



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**AMERICAN POWs/MIAs IN  
SOUTHEAST ASIA  
(SUMMARY)**

**PART 20 OF 26**

**FILE NUMBER : 100-457899**

SUBJECT

POW/MIA

FILE NUMBER

100-457899 Vol 10

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>NEWARK</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE <b>11/30/70</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>10/12/70-10/23/70</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>	TYPED BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IS-MISCELLANEOUS; RA-NORTH VIETNAM</b>	

### REFERENCES

New York airtel and LHM, 6/9/70.  
 San Antonio letter to the Bureau, 8/27/70.  
 Springfield airtel dated 9/8/70.

- RUC -

### ADMINISTRATIVE

Interviews set forth in the body of instant report complete investigation by the Newark Division with known family of prisoners of war in North Vietnam regarding contacts with COLIFAM. Newark contemplates no further investigation.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE **7/26/92** BY **9803 [REDACTED]**  
**POW/MIA RW ED12812 CN345370**

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

APPROVED **RWB [REDACTED]** SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

- 5 - Bureau (100-457899) (RM)
- 2 - New York (100-168469) (RM)
- 2 - Newark (97-353)

**191** REC-35  
**EX-115**  
**3 DEC 3 1970**

Deleted Copy Sent  
 by Letter Dated **5/28/76**  
 Per FOIPA Request

*2enc destroyed cc 910D*

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	<b>RAC-ESD</b>			
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.	<b>12/9/70</b>			
How Fwd.	<b>RIS</b>			
By	<b>[REDACTED]</b>			<b>A*</b>

Notations

**[REDACTED]**

**23 DEC 1970** **b2c**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:

[REDACTED] b7c

Office: Newark, New Jersey

Date:

November 30, 1970

Field Office File #:

97-353

Bureau File #: 100-457899

Title:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY-MISCELLANEOUS;  
REGISTRATION ACT-NORTH VIETNAM

Synopsis:

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c New Jersey, advised she has never been contacted personally by any member of the Colifam Committee. Mrs. [REDACTED] New Jersey, traveled to Laos with other wives and mothers to develop information concerning their husbands and sons being held as prisoners of war in North Vietnam. While in Laos, Mrs. [REDACTED] personally met Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ; and, during a conversation, FERNANDEZ indicated the North Vietnamese had requested the members of Colifam to form this committee. Mrs. [REDACTED] New Jersey; Mrs. [REDACTED] New Jersey; and Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] New Jersey, advise no personal contact with Colifam.

EO 12812-2

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9801 [REDACTED] b7c

100-457899-101 MIA per EO 12812

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 10/27/70

[Redacted] b7c

Mrs. [Redacted]

New Jersey, on October 20, 1970, advised that while on a fact seeking trip to Vientiane, Laos, during early April, 1970, she met the Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ, member of the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam. U.S. 11

She and other mothers and wives had traveled to Laos in an attempt to develop information about their sons and husbands who were missing in action. Some newspapermen at her hotel pointed out FERNANDEZ who was also at the hotel with two associates, Professor NOAM CHAMSKY (phonetic), an English professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Professor DOUGLAS DOWD of Cornell University. U.S. 11

b7c [Redacted]

[Redacted] b7c said she approached FERNANDEZ who had been at the North Vietnamese Embassy, and asked whether he was going to Hanoi and if so, would he carry mail there for her and members of her group. FERNANDEZ said he had much mail with him and agreed to carry the additional letters. [Redacted] asked whether he would approach the Pathet Lao in Hanoi for information concerning prisoners of war being destined in Laos. She said FERNANDEZ was willing to do so. b7c

E012812-2

During the week she remained at the hotel, [Redacted] frequently contacted FERNANDEZ, as he was waiting for a plane to take him into Hanoi. During one of their conversations, FERNANDEZ said, "They," which she believed inferred the North Vietnamese, asked, "Us" to form this committee. [Redacted] received the impression that some sort of contact was made in Canada, but could not recall the details. She believed Canada was a part of the mail set up, but after this proved unsatisfactory, details were changed. [Redacted] said FERNANDEZ never discussed the details involved in setting up the committee. She feels he is completely objective in his approach to the prisoner problem. [Redacted] said she did not know what the two professors were doing in Laos. FERNANDEZ told her many prominent people are contributing heavily to the Committee of Clergy and Laymen with which he is affiliated. b7c

b7c

According to [Redacted] b7c FERNANDEZ is sincere in his

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [Redacted] b7c

b7c CN345570 TOW/MIA/RED/212

On 10/20/70 at [Redacted] New Jersey File # Newark 97-353

SA [Redacted]

Date dictated 10/26/70

by

Date dictated

efforts to inaugurate a flow of mail and information from the United States and the prisoners of war. He feels very strongly that the United States should not be involved in Vietnam.

FERNANDEZ visited refugee camps in Laos, guided by FRED BRANTZEN, an American who has been residing in Laos. He had formerly been affiliated with some United States agencies in southeast Asia, and had asked FERNANDEZ' intercession to obtain for him permission to reside with the Pathet Lao.

After returning to the United States, [redacted] learned FERNANDEZ was speaking before a peace group in Norristown, Pennsylvania, in late April or early May, 1970. She spoke to