60)

PAGE TWO RJEDAA 177

HOWEVER, DEPARTURE DATE IS DEPENDANT UPON POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION OF REMAINS. EASTAF WILL COORDINATE DIRECTLY WITH MR. MONROE, USAF MORTUARY, TELEPHONE WASH DC, OXFORD 64014, 64029. GENERAL MC CONNEL, COMMANDER 2AF,V WILL BE SENIOR USAF OFFICER MEETING AIRCRAFT UPON ARRIVAL AT DOVER. DEPARTURE TIME FROM RHEIN-MAIN AND ARRIVAL TIME AT DOVER MUST BE GRARANTEED.

BT

27/2318Z JUL RJEDAA

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 265 (26 Jul 60) K/N/au

ACTION: MSS-GS-3

INFO : PMP-s-1

RB-F1.

MSS

SMD B 141

CZCHQB383ZCUJA207

OO RJEZHQ

DE RUFYC 35C

ZNR

O R 261600Z

FM HQ USA QM MORT SYS EUR FRANKFURT GER

TO RJEZHQ/HQ USAF AFMSS - AS- 3 WASHDC

INFO RJEDSQ/AMC ATTN: MCAMM WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJFPSW/CINCUSAFE WIESBADEN GER

RUEPC/TQMG QMGME-D WASHDC

RUFGAE/CG USAREURCOMZ AEZQM I&S ORLEANS FRANCE

DA GRNC

BT

UNCLAS MO-871 MSG IN TWO PARTS.

PART I. REMAINS ALLEGED TO BE THOSE OF CAPT WILLIARD G PALM AO 20874 76 REC AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND 25 JULY 60. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION DISCLOSES REMAINS ATTIRED IN FLYING SUIT, UNDER GARMENTS, SOCKS AND FLYING BOOTS. CONDITION OF REMAINS INDICATES ATTEMPTS OF PRESERVATION TAKEN BY RUSSIAN TECHNICIANS PROBABLY BY USE OF PHENOL. HEAD AND NECK EXTREMELY DISCOLORED. THERE IS EVIDENCE OF ABRASIONS OVER

AF IN : 265 (26 Jul 60)

INCOMING

JULDERS, LOWER ARMS AND LOWER LEGS, NUMEROUS INCISINS OBSERVED OVER ARMS, RIGHT LATERAL HIP, AND LOWER LEGS. AT THIS TIME IT HAS NT BEEN DETM WHETHER THESE LACERATIONS ARE AS A RESULT OF TRAUMA OR EXAM CONDUCTED BY RUSSIA MEDICS. CRANIAL, NECK, THORACIC, AND ABDOMINAL AND PELVIC CAVITIES HAVE BEEN POSTED.

PART II. NO REC ESCEPT SEROLOGY HAVE BEEN MADE AVAL FOR COMPARISON STUDIES. PLESE XPD ACT TO GET PHYSICAL-DENTAL CHARACTERISTICS TO THIS STA ASAP. BELIEVE HOME STA OF CAPT PALM TO BE FORBES AFB, KAN. SGN RALSTON

BT

26/1608Z

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

RB-47.

AF IN : 59398 (25 Jul 60) H/cab

INFO : CIN, MSS-GS, PMP-S-1, SAFS

PACAF

FROM : MOSCOW

NR : 229 25 Jul 60

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
(AFR 11-30)

NOTE : 202 is AF IN 56517 (22 Jul 60)

TELEGRAM *Department of State*

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

Control: 17400
Rec'd: JULY 25, 1960
1:28 PM

Action
E R
Info
SS
G
SP
C
L
M
SE
P
USIA
SCA
SCS
IRC
CIA
OSD
ARMY
NAVY
AIR
RMR

FROM: MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 229, JULY 25, 6 P.M.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 229, REPEATED INFORMATION PRIORITY USUN 12.

EMBTEL 202.

BODY CAPT. PALM RECEIVED FROM SOVIETS THIS MORNING AND PLACED ABOARD KLM AIRCRAFT WITHOUT INCIDENT PER REFTEL. BRIEF MILITARY CEREMONY AND PRAYER HELD PLANESIDE WITH DIGNIFIED PRESS COVERAGE. EFFECTS TURNED OVER CONSISTED ONLY CLOTHING ON BODY, AND MILITARY ID CARD AND CARD RELATING GENEVA CONVENTION. ESCORT OFFICER MCCANN HAS ABOVE CARDS, EMBASSY'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE COPY OFFICIAL PROTOCOL OF TRANSFER OF REMAINS SOVIET TO U. S. CUSTODY, AND EMBASSY'S SOLE COPY IN RUSSIAN OF AUTOPSY STATEMENT.

AUTOPSY ALLEGEDLY PERFORMED JULY 4 AT SAAMSKI RAYON HOSPITAL MURMANSK OBLAST GIVES CAUSE DEATH AS ASPHYXIA FROM BLOCKING BRONCHIAL TRACK BY FLUID AS RESULT DROWNING (UTOPLENIE V VODE). AUTOPSY STATEMENT MAKES NO REPEAT NO MENTION RUBBER RAFT IN WHICH SOVIET NOTE 67/OSA STATED BODY PALM FOUND, BUT STATES THAT BODY FOUND JULY 4 IN USSR TERRITORIAL WATERS NE OF CAPE SVYATOR NOS IN THE WATER TANGLED IN PARACHUTE SHROUDS.

AIRGRAM WITH TEXTS DOCUMENTS FOLLOWS.

FREERS

MB/20

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

REPRODUCTION FROM TH
COPY IS PROHIBITED.
UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR F E
STAFF-MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

UNCLASSIFIED

AF IN : 58196 (23 Jul 60) G/cas

INFO : CIN, PMP-S-1, MSS-GS-3

FROM : MOSCOW

NR : 220 22 Jul 60

RB-47

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
(AFR 11-30)

NOTE : 202 is AF IN 56517 (22 Jul 60)

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

38-31
Action

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

Control: 16044
Rec'd: JULY 22, 1960
6:45 PM

EUR
Info

FROM: MOSCOW

SS
G
SP
L
H
SB
P
USIA
SCA
SCS
MOP
OCB
MOP
OCB
NSA
IRC
CIA
OSD
ARMY
NAVY
AIR
RMR

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 220, JULY 22, 6 PM

SENT DEPARTMENT 220, REPEATED INFORMATION AMSTERDAM 2.

RE EMBTEL 202 TO DEPARTMENT, 1 AMSTERDAM.

MFA PROPOSED TODAY THAT CAPTAIN PALMIS BODY BE TURNED OVER BOTH OFFICIALLY AND ACTUALLY MORNING JULY 25.

AMSTERDAM REQUESTED MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR MAJOR MCCANN NIGHT JULY 25.

APM-22

FREERS

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED. UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

TB-71

AF IN : 57399 (23 Jul 60) X/cas

INFO : CIN, MSS-GS-3, PMP-S-1

FROM : SECRETARY OF STATE

NR : 162 22 Jul 60

[redacted]
(AFR 11-30)

NOTE : 202 is AF IN 56517 (22 Jul 60)

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

JUL 22 PM 2:05

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

59

L 1905

Origin

EUR

Info:

Mr. Munro

SS
G
SP
L
H
SB
P
USIA
SCA
SCS
MOP
OCB
NSA
IRC
CIA
OSD
ARMY
NAVY
AIR
RMR

SENT TO Amembassy MOSCOW 162 PRIORITY

RPTD INFO: Amcongen AMSTERDAM 6

Embtel 202; rptd Amsterdam 1.

Proposal satisfactory to Department and Defense. Please have [illegible] attache notify USAFE coomest.

HER[illegible]

Drafted by: EUR:SOV:DKlein:tp 7-22-60

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: SOV - David Klein

Clearances:
Mr. Munro
Chief of Mortuary Branch
Headquarters USAFE
(substance)

REPRODUCTION FROM T
COPY IS PROHIBITED
UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

TPB-47.

UNCLASSIFIED
PRIORITY

AF IN : 56517 (22 Jul 60)

INFO : CIN, MSS-GS-3, PMP-S-1

FROM : MOSCOW

NR : 202 21 JUL 60

[redacted]

(AFR 11-30)

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

59-H
Action

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

Control: 15037
Rec'd: JULY 21, 1960
2:36 P.M.

EUR
Info
SS
G
SP
L
H
SB
P
USIA
SCA
SCS
MOP
OCB
NSA
IRC
CIA
OSD
ARMY
AIR
NAVY
RMR

FROM: MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 202, JULY 21, 7:00 P.M.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 202; REPEATED INFORMATION AMSTERDAM 1.

MFA INSISTS ON TURNING OVER CAPTAIN PALMIS BODY OFFICIALLY ON JULY 23. AFTER CHECKING AVAILABLE FLIGHTS AND AIR FREIGHT REQUIREMENTS, EMBASSY BELIEVES MOST PRACTICABLE PLAN IS TO ACCEPT BODY FORMALLY ON JULY 23, BUT NOT REMOVE IT FROM MORGUE UNTIL MORNING JULY 25. MFA AGREEABLE. BODY WOULD THEN BE TRANSPORTED DIRECTLY TO AIRPORT FOR KLM RPT KLM FLIGHT DEPARTING MOSCOW AT NOON AND ARRIVING AMSTERDAM 1535 DUTCH TIME. MAJOR MCCANN OF AIR ATTACHE OFFICE WOULD BE UNIFORMED ESCORT OFFICER.

IF PROPOSAL SATISFACTORY TO DEPARTMENT, AIR ATTACHE CAN NOTIFY USAFE.

EMBASSY REQUESTED MFA FOR CERTIFICATE INDICATING CAUSE OF DEATH, BUT MFA MADE NO COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE DOCUMENT.

FREERS

HZK-22

[redacted]
Classification

REPRODUCTION FR
COPY IS PROHIBIT
UNLESS "UNCLASSI

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

X/wg

AF IN : 55761 (21 Jul 60)

ACTION: MSS-GS-3

INFO : PMP-S-1

SMD A 240

ZCHQC187ZCGJD848

RR RJEZHQ

DE RJFPBW 302

R 211523Z

FM USAFE LINDSEY AS GER

TO COFS USAF WASHDC

BT

UNCLAS FROM MWSS-S 184101. YOUR AFMSS-GS-3 70566. NO WORD RECEIVED BY THIS HEADQUARTERS TO DATE CONCERNING TRANSFER OF REMAINS TO AIR FORCE CUSTODY. AIR ATTACHE, US EMBASSY, BONN AND COMMANDER, TEMPLEHOF AIR BASE, WEST BERLIN, HAVE BEEN CONTACTED ON THIS MATTER AND REQUESTED TO IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THIS HEADQUARTERS AT ANY HOUR IF ANY WORD IS RECEIVED CONCERNING RETURN OF THE REMAINS TO AIR FORCE CUSTODY. YOU WILL BE ADVISED IMMEDIATELY OF COMPLETE DETAILS IN THE EVENT SUCH TRANSFER DOES OCCUR.

BT

21/1700Z JUL RJFPBW

WESTERN UNION

SENDING BLANK

AFMSS-GS-3 Attn: Mrs. Betty Long

AP 21 July 60. The body of the pilot of the U.S. reconnaissance plane shot down July 1 is scheduled to be turned over to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow by the Soviet Government tomorrow. The Russians say the body of the pilot -- 39 year old Captain Willard Palm of Oak Ridge, Tennessee -- was found floating in a rubber boat off shore after a Soviet jet fighter brought down the plane. Two survivors are being held and the Russians say the other 3 crewmen are missing.

Send the above message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

PLEASE TYPE OR WRITE PLAINLY WITHIN BORDER—DO NOT FOLD

1269—(5-50)

DEPARTMENT OF THE FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DI..ION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 52123 (19 Jul 60) D/rvp

INFO : PMP-S-1, MSS-GS-3

RECEIVED
1960 JUL 19 07 55
AIR FORCE CASUALTY
ACTION COPY

NNNN SMD A 071

RR RJEZHQ

DE RJWXBR 167

R 181946Z ZEX

FM SAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

TO RJEBFB/21AIRDIV FORBES AFB KANS

INFO RJEZHQ/COFS USAF WASH DC

RJEBKF/2AF BARKSDALE AFB LA

BT

UNCLAS DPS 04724. SUBJECT IS CASULATY REPORT ON MISSING RB-47 AND CREW. REFERENCE YOUR BPPA 0670, 15 JUL 60, REQUEST YOU PREPARE AND DISPATCH AF FORM 484 AS PREVIOUSLY INSTRUCTED. STATUS OF CREW REMAINS UNCHANGED FROM MISSING AS OF THIS DATE. AFPMP-S-1A MSG 68794 MERELY RELAYED UNCONFIRMED REPEAT UNCONFIRMED INFORMATION TO NEXT OF KIN AND DID NOT INDICATE CHANGE IN STATUS. MESSAGE INDICATED HQ USAF WOULD MAKE FUTURE NOTIFICATIONS TO NOK AND CHANGE STATUS WHEN APPLIC. YOU WILL UTILIZE AVAILABLE INFORMATION, I.E. NEWSPAPER REPORTS, MSGS FROM HQ USAF, ETC., TO ACCOMPLISH FORM 484. INFOR RECEIVED THIS HQS ON 18 JUL 60 FROM HQ USAF INDICATES NO VERIFICATION HAS BEEN MADE OF CREW STATUS TO DATE AND NEGOTIATIONS BY STATE DEPT CONTINUE IN EFFECT. NOK ARE BEING ADVISED OF PROGRESS DIRECT FROM HQ USAF.

BT

18/1947Z JUL RJWXBR

NOTE : 0670 is AF IN 49587 (16 Jul 60)

NN

DEPARTMENT C IE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

AF IN : 49587 (16 July 60) L/dfc

INFO : PMP-S-1

SMD A004

CZCHQE173ZCWJA795

RR RJEZHQ

DE RJEBFB 75

R 152024Z ZEX

FM 21AIRDIV FORBES AFB KANS

TO RJWXBR/SAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

INFO RJEBKF/2AF BARKSDALE AFB LA

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASHDC

BT

UNCLAS FROM BPPA 0670. FOR DPSP SAC, FOR AFPMP-S-1-A, HQ USAF. DUE TO RECEIPT OF MESSAGE AFPMP-S-1-A 68794 DATED 12 JULY 1960 FROM HQ USAF AFTER YOUR MESSAGE DPSP 03037, DATED 12 JULY 1960. PREPARATION AND DISPATCH OF AF FORM 484 BEING HELD PENDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM YOUR HEADQUARTERS. PARTICULAR ATTENTION INVITED TO LAST TWO SENTENCES OF USAF MESSAGE CITED ABOVE.

BT

15/2148Z JUL RJEBFB

RB-47

No action until remains of Palm [illegible]

NOTE : Reference is not identified in SMD

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

UNCLASSIFIED

AF IN : 50493 (16 Jul 60) R/cem

INFO : CIN, XPD, PMP-S-1

FROM : MOSCOW

NR : 143

16 Jul 60

[redacted]

(AFR 11-30)

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

39

Action

EUR

Info

L

IIR

ST

IRC

NIA

OSD

ARMY

NAVY

AIR

AEC

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Classification

Control: 11175

Rec'd: July 16, 1960
8:26 a.m.

FROM: Moscow

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 143, July 16, 1 p.m.

PRIORITY

Embassy telephoned MFA American Section today regarding arrangements obtain Captain Palm's body. MFA officer said he would inquire and inform Embassy later.

FREERS

SGC

[redacted]

Classification

REPRODUCTION FROM TH
COPY IS PROHIBITED.
UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

UPI-69

(AIRMAN)

LO DON=THE SOVIET UNION OFFERED TODAY TO HAND OVER THE BODY OF

A AIR FORCE OFFICER RECOVERED WHEN AN AMERICAN RB-47 RECONNAISSANCE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN JULY 1.

A TASS NEWS AGENCY DISPATCH SAID THE OFFER WAS MADE IN A NOTE PRESENTED TO U.S. CHARGE ØØ D'AFFAIRES EDWARD L. FREERS AND WHICH REJECTED AS "GROUNDLESS" THE U.S. PROTESTS OVER THE DOWNING OF THE PLANE.

THE OFFICER PREVIOUSLY WAS IDENTIFIED AS CAPT. WILIAM PALM,39, F OAK RIDGE, TENN.

7/15 --PS101PED

UPI-7Ø 71

ADD AIRMAN MOSCOW

A=S REQUESTED T.A. THE NEW SOVIET NOTE SAID THE BODY OF THE CAPTAIN "COULD BE HANDED OVER TO U.S. REPRESENTATIVES AT ANY TIME".

THE UNITED STATES CHARGED IN A NOTE DELIVERED LAST TUESDAY THAT THE SOVIET UNION SHOT DOWN THE AMERICAN PLANE WHILE IT WAS ON A PEACEFUL MISSION OVER THE OPEN SEA. THE NOTE DEMANDED THE RETURN OF TWO FLIERS THE SOVIETS SAID THEY CAPTURED ALIVE AND INTENDED TO PUT ON TRIAL.

A WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT THAT SAME DAY SAID SOVIET PREMIER KHRUSHCHEV WAS LYING WHEN HE SAID THE PLANE HAD VIOLATED SOVIET AIR SPACE.

THE WHITE HOUSE ALSO ACCUSED KHRUSHCHEV OF DELIBERATELY TRYING TO STIR UP AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT WITH ITS CHARGES

7/15 --PS 106PED

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

REC. STF. MSG DIV

JUL 12 20 43 z60

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG. (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION [redacted]	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE			
INFO [redacted]						

FROM: AF

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION

TO: [redacted]

[redacted]

21AIRDIV FORBES AFB KANSAS

INFO SAC OFFUTT AFB [redacted]

UNCLAS AFPMP-S-1-A

68794

The following casualty message regarding RB-47 was dispatched from this Headquarters 11 July 1960 to all NOK of AF personnel concerned. QUOTE: Reference your (Insert-relationship, rank, and full name) missing on RB-47 flight. A news release from Moscow 11 July 1960 stated that the Soviets shot down a RB-47 at 1503 hours local time 1 July 1960 in the Barents Sea. Further that 1st Lt Freeman B. Olmstead and 1st Lt John R. McKone were in the hands of the Soviet authorities that the remains of Captain Willard G. Palm had been recovered and that there was no trace of the remaining crewmen, Captain Eugene [illegible] Poole, Captain Oscar L. Goforth and 1st Lt Dean B. Phillips. The information contained in this news release is unofficial and has not been confirmed. Efforts are being made through diplomatic sources to verify this information.

DATE	TIME
MONTH 12	YEAR 1200Z

SYMBOL: AFPMP-S-1-A

SIGNATURE: July 1960

WRITER

TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required)

PHONE: Capt. [illegible]/vaf

PAGE NR. 1 NR. OF PAGES 2

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

RELEASER

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE

W. A. [illegible]

[illegible], USAF

[illegible] of Military [illegible]

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

[redacted] accept my sincere sympathy in this hour of anxiety. Major General A. P. Clark, Director of Military Personnel, Headquarters [redacted]. UNCLOTH. This headquarters will be responsible for all future notifications regarding RB-47. No changes in status of missing personnel will to made without the prior concurrence of this headquarters.

68794

[redacted] Above personnel TDY from Forbes AFB, Kansas.

[redacted]PMP-S-1-A
[redacted]pt. Luther

SYMBOL	PAGE NO.	NR OF PAGES	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	INITIALS
[redacted]PMP-S-1-A	2	2	Unclassified	

DD FORM 173-1

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1958-488384

FORM DS-14
4-1-55

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

INTERDEPARTMENTAL REFERENCE

DATE: July 13, 1960

REFERRED TO: Major Bjerkelund - AF, AFPMP-S-1, Rm. 5E289

RE: Air Force Headquarters, The Pentagon

WRITER ☐ HAS ☐ HAS NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THIS REFERENCE

COMMENTS:

Attached herewith are 12 copies
of the Department's Press Release No. 388
Re: U.S. Reply to Soviet Note of July 11.

Copy sent to following on 14 July 1960:
Lt Col Ruth McGraw, Hq. SAC, Offutt AFB and to
Capt Gustau A. Ebbretsen, Forbes AFB Kansas.

SIGNATURE: R. T. Davies, Public Affairs Adviser

OFFICE OR DIVISION: Office of Soviet Union Affairs

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FOR THE PRESS

JULY 12, 1960 NO. 388

UNITED STATES REPLY TO SOVIET NOTE OF JULY 11

The Embassy of the United States of America today delivered to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow the following note, in reply to the Soviet note of July 11, regarding the shooting down of the U.S. Air Force RB-47 aircraft:

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and with reference to the Ministry's note No. 67/OSA of July 11 has the honor to convey, upon instruction of the Government of the United States of America, the following:

The Ministry's note cannot, in view of the nature of the circumstances concerned, represent other than willful misinterpretation and misstatement of fact.

The United States Air Force airplane in question, with a crew of six, was proceeding on an entirely legitimate mission over international waters and at no time penetrated Soviet territory or even areas which have been claimed at one time or another as territorial waters or air space of the Soviet Union. At no time was the airplane closer to Soviet land territory than about 30 miles (approximately 48 kilometers).

It is therefore evident that pursuant to instructions of the Soviet Government airplanes of the Soviet Air Force wantonly attacked the American airplane over international waters with the admitted loss of that aircraft and of the life of at least one of the members of its crew. Two other members of the crew have, according to the Soviet note, been taken into custody without any legal basis and are to be subjected to trial under what is called "full severity of Soviet law." The three other members of the crew remain unaccounted for.

The Ministry's note attempts to establish some kind of link between this flight of an American Air Force airplane over international waters with the incident which occurred over Soviet territory on May 1. These flights were, as must be known to the Soviet Government, entirely different in character. The Air Force flight on July 1 was one of a continuous series of electromagnetic research flights well known to the Soviet Government to have taken place over a period of more than ten years. Instructions to the crews of these airplanes rigidly require that the aircraft remain well outside the air space of Soviet territory.

The Government

The Government of the United States of America rejects the completely unfounded allegations contained in the Ministry's note under reference. It solemnly and vigorously protests the unwarranted shooting down of an American airplane over international waters and the cynical failure of the Soviet Government to make its action known for a period of days during which a search for the missing men was known to be in course, in which the Soviet Government was voluntarily participating in what was apparently good faith. It demands release to its custody of the two United States Air Force officers admitted to be in Soviet custody. It further demands that a representative of the United States Embassy in Moscow be permitted to see these men wihhout delay. Additionally, it demands that the body of Captain Palm be returned to the custody of United States officials immediately.

The Government of the United States is prepared to undertake in cooperation with the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and such other authority as might be acceptable to both sides, a thorough search for the downed airplane and the missing members of its crew and examination of such remains of the aircraft as may be located.

The Government of the United States of America reserves its right to demand full compensation from the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for its unjustified action in this matter. It should be clear to the Soviet Government that a repetition of acts of this nature cannot fail to have the most serious consequences, responsibility for which would rest upon the Soviet Government alone.

* * *

STATE--RD, Wash., D. C.

DEPARTMENT THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

UNCLASSIFIED

AF IN : 44571 (12 Jul 60) D/rvp

INFO : OOP, CIN, XPD, XDC, ODC, CJA, CCS, SAFS, CDF, CIG, PMP-

FROM : MOSCOW

NR : 67 SECTION II OF II 11 JUL 60

[redacted]
(AFR 11-30)

AIR FORCE CASUALTY
ACTION COPY

1960 JUL 12 07 58

RECEIVED

NOTE : Section I is AF IN 44578 (12 Jul 60)

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

Control: 6926
Rec'd: JULY 11, 1960
5:53 P.M.

FROM: MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 67, JULY 11, 5:53 P.M. (SECTION TWO OF TWO)

NIACT

JUST TWO MONTHS AGO AGGRESSIVE ACTIVITES USA WHICH EXPRESSED THEMSELVES IN PREMEDIATED INTRUSION OF AMERICAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT INTO USSR WITH ESPIONAGE PURPOSES, AND IN DECLARATION SUCH PROVOCATIVE ACTS AS NATIONAL POLICY OF US, LED TO BREAK-UP BY GOVT USA OF SUMMIT CONFERENCE AND WERE UNANIMOUSLY CONDEMNED BY PUBLIC OPINION ENTIRE WORLD. NEW VIOLATION OF BORDERS SOVIET UNION BY AMERICAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT SHOWS THAT GOVT USA IS CONTINUING PROCEED ON SAME PATH DANGEROUS FOR CAUSE OF PEACE. NOW EVERYONE SEES WHAT IS REAL VALUE OF SOLEMN ASSURANCES OF GOVT USA AND OF PRESIDENT EISENHOWER PERSONALLY CONCERNING THE ORDER SUPPOSEDLY GIVEN BY PRESIDENT TO STOP ESPIONAGE FLIGHTS BY AMERICAN AVIATION OVER TERRITORY USSR.

QUESTION ARISES WHAT PURPOSES GOVT USA IS PURSUING, CONTINUING POLICY AGGRESSIVE INTRUSIONS INTO AIR SPACE SOVIET UNION. THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE ANSWER. ACTIONS GOVT USA REPRESENT PREMEDITATED VIOLATION GENERALLY ACCEPTED NORMS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, POLICY OF CONSCIOUS PROVOCATIONS DIRECTED TOWARD INFLAMING SITUATION AND INCREASING THREAT OF WAR.

IN THIS, AS PREVIOUSLY, USA IS CONTINUING USE FOR ITS AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS TOWARD SOVIET UNION MILITARY BASES ESTABLISHED BY IT ON TERRITORIES OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH ARE ALLIES OF USA IN MILITARY BLOCS.

/IF

AFIN: 44571 (12 of 12)

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

REPRODUCTION FROM TH
COPY IS PROHIBITED.
UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

IF FATE AMERICAN PILOTS WHOSE LIVES, EVIDENTLY, ARE LITTLE VALUED BY GOVT USA AND ARE CONSCIOUSLY SACRIFICED BY IT IN ORGANIZING ESPINAGE FLIGHTS OVER USSR, MAY BE REGARDED AS INTERNAL AFFAIR OF USA, THEN THIS CAN BY NO MEANS BE SAID OF ENORMOUS THREAT TO GENERAL PEACE WHICH ARISES FROM PROVOCATORY ACTIONS OF GOVT USA. THIS IS QUESTION TO WHICH NEITHER SOVIET UNION NOR ANY OTHER STATE SHOWING GENUINE CONCERN FOR PRESERVATION OF PEACE CAN BE INDIFFERENT.

CONSIDERING THAT VIOLATION OF BORDER WAS IN PRESENT CASE CUT OFF IN ITS INITIAL STAGE, SOVIET GOVT CONSIDERED IT POSSIBLE TO LIMIT ITSELF TO DESTRUCTION OF VIOLATING PLANE AND CALLING TO ACCOUNT OF SURVIVING MEMBERS OF ITS CREW, WHO WILL BE JUDGED ACCORDING TO FULL SEVERITY SOVIET LAWS.

AT SAME TIME SOVIET GOVT IN ALL SERIOUSNESS WARNS GOVT USA OF THOSE DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES TO WHICH CONTINUATION OF PROVOCATIVE ACTIONS BY AMERICAN AIRCRAFT WILL LEAD AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHICH WILL REST ON GOVT USA.

GOVT USA CANNOT BUT KNOW TO WHAT CONSEQUENCES ITS POLICY OF CONSCIOUS PROVOCATIONS AGAINST SOVIET UNION CAN LEAD. IT CAN FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER CONCEAL THIS FROM ITS PEOPLE. HOWEVER, GOVT USSR CONSIDERS IT ITS DUTY TO WARN GOVT USA THAT IT HAS NO RIGHT TO PLAY WITH FATE OF WORLD. AMERICAN PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THIS WARNING AS WELL AS OF FACT THAT SOVIET UNION HAS DONE AND IS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE NOT TO BRING UPON PEOPLES DISASTERS OF A NEW WAR AND THAT GUILT FOR GRAVE TRIALS TO WHICH WORLD IS TODAY SUBJECTED WHOLLY RESTS ON GOVT USA.

/SOVIET

[redacted]

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

-3- 67, JULY 11, 5:53 P.M. NIACT (SECTION TWO OF TWO) FROM MOSCOW.

SOVIET GOVT WITH DEEP REGRET HAS TO STATE THAT GOVTS OF SOME STATES WHO ARE ALLIES OF USA IN MILITARY BLOCS HAVE NOT YET DRAWN NECESSARY CONCLUSIONS FROM KNOWN FACTS CONNECTED WITH AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS OF USA AIR FORCE PERMITTING USE OF AMERICAN MILITARY BASES SITUATED ON THEIR TERRITORY, THEY CONTINUE TO PURSUE POLICY OF PARTICIPATION IN AFOREMENTIONED AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS, AND THROUGH THIS BRING GREAT DANGER UPON PEOPLES OF THEIR COUNTRIES.

IN CONNECTION WITH NEW VIOLATION OF SOVIET BORDER BY AN AMERICAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT WHICH TOOK PLACE JULY 1, GOVT USSR MAKES A DECISIVE PROTEST TO GOVT USA.

MOSCOW, JULY 11, 1960.

FREERS

HZK-23

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DEPARTMENT OF TH AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING (DECODED)

1960 JUL 12 08 40

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR FORCE CASUALTY
ACTION COPY

AF IN : 44578 (12 Jul 60) D/rvp

INFO : OOP, CIN, XPD, XDC, ODC, CJA, CCS, SAFS, CDF, CIG, PMP-S-1

FROM : MOSCOW

NR : 67 SECTION I OF II 11 JUL 60

[redacted]
(AFR 11-30)

OTH : Section II is AF IN 44571 (12 Jul 60)

AIRCRAFT WERE PICKED UP BY SOVIET SHIP IN TERRITORIAL WATERS OF USSR. THEY PROVED TO BE: NAVIGATOR OF THE AIRCRAFT, FIRST LIEUTENANT OF USAF JOHN RICHARD MACCOUN, BORN IN 1932 IN STATE OF MISSOURI. AND SECOND PILOT FIRST LIEUTENANT OF USAF FREEMAN BRUCE OLMSTEAD, BORN IN 1935. IN STATE OF NEW YORK.

AS MACCOUND AND OLMSTEAD STATED ON INTERROGATION, AIRCRAFT ON WHICH THEY FLEW, A SIX-MOTOR RECONNAISSANCE BOMBER, TYPE "RB-47", BELONGED TO AVIATION SUB-UNIT OF AMERICAN MILITARY-STRATEGIC RECONNAISSANCE INCLUDED IN 55TH WING. AND WAS EXECUTING SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE CHARACTER. AIRCRAFT WAS ARMED WITH TWO 20-MILIMETER CANNONS WITH SUPPLY AMMUNITION FOR THEM AND HAD COMPARTMENT IN WHICH SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE PHOTO AND RADIO-ELECTRONIC APPARATUS WAS LOCATED.

ACCORDING TO OLMSTEAD AND MACCOUN, FOUR OTHER PERSONS WERE INCLUDED IN CREW AIRCRAFT IN ADDITION THEMSELVES: COMMANDER AIRCRAFT CAPTAIN PALM AND THREE OFFICERS -- SPECIALISTS ON PHOTO AND RADIO-ELECTRONIC APPARATUS -- CAPTAIN POWSE AND FIRST LIEUTENANTS GOUFORT AND PHILLIPS. BODY FIRST PILOT DOWNED AIRCRAFT, CAPTAIN PALM, FOUND BY SOVIET VESSEL IN RUBBER BOAT AND TAKEN ON BOARD. SEARCH FOR OTHER MEMBERS CREW AIRCRAFT PRODUCED NO RESULTS.

ACCORDING EVIDENCE OF OLMSTEAD AND MACCOUN, AIRCRAFT "RB-47" ON WHICH THEY WERE FLYING TOOK OFF JULY 1, 1960 AT 1000 HOURS GREENWICH TIME FROM AMERICAN MILITARY BASE LOCATED IN BRASE-NORTON (ENGLAND) ON COURSE ALONG NORTHERN BOUNDARIES NORWAY AND SOVIET UNION WITH ORDERS

/RETURN

[redacted]

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Classification

Control: 6823
Rec'd: JULY 11, 1960
3:20 P.M.

FROM: MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 67. JULY 11, 8:00 P.M. (SECTION ONE OF TWO)

IMMEDIATE

FOLLOWING NOTE HANDED TO ME BY GROMYKO TODAY. BEGIN TEXT:
"NO. 67/USA.
GOVERNMENT USSR ADDRESSES US GOVERNMENT WITH THIS NOTE IN CONNECTION WITH NEW RUDE VIOLATION OF AIR SPACE OF SOVIET UNION BY AN AIRCRAFT OF ARMED FORCES USA.

ON JULY 1, 1960 AN UNKNOWN MILITARY AIRCRAFT MOVING TOWARD BORDER OF SOVIET UNION WAS DETECTED IN BARENTS SEA NEAR KOLA PENINSULA BY AIR WARNING SERVICE OF SOVIET ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENSE TROOPS. FIGHTER AIRCRAFT WAS SENT UP TO ESTABLISH NATIONALITY OF THIS AIRCRAFT AND TO PREVENT IT FROM AN INTRUSION INTO TERRITORY OF USSR.

PILOT OF SOVIET FIGHTER AIRACRAFT ESTABLISHED THAT UNKNOWN AIRCRAT WAS BOMBER WITH IDENTIFICATION MARKS OF USA AIRFORCE. AMERICAN AIRCRAFT VIOLATED STATE BORDERS OF USSR 22 KILOMETERS NORTH OF CAPE SVYATOY NOS AND WAS MOVING IN DIRECTION OF CITY OF ARKHANGELSK.

DESPITE SIGNALS GIVEN BY SOVIET FIGHTER (#) CONTINUE TO PENETRATE DEEPER INTO BORDERS OF AIRSPACE OF SOVIET UNION. IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER OF ARMED FORCES OF SOVIET UNION CONCERNING DEFENSE OF SOVIET BORDERS AIRCRAFT-VIOLATOR WAS BROUGHT DOWN AT 18 HOURS 03 MINUTES MOSCOW TIME OVER SOVIET TERRITORIAL WATERS EAST OF CAPE SVYATOY NOS.

AFTER SOME TIME TWO PERSONS FROM CREW OF DOWNED AMERICAN AIRCRAFT

Classification

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED. UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

RETURN UPON COMPLETION OF ITS ASSIGNEMNT TO SAME BASE IN ENGLAND. WHERE SUB-UNIT OF USAF TO WHICH THIS AIRCRAFT BELONGED IS LOCATED. BEFORE TAKE-OFF, CREW AIRCRAFT WAS WARNED BY COMMANDER OF THEIR SUB-UNIT AT BRASE-NORTON BASE MAJOR DEBELL THAT FLIGHT MUST BE KEPT IN STRICT SECRECY AND THEREFORE CREW WAS FORBIDDEN MAINTAIN REGULAR RADIO CONTACT WITH BASE.

FREERS

HZK-23

(#) OMISSION. CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

[redacted]

1/c

DIKE-PLANE

Newport R.I. (AP)-Officially ordered United States silence prevailed today as President Eisenhower awaited a government report on Russia's assertion it has shot down another American plane.

The order to all federal officials to keep mum was announced at the summer white house yesterday.

Press Secretary Hagerty told a news conference there would be no public comment from anyone in the administration pending receipt of the report.

The President sent word to the State and Defense departments that he wants full information on the Moscow charges and that no federal spokesman should comment while the charges are being studied.

WE921AED 7/12

UPI-80

ADD PLANE, MOSCOW

IRONICALLY, THE SOVIET UNION ANNOUNCED THAT IT WAS SENDING A COAST GUARD CUTTER TO HELP WITH THE SEARCH. BUT WESTERN SOURCES SAID IT NEVER WAS SEEN BY THE SEARCH CRAFT.

THE MISSING RB-47'S LAST REPORTED POSITION WAS GIVEN BY THE U.S. AIR FORCE AS 73.30 NORTH AND 35.00 EAST, A POINT THAT WOULD HAVE PUT IT OFF RUSSIA'S KOLA PENINSULA.

THE BARENTS SEA WHERE THE SOVIET BROADCAST SAID THE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN LIES IN THIS GENERAL AREA. THE ARENTS SEA LIES NORTH OF SCANDINAVIA AND EUROPEAN RUSSIA.

AT THE TIME THE U.S. AIR FORCE ANNOUNCED THE PLANE WAS MISSING, THE SPOKESMAN AT WIESBADEN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH IT WAS "HIGHLY UNLIKELY" THE PLANE HAD ENTERED THE SOVIET UNION, "ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN."

"IF THE PLANE WAS FLYING OVER THE WATER NEAR THE (SOVIET) BORDER," THE SPOKESMAN SAID AT THE TIME, "IT MIGHT BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR IT TO HAVE TOLD WHERE IT WAS EXACTLY. IT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE, TOO, THAT THE PLANE WAS MET BY SOVIET INTERCEPTORS WHILE FLYING IN THE VICINITY OF THE BORDER."

7/11--JR1250P

UPI-82

ADD PLANE, MOSCOW

(THE SUMMER WHITE HOUSE AT NEWPORT, R.I., HAD NO IMMEDIATE COMMENT ON THE SOVIET REPORT.)

THE PLANE SHOT DOWN JULY 1 WAS THE SECOND U.S. PLANE DOWNED BY THE SOVIET UNION IN TWO MONTHS. THE RUSSIANS REPORTED THEY DOWNED A U-2 SPY PLANE OVER SVERDLOVSK ON MAY 1. THE PLANE'S PILOT, FRANCIS POWERS, HAS BEEN INDICTED BY SOVIET AUTHORITIES AND IS TO STAND TRIAL FOR ESPIONAGE.

7/11--JR1253P

UPI-85

ADD PLANE, MOSCOW

RADIO MOSCOW SAID THE PROTEST NOTES WERE HANDED TODAY BY FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO TO BRITISH AMBASSADOR SIR PATRICK REILLY, THE NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR AND U.S. CHARGE D'AFFAIRES EDWARD FREERS, WHO IS SUBSTITUTING FOR AMERICAN AMBASSADOR LLEWELLYN THOMPSON, CURRENTLY VACATIONING IN ITALY.

THE SOVIET NOTES ALL CONCERNED "THE VIOLATION ON JULY 1, 1960, OF THE SOVIET FRONTIER BY AN AMERICAN MILITARY PLANE."

THE SOVIET NOTE TO THE UNITED STATES SAID ONE CORPSE WAS RECOVERED AFTER THE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN.

THE NOTE SAID THREE OTHER PERSONS WERE MISSING FROM THE PLANE. THE RUSSIAN NOTE SAID NO TRACE WAS FOUND OF THE MISSING MEN ABOARD THE U.S. PLANE.

7/11--JR100P

UPI-88

ADD PLANE, MOSCOW

THE SOVIET NOTE, ACCORDING TO RADIO MOSCOW, SAID THE "NEW GROSS VIOLATION BY AN AMERICAN AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT" OCCURRED IN THE BARENTS SEA NEAR THE KOLA PENINSULA.

IT SAID SOVIET ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENSES SPOTTED THE PLANE "FLYING TOWARDS THE FRONTIER OF THE U.S.S.R."

RUSSIA'S NOTE SAID A FIGHTER WAS DISPATCHED TO IDENTIFY THE "UNKNOWN MILITARY AIRCRAFT" AND TO "PREVENT IT INTRUDING INTO THE CONFINES OF U.S.S.R. TERRITORY."

RADIO MOSCOW SAID THE SOVIET NOTE TO LONDON ACCUSED "BRITAIN OF BEING AN ACCOMPLICE OF THE UNITED STATES IN ACTS HOSTILE TO THE SOVIET UNION AND WARNS BRITAIN OF THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES."

THE SOVIET NOTE IDENTIFIED THE CORPSE PICKED UP AS THAT OF A "CAPT. PALM."

(THE OFFICIAL CREW LIST GIVEN OUT BY THE U.S. AIR FORCE AT WIESBADEN ON JULY 2 CONTAINED THE NAME OF CAPT. WILLIAM G. PALM, 39, OF 369 EAST DRIVE, OAK RIDGE, TENN.)

THE RUSSIANS SAID THE TWO AMERICAN SURVIVORS WERE 1st LT. FREEMAN OLMSTEAD, 24, OF ELMIRA, N.Y., AND 1ST LT. JOHN R. MCKONE, 28, OF TONGANOXIE, KAN.

(BOTH THESE NAMES APPEARED ON THE U.S. AIR FORCE LIST ISSUED JULY 2 at WIESBADEN.)

7/11--JR106P

UPI-92

ADD PLANE, MOSCOW

THE RUSSIANS SAID THE MISSING MEN WERE:

1ST LT. OSCAR GOSFORTH, 26, OF SARDIG, OKLA.

1ST LT. DEAN PHILLIPS OF DENWOOD, N.Y.

A MAN IDENTIFIED ONLY AS "POSAN 38, OF SANTA MONICA."

(THE WIESBADEN LIST SAID LT. GOSFORTH WAS FROM SARDIS, OKLA., AND SAID LT. PHILLIPS, 26, WAS FROM DENWOOD, N.Y.

(IT ALSO LISTED CAPT. EUGENE E. POSA, 38, OF 2607 6th ST., SANTA MONICA, CALIF.)

THE SOVIET NOTE SAID THE RUSSIAN FIGHTER IDENTIFIED THE PLAN AS AMERICAN BY ITS MARKINGS.

RUSSIA SAID THE AMERICAN PLANE CROSSED INTO SOVIET AIR SPACE 13.67 MILES NORTH OF THE CAPE OF SVYATORY NOS AND PROCEEDED TOWARD THE SOVIET CITY OF ARCHANGEL.

IT SAID THE AMERICAN PLAN IGNORED INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE RUSSIAN FIGHTER TO FOLLOW THE SOVIET PLANE AND LAND.

7/11--TS123PED

BULLETIN
PLANE

LONDON (AP)-THE SOVIET UNION ANNOUNCED TODAY IT HAD SHOT DOWN A MISSING AMERICAN PLANE OVER THE BARENTS SEA JULY 1 AND THAT THE TWO MEN WERE PICKED UP.
EH1230PED 7/11

LONDON--ADD PLANE (76)

MOSCOW RADIO SAID A NEW SOVIET NOTE WAS HANDED TO THE U.S. EMBASSY PROTESTING A "VIOLATION" OF ITS AIR SPACE BY THE B47 RECONNAISSANCE CRAFT. THIS WAS THE FIRST WORD OF THE FATE OF THE PLANE, WHICH DISAPPEARED JULY 1 WITH SIX MEN ABOARD WHILE ON A SCOUTING FLIGHT OVER WATERS NORTH OF NORWAY AND THE SOVIET UNION. THE U. S. AIR FORCE SAID THE PLANE, BASED TEMPORARILY IN ENGLAND, HAD BEEN ON AN ELECTROMAGNE MAPPING MISSION. MOSCOW RADIO SAID THE SURVIVORS WOULD BE PROSECUTED "WITH FULL SEVERITY OF SOVIET LAW." THE SOVIET BROADCAST SAID RUSSIAN NOTES ALSO HAVE BEEN HANDED TO BRITAIN AND NORWAY.
EH1238PED 7.

UPI-79
ADD PLANE, MOSCOW
A U. S. AIR FORCE RB-47 RECONNAISSANCE BOMBER WITH SIX MEN ABOARD HAS BEEN MISSING SINCE JULY 1 X AND WAS FEARED TO HAVE CRASHED NEAR THE SOVIET COAST. A U. S. AIR FORCE SPOKESMAN AT WIESBADEN, GERMANY, SAID A DAY AFTER THE PLANE DISAPPEARED THAT ON A MAP-MAKING FLIGHT FROM BRITIAN TO NORWAY. HE SAID ITS ENTIRE ROUTE WAS OVER WATER AND THAT IT WAS NOT SCHEDULED TO HAVE FLOWN OVER SOVIET TERRITORY. AN ARMADA NEARLY 20 U.S. AND ALLIED SEARCH PLANES SCOURED THE AREA FOR THE MISSING PLANE.
X 7/11--JR1242P

UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

S/3304
12 October 1954

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 11 OCTOBER 1954 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honor to refer to the Security Council proceedings of 10 September 1954 in which the Council considered the United States complaint of an unprovoked attack by Soviet military aircraft against a United States Navy airplane over high seas on 4 September 1954. I wish to refer also to Document S/3295 which relates to another attack of this type and which was circulated to Council members at my request.

In my statement before the Council on September 10 I affirmed the determination of the United States Government to seek a negotiated settlement of claims arising out of incidents of this type and, in absence of such settlements to submit them to impartial adjudication by the International Court of Justice.

The United States Government, in a note delivered to the Soviet Government on 9 October 1954, has now presented a formal diplomatic claim against the Soviet Government on account of the destruction by Soviet aircraft of a United States Air Force B-50 aircraft in the international air space over the Sea of Japan on 29 July 1953 and has invited the Soviet Government, if it denies liability, to join in submitting this matter to the International Court of Justice. In this note, the United States Government also reiterates its demand for the release of any survivors of the destroyed American aircraft. The note, based on a thorough investigation, follows an earlier interchange of notes on this subject. It deals with another of the series of hostile attacks against the United States aircraft to which I referred in my statement before the Council.

May I ask you, Mr. President, to circulate a copy of the attached text of this note to the Members of the Council.

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.

54-27415

#384

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Text of note presenting formal diplomatic claim by the United States Government against the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the case of USAF B-50 aircraft shot down over the Sea of Japan on July 29, 1953.

Excellency:

I have the honor to transmit, upon the instruction of my Government, the following communication from my Government to your Government:

The Government of the United States of America refers again to the destruction on July 29, 1953 by Soviet military aircraft of a United States Air Force B-50 type aircraft off Cape Povorotny in the international air space over the Sea of Japan. On January 26, 1954, following an intensive investigation and study of the incident, the United States Government delivered to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics a note requesting certain detailed information with respect to the incident and with respect to the various allegations made by the Soviet Government in prior notes of July 30, 1953, August 4, 1953 and August 26, 1953. The Soviet Government having failed to reply to the United States Government's note of January 26, 1954, the United States Government, through its Embassy at Moscow, transmitted another note on May 25, 1954 to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs inquiring when a reply might be expected to the note of January 26, 1954. The Soviet Government has made no reply or acknowledgement whatever to either note, although far more than sufficient time has elapsed to enable the Soviet Government to make a reply or to state its intentions with respect to such reply. The United States Government must conclude, therefore, that the Soviet Government is fully aware that it is not in a position to make a responsive or adequate reply to the United States Government's note of January 26, 1954.

This circumstance, the United States Government concludes, reinforces and confirms the essential accuracy of the findings of fact resulting from the United States Government's own investigation and study, as well as of the statements made in the various communications of the United States Government to the Soviet Government on this subject, particularly the United States Government's note of August 4, 1953.

The United States Government therefore takes this opportunity to place solemnly upon the record the facts relevant to the Soviet Government's liability and to prefer against the Soviet Government a formal international diplomatic claim for damages as set forth below.

I

The United States Government is prepared to prove by evidence in an appropriate forum, and it charges, the following:

1. Early in the morning of July 29, 1953 a four-engine aircraft of the United States Air Force, of the B-50 type, was duly dispatched from its base in Japan by United States Air Force authorities to perform a routine navigational mission in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan, returning to base in Japan upon completion of the mission. The officers and crew were instructed prior to departure that under no circumstances was the aircraft to fly closer to the Soviet-held land mass than twelve nautical miles.

