Case Number: 2009-0528-F

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Folder Title: POW/MIA Issues [1]
Staff Office-Individual: Asian Affairs-Pritchard, Charles
Original OA/ID Number: 3058

Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:	Stack:
30	3	1	3	V

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet
Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. telcon	Ambassador Li Gun and Colonel Jack Pritchard. October 28, 1997. (2 pages)	10/28/1997	P1/b(1)
001b. letter	Colonel Jack Pritchard to Li Gun. (1 page)	10/1997	P1/b(1)
001c. memcon	Meeting with Li Hyong Chol, Mark Minton, and Jack Pritchard. (1 page)	12/15/1997	P1/b(1)
001d. email	Charles Pritchard to Charles Pritchard at 7:18pm. Subject: New York Meeting. (1 page)	01/09/1997	P1/b(1)
001e. memo	For the Files. (1 page)	12/09/1996	P1/b(1)
001f. memo	For the Record. (2 pages)	01/07/1997	P1/b(1)
002a. fax cover sheet	Charles Pritchard to Vincent Krepps with message. (1 page)	07/18/1997	P6/b(6), b(7)(C), b(7)(E)
002b. fax cover sheet	Charles Pritchard to Vincent Krepps with message. (1 page)	07/18/1997	P6/b(6), b(7)(C), b(7)(E)
002c. note	Personal. (1 page)	07/18/1997	P6/b(6), b(7)(C), b(7)(E)
003. note	Vincent Krepps to Charles Pritchard. (1 page)	7/1997	P6/b(6), b(7)(C), b(7)(E)
004. letter	David Straub to Martha Baez. [partial] (1 page)	11/21/1997	P6/b(6)
005. cable	re: Possible American Man. (4 pages)	02/17/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Asian Affairs (Charles Pritchard)
OA/Box Number: 3058

FOLDER TITLE:
POW/MIA Issues [1]

2009-0528-F
vz1500

RESTRICTION CODES

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

FAX COVER SHEET

From: Jack Pritchard, Asian Affairs
(202-456-9251; Fax: 202-456-9250)

To: Cortez Cooper 703-602-1890

I am attaching some internal Memorandum of Conversations as well as some other documents for your internal absorption - do not release them. You certainly may share them with Alan and Bob Jones.

Jack

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001b. letter	Colonel Jack Pritchard to Li Gun. (1 page)	10/1997	P1/b(1)

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AP-North Korea-Perot, Bjt,850

North Korea proposes Perot role in talks; U.S. says no

By ROBERT BURNS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - North Korea proposed using Texas billionaire Ross Perot as an intermediary to address U.S. questions about Americans living there, some of whom may be captured U.S. servicemen from the Korean War, according to people familiar with the talks.

The Clinton administration concluded that the offer, which was communicated through a third party and never officially negotiated, was an empty gesture. Administration officials persuaded Perot not to get involved.

This murky episode, which neither side made public at the time, left U.S. officials no closer to unraveling the mystery of just how many Americans are living in North Korea. Four U.S. soldiers who deserted their posts in South Korea in the 1960s are known to be in the North. Numerous U.S. intelligence reports cite evidence of perhaps several other men, possibly servicemen captured in the Korean War or even the Vietnam War.

The North Koreans raised the matter of Perot last December in an unofficial setting in New York in the midst of negotiations about a public apology by North Korea for sending a spy submarine into South Korean waters three months earlier.

North Korea wanted Perot to go to Pyongyang, the capital, to discuss the Americans. It is not entirely clear what the North Koreans expected Perot to do or how far they were willing to go in clarifying the status of the Americans.

When the North Koreans made the proposal, U.S. officials asked them what Americans were included. Officials at the North Korean mission to the United Nations replied that in addition to the defectors there "could be up to seven others who voluntarily came" to North Korea after the 1950-53 Korean War, according to a Clinton administration official privy to the discussions. The official spoke on condition he not be identified.

The North Koreans did not say whether the seven others were servicemen or civilians.

Suspecting this was phony talk to wrangle money, food aid or other concessions from the United States, the administration intervened to stop Perot from meeting with the North Koreans to pursue it, the official said.

Contacted at his Dallas office on Monday, Perot said, "I have nothing at all to say."

Robert Egan, a New Jersey businessman who has regular contacts with North Korean diplomats in New York, said the North Koreans told him they wanted to open the door to talks on U.S. POWs in exchange for not having to publicly apologize for the submarine incident, and that they wanted to work through Perot. He said he communicated the offer to the U.S. side.

"Those men were put on the table for negotiating purposes," Egan said. He said Han Song Rhol, a diplomat at North Korea's U.N. mission, told him that some Americans in his country are "survivors of the Korean War."

Egan, who regularly briefed U.S. officials on his contacts, says that by stopping Perot, the White House lost a chance to at least learn more about Americans in North Korea, and possibly to gain their return.

Eugene "Red" McDaniel, a retired Navy captain who met with North Korean officials in Pyongyang several days before the Perot proposal was raised in New York, said the North Koreans saw Perot as a "man of action" who could help them achieve their goal of attracting foreign investment to revive their economy.

Perot has been active in Vietnam War POW issues for many years.

In January, after North Korea apologized for the submarine incident, U.S. officials inquired again about Americans. This time North Korean officials in New York gave a different reply, which they said was authorized by the Foreign Ministry in Pyongyang.

"They said the official North Korean answer is, there are no Americans living in North Korea that came from the Korean War era," said an administration official with direct knowledge of this conversation in New York. The official said they denied there were others besides the four defectors.

The denial aside, administration officials say they do not rule out the possibility of Americans other than the four Army deserters being in North Korea.

North Korea has consistently denied it kept any American POWs from the Korean War. But in recent years it has pointedly left open the possibility that servicemen it does not consider to be war prisoners may be there, in addition to the four defectors from the 1960s.

Coincidence or not, the total of 11 Americans - four known defectors plus the seven "others" mentioned last December - matches the number cited in some U.S. intelligence reports, including a formerly secret Defense Intelligence Agency message from February 1989 that said a North Korean defector reported knowing of "11 American POWs from the Korean War who are working as English teachers" in Pyongyang. Last year, a Pentagon investigator, In Sung Lee, cited "very compelling reports" of 10 to 15 U.S. POWs in North Korea.

Also, a declassified CIA memo dated March 9, 1988, referred to a sighting by an unidentified source of "as many as 11 Caucasians, possibly American prisoners from the Korean War," in the fall of 1979 on a collective farm north of Pyongyang.

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001c. memcon	Meeting with Li Hyong Chol, Mark Minton, and Jack Pritchard. (1 page)	12/15/1997	P1/b(1)

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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

820 Second Avenue 13th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10017

Tel: (212) 972-3105/3106
Fax: (212) 972-3154

January 31, 1997

Mr. Martin Friedman
Chase Bank

New York, NY

Re: USA - DPRK TRADE COUNCIL, INC

Dear Mr. Friedman:

We are corresponding with you at the request of Mr. Robert Egan and Mr. Jay Gartlan, to verify our relationship both with them and USA - DPRK Trade Council, Inc.

This correspondence will confirm that it is our intention to enter into a joint venture agreement with USA - DPRK Trade Council, Inc. for economic development within the DPRK. We would therefore request that you discuss with Mr. Robert Egan and Mr. Jay Gartlan and USA - DPRK Trade Council, Inc. any interest you may have in doing business in the DPRK. We will give very serious considerations to any proposals brought to us by Mr. Egan and Mr. Gartlan. We have confidence in their guidance and judgment as to which companies are appropriate for entry into the DPRK.

Please extend to Mr. Egan and Mr. Gartlan the usual courtesies.

Very truly yours,

Han Song Ryol
Minister Counsellor

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001e. memo	For the Files. (1 page)	12/09/1996	P1/b(1)

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703 - 602 - 1890

NORTH KOREA
October 1, 1997

Note to Briefer: Do not acknowledge or make reference to Ross Perot's involvement. Mr. Perot has been asked to comment and has declined.

Q: Why did you stop Perot from going to North Korea to learn more about the fate of possible live Americans in North Korea?

A: This administration is serious about pursuing all information concerning the fate of Americans possibly being held against their will in North Korea or anywhere else. Had we come across any credible information concerning possible live Americans in North Korea, the Administration, as we have in the past, would have investigated thoroughly and would have used all means possible, including the good offices of prominent private citizens able to assist us. In the case of North Korea, we have reviewed through high level discussion the question of live Americans in North Korea. The North Korean government has officially told us that apart from the 4 Americans who deserted from U.S. military service in South Korea in the 1960s, there are no Americans living in North Korea.

Q: Can you confirm Mr. Perot's involvement in a possible trade of information on live Americans in North Korea in exchange for the North not having to make a public apology for the submarine incident last year?

A: As I said, we have asked officially and been told officially there are no live Americans in North Korea besides the four defectors. We have no reason to believe this is not the case. While I cannot comment on the reference to Mr. Perot, I can tell you there was never a suggestion by anyone during any of our talks with the North Koreans that the North would be willing to exchange information about possible live Americans in North Korea in lieu of making a public statement of regret over the September 1996 North Korean submarine incursion into South Korean waters.

Background: ABC ran a Diane Sawyer piece on North Korea during the 7pm news Sept 29. Focus was on the malnourished children and lack of food/medicines.

Q: ABC ran a story last night on the plight of malnourished children in North Korea. What is the U.S. policy on proving food assistance to North Korea and could we be doing more?

A: We have led the international community in responding to international appeals for the needs of the Korean people. The United States has a policy of responding to international appeals for assistance on a humanitarian basis. This year alone we have provided 177,000 metric tons of food assistance to the UN World Food Program (WFP) appeals. Our effort has been specifically targeted to help the children that Diane Sawyer

showcased on last night's news program. In fact, the last 25,000 tons of the 100,00 tons of food assistance we most recently pledged is scheduled to arrive in North Korea in about 2 weeks. To ensure that the food gets to the children who need it the most, we have a team of US Private Volunteer Organizations (PVOs) on the ground in North Korea working with the WFP monitoring the distribution of our food aid . Without these monitors, we can not be certain the children are receiving the aid the people of the United States are providing.

Q: Is there a problem with visas for our monitors?

A: Our monitors have been working hard to see that the food assistance we have provided is going to the children it is intended. Currently, the visas of our monitors will expire in the middle of October, about the same time the shipment of food aid is scheduled to arrive. It is essential the monitors be allowed to remain to track the delivery of the food aid, without them we would have to reconsider providing any additional assistance -- including the 25,000 tons currently scheduled to arrive in late October. We have raised this with the North Korean government and expect the situation to be resolved in favorably.

