

SA99 B-138  
SA77 B-138



# Department of State

# TELEGRAM

WHITE HOUSE  
SITING ROOM

72 SEP 11 AM 7:44  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 133

PAGE 01 STATE 165003

42  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 /026 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM THE WHITE HOUSE  
9/8/72 EXT 29454  
APPROVED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY  
EA-MR. GREEN (INFO) 66603  
A-MR. SULLIVAN (INFO)  
EA-MR. HUMMEL (INFO)  
DOD - SECRETARY LAIRD (INFO)  
DOD - DEPSEC RUSH (INFO)  
DOD/ISA - MR. NUTTER (INFO)  
S/S - MR. CURRAN  
U/PW - MR. SIEVERTS (INFO)

P R 101640Z SEP 72  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
USDEL FRANCE  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY  
AMCONSUL NAHA  
AMCONSUL UDORN  
CINCPAC

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORITY OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

DF

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
NSC 9/20/93 F930/250  
By MMO NARA, Date 9/27/93  
SA 99



Department of State

TELEGRAM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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CINCUSARPAC  
CINCPACFLT  
/CINCPACAF  
TTPI  
7/13 AF  
7TH AF  
CINCEUR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ STATE 165003

EXDIS

STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

SUBJECT: EGRESS RECAP .. PENDING RELEASE/RETURN OF THREE  
US PWS FROM NORTH VIETNAM

REFS: A. STATE 160671, B. VIENTIANE 6659,  
C. FRANCE 16646, D. STATE 163482 (ALL NOTAL)

1. SUBSEQUENT TO ANNOUNCEMENT BY HANOI ON 2 SEPT 1972 OF INTENTION TO RELEASE THREE US PWS, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON RELEASE AND PLANS FOR TRAVEL FROM HANOI TO US HAVE BEEN PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED BY MRS. CORA WEISS AND DAVID DELLINGER DURING PRESS CONFERENCES. WEISS/DELLINGER ARE ANTI-WAR ACTIVISTS WHO HAVE HAD PART IN PREVIOUS RELEASES AND HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH NVN OFFICIALS TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARIES/ESCORTS FOR PRESENT RELEASE. WEISS/DELLINGER HAVE INDICATED THAT ESCORT GROUP WILL CONSIST OF THEMSELVES, YALE CHAPLAIN REV. WILLIAM SLOANE COFFIN, PLUS TWO OTHERS SO FAR UNIDENTIFIED. THEY PLAN TO DEPART US ON 13 SEPT AND ARRIVE HANOI 16 SEPT. EXPECT TO DEPART HANOI WITH THREE RELEASED MEN WEEK LATER. WEISS/DELLINGER HAVE STATED INTENTION TO AVOID POSSIBILITY OF "MILITARY INTERVENTION," PLANNING TO TRAVEL BY COMMERCIAL AIR TO US AND DELIVER MEN DIRECTLY TO THEIR FAMILIES. THE MEN TO BE RELEASED HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BY NVN AS NAVY LIEUTENANTS MARKHAM L. GARTLEY AND NORRIS A. CHARLES, AND AIR FORCE MAJOR EDWARD K. ELIAS.

2. WHILE THERE ARE OTHER POSSIBILITIES, MOST PROBABLE PLANNED MODE OF TRAVEL FROM HANOI WILL BE VIA AEROFLOT

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Department of State

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AIRCRAFT TRANSITING VIENTIANE, RANGOON, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, TASHKENT TO MOSCOW. TRAVEL FROM MOSCOW TO US COULD BE VIA AEROFLOT OR US CARRIER. OR, ICC AIRCRAFT FROM HANOI TO VIENTIANE. THENCE COMMERCIAL CARRIER TO BANGKOK AND US. GROUP COULD PLAN A VARIETY OF OTHER ROUTES OR STOPS TO US.

3. UPON ARRIVAL AT VIENTIANE (OR OTHER FIRST POINT OF CONTACT WITH US OFFICIALS), GROUP SHOULD BE MET BY US AMBASSADOR OR SENIOR US OFFICIAL, AND MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE, IF APPROPRIATE, ACCOMPANIED BY US MEDICAL DOCTOR. IF GROUP DOES NOT DEPLANE, ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE TO SEE AND TALK TO PRISONERS ABOARD AIRCRAFT. (FOR VIENTIANE, PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO APPROACH SOVS HERE OR IN MOSCOW TO ARRANGE ACCESS TO MEN ABOARD AEROFLOT.)

4. AMBASSADOR OR SENIOR US OFFICIAL, AND MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE, IF APPROPRIATE, SHOULD WARMLY WELCOME RELEASED MEN, AND DOCTOR SHOULD UNDERTAKE QUICK MEDICAL CHECK TO ASSESS THEIR PHYSICAL CONDITION AND NEEDS, AND THEIR FITNESS FOR ONWARD TRAVEL.

5. THE RELEASED OFFICERS ARE TO BE TOLD THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO RETURN TO THE US ON US MILITARY MEDICAL EVACUATION AIRCRAFT. DISCUSSION SHOULD BE IN POSITIVE TERMS WHICH ENCOURAGES THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF TRAVEL UNDER US GOVERNMENT MEDICAL AUSPICES. SHOULD THEY REFUSE, THEY SHOULD BE REMINDED THAT THEY ARE OFFICERS IN THE ARMED SERVICES OF THE US AND ARE SUBJECT TO MILITARY REGULATIONS; HOWEVER, NO REPEAT NO FORCE OR THREATS SHOULD BE USED SHOULD THEY STILL PERSIST IN RETURNING ON COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT. OFFER CAN BE MADE FOR ANTI-WAR ESCORTS TO TRAVEL WITH THE OFFICERS ABOARD MEDEVAC FLIGHT.

6. SHOULD THE MEN ELECT TO PROCEED VIA COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE FOR US OFFICIALS (INCLUDING PHYSICIAN) TO ACCOMPANY THEM ABOARD FLIGHT.

7. WE ANTICIPATE THAT FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO MEN WILL BE AT VIENTIANE. REGARDLESS OF PLACE OF FIRST ENCOUNTER, THAT POST WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PASSING GUIDANCE TO SUBSEQUENT ENROUTE STOPS. IF RETURNEES ELECT COMMERCIAL

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Department of State

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PAGE 04 STATE 165003

AIR AT FIRST MEETING, US OFFICIALS SHOULD MEET PLANE AT ALL STOPS AND BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT CONTROL OF RETURNEES SHOULD THEY INDICATE A CHANGE OF MIND.

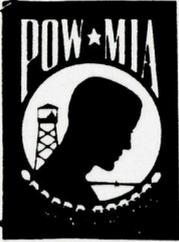
8. IN ANTICIPATION THAT MEN AT SOME POINT ENROUTE WILL COME UNDER US CONTROL, SERVICES ARE ARRANGING TO HAVE MILITARY UNIFORMS AVAILABLE AT VIENTIANE.

9. IF MEN ELECT TRAVEL TO CONUS VIA MEDEVAC AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCH TRAVEL ARE NOT READILY AVAILABLE, THEY SHOULD BE ESCORTED TO SUITABLE LOCATION WHERE US CONTROL CAN BE MAINTAINED UNTIL ONWARD TRAVEL CAN BE ARRANGED.

10. IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION OF ALL EVENTS AND REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE SHOULD BE PASSED BY FLASH PRECEDENCE TO SECSTATE AND SECDEF.

11. ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION WILL BE PASSED AS IT IS RECEIVED. GDS ROGERS

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FILE SA 99 B-146

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES  
OF AMERICAN PRISONERS AND MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA  
1608 K STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006 (202) 628-6811

November 30, 1972

Dr. Henry Kissinger  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dr. Kissinger:

Before you depart for Paris, I urgently need to discuss with you points to be considered in your negotiations concerning the prisoners and the missing.

As the National Coordinator of our organization, I am compelled to give assurance to our membership that you have discussed, or will discuss all these concerns.

If I can meet with you in private to discuss them, I will not divulge any of your specific replies -- a statement from me that I have met with you will satisfy our League Membership that you are returning to the negotiations fully briefed on our deepest concerns. If there is absolutely no time for you to meet with me, surely you can find a moment to contact me by telephone.

These are the questions I need to discuss with you:

1. Are the North Vietnamese definitely committed to accounting for all American prisoners and missing held in North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Red China?
2. Will the accounting be accomplished by an impartial inspection team?
3. What countries will be represented on the inspection team?
4. Who is selecting the members of the inspection team?
5. For what length of time will the inspection team be permitted to search and make accounting for our men?

PD  
920813

Dr. Henry Kissinger  
November 30, 1972

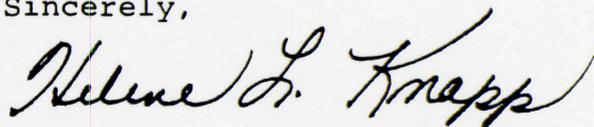
Page Two

6. Will the team be permitted to inspect all areas of North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos?
7. Is the impartial inspection team ready to go right now?
8. Have the North Vietnamese stated unequivocally that ALL prisoners will be released within 60 days of a cease-fire?
9. Will there be a sequence of release? If so, have you asked that the long-term and the sick and the wounded be returned first?
10. Will there be one point of exit for the release of all American prisoners?
11. Have the North Vietnamese stated how they will physically gather the men at the point of release?
12. Are we negotiating for American prisoners held in Red China?

Dr. Kissinger, if any of these questions have not been brought up at the negotiations, and if your answers indicate you will discuss them, our fears will be allayed.

You can be certain that 1800 American families will be praying for your success in Paris.

Sincerely,



Helene L. Knapp (Mrs. Herman L.)  
National Coordinator

5A 99

B-148

7473

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 31, 1972

Dear Bill:

You and the members of your Department played a very effective role in the return of the three Americans recently released by North Vietnam and I wanted you to know of my appreciation.

I am proud of the way in which our officials conducted themselves in their contacts with the released officers, their families, their escorts and the press. Their tact and dignity under difficult and complicated circumstances helped to counter the efforts which were made to exploit the release for propaganda purposes.

Please pass on my personal appreciation to Mr. Frank Sieverts for making the reception arrangements and to Messrs. Adolph Dubs and Thomas Dunnigan for their assistance in Moscow and Copenhagen.

Sincerely,



The Honorable William P. Rogers  
Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

DF

7473

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 31, 1972

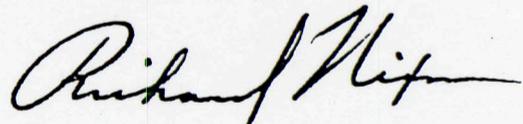
Dear Mel:

I deeply appreciate the very effective role which you and the members of your Department played in the return of the three Americans recently released by North Vietnam.

As you know, efforts to exploit the release for propaganda purposes have been effectively countered to a large degree. I believe the tactful and dignified behavior of American officials, here and abroad, contributed significantly to this result. Our officials conducted themselves with tact and dignity in their contacts with the released officers, their families, their escorts and the press, and they did so under difficult and complicated circumstances.

Please pass on my personal appreciation to Dr. Roger Shields whom I understand deserves special recognition for his role in receiving the men in New York and for his untiring efforts in behalf of all our prisoners of war.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Melvin R. Laird  
Secretary of Defense  
Washington, D.C. 20301

MEMORANDUM

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

October 28, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER *Henry K*

SUBJECT: Letters of Appreciation for U. S.  
Officials Involved in Recent POW Release

Hanoi's recent release of three American POWs was no doubt calculated to produce favorable publicity for North Vietnam. However, the propaganda impact was to a large degree effectively countered by the superb performance of our officials who were involved in receiving the men. Their carefully orchestrated reception procedure prevented a potentially explosive situation from actually erupting in the midst of the news media. Thus, we recommend that a Presidential letter of appreciation for a job well done be sent to Secretary Rogers and Secretary Laird.

Accordingly, we have prepared at Tabs A and B two letters of appreciation for your signature to be sent to the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense respectively. The letters express your appreciation for the high degree of tact and sensitivity which characterized the Government role in the release and extends special thanks to the individuals involved in welcoming the men for their role in the release and their untiring efforts on behalf of all the POWs. Ray Price concurs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the letters to the Secretaries of State and Defense at Tabs A and B respectively.

*Agree*  
*H*

*Henry for HAK to*  
*Pres.*

MEMORANDUM

7473

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

*[Handwritten initials and an arrow pointing upwards and to the right]*

ACTION

October 17, 1972

*[Handwritten signature]*

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MR. KISSINGER

FROM:

JOHN HOLDRIDGE *[Handwritten initials]*

SUBJECT:

Letters of Appreciation for U. S.  
Officials Involved in Recent POW Release

The U. S. officials who dealt with the recent POW release performed superbly in welcoming the men in such a way as to sharply reduce favorable publicity for the other side. An extremely effective and well coordinated program was carried out under difficult and complicated circumstances in the sharp focus of the international news media. Thus, we recommend that a Presidential letter of appreciation for a good performance be sent to Secretary Rogers and Secretary Laird.

Accordingly, we have prepared two letters of appreciation for the President's signature at Tabs A and B. Also attached at Tab I is a transmittal memorandum from you to the President recommending that he sign the letters of appreciation. Ray Price concurs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I transmitting the letters of appreciation.

NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC	RECD	CG NBR	INITIAL ACTION OFF
MO DA	MO DA HR	7473	
10/17	10/17/72		

DOC SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES  KISSINGER  HAIG

FROM: ELIOT  ROGERS, W  LAIRD, M  *Haltidger*

LOG IN/OUT ONLY  NO FORN  NODIS  BUI  EXDIS  EYES ONLY  LIMD  CODE WORD  RES DATA  SENSITIVE

SUBJECT: *Letter of Appreciation for US Official's Memo in Recm & PAF Release*

REFERENCE: S/S  OTHER  NOT XEROXED

APP'TS: PRES  HAK  TALKER  MEMCON  DATE REQ.

SECRETARIAT DISTRIBUTION/ACTION

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION			ACTION REQUIRED	
	ACTION	INFO	REC CY FOR	
ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/HAIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			MEMO FOR HAK
STAFF SECRETARY				MEMO FOR PRES.
FAR EAST			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	REPLY FOR _____ SIGNATURE
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA				FOR DISTRIBUTION/DISPATCH
NR EAST/NORTH AFRICA				MEMO _____ TO _____
EUROPE/CANADA				RECOMMENDATIONS
LATIN AMERICA				JOINT MEMO
UNITED NATIONS				REFER TO STATE
ECONOMIC				ANY ACTION NECESSARY
SCIENTIFIC				CONCURRENCE
LR PLANNING				DUE DATE:
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				COMMENTS: (Including Special Instructions)
NSC PLANNING				
CONGRESSIONAL			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

INTERNAL/INTERIM ROUTING

DATE	FROM	TO	S	ACTION REQUIRED	CY TO
10/17	Halt	HAK	X	Pres for Signature (10/20)	
10/28		Pres	P	Sign letter to Roy / final	
10/31				No report to be logus + final	

DISPOSITION

CROSS REF WITH \_\_\_\_\_ NOTIFY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SEE LOG \_\_\_\_\_ DISPATCH: LETTER MEMO  *Done by 10/31/72*

JOINED BY LOG \_\_\_\_\_ COPIES: (AS MARKED ABOVE) \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL FILE RQMT: SA  HP \_\_\_\_\_ HM \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL DISPOSITION COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

MICROFILM DATA

*Done by*

NOV 02 1972

ORIGL \_\_\_\_\_

TO ) PAF \_\_\_\_\_

WHC \_\_\_\_\_

SUBF \_\_\_\_\_

SA 99

B-149

7478X

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

October 19, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MR. KISSINGER

*Hugh*

FROM:

JOHN H. HOLDRIDGE

SUBJECT:

POW's Negotiations Between Pierre Salinger and North Vietnamese Officials

Attached at Tab A is a memorandum from you to the President which summarizes recent FBI reports on current negotiations between Pierre Salinger and North Vietnamese officials for the release of up to 40 U. S. POW's in the near future.

Recommendation:

That you forward the attached memorandum to the President.

DF

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CLASSIFIED BY FBI  
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
EXEMPTION CATEGORY                       
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Impossible to  
Determine

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

NSC 9/20/93 F9301250

By MNO NARA, Date 9/27/93

SA 99

MEMORANDUM

7478X

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

October 20, 1972

CONFIDENTIAL

~~THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN~~

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT:

POW Negotiations Between Pierre Salinger and North Vietnamese Officials

*Henry A. Kissinger*

A reliable FBI source has reported on two recent occasions that Pierre Salinger may be negotiating with North Vietnamese officials for the additional release of up to 40 American POW's.

According to an FBI agent, Salinger met with North Vietnamese officials in Paris in the period late July-early August and obtained an agreement for the release of 40 POW's in the near future. Detailed arrangements to carry out the agreement were to be made at a meeting in Canada in mid-October between North Vietnamese officials and representatives of the Committee of Liaison with Families Detained in North Vietnam (The Cora Weiss group which escorted the last three POW's released by Hanoi).

A second source has just reported that this meeting was held on October 14 in Montreal but details of the session are not yet known.

On October 16, the first source learned that Pierre Salinger had recently agreed to travel to North Vietnam to escort 40 POW's home but was insisting on their unconditional release. The North Vietnamese reportedly are not yet ready to make the unconditional guarantees requested by Salinger.

*K - Warn them if they do this - we break off - let them negotiate fear with Salinger*

CLASSIFIED BY FBI  
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
EXEMPTION CATEGORY Impossible to  
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON Determine

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JA 99 B-152

7064

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ATTENTION  
September 29, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KISSINGER

FROM: JOHN HOLDRIDGE *John Holdridge*

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with the POW/MIA Families in Mid-October

General Scowcroft has forwarded a memorandum congratulating you for a masterful performance before the Board of Directors of the National League of POW/MIA Families and reporting that the League's Chairman, Mrs. Carole Hanson, has informed him that you promised to address the League's annual convention in Washington on October 16 (Tab A).

As you know, the League has invited the President to address the League on that date and has invited Senator McGovern for the previous evening. Under the circumstances we would not recommend that either the President or you appear before the League's convention. As you are also aware, some thought had been given by us and by State's and DOD's POW people to having the Vice President address the meeting.

We recommend that, rather than addressing the Convention's 1,000 people you agree to meet again with the Board of Directors and possibly the five Regional Chairmen, as you did on September 22.

If you agree with this recommendation, we would get in touch with General Scowcroft and have him arrange the details for such a meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you turn down the League's request to address their convention and that you meet with the League's Board of Director's and, possibly, the Regional Chairmen, in the White House during the Convention period on or about October 16.

Agree

*John Holdridge*

Disagree

DF

7064

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 26, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: DR. HENRY KISSINGER  
FROM: GENERAL SCOWCROFT   
SUBJECT: Meeting with the POW/MIA Families

It is becoming quite repetitious for me to congratulate you on a masterful performance before the Board of Directors of the National League of POW/MIA Families -- but a masterful performance it was, once again. The families were very grateful for the thoughts which you shared with them and the time which you were willing to devote. You are able to do something for them which no one else can duplicate.

The Chairman of the League, Mrs. Carole Hanson, informed me today that you had promised to be available to address the Annual Convention of the League on October 16. I told her that she must be mistaken, that you probably had indicated you might be willing to meet again with the Board at that time. She reiterated, however, that you understood it would be a meeting of the Convention of the League, with perhaps a thousand family members present.

As you may know, the League has invited the President to address them on that date. Senator McGovern has been invited for the previous evening. As far as I know, a decision has not yet been made with regard to the President's schedule, but I thought you should know that the League leadership anticipates that you will meet with them if the President is unable to do so.

NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC	RECD	LOG N°R	INITIAL ACTION OFF
MO DA	MO DA HR	7064	Holdridge
9 26	9 20 19		

DOC SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES \_\_\_\_\_ FROM: ELIOT \_\_\_\_\_ U \_\_\_\_\_ LOG IN/OUT ONLY \_\_\_\_\_  
 KISSINGER ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ ROGERS, W \_\_\_\_\_ LOU \_\_\_\_\_ NO FORN \_\_\_\_\_ NODIS \_\_\_\_\_  
 HAIG \_\_\_\_\_ LAIRD, M \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ EYES ONLY \_\_\_\_\_ LIMDIS \_\_\_\_\_  
 S \_\_\_\_\_ CODE WORD \_\_\_\_\_ RES DATA \_\_\_\_\_  
 TS \_\_\_\_\_ SENSITIVE \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: *Lowrey, B*  
*Nat League of P&D/NTA are expecting HAK to address*  
*National Convention 10/16 if Pres is unable to attend*

REFERENCE: S/S \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_ NOT XEROXED \_\_\_\_\_

APPT'S: PRES \_\_\_\_\_ HAK \_\_\_\_\_ TALKER \_\_\_\_\_ MEMCON \_\_\_\_\_ DATE REQ. \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARIAT DISTRIBUTION/ACTION

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION			ACTION REQUIRED
	ACTION	INFO	
ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/HAIG			MEMO FOR HAK _____ ✓
STAFF SECRETARY		*	MEMO FOR PRES. _____
FAR EAST	✓		REPLY FOR _____ SIGNATURE _____
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA			FOR DISTRIBUTION/DISPATCH _____
NR EAST/NORTH AFRICA			MEMO _____ TO _____
EUROPE/CANADA			RECOMMENDATIONS _____
LATIN AMERICA			JOINT MEMO _____
UNITED NATIONS			REFER TO STATE _____
ECONOMIC			ANY ACTION NECESSARY _____
SCIENTIFIC			CONCURRENCE _____
LR PLANNING			DUE DATE: (9/30)
PROGRAM ANALYSIS			COMMENTS: (Including Special Instructions)
NSC PLANNING			
CONGRESSIONAL			

INTERNAL/INTERIM ROUTING

DATE	FROM	TO	S	ACTION REQUIRED	CY TO
9/27/72	JWA	NLS		for action	
9/29/72	SK	HAK	Y	Decision (9/10/3)	
10/16				HAK disapproved rean	
10/16		H20	S	noting Lowrey (10/18)	
10/16	JWA	NSC/SC		Noted	

DISPOSITION

CROSS REF WITH \_\_\_\_\_ NOTIFY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SEE LOG \_\_\_\_\_ DISPATCH: LETTER/MEMO \_\_\_\_\_

JOINED BY LOG \_\_\_\_\_ COPIES: (AS MARKED ABOVE) \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL FILE RQMT: SA, HP, HM

SPECIAL DISPOSITION COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

MICROFILM DATA

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DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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TO ) \_\_\_\_\_

PAF \_\_\_\_\_

WHC \_\_\_\_\_

SUBF \_\_\_\_\_

OCT 19 1972

SA 99

B-154

~~THE WHITE HOUSE~~  
WASHINGTON  
September 25, 1972 *file*

The White House  
Washington

1972 SEP 24 PM 9 31

TO: MURIAL HARTLEY  
FROM: BILL GULLEY *th*

General Scowcroft would like  
General Haig to have this copy of  
this telegram which we have just  
received.