Upon its departure the B-50 type aircraft had on board a crew of seventeen persons, all members of the United States Air Force and all nationals of the United States. They were, as the Soviet Government was informed in the United States Government's note on August 4, 1953, the following:

Stanley Keith O'Kelley - Captain - Serial No. AO 776002
John Ernst Roche - Captain - Serial No. AO 2029268
Edmund Joseph Czyz - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 2072656
Lloyd Clayton Wiggins - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 695999
James Gordon Keith - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 2092926
Warren John Sanderson - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 2066184
Robert Elbon Stalnaker - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 761337
John Cyrus Ward - Captain - Serial No. AO 665270
Francisco Joseph Tejeda - Major - Serial No. AO 726704
Frank Ernest Beyer - 1st Lieutenant - Serial No. AO 2093286
Francis Luther Brown - Master Sergeant - Serial No. AF 19 053497
Donald Wayne Gabree - S. Sergeant - Serial No. AF 19 333787
Roland Edgar Goulet - A/1C - Serial No. AF 12 323933
James Edwin Woods - A/2C - Serial No. AF 24413122
Charles Joseph Russell - A/2C - Serial No. AF 13 351658
Donald George Hill - S. Sergeant - Serial No. AF 19 353976
Earl Wilbur Radelin, Jr. - A/2C - Serial No. AF 14 370732

The B-50 aircraft proceeded on a course of approximately 315 degrees from the Japanese Island of Honshu. When it arrived in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan at a point approximately 50 miles from the coastline, the aircraft turned to the right and proceeded on an easterly heading, flying at an altitude of approximately 20,000 feet, the crew carrying out the instructions given them as above stated.

The aircraft had reached a point in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan approximately 40 miles south of Cape Povorotny, flying on a heading of approximately 95 degrees at an altitude of 20,000 feet when suddenly, at approximately 6:15 in the morning local time and without any prior warning whatever, Soviet MIG-15 type aircraft intercepted and fired upon the United States aircraft. One MIG-15 type aircraft commenced the interception and firing by coming up from below and to the left of the B-50 and shooting the No. 1 engine, rendering it inoperative. One or more additional MIG-15 type aircraft thereupon appeared behind the B-50, directed fire on the No. 4 engine and upon the right wing and other portions of the aircraft, and set the No. 4 engine on fire. When the Soviet MIG-15 aircraft appeared from behind, shooting at the B-50, one or more of the personnel on board the B-50 aircraft opened fire in self-defense against the oncoming attacking MIG-15 aircraft, but to no avail.

Immediately upon being hit, the B-50 aircraft dived sharply, losing altitude rapidly. The shots from the rear attack tore off the right wing and the tail section and caused the aircraft to disintegrate. The component parts of the B-50 then hit the water, at approximately the same position at which the interception and attack took place. The total time which elapsed between the commencement of the attack until the component parts of the aircraft hit the water was approximately two minutes.

Upon the B-50's first becoming disabled, in consequence of the actions of the MIG-15 aircraft against it, the members of the crew of the B-50 were directed by the aircraft commander, Captain Stanley K. O'Kelley, to abandon the aircraft and to seek safety by bailing out of the aircraft. The United States Government is informed and believes that, apart from First Lieutenant James Gordon Keith, all members of the crew above named bailed out of the aircraft, or parachuted, into the Sea of Japan, all coming down at points within the area of the Sea of Japan approximately 40 miles south of Cape Povorotny.

The United States Government finds, and charges, that all the actions of the MIG-15 type aircraft above described were taken upon the deliberate and willful orders of competent Soviet authorities.

When the B-50 failed to return to its base at the time required for its return, and could not be otherwise accounted for, the competent United States authorities commenced and conducted a meticulous and thorough search of the area by aircraft and by surface vessels of the United States Government and with the assistance of a naval vessel of the Australian Government in the area. The search of the Sea of Japan off Cape Povorotny succeeded in the sighting in the international waters of several survivors and disclosed the active presence in the same area of Soviet PT-type boats, trawlers and aircraft. One of the search aircraft dropped a lifeboat to a group of survivors but only Captain John E. Roche, the co-pilot, was able to reach the lifeboat and get into it. Intermittent fog hampered the rescue efforts and no other personnel could be rescued by the United States and Australian surface vessels. When the weather in the area cleared up, by dawn of July 30, 1953, no evidence of survivors, other than Captain Roche, could be seen in the international waters of the Sea of Japan by the air or surface rescue craft.

2. The United States Government finds, and charges, that in direct consequence of the Soviet Government's actions above described, the following took place:

a. The B-50 aircraft was totally destroyed.

b. First Lieutenant James Gordon Keith, navigator situated in the nose of the aircraft, was thrown from his position and mortally wounded, so that he was unable to bail out from the aircraft, and died.

c. Captain Stanley K. O'Kelley, the aircraft commander, although he succeeded in bailing out from the aircraft to the waters of the Sea of Japan, was badly injured and shocked as a direct result of the shooting by the MIG-15 aircraft, and died as a result of these physical injuries and shock and of his exposure for approximately twenty hours in the Sea of Japan.

d. Master Sergeant Francis Luther Brown, flight engineer, although he succeeded in bailing out from the aircraft to the waters of the Sea of Japan, was badly injured and shocked as a direct result of the shooting by the MIG-15 aircraft, and died as a result of these physical injuries and of shock and of long exposure in the Sea of Japan.

e. Captain John Ernst Roche, the co-pilot, was thrown headlong into the body of the aircraft, suffering numerous bodily injuries and shock as a direct result of the shooting by the MIG-15 aircraft but he succeeded in bailing out from the aircraft. He suffered further shock and exposure in the Sea of Japan from approximately 6:17 in the morning local time July 29, 1953, to approximately 4:20 in the morning local time July 30, 1953. He was rescued from the waters of the Sea of Japan by a search vessel of the United States Navy.

f. The remaining thirteen members of the crew have not so far been accounted for. The United States Government finds, however, that all of them suffered bodily injury and shock as a direct result of the shooting by the MIG-15 aircraft. It finds further that a number, if not all, of them successfully parachuted to the surface of the Sea of Japan in the area above described in which the attack and destruction of the B-50 took place. It must conclude that these persons were either picked up alive by surface vessels of the Soviet Government in the area in which they hit the water, or that in due course, dead or alive, they were carried by the prevailing currents to Soviet-held territory and into the Soviet Government's custody. Those dead, the United States Government finds and charges, were brought to their death by the injuries caused in the course of the attack on the B-50 aircraft, by shock and by exposure in the waters of the Sea of Japan. Those that were alive when they came into the custody of the Soviet Government, the United States Government finds and charges, suffered in addition injuries and anguish caused by their long detention by the Soviet Government, by the failure of the Soviet Government to inform the United States Government with respect to their whereabouts and their condition or to permit them to communicate with United States Government authorities.

These conclusions are based on the following considerations:

(i) As the United States Government has previously indicated, personnel on board search craft of the United States Government observed at least twelve Soviet PT-type boats, at least one armed trawler-type Soviet naval vessel, and Soviet aircraft, proceeding at high speed to and from the area of the scene of the incident. Other surface vessels of Soviet nationality were in the vicinity.

These observations were made as late as 3 o'clock in the afternoon local time July 29, 1953. In view of the failure of the Soviet Government to make responsive reply to questions of the United States Government in its note of January 26, 1954 on this subject, the United States Government is confirmed in its conclusion, and it charges, that these Soviet craft picked up survivors and portions of the disabled B-50 aircraft.

(ii) The prevailing currents of the Sea of Japan at the positions above mentioned and at the date of the incident, which are well known to the Soviet Government, move toward the coast, in a northerly and northwesterly direction at a rate of approximately 0.7 to 1.1 knots. Even if the Soviet Government did not have these crew members in custody, dead or alive, earlier, it must have become aware of their arrival in Soviet territorial waters or on Soviet soil by August 1, 1953.

3. The B-50 aircraft at the time of the attack upon it and its destruction, and the navigational and flying equipment thereon, were in efficient and good working order. Each member of the crew was efficient and experienced in the performance of his task. In particular, Captain O'Malley, the aircraft commander, was an efficient and experienced pilot; Captain Roche was an efficient and experienced co-pilot; First Lieutenant Cryz, First Lieutenant Wiggins and First Lieutenant Keith were efficient and experienced navigators.

II

The United States Government finds as a result of its investigation that in its notes above mentioned the Soviet Government willfully and knowingly made material misstatements of fact for the purpose of creating an untrue record and of misleading the United States Government. These misstatements of fact are most explicitly made in the Soviet Government's note of August 26, 1953 on this subject, which substantially reiterates the misstatements contained in the Soviet Government's earlier notes on the same subject:

1. The Soviet Government states that the B-50 aircraft at about 6 a.m. local time "violated the state boundary of the USSR, at first in the region of Cape Gamov, and continued the flight over the territory of the USSR at Askold Island not far from Vladivostok". But the Soviet Government has refused, although

duly requested, to state where the boundary, which it claims, runs in this region. The United States Government must therefore conclude, as it has found, that the B-50 aircraft at no time crossed into territory of the Soviet Union in this area but, on the contrary, flew entirely in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan.

2. The Soviet Government states that two Soviet fighter aircraft approached the B-50 with the intention of showing the B-50 that it was within the boundaries of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and with the intention of suggesting that the B-50 leave the air space of the Soviet Union. This statement must be characterized as false, as well as misleading, since the first intimation which the crew of the B-50 had of the approach of any aircraft was the destruction of the No. 1 engine on the B-50 by fire directed from one of the Soviet MIG-15 type aircraft, which had appeared without any warning whatever to the left and from below the B-50 aircraft. This fact and the shooting which immediately followed directed by MIG-15 type aircraft coming up without warning from behind the B-50 aircraft conclusively demonstrates that it was the intention of the MIG-15 interceptors, and of the competent Soviet authorities who dispatched them and controlled their actions, to give the crew of the B-50 aircraft no warning whatever but, on the contrary, to effect the B-50's destruction without any warning or opportunity to the crew to disengage or to defend themselves.

3. The Soviet Government's statement permits the implication that the interception of the B-50 by Soviet aircraft took place within the air space over Soviet territory. This statement is false also. As has been stated above, the interception as well as the attack took place approximately forty miles south of Cape Povorotny and in the air space over the international waters of the Sea of Japan.

4. The Soviet Government states that fire was first opened by the B-50, being directed against the intercepting Soviet aircraft. This statement is false. As the United States Government has stated above, the B-50 aircraft did not open fire until after two firing passes had been made by the Soviet intercepting aircraft. The first MIG-15 type aircraft, which as stated above without warning destroyed the No. 1 engine, flew away unscathed. When immediately thereafter one or more MIG-15 type aircraft appeared from behind, the MIG aircraft were firing and the gunners on board the B-50 were compelled in self-defense to open fire against the MIG aircraft so firing upon the B-50.

5. The Soviet Government states that the attack took place at 6:12 in the morning local time. The United States Government charges that this statement is untrue and is known by the Soviet Government to be untrue. The United States Government has found that the interception and attack took place not earlier than 6:15 in the morning local time, if not later. By this time the B-50 aircraft, as the Soviet authorities well knew, had reached a point approximately forty miles off the Soviet land mass at its closest proximity.

6. The Soviet Government states that one of the Soviet aircraft was seriously damaged by fire from the B-50 in consequence of which the Soviet aircraft was compelled to fire upon the B-50. This statement is misleading as well as false. Even if, contrary to fact, the B-50 gunners had opened fire on the MIG aircraft appearing from the rear, the destruction of the No. 1 engine by the MIG aircraft which appeared first and the hostile attitude of the MIG aircraft appearing in the rear would have justified the B-50 gunners in opening fire on the MIG aircraft.

7. The Soviet Government states that after the Soviet aircrat fired on the B-50 the B-50 "departed in the direction of the sea" and that the Soviet authorities have no further information regarding the American military aircraft. This statement must be characterized as false as well as misleading. As stated above, within seconds after the Soviet aircraft hit the right wing and fuselage the B-50 disintegrated and fell into the sea. The pilots of the Soviet aircraft could not but have seen the consequence of their actions and reported it to the competent Soviet authorities. The United States Government notes that the Soviet Government admits that the pilots upon returning to base, if not earlier, reported what they had done and what had happened.

8. The Soviet Government indicates that it has "verified data", presumably including reports of ground observers as well as the testimony of the pilots of the Soviet aircraft involved, and that these data "refute the statement that the American airplane B-50 did not violate the boundary of the USSR and was attacked by Soviet fighters over the Sea of Japan". The Soviet Government, although duly requested in the United States Government's note of January 26, 1954, has failed and refused to produce these supporting data. The United States Government is compelled to conclude that such data as exist do not support the Soviet Government's conclusion and that these statements are therefore false.

9. The Soviet Government states that, contrary to the allegations contained in the United States Government's notes, there were no Soviet surface ships on July 29, 1953 in the area of the Sea of Japan in which the shooting incident took place, and it further implies that the weather conditions of fog and darkness were such that the observations of the crews of search craft reported in the United States Government's notes were not in fact made. These statements as above indicated, are false and misleading. The weather, during the hours of daylight, was in fact foggy but at the low altitudes at which the search aircraf flew, and on the surface of the sea at which the naval craft proceeded, there wa as the Soviet Government well knows intermittent visibility permitting the observations which were made and which were reported by the United States Government.

10. The Soviet Government states that "as a result of investigation, it has been confirmed that the Soviet authorities have no information concerning the crew of the American bomber B-50". For the reasons above stated this statement must be characterized as false and misleading.

III

The United States Government finds and it charges that the foregoing actions of the pilots of the Soviet aircraft and of the competent Soviet authorities made the Soviet Government guilty of deliberate and willful violations of international law, on account of which it has become liable to the United States Government for damages and other amends:

1. Since the Soviet Government has evaded the questions in the United Stat Government's note of January 26, 1954 on this subject, the United States Governm declares that the limit of the territory of the Soviet Government in the area of the incident extends no further than three nautical miles from the mean low wate mark of the shore line of the Soviet-held land mass in this area, following the sinuosities of the coast and the sinuosities of each of the Soviet-held islands. While the United States Government in instructions to its personnel has prohibite any overflying aircraft or seagoing craft from coming closer than twelve miles to Soviet-held territory in traversing the international waters of the Sea of Japan or the air space above, the United States Government takes this opportunity

again to inform the Soviet Government that it does not recognize the claim of th Soviet Government to territorial waters in excess of three miles from its coast. In the opinion of the United States Government there is no obligation under international law to recognize claims to territorial waters in excess of three miles from the coast.

2. In the circumstances of the case it was the duty of the Soviet Governme to make every effort, following the wrongful destruction of the B-50 aircraft, to search for and pick up members of the crew, dead or alive, to cooperate with all other searching aircraft and surface craft in such search and rescue operations and promptly to turn over to authorities of the United States Government rescued personnel, the bodies of any dead personnel picked up and any portions of the aircraft salvaged, or to make arrangements for their prompt delivery to the United States Government. The failure of the Soviet Government to do so constitutes violation of international obligations.

3. It was the duty of the Soviet Government to make truthful statements to the United States Government in the notes above mentioned which the Soviet Government delivered to the United States Government in connection with this incident. The willful making of false or misleading statements in these circumstances constitutes a violation of international obligation.

4. The continued detention of survivors by the Soviet Government, and the failure of the Soviet Government immediately upon receipt of information at any time from its own sources of the observation of bodies of any of the crew members constitute violations on the part of the Soviet Government of international obligation.

5. Any shooting by the crew of the B-50 at the MIG aircraft, in the circumstances of the case, was lawful as an exercise of the right of self-defense The B-50 having been fired upon and hit without prior warning, the crew of the B-50 were justified in the exercise of self-defense in shooting at the approachin MIG aircraft.

IV

The United States has suffered the following items of damage in direct consequence of the foregoing illegal acts and violations of duty and international legal obligations, for which the Soviet Government is liable, and the United States Government demands that the Soviet Government pay the following sums on account thereof:

1. United States Air Force airplane B-50 type No. 47-145A and equipment thereon, amounting in total to $1,468,908.56.

2. Damages to the United States by the willful and unlawful conduct of the Soviet Government $491,584.38.

3. Damages to Captain John Ernst Roche, a national of the United States, for injuries to him, $25,000.00.

4. Damages to the next-of-kin, nationals of the United States, for the deaths of Captain Stanley Keith O'Kelley, Master Sergeant Francis Luther Brown, First Lieutenant James Gordon Keith, $150,000.00.

5. Damages to the next-of-kin, nationals of the United States, of the remaining thirteen crew members for all injuries resulting from the willful and unlawful conduct of the Soviet Government, including the wrongful deaths of such crew members or the wrongful and unlawful detention by the Soviet Government of such members of the crew as survived, $650,000.00.

The United States Government declares that its demand for compensation on account of the members of the crew who survived does not imply the acquiescence of the United States Government in the withholding of those crew members from return to the United States, or the suppression by the Soviet Government of information regarding their whereabouts or welfare, or the making of false statements by the Soviet Government with respect thereto. The United States takes this opportunity again to demand that the Soviet Government forthwith provide the information in this regard which the United States Government has already requested, and make provision for the prompt return of any crew members whom it may still be holding or of whose whereabouts it is informed, and in the interim to provide such crew members with the maxiumum degree of care and comfort and facilitate access to them by appropriate representatives of the United States

Government. The United States Government further declares that such demand for compensation with respect to members of the crew whose bodies came into custody of Soviet authorities but who were no longer alive does not imply the acquiescence of the United States Government in the failure of the Soviet Government to inform the United States Government of such facts or to turn over such bodies to the United States Government. The United States Government further reserves the right to make additional demand upon the Soviet Government for amends or other actions on account of its conduct on or since July 29, 1953 with respect to such survivors or such dead crew members.

Furthermore, the United States Government has not included in its demand for damages, specified above, any sum on account of items of intangible injury deliberately and intentionally caused to the United States Government and to the American people by the wrongful actions of the Soviet Government. In this regard the United States Government had determined to defer to a future date the formulation of the kind and measure of redress or other action which the Soviet Government should take which would be appropriate in international law and practice to confirm the illegality of the actions directed by the Soviet Government against the United States Government and against the American people.

The Government of the United States calls upon the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics promptly to make its detailed answer to the allegations and demands made in this communication.

Should the Soviet Government in its answer acknowledge its indebtedness to the United States on account of the foregoing and agree to pay the damages suffered and to comply with the demands as above set forth, the United States Government is prepared, if requested, to present detailed evidence in support of its calculations of damages suffered and alleged. If, however, the Soviet Government contests liability, it is requested so to state in its answer. In the latter event, the Soviet Government is hereby notified that the United States Government deems an international dispute to exist falling within the competence of the International Court of Justice and that the United States Government proposes that that dispute be presented for hearing and decision in the International Court of Justice. Since it appears that the Soviet Government has thus far not filed with that Court any declaration of acceptance of the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court, the United States Government invites the

Soviet Government to file an appropriate declaration with the Court, or to enter into a Special Agreement, by which the Court may be empowered in accordance with its Statute and Rules to determine the issues of fact and law which have been set forth herein.

The Soviet Government is requested to inform the United States Government in its reply to the present note of its intentions with respect to such a declaration or Special Agreement.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, MOSCOW

296
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

December 28, 1955
DATE

REF : Embassy Note No. 381, December 7, 1955

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION EUR-5	INFO DEPT. RM/R-2 OLI-7 L-2
	REC'D 1-4	OTHER CIA-7 OSD-4 AIR-4

SUBJECT: Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs Note No. 129/OSA

There follows a translation of Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs note No. 129/OSA:

"No. 129/OSA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and in connection with Embassy note No. 381 of December 7 this year has the honor to state that according to renewed inquiries conducted by the Ministry, Soviet authorities have no information concerning the members of the crew of the American aircraft "B-50."

Moscow, December 26, 1955

To the Embassy of the
United States of America
in Moscow."

For the Ambassador:

John C. Guthrie
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure:

Russian text of Soviet Note No. 129/OSA

JCGuthrie:pm
REPORTER

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

INFORMATION COPY
Retain in divisional files or destroy in accordance with security regulations.

MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

PRIORITY

J-3 L B JONES LCOL USA 74015

FROM: JCS WASH DC

TO: USLO UNC SEOUL KOREA

INFO: CINCPAC CP H M SMITH HAWAII

NR: JCS 504175 28 JUL 60

From JCS, J-3 Joint Staff sends. For OSD/ISA.

1. Based on survey of records and existing information the Military Departments have deleted 61 names from list of unaccounted-for servicemen from the Korean War. List is used by senior member UNMAC, Korea in demanding accounting from KPA/CPV representatives. There follows listing of names by Service which should be deleted from your list:

ARMY

NAME	SERVICE NUMBER	GRADE
Abbott, Charles L	RA 17 258 068	Pvt
Adamo, Joseph J	RA 12 305 738	PFC
Amano, Yutaka	RA 19 302 624	Sgt
Ballar, Bennie E	RA 14 326 111	Cpl
Bond, Elihue Jr	RA 15 338 774	PFC
Bradford, Leonard G	RA 19 328 814	Sgt
Brooks, Lloyd K	RA 14 315 399	PFC
Brown, Alfred R	RA 18 321 108	Cpl
Brown, Frank M	0 370 561	Maj
Calhoon, Cecil O	RA 16 308 092	Cpl
Colon-Perez, Jose S	RA 30 452 103	PFC
Cox, Joseph D	02 017 966	Capt
Crabb, Dean R	US 55 171 051	PFC
Cunningham, John F	RA 12 305 730	PFC
Dansberry, Earl L	RA 16 180 861	Sgt
Davis, Sam H	RA 18 358 881	PFC
DeCosta, Salvatore	RA 32 911 260	Sgt
Denchfield, Raymond C	0 058 879	1st Lt
Dixon, Roosevelt Jr	RA 13 264 790	Sgt
Dunlap, Alva F	RA 15 274 377	PFC
Earl, James E	RA 18 259 856	Sgt
Efland, Donald C	ER 51 045 004	PFC

SCO FORM 35 6 JUN 56 REPLACES OCS FORM 375 1 AUG. 51, WHICH MAY BE USED.

#384

MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

NR: JCS 504175

NAME	SERVICE NUMBER	GRADE
Evans, Edward R	RA 15 234 442	Cpl
Fennell, Isaac Jr	ER 42 150 267	Sgt
Gardner, James D	RA 13 333 358	Pvt
Gregory, Robert S	RA 13 313 864	Cpl
Hester, Will H	RA 15 381 580	Pvt
Marshall, Alfred	ER 12 251 545	PFC
McDaniel, William T	O 24 088	Maj
McSwain, Leon	RA 14 226 936	Cpl
Miller, Raymond H	ER 13 313 722	PFC
Minor, Donald W	RA 11 188 081	Pvt
Mrotek, Lawrence M	ER 57 500 734	PFC
Mulock, Arthur F	02 200 206	2nd Lt
O'Brien, Raymond J	RA 18 303 460	PFC
Peters, James	RA 30 123 141	Cpl
Renneberg, Anthony	RA 28 130 719	Pvt
Ridgeway, Junior V	RA 16 267 704	PFC
Riley, John F	RA 18 314 836	Cpl
Roop, Donald H	RA 15 421 785	PFC
Samczyk, Stanley J	RA 16 303 702	PFC
Sanders, James B	RA 18 283 828	PFC
Shibao, Hiroshi	US 56 010 180	PFC
Snider, Glenn A	RA 39 480 119	M/Sgt
Sorrentino, Anthony T	RA 12 325 141	PFC
Stansbury, William H Jr	RA 17 245 840	PFC
Starling, Robert C	RA 14 333 967	PFC
Stidham, Floyd D	RA 15 267 441	PFC
Stiles, George W	ER 19 284 333	PFC
Thompson, Harwood H	ER 12 246 136	PFC
Vickers, Wendell	RA 13 269 020	Cpl
Weaver, Edward P	RA 13 315 911	PFC
Westphall, Johnnie S	RA 19 329 233	Cpl
White, William F	RA 16 268 651	PFC
Willis, Charles A	ER 57 307 012	PFC
Wood, Lyle E	RA 17 247 032	Cpl
	AIR FORCE	
Connors, Archibald H Jr	AO 2221998	1st Lt
Ferree, Nolan H	AO 2222141	2d Lt
Jamieson, Joseph C	AF 12287088	Airman 3d Class
Wood, Melvin C	11313A	Major
	MARINE CORPS	
Baker, Billy W	624946	PFC

JCS 504175 (JUL 60)

2. Text of public statement on reduction of list to be released 0900 hours Washington time July 29:

The Department of Defense announced today that the list of unaccounted-for servicemen of the Korean War was being reduced from its earlier figure of 452 to 391.

The reduction was made because in 61 cases definite evidence of death has been established through the continuing efforts of the military services to establish the facts in each individual case.

A provision of the Armistice Agreement which brought about the ceasfire in Korea had stipulated that each side would render to the other side a full accounting of any prisoners of war whether alive or dead of whom they had any knowledge.

When the United Nations Command placed its first demand on the Chinese Communists and the North Koreans for an accounting, immediately after the completion of the prisoner exchange in the fall of 1953, the figure of unaccounted-for Americans stood at 944. Through partial accounting by the Chinese Communists and North Koreans, but mainly through the continued efforts of the UN Command and US governmental agencies to establish the facts, the figure was reduced by June 1955 to 450. It was subsequently increased to 452 based on re-examination of intelligence and information from repatriates.

The Department of Defense, in reducing the figure to 391 emphasizes that while all of the original list of 944 except for these 391 have now been accounted for, this accounting has been accomplished largely, not by the Chinese Communists and North Koreans as stipulated in the Armistice Agreement, but through the efforts of US Graves Registration Units and the US Intelligence Agencies, working with little or no cooperation or assistance from the North Koreans or Chinese Communists.

Repeated demands for an accounting have been made through the Military Armistice Commission in Korea and at the ambassadorial talks with the Chinese Communists at

Geneva and Warsaw. To date, the Chinese Communist representative in the ambassadorial talks has refused to discuss the matter, stating that it should be taken up with the Military Armistice Commission in Korea. The Chinese Communist and North Korean representatives on the Military Armistice Commission however, have stated flatly that they have rendered an accounting and refuse to entertain any request for further effort. In this stalemated situation the US government has proceeded to follow every possible course of inquiry in an attempt to solve the problem. The efforts to obtain a satisfactory accounting from the Communist side, and other efforts to ascertain the fate of the personnel still unaccounted-for will continue.

In making this public announcement on the reduction, the Department of Defense also emphasizes that the United States Government has no reliable information from any source to indicate that any of the American servicemen remaining on the list of 391 unaccounted-for since the Korean hostilities are still alive and held in Chinese Communist prisons. Although the possibility cannot be completely foreclosed that some few of them might still be alive, there are no reliable facts to support such a conclusion.

The reductions in the list, by Service, are as follows:

Army	From 246 to 190
Navy-None	3 remain
Air Force	From 190 to 186
Marine Corps	From 13 to 12

In all cases the next of kin and other interested parties have been notified by letter concerning deletions from the list.

ORIGIN: JCS

DISTR: CSA, CNO, CSAF, CMC, OSD, SDLO

JCS 504175 (JUL 60) DTG: 282127Z rw/12

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-2400

INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

October 1987

Americans Unaccounted for in the Korean War

The U.S. Government has ongoing efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing and unaccounted for while serving their country. In the case of Korea, 8,177 Americans are unaccounted for, including 389 who were listed as prisoners of war (POWs). Discussions with the North Koreans on the subject of unaccounted for personnel are conducted by the United Nations Command Military Armistice Commision (UNCMAC), which provides updated information to the Korean People's Army/Chinese People's Volunteers Military Armistice Commission (KPA/CPV MAC) as it surfaces. The UNCMAC acts on behalf of all 16 nations, as well as the Republic of Korea, whose men fought and died in the defense of freedom in Korea.

For the past 34 years, the UNCMAC repeatedly has called upon the KPA/CPV to account for the 2,233 unaccounted for UNC personnel, including the 389 Americans, known to have been under enemy control during the Korean War. Also, from 1955 to 1957 the U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia met in Geneva with Chinese representatives 77 times to discuss the accounting of missing Americans. In August 1982, the UNCMAC specifically requested, for the first time, the repatriation of any UNC remains buried in North Korea, even though the Armistice Agreements called for each side to return the other's war dead.

In keeping with the provisions of the Armistice Agreements, the UNCMAC has returned the remains of CPV soldiers discovered in the Republic of Korea in the years following the war. In May 1987, the UNCMAC attempted to return the remains of 25 North Korean soldiers found in a wartime mass grave, but the KPA refused to accept them even though the KPA had on previous occasions accepted from the UNCMAC the bodies of post-war North Korean civilians who had drowned and washed ashore in the South.

In August 1986, the UNCMAC turned over to the KPA/CPV MAC a thick file of material regarding the locations of UNC remains. The detailed maps and charts pinpointed the burial sites associated with 13 former POW camps and a POW hospital, identified seven former UNC cemeteries in the North and listed 291 crash sites from which lost UNC airmen had not been recovered. In a spirit of compromise, the UNCMAC on July 30, 1987 formally offered to field a Multi-National Team comprised of representatives from UNC nations to assist the KPA in searching for UNC remains. This humanitarian initiative was rebuffed by the KPA.

Other than the 4,439 U.S. POWs returned in 1953 and the 1,868 American remains returned in 1954, there has been little progress, despite U.S. and UNC efforts, on the part of the other side to resolve the cases of Americans still unaccounted for in North Korea. However, the lack of responsiveness thus far by the KPA on this issue will not blunt the determination of the U.S. Government to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing and unaccounted for as a result of the Korean War.

No. 947

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and has the honor to request the Ministry's assistance in the following matter.

The United States Government has recently received reports which support earlier indications that American prisoners of war who had been in action in Korea have been transported to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and that they are now in Soviet custody. The United States Government desires to receive urgently all information available to the Soviet Government concerning these American personnel and to arrange their repatriation at the earliest possible time.

American Embassy,

Moscow, April 5, 1954.

EO'Shaughnessy
DHHenry:mfc

UNCMAC
MAJ Joel Funk/723-
08 Jun 1989

POINT PAPER

REMAINS ISSUE

PURPOSE: To provide an update on the remains issue.

DISCUSSION:

- The Armistice Agreement provided for the voluntary repatriation of POWs and for the repatriation of remains (Para 13f). To implement Para 13f, both sides agreed (17 Aug 54) to an "Understanding" on the delivery and receipt o remains, under which approximately 13,000 KPA/CPV and 4,023 UNC remains were repatriated in 1954.

- On 20 Oct 54, both sides agreed to terminate the 17 Aug 54 Understanding but kept in effect Para 20 of the Understanding, which provided that any remains discovered subsequent to the termination of the agreement would be returned through the MAC Secretaries.

- Subsequently, the UNC concluded that the KPA/CPV failed to return 2,233 UNC military personnel and 18 civilians known to have been alive in KPA/CPV POW camps. Over the years, the UNC made repeated attempts to obtain an accounting of these personnel with no positive nK response. Eight (8) UNC nations including ROK have Unaccounted for POWs and missing personnel.

- In 1981, the UNC recovered and returned to the north the remains of two CPV soldiers IAW Para 20 of the Understanding. Beginning in 1982, the UNC bega asking the KPA/CPV side for an accounting of unrecovered remains as well as unaccounted for POWs.

- Over the years, the UNC has, for humanitarian reasons, returned the remains nK military and civilian personnel recovered in the south subsequent to the signing of the Armistice. They were usually drowning victims. The KPA/CPV reciprocated with similar returns of South Korean drowning victims.

- In late 1985, nK began to indicate that it might be prepared to search for remains if requested by the U.S. Govt. Since then, the UNC has, through correspondence, formal meetings, and contacts at Panmunjom, continued to pres for the return of UNC remains. A detailed chronology of UNC efforts is enclosed.

- In July 1987, the UNC called a formal MAC meeting to protest the KPA/CPV fail to cooperate on this issue.

  -- The UNC stated its position that: The KPA/CPV has an obligation to retur UNC remains which nK officials have told US Veterans that they have discovered, and the UNC is prepared to dispatch a multinational team, accompanied by NNSC representatives, to assist nK in locating UNC remains

  -- The KPA maintained its standard position that: "Search for and recovery" remains is not an Armistice issue, and the KPA/CPV would not discuss the issue at MAC meetings in the future.

FROM CINCPAC [illegible]

- In January 1988, three Congressmen (CODEL McCloskey) visited Korea enroute to Vietnam to discuss the MIA/POW issue there. They requested and received a briefing on the status of the MIA/POW Remains issue in Korea. Subsequently, while on a tour of the JSA, they asked to personally contact nK officials at Panmunjom, stating that they were there to receive remains from the Korean War. Following coordination with US JCS/STATE, they were informed by US Embassy Seo that they should not attempt to make such a contact because it would be perceived as bilateral US - nK negotiations, and against U.S., ROK and UNC policy. It was subsequently proposed to the three Congressmen that UNCMAC call for a MAC Secretary-level meeting to ask for the return of "previously discovered" remains and that the Congressmen would be present in the JSA as observers of the meeting and be willing, if requested by the KPA/CPV, to participate in the receipt of remains. After CODEL agreement, this proposal was thoroughly staffed with US JCS/STATE, ROKG and the Chiefs of the UNC Liaison Groups. Following concurrence and/or clearance of objections, a message was sent to the KPA/CPV proposing such a meeting for 15 Jan 88 (The de CODEL said they could be back to Korea) and clearly indicating that CODEL would be present. The KPA/CPV, however, refused to come to this meeting, counter-proposing for an informal procedural meeting on the issue for 20 Jan 8 (The ROKG publicly announced the KAL FLT 858 bombing incident on 15 Jan 88). After several messages were exchanged in an unsuccessfull effort to agree on a date for a procedural meeting, the KPA/CPV announced publicly on 2 Feb 88 tha they were holding remains of two U.S. Army soldiers by-name (among others) b that due to U.S. "sanctions," they would not return the remains. See encl fo detailed chronology.

- On 12 May 1989, at the 495th MAC Secretaries meeting, UNCMAC returned 19 partial sets of CPV remains recently discovered at the Chipyong-ni battle sit They were received in a perfunctory manner, without comment. No publicity fr north Korea about the return was noted. No north Korean press representative were present; only Chinese and Russian press attended from the KPA/CPV side.

- On 16 May 1989, the UNCMAC Senior Member sent a letter to his KPA/CPV counterpart requesting the return of the remains of all UNC soldiers they have publicly stated they are holding.

- On 5 Jun 89, the KPA/CPV SM responded that they are not obligated by the Armistice Agreement to disinter remains, but they are willing to return rema due to humanitarian reasons if United States sanctions are lifted.

- nK objectives: nK is trying to use the issue of return of US remains to achi direct US-nK government-to-government dialogue and contact as part of its overall strategy. Using a narrow interpretation of Para 20 of the Understanding, they claim the MAC is not competent or obligated to deal with searching for remains, but that any remains discovered by chance will be returned. In Feb 88, however, they changed their position, stating publicly for the first time that they are holding remains but will not return them because of the U.S. "sanctions" (imposed because of the nK backed KAL 858 bombing).

Chronology of UNC POW/MIA/REMAINS Efforts

	ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1.	18th MAC	9 Sep 53	Original list of 3,404 unaccounted for POWs passed.
2.	54th SEC	24 Sep 53	List amended: US-add 41, delete 27; UK-add 2; Canada-add 1.
3.	85th SEC	2 Nov 53	List amended: US-add 10, delete 2.
4.	105th SEC	19 Feb 54	List amended: US-add 1, delete 23; UK-delete 1.
5.	47th MAC	17 Aug 54	List passed.
			Note: - KPA in 1954 provided the UNC with reports containing the burial sites of 1,399 deceased UNC POWs. - UNC in 1954 provided a record of 2,488 deceased UNC military personnel buried in ten (UNC) cemeteries in nK. - KPA in 1954 returned a total of 4,023 remains, including POWs, of deceased UNC military which included 1,869 Americans.
6.	67th MAC	26 Nov 55	List passed.
7.	69th MAC	28 Feb 56	KPA/CPV returned 67th MAC list giving accounting. Final revisions result in UNC list of 2,233 unaccounted for POWs
8.	SEC Ltr	7 Jul 58	List passed.
9.	94th MAC	22 Jan 59	Inquiry by Senior Member.
10.	SM Ltr	24 Jun 60	List passed.

MAC: Military Armistice Commission
SEC: (MAC) Secretaries
KPA: (North) Korean People's Army
CPV: Chinese People's Volunteers
SM: (MAC) Senior Member

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
11. SM Ltr	16 Jan 62	List passed.
12. SM Ltr	23 Feb 63	List passed.
13. SEC Ltr	11 Aug 64	List passed.
14. 210th MAC	4 Jun 65	Senior Member referred to 11 Aug 64 list asking for accounting.
15. 229th MAC	11 Oct 66	UNC Senior member referred to 11 Aug 64 list asking for accounting.
16. 237th MAC	7 Nov 67	UNC Senior Member raised the matter of the 2,233 unaccounted for UNC POWs. KPA ignored this request.
17. UNC SM Ltr	26 May 69	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information on unaccounted for UNC POWs. No response from KPA Senior Member.
18. UNC SM Ltr	10 Apr 70	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information on unaccounted for UNC POWs. No response from KPA Senior Member.
19. UNC SM Ltr	16 Apr 71	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information on unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	5 May 71	KPA/CPV Senior Member's reply to UNC Senior Member's letter of 16 Apr 71, which stated that they repatriated all prisoners to UNC side and that the UNC must return KPA POWs.
20. UNC SM Ltr	25 Apr 72	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	26 May 72	KPA/CPV Senior Member's reply similar to that of the previous year's.

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
21. UNC SM Ltr	31 May 73	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	18 Jun 73	KPA/CPV Senior Member's reply similar to that of the previous year's.
22. UNC SM Ltr	17 May 74	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	28 May 74	KPA/CPV Senior Member's reply similar to that of the previous year's.
23. UNC SM Ltr	19 Jun 75	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	28 Jun 75	KPA/CPV Senior Member's reply similar to that of the previous year's.
24. UNC SM Ltr	2 Jul 76	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	17 Jul 76	KPA/CPV Senior Member's reply similar to that of the previous year's.
25. UNC SM Ltr	17 Aug 77	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	22 Aug 77	KPA/CPV Senior Member's reply similar to that of the previous year's.
26. UNC SM Ltr	17 Aug 78	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	24 Aug 78	KPA/CPV Senior Member's reply similar to that of the previous year's.

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
27. UNC SM Ltr	20 Aug 79	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	29 Aug 79	KPA Senior Member simply referred to his previous letters.
28. UNC SM Ltr	8 Aug 80	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	13 Aug 80	KPA Senior Member simply referred to his previous letters.
29. UNC SM Ltr	3 Sep 81	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	17 Sep 81	KPA Senior Member simply referred to his previous letters.
30. UNC SM Ltr	11 Aug 82	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs.
KPA SM Reply	17 Aug 82	KPA Senior Member simply referred to his previous letters.
415 MAC	21 Dec 81	UNC Senior Member requested the KPA/CPV to conduct a search of the burial sites of UNC POWs at UNC POW Camp No. 5 for possible UNC remains and passed a map depicting the burial site. KPA ignored the request.
31. UNC SM Ltr	17 Aug 83	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs; also asked for the return of remains.
KPA SM Reply	22 Aug 83	KPA Senior Member simply referred to his previous letters.

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
32. UNC SM Ltr	17 Aug 84	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to Senior Member, KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs; also asked for the return of remains.
KPA SM Reply	24 Aug 84	KPA Senior Member simply referred to his previous letters.
33. UNC SM Ltr	28 Aug 85	UNC Senior Member sent a letter to KPA/CPV requesting information concerning unaccounted for UNC POWs; also asked for the return of remains.
34. NK Foreign Minister in N.Y.	20 Oct 85	NK Foreign Minister tells Frank Kerr of the Chosin Few that NK will cooperate in returning military remains if the U.S. Govt formally requests a search for and recovery of US war dead.
KPA Staff Officer's comments	Oct 85	KPA staff officer comments informally at Panmunjom that NK might start looking for military remains if asked to do so.
35. UNC SM Ltr	23 Nov 85	UNC requests KPA search for and repatriate UNC remains.
36. Comments by UNC and KPA officers	Jan-Feb 86	UNC position: - The subject of military remains is a humanitarian issue. - Remains should be returned through the MAC. KPA position: - Armistice does not cover search and exhumation. - Recommends US-NK bilateral negotiations.
37. UNC Ltr to UNC Members	11 Feb 86	UNCMAC Senior Member sent letters to 16 UNC Members nations requesting all available information regarding the status of MIA's. Eleven nations responded to this query; some with additional info on MIAs.

	ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
38.	UNC SM ltr	14 Feb 86	Remains issue involves the UNC, not just U.S. CINCUNC, signatory to the AA, represents all UN/ROK forces. MAC, not a new agency, should handle remains issue. UNC is prepared to discuss details involving the process of searching for military remains.
39.	KPA SM ltr	4 Mar 86	Military remains will be returned when recovered, but AA does not require search and exhumation.
40.	UNC SM ltr	5 Apr 86	Both sides have a moral and humanitarian obligation to search for, disinter, and deliver military remains. Proposed exchange of info on possible location of remains UNC recommended KPA call a no-press Secretaries' meeting to discuss remains issue.
41.	KPA SM Ltr	28 Apr 86	NK position remains the same, will return military remains when discovered, but not obliged to search for remains.
42.	479th SEC	19 Aug 86	Provided KPA with available information regarding remains.
43.	KPA SEC public release	11 Sep 86	NK position remains the same, info passed to "appropriate agencies".
44.	UNC SEC ltr	22 Oct 86	Asked if KPA recovered any remains based on info provided at 19 Aug 86 SEC meeting; provided additional info on three Colombian MIAs.
45.	Meeting w/Chosin Few	11 Dec 86	Briefed UNC actions/position on remains negotiations.

AA: Armistice Agreement

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
46. UNC SEC ltr	18 Dec 86	A follow-up ltr asking if they have had any success in discovering remains; provided additional info on KPA discovery of UNC remains in DMZ in 83 and 85.
47. KPA/CPV SEC Ltr	29 Dec 86	Responded to UNC 18 Dec 86 ltr: Maintained same position; info passed to "relevant organs."
48. UNC SEC Ltr	12 Jan 87	Notified KPA of 25 remains searched for and recovered vic. Obong-ni; offered to return remains.
49. KPA/CPV SEC Ltr	20 Jan 87	Acknowledged UNC's 12 Jun 87 letter and requested evidence and CIL Rpt. (Both passed at JDO Mtgs.)
50. KPA/CPV SEC Ltr	3 Mar 87	Declined to accept Obong-ni remains "due to lack of evidence".
51. UNC SEC Ltr	11 Mar 87	Asked north to review all available info once more before rejecting the remains.
52. 482nd SEC	26 May 87	Offered to return 25 KPA remains; provided info on burial sites at the KPA APEX Camps; and requested the return of UNC remains. The KPA again rejected the offer.
53. Burial of nK Remains	9 Jun 87	Buried 25 KPA remains near Uijongbu.
54. 438th MAC	30 Jul 87	UNC position: - The KPA has an obligation to return UNC remains which NK officials have told US veterans that they have discovered. - The remarks made by KPA staff officers led the UNC to believe NK may have already discovered UNC remains. - The question of remains is not only an Armistice issue but also humanitarian issue. The MAC is the appropriate agency to deal with the remains issue.

JDO: Joint Duty Officer

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
		- The UNC is prepared to negotiate a subsequent agreement similar to the one of 1954 to eliminate any technical problem involving the question of searching for and discovery of remains. - The UNC is prepared to dispatch a multinational team, accompanied by the NNSC representatives, to assist NK in locating UNC remains. - The KPA must return the UNC remains thru the MAC. KPA position: - Search for and recovery of remains is not an armistice issue. - KPA would not discuss the remains issue at the future MAC meeting. - KPA ignored the UNC proposal for dispatching a multinational team.
55. SM Press Conference	30 Jul 87	Following the 483rd MAC mtg, UNC SM held a press conference and made the following points. - The UNC must and will continue its efforts to resolve the remains issue. - The UNC multinational team proposal offers the capability the KPA say they do not have within the MAC to look for remains. - The UNC has been working diligently on this issue over the years, but is being stopped by the other side. - The KPA is using the remains issue in an attempt to force bilateral negotiations with nations that currently do not recognize NK.

NNSC: Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
56. UNC SM Ltr	14 Nov 87	Korean war remains is an Armistice and a humanitarian issue. MAC is the most appropriate agency to handle the issue. A multinational team may be sent to NK to assist searching for UNC remains. Requested the KPA return UNC remains which NK already has in its possession.
57. KPA SM Ltr	21 Nov 87	Responded to the 14 Nov 87 UNC Ltr, repeating its standard position that Korean war remains issue is outside the purview of the Military Armistice Commission.
58. UNC SEC Msg	9 Jan 88	Proposed the 490 SEC meeting for 15 Jan 88 to deliver and receive UNC (U.S.) remains which nK indicated to numerous individuals that they have in their possession. Advised the KPA that three U.S. Congressmen will participate in receiving UNC remains.
59. KPA SEC Msg	14 Jan 88	Responded that the MAC Secretaries meet informally on 20 Jan 88 to discuss the procedures for the return of "U.S. Army" remains they have "recently disinterred." Suggested that the three U.S. Congressmen attend the meeting on 20 Jan 88.
60. KPA SEC Msg	22 Jan 88	KPA accepted the UNC counterproposal to delay the informal meeting until 27 Jan 88.
61. UNC SEC Msg	26 Jan 88	Proposed the 490th SEC meeting be held at 1500 hrs, 27 Jan 88 to receive the UNC remains which the KPA discovered(Following the informal meeting planned for 1000 the same day).
62. KPA SEC Msg	26 Jan 88	Cancelled the 27 Jan 88 SEC meeting under the pretext of the U.S. "sanctions" against the NK bombing of a KAL plane.
63. UNC SEC Msg	26 Jan 88	Pointed out the NK misuse of the remains issue for their irrelevant propaganda, and requested the return of UNC remains.

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
64. KPA SEC Msg	2 Feb 88	- Repeated its excuse for cancelling the meeting and specifically mentioned the names of two "U.S. Army men" whose remains they have discovered "among the remains of U.S. Army men in our possession." - Reiterated its standard position that they don't have to return the remains "disinterred." - NK radio (KCNA) broadcast this KPA message.
65. UNC SEC Msg	3 Feb 88	Proposed the 490th SEC meeting for 1400 hrs, 5 Feb 88 to receive the remains of the two U.S. Army men they have discovered.
66. KPA SEC Msg	4 Feb 88	- Rejected the UNC request for the 490th SEC meeting saying that the subject of the remains "disinterred" is outside the purview of the MAC. - NK radio (KCNA) broadcast the KPA message.
67. UNC SM Ltr	16 Feb 88	Called for return of all UNC remains that KPA has publicly announced they are holding.
68. KPA SM Ltr	29 Feb 88	- Rejected UNC SM request of 16 Feb 88.
69. 490th SEC	23 Mar 88	- UNC side asked KPA to reconsider their decision to not return remains.
70. 492nd SEC	27 Apr 88	- The KPA continue to refuse to return remains they publicly state they have in their possession. - The KPA have a humanitarian obligation to search for, disinter, and deliver remains; especially remains which have previously been discovered. - The UNC again asked the KPA to return all remains they presently have in their possession.

	ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
71.	443rd MAC	26 May 88	UNC position: - The KPA has a humanitarian obligation to return the remains of UNC military personnel they officially and publicly admitted to have already discovered. - Such a humanitarian act would help create a more positive atmosphere on which to base progress in other areas of concern to both sides.
72.	494th SEC	23 Jun 88	UNC Position: - The KPA continue to refuse to return remains they publicly state they have in their possession. - The KPA have an Armistice and humanitarian obligation to search for, disinter, and deliver remains; especially remains which have previously been discovered. - The UNC again asked the KPA to return all remains they presently have in their possession. KPA Response: - The issue of the return of remains is not an Armistice issue and the reason the issue has not previously been resolved is due to the unreasonable attitude of the U.S. Gov't; i.e., imposing sanctions against nK over the KAL Flt 858 bombing.
73.	Meeting w/Chosin Few	30 Jun 88	- Briefed UNC actions/position on remains negotiations.
74.	444th MAC	15 Jul 88	- UNC side asked the KPA to discuss the return of UNC remains they publicly acknowledged holding.

	ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
75.	446th MAC	13 Feb 89	- UNC Closing Statement mentioned that an easy confidence building/tension reduction measure requiring only unilateral KPA action is to return the remains they have publicly admitted holding and those they are holding but not publicly acknowledged. - UNC pointed out their humanitarian and legal responsibilities to return all UNC remains.
76.	446th MAC	9 May 89	- UNC asked the KPA/CPV to return the Korean War Remains they've publicly stated they're holding and pointed out it would be a very easy, unilateral confidence building measure on their part.
77.	495th SEC	12 May 89	- UNC returned to the KPA/CPV the partial sets of remains of 19 CPV soldiers recently discovered at two locations at the Chipyong-ni Korean War Battlesite. - Noted KPA/CPV identified by name on 2 Feb 88 the remains of 2 UNC soldiers they're holding. - Stated UNC continues to honor the AA as the 12 May 89 CPV remains return demonstrates. - States remains return is a confidence building measure which will reduce tension on the peninsula. - Requested the return of all UNC remains the KPA/CPV publicly stated their holding.
78.	UNC SM Ltr	16 May 89	

ACTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION
EPA SM Reply	5 Jan 89	- Not obligated by AA to disinter remains - Willing to return remains due to humanitarian reasons if US sanctions are lifted.

WASHINGTON, DC 20310

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

SEP 2 4 1934

Personnel Services Directorate PSA-A
Dumas, Roger A. 21 004 481
11/1/4.108/7

Mr. Robert R. Dumas
c/o Ms. Mary B. Ryan
420 Highland Avenue
Cheshire, Connecticut 06410

Dear Mr. Dumas:

The Army Board for Correction of Military Records has asked me to inform you that your late brother's records have been corrected in accordance with their findings. A certificate evidencing correction of his records is enclosed.

The Commander, U. S. Army Finance and Accounting Center, ATTN: FINCP-BC, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana 46249 has been informed of the correction of your records.

Sincerely,

Reid A. Barrett
Colonel, Armor
Adjutant General

Enclosure

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the records of Roger A. Dumas, 21 004 491, have been corrected under the provisions of Title 10, United States Code 1552, to show that he was in a prisoner of war status in Prisoner of War Camp 5 from 4 November 1950 until 26 February 1954. The presumptive finding of his death on 26 February 1954 is affirmed.

This certificate furnished 11 September 1984.

ROBERT M. JOYCE
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

Quite a certificate
no Signature but
I guess it is legal

U. S. ARMY FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING CENTER
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46249

FINCP-EBC

19 NOV 1984

Mr. Robert R. Dumas
c/o Ms. Mary B. Ryan
420 Highland Avenue
Cheshire, Connecticut 06410

Dear Mr. Dumas:

The Secretary of the Army has approved the request for correction of your late brother's military records under the provisions of Title 10 U.S.C. 1552 in accordance with their findings.

No monies are due as a result of the correction of these military records.

Sincerely,

Edna E. Isom

for J. R. Banks
Chief, Claims/Inquiries Division
Centralized Pay Operations

Ann This is not what the Federal Judge in the case said. He said in lyt of this year that the Army does our all the military benefits that he has coming to my mother Estate of which I am the administrator

Bob

DAAG-PES Dumas, Roger A.
RA 21004481 (9 Nov 79)
SUBJECT: ABCMR Application

TO: CSA, ABCMR
Rm 1E517, Pentagon

FROM: DAAG
Rm 5B030, For Bldg

DATE: 21 NOV 1979 CM12
LTC Nickens/36315/dej

1. The case of Corporal Roger A. Dumas has been carefully reviewed and the following information is provided for your guidance:

a. The Dumas family has written extensive correspondence to members of congress, officials of the Department of Defense and Department of the Army in an effort to change the status of Corporal Dumas from deceased to prisoner of war.

b. On 24 November 1950, Corporal Dumas was officially reported missing in action in an area northeast of Anju, North Korea, on 4 November 1950. His company was in action against the opposing forces, and when the action terminated, he could not be located. No further information concerning Corporal Dumas was received.

c. Under the terms of the Korean Armistice Agreement of 1953, each side to the conflict undertook to repatriate or otherwise account for all captured and deceased combatants of the opposing side of whose fate it had knowledge. After completion of the prisoner exchange in the Fall of 1953, American and United Nations Command authorities presented to the North Koreans a list of servicemembers whose status remained unresolved. In pressing the North Koreans to comply with the terms of the Armistice Agreement, our actions were never intended to imply that the North Koreans were actually holding Americans alive and in prisons.

d. In the absence of an official accounting by the North Koreans, our government has expended considerable effort through other means to determine the status of those individuals who were unaccounted. American prisoners of war who returned were interrogated to obtain information regarding other missing persons and intensive efforts were made to locate and positively identify the remains of missing American personnel. Further, qualified officials examined all available records and reports pertaining to the circumstances of the disappearance of these men.

e. Many of the casualties from the Korean Conflict who were carried on the records of missing in action in Korea were actually captured and transported to North Korea where they later died; however, specific information is lacking as to the number, identity, or circumstances surrounding their disappearance. Resolutions with list of individuals unaccounted for were introduced to the Congress to attempt to learn of the fate of Americans unaccounted for in Korea. Basically, these individuals listed were categorized as prisoners of war, regardless of how they were originally reported as casualties.

f. The official military personnel records of Corporal Dumas were destroyed in July 1973 during a fire at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri. In response to a Freedom of Information Act request from Mr. Clarence Dumas, a separate record pertaining to Corporal Dumas was located. This record was

one of the records compiled by the Memorial Division of the Office of The Quartermaster General on all deceased service members whose remains were non-recoverable at their time of death. These records were compiled for the purpose of assisting in the identification of any remains that might have been recovered after the cessation of hostilities. With the passage of time, these records are no longer under the control of the Department of the Army, but are now maintained by the General Archives Division, National Archives and Records Services, Washington, D.C. 20409.

g. Copies of all documents in the above file were obtained by the Office of The Adjutant General, Department of the Army, and provided to Mr. Clarence Dumas on 14 October 1977. Included in these documents was a 29 April 1957 fact (summary) sheet that made reference to a statement from a former prisoner of war (PW) Cecil V. Preston, that a Private Dumas was alive, but in poor physical condition in Camp #5, Pyoktang, North Korea. The National Archives furnished The Adjutant General with two statements by Cecil V. Preston; however, neither statement made any specific reference to Roger Dumas. The Archives did actually establish that a Private Donald Dumas was a PW in Camp #5, Pyoktang, North Korea. The 29 April 1957 fact sheet indicated that all references were to a "Private Dumas" (no first name given), which logically would relate to Donald Dumas, the known PW. The relating of the statement by Cecil V. Preston to Roger Dumas was mistakenly based on the fact that only one, Roger Dumas, was reported as missing in action in Korea. However, only Donald Dumas, not Roger Dumas, is known to have been a prisoner of war in Korea.

h. The alleged PW photograph, which was provided to the Office of The Adjutant General by Clarence Dumas, was analyzed by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The CIA determined that the individual in the photograph is not Roger Dumas, despite the claims to the contrary by his brothers. The CIA has also informed the Office of The Adjutant General that they have no record that indicates that Roger Dumas is in China.

i. No positive evidence was ever received in the Department of the Army that Corporal Dumas was captured and became a prisoner of war. Full consideration was given to all information bearing on the absence of Corporal Dumas, including all records, reports and circumstances. The lapse of time without any information to support a presumption of survival led to the conclusion that Corporal Dumas was no longer alive. Therefore, under the provisions of Section 5 of the Act of 7 March 1942 (Public Law 490, 77th Congress) as amended (Missing Persons Act), the Secretary of the Army changed Corporal Dumas' status from missing in action to deceased. The finding did not establish an actual or probable date of death. As required by the law, the presumptive date of death, 26 February 1954, was established to terminate pay and allowances, settlement of accounts, and payment of death gratuities.

DAAG-PES Dumas, Roger A.
RA 21004481 (9 Nov 79)
SUBJECT: ABCMR Application

21 NOV 1979

2. It has been determined that there is no factual evidence to warrant reconsideration by the Office of The Adjutant General of the missing in action status and presumptive finding of death pertaining to Corporal Roger A. Dumas. Therefore, the only recourse for consideration of the request of the Dumas Family is through the Army Board for Correction of Military Records.

3. Inclosed is the reconstructed OMPF with all inclosures that were maintained in the Office of The Adjutant General.

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

REVIEW-Personal Affairs Dir, TAGCEN
.....COL, GS, DIRECTOR
.....DIVISION CHIEF
.....ACTION OFFICER

2 Incl
Added 1 Incl
2. Reconstructed OMPF w/incls

ANN B. SMITH
Colonel, GS
Director, Casualty and Memorial Affairs

DISPOSITION FORM

For use of this form, see AR 340-15, the proponent agency is TAGCEN.

REFERENCE OR OFFICE SYMBOL	SUBJECT
SFMR DUMAS, ROGER A. RA 21004481 (Deceased)	ABCMR Application

TO	FROM	DATE	CMT 1
DAAG-PES/Ltc Nickens 5B030 FOR Bldg	OSA, ABCMR 1E517, Pent	9 Nov 79 Mr. Devine/bab/54539	

1. Reference is made to the inclosed application for correction of military records in the case of the above-named individual with respect to a requested change of status from killed in action to prisoner of war as of 24 April 1953.

2. Reference is also made to a telephone conversation between Miss. Johnson of your office and Mr. Devine.

3. It is requested that the application, together with all military records and all correspondence received concerning the case be carefully reviewed and this office furnished with a comprehensive opinion for the guidance of the Board regarding the issues raised.

4. Apparently much of that which is in our file are photocopies of documents in your files. Nevertheless, included is the entire ABCMR file in the matter.

5. It is our understanding that your office is in possession of the applicant's reconstructed OMPF. Please forward the former service member's reconstructed OMPF, all inclosures hereto, and any other pertinent information contained in the files of your office, upon rendering your advisory opinion.

Incl
as

for James A. Devine
Raymond J. Williams
Executive Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

SFMR

22 March 1979

Mr. Robert R. Dumas Sr.
Howe Road
Canterbury, CT 06331

RE: Dumas, Roger A.
RA21 004 481

Dear Mr. Dumas:

This is to acknowledge receipt of application for correction of military records.

Please be advised that much time is involved in obtaining military records and staffing the application. Also, there is a large volume of other applications currently pending before the Board. In fairness to all, the Board acts on applications according to the dates they are received.

If the Board determines from a review of the application and military records that a formal hearing is authorized, all interested parties will be advised sufficiently in advance of such hearing to make adequate arrangements for presentation of the case.

You are assured that the Board will consider the case as soon as circumstances permit. Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated, and you will be further informed regarding the Board's decision. Please advise the Board of any change of address.

Sincerely yours,

RJW

Raymond J. Williams
Executive Secretary
Board for Correction
of Military Records

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP	Date: 20 March 79

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)	Initials	Date
1. E.E. WILMETH - ABCMR, WASH. D.C.		
2.		
3. REF:		
4. DUMAS ROGER A.		
5. RA21004481 -		

Action	File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
Coordination	Justify	

REMARKS

PER TELEPHONE DISCUSSION ON 19 MARCH 1979 - 2:45PM

Attached application received by our office 23 Feb 79. The record is charged out to:

Maj. England
DAAG-PES-HQS-DA 5B-030
Forrestal Bldg
Washington, D.C.

Phone No: 223-6315. / 36454/36453
693-6315
State Determinations Division

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)	Room No.—Bldg.
PSA-A SSG Brown RCPAC-St. Louis, MO	4565 Phone No. 7780

5041-102

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)
Prescribed by GSA
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.206

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1976—216—64053-1

BAX 08 FEB 1979

APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY OR NAVAL RECORD UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 10, U.S. CODE, SEC. 1552

(See instructions on reverse side BEFORE completing application.)

Form Approved Budget Bureau No. 22-R009

BRANCH OF SERVICE: ☒ ARMY ☐ NAVY ☐ AIR FORCE ☐ MARINE CORPS ☐ COAST GUARD

1. NAME (Last-first-middle initial)(Please print)	2. PRESENT RATE, GRADE	3. SERVICE NUMBER	4. SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBER
DUMAS ROGER A.	CPL	RA21004481	UNKNOWN

5. TYPE OF DISCHARGE (If by court-martial, state type of court.)	6. PRESENT STATUS, IF ANY, WITH RESPECT TO THE ARMED SERVICES (Active duty, retired, reserve, etc.)	7. DATE OF DISCHARGE OR RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY
PRISONER OF WAR		

8. ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF ALLEGED ERROR IN RECORD: COC 19Th INF Regt 24Th DIV

9. I DESIRE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD IN WASHINGTON, D.C. (No expense to the Government.) ☒ YES ☐ NO

10. NAME AND ADDRESS OF COUNSEL (If any): NONE

11. I REQUEST THE FOLLOWING CORRECTION OF ERROR OR INJUSTICE:
CHANGE OF STATUS FROM KILLED IN ACTION TO PRISONER OF WAR RETROACTIVE TO APRIL 24Th 1953

12. I BELIEVE THE RECORD TO BE IN ERROR OR UNJUST IN THE FOLLOWING PARTICULARS:
OUR brother WAS LEFT IN The hands OF The enemy AFTER hostilities ended IN 1953

13. IN SUPPORT OF THIS APPLICATION I SUBMIT AS EVIDENCE THE FOLLOWING: (If Veterans Administration records are pertinent to your case, give Regional Office location and Claim Number.)
Documents And evidence ATTACHED TO This APPLICATION FOR A hearing

14. a. THE DATE OF THE DISCOVERY OF THE ALLEGED ERROR OR INJUSTICE WAS APRIL 24Th 1953 b. IF MORE THAN THREE YEARS SINCE THE ALLEGED ERROR OR INJUSTICE WAS DISCOVERED, STATE WHY THE BOARD SHOULD FIND IT IN THE INTEREST OF JUSTICE TO CONSIDER THIS APPLICATION.
We did not know, The FULL Truth UNTIL MARCH OF 1978, AND UNTIL NOW.

APPLICANT MUST SIGN IN THE SPACE PROVIDED. IF THE RECORD IN QUESTION IS THAT OF A PERSON WHO IS DECEASED OR INCOMPETENT, ... OF DEATH OR INCOMPETENCY MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION. IF APPLICATION IS SIGNED BY SPOUSE, WIDOW OR WIDOWER, ... REPRESENTATIVE, INDICATE RELATIONSHIP OR STATUS IN APPROPRIATE BOX.
... WIDOWER ☐ NEXT OF KIN ☐ LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE ☐ OTHER (Specify) _____

...EMENTS, AS PART OF MY CLAIM, WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE PENALTIES INVOLVED FOR ... STATEMENT OR CLAIM. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Sec. 287, 1001, provides a penalty of not ... not more than 5 years imprisonment or both.)

...DING ZIP CODE (Applicant should forward notification of ...): ... Dad, Canterbury CONN 06331

DOCUMENT NUMBER (DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE): AC79-01718

18. DATE: 2-18-79

19. SIGNATURE (Applicant must sign here.): Robert A. Dumas SR

CERTIFIED
916675
MAIL

INSTRUCTIONS

1. For detailed information see:
   Air Force Regulation 31-3
   Army Regulations 15-185
   Coast Guard, Code of Federal Regulations
   Title 33, Part 52
   Navy, NAVEXOS P-473, as revised

2. Submit original only of this form.

3. Complete all items. If the question is not applicable, mark--"None".

4. If space is insufficient, use "Remarks" or attach additional sheet if necessary.

5. Various veterans and service organizations furnish counsel without charge. These organizations prefer that arrangements for representation be made through local posts or chapters.

6. List all attachments or inclosures.

7. ITEMS 9 and 10. Personal appearance of you and your witnesses or representation by counsel is not required to insure full and impartial consideration of applications. Appearances and representations are permitted, at no expense to the Government when a hearing is authorized.

8. ITEM 11. State the specific correction of record desired.

9. ITEM 12. In order to justify correction of a military or naval record, it is necessary for you to show to the satisfaction of the Board, or it must otherwise satisfactorily appear, that the alleged entry or omission in the record was in error or unjust. Evidence may include affidavits or signed testimony of witnesses, executed under oath, and a brief of arguments supporting application. All evidence not already included in your record must be submitted by you. The responsibility for securing new evidence rests with you.

10. ITEM 14. 10 U.S.C. 1552b provides that no correction may be made unless request is made within three years after the discovery of the error or injustice, but that the Board may excuse failure to file within three years after discovery if it finds it to be in the interest of justice.

RECEIVED
1979 MAR 22
ARMY BOARD OF MILITARY RECORDS

MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO APPROPRIATE ADDRESS BELOW

ARMY	NAVY AND MARINE CORPS	COAST GUARD	AIR FORCE
Commander RCPAC ATTN: AGUZ-SAD-CO 9700 Page Blvd St. Louis, MO 63132	oard for Correction of aval Records epartment of the Navy ashington, D.C. 20370	U.S. Coast Guard ATTN: Senior Member Board for Correction of Coast Guard Records Washington, D.C. 20591	USAFMPC (AFPMDRAIB) RANDOLPH AFB TEX 78148

EMARKS

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

FINDING OF DEATH OF MISSING PERSON

XC18062803

...suant to the provisions of Section 5 of the Act of 7 March 1942 (Public Law ...) ...gress) as amended, upon direction and delegation by The Secretary of the Army, ...f, Casualty Branch, Office of The Adjutant General, finds Corporal ... B. Dumas, RA 21 004 481, Infantry ...as. He was officially reported as missing in action as of the 4th day ...ber 1950. For the purposes stated in said Act, death is presumed to have oc... on the 26th day of February 1954.

ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Adjutant General
Chief, Casualty Branch

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

FLYING STATUS	DUMP STATUS	LINE OF DAN MIS-ON DUTY	CONDUCT STATUS
		Yes No	Yes

...EVIEWS

...Missing in Action 5 November 1951

...	HOME ADDRESS (Number, street, city and state)	DATE OF ENTRY ON CURRENT ACTIVE SV	LENGTH OF SERVICE (as of presumed date of death) YEARS	MONTHS	DAYS
...	Post Office Box 174 Plainfield, Connecticut	24 Jan 1949			

EMERGENCY ADDRESSEE

MIDDLE NAME - LAST NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS (Number, street, city and state)
... Dumas	Mother	Voluntown, Connecticut

BENEFICIARIES

MIDDLE NAME - LAST NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS (Number, street, city and state)
... to designate beneficiary		
... to designate alternate beneficiary		

...view of the lapse of time without information to support a continued presump... survival the Department of the Army must terminate the absence of the subject ...ual by a presumptive finding of death.

...moted to the temporary grade of Corporal on 1 May 1953 per DAGO 39 date 1 May ...

...rd of designated beneficiary under PL 23, 82C

Mr. Joseph E. Dumas, father, address same as EA above

KOREA

85TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 140

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 12, 1957

Mr. ZABLOCKI submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas four hundred and fifty American prisoners of war in the hands of Communist forces have not been repatriated or otherwise accounted for since the cessation of hostilities in Korea; and

Whereas under the terms of the Korean armistice agreement all American prisoners of war should have been accounted for long before now; and

Whereas the United States of America has never acquiesced in actions by foreign nations which illegally deprive our citizens of their liberty; and

Whereas the historic policy of firmly supporting the rights of American citizens should be continued: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the

U. S. Army

Name	Service No.	Grade
Abbott, Charles L.	RA17358[illegible]	Private.
Ahl, Clarence H.	RA[illegible]1559	Corporal.
Alcorn, Phillip F.	RA[illegible]944	Private.
Arnano, Yataka	RA19[illegible]534	Sergeant.
Arredondo, Isidoro	US[illegible]247	Private 1st class.
Balbi, Joseph A.	US[illegible]59	Do.
Battle, William R., Jr.	RA11[illegible]94	Private.
Bedell, Norman C.	RA16[illegible]545	Do.
Bellar, Bennie E.	RA[illegible]311	Corporal.
Beller, James E.	RA[illegible]295	Private.
Bernard, Elton J.	RA[illegible]1458	Corporal.
Berenter, Robert L.	RA16[illegible]941	Do.
Billingsley, Milton P.	RA37[illegible]593	Do.
Boyd, Harold R.	RA[illegible]3275	Do.
Bradford, Leonard G.	RA19[illegible]834	Sergeant.
Brock, James R.	RA19[illegible]225	Private 1st class.
Broome, Otis L.	US[illegible]984	Do.
Brown, Bill E.	US53[illegible]58	Do.
Brown, James C.	RA17[illegible]284	Do.
Bull, Clifford G.	RA19[illegible]535	Do.
Burger, Johnnie J.	RA19[illegible]734	Do.
Buttrey, William V.	RA19[illegible]3667	Do.
Bynman, Roger F.	O983439	1st lieutenant.
Callis, Henry O.	RA14[illegible]249	Private 1st class.
Carter, Andrew	RA19[illegible]442	Corporal.
Chaney, James O.	RA18[illegible]707	Private.
Chaves, Daniel	RA16[illegible]106	Corporal.
Chatterbuck, Roland W.	RA19[illegible]219	Sergeant.
Clifton, William L.	RA19[illegible]152	Corporal.
Cole, Merle L., Jr.	RA17[illegible]829	Private.
Cornell, Roy G.	RA19[illegible]3153	Do.
Corad, Kenneth L.	RA19[illegible]453	Corporal.
Crabb, Dean R.	US5[illegible]1951	Private 1st class.
Craig, Paul E.	ER16[illegible]994	Do.
Crevellini, Myron G.	RA12[illegible]521	Sergeant.
Crews, Irvine T.	RA13[illegible]423	Do.
Cruz-Ramos, Jesus	US[illegible]905	Private 1st class.
Dakins, Donald E.	RA17[illegible]519	Do.
Davis, Ezekiel A.	RA[illegible]1092	Private.
Day, Dave H.	RA[illegible]193	Do.
DeNeil, Casimire T.	RA[illegible]1941	Sergeant.
DeSau, Lawrence K.	RA13[illegible]629	Private.
Demuteis, Richard G.	RA11[illegible]215	Corporal.
Dick, William L., Jr.	RA16[illegible]645	Private.
Dill, Paul N.	O1322[illegible]29	1st lieutenant.
Dore, Leroy J.	RA16[illegible]284	Private 1st class.
Dulyea, Harold B.	RA16[illegible]224	Private.
Dumas, Roger A.	RA21[illegible]951	Private 1st class.
Elias, Daniel A.	RA13[illegible]719	Private.
Evans, Junior C.	RA18[illegible]355	Do.
Fetzer, Leo E.	RA18[illegible]587	Private 1st class.
Fitzgerald, Ronald	RA[illegible]1954	Corporal.
Fischer, James F.	US[illegible]976	Private 1st class.
Flores, Willie S.	RA18[illegible]1951	Corporal.
Freck, John, Jr.	O[illegible]859	2d lieutenant.
Fulk, Lester E.	US[illegible]938	Private 1st class.
Fuller, Terrell J.	US[illegible]9178	Do.
Gardner, James D.	RA12[illegible]325	Private.
Garner, Charles E.	RA16[illegible]451	Private 1st class.
Gilley, Homer B.	RA14[illegible]549	Corporal.
Glaser, Gerald W.	RA12[illegible]527	Do.
Goetz, George, R.	RA[illegible]674	Master sergeant.
Grenier, Donald T.	RA21[illegible]93	Private.
Grosser, Arnold O.	RA[illegible]284	Private 1st class.
Grimsley, Robert L.	RA[illegible]159	Do.
Hadnot, Charles D.	RA14[illegible]6	Private.
Haag, Douglas H.	O210[illegible]51	2d lieutenant.
Harnage, Lawrence A.	RA14[illegible]740	Private 1st class.
Harpster, Fred W.	RA 3[illegible]963	Private.
Harry, Edward S., Jr.	RA18[illegible]271	Do.
Haynie, Robert E.	RA19[illegible]132	Do.
Hebert, Sylvio L.	ER11[illegible]106	Do.
Hogan, Kenneth A.	RA19[illegible]589	Do.
Holt, Crenshaw A.	O05[illegible]67	1st lieutenant.
Hoogacker, Philip T.	RA17[illegible]73	Private.
Houston, James L.	RA2[illegible]559	Private 1st class.
Howell, James	RA19[illegible]077	Do.
Hopenelt, Donald C.	RA11[illegible]425	Do.
Hughes, Wayne G.	RA21[illegible]979	Private.
Hull, Leonard C.	RA12[illegible]219	Corporal.
Hamilton, Donald L.	US[illegible]9669	Private 1st class.
Ishida, Mitsuyoshi	RA19[illegible]647	Do.

5-0185
104
Fein
Dept
Korea
Sept 53
Cic
51
452

PRISONERS OF W

U

Name
Jarrett, Carl E.
Jennings, John E., Jr.
Jerome, Richard
Jewett, Richard G.
Jinks, Leonard W. E.
Johnson, Donald R.
Johnson, Leroy
Johnson, Myron
Johnson, Ray
Jones, Kassidy K.
Kahuna, Herbert
Kidd, Elmer C.
King, Ralph K.
Kinsler, James F.
Kosze, Anthony
Kost, Stanley
Krzyzowski, Francis
Lapeal, Dittef J.
La Pointe, John N.
Lee, Emil
Levitski, Walter J.
Linebaugh, Orville F.
Litchfield, Billie
Lopez, Alfred, Jr.
Lowrence, Ray V.
Malanga, Angelo S.
Masters, Louis R.
Mattingly, Donald L.
McClure, Clarence, Jr.
McDaniel, William
McDowell, William
Meagher, Neil W.
Meyers, Robert E.
Morales, Marcario
Moreland, Harry D.
Morris, Russel F.
Munoz, Moises
Needland, John W.
Nowicki, Anthony J.
Nystrom, John W.
O'Brien, Raymond J.
Oaksen, Eugene L.
Overgard, Elwood E.
Peiffer, Alfred G.
Peters, James
Peterson, Lyle E.
Pethard, Marie L.
Pierce, Albert O.
Potts, John W.
Price, Curlous M.
Quire, John F.
Rabin, Carl W.
Rausch, Charles L.
Reddick, Frank T.
Reimer, Walter F.
Rosenberg, Anthony
Rubey, Aggie L.
Ridgeway, Junior V.
Riley, John F.
Robin, Tracy R.
Roop, Donald H.
Rose, Nokomis J.
Royer, Charles B.
Rowar, John M., Jr.
Sawczyk, Stanley J.
Sazera, Jose M.
Sampson, James W.
Sanders, James B.
Sanford, Royal W.
Schaack, Russell D.
Schnepper, Paul W.
Schroder, William D.
Schreiner, Gerald G.
Searle, William R.
Seavise, Luther D.
Shard, James W.
Shepard, Robert A.
Shibao, Hiroshi
Smith, Lawrence J.
Snider, Carl G., Jr.
Snider, Glenn A.

EAP PRESS GUIDANCE
May 29, 1990

(NOT TO BE USED UNTIL REMAINS ARE RETURNED MAY 28)

NORTH KOREA; WAR REMAINS

Q: Any comment about North Korea's May 28 repatriation of American war remains to Congressman Montgomery?

A: -- THE U.S. GOVERNMENT APPRECIATES THE RETURN OF WAR REMAINS. WE RECOGNIZE THIS AS A POSITIVE STEP BY THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

-- IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT THIS IS THE FIRST RETURN OF REMAINS FROM NORTH KOREA SINCE 1954. WE HOPE THIS STEP WILL LEAD TO THE RETURN OF THE ADDITIONAL REMAINS OF SOLDIERS WHO FOUGHT UNDER THE UN FLAG IN THE KOREAN CONFLICT. OVER 8,000 AMERICANS ARE UNACCOUNTED FOR FROM THAT WAR.

-- WE SUPPORT AND APPRECIATE THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE DELEGATION LED BY CONGRESSMAN SONNY MONTGOMERY. WE HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE CONGRESSMEN AND APPRECIATE THEIR EFFORTS AND COOPERATION. SEVERAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS GROUPS HAVE ALSO WORKED CONSTRUCTIVELY TOWARD THIS END.

-- The Govt of the Republic of Korea has fully supported our efforts. We have consulted closely with the ROKG on arrangements for this humanitarian return of remains.

-- AS SECRETARY BAKER STATED TO THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 1: "WE ARE LOOKING FOR A STEADY, RECIPROCAL PROCESS TOWARD BETTER RELATIONS BOTH BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA AND BETWEEN THE U.S. AND NORTH KOREA." THE RETURN OF REMAINS IS A STEP IN THAT DIRECTION.

Q: Who received the remains?

-- THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND AND THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION JOINTLY RECEIVED THE REMAINS. REPATRIATION WAS THROUGH THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION AT PANMUNJOM.

-- THE RETURN OF DISCOVERED WAR REMAINS THROUGH THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION IS AN IMPORTANT ARMISTICE OBLIGATION.

Q: But the North Koreans say the Congressional delegation signed for the remains and not the UN Command?

A: -- THE RECIPIENTS WERE THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AND THE UN COMMAND. UN COMMAND OFFICERS ACCOMPANIED THE CONGRESSMEN AT EACH STEP IN THE TRANSFER PROCEEDINGS.

Q: Who negotiated the transfer procedures?

A: -- DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD OVER MANY MONTHS IN SEVERAL CHANNELS:

-- CONGRESSMAN MONTGOMERY HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DPRK UN MISSION IN NEW YORK. THE STATE DEPARTMENT WORKED CLOSELY WITH HIM.

-- THE UN COMMAND SPOKE TO NORTH KOREAN ARMY COUNTERPARTS IN THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION.

-- IN OUR MEETINGS WITH THE NORTH KOREANS IN BEIJING, WE URGED THE DPRK TO TURN OVER THE REMAINS. WE DID NOT USE THAT CHANNEL TO NEGOTIATE THE RETURN.

-- PRIVATE VETERANS GROUPS ALSO LET NORTH KOREA KNOW OF THEIR CONCERNS, AND INFORMED US OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS.

Q: (IF ASKED) Did the State Department participate in Congressman Montgomery's meetings with North Koreans?

A: -- A KOREA DESK OFFICER WAS PRESENT AS AN OBSERVER. HE ALSO ACCOMPANIED THE DELEGATION TO KOREA.

-- HE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE REPATRIATION PROCEEDINGS AT PANMUNJOM, SINCE THIS WAS NOT A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE. DISCUSSIONS AT PANMUNJOM WERE HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION.

Q: When did North Korea find these remains?

A: -- IN 1987 NORTH KOREA FIRST SAID IT HAD THE FIVE SETS OF REMAINS. IT AGREED TO RETURN THEM VIA THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION IN JANUARY 1988. BUT IT REFUSED TO FOLLOW THROUGH WHEN THE U.S. PUT NORTH KOREA ON THE "TERRORIST LIST" FOR DESTROYING KOREAN AIRLINES FLIGHT 858.

Q: Will the U.S. be upgrading dialogue with North Korea?

A: -- DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND DPRK POLITICAL COUNSELORS IN BEIJING WILL CONTINUE. WE GRANTED PERMISSION FOR A DPRK UN MISSION OFFICIAL AND TWO DPRK ACADEMICIANS TO VISIT WASHINGTON THIS MONTH FOR AN ACADEMIC CONFERENCE.

-- AS IN THE PAST, ANY FURTHER STEPS ON OUR PART WOULD BE TAKEN IN FULL CONSULTATION WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

Q: What would it take to normalize relations with North Korea?

A: -- IMPROVEMENT IN U.S.-DPRK RELATIONS DEPEND ON SEVERAL THINGS. THESE INCLUDE THE NEED FOR SUBSTANTIVE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE, RESOLUTION OF THE TERRORISM ISSUE, INCLUDING CREDIBLE EVIDENCE THAT PYONGYANG DOES NOT SUPPORT TERRORISM, AND NORTH KOREAN CONCLUSION OF A NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY.

Q: What will happen to with the remains now?

A: -- THE FIVE SETS OF REMAINS, IN COFFINS DRAPED WITH THE UN FLAG, ARE BEING TRANSPORTED TO THE U.S. ARMY CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY IN HAWAII BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO TRY TO ESTABLISH INDIVIDUAL IDENTITIES.

-- ONCE IDENTIFIED, THEY WILL BE TRANSPORTED TO THE AIR FORCE MORTUARY AT TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA, WHERE THEY WILL BE HELD PENDING DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE NEXT OF KIN.

the remains have been identified +

-- UNTIL THE NEXT OF KIN ARE NOTIFIED, THE NAMES CANNOT BE RELEASED.

01 00 00 UUUU

SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//ASD{PA}:DPL//

CINCUNC SEOUL KOR//PA//

USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J032//

INFO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//EAP/P//

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//DJS-PA/J-5//

COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//PAJ//

CHJUSMAG SEOUL KS

DIA WASHINGTON DC

CDRJCRC BARBERS PT HI

CDR USACILHI FT SHAFTER HI

UNCLAS

SUBJ: PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE - RETURN OF REMAINS

A. FONECON OF MAJ ROGERS/OASD{PA}:DPL WITH MR. KEN BAILES/ STATE DEPT EAP/P ON 25 MAY 1990

1. REF A ADVISED SECSTATE WILL BE SENDING PRESS GUIDANCE VIA SEPARATE MESSAGE ON RETURN OF REMAINS BY NORTH KOREA AT PANMUNJOM ON 28 MAY 1990 FOR USE AFTER CONFIRMATION OF EVENT.

2. THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED:

ASD:PA//ASD:ISA{EAP}//
DJS-PA//

MAJ S.ROGERS, USMC, PLANS OFFICER, OASD{PA}:DPL/SR/
25 MAY 90/31075

NIGHT ACTION NOT REQUIRED

Rae Taylor

02 02 00 00 UUUU

A. REFER QUERIES CONCERNING DETAILS OF CEREMONY AT PANMUNJOM TO UNCMAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT {011} 82-2-7913-4662.

B. REFER QUERIES REGARDING ARRIVAL CEREMONY AT HICKAM AFB, HAWAII OR MATTERS REGARDING CILHI TO USCINCPAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT {808} 477-1357 {OR PA DUTY OFFICER CAN BE REACHED THROUGH USCINCPAC COMMAND CENTER AT {808} 477-5186}.

C. REFER QUERIES REGARDING EVENTS LEADING UP TO RETURN OF REMAINS OR DIPLOMATIC ISSUES TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL OR U.S. STATE DEPT.

3. FOR CINCUNC PA:

A. REQUEST YOU NOTIFY THE OASD{PA} DUTY OFFICER VIA TELEPHONE {202} 697-5131 IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CEREMONY TO CONFIRM THE EVENT HAS OCCURRED AND TO PASS ON ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION. REQUEST YOU PROVIDE SIMILAR INFORMATION TO THE JOINT STAFF.

B. REQUEST YOU PROVIDE TRANSCRIPTS OF PRESS CONFERENCES BY REP MONTGOMERY AND UNCMAC PERSONNEL ASAP VIA IMMEDIATE MESSAGE TO SECDEF, JOINT STAFF, SECSTATE, AND USCINCPAC.

4. POC FOR PLANS IS MAJOR S. ROGERS, AV 223-1075 OR COMM {202} 693-1075; POC FOR MEDIA QUERIES IS LCDR E.H. LUNDQUIST, AV 227-5131 OR COMM {202} 697-5131.

Public
Information
Series

Public Affairs

PC 20J

DoD Response to Unfounded Allegations that the U.S. Government Abandoned POWs in World War II and Korea

This fact sheet is designed to respond to the many inquiries received by the Department of Defense (DoD) concerning allegations that American prisoners of World War II and the Korean War are still detained in the Soviet Union, China, or some other third country. Taken with its attachments, this document provides a more complete picture of this matter than would be possible in the course of individualized responses on this issue.

Allegations that America has consistently disregarded the plight of our unaccounted for personnel and their families since World War II appeared in an August 13, 1987, Wall Street Journal article, "POWs: Four Decades of Abandonment." At the heart of the article's arguments was the charge that in 1945 the United States willfully allowed the Soviet Union to illegally detain 15,597 Americans previously interned in German prisoner of war camps. The article similarly charged that reports of American prisoners of war held in China and North Korea following the Korean War were systematically disregarded.

The theme of World War II prisoners in Soviet hands was expanded in articles by James D. Sanders for other newspapers and journals, and in the materials prepared for the Legal Affairs Council--a political action organization which solicits contributions to further Mr. Sanders' researches on this issue.

The Department of Defense found these charges very surprising. The U.S. Government, including the military, is composed of people whose values and morals derive from the same heritage as their fellow citizens and who are sworn to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. These are not people who abandon their fellow citizens or consider them expendable. Furthermore, it is very difficult to believe that revelations such as those Mr. Sanders purported to make could have been concealed or covered up for this many years.

Still, the seriousness of the allegations mandated an in-depth review to determine the extent of their validity, if any. Defense Department officials and the U.S. Army Center of Military History conducted extensive research in the many thousands of linear feet of World War II records relevant to the issue. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) personnel also lent their time and expertise to the research.

In September 1988, NARA personnel and officials of the British Public Record Office in London located a series of World War II communications with a direct bearing on this matter. Photocopies of these documents are enclosed, but for the sake of clarity, the sequence of events may be summarized as follows.

On May 29, 1945, the British Air Ministry Special Signals Office (AMSSO, as it appears on the messages) sent the Joint Staff Mission in Washington, DC, a message which appears to indicate 15,597 Americans and 8,462 British personnel released by Marshal Tolbukhin were being detained by the Soviets. These specific numbers play a major role in the World War II-era allegations.

A subsequent message from the Joint Staff Mission, dated May 31, 1945, expressed incredulity that these allied personnel were still in Soviet hands. At this juncture the British War Office transmitted

a message to Allied Forces Headquarters asking AFHQ to clarify whether their accounts referred to American and British citizens or Soviet nationals held by U.S. and British forces in Italy.

The misunderstanding was finally corrected by a message from AFHQ dated June 3, 1945, which affirmed that the figures cited in the earlier messages referred to Soviet citizens held by U.S. and British forces.

Further confirmation of the status of American POWs was discovered by NARA personnel in April 1989. In the enclosed message signed by General Eisenhower on June 1, 1945, the general notes that the 25,000 POWs reported in an earlier communication as being in Russian hands was an estimate as of May 19, 1945. He continued:

> It is now estimated that only small numbers of U.S. prisoners of war still remain in Russian hands. These no doubt are scattered singly and in small groups as no information is available of any large numbers in specific camps.

Research on the Korean War aspects of the charges involves combing other very large bodies of records. Because there has been less historical work done on the Korean War than World War II, archivists have less familiarity with the documentation of the period.

In addition, with respect to POW/MIA issues, the Korean War offers a unique situation. Men from fifteen allied nations as well as South Korea fought in conjunction with U.S. Forces on the Korean Peninsula under the United Nations Flag. Since the cease-fire ending hostilities in 1953, the United Nations Command (UNC) has continued to demand from the other side an accounting, in particular for the 2,233 UNC soldiers--including 389 Americans--who were known to have been under enemy control. Yet neither they nor their remains have been returned.

Since 1954 the UNC Military Armistice Commission (UNCMAC) has annually called for the Korean Peoples Army/Chinese Peoples Volunteers (KPA/CPV) to account for UNC POWs. The UNC has requested the repatriation of United Nations war dead numerous times beginning in 1982. In August 1986 the UNC passed new information to the North which included maps/charts of 13 POW camps and a POW hospital, 291 air crash sites (total of 301 personnel unaccounted for), and the list of 2,233 UNC POWs and 18 foreign nationals never repatriated. So far, the other side has yet to give a reasonable response to the UN appeal to account for the UNC POWs and return the remains of the men who fought in defense of freedom in Korea. However, in 1988 the North Korean Government announced holding the remains of two Americans, declining thus far to repatriate them. This lack of humanitarian cooperation will not blunt our determination to pursue the issue.

It is also worth noting that the circumstances of the end of the Korean conflict were not as described in the August 13, 1987, Wall Street Journal article cited above. The United States did not "fail to win on the battlefield" in Korea. The successes of the United Nations Command in the Korean War and the continued U.S. presence on the Korean peninsula have assisted the forces of the Republic of Korea (ROK) in deterring further communist aggression. ROK and U.S. Armed Forces have also provided the shield behind which the ROK's industrial growth has taken place and which has led to its progress towards democratization and current economic success.

We hope this information provides a clearer understanding of these important issues.

CINCPAC

UNCLASSIFIED

JOINT STAFF
INFO SERVICE CENTER

ZYUW RUHQSGG8816 1451932

IMMEDIATE
O 251755Z MAY 90
FM USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3//
TO HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//LGTA/PAMO/DEHS/AF//
15ABW HICKAM AFB HI//DOX//
INFO SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OASD-ISA-PW-MIA//
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//OCJCS-PW-MIA/J5/PA//
CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI
CDRUSACILHI FT SHAFTER HI//DAPC-PED-H//

UNCLAS //N03000//
MSGID/SYS.RRM/USCINCPAC J3/1432133/MAY/SSS//
REF/A/RMG/USCINCPAC J3/900518/2033Z//
AMPN/SUBJ: REPATRIATION CEREMONY SUPPORT, 29 MAY 90//
RMKS/1. REF REQUESTS USCINCPACAF TO CONDUCT APPROPRIATE JOINT CEREMONY ON 29 MAY 90 TO HONOR THE RETURN OF FIVE (5) U.S. WAR DEAD FROM NORTH KOREA *DPRK).
2. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERAN'S AFFAIRS, CONGRESSMAN "SONNY" MONTGOMERY, WILL ATTEND THE CEREMONY. CONGRESSMAN MONTGOMERY'S CODEL OF SEVEN OTHER CONGRESSMEN WILL ALSO ATTEND. SEVERAL SENIOR CIVILIAN OFFICIALS AND MILITARY OFFICERS (FLAG RANK) ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO ATTEND. AS MANY AS 100-150 PERSONS COULD RESPOND TO HIS INVITATION AND ATTEND, IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL ATTENDANCE BY INTERESTED ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL. IN VIEW OF THIS, PLEASE ARRANGE SEATING FOR 100-150 PERSONS.
3. CONGRESSMAN MONTGOMERY DESIRES TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE BASE OPERATIONS BLDG FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS FOR VIPS IN THE DV LOUNGE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CEREMONY. REFRESHMENTS CONSISTING OF NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, NUTS, AND CHIPS WILL BE PAID FOR BY THE CODEL/CINCPAC. REQUEST YOU PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SUPPORT.// BT

OASD(PA) MESSAGE DIST. FROM: DM. 2E311	ACTION	INFO
FRONT OFFICE		✓
DPL		✓
DDI		✓
DPDI/SR		
NCR		
DFP		
DBS		
DPC		
AFIS		
SAB		
SDI		
DM		

15

(M)

JOINT STAFF
ACTION USDP:MIA(3)
INFO CJCS-PW-MIA(5) NIDS(1) J5(2) QUAL CONTROL(1)
SECDEF-N(1) USDP:FILE(1) ASD:PA(1)

MCN=90145/07036 TOR=90145/1935Z TAD=90145/1949Z CDSN=MAZ412

UNCLASSIFIED

IMMEDIATE/PRIORITY ZYUW RUEHCAA0537 1452228
O P 252228Z MAY 90
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO SACINCUNC KS IMMEDIATE USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE 9656 JCS WASHDC PRIORITY 3136
CHJUSMAG SEOUL KS PRIORITY
COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//CC/BJ/CJ/EJ/PAJ/SJS// PRIORITY
DIA WASHDC PRIORITY SECDEF WASHDC//USDP PRIORITY
CIL FTSHAFTER HI PRIORITY JCRC BARBERS POINT HI PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 6588 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 3113
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 3900

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 STATE 170537

SECDEF ALSO FOR DOD/PA; SEOUL ALSO FOR USIS

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OPRC OVIP KN
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE -- RETURN OF REMAINS BY NORTH KOREA

1. FOLLOWING IS DEPARTMENT PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR USE AFTER THE TURNOVER OF REMAINS BY NORTH KOREA ON MAY 28. THE GUIDANCE IS ALSO FOR USE BY DOD, EMBASSY SEOUL, AND MILITARY ADDRESSEES.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

Q: ANY COMMENT ABOUT NORTH KOREA'S MAY 28 REPATRIATION OF AMERICAN WAR REMAINS TO CONGRESSMAN MONTGOMERY?

A: THE U.S. GOVERNMENT APPRECIATES THE RETURN OF WAR REMAINS. WE RECOGNIZE THIS AS A POSITIVE STEP BY THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT THIS IS THE FIRST RETURN OF REMAINS FROM NORTH KOREA SINCE 1954. WE HOPE THIS STEP WILL LEAD TO THE RETURN OF THE ADDITIONAL REMAINS OF SOLDIERS WHO FOUGHT UNDER THE UN FLAG IN THE KOREAN CONFLICT. OVER 8,000 AMERICANS ARE UNACCOUNTED FOR FROM THAT WAR.

WE SUPPORT AND APPRECIATE THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE DELEGATION LED BY CONGRESSMAN SONNY MONTGOMERY. WE HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE CONGRESSMEN AND APPRECIATE THEIR EFFORTS AND COOPERATION. SEVERAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS GROUPS HAVE ALSO WORKED CONSTRUCTIVELY TOWARD THIS END.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA HAS FULLY SUPPORTED OUR EFFORTS. WE HAVE CONSULTED CLOSELY WITH THE ROKG ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS HUMANITARIAN RETURN OF REMAINS.

AS SECRETARY BAKER STATED TO THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 1: "WE ARE LOOKING FOR A STEADY, RECIPROCAL PROCESS TOWARD BETTER RELATIONS BOTH BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA AND BETWEEN THE U.S. AND NORTH KOREA." THE RETURN OF REMAINS IS A STEP IN THAT DIRECTION.

Q: WHO RECEIVED THE REMAINS?

A: THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND AND THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION JOINTLY RECEIVED THE REMAINS. REPATRIATION WAS THROUGH THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION AT PANMUNJOM.