- Talks in New York have recessed without progress on an agenda or date for four-party plenary.

- We will continue to explore through normal channels whether resumption of the talks is possible.

(FYI Only: North Koreans won't agree to anything unless we guarantee more food up front. They called our bluff, we called theirs in return. We are not calling this a breaking off of talks to leave open the possibility that the DPRK will come back to us.)

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002c. note	Personal. (1 page)	07/18/1997	P6/b(6), b(7)(C), b(7)(E)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
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Asian Affairs (Charles Pritchard)
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FOLDER TITLE:
POW/MIA Issues [1]

2009-0528-F
vz1500

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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003. note	Vincent Krepps to Charles Pritchard. (1 page)	7/1997	P6/b(6), b(7)(C), b(7)(E)

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National Security Council
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KOREAN/COLD WAR FAMILY ASSOCIATION
OF THE MISSING
TO RESOLVE, TO REMEMBER, TO CHANGE
128 Beaver Run
Coppell, Texas 75019
FAX: (214) 304-0721

Pat Dunton
Director/President
(214) 471-0246
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Darlene Ticehurst
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Bruce Sanderson
Director
(701) 232-8159
Irene Mandra
Director
(516) 694-0989
Donna Knox, Atty.
Director
(540) 366-6681
Nancy Dean
Washington Liaison
(301) 942-1961

July 9, 1997

Ms. Sandra Kristoff, Special Assistant to the President
Director, East Asian Affairs
Old Executive Office Building, Room 493
17th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Ms. Kristoff:

As Washington Liaison for the Korean/Cold War Family Association of the Missing (K/CW FAM), I draw your attention to two important issues: Proposed negotiations with four nations for peace treaty with North Korea, and Declassification.

On July 1, North Korea agreed to a four party peace talk. Will the issue of final accounting for Prisoners of War/Missing In Action (POW/MIA) be included in the peace agreement? When President Clinton dedicated the Korean War Veterans Memorial on 27 July 1995, he addressed the President of South Korea and the American nation by stating the POW/MIA issue was the highest national priority. As reported by the press on June 27, 1997, Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright stated that the POW/MIA issue in obtaining an accounting for missing Americans will be a key factor in determining future relations with Vietnam. In response to letters sent to President Clinton, our POW/MIA families from the Korean/Cold Wars are advised that the President gives highest priority to determining final accountability of our loved ones. Why isn't this policy evident in peace negotiations with North Korea? Final accountability includes providing facts as to the fate of non-returned servicemen.

Today represents the fifth time that our organization has visited you and requested your assistance in the declassification of documents pertaining to the Korean/Cold Wars. Based on Executive Order 12958 of 17 April 1995, *Classified National Security Information* should have ensured declassification of documents pertaining to the Korean/Cold Wars. Instead Mr. Wold, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) regularly interprets exceptions to the 25 year automatic declassification for reasons of threat of source and foreign policy as the rationale for not complying with general declassification. Section 3.4. (c)

and (d) of the Executive Order requires an agency head to notify the President of any specific file series or specific information which is deemed exempt from automatic declassification. Has DPMO complied with these provisions and does the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs agree with any such notification by DPMO?

Mrs. Patricia Dunton, President of K/CW FAM, looks forward to hearing from you about these two salient issues. Her address and telephone number are noted above in the letterhead.

Sincerely yours,

Nancy Lovell Dean

Nancy Lovell Dean
Washington Liaison, K/CW FAM
4104 Havard Street
Wheaton, MD 20906-4444
Phone: (301) 942-1961

Enclosures:
-"Albright Reflects on Vietnam War Before Visit", *Washington Times* 6/27/97
-Pages 13 and 14 of Executive Order 12958 signed by President Clinton 4/17/95

AP

U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Pete Peterson greets Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright on her arrival at Hanoi's airport yesterday.

Albright reflects on Vietnam War before visit

NEW. Times 6/21/97

By George Gedda
U.S. Wire Press

HANOI — Thirty years ago, Madeleine K. Albright was a young mother of three girls and a graduate student at Columbia University — then a hotbed of sentiment against the Vietnam War.

As the war dragged on, the normally hawkish Mrs. Albright found herself believing that the war was a mistake.

Now secretary of state, Mrs. Albright discussed her thoughts on the war while en route here last night for her first visit to Vietnam.

With political relations between the United States and Vietnam decidedly on the upswing, the tragedy of a generation ago is an increasingly dim memory. Just last month, the two countries exchanged ambassadors for the first time since the war ended.

Mrs. Albright's top priority in meetings with Vietnamese officials today will be to press for continued cooperation in obtaining an accounting for American servicemen still missing from the war.

Beyond that, she will raise American concerns about human rights problems and review with officials the series of steps that Vietnam must take before barriers to trade are lowered and full economic and trade ties can be reestablished.

After those discussions, Mrs. Albright will become the first secretary of state to visit Ho Chi Minh City, the former Saigon, since the collapse of the American-backed government there in 1975.

Since becoming a public figure, Mrs. Albright's sentiments against totalitarian rule have been well known. It is a position she arrived at after having been forced from her homeland in Czechoslovakia twice as a child, first by the Nazis, later by the Communists.

Two years ago, she said, "My mind-set is Munich; most of my generation's is Vietnam."

On the flight from Washington, however, Mrs. Albright acknowledged that the divisiveness the Vietnam War caused and other aspects of the conflict challenged over time her early support for the war effort.

Initially, she said, she saw the war as part of a necessary struggle against a "communist monolith."

"And having come from where I had come, I was more likely to view it that way," she told reporters.

But she eventually concluded that the issue was more complicated than she had thought, that it was more than a textbook example of communist expansionism. She realized that Vietnamese nationalism played a role.

And while she did not take part in demonstrations, Mrs. Albright said she "came to see what everybody came to see, that it was not the same kind of a war."

The war, she said, "troubled me a great deal."

One of the legacies of that war is the POW-MIA issue, and the administration has said Vietnamese cooperation in obtaining an accounting for the missing Americans will be a key factor in determining future relations.

Today, Mrs. Albright will visit the U.S. MIA-POW office here and will receive a briefing on the status of joint efforts to obtain an accounting.

(b) An agency head may exempt from automatic declassification under paragraph (a), above, specific information, the release of which should be expected to:

(1) reveal the identity of a confidential human source, or reveal information about the application of an intelligence source or method, or reveal the identity of a human intelligence source when the unauthorized disclosure of that source would clearly and demonstrably damage the national security interests of the United States;

(2) reveal information that would assist in the development or use of weapons of mass destruction;

(3) reveal information that would impair U.S. cryptologic systems or activities;

(4) reveal information that would impair the application of state of the art technology within a U.S. weapon system;

(5) reveal actual U.S. military war plans that remain in effect;

(6) reveal information that would seriously and demonstrably impair relations between the United States and a foreign government, or seriously and demonstrably undermine ongoing diplomatic activities of the United States;

(7) reveal information that would clearly and demonstrably impair the current ability of United States Government officials to protect the President, Vice President, and other officials for whom protection services, in the interest of national security, are authorized;

(8) reveal information that would seriously and demonstrably impair current national security emergency preparedness plans; or

(9) violate a statute, treaty, or international agreement.

(c) No later than the effective date of this order, an agency head shall notify the President through the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs of any specific file series of records for which a review or assessment has determined that the information within those file series almost invariably falls within one or more of the exemption categories listed in paragraph (b), above, and which the agency proposes to exempt from automatic declassification. The notification shall include:

(1) a description of the file series;

(2) an explanation of why the information within the file series is almost invariably exempt from automatic declassification and why the information must remain classified for a longer period of time; and

PAGE 13 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 12958
SIGNED BY PRES. CLINTON 4/17/95.

(3) except for the identity of a confidential human source or a human intelligence source, as provided in paragraph (b), above, a specific date or event for declassification of the information.

The President may direct the agency head not to exempt the file series or to declassify the information within that series at an earlier date than recommended.

(d) At least 180 days before information is automatically declassified under this section, an agency head or senior agency official shall notify the Director of the Information Security oversight Office, serving as Executive Secretary of the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel, of any specific information beyond that included in a notification to the President under paragraph (c), above, that the agency proposes to exempt from automatic declassification. The notification shall include:

(1) a description of the information;

(2) an explanation of why the information is exempt

from automatic declassification and must remain classified for a longer period of time; and

(3) except for the identity of a confidential human source or a human intelligence source, as provided in paragraph (b), above, a specific date or event for declassification of the information. The Panel may direct the agency not to exempt the information or to declassify it at an earlier date than recommended. The agency head may appeal such a decision to the President through the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. The information will remain classified while such an appeal is pending.

(e) No later than the effective date of this order, the agency head or senior agency official shall provide the Director of the Information Security Oversight Office with a plan for compliance with the requirements of this section, including the establishment of interim target dates. Each such plan shall include the requirement that the agency declassify at least 15 percent of the records affected by this section no later than 1 year from the effective date of this order, and similar commitments for subsequent years until the effective date for automatic declassification.

(f) Information exempted from automatic declassification under this section shall remain subject to the mandatory and systematic declassification review provisions of this order.

(g) The Secretary of State shall determine when the United States should commence negotiations with the appropriate officials of a foreign government or international organization of governments to modify any treaty or international agreement that requires the classification of information contained in records affected by this section for a period longer than 25 years from the date

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release July 27, 1995

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRESIDENT KIM OF SOUTH KOREA AT DEDICATION OF KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Mall

3:13 P.M. EDT

PRESIDENT KIM: Your Excellency President Clinton, American congressional leaders, delegates from the Korean War, allies, Korean War veterans, ladies and gentlemen: We are dedicating this Korean War Veterans Memorial in memory of all the veterans who fought heroically in that war so that all succeeding generations will know how great the sacrifices and devotion of those veterans were, and how precious freedom and peace are. On behalf of the people of the Republic of Korea, I pay tribute to all those Korean war veterans who sacrificed their lives, and I pay respect to all those who fought in that war.

I would like to express my profound appreciation to the United States government, Congress, General Davis, and others for sponsoring and supporting the building of this profoundly meaningful memorial.