TE HOUSE

MARK SINCE THEIR RELEASE  
RE YOU THAT THEY BOTH ARE  
TS

*copy of letters  
were imp -  
building copy  
to Murphy.*

DF

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
NSC 9/20/93 F9301250  
By WKO NARA, Date 9/27/93  
SA 99

The White House  
Washington

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LT

PRESIDENT RICHARD M NIXON WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON/DC

WE HAVE BEEN WITH NORRIS AND MARK SINCE THEIR RELEASE  
A WEEK AGO AND WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT THEY BOTH ARE  
IN EXCELLENT HEALTH AND SPIRITS

MRS OLGA CHARLES

MRS MINNIE LEE GARTLEY

COLL LT

NNNN

↑  
File  
of ...  
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3 WHD146 PB067

4 P IPD0366 VIA WUI 0943/22

5 UWF7852 HKW921 FB300 NR510 TN/061

6 UWNX CO VTHA 169

7 HANOI 169 22 1835 P1/50

8 PRESIDENT RICHARD M. NIXON

9 WHITE HOUSE

10 WASHINGTON/DC

11 M. PRESIDENT

12 WE ARE VERY HAPPY TO REPORT THAT NAVY LT MARKHAM GARTLEY

13 AIR FORCE MAJOR EDWARD ELIAS AND NAVY LT JG NORRIS CHARLES

14 HAVE BEEN RELEASED TO OUR CUSTODY SO THAT WE MAY ESCORT

15 THEM HOME TO THE UNITED STATES IN ACCORDANCE

16 ~~P-2/50 IN/061~~

17 WITH THE EXPRESSED EXPECTATIONS OF THE

18 NORTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT AND IN ORDER NOT TO JEOPARDIZE

FORM 0805 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY U.S.A.

22 1113

*No response*  
*Pres / HARC-*  
*Sat - April 23*  
*[Signature]*

014

THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE RELEASES WE BELIEVE THE  
REPATRIATION OF THESE MEN SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN THE  
FOLLOWING MANNER  
1/ THE MEN SHALL PROCEED HOME WITH US AND REPRESENTATIVES  
OF THEIR FAMILIES IN CIVILIAN

~~P-3/50~~ IN/061

AIRCRAFT

2/ THE MEN IF THEY WISH SHALL BE GRANTED A 30 DAY

FURLOUGH

3/ THE MEN SHALL RECEIVE A COMPLETE MEDICAL CHECK UP AT  
THE HOSPITAL IF THEIR CHOICE CIVILIAN OR MILITARY

4/ THE MEN SHALL DO NOTHING FURTHER TO PROMOTE THE

AMERICAN WAR EFFORT IN INDOCHINA WE BELIEVE

P 4/19 TN/061

FORM 0805 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY

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THAT THESE TERMS ARE REASONABLE AND HUMANE AND IN  
THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE REMAINING PILOTS AND THEIR  
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THE WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM

TIME SENT

WHITE HOUSE FAX NR 260

CIA _____	DIA/G _____
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WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM

NUMBER OF PAGES 3

DESCRIPTION/COMMENT:

FROM: WHSR

TO: STATE OPS CEN.

ATTN: D.O.

RECEIVED  
BY: [Signature]

DATE/TIME: 9/23 1825

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

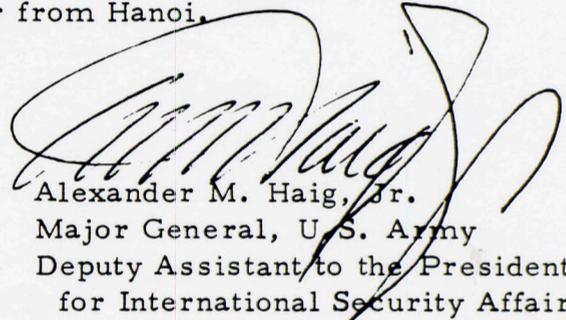
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September 23, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DUTY OFFICER  
STATE OPERATIONS CENTER

The attached message has been discussed with Mr. Miller in the Staff Secretariat, and the Department of Defense has been advised of its contents. Please see that it is dispatched to all embassies involved in the possible return itinerary of the U.S. prisoners-of-war from Hanoi.



Alexander M. Haig, Jr.  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for International Security Affairs

Attachment

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

TO: ALL EMBASSIES INVOLVED

SUBJECT: EGRESS - RECAP - Release of Three US Prisoners  
by NVN

REFS: A. State 165003 B. State 171526

1. Guidance provided by references is reaffirmed. Strongly urge adherence to guidelines provided therein.

2. While guidance does not require issuance of orders, per se, for men to return to US control, our objective remains to have men returned to US control at earliest possible moment. We should recommend in the clearest terms that the released prisoners come under USG control and return via military medevac transport. The approach should be made in a positive manner, and should leave no doubt in the minds of these men that the USG prefers that they return via military channels. At the same time, care must be taken to avoid any sort of public confrontation with the men or their escorts.

3. We are concerned that public comment that we do not intend to issue orders for men to return to US control might dilute our efforts to provide earliest possible medical attention and the return of the men to US under medical auspices. Posts are requested to avoid such comment. If questions are asked by the press as to whether the men have been ordered to return to US control, US officials should

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

avoid a specific response and make it clear that compassionate criteria are being applied and that our policy is dominated by concern for the welfare of the men.

~~SECRET~~

The White House  
Washington

1972 SEP 24 PM 9 31

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LT

PRESIDENT RICHARD M NIXON WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON/DC

WE HAVE BEEN WITH NORRIS AND MARK SINCE THEIR RELEASE  
A WEEK AGO AND WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT THEY BOTH ARE  
IN EXCELLENT HEALTH AND SPIRITS

MRS OLGA CHARLES

MRS MINNIE LEE GARTLEY

COLL LT

NNNN

THE WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM

TIME SENT

WHITE HOUSE LDX NR 065

CIA \_\_\_\_\_ DIA/G \_\_\_\_\_  
STATE \_\_\_\_\_ DIA/H \_\_\_\_\_  
NMCC \_\_\_\_\_ DASA \_\_\_\_\_  
ANMCC \_\_\_\_\_ NPIC \_\_\_\_\_  
NSA \_\_\_\_\_

72 SEP 25 PM 8:21

WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM

NUMBER OF PAGES 1

DESCRIPTION/COMMENT:

FROM: GENERAL HAIG

TO: ADMIRAL MURPHY

SEC. LAIRD'S OFFICE

RECEIVED  
BY:

DATE/TIME:

NMCC-LDX

25 SEP 72 18 26

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

LDX

September 25, 1972

To: Admiral Murphy  
Secretary Laird's Office

From: General Haig

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date 9/25/72

TO: GENERAL HAIG  
FROM: BRUCE KEHRLI

Per our conversation -- the attached.

Please advise of planned response or  
forward recommended response for  
President

cc: General Scowcroft  
Gerry Warren



FBIS 56 FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

RELEASED U.S. PILOTS, FAMILIES CABLE NIXON, OTH .S

B241613 HANOI VNA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH  
1604 GMT 24 SEP 72 B

(TEXT) HANOI VNA SEPTEMBER 24--THE FOLLOWING CABLES WERE SENT TONIGHT FROM HANOI BY THREE RECENTLY RELEASED U.S. SERVICEMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES, TO PRESIDENT NIXON AND THE WIFE OF MAJR ELIAS, ASSURING THEM OF THEIR GOOD HEALTH AND GOOD SPIRITS AND THEIR DESIRED INTENTION TO BE ACCOMPANIED, WITHOUT INTERFERENCE, BY THEIR CIVILIAN ESCORTS INCLUDING REV. WILLIAM SLOAN COFFIN JR., PROFESSOR RICHARD FALK, DAVID DELLINGER, AND CORA WEISS.

1ST CABLE:

PRESIDENT RICHARD M. NIXON

WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON D.C.

IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED WE THINK WE SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO NEW YORK WITH THE ESCORT DELEGATION, AND BE ALLOWED TO SPEND A FEW DAYS WITH OUR FAMILIES, IF SO DESIRED.

MAJOR EDWARD ELIAS

NAVY LTJG MARK GARTLEY

NAVY LTJG NORRIS CHARLES

2ND CABLE:

CAPT. RUSH, BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL

U.S. NAVY, WASHINGTON D.C.

(SAME CONTENT)

3RD CABLE:

PRESIDENT RICHARD M. NIXON

WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON D.C.

WE HAVE BEEN WITH NORISS AND MARK SINCE THEIR RELEASE A WEEK AGO AND WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT THEY BOTH ARE IN EXCELLENT HEALTH AND SPIRITS.

MRS. OLGA CHARLES

MRS. MINNIE GARTLEY

4TH CABLE:

GEORGE ELIAS

5002 PEACHTREE ST. VALDOSTA, GEORGIA, U.S.A.

GEORGIA AND MICHAEL,

I LOVE YOU. I AM IN GOOD SHAPE. ARRIVAL POSSIBLE THURSDAY. WILL CALL ABOUT MEETING IN NEW YORK.

EDWARD K. ELIAS.

24 SEP 1704Z PK/TM

5A99

B-155

L.L.

BIS 56 FOR OFFICIAL US. ONLY  
RELEASED U.S. PILOTS, FAMILIES CABLE NIXON, OTHERS  
B241613 HANOI VNA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH  
1604 GMT 24 SEP 72 B

(TEXT) HANOI VNA SEPTEMBER 24--THE FOLLOWING CABLES WERE SENT TONIGHT FROM HANOI BY THREE RECENTLY RELEASED U.S. SERVICEMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES, TO PRESIDENT NIXON AND THE WIFE OF MAJR ELIAS, ASSURING THEM OF THEIR GOOD HEALTH AND GOOD SPIRITS AND THEIR DESIRED INTENTION TO BE ACCOMPANIED, WITHOUT INTERFERENCE, BY THEIR CIVILIAN ESCORTS INCLUDING REV. WILLIAM SLOAN COFFIN JR., PROFESSOR RICHARD FALK, DAVID DELLINGER, AND CORA WEISS.

1ST CABLE:

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MAJOR EDWARD ELIAS  
NAVY LTJG MARK GARTLEY  
NAVY LTJG NORRIS CHARLES

2ND CABLE:

CAPT. RUSH, BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
U.S. NAVY, WASHINGTON D.C.

(SAME CONTENT)

3RD CABLE:

PRESIDENT RICHARD M. NIXON  
WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON D.C.

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MRS. OLGA CHARLES  
MRS. MINNIE GARTLEY

4TH CABLE:

GEORGE ELIAS  
5002 PEACHTREE ST. VALDOSTA, GEORGIA, U.S.A.  
GEORGIA AND MICHAEL,

I LOVE YOU. I AM IN GOOD SHAPE. ARRIVAL POSSIBLE THURSDAY. WILL CALL ABOUT MEETING IN NEW YORK.

EDWARD K. ELIAS.

24 SEP 1704Z PK/TM

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B-156

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date 9/25/72

The White House  
Washington

1972 SEP 25 AM 8 16

TO: GENERAL HAIG

FROM: BRUCE KEHRLI *BK*

Per our conversation -- the attached.

4 1972

Please advise of planned response or forward recommended response for President

CONCERNED WE THINK

WYORK WITH THE ESCORT

END A FEW DAYS WITH

P

GARTLEY

cc: General Scowcroft  
Gerry Warren

DF



SA 99

B-159

2961

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SECRET

ACTION

September 21, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. KISSINGER

THROUGH: JOHN NEGROPONTE *AN*

FROM: SVEN KRAEMER *SK*

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with the National League of Families - September 22, 1972

You are scheduled to meet with representatives of the National League of Families of American POWs and MIAs in Southeast Asia. The meeting is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 22, 1972.

Participation

The group will consist of the League's Executive Board and its five Regional Coordinators. Included will be Mrs. Evelyn Grubb (National Coordinator), Carole Hanson (Chairman of the Board), Mrs. Joanne Vinson (the former National Coordinator), and Mrs. Maureen Dunn, who was one of three League representatives to meet with the President on May 15 and whose husband was captured on Hainan Island, China.

General Background

This will be your first meeting with the League's Board since April, although three League representatives met briefly with the President and you on May 15 in the President's office. The same ground rules will apply as before in terms of the personal agreement by each person attending that the confidentiality of the meeting must be preserved.

The general mood of the League's membership is one of moderation and expectancy. The trend manifested earlier in the spring and summer to "go political" has been moderated both by the Administration's solid record and by Senator McGovern's radical exploitation. As a group

*DF*

CLASSIFIED BY John Negroponte  
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO  
YEAR INTERVALS AND DECLASSIFIED ON DEC. 31, 19

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
NSC 9/20/93 F9301250  
By MMO NARA, Date 9/27/93  
SA 99

they have been angry about the actions taken by Ramsey Clark and Jane Fonda and they are suspicious of the prisoner release worked out by the Cora Weiss/David Dellinger group. At the same time, their expectations have risen concerning your journeys and the private negotiations and they are curious and hopeful concerning a settlement and a prisoner exchange.

Basic Questions

In addition to the issue of the new POW release, the group is likely to focus its questions on recent developments including your trips to Peking, Moscow and Paris, the impact of the mining and the bombing and the political situation in South Vietnam. Mrs. Dunn can be expected to ask whether you and the President raised the issue with the Chinese of her husband's fate.

As the focus of these questions is with recent and sensitive developments, you will probably wish to respond along the lines of your latest background statements on these issues. We have therefore not provided special sets of probable questions and answers on these, by now, fairly standard questions.

- The Weiss/Dellinger POW Release

It is certain that the group will be very much interested in learning of the contingencies and expectations growing out of Saturday's planned release of the three American POWs through the Weiss/Dellinger group. You will be talking to the group less than twelve hours before the scheduled release of the POWs.

In discussing this issue you might wish to point out that while we welcome this release and hope it will lead to others, we are deeply concerned about the fate of the more than 420 other men in North Vietnam and all those captured or missing in Laos, Cambodia and South Vietnam.

In terms of the particular arrangements for the release, you might indicate that we are watching developments closely -- that there is still a lack of certainty about the precise flights and locations involved -- but that we are prepared to meet the men wherever they might arrive and to offer them appropriate medical attention and transportation if they voluntarily opt for U. S. -- provided facilities. You might note the President's personal interest and point out that the Departments of State and Defense have worked carefully to do whatever can possibly be done in consideration of the men and their families. (We will inform you of any last minute developments on the release prior to your meeting with the League's representatives.)

~~SECRET~~

- 3 -

You might wish to conclude by reaffirming the President's firm personal commitment to the early release and full accounting of all the prisoners and missing in Indochina. While expressing your understanding for the emotional and political pressure on the POW/MIA families to demand facile, but infeasible solutions to the POW/MIA problem, you might wish to express your appreciation for their support of the Administration's extensive efforts to resolve this problem on a responsible basis.

~~SECRET~~

September 21, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. SVEN KRAEMER  
FROM: BONNIE ANDREWS

Regarding the attendees for the meeting with Dr. Kissinger tomorrow in the Roosevelt Room, the following is a breakdown of names:

Executive Board, National League of Families

George Brooks  
Robert Brudno  
John Coker  
Harry Dunn  
Evelyn Grubb  
Robert Hagerman  
Carol Hanson  
Iris Powers  
Barbara Rausch  
Sybil Stockdale  
Sally Stratton  
Joan Vinson

Advisors to the Board

Charles Havens  
Paul Wagner

Department of Defense

BGeneral Russell Ogan  
Dr. Roger Shields

Volunteer Staff

Sara Frances Shay  
Judy Irsch  
Bonnie Metzger

Department of State

Mr. Frank Sieverts  
Mr. James Murphy

Regional Coordinators

Charlotte Christian  
Maureen Dunn  
Peggy Naughton  
Mae Rose Evans  
Donnie Collins

cc: Dick Campbell /

NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC	RECD	LOG NBR	INITIAL ACTION C/F
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DOC SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES \_\_\_\_\_ FROM: ELIOT \_\_\_\_\_ U \_\_\_\_\_ LOG IN/OUT ONLY \_\_\_\_\_  
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 HAIG  LAIRD, M \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ EYES ONLY \_\_\_\_\_ LIMDIS \_\_\_\_\_  
*address* S  CODE WORD \_\_\_\_\_ RES DATA \_\_\_\_\_  
 TS \_\_\_\_\_ SENSITIVE \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: *Letters for How many POW/MIA families 9/22*

REFERENCE: S/S \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_ NOT XEROXED \_\_\_\_\_

APP'TS: PRES \_\_\_\_\_ HAK \_\_\_\_\_ TALKER \_\_\_\_\_ MEMCON \_\_\_\_\_ DATE REQ. \_\_\_\_\_

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INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION				ACTION REQUIRED	
	ACTION	INFO	REC CY FOR		
ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/HAIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			MEMO FOR HAK	( _____ )
STAFF SECRETARY				MEMO FOR PRES.	( _____ )
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ECONOMIC				ANY ACTION NECESSARY	( _____ )
SCIENTIFIC				CONCURRENCE	( _____ )
LR PLANNING				DUE DATE:	
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				COMMENTS: (Including Special Instructions)	
NSC PLANNING				<i>From: AH / Persons: POW wives</i>	
CONGRESSIONAL					

INTERNAL/INTERIM ROUTING

DATE	FROM	TO	S	ACTION REQUIRED	CY TO
<i>9/23</i>	<i>NSC Report to HAK</i>	<i>HAK</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Letters (9/22) Noted by HAK</i>	

DISPOSITION

CROSS REF WITH \_\_\_\_\_ NOTIFY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SEE LOG \_\_\_\_\_ DISPATCH: LETTER/MEMO \_\_\_\_\_

JOINED BY LOG \_\_\_\_\_ COPIES: (AS MARKED ABOVE) \_\_\_\_\_

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SA 99

B-164

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

September 13, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE VICE PRESIDENT  
Attention: General Dunn

FROM:

M/GEN. ALEXANDER M. HAIG

SUBJECT:

The Three U.S. POW's to be  
Released by Hanoi

We may be sure that the upcoming release of three U.S. POW's will be exploited to the hilt by the anti-war activists who are involved in returning these released men to the U.S. Our problem now is to minimize the pro-Hanoi and anti-Administration propoganda which the anti-war groups will try to generate in connection with this release.

We strongly feel that our best tactic at present is to avoid drawing attention to the role played by anti-war activists in the release of the POW's. We do not want to give them any kind of free publicity. Moreover, there is always the danger that our attacking the anti-war role in the POW release will be seized upon by Hanoi to postpone or cancel the release. This, in turn, would leave the Administration open to charges that we had helped prevent the return of these POW's.

Once the three released POW's are safely home, however, we will be able to judge the impact of the anti-war groups' exploitation of the release and can then decide how best to react to it.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

NSC 9/20/93 F9301250

By MIC NARA, Date 9/27/93

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DUNN  
N. VINTAGE

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THE JOINT STAFF

N M C C

THE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

7 September 1972  
0220 EDT

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Subject: Possible Release of US Prisoners of War

At 062318 EDT September, the NMCC received a telephone call from Captain Green, Duty Officer, NMIC who related the following message:

The NMIC had just received a call from Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) who, in turn, had received a phone call from Mrs. Olga Charles, wife of LTJG Norris A. Charles, a POW captured on 30 Dec 71, and one of those reported by the news media to soon be released. Mr. Charles told BUPERS that Cora Weiss, co-chairman of the Committee of Liaison with Families of US Servicemen held in North Vietnam, called her and passed on these instructions:

a. Mrs. Charles was to be in New York City on Friday, 8 September 1972.

b. The committee, which Cora Weiss represented, would pay her expenses.

c. Mrs. Charles was to make no press release on this matter.

*James R. Hildreth*  
JAMES R. HILDRETH  
Brigadier General, USAF  
Deputy Director for  
Operations, NMCC

Distribution:

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(ISA)	J-38	DIA REP (2)	
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DJS (3)	J-4	PA REP (7)	

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*(Handwritten initials)*

SA 99 B-171

MEMORANDUM

~~SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

INFORMATION

September 5, 1972

~~HAIG~~  
GENERAL HAIG

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

JOHN D. NEGROPONTE

*[Handwritten signature]*

SUBJECT:

Contingency Planning for POW Release

The three U.S. officers scheduled for release by the North Vietnamese will, in all probability, be flown from Hanoi to Vientiane in either an Aeroflot or ICC passenger plane. Once in Vientiane, the newly-released officers can be returned to the U.S. either on commercial airlines or U.S. military flights. In their September 2 Paris press conference, Cora Weiss and David Dellinger clearly indicated that the latter method of return could jeopardize any future such POW releases. (Dellinger, on the other hand, predicted that there probably will be no further releases "until the Nixon Administration stops the war.") The following are plans drawn up by State and Defense for these contingencies.

Return Via Commercial Airlines

Upon arrival in Vientiane, Ambassador Godley, an Embassy physician (or U.S. military medical officer), a U.S. military representative (probably one of our Vientiane military attaches), and a Mission escort officer will meet with the released officers to establish how they want to return to the U.S. and to determine whether they need any medical attention.

Should they choose to continue the trip home via commercial airlines, Ambassador Godley will insist that they be accompanied by the Mission escort officer. (Defense may also want a military escort officer on board as well.) If they fly to Vientiane on the ICC flight (which arrives in the evening), they will be offered overnight accommodations and on the following day will fly to Bangkok via Thai Airlines or Air Vietnam. From Bangkok they can fly to the U.S. on either TWA or Pan Am. If they come to Vientiane on the Aeroflot flight, they could either use the above route or could remain on the Aeroflot flight to Moscow and fly on to New York on Aeroflot or Pan Am flights. It is hoped that there would be no problem in getting our escort officer aboard the Aeroflot flight from Vientiane. This could be arranged with the Soviets in advance either in Vientiane or Moscow.

*(DF)*

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
NSC 9/20/93 F9301250  
By WKO NARA, Date 9/27/93  
SA 99

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Aeroflot (or a special Soviet flight) could possibly take the released officers directly to Moscow or could by-pass Vientiane and return to Moscow via Rangoon and Calcutta. In these contingencies, our resident Ambassadors (or Consul General in Calcutta) would attempt to see the officers and provide them with an escort.