JOINT STAFF 34
ACTION USDP:FILE(1) (U,6,7,8,F)
INFO CJCS(1) DJS:(1) DJS(1) SJS(1) NIDS(1) J5(2)
QUAL CONTROL(1) SECDEF-N(1) USDA:P&L(1) USDA:IP(2)
ASD:PA(1) USDP:EAP(3) USDP:DSAA(4) USDP:PPFS(1)
USDP:TNF(1) USDP:IEEA(1) USDP:NPP(1) USDP:NA(1)
ED(1) DI-PA(1) NMIC(1) DB-5C2(1) JSI-3C(1) DAT-3(1)
DE-2AP(1) DIA(1)
+USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
+MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
+SAFE
+DITDS

THE RETURN OF DISCOVERED WAR REMAINS THROUGH THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION IS AN IMPORTANT ARMISTICE OBLIGATION.

Q: BUT THE NORTH KOREANS SAY THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION SIGNED FOR THE REMAINS AND NOT THE UN COMMAND?

A: THE RECIPIENTS WERE THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION AND THE UN COMMAND. UN COMMAND OFFICERS ACCOMPANIED THE CONGRESSMEN AT EACH STEP IN THE TRANSFER PROCEEDINGS.

Q: WHO NEGOTIATED THE TRANSFER PROCEDURES?

A: DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD OVER MANY MONTHS IN SEVERAL CHANNELS:

CONGRESSMAN MONTGOMERY HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DPRK UN MISSION IN NEW YORK. THE STATE DEPARTMENT WORKED CLOSELY WITH HIM.

THE UN COMMAND SPOKE TO NORTH KOREAN ARMY COUNTERPARTS IN THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION.

IN OUR MEETINGS WITH THE NORTH KOREANS IN BEIJING, WE URGED THE DPRK TO TURN OVER THE REMAINS. WE DID NOT USE THAT CHANNEL TO NEGOTIATE THE RETURN.

PRIVATE VETERANS GROUPS ALSO LET NORTH KOREA KNOW OF THEIR CONCERNS, AND INFORMED US OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS.

Q: (IF ASKED) DID THE STATE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATE IN CONGRESSMAN MONTGOMERY'S MEETINGS WITH NORTH KOREANS?

A: A KOREA DESK OFFICER WAS PRESENT AS AN OBSERVER. HE ALSO ACCOMPANIED THE DELEGATION TO KOREA.

HE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE REPATRIATION PROCEEDINGS AT PANMUNJOM, SINCE THIS WAS NOT A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE. DISCUSSIONS AT PANMUNJOM WERE HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION.

BT
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 STATE 170537

SECDEF ALSO FOR DOD/PA; SEOUL ALSO FOR USIS

Q: WHEN DID NORTH KOREA FIND THESE REMAINS?

A: IN 1987 NORTH KOREA FIRST SAID IT HAD THE FIVE SETS OF REMAINS. IT AGREED TO RETURN THEM VIA THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION IN JANUARY 1988. BUT IT REFUSED TO FOLLOW THROUGH WHEN THE U.S. PUT NORTH KOREA ON THE "TERRORIST LIST" FOR DESTROYING KOREAN AIRLINES FLIGHT 858.

Q: WILL THE U.S. BE UPGRADING DIALOGUE WITH NORTH KOREA?

A: DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND DPRK POLITICAL COUNSELORS IN BEIJING WILL CONTINUE. WE GRANTED PERMISSION FOR A DPRK UN MISSION OFFICIAL AND TWO DPRK ACADEMICIANS TO VISIT WASHINGTON THIS MONTH FOR AN ACADEMIC CONFERENCE.

AS IN THE PAST, ANY FURTHER STEPS ON OUR PART WOULD BE TAKEN IN FULL CONSULTATION WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

Q: WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA?

A: IMPROVEMENT IN U.S.-DPRK RELATIONS DEPEND ON SEVERAL THINGS. THESE INCLUDE THE NEED FOR SUBSTANTIVE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE, RESOLUTION OF THE TERRORISM ISSUE, INCLUDING CREDIBLE EVIDENCE THAT PYONGYANG DOES NOT SUPPORT TERRORISM, AND NORTH KOREAN CONCLUSION OF A NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY.

Q: WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO WITH THE REMAINS NOW?

A: THE FIVE SETS OF REMAINS, IN COFFINS DRAPED WITH THE UN FLAG, ARE BEING TRANSPORTED TO THE U.S. ARMY CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY IN HAWAII BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO TRY TO ESTABLISH INDIVIDUAL IDENTITIES.

UNTIL THE NEXT OF KIN ARE NOTIFIED, THE NAMES CANNOT BE RELEASED.

3. END TEXT.

4. THE DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT DOD IS ASKING THE UN COMMAND TO NOTIFY WASHINGTON UPON THE RETURN OF REMAINS AND TO PROVIDE A TRANSCRIPT OF ANY REMARKS BY CONGRESSMAN MONTGOMERY OR THE UN COMMAND. IN LIGHT OF INTEREST HERE IN LEARNING WHAT TRANSPIRES AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING THE EMBASSY COULD DO TO HELP. BAKER BT

OASD(PA) MESSAGE DIST. FROM: DM. 2E311	ACTION	INFO
FRONT OFFICE		✓
DPL		✓
DDI		✓
DFOI/SR		✓
DMR		
DPR		
DES		
DPC		
AFIS		
SAB		
SDI		
DM		

President, through his own offices, and those of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, should make the return of the four hundred and fifty American prisoners of war still imprisoned by Communist forces the foremost objective of the foreign policy of the United States.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sense of Congress with respect to the return of four hundred and fifty American prisoners of war who have not been accounted for by the Communists.

By Mr. ZABLOCKI

MARCH 12, 1957

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

IMMEDIATE ZYUW RUAGOTC7377 1500503
O 2905002 MAY 90
FM CINCUNC SEOUL KOR//PA//
TO USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J032//
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//ASD (PA):DPL//
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//EAP/PA//
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//DJS-PA/J-5//F//PA//

UNCLAS
SECTION 001 OF 002
SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT FROM PANMUNJOM ON RETURN OF REMAINS
1. REP MONTGOMERY INTRODUCES REP TRAXLER, SOLOMON, MCCLOSKEY, BILBRAY, CAMPBELL AND WELDON.
2. STUMP: THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN. I THINK THAT OUR CHAIRMAN SAID IT ALL WHEN HE SAID THAT WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT THIS OPENS THE DOOR FOR FUTURE ASSOCIATIONS AND THAT WE WILL SEE THE RETURN OF MANY MORE OF OUR MEN THAT ARE MISSING IN ACTION. THANK YOU.
3. MONTGOMERY: WE'RE READY FOR QUESTIONS.
Q1. HOW IMPORTANT A GESTURE IS THIS FROM NK DO YOU THINK CONGRESSMAN?
A1. MONTGOMERY: I'LL TACKLE THAT ONE. I THINK IT'S A VERY IMPORTANT GESTURE AND WE CERTAINLY HOPE THIS WILL OPEN THE DOOR FOR MORE AMERICAN REMAINS TO COME BACK TO THE UNITED STATES FOR PROPER

BURIAL - AND AS FOR BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, WE CERTAINLY HOPE THAT WILL TAKE PLACE. BUT ACTUALLY THAT WILL HAVE TO BE LEFT UP TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT.
Q2. WHEN DO YOU THINK WILL BE THE NEXT CONTACT FOR FURTHER RETURNS NEGOTIATIONS?
A2: MONTGOMERY: WELL, TO ANSWER ANOTHER QUESTION, WE WOULD HOPE - TALKING TO OUR IDENTIFICATION PEOPLE HERE WITH US TODAY THAT CAME IN FROM HONOLULU THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY THOSE TWO AMERICANS THAT HAD THE DOG TAGS IN THE BOXES - HAVE THEM (HIM) PROPERLY IDENTIFIED WITHIN A MONTH. AND IT COULD TAKE SIX MONTHS ON THE OTHER THREE REMAINS, BUT WE BELIEVE, AT LEAST THE IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY IN HONOLULU BELIEVES, THAT MAYBE WITHIN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS THE OTHER THREE COULD BE IDENTIFIED.
WE HAVE NO IDEA WHEN THERE WILL BE A POSSIBILITY OF MEETING AGAIN TO RECEIVE REMAINS.
I BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY WE COULD GET MORE REMAINS FROM THE EXPERIENCE WE'VE HAD IN VIETNAM. WE HAD 1800 MISSING IN VIETNAM - 8,000 IN KOREA. AND WE HAD RETURNED BACK TO THE STATES

FROM VIETNAM AROUND OVER 200. SO IT WOULD SEEM THAT WE HAVE A GOOD POSSIBILITY THE NORTH KOREANS WOULD GO AND LOOK AT THESE VARIOUS SITES AND BRING THESE AMERICANS IN -- THERE WILL BE MORE RECOVERIES.
Q3. IS THERE ANY EVIDENCE OF ANY LIVE POWS IN NORTH KOREA?
A3: MONTGOMERY: YOU WANT TO GO AND ANSWER THAT FRANK MCCLOSKEY OF IND?
MCCLOSKEY: I MIGHT SAY THAT I'VE HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH NORTH KOREAN OFFICIALS IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS AND UPON QUESTIONING THEY WILL SAY THEY HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF LIVE AMERICANS IN NORTH VIETNAM, EXCUSE ME NORTH KOREA, BUT THE SIMPLE FACT IS THAT THEY HAVE TO HAVE A KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISPOSITION OF A PREPONDERANCE OF OUR MISSING SOLDIERS, OUR STATE DEPARTMENT AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENT HAVE REPORTS OF PEOPLE IN THE POW CAMPS - PEOPLE SEEN BEING MOVED IN CAPTIVITY THAT IN EFFECT HAVE JUST DISAPPEARED INTO HISTORY AND AT THE VERY MINIMUM THEY WOULD COOPERATE ON THE HUNDREDS OF OTHER SETS OF REMAINS THAT THEY'VE ALREADY IMPLIED TO ME THAT THEY HAVE ACCESS TO. SO I THINK THEY COULD ANSWER A LOT OF QUESTIONS IF THEY WANT TO CONTINUE THEIR HUMANITARIAN GESTURE.
BILBRAY: I'D LIKE TO SAY ON THAT - IN DEALING ORIGINALLY REP.

MCCLOSKEY AND I MET WITH THE SOVIET COMMITTEE ON DEFENSE AND NATIONAL SECURITY AND THEY WERE THE ONES THAT HELPED US IN OUR PURSUITS OF THIS AND THE SOVIETS HAVE TOLD ME IN INQUIRING OF THE NORTH KOREANS THAT THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE ALSO TOLD THEM THAT THERE ARE NO LIVE MIAS IN NORTH KOREA. AND I THINK THAT BETWEEN WHAT THEY'VE SAID AND WHAT WE'VE FOUND OUT AND THE AMOUNT OF YEARS THAT ARE INVOLVED THAT IT'S HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THERE ARE ANY LIVE

JOINT STAFF 15
ACTION DJS:(1) ASD:PA(1) (6,7,F)
INFO J5(2) QUAL CONTROL(1) SECDEF-N(1) USDP:EAP(3)
USDP:DSAA(4) USDP:NPP(1) USDP:NA(1)

PRISONERS FROM THE KOREAN WAR.
Q4: DURING HIS PRESS CONFERENCE, THE NORTH KOREAN DELEGATE SAID FUTURE RETURN OF U.S. REMAINS WILL DEPEND ON THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES. SO WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL BE THE U.S. STAND OR POSITION ON FUTURE (INAUDIBLE)
A4: MONTGOMERY: WELL I WOULD HOPE THE NORTH KOREANS WOULDN'T TIE IN THE HUMANITARIAN GESTURE OF RETURNING AMERICAN REMAINS TO SOMETHING ELSE PERTAINING TO DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. I HOPE THAT WOULDN'T BE TIED TOGETHER. IT SHOULDN'T BE TIED TOGETHER. BUT I DO GO BACK AND RECALL WHAT SECRETARY BAKER SAID TESTIFYING BEFORE THE UNITED STATES SENATE SEVERAL MONTHS AGO. HIS WISH IS WE COULD GET BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND THE

UNITED STATES. THAT WILL HAVE TO BE DONE BY THE PRESIDENT AND BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE.
MONTGOMERY: I MIGHT CALL ON MR. CURT WELDON. ONE OF THESE REMAINS HAVE BEEN TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED AS FROM HIS DISTRICT HE MIGHT WANT TO COMMENT ON IT.
WELDON: THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN. LET ME JUST START OFF BY SAYING ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE DELEGATION AND THE ENTIRE CONGRESS WE ARE INDEBTED TO CHAIRMAN MONTGOMERY FOR ORGANIZING THE TAKING OF THESE REMAINS. IT'S A HISTORIC DAY FOR AMERICANS AND ALL OF OUR VETERANS - THAT WE BRING THESE FIVE HEROES HOME FOR A HEROES WELCOME AND THEY WILL GET THAT WHEN THEY GET BACK TO AMERICA. IT'S A VERY SOLEMN DAY FOR ME BECAUSE WE FOUND OUT JUST YESTERDAY THAT ONE OF THE FIVE IS FROM A MILE-AND-A-HALF FROM MY HOME GREW UP LITERALLY A MILE-AND-A-HALF FROM WHERE I WAS BORN AND RAISED.
I TALKED TO THE FAMILY AND WE'LL BE COORDINATING THE APPROPRIATE RETURN TO AMERICA OF HIS REMAINS.
Q5: WHAT'S HIS NAME?
A5: WELDON: HIS NAME IS ARTHUR L. SEATON.
MONTGOMERY: I'D LIKE TO COMMENT THAT THE AMERICAN WAR VETERAN'S

ASSOCIATION, TOM GREGORY OF THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS - AMERICAN KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, WORKED VERY CLOSELY WITH THIS DELEGATION IN PUTTING THIS ALL TOGETHER - A LOT OF THE CREDIT GOES TO THIS AMERICAN. KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION WHO'RE TRYING TO BRING PROPER RECOGNITION TO THE AMERICANS WHO'VE FALLEN IN KOREA AND THAT PROPER RECOGNITION HAS NOT COME FOR 40-YEARS.
Q6: WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE NORTH KOREAN MOTIVATION FOR MAKING THIS GESTURE NOW, AND WHAT ARE THEY AFTER AND HAVE THEY SAID ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT THEY WANT?
A6: MONTGOMERY: THEY HAVEN'T TOLD ME WHAT THEY WANT. MAINLY OUR JOB IS TO TRY TO GET THESE - MORE REMAINS FROM THE NORTH KOREANS AND AS FAR AS GOOD RELATIONS DOWN THE LINE, THAT CERTAINLY WILL HAVE TO BE LEFT UP TO THE PRESIDENT AND TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.
MAYBE ONE MORE QUESTION AND WE'LL MOVE ON.
UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I HAVE ONE COMMENT ON THAT BOTH CONGRESSMAN MCCLOSKEY AND I SPOKE WITH THE NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND HE DID SAY (BOTH) THAT THEY WANTED BETTER RELATIONS WITH BT
UNCLAS
FINAL SECTION OF 002
SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT FROM PANMUNJOM ON RETURN OF REMAINS
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND WOULD LIKE TO BE REMOVED FROM THE TERRORIST CLASSIFICATION.

4. MONTGOMERY: I'D LIKE TO THANK DICK ADAMS OF THE KOREAN/AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION, ALONG WITH GENERAL STILLWELL, WHO WAS COMMANDER BACK IN THE 50'S (SIC 70'S) AND WE ALSO HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE U.N. ALLIES WHO FOUGHT OVER HERE - THAT THEIR REMAINS ALSO BE RETURNED IF THEY ARE LOCATED.
WE HAVE A CONGRESSMAN WHO WAS OVER HERE WHEN HE WAS 18 YEARS OF AGE MR. CAMPBELL 'WHITEHORSE' CAMPBELL. HE'D LIKE TO COMMENT.
5. CAMPBELL: I'M BEN 'WHITEHORSE' CAMPBELL FROM COLORADO AND I GUESS I'M THE ONLY ONE WITH THE DELEGATION WHO WAS ACTUALLY OVER HERE DURING THE COMBAT. I WAS AN 18 YEAR OLD AIR FORCE CORPORAL AND THIS IS THE FIRST TIME BACK FOR 38 YEARS FOR ME AND IT CERTAINLY HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE COMING BACK TO A COUNTRY THAT IS SO FULL OF VIBRANCY AND STRENGTH AND HAVE REBUILT THEIR COUNTRY TO THE DEGREE THAT THEY HAVE IN SOUTH KOREA. I LOST A COUPLE OF VERY CLOSE, PERSONAL FRIENDS DURING THAT WAR AND IT'S BEEN A VERY NOSTALGIC TRIP FOR ME TO COME BACK AND AS I LOOKED IN THOSE COFFINS I THOUGHT THAT PERHAPS ONE OR TWO OF THE UNIDENTIFIED ONES MAY HAVE BEEN MY FRIENDS. THANK YOU MR. CHAIRMAN.
6. MONTGOMERY: LET ME CLOSE BY SAYING WE'VE HAD COOPERATION FROM

THE SOUTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT ON THIS MISSION AND THE MEMBERS WILL BE AROUND FOR ABOUT THREE OR FOUR MINUTES IF YOU WANT TO INTERVIEW INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS.
7. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING OUT TODAY.
BT BT

OASD(PA) MESSAGE DIST. FROM: DM. 25311	ACTION	INFO
FRONT OFFICE		✓
DPL	✓	✓
DDI		✓
DFOI/SR		✓
PCR		
DPR		
DPS		
DPC		
AFIS		
SAB		
SDI		
DM		

IMMEDIATE ZOVW RUAGCSA0022 1521022
O 0105477 JUN 90
FM CINCUNC SEOUL KOR//UNCMAC//
TO JOINT STAFF WASH DC//J-5/FESA// DOD ISA WASH DC//POW/MIA//
SECSTATE WASH DC//EAP-K//
INFO WHITE HOUSE WASH DC SECDEF WASH DC//USDP/EAPR//
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J-5// USMISSION US UN NY
AMEMB SEOUL KOR AMEMB BEIJING CH
DIA WASH DC//DIO// CDRUNC (R) CAMP ZAMA JA//UNR//
CDRUSACILHI FT SHAFTER HI//DAPC-PED-H//
COMUS JAPAN YOKOTA AB JA//J-5// OICEUSALNTM ALEX VA
CDRUSAARMC FT KNOX KY//ATZK-IG//

UNCLAS E F T O
SECTION 001 OF 003
SUBJ: AFTER ACTION REPORT: CODEL MONTGOMERY AND RETURN OF KOREAN WAR REMAINS
A. SECSTATE (144505) 050322Z MAY 90 S), SUBJ: NORTH KOREA AGREES TO RETURN WAR REMAINS MAY 28 (U)
B. SECSTATE (151526) 110224Z MAY 90 (S), SUBJ: KOREAN WAR REMAINS; STATE OF PLAY AS OF MAY 10 (U)
C. SECSTATE (154609) 142301Z MAY 90 (S), SUBJ: RETURN OF KOREAN WAR REMAINS: PROCEDURAL ISSUES (U)
D. 14, 15, AND 16 MAY 90 TELECONS BETWEEN MAJ GORMAN, DOD/ISA, AND MAJ FUNK/COL TALLEY, UNCMAC. (U)
E. SECSTATE (156740) 160046Z MAY 90 (S), SUBJ: CODEL MONTGOMERY; REPATRIATION SCENARIO (U)
F. CINCUNC 160743Z MAY 90 C), SUBJ: CODEL MONTGOMERY AND RETURN OF KOREAN WAR REMAINS (U)
G. SECSTATE (164051) 220205Z MAY 90 (S), SUBJ: DPRK SEEKS TO LIMIT MAC ROLE DURING REMAINS EXCHANGE U)
H. SECSTATE (165663) 230125Z MAY 90 C), SUBJ: MAY 21 MEETING WITH REP MONTGOMERY:AGREEMENT ON REMAINS TURNOVER PROCEDURES(U)
1. BETWEEN 1100 TO 1145 HOURS, 28 MAY 1990, NORTH KOREA (NK) RETURNED FIVE SETS OF UNC KOREAN WAR REMAINS AND EFFECTS TO A COMBINED CONGRESSIONAL/UNCMAC DELEGATION AT THE JOINT SECURITY AREA, PANMUNJOM. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1954 THAT TRANSFER OF KOREAN WAR REMAINS HAS OCCURRED. THE UNC'S REPATRIATION ACTIVITIES WERE DIGNIFIED, CONDUCTED WITH SOLEMNITY, AND WITHOUT INCIDENT. REMAINS AND EFFECTS HAVE BEEN EVACUATED TO HAWAII (29 MAY, 2054 HOURS LOCAL) IN THE CUSTODY OF THE U.S. ARMY'S CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY (CIL). THE NORTH KOREANS ARE USING THE REMAINS ISSUE TO EXPAND AND IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE U.S.
2. PRELIMINARY MEETINGS. ON 15, 25, AND 26 MAY, THE UNCMAC SECRETARY, COLONEL JAMES TALLEY, MET WITH THE KPA/CPV MAC SECRETARY, SR COL KIM RYON KI, TO DISCUSS THE PROCEDURES TO BE USED ON 28 MAY IN THE MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY.
A. THE KPA PROVIDED THE UNC PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE FIVE SETS OF REMAINS AND THE EFFECTS ALLEGEDLY FOUND WITH THE REMAINS. ACCOMPANYING THE PHOTOGRAPHS WERE WRITTEN DESCRIPTIONS OF THE EFFECTS, ALONG WITH DATES AND LOCATIONS WHERE THE REMAINS WERE EXHUMED. ONE UNIDENTIFIED SET OF REMAINS WAS EXHUMED IN MAY 1987 FROM NIDANGRI, TOSAN COUNTY, NORTH HWANGHAE PROVINCE, NORTH KOREA; ARTIFACTS INDICATE HE WAS A USAF PILOT. THE OTHER FOUR REMAINS WERE EXHUMED IN JULY 1987 FROM NAMJONGGU, SUAN COUNTY, NORTH HWANGHAE PROVINCE, NORTH KOREA. TWO OF THESE FOUR REMAINS WERE IDENTIFIED AS JACK J. SAUNDERS, O-968472, AND ARTHUR L. SEATON, RA-57200941; THE TWO OTHERS WERE UNIDENTIFIED. THE NORTH KOREANS HAD ACKNOWLEDGED ON 2 FEBRUARY 1988 THAT THEY WERE HOLDING SAUNDERS' AND SEATON'S REMAINS. (SEE CINCUNC MSG 021300Z FEB 88, AND CINCUNC 030845Z FEB 88).

JOINT STAFF 41
ACTION J5(3) USDP:MIA(3) (U,6,7,8,F)
INFO CJCS(1) DJS:(1) NIDS(1) QUAL CONTROL(1) SECDEF-N(1)
USDP:FILE(1) USDA:P&L(1) ASD:LA(1) USDA:IP(2)
ASD:PA(1) USDP:EAP(3) USDP:DSAA(4) USDP:PPFS(1)
USDP:OUTREAC(1) USDP:TNF(1) USDP:IEEA(1) USDP:NPP(1)
USDP:NA(1) DI-3(1) NMIC(1) DB-5C2(1) JSI-3C(1) DA(1)
DAT-3(1) CS-2A(1) DIO(1) DE-2AP(1) DIA(1) DC-4A3(1)
+AMMCC FT RITCHIE MD
+USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
+MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
+SAFE
+DITDS

B. THE TWO SECRETARIES ALSO DISCUSSED THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS (MEETING AT 1100 HOURS, 28 MAY, IN THE MAC CONFERENCE BUILDING: VIEW THE REMAINS; ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE REMAINS; PASS THE REMAINS) FOR THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES. THE DPRK REPRESENTATIVE, LI SONG HO, AND THE SENIOR US CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE, CONGRESSMAN G.V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY, WERE TO BE THE SIGNATORIES TO THE "CONFIRMATORY NOTE."
3. THE MEETING. AT 1104 HOURS, 28 MAY, COLONEL TALLEY AND REP G.V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY (D-MSO LED A CODEL CONSISTING OF REP GERALD SOLOMON (R-NY), REP BOB TRAXLER (D-MI), REP FRANK MCCLOSKEY (D-IN), REP JAMES H. BILBRAY (D-NV), REP CURT WELDON (R-PA), REP BOB STUMP (R-AZ) AND REP BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL (D-CO), INTO THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION CONFERENCE BUILDING TO BEGIN PROCEEDINGS FOR THE REMAINS TRANSFER. THE DPRK REPRESENTATIVE, LI SONG HO, SPOKE FIRST, BRIEFLY WELCOMING THE CODEL AND INTRODUCING THE THREE PARLIAMENTARIANS (DPRK SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MEMBERS) AT THE TABLE WITH HIM. REP MONTGOMERY INTRODUCED HIS CODEL MEMBERS AND REVIEWED THE DPRK-PREPARED DOCUMENTS, AGREEING TO THEM AS PRESENTED. THERE WERE TWO ENGLISH AND TWO KOREAN ORIGINALS. MR LI BRIEFLY EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS CEREMONY WOULD MARK THE BEGINNING OF UNITED STATES - DPRK COOPERATION AND REQUESTED THAT THE REMAINS IDENTIFICATION AND SIGNING BE CONDUCTED BEFORE FURTHER STATEMENTS WERE MADE. ALL AGREED, AND THE MEETING RECESSED BRIEFLY BEFORE THE TWO GROUPS MET AT THE MILITARY DEMARCATION LINE MDL) TO PROCEED TO THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE JSA TO REVIEW THE REMAINS.
4. THE INSPECTION. A. THE MEETING RECONVENED IMMEDIATELY AT THE MILITARY DEMARCATION LINE BETWEEN THE MAC CONFERENCE BUILDING AND THE NEUTRAL NATIONS SUPERVISORY COMMISSION CONFERENCE BUILDING. THE DPRK REPRESENTATIVE, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS DELEGATION, ESCORTED THE CODEL AND UNCMAC PARTY ACROSS THE MDL INTO THE NORTHERN YARD OF THE JSA, IN FRONT OF THE KPA'S PANMUNGAK BUILDING, WHERE THE FIVE REMAINS AND EFFECTS WERE REVIEWED. IN ONE-BY-ONE FASHION, MR LI READ A DESCRIPTION OF THE REMAINS AND WHEN THEY WERE EXHUMED, AND DISPLAYED THE REMAINS AND EFFECTS AT EACH CASKET. THE 150 PRESS PRESENT SURGED IN AND AROUND THE COFFINS AND CODEL THROUGHOUT THE VIEWING.
B. AFTER THE FIFTH CASKET WAS VIEWED, THE PARTIES REENTERED THE MAC BUILDING FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE SIDES. AT 1119 HOURS, THE TWO KOREAN AND TWO ENGLISH COPIES OF THE RECEIPT WERE THEN SIGNED BY REP MONTGOMERY AND LI SONG HO. AFTER THE SIGNING, ONE COPY OF EACH LANGUAGE WAS KEPT BY BOTH SIGNATORIES REP MONTGOMERY LATER HAD HIS COPIES SIGNED BY THE OTHER CODEL MEMBERS). A COPY OF THE SIGNED RECEIPT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE EFFECTS HAVE BEEN SENT TO JOINT STAFF/J-5 UNDER SEPARATE COVER.
C. MR LI THEN MADE A STATEMENT AGAIN EXPRESSING THE DPRK'S PLEASURE THAT CONGRESSMEN OF BOTH COUNTRIES HAD BEGUN TO REACH A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM, AND THAT THEY HOPED FOR MORE OF THESE KINDS OF CONTACTS IN THE FUTURE.
D. REP MONTGOMERY FOLLOWED MR LI'S REMARKS WITH THE FOLLOWING
BT
UNCLAS E F T O
SECTION 002 OF 003
STATEMENT: "MR PARLIAMENTARIAN, ON BEHALF OF MY DELEGATION AND OTHER MEMBERS OF MY GROUP, I AM GREATLY PLEASED AND HONORED TO COME TO THIS PEACE SITE TODAY. AS YOU STATED, WE HAVE COME THIS GREAT DISTANCE TO RECEIVE REMAINS WHICH YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED AS FIVE OF MY COUNTRYMEN WHO DIED IN THE KOREAN CONFLICT. WE THANK THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA FOR RETURNING OUR WAR DEAD, AND WE RECOGNIZE YOUR HUMANITARIAN CONCERN. WE ESPECIALLY APPRECIATE YOUR AGREEMENT TO RETURN THESE REMAINS TODAY AT THE TIME WHEN AMERICA PAYS TRIBUTE TO ITS WAR DEAD. THE RETURN OF THESE REMAINS MAKES THIS MEMORIAL DAY EVEN MORE IMPORTANT TO ALL AMERICANS. I ALSO KNOW THAT MY GOVERNMENT TAKES POSITIVE NOTE OF YOUR AGREEMENT TO USE THE MAC FACILITIES AND THIS CHANNEL. MR PARLIAMENTARIAN, THIS IS AN HISTORIC OCCASION, THE FIRST RETURN OF WAR REMAINS FROM YOUR COUNTRY IN 36 YEARS. I HOPE THIS POSITIVE STEP WILL EXPEDITE THE TRANSFER OF ADDITIONAL REMAINS OF THOSE FROM ALL COUNTRIES WHO FOUGHT IN THE KOREAN CONFLICT. THIS HUMANITARIAN GESTURE SHOULD HELP FOSTER GOOD WILL THAT CAN LEAD TO A STEP-BY-STEP IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS. THANK YOU'"
E. MR LI THEN FOLLOWED UP WITH A STATEMENT REEMPHASIZING THE DPRK'S INTEREST IN DEALING WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ON THIS

ISSUE. UPON CONCLUSION OF HIS STATEMENT, THE PARTIES THEN EXITED THE MAC BUILDING THROUGH THEIR RESPECTIVE SIDES AND MET AT THE MDL, WHERE THE TRANSFER OF THE REMAINS BEGAN.
5. THE TRANSFER' THE NORTH KOREANS WERE CASUAL TO THE POINT OF CALLOUSNESS. THEIR PALL BEARERS WERE DRESSED IN ILL FITTING CIVILIAN CLOTHES AND OBSERVERS NEARBY LIT CIGARETTES). THEY CARRIED EACH CASKET TO THE MDL, BETWEEN THE MAC AND NNSC BUILDINGS, WITH A SMALL WOODEN BOX CONTAINING THE ACCOMPANYING EFFECTS RESTING ON TOP. THE MULTINATIONAL UNC HONOR GUARD PALL BEARERS RECEIVED THE CASKETS AND CARRIED THEM TO THE SOUTHERN YARD OF THE JSA AND PLACED THEM ON LITTER STANDS. EACH CASKET WAS IMMEDIATELY DRAPED WITH UNITED NATIONS COMMAND FLAG BY A CODEL MEMBER, A UNC OFFICER, AND HONOR GUARD PERSONNEL. WHEN THE LAST CASKET WAS PASSED, THE DELEGATIONS PARTED WITH THE NORTH KOREANS EXPRESSING HOPE THAT THEY WOULD MEET AGAIN.
6. JSA MEMORIAL CEREMONY. THEN, WITH ALL THE CASKETS RESTING ON LITTER STANDS IN THE SOUTHERN YARD OF THE JSA AND DRAPED WITH UNC FLAGS, UNC CHAPLAIN (COL) DAN DONAHUE OFFERED REMARKS AND A PRAYER OVER THE REMAINS. MILITARY HONORS WERE RENDERED, AND THE CEREMONY ENDED.
7. THE CODEL TOOK A SHORT BREAK TO DECONFLICT THE DPRK PRESS CONFERENCE WITH ITS OWN. THE GROUP THEN PROCEEDED TO THE SOUTHERN STEPS OF THE UNC FREEDOM HOUSE, WHERE REP MONTGOMERY AND THE CODEL HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE. ALSO PRESENT WERE THE UNCMAC SENIOR MEMBER, RADM LARRY G. VOGT, MG HWANG WON TAK (SENIOR ROK MEMBER TO THE MAC), AND THE UNC LIAISON OFFICERS (WHO PROVIDED SUPERB SUPPORT THROUGHOUT). THERE WERE ABOUT 110 MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS ATTENDING FROM OUR SIDE AND BETWEEN 30 TO 40 PRESS FROM THE NORTH KOREAN SIDE.
8. THE CASKETS AND EFFECTS WERE TURNED OVER BY THE HONOR GUARD TO THE MORTUARY AFFAIRS PERSONNEL WHILE THE UNC PRESS CONFERENCE WAS IN SESSION. THE ON SCENE MORTUARY AFFAIRS PERSONNEL WERE SUPERVISED BY LTC JOHNIE WEBB FROM THE US ARMY CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY, HAWAII.
9. COMMENT. A. A MULTINATIONAL UNITED NATIONS COMMAND PRESENCE WAS MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT THE PROCEEDINGS. THE MAIN CONFERENCE TABLE INCLUDED REPS MONTGOMERY AND STUMP, ROKA MG HWANG WON TAK, COL TALLEY (THE UNCMAC SECRETARY), MR M.S. CHO (UNCMAC TRANSLATOR). SEATED BEHIND THEM WITH THE OTHER CODEL MEMBERS INCLUDED UNIFORMED OFFICERS FROM AUSTRALIA, CANADA, COLUMBIA, FRANCE, ROK, THAILAND, US, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. ALSO SEATED IN THE ROOM WAS GEN DICK STILWELL (USA, RET), LTG D'WAYNE GRAY (USMC, RET), MR TOM GREGORY (CHOSIN FEW VETERANS ORGANIZATION), MR DICK ADAMS (KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION), DR JIM HOLSINGER (DEPT OF VETERAN AFFAIRS), MAJ JOEL FUNK (UNCMAC POL/MIL OFFICER), AND MR JAMES LEE (UNCMAC SPECIAL ADVISOR).
B. MR LI'S REMARKS INSIDE THE MAC BUILDING AND AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE AFTERWARD SUPPORTED THE NORTH'S POSITION ON THE RETURN OF REMAINS, A POSITION THAT EMPHASIZES AS DIRECT AS POSSIBLE CONTACT WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND A CLEAR ASSERTION THAT THE REMAINS ISSUE IS BEYOND THE AUTHORITY OF THE MILITARY ARMISTICE COMMISSION (MAC). IN KEEPING WITH THEIR POLICY TO DISTANCE THE MAC FROM REMAINS REPATRIATION, THE KPA MAC PRESENCE WAS NEARLY NIL. MR LI'S REMARKS AND DEMEANOR WERE AIMED AT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND AMERICAN PEOPLE, POINTEDLY IGNORING THE MAC AND OTHER UNC NATIONS' HE IMPLIED THAT THE LOCATION AND REASON FOR THE MEETING AT PANMUNJOM WAS INCIDENTAL, INCONSEQUENTIAL, AND MERELY REFLECTED DPRK REASONABLENESS, FLEXIBILITY, AND HUMANITARIAN CONCERN.
C IN CURIOUS JUXTAPOSITION TO THE DPRK'S SELF-PROFESSED SENSITIVITY AND HUMANITARIANISM, THERE ARE SEVERAL INDICATORS OF THEIR LACK OF EITHER QUALITY. DELIBERATE OR NOT, WE NOTE THEM HERE FOR THE RECORD AND SUGGEST THEY BE MADE KNOWN TO THE DPRK.
(1) MR LI SONG HO, THE SENIOR DPRK DELEGATE, WAS A DECIDEDLY INAPPROPRIATE SPOKESMAN. MR LI WAS THE NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR TO BURMA IN 1983 AND PROBABLY THE CHIEF PLANNER AND IMPLEMENTOR OF THE OCT 83 RANGOON BOMBING ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON THE THEN ROK PRESIDENT, CHUN DOO HWAN. FOR HIS COMPLICITY, THE BURMESE EXPELLED MR LI IN NOV 83.
2) WHILE MR LI DID NOT SPEAK FROM A PREPARED SCRIPT, IT IS IMPROBABLE THAT HIS REMARKS WERE NOT WELL REHEARSED AHEAD OF TIME. DESPITE THAT, THE DPRK TRANSLATOR WAS OBVIOUSLY INEXPERIENCED AND NOT OF THE QUALITY ASSIGNED TO SERIOUS ISSUES. HE SPOKE HUTEDLY, NERVOUSLY, AND IN INCOMPLETE SENTENCES THAT APPEARED DESIGNED TO KEEP THE ENGLISH PORTION OF THE CONVERSATION TO A MINIMUM LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING.
BT
UNCLAS E F T O
FINAL SECTION OF 003
(3) THE DELIBERATE LACK OF CONTROL OF THE PRESS AND OBSERVERS BY THE NORTH KOREAN MAC AND DPRK AUTHORITIES DURING THE REMAINS VIEWING WAS DISGRACEFUL AND COMPLETELY UNCHARACTERISTIC OF THEIR TOTALLY CONTROLLED SOCIETY. THE CHAOS AND NEAR PANDEMONIUM, AROUND, ON, AND NEARLY IN THE COFFINS, WAS, FORTUNATELY, WITHOUT INCIDENT, BUT SHOWED EITHER UTTER DISRESPECT FOR BOTH THE WAR DEAD AND THE INSPECTING CODEL, OR IGNORANCE ABOUT BASIC PROTOCOL FOR SUCH EVENTS. THE NORTH CLEARLY DID NOT MAKE ANY PLANS FOR CROWD CONTROL EVEN AFTER THEIR SECRETARY WAS TOLD BY THE UNCMAC SECRETARY, REPEATEDLY, AT THEIR PRELIMINARY MEETINGS TO EXPECT UP TO 150 PRESS FROM OUR SIDE.
(4) THE NORTH'S USE OF CIVILIANS AS PALL BEARERS (AN UNCMAC STAFFER WAS TOLD BY A KPA MAC OFFICER THEY WERE A CREW OF LOCALLY CONSCRIPTED WORKMEN) WAS PROBABLY TO EMPHASIZE THE NON-MAC NATURE OF THE EVENT; IT ONLY PUNCTUATED THE NORTH'S LACK OF CONCERN FOR THE EVENT AND OUR WAR DEAD. (AS AN ASIDE, THE NORTH KOREANS ROUTINELY FIELD A CLASS ACT FOR THE TRANSFER OF REMAINS NORTHWARD, AND MILITARY PALL BEARER TEAMS WERE SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED BY THE UNCMAC SECRETARY IN TWO PRELIMINARY MEETINGS WITH HIS KPA COUNTERPART.
10. WHERE ARE WE NOW? A. AS DISCUSSED IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN UNCMAC, EAP-K, AND OSD PLAYERS (19-22 MAY), NOW IS A GOOD TIME TO REVIEW THE CONDITIONS SURROUNDING THE EVENT ITSELF WITH AN EYE TOWARD THE FUTURE. WITH THAT IN MIND, THE FOLLOWING UNCMAC COMMENTS ARE OFFERED.
B. IT IS CLEAR THAT ALL THE PLAYERS GOT SOMETHING OUT OF THE MEMORIAL DAY TRANSFER OF REMAINS:
** CODEL MONTGOMERY PARTICIPANTS AND KOREAN WAR VETS GROUPS GOT WHAT THEY WANTED, I.E., THE RETURN OF REMAINS, WELL DESERVED CREDIT, AND FAVORABLE PRESS COVERAGE;
** NORTH KOREANS GOT WHAT THEY WANTED, I.E., HIGH VISIBILITY CONTACT WITH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SHOW THE DPRK AS COOPERATIVE AND HUMANE;
** UNCMAC WAS THE PLANNER AND IMPLEMENTOR, THUS PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE REPATRIATION PROCESS AND PRESERVING U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY CONDITIONS FOR SUCH A TRANSFER.
C. IN 1987/88, CODEL MCCLOSKEY, WORKING WITH THE KOREAN WAR VETERAN GROUPS AND DPRK OFFICIALS, HAD NEARLY COMPLETED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSFER OF FIVE SETS OF REMAINS AT PANMUNJOM. CODEL MCCLOSKEY WAS TO PLAY A PASSIVE, OBSERVER ROLE IN THE ACTIVITIES AT PANMUNJOM THAT CENTERED AROUND MAC OFFICIALS AND MAC PROCEDURES. HOWEVER, THE EXPOSURE OF DPRK RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE NOV 87 KAL 858 BOMBING PROMPTED A SERIES OF EVENTS AND DECISIONS THAT CAUSED THE NORTH KOREANS TO RENEGE ON THEIR PROMISE TO RETURN THE REMAINS.
D. TWO YEARS LATER, CODEL MONTGOMERY, WORKING ON THE SAME ISSUE WITH THE SAME KOREAN WAR VETERAN GROUPS AND THE SAME DPRK OFFICIALS, ARRANGED THE TRANSFER OF THESE SAME FIVE SETS OF REMAINS. THE MAJOR DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CODEL MCCLOSKEY IN 1988 AND CODEL MONTGOMERY IN 1990 WAS THAT CODEL MONTGOMERY WAS ACTIVE THROUGHOUT THE PLANNING AND DECISION PROCESS. IN FACT, DOMINATING ALL EVENTS LEADING TO THE TRANSFER AT PANMUNJOM. THE RETURN, IN FACT, WOULD NOT HAVE OCCURRED WITHOUT REP MONTGOMERY'S PRESENCE AND INFLUENCE' (AN OCT 88 U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY SHIFT THAT ENABLED MORE FLEXIBILITY IN CONTACTS WITH THE DPRK MAY HAVE BEEN A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR).
E. WITH THE RETURN OF REMAINS THEY HAVE ADMITTED HOLDING, THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE STRENGTHENED THEIR CLAIM THAT THE MAC HAS NO AUTHORITY TO DEAL WITH THE REPATRIATION OF REMAINS. THEY WILL PRESS THE U.S. FOR MORE NEGOTIATIONS, MORE ONE-ON-ONE CONTACTS, MORE DIRECT CONTACTS WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO DO SO.
11. WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? THERE ARE SEVERAL AREAS OF CONCERN THAT AFFECT THE UNCMAC AND ITS ROLE IN FUTURE REPATRIATIONS, PROVIDED BELOW IN QUESTION/COMMENT FORMAT. REQUEST STATE, OSD, JOINT STAFF COMMENT. SUGGEST WE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULE DISCUSSIONS OR A WORKSHOP ON THESE IDEAS IN THE LATE JULY/EARLY AUGUST TIME FRAME, WHEN COLONEL TALLEY (UNCMAC SECRETARY) WILL BE IN THE WASHINGTON AREA.
A. QUESTION: WILL PROCEDURES FOR CODEL MONTGOMERY BE THE SAME AS FOR CODEL SCHROEDER?, CODEL BUMPERS?, CODEL ASPIN?. IS

"REPATRIATION BY CODEL" A GOOD POLICY? UNCMAC COMMENT: CODEL SHOULD BE DIVORCED FROM RECEIPT/NEGOTIATION OF REMAINS ASAP.
B' QUESTION: WILL THERE BE A U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY SHIFT THAT WILL ELIMINATE OR REDUCE UNCMAC ROLE IN REPATRIATION OF REMAINS? UNCMAC COMMENT: IF THE RETURN OF REMAINS IS PARAMOUNT, A U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY SHIFT MAY BE INEVITABLE. ONE OPTION WOULD BE A SPECIAL COMMISSION HEADED BY A (RETIRED) FLAG OFFICER TO NEGOTIATE/RECEIVE REMAINS AT PANMUNJOM. COMMISSION WOULD REPRESENT UNC AS WELL AS U.S. INTERESTS.
C. QUESTION: HOW WILL TURNOVER TO THE ROK OF MAC BETWEEN NOW AND 92-93 COMPLICATE REMAINS REPATRIATION AT PANMUNJOM? UNCMAC COMMENT: PROBABLY NOT A SHOW STOPPER. U.S. WILL STILL HAVE A "SENIOR U'S. MEMBER" ON THE COMMISSION UNTIL THE MAC DISAPPEARS. THEN, U.S. GOVERNMENT COMMISSION WOULD STILL OVERSEE THE REMAINS ISSUE.
12. POC IS COL JAMES TALLEY, UNCMAC SECRETARY, 723-6011/3110. BT

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE STATEMENT REGARDING UNACCOUNTED-FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM THE KOREAN WAR

Before Zablocki committee 29 May 57.

Under the Korean Armistice Agreement each side agreed to repatriate or otherwise account for all POWs and deceased combatants of the other side of whose fate it had any knowledge. The efforts of the U. S. Government to get the Communists to fulfill their commitments in this regard have been continuous, persistent, frustrating and largely unrewarding. Shortly after the official exchange of POWs had been completed in September of 1953 officials of the UN Command handed the Communist side a list of 3404 names of missing UN Command personnel including the names of 944 U. S. servicemen of whom we had reason to believe the Communists should have some knowledge. (At the outset I should like to make it clear that in placing this demand for an accounting on the Communists, the UN Command did not intend to imply that we were charging the Communists with holding this large group of Americans alive and against their will. Rather, under the terms of the armistice agreement we were demanding an accounting for missing UN Command personnel of whom we had reason to believe the Communists should have some knowledge of their whereabouts if alive, or the circumstances of their death and the location of their remains, if deceased.)

Our belief that the Communists should have knowledge of these individuals was based upon several sources of information:

First, interviews with repatriated personnel who stated that they had seen certain named individuals who had not been repatriated, who had not been otherwise accounted for, and who had been alive and in Communist hands; secondly, Communist radio broadcasts

giving the names of certain UN Command personnel and admitting that they were under Communist control; thirdly, propaganda pictures in our possession which had been taken by the Communists and circulated for propaganda purposes showing American military personnel on forced marches taking part in parades in Communist-held cities (undoubtedly against their will); fourthly, mail which had been written by POWs to their friends and relatives in the U. S. attesting to the fact that they were in a PW status; fifthly, air crews who had seen our airmen parachute from disabled aircraft and after safe landings, surrounded by enemy forces or civilians. In addition, other intelligence reporting supported our contentions.

The point I am trying to make here is that there is considerable circumstantial evidence from which to draw the conclusion that these individuals were alive and under Communist control in relatively stable situations, removed from battle, and at periods ranging from several days to many months after they had become missing in action from their own UN Command units.

This demand on the Communists for an accounting produced a superficial and totally unacceptable reply. On several subsequent occasions similar demands were placed upon the Communist side through the Military Armistice Commission for an accounting. The results have been essentially negative. In addition to efforts to secure an accounting through the Military Armistice Commission, the Graves Registration Units of the UN Command continued their investigations, the military services continued the sifting of thousands of reports, interviews with returned POWs, and the interrogation of friendly sources of Korean and other nationalities, attempting to piece together all available information which would throw light on the fate of the missing.

Through the unilateral efforts of the U. S. Government which I have just mentioned, the list of 944 had been reduced to 526 by August 1954. This reduction came about because the efforts we had made produced conclusive evidence of death for 418 of the original list.

Even though the Communist side under the terms of the armistice agreement owed us an accounting for the complete 944, we presented them with a revised list of 526 in the fall of 1954, hoping that the reduced list might result in a more satisfactory accounting by the Communists. Such was not the case.

In the meantime, in June of 1954, at the Geneva Conference on Korea and Indo-China, the Department of State initiated certain actions which will be described to you by the Department of State representative here today. Due to these actions by State, plus further efforts to uncover additional information, the list was further reduced to 450.