Korean War veterans and distinguished guests, the sacrifices of the Korean War veterans to defend freedom and peace were not in vain. The blood and sweat shed by the U.S. and the U.N. troops proved to be the prime mover behind the realization of freedom throughout the postwar world. The free world's participation in the Korean War, its first resolute and effective action to stem the expansion of communism, changed the course of history. In this sense, I would say that the Korean War was the war that heralded the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the demise of communism. (Applause.)

We take pride in the progress of history that has turned the Korean War from a forgotten war into a war most worthy of remembrance. Let all succeeding generations remember the truism engraved in this great memorial -- freedom is not free.

Thank you. (Applause.)

GENERAL DAVIS: Thank you, President Kim. I can't resist this. I have close to 50 family members here, and I haven't seen them. Would you hold up your hands? (Laughter.) There they are. (Laughter.)

Veterans and other honored guests, ladies and gentlemen, it's a very special honor for me and the highest privilege to introduce one who needs no introduction, the President of the United States, President Clinton.

Mr. President. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Thank you. Thank you very much, President Kim, for your fine remarks on behalf of all the people of Korea, and for your leadership and for your defense of democracy in your country, proving that these sacrifices of the Americans and others were not in vain.

Thank you to all the distinguished guests who are here. I'd like to say also a special word of thanks for those who are responsible for this memorial, for those who designed and built it and conceived it, and those who operate it. It is a magnificent reminder of what is best about the United States. And I thank you all for your contribution. (Applause.)

I also believe that everyone in this crowd, indeed everyone in this country, owes a special debt of gratitude to General Davis and to his predecessor, General Stilwell, for their eight-year dream to make this day a reality. (Applause.) General Davis served our country with great distinction in World War II and went on to win the Congressional Medal of Honor in Korea. But he had eight more long years of combat to make this day happen. And all of us who are here owe it to him to say thank you for all of that service. (Applause.)

Today we are surrounded by monuments to some of the greatest figures in our history, while we gather at this our newest national memorial to remember and honor the Americans who fought for freedom in Korea. In 1950, our nation was weary of war, but 1.5 million Americans left their family and friends and their

homes to help to defend freedom for a determined ally halfway around the world -- or, as the monument says, a place they had never been and a people they had never met.

Together with men and women from 20 other nations, all of whom are represented here today, they joined the first mission of the United Nations to preserve peace, by fighting shoulder to shoulder with the brave people of South Korea to defend their independence, to safeguard other Asian nations from attack, and to protect the freedom that remains our greatest gift.

The Korean War veterans endured terrible hardships -- deathly cold, weeks and months crammed in foxholes and bunkers, an enemy of overwhelming numbers, the threat of brutal imprisonment and torture, defending the perimeter at Pusan, braving the tides at Inchon, confronting the world's fastest fighter jets in Mig Alley, enduring hand to hand combat on Heartbreak Ridge and Pork Chop Hill, fighting the way back from Chosin Reservoir. They set a standard of courage that may be equal, but will never be surpassed in the annals of American combat. (Applause.)

If I might recount the deeds of just two men, so as to bring to life today, so many years later, the dimensions of this conflict. One from my home state, 26-year-old Lloyd Burke was trying to lead his company to high ground outside of Seoul. Pinned down by enemy fire, he wiped out three enemy bunkers in a lone assault. Hand grenades were thrown at him. So he caught them and threw them back. Later, he knocked out two enemy mortars and a machine gun position. Despite being wounded, he led his men in a final charge and took hill. For his extraordinary courage and leadership, Lloyd Burke was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. (Applause.)

Corporal Ronald Rosser was forward observer in the hills near Ponggilli when his platoon came under fire from two directions. With just a carbine and a grenade, he charged the enemy position and knocked out two bunkers and cleared a trench. Twice he ran out of ammunition and twice he crossed through enemy fire to resume his attack. Later, even though he was wounded, Ronald Rosser repeatedly dodged enemy fire to bring other injured soldiers to safety. And for his exceptional bravery, he, too, was awarded the Medal of Honor. (Applause.)

These two great Americans, Lloyd Burke and Ronald Rosser, are with us here today. I ask them to stand and be recognized on behalf of all the veterans of the Korean War. (Applause.)

In this impressive monument we can see the figures and faces that recall their heroism. In steel and granite, water and earth, the creators of this memorial have brought to life the courage and sacrifice of those who served in all branches of the Armed Forces from every racial and ethnic group and background in America. They represent, once more, the enduring American truth: From many we are one.

Tens of thousands of Americans died in Korea. Our South Korean allies lost hundreds of thousands of soldiers and civilians. Our other U.N. allies suffered grievous casualties. Thousands of Americans who were lost in Korea to this day have never been accounted for. Today I urge the leaders of North Korea to work with us to resolve those cases. (Applause.)

President Kim and I are working together to open the door to better relations between our nations and North Korea. Clarifying these MIA cases is an important step. We have not forgotten our debt to them or to their families and we will never stop working for the day when they can be brought home. (Applause.)

This memorial also commemorates those who made the ultimate sacrifice so that we might live free. And I ask you on this hot, summer day to pause for a moment of silence in honor of those from the United States, our U.N. allies and from our friends in the Republic of Korea who lost their lives in the Korean War. (A moment of silence is observed.) Amen.

On this day 42 years ago, President Dwight Eisenhower called the end of hostilities an armistice on a single battleground, not peace in the world. It's fair to say that when the guns fell silent then, no one knew for sure what our forces in Korea had done for the future of our nation or the future of world freedom. The larger conflict of the Cold War had only begun. It would take four decades more to win.

In a struggle so long and consuming, perhaps it's not surprising that too many lost sight of the importance of Korea. But now we know with the benefit of history, that those of you who served and the families who stood behind you laid the foundations for one of the greatest triumphs in the history of human freedom. By sending a clear message that America had not defeated fascism to see communism prevail, you put the free world on the road to victory in the Cold War. That is your enduring contribution. And all free people everywhere should recognize it today. (Applause.)

And look what you achieved in Korea. Today, Korea is thriving and prosperous. From the unbelievable poverty and ruin at the aftermath of the war, this brave, industrious, strong country has risen to become the 11th largest economy in the entire world, with a strong democratic leader in President Kim. In Asia, peace and stability are more firmly rooted than at any time since World War II. And all around the world, freedom and democracy are now on the march.

So to all the veterans here today, and to all throughout our land who are watching, let us all say, when darkness threatened you kept the torch of liberty alight. You kept the flame burning so that others all across the world could share it. You showed the truth inscribed on the wall, that freedom is not free.

We honor you today because you did answer the call to defend a country you never knew, and a people you never met. They are good people. It's a good country. And the world is better because of you.

God bless you and God bless America. (Applause.)

END

3:31 P.M. EDT

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004. letter	David Straub to Martha Baez. [partial] (1 page)	11/21/1997	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:
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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 21, 1997

Ms. Martha R. Baez

[redacted] P6/(b)(6)

[004]

Dear Ms. Baez:

Senator Mack has conveyed to the Department of State the concern you expressed about the possibility of American POWs living in North Korea.

The U.S. Government is committed to pursuing all information about the fate of Americans possibly being held against their will in North Korea or anywhere else. Had we come across any credible information about possible live Americans in North Korea, the Administration, as we have in the past, would have investigated thoroughly and would have used all means possible, including the good offices of prominent private citizens able to assist us. In the case of North Korea, we have reviewed through high level-discussion the question of live Americans in North Korea. The North Korean government has officially told us that, apart from the four Americans who deserted from U.S. military service the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s, there are no Americans living in North Korea.

We continue to press the North Koreans in all our official and unofficial contacts for information on live Americans. The mechanism is in place, and is producing results, as we reach agreements with them on joint excavations for American remains, on joint military archive review, and on pursuing leads about live Americans.

I would like to assure you there was never a suggestion by anyone during any of our negotiations with the North Koreans that the North would be willing to exchange information about possible live Americans in North Korea in lieu of making a public statement of regret over the September 1996 North Korean submarine incursion into South Korean waters.

I hope that this reply answers your concerns. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

David Straub
Acting Director
Office of Korean Affairs

Drafted: EAP/K: JCAller
Cleared: EAP/RSP: DJKeegan
H: DPittman
DPMO: LGreer
NSC: JPritchard

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

105/04
2400432

U.S. Army Attache

USDAO Tokyo
American Embassy
Unit 45004 Box 222
APO AP 96337-5004
224-5381
FAX: 224-5972

FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Date: *February 24, 1998*

To: *White House Situation Room* ***(PLEASE PASS TO COL JACK PRITCHARD, NSC ASIA AFFAIRS ASAP)***

Fax: *202-757-1242*

Re: *USDAO Tokyo IIR*

Sender: *LTC Michael W. Libbee*

YOU SHOULD RECEIVE PAGE(S), INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL 3224-5381

Sir,

As requested.

Mike

COVER SHEET UNCLASSIFIED
UPON REMOVAL OF ENCLOSURES

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ATTACHMENTS
Initials: VZ Date: 7/10/2012
2009-0508-F

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
005. cable	re: Possible American Man. (4 pages)	02/17/1998	P1/b(1)

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Sandra Kristoff
Sr. Director Asian Affairs
National Security Council Room 493
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20504

November 5, 1996

Dear Sandra,

I am proposing to bring a group on North Korean Archivists to the United States to study, open source, declassified, Korean War records, held by the National Archives II in College Park, Maryland who has a collection of captured enemy documents (about 4,500 boxes) containing some original documents signed by Kim Il Sung. Such documents hold a major historical significance to the rich and honorable history of North Korea. In addition, I am seeking to take this group of North Korean Archivists to also study the open records, on the Korean War, held by the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in Abilene, KS, which has published a finders aid or guide to their Korean War archives, that are open for study.

In exchange for access to these two U.S. record groups on the Korean War, I am proposing that the DPRK open its war archives to U.S. researchers, seeking to account for Americans who are missing as a result of the Korean War.

I am seeking a special VISA to permit the supervised travel into and within the United States for these North Korean archivists to conduct a study of these two records groups. This proposal will be presented to the North Korean Government, in North Korea on December 1, 1996. So, time is of the essence, to gain approval, in writing, on or before November 25, 1996.

Could you please issue me a letter stating your approval of the idea and outline the steps you would like to see followed, to facilitate this open exchange of information.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I have been extended an invitation by Ambassador Ho Jong to travel to North Korea on December 1, 1996, for a 5 days, to discuss this and other arrangements on POW/MIA accounting.

Attached is a background statement on the issues to be discussed. Thank you in advance for your consideration and response.