#### Return Via U.S. Air Military Transportation

Should the released officers require medical attention or desire to return via U.S. military air transportation, they will be flown first to Udorn (by helicopter) and from there to Clark Field where they will remain a few days for physical examinations. From Clark, they will be flown to the States. Defense will offer space on these flights to the peace group escorts who are to accompany the released officers from Hanoi.

#### History of Previous Releases

A group of U.S. POW's released in February 1968 were asked upon their arrival in Vientiane for their preference in transportation to the States. They reportedly asked Ambassador Sullivan what the U.S. Government would prefer and when told that military transportation was preferable, chose this option. Their return to the States on military aircraft produced an outcry from the peace groups who felt this had diminished the impact of their efforts.

When Hanoi announced the release of three POW's on July 4, 1968, a peace group arranging the release stopped off in Paris and was told by Ambassador Harriman (U.S. Delegate to the Vietnam Talks) that the choice of return was up to the released POW's. The release was subsequently delayed for two or three weeks until Xuan Thuy obtained from Harriman assurance that the released men could return by commercial airlines.

Those POW's released in August 1969 were interviewed by our Charge and examined by an Embassy physician after they arrived in Vientiane. They spent the night in the Ambassador's residence. They then flew to Bangkok and caught a TWA flight to New York accompanied by their six peace group escorts and four cameramen. The peace groups were satisfied with this arrangement, but according to Sieverts, got little propaganda mileage out of this project. In September one of those released, Lt. Robert Frishman, held a press conference and denounced North Vietnamese treatment. Recent statements by Weiss and Dellinger and in Hanoi media have warned against a repetition of such "slander" against North Vietnam.

~~SECRET~~

SA 99 B-172

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CLASSIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Operations Center

Date: September 2, 1972

DISTRIBUTION: SS, EA, U/PW, S/PRS, White House

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

By: Frank Zambito Editor 1  
(Name of Officer) (Title of Officer) (Shift)

Subject: Prisoners Release

Ref: None

Amb. Porter called to relay the substance of the Weiss-Dellinger Paris press conference. (time 0651)

1. There will be no release for several weeks since arrangements have not been made on the prisoner release. It is simply DRV custom to release information on National Day.

2. Weiss and Dellinger will escort prisoners from Hanoi directly to their families and hope there will be no military interference (as Weiss and Dellinger put it). Dellinger fears that there will be no further release if these three prisoners are exploited as others have been in the past. Weiss and Dellinger say there are now two problems in handling this matter: one is the problem of flooding; the other has to do with the matter of the "Chicago Six" (Dellinger is on bond). Dellinger feels if the war continues, these POW's will be the last people released.

*(Handwritten initials)*

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CLASSIFICATION

S/S-O: Form of 24 January 1972

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
NSC 9/20/93 F9301250  
By MKO NARA, Date 9/27/93  
SA 99

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM  
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BRIEF FOR SEC. AGENTS

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KISSINGER

BRIEF FOR

SEC. AGENTS

ZYB

AROUND

Z 012253Z

FM THE

TO RUSMAN

FOR MR.

KISSINGER

BRIEF FOR

SEC. AGENTS

ZYB

AROUND

Z 012253Z

FM THE

TO RUSMAN

FOR MR.

KISSINGER

BRIEF FOR

SEC. AGENTS

ZYB

AROUND

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TO RUSMAN

FOR MR.

KISSINGER

BRIEF FOR

SEC. AGENTS

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FOR MR.

KISSINGER

BRIEF FOR

SEC. AGENTS

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TO RUSMAN

FOR MR.

KISSINGER

BRIEF FOR

SEC. AGENTS

ZYB

AROUND

Z 012253Z

FM THE

TO RUSMAN

FOR MR.

KISSINGER

BRIEF FOR

SEC. AGENTS

ZYB

WRITE HOUSE, ...  
AND DR. HENRY KISSINGER  
SUBJECTS REPORT OF ...  
1. OFFICE OF SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY (SEN. MASS.) HAS  
INFORMED STATE DEPARTMENT (INT. SEC. DIV.) THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED  
WORD FROM DRV OFFICIALS IN PARIS THAT A ...  
SERVICEMEN ...

DF

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

NSC 9/20/93 F9301250

By MPG NARA, Date 9/27

SA99



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO HENRY A. KISSINGER    FLASH  
FROM AL HAIG

State has checked with Senator Kennedy's office on the story of an alleged POW release announcement anticipated from Hanoi on September 2 (Hanoi time). Senator Kennedy's office said they had been informed by the DRV Delegation through a "friend" of Senator Kennedy's who lives in Paris that on September (DRV National Day) the DRV will announce that they are going to release "a few American service men." Senator Kennedy's office says they were provided no other particulars such as how many, where, or to whom.

Kennedy's office will release the story and it will run at 6:00 PM Washington time tonight (that is 6:00 AM Hanoi time September 2 -- presumably the Hanoi announcement to be made at any time thereafter.)

When the story runs, it is planned that Bray at State will say:

"We have seen this report and we hope it is true. We

welcome the release of any or all of our POW's, especially

the sick or injured, or those who have been held for a long time. **IT**  
**WHAT WE HAVE BEEN URGING AT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS.**"

This will run at the same time as the Kennedy story itself. It is strong consensus here that White House should not, repeat not, react until we see an actual DRV announcement in order that we can see whether

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 2 -

there are conditions or hookers. It seems highly likely that there is more to this than meets the eye. We believe it likely that any release would be either tied to a call for a bombing halt or that a few prisoners would be released who the DRV believes would make statements helpful to it on their return.

If you agree with the foregoing statement, you will want to be sure that the reins on Ziegler are kept tight.

Warm regards,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**IMMEDIATE**  
PRECEDENCE

**CONFID VITAL**  
CLASSIFICATION

FOR COMCENTER USE ONLY

DAC \_\_\_\_\_ GPS \_\_\_\_\_

LDX 751 PAGES 2

TTY \_\_\_\_\_ CITE \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: **THE SITUATION ROOM**

TO: **GEN. HAIG**

INFO:

DTG

012335Z

RELEASED BY [Signature]

TOR: 01234GZ

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

12 SEP 11 1.53

[Large Signature]

SA 99 B-175

5950

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 30, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL SCOWCROFT  
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER *HK*  
SUBJECT: Request for Meeting with Executive Board  
of the National League of Families -  
September 22, 1972

You recently passed on the request of the National League of Families of American POWs and MIAs that I meet with the League's Executive Board during the period of their meeting scheduled for September 22 through 24 in Washington, D. C. You indicated that at such a meeting the same rules of silence regarding the discussion would apply as were adopted for my last meeting with the Board. You also suggested Friday afternoon, September 22 at 5:00 as the appropriate time for such a meeting.

Provided that I can be absolutely assured that each Board member is pledged to confidentiality, I am prepared to meet with the Board at the time you suggest.

*DF*

Dispatched 8/31/72 (rb)

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

5950

~~2006  
HAL~~  
ACTION

August 8, 1972

@

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MR. KISSINGER

FROM:

JOHN HOLDRIDGE SK

SUBJECT:

Request for Meeting with Executive Board  
of the National League of Families -  
September 22, 1972

General Scowcroft has sent you a memorandum passing on a request from the National League of Families of American POWs and MIAs that you meet with the League's Executive Board during the period of their next meeting from September 22 through September 24 in Washington, D. C. (Tab B). The Board's September meeting would occur a few weeks prior to the League's annual convention scheduled for Washington, D. C. in mid-October.

General Scowcroft points out that the move to San Clemente last July, at the time of the last Board meeting, made it possible to avert your participation without arousing any cries of outrage. But now, partly as a result of your absence on that occasion, the Board appears to be doubly anxious to have you meet with them next month. The meeting would take place under the same rules of silence regarding the discussion as adopted, and honored, for your last meeting with the Board.

We agree with General Scowcroft's recommendation favoring such a meeting and believe it would be very difficult to avoid very unfavorable public repercussions if you were unable to meet with the Board on this occasion. If you agree to such a meeting, the suggested time of 5:00 on Friday afternoon, September 22 appears appropriate.

We have incorporated the above recommendation in a memorandum to General Scowcroft prepared for your signature at Tab A.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum to General Scowcroft at Tab A. and instruct Dick Campbell to add it to your schedule.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

5950

August 3, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: DR. KISSINGER  
FROM: GENERAL SCOWCROFT *BS*  
SUBJECT: Meeting with POW/MIA Families

The next meeting of the governing Board of the National League of POW/MIA families will take place September 22, 23, and 24. The Board urgently requests that you meet with them as you have in the past.

Our move to the West Coast around the time of the last Board meeting in early July enabled me to avert your having to participate, without arousing any cries of outrage. Partly as a result of your absence at that meeting, however, the Board is doubly anxious to have you meet with them next month. The meeting would take place under the same rules of silence regarding the discussion as was adopted for your last meeting with them.

If you are available, I would suggest Friday afternoon, September 22 at 5:00 for a meeting with the Board.

NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROJECT

DOC		RECD		LOG NBR	INITIAL ACTION OFF
MO	DA	MO	DA	HR	
8	3	8	4	8	150 Holdridge

DOC SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES \_\_\_\_\_ FROM: ELIOT \_\_\_\_\_ U  LOG IN/OUT ONLY \_\_\_\_\_  
 KISSINGER  \_\_\_\_\_ ROGERS, W \_\_\_\_\_ LOU \_\_\_\_\_ NO FORN \_\_\_\_\_ NODIS \_\_\_\_\_  
 HAIG \_\_\_\_\_ LAIRD, M \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ EYES ONLY \_\_\_\_\_ LIMDIS \_\_\_\_\_  
 SUBJECT: *Request for Appt with HAK for POW Families* TS \_\_\_\_\_ SENSITIVE \_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCE: S/S \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_ NOT XEROXED \_\_\_\_\_

APPTS: PRES \_\_\_\_\_ HAK \_\_\_\_\_ TALKER \_\_\_\_\_ MEMCON \_\_\_\_\_ DATE REQ. \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARIAT DISTRIBUTION/ACTION

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION			ACTION REQUIRED	
	ACTION	INFO	REC CY FOR	
ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/HAIG				MEMO FOR HAK _____
STAFF SECRETARY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MEMO FOR PRES. _____
FAR EAST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	REPLY FOR _____ SIGNATURE _____
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA				FOR DISTRIBUTION/DISPATCH _____
NR EAST/NORTH AFRICA				MEMO _____ TO _____
EUROPE/CANADA				RECOMMENDATIONS _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
LATIN AMERICA				JOINT MEMO _____
UNITED NATIONS				REFER TO STATE _____
ECONOMIC				ANY ACTION NECESSARY _____
SCIENTIFIC				CONCURRENCE _____
LR PLANNING				DUE DATE: <i>8/6</i>
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				COMMENTS: (Including Special Instructions)
NSC PLANNING				
CONGRESSIONAL				

INTERNAL/INTERIM ROUTING

DATE	FROM	TO	S	ACTION REQUIRED	CY TO
<i>8/4</i>	<i>JWW</i>	<i>JDM</i>		<i>No action</i>	
	<i>JEM</i>	<i>VIC</i>		<i>" "</i>	
<i>8/7</i> <i>18/10</i>	<i>HAK</i>	<i>HAK</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>See memo to Sec Craft 8/7</i> <i>See memo to Sec Craft</i> <i>HAK yet memo to Sec Craft</i>	
<i>8/30</i>					

DISPOSITION

CROSS REF WITH \_\_\_\_\_ NOTIFY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SEE LOG \_\_\_\_\_ DISPATCH: LETTER/MEMO *See memo to Sec Craft done*

JOINED BY LOG \_\_\_\_\_ COPIES: (AS MARKED ABOVE) \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL FILE RQMT: \_\_\_\_\_ SA, \_\_\_\_\_ HP, \_\_\_\_\_ HM

SPECIAL DISPOSITION COMMENTS:

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED: YES  NO \_\_\_\_\_

MICROFILM DATA

DO  *JM*

INIT \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ORIG) NSC \_\_\_\_\_

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WHC \_\_\_\_\_

SUBF \_\_\_\_\_

SEP 1 1972

SA 99 B 176

LOXTO: ZIBLER  
 WARREN } SC  
 ROOMAN }  
 FROM: JANKA

AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR  
 AND MISSING IN ACTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA  
 (AS OF 26 AUG 1972)

BY COUNTRY

	<u>MISSING</u>	<u>CAPTURED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NORTH VIETNAM	453	<del>413</del> 425	<del>866</del> 878
SOUTH VIETNAM	<del>499</del> 495	<del>104</del> 106	<del>603</del> 601
LAOS	288	<del>5</del> 6	<del>293</del> 294
TOTALS	<del>1240</del> 1236	<del>522</del> 537	<del>1762</del> 1773

BY SERVICE

	<u>MISSING</u>	<u>CAPTURED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ARMY	<del>361</del> 357	<del>85</del> 85	<del>446</del> 442
NAVY	<del>132</del> 127	<del>154</del> 157	<del>286</del> 284
MARINE CORPS	<del>105</del> 104	25	<del>128</del> 129
AIR FORCE	<del>654</del> 648	<del>260</del> 270	<del>914</del> 918
TOTALS	<del>1240</del> 1236	<del>522</del> 537	<del>1762</del> 1773

STATISTICAL RECAPITULATION BY YEAR LOST

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Missing	4	54	204	226	294	176	86	79	<del>117</del> 11
Captured	<u>3</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>	<del>98</del> 5
Totals	7	128	301	405	389	189	98	90	<del>155</del> 16

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CLASSIFICATION

FOR COMMCENTER USE ONLY

DAC \_\_\_\_\_ GPS \_\_\_\_\_  
LDX 794 PAGES 1  
TTY \_\_\_\_\_ CITE \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: **LES TANKA**  
TO: **RON ZIGLER, JERRY WARREN**  
**PETER RODMAN**  
INFO:

DTG  
**021507Z**

RELEASED BY: **BR**

TOR: **021531Z**

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

72 SEP 2 AM 11.21

UPI-125

(GRAMSEY CLARK)

SAN FRANCISCO -- FORMER U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK SAID TODAY A NORTH VIETNAMESE NEWSPAPER EDITOR TOLD HIM THAT IF "THERE IS A CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION" IN THE UNITED STATES, ALL U.S. PRISONER COULD BE RELEASED BEGINNING THE DAY THE NEW PRESIDENT TAKES OFFICE. LL

CLARK, WHO RETURNED SUNDAY NIGHT FROM A TWO-WEEK VISIT TO NORTH VIETNAM, ALSO QUOTED NORTH VIETNAM'S FOREIGN MINISTER AS GUARANTEEING THE RELEASE OF AMERICAN PRISONERS IN A SETTLEMENT OF THE VIETNAM WAR.

CLARK SAID THE NEWSPAPER EDITOR TOLD HIM THAT "IF THERE IS A CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION, PRISONERS COULD BE RELEASED BEGINNING ON JAN. 27, 1973" -- INAUGURAL DAY.

THE FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL SAID HE URGED THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO RELEASE SOME PRISONERS IMMEDIATELY.

"I THINK THEY WILL RELEASE A FEW, BUT WHAT THEY TELL YOU IS THEY CAN'T RELEASE PILOTS WHILE PILOTS ARE BOMBING" THEIR COUNTRY, CLARK SAID AT A NEWS CONFERENCE.

CLARK SAID HE HAD A SIGNED LETTER FROM THE NORTH VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER SAYING IN VIETNAMESE "WITH AN AGREEMENT ON THE MILITARY AND POLITICAL ISSUES THE RETURN OF ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS WILL BE GUARANTEED."

IN THEIR TWO HOUR AND 45-MINUTE CONVERSATION, CLARK SAID, THE FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD HIM:

"I CAN REAFFIRM THAT ALL CAPTURED CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES -- MILITARY AND CIVILIAN -- HAVE TO BE AN ISSUE IN ANY SETTLEMENT ... IF A SETTLEMENT IS REACHED ... THE PRISONER ISSUE WILL BE RESOLVED AND IMPLEMENTED IMMEDIATELY."

AT AN AIRPORT NEWS CONFERENCE SUNDAY NIGHT, CLARK SAID AMERICAN PRISONERS WOULD BE RELEASED WHEN THE BOMBING CEASED AND U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN THE WAR ENDED.

8-14--WC412PED

DF

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LL

RAMSEY CLARK (COPS 16)

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - FORMER ATTY. GEN. RAMSEY CLARK TODAY

QUALIFIED A STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO HIM THAT NORTH VIETNAMESE LEADERS HAD ASSURED HIM THAT ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR WOULD BE RELEASED "WHEN WE STOP THIS SENSELESS ECMBING AND GET ON WITH THE BUSINESS OF PEACE."

"I EITHER MIS-SPOKE OR WAS MISQUOTED," CLARK TOLD AN HOUR-LONG NEWS CONFERENCE HERE. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE REMAINED CONVINCED HANOI WOULD FREE AMERICAN POWS "WHEN THERE IS A FULL SETTLEMENT OF THE WAR."

CLARK, WHO SPENT TWO WEEKS VISITING NORTH VIETNAM, TOLD NEWSMEN HERE SUNDAY THAT HE HAD RECEIVED BOTH WRITTEN AND VERBAL ASSURANCES THAT POWS WOULD BE FREED AFTER A CESSATION OF THE ECMBING. HE DID NOT ELABORATE ON HIS STATEMENT AT THE TIME, SAYING HE WOULD SPEAK IN MORE DETAIL AT THE NEWS CONFERENCE TODAY.

CLARK, WHO WAS QUOTED BY HADIC HANGI DURING HIS VISIT AS SAYING HE HAD WITNESSED MASSIVE DESTRUCTION IN HAIPHONG, DISMISSED CRITICISM OF HIS STATEMENTS BY TOP REPUBLICAN LEADERS AS "NAME CALLING."

"NAME-CALLING WON'T STOP THIS WAR AND I DON'T PAY ANY ATTENTION," HE SAID.

CLARK SAID HE TALKED WITH NORTH VIETNAM'S FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO DECLARED THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAD RAISED THE POW ISSUE FALSELY.

CZ 43P 8/14

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

JULY 27, 1972

FOR GENERAL HAIG

Our office received several phone calls yesterday from a William Taub. He claims to have met with Dr. Kissinger in San Clemente and that Dr. Kissinger had referred him first to John Dean and then to John Ehrlichman. Taub evidently talked to Dean a couple of times but Dean is no longer "available" to him. Now he's trying Ehrlichman.

Taub's last call indicated that he had met with Senator Kennedy and the Senator advised him that he received word from Hanoi releasing the names of the prisoners and "they had information on Hoffa" (I don't know who he means by "they").

Taub left for Miami Wednesday afternoon and can be reached at (305) 864-0906.

Tod R. Hullin

Al:  
& did not talk to him.

(DF)

ES  
He has  
also  
D

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 26 - 10:12 a.m.

General Haig:

Mr. Taub has called twice this morning. He is in Senator Kennedy's office discussing the POW matter. The Senator has been provided a list of names of the prisoners and a copy of the letter that was given to Taub in Paris last week.

Taub said he needs a reply as to whether or not the trip after the 20th will be with the assistance of the White House or not. He said Hoffa, Gibbons and himself were to have left Washington this morning but waited to see if they could get this answer.

He ended by indicating that consideration was being given to Senator Kennedy's making a news story or the Hoffa/Gibbons/Taub team doing so.

Taub can be reached in Senator Kennedy's office until 10:45 if you wish to call him.

Lora

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\*\*\*\*\*CONFIDENTIAL\*\*\*\*\* COPY

DP IMMED  
DE RUESFMQ #3071 2691533  
O 251524Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8807

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE 1682  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 338  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE 55

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ STOCKHOLM 3071

EXDIS  
SUBJECT: POW EGRESS -- HERSCH.  
REF: STOCKHOLM 3057

1. SEYMOUR HERSCH, NEW YORK TIMES CORRESPONDENT WHO ARRIVED STOCKHOLM SUNDAY, CALLED ON POLCOUNS MONDAY AFTER MEETING WITH MFA OFFICIALS, COMMUNIST LAWYER HANS GORAN FRANCK AND YOUNG MAN NAMED JAFFE, WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS "EMPLOYEE OF JANE FONDA WHO IS HERE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE POWS."
2. HERSCH SAID HE WAS FILING STORY TONIGHT BASED ON MFA BRIEFING WHICH, AS HE RECOUNTED IT, IS ACCURATE RENDERING OF CHARGE'S REQUEST TO WICKMAN FOR ASSISTANCE IN GAINING ACCESS TO POWS IF THEY COME TO STOCKHOLM AND WICKMAN'S UNDERTAKINGS (REFTEL). POLCOUNS SAID EMBASSY WAS REFERRING ALL PRESS QUERIES TO WASHINGTON, SO IT WAS UNABLE TO COMMENT ON HERSCH'S INFORMATION. HERSCH SAID HE HAD NO DOUBT IT WAS CORRECT AND WOULD FILE IT.
3. HERSCH PROBED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT U.S. INTENTIONS RE POWS. POLCOUNS SAID NOTHING ABOUT EMBASSY INSTRUCTIONS, COMMENTING ONLY THAT HANOI PROPAGANDA ABOUT COERCION WAS, IN SWEDISH CONTEXT, BIZARRE.
4. HERSCH SAID HE WAS "75 PERCENT SURE" POW PARTY LEFT HANOI LATE MONDAY FOR CHINA. HE SAID HE BELIEVED THIS WAS ALWAYS INTENTION OF PARTY, WHICH LEAKED VIENTIANE-MOSCOW ITINERARY AS RED HERRING. HE SAID HE EXPECTED GROUP TO TURN UP IN STOCKHOLM OR COPENHAGEN WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY. HE INDICATED FRANCK AND JAFFE ARE CONCERNED THAT GROUP MAY CHOOSE COPENHAGEN "WHERE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD NOT BE SO

\*\*\*\*\*WHHR COMMENT\*\*\*\*\*

HOLDRIDGE LL

PSN:029892 PAGE 01 TOR:269/16:32Z DTG:251524Z SEP 72

\*\*\*\*\*CONFIDENTIAL\*\*\*\*\* COPY

**EXDIS REVIEW**

Cat. A - Caption removed;  
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Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC  
with additional access  
controlled by S/S

Cat. C - Caption and custody  
retained by S/S

Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr.