For the past several years the Department of Defense and the Department of State have worked jointly and cooperatively in continuing efforts to secure from the Communists a satisfactory accounting. In support of the efforts of the Department of State, the Department of Defense, and the Military services have concentrated on an intensive effort to collect every scrap of information and intelligence regarding the unaccounted-for 450. The military services under a quarterly report requirement have been producing individual dossiers on each case. These dossiers have been made available to Ambassador U. Alexis Johnson for his negotiations with representatives of the Chinese Communist regime at Geneva.

A breakdown of the 450 unaccounted-for personnel is as follows:

Army 244
Navy 3
Air Force 190
Marine 13

By way of examples of the circumstantial evidence upon which we base our insistent demands for an accounting from the Communists I shall cite the following cases:

(a) An Air Force Major, Pilot of a B-29 that was shot down on 9 September 1950. He was taken prisoner and held for a time in a jail in Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea. Later the same year the Agency "Soviet Picture" released a picture of this flyer, together with the statement that he had been taken prisoner by the Communist forces. In one of the inadequate accountings furnished by the Communist side, they stated that they had no data regarding the fate of this pilot.

(b) A U. S. Army Captain, pilot of a liaison plane shot down October 1952. This Captain was taken prisoner and held by the Communists. From the statements of fellow prisoners later repatriated, we know that he had lost one leg when shot down, and by November, 1952 his other leg had been amputated. In the so-called "accounting" given by the Communists it was stated that this Captain had "escaped". Note that by this time the Captain was a double amputee.

(c) A U. S. Army Private, taken prisoner by the Communists in August 1950. Several months later a Communist radio station broadcast a number of messages to mothers in the U. S. from POWs held by their side. This Army Private's mother was one of those to whom such a message was addressed. In the so-called accounting the Communists

stated they had no data regarding the fate of this soldier.

On the other hand, many of those named on the list of 450, if we draw the logical conclusion from the circumstantial evidence, are dead. There are cases where other repatriated POWs have certified to the fact that individuals were badly wounded and receiving inadequate medical attention, suffering from malnutrition or exposure, and were on the verge of death. There are cases where repatriated POWs have stated that they saw some of these prisoners die. In the majority of cases, however, these deaths occurred at varying lengths of time after capture, and in relatively stable situations removed from the battle field. Under such circumstances any responsible military force of a responsible government would have, and should now be able to furnish to us, data regarding the circumstances of death and the whereabouts of the remains of such individuals, particularly in view of the fact that the North Koreans and the Chinese Communists agreed to abide by the terms of the Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War.

Due to the inevitable confusion at the time the exchange of POWs was completed in Korea (September 1953) and due to a certain amount of inaccurate reporting regarding the subject of missing POWs, the impression is still current among some segments of the American public that the U. S. Government believes that a large group of American military personnel are alive and still held in Asian countries by Communist captors. While the possibility exists that there may still be some personnel held, alive and against their will, we do not have any further positive information or intelligence from any source that such is the case. Because of the lack of positive information to

-5-

LAST PAGE missing

SUMMARY OF INCIDENT

Pvt Walker was last seen while in action against the enemy at Chinju, Korea, on 31 July 1950 and has not been reported since that date.

During the period of the 26th and 27th of July the 3d Bn of the 29th Inf Regt was attached to the 19th Inf Regt of the 24th Division. The 3d Bn 29th Inf Regt was dispatched to move via different routes to the vicinity of Hadong and establish contact with the enemy, which had been reported in the vicinity.

On the evening of the 27th of July, after a period of no contact with the 3d Bn 29th Inf Regt, the Bn commanding Officer arrived at the Regimental C.P. and reported that contact had been made east of Hadong, forcing the 3d Bn 29th Inf Regt to withdraw with considerable loss of equipment and heavy casualties.

A count the next day of the assembled 3d Bn 29th Inf Regt showed that there were only 354 officers and men, including some walking wounded, able for duty. The loss of key officers in the battalion was severe.

On the 28th of July, the day after Hadong, the 3d Bn 29th Inf Regt, was reorganized, all remaining personnel being grouped in K and L Companies. The next day, K Company was attached to the 2d Bn 19th Inf Regt at Chinju, and L company to the 1st Bn 19th Inf Regt, two miles to the south of Chinju.

On the 31st of July 1950, after withdrawing from the Chinju area, DP 165945 (MS 6819 IV) the 19th Inf Regt and 1st Bn 29th Inf Regt were deployed in the following defensive positions:

The 1st Bn 19th Inf Regt was in position from DP 311938 to DP 317925 (MS 6819 IV) overlooking the Chinju-Masan road.

The 2d Bn 19th Inf Regt was backing up the 19th Inf Regt in the vicinity of the town of Sagong-ni, DP 344939 (MS 6819 I). Their defensive positions ran from DP 344945 to DP 346934 (MS 6819 I)

On the evening of the 31st of July enemy forces attacked the 1st Bn 19th Inf Regt. After beating off the initial attack the 1st Bn 19th Inf Regt withdrew through the 2d Bn 19th Inf Regt and 1st Bn 29th Inf Regt, to new defensive position at DP 369969 to DP 382968 (MS 6819 I).

On the 1st of August, after withdrawal of the 1st Bn 19th Inf Regt was completed, the 2d Bn 19th Inf Regt leapfrogged through the 1st Bn 29th Inf Regt and joined the 1st Bn 19th Inf Regt in their defensive positions.

Attacking enemy forces were stopped momentarily by the 1st Bn 19th Inf Regt who were in defensive positions on the high ground overlooking the Cinju-Masan road. After repulsing this attack the 1st Bn 29th Inf Regt withdrew back through the defensive positions from DQ 385014 to DQ 393006, approximately 2500 yards southwest of the town of Chungam-ni DQ 408017 (MS 6819 I).

1. **RECOVERY OF SKELETAL OF US SOLDIER**

Time and Date of Recovered: 1640 hours, 87 05 21

Place Recovered: San-An Community Cemetery, #417, Sinan-dong, Chinju City, Kyongsan Nam-do Province. (Grant Number 680)

Status: **Serial Number:** RA 13295325

Name: WALKER, JACK L.

T 49.50.0

Personal Effects: Helmet - 1 each, Bayonet - 1 each, Water pail - 1 each belt and 63 rounds of M-1 rifle bullets - 1 each, Well disinfection bottle - 1 each, bell pen - 1 each, Teethbrush - each, Hair brush - 1 each, Boot - 1 pair.

Disposition of Skeletal Remains: The Skeletal remains was reburied in the state when it was found.

2. **HOW TO BE RECOVERED:** Recovered during the work moving old graves to construct the site of the Kyongsan Farmer's Education Institute.

This is a certified true English copy of the attached Korean Recovery of Skeletal Remains of US Soldier.

YU WON HUI, KGS-9
Asst Mort

A

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL
MEMORIAL DIVISION
Washington 25, D. C.

A Board of Officers appointed by paragraph 1, Division Order No. 25, dated 27 October 1955 (copy attached) convened at 1000 hours, 16 January 1956, for the purpose of reviewing all relevant data pertaining to unresolved casualties of the late Korean Conflict and, after considering the pertinent factors involved as outlined below, duly approved Findings of Nonrecoverability of Remains in the case of SCOLES, Lewis W. Sfc RA 20 922 355.

American Graves Registration personnel have concluded thorough and systematic search and recovery operations in all of South Korea. Although these operations effected the recovery of many United States deceased servicemen, the search was unsuccessful insofar as this particular individual is concerned. Area Clearance Certificates have been received for all of South Korea, and an applicable Certificate of Nonrecoverability for this decedent has been furnished by the Overseas Command.

Available evidence indicates that many of the casualties which are carried on the records of the Department of Defense as missing in action in South Korea were actually captured and transported to North Korea where they subsequently died; however, specific information is lacking as to the number, identity or circumstances surrounding their disappearance.

Shortly after cessation of hostilities in 1953, arrangements were made between representatives of the opposing forces to permit search and recovery operations in the Demilitarized Zone for a limited period of forty-five (45) days. Within the restrictions imposed, as complete a search as possible was made and some remains were recovered. Entry into the Demilitarized Zone by either side for search and recovery operations has not been permitted since that period.

In September 1954, the United Nations Military Armistice Commission and the Communists concluded negotiations regarding the recovery of those deceased servicemen who were interred in territory under the control of the opposing forces. As a result of these negotiations, disinterments were accomplished by the occupant of the territory and a mutual exchange of remains was subsequently effected. The agreement did not permit either side to enter the territory of the opposing side to conduct search and recovery operations. Although the Communists turned over approximately 4000 United Nations deceased personnel, it is now known that not all of the United States servicemen actually interred in North [illegible]

All United States remains recovered by Graves Registration units or received from the Communists during the exchange of remains in 1954 were removed to laboratories in Kokura, Japan, where they were scientifically processed by identification specialists and physical anthropologists.
- Despite the most exhaustive efforts, identification of a number of these remains could not be established.

Physical characteristics and dental data for each unidentified remains as recorded by the professional personnel of the laboratories have been compared with like data for each unresolved casualty, including those known to have been lost at sea, without effecting an association. A wide disparity exists between the number of unidentified remains and the number of unaccounted for casualties.

In view of the completion of search and recovery activities in accessible territory, the inaccessibility of both the Demilitarized Zone and North Korea, and the inability to associate the remains in our custody at this time with the decedent, it is concluded that his remains are NONRECOVERABLE.

JAMES W. GERARD
Lt Colonel, QMC
Member

D. C. HUGHES
Lt Colonel, QMC
Member

WALTER P. SCOGGINS
Colonel, QMC
President of the Board

1 Incl
Special Order No. 25

APPROVED:

ROY A. WALL
Colonel, QMC
CHIEF, MEMORIAL DIVISION

CIA

D

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. SO 91634

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea/China

DATE DISTR. 17 July 1952

SUBJECT Prisoner-of-War Camps in North Korea and China

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE OF INFO. January - May 1952

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

GRADING OF SOURCE						COLLECTOR'S PRELIMINARY GRADING OF CONTENT					
A. USUALLY RELIABLE	B. FAIRLY RELIABLE	C. NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	D. NOT RELIABLE	E. CANNOT BE JUDGED	1. CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	2. PROBABLY TRUE	3. POSSIBLY TRUE	4. DOUBTFUL	5. PROBABLY FALSE	6. CANNOT BE JUDGED
	C						3	*		

* Except as noted

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[redacted]

War Prisoner Administrative Office and Camp Classification

1. In May 1952 the War Prisoner Administrative Office (Chan Fu Kuan Li Ch'u) (2069/0199/4619/3810/5710) in P'yŏngyang, under Colonel Ho-men-ch'i-fu (6179/7024/1148/1133), an intelligence officer attached to the general headquarters of the Soviet Far Eastern Military District, controlled prisoner of war camps in Manchuria and North Korea. The office, formerly in Mukden, employed 30 persons, several of whom were English-speaking Soviets. LIN Mai (2651/6701) and KAN Li (0589/2480) were deputy chairmen of the office.

2. The office had developed three types of prisoner-of-war camps. Camps termed "peace camps," detaining persons who exhibited pro-Communist leanings, were characterized by considerate treatment of the prisoners and the staging within the camps of Communist rallies and meetings. The largest peace camp, which held two thousand prisoners, was at Chungchun. Peace camps were also at K'aiyuan Kaien (124-05, 42-36) and Panch'i (123-43, 41-20).

3. Reform camps, all of which were in Manchuria, detained anti-Communist prisoners possessing certain technical skills. Emphasis at these camps was on reindoctrination of the prisoners.

CLASSIFIED FOR RELEASE

DATE [redacted]

[redacted] / 80-91634

4. Normal prisoner-of-war camps, all of which were in North Korea, detained prisoners whom the Communists will exchange. Prisoners in the peace and reform camps will not be exchanged.

5. Officials of North Korean prisoner of war camps sent reports on individual prisoners to the War Prisoner Administrative Office. Cooperative prisoners were being transferred to peace camps. ROK army officers were being shot; ROK army soldiers were being reindoctrinated and assimilated into the North Korean army.

Kangdong Camp

6. In May the largest North Korean prisoner of war camp, detaining twelve hundred prisoners, was near T'ai Ling (1132/1545) mountain, six miles southeast of the Kangdong (126-05, 39-09) (BU-4837) railroad station.1 The compound, divided with barbed wire and mud embankments into four partitions for American, English, and Turkish prisoners and prisoners of other nationalities, held 840 American, 100 English, 60 Turkish, and 200 hundred French, Dutch, and Canadian troops. Most of the United States prisoners were members of the 1 Cavalry Division and the 24 Infantry Division. General William Dean was moved from Harbin and Mukden to this camp in 1951.

7. The Kangdong camp, organized into study, management, sanitation, and finance sections, compelled the prisoners to study for three hours, to labor for four hours, and to discuss political problems for two hours.

F-3 8. On 1 May nine thousand (sic) ROK army prisoners and fifty United Nations prisoners were in caves at the Kangdong camp, extending from approximately BU-492363 to BU-494368 in a valley at Adal-ri, Kangdong-eyŏn (126-05, 39-09) (BU-4837).2 Of the ROK army prisoners 10 percent were officers, 50 percent non-commissioned officers, and 40 percent privates. Of the United Nations prisoners 10 percent were Negroes. The prisoners, who received 600 grams of cereal and salt each day, were not required to work and spent only two hours each day out of the caves. An average of two prisoners were dying daily from malnutrition and eruptive typhus. The majority of prisoners at this camp were

CIA

F

BJECT Communist Treatment of United Nations Prisoners

NO. OF PAGES 2

RED [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. LISTED BELOW

E OF O. October 1950 – February 1951

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

GRADING OF SOURCE						COLLECTOR'S PRELIMINARY GRADING OF CONTENT					
UTELY BLE	USUALLY RELIABLE	FAIRLY RELIABLE	NOT USUALLY RELIAB.	NOT ABLE	CANNOT BE JUDGED	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	PROBABLY TRUE	POSSIBLY TRUE	DOUBTFUL	PROBABLY FALSE	CANNOT BE JUDGED
	2.	C X	4.		6.	1.	2.	3 X	4.	5.	6.

[redacted] except as noted

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[redacted]

1. One Republic of Korea soldier who was captured by the Communists on 29 October 1950 was sent to a war prison camp at Pyoktong (125-26, 40-36) in North Pyong-an. This camp in early November had about 1,000 American war prisoners, of whom about 750 were negroes, approximately 1,500 ROK prisoners, and about [redacted] civilian employees of the United Nations forces. These men were classified by nationality and housed in barracks which accommodated about 70 men each. All prisoners were questioned and searched every three days but were otherwise left to themselves. Each man received a daily ration of 700 grams of millet, kaoliang, or corn, in theory, but actually they received mostly corn and salt in about half the assigned quantities. Additional food could be obtained by bartering watches, uniforms, boots, and cigarettes. No blankets or bedding of any kind were supplied, but straw was available.

2. ROK prisoners were released after a period of several months (the soldier reporting these facts was released on 30 December) and given the choice of joining the North Korean army, settling down as civilians in North Korea, or returning to their homes. Most of those released were first-year soldiers or civilians. They were issued certificates of release which could be presented on their way back home in order to obtain food from local residents. Villagers stated that food given to released soldiers was deducted from their ration in kind.

3. The Chinese and North Korean Communist troops referred to the war prisoners as "liberated soldiers."

4. Seven Americans were captured in Seoul on 8 January 1951 and were turned over to the Seoul headquarters of the North Korean army. According to an officer of the North Korean State Security Bureau, they were scheduled to be sent to Pyongyang as soon as orders from general headquarters there arrived for their transfer. On 10 February, they were still in Seoul and were seen pulling handcarts from the West Gate toward the East Gate, under the supervision of three North Korean soldiers. All the Americans appeared undernourished and weak from hard labor.

[redacted]

DATE [redacted]

CIA

[redacted] INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

L

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 9 Apr. 1951

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

NTRY China

JECT [redacted]

2. POW Camps, Mukden and Tunghua

CE [redacted]

UIRED [redacted]

E OF Early April 1951 except as stated

).

GRADING OF SOURCE						COLLECTOR'S PRELIMINARY GRADING OF CONTENT					
ITELY RELIABLE	USUALLY RELIABLE	FAIRLY RELIABLE	NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	NOT RELIABLE	CANNOT BE JUDGED	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	PROBABLY TRUE	POSSIBLY TRUE	DOUBTFUL	PROBABLY FALSE	CANNOT BE JUDGED
	A. X	C.	D.	E.	F.	1.	2.	3. X	4.	5.	6.

[redacted]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

IRCE [redacted]

1. [redacted]

2. Officers captured in North Korea by the Chinese Communists are now interned in a former army prison in Mukden.* Enlisted men are confined in concentration camps in T'unghua (125-57, 41-43). The daily routine includes physical exercise, political training in Marxism and Leninism, and analysis of the Korean war by Communist political directors. A specially printed paper is distributed daily. Personnel assigned to manage the camps have been greatly increased. Most of them are volunteers who were students in foreign language departments of the various Chinese universities.

3. [redacted]

* [redacted] Comment. SO-54598 reported US POW camps in Mukden and Antimonio.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE 25 SEP 1985

CIA

9. On 1 May approximately sixteen hundred ROK army prisoners of war, including one hundred officers and five hundred non-commissioned officers, were at the North Korean prisoner of war camp Number 106 at approximately YD-472214, 1.6 kilometers southwest of the Mirim railroad station (125-51, 39-01) (YD-4722). Prisoners held here, having been processed through five ideological screenings, were believed to be potential converts to Communism. The prisoners believed that they were to be assimilated into the North Korean army. Members of political and security detachments maintained strict surveillance of the prisoners. The surveillance often was carried out be members of these bureaus who entered the camps disguised as prisoners.

-3 10. Each prisoner received 50 won monthly, 1 kilogram of grain and 45 grams of soy bean oil, vegetables, salt, and soy bean paste daily. The prisoners were wearing North Korean army uniforms. The prisoners were constructing air raid shelters near the Mirim-ni airfield ten hours each day. Two hours of indoctrination lectures were also held daily. The prisoners had been organized into squads of ten men. Each of the camp's four battalions had three platoons and each platoon, four squads. A guard platoon, armed with M-1's, carbines, and PPSh's, was at the camp.

CIA

[redacted]

80-91634

Suan

F-3 11. On 5 May 200 ROK army prisoners and 110 prisoners from other United Nations armies including 80 Negroes, were at the North Korean prisoner of war camp at the site of the former Suan mine (126-23, 38-47) (XT-7396), ten kilometers north of Suan (126-22, 38-42) (BT-7186).5 Lieutenant Colonel KIM Kyu-hwan (6855/1145/3562) commanded the camp. Although other United Nations prisoners were not required to work, the ROK army prisoners constructed shelters and trenches throughout the entire day. The prisoners received only rice balls for food. Several of the other United Nations prisoners had obtained wheat paste from villagers in exchange for watches and other personal possessions. Thereafter the villagers were prohibited from entering the camp area. No sanitary facilities were offered to the prisoners. Approximately fifteen prisoners, including both ROK and United Nations personnel, were too ill to stand.

Sariwon

F-3 12. In late April approximately eight hundred United Nations prisoners were in a series of underground shelters at approximately XC-436673 in a valley between two hills four kilometers northeast of the Sariwon railroad station (125-46, 38-30) (XC-4064). On each side of the valley at the base of the two hills were 25 shelters. One shelter in every five accommodated the camp guards. Eight hundred Chinese Communist soldiers, armed with PPSh's and rifles, guarded the area. Dummy guards were also used at night. The majority of the guards were billeted in a nearby village of fifteen homes. The guard billets were easily visible from the air. Each prisoner received pork soup and 600 grams of cereal three times daily and a package of cigarettes each [illegible] were required [illegible]

CIA

13. On 6 January 1952 four hundred United States prisoners, including three hundred Negroes, were being detained in two buildings at Hsiao Nan Kuan Chieh, at the southeast corner of the intersection, in Mukden. One building, used as the police headquarters in Hsiao Nan Kuan during the Japanese occupation, was a two-story concrete structure, 30 meters long and 20 meters wide. The other building one story high and constructed of gray brick, was behind the two-story building. Both buildings had tile roofs. All prisoners held here, with the exception of three second lieutenants, were enlisted personnel. The prisoners, dressed in Chinese Communist army uniforms, with a red arm band on the left arm, were not required to work. Two hours of indoctrination were conducted daily by staff members of the Northeast Army Command. Prisoners were permitted to play basketball in the courtyard. The attempt of three white prisoners to escape caused the withdrawal of permission for white prisoners to walk alone through streets in the vicinity of the camp. Two Chinese Communist soldiers guarded groups of white prisoners when such groups left the buildings. Negroes, however, could move outside the compound area freely and individually. Rice, noodles, and one vegetable were served daily to the prisoners in groups of 10 to 15 men. One platoon of Chinese Communist soldiers guarded the compound.

1. [redacted] Comment. In late February 1952 two thousand prisoners, slightly inclined toward Communism, were being detained at the base of a mountain three kilometers west of Kangdong, [redacted]

2. [redacted] Comment. This is presumably information on the same camp as that reported in paragraphs 6-7 above.

3. [redacted]

C/A

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 27 June 1951

SUBJECT American Prisoners of War in South China

NO. OF PAGES 2

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. As stated

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

GRADING OF SOURCE						COLLECTOR'S PRELIMINARY GRADING OF CONTENT					
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	USUALLY RELIABLE	FAIRLY RELIABLE	NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	NOT RELIABLE	CANNOT BE JUDGED	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	PROBABLY TRUE	POSSIBLY TRUE	DOUBTFUL	PROBABLY FALSE	CANNOT BE JUDGED
	B.	C. X	D.	E.	F.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6. X

[redacted]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[redacted]

1. In early April American prisoners of war from Korea began arriving in Hankow, where they were turned over to the Chinese Communist Central and South China Military Command. By 15 April approximately 500 had arrived in Hankow, and on [illegible] April some of these prisoners were paraded through the streets of Hankow under heavy guard.

2. In mid-April 60 prisoners of war, most of whom were American and the rest British, arrived in Canton via the Canton-Hankow railway.[1] In early May they were being detained in a foreign-style compound at the corner of Tunghua Road, East, and Kueinichao (崔泥巷) in Tungshan, Canton.[2] There were barbed wire barricades around the compounds, and a Public Security division mounted a heavy guard around the area. No one was allowed to enter without permission from high Communist authorities. The prisoners were treated fairly well, and were given good food and billets.

3. In mid-June 52 American prisoners of war from Korea were incarcerated in the Baptist church on Tunghua Road, Canton. These prisoners were sent to Canton because the Chinese Communist authorities hoped to obtain military and medical supplies from the United States Government in return for their release. They planned to demand U. S. $100,000 worth of supplies for each prisoner released. The British and Indian Governments were to be used as intermediaries.[3]

1. [redacted] Comment. According to another [redacted] informant, there was no indication, as of 24 May, that American prisoners of war were being sent to Canton. There were no barbed wire barricades at the end of Tunghua Road, East, Canton.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

CIA

RELIABLE	USUALLY RELIABLE	RELIABLE	NO JUDGED	BY OTHER SOURCES	TRUE	TRUE	DOUBTFUL	FALSE	JUDGED
C.	D.	E.	F. X	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6. X

[redacted]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[redacted]

On 13 September CHAO Erh-lu (趙爾陸), a staff member of the Central and South China Military Area headquarters, after inspecting a camp for American and British prisoners of war at 52 Fu Hsing (復興) Road, Shameen, Canton, issued an order prohibiting prisoners from speaking to people outside the compound.[1]

[illegible] of some of the prisoners in this camp from the United States Eighth [illegible], the British Gloucester Regiment, and the British Argyle Battalion are [illegible] follows:

United States Eighth Army: Mai-chis-fo (麥加佛)[2] (?Metcalf),[3] 1st lieutenant.

Li-k'o-erh (李克爾)[2], warrant officer.

Pu-chi (卜吉)[2] (?Booth),[3] warrant officer.

Lo-szu (羅斯)[2] (?Ross),[3] enlisted.

Po-szu (波斯), enlisted.

Hua-erh-tzu (華爾滋) (?Wertz),[3] enlisted.

Hua-lai-te-shih (華萊德士) (?Wright),[3] enlisted.

Po-tun (波頓) (?Borden),[3] enlisted.

Chia-hua-shih (嘉華士) (?Jarvis),[3] enlisted.

Po-szu-ku (波斯谷) (?Box),[3] enlisted.

Li-wei (李威) (?Levy),[3] enlisted.

[illegible] (蕭格蘭), enlisted.

Document No. [illegible]
No Change In Class. ☑
☐ Declassified.
Class. Changed To: TS S C
Auth: HR 70-2
Date: 23 AUG 1978 By: 27

APPROVED FOR

CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION [redacted]
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI		

[redacted]

RELEASE

DATE 25 SEP 1985

C/t [redacted]

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SO 6671.1 ae

-2-

[redacted] Comment. Casual informants [redacted] have stated that as of 20 April 25 American prisoners of war who had arrived in Canton were being held in three foreign style houses at the end of Tungbua Road, East. See SO-63715 and SO-65066. SO-65066 reports that some of these prisoners were transferred to Kweilin on 2 May. *

[redacted] Comment. According to some Chinese newsmen in Hong Kong, the presence of United States or United Nations troops in Canton as of mid-June cannot be confirmed. The original report appeared in the Hong Kong newspaper Hsing Tao Jih Pao (like the Hong Kong Tiger Standard, a publication of AN Boon-haw) in late April. The reporter probably based his information on the statement of a traveller from Canton, who stated he had seen prisoners in Tungshan. The Hsing Tao Jih Pao would print any news embarrassing to the United States.

C1A

[redacted]

[redacted]

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SO-74807

-2-

[illegible] Gloucester Regiment: Ko-szu (葛斯), tank driver.

Hai-pi-shih (希必士), warrant officer.

Tsun-ch'en (尊臣), enlisted.

Li-sen (驪森), enlisted.

[illegible] Argyle Battalion: Meng-chia-fu (孟加夫), warrant officer.

Ko-ling-hung (葛令洪) (?Cunningham), 3 enlisted.

Chia-hua-kao (嘉華高), enlisted.

Lo (羅) (?Lowe), 3 enlisted.

1. [redacted] Comment. According to SO-74469, [redacted], about 170 United States prisoners of war arrived in Canton on 3 October, and were taken to the former American consulate building on Shameen. No pedestrian was permitted to approach closer than 50 meters to the compound. Other recent reports on prisoners of war in Canton may be found in SO-71388 [redacted].

2. [redacted] Comment. The report also contained the following information: Hai-chia-fo was also reported as 2nd Lieutenant Nreaf. Li-k'o-erh was also reported as Warrant Officer Lehareer. Pu-chi was also reported as Warrant Officer Botje. [redacted]

3. [redacted] Comment. These interpretations were supplied by the field.

CIA

5. On 6 January 1952 four hundred United States prisoners, including three hundred Negroes, were being detained in two buildings at Hsiao Nan Kuan Chieh, at the southeast corner of the intersection, in Mukden. One building, used as the police headquarters in Hsiao Nan Kuan during the Japanese occupation, was a two-story concrete structure, 30 meters long and 20 meters wide. The other building, one story high and constructed of gray brick, was behind the two-story building. Both buildings had tile roofs. All prisoners held here, with the exception of three second lieutenants, were enlisted personnel. The prisoners, dressed in Chinese Communist army uniforms, with a red arm band on the left arm, were not required to work. Two hours of indoctrination were conducted daily by staff members of the Northeast Army Command. Prisoners were permitted to play basketball in the courtyard. The attempt of three white prisoners to escape caused the withdrawal of permission for white prisoners to walk alone through streets in the vicinity of the camp. Two Chinese Communist soldiers guarded groups of white prisoners when such groups left the buildings. Negroes, however, could move outside the compound area freely and individually. Rice, noodles, and one vegetable were served daily to the prisoners in groups of 10 to 15 men. One platoon of Chinese Communist soldiers guarded the compound.

1. [redacted] Comment. In late February 1952 two thousand prisoners, slightly inclined toward Communism, were being detained at the base of a mountain three kilometers west of Kangjeng, [redacted]

2. [redacted] Comment. This is presumably information on the same camp as that reported in paragraphs 6-7 above.

3. [redacted]

C-1A

In 1 May approximately sixteen hundred ROK army prisoners of war, including one hundred officers and five hundred non-commissioned officers, were at the North Korean prisoner of war camp Number 106 at approximately YD-472214, 1.6 kilometers southeast of the Mirim railroad station (125-51, 39-01) (YD-4722). Prisoners held here, having been processed through five ideological screenings, were believed to be potential converts to Communism. The prisoners believed that they were to be assimilated into the North Korean army. Members of political and security detachments maintained strict surveillance of the prisoners. The surveillance often was carried out be members of these bureaus who entered the camps disguised as prisoners.

10. Each prisoner received 50 won monthly, 1 kilogram of grain and 45 grams of soy bean oil, vegetables, salt, and soy bean paste daily. The prisoners were wearing North Korean army uniforms. The prisoners were constructing air raid shelters near the Mirim-ni airfield ten hours each day. Two hours of indoctrination lectures were also held daily. The prisoners had been organized into squads of ten men. Each of the camp's four battalions had three platoons and each platoon, four squads. A guard platoon, armed with M-1's, carbines, and PPSh's, was at the camp.

[redacted]

CIA

[redacted] INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. SO 61735*

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 9 Apr. 1951

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT [redacted] 2. POW Camps, Linkou and T'ungma

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

DATE OF INFO. Early April 1951 except as stated

GRADING OF SOURCE						COLLECTOR'S PRELIMINARY GRADING OF CONTENT					
A. COMPLETELY RELIABLE	B. USUALLY RELIABLE	C. FAIRLY RELIABLE	D. NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	E. NOT RELIABLE	F. CANNOT BE JUDGED	1. CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	2. PROBABLY TRUE	3. POSSIBLY TRUE	4. DOUBTFUL	5. PROBABLY FALSE	6. CANNOT BE JUDGED
	B. X	C.	D.	E.	F.	1.	2.	3. X	4.	5.	6.

[redacted] THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE [redacted]

1. [redacted]

2. Officers captured in North Korea by the Chinese Communists are now interned in a former army prison in Linkou.* Enlisted men are confined in concentration camps in T'ungma (125-57, 41-43). The daily routine includes physical exercise, political training in Marxism and Leninism, and analysis of the Korean war by Communist political directors. A specially printed paper is distributed daily. Personnel assigned to manage the camps have been greatly increased. Most of them are volunteers who were students in foreign language departments of the various Chinese universities.

3. [redacted]

* [redacted] Comment. SO-51598 reported US POW camps in Linkou and Antungsien.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE 25 SEP 1995

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY
Records of
~~THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE~~

filed 12/17/51

471-B
Prisoners of War

December 13, 1951

Respectfully referred to the
Department of Defense for attention and
further reply.

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

Ltr. to the Pres., dtd. 12/10/51, from

Mrs. Josephine Cardero Judice,
601 Park Avenue,
Brooklyn 6,
New York.

#

Writer claims she receives letters from her nephew, Lt. Hector Cardero, who was reported missing in action about a year ago. Says he is a POW in Peiking, China; gives his address, etc. Asks that his status be changed from "missing in action" to "POW" so he can have a chance

150-mue

10/10/89 11:01 KIRO NEWS 002

Harry S. Truman Library
HARRY S. TRUMAN
Copies of KOREAN WAR
DOCUMENTS

Z

010

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

INDICATE ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

Department of State

[illegible] - SECURITY INFORMATION

21

RECEIVED DC/T
[illegible] UNIT
JUN 17 7 30 PM '52

SENT TO: Amembassy MOSCOW 894 395

23-H

Origin
EUR
Info:

SS
G
[illegible]
OLI
DCRN

US B-29 aircraft in routine shipping surveillance Japan Sea reported missing since June 13. Last friendly radar check 14010E longitude / 4504N latitude. Unidentified aircraft wreckage discovered June 14 4139N / 13355E. Report one source indicates SOV radio station June 16 mentioned picking up survivor AMER plane crash this area.

PLS communicate FMOFT urgently substantially as FOLS: US B-29 aircraft operating under UNC on routine flight Japan Sea reported missing since June 13. Unidentified aircraft wreckage discovered June 14 at coordinates above mentioned included life-rafts, oxygen bottles, life preservers, etc. Presence such items WLD suggest there were survivors who may have been picked up by SOVS and in circumstances US GOVT requests SOVS investigate urgently and inform EMS any circumstances.

Dist
Dashed
(Office
Only)

OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS
POLITICAL AND SECURITY AFFAIRS

ACHESON

Drafted by: [illegible] Barbour/AIR

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: W. Barbour

Clearances:

Harry S Truman Library / Papers of Harry S. Truman. Copies of Korean War documents.

INCOMING TELEGRAM **Department of State**

Unrv 150

TELEGRAPH BRANCH

TOP SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

Action

Info

Control: 11300
Rec'd: June 24, 1952
1:20 p.m.

FROM: Moscow

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 2072, June 24, 6 p.m.

PRIORITY

EMBTEL 2028, June 18, DEPTEL 894, June 17.

A letter received this afternoon from Vyshinski states that in accordance with US Government's request "instructions have been given to appropriate Soviet civilian and military authorities to clarify whether persons were picked up by Soviet ships after June 13 in the area mentioned in your note".

CUMMING

MRM:ED

OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS
POLITICAL AND SECURITY AFFAIRS

TOP SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY, IF CLASSIFIED IS

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963054
By DC NARA, Date 4/1/80

HEADQUARTERS
COMBINED COMMAND FOR RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITIES KOREA
624TH ARMY UNIT
APO 301

SUBJECT: CCF Military Conference concerning the Far East Situation — CCRAK # M-101

SOURCE: ROK (CNI) — 24 February 1953

DATE OF INFORMATION: October - 22 December 1952 — EVALUATION: F

Following information was received from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ROK Government. Report originally came from Nationalist Chinese Embassy.

1. Russia has established a Higher Informant Training Team at URAN, HODASONO (Phonetic) in Siberia in October 1952 and is conducting training of communist agents for use in Far East countries. 500 persons are receiving training, one third of them women. Japanese constitute the largest group and the others are Korean, Filipinos, Burmese and American. Mao Tse Tung held a military conference at Wantsuan [illegible] ens, Peiping on 10 December 1952. More than 80 leading military officers were present. Mao reported on the military situation and all members agreed that the following was the outlook:

a. The Korean war will remain as is until Spring and then will expand.

b. If the war is expanded, the Nationalist Chinese will attack Southern China by landings from Formosa.

c. Manchuria, Southern China and Eastern China will be bombed heavily.

d. The entire Chinese coast will be blockaded.

To counteract these possibilities, the Manchuria area will be defended with Russian help. In North and East China, all people will be mobilized and armed. After these people are inducted into the National Defense Forces, they will be used to counterattack Nationalist landings.

Tactics were further discussed at the meeting. Since October, owing to the increase in action on the frontlines, there have been many casualties among the CCF. The trains from Peiping and Hankow are all occupied by wounded soldiers. On 11th December, it was reported that over 600 wounded were transported to Hankow. Among these were many permanently disabled soldiers but these were not allowed to return to their homes. On 14 December, 12 Russian aircraft appeared over Peiping and dropped leaflets proclaiming the friendship that exists between the Chinese and Russian people. This was the first time that Russian aircraft have appeared openly before the Chinese people. It is reported that CCF planes are due to fly to Moscow for a return call soon.

2. According to reliable information, the CCF has transferred UN PWs to Russia in violation of the Geneva Conference. These PWs will be specially trained at Moscow for espionage work. PWs transferred to Moscow are grouped as follows: British 5, Americans 10, Canadians 3, and 50 more from various countries.

3. The Communist International Asian Intelligence Bureau recently added a Mobilization Committee. Lee Yoc Han, now Chief of the Chinese Communist Unification Front, will be chairman of the new committee. He has announced an emergency declaration concerning mobilization as follows:

a. Party members from each area must be ready to join the armed forces.

b. Those people who have extra jobs other than acting as Party members must abandon this extra work.

c. Party members must be ready to receive mobilization orders at any time.

M-101

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

CLASSIFIED
Authority NND 765654
By BC NARA, Date 4/6/76

SECURITY INFORMATION

[redacted]

4. Abput 7,200 artillary men and engineers attached to the 2nd Field Army now stationed in the SACHON area have recently returned from the front in Korea. The North Korean puppet government has secretly left PYONGYANG since 22 December. The command of PYONGYANG was turned over to YANG DOK JI, Chief of Staff of CCF. The Russian naval vessel Stalin (an old DD) is reported to have appeared in the gulf of PO-HAI recently. It is also reported that Russia has turned over to China many submarines. Naval vessels turned over to China by Russia are the Mobelk" 1509 tons, the "Chongchubelts" 1478 tons, 3 landing craft and 2 small gun boats. It is reported that if the Korean war expands, Ishitopu (?) Chief of Staff of the Russian Far East Forces will take over the position of Supreme Chief of Staff now held by Mao Tse Tung and he (Ishitopu) will command the CCF (F).

CCRAK Comment: Command (Reference Paragraph 2). This office has received sporadic reports of PsW being moved to the USSR since the very inception of the hostilities in Korea. These reports came in great volume through the earlier months of the war, then tapered off to a standstill in early 1951, being revived by a report from January of this year. It is definitely possible that such action is being taken as evidenced by past experience with Soviet authorities. All previous reports state PsW who are moved to the USSR are technical specialists who are employed in mines, factories, etc. This is the first report that they are being used as espionage agents that is carried by this office.

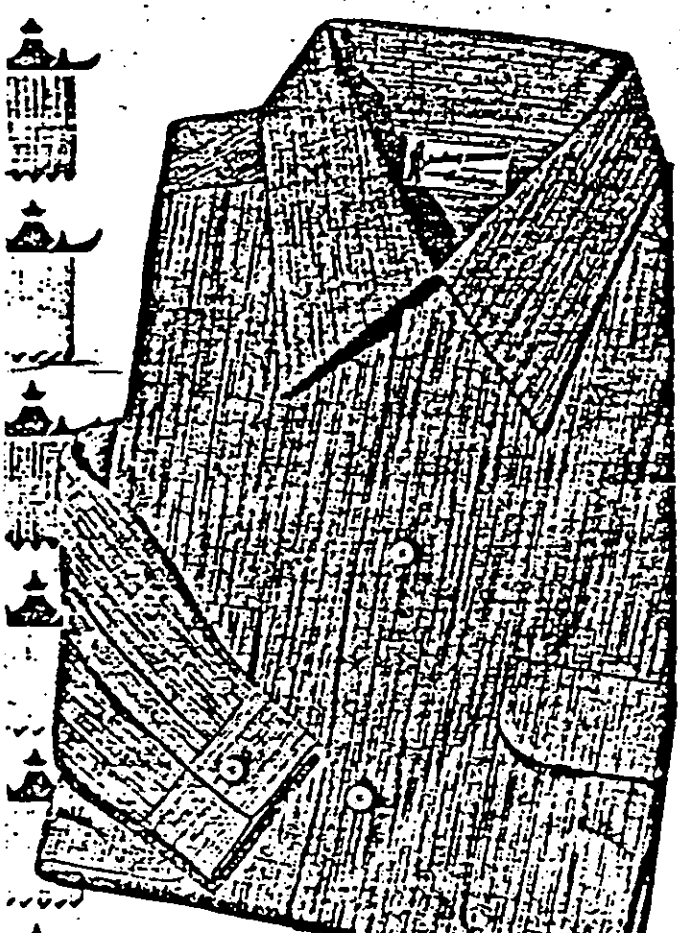
NOTE: Any portion of this report reproduced will be identified by CCRAK # M-101 (ROK ONI).

DISTRIBUTION:
A

[redacted]

Latest fabric...latest style

the KANOI



from the house of Coopers®

Latest Idea to invade the style centers of America is this rich, shantung-type fabric, comfortably tailored to your taste in the "Kanoi" sport shirt by Coopers. Smart wide-spread Kent 2-way collar, long sleeves. Completely washable. In 8 newest colors.

Now at your Coopers Dealer!

about $4.95

other Jockey® BRAND sport shirt

Cooper's Incorporated • Kenosha, Wisconsin • Makers of famous Jockey Brand Underwear

Unreported G.I.'s in Siberia

Continued from page 61

were shown every night. Instruction in the Russian language was available to anyone who wanted it, and short discussion sessions with camp political officers were held three or four times a day.

Various delegations visited the camps and tried to influence the opinions of the captives. The delegations included various peace committees, local school children, women's societies, and so forth. The children were particularly vocal in describing to the prisoners the barbarities committed against their homes and their parents by U.N. fliers. A Welfare Committee for Prisoners of War, including many prominent citizens, administered the camps.

The Yalu camps, however, play host to the G.I.'s for only a few weeks. Then the Communists are ready for further screening and for work on their victims.

The political officers, who formerly led discussions on world events, now begin conducting daily interrogations. Within a day or two they know which prisoners they want. Most of the men are settled in ordinary P.O.W. camps in North Korea and China; but those suspected of active anticommunism, and those in whose remarks the officers see possibilities of conversion to the Communist "faith," are turned over to the Russians. They are marked as dead on the official P.O.W. lists.

The first screenings are of a general character, so a substantial number of Americans who do not fit into the Communist plans are included on the trip to Russia. Our information indicates that the overwhelming majority of the transferred prisoners refuse to be used for propaganda work.

The second lap of the journey takes the selected P.O.W.'s to transit camps directly north of Korea at Khabarovsk and Komsomolsk. The men are transported by rail in trains heavily guarded by M.V.D. men accompanied by dogs. At the transit camps there are more interrogations, and then selected P.O.W.'s are sent to Chita, located east of Lake Baikal and near the Chinese frontier. The town, one of the largest on the Trans-Siberian Railroad, has an impressive M.V.D. prison.

Here the Communists start talking force. The prisoners know that their fate is entirely in the hands of the Soviet police; they are told that the North Koreans have declared them dead.

At this point the prisoner is given the choice of co-operating with his captors, and going to a rest camp at Shivanda, or refusing co-operation and winding up at one of the stricter camps in the Komi-Permiak District. Even after he has been sent to Komi-Permiak, however, the prisoner can still change his mind—the Russians are trying to dupe and utilize as many men as they can.

The Komi-Permiak National District lies northwest of Molotov. One camp for Americans is located in the district capital, Kudymkar, and others are in the towns of Chermoz and Gubakha. There are four separate camps in Chermoz, three of them labor camps and the fourth a disciplinary prison camp.

In their outward appearance these camps do not differ from thousands of similar slave-labor camps in Russia.

The day starts in the overcrowded barracks at five in the morning. We know that last June, in the "Gajsk Camp" near Chermoz, about two hundred Americans were used as forced labor; and we may take their daily routine as typical. After a breakfast consisting of a cup of tea and one slice of dark bread, the men—a number of them engineers assigned to the workshops—were marched to where they were working on the local railroad. Lunch was brought out to them. Judging by the Russian standard they did not eat badly. But they were all accustomed to a far better diet and they were suffering considerably.

These camps are under dual control. Political control is exercised by a special delegate from the Central Committee of the Komi-Permiak National District of the Communist Party. His name is Comrade Edovin. Military control is in the hands of a man called Kalypin who was detailed to the job from Moscow in the middle of February, 1952.

Every day a few men from each camp are taken to Molotov, where the Russians make further attempts to get them to co-operate. They never return to the camps they have left; but some probably wind up in Shivanda.

Shivanda is a small place near Chita. The camp caters to a very few men who strike the Communists as deserving special treatment. It is a luxurious undertaking, with good food, clean accommodations and general conditions far above anything known by the average Russian. The selected few stay at the camp for a period of four to five weeks. At the end of that period they either graduate and receive an assignment, or fail and return to the labor camps.

We have not been able to find out the number of G.I.'s sent to Shivanda or the number sent out on assignments. The political department of the East Siberian Railroads issued at the beginning of 1952 a classified circular to all its personnel, requesting complete silence on the journeys of American P.O.W.'s. The penalty for breaking this order was 25 years in prison or death.

From Shivanda the road is wide open to Moscow. Most of the few who take that road start their work by giving lectures on new American weapons, strategy, political trends and psychological warfare to selected groups of Red

Continued on page 104

JARMAN "LEISUALS"—Smart casual styling for carefree comfort—Left: No. 4086. Center: No. 4153. Right: No. 4120—Available at Jarman dealers—$9.95 to $16.95 most styles—Jarman Shoe Co., Nashville, Tenn., Dec. in Canada, [illegible]

DEWAR'S
"White Label"
and Victoria Vat
SCOTCH WHISKIES

Piper at parade rest
Clan Wallace Tartan

Dewar's never varies!

Famed are the clans of Scotland ...their colorful tartans worn in glory through the centuries. Famous, too, is Dewar's White Label and Victoria Vat, forever and always a wee bit o' Scotland in a bottle!

Both 86.8 Proof Blended Scotch Whisky © Schenley Import Corp., N. Y.

Unreported G.I.'s in Siberia

Continued from page 102

army officers. The others are used in various propaganda drives. Three America officers captured in Korea have made good-will visits to Warsaw, Sofia and Bucharest, bringing greetings to the peoples of Poland, Bulgaria and Rumania from the American prisoners of War Peace Committee. No doubt they also assured these people of the peaceful intentions of Russia and the warmongering of the United States.

The story comes to me from a unique informant, a short, husky little man whom I met in Berlin in the early part of 1952. He was then fresh from a trip to Poland. He was not a Pole, but he was interested in any and all of the countries which had fallen victim to Communist aggression. He had lived under Communism and decided to devote his life to fighting it. He wanted to get as much news as possible out of the Red orbit. "The West must know," he said. "Otherwise it will perish."

By the time I was boarding my plane back home we had agreed upon a trial period of cooperation. He was to furnish the Foreign News Service with any material he might lay his hands on, but he was never to divulge his sources to me or to anyone else. "You may take it or leave it," he said. "You are not to write to me unless I tell you so."

His dispatches started arriving soon thereafter. At first they looked so sensational that I was afraid to use them. Then I was able to verify one or two through other channels. From then on, my Berlin friend became a regular contributor to our organization.

I have never been able to check directly the reliability of his stories. I cannot go to Russia, nor can I send anyone there. This way of reporting has been forced on us by the men in the Kremlin, and my friend looks as though he were one of the few masters of the new technique. His methods are a combination of interviewing refugees, reading the Soviet press and establishing contact with people inside the Soviet world.

The only way I could possibly gain confidence in him was to receive confirmation of his major stories from some other sources. I waited several months, and then the confirmations came. One of his stories arrived in May. It described how a group of young boys, all members of the Komsomol (Communist Youth League), in Chapaev, Western Kazakhstan, listened regularly to the Voice of America. They listened in Russian and in Turkestani, using a radio set in the local post office. They had an organized group with a different boy listening every night and reporting to the others.

The group was betrayed by its own device. A teacher in the boys' school found a couple of notes inside a textbook about the previous night's broadcast of the Voice. The police came, and one of the boys stabbed an officer to death, then hanged himself. Two others were killed while trying to escape. Four went to jail.

The story was interesting and I released it. It went, of course, to the Voice of America people. A couple of months later I was informed that the Government had confirmed its accuracy.

Shortly after that first indirect confirmation he sent me another interesting story: *A purge is going on in the Soviet Republic of Georgia. It is hitting party officials and many heads will soon be rolling. Georgia is Stalin's native land and he takes special care of it. Lavrenti-Beria himself has made a trip to Georgia.* He quoted from Beria's speech allegedly delivered at the Congress of the Georgian Communist Party.