Sincerely,

Michael Van Atta

Michael Van Atta, Chairman
POW Educational Fund, Inc.
P. O. Box 735, Stewartstown, PA 17363
717-993-5498

(1)

THE INSIDER NOVEMBER 1996

This information is for Ambassador Ho Jong,

POW - SECRETS INSIDE NORTH KOREA

Headline in September 1996 in the Baltimore Sun Newspaper read, "U.S. suspects North Korea failed to return all POWs". "Eisenhower aides believed hundreds were left behind.." AP Washington - Documents made public yesterday showed intense concern within the Eisenhower administration over secret reports that hundreds of prisoners of war had been left behind in North Korea at the end of the fighting.

And testimony before the House National Security personnel subcommittee brought forth several theories on their fate. One document, dated Dec. 22, 1953, recounts a conversation between President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Army Secretary Robert T. Stevens about internal reports that more than 900 POWs were left behind. (Remember that in 1953 this information was classified, TOP SECRET.) The President made the statement that he was not sure that if he had fully appreciated the situation he would have felt it wise to go into the forthcoming conference," the memo says, apparently referring to a peace talks over ending the Korean War. "Perhaps we should have insisted on their return as a precondition to the conference."

Peace talks with North Korea had ended with an armistice earlier that year at Panmunjon, When Eisenhower asked Stevens what evidence the military had , Stevens reported that the Army had the names of "610 Army people that have just disappeared from the camps. The Air Force has over 300." Although it kept the issue quiet, the Eisenhower administration appears to have taken the reports seriously.

A memo from Deputy Secretary of Defense Reuben B. Robertson Jr. dated Oct. 27, 1956, asks the military service secretaries to improve the information they have on unaccounted-for cases to help in negotiations with China and North Korea. The Robertson memo describes a presidential order signed the previous year that "committed all facilities of our government to establish contact with, support and obtain the release of all our prisoners of war." The memo refers to POWs "who may still be held by the Communists."

Eventually the issue drew public attention. One of the documents, a memo dated June 20, 1958, notes passage of a sense-of-Congress resolution that the Eisenhower administration would continue to seek the return of 450 still-missing Americans. The North Korean government has said it is not holding any Americans now.

Col. Philip Corso, a former military aide to Eisenhower, testified at the House hearing that he had access to numerous intelligence reports on unaccounted-for POWs, including a report of two, possibly three trainloads of 450 POWs each being sent to the Soviet Union for interrogation. Jan Sejna, a Czech military defector, testified that hundreds of American POWs were used as guinea pigs in medical experimentation's. END AP.

Headlines on September 28, 1993 in the New York Times Newspaper read, "Report Says Soviet Took POWs From Korea". AP Washington -A report by the United States on American servicemen missing in the Korean War sketches a chilling picture of American airman being hunted by Soviet intelligence teams and shipped off to labor camps. The report, which was provided to Russian officials at a recent meeting in Moscow, says that several hundred American Korean War prisoners were secretly taken into the Soviet Union in the 1950s and never returned. Moscow has always denied this.

The United States has not indicated that it has conclusive evidence of specific American prisoners having been held at specific sites in the former Soviet Union. Rather, it cites a range a range of evidence that an operation to move POWs to the Soviet Union was carried out. The charge, based on a report titled "The Transfer of U.S. Korean War POWs to the Soviet Union," was made by Americans on an American-Russian commission on war prisoners at a recent meeting in Moscow.

American researchers concluded from newly available Russian documents, interviews with former Soviet military and intelligence officers, and United States records that the Soviets used a well-practiced system for transferring the Americans, the report said. The Soviet operation appeared to have two main objectives: capturing American aviators who could provide useful information about American aircraft and Air Force operations and taking some who would be useful in the Gulag forced labor system. In many cases, the report said, captured American aviators were interrogated by Soviet military intelligence officers at Pos'yet, just across the North Korean boarder in Russia and taken north to Khabarovsk, described as a transit point for prisoners - Americans as well as South Koreans and possibly others.

Gen. Georgii A. Lobov, commander of the Soviet 64th Fighter Aviation Corps, based at Andung, China, just across the Yulu River from North Korea, during the war, was quoted in the report as having said the Soviets formed and used a special Air Force unit with the mission of capturing pilots of American F-86 fighter jets. "His mission was to force down Saber jets in order to capture the pilots alive." the report said, a reference to F-86 jets, in summarizing General Lobov's remarks. "Nine expert pilots were assigned to this mission, each of whom was required to sign a secrecy statement." The F-86 was the most advanced fighter in a war, that was the first modern jet combat. It had a superior gun sight that Russian designers wanted to duplicate. END AP

Headlines on May 5, 1996 in the Washington Post Newspaper AP by Robert Burns read, "Smuggling of American POWs Alleged" - "Soviet Defector Reported Korean War Practice, Document Reveals" - Less than two years after the Korean War, a high-level Soviet defector told White House officials that American prisoners of war in North Korea had been taken secretly to Siberia to be exploited for Soviet intelligence purposes, according to a newly declassified U.S. government document. The document dated Jan. 31, 1955, and stamped "SECRET" is not proof that smuggling of POWs--long denied by the Soviets and now by the Russian government--actually happened. But it adds weight to claims that it did (happen).

It is the first document to surface from the White House files of President Dwight D. Eisenhower that names a Soviet official as a source of U.S. suspicions about POW transfers to the former Soviet Union. To this day the government says Moscow has not fully answered questions about POW disappearances during a war, in which Soviet intelligence was active in North Korea.

Yuri A. Rastvorov, who defected to the United States in 1954 from his post at the Soviet mission in Tokyo, told Eisenhower administration officials in a private Jan. 28, 1955, meeting that "U.S. and other U.N. POWs were being held in Siberia" during the 1950-53 Korean War, according to the newly released memo, which is a one-page summary of what Rastvorov said in the encounter.

The document is on file at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kan.; requests for its declassification were denied in 1991, but last month in response to

renewed requests by the Associated Press and others, it was released. The memo said Rastvorov claimed to have learned of the POW movement from "recent arrivals--1950-1953--from the Soviet Union to the USSR's Tokyo mission." This apparently was a reference to Soviet mission staff.. There was no indication that Rastvorov participated in any POW transfers.

The Pentagon, which has been investigating Soviet involvement with Korean War prisoners, has been aware of the Rastvorov memo since 1993 and considers it credible, said Norman Kass, who directs POW work with the Russians at the Defense Department's POW-MIA Office. "This represents one more piece" of evidence "from someone we assume to be reliable and certainly knowledgeable" on the issue Kass said in an interview. Kass said he wanted to verify directly with Rastvorov that the statements attributed to him in the memo are accurate. "We are interested in knowing exactly what he did know," Kass said. Rastvorov apparently knew plenty.

Donald Jameson, who was a branch chief in the Soviet division of the CIA's Operations Directorate in the 1950s recalled that Rastvorov told him, too, that a number of American POWs from the Korean War had been taken to the Soviet Union. "My impression is that it was a few--10 to 15; they were aviators mostly," Jameson said in a interview. He said Rastvorov proved to be a reliable and valuable source and was one of the most important defectors during the Cold War. "he had a lot to say about relations between the Soviet Union and Korea," Jameson said.

Rastvorov took a new name and identify provided by the CIA after his arrival in the United States. Efforts to contact him for this story were unsuccessful. Rastvorov was at the Soviet mission in Japan from June 1950--the same month the Korean War broke out--until he defected to the United States in January 1954. He ostensibly was a Foreign Ministry official but actually was a spy, according to a biography released by the Justice Department in August 1954.

Philip Corso, a former Army intelligence officer who was a National Security Council staff member in the mid-1950s, said it was he who arranged and conducted the interrogation of Rastvorov that is described in the 1955 memo. Corso told a Senate investigations committee in 1992 that Rastvorov confirmed to him the transfer of POWs and told him they were used for intelligence purposes. But no records verifying Corso's account had been made public until the release last month of the formerly secret Jan. 31, 1955 memo. In telephone interviews in 1994 and 1995, Corso recalled in detail his encounter with Rastvorov and said the defector told him several hundred American POWs had been sent to Siberia in rail cars during the war. Corso has maintained that the Eisenhower administration chose not to force the issue with Moscow out of concern that a confrontation might escalate into all out war. END AP

On April 25, 1996 in the New York Times Newspaper headline read "Decades Later, Tales of Americans in Soviet Jails" by James Brooke - Khabarovsk, Russia--Time has stopped Vladmir Trotsenko's shoulders, but his memories are as clear as his cobalt blue eyes: the American flyer, his right arm in a new cast, in a Soviet military hospital ward. The American, he recalled, would slowly repeat, "America--San Francisco, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Chicago."

Curious, Mr. Trotsenko, a paratrooper recovering from a knee injury, would hopple down the third-floor hospital corridor to gaze at the four imprisoned Americans. The airman with the broken arm would point to a crewman in a body cast and would make

cradling motions with his arms, indicating that the man had left two small children back home. The year was 1951, and the place was Military Hospital 404 in Novosysoyevka, 300 miles south of here. Stalin was in his last years, the Korean War was raging and the Cold War with the Unites States was on. "I did not talk about this for 43 years," Mr. Trotsenko, spray at 68, said as his wife, Nina, served blini and borscht at their wooden dacha outside this city, the largest industrial center of Russia's Far East.

In 1994 he noticed a small advertisement in a local newspaper placed by a new group, a Russian-American commission on prisoners of war. Admitting that he was "tortured" about whether "to call or not to call," he finally did. As fears of official retribution ease, more and more Russians are following Mr. Trotsenko's lead and are talking to American Government researchers seeking traces of Americans who vanished into the Gulag during seven decades of Communism. Responding to advertisements for information, calls and letters trickling to the United States Embassy in Moscow and the new consulate in Vladivostok.

A woman calls saying she knows the Russian widow, children and grand-children a former American prisoner of war. A former camp guard recalls hearing about an American prisoner from the Korean War held under maximum security in 1983. An Estonian remembers meeting a black American pilot in a labor camp in 1955. A retired military driver reports seeing an American Prisoner--"robust and taller than average"--in an Arctic camp in 1970. A former inmate says that while working in a forced labor gold mine in 1979 he witnessed the death of Philip V. Mandra, a United States Marine sergeant from queens, who was reported missing in action in Korea in 1952.