Date: 10/18/93

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
DOS 9304568 1/28/94  
By MKO NARA, Date 4/12/94  
SA 99

~~\*\*\*\*\*CONFIDENTIAL\*\*\*\*\*~~ S COPY

RSCH SAID HE HAD INDICATIONS THAT NVN AUTHORITIES  
E THEY MADE MISTAKE IN CHOOSING POWS TO RELEASE.  
D HE HAD INFORMATION MAJOR ELIAS WOULD PROBABLY SEIZE  
PPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO USAF CONTROL. HE SAID  
GROUP THUS WERE TRYING TO KEEP USG REPS AWAY FROM  
CAUSE THEY FEARED CHARLES AND GARTLEY WOULD FOLLOW  
EAD. HERSCH DID NOT GIVE SOURCES OF HIS INFORMATION,  
I PART OF IT WAS CLEARLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO FRANCK.  
CH SAID FURTHER HE UNDERSTOOD POW PARTY AS A WHOLE  
R TO GET BACK TO U.S. AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. HE  
I THAT PEOPLE WHO HOPE TO EXPLOIT POWS POLITICALLY  
ERNEED THEIR PLANS MAY GO AWRY.

02 OF 02 TDR:269/16:32Z DTG:-  
~~\*\*\*\*\*CONFIDENTIAL\*\*\*\*\*~~

R Lh



Department of State

TELEGRAM

SEP 25 AM 7:43

CONFIDENTIAL 897

PAGE 01 STATE 174425

67  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 FILE-01 /027 R

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APPROVED  
EAI AMB. SULLIVAN  
S/S:

DOD/ISA  
S/S-01  
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- O 250140Z SEP 72 ZFF5
- FM SECSTATE WASHDC
- TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
- AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE
- INFO USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE
- AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY
- AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
- AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
- AMCONSUL BOMBAY PRIORITY
- AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY
- AMCONSUL CALCUTTA PRIORITY
- AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
- USDEL FRANCE PRIORITY
- CINCPAC PRIORITY
- CINCEUR PRIORITY
- 7/13TH AF UDORN PRIORITY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ STATE 174425

EXDIS

TOSEC 01

REF: VIENTIANE 7182 HOTEL

SUBJECT: POW RELEASE

WE HAVE LEARNED FROM A PRESS SOURCE THAT  
RELEASED POW'S AND ESCORTS PLAN DEPART VIENTIANE

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
DOS 9304568 1/28/94  
By WKO NARA, Date 4/12/94  
SA 99

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Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC  
with additional access  
controlled by S/S  
Cat. C - Caption and content  
retained  
Reviewed by Skelly  
Date: 10/18/93 19



Department of State

TELEGRAM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 02 STATE 174425

25 AT 5PM LOCAL TIME ON AEROFLOT TO PEKING,  
WHERE THEY WILL OVERNIGHT.

2. GROUP PLANS DEPART NEXT MORNING FOR STOCKHOLM WITH  
"REFUELING" STOP IN MOSCOW, ARRIVING STOCKHOLM  
WEDNESDAY WITH ONWARD FLIGHT TO NEW YORK ARRIVING  
THURSDAY EVENING SEPT. 28. GDS. IRWIN

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ INFORMATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

SA 99

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

EXDIS  
EXDIS  
EXDIS  
EXDIS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 985

PAGE 01 SAIGON 14024 250124Z

13  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 1026 W

058151

O 250540Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3010  
INFO RUMJFS / AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE 300  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
URUFNPS/USDEL FRANCE IMMEDIATE 233  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
CINCPAC  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SAIGON 14024

EXDIS  
SUBJ: EGRESS REC'D RELEASE OF THREE U.S. PRISONERS BY NVN  
REF: STATE 174425

1. CANADIAN DELEGATION IN HANOI HAS JUST TELEGRAPHED ITS MISSION HERE AND REPORTED (AS DID REFTEL) THAT THE THREE AMER PRISONERS ARE SCHEDULED TO LEAVE SEPTEMBER 25 VIA PEKING. CANADIAN DELEGATION HERE COMMENTED THAT CAAC HAS FLIGHTS FROM HANOI TO NANNING ON MONDAY AND THURSDAY WITH ONWARD CONNECTIONS.

2. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS OTHER POSTS AS APPROPRIATE. GDS BUNKER

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER MR. VIETS, S/S-O.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
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EXDIS REVIEW

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retained by S/S

Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr.

Date: 10/18/93

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

DOS 9304568

1/28/94

By MZO. NARA, Date 4/12/94

SA 99

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This document has been reviewed pursuant to Executive Order 13526 and has been determined to be declassified.

N117B

SA 99 B-117



Department of State

R TELEGRAM

7

CONFIDENTIAL 761

PAGE 01 STATE 174414

67  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM THE WHITE HOUSE  
9/23/72

APPROVED BY S/S: RMILLER  
U6D/ISA: DR. SHIELDS (INFORMED)

- O P 240157Z SEP 72
- FM SECSTATE WASHDC
- TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE
- INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY
- AMCONSUL CALCUTTA PRIORITY
- AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
- AMEMBASSY SAIGON
- AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
- AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
- AMEMBASSY PARIS
- AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
- AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
- AMEMBASSY MANILA
- USDEL FRANCE
- USMISSION GENEVA
- AMCONSUL HONG KONG
- AMCONSUL BOMBAY
- AMCONSUL NAHA
- AMCONSUL UDORN
- AMEMBASSY TOKYO
- AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
- AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
- AMEMBASSY LONDON
- AMEMBASSY ROME
- CINCPAC
- CINCUSARPAC
- CINCPACFLT
- CINCPACAF
- 7TH AF
- CINCEUR
- TTPJ

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- VANDERSON
- HOLDRIDGE
- HORMATS
- JORDEN
- KENNEDY
- LEHMAN
- LEVINE
- NEGROPONTE
- ODEEN
- RATLIFF
- RONDON
- SAUNDERS
- SONNENFELDT
- V. I. G.
- WALSH

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TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 174414

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ STATE 174414

EXDIS

SUBJECT: EGRESS - RECAP: RELEASE OF THREE US PRISONERS BY NVN

REFS: A. STATE 165003 B. STATE 171526

1. GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY REFERENCES IS REAFFIRMED. STRONGLY URGE ADHERENCE TO GUIDELINES PROVIDED THEREIN.
2. WHILE GUIDANCE DOES NOT REQUIRE ISSUANCE OF ORDERS, PER SE, FOR MEN TO RETURN TO US CONTROL, OUR OBJECTIVE REMAINS TO HAVE MEN RETURNED TO US CONTROL AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT. WE SHOULD RECOMMEND IN THE clearest TERMS THAT THE RELEASED PRISONERS COME UNDER USG CONTROL AND RETURN VIA MILITARY MEDEVAC TRANSPORT. THE APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE IN A POSITIVE MANNER, AND SHOULD LEAVE NO DOUBT IN THE MINDS OF THESE MEN THAT THE USG PREFERS THAT THEY RETURN VIA MILITARY CHANNELS. AT THE SAME TIME, CARE MUST BE TAKEN TO AVOID ANY SORT OF PUBLIC CONFRONTATION WITH THE MEN OR THEIR ESCORTS.
3. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT PUBLIC COMMENT THAT WE DO NOT INTEND TO ISSUE ORDERS FOR MEN TO RETURN TO US CONTROL MIGHT DILUTE OUR EFFORTS TO PROVIDE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MEDICAL ATTENTION AND THE RETURN OF THE MEN TO US UNDER MEDICAL AUSPICES. POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO AVOID SUCH COMMENT. IF QUESTIONS ARE ASKED BY THE PRESS AS TO WHETHER THE MEN HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO RETURN TO US CONTROL, US OFFICIALS SHOULD AVOID A SPECIFIC RESPONSE AND MAKE IT CLEAR THAT COMPASSIONATE CRITERIA ARE BEING APPLIED AND THAT OUR POLICY IS DOMINATED BY CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF THE MEN.
4. GDS ROGERS

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# TELEGRAM

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SUMMARY

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INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 FILE-01 1027 R

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APPROVED BY JI AMBASSADOR JOHNSON  
DOD/ISA:  
EAT MR. GREEN  
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O 2700-12 SEP 72 ZFF6  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
USDEL FRANCE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
CINCEUR IMMEDIATE  
CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE  
322 TAC AIRLIFT IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

TOSEC 46

SUBJ: POW RE

REFS: (A) STATE 175229 (B) STATE 175017 (C) MOSCOW 9758  
(D) COPENHAGEN 4389 (E) STOCKHOLM 3073  
(F) CINCUSAFE LINDSEY AS GERMANY BTG 261333Z SEP 72  
(G) MOSCOW 9754 (H) MOSCOW 9750 (I) STOCKHOLM 3083  
(ALL DATA)

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PAGE 02 STATE 176154

1. FROM REFTELS AND OTHER INDICATIONS WE NOW CONSIDER IT VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT RELEASED PERSONS AND RELATIVES AND PEACE GROUP ESCORTS WILL ARRIVE MOSCOW WEDNESDAY AFTER NOON OR EVENING, SEPTEMBER 27.

2. FOLLOWING OVERNIGHT IN MOSCOW, WE ASSUME GROUP PLANS DEPART ON AEROFLOT 554 AT 2900 ARRIVING COPENHAGEN AT 2930. WE ARE NOW INFORMED THAT SEATS HAVE BEEN BOOKED FOR GROUP ON SAS FLIGHT 911 DEPARTING COPENHAGEN THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AT 1520 ARRIVING NEW YORK JFK AT 1900.

3. CONCUR IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR RECEPTION OF GROUP IN MOSCOW AS SET FORTH REF C.

4. WE NOTE THAT ABOVE SCHEDULE INVOLVES NEARLY SIX HOURS STOP IN COPENHAGEN BETWEEN FLIGHTS. SHOULD BE POINTED OUT TO RELEASED MEN THAT MEDEVAC FLIGHT CAN DEPART COPENHAGEN WITHOUT THIS DELAY AND THUS OFFERS EARLIER ARRIVAL IN U.S.

5. FOR COPENHAGEN: MAC ADVISES THAT TAIL NUMBER OF C-141 MEDEVAC PLANE IS 40613. THIS HAS BEEN PASSED TO DANISH EMBASSY HERE AT THEIR REQUEST. IRWIN

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 03088 261644Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /026 W

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O 261630Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8818  
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE NIACT  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE NIACT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ STOCKHOLM 3088

EXDIS

SUBJECT: POW EGRESS - HERSCH REPORT

1. NYTIMES CORRESPONDENT SEYMOUR HERSCH GAVE POLCOUNTS FOLLOWING INFORMATION BY TELEPHONE 0400 GMT TUESDAY BASED ON HIS TALKS WITH LAWYER FRANCK AND JAFFE EARLIER IN DAY.
2. FRANCK-JAFFE GROUP HERE IS STILL STRIVING TO HAVE POW PARTY COME TO STOCKHOLM AND ARE MAKING STRENUOUS EFFORTS - APPARENTLY BY TELEPHONE - TO INSIST ON THAT ITINERARY. THEY ARE GREATLY IRRITATED AT "CORA BABY" (OBVIOUSLY MRS. WEISS), WHO IS INSISTING ON TRAVEL VIA MOSCOW TO COPENHAGEN WITH ARRIVAL COPENHAGEN THURSDAY MORNING AND ONWARD FLIGHT SAME DAY. THE POWS AND FAMILIES, ANXIOUS TO GET HOME ASAP, ARE PRESUMABLY PRESSING MRS. WEISS FOR THAT ITINERARY.
3. FRANCK-JAFFE GROUP HAVE NOT GIVEN UP EFFORTS. THEY HAD MADE CONTACT WITH GOS, WHICH THEY FIND "NOT AS HELPFUL" AS GOS. THEY SAY GOS OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN HARD TO CONTACT AND ARE "ALL BOUND UP WITH COMMON MARKET QUESTION," SHOWING LITTLE INTEREST IN POWS.
4. FRANCK-JAFFE GROUP IS ALSO TRYING IN SOME UNDISCLOSED FASHION TO PRESSURE GOS NOT TO LET U.S. REP TALK TO ANY POW. REASON FOR THIS EFFORT IS GRAVE CONCERN THAT MAJOR ELIAS WILL SEIZE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO ACCEPT U.S. CONTROL AND BRING OTHERS ALONG WITH HIM. GOS GUTHRIE

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 29802 261800Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 261740Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3239  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ MOSCOW 9802

EXDIS  
SUBJECT: PRESS ACCESS TO RELEASED POWS

REF: STATE 174414

1. AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS IN MOSCOW HAVE WIRE SERVICE INFORMATION ON ITINERARY OF RELEASED POWS AND ARE MAINTAINING WATCH FOR ARRIVAL OF PARTY FROM PEKING.
2. OUR GENERAL JUDGEMENT IS THAT MAJOR CONFRONTATION BETWEEN PILOTS AND PRESS IS UNDESIRABLE IN MOSCOW, OR FOR THAT MATTER, ANYWHERE IN ADVANCE OF MEN'S RETURN TO U.S. SOIL WHERE ALL CONSIDERATIONS CAN BE APPROPRIATELY WEIGHED. I SHALL SO ADVISE THE PILOTS IF I AMB ASKED AND IF DEPARTMENT CONCURS.
3. ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT YET UNDER DIRECT PRESSURE TO SPEARHEAD ACCESS EFFORTS, WE ANTICIPATE THAT WE WILL BE ASKED (A) TO PROVIDE PRESS WITH APPROPRIATE INFORMATION ON OUR ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE MEN AND (B) TO INTERCEDE ON BEHALF OF PRESS IN THE EVENT THAT SOVIETS ATTEMPT TO PREVENT PRESS ACCESS TO PARTY.
4. TO ENSURE THAT PRESS ACQUIRES ACCURATE IMPRESSION OF COMPASSIONATE CRITERIA BEING APPLIED (174414), I WOULD THINK IT USEFUL FOR PRESS TO BE PRESENT DURING MY INITIAL REMARKS TO PILOTS. TO FACILITATE THEIR ACCESS, EMBASSY COULD SUGGEST TO AMERICAN JOURNALISTS THAT THEY AGREE AMONGST THEMSELVES ON PRESS POOL, CONSISTING, PERHAPS, OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE

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EACH OF WIRE, DAILY, ELECTRONIC AND WEEKLY MEDIA. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS.

5. POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT SOVIETS WILL ULTIMATELY DENY AMERICAN PRESS ACCESS TO RELEASED MEN WHILE THEY ARE IN TRANSIT IN MOSCOW. IN SUCH EVENT, WE WOULD SO INFORM PRESS. IF WE PROVIDE OVERNIGHT HOSPITALITY TO RELEASED MEN AND THEIR FAMILIES, WE WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR TO PRESS THAT WE WOULD EXPECT JOURNALISTS TO HONOR PRIVACY OF PILOTS.

6. WE HAVE, OF COURSE, NO ABILITY TO PREVENT ANTI-WAR REPRESENTATIVES FROM TALKING TO PRESS.

GDS.  
DUBS

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 14108 261750Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 261510Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3076  
INFO CINCPAC  
USDEL FRANCE UNN  
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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EXDIS

DEPT FOR U/PW. SIEVERTS

SUBJ: OFFER OF ASSISTANCE IN HELPING TO FREE U.S. PW HELD  
IN CAMBODIA

1. SUMMARY: MME LOUISE H. DEPLAUD, A FRENCH CITIZEN VISITING SAIGON FROM PHNOM PENH, HAS SOUGHT EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN TRAVELING THROUGH GVN LINES IN NORTHER TAY NINH PROVINCE IN ORDER THAT SHE MIGHT MAKE CONTACT WITH VIET CONG LEADERS TO URGE RELEASE OF U.S. PW BEING HELD IN CAMBODIA. SHE CLAIMS TO KNOW EXACT WHEREABOUTS OF CAMP WHERE ABOUT 22 PW (U.S. JOURNALISTS AND PERHAPS GIS, THAI, FILIPINOS AND JAPANESE) BEING HELD BUT REFUSES TO DIVULGE LOCATION FOR FEAR CAMP WILL BE ATTACKED AND PW MOVED TO FOREST. WE HAVE TOLD MME DEPLAUD THAT WE CONSIDER HER PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION UNWISE. WE PLAN TO MEET WITH HER AGAIN ON SEPT 27 IN EFFORT TO DEVELOP MORE INFORMATION REGARDING REPORTED PW CAMP. EMBASSY RECORDS DESCRIBE HER AS "A WELL MEANING ECCENTRIC TRYING TO END THE INDOCHINA WAR." ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE ON URGENT BASIS ANY INFORMATION WHICH DEPT AND PHNOM PENH HAVE ON MME DEPLAUD AND DEP GUIDANCE ON THIS MATTER. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF MET WITH MME LOUISE H DEPLAUD ON SEPT 26 AT HER

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 14108 261750Z

REQUEST. MME DE PLAUD REQUESTED THE ASSISTANCE OF THE EMBASSY IN TRAVELING THROUGH GVN LINES TO NORTHERN TAY NINH PROVINCE WHERE SHE WISHED TO CONTACT VIET CONG. SHE STATED THAT SHE POSSESSED LETTER OF INTRODUCTION TO PRG PRESIDENT HUYNH TAN PHAT GIVEN TO HER BY LE VAN HOACH, A DOCTOR IN CAN THO AND REPORTED TO BE A CONDUIT TO PHAT. SHE SAID THAT SHE INTENDED TO USE THIS LETTER TO CONTACT PRG LEADERS AND URGE THE RELEASE OF U.S. PW BEING HELD AT A CERTAIN CAMP IN CAMBODIA.

3. SHE STATED THAT ON THE BASIS OF TWO INDEPENDENT SOURCES, A RALLIER AND A KAPOK MERCHANT, SHE WAS POSITIVE AS TO THE LOCATION OF THIS PW CAMP. HOWEVER, SHE REPEATEDLY REFUSED TO REVEAL ITS LOCATION, CLAIMING THAT SHE DID NOT WISH TO SEE THE CAMP ATTACKED AND BOMBED AND THE PW MOVED INTO THE FOREST WHERE LIVING CONDITIONS WOULD BE WORSE. THE RALLIER, ACCORDING TO MME DE PLAUD, HAD SEEN FIVE JOURNALISTS AT THIS CAMP AND HAD IDENTIFIED PICTURES OF WELLES HAGEN, DANA STONE, SEAN FLYNN AS WELL AS TWO JAPANESE, YUJIRO TAKAGI AND AKIRA KUSAKA. SHE ADDED THAT THAI AND FILIPINOS WERE ALSO HELD AT THIS CAMP. THE KAPOK MERCHANT SAID THAT HE HAD SEEN PW BATHING IN THE RIVER AND ESTIMATED THAT THERE WERE 22 PW IN THE CAMP. SHE CONTINUED THAT IN FEB-MARCH 1972 SHE HAD PAID AN AGENT 50,000 REILS TO BRING BACK PROOF IN THE FORM OF PICTURES THAT THESE FIVE JOURNALISTS WERE BEING HELD AT THIS CAMP. MME DE PLAUD STATED THAT AGENT HAD SPENT 50,000 REILS ON HIMSELF AND THAT SHE REFUSED TO GIVE HIM ANY MORE MONEY. MME DE PLAUD SAID THAT SHE HAD THOUGHT OF TRAVELING UP THE MEKONG RIVER FROM KOMPONG CHAM TO THE PW CAMP BUT HAD FEARED TO DO SO BECAUSE SHE MIGHT FALL INTO HANDS OF KHMER ROUGE WHO MIGHT MISTREAT HER OR HOLD HER FOR RANSOM. (COMMENT: FROM HER DESCRIPTION WE BELIEVE THAT THE CAMP IS APPARENTLY LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF THE MEKONG RIVER BETWEEN KRATIE AND KOMPONG CHAM, PERHAPS ON ONE OF THE NUMEROUS ISLANDS WHICH DOT THE RIVER. END COMMENT).

4. MME DE PLAUD STATED THAT SHE HAD COME TO THE RVN WITH THE IDEA OF APPROACHING THE PRG LEADERSHIP LOCATED IN CAMBODIA VIA TAY NINH PROVINCE. SHE SAID THAT SHE WAS ANXIOUS NOT TO FALL INTO THE HANDS OF EITHER THE KHMER ROUGE OR THE NORTH VIETNAMESE. SHE BELIEVED THAT IF SHE COULD SEE THE PRG LEADERS AND IMPRESS UPON THEM THE FACT THAT SHE WAS WORKING ALONE AND FOR PURELY HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES, SHE MIGHT BE ABLE TO BRING ABOUT THE RELEASE OF THESE PW. SHE CLAIMED CREDIT FOR THE RELEASE OF THE

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 14108 261750Z

THREE U.S. PW BY THE VC IN OCTOBER 1969. (COMMENT: WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY VC PW RELEASES IN OCTOBER 1969. SHE MAY HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO RELEASE OF SHEPHARD AND PETERSON IN NOV 1969. END COMMENT). SHE STATED THAT SHE HAD TALKED WITH THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE PHNOM PENH NLF DELEGATION IN SEPTEMBER 1969 TO URGE THE RELEASE OF ARCHIE E. MITCHELL WHO WAS CAPTURED IN KONTUM IN 1962. WHEN THIS REQUEST WAS REBUFFED, SHE CLAIMED THAT SHE ASKED THE NLF TO RELEASE SOME AMERICAN G.I.S. THE NLF, SHE SAID, AGREED TO HER PROPOSAL, BUT TOLD HER THAT THE U.S. PW COULD NOT BE RELEASED TO HER BUT HAD TO BE RELEASED TO THE U.S. MILITARY.

SANITIZED

5. MME DEPLAUD STATED THAT WHILE HER HOME WAS IN ENGLAND SHE HAD BEEN IN CAMBODIA SINCE APRIL 1970 DOING VOLUNTEER WORK IN CAMBODIAN HOSPITALS AND TEACHING FRENCH AND ENGLISH. SHE CARRIES A FRENCH PASSPORT AND STATED THAT HER DECEASED HUSBAND WAS A FRENCH MILITARY OFFICER WHO SERVED WITH DE GAULLE. SHE SAID THAT SHE WAS WORKING CLOSELY IN PHNOM PENH WITH FORMER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTY FROM PURSAT PROVINCE WHO WAS THE WIDOW OF A CAMBODIAN GENERAL, NOW INVOLVED WITH RALLIERS. SHE SAID THAT SHE DID NOT LIKE MOST OF THE PERSONNEL IN OUR PHNOM PENH EMBASSY, FOR THEY HAD CALLED HER A "TROUBLEMAKER" WHEN SHE HAD COMPLAINED ABOUT CORRUPTION IN HIGH CAMBODIAN MILITARY CIRCLES. MME. DE PLAUD ALSO CLAIMED TO KNOW FRANK SIEVERTS WITH WHOM SHE MET IN JANUARY 1970 TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF A PROPOSED BARTERING OF U.S. PW FOR PHARMACEUTICALS WITH SIHANOUK BEING THE INTERMEDIARY. SHE SAID THAT THE PLAN WAS CLOSE TO BEING CARRIED OUT WHEN SIHANOUK WAS OUSTED IN MARCH 1970.