My first reaction was that this time it was a little too farfetched. I kept the story for two days, then decided to let it go. My release date was July 22, 1952.

I received a confirmation on September 23, 1952, when a special dispatch from Moscow to the New York *Times* announced the purge and Beria's visit. The dispatch must have passed through Soviet censorship. In other words, the confirmation came from official Soviet sources.

This account of American P.O.W.'s in Russia, every detail in it, was received from the same man. I do not know his sources or his contacts; asking him would mean losing him. All I can do is to wait again for confirmation. The story itself, loaded with factual details, is convincing as far as I am concerned.

But what does it mean? To me it means that the Soviet Union is still applying, though it is now supposedly a nonbelligerent, the ruthless techniques it used in the last war. A captured man is merely a useful object to the Soviet Government: useful as a teacher or a propagandist if he is cooperative, as a slave if he is not; and useful always as a way to undermine the morale of his relatives at home. The Communists see to it that a prisoner's family rarely if ever hears from him: they do not allow him to write letters and they refuse to permit the International Red Cross to visit the camps. Their tight censorship guarantees that the full story will never become public—unless they split with China and the two Communist states start blaming each other for atrocities.

To Americans generally this story should be another reminder of the nature of the force they are fighting, another proof of the need for cool heads, cool judgment and resolution in dealing with the Communists. Eventually these qualities may bring back from their Russian slavery the men missing in Korea. ✠

Continued from page 61

4

An expert on Russian affairs claims that our G.I.'s, listed as missing, must choose between propaganda jobs and slavery in Siberia

by ZYGMUNT NAGORSKI, JR.

UNREPORTED G.I.'S IN SIBERIA

THIS is a shocking story, and those who wish not to believe it may rest their hopes on the fact that we do not have proof of it. Reporting news events that occur in the Soviet Union is an art rather than a science: there are no official sources that can be trusted, eyewitnesses are often murdered or silenced by threats, all the electronic and mechanical means of communication are censored by the government. Information does get out, through refugees or smugglers or secret agents, and a great deal of this information comes to me because I am general manager of the Foreign News Service, an organization which specializes in gathering news from behind the Iron Curtain. But we have no proof; and we always may be wrong.

Our information, gathered over the last year, tells us that American soldiers captured by Communist forces in the Korean conflict have been shipped to the Soviet Union to work in slave-labor camps or to train as Communist propaganda agents. This article presents the details of the story as I know them, the proof available to my hand, and as much information about my sources as I am at liberty to reveal.

We have almost forgotten about it by now, but a totally unexpected shock hit this nation on November 15, 1951. Morning newspaper headlines screamed the delayed news of a mass killing of American P.O.W.'s by the Chinese and Korean Communists. The report was by Colonel James M. Hanley, Judge Advocate General of the Eighth Army. It accused the enemy of slaughtering more than 2500 captured American soldiers, and it gave details: names, dates, places.

General Ridgway, then our commander in Korea, was surprised to learn that Colonel Hanley's report had roused a fury of public opinion at home. To him it was an old story. In December, 1950, he had sent to Washington a film which showed the recovered bodies of American prisoners shot in the back of the skull and buried with their hands still tied behind their backs. This murder of prisoners was not even a new Communist tactic: near the beginning of World War II several thousand Polish officers had been killed by the Russians in Katyn Forest, and their bodies thrown into a mass grave. They, too, had been killed by bullets fired from behind; their hands, too, had been tied behind their backs.

In fact, by the time Colonel Hanley's report was issued the Communists had changed their tactics. Up to April, 1951, I received many reports indirectly from Korean and Chinese natives who had witnessed mass shootings of captured U.N. troops. Up to that time the Chinese and North Korean forces were harsh and brutal in their treatment of P.O.W.'s. Then the orders —from Peiping or from Moscow—changed. From that time onward G.I.'s were treated as usable human material.

This technique, too, was an old one. During the last war the Red Army captured and imprisoned not only our former enemies—the Germans, Italians, Rumanians, Hungarians and Austrians—but also some of our allies, notably the Poles. Some of these P.O.W.'s returned home, but many—perhaps most—are still unaccounted for. Germany claims that one and a half million of her soldiers are still missing; Japan gives a figure of one hundred thousand, Italy of 63,000. To all these claims the Soviet leaders calmly answer that all but war criminals have been repatriated. Despite the calm answer, Russia sent West Germany 650 of her missing prisoners between January and August, 1952.

According to official statistics, the number of American soldiers missing in action in Korea was 13,012 in December, 1952. We do not know how many of these men are still alive, how many are prisoners in Korea, how many are in China or Russia. But our best information is that large numbers of Americans are now living in camps scattered in the various Republics of Russia.

The co-ordinating center for these camps seems to be the city of Molotov. Northeast of Molotov, in the area commonly known as Northwestern Siberia, Americans have been seen in at least six camps, and other American P.O.W.'s have been reported from camps situated on the Pacific Coast of Siberia, in Khabarovsk and in the towns of Chita and Omsk, both on the Trans-Siberian Railroad.

Molotov, formerly known as Perm, has a population of 255,000 and lies west of the Ural Mountains. It has been an industrial center since the early eighteenth century, when copper smelting plants were established, and today it produces agricultural machinery, lumber and leather goods, and, of course, refined copper. In Molotov the Headquarters of the Soviet political police is a large building also used as a prison, and American P.O.W.'s have been kept there for periods of screening and interrogation.

The Communists use two procedures—one for South Koreans, the other for all other U.N. personnel—in dealing with prisoners of war. South Koreans are sent to near-by camps and interrogated; officers, technicians and cases of special interest are then separated and sent to the nearest outpost of the Soviet Military Mission in China.

It is widely rumored in China that a secret agreement has been concluded between Peiping and Moscow regarding these prisoners. According to that pact certain cases are automatically transferred by the Chinese to the Soviet authorities. Such cases include all high-ranking South Korean officers who can be accused of deliberate and active co-operation with the enemy. They are considered war criminals and treated accordingly. Active anticommunists, men unwilling to talk, and other minor cases are also turned over to the Russians.

The men must all pass Soviet Military Mission screening. Those who fail to pass are sent to isolated camps in the Yakutsk Autonomous Soviet Republic, the largest in area of the Russian republics (1,169,000 square miles) but one of the smallest in population (only 420,000 inhabitants). The region has no railroads, and highways are the sole means of transportation. In the Ministry of State Security Building at the town of Yakutsk, the capital of the Republic, is the Central Commission for Korean P.O.W.'s.

Colonel Ivan Achsagnyrov, a police officer who heads the Central Commission, recently sentenced a number of South Korean officers to 15 to 25 years in labor camps. Although Russia officially is not at war with the United Nations forces defending Korea, these men were all accused of co-operating with the enemy.

Only Asians are sent to Yakutsk. All other U.N. prisoners are sent to camps located on the Yalu River where they are interrogated by Chinese and Russian officers who speak perfect English. These officers conduct the first screening. American air force officers, artillerymen, tank specialists and other technicians are separated from the rest and sent to special camps. (Some of these specialists, considered particularly valuable, are flown directly to Russia. Their first stop is at Poset, a naval station at Poset Bay on the Chinese-Soviet frontier.)

These special camps are scattered along the Chinese side of the Yalu River. In June, 1952, I heard descriptions, without names or locations, of two of the camps. At that time about nine hundred non-Korean P.O.W.'s, mostly Americans and some British and Turks, were housed in the two camps. Each camp had about 450 men divided into units of fifty or sixty. The Communists were trying their best to make their captives feel at ease. Food was decent, the daily routine was light and there was plenty of recreation. Books and magazines were available in English, French, Russian and German. Battle films—usually featuring villages and cities bombed by U.N. planes—(*Continued on page 102*)

1953

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

COMBINED COMMAND FOR RECONNAISSANCE ACTIVITY KOREA
8202d Army Unit
APO 301

JCO 350.05

10 August 1953
0907h

CCRAK SPECIFIC REQUEST
Number 66-53

SUBJECT: UK PW Camps in Manchuria and China

TO: See Distribution

1. BACKGROUND:

a. A compilation of reports indicate that during the past two years several PsW have been transferred from PW Camps in North Korea to points in Manchuria, China and Siberia. These points include MUKDEN (41300-12315E), HARBIN (4645N-12645E), ANTUNG (XE194437), YENCHING (4025N-12405E), CHIAMUSSO (46/45-130/21), MUKDEN (2412N-11613E), PEIPING (3950N-11715E), SHANGHAI (3120N-12128E), CHUNGKING (2930N-10630E), TIENTSIN (3920N-11715E), CANTON (2430N-11315E). More recent reports, however, have been scarce and incomplete. Many PsW transferred have been technicians and factory workers. Other PsW transferred have had a knowledge of Cantonese and are reportedly used for propaganda purposes.

b. Figures show that the total number of MIA plus known captured, less those to be UK repatriated leaves a balance of over 8000 unaccounted for.

2. SPECIFIC REQUEST:

a. Are there now or have there been indications of UK PsW being moved from PW Camps in North Korea across the Yalu into Manchuria through the following routes: SINUIJU (XE1[illegible]) and HAKU-CHEN (XE[illegible]) SUIHUA (XE6398). If so, how many, what routes of travel are used, how are they being moved and where is the destination?

b. Are there indications of increased small boat traffic in the ports of SINUIJU, ANJU, CHINNAMPO, and SONGJIN capable of handling groups of personnel? If so, where are they located, what types of craft how many, and what is the cargo?

c. Are there indications of PW Camps in or around the cities mentioned in paragraph 1, above? If so, what nationality of PsW are being held, and how many?

3. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

a. This is a continuing requirement and will remain in effect until cancelled by this headquarters.

b. This is a priority II intelligence requirement within the meaning of Intelligence Directive No. 1, USAFFE, dated 1 March 1953.

c. Information will be forwarded as obtained.

d. All replies to this CRF will be identified by CCRAK Specific Request Symbol: CCRAK SRS Number 66-53.

BY COMMAND OF [illegible]:

[illegible]
Lieutenant

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 963054
By NW NARA, Date 4/26/12

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
Washington 25, D.C. NO. 944-53

OCTOBER 8, 1953 LI 5-6700 Ext. 53201

FOR THE PRESS:

The Department of Defense today issued the following statement concerning United States military personnel still carried on the records of their respective services as in a "missing in action" status:

Upon completion of the exchange of prisoners on September 6, 1953, under terms of the Armistice Agreement in Korea, there remained in the "missing in action" category 5,723 carriers of the Army, 78 Navy personnel, 671 members of the Air Force, and 493 Marines.

Many of these men have been missing since the early days of the conflict in 1950. They have been carried as "missing in action" under provisions of the Missing Persons Act because, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, they may reasonably be presumed to be living.

All possible efforts are being made to obtain information as to their fate or whereabouts. Such efforts include communication with the Communist forces and interrogation of recovered prisoners. In the latter connection, it was pointed out that it will be months before all evidence received from recently returned prisoners can be examined and evaluated in connection with missing personnel.

Such testimony is expected to confirm fears that many now carried as "missing in action" have died. The remaining missing personnel will be the subjects of an exhaustive search of battle areas wherever possible, and further questioning of all those with possible knowledge of them.

In the light of casualty reporting experience in Korea, it is now the considered opinion of the Department of Defense that most of these men must eventually be presumed dead. They have not been so reported thus far because of strict requirements that there be reasonably conclusive evidence of the fact before a man is reported as having died.

It was emphasized that the conditions of battle in Korea made it impossible to recover and identify many of our battle dead. No assistance was received in this respect from the opposing forces, which explains the high "missing in action" figure in the Korean conflict.

END

[redacted]

[illegible] Declaration of [illegible]

A. No significant [illegible]
[illegible] Information concerning Air
war of the Communists is furnished
B. No subsequent [illegible]
[illegible] list of 71
[illegible] the hands of the Comm
many sources were employed in its d
spot interrogations of [illegible] r
list included men whom the repatria
as remaining behind in Communist h
holding in current propaganda broad
gerious (1) possible collaborators
men possibly under trial or convict
successive additions with new infor
men listed, there resulted a list (

C. The (1) possible collabor
generally not (2) possible volunta
[illegible] include (3) men possibly und
many documents [illegible] by the Co
[illegible] where, [illegible] alleged war crim
confidential [illegible]
[illegible] at Camp [illegible]; 16 at Camp [illegible]
[illegible] This list of 71 names
in Communist hands at the terminat
34 listed as possible voluntary na
25 September 1955 for explanations
Air Force personnel now openly hol
the four men seen by Mackenzie are
was not positively and specificall
through Communist admission in red
among the survivors of a B-29 cra
same time admitted holding Col Ar
included in the list).

[illegible] e. The 34 names, unacco
by USAF or RA board action. Alth
one year following the last repor
the question of reopening the cas

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 851011
By MA NARA, Date 4/25/91

[illegible]

[illegible]:

[illegible] Comment No. 1, J1 DF dtd 10 Dec 54, requested additional evidence of the [illegible] by the Chinese of prisoners of war other than those reported by MacKenzie. [illegible] furnished by J1 of CofS DF dtd 9 Dec 54, reference proposal to JCS to introduce [illegible]idence in the MAS.

2. In an effort to ascertain the existence and location of any new evidence developed since BIG SWITCH, contacts were made with the Security Group (Lt Col McNutt and Maj Lavasseur); D/I FEAF, EAX Sect (Capt Owen in absence of Maj Lazengy); G2 AFFE (referred to Lt Col McNutt, Security Group); NAVFE Intel (no information); Pers Records FEAF, Casualty Sect (Maj Manetti); AFFE AG (Mr. Fred Cramer); 500 MIG (Mr. Haverfield). No new evidence was reported.

3. To determine the scope of documenting lists of non-repatriated PW's prepared in connection with BIG SWITCH, the location, dimension, and status of records was determined. 84 crates at Camp Zama, 16 at Camp Drake, extensive retired files at FEAF and NAVFE, plus a file in J2 are involved. Little or none of the material is cross-referenced. Index alone is provided by IBM records developed continuously during Aug-Oct 53 by Casualty Branch, AFFE AG. The organization set up for the indexing is now dissolved. Plans for the development of evidence (interrogations, etc.) included the requirement that Washington be made info. Final lists were prepared in Washington. Approximately 2/3 of the records at Camp Drake are packed for shipment to Washington by 25 Dec 54 at the direction of DA.

4. The crated records at Camp Zama are under the purview of AG AFFE and J1.

5. J2 "Study of Repatriation - US Military Personnel - 25 Sep 53 - amended 6 Oct 53" was a statistical study to produce total numbers of men in various categories, as directed. To duplicate many thousands of items of evidence developed by numerous agencies set up for the purpose in Japan and Korea was considered beyond the capability of a limited J2 staff.

6. J2 Comment No. 2 to inst DF, presents a list of positively identified non-repatriated US PW's, states the circumstances of documentation, and recommends that proposed action occur only after a trip to Washington for complete exploitation of available records.

9.	Golden, [illegible] C.	A/1c	[illegible]
10.	Glasser, Gerald F.	1st Lt	[illegible]
11.	Glessner, Milton F.	Cpl	[illegible]
12.	Hart, Alvin D. Jr	Col.	[illegible]
13.	Hatfield, [illegible]	A/1c	[illegible] 265-421
14.	Henry, [illegible]	Col.	[illegible] 265-519
15.	Ishida, Hidemiro G.	1st Lt	[illegible] 265-794
16.	Logan, Samuel F. Jr.	A/2c	[illegible]
17.	Lovell, John H.	Capt	[illegible]
18.	Lovett, Charles	Col.	[illegible]
	[illegible]	Pfc	[illegible]
		[illegible]	[illegible]

SECRET

SECRET (Unclassified) Release of Americans Held as Prisoners of War in China

SUBJECT: [illegible] FROM J2

COMMENT NO. 2
(Continued)

[illegible] public declaration of presumed death would be rather sensitive.

[illegible] No significant intelligence concerning these men has appeared since the preparation of the original listing.

2. No subsequent information has developed in the FEC to alter the DA list of 884 US personnel submitted for action by UNCMAC on 14 July 1954, although board action in Washington has declared most of these men dead.

3. The documentary evidence presently available in the FEC to support the original listing of 844 names is incomplete. Complete interrogation of repatriates, subsequent to BIG SWISSH, was conducted outside the FEC while the repatriates were enroute to the U.S. In addition, the extensive correlation of evidence from all sources in developing case studies for each man was conducted in the U.S. Full exploitation and documentation in Washington occurred in support of the protests made by Ambassador Lodge in the UN. Little or none of this information has been received by local agencies.

4. The available documentary material in the FEC is voluminous, but it is generally not cross-referenced and is arranged by source rather than case history. Sources include: interrogations of repatriates, propaganda broadcasts, photographs, enemy documents, Red Cross reports, letters from PW's, 62 interrogations of enemy prisoners, provost marshal reports, investigations of units with high MIA rates, and confidential sources. More than 100 crates of files are available in retired storage (84 at Camp Zama; 16 at Camp Drake; others at FEAF, NAVFE, etc.) Little correlation exists between these files. Case histories could be developed only by months of research. All of this material, recorded by the Machine Records of the Casualty Branch of AFFE AG, was included in subsequent documentation in Washington. Most of the files at Camp Drake are in the process of shipment to Washington by direction of DA.

5. In view of the incomplete data presently available in the FEC, it is recommended that, if a protest before the MAC is contemplated, it be made only after a trip to Washington for complete exploitation of available evidence.

1 Incl
List of 71 names. (TAB A)

RIDGELY GAITHER, Maj Gen, GS
Assistant Chief of Staff, J2

~~SECRET~~

POSSIBLY CONVICTED OF ALLEGED WAR CRIMES

Apprehended For

1.	Arnold, John R.	Col.	12124	See Note	(a)
2.	Bauer, William H.	Maj	AO 735 786	" "	(a)
3.	Benjamin, Harry M., Jr.	A/2c	AF 2734 5828	" "	(a)
4.	Brown, Howard W.	T/Sgt	AF 36809947	" "	(a)
5.	Brown, Wallace L.	1st Lt	AO 02221938	" "	(a)
6.	Bush, John W.	1st Lt	AO 787245		(a)
7.	Keller, Edwin L.	Lt Col	99004	See Note	(a)
8.	Kibe, Steve K.	A/2c	AF 15426310	See Note	(a)
9.	Llewellyn, Elmer F.	Capt	AO 2072560	" "	(a)
10.	Schmidt, Daniel G.	A/2c	AF 19391475	" "	(a)
11.	Thompson, John W. III	A/2c	AF 13361709	" "	(a)
12.	Vandi, Eugene J.	Capt	AO 825 008	" "	(a)

Exonerated For

1.	Ames, John W.	2nd Lt	AO 2225726	Declared dead	
2.	Ashley, Gilbert L. Jr	Capt	AO 666215	" "	
3.	Beardall, Howard	Capt	AO 769375	" "	
4.	Crutchfield, James F.	LtCol	AO 736133	" "	
5.	Benentele, Richard	Cpl	RA 11188321	" "	
6.	Bucelle, Jimmy L.	2nd Lt	AO 2225015	" "	
7.	Cage Kenneth L.	A/3c	AF 16305759	" "	
8.	Cahen, John W.	A/1c	AF 15380313	" "	
9.	Calden, Norman G.	1st Lt	AO 93444	" "	
10.	Glasper, Gerald W.	Cpl	RA 13240232	" "	
11.	Glessner, Milton F.	Col.	22754	" "	
12.	Hart, Alvin D. Jr	A/1c	AF 16353684	" "	
13.	Hatfield, Douglas M.	Col.	47084	" "	
14.	Henry, Dewey R.	1st Lt	AO 927 982	" "	
15.	Ishida, Hidemaro S.	A/2c	AF 19415365	" "	
16.	Logan, Samuel F. Jr.	Capt	11287 A	" "	
17.	Lovell, John R.	Col.	9244	" "	
18.	Lovett, Charles	Pfc	RA 14238366	" "	
19.	Miller, Paul R.	LtCol	85664	" "	
20.	Niemann, Robert F.	1st Lt	222874	" "	
21.	Olsen, Arthur R.	1st Lt	AO 2069417	" "	
22.	O'Meara, James J. Jr	A/2c	AF 16354305	" "	
23.	O'Neal, Julius E.	LtCol	47924	" "	
24.	Pope, James D.	A/2c	AF 1404363	" "	
25.	Schaub, Edward A.	A/2c	AF 12359965	" "	
26.	Shaddick, John C. III	1st Lt	AO 2221920	" "	
27.	Stevenson, Frank J.	A/3c	AF 13405299	" "	
28.	Tarsequah, Enoch	LtCol	109854	" "	
29.	Turner, Harold P.	Capt	AO 1283518	" "	
30.	Van Voorhis, Paul E.	1st Lt	AO 2091867	" "	
31.	Weese, Henry D.	1st Lt	AO 2091871	" "	
32.	Ziegler, Joseph P.	2nd Lt	AO 2224628	" "	

REPRODUCTION

SECRET

POSSIBLE VOLUNTARY NON-REPATRIATES

Accounted For

1. Adams, Clarence D.	Cpl	RA 14267682	See	Note	(c)
2. Adams, Howard G.	Cpl	RA 38556261	"	"	(c)
3. Batchelor, Claude J.	Pfc	RA 18254677	"	"	(c)
4. Belhumeur, Anthony	Pfc	RA 13296992	"	"	(c)
5. Bell, Otho G.	Pfc	RA 18276618	"	"	(c)
6. Corden Richard G.	Sgt	RA 11190311	"	"	(c)
7. Cowart, William A.	Pfc	RA 14313076	"	"	(c)
8. Dickerson, Edward S.	Pfc	RA 13164432	"	"	(c)
9. Douglas, Rufus M.	Cpl	RA 38713869	"	"	(c)
10. Dunn, John R.	Pfc	US 52061841	"	"	(c)
11. Fortuna, Andrew	Cpl	RA 36984833	"	"	(c)
12. Griggs, Lewis W.	Pfc	RA 18322825	"	"	(c)
13. Hawkins, Samuel D.	Pfc	RA 18279501	"	"	(c)
14. Pate, Arlie M.	Pfc	RA 16307991	"	"	(c)
15. Rash, Scott L.	Cpl	RA 15277362	"	"	(c)
16. Skinner, Lowell D.	Pfc	RA 15281449	"	"	(c)
17. Sullivan, Lawrence F.	Cpl	RA 19304844	"	"	(c)
18. Tomerson, Richard R.	Pvt	RA 19281893	"	"	(c)
19. Veneris, James G.	Pvt	RA 13009071	"	"	(c)
20. Webb, Harold H.	Cpl	RA 14333436	"	"	(c)
21. White, William G.	Cpl	RA 18330142	"	"	(c)
22. Wills, Norris R.	Pfc	RA 12356664	"	"	(c)
23. Wilson, Aaron P.	Pvt	RA 18284033	"	"	(c)

Unaccounted For

1. McLeod, John J.	Sfc	RA 16176229	Declared Dead

POSSIBLE COMMUNIST COLLABORATORS

Accounted For

1. Cameron, Lyle W.	1st Lt	23634A	See	Note	(b)
2. Fischer, Harold H.	Capt	AO 2204126	"	"	(b)

Unaccounted For

1. Ball, James L.	A/1c	AF 19367163	Declared Dead

NOTES:

(a) Among 11 identified in China and concerned with present UN protest action.

(b) Identified by MacKenzie.

(c) Turned over to WSEG 25 Sep 53 for explanations.

SECRET

[redacted]

Copy No. QCC013

334 - [illegible]

PC

COMMITTEE DOCUMENTATION

(1 Aug 55)

OF THE

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE'S

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ON

PRISONERS OF WAR

59A-2081

514

ACSI Decimal File
1954
Box 217
Pers 77

1464) ACSI 383.6 1 Aug 55 (6 Apr 54)

Washington, D. C.

July 1955

DECLASSIFIED
DAIM-FAR-SD# 17
DATE: 29 Apr 81

RECORD SECTION [illegible]

[redacted]

OSA, C&R Control No. 3103A

OCSA # ~~4305~~

125

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEFENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PRISONERS OF WAR

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We submit herewith the report of your Advisory Committee on Prisoners of War. It consists of three sections: (1) the Report proper with a general statement of our recommendations and the reasons therefore which, subject to your approval, we recommend be released to the public; (2) our specific recommendations as to the actions we feel you should take on various aspects of the problem, including proposed directives and letters drafted for your signature; and (3) Committee Documentation.

Within the terms of our directive, the proposed actions are, in our judgment, the most practical means of providing Americans who serve their country in battle with every means we can devise to defeat the enemy's techniques of physical, mental and moral persuasion. They provide for a Code of Conduct, a program of training and education to make the Code effective and the means for coordinating action in these matters.

We examined the publicly alleged divergent action taken by the Services toward prisoners repatriated from Korea. The disposition of all cases was governed by the facts and circumstances surrounding each case, and was as consistent, equitable and uniform as could be achieved by any two boards or courts. Legal steps, including appeals, are completed and in light of the uniqueness of the Korean War and the particular conditions surrounding American prisoners of war, the appropriate Service Secretaries should make thorough reviews of all punishments awarded. This continuing review should make certain that any excessive sentences, if found to exist, are carefully considered and mitigated. This review should also take into account a comparison with sentences meted out to other prisoners for similar offenses.

The Committee examined military planning designed to secure the release of prisoners of war. We recommend further action in the diplomatic field to promote the release of prisoners still illegally held by the Communists, along with certain other measures to meet the eventualities of any future conflict.

We are hopeful our recommendations will assist towards strengthening our Armed Forces as well as countering Communist propaganda efforts to exploit American personnel.

Respectfully yours,

Vice Chairman

Chairman

The Honorable Charles E. Wilson
The Secretary of Defense

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

17 May 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (MANPOWER & PERSONNEL)
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT)

SUBJECT: Prisoners of War

The below-named officers and officials of the Department of Defense are hereby designated as a Defense Advisory Committee on Prisoners of War.

CHAIRMAN

Mr. Carter L. Burgess, Assistant Secretary of Defense (M&P)

VICE CHAIRMAN

John E. Hull, General, U. S. Army (Retired)

MEMBERS - Civilian

Dr. Frank Berry, Assistant Secretary of Defense (H&M)
Mr. Hugh M. Milton II, Assistant Secretary of Army (M&RF)
Mr. Albert Pratt, Assistant Secretary of Navy (P&RF)
Mr. David Smith, Assistant Secretary of Air Force (M&P)

MEMBERS - Military

Frank W. Milburn, Lt. General, U. S. Army (Retired)
C. A. Lockwood, Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy (Retired)
Idwal H. Edwards, Lt. General, U. S. Air Force (Retired)
Merritt Edson, Major General, U. S. Marine Corps (Retired)

In addition to the above-named members, staff support will be provided in the form of a Secretariat. Legal Counsel will be provided by the Office of General Counsel (OSD). Research Assistance will be provided through the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (R&D).

Liaison between this Committee and government agencies outside the Department of Defense will be conducted through appropriate Assistant Secretaries of Defense, as coordinated by the Assistant Secretary (M&P).

Terms of reference will be provided separately. The Committee will submit suitable recommendations within sixty days after its first meeting.

C. E. Wilson

[redacted]

DEFENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PRISONERS OF WAR

CPOW/3D-17
6 July 1955

CASUALTY BRANCH, TAGO

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

SUBJECT: Demands for Accounting from the Opposing Forces for Missing United States Military Personnel

1. After the cessation of hostilities in Korea and completion of repatriation of prisoners of war the Casualty Branch of The Adjutant General's Office proceeded to resolve all cases of missing, missing in action or captured personnel under the provisions of PL 490 (The Missing Persons Act). Upon completion of this action there remained a residue of 944 unresolved cases of which 610 were Army.

2. The files of Casualty Branch of TAGO contained scraps of unverified information that led to the belief that at one time these persons were alive and possibly in the hands of the enemy. However, they were not among the repatriated US personnel nor did the enemy render an accounting of their fate. Repeated demands for an accounting have been presented to the enemy by the UN MAC to no avail.

3. Subsequently the list of 610 has been reduced to 202 as reports of death were issued on the basis of additional information.

4. A review of 356 files presently available in Casualty Branch reveals that action to issue reports of death was predicated on the following information:

a. Status changed to Killed in Action on the date reported Missing in Action on the basis of statements - 32.

b. Status changed to Killed in Action on the date reported Missing in Action on the basis of recovered remains - 13.

c. Status changed to killed or died of disease while in the hands of Communist Forces, based on statements - 311.

JOSEPH E. CRUMB
Major, AGC
Acting Chief, Casualty Branch, TAGO

[redacted]

[redacted]

DEFENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PRISONERS OF WAR

CPOW/3 D-4
22 June 1955

STUDY GROUP III

RECOVERY OF UNREPATRIATED PRISONERS OF WAR

Problem A. Assess Efforts to Recover Unrepatriated Military Personnel

American Military Personnel Unaccounted for by the Communists

Document Presented to the Joint Chiefs of Staff by

Lt. Col. James L. Monroe
U. S. Air Force
Prisoner Officer
13 June 1955

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U. S. C., Sections 793 and 794. The transmission or the revelation of it's contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

[redacted]

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CPOW/D-9b (Incl.7)
14 July 1955
(Place in Sec.14)

U. S. MILITARY PERSONNEL UNACCOUNTED FOR BY THE COMMUNISTS

On 9 September 1953, the United Nations Command submitted to the Military Armistice Commission a list of 944 missing U. S. military personnel concerning whom reports were received which indicated that the Communists possessed knowledge of their fate. In many cases the reports on these men were scanty and inconclusive. It was never believed or intended to be implied that all of these men were still living.

By 6 December 1954, through exchange of bodies and receipt of other information, this list of personnel unaccounted for was reduced to 470. This figure was announced by Ambassador Lodge at a Plenary Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on 8 December 1954. This reduction was accomplished largely through information obtained by our own effort, rather than from the Communists.

In order to provide for death benefits, insurance settlements, and other survivor rights, the military Departments have declared nearly all of the 470 missing servicemen as "presumed dead," under the Missing Persons Act of 1942 (P.L. 490, 77th Cong.). This classification is reflected in the latest official Department of Defense statistical report on Korean War casualties, dated 4 November 1954, which indicates that of a total of 5,866 U.S. personnel classified as missing in action, only 24 were still identified as "current missing."

However, the Department of Defense position and the current U.S. Government position is that the Communists continue to be responsible for an accounting of the complete list of 470 U. S. personnel.

Responsibility for the coordination of information on this list within DOD has been assigned to the Defense Prisoner Officer, Lieutenant Colonel J. L. Monroe, USAF.

[redacted]

[redacted]

CPOW/3 D-4
22 June 1955

13 June 1955

EMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: American Military Personnel Unaccounted for by the Communists.

1. Reference is made to the Chairman's oral request for current figures of American military personnel missing in the Korean Theater and not accounted for by the Communists.

2. The total number of U. S. military personnel still unaccounted for is 470. According to the rules of the Geneva Convention and in accordance with the usual practices of civilized nations, the Communists could be held responsible for an accounting.

3. The original list presented on 9 September 1953 to the Communist representatives on the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) included the names of 944 U. S. military personnel.

4. By 17 August 1954, through exchange of bodies and receipt of other information, the U. S. list was reduced to 526. This list was taken to a meeting of the MAC on that date, but the Communist representatives left it lying on the conference table when they departed.

5. By 6 December 1954, as a result of additional information received, the list was further reduced to 470. This figure was announced by Ambassador Lodge in the Plenary Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on 8 December 1954.

6. On 14 June 1954, the United Kingdom Mission in Peiping asked an accounting of all U. N. personnel unaccounted-for at that time. The Mission supplied a list which included the names of all U. S. personnel unaccounted for at that time.

7. In arriving at a figure for which the Communists can be held to have responsibility for an accounting, it should be borne in mind that the steady reduction of our unaccounted-for list has been largely through information obtained by our own effort. The Communists, therefore, cannot be held to be relieved of responsibility for an accounting of the original list of 944.

[redacted]

6. There are six Navy and five Coast Guard personnel who were missing in the Swatow crashes and were not included in the above figure since they were not operating under the U. N. Command. At Geneva the Communist representatives denied any knowledge of them. However, because of the intelligence report that two American Airmen were seen in Swatow, the Chinese denial was unacceptable.

9. Recommendation: Provided it is made entirely clear that the reduction from the original list of 944 U. S. personnel has been through information obtained by our own effort, it is recommended that the position be taken that the Communists still are responsible for an accounting for 470 U. S. personnel.

10. The further question was raised by the Chairman as to how many of the above figure we can prove were at one time in Communist hands. We have no absolute proof that all were in Communist hands while alive. However, there is sufficient evidence to indicate that a sizeable number of the above were known to be alive in custody of the Communists at one time.

JAMES L. MONROE
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Prisoner Officer

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CPOW/D-9b (Incl.1)
14 July 1955
(Place in Sec.14)

STATUS OF KOREAN PRISONERS OF WAR AS OF 8 JUNE 1955

Status	Total	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force
Total Known Captured	7,190	6,656	40	231	263
Died while in captured status	2,730	2,662	9	31	28
Returned or repatriated:					
Returned prior to truce	650	650	-	-	-
Repatriated	3,778	3,323	31	200	224
Elected non-repatriation	21	21	-	-	-
Still retained	11	-	-	-	11

Notes and Definitions

Korean prisoners of war include U.S. military personnel known to have been captured by the enemy during period of Korean hostilities, 25 June 1950-27 July 1953. Also includes 6 Marine Corps personnel captured and released after 27 July 1953. Excludes personnel missing in action during Korean hostilities about whom no information is available. Nearly all of these personnel have been found presumably dead under Missing Persons Act of 1942.

Deaths while in captured status include, in addition to definitely determined deaths, a small number of presumptive "findings of death" under Missing Persons Act of 1942.

Returned prior to truce include personnel held for short time only and recovered prior to 27 July 1953.

Repatriated include personnel returned in accordance with prisoner exchange agreements.

Comparability with earlier POW statistics. Above data may differ from earlier POW statistics due to subsequent status changes and more complete information.

[redacted]

Declassified

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CPOW/D-9b (Incl. 2)
14 July 1955
(Place in Sec. 14)

U. S. MILITARY PERSONNEL KNOWN CAPTURED DURING KOREAN HOSTILITIES, BY SERVICE
(As of 8 June 1955)

Service	Number	Percent Distribution
TOTAL	7,190	100.0
Army	6,656	92.6
Navy	40	0.5
Marine Corps	231	3.2
Air Force	263	3.7

Note:

Period of Korean hostilities covers 25 June 1950 - 27 July 1953.
Marine Corps total includes 6 captured and released after 27 July 1953.

Declassified
DAIN-FAR-SD #17
29 Apr 56

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CPOW/D-9b (Incl.3)
14 July 1955
(Place in Sec.14)

KOREAN PRISONER-OF-WAR DEATHS

Service	Total Known Captured	Deaths while in captured status 1/	
		Number	As percent of Total Captured
TOTAL	7,190	2,730	38.0%
Army	6,656	2,662	40.0%
Navy	40	9	22.5%
Marine Corps	231	31	13.4%
Air Force	263	28	10.6%

1/ Includes following presumptive findings of deaths: Army, 15; Navy, 4; Marine Corps, 9; Air Force, 5.

[redacted]

Declassified
DAIM-FAK-50#17

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CPOW/D-9b (Incl.5)
14 July 1955
(Place in Sec.14)

SERVICE ACTIONS ON REPATRIATED KOREAN PRISONERS OF WAR
AS OF 30 JUNE 1955

	Total	Army	Navy	Marine Corps	Air Force
Total returned or repatriated	4,428	3,973	31	200	224
Conduct found satisfactory	3,863	3,547	31	148	137
Conduct questioned	565	426	-	52	87
Cleared or dropped	213	87	-	49	77
Separated	67	60	-	-	7
Resigned	3	-	-	-	3
" rimand	1	-	-	1	-
_ stricted assignment	2	-	-	2	-
Convicted by Court Martial	6	6	-	-	-
Referred to FBI	211	211	-	-	-
Pending	62	62	-	-	-
SUMMARY					
Total returned or repatriated	4,428	3,973	31	200	224
Cleared or dropped	4,287	3,845	31	197	214
Punished or Administratively Separated	79	66	-	3	10
Pending	62	62	-	-	-
% Punished	2%	2%	0%	1%	4%

[redacted]

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CPOW/D-9b (Incl.6)
14 July 1955
(Place in Sec.14)

SELECTED MEDICAL STATISTICS ON REPATRIATED POW'S

The following statistics are based upon an analysis of preliminary medical reports on 3,745 repatriated United States prisoners of war by the Office of the Surgeon General, Department of the Army.

1. Number of medical evacuation cases. Of the 3,745 repatriates, 1,281 or 34% were evacuated to the United States in a patient status. About two-thirds of these 1,281 patients were designated as requiring convalescent care only.

2. Length of hospitalization. As of 30 June 1954, about 3,000 Army repatriates had been returned to duty after an average length of hospitalization of about two months. Only 40 former POW's were still in Army hospitals; 22 of them were receiving treatment for tuberculosis.

3. Malnutrition and weight loss. Nearly one-fifth of the repatriates were diagnosed as malnutrition cases upon initial examination after repatriation. Average weight loss among all repatriates was 21 lbs.; 257 men lost 40 lbs. or more.

4. Battle wounds among recovered POW's. About one-half of the repatriates had been wounded prior to capture. Due to the long average period of captivity (117 weeks), very few were in need of further immediate medical care for the battle wounds incurred prior to capture.

5. Frostbite. 35% of the repatriates had suffered frostbite, mostly incurred after capture. Almost a third of the frostbite sufferers (about 10% of the total repatriates) had some residual of this frostbite when recovered.

6. Psychiatric findings. About 15% of the repatriates were recorded as suffering from some psychiatric condition at time of repatriation, mainly anxiety conditions. Only 1% of the returned men were reported as suffering from psychoses.

7. Disability separations. As of 30 June 1954, only 108 Army personnel, of a total of 3,323 Army repatriates studied, had been separated for disability, while 40 additional personnel were still hospitalized. Even if it is assumed that all the remaining cases will receive a disability separation, this would represent a disability separation rate of about 4%.

[redacted]

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CPOW/D-9b (Incl. 4)
14 July 1955
(Place in Sec. 14)

COMPARISON OF POW DEATHS: WORLD WAR II AND KOREA

Service	Number Captured		Deaths While in Captured Status			
			Number		As percent of total captured	
	WW II	Korea	WW II	Korea	WW II	Korea
TOTAL	129,701	7,190	14,090	2,730	10.9%	38.0%
Army 1/	124,079	6,656	12,653	2,662	10.2	40.0
Navy	3,348	40	919	9	27.4	22.5
Marine Corps	2,274	231	518	31	22.8	13.4
Air Force 1/	-	263	-	28	-	10.6

1/ Army data for World War II include Army Air Corps.

Notes:

Deaths include determined deaths and presumptive findings of deaths of personnel known to have been captured. The statistics on deaths of Korean War POW's include the following number of presumptive findings of death: Army, 15; Navy, 4; Marine Corps, 9; Air Force, 5.

[redacted]

Declassified
DAIM-FAR-SC #17
24 Apr 86

survivors held in detention; and publicity to the request may encourage other repatriates to come forward with information.

Moscow's and Tokyo's comments are requested on the general desirability of such action and particularly on the following proposed note.

VERBATIM TEXT

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and has the honor to refer to the question of the detention of United States military personnel in the Soviet Union. The United States Government has for some time received, from persons of various nationalities freed from Soviet Government imprisonment during the last several years, reports that they have conversed with, seen or heard reports concerning United States military aviation personnel, belonging either to the United States Air Force or to the United States Navy Air Arm, in actual detention in the Soviet Union. The United States Government has sought in all such cases to obtain, if possible, precise identification of American nationals detained by the Soviet Government, although it notes that by international law and international practice the Soviet Government is obliged to inform the United States Government first of any American nationals whom the Soviet Government holds in custody or to permit such nationals to communicate with the proper United States authorities. The reports concerning such personnel have now become so persistent and detailed, and so credible, that, although the United States Government is not able to identify by name these American nationals now detained by the Soviet Government, it requests the Soviet Government to inform the United States Government in detail concerning each American military person who has been detained in the Soviet Union at any time since January 1, 1949 of whom the United States Government has not heretofore been informed by the Soviet Government, giving in each case the name of the person and the circumstances underlying his detention.

Specifically, the United States Government is informed and is compelled to believe that the Soviet Government has had and continues to have under detention the following:

1. One or more members of the crew of a United States Navy Privateer-type aircraft which came down in the Baltic Sea area on April 8, 1950. The United States Government has since that time received reports that various members of the crew of this United States aircraft were, and are, detained in Soviet detention places

in the Far Eastern area of the Soviet Union. In particular, it is informed, and believes, that in 1950 and in October, 1953 at least one American military aviation person, believed to be a member of the crew of this United States Navy Privateer, was held at Camp No. 20 allegedly near Taishet, and Collective Farm No. 25, approximately 54 kilometers from Taishet, under sentence for alleged espionage. This American national is described as having suffered burns on the face and legs in the crash of his aircraft and using crutches or a cane.

Reports have been received from former prisoners of the Soviet Government at Vorkuta that in September, 1950 as many as eight American nationals, believed to be members of the crew of the United States Navy Privateer to which reference is made, had been seen in the area of Vorkuta and specifically, that one person who was interned at Vorkuta in September, 1950 stated that he was serving a twenty-five year espionage sentence and had been a member of a downed United States aircraft.

For the information of the Soviet Government, the crew of the United States Navy Privateer when it departed for its flight over the high seas of the Baltic consisted of the following United States Navy personnel, all nationals of the United States:

Name	Rank	Serial Number
Fette, John H.	Lt.	320676 USNR
Seeschaf, Howard W.	Lt.	264095 USN
Reynolds, Robert D.	Lt. Jg	368573 USN
Burgess, Tommy L.	Ens.	506762 USN
Danenz Jr., Joe H.	AD1	3685438 USN
Thomas, Jack W.	AD1	2242750 USN
Beckman, Frank L.	AT1	2799076 USN
Purcell, Edward J.	CT3	2540438 USN
Rinniar Jr., Joseph Norris	AT3	2542600 USN
Bourassa, Joseph Jay	AL3	9539864 USN

2. One or more members of the crew of a United States Air Force B-29 which came down on June 13, 1952, either over the Sea of Japan or near the Kamchatka area of the Soviet Union. An officer, believed by the United States Government to have been a member of this crew, was observed in October, 1953 in a Soviet hospital north of Magadan near the crossing of the Kolyma River between Elgen and Debin at a place called Nelkandya. This officer stated that he had been convicted, wrongfully, under Item 6 of Article 58 of the Soviet Penal Code.

CONFIDENTIAL
(Security Classification)

FOR DC USE ONLY

No. CA-10165, June 30, 1954,

SUBJECT: Soviet Detention of United States Aircraft Incident Survivors.

TO: The American Embassy, MOSCOW
American Embassy, TOKYO
[redacted]

This Document Must Be Returned to RA/R Central Files

Reference is made to the Department's Airgram A-785 of April 16, 1954 to the American Embassy, Tokyo on the subject "Aircraft Incidents Survivors" and related telegraphic correspondence, including Section 2 of Moscow's Telegram to the Department No. 944 of February 1, 1954, final paragraph.

The Department is considering whether it has become appropriate as well as desirable at this time to question the Soviet Government specifically with reference to the detention of American fliers whose presence has been reported by repatriates from Soviet prison camps and detention places, even though the basic information received in the Department is not as specific as that which has underlain the representations made to the Soviet Government in other cases.

The Soviet Government has already denied knowledge of the whereabouts of any crew members of the B-29 destroyed by Soviet fighters off Hokkaido on October 7, 1952 and the B-50 destroyed by Soviet fighters over the Sea of Japan on July 29, 1953. This Department, however, made no specific inquiry with respect to the detention of survivors of the United States Navy Privateer shot down by Soviet fighters over the Baltic Sea on April 8, 1950, nor with respect to the B-29 missing over the area of the Sea of Japan on June 13, 1952; nor has it made specific representations with respect to the reported detention of United States aviation personnel who may have come into Soviet custody during the Korean hostilities. There have been reports mentioned in the communications under reference, from American, Japanese and other sources indicating specifically the detention of American aviation personnel since 1949 and the possibility that among them are included crew members of such lost or destroyed aircraft. The Embassies are, of course, aware of the widely publicized allegations of the repatriate, John Noble, which have been corroborated in part by other repatriates, concerning the Navy Privateer crew. It is believed that the information may be specific enough to justify a departure from the existing practice of identifying by name individual

794.5411/6-2056 CS/W

CONFIDENTIAL
(Security Classification)

Klaus:eat

APPROVED BY:

EUR D.B. - NA

BONWIT
TELLER

only...

FUL

RELLI

GS...

or 4.80

pair

FORMER COMRADES ACCUSE CORPORAL

5 Ex-Prisoners of Red Chinese Testify That Dickenson Was an Informer

WASHINGTON, April 20 (UP)—Five of Cpl. Edward S. Dickenson's former prison camp companions testified today that he once had informed their Chinese Communist captors of an escape plot and tried to convert them to communism.

The former prisoners appeared as witnesses at Corporal Dickenson's court-martial on charges of collaboration with the enemy in Korea and informing on fellow inmates to get favored treatment for himself.

Cpl. Thomas A. Carrick of Blacksburg, Va., who shared a foxhole with the 23-year-old Crackers Neck, Va., mountaineer before their capture in 1950, said he had overheard Corporal Dickenson reveal the escape plans of four prisoners to a Communist political adviser.

Cpl. Johnny W. Moore of San Pedro, Calif., and Cpl. Franklin Barrett of Richmond, Va., who were Corporal Dickenson's prison roommates, said he had tried to get them to accept the Communist doctrine and spread anti-American propaganda.

Former Sgt. Barney M. Youngs Jr. of Hamlin, Va., said he had heard Corporal Dickenson say over a public address system at Prison Camp 5 at Pyoktong that he was "going to fight for peace."

Sgt. Dominic J. Cantillo of Boston testified that Corporal Dickenson once had gone around the squad room asking who wanted to sign an "Asiatic peace pact" petition. Sergeant Cantillo said he had signed without reading it when the Reds told him to do so or go back to jail.

Corporal Dickenson is one of two turnabout prisoners who at first refused repatriation but later changed their minds. He seldom took his eyes off his former comrades as they were testifying against him.

Germ Warfare Brought Up

Corporal Moore said Corporal Dickenson had "partially" influenced him on Communist philosophy. He recalled a heated barracks discussion about the execution last summer of atom spies Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. Corporal Dickenson, he said, asked why, if there was freedom in the United States, the nation would execute people "fighting for peace."

Kin of P.O.W.'s Press Plea for Help to Free Them

The New York Times

Some of the relatives of service men missing in Korea as they left yesterday for capital

Special to The New York Times.

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., April 20—A group of women who believe their sons and husbands still are held prisoner by the Communists in Korea spent several hours today standing outside the United Nations buildings, many of them wearing blue ribbons inscribed "Mothers of Forgotten Men."

The seventy-two women came here yesterday with an appeal that United States and United Nations officials help them obtain the release of their relatives. They did not get to see Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold, but they presented their appeal to Andrew Cordier, his executive assistant.

The women, who came here from forty states, said they had been helped to organize by Capt. Eugene R. Guild of Glenwood Springs, Colo., who traveled here with them.