Numbering in the thousands, the list of Americans sent to Soviet labor camps is long and varied. They include left-wing Americans who emigrated to the Soviet Union in the 1930's only to be arrested as spies during Stalin's xenophobic sweeps; hundreds of dual nationals sent to Siberian labor camps after Stalin annexed Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia in 1940; about 500 American military prisoners kept after World War II by Stalin as bargaining chips, about 30 F-86 pilots and crewman captured during the Korean War and transferred to the Soviet Union in a secret aircraft industry intelligence operation; and as many as 100 American airman who survived downing of spy planes over Soviet territory during the cold war.

"Clearly, there were a lot of Americans around the gulag, but it is unimaginable that any of the World War II prisoners are still alive," said Paul M. Cole, who wrote a three-volume report for the Rand Corporation in 1994 on American prisoners from World War II, the Korean War and the cold war who were held in the Soviet Union.

Family members of Americans missing in Korea and in the cold war downings are increasingly demanding answers from the bilateral research group, the U.S.-Russian Joint Commission on POW/MIA's. I definitely believe that some survived," said Patricia Lively Dickinson, a Delaware resident, who believes that her brother, Jack D. Lively, a Navy airman who was shot down in 1951, was one of the four Americans that Mr. Trotsenko saw at the military hospital. "I feel that Jack's files are in the KGB files." Bruce Sanderson, a North Dakota steel worker, also believes that his father, Lteut. Warren Sanderson, survived the shooting down of his reconnaissance plane near Vladivostok in 1953. "In 1955, a repatriated Japanese POW identified a picture of my dad." said Mr. Sanderson, who was born a few months after his father was shot down. "He could still be

alive. It was just in 1992 that the Russians freed the last 80 Japanese POWs from World War II."

Formed in 1992, the POW commission has little to show for the millions of dollars spent, family members and former researchers assert. It has yet to find any missing American, dead or alive, in the former Soviet Union. END NEW YORK TIMES

CONCLUSION: There are many missing Americans, from all wars, including the Korean War, who were alive in North Korea, who were shipped to the Soviet Union. There is no reason, now more than 40 years after the conflict ended, to withhold an accounting for the missing prisoners (who were shipped to the Soviet Union).

Joint operations between the Russians and Americans are recovering answers, from witnesses and records. According to the New York Times, June 23, 1960 UPI-An ex-Communist colonel says, Soviet Russia sent 5,000 combat specialists into Korea during the Korean War to do almost everything for the North Koreans "but pull the trigger for them." Writing in the current issue of Life magazine, 39-year old Pawel Monat, tells of his duties as Polish military attaché in North Korea...Monat says: "Russian pilots did most of the Communist flying in the air battles between MIGs and U.S. Saber jets. Soviet anti-aircraft batteries, planted all over North Korea, shot down U.S. planes, Soviet combat engineers constructed bridges, roads and tunnels, to keep ammunition and other supplies moving to the front...And whatever success the North Koreans had against the U.N. forces, was due to the hundreds of Soviet advisors who trained them..." END NEW YORK TIMES

CONCLUSION: The Russians are beginning to open their archives at the KGB, that contain records on Soviet involvement in North Korea and Soviet actions involving capture American POWs.

According to an artical in theNew York Times in August 1960 entitled The "Communist Spy Network Is Gigantic, Complex." The Soviet's KGB--Committee for State Security operated out of a huge espionage center in Saint Antonius Hospital in the Soviet Berlin-Karlshorst restricted area. Officially it was known as the KGB Residentura, second only to the supreme spy center in Moscow. In the Karlshorst restricted area, the KGB had some 600 buildings manned by 9000 permanent specialists in everything from forging of U.S. documents to contact with the underworld. The KGB's sabotage-espionage unit of Karlshorst called "The Dept. of Illegal Activity" supported front and other underground organizations in the West. One Dept. of Foreign Countries, its operatives referred to it as the "Reconnaissance Dept." Officially it had as its "function the spying in military and political fields and subverting anti-Soviet political organizations, parties and groups." Dept. "SK" was in charge of surveillance and control of Soviet diplomatic and trade representations and the control of Soviet citizens" abroad.

In October 1996 the Federal Security Service, the domestic arm of the former KGB turned over the first of 15,000 pages of archives to a Washington-based Museum, according to the Baltimore Sun Newspaper.

CONCLUSION: The Russians have begun to cooperate in providing records on captured prisoners and are telling the story of what happened to them after they were captured alive. North Korea should be willing to provide documents showing the names of Americans that were transferred to the Soviet Union.

Joint operations between the United States, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia are helping to locate missing Americans at grave sites, crash sites and in cemeteries. Archives and museums are being opened to U.S. investigators seeking to learn the whereabouts of

missing Americans. Cooperation has lead to several accountings in cases where Americans were prisoners, at one point in time. Cooperation in S.E. Asia is working, along with a dialog of understanding.

Cooperation on the issue of missing Americans can be established, but only through a dialogue, wherein open communication is permitted. There is, now, no open channel of communications or continuing dialogue on missing Americans in North Korea and one needs to be established. There is no longer the intelligence priority to keep the POW/MIA issue TOP SECRET or incognito. To permit an atmosphere of openness to occur, a written plan needs to be approved by both the American and North Korean sides, to form a bipartisan, humanitarian joint commission on POW/MIAs, wherein the following steps can be taken:

1. A willingness to open access to record groups, archives, museums and data, can now be established in an open and straight forward exchange of information.

The United States maintains two records groups on North Korea to which access can be permitted. A North Korean team of Archivists can be permitted to come to the United States and to review and copy these records. In cases where a document is located that is considered to be of major historical significance to the North Korean government, arrangements to return the original document to the DPRK can be facilitated. It is my privilege to help facilitate such an exchange and access to these historical archives.

---A. One record group is maintained at the National Archives II located at 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001. The head archivists, Richard Boylan, maintains a Korean War record group of 4500 boxes of captured enemy documents. Each box contains about 1,000 pages. Some of the documents (which I have reviewed) are original documents signed by Kim Il Sung. Such records should have major historical significance to the rich and honorable history of North Korea. All of these documents are records, that are original documents, written in the Korean language.

---B. Another record group is maintained at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas 67410. The head archivists, David J. Haight, who maintains high level documents concerning the Korean War armistice and POW issues (which I have reviewed). Such records should have major historical significance to the history of North Korea.

CONCLUSION: An exchange of documents can be arranged and a mechanism should be established to permit this archival research to occur.

2. A willingness or atmosphere of cooperation, in recovering the remains of Americans war dead who are buried in North Korean soil, needs to be scheduled and permitted.

---A. A written plan outlining the goals and objectives needs to be agreed to.

---B. A time table and time line spelling out, when this will occur, needs to be outlined.

---C. The terms under which American remains recovery will be permitted and who will be in charge of granting permission to allow this to occur, needs to be outlined in a written agreement.

3. A willingness to permit a joint North Korean and American team to conduct research in areas where reports say live Americans are still living in North Korea.

---A. Should a live American be located in North Korea he should be questioned as to his desire to return to the United States. Should it be his will to stay in North Korea, he should be permitted. Should it be his will to come to the United States, he should be permitted.

---B. A procedure permitting a non-disclosure and an agreement should be signed wherein no retaliation or retribution or responsibility for permitting such returnees to leave North

Korea, will be permitted or acceptable that will embarrass the North Korean or the United States government.

Headlines in the Philadelphia Inquirer Newspaper dated October 25, 1994 read: "POW escapes from North Korea" "The man is the first prisoner of war to flee since the Korean War ended. Now 64, he was held for 43 years." Lt. Cho Chang-ho, 64 was found semi-conscious in a small wooden boat by a South Korean fishing vessel attracted by flash lights in the Yellow Sea off the Southwest coast of the Republic of Korea, early October 23, 1994. On February 14, 1995 U.S. officials debriefed Lt. Cho and he stated:

---1. He observed approximately 700-800 South Korean Army POWs and approximately 70-80 American POWs at the 5th Corps HQ.

---2. All of these South Korean and American POWs were moved on foot from Changanse to Sinan, Kangwon-do (30-40 miles away).

---3. After arriving in Sinan, the American POWs were separated from the South Koreans and taken by truck to an unknown destination.

---4. He heard from South Korean POWs that there was a large number of American POWs, together with South Korean POWs at the Usl and Choima camps.

CONCLUSION: North Korea kept some prisoners, which it did not release in 1953, following the Korean War, and agreements called for the exchange of all live POWs were not followed.

From the CIA comes one page of a document on North Korea POWs, page 0008. It's title, "Summary: A first-hand observation revealed that unidentified 'Caucasians' working on a possible collective farm in North Korea in 1979." "Synopsis: In fall 1979 during a Sunday excursion (BLANK) Pyonoyang //3900N-12545E//, some laborers were observed in rice paddies near a collective farm. Of the 50, one was definitely identified as Caucasian; eight to ten others also appeared to (be) Caucasian. Their age was conjectured to be about 50. No guards were observed. (BLANK) in discussing this sighting speculated with some degree of certainty that these were American prisoners of war. Several (BLANK) had been in Korea a while and behaved as if such a sighting were commonplace. (BLANK) he observed the unidentified Caucasians 12 Oct. 79."

Headline in the Courant Newspaper September 15, 1993 reads, "Bloomfield (N.J.) man says he saw U.S. POWs in North Korea" and "Agency to probe Bloomfield man's claim of prisoners in North Korea." Serban Oprica who emigrated to the United States from Romania in 1985 said that the Romanian government has sent him to North Korea, an engineer, to help build the country's first television factory. More than 8,000 American soldiers have never been accounted for by the North Koreans. Of these 389 were known to have been POWs. END COURANT STORY

CONCLUSION: There are U.S. Intelligence reports of live Americans described as prisoners of war who are in North Korea. Some are of an age group, that indicates, that they may be POWs transferred to North Korea from the Vietnam War.

The CIA provided the Defense POW/MIA unit on March 9, 1988 a memorandum, entitled: Subject: Alleged Sightings of American POWs in North Korea from 1975 to 1982. The memo states: "In response to your request, we have searched our internal files ant the Agency's extensive bibliographic holdings for all information on the presence of American POWs in North Korea during the period 1975-82. We have uncovered three separate reports of such sightings, which are attached:

---1. The first report is dated April 1980, indicates that (BLANK) sighted two Americans in August 1986 while undergoing training at the Maram safehouse complex on the out skirts of P'yongyang. According to a (BLANK) later told him that about 10 military pilots captured in North Vietnam were brought to North Korea.
---2. The second report, also dated in April 1980, apparently describes the same incident as related (BLANK).
---3. In the third report, dated March 1988 (BLANK) indicated sighting as many as 11 Caucasians, possibly American prisoners from the Korean War, in the fall of 1979 on a collective farm north of P'yongyang. (Note: Source of this report is by Serban Oprica.)