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6. EMBASSY RECORDS CONTAIN INFORMATION ON MME. DE PLAUD DATING FROM EARLY 1969. SHE IS DESCRIBED AS "A WELL MEANING ECCENTRIC TRYING TO END THE INDOCHINA WAR". TALKING WITH AN EMBASSY OFFICER IN SEPTEMBER 1971, SHE MENTIONED HER EFFORTS TO CONTACT PRG PRESIDENT HUYNH TAN PHAT, A "PLAN" SHE HAD DRAWN UP TO HAVE GVN AND NLF REPRESENTATIVES MEET IN TAY NINH PROVINCE TO NEGOTIATE AND END TO VIETNAM WAR, AND HER NEGOTIATIONS WITH NLF FOR RELEASE OF U.S. PW. SHE HAS WRITTEN LETTERS TO FORMER PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND AVERELL HARRIMAN AND BEEN IN CONTACT WITH EMBASSIES LONDON, PARIS, AND PHNOM PENH ON THESE SUBJECTS.

7. WE HAVE ADVISED MME. DE PLAUD THAT IT WOULD BE VERY UNWISE FOR HER TO TRAVEL TO NORTHERN TAY

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NINH. WE HAVE SAID THAT THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT SHE WOULD NOT BE SIZED BY NORTH VIETNAMESE OR KHMER ROUGE BOTH OF WHO ARE ACTIVE IN EASTERN KOMPONG CHAM PROVINCE. MME. DE PLAUD HAS AGREED TO MEET WITH EMBASSY AND MACV (JPRC) REPRESENTATIVES ON SEPTEMBER 27. WE HOPE TO GATHER MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THE LOCATION OF THE PW CAMP IN CAMBODIA. (ACTION REQUESTED) WE WOULD APPRECIATE ON URGENT BASIS ANY FURTHER INFORMATION WHICH DEPARTMENT AND PHNOM PENH CAN PROVIDE REGARDING MME. DE PLAUD AND HER ACTIVITIES. DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE ALSO REQUESTED ON HOW WE SHOULD HANDLE THIS MATTER. GDS.  
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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 CCC-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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Z O 271638Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 6256  
JCS FLASH  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 257  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
USDEL PARIS  
USCINCEUR  
322 TAC AIRLIFT RHEIN MAIN  
CINCJSAFE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ COPENHAGEN 4426

EXDIS

SUBJECT: EGRESS RECAP: COPENHAGEN SCHEDULE

REF: STATE 176207 COPENHAGEN 4289

1. CHARGE WILL MEET RELEASED POWS AT PLANE SIDE ON ARRIVAL, SCHEDULED FOR 0930, SEPTEMBER 28, AND WILL FOLLOW-UP ON WHATEVER CONVERSATIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN THEM AND US OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW. MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT WILL BE STANDING-BY AT REMOTE PART OF SAME (KASTRUP) AIRPORT, NOT VISIBLE FROM MAIN TERMINAL. IF ANY POWS ACCEPT MEDEVAC OFFER, WE PLAN TO ESCORT THEM DIRECTLY TO AIRCRAFT FOR EARLY DEPARTURE. ANY REMAINING POWS WILL BE INVITED TO SPEND THEIR STAY IN COPENHAGEN RELAXING AT CHARGE'S RESIDENCE.

2. REPRESENTATIVE OF STOCKHOLM-BASED WAR CRIMES COMMISSION, JAFFE, IS ALSO EXPECTED TO BE AT PLANE SIDE TO WELCOME MEN AND ACCOMPANYING MEMBERS OF ANTI-WAR GROUP. COMMISSION IS PLANNING TO STAGE PRESS CONFERENCE AT AIRPORT AND MANY NEWSMEN, INCLUDING AMERICAN MEDIA

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Z O 271420Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 3251  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN FLASH  
INFO USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE  
USCINCEUR  
CINCUSAFE  
322TAC AIRLIFT RHEIN MAIN

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EXDIS

SUBJ: RECAP EGRESS - RELEASED POWS

EMBASSY INFORMED BY CHARGE'S PARTY FROM AIRPORT THAT PLANE FROM  
IRKUTSK MADE UNSCHEDULED STOP. NOW DUE ARRIVE MOSCOW 6:30P.M.  
LOCAL. MFA CONFIRMS NEW ETA

(POW / MIA)  
CAPTION REMOVED PER  
S/S - IRM / SRD - ELIJAH KELLY  
MEMORANDUM OF 7/29/92

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Date: 10/18/93 19   

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By MLO NARA, Date 4/12/94  
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MEMORANDUM OF 7/29/92  
S/S - IRM / SRD - ELIJAH KELLY  
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11/5/93

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1. RELEASED OFFICERS AND ACCOMPANYING PARTY ARRIVED FROM IRKUTSK  
AROUND 6:15PM LOCAL. EMERGENCY REPORTS FROM AIRPORT THAT INFORMAL  
PRESS CONFERENCE TOOK PLACE NEAR VIP LOUNGE. CHARGE INITIALLY UNABLE  
TO APPROACH GROUP BECAUSE OF CROWD AND EFFORTS OF  
ANTI-WAR ESCORTS. AFTER CONSIDERABLE EFFORT, AGREEMENT REACHED  
THAT ENTIRE GROUP WOULD ADJOURN TO SMALL ROOM AWAY FROM PRESS.  
CHARGE THEN MADE HIS PRESENTATION. OFFICERS REPLIED THAT THEY  
DID NOT WISH TO JEOPARDISE POSSIBLE RELEASE OF OTHER POWS AND  
ACCORDINGLY HAD MADE DECISION RETURN TO US BY COMMERCIAL CARRIER  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH PLANS MADE BY ANTI-WAR ESCORTS. THEY DECLINED  
EMBASSY HOSPITALITY DURING MOSCOW STOP-OVER.  
2. CHARGE GAVE ELIAS MESSAGES FROM FAMILY. ALL THREE MEN ALSO RE-  
CEIVED PASSPORTS. ALL MEN APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH. THERE WERE  
NO OTHER RELEASED POWS ABOARD PLANE. AS OF 18:40 LOCAL, GROUP  
STILL AT  
AIRPORT. THERE IS NO INDICATION WHERE GROUP PLANS TO SPEND NIGHT.  
DUBS

REF MOSCOW 9833  
SUBJECT: RECAP EGRESS-RELEASED POWS  
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INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 M  
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
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SECDEF WASHDC FLASH  
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USDEL FRANCE FLASH  
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AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE  
CINCEUR IMMEDIATE  
CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE  
322 TAC AIRLIFT IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

SUBJ: EGRESS RECAP - EMBASSY COMMENTS

REF: MOSCOW 9841

1. FROM VERY OUTSET, IT WAS MY CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT PILOTS WERE UNDER INFLUENCE AND CONTROL OF ANTI-WAR ESCORTS. THEY SEEMED CONVINCED OF DESIRABILITY OF OBSERVING THE PLANS OF THE ESCORTS IN ORDER AVOID POSSIBILITY OF JEOPARDIZING RELEASE PROSPECTS OF POWS REMAINING IN NORTH VIETNAMESE HANDS.
2. GIVEN THIS READING, I DECIDED TO ACCENTUATE POINT THAT NO COERCION WHATEVER WAS INVOLVED. AFTER THEY CONVEYED THEIR DECISION, THEREFORE, I SIMPLY SAID I WOULD RESPECT IT AND CONVEY IT TO WASHINGTON.
3. ALL EMBASSY OFFICIALS PRESENT AT PRIVATE MEETING GAINED IMPRESSION THAT AT THIS JUNCTURE NO INDIVIDUAL PILOT APPEARED PREPARED TO BREAK AWAY FROM GROUP AT COPENHAGEN FOR MEDEVAC FLIGHT. MY OWN FEELING IS THAT TOO INSISTENT AN APPROACH ON MEDEVAC MATTER IN COPENHAGEN MIGHT ADD SUBSTANTIALLY TO

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EMOTIONAL STRAIN WHICH THEY ARE EXPERIENCING.

4. ANTI-WAR ESCORTS ARE EXTREMELY AGGRESSIVE AND ARE COMMITTED AND DETERMINED TO DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER NOT TO RELINQUISH CONTROL OF PILOTS UNTIL THEIR PURPOSES HAVE BEEN SERVED.

5. SOVIETS HAD CLEARLY PLANNED FOR ARRIVAL OF GROUP AND KEPT OFFICIAL INVOLVEMENT TO A MINIMUM. THEY WERE CAREFUL TO PROVIDE ACCESS FOR EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND JOURNALISTS IN CUSTOMS AREA. IN THIS WAY THEY MET OUR BASIC REQUEST BUT AT SAME TIME PRESUMABLY SATISFIED NORTH VIETNAMESE DESIDERATA FOR PUBLICITY.

6. I PLAN TO SEE PARTY OFF MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 28 AND KAMMAN AND WALKER HAVE CONFIRMED SPACE ON FLIGHT TO COPENHAGEN. GROUP IS NOT AWARE, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, THAT EMBASSY OFFICERS WILL BE ABOARD.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ MOSCOW 9841

EXDIS

SUBJ: MEETING WITH RELEASED POW'S AT MOSCOW AIRPORT

REF: MOSCOW 9837

1. ALTHOUGH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAD REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT AT AIRPORT WHO WAS HELPFUL TO ME IN NUMBER OF RESPECTS, HE WAS UNABLE TO GET AUTHORITY FOR ME TO GREET PILOTS AS THEY DEPLANED, EVEN THOUGH REPEATED REQUESTS WERE MADE. UPON ENTERING TERMINAL, PILOTS WERE SHIELDED BY ANTI-WAR ESCORTS IN FULL VIEW OF SOVIET AND FOREIGN PRESS. PRIVATE MEETING WITH PILOTS COULD NOT BE ARRANGED UNTIL AFTER ANTI-WAR ESCORTS STAGED SHORT PRESS CONFERENCE WITH PILOTS AND I MADE CLEAR TO MFA REPRESENTATIVE THAT I WANTED TO SPEAK TO PILOTS WITHOUT PRESS PRESENT.

2. MY IMPRESSION WAS THAT PILOTS CONDUCTED THEMSELVES WELL UNDER TRYING CIRCUMSTANCES. REV. COFFIN, WHO APPEARED TO BE SPOKESMAN FOR ESCORT GROUP, PRESSED ME TO DIVULGE MY INSTRUCTIONS TO HIM BEFORE A MEETING WITH PILOTS COULD BE ARRANGED. THIS I REFUSED TO DO, BUT TO AVOID STRONG POSSIBILITY OF UNPRODUCTIVE

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CONFRONTATION BETWEEN ESCORTS AND MYSELF, I SAID THERE WAS NOTHING THAT I HAD TO CONVEY TO PILOTS WHICH ESCORTS COULD NOT HEAR. PILOTS, MRS. GARTLEY, MRS. CHARLES, ANTI-WAR ESCORTS, THREE MEMBERS OF EMBASSY STAFF, MFA REPRESENTATIVE THEN CROWDED INTO SMALL ROOM IN AIRPORT LOUNGE. (THERE WERE NO NORTH VIETNAMESE PRESENT IN ROOM.) AS I BEGAN TO SPEAK, COFFIN INTERRUPTED AND BELLIGERENTLY ASKED WHETHER I WAS AWARE OF WHAT PILOTS HAD SAID IN THEIR TELEGRAMS TO THE PRESIDENT. HE ALSO WARNED ME NOT TO MAKE DEMANDS ON OR "ISSUE ORDERS" TO PILOTS. I TURNED ASIDE HIS QUERY AND ADDRESSED THE PILOTS DIRECTLY.

3. THE GIST OF MY REMARKS WAS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) I WELCOMED THEM IN THE ABSENCE OF THE AMBASSADOR WHO WAS OUT OF THE COUNTRY AND SAID THAT I WAS CONFIDENT THAT I SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THEIR COUNTRYMEN IN EXTENDING THE WARMEST OF WELCOMES AT THIS JUNCTURE IN THEIR LONG-AWAITED JOURNEY BACK HOME. WE WELCOMED THEIR RELEASE AND I DEEPLY REGRETTED THAT I WAS UNABLE AT THIS MOMENT TO GREET ALL OF THEIR FELLOW SERVICEMEN WHO CONTINUED TO SUFFER A FATE SIMILAR TO THE ONE THEY HAD JUST LIVED THROUGH.

(B) I SAID THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS WAS MAIL, AND THAT I ALREADY HAD HAD THE PLEASURE OF PASSING COPIES OF MESSAGES TO MAJ. ELIAS FROM MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY. I EXPRESSED DOUBT AS TO WHETHER THEY WOULD HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY BEING RECOGNIZED ALONG THE WAY BUT IN ANY CASE I PRESENTED THEM WITH PASSPORTS, WHICH THEY IMMEDIATELY SIGNED.

(C) I SAID THAT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY WAS PREPARED TO OFFER HOSPITALITY DURING THEIR SHORT STAY HERE AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE TO TAKE CARE OF THEM AND THE IMMEDIATE MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. I ALSO MENTIONED THE AVAILABILITY OF QUARTERS FOR THE ESCORTS, SHOULD THEY DESIRE.

(D) I INTRODUCED THEM TO DR. WALKER, THE EMBASSY DOCTOR, AND SAID THAT HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE DAY OR NIGHT TO ATTEND TO ANY OF THEIR MEDICAL NEEDS.

(E) MORE IMPORTANT, I SAID, WAS TO NOTE THAT THE GOVERNMENT LOOKED FORWARD TO THEIR RETURN TO THE US. TO THIS END, ALL NECESSARY PREPARATIONS HAD BEEN UNDERTAKEN TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR SPEEDY,

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DIRECT AND SAFE RETURN TO THE US. I STRESSED THAT USG WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR WELFARE AND WISHED THEM TO BE PROVIDED WITH THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MEDICAL ATTENTION AND TRAVEL BACK TO THE US UNDER US MEDICAL AUSPICES.

(F) IN THIS SPIRIT, I SAID I WISHED TO RECOMMEND AND PERSONALLY URGED THEM, AS OFFICERS OF THE US, TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MILITARY EVACUATION AIRCRAFT THAT WAS BEING PLACED AT THEIR DISPOSAL AT COPENHAGEN, WHICH I ASSUMED WOULD BE THEIR NEXT STOP. THIS MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT WAS ALREADY PREPOSITIONED AT COPENHAGEN AND COULD TAKE OFF SHORTLY AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL, THUS AVOIDING A SIX-HOUR LAY-OVER WHICH WOULD BE NECESSARY TO PROCEED COMMERCIALY. I ADDED THAT MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES WOULD, OF COURSE, BE WELCOME TO ACCOMPANY THEM ON THIS SPECIAL FLIGHT.

(G) FINALLY, I NOTED THAT I WAS PLEASED TO INFORM THEM THAT REGARDLESS OF THE POINT OR POINTS OF THEIR ENTRY INTO THE CONTINENTAL US, ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE TO HAVE MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES MEET THEM.

4. PILOTS HEARD ME OUT ATTENTIVELY, AND EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE. THEY THEN IN TURN RESPONDED INDIVIDUALLY STATING THAT THEIR PREFERENCE WAS TO PROCEED ON THEIR JOURNEY "AS PLANNED AND ARRANGED" BY THEIR ESCORTS. THEY ALL SAID THAT THEY WERE IN GOOD HEALTH AND NEEDED NO MEDICAL ASSISTANCE. ONLY SPECIFIC REQUEST WAS FROM LT. CHARLES, WHO ASKED FOR A BOTTLE OF WHISKY. ALL THREE PILOTS REACTED HAPPILY TO MY STATEMENT THAT USG HAD MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR FAMILIES TO MEET THEM AT ANY POINT OF ENTRY INTO US THEY WOULD CHOOSE. LT. GARTLEY THEN SAID HE HAD A "SPECIAL" FAMILY SITUATION, WHICH "HE WOULD BE WILLING TO DISCUSS IN PRIVATE," AND ASKED THAT HE BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY OF SPENDING AT LEAST TWO DAYS "IN COMPLETE SECURITY AND PRIVACY" WITH HIS FAMILY UPON HIS RETURN TO US. I SAID REQUEST WOULD BE CONVEYED TO WASHINGTON. ALL THREE MEN COMMENTED UNFAVORABLY ON PHYSICALLY CRUSHING ATTENTION BY MOSCOW PRESS, AND EXPRESSED DESIRE TO AVOID SIMILAR SITUATION IN COPENHAGEN. MAJOR ELIAS, WHILE FIRM IN HIS WISH TO REMAIN WITH GROUP COMMERCIALY, ASKED EMBASSY TO CONVEY TO HIS FAMILY THAT HE LOOKED FORWARD EAGERLY TO SEEING THEM AND AFTER INITIAL FAMILY REUNION INDICATED DESIRE TO GO THROUGH DEBRIEFING

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PROCESS, AND HOPED LATTER COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED QUICKLY.

5. MRS. WEISS INTERJECTED AT THIS POINT THAT ALL THESE ARRANGEMENTS, FOR LT. GARTLEY AND THE OTHERS, HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE BY THE EXCORTING PARTY, JUST AS ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ENTIRE JOURNEY HAD BEEN MADE BY THEM. SHE REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO VERY DETAILED AND CAREFUL ARRANGEMENTS THAT THEY HAD MADE FOR THE RETURN AND REUNION WITH FAMILIES. SHE TOOK CREDIT FOR RELEASE OF THREE PILOTS AND BELIEVED HER GROUP KNEW HOW TO GET REMAINING POWS RELEASED. SHE THEN SAID THAT THEY HAD NO OBJECTION TO TALKING WITH PRESS, WERE IN FACT LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVING SESSION WITH PRESS IN COPENHAGEN WHERE "SAS HAD PROMISED TO MAKE APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS, MORE CIVILIZED THAN MOB SCENE HERE."

6. I THEN SPECIFICALLY ASKED PILOTS IF THEY WOULD ACCEPT MY RECOMMENDATION REGARDING RETURN ABOARD MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT AND OFFER OF HOSPITALITY IN MOSCOW. ALL THREE PILOTS REITERATED THEY WANTED TO PROCEED WITH ESCORTING PARTY, SINCE OTHERWISE FUTURE RELEASES OF PILOTS WOULD BE JEOPARDIZED. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, MEMBERS OF ESCORT PARTY SAID THEY DID NOT KNOW WHERE THEY WOULD BE STAYING FOR THE NIGHT, BUT THAT ALL WAS ARRANGED AND "THE AIRLINE WOULD TAKE CARE OF THEM." THE PILOTS ACCEPTED EMBOFF'S CARD WITH EMBASSY AND HOME TELEPHONE NUMBERS, AND SAID THEY WOULD CALL IF THEY NEEDED ANYTHING OR IF THEY DECIDED TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE OFFER TO USE EMBASSY PHONE TO CALL FAMILIES IN US. THEY AGAIN REASSURED EMBASSY MEDICAL OFFICER THAT THEY NEEDED NO MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.

7. AS EMBOFFS AND I LEFT ROOM, PARTY OF THREE NORTH VIETNAMESE JOURNALISTS WITH TAPE RECORDERS ETC. WAS USHFRED IN, AND REMAINED WITH PARTY FOR AT LEAST TWENTY MINUTES (THEY WERE STILL THERE AS EMBASSY PARTY LEFT AIRPORT). NORTH VIETNAMESE EMBASSY PERSONNEL, INCLUDING MILITARY ATTACHES WERE AT AIRPORT OBSERVING.

8. COMMENTS FOLLOW SEPTEL.  
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SUBJ: POW RELEASE

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 9837, (B) MOSCOW 9841, (C) 9842  
(D) COPENHAGEN 4426

1. IN VIEW MOSCOW REFTELS, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE INADVIS-  
ABLE AGAIN TO URGE MEN TO TAKE MEDEVAC FLIGHTS FROM  
COPENHAGEN.

2. CHARGE SHOULD MEET RELEASED MEN AT AIRFIELD  
WELCOME AND OFFERS OF ANY ASSISTANCE  
SHOULD TELL MEN YOU ARE AWAITING  
CHARGE IN MOSCOW, AND THAT  
THEIR MIND. A MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT  
AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE CLEARLY

3. BEFORE MEN ARRIVE

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THAT THE PILOTS WERE PARTICULARLY DISTURBED BY THE MOB SCENE OF JOURNALISTS IN MOSCOW AND ASK ASSISTANCE IN RESPECTING THE MEN'S WISHES TO KEEP THE PRESS FROM HARASSING THEM WHILE IN COPENHAGEN. THE MEN SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT THEY DO NOT RPT NOT HAVE TO TAKE PART IN PRESS CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES. WE HOPE AIRPORT AUTHORITIES CAN PROVIDE PRIVATE ROOM TO WHICH RELEASED MEN CAN WITHDRAW AWAY FROM THE PRESS. YOU SHOULD ALSO SAY THAT IF RELEASED MEN DO NOT WANT A PRESS CONFERENCE WE HOPE DANES WILL NOT INSIST THEY HAVE ONE.

4. IN VIEW OF THE SIX-HOUR WAIT, YOU MAY AT DISCRETION INVITE MEN TO COME TO EMBASSY TO REST BETWEEN FLIGHTS.

5. WE NOTE SAS 911 IS A 747. YOU SHOULD SUGGEST TO SAS OFFICIALS DESIRABILITY OF ARRANGING FOR POW GROUP TO HAVE SEPARATE AREA AWAY FROM OTHER PASSENGERS IF POSSIBLE.

6. UNIFORMS FOR THREE RELEASED MEN WILL BE ABOARD MEDEVAC AIRPLANE. AT APPROPRIATE TIME AND IN DISCREET MANNER YOU SHOULD LET MEN KNOW UNIFORMS ARE AVAILABLE IF THEY WANT THEM. SUGGEST THIS OFFER BE MADE OUT OF HEARING OF ESCORT GROUP IF POSSIBLE.

7. IF F80 KAMMON AND DR. WALKER ARRIVE WITH RELEASED MEN, THEY SHOULD CONTINUE WITH GROUP TO NEW YORK. IF THEY ARE NOT ON FLIGHT FROM MOSCOW, COPENHAGEN SHOULD ASSURE THAT EMBOFF AND U.S. DOCTOR ARE ABOARD FLIGHT TO NEW YORK.