Captain Guild three years ago accused President Truman of "appeasement and belly-crawling" policies in Korea and sent back a scroll presented with the posthumous award of the Navy Cross to his son, Marine Lieut. John N. Guild.

The women also had sought to see Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., United States delegate. An offer by Mr. Lodge to see thirty-five members of the group was not acknowledged until almost noon. By that time the women were preparing to leave for Washington, where they hoped to see President Eisenhower.

According to a United States spokesman, Mr. Lodge assured the women by telephone that he wanted to help in every way he could.

TRAIN BEARING GIFTS FOR KOREANS LEAVES

The "Freedom Express," the first of three trains carrying donations for South Korea's devastated areas, left here yesterday noon after a colorful, sun-drenched ceremony in the New

of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue blessed the train and its $180,000 cargo, which was donated by 110 companies in the metropolitan area.

Brief addresses were made by Gen. James A. Van Fleet, former commander of United Nations forces in Korea; Dr. You Chang Yang, Korean Ambassador to the

Monday of the Geneva Conference on Far Eastern Affairs.

The principal attraction yesterday was the Korean Children's Choir, a group of twenty-five young boys and girls who were flown here from South Korea to participate in the ceremony and the drive that will follow. Dressed in brightly colored native costumes, they sang the Korean national anthem and several Ko-

GREAT BEA
ELECTRIC WATER COOL
and Ideal Spring Water
PURE WATER
is
vital to health
CALL
SP 7-55

Would you invest
$350,000
in the success of your party?
WE DID!
A new banquet room has been added at The Delmonico, the fifth in a group of luxurious and superb ballrooms, all air-conditioned and magnificently decorated, ready to serve from 4 to 400 guests, for any function . . .
• Weddings • Receptions
• Banquets • Dances
• Dinners • Exhibitions
• Fashion Shows
The famed Delmonico service and cuisine assure the success of your party
New York's Landmark of Elegance
HOTEL Delmonico
PARK AVE. at 59th ST. (Call Mr. Law for information) EL 5-2900

BERTH
now available on all
"Parisian" flights
TO PARI
Lower Berths Single or Double Occupancy
Upper Berths $35
Fully Reclining "Sky-Lounge Chairs" also Ava

008
KIRO NEWS
10/10/89 11:05

DATE UNKNOWN

THE RED CHINA NUMBERS GAME

51 Americans remain in captivity

This enemy photograph shows some of the U. S. soldiers who were captured during the early months of the Korean war.

AO-3294136, the service number of an American flier, had become a symbol of Red China's perfidy. It belongs to Air Force Capt. Harold E. Fischer, Jr., 29, of Swea City, Iowa, a double jet ace (eredRed with 10 "kills") in the Korean war. Every shred of evidence indicates that Captain Fischer has been held on Chinese soil since April 7, 1953, when he was shot down near the Yalu River.

Yet for 18 bitter months, the Communists have refused to utter a single official word to confirm or deny that evidence. They counter every demand for information with bland, insolent silence. When they did not return the flier at Panmunjom in the "Big Switch" operation which ended last September, they broke their solemn word to exchange all prisoners of war.

Top Washington officials believe now that approximately 51 Americans, like Fischer, are being held captive. Thirty-two are civilians, some of whom have been prisoners for three years. The remaining are military captives of the Korean war: 18 Air Force airmen, four Naval officers.

The Defense Department has no recent positive evidence that these 19 servicemen are still alive, but it does have reliable information that they were alive at the time the prisoner exchange took place last summer.

The Reds' silence has inflicted torture on the wives, mothers and fathers of the missing men. And

Chinese Reds are holding 944 Americans.

Sen. John M. Butler (Rep., Md.) told the Senate in January that between "700 and 944" American boys were held in the slave-labor camps of China and Siberia. Sen. Joseph McCarthy last fall, and again this spring, accused the Eisenhower Administration of abandoning 900 American POWs to the Reds. Others, including Democrats, have made similar statements.

This most-misunderstood number — 944 — was first heard on September 9, 1953, when the United Nations Command in Korea demanded that the Communists account for 3,600 U.N. personnel missing in action, including 944 Americans. Said the State Department on February 10, "It has not been believed, nor has the United Nations Command ever implied, that all 944 were living." The Pentagon consistently denied that the Reds held 944 Americans, but never announced the exact number it contended the Reds were holding.

Meanwhile, behind the veils of diplomatic maneuvering and policy dilemmas, somewhere in a Manchurian camp sits Captain Fischer. Two days after he was shot down, Radio Peking announced that he had been captured. In June, 1953, his parents received a letter in garbled English from Red China, saying their son was still alive. Subsequently, a Communist newspaperman told U. S. reporters that Captain Fischer was a captive, and six repatriated U. S. prisoners of war said they had heard from Communists that the flier was being held as a "war criminal."

way to force the release of Fischer and his fellow Americans—or face an explosive political issue.

—FLETCHER KNEBEL

Capt. Harold E. Fischer, six months before he was shot down.

U. S. Civilians Held
Colonel Aprioguta
Malcolm Thrasher
Mr. and Mrs. Homer Bradshaw
Lawrence H. Bird
The Rev. John W. Clifford
Donald M. Dixon
The Rev. Justin Harvey
The Rev. Fulgence Hrma
The Rev. John A. Houle
Dilmus T. Kennedy
Jacksonia Kraemer
Laura Lee
Levi A. Lovegreen
Paul Mackinnon
The Rev. John H. Mayo
Robert McLean
The Rev. Charles J. McCarthy
The Rev. Joseph P. McCormack
Timothy Middleton
Herbert Mills
W. L. Winter

U. S. Military POWs
Navy: Ens. Thomas Wedderwald
Ens. William Brown
Lt. (jg) Willis R. Cochran
Lt. James J. Veneri
Air Force: 1st Lt. Lyle Cameron
1st Lt. Richard W. Fecht
Capt. Harold E. Fischer, Jr.
Lt. Col. Edwin L. Heller
[Of the following, three are believed dead, but the Air Force does not know which three.]
Col. John M. Arnold, Jr.
Maj. William Hammer
Capt. Francis J. Vanli
Capt. Elmer P. Llewellyn
1st Lt. Wallace L. Brown
1st Lt. John W. Buck
1st Lt. Paul E. Van Voorhis
1st Lt. Henry D. Wesen
Tech. Sgt. Howard W. Brown
Airman 1/c Alvin D. Hart
Airman 1/c Steve E. Kiba
Airman 2/c Harry M. Benjamin
Airman 2/c Daniel O. Schmidt
Airman 2/c John Thompson, III.

declared dead by Chinese — reported alive by fellow crewmembers

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF LOOK on sale June 29—

Dempsey

Jack Dempsey Today—There's that same note of figurish restlessness about the man whose name still means "champ" to multitudes the world over.

Underwater—Everybody's doing it skin diving for fun, for movies, for adventure in the modern sense.

The Double-Cross—Here is a scientist who took the honors of the West as an atomic expert and then went back to Russia with all the inside information.

(15)

RM/R COPY
This copy must be returned to the RM/R document files.

CONFIDENTIAL

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED DEC 22 1955 DEPARTMENT OF STATE RM/R

TO: Department of State

Date: December 16, 1955

FROM: Amcongen Hamburg

EUR INDEX

SUBJECT: WELFARE - WHEREABOUTS: William George ROBERTSON

REF: ---

Mr. Fritz BAUER, a German national, recently released by the Russians after thirteen years as a Prisoner of War in the USSR called at the Consulate General on December 13 and told the following story:

In March 1955 at International Camp No. 6062/XIII at Kiew-Darnizza he met an American, William George Robertson, who was born on April 4, 1917; who wore glasses; who was talented at drawing; whose home was in New Orleans; and whose father was a lawyer.

Robertson told him that in 1945 he was held by the Germans in a POW camp near Dresden; that the same year the Russians took him with all inmates of the camp and German POWS to the USSR; that he was held in a camp in Leningrad from 1945 to 1949; that from 1949 to 1950 he worked as a laborer in a coal mine in Stalino; and that in 1950 he was transferred to the International Camp in Kiew.

Robertson said that no one would believe that he was an American, and that he was unsuccessful in getting messages to his relatives. He gave Mr. Bauer a letter which was destroyed by Mr. Brauer when he learned that clothing and equipment were taken away from the men being released when they crossed the border and replaced by other clothing and equipment.

Delay in reporting the matter has been due to confusion with regard to Mr. Bauer's own status. Because he was born in the Tyrol he was erroneously released to the Italians and much delay was encountered before his German citizenship was established.

cc Amembassies Moscow, Bonn
USBER Berlin

DC/R
Anal 29
Rev 1
Cat

OFFICE OF SPECIAL CONSULAR SERVICES
DEC 28 1955
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1-16-56

233-ROBERTSON, William George
RGrabiel:mee

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL FILE

CS/K

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

hundreds of WW II era documents still classified, accord

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955-327066

#1 1954

1

~~Secret~~ ~~SECRET~~ ACTION COPY

666 FROM: DEPT ACTION: DNH

SENT APRIL 19 1 pm RECD: APRIL 20 1 am

According Despatch 1716 from Hong Kong airpouched you, a recently arrived Greek refugee from Manchuria reported seeing several hundred American POW's being transferred Chinese trains to Russian trains Manchouli late 1951 and early 1952. Some POW's wore sleeve ingignia indicating they were Air Force non-coms. Great number Negro troops also observed. This report corroborates previous indications UNC POW's might have been shipped to Siberia during Korean hostilities.

United States has been greatly concerned general subject UNC personnel who may still be Communist custody. Department has just accepted British offer make representations Peiping behalf UNC personnel who may be Chinese Communist custody. Question raising this matter informally Geneva under careful consideration.

Unless you perceive objection, request you approach highest available level Foreign Ministry and leave Aide Memoire indicating reports have now come attention United States Government which support earlier indications that American Prisoners of War Korea had been transported into Soviet Union and are now Soviet custody. Request fullest possible information these POW's and their reparation earliest possible time.

In your discussion with Foreign Office, you may desire inform Soviets without revealing source that we have reliable accounts transfers POW's Manchouli.

DULLES

RL:gr

AMB CHAN CHRON ~~SECRET~~

Air Pouch — Secret (Security Classification)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

611.95A/3-2254

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMCONGEN, Hong Kong — 1716 DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. — March 23, 1954

REF :

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.	OTHER
	REC'D		

SUBJECT: American POWs Reported en route to Siberia

A recently arrived Greek refugee from Manchuria has reported seeing several hundred American prisoners of war being transferred from Chinese trains to Russian trains at Manchouli near the border of Manchuria and Siberia. The POWs were seen late in 1951 and in the spring of 1952 by the informant and a Russian friend of his. The informant was interrogated on two occasions by the Assistant Air Liaison Officer and the Consulate General agrees with his evaluation of the information as probably true and the source as of unknown reliability. The full text of the initial Air Liaison Office report follows:

First report dated March 16, 1954, from Air Liaison Office, Hong Kong, to USAF, Washington, C2.

"This office has interviewed refugee source who states that he observed hundreds of prisoners of war in American uniforms being sent into Siberia in late 1951 and 1952. Observations were made at Manchouli (Lupin), 49°50'-117°30' Manchuria Road Map, AMSL 201 First Edition, on USSR-Manchurian border. Source observed POWs on railway station platform loading into trains for movement into Siberia. In railway restaurant source closely observed three POWs who were under guard and were conversing in English. POWs wore sleeve insignia which indicated POWs were Air Force noncommissioned officers. Source states that there were a great number of Negroes among POWs shipments and also states that at no time later were any POWs observed returning from Siberia. Source does not wish to be identified for fear of reprisals against friends in Manchuria, however is willing to cooperate in answering further questions and will be available Hong Kong for questioning for the next four days."

Upon receipt of this information, USAF, Washington, requested elaboration of the following points:

1. Description of uniforms or clothing worn by POWs including ornaments.
2. Physical condition of POWs.

DNForman/RDYoder/jmc — Secret

Page 2 of
Dsp. No. 1716
From Hong Kong

~~SECRET~~
(Classification)

Page ___ of
Encl. No. ___
Dsp. No. ___
From ___

3. Nationality of guards.
4. Specific dates of observations.
5. Destination in Siberia.
6. Presence of Russians in uniform or civilian clothing accompanhing movement of POWs.
7. Complete description of three POWs specifically mentioned.

The Air Liaison Office complied by submitting the telegram quoted below.

"FROM USAIRLO SGN LACKEY. CITE C 4. AEUR 53737 following answers submitted to seven questions.

(1) POWs wore OD outer clothing described as not heavy inasmuch as weather considered early spring. Source identified from pictures service jacket, field, M1943. No belongings except canteen. No ornaments observed.

(2) Condition appeared good, no wounded all ambulatory.

(3) Station divided into two sections with tracks on each side of loading platform. On Chinese side POWs accompanied by Chinese guards. POWs passed through gate bisecting platform to Russian train manned and operated by Russians. Russian trainmen wore dark blue or black tunic with silver colored shoulder boards. Source says this regular train uniform but he knows the trainmen are military and wearing regular train uniforms.

(4) Interrogation with aid of more fluent interpreter reveals source first observed POWs in railroad station in spring 1951. Second observation was outside city of Manchouli about three months later with POW train headed towards station where he observed POW transfer. Source was impressed with second observation because of large number of Negroes among POWs. Source states that he was told by a very close Russian friend whose job was numbering railroad cars at Manchouli every time subsequent POW shipments passed through Manchouli. Source says these shipments were reported often and occurred when United Nation forces in Korea were on the offensive.

(5) Unknown.

(6) Only Russian accompanying POWs were those who manned train.

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, 842401
By BOYLAN NARA, Date 11/24/86

Page 3 of
Desp. No. 1716
From Hong Kong

SECRET
(Classification)

Page of
End. No.
Desp. No.
From

(7) Three POWs observed in station restaurant appeared to be 30 to 35. Source identified Air Force non-commissioned officer sleeve insignia of Staff Sergeant rank, stated that several inches above insignia there was a propeller but says that all three did not have propeller. Three POWs accompanied by Chinese guard. POWs appeared thin but in good health and spirits, were being given what source described as good food. POWs were talking in English but did not converse with guard. Further information as to number of POWs observed source states that first observation filled a seven passenger car train and second observation about the same. Source continues to emphasize the number of Negro troops, which evidently impressed him because he had seen so few Negroes before. Source further states that his Russian railroad worker friend was attempting to obtain a visa to Canada and that he could furnish more information, the railroad worker's name is Leon Strelnikov whose mothers sister lives in Canada and is applying for a visa for Strelnikov (phonetic). Comment Reporting Officer: Source is very careful not to exaggerate information and is positive of identification of American POWs. In view of information contained in Charity Interrogation Report No. 619 dated 5 February 54, Reporting Officer gives above information rating of F-2. Source departing Hong Kong today by ship. Future address on file this office."

CONTACT CANADA EMBASSY - [illegible] TO RUN DOWN

SUI CHARITY INTERROGATION REPORT 619 DATED 2-5-54

In this connection the Department's attention is called to Charity Interrogation Report No. 619, forwarded to the Department under coverof a letter dated March 1, 1954, to Mr. A. Sabin Chase, DRF. Section 6 of this report states, "On another occasion source saw several coaches full of Europeans who were also taken to USSR. They were not Russians. Source passed the coaches several times and heard them talk in a language unknown to him."

Julian F. Harrington
American Consul General

cc: Taipei
Moscow
London
Paris

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Page 2 of
Dsp. No. 1716
From Hong Kong

SECRET
(Classification)

Page ___ of
End No. ___
Dsp. No. ___
From ___

3. Nationality of guards.
4. Specific dates of observations.
5. Destination in Siberia.
6. Presence of Russians in uniform or civilian clothing accompanhing movement of POWs.
7. Complete description of three POWs specifically mentioned.

The Air Liaison Office complied by submitting the telegram quoted below.

"FROM USAIRLO SGN LACKEY. CITE C 4. AEUR 53737 following answers submitted to seven questions.

(1) POWs wore OD outer clothing described as not heavy inasmuch as weather considered early spring. Source identified from pictures service jacket, field, M1943. No belongings except canteen. No ornaments observed.

(2) Condition appeared good, no wounded all ambulatory.

(3) Station divided into two sections with tracks on each side of loading platform. On Chinese side POWs accompanied by Chinese guards. POWs passed through gate bisecting platform to Russian train manned and operated by Russians. Russian trainmen wore dark blue or black tunic with silver colored shoulder boards. Source says this regular train uniform but he knows the trainmen are military and wearing regular train uniforms.

(4) Interrogation with aid of more fluent interpreter reveals source first observed POWs in railroad station in spring 1951. Second observation was outside city of Manchouli about three months later with POW train headed towards station where he observed POW transfer. Source was impressed with second observation because of large number of Negroes among POWs. Source states that he was told by a very close Russian friend whose job was numbering railroad cars at Manchouli every time subsequent POW shipments passed through Manchouli. Source says these shipments were reported often and occurred when United Nation forces in Korea were on the offensive.

(5) Unknown.

(6) Only Russian accompanying POWs were those who manned train.

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, 842401
By [illegible] NARA, Date 11/20/86

Page 3
Desp. No. 1716
From Hong Kong

SECRET
(Classification)

Page
End No.
Desp. No.
From

(7) Three POWs observed in station restaurant appeared to be 30 to 35. Source identified Air Force non-commissioned officer sleeve insignia of Staff Sergeant rank, stated that several inches above insignia there was a propeller but says that all three did not have propeller. Three POWs accompanied by Chinese guard. POWs appeared thin but in good health and spirits, were being given what source described as good food. POWs were talking in English but did not converse with guard. Further information as to number of POWs observed source states that first observation filled a seven passenger car train and second observation about the same. Source continues to emphasize the number of Negro troops, which evidently impressed him because he had seen so few Negroes before. Source further states that his Russian railroad worker friend was attempting to obtain a visa to Canada and that he could furnish more information, the railroad worker's name is Leon Strelnikov whose mothers sister lives in Canada and is applying for a visa for Strelnikov (phonetic). Comment Reporting Officer: Source is very careful not to exaggerate information and is positive of identification of American POWs. In view of information contained in Charity Interrogation Report No. 619 dated 5 February 54, Reporting Officer gives above information rating of F-2. Source departing Hong Kong today by ship. Future address on file this office."

CONTACT CANADA EMBASSY - [illegible] TO RUN DOWN

SUI CHARITY INTERROGATION REPORT 619 DATED 2-5-54

In this connection the Department's attention is called to Charity Interrogation Report No. 619, forwarded to the Department under coverof a letter dated March 1, 1954, to Mr. A. Sabin Chase, DRF. Section 6 of this report states, "On another occasion source saw several coaches full of Europeans who were also taken to USSR. They were not Russians. Source passed the coaches several times and heard them talk in a language unknown to him."

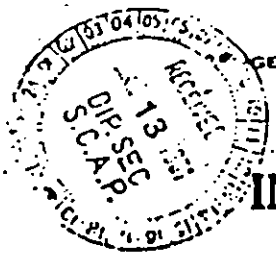
Julian F. Harrington
American Consul General

cc: Taipei
Moscow
London
Paris

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

C

SAIKO NARA Date 2/10/07.



GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, FAR EAST COMMAND
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
RADIO AND CABLE CENTER

RECEIVED 13 DIP.SEC S.C.A.P.

INCOMING MESSAGE

AHC/gr

CONFIDENTIAL
ROUTINE

	CM
	COUN
	ADM
X	POL
	ECON
	UNIT
	LN
	CONS
	DISB
X	

FILE COPY NAN

12 Mar 51

FROM : STATE DEPT WASH DC

TO : SCAP (USPOLAD) TOKYO JAPAN

NR : 120748 Z (MAR 12 2 AM) (FROM SAIGON SEILAWNATE 1592 Mar 10 6 PM RPTD INFO USPOLAD TOKYO 41 TAIPEI 44 HONG KONG 160 HANOI UNNUM)

FRENCH

Fr mil intel sources have declared to leg that according report valued C-3 and dated Dec 9 1950 3000 Amer Prisoners captured in Korea were transported shortly before that date to Chi An (6549/1344) and Sin Ni Chow (2450/5030/1558) near NE Manchu-Korean border. Report further states 1200 lightly wounded Amers were at same time placed in 3d Gen Air Def Hospital at An Tung, Manchu.

WKSS

ACTION : DIPLOMATIC

INFORMATION : COMMANDER IN CHIEF, CHIEF OF STAFF, G-1, G-2, AG, PROVOST MARSHAL

74289 ROUTINE TOO : 120748 Z
MCN : 79339

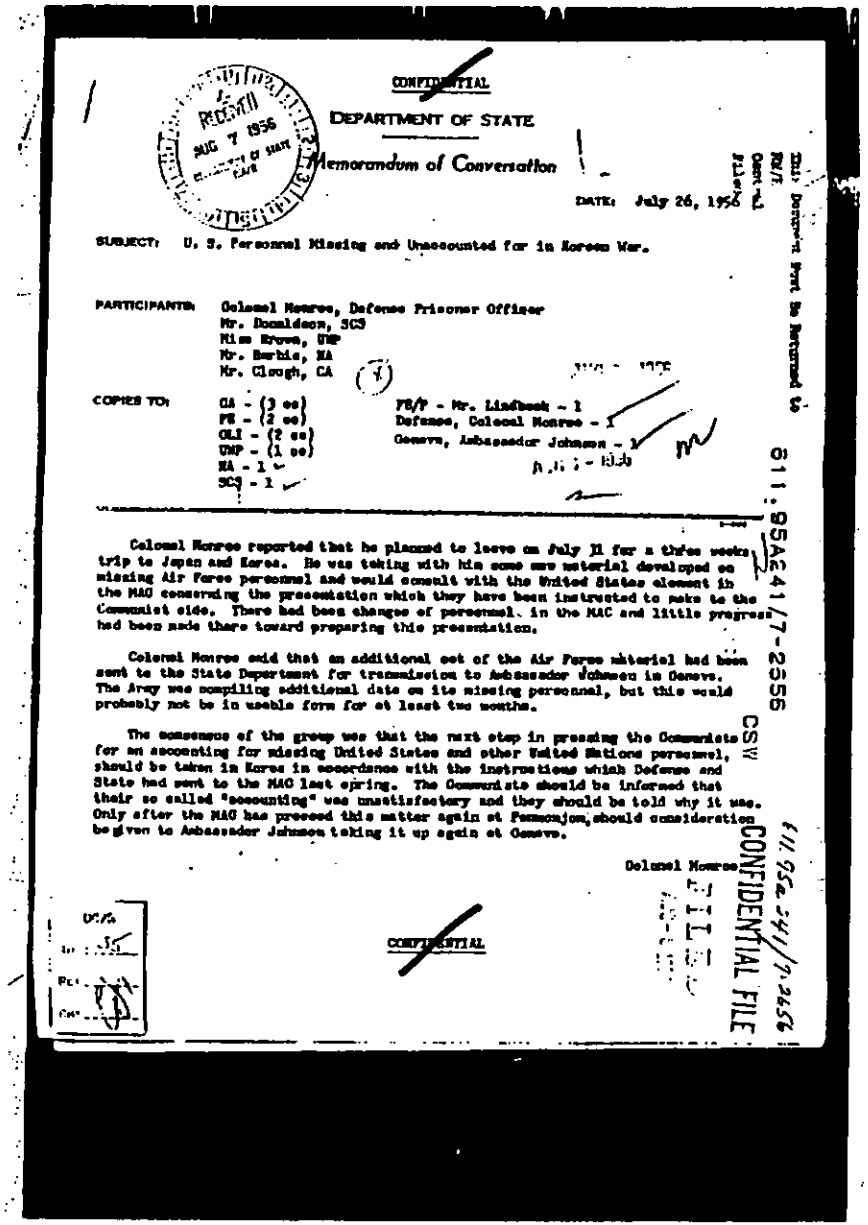
CONFIDENTIAL

Paraphrase not required. Handle as correspondence of classification carried hereon per paragraphs 17a(1)(2) and 41c(2)(3) and g(1), AR 380-5, 15 November 1949.

COPY No.

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

State



CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

RECEIVED AUG 7 1956 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DATE: July 26, 1956

This Document Must Be Returned to
RM/R
Central
Files

SUBJECT: U. S. Personnel Missing and Unaccounted for in Korean War.

PARTICIPANTS: Colonel Monroe, Defense Prisoner Officer
Mr. Donaldson, SCS
Miss Brown, UNP
Mr. Barbis, NA
Mr. Clough, CA

COPIES TO: CA - (3 cc)
FE - (2 cc)
OLI - (2 cc)
UNP - (1 cc)
NA - 1
SCS - 1
FE/P - Mr. Lindbeck - 1
Defense, Colonel Monroe - 1
Geneva, Ambassador Johnson - 1

Colonel Monroe reported that he planned to leave on July 31 for a three weeks trip to Japan and Korea. He was taking with him some new material developed on missing Air Force personnel and would consult with the United States element in the MAC concerning the presentation which they have been instructed to make to the Communist side. There had been changes of personnel in the MAC and little progress had been made there toward preparing this presentation.

Colonel Monroe said that an additional set of the Air Force material had been sent to the State Department for transmission to Ambassador Johnson in Geneva. The Army was compiling additional data on its missing personnel, but this would probably not be in usable form for at least two months.

The consensus of the group was that the next step in pressing the Communists for an accounting for missing United States and other United Nations personnel, should be taken in Korea in accordance with the instructions which Defense and State had sent to the MAC last spring. The Communists should be informed that their so called "accounting" was unsatisfactory and they should be told why it was. Only after the MAC has pressed this matter again at Panmunjom, should consideration be given to Ambassador Johnson taking it up again at Geneva.

Colonel Monroe

611.95A241/7-2656

CSW

CONFIDENTIAL FILE

CONFIDENTIAL

Col. Monroe informed the group that the report on collection and dissemination of intelligence concerning Americans held in iron curtain countries which was being prepared by a subcommittee of the IAC Committee on this subject should be ready for circulation next week.

Mr. Donaldson mentioned the pressure which was being asserted on the Department in the form of letters and petitions demanding action on missing U. S. personnel. He referred to a proposal that Ambassador Lodge be instructed at an appropriate occasion, to make a speech on this subject in order to remove some of the public misunderstanding. The reaction of the group to this subject was favorable.

FE:CA:[redacted]

State

AIR POUCH
PRIORITY

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
(Security Classification)

AUG 27 1956

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

611.61241/8-2156
XR 211.1111

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM: AMEMBASSY, VIENNA

169
DESP. NO.

TO: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

August 21, 1956
DATE

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT. INR/R-2, CCI-6, C-2, SCS-2
	REC'D 8/24	INFO OTHER CIA-7, ARMY-4, OSD-4

SUBJECT: American Citizen Detained in USSR

A recently returned Austrian prisoner of war, Adalbert SKALA, resident Vienna II, Muelfeldgasse 15, has reported to the Embassy the following information on an American officer, Lt. (fnu) RACEK, approximate age 38, with whom he claims to have been imprisoned in the Soviet Union. Skala states that he first met Racek in 1951 in Prison #2, Irkutsk, and that the two were cellmates in Irkutsk and subsequently in Lubanka Prison in Moscow until the time of Skala's release in 1955. Skala does not know Racek's first name, but reports that the latter had been a lieutenant of armored troops in Korea, where he was captured. Racek gave Skala the address of his father, Thomas Racek, 358 East 72nd Street, (Harlem 1), New York 21, New York, and asked that he be informed that his son was alive. Racek's prisoner number to which mail and Red Cross packages are addressed is 5110/51. Skala has been forwarding packages to Racek through the Austrian Red Cross and has received acknowledgments of their receipt. In addition, he and Racek worked out a system by which Racek is able to smuggle communications out to Skala through an exchange of Red Cross cards (the exact technique of which is not quite clear to the Embassy). Skala has received a card from Racek this month indicating that he is still in Lubanka Prison in Moscow.

Skala reports that Racek is not in particularly good condition, having had a number of front teeth knocked out, having lost his hair, and generally having suffered the effects of mistreatment. However, he did not indicate that Racek was in any immediate difficulties.

Skala states that subsequent to his release in 1955 he was hospitalized in Austria until recently and that this was why he had not reported to the Embassy earlier his information about Racek. He also states that he had been threatened by the Soviets with reprisals should he give any information to "the Austrians" regarding his imprisonment. Therefore, he had waited further until he could be sure of reporting directly to "Americans" and not through any Austrian channel. While Skala did not impress members of the Embassy as being of a particularly high degree of intelligence, he did appear sincere in his desire to help Racek and he was altogether positive in his information. He reports that he is writing separately to Racek's father in New York and requested that if the Embassy received additional information regarding Racek from Washington we inform him.

cc: Moscow
Dept pass to Army

LLEWELLYN E. THOMPSON

EPR:virmus/phm
REPORTER

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

This copy has been designated RECORD COPY and may be released

611.61241/8-2156 HBS

FILED
AUG 29 1956

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE

6 11.61241/10-2157 VHB

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AmConsulate, Strasbourg, France

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

DESP. NO.

October 21, 1957

REF :

For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	EUR-5	RMIR-2 IRC-2 PPT-2 SCS-2 P-1
	REC'D 10/26	OTHER CIA-12 OSD 4 ARMY-4

SUBJECT: Information Regarding Americans Allegedly Detained in Soviet Union.

On October 15 a person without identification documents, representing himself to be Richard SAWICKI, called at the Consulate. He said he was a Polish National, that he had been until July 1957 a prisoner in the Russian concentration camp of Bulun, in the province of Yakutsk. American fellow prisoners in the camp, he said, had urged him to report their presence therein, at the first American Consulate he could contact after his release. Having been released in July 1957, Sawicki said, he returned to Poland. He had now escaped from Poland and was passing through Strasbourg on route to Barcelona to join his mother. His mother, whose name is apparently also Sawicki, is said to reside at Borta Nitella 174, Barcelona 8, Spain.

The Americans who were detained in the Bulun camp, Sawicki, stated, were the following:

1) WATSON, Jack of Buffalo, New York, an American Professor of Physics who was captured by the Russians in Vienna in 1949. Sawicki could not recall Professor Watson's street address in Buffalo or the name of the institution with which he had been connected. He said that Professor Watson had been requested by the Russians to teach physics but had refused and therefore had worked as an ordinary laborer in that camp until 1956. In that year had become paralysed, and was now under treatment in the camp hospital.

2) ROZHICKI, Dack)
3) WARNER, Stanley) Three American soldiers who had been captured in the Korean War.
4) SOROW, Jan)

Since there are several persons at the College of Free Europe whose native language is Polish and who are qualified to pass upon the bona fides of refugees, the Consulate requested the College to receive Sawicki. He was given food and shelter for one night and was questioned by officials of the College who at first were inclined to believe his story. He was given a letter and the Paris Office of the organization was requested to receive him and assist him vis-à-vis the French authorities. However, on the day following his

reception

David A. Toomasson:lma

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

INFORMATION COPY

Retain in divisional files or destroy in accordance with security regulations.

DECLASSIFIED

R.R.C.

K-SO-INTEL-6004-HT
JUL-DEC 1957

2

X

(TITLE) Semi-Annual Historical Report
6004th Air Intelligence Service Sq.
Hiroi Air Base, Japan.
1 July - 31 Dec 1957

CLASSIFIED BY
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR
INTERVALS DECLASSIFIED ON DECEMBER
31, 1965

DECLASSIFIED
NOV 30 1978

2-13111
423119

[redacted]

Through this reporting period liaison was maintained with established human source contacts and a continuous effort was made to develop more productive and contemporary sources.

Evasion and Escape Library

A total of 231 books and periodicals were purchased during this reporting period, most of which were procured from leftist book stores in the Tokyo area. The following list is representative of the volumes procured:

1. The Economical Geograhpy of the USSR, 1956
2. The Materials of the Economy of Agriculture in Yakutia
3. The History of Yakut A.S.S.R., Vol #1

In addition to the utilization of books and periodicals, to further obtain contemporary information, subscriptions were maintained to various Russian newspapers. Supplementing these subscriptions were periodicals, magazines and newspapers received from the Liaison Section. These publications were screened for material pertinent to the various projects of the section. A total of 2,982 publications were screened by researchers during this six-month period.

Publications

The following gazetteers were completed by the Evasion and Escape Section and published by the Editorial and Productions Section during this reporting period:

1. Gazetteer of Sakhalin, August 1957
2. Gazetteer of the Kurile Islands, October 1957

Project American

This project was initiated in July 1954 for the purpose of carrying out extensive research with regard to USAF personnel unaccounted for after the Korean

[redacted]

4

[redacted]

conflict. Through information collected from repatriated U.S. and U.N. prisoners of war, Japanese repatriates, foreign refugees, and numerous intelligence reports, a strong possibility emerged that a large number of the personnel listed as "missing in action" may still be alive and interned in Communist prison camps. The objective of this project is to investigate the identification of as many of these men as possible. This objective is to be accomplished by the exploitation of all possible documentary and human sources. Project American was and is currently being developed as a continuing file of all such information with any previously unevaluated material being disseminated as Special Reports or Intelligence Reports.

AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE SECTION

The primary mission of this section is the collection of air technical intelligence information on those areas of prime interest to the Commander, PACAF, and to include other areas as may be designated. Another mission of the ATI section is to provide technical assistance and training to members of other sections of the squadron in the preparation and evaluation of technical reports. This section is also vested with the responsibility of making investigations and preliminary evaluations of foreign air material obtained by the squadron or other 6002d Air Intelligence Service Group units, maintaining liaison with those other military intelligence organizations with an air technical intelligence capability or interest and to aid in the collection of materials upon request of USAF and/or Deputy for Intelligence, PACAF.

The following SRIs and PRIs were levied on this section during this reporting period:

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL INTELLIGENCE COMMAND
2461 EISENHOWER AVENUE
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22331

C-9/NIS-27

22 JUN

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (OP-009A)

Subj: Crash of Navy PB4Y-2, 8 April 1950 (U)

Ref: (a) OP-009A Memo of 13 Jun 1973

1. (FOUO) Reference (a) requested a search of NAVINTCOM files to determine the existence of any information relating to the crash of a PB4Y-2 over the Baltic Sea, 8 April 1950. Appended to reference (a) was an affidavit to the President of the United States executed by Mr. John H. NOBLE, a prisoner of the Soviets from July 1945 to January 1955. This affidavit alleged that eight of the ten USN crew members of the PB4Y-2 had survived the crash and were being detained in the Soviet Union.

2. (C) Retrievable holdings of this Command have been summarized from pertinent documents and are reported herein:

a. On 11 April 1951, BUPERS issued a statement concerning the finding of death of the ten man crew of the USN aircraft PB4Y-2 on 8 April 1950. This report contained an admission by the Soviet government that a U.S. aircraft had been fired upon on that date in the vicinity of Libau, Latvia. Two life rafts were subsequently picked up in the Baltic and these were positively identified as belonging to the missing aircraft. BUPERS at that time indicated no official or confirmed unofficial reports had been received concerning any survivors. (Pers G231-MFD-ilj)

b. The Associated Press reported on 12 January 1955 that Mr. John H. NOBLE, recently returned from a Soviet prison camp, declared he had been told American airmen were held in a Soviet prison at Vorkuta and that it was common knowledge that some crewmen from the Baltic Sea crash were in captivity. NOBLE and PVT William C. MARCHUK, U.S. Army were released by the

No Security Objection to Open Publication
9 MAY 1979
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Dept. of the Navy

CLASSIFIED BY: DIRNAVINVSERV
SUBJECT TO GDS OF EO 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER 1979

Russians on 8 January 1955. (Washington Times-Herald, 12 January 1955)

c. MARCHUK and NOBLE while awaiting repatriation at Potma in January 1955 heard from other assembled prisoners about U.S. fliers shot down over Baltic in 1950. A contradiction was noted in their stories. NOBLE stated he talked to prisoners who had seen eight of these fliers alive at an unspecified camp. MARCHUK stated he had heard from other prisoners that they saw bodies of these fliers removed from the plane. Discrepancy unresolved in our holdings. (U. S. State Department Message No. 420 of 12 January 1955)

d. MARCHUK stated to U.S. Army investigators in January 1955 that he had heard from other prisoners that the eight American airmen shot down over Baltic Sea in 1950 were alive and prisoners in Vorkuta. NOBLE stated from first hand knowledge MARCHUK was an avid communist and a thief. (CINCUSAREUR Message No. SX 1167 of 11 January 1955)

e. NOBLE was queried in Berlin in January 1955 by a U.S. Department of State representative concerning the conflict in his earlier statements and those of MARCHUK relative to the Baltic Sea fliers. NOBLE repeated his story in somewhat greater detail. While he was being transferred from Vorkuta to Potma in July 1954 he met a group of Yugoslav prisoners who mentioned that they had met other American prisoners while detained in USSR. In talking with one of these Yugoslavs, NOBLE ascertained that there were eight survivors from the PB4Y shot down in 1950 over the Baltic. This Yugoslav had himself seen and talked with these eight survivors. Yugoslav source told NOBLE survivors were particularly worried because they knew that they were officially dead, the Soviets having announced there were no survivors, therefore they had every reason to believe Soviet authorities would see to it they would disappear. As to date conversation between Yugoslav and PB4Y survivors, NOBLE could only say that meeting occurred "well after time of incident." As to location of U.S. fliers, NOBLE could only remember Yugoslav source saying he had met Americans while latter were being transferred from one camp to another.

f. On 17 January 1955, the DIO-3ND interviewed NOBLE at his hotel in New York City to determine whether newspaper statements attributed to NOBLE concerning Naval aviators being held in captivity were true. In essence, NOBLE related the following: He categorically denied that he had ever said these men were naval aviators and in his previous statement had said that they were American aviators and the inference had later been put in by newspapermen. He said the true facts were as follows: About six months ago he had been transferred from a camp within the Arctic Circle to a repatriation camp in Russia. At this camp in the same barracks were a number of Yugoslavs. These Yugoslavs were divided into three groups - German Yugoslavs, Austrian Yugoslavs, and native Yugoslavs and they were to be repatriated to the three respective countries. The Austrian Yugoslavs were repatriated first and left before NOBLE was repatriated. One of the German Yugoslavs who was to be repatriated to Germany is the man who told him the story that in the camp from which he came in the Arctic Circle there were eight (8) American aviators. He does not remember the man's name but his bunk mate would know it. The Austrian Yugoslav is named FRANZ ZWETKO; address Liebenau, Gradz Austria; street address: Am Greunanger 111. NOBLE stated that ZWETKO knew this man well and would know his name and hence the man who made the original statement would soon be available somewhere in Germany. NOBLE wrote to ZWETKO as of that date and requested the name of the German Yugoslav. If ZWETKO can be contacted in Austria he should be told the man in question lived in the "red room" of the barracks and read aloud most of the time. NOBLE feels that this would be enough information to indicate to ZWETKO who the man was. At this point in time, the DIO discreetly cautioned NOBLE of the dangers involved in saying that the American aviators were the PB4Y Navy fliers. NOBLE appeared on television later that night and no mention was made of any internment of Navy fliers. (DIO, 3ND Memorandum)

g. On 18 January 1955, NOBLE was debriefed by the U. S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. The highlights of this proceeding follows:

He had met PVT William MARCHUK and William VERDINE both Americans in June 1954 while imprisoned. At this time, he recalled that while in the company of either MARCHUK or VERDINE, they were told by a German Yugoslav that the latter

had met eight American flyers who claimed to have been shot down over the Baltic Sea. The German Yugoslav stated he was told by the "eight American flyers" in Vorkuta that they were picked up by the Soviet Coast Guard after the crash, and feared they would be hidden in the Soviet Union, since the Soviet authorities had reported there were no survivors in that crash. NOBLE indicated this was the only conversation he had with the German Yugoslav. NOBLE stated MARCHUK had frequently talked with this German Yugoslav who, according to NOBLE, worked closely with the Russians. NOBLE was shown photographs of five members of the PB4Y-2 crew, but stated he had not seen them. The names of all ten crew members of the PB4Y-2 were mentioned to NOBLE and only the name REYNOLDS was familiar to him, but he could not recall the circumstances which caused the name to be familiar.

(U.S. Department of State Debrief of 18 January 1955, Washington, D.C.)

h. ZWETKO advised a USN representative in Austria on 26 January 1955 that he possessed no information on any Americans except NOBLE, MARCHUK and VERDINE; that he knew of no information concerning imprisoned American flyers except that told to him by NOBLE; that he had never been assigned to Vorkuta.

(Naval Message 261400Z January 1955)

i. ZWETKO advised a Navy representative in February 1955 that he recently received a letter from NOBLE. As a result of this communication, ZWETKO identified one WUKOWITSCH as the fellow prisoner at Potma who told NOBLE that the missing USN Baltic fliers were interned in the USSR. ZWETKO believed that WUKOWITSCH was now residing in East Berlin. (Department of State Vienna message 1798 of 14 February 1955)

j. VERDINE was interrogated by COMNAVGER Rep Berlin on 2 February 1955 and denied any knowledge of USN personnel incarcerated by Russians and had not heard of the disappearance of Navy Privateer. (Naval Msg, COMNAVGER, 021737Z February 1955)

k. On 16 May 1955, WUKOWITSCH and VERDINE were interrogated by COMNAVGER. WUKOWITSCH was unable to offer any specific information pertaining to the Navy plane crew. He recalled

hearing on the prison loudspeaker in Vorkuta in early 1950 that an American aircraft had crossed the USSR border, and that the U.S. government had subsequently charged that the aircraft was shot down by the Russians. Further, he was unable to identify any crewmen from photographs displayed to him. VERDINE was able to acknowledge only that while in Vorkuta in 1953, he heard a camp rumor to the effect that a U.S. plane had been shot down in the Baltic. COMNAVGER commented in his report that since no confirmation of NOBLE's stories could be developed it appeared that NOBLE may be fabricating the information. Numerous German and other repatriates were questioned in Berlin upon return regarding the Navy Privateer and the fate of its crew with negative results. (COMNAVGER IR 266-S-55 of 18 May 1955)

1. In March 1955, NOBLE told the FBI he had no definite knowledge of any Americans behind the Iron Curtain, but he felt there were some there due to comments made to him by other prisoners. (Ref. FBI Rpt, Detroit, Michigan, 23 March 1955)

3. (U) It is believed that crewman identified in reference (a) as AT1 Frank L. PECKHAM, USN is intended to read AT1 Frank Lloyd BECKMAN.

4. (C) It is evident from the review of our files on the Baltic Sea incident that statements made by repatriates are not based on fact, but essentially are unconfirmed hearsay. NOBLE's sources of information have denied upon interrogation knowledge of information attributed to them by NOBLE. American aviators allegedly imprisoned in the USSR have never been confirmed to be identical with the U.S. Navy crew of the PB4Y-2. No interviewee has been able to substantiate the rumors that the Navy fliers are alive. NOBLE contributed five articles to the N.Y. Times in 1955, wrote an article for the Readers Digest in February 1956 and according to a parent of one of the crew members has written a book on his experiences as a prisoner in the USSR. This Command has no photographs depicting a Soviet vessel picking up survivors and/or bodies from the PB4Y. Our files do not reflect an interview in Washington, D.C. by Naval Intelligence personnel on 17 January 1955, but as reflected in paragraph 2 above, NOBLE was interviewed by DIO, 3ND in New York on 17 January 1955.

W. E. NYCE
Deputy

the missing Japanese women, but Kim Yu Mi was unable to identify a photo of the missing woman.

A Swedish book* reports that a group of four Lebanese women were taken against their will to Pyongyang. They were reportedly placed in a spy school together with women from France, Italy, the Netherlands, and other countries. Two of the Lebanese women managed to escape through a country in Eastern Europe and eventually returned to Beirut in 1979. The book bases its report on accounts by the escapees.

In addition, a South Korean and a Korean-American have apparently been abducted. During an Easter vacation in 1979, Ko Sang-mun, a South Korean, was touring Oslo, Norway. He lost his luggage and asked a taxi driver to take him to the South Korean Embassy. The driver mistakenly dropped him at the DPRK Embassy. The tourist entered the building and was evidently kidnapped by North Korean diplomats. Authorities in Norway and Sweden later reportedly discovered that the DPRK diplomats had transported Ko Sang-mun first to Stockholm and then to Pyongyang. On 30 June Radio Pyongyang announced that Ko "heroically had come to the northern part of Korea." According to Swedish sources who have researched this case, Ko's trip to the DPRK was not voluntary. In the same month, June 1979, "Chung Ryen-sup" a 22-year-old Korean-American soldier was reported by Swedish sources to have disappeared after having been stationed in the Federal Republic of Germany. A devout Christian born in South Korea, he immigrated to the US in 1973 and later joined the US Army. After refusing for many weeks to answer questions regarding this case at the Panmunjom talks, the Pyongyang authorities declared in August 1979 that Chung had escaped to the DPRK because he could not "stand the life in the aggressive imperialist US Army."

---

* A. Ek, H. Pettersson, E. Linander, An Expensive Diplomatic Initiative? 116 (1980) (in Swedish).

10/10/89 11:02 KIRO NEWS 003

November 4, 1978

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

While a prisoner of the Red Chinese during the Korean War, I saw over fifteen Caucasian prisoners. I saw these men from June of 1953 through the summer (June-July) of 1955. (My internment lasted from January 13, 1953 to August 4, 1955.) Most of the sightings were during the months of May through September of 1953, with sporadic sightings at other times prior and after this period of time. These fifteen men are in addition to John T. Downey and Richard Fecteau with whom our B-29 crew spent three weeks (December 7-28, 1954). One of the fifteen whom I saw was a Lt. Paul Van Voohris. Lt. Van Voohris was on our B-29 as an instructor radar operator. I saw him on about 8-10 occasions over a 2-3 week period in late July and early August of 1953 — seven months after we were shot down. During our "trial" in October of 1954, the Chinks claimed that Lt. Van Voohris and Lt. Henry Weese were killed in the crash. In my early interrogations the Chinks told me that they had captured two of our crew as they hit the ground on the night we were shot down (January 12, 1953). They also boasted that they had captured thirteen of us. Of the eleven of us who were freed, none of us were captured on the night of January 12, 1953.

I reported these sightings to our Air Force Intelligence, the CIA, and the State Department upon my return to Freedom. Their reaction was one of indifference, and I was admonished to forget not only the fifteen but also Downey and Fecteau. It was suggested that perhaps I had imagined that I had seen these men. Some time during my debriefings I was ordered to forget what I had seen and to forget the three weeks we spent with Downey and Fecteau and to never discuss this matter with anyone. Of course, there was no way I could ever forget these men; after all I had just been released from that indescribable hell that these abandoned men were suffering and enduring.

To my knowledge only one of these fifteen men has been released.

This statement regarding my sightings of Caucasian prisoners left behind in Red China is true, and I would be willing to swear to it.

Steve E. Kiba

Steve E. Kiba,
ex-MIA/POW of the Red Chinese

very uncommon
tortured by his Captors
Told them everything
about the CIA Workings

E

Please excuse my English,

I thank you for inviting me to this meeting. My name is Serban Oprica. I am from Romania. My parents suffered loss of jobs and private property while the comunists were taking power, the only source of happiness remaining their children's education.

In the year 1967, I received my Master's Degree in Constructions, and I started working at Institute of Designing in Bucharest city. In September 1979, I was sent to North Korea to help built the first television factory in that country. In the month of October in a visit to a museum I saw the event for which I attended this meeting.

It was a beautiful day. The Korean bus with twenty-five Romanian people and North Korean guides drove along winding rural road. After a turn a large field with tiny houses appeard before my eyes. From those houses a man that was taller than the Koreans approached the bus. Behind him, near a house, a Korean woman could be seen. As the bus came closer, everyone in the bus was shocked because that man was not Korean. He was in his 50s and had light-colored eyes. To his right , farther away ,we saw more people bent toward the ground. The ones that were closer raised their heads and stared toward the bus. None of these people were Korean. They were tall, in their 50s, and curiously looked at the bus. The rest, at least 50 , continued working. An atmosphere of silence filled the bus. We didn't exchange any gestures and we saw no guards.

After this incident, the coleagues that had worked longer in Korea said that they knew about the existance of Americans and that this is something normal in a comunist country. After returning from Korea, I completed the documents for emigration with my family in the U.S.A. After 5 years, my dream came true.

In present, I work as an engineer for Savage Engineering in Bloomfield-CT.

I thank the American people for their hospitality/. I read in the newspaper about POWs, and that many people don't believe in their existance. I decided to tell what I saw.

Now , I feel beter and I hope that in a good day they (POWs) will come back home.

FROM CINCPAC 1082 11/12/99 02:16 P 2

#4

ACSI-SPD
SUBJECT: Continuing State/Defense Efforts to Secure Accounting on Missing Prisoners of War

He was of the opinion that interest in this correspondence rests primarily with Lt Colonel Hagood, Support Plans Section, Collection Division, inasmuch as he is the Army Member of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Intelligence Advisory Committee.

f. Lt Colonel Hagood expressed an interest in the overall problem inasmuch as he is concerned with the formulation of policy and plans affecting a program generated in this respect. He could offer nothing of material value. He further indicated that the preparation of an intelligence estimate is not a function of Collection Division but one coming within the operational activity of Production Division.

g. Mr. Evan T. Sage and Captain John L. Helms, Eastern Branch, Production Division, could offer no assistance regarding intelligence information.

h. Colonel Marion M. Brown, Assistant Chief, Production Division indicated that the preparation of an intelligence estimate would come within the purview of the Division's responsibility but fails to understand what the author of the referenced letter means in requesting our intelligence estimate. Intelligence estimates are related to enemy activities rather than to our own personnel.

4. A search of the records of this Division fails to disclose any material regarding the concerned personnel.

5. In view of the foregoing it can be concluded:

a. Records of ACSI do not contain information of an intelligence nature concerning missing personnel.

b. The preparation or non-preparation of an intelligence estimate comes within the operational activity of Production Division.

c. That no real effort has been made toward the collection of information of an intelligence nature regarding Prisoners of War or Missing personnel.

6. It is recommended therefore, that:

This action be transferred to the Production Division for preparation of the intelligence estimates and the preparation of a reply from the Secretary of the Army to OSD, or any other action which that Division deems appropriate.

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
ON JAN 2 3 1981
BY DEP CDR USAINSCOM FOIPO
Auth Para 1-603 DoD 5200. 1-R

M. A. Quinto

M. A. QUINTO
Colonel, GS
Chief, Security Division

2 Incl
1. OSD ltr, May 29, 1956 w/action papers (TAB A)
2. Data Sheets (JRB) (TAB B)

15 Jul 85

An Accounting for the Vietnam MIAs? Remember Korea

By Bill Paul

Tomorrow is National POW-MIA Recognition Day. In Alexandria, Va., relatives of the nearly 2,500 men still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War are holding their 16th annual meeting. For the first time since the war ended in 1975, they have reason to believe that their long ordeal may be almost over.

Two weeks ago, Vietnam said it wants "high level" talks aimed at resolving the MIA issue within two years. Secretary of State George P. Shultz responded that the U.S. is ready to work "promptly and decisively" with Vietnam. A formal announcement on the talks is expected shortly.

For years, the Reagan administration, based on the "information available to us," has operated on the "assumption that at least some Americans are still held captive," according to the Defense Department's official POW-MIA Fact Book. In testimony before Congress last month, Pentagon officials said they have 43 eyewitness accounts by refugees of live MIAs that appear to be true but still need corroboration. A few refugees have even passed polygraph tests, it was reported.

But in recent days, before the talks have even begun, both the New York Times and Newsweek have reported that U.S. officials very seriously doubt that any MIAs are still alive.

Why the apparent sudden shift in policy? Because it would be embarrassing to both sides if these talks led to the return of any remaining prisoners—Hanoi because it has long denied still having any, the U.S. because there would be questions about why the men didn't come home sooner. When faced with a similar situation after the Korean War, the Communists didn't account for all American missing, and the U.S. let them get away with it, despite solid evidence that some GIs were still held captive, even in the Soviet Union.

More than 8,000 Americans still are unaccounted for from the Korean War. In January 1954, five months after the cease-fire and the supposed return of all U.S. prisoners by the Communists, a Senate subcommittee reported that "several thousand American soldiers who have not been repatriated were victims of war crimes, died in action, or are presently confined behind the Iron Curtain."

On June 29, 1954, Rep. Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., now speaker of the House, entered into the Congressional Record a resolution from the Boston City Council that, Mr. O'Neill said, had his "unqualified endorsement." The resolution began, "Whereas 944 soldiers of the United States are now prisoners of the Chinese Communist forces in Korea, many of these men highly trained technicians skilled in the handling of the latest and highly secret instruments of war. . . ."

Today, in Camden, S.C., Steve Kiba, one of 11 American fliers whose plane was shot down just south of the Chinese-North Korean border and who were held prisoner by the Chinese for two years after the war (they figured in the 944), remembers the radar man on his ill-fated flight, Paul Van Voorhies. The U.S. lists Mr. Van Voorhies as killed in action. Mr. Kiba says he saw Mr. Van Voorhies at least a dozen times after the crash, including after the cease-fire, walking in the exercise yard of the prison they were in near Peking.

"He walked to within six feet of my prison cell," Mr. Kiba recalls. "He was in good physical condition." Yet when Mr. Kiba told American intelligence officials about Paul Van Voorhies, "They told me to forget about him and not to mention having seen him to anyone else."

Why would the Chinese have released everyone but Mr. Van Voorhies and the other radar man on the flight? Citing "U.S. intelligence officials," U.S. News & World Report said in December 1953 that the Communists "primarily wanted—and got—Americans who could handle the sensitive and complex instruments of modern war such as radar, airborne and ground, and infrared instruments for night combat."

(A number of the missing in Vietnam had special technical training, including in nuclear weaponry.)

In North Palm Beach, Fla., retired Air Force intelligence officer O'Wighton Delk Simpson remembers the "Top Secret" report he sent to the Pentagon in 1955. As air attache in the U.S. consulate in Hong Kong, Mr. Simpson had just interrogated an emigre from China in his early 20s who was going to Australia.

The emigre told Mr. Simpson that he had been a railroad worker at Manchouli, on the Manchurian-Siberian border. Around the time of the cease-fire, a train heading north into Siberia stopped at Manchouli so workers could change the undercarriage. The emigre saw about 700 prisoners get off onto the platform. To be sure, he couldn't recognize English, but many of the prisoners were black, and the only blacks there would have been Americans, Mr. Simpson notes.

"I was convinced that [the emigre's story] was true," Mr. Simpson says. But, "as far as I know," U.S. intelligence officials never followed up on the report, he says. "I think the Pentagon sent it to the State Department, who sent it to our U.N. ambassador, who asked the Russian ambassador if it was true. You can imagine his answer."

For years, Mr. Simpson adds, he has tried to get someone in Washington to listen to his story. "It's like trying to punch holes in Jell-O," he says, adding that the trail might yet be warm, since the emigre could still be alive in Australia.

Last year, after taking the U.S. Army to court, Robert Dumas of Canterbury, Conn., brother of a Korean War MIA, finally succeeded in getting the U.S. to change the status of his brother, Roger, from MIA to POW after producing witnesses who said they had seen Roger in a Korean POW camp shortly before the cease-fire.

During the trial, dozens of official Army "data sheets" were discovered that showed that the U.S. had listed many GIs as "missing in action" when in fact they were prisoners of war who might well have been left behind when the shooting stopped. The data sheets show that these GIs were known to be POWs because other prisoners who were repatriated saw them in captivity.

Meanwhile, the North Koreans have never budged from their position that they have returned all U.S. prisoners. Periodically, the U.S. does seek information on American "missing," only to be rebuffed by the Koreans. Yet Gen. Eugene Tighe, who headed the Defense Intelligence Agency until his retirement in Sept. 1981, says, "I don't remember ever discussing Korean POWs" in the course of his duties in Washington.

Gen. Tighe says that, in his opinion, U.S. prisoners could come home from Southeast Asia in the next two years. But only if the U.S. starts "building leverage" with the Vietnamese, which it never did with the North Koreans. Gen. Tighe says the U.S. must emphatically say to Vietnam, "Sure, we'll restore diplomatic relations, and renew trade, and unfreeze your assets, and offer economic assistance, but only if you start telling us where the hell all those Americans are and arrange for their return."

Mr. Paul, a Journal reporter in New York, has written previously on the POWs/MIAs.

She Found Me in the Alumni Directory

By Jack Markell

"Mr. Markell?!"

I grimaced as soon as I heard the

suit. I traded in my contact lenses for new wire-rim glasses. I thought there was no way she would be able to see through my

speaking about intrapreneurship in large corporations, given your current responsibility in establishing a new business for the

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.
Published since 1889 by
DOW JONES & COMPANY, INC.
Editorial and Corporate Headquarters:
22 Cortlandt Street, New York, N.Y. 10007.
Telephone (212) 285-6000

WARREN H. PHILLIPS
Chairman and Chief Executive
RAY SHAW

UNITED NATIONS • NATIONS UNIES

MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE • COMITE D'ETAT-MAJOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:

29 November 1985

Dear Mr. Danielson,

Thank you for your letter dated 6 November 1985 addressed to the Secretary-General.

I believe the following information answers your questions:

1. Since 1948 a number of peace-keeping operations have been established by the United Nations to ease and contain conflict situations. Those operations may be classified broadly into two categories: observer missions consisting of a group of military observers, and peace keeping forces composed of national contingents;

2. The first peace-keeping operation established by the United Nations was an observer mission, the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine (UNTSO), set up in May 1948. Later, other observer missions were set up according to the same principles as UNTSO: the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) in August 1949, the United Nations Observation Group in Lebanon (UNOGIL) in June 1958, the United Nations Yemen Observation Mission (UNYOM) in June 1963, and the Mission of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the Dominican Republic (DOMREP) in April 1965. Two of those missions, UNTSO and UNMOGIP, are still in operation.

3. The international force in Korea was not a United Nations peace-keeping operation since it was not under the control of the United Nations and was based on the consent of the parties. In that case, the Security Council, in its resolution 83 (1950) of 27 June 1950, recommended that Member States furnish assistance to the Republic of Korea, and in its resolution 84 (1950) of 7 July 1950, it recommended that the military forces provided by Member States be made available to a Unified Command under the United States, and authorized that Command to use the United Nations flag at its discretion in the course of its operation.

I extend my best wishes on your forthcoming 35th Anniversary Reunion of the "Chosin Few".

Sincerely

● Background

Public Affairs

UNITED NATIONS COMMAND / COMBINED FORCES COMMAND
UNITED STATES FORCES KOREA / EIGHTH UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 96
TEL 3113/32

July 1987

UNITED NATIONS COMMAND POSITION OF REPATRIATION OF REMAINS

Background

The Armistice Agreement of July 27, 1953, provided for the voluntary repatriation of Prisoners of War (POW) and for the repatriation of remains. For the latter purpose, both sides on August 17, 1954, agreed to an "Understanding" on the delivery and receipt of remains, under which approximately 13,000 Korean Peoples Army/Chinese Peoples Volunteers (KPA/CPV) and 4,023 United Nations Command (UNC) remains were returned to the respective sides in 1954.

On October 30, 1954, both sides agreed to terminate all but paragraph 20 of the Understanding. That paragraph provided that remains discovered subsequent to the termination of the agreed Understanding would be returned through the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) Secretaries.

The UNC subsequently provided information to North Korea about UNC aircraft crash sites in the north. North Korea searched for and recovered 66 UNC remains which were returned in November 1954. This was after termination of the Understanding of Aug. 17, 1954 and in accordance with paragraph 20 which remained -- and still remains -- in effect.

After the shooting had ended, the UNC determined that 2,233 personnel known to have been alive in KPA/CPV POW camps and 18 civilians of various nationalities were still unaccounted for. Over the years, the UNC repeatedly attempted to get an accounting of these personnel but received no positive response from North Korea.

In 1981, the UNC recovered and returned to the north the remains of two Chinese soldiers of the CPV forces. That caused the UNC to step up its efforts and, beginning in 1982, to ask the KPA/CPV side for an accounting of unrecovered remains as well as the unaccounted for POWs. Also in 1982, the UNC was asked to inquire about three missing UNC personnel on behalf of their families and was provided a map of North Korean POW Camp 5, which was passed to the north.

Since 1962, the UNC has continued to press the KPA/CPV about all unaccounted for POWs and missing personnel and has returned the remains of all KPA/CPV personnel and North Korean civilians in the south.

In late 1985, North Korea indicated that it might be prepared to search for remains. Since then, the UNC has through correspondence, formal meetings and contacts at Panmunjom continued to seek the return of UNC remains.

UNC Unaccounted For POWs and Those Listed As Missing in Action/Interred in NK

Country	POWs	MIAs/Interred in NK
Australia	0	39
Belgium	3	0
Canada	0	1
Colombia	3	46
France	0	7
Greece	1	0
Netherlands	1	4
South Africa	8	0
Turkey	167	No data
United Kingdom	15	253
United States	369	8,000+
Republic of Korea	1,647	No data

The other five countries which made up the United Nations Command - Ethiopia, Luxembourg, New Zealand, the Philippines and Thailand -- did not report any POWs or MIAs.

UNC Objectives With Regard to Remains

+ Obtain the return of all UNC remains that are in the territory of North Korea as part of an overall accounting of unaccounted for POWs and MIAs.

+ Use the established channels of the Military Armistice Commission for this purpose since there are remains from multiple countries involved on both sides.

+ Stress that both sides have a moral and humanitarian responsibility as well as an obligation under the Armistice to locate and recover remains if they have information on where to look.

Both sides say the remains issue is humanitarian; however, North Korea appears to be trying to use the issue for political purposes such as reducing the credibility of the UNC and/or the effectiveness of the Military Armistice Commission. The UNC considers the MAC the proper and effective means to accomplish this purpose and points out the fact that....

+ On four occasions -- twice in 1981 and again in 1984 and 1986, the UNC returned a total of nine Chinese Peoples Volunteer remains from the Korean War.

+ On 14 occasions, remains of a total of 31 North Koreans, including those of nine KPA soldiers, were returned to the north.

Since then 5 more NK soldier drowning victims returned; plus additional civilian victim

+ The UNC in 1986 recovered the remains of at least 25 KPA soldiers who died in the battles of the Naktong River in August and September 1950 and offered to return them to North Korea for proper burial. The north refused to accept the remains claiming that they were not convinced that the remains were theirs. On June 9, 1987, the UNC interred the remains by dignified burial in the Republic of Korea.

Summary

The UNC urges North Korea to help bring to an end the heartbreak of countless families by searching for and recovering UNC remains based on the information made available to them. At the same time, the UNC hopes that the KPA/CPV will accept the return of the remains of their war dead located in the south and is [illegible] any information which may be available to [illegible] and recovery efforts.

END

Eastside Forum

It's time to make public news about lost POWs

By Rep. John Miller

They didn't ask for a lot.

Veterans who went to Korea and Vietnam did so because they believed in their country. They left their homes and their families to travel far away, and many of them didn't return.

All they asked was that they be remembered. Now, we may have a chance to remember some of those men, and put the minds of their families at ease.

Over the years, there have been sightings of servicemen captured in the Korean and Vietnam wars. The Defense Intelligence Agency acknowledges it has received since 1975 more than 6,000 reports pertaining to Americans held in Indochina. Of these, the DIA admits 1,100 are "unresolved" cases. Some people say many of the prisoners were shipped across China to prison camps in the Soviet Union. After that, they weren't accounted for. While we have all heard stories about POWs in Vietnam, we have *not* heard about POWs of Korea, the "forgotten war." Now, KIRO TV reporter Mark Sauter has uncovered information about the Korean War POWs that is bone-chilling. Sauter has found unclassified documents that indicate Korean veterans, too, may have ended up in the Soviet Union.

I HAVE HEARD from some of the family members of POWs in this area. One of them, Bill Sowles of Edmonds, came to talk to me about his father's case. His father was an OSS agent in World War II and was in the army during the Korean War. His father was captured in November of 1950, but was transferred to the presumed dead list in 1953. In November of 1989, Bill Sowles discovered his father's name on a list of *known* POWs in communist hands when the war ended. He has also found an old picture of POWs held in Korea, his father among them. How can it hurt our national security to allow Bill Sowles to finally know what happened to his father so long ago?

Legislation sponsored by Denny Smith of Oregon would call for the federal government to open up these files. I am co-sponsoring that legislation, because I feel it is the least we can do for the families that are left behind. In fact, I have asked for a briefing with the Defense Intelligence Agency, beause I want to get some answers to these allegations. Plus, I have written to the chairman to the Committee on Government Operations and requested a hearing on this bill.

SOME PEOPLE have said releasing this information would endanger the families of these soldiers. This is untrue. Families are protected because no information specifically mentioning a service member can be made public without the written consent of the closest living relative. Other critics have said releasing this information could harm national security. Untrue again. Exceptions are allowed for information which reveals sources and methods of intelligence collection that would compromise national security.

At the end of January, the Washington State Senate passed a memorial — sponsored by Leo Thorsness — endorsing HR 3603 (now known as "The Truth Bill"). The memorial sends a message to the president, and the leaders of the U.S House and Senate, supporting the legislation. Theodore Roosevelt once said, "A man who is good enough to shed his blood for the country is good enough to be given a square deal afterward."

I say we make these files public — for our national conscience, for the morale of our veterans, and for the families of these soldiers.

After all, the soldiers didn't ask for a lot when they went to war.

Miller, a Republican, represents the First Congressional District, which includes the northern Eastside.

JA 2/27

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. TOTAL ARMY PERSONNEL COMMAND
ALEXANDRIA, VA
22331-0482

February 23, 1990

POW/MIA Affairs
Division

Mr. Lewis William Sowles, III
23715 Woodway Park Road
Woodway, Washington 98020

Dear Mr. Sowles:

Thank you for your letter of February 5, 1990, to President Bush, concerning Americans captured during the Korean Conflict and held in Communist prisons, as reported by KIRO/CBS News of Seattle, Washington.

As much as he would like to, President Bush cannot personally respond to every communication he receives; therefore, I have been asked to assist you. In the following letter I will attempt to clarify some of the issues you raised.

Approximately 8,200 U.S. personnel remain unaccounted for in Korea, most of whom were killed in action and buried by U.S. forces in battlefield grave sites. Because of the division of the Korean peninsula, we do not have access to the battlefields in North Korea and, therefore, have not been able to obtain otherwise recoverable remains.

There is no evidence to suggest that any U.S. personnel were not released from captivity in Korea. The 389 "known to have been alive in Communist prisons following the end of the Korean War" is a misleading statement that has unfortunately gained public acceptance. Many of these men disappeared when their units were overrun by Communist forces; others were air crews believed to have parachuted from their aircraft. There is no evidence that 389 (or any other number) Americans were held in captivity and not released at the end of hostilities.

A number of newspaper reports are circulating that refer to 50 caucasians observed by a Romanian national working on an Agricultural Collective in North Korea in October 1979. During an interview conducted by U.S. Government officials, Mr. Serban Oprica stated that he observed one man who had somewhat caucasian features among at least 50 laborers, some of whom appeared taller than Koreans. He observed no guards and nothing indicated that the people he saw were detained against their will. We know of numerous caucasians in North Korea, including Eastern Bloc

diplomats and technical experts. We cannot rule out the presence of mixed-race individuals, given U.S., Russian, and other Western presence in Korea. Mr. Oprica's conclusion that the caucasian was an American prisoner is based upon circumstantial evidence and pure speculation from other Romanians. His judgment has no basis in fact. Efforts to locate the Agricultural Cooperative have been unsuccessful, due to Mr. Oprica's limited knowledge of the geography and terrain of the region.

An account of American POW's that has been widely circulated in recent years is known as the "Simpson Report." In 1954, Delk Simpson was assigned as U.S. Air Force Attache in Hong Kong, when he encountered a European refugee recently arrived from Manchuria, who described the transfer of 700 American POW's from Chinese to Russian trains near the border of Manchuria and Siberia in late 1951. The source did not have enough knowledge of English to identify the language, but was convinced that the prisoners were American because many of them were black. Simpson claims that the report was never followed up beyond questioning the Russian Ambassador. In 1985, the U.S. Government requested Australian assistance in locating the source, who had emigrated to that country. It proved impossible to track him, not only due to a lack of name and address, but also because of questions as to his nationality. Although Simpson originally reported the source as Greek, he later indicated that he was Polish or Russian. Throughout the Korean War, the French were deeply involved in a war in Indochina. A large portion of the French Expeditionary Forces were French colonial troops--among them many Africans. Colonial troops were targeted by the Viet Minh with propaganda aimed at enlisting them as "Third World brothers," in the liberation struggle. As a result, colonial troops, who rallied or were captured, were treated differently than French nationals. With Chinese and Soviet assistance, hundreds of colonial troops were shipped by rail from Hanoi, north through China, across the Sino-Soviet border in Manchuria and into the European Soviet Union via the Trans-Siberian railroad. They were subsequently repatriated to the colonies, to the distress of the French who lost track of these soldiers. Given the circumstances of the Simpson report, it is probable that the POW's observed by the source were French colonial troops. The Simpson source bases his conclusion that the POW's were Americans on the large number of blacks observed. It should be noted that the percentage of Africans in the French colonial forces is far higher than that of black Americans missing in Korea--another argument for the belief that Simpson's source saw French colonial troops.

Steve Kiba was one of 11 Americans shot down south of the Chinese-North Korean border in January 1953 and held prisoner by the Chinese for 2 years. In newspaper accounts, Kiba described seeing his radar man, Paul Van Voorhies, at least a dozen times

after the crash and during captivity. Subsequent speculation by journalists alleged that the Chinese had detained Van Voorhies for his technical expertise. It is interesting to note that the Air Force conducted extensive debriefings of the 11 crewmembers who were returned by the Korean Government. At that time, all crewmen but Kiba indicated that Van Voorhies was observed to have parachuted during the initial incident and was never seen again. Kiba, during his debriefing by U.S. Government officials, reported having seen a light haired man several times in July 1953. Although he could not give a positive identification, he thought it was Van Voorhies. The Chinese Government has consistently stated that Van Voorhies and two other crewmembers perished while attempting to parachute.

Since the end of the Korean Conflict, the gravest threat to peace in Northeast Asia has been the North Korean development of a heavily-militarized society, maintained in a high state of combat readiness. For this reason, North Korea has been under the intelligence microscope by U.S., South Korean, and Japanese intelligence services for nearly 40 years. One must conclude that this scrutiny would have turned up evidence of American prisoners of war in North Korea if they existed. No such evidence has emerged.

Likewise, the Soviet Union has been the central focus of U.S. and allied intelligence activities for most of this century, as has China for almost 50 years. Similarly, one must conclude that this scrutiny would have revealed at least a hint of American prisoners of war in the Soviet Union or China if they had been taken there. As in the case of North Korea, no such evidence has ever surfaced.

I hope that the above information answers your questions. A fact sheet is enclosed giving an overview of negotiations with the North Koreans on the issue of unaccounted for Americans.

Sincerely,

M. A. Hoherz
Colonel, U.S. Army
Deputy, the Adjutant
General

Enclosure

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-2400

INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

October 1987

Americans Unaccounted for in the Korean War

The U.S. Government has ongoing efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing and unaccounted for while serving their country. In the case of Korea, 8,177 Americans are unaccounted for, including 389 who were listed as prisoners of war (POWs). Discussions with the North Koreans on the subject of unaccounted for personnel are conducted by the United Nations Command Military Armistice Commision (UNCMAC), which provides updated information to the Korean People's Army/Chinese People's Volunteers Military Armistice Commission (KPA/CPV MAC) as it surfaces. The UNCMAC acts on behalf of all 16 nations, as well as the Republic of Korea, whose men fought and died in the defense of freedom in Korea.

For the past 34 years, the UNCMAC repeatedly has called upon the KPA/CPV to account for the 2,233 unaccounted for UNC personnel, including the 389 Americans, known to have been under enemy control during the Korean War. Also, from 1955 to 1957 the U.S. Ambassador to Czechoslovakia met in Geneva with Chinese representatives 77 times to discuss the accounting of missing Americans. In August 1982, the UNCMAC specifically requested, for the first time, the repatriation of any UNC remains buried in North Korea, even though the Armistice Agreements called for each side to return the other's war dead.

In keeping with the provisions of the Armistice Agreements, the UNCMAC has returned the remains of CPV soldiers discovered in the Republic of Korea in the years following the war. In May 1987, the UNCMAC attempted to return the remains of 25 North Korean soldiers found in a wartime mass grave, but the KPA refused to accept them even though the KPA had on previous occasions accepted from the UNCMAC the bodies of post-war North Korean civilians who had drowned and washed ashore in the South.

In August 1986, the UNCMAC turned over to the KPA/CPV MAC a thick file of material regarding the locations of UNC remains. The detailed maps and charts pinpointed the burial sites associated with 13 former POW camps and a POW hospital, identified seven former UNC cemeteries in the North and listed 291 crash sites from which lost UNC airmen had not been recovered. In a spirit of compromise, the UNCMAC on July 30, 1987 formally offered to field a Multi-National Team comprised of representatives from UNC nations to assist the KPA in searching for UNC remains. This humanitarian initiative was rebuffed by the KPA.

Other than the 4,439 U.S. POWs returned in 1953 and the 1,868 American remains returned in 1954, there has been little progress, despite U.S. and UNC efforts, on the part of the other side to resolve the cases of Americans still unaccounted for in North Korea. However, the lack of responsiveness thus far by the KPA on this issue will not blunt the determination of the U.S. Government to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing and unaccounted for as a result of the Korean War.

Encl

March 3, 1990

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U. S. Total Army Personnel Command
Alexandria, VA 22331-0482
POW/MIA Affairs Division
M.A. Hoherz, Colonel, U.S. Army Deputy,
the Adjutant General

RE: SFC L. W. Sowles (RA 20 922 355)

Dear Colonel Hoherz:

Thank you for your letter of February 23, 1990 representing President Bush's response to my letter to him of January 24, 1990. My father, SFC Lewis William Sowles was reported MIA November 30, 1950 and on that date I believe he was taken prisoner by the North Koreans. This is the reason I wrote my letter to President Bush.

Since you failed to address any of my specific questions to President Bush, please allow me to address the specifics of your letter.

In paragraph three of your letter you state that most of the 8200 MIA's from Korea were buried in battlefield grave sites in North Korea by United States forces. This allegation is not consistent with United States government records. (Exhibit 'A')

The United States Army by Division Order Number 25; October 27, 1955 through January 16, 1956, concluded in part:"...Available evidence indicates that many of the casualties which are carried on the records of the Department of Defense as missing in action in south Korea were actually captured and transported to North Korea where they subsequently died; however, specific information is lacking as to the number, identity or circumstances surrounding their disappearance." "...Although the Communists turned over approximately 4000 United Nations deceased personnel, it is now known that not all of the United States servicemen actually interred in North Korea were returned."

In addition, United States Air Force Intelligence, through July 1, to December 31, 1957 in its PROJECT AMERICAN, (Exhibit 'B') states in part: "...a strong possibility emerged that a large number of the personnel listed as, "MIA" may still be alive and interned in Communist prison camps..."

There are many State Department and CIA documents which indicate many American POW's were abandoned in China and Russia. This I shall cover later in greater detail.

French Intelligence reported in 1951: "...3000 American prisoners were transported that date to Chi An and Si N Chow

near North East Manchu Korean Border. Report further states 1200 lightly wounded Americans were at same time placed in 3d General Air Dep Hospital at An Tung, Manchu..."(Exhibit 'C')

Moreover, in paragraph four you state: "...there is no evidence to suggest that any United States Personnel were not released from captivity in Korea." This statement is a direct contradiction to years of official statements. For example, Information Report SO. 91634, dated July 17, 1952 states in part: "...Normal POW camps, all of which were in North Korea, detained prisoners whom the Communists will exchange. **Prisoners in the peace and reform camps will not be exchanged...**" (Exhibit 'D) CIA documents report the presence of hundreds of U. S. prisoners in the 'Peace and Reform' Camps.

Paragraph five of your letter misstates Mr. Oprica and does not mention the government's failure to follow up other live sightings. Mr. Oprica, in part states: "...after this incident, (seeing the 50 caucasians) the colleagues that had worked longer in Korea said that they knew about the existence of Americans and that this is something normal in a Communist country..." Furthermore, you fail to mention Mr. Wu Shu-jen, a Chinese who claims to have twice seen POW's in China. (Exhibit 'E') The DIA has over 6000 live sighting reports in Indo-China since 1975.

Your reference, in paragraph six: "...700 American POW's...many of them were black...and these POW's were French Colonials..." is in direct contravention to the facts. United States Intelligence Report, Dated: October 1950 - February 1951 states: "...This camp in early November had about 1,000 American prisoners of whom about 700 were Negroes." (Exhibit 'F')

In addition, Foreign Service Dispatch number 1716, dated: March 23, 1954, sent by Julian F. Harrington, American Consul General, Hong Kong, states in part: "...This office has interviewed refugee source who states that he observed hundreds of POW's in American uniforms being sent to Siberia in late 1951 - 2." "...source states that there were a great number of Negroes among POW's..." (Exhibit 'G')

Again, original documents on this sighting specifically say that POW's spoke English and wore United States uniforms.

According to CBS/KIRO News, as reported by Mr. Mark Sauter, documents also refer to other reports apparently still classified---which corroborate that these (POW's) are Americans. (Exhibit 'H')

Paragraph Seven of your letter states regarding ex-POW Steve Kiba, "...that he could not give a positive identification of Van Voorhies." and "The Chinese government has consistently stated that Van Voorhies and the two other crew members perished while attempting to parachute..." The true facts are, as stated by our American hero, ex-POW Mr. Steve E. Kiba: "One of the 15 (U.S. POW's) whom I saw was a

Lt. Paul Van Voorhies. Lt. Van Voorhies was on our B-29 as an instructor radar operator. I saw him on or about 8 - 10 occasions over 2 - 3 week period in late July and early August of 1953..." "...They (Chinese) also boasted that they had captured 13 of us. In my early interrogations the Chinese told me that they had captured two of our crew as they hit the ground on the night we were shot down, 1-12-53."

Mr. Kiba represents his statements to be true and "Would be willing to swear to it." Would you, Colonel Hoherz be willing to do same? (Exhibit "I")

Your microscope of intelligence as stated in your letter, paragraph eight and nine is blurred. Intelligence blunders, such as the Pueblo, U-2, Wallenburg, Soviet Spy Rings and North Korean commando attacks certainly do refute the accuracy of the central focus of U.S. and Allied Intelligence activities for most of the past half century.

However, scrutiny, has turned up evidence of POW's in captivity. If in fact your allegations are correct and there are no POW's; then,why in God's name is it necessary to still classify a great number ofdocuments regarding POW's such as Project American? If it is not necessary, then in the name of our Country; declassify!

Sincerely,

Lewis William Sowles, III
23715 Woodway Park Road
Edmonds, WA 98020
(206) 542-0712

cc: United States Congress: Mr. John Miller
United States Senate: Mr. Slade Gorton
Speaker of the House: Mr. Tom Foley
Washington Times: Major Garrett
Seattle Post Intelligencer: Mr. Cris Hanson
CBS/KIRO NEWS: Mr. Mark Sauter
Seattle Times: News Desk

HOUSE VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

News

335 CANNON H.O.B.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3527

FOR RELEASE AFTER 10 A.M.
May 14, 1990

Contacts: Jim Holley
(202) 225-3664

Kyle Steward
(202) 225-5031

MF 8

NORTH KOREA TO TURN OVER REMAINS TO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

MAY 27 REPATRIATION WILL BE FIRST IN 36 YEARS

WASHINGTON -- A six-member U.S. Congressional delegation led by Mississippi Representative G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery will accept five sets of remains from North Korean officials in a May 28 (May 27 in the U.S.) ceremony at Panmunjom, Korea. It will mark the first time since 1954 that North Korea has repatriated remains from the Korean Conflict.

"How appropriate that, during the time America pays tribute to its war dead, five so long unaccounted for will be returned," said Montgomery. "It is my hope, and I'm sure the hope of many families who have lived with uncertainty over these many years, that this important first step will stimulate continuing dialogue and expedite the return of additional remains. This humanitarian gesture should help improve relations between the U.S. and North Korea," Montgomery said.

The other members of the Congressional delegation are: Rep. Bob Stump, Arizona; Rep. Bob Traxler, Michigan; Rep. Frank McCloskey, Indiana; Rep. James H. Bilbray, Nevada; and Rep. Curt Weldon, Pennsylvania.

In accordance with the procedures established by the armistice agreement, the turnover and acceptance at Panmunjom will be through the United Nations Command/Military Armistice Commission. The remains will be escorted by Rep. Montgomery's delegation to the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii for evaluation in an attempt to establish individual identification.

# # #

647-9350

Mark Fitzpatrick

Any problems with this?

Jim

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 21, 1990

Contact: Jim Holley
(202) 225-3664

NORTH KOREA CERTAIN REMAINS TO BE TURNED OVER ARE AMERICAN

WASHINGTON – Officials of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have told Mississippi Congressman G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery they are certain the five sets of remains they have agreed to turn over to a U.S. Congressional delegation are American. Montgomery will lead the seven-member delegation which will ~~inspect, sign~~ assist in, for, and receive the remains in a May 27 (May 28 in Korea) ceremony at Panmunjom, ~~the village which separates~~ in along the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea.

North Korean Ambassador Ho Jong, in a Friday meeting with Montgomery, said the remains will be accompanied by documents which contain information as to where and under what circumstances they were discovered. The Ambassador also said the five coffins carrying the remains will contain items – including dogtags, buttons, knives – which link them to the United States.

"Obviously, we are grateful for this information. These materials are crucial to individual identification," said Montgomery.

The five sets of remains from the Korean Conflict will be the first in 36 years to be repatriated by North Korea. The U.S. was one of 16 UN member nations which ~~participated~~ assisted South Korea in the 1950-1953 war.

# # #

COMPILED AT 1345
WEDNESDAY 30 MAY

By JIM ANDERSON

WASHINGTON (UPI) _ The State Department has expressed its appreciation for the North Korean return of the remains of five Americans listed as missing in the Korean War, and called it a step in the direction of better relations.

North Korean ambassador to the United Nations, Ho Jong, told United Press International that there could be further releases of American remains but he could not say how many.

The State Department also listed Tuesday a series of conditions that would have to be fulfilled before there could be further improvement in relations, including inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities and an end to North Korean support of international terrorism.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said, "The U.S. government appreciates the return of these war remains. As Secretary (of State James) Baker said, 'We are looking for a steady, reciprocal process toward better relations both between North and South Korea and between the United States and North Korea.' The return of these remains is a step in that direction."

The North Korean government handed over the remains at the Panmunjom truce line on Monday, a procedure that the United States insisted on. Earlier efforts to hand the remains to U.S. veterans' groups in North Korea were turned down by the State Department, because they would have excluded the United Nations command and the South Korean government.

Tutwiler listed the conditions that the United States insists on before there can be further improvement in relations: "North Korean willingness to engage in constructive talks with the Republic of Korea, satisfactory resolution of the terrorist issue, and North Korea signing of a nuclear safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency."

Ambassador Ho said, "We have heard those conditions before." He had no response to the U.S. conditions.

State Department officials said the United States has made those conditions clear in nine meetings held in Beijing between the political counsellers of the U.S. and North Korean embassies in China. There are no diplomatic relations between Washington and Pyongyang.

North Korea was listed by the State Department in April as one of those countries that supports international terrorism, even though the United States believes that North Korea was not responsible for any act of terrorism in 1989 or 1990.

The State Department blames North Korea for the November 1987 destruction of a South Korean airliner over Burma and the 1983 terrorist attack against South Korean officials in Burma in 1983.

U.S. officials also believe that a nuclear installation near Pyongyang is meant to produce weapons-grade nuclear fuel, one step on

the road to producing an atomic bomb.

The return of the five sets of MIA remains raises new questions about the nearly 4,000 Americans still listed as missing in action, 35 years after the end of hostilities in Korea.

In a speech soon after the end of the war, Gen. Mark Clark, a U.S. commander, said that "thousands" of Americans were left behind, but the State Department has said that it has seen no credible information about American POWs who were not returned.

There have been persistent reports of middle-aged Caucasian prisoners being spotted in North Korea by foreign technicians. A series of recently declassified cables show that State Department officials passed on information that Caucasian prisoners were spotted by foreign diplomats. Some of the prisoners were reported in the cables to be on their way to the Soviet Union.

Senior U.S. officials said that the question of the missing Americans, while not the kind of issue that would be raised at the Washington U.S.-Soviet summit, has been raised at the working level with the Soviets.

UPI file photo

FREEDOM: POW Joseph F. Szalakiewicz smiled as he was freed during 'Operation Big Switch' in August 1953.

Eyewitness accounts dispute official denials

By Laurence Jolidon
USA TODAY

Soon after the Korean War began, the U.S. knew POWs were being held in camps in China. Reports told of POWs being transshipped to the Soviet Union.

The Soviets, who aided North Korea with pilots, advisers, heavy weapons and ammunition, have always denied having U.S. POWs. The Chinese said the Korean War POWs they released in the 1950s were all they had.

Evidence to the contrary:

▶ **A defector** from mainland China, Wu Shu-jen, in 1973 told a congressional hearing that in 1960 he saw U.S. POWs working in a factory in Qingdao, on the Chinese coast across the Yellow Sea from Korea.

▶ **Former Air Force crewman** Steve Kiba, captured when his B-24 crashed behind enemy lines in 1953, says in his Chinese POW camp he saw more than 15 Caucasian prisoners, including a flier the United States now says was killed when his plane crashed.

▶ **A declassified Army memo** dated April 19, 1954, said a "plan has been formed by use of clandestine systems to obtain recovery of one or more such persons (MIAs in Korea or China) to establish the case beyond doubt that such persons are being held."

▶ **Several hundred** POWs were seen in 1951 and 1952 at the China-Soviet border, says former U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. O. Delk Simpson. A Greek refugee and a Russian friend of his said the men, many of them blacks, spoke English, wore U.S. military uniforms and were being transferred from Chinese trains to Soviet trains.

▶ **Declassified U.S. military documents** dated Nov. 23, 1953 — 12 weeks after the two sides supposedly traded all POWs on Aug. 23 — say three South Korean soldiers who escaped from North Korea across the 38th Parallel reported that the North Koreans and Chinese still held many U.S. POWs. The United Nations' Neutral Nations Commission refused to investigate.

▶ **A former Army intelligence officer** Mel Gile, who for a year led secret reconnaissance teams behind North Korean lines, says in January 1952 one Korean agent reported that 63 U.S. POWs were to be shipped by truck and train from Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, to Chita, in the Soviet Union. Gile personally notified the U.S. Army command in Seoul. He says the command canceled air strikes on the railway he reported would be carrying the GIs. Gile heard of similar shipments from other reconnaissance teams.

▶ **U.S. Army intelligence** reported on Jan. 2, 1952, that more than 500 U.N. prisoners were in a camp at Tung Kuan Ying, 10 miles east of Mukden, "to be given short-term training pending transfer to Soviet Union on order of central authorities." The same report said 494 U.N. POWs had been observed inside China since December 1951. Most were sighted in the area of Hankow "for subsequent transfer northeast to await exchange."

▶ **Declassified CIA documents** from July 1951 report 78 U.S. POWs being held under tight security in Shanghai. Names of 10 of the POWs, and the U.S. Army units they were attached to when captured, were found on a scrap of paper retrieved from the POW camp. The Chinese have never acknowledged holding any U.S. POWs in or near Shanghai.

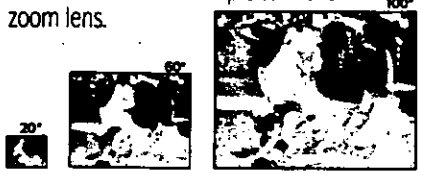
▶ **French military intelligence** reported on Dec. 9, 1950 — less than six months after the start of the war — that 3,000 U.S. POWs had been transported to Chi-an and Sin Ni Chow near the China-Korea border and that "1,200 lightly wounded Americans" were in the 3rd General Air Defense Hospital at An-tung, Manchu, China.

A MAJOR BREAKT
IN HOME ENTERTA

SHARPVISION.
A VIDEO PROJECTION SYSTEM THAT FITS ANY SIZE ROOM.
AND IT DISAPPEARS WHEN IT'S NOT IN USE.

Now, anyone with a studio apartment to a country estate can experience the excitement of a home theatre. Because now there's SharpVision, a revolutionary video projection system.

The brilliant crystal-clear SharpVision picture adjusts from 20 to 100 inches with the simple turn of a zoom lens.



So there'll be nothing between you and up-close sports action. You'll feel like you're part of the movies you watch. And you'll see TV shows and home videos as you've never seen them before.

A CLEAR PICTURE FROM ANY ANGLE.

With SharpVision, there's no need to drag your favorite chair in front of the screen. Because unlike other TV projection systems, the SharpVision picture is as bright and clear when viewed from an angle as it is head-on. There isn't a bad seat in the house.

NO BULKY FURNITURE.

SharpVision is designed to be part of your life, not part of your room.

There's no gigantic console to contend with.

SharpVision's advanced LCD circuitry fits into a projector so compact, you can store it out of sight when not in use.

EASY TO MOVE – EVEN OUTDOORS.

And the SharpVision projector isn't just small, it's lightweight. So it can go places no big-screen TV has ever gone before.

Carry it up to the bedroom or out to the patio. The choices are unlimited.

THE ULTIMATE HOME THEAT
SHARPVISIO

©1990 SHARP ELECTRONICS CORPORATION

KOREA: 40 YEARS AFTER

POW mystery is a painful legacy

Decades after end of war, families still wonder about fate of loved ones

By Laurence Jolidon
USA TODAY

Forty years after the start of the Korean War on June 25, 1950, the fate of thousands of U.S. POWs/MIAs — 8,177 by official count — is still unknown. Their families and friends live in a limbo of grief and hope.

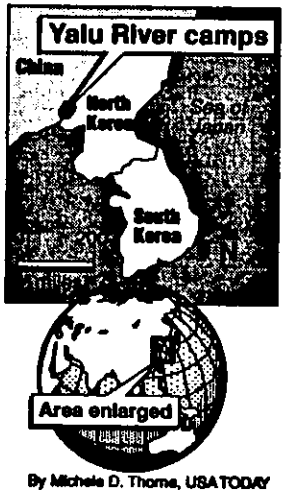
An examination of U.S. documents and interviews with Korean War veterans indicate hundreds or even thousands of POWs/MIAs were never returned after being shipped to hospitals, military posts and labor camps in China and Siberia.

China, which sent several divisions to fight alongside the North Koreans and captured thousands of United Nations troops, supposedly released the last of its Korean War military prisoners — U.S. and Canadian air crews — in 1955.

North Korea has always insisted that all live U.N. POWs from the 38-month-long war — except for 22 so-called "turncoats" who chose to remain behind — were returned in the 1953 POW exchange.

But only one of North Korea's POW camps, most along the Yalu River on the Manchurian border, was opened to International Red Cross inspection.

The hard-core communist regime in North Korea gave five sets of remains that may be U.S. POWs to a U.S. delegation on Memorial Day 1990. Until then, no information about the U.S. troops unaccounted for from the Korean War had emerged since North Korea returned the last remains in 1954.



By Michele D. Thorne, USA TODAY

Many MIAs surely lie in unmarked graves in North Korea. But backing up reports of POWs in Siberia are declassified documents and public statements confirming that U.S. officials believed some POWs survived into the mid-1950s, when the U.S. waged a futile campaign to make China and North Korea account for them.

Some evidence, hidden away for years in classified volumes, was convincing enough for the U.S. government to ask the Soviets, in May 1954, to explain reports that hundreds of men in U.S. military garb were being shipped by train to Siberia.

The Soviet reply called the reports "clearly contrived." The matter was dropped.

The U.S. government's public demands for an accounting of all POWs and MIAs — especially 389 singled out by repatriated POWs and named or seen in the enemy's own propaganda broadcasts, photos and films — eventually fell silent.

The Pentagon and State Department say there is no evidence that U.S. POWs were still alive in communist hands after the Korean armistice. All are "presumed dead."

But U.S. generals, admirals and diplomats spoke openly and angrily of such evidence in the months following the armistice.

Loved ones at home, after years of trying to get answers, feel betrayed.

Rita Van Wees of New York believes she saw a 1951 photo, in a 1954 *Life* magazine, of her POW son being marched through Seoul.

"We've never stopped trying to get the government to do something. They never mention anything about Korea. You'd think no one is missing except from Vietnam."

Ho Jong, head of North Korea's mission to the United Nations, emphatically denies that any U.S. POWs remain alive today. But reports of POW trains headed for Siberia, letters families received from sons or husbands after they were captured — and even an unconfirmed 1979 sighting of Westerners in North Korea by a Romanian engineer — help sustain the hopes of some survivors.

Serban Oprica, now a U.S. resident, says in October 1979, while he was helping build North Korea's first TV factory, he saw about 50 Westerners working in a field near Pyongyang, the capital. Fellow Romanians who had been there longer told him they were U.S. POWs from the Korean War, "something normal in a communist country."

Despite the passing of decades, the American Red Cross has accepted its first Korean War MIA case. A "tracer" on Army Sgt. Lewis Sowles, captured in 1951 but never returned, has gone to the International Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland.

His son, Bill Sowles of Edmonds, Wash., who saw his father in a Chinese propaganda film and believes he may be among those shipped to China or Siberia, gave the agency a list of possible contacts, including the Romanians who were with Oprica.

Kin won't forget those in 'Forgotten War'

By Laurence Jolidon, USA TODAY
ROBERT DUMAS: 'I think my brother is still alive.'

The survivors and buddies of thousands of Korean War MIAs think of them as the forgotten casualties of "The Forgotten War." But some have never given up.

Robert Dumas, of Canterbury, Conn., vowed to his dying mother he would never quit searching for his brother, Roger. "I think my brother is still alive," declares Dumas, who also fought in Korea. "Hundreds of other POWs could also be alive. There's too much evidence to ignore."

Dumas' 1982 federal suit forced the Pentagon to re-classify Roger from MIA to POW. The government's presumption of death stands. Yet Dumas tracked down ex-POWs who saw Roger in good health as the North Koreans released 4,439 U.S. POWs in "Operation Big Switch" in August 1953. Bobby Caruth, of Redding, Calif., says, "We were lined up signing some papers. The Chinese guards came over and took him out of line. I asked him, 'Where you going, Roger?' He shook his head he didn't know. That was the last I saw of him." Caruth came home. Roger Dumas never has.

— Laurence Jolidon

By Yun Jai-hyong, AP
REMAINS RETURNED: U.N. troops carry remains thought to be those of soldiers killed during the Korean War on Memorial Day, 1990.

A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN HOME ENTERTAINMENT.