CONCLUSION: Americans captured as prisoners of war in the Vietnam War were shipped to North Korea, as the CIA intelligence (source reports) indicate.

Headline in The Washington Post Newspaper, dated June 15, 1996 read, "Analyst Says North Korea May Hold POWs" by John Mintz and Thomas W. Lippman. It states: "A Pentagon analyst who evaluates reports of prisoners of war and soldiers missing in action has concluded 10 to 15 American soldiers from the Korean War and possibly the Vietnam War are alive in North Korea and may be held as POWs. A Pentagon spokesman said a two-page report summarizing these conclusions by In Sung Lee, a veteran analyst at the Defense POW/MIA Office, is a draft memo that does not reflect the official position of DPMO or the Department. The Pentagon added it can neither confirm nor rule out the conclusions." (MORE) END Washington Post Story.

I.O. Lee of the DPMO, Defense POW/MIA Office, wrote a memo dated 3/26/96, marked, FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY, entitled "Background Paper Accountability of Missing Americans From the Korean War, Live-sighting Reports" and it reads as follows:

The U.S. Government has received numerous reports concerning Americans living or detained in North Korea after the prisoner exchanges with North Korea in 1953. Based on (the) number of unaccounted for personnel captured by the Communist forces and not returned from the Korean War and a number of recent live American sightings in North Korea... (there are) a small group of defectors and a large group of 10-15 possible POWs.

A small group of four personnel is comprised of American soldiers who defected to North Korea in 1960's. Based on U.S. Army files, North Korean literature and North Korean movie, entitled "Nameless Heroes", these defectors appear to be in North Korea on their own volition. They are Private Larry A. Abshier, Private First Class James J. Dresnok, Specialist Four Jerry W. Parrish, and Sergeant Charles R. Jenkins. (People magazine, dated April 15, 1996, carried a story with their photos written by Richard Jerome, Jear Eskin, Bonnie Bell and Andrew Marton.)

According to North Korea defectors, PFC Dresnok is married to a North Korean and has a daughter. One of the North Korean defectors met SGT Jenkins in a coffee shop in Pyongyang. SGT. Jenkins told the North Korean defector that he is now ready to return to America. The American deserters live in the "foreigner's apartments", Chukehon-dong, Mangyongdae-kuyok, west-side of Pyongyang.

A second group of Americans is comprised of US service members, most likely POWs, from the Korean War and possibly Vietnam War era. There have been numerous reports of both American and British POWs in North Korea. One of the compelling reports received over the years was a sighting reported to DOD by a Romanian in 17 Feb 1988.

On October 1979, Mr. Oprica, a former Romanian, now a naturalized U.S. citizen, along with other Romanians employed at a North Korean factory in Pyongyang was on a

North Korean Government sponsored sight seeing trip. During this bus trip, the bus driver appeared to be disoriented and drove the bus through a collective farm. During this trip, he observed 7-10 Caucasians, including one individual with blue eyes, working in the fields. The workers appeared to be in their 50's. Mr. Oprica was told by a female passenger that the Caucasian farmers were American prisoners of war. Mr. Oprica was unable to recall who the lady was and how she determined the Caucasian farmers were American POWs. On 24 Nov. 95, another passenger on the bus, Mr. Florin Tomescu, was finally located in Romania and interviewed. He confirmed seeing Caucasians working on a farm and the location of the collective farm was somewhere between Pyongyang and the city of Nampo.

Since the Oprica/Tomescu sightings, a variety of additional sightings reports have been received, culminating in a recent flurry, (last 60 days) of very compelling reports. The following summarizes these reports:

1. All "American POWs" were under the direct control of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces (MPAF) and were residing in various sections within the Pyongyang city area and they were always escorted and moved in a vehicle with a license plates belonging to the MPAF, the reconnaissance bureau, or Ministry of Social Safety.

2. "Black and white" Americans were seen shopping together in a foreigners only, western goods store. The number of Americans sighted generally range from 10-15, with a few recent citing as many as 40-50. One defector cited that since 1978, he learned that over 60 American POWs lived in Pyongyang. Some are married to Koreans and have children.

3. One defector stated that in the film "Nameless Heroes" a black POW played a role of a house servant for the American policy officer, Dr. Kelton. The "Nameless Heroes" film has 20-21 segments and, the DPMO is in the process of obtaining them to determine if this information is accurate.

4. Several defector reports cite that there have been numerous Americans teaching English and American customs at the foreign language department in Amnokgang College or a military reconnaissance school in Pyongyang. These English language instructors are sometimes identified as U.S. defectors, but frequently as "American POWs".

5. According to escorts, many POWs desire to return to U.S..

6. The Analysis of numerous live sighting reports correlate that American POWs live in a group compounds in various locations in Pyongyang and its suburbs, and perhaps other places in DPRK. POWs movements in DPRK are apparently controlled by the North Korean Government.

7. In the summer of 1976, a North Korean defector visited a cooperative farm located in the outskirts of Pyongyang. There he met a Caucasian man of about 60 years old, 180 cm tall with a large body. The Caucasian told the defector that he was an American. He asked one of the women who the American was, and the woman told him that the American was an American POW from the Korean Liberation War.

There are too many live sighting reports, specifically observations of several Caucasians in a collective farm by Romanians and the North Korean defectors' eyewitness of Americans in DPRK to dismiss that there are no American POWs in North Korea.

(10)

U.S. Intelligence Reports of Americans, including U.S. Korean War POWs, in North Korea

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IIR-2-221-2605-68 (20 November 1968)
IIR-2-221-0122-80 (7 May 1980)
CIA TDFIR-K-314/00459-86 (3 June 1986)
IIR-2-221-0158-88 (12 August 1988)
IIR-2-221-0187-89 (6 July 1989)
IIR-2-221-0070-92 (31 December 1991)
IIR-2-221-0166-93 (4 May 1993)
IIR-7-312-0341-96 (8 February 1996)
IIR-7-312-0452-96 (25 March 1996)
IIR-7-312-0341-96 (22 April 1996)
IIR-2-221-0074-80 (7 April 1980)
IIR-2-221-0347-80 (9 December 1980)
IIR-2-240-5002-88 (7 March 1988)
IIR-2-221-0050-89 (2 February 1989)
AMCONSUL Hong Kong, 030631Z (3 Dec1990)
DIA, IIR-6-843-0010-93 (October 1992)
USDAO, Bucharest RO, 500-95 (27 Nov 1995)
IIR-7-312-0451-96 (25 March 1996)
IIR-7-312-0453-96 (25 March 1996)

CONCLUSION: There are several reports of live Americans in North Korea which need to be investigated and resolved. With the help of the North Korean Government, the issue of live Americans in North Korea can be resolved for the missing men and their families, who sill wait for answers. A positive humanitarian gesture would be to allow and American delegation to meet with live Americans who are in North Korea and bring first hand knowledge about them back to the United States, along with proof and evidence.

Americans who died in North Korea were treated by Doctors and medical records of treated POWs should be made available to account for those who died. Medical records on Americans who are currently being treated by North Korean Doctors, should be made available as proof and evidence.

CONCLUSION: Doctors who treated live Americans and the medical records of the treatment should be made available to help account for missing Americans.

An "Oral History" programs, where former POW camp guards and commanders, as well as food service personnel should be allowed to be interviewed by U.S. investigators, to learn of their knowledge of POWs. Permission should be granted for an oral history program.

CONCLUSION: The memory of those who had contact with live Americans can tell what may have happened to the missing Americans. Guards, food service personnel and medical treatment people (Doctors, medics and nurses) who maintain a memory of American POWs who they tuched and talked to should be allowed to tell their stories.

SUMMARY: Many areas of information, leading to finding out what happened to the captured alive American prisoners of war can be approvedby the DPRK.

Sincerely,

Michael Van Atta, Chairman
The POW Educational Fund, Inc.
P. O. Box 735, Stewartstown, PA 17363
717-993-5498

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

February 19, 1999

Dear Mr. Metersky.

Thank you for your fax requesting a meeting with Mr. Berger and other appropriate officials to discuss various aspects of the Korean and Cold War POW/MIA Full Accounting Process.

I have contacted the appropriate official, Mr. Bob Jones, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Office, and understand he has contacted you directly. Mr. Jones is the Administration's designated point of contact on these important matters and he is prepared to meet with you and your colleagues to discuss all aspects of the administration's policy regarding the fullest accounting of our POW/MIAs.

Sincerely,

Charles B. Pritchard
Director for Asian Affairs
The National Security Council
Washington, D.C. 20504

Mr. Frank Metersky
Co-Chairman, POW/MIA Committee
Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POW/MIAs

2/19/99

Jack:

Bob Jones did not contact me on this meeting we need to meet with Mr Berger re matters that can only be resolved by White House's participation this President's public support.

****
*** TX REPORT ***
****

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	4679
CONNECTION TEL	912125705787
CONNECTION ID	
ST. TIME	02/19 12:08
USAGE T	00'27
PGS.	1
RESULT	OK

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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Director for Asian Affairs
The National Security Council
Washington, D.C. 20504

Mr. Frank Metersky
Co-Chairman, POW/MIA Committee
Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POW/MIAs

Exclusive Fraternity of Honor
THE CHOSIN FEW
NOVEMBER — 1950 — DECEMBER
NORTH KOREA

220 E. 72d St.
New York, NY 10021-4528

January 22, 1999

FAX (202) 456-9250

Mr. Charles Pritchard
Director for Asian Affairs
National Security Council
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20504

Request for meeting with Sandy Berger

Dear Mr. Pritchard

As you are aware, there are thousands of American servicemen who remain missing and unaccounted for from the Korean and Cold Wars. North Korea, Russia, China and, to some extent, the former Soviet Bloc countries of Eastern Europe, undoubtedly have much more information than they have shared pertaining to the ultimate fate of these men. There is considerable evidence, both recent and long standing, that raises serious questions about the possible transfer of American POWs to China and the former Soviet Union. These questions have gone unanswered for too long.

This Administration has professed, and in some ways demonstrated, a commitment to accounting for our missing servicemen. Some progress has been made, especially with regard to remains recovery. However, a great deal more must be done, at the highest levels of our government, if the accounting process is to move forward in a meaningful way.