8. GDS. IRWIN

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- AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
- AMCONSUL CALCUTTA PRIORITY
- AMCONSUL BOMBAY PRIORITY
- AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
- USDEL FRANCE PRIORITY
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- CINCUSAFE PRIORITY
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- AMCONSUL HONG KONG
- LINDSEY AB GERMANY

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SUBJ: POW RELEASE

REF: (A) STATE 174425 (S) 600000 (S) 96631 (D) MOSCOW (S) (I) COPENHAGEN

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1. ACCORDING TO AFP, THE THREE RELEASED POWS PLUS RELATIVES AND ESCORTS LEFT HANG 25 SEPTEMBER 25 FOR NANKING, CHINA, WHERE THEY WERE SCHEDULED TO OVERNIGHT BEFORE LEAVING TUESDAY MORNING FOR PEKING.

2. ON BASIS THIS REPORT AND OTHER INFORMATION, WE NOW CONSIDER IT LIKELY THAT GROUP PLANS TO CONTINUE FROM PEKING WEDNESDAY MORNING ON PRC FLIGHT TO IRKUTSK. FROM IRKUTSK THEY CAN TAKE AEROFLOT 568 DEPARTING WEDNESDAY AT 14:45 ARRIVING MOSCOW 00:30 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.

3. FROM MOSCOW WE BELIEVE GROUP PLANS TO TAKE AEROFLOT 554 AT 9:00 ARRIVING COPENHAGEN AT 09:30. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT BOOKING HAS BEEN MADE FOR GROUP ON SAS 913 LEAVING COPENHAGEN THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AT 14:30 ARRIVING NEW YORK, JET 10:10.

4. FOR COPENHAGEN AND MOSCOW (AND OTHER POSTS) SHOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION OR CONFIRMATION AVAILABLE FROM YOUR POSTS. IRWIN

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EXDIS - TOSEC 20

REFS: A STATE 168003; B STATE 174414

1. IT NOW APPEARS HIGHLY LIKELY RELEASED POW'S WILL ARRIVE MOSCOW WITHOUT PRIOR CONTACT WITH US OFFICIALS.

2. GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY REFERENCES IS REAFFIRMED EXCEPT AS MODIFIED BELOW. IN VIEW OF PROBLEMS THAT WOULD BE ENCOUNTERED IN ATTEMPTING TO BRING MEDEVAC FLIGHT TO MOSCOW, EMBASSY EFFORTS WITH MFA SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED ON INSURING PROMPT ACCESS TO THE RELEASED MEN WHEN THEY ARRIVE IN MOSCOW. SENIOR US EMBASSY OFFICERS SHOULD EXTEND WARM WELCOME TO RELEASED MEN, AND MEDICAL DOCTORS SHOULD OFFER MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND CHECK-UPS. IF RELEASED MEN ACCEPT RECOMMENDATION TO RETURN TO US CONTROL, THEY SHOULD BE TAKEN TO EMBASSY RESIDENCE (OR OTHER US FACILITY). THEY COULD THEN BE PUT ON SAME FLIGHT THEY PLANNED TO TAKE FROM MOSCOW TO COPENHAGEN, ACCOMPANIED BY EMBASSY OFFICER.

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
DOS 9304568 1/28/94  
By MKO NARA, Date 4/13/94  
SA 99

EXDIS REVIEW  
Cat. A - Caption removed; transferred to O/FADRC  
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S  
Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S/S  
Reviewed by: EK Elijah Kelly Jr.  
Date: 10/18/93 19



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 STATE 175229

AND MEDICAL DOCTOR.

3. EMBASSY OFFICER SHOULD TELL RELEASED MEN THAT FIRST-CLASS MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT COPENHAGEN. (DEPARTMENT AND/OR EMBASSY COPENHAGEN WILL CONFIRM TO EMBASSY MOSCOW THAT DANES HAVE AUTHORIZED SUCH A FLIGHT.) IF MEDEVAC FLIGHT AVAILABLE IN COPENHAGEN, MOSCOW EMBASSY OFFICER SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT OFFICERS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE MEDEVAC FLIGHT AS PER REFTELS; HOWEVER, A CONFRONTATION SHOULD BE AVOIDED.

4. FOR COPENHAGEN: YOUR EFFORTS WILL DEPEND ON OUTCOME CONVERSATION IN MOSCOW. IF ACCESS IN MOSCOW NOT GRANTED OR INHIBITED, YOU SHOULD MAKE SAME RECOMMENDATION ON RETURN TO US CONTROL AND URGE THAT THEY TAKE MEDEVAC FLIGHT.

5. IF RELEASED MEN INDICATE IN MOSCOW THEY PREPARED TO ACCEPT MEDEVAC FLIGHTS, MOSCOW SHOULD ADVISE EMBASSY COPENHAGEN AND USAF TO HAVE US MILITARY MEDEVAC AIRCRAFT ARRIVE COPENHAGEN AT SAME TIME AS ARRIVAL OF COMMERCIAL FLIGHT FROM MOSCOW.

6. EMBASSY COPENHAGEN SHOULD SEEK TO ASSURE THAT ONLY RETURNING MEN AND THEIR RELATIVES BOARD MEDEVAC FLIGHT. IF IT, NEVERTHELESS, PROVES IMPOSSIBLE TO SEPARATE OFFICERS FROM ANTI-WAR ESCORTS, THEIR TRANSPORT ON MEDEVAC AUTHORIZED. (WE DOUBT THEY WOULD ACCEPT.)

7. SECRETARY IS TODAY (SEPTEMBER 25) URGING THE DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER TO APPROVE MEDEVAC FLIGHT TO COPENHAGEN. EMBASSY COPENHAGEN SHOULD FOLLOW UP WITH DANISH MFA. SEPTEMBER 26. IF SOME OR ALL RELEASED MEN REJECT MEDEVAC, THEY CAN CONTINUE TO NEW YORK ON SAS FLIGHT ON WHICH THEY HAVE BOOKED SEATS. IN WHICH CASE EMOFF AND DELOVERDOR MOSCOW (OR COPENHAGEN IF NECESSARY) SHOULD GO TO ACCOMPANY.

8. AT DINNER THIS EVENING SECRETARY TALKED WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO THAT EMBASSY OFFICERS WENT TO OFFICERS AT MOSCOW. GDE. IRWIN.

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FLASH /ROUTINE  
DE RUMJFS #6637 2460530  
Z R 020455Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

*LT*

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 027  
WHITE HOUSE FLASH  
JCS WASHDC FLASH  
CINCPAC, CAMP HM SMITH HI FLASH  
CSA WASHDC FLASH  
CSAF WASHDC FLASH  
RUEANAAA/CMD WASHDC FLASH  
CMC WASHDC FLASH  
CINCUSARPAC FORT SHAFTER HI FLASH  
CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HA FLASH  
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HA FLASH  
CG FMFPAC CAMP HM SMITH HA FLASH  
CMDR 13TH AF CLARK AB PI FLASH  
CG USA BASE CMD SUKIRAN OKINAWA FLASH  
CINCPACREPGUAM/TTPI NIMITZ HILL, GUAM FLASH  
COMUSMACV FLASH  
DIA FLASH  
7/13TH AF FLASH  
7TH AF FLASH  
COMUSMACV THAI FLASH  
AMEMBASSY MANILA FLASH 2868  
AMEMBASSY SAIGON FLASH 8091  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK FLASH 9613  
AMEMBASSY PARIS FLASH 4431  
USDEL FRANCE FLASH

INFO AFMPC/DPMSC, RANDOLPH AFB TEXAS  
CHNAVPERS WASHDC  
CINCPACREPHIL, SUBIC BAY  
CG USARPJ CAMP ZAMA  
COMUSMACV (JPRC) SAIGON  
COMUSKOREA YONGSAN SEDUL  
CG MAC SCOTT AFB  
PATMA HICKAM AFB  
DCA PAC KUNIA HI  
CMDR 8TH AF ANDERSEN AB  
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH 1518  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG 2156  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1921  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2853  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 089  
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2410  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 045

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CSN:EA 884

PAGE 01

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

DOS 9304568 1/28/94

By MKO. NARA, Date 4/13/94

SA 99

\*\*\*\*\*~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~\*\*\*\*\*

AMEMBASSY RANGOON 417

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 6637  
SUBJECT: EGRESS RECAP -- REPORT OF PW RELEASE  
REF: STATE 160671

1. UPON RECEIPT REFTEL INFORMED PRIME MINISTER OF ITS CONTENTS AND RECEIVED IMMEDIATELY HIS AGREEMENT TO THE LANDING IN VIENTIANE OF ANY HOSPITAL AIRCRAFT SHOULD CONDITION OF RELEASED PERSONNEL REQUIRE SUCH ACTION. HE EXPRESSED HIS PLEASURE AT THIS GOOD NEWS ADDING THAT RLG WILL HELP IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE SHOULD RELEASED MEN TRANSIT VIENTIANE. MINNATDEF SISOUK ALSO INFORMED AND HAD SAME REACTION AS PRIMIN.

2. OUR BEST INFORMATION AT THIS POINT IS THAT AEROFLOT FLIGHT TO HANOI TODAY IS NOW ON WEATHER HOLD AT VIENTIANE AIRPORT AND IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART FOR HANOI AT 1500 HOURS LOCAL. FLIGHT TIME IS APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS EACH WAY.  
DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT  
GODLEY  
BT

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PAGE 02

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PRIORITY  
DE RUMJFS #7181/1 2671455  
P 231420Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 337

INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY 459  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA PRIORITY 71  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY 9745  
CINCPAC PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 1991  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 107  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 28  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 4388  
USDEL FRANCE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 2426  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY PRIORITY 48  
AMEMBASSY BOMBE PRIORITY 163  
AMEMBASSY MA ILA PRIORITY 2903  
AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY 8156

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 4 VIENTIANE 7181  
SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT OF HAMILTON/BURY PRESS  
CONFERENCE UPON ARRIVAL VIENTIANE.  
REFERENCE: VIENTIANE 7179

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF NEWS CONFERENCE HELD BY  
MRS. MARIANNE HAMILTON AND FATHER BURY, INTERNATIONAL  
ASSEMBLY OF CHRISTIANS:  
Q. FATHER, CAN WE START OUT BY ASKING YOU WHY THE POWS  
DID NOT RETURN WITH YOU AT THIS TIME.  
BURY: WE DON'T REALLY KNOW WHY THEY DIDN'T RETURN. IT  
WAS A DECISION MADE BY, I IMAGINE, THE VIETNAMESE.  
THEY HAVEN'T FULLY RELEASED THEM YET. THEY ARE IN GOOD  
SPIRITS. THEY'RE IN VERY GOOD HEALTH AND THEY ARE LIVING  
AT THE HOA BINH HOTEL, AND THEY'RE BEING TAKEN ON TRIPS  
AROUND THE COUNTRYSIDE. WE DO HAVE A MESSAGE FROM THE  
COMMITTEE.  
Q. CAN YOU GIVE US THAT MESSAGE?  
BURY: YES, SHE'LL READ THE MESSAGE.  
Q. WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF BEING UP THESE AND HOW

\*\*\*\*\*WHSR COMMENT\*\*\*\*\*

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DOS 9304568 1/28/94  
By WJQ. NARA, Date 4/13/94  
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WERE THE PRISONERS BEING TREATED DURING YOUR STAY THERE?

BURY: THE PRISONERS WERE BEING TREATED EXQUISITELY. THEY WERE EATING VERY WELL.

Q. EXQUISITELY?

BURY: NO, NO, NO, I'M SAYING THAT IN THE HOTEL THEY ARE BEING TREATED VERY WELL. THE MEALS ARE GOOD. THEY HAVE RELATIVE FREEDOM NOW BUT THEY ARE BEING PROTEITED.

Q. ARE THEY ANXIOUS TO GO HOME?

BURY: THEY'RE ANXIOUS TO COME HOME, OF COURSE. THEY WOULD LIKE TO COME BY CIVILIAN AIRPLANE AND THEY WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH THEIR RELATIVES AND THEIR PARENTS AND FRIENDS.

Q. WHY IS THIS?

BURY: BECAUSE THEY HAVEN'T SEEN THEM FOR SO LONG. THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEIR (INDISTINCT).

Q. BY WHY A CIVILIAN AIRPLANE?

BURY: BECAUSE THEY WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO BE FREE.

Q. WHAT ARE THEY BEING PROTECTED FROM? YOU SAID THEY WERE BEING PROTECTED. FROM WHAT?

BURY: THEY ARE BEING PROTECTED FROM BOMBING, BECAUSE THEY'VE BEEN DOWN IN THE PROVINCES AND THERE HAS BEEN SOME BOMBING DOWN THERE AND ALSO THEY ARE BEING PROTECTED, YOU KNOW, FROM SOME INSANE PERSON PERHAPS-- LIKE ANY OTHER CULTURE OR CIVILIZATION. THEY'RE JUST WATCHING THEM.

Q. FATHER, ARE THEY BEING DELAYED ALSO BECAUSE WASHINGTON DID NOT RESPOND TO THE FOUR PREREQUISITES BEFORE THEY WOULD BE RELEASED?

BURY: WE HAVEN'T HEARD, NO. THAT'S RIGHT. WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM WASHINGTON AT ALL ON THOSE THREE (PAUSE) FOUR REQUESTS.

Q. DO YOU THINK THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARE GOING TO HOLD THEM UNTIL WASHINGTON DOES RESPOND?

BURY: I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED.

Q. WHAT ABOUT THE PROPAGANDA ASPECTS OF TAKING THESE MEN AROUND, SHOWING THEM THE DIKES, AND FILMING THEM SO EXTENSIVELY? IS HANOI TRYING TO USE THAT TO THEIR OWN END TOO?

BURY: WELL, NO, I'M SURE, I SUPPOSE, I MEAN, THEY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT STOPPING THE WAR, AND THEY WANT THE PILOTS TO BE ABLE TO SEE THE DESTRUCTION. YES, IT'S REALLY THERE, YOU SEE. IN A SENSE IT'S NOT EXPLOITATION BECAUSE IT'S TRUE. WHAT THEY'RE SEEING ARE THE FACTS. IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT' BEING PUT ON JUST FOR THEIR BENEFIT. IT'S THE REALITY.

Q. YOU SAID YOU SAID A MASS FOR THEM. WOULD YOU TELL US ABOUT THAT.

BURY: YES, THIS MORNING AT ST. DOMENIC'S WE HAD A MASS

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FOR PEACE AND THE PILOTS CAME ALONG WITH THEIR FAMILIES  
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AND LOVE AND CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER.  
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PRIORITY  
DE RUMJFS #7181/2 2671520  
P 231420Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 338

INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY 460  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA PRIORITY 72  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY 9746  
CINCPAC PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 1992  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 108  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 29  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 4389  
USDEL FRANCE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 2427  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY PRIORITY 49  
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY 164  
AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY 2904  
AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY 8157

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 4 VIENTIANE 7181  
Q. CAN YOU GIVE US NOW THE MESSAGE YOU BROUGHT OUT?  
HAMILTON: -IT'S THE MESSAGE WITH THE FOUR POINTS THAT  
YOU SPOKE ABOUT. IT'S THE TELEGRAM THAT WAS SE T BY  
THE COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON.  
"WE ARE HAPPY TO REPORT THAT AVY LT. MARKHAM GARTLEY,  
AIR FORCE MAJOR EDWARD ELIAS, AND NAVY LT. NORRIS  
CHARLES HAVE BEEN RELEASED TO OUR CUSTODY SO THAT WE  
MAY ESCORT THEM HOME TO THE UNITED STATES.  
". IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXPRESSED EXPECTATIONS OF THE  
NORTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT, AND IN ORDER NOT TO  
AEOPARDIZE THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE RELEASES, WE  
BELIEVE THE REPATRIATION OF THESE MEN SHOULD BE CARRIED  
OUT IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:  
"1. THE MEN SHALL PROCEED HOME WITH US AND REPRESENTA-  
TIVES OF THEIR FAMILIES IN CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT.  
"2. THE MEN, IF THEY WISH, SHALL BE GRANTED A THIRTY  
DAY FURLOUGH.  
"3. THE MEN SHALL RECEIVE A COMPLETE MEDICAL CHECK UP  
AT THE HOSPITAL OF THEIR CHOICE, CIVILIAN OR MILITARY.

\*\*\*\*\*WHSR COMMENT\*\*\*\*\*

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"4. THE MEN SHALL DO NOTHING FURTHER TO PROMOTE THE AMERICAN WAR EFFORT IN INDOCHINA.

"WE BELIEVE THAT THESE TERMS ARE REASONABLE, HUMANE AND IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE REMAINING PILOTS AND THEIR FAMILIES."

Q. IF WASHINGTON DOES NOT RESPOND TO THESE POINTS, WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN?

HAMILTON: I'M SURE THEY'LL COME ON ANYWAY BUT THE POINTS ARE CLEAR NOW AND THEY ARE KNOWN TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. THESE ARE THE CONDITIONS. THESE MEN ARE COMING HOME.

Q. WILL THEY BE RELEASED...INDISTINCT

HAMILTON: THEY ARE RELEASED NOW. THEY ARE FREE NOW.

Q. WE DON'T HAVE TO WAIT TIL WASHINGTON RESPONDS TO THIS IN ORDER FOR THEM TO BE ALLOWED THEIR FREEDOM TO COME OUT OF NORTH VIETNAM? IS THAT RIGHT?

HAMILTON: I DOUBT THAT.

Q. DID THEY REFUSE TO COME OR DID THE NORTH VIETNAMESE REFUSE TO ALLOW THEM TO COME?

HAMILTON: I DON'T THINK IT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE NORTH VIETNAMESE REFUSING TO ALLOW THEM TO COME. I REALLY THINK THEY ARE PROBABLY WAITING FOR THE OPPORTUNE MOMENT AND TO SEE HOW THINGS ARE SET UP ALL ALONG THE ROUTE.

Q. YOU SEE HOW THINGS ARE SET UP HERE IN VIENTIANE. DO YOU THINK THIS IS THE KIND OF GREETING THAT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE?

HAMILTON: I'M SURE THEY ARE GOING TO BE GREETED BY THE PRESS WHEREVER THEY GO.

Q. THE AMBASSADOR HAS TOLD YOU WHAT HE IS GOING TO SAY TO THEM? DO YOU THINK THAT'S APPROPRIATE?

BURY AND HAMILTON: NO, HE DIDN'T TELL US WHAT HE WAS GOING TO SAY TO THEM.

Q. BUT WANT I WANT TO GET CLEAR IS THE PILOTS IN THAT GROUP ON THEIR VOLITION DECIDED NOT TO COME, NOT BY NORTH VIETNAMESE ORDERS. IS THAT RIGHT?

BURY: NO, IT'S PREMATURE FOR US TO THINK THAT THEY WERE SCHEDULED TO COME ON THIS PLANE. YOU SEE THEY HOPED THAT THEY WOULD COME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BUT THEY WERE NEVER TOLD EXACTLY WHEN THEY WERE GOING TO COME SO WHEN THEY DIDN'T COME ON THIS PLANE, IT WASN'T A GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT AS IF THEY HAD PLANNED SPECIFICALLY OR OR FELT OR KNEW THAT THEY WERE COMING. YOU SEE THEY REALLY DIDN'T KNOW AND THEY'RE JUST WAITING TO BE TOLD WHEN THEY CAN GO.

Q. ARE THEY GIVEN ANY FREE CHOICE?

BURY: NO, THEY HAVEN'T BEEN GIVEN ANY CHOICE. NO, THEY WEREN'T GIVEN ANY CHOICE.

Q. IS THERE ANY INDICATION OF WHEN THEY WILL BE COMING OUT? OR HOW?

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BURY: NO.

Q. SPECIAL PLANE OR ANYTHING?

BURY: NO.

Q. YOU SAW THEM THIS MORNING. DID THEY HAVE ANY IDEA THEN THAT THEY WOULD OR WOULD NOT COME ON THIS FLIGHT?

BUR: THEY KNEW THEY WERE NOT COMING ON THIS FLIGHT AS OF LAST NIGHT.

Q. WHAT DID THEY SAY ABOUT IT?

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FATHER.

RURY: THEIR SPIRITS ARE VERY VERY GOOD. THEY'RE HAPPY TO SEE THEIR RELATIVES. THEIR HEALTH IS EXCELLENT AND I THINK THEY WOULD LIKE TO GO HOME WITHOUT BEING BOTHERED BY THE MILITARY.

Q. DID YOU SEE ANY OTHER PILOTS, ANY ANOTHER PRISONERS?

RURY: NO, I DIDN'T SEE ANY OTHERS AND I REQUESTED TO SAY MASS FOR THE OTHER POW'S AND THAT WAS THE ONLY REQUEST THAT WAS NOT GRANTED.

Q. DID THEY SAY WHY YOU COULDN'T SEE OTHER PRISONERS?

RURY: I DIDN'T ASK TO SEE THEM. I ASKED TO SAY MASS. AND THEY DIDN'T SAY BUT GARTLEY SAID "LOOK, I DON'T THINK YOU'LL EVER GET IN TO SAY MASS FOR THEM." HE SAYS, FIRST IF YOU GET BY THE MILITARY AND THEY ALLOW YOU TO DO IT, I DON'T THINK THE AMERICANS WILL GO BECAUSE THE AMERICANS HAVE GONE TO CHURCH SERVICES BEFORE AND THE VIETNAMESE HAVE USED THIS AS SORT OF A PROPAGANDA KIND OF THING. THEY TOOK PICTURES OF THEM, SO THE PILOTS DECIDED THAT NEVER AGAIN WOULD THAT HAPPEN. SO THEY SAID UNLESS YOU WENT IN AND SAID A PRIVATE MASS IN ONE OF THEIR QUARTERS THEY PROBABLY WOULD NOT ATTEND.

Q. HOW ARE THE PRISONERS BEING TREATED? HOW WAS GARTLEY TREATED? HOW WAS ELIAS TREATED?

RURY: THEY HAD NO COMPLAINTS; HOWEVER, YOU MUST REALIZE THEY ARE IN VIETNAM, YOU KNOW, AND THEY'RE PROBABLY NOT GOING TO COMPLAIN VERY MUCH, BUT THE POINT IS THEY HAD NO COMPLAINTS AND THEY REALLY LOOKED GOOD. THEY SAID THE FOOD WAS GOOD. THEY SAID THEY HAD AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO RECREATE AND THEY HAD OPPORTUNITY TO READ AND STUDY AND YET AT THE SAME TIME THERE WAS NO PROPAGANDA. THEY GAVE THEM BOOKS THAT THEY WANTED, OR ASKED FOR AND THERE WERE ALSO A LOT OF ANTI-WAR BOOKS WHICH WERE AVAILABLE LIKE THE PENTAGON PAPERS BUT THERE WAS NO LECTURES AND NO ATTEMPT TO PROPAGANDIZE THEM.

Q. IN REFERENCE TO THIS BUSINESS OF NOT WANTING TO GO TO CHURCH FOR FEAR OF IT BEING USED AS PROPAGANDA, ARE THEY SENSITIVE TO THIS HAPPENING TO THEM IN MANY DIFFERENT SITUATIONS UP ...