The many veterans and family organizations maintain a zealous involvement in the accounting process, and we request that our input be considered in the development of U.S. policy on this issue. On behalf of The Chosin Few and those organizations listed below, I request a meeting with Sandy Berger, and other appropriate officials, to discuss various aspects of the Korean and Cold War POW/MIA Full Accounting Process.

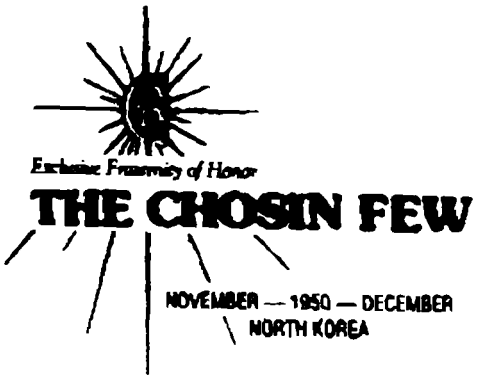
Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

Frank Metersky

Frank Metersky
Co-Chairman
POW/MIA Committee
(212) 570-9575
FAX (212) 570-5787

Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POW/MIAs
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
The American Legion
Korean War Veterans Association



220 E. 72d Street
New York, New York 10021
(212) 570-9575
FAX (212) 570-5787

14 April 1999

Hon. William J. Clinton
The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are an association of the survivors of the Chosin Reservoir Campaign, N. Korea (Nov. – Dec. 1950). We wish to express our gratitude to you for raising the issue, with Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, of China's need to cooperate with us regarding Korean POW/MIA cases.

You have demonstrated your commitment to achieve the fullest possible accounting of our POW/MIA from the Korean War. Hopefully your words will break China's long silence on previous requests by Secretary Cohen and Secretary Albright for cooperation on this most humanitarian issue.

Respectfully yours,

Frank Metersky

Frank Metersky – Co-Chairman
POW/MIA Committee

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

April 19, 1999

Dear Frank:

As your letter to the President indicated, you are aware that the President spent considerable time addressing the issue of China's need to cooperate regarding the fullest possible accounting of our missing in action from the Korean War.

I wanted you to know that it was through the efforts of Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Bob Jones that the issue was so prominently featured in the President's meeting with Premier Zhu Rongji. I encourage you to work closely with DASD Jones to ensure the concerns of your organization are fully addressed.

Sincerely,

Jack

Charles L. Pritchard
Director for Asian Affairs
National Security Council

Mr. Frank Metersky
Co-Chairman POW/MIA Committee
The Chosin Few
220 E. 72d Street
New York, New York 10021

Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

May 13, 1999

REMAINS OF U. S. SERVICEMEN RECOVERED IN NORTH KOREA

Remains believed to be those of six American soldiers will be repatriated from North Korea across the Demilitarized zone at Panmunjom Friday morning, Korea time.

A joint U. S.-North Korean team operating in Kujang County along the Chong Chon river, 100 miles north Pyongyang for the past month recovered the remains. This area is the site of November 1950 battles between the U. S. Eighth Army (2nd and 25th Infantry Divisions) and Chinese communist forces. This is the first joint remains recovery operation in North Korea this year, and the 10th overall since these joint recoveries began in 1996. Since July 1996, these joint teams have recovered what are believed to be the remains of 35 soldiers. Three have been identified.

These operations are the result of negotiated agreements between the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States, led by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office. The DPMO has also obtained agreements to conduct archival research in North Korea of wartime military records that may relate to American POWs. Four such visits have been conducted since 1997, with hundreds of documents obtained which relate to American prisoners.

With more than 8,200 servicemen missing in action from the Korean War, the DPMO and the military services have mounted a massive outreach effort to locate families of the missing from the Korean War and the Cold War.

The expanded outreach effort is to accomplish several goals. First, family member reference blood samples are needed to compare to mitochondrial DNA sequences from recovered skeletal remains. Second, family members often possess personal or wartime documents that may aid in identifying an unaccounted-for serviceman. Finally, the military services are seeking to keep family members updated on specific recovery operations and if remains are recovered and identified, families will be asked to make decisions regarding the burial of the serviceman.

Beyond the Korean War outreach effort, families of Cold War unaccounted-for servicemen are also being sought. Through the work of the U. S.-Russia Joint

Commission on POW/MIAs, the remains of 18 servicemen shot down during the Cold War have been recovered and identified, with more than 120 still unaccounted-for.

Each of the services has established a toll-free number to keep these families fully informed on Korean War and Cold War remains recovery operations. Family members of these servicemen should contact the appropriate service casualty office to provide name, address and relationship to their loved one.

If the missing serviceman was in the Army, the number is (800) 892-2490. The Navy number is (800) 443-9298. The Air Force number is (800) 531-5501 and the Marine Corps number is (800) 847-1597. Families of civilians missing from these conflicts may contact the State Department at (202) 647-6769.

ANALYSTS REVIEWING VIETNAMESE FILM ARCHIVES

Senior analysts from the DPMO are meeting with officials from a German film company in Berlin which is contracted to the Vietnamese government to archive films. The films, from the wartime period, are known to contain limited footage of American POWs. The analysts plan to review the films themselves, as well as all catalog entries of films in the collections. Many, if not all, of these films have already been reviewed in Hanoi in 1992 and 1993. The purpose of the meeting with the German company is to ensure access to the complete collection. Analysts with Det 2 of the JTF-FA are also working with the Vietnamese government in Hanoi to ensure that all such films are reviewed.

The team also attended a public showing of several documentary or propaganda films taken from Vietnamese archives on the Vietnam War from 1965-1975. Present at the showing were Vietnamese officials, former West and East German correspondents to Vietnam, and Vietnamese cameramen from the Vietnam War.

REMAINS RETURN HOME

Remains believed to be those of two unaccounted-for U. S. servicemen from the war in Southeast Asia were repatriated last week in a formal military ceremony at Hickam AFB, Hawaii. The remains were recovered by a team of JTF-FA and CILHI military and civilian specialists who conducted their 30-day joint search and recovery operation in Vietnam. Forty-nine cases involving potential aircraft and ground losses were investigated during the operation, and nine sites were excavated.

The remains were moved to the U. S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii where the forensic identification work will be carried out.

MIA SEARCH TEAM DEPLOYS TO VIETNAM

A team of more than 100 U. S. military specialists are conducting operations now in Vietnam with hopes of recovering remains that may lead to the identification of American service members missing in action from the war in Southeast Asia.

Team members from both the Joint Task Force-Full accounting and the U. S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii will join technical representatives from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to being joint investigations and remains recovery operations in 24 Vietnamese provinces. Forty-seven cases involving potential aircraft and ground losses are scheduled for investigation during the 30-day operation.

Since 1973, the remains of 520 Americans, formerly listed as unaccounted-for, have been identified and returned to their families. There are currently 2,063 Americans still unaccounted-for from the war in Southeast Asia.

OMAHA FAMILY UPDATE

Approximately 50-75 family members are expected for Saturday's Family Update in Omaha, Nebraska. About three-quarters of the attendees represent Korean War losses. Other family members represent servicemen from the Vietnam War and the Cold War.

Each month, a team of government specialists travels to communities to update POW/MIA families on the ongoing work to account for America's MIAs. For the past four years this team, led by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, has reached more than 1,400 family members with information on government operations in Southeast Asia, in North Korea and in areas recovering World War II and Cold War losses. Experts present information on the latest technologies used to identify remains, including mitochondrial DNA. Archival research and other topics are also presented to the families. At the end of the all-day sessions, families are invited to privately review details of their own cases. This initiative assists families who are unable to travel to Washington, D.C. to review their individual case files.

Cities visited in recent months include Atlanta, Portland, Pensacola, Dallas-Ft. Worth, Detroit, Jacksonville, Memphis, Sacramento and others. Family members of unaccounted-for servicemembers from all conflicts within a 300-mile radius of the host cities may register for these events by contacting their respective military service casualty offices.

The next Family Update will be held in St. Louis on July 17. Family members who wish to attend should contact their respective military service casualty office immediately.

POWs RETURN; DPMO DEBRIEFS RETURNEES AND FAMILIES

Dr. Kaye Whitley, Special Assistant for Family Advocacy, recently returned from Landstuhl Germany, the first American medical stop for returnees SSG Christopher J. Stone, SSG Andrew A. Ramirez and SPC Steven M. Gonzales. Dr. Whitley served on the debriefing team with the Joint Services SERE Agency military psychologists. She participated in the psychological debriefings of all three returnees.

In addition to meeting with the returnees, Dr. Whitley interviewed all the family members present. The interviews focused on the services provided them during their month long ordeal. Notification procedures, information flow, the repatriation plan as well as casualty and public affairs assistance were topics of the interview. Dr. Whitley intends to share the information gained with all agencies involved in the repatriation process and to affect policy that will improve services to families of detained personnel.

Having Dr. Whitley participate in this repatriation process has provided DPMO with first hand knowledge that will be used to ensure that policy takes into account the best interests of the soldiers and their families.

TEAM VISITS EASTERN EUROPE

A DPMO team has returned from a two-week visit to Sofia, Bulgaria and Berlin, Germany. The focus of their Sofia visit was to determine if any American servicemen were transferred to any of the 47 labor camps in Bulgaria or those in the former Soviet Union. They interviewed knowledgeable researchers of Bulgarian labor camps, present and former government officials, and labor camp survivors.

Preliminary research and interviews have yielded evidence that nationalities other than Bulgarians were imprisoned in the Bulgarian labor camp system, but no solid evidence of American servicemen at this point. Following on the heels of the Bulgarian visit, while in Berlin, the team interviewed a German who heads an organization representing the interests of all labor camp survivors in Europe. He offered his assistance to DPMO.

Published by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office
2400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-2400
(703) 602-2102
www.dtic.mil/dpmo

Background Paper
Accountability of Missing Americans From the Korean War
Live-sighting Reports

The U.S. Government has received numerous reports concerning Americans living or detained in North Korea after the prisoner exchanges with North Korea in 1953. Based on number of unaccounted for personnel captured by the Communist forces and not returned from the Korean War and, a number of recent live American sightings in North Korea, the DPMO concludes that there are two groups of Americans in North Korea ...a small group of defectors and a larger group of 10-15 possible POWs.

A small group of four personnel is comprised of American soldiers who defected to North Korea in 1960's. Based on U.S. Army files, North Korean literature and North Korean movie, entitled "Nameless Heroes", these defectors appear to be in North Korea on their own volition. They are Private Larry A. Abshier, Private First Class James J. Dresnok, Specialist Four Jerry W. Parrish, and Sergeant Charles R. Jenkins.

According to North Korean defectors, PFC Dresnok is married to a North Korean and has a daughter. One of the North Korean defectors met SGT Jenkins in a coffee shop in Pyongyang. SGT Jenkins told the North Korean defector that he is now ready to return to America. The American deserters live in the "foreigner's apartments", Chukchon-dong, Mangyongdae-kuyok, west-side of Pyongyang.

A second, larger group of Americans is comprised of US service members, most likely POWs, from the Korean War and possibly Vietnam War era. There have been numerous reports of both American and British POWs in North Korea. One of the most compelling reports received over the years was a sighting reported to DoD by a Romanian in 17 Feb 1988.

On October 1979, Mr Oprica, a former Romanian, now a naturalized U.S. citizen, along with other Romanians employed at a North Korean factory in Pyongyang was on a North Korean Government sponsored sight seeing trip. During this bus trip, the bus driver appeared to be disoriented and drove the bus through a collective farm. During this trip, he observed 7-10 Caucasians, including one individual with blue eyes, working in the fields. The workers appeared to be in their 50's. Mr. Oprica was told by a female passenger that the Caucasian farmers were American prisoners of war. Mr. Oprica was unable to recall who the lady was and how she determined the Caucasian farmers were American POWs. On 24 Nov 95, another passenger on the bus, Mr. Florin Tomescu, was finally located in Romania and interviewed. He confirmed seeing Caucasians working on a farm and the location of the collective farm to be somewhere between Pyongyang and the city of Nampo.

Since the Oprica/Tomescu sightings, a variety of additional sightings reports have been received, culminating in a recent flurry (last 60 days) of very compelling reports. The following summarizes these reports:

1. All "American POWs" were under the direct control of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces (MPAF) and were residing in various section within the Pyongyang city area and they were always escorted and moved in a vehicle with a license plates belonging to the MPAF, the reconnaissance bureau, or the Ministry of Social Safety.

2. "Black and white" Americans were seen shopping together in a foreigners only, western goods store. The number of Americans sighted generally ranged from 10-15, with a few recent citing as many as 40-50. One defector cited that since 1978, he learned that over 60 American POWs lived in Pyongyang proper. Some are married to Koreans and have children.

3. One defector stated that in the film "Nameless Heroes" a black POW played a role of a house servant for the American policy officer, Dr. Kelton. The "Nameless Heroes" film has 20-21 segments, and, the DPMO is in the process of obtaining them to determine if this information is accurate.

4. Several defector reports cite that there have been numerous Americans teaching English and American customs at the foreign language department in Amnokgang College or a military reconnaissance school in Pyongyang. These English language instructors are sometimes identified as U.S. defectors, but more frequently as "American POWs".

5. According to escorts, many POWs desired to return to U.S.

6. The analysis of numerous live sighting reports correlate that American POWs live in a group compounds in various locations in Pyongyang and its suburbs, and perhaps other places in DPRK. POWs movements in DPRK are apparently controlled by the North Korean Government.

7. In the summer of 1976, a North Korean defector visited a cooperative farm located in the outskirts of Pyongyang. There he met a Caucasian man of about 60 years old, 180 cm tall with a large body. The Caucasian told the defector that he was an American. He asked one of the women who the American was, and the woman told him that the American was an American POW from the Korean Liberation War.

There are too many live sighting reports, specifically observations of several Caucasians in a collective farm by Romanians and the North Korean defectors' eyewitness of Americans in DPRK to dismiss that there are no American POWs in North Korea.

Prepared by I.O. LEE: DPMO
As of: 03/26/96

U.S. Intelligence Reports of Americans, including U.S. Korean-War POWs, in North Korea:

IIR-2-221-2605-68 (20 November 1968)

IIR-2-221-0074-80 (7 April 1980)

IIR-2-221-0122-80 (7 May 1980)

IIR-2-221-0347-80 (9 December 1980)

CIA TDFIR-K-314/00459-86 (3 June 1986)

IIR 2-240-5002-88 (7 March 1988)

IIR 2-221-0158-88 (12 August 1988)

IIR-2-221-0050-89 (2 February 1989)

IIR-2-221-0187-89 (6 July 1989)

AMCONSUL Hong Kong, 030631Z (3 December 1990)

IIR-2-22 -0070-92 (31 December 1991)

DIA IIR-6-843-0010-93 (October 1992)

IIR-2-221-0166-93 (4 May 1993)

USDAO, Bucharest RO, 500-95 (27 November 1995)

IIR-7-312-0341-96 (8 February 1996)

IIR-7-312-0451-96 (25 March 1996)

IIR-7-312-0452-96 (25 March 1996)

IIR-7-312-0453-96 (25 March 1996)

IIR-7-312-0341-96 (22 April 1996)

Under U.S. law these documents should have been declassified within 1 year after

7-14-99

Dear Col. Pritchard,

I do appreciate you answering my letter.

Enclosed is a DPMO report dated as of 3-26-96 about live sightings in North Korea.

Are these sightings as all others either lies or "defectors"?

My father-in-law is also a former POW from W. W. II. So I'm sure it comes as no surprise that he feels as the rest of us that Billy is alive. There is no proof that he's dead only that the government declared him that way.

Sir, I have to disagree that all credible information has been pursued.

When a Stony Black person told my mother in-law a reward would not be paid for my brother-in-law,

that was the government position, no that was not pursing credible information.

As with Korea, Vietnam in China, Russia our government says there is no live missing Americans.

They could have easily said that about both our fathers-in-law had they been in the wrong camps and taken to Russia.

Unfortunely, we as family members still have to fight to find the truth. No, we are not crazy, distraught, unreasonable people.

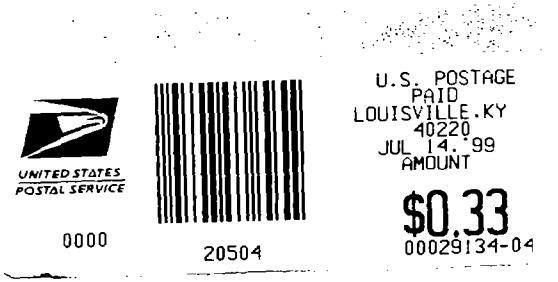
We are people who are trying to find their loved ones. They went when their country said go but they weren't expecting their families to have to fight the government to bring them back home.

I pray that you or any other family does not have to go through the pain and agony that we have been through.

I'm sure you and your wife would not stop if you thought your son was alive somewhere as a POW or MIA.

Your time and your reply is appreciated.

Sincerely,
Susan Milliner
4209 Blossomwood Dr.
Lou., Ky. 40220
sister-in-law of
Wm. P. Milliner
3-6-71



Col. Charles L. Pritchard
Dir. for Asian Affairs
National Security Council
17th & Pennsylvania Aves. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20504

PERSONAL

Exclusive Fraternity of Honor

THE CHOSIN FEW

NOVEMBER — 1950 — DECEMBER
NORTH KOREA

DRAFT

December 17, 1999

Honorable Li Gun
Ambassador, Permanent Mission
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
820 Second Avenue, 13th Fl.
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ambassador Li:

Our Association together with Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, The American Legion, Korean War Veterans Association, Korea Cold War Family Association of the Missing and Coalition of Families, Korea and Cold War POW/MIAs wish to express our serious disappointment with your government's attempt at "diplomatic blackmail" and its bogus efforts to reach an agreement on next year's joint recovery operations just concluded in Berlin.

It is quite evident to us, by your government's demands, that it came to the bargaining table not ready to deal in good faith. Based on your government's current position we are requesting our government to terminate all aid to North Korea, humanitarian or otherwise. We fully support our government's good faith attempts to reach agreement on recovery of remains and the way its representatives conducted negotiations in Berlin.

If North Korea wants to seriously improve relations with the United States it must immediately revisit this issue and get negotiations for next year resolved in a positive way.

Respectfully,

Frank Metersky
Co-Chairman, POW/MIA Committee
(212) 570-9575
(212) 570-5787 FAX

We Few, we Chosin Few, we eternal band of brothers

Dec-17-99 05:34p FRANKMETERSKYa 2125705787 P.01

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

July 7, 1999

Dear Ms Milliner:

Thank you for your letter concerning an alleged "offer of American defectors and others" by North Korea in late 1996. The fullest possible accounting of our service personnel missing-in-action remains a top priority of this Administration.

I take very seriously any suggestion that we have not pursued credible information that might lead to the accounting of Americans missing-in-action. As a career Army officer with 27 years of service, coming from a family where my father and father-in-law (a former POW during WWII) each served 30 years and having a son currently on active duty in the Army, I know full well the risks and potential heartaches that come with service in the Armed Forces.

The origin of your information comes from an October 1996 AP wire story by Bob Burns. When originally contacted by Mr. Burns in preparation of his story, I informed him then that the information he obtained suggesting the North Koreans had offered a swap of live Americans from the Korean War era in exchange for not issuing an apology for an egregious submarine incursion into the Republic of Korea was not correct. Others and I have personally and repeatedly brought up this issue directly with senior North Korean officials (again as late as June 1999) and they have repeatedly denied any such offer.

The Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Office (DPMO) at the Department of Defense is dedicated full time to the accountability and recovery of our missing. They have assured me that all credible information on possible missing-in-action service personnel is vigorously pursued and that there is no such information to suggest that there are any live missing-in-action Americans from the Korean War in North Korea.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Pritchard
Director for Asian Affairs

Ms Susan Milliner
4209 Blossomwood Dr.
Louisville, KY 40220

6-30-99

Dear Col. Pritchard,

I am writing this letter to you personally to inquire about the North Koreans' offer of "American defectors and others" sometime in late 1996 or in 1997.

I would appreciate specific information of the beginning and final negotiating process so I can understand what actually happened.

Were Americans offered? Under what circumstances? Why did our government not pursue this offer wholeheartedly?

My understanding is that POW MIAS are our nation's highest national priority. What happen to priority and accountibility?

I thank you for your time

and your insight concerning any and all offers of men that have not returned from wars.

Sincerely,
Susan Millinier
4209 Blossomwood Dr.
Louisville, Ky. 40220

Col. Charles L. Pritchard
Director for Asian Affairs
National Security Council
17th and Penn. Aves. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20504

PERSONAL