RURY: I DON'T KNOW. THAT WAS THE ONLY THING, ONLY REMARK HE MADE IN THAT REGARD. HE JUST SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THEY HAD USED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN A PROPAGANDA WAY.

GJS.  
GUDLEY  
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TO: IMEL 240719Z  
FM: RUSSIA 2691325  
TO: 2-1310Z SEP 72  
FM: AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO: STATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0039

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN 659  
USDEL FRANCE 1001  
USCINCEUR  
CINCSAF  
AMEMBASSY LONDON 882  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 278  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 1209  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 15  
322 TACTICAL AIRLIFT, PHEP, MAIN

**EXDIS REVIEW**

**Cat. A** - Caption removed;  
transferred to O/FADRC

**Cat. B** - Transferred to O/FADRC  
with additional access  
controlled by S/S

**Cat. C** - Caption and custody  
retained by S/S

Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr.

Date: 10/18/93 19\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ COPENHAGEN 4364

EXDIS  
SUBJECT: POW RELEASE  
REF: STATE 174425

1. MFA TELLS US THAT SWEDEN HAVE JUST INFORMED THEM THAT THREE RELEASED POWS AND THEIR PARTY WILL ARRIVE COPENHAGEN ON WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 27 FOR ONWARD TRAVEL TO U.S. ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, POWS WILL NOT BE NOT TRAVEL VIA STOCKHOLM. SAS PUBLISHED FLIGHT SCHEDULE LENDS SOME SUPPORT TO THIS VERSION AS NEITHER SAS NOR AEROFLOT HAVE FLIGHT FROM MOSCOW TO STOCKHOLM ON WEDNESDAY. AEROFLOT FLIGHT 215, HOWEVER, IS SCHEDULED LEAVE MOSCOW 0950 ON WEDNESDAY, DUE COPENHAGEN 1020 LOCAL TIME. SAS FLIGHT 913 LEAVES HERE SAME DAY 1230 ARRIVING JFK 1610.

2. SAS COPENHAGEN OFFICE SAYS THAT NO ONWARD BOOKING MADE HERE FOR PARTY AND THAT THEIR MOSCOW OFFICE HAS INFORMED THEM NO RESERVATIONS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED BECAUSE OF UNCERTAINTY ABOUT ARRIVAL DATE IN MOSCOW.  
DUNNIGAN  
BT

\*\*\*\*\*WHSR COMMENT\*\*\*\*\*

HOLDRIDGE LL

PSN:029623 PAGE 01 OF 01 TOR:269/13:59Z DTG:241310Z SEP 72

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DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
DOS 9304568 1/28/94  
By MMO NARA, Date 4/13/94

SA 99

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SA 99 B-144

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\*\*\*\*\*~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~\*\*\*\*\* COPY

ROUTINE  
DE RUDTC #9199 2721600  
R 281518Z SEP 72  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5716

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON 1169  
USDEL FRANCE 7590

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ LONDON 9199

LIMDIS  
SUBJECT: POW'S - BRITISH HAM OPERATOR'S ACTIVITIES  
REF: LONDON 8761

1. MRS. CRANER HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM DAVID ARTHUR, FORWARDING COPY OF TELEX MESSAGE (PARA 4 REFTEL) CONCERNING TRIAL OF PRISONERS WHICH ARTHUR CLAIMS TO HAVE INTERCEPTED ON AUGUST 5.
2. ARTHUR'S LETTER SAYS THAT AS RESULT OF HIS MEETING WITH MRS. CRANER ON SEPTEMBER 16 "WHOLE OPERATION THAT I HAVE MOUNTED CAN NOW BE PUT ON MORE SATISFACTORY FOUNDATION" AND PERMIT OPERATION TO BE EXPANDED "WITHOUT RISK TO AMERICAN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS". ARTHUR ASKS MRS. CRANER NOT TO DIVULGE DETAILS OF THEIR CONVERSATION TO EMBASSY, ALTHOUGH HE HAS NO OBJECTION TO DISCUSSION WITH US "SALIENT FACTS". HE ASKS MRS. CRANER TO FORWARD A FEW OF LETTER FORMS SHE IS PRESENTLY USING SO THAT HE CAN ASCERTAIN FORM HIS NVN CONTACT IF THEY ARE ACCEPTABLE. HE ASKS FOR COPY OF 339 POW ANMES FURNISHED TO SENATORS KENNEDY AND FULBRIGHT.
3. ALSO ENCLOSED WITH LETTER IS CLIPPING FROM LOCAL PAPER PRAISING ARTHUR'S HAM ACTIVITIES, PHOTOS OF HIS EQUIPMENT, AND A HANDWRITTEN NOTE DATED SEPT 16 STATING THAT ARTHUR GOT OFF ENQUIRY ABOUT POW CRANER THAT DATE, WHICH "SHOULD REACH AHNOI MONDAY OR TUESDAY".
4. WE ARE FORWARDING ALL OF ABOVE FO SIEVERTS INCLUDING COPY OF TELEX. SINCE ARTHUR REQUESTS RETURN OF LATTER, WE HAVE RETURNED ORIGINAL TO MRS. CRANER AND ADVISED HER TO MAIL IT BACK TO ARTHUR WITHOUT COMMENT.

*Limdis*

**EXDIS REVIEW** PSN:031552

Cat. A - Caption removed; transferred to O/FADRC

Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S

Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S/S

Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr. *ER*

Date: 10/18/93 19\_\_

PAGE 01 TOR:272/17:12Z DTG:281518Z SEP 72

\*\*\*\*\*~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~\*\*\*\*\* COPY

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
DOS 9304568 1/28/94  
By MRG NARA, Date 4/13/94  
SA 99

~~\*\*\*\*\*CONFIDENTIAL\*\*\*\*\*~~ COPY

APPRECIATE GUIDANCE IF DEPT DESIRES THAT WE OR MRS.  
CRANER TAKE ANY FURTHER STEPS. XGDS-1.  
ANNENBERG  
BT

PSN:031552 PAGE 02 OF 02 TOR:272/17:12Z DTG:281518Z SEP 72

~~\*\*\*\*\*CONFIDENTIAL\*\*\*\*\*~~ COPY

SA 99

B -147

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

17 NOV 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Information Obtained from the Debriefing of the Recently Returned Three U.S. Prisoners of War

We have just completed our debriefings of the three U.S. prisoners of war who were repatriated by the North Vietnamese this past September. Intelligence analysts have prepared a report summarizing the conditions under which our men are being held in North Vietnam. I believe the information in this report will be of interest to you.

The three returnees arrived in the United States on 28 September. Major Edward K. Elias was piloting an RF-4C reconnaissance jet when shot down on 20 April 1972. He evaded three days prior to his capture. Lt(JG) Norris A. Charles was shot down over North Vietnam on 30 December 1971. Lt Markam L. Gartley was the pilot of a Navy F-4 fighter when downed on 17 August 1968. At their request, debriefings of the three men began almost immediately. They were eager to provide the names of those men they left behind in North Vietnam.

The returnees provided the names of approximately 350 prisoners of war being held in North Vietnam, most of whom had previously been known.

When the three returnees were taken from their camps in September 1972, the estimated PW camp population in North Vietnam was as follows: CU LOC (Hanoi), 25 PW's; HA LO (Hanoi), 125 PW's and another 220 PW's at undetermined locations (Attachments A, B, and C).

Most of the information on treatment of prisoners was obtained from Lt Gartley, who had been a PW for forty-nine months. Much of his information was related to him second or third hand from fellow prisoners. He reported that in the years prior to 1969, physical mistreatment of the prisoners was widespread. Handcuffs and leg irons were commonly used, and the prisoners were subject to beatings with bamboo poles, rubber whips, or fists. Other torture methods included long periods of solitary confinement.

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

NSC F93-1184 9/27/93; DOD I-93/54561

By MO NARA, Date 1/13/94 10/28/93

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This document has been reviewed pursuant to Executive Order 13526 and has been determined to be declassified.

In 1969 a shift in the treatment policy became evident, and lower ranking North Vietnamese lost the authority to inflict physical punishment or torture on the prisoners. The authority to subject the prisoners to physical punishment was restricted to the camp commander.

Since the spring of 1971, the quantity and quality of the daily diet improved and the prisoners for the first time began receiving certain foods (milk, fish, fruit, and occasionally meat) regularly. While noting several exceptions, Lt Gartley described the general health of the prisoners as satisfactory. Exercise periods became more frequent and some recreational activities such as volleyball and basketball were permitted. More reading material is now available and is less anti-war in nature than prior to 1971.

The returnees reported that treatment for injuries is often withheld to force compliance or signed statements. The following two cases illustrate this. During 1965 and 1966 Major Fred V. Cherry, USAF, under pressure to support the American Black Power Movement, was denied treatment for his dislocated shoulder and was unmercifully beaten for his refusal to cooperate. In April 1972, Lt Thomas D. Latrendresse, USAF, was injured during ejection. The Vietnamese withheld post operative treatment and allowed his condition to deteriorate in order to coerce his cell group into signing a propaganda statement.

The prisoners have organized themselves into a unit called the "Fourth Allied POW Wing." The structure is based on military rank and Wing policies are widely known among the prisoners. The North Vietnamese tacitly acknowledge the existence of differences in rank among the prisoners. The seniority within the Wing is based on shutdown date of rank, with modification for long term prisoners. Those pilots downed before December 1971 are referred to as "old timers." Those shot down subsequent to that time are referred to as "new guys." At one time during 1970-71, most prisoners were consolidated in one camp. During this period of time the prisoners drafted a complete set of camp policies. These policies are disseminated to all recently captured pilots when contact is made with them. In some cases, this has been difficult, since the North Vietnamese restrict the amount of contact between the new and old prisoners.

The three returnees have completed their formal debriefings and are presently on leave. Lt(JG) Charles is on a 45-day leave in the San Diego area. Lt Gartley is hunting and fishing in Maine. Major Elias is on leave in Valdosta, Georgia and will enter Armed Forces Staff College in January 1973.

Attachments

as

SUMMARY OF THE PW CAMP SITUATION  
AUGUST 1969 - SEPTEMBER 1972

1. From August 1969 to the summer of 1970, the PW camp situation remained stable. Although a small number of prisoners were moved among the camps, there were no major shifts of populations, nor were any camps opened or closed. The camps open at this time were: Citadel, Cu Loc, Ha Lo, and Son Tay.

2. From the summer of 1970 to late November 1970, there was a major consolidation of the prisoners at a new PW camp: Dan Hoi, located 9 miles west of Hanoi. The Citadel and Son Tay camps were closed and their populations were transferred to Dan Hoi. About 120 of the 190 prisoners at Cu Loc were also moved to Dan Hoi. By November 1970, about 220 prisoners were held at Dan Hoi. With this concentration at Dan Hoi, only 2 other camps remained opened, Cu Loc (About 70 prisoners) and Ha Lo (about 50 prisoners).

3. Two days after the 21 November 1970 SAR at Son Tay, all prisoners at Dan Hoi were moved to Ha Lo for security reasons. The population of Ha Lo increased to about 270.

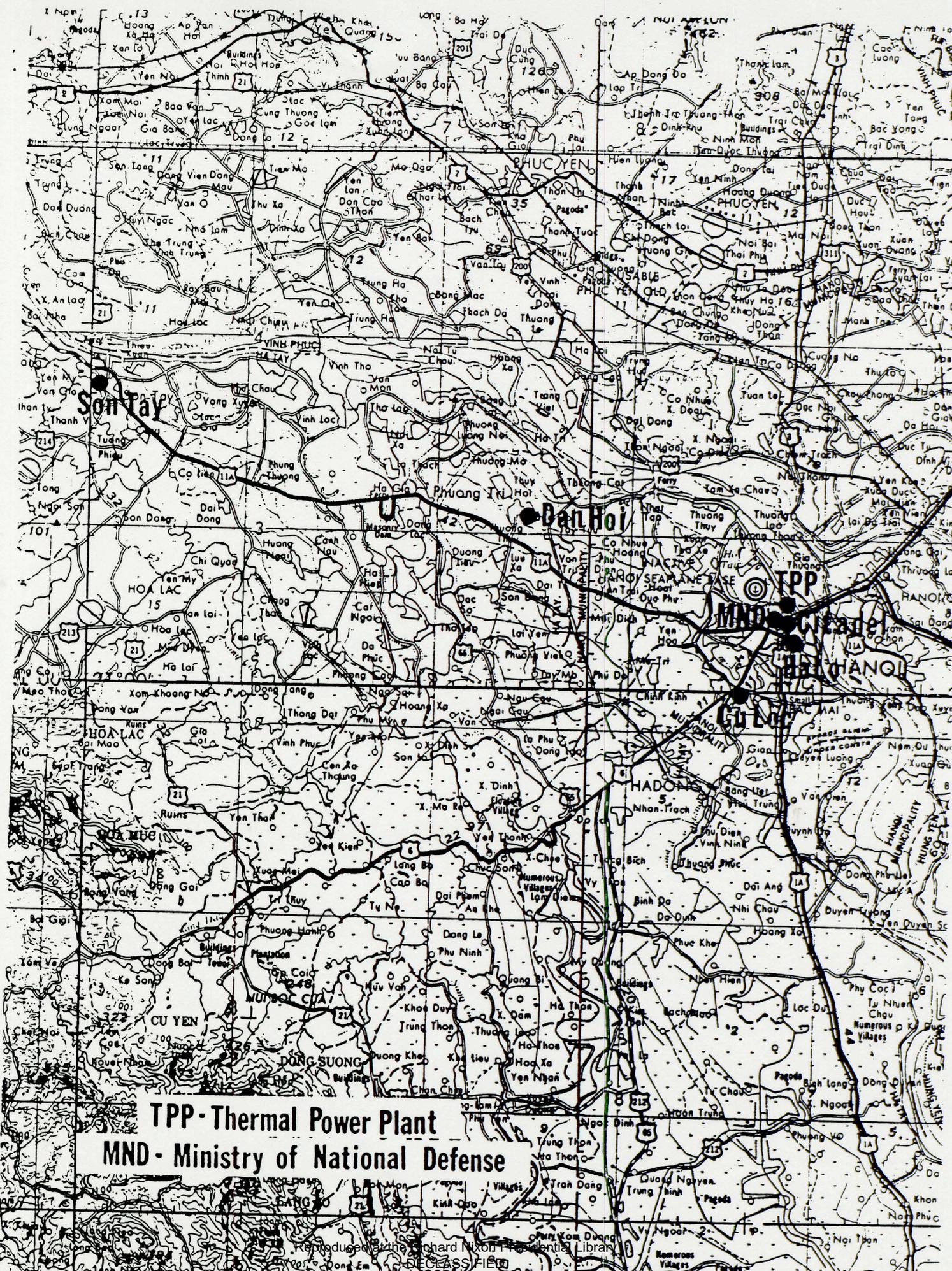
The 70 prisoners at Cu Loc were not moved immediately to Ha Lo. These men remained at Cu Loc to be photographed during the 1970 Christmas season. After the Christmas photography was completed, Cu Loc was closed and the prisoners were moved to Ha Lo. The population of Ha Lo in January 1971 was about 340.

4. In 1971 2 small groups of men were moved temporarily from Ha Lo to "Camp Charlie Victor" and were subsequently returned to Ha Lo. "Camp Charlie Victor" was a punishment camp believed to be located near Hanoi. This camp has not been located on aerial photography. Lt Gartley was never at this camp and has only limited information about it.

5. In September 1971 the North Vietnamese reopened the Cu Loc camp. About 85 prisoners were transferred from Ha Lo to Cu Loc. The majority of the acknowledged prisoners remained in Ha Lo.

6. From December 1971 to April 1972 the population of Cu Loc gradually increased because of an influx of recently captured pilots. About 110 prisoners were held in Cu Loc in March 1972. In April, 70 prisoners were transferred from Cu Loc to Ha Lo. After this transfer, Cu Loc became primarily a camp for recently captured pilots.

7. With the influx of the 70 prisoners from Cu Loc, the population of Ha Lo in April 1972 was 330. In May 220 were moved out of Ha Lo to an unknown location.



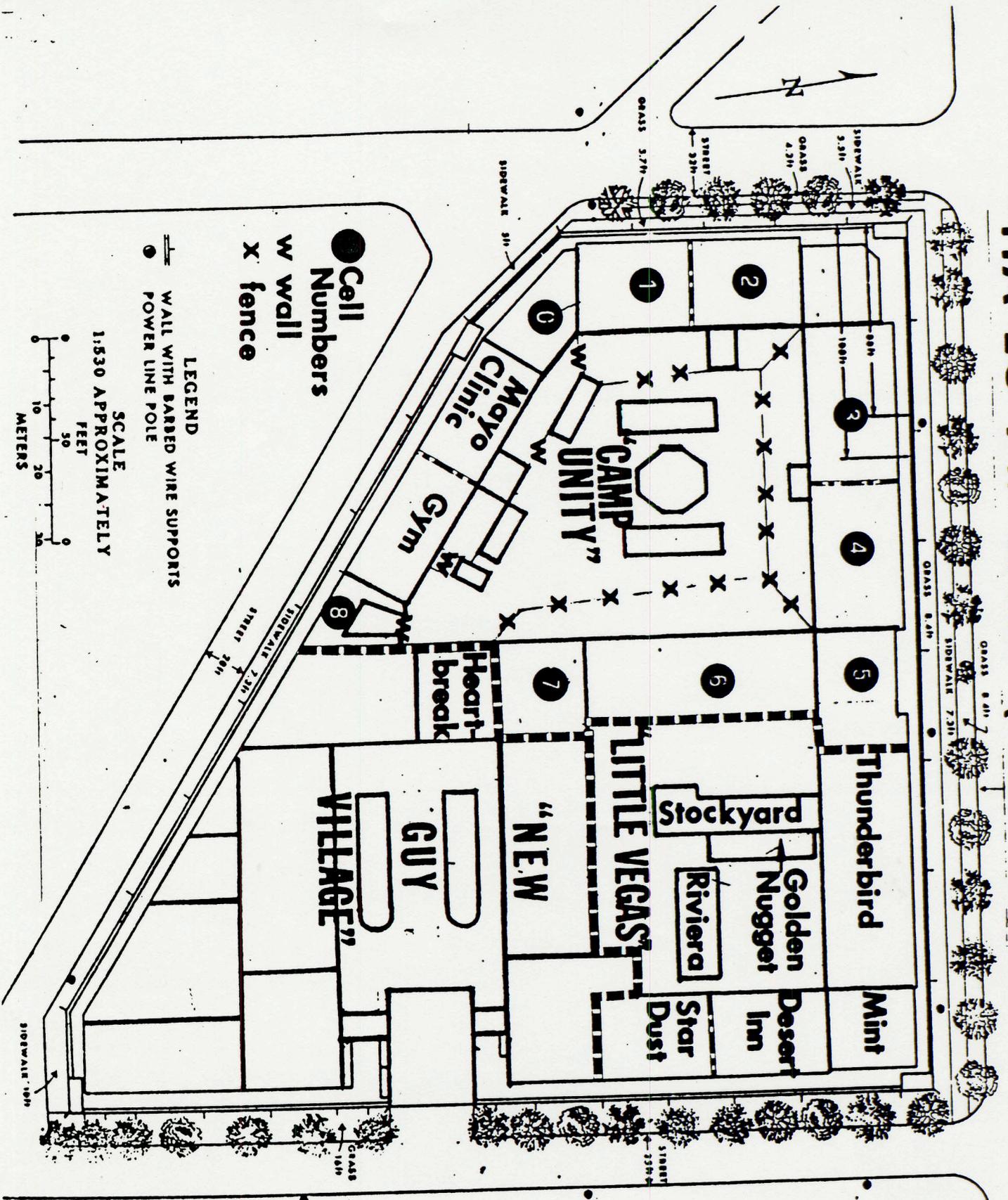
**TPP - Thermal Power Plant**  
**MND - Ministry of National Defense**

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# HA LO PW CAMP (HAINUI)



● Cell Numbers  
 w wall  
 x fence

LEGEND  
 ○ WALL WITH BARBED WIRE SUPPORTS  
 ● POWER LINE POLE

SCALE  
 1:530 APPROXIMATELY  
 FEET  
 METERS





Department of State

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATE 165003

SECRET  
CONFIDENTIAL

STATE  
AF  
AF

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ STATE 165003

DEFENSE MESSAGE

SUBJECT: EGRESS RECAP -- PENDING RELEASE/RETURN OF THREE  
US PWS FROM NORTH VIETNAM

REFS: A. STATE 150671, B. VIENTIANE 6659,  
C. FRANCE 16646, D. STATE 163482 (ALL NOTAL)

1. SUBSEQUENT TO ANNOUNCEMENT BY HANOI ON 2 SEPT 1972  
OF INTENTION TO RELEASE THREE US PWS, ADDITIONAL INFORMA-  
TION ON RELEASE AND PLANS FOR TRAVEL FROM HANOI TO US HAVE  
BEEN PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED BY MRS. CORA WEISS AND DAVID  
DELLINGER DURING PRESS CONFERENCES. WEISS/DELLINGER ARE  
ANTI-WAR ACTIVISTS WHO HAVE HAD PART IN PREVIOUS RELEASES  
AND HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH NVN OFFICIALS TO ACT AS  
IMMEDIATE ESCORTS FOR PRESENT RELEASE. WEISS/  
DELLINGER HAVE INDICATED THAT ESCORT GROUP WILL CONSIST  
OF THEMSELVES, YALE CHAPLAIN REV. WILLIAM SLOANE COFFIN,  
AND TWO OTHERS SO FAR UNIDENTIFIED. THEY PLAN TO DEPART  
ON 15 SEPT AND ARRIVE HANOI 16 SEPT. EXPECT TO DEPART  
HANOI WITH THREE RELEASED MEN WEEK LATER. WEISS/DELLINGER  
HAVE STATED INTENTION TO AVOID POSSIBILITY OF "MILITARY  
INTERVENTION," PLANNING TO TRAVEL BY COMMERCIAL AIR TO US  
AND DELIVER MEN DIRECTLY TO THEIR FAMILIES. THE MEN TO BE  
RELEASED HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BY NVN AS NAVY LIEUTENANTS  
MARKHAM L. GARTLEY AND NORRIS A. CHARLES; AND AIR FORCE  
MAJOR EDWARD K. ELIAS.

2. WHILE THERE ARE OTHER POSSIBILITIES, MOST PROBABLE  
PLANNED MODE OF TRAVEL FROM HANOI WILL BE VIA AEROFLOT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Department of State

TELETYPE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATE 135023

... TRANSITING VIENTIANE, RANGOON, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, ... TO MOSCOW. TRAVEL FROM MOSCOW TO US COULD BE ... FLIGHT OF US CARRIER. OR, ICC AIRCRAFT FROM HANOI ... VIENTIANE. THENCE COMMERCIAL CARRIER TO BANGKOK AND US. ... COULD PLAN A VARIETY OF OTHER ROUTES OR STOPS TO US.

... ARRIVAL AT VIENTIANE (OR OTHER FIRST POINT OF ... WITH US OFFICIALS), GROUP SHOULD BE MET BY US ... OR SENIOR US OFFICIAL, AND MILITARY REPRESENTA- ... APPROPRIATE, ACCOMPANIED BY US MEDICAL DOCTOR. ... DOES NOT DEPLANE, ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE TO ... TALK TO PRISONERS ABOARD AIRCRAFT. (FOR VIENTIANE, ... ADVISE IF YOU THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO APPROACH ... OR IN MOSCOW TO ARRANGE ACCESS TO MEN ABOARD ... FLIGHT.)

... AMBASSADOR OR SENIOR US OFFICIAL, AND MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE, IF APPROPRIATE, SHOULD WARMLY WELCOME RELEASED MEN, AND DOCTOR SHOULD UNDERTAKE QUICK MEDICAL CHECK TO ASSESS THEIR PHYSICAL CONDITION AND NEEDS, AND THEIR FITNESS FOR ONWARD TRAVEL.

... THE RELEASED OFFICERS ARE TO BE TOLD THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO RETURN TO THE US ON US MILITARY MEDICAL EVACUATION AIRCRAFT. DISCUSSION SHOULD BE IN POSITIVE TERMS WHICH ENCOURAGES THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF TRAVEL UNDER US GOVERNMENT MEDICAL AUSPICES. SHOULD THEY REFUSE, THEY SHOULD BE REMINDED THAT THEY ARE OFFICERS IN THE ARMED SERVICES OF THE US AND ARE SUBJECT TO MILITARY REGULATIONS; HOWEVER, REPEAT NO FORCE OR THREATS SHOULD BE USED SHOULD THEY STILL PERSIST IN RETURNING ON COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT. ... CAN BE MADE FOR ANTI-WAR ESCORTS TO TRAVEL WITH THE OFFICERS ABOARD MEDEVAC FLIGHT.

... SHOULD THE MEN ELECT TO PROCEED VIA COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE FOR US OFFICIALS (INCLUDING PHYSICIAN) TO ACCOMPANY THEM ABOARD FLIGHT.

... WE ANTICIPATE THAT FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO MEN WILL BE AT VIENTIANE. REGARDLESS OF PLACE OF FIRST ENCOUNTER, THAT POST WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PASSING GUIDANCE TO SUBSEQUENT ENROUTE STOPS. IF RETURNEES ELECT COMMERCIAL

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# Department of State

TELETYPE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

STATE 165003

1. AT FIRST MEETING, US OFFICIALS SHOULD MEET PLANE AT AIRFIELD AND BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT CONTROL OF RETURNNEES SHOULD THEY INDICATE A CHANGE OF MIND.

2. IN ANTICIPATION THAT MEN AT SOME POINT ENROUTE WILL COME UNDER US CONTROL, SERVICES ARE ARRANGING TO HAVE MILITARY UNIFORMS AVAILABLE AT VIENTIANE.

3. IF MEN ELECT TRAVEL TO CONUS VIA MEDEVAC AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCH TRAVEL ARE NOT READILY AVAILABLE, THEY SHOULD BE ESCORTED TO SUITABLE LOCATION WHERE US CONTROL CAN BE MAINTAINED UNTIL ONWARD TRAVEL CAN BE ARRANGED.

4. IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION OF ALL EVENTS AND REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE SHOULD BE PASSED BY FLASH PRECEDENCE TO SECSTATE AND SECDEF.

5. ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION WILL BE PASSED AS IT IS RECEIVED. GDS ROGERS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center

LDX MESSAGE

LDX MESSAGE NO.: 696

TO: WH

TRANSMITTED BY:  
(Date & Time Stamp)

*Morris*

RECEIVED BY:  
(Date & Time Stamp)

FROM: S/S  
(Officer) (Office Symbol) (Extension)

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL/EXDIS

DESCRIPTION OF MESSAGE: Tel to Vientiane

re Prisoner Release  
VALIDATED FOR TRANSMISSION BY: T. Elliot Jr. NO. OF PAGES: 2  
(Executive Secretariat Officer)

DELIVER TO (provide telephone numbers, if known):

Mr. Henry A. Kissinger

The White House

FOR:

Clearance  X

Information \_\_\_\_\_

Per Request \_\_\_\_\_

This telegram and LDX 690 replace old LDX

S/G-O: Revision of March 7, 1972

*5A99 B-162*

N163B

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FORM DS 322(OCR)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

U/PW: FASIEVERTS  
9/15/72 EXT. 29454  
THE SECRETARY

EA - MR. GREEN  
S/S -

**EXDIS REVIEW**

Cat. A - Caption removed;  
transferred to O/FADRC  
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC  
with additional access  
controlled by S/S  
Cat. C - Caption and custody  
retained by S/S

Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr.  
Date: 10/18/93 1993

DOD - SECRETARY LAIRD  
WHITE HOUSE -

IMMEDIATE VIENTIANE

ROUTINE RANGOON, SAIGON, BANGKOK, PHNOM PENH, MOSCOW, PARIS,  
STOCKHOLM, COPENHAGEN, TOKYO, BEIRUT, NEW DELHI, LONDON, ROME,

EXDIS, STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

SUBJECT: PRISONER RELEASE

REFS: A. STATE 165003, B. STATE 167607, C. VIENTIANE 6824,  
D. RANGOON 2246, E. RANGOON 2265, F. BOMBAY 1496,  
G. BANGKOK 13101, H. COPENHAGE 4184, 4150, 4130,  
I. CALCUTTA 1455 J. NEW DELHI  
11288, 11419, K. MOSCOW 9362, L. VIENTIANE 7029,  
M. CINCPAC MSG DTG 140425 SEP 72 (ALL NOTAL EXCEPT A AND B)

WPR WARM  
FAST  
MG  
ML  
TE

1. AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION WE RECOMMEND AGAINST PRIOR  
APPROACH TO SOVS HERE OR IN MOSCOW ON THIS SUBJECT.  
APPROACH IF MADE WOULD IMMEDIATELY ALERT NVN AUTHORITIES  
AND (WE ASSUME) PEACE GROUP ESCORTS OF OUR DESIRE TO CON-  
TACT RELEASED MEN IN VIENTIANE. THIS MIGHT INCREASE  
CHANCE FLIGHT WOULD SKIP VIENTIANE.

2. YOU SHOULD HAVE LOW-LEVEL EMBOFF CONTACT AEROFLOT REP  
IN VIENTIANE TO ARRANGE ACCESS TO PLANE AND SECURE PLACES  
ABOARD FLIGHT AND VISAS FOR ONWARD TRAVEL IF RELEASED MEN  
STAY ON BOARD.

3. RE PARA 5 REF A, IF DISCUSSION PROCEEDS IN SUCH A WAY  
THAT YOU ARE CLEARLY CONFRONTED WITH THE QUESTION FROM THE  
RELEASED MEN OF WHETHER THIS IS A MILITARY ORDER OR NOT,  
THE ANSWER SHOULD BE THAT IT IS A RECOMMENDATION. YOU  
COULD SAY WE THINK IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER FROM POW'S  
STANDPOINT IF THEY RETURN VIA REGULAR MEDEVAC CHANNELS WITH

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
DOS 9304568 1/28/94  
By MKO NARA, Date 4/13/94  
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12

MEDICAL FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL AVAILABLE AND WE EXPECT THEY WOULD DO SO. IF THE RELEASED PRISONERS PERSIST AND AGAIN ASK IF THIS IS A MILITARY ORDER, YOU SHOULD STATE THAT NO ORDERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT APPARENTLY COMMERCIAL TRAVEL PLAN MEANS TRANSIT OF MOSCOW AND LAYOVER IN STOCKHOLM, THAT MILITARY AIRCRAFT WOULD MEAN FASTER, MORE DIRECT RETURN TO U.S., AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN AERO MEDICAL EVACUATION FLIGHT HAVE BEEN MADE AND AN AIRCRAFT IS STANDING BY (PER REF M).

4. IF YOU OR OTHER EMBOFF NOT ABLE TO TALK TO MEN WHILE PLANE IS ON GROUND IN VIENTIANE, WE DO NOT REPEAT, NOT BELIEVE YOU SHOULD SEND LETTERS TO THEM ABOARD PLANE. HOWEVER CAREFULLY THEY MAY BE WORDED, SUCH LETTERS COULD BE MISCONSTRUED BY RELEASED MEN OR ESCORTS. IF CONTACT CANNOT BE ARRANGED WITH MEN WHILE PLANE IS IN VIENTIANE (OR OTHER POINT OF CONTACT), YOUR EFFORTS SHOULD BE CONCENTRATED ON PLACING EMBOFF AND DOCTOR ABOARD FLIGHT.

5. CONCUR IN YOUR NOT INCLUDING MILITARY OFFICER IN WELCOMING PARTY AND AGREE FSO RAND AND DR. DUSTIN SHOULD BE INCLUDED.

6. IF CONTACT IS NOT MADE WITH THE RELEASED MEN IN VIENTIANE, THE FIRST POST TO ESTABLISH CONTACT SHOULD MAKE APPROACH RE PARA 5 REF A AND PARA 3 THIS MESSAGE. IF RELEASED MEN REJECT MEDEVAC FLIGHTS AT VIENTIANE (OR OTHER POINT OF CONTACT) APPROACH AT ONWARD POSTS SHOULD BE LIMITED TO OFFERS OF MEDICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE, SO AS NOT TO GIVE IMPRESSION THAT USG IS BADGERING MEN AT EACH STOP. GDS 44

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

N163B

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N168

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Operations Center

LDX MESSAGE

LDX MESSAGE NO.: 672

TO: WH  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TRANSMITTED BY: DEPARTMENT OF STATE RECEIVED BY:  
(Date & Time Stamp) (Date & Time Stamp)

APR 23 4 23 PM '72

FROM: S/S CLASSIFICATION: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
(Officer) (Office Symbol) (Extension)

DESCRIPTION OF MESSAGE: Tel to Vientiane & others re Prisoner Release

VALIDATED FOR TRANSMISSION BY: \_\_\_\_\_ NO. OF PAGES: 2  
(Executive Secretariat Officer)

DELIVER TO (provide telephone numbers, if known):

General Haig

The White House

FOR: Clearance \*  
Information \_\_\_\_\_  
Per Request \_\_\_\_\_

S/S-O, Revision of March 7, 1972

SA99 B-163

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

DOS 9304568

1/28/94

By MRO NARA, Date 4/13/94

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PRIORITY VIENTIANE

ROUTINE SAIGON, BANGKOK, PHNOM PENH, RANGOON, MOSCOW,  
PARIS, STOCKHOLM, COPENHAGEN, TOKYO, BEIRUT,  
NEW DELHI, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, LONDON, ROME

LIMDIS

STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

SUBJECT: EGRESS RECAP -- Pending Release/Return of Three  
US PWS from North Vietnam

REFS: A. State 160671 B. Vientiane 6659  
C. France 16646 D. State 163482 [All NOTAL]

1. Subsequent to announcement by Hanoi on 2 Sept 1972 of intention to release three US PWS, additional information on release and plans for travel from Hanoi to us have been publicly announced by Mrs. Cora Weiss and David Dellinger during press conferences. Weiss/Dellinger are anti-war activists who have had part in previous releases and have been in contact with NVN officials to act as intermediaries/escorts for present release. Weiss/Dellinger have indicated that escort group will consist of themselves, Yale Chaplain Rev. William Sloane Coffin, plus two others so far unidentified. They plan to depart US on 13 Sept and arrive Hanoi 16 Sept. Expect to depart Hanoi with three released men week later. Weiss/Dellinger have stated intention to avoid possibility of "military intervention," planning to travel by commercial air to US

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*Lindis*  
EXDIS REVIEW  
Cat. A - Caption removed; transferred to O/FADRC  
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S  
Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S/S  
Reviewed by: *EK* Elijah Kelly Jr.  
Date: 10/18/93 19\_\_

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
DOS 9304568 1/28/94  
By WLO NARA, Date 4/13/94  
SA 99

SA99 B-166

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- 2 -

and deliver men directly to their families. The men to be released have been identified by NVN as Navy Lieutenants Markham L. Gartley and Norris A. Charles, and Air Force Major Edward K. Elias.

2. While there are other possibilities, most probably planned mode of travel from Hanoi will be via Aeroflot aircraft transiting Vientiane, Rangoon, Calcutta, Bombay, Tashkent to Moscow. Travel from Moscow to US could be via Aeroflot or US carrier. Or, ICC aircraft from Hanoi to Vientiane. Thence commercial carrier to Bangkok and US. Group could plan a variety of other routes or stops to US.

3. Upon arrival at Vientiane [or other first point of contact with US officials], group should be met by US Ambassador or senior US official, and military representative, if appropriate, accompanied by US medical doctor. If group does not deplane, arrangements should be made to see and talk to prisoners aboard aircraft. [For Vientiane: Please advise if you think it would be useful to approach Sovs here or in Moscow to arrange access to men aboard Aeroflot.]

4. Ambassador or senior US official, and military representative, if appropriate, should warmly welcome released men, and doctor should undertake quick medical check to assess their physical condition and needs, and their fitness for onward travel.

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CONFIDENTIAL

- 3 -

5. The released officers are to be told that arrangements have been made to return to the U. S. on U. S. military medical evacuation aircraft. Discussion should be in positive terms which encourages their acceptance of travel under U. S. Government medical auspices. Should they refuse, they should be reminded that they are officers in the Armed Services of the U. S. and are subject to military regulations; however, no repeat no force or threats should be used should they still persist in returning on commercial aircraft. Offer can be made for anti-war escorts to travel with the officers aboard medevac flight.

6. Should the men elect to proceed via commercial aircraft, arrangements should be made for US officials [including physician] to accompany them aboard flight.

7. We anticipate that first opportunity to talk to men will be at Vientiane. Regardless of place of first encounter, that post will be responsible for passing guidance to subsequent enroute stops. If returnees elect commercial air at first meeting, US officials should meet plane at all stops and be prepared to accept control of returnees should they indicate a change of mind.

8. In anticipation that men at some point enroute will come under US control, services are arranging to have military uniforms available at Vientiane.

9. If men elect travel to CONUS via medevac and arrangements for such travel are not readily available, they should be escorted to suitable location where US control can be maintained until onward travel can be arranged.

CONFIDENTIAL

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- 4 -

10. Immediate notification of all events and requests for additional guidance should be passed by FLASH precedence to SECSTATE and SECDEF.
  
11. Additional guidance and information will be passed as it is received.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SA 99

B-168

POW's

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Memo For Gen Haig 9 Sept

Re -

Idea is our version  
of cable on POW's.

Idea not been  
coordinated with STATE.

Sam Murphy

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

NSC F93-1184 9/27/93; DOD I-93/54551 10/28/93

By MIC NARA, Date 1/13/94

SA 99

ACTION: Vientiane

INFO:

THIS IS A JOINT DEFENSE/STATE MESSAGE

SUBJECT: EGRESS RECAP PENDING RELEASE/RETURN OF THREE US  
PWs FROM VIETNAM

1. Subsequent to announcement by Hanoi on 2 Sept 1972 of intention to release three US PWs, additional information on release and plans for travel from Hanoi to US have been publicly announced by Mrs. Cora Weiss and David Dellinger during press conferences. Weiss/Dellinger are anti-war activists who have had part in previous releases and have been in contact with NVN officials to act as intermediaries/escorts for present release. Weiss/Dellinger have indicated that escort group will consist of themselves, Yale Chaplain Rev. William Sloane Coffin, plus two others so far unidentified. They plan to depart US on 13 Sept. and arrive Hanoi 16 September. Expect to depart Hanoi with three released men week later. Weiss/Dellinger have stated intention to avoid possibility of "military intervention," planning to travel by commercial air to US and deliver men directly to their families. The men to be released have been identified by NVN as Navy Lieutenants Markham L. Gartley and Norris A. Charles; and Air Force Major Edward K. Elias.
2. While there are other possibilities, most probable planned mode of travel from Hanoi will be via Aeroflot aircraft transiting Vientiane, Rangoon, Calcutta, Bombay, Tashkent to Moscow. Travel from Moscow to US could be via Aeroflot or US carrier. Or, ICC aircraft from Hanoi to

Vientiane. Thence commercial carrier to Bangkok and US. Group could plan a variety of other routes or stops to US.

3. Upon arrival at Vientiane (or other first point of contact with US officials), group should be met by US Ambassador or Senior US official, and appropriate military representative, accompanied by US medical doctor. If group does not deplane, arrangements should be made to see and talk to prisoners aboard aircraft. (FOR VIENTIANE: Please advise if you think it would be useful to approach Soviets here or in Moscow to arrange access to men aboard Aeroflot.)

4. Ambassador or Senior US official and military representative should warmly welcome released men, and doctor should undertake quick medical check to assess their physical condition and needs, and their fitness for onward travel.

5. Ambassador or Senior US official should be the one to advise released men that arrangements have been made *and it is expected that they will* for their return to US aboard military medical evacuation aircraft. Discussion with the men should be in positive terms which encourages and recommends their acceptance of travel under USG medical auspices. If men and/or escorts indicate they do not wish to accept medevac and prefer to continue commercial, men will be advised matter-of-factly that we tried that on the last release but that Capt. Rumble became so ill en route that he had to be treated by a Swiss, French-speaking woman doctor and was on a stretcher by the time he reached New York - and again recommend their acceptance of travel under USG medical auspices.

6. Opposition by anti-war escorts to this offer is to be expected and is not to be controlling factor. Offer can be made for escorts to travel with them aboard MEDEVAC flight.
7. Should the men themselves elect to proceed via commercial aircraft, arrangements should be made for US officials (including physician) to accompany them aboard flight.
8. We anticipate that first opportunity to talk to men and initiate their medevac will be at Vientiane. Regardless of place of first encounter, that post will be responsible for passing guidance to subsequent en route stops. If returnees elect commercial air at first meeting, no attempt will be made at subsequent stops to induce return to US control. US officials should meet plane at all stops, offer any possible assistance, and be prepared to accept control of returnees should they on their own initiative indicate a change of mind.
9. In anticipation that men at some point en route will come under US control, Services are arranging to have military uniforms available at Vientiane. Should continued travel be via commercial and men do not desire uniforms at Vientiane, US official who accompanies the men will unobtrusively carry uniforms so they are available en route if desired.
10. MEDEVAC aircraft will be positioned at Udorn and ready for prompt arrival in Vientiane when required. If men at some subsequent point elect travel to CONUS via MEDEVAC and arrangements for such travel are not readily available, they should be escorted to suitable location where US control can be maintained until onward travel can be arranged.

11. Immediate notification of all events and requests for additional guidance should be passed by FLASH precedence to SecState and SecDef.
12. Additional guidance and information will be passed as it is received.

5. The released officers are to be told that they are ~~to~~ to return to the US on US military medical evacuation aircraft. Should they refuse, they should be reminded that they are officers in the Armed Services of the US and are subject to military regulations; however, no repeat no force should be used should they still persist in returning on commercial aircraft.

6. Should the men elect to proceed via commercial aircraft, arrangements should be made for US officials [including physician] to accompany them aboard flight.

7. We anticipate that first opportunity to talk to men will be at Vientiane. Regardless of place of first encounter, that post will be responsible for passing guidance to subsequent enroute stops. If returnees elect commercial air at first meeting, US officials should meet plane at all stops and be prepared to accept control of returnees should they indicate a change of mind.

8. In anticipation that men at some point enroute will come under US control, services are arranging to have military uniforms available at Vientiane.

9. If men elect travel to CONUS via medevac and arrangements for such travel are not readily available, they should be escorted to suitable location where US control can be maintained until onward travel can be arranged.

*HK saw 7/9*

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE~~  
~~CONTAINS CODEWORD~~

INFORMATION  
July 8, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HENRY A. KISSINGER *HK*

SUBJECT:

Possible Execution of American POWs  
by the Enemy

1.3(a)(4)

[redacted] have revealed two instances of intent to kill, or the actual killing of, Americans apparently held as prisoners.

On July 6 the 284th AAA Regiment was ordered to "annihilate (the) 10 Americans." The 284th had been located near Quang Tri City, but was ordered on July 5 to move toward the northwest. [redacted]

1.3(a)(4)

Additionally, the Defense Department reports that 30 Americans have been reported as missing in action in that area.

1.3(a)(4)

[redacted] that on July 4, "they shot down on the spot, one F-4 aircraft and afterwards annihilated the two pirate pilots with one bullet (each)." The Defense Department reports that two F-4s were lost in North Vietnam during the general time frame.

The State Department was in favor of making a public demarche on the grounds that this was the fastest way to communicate our position to Hanoi. Defense believed we should move privately through Ambassador Porter.

On your behalf I agreed that we should relay our concerns in private channels in view of the nature of our evidence and to underline our seriousness. To give our approach the maximum weight, I immediately sent strong messages last night to Hanoi [redacted] to Moscow through Dobrynin (who called this morning to confirm that his government had immediately flashed a message to Hanoi); and to Peking [redacted] I will, of course, continue to keep you posted on this.

1.3(a)(5)

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE~~  
~~CONTAINS CODEWORD~~

*Much the best way to handle would be Public only "stop the storm" wait at any point*

(DP)

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
NSC, Van Tassel authority 9/15/92  
By ADH NARA, Date 9/15/92  
(SA 99)

Sanitized

~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE~~

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 8, 1972

*File*

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

FROM: Richard Kennedy *RK*

This is further to the report we sent to you yesterday.

*HK*

~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE~~

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4  
NSC, Van Tassel authority 9/15/92  
By ADL NARA, Date 9/15/92  
(SA 99)

MEMORANDUM

~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE~~  
~~CONTAINS CODEWORD~~

July 8, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT:

Execution of Americans in Vietnam

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NSC, Van Tassel authority 9/15/92  
By ADI NARA, Date 9/15/92  
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~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE~~  
~~CONTAINS CODEWORD~~

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*file*

~~TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE~~  
~~CONTAINS CODEWORD~~

July 8, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

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*Sanitized*

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E.O. 12856, Sect. 3.4  
NSC, Van Tassel authority 9/15/92  
By ADH NARA, Date 9/15/92  
(SA 99)

~~TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE~~  
~~CONTAINS CODEWORD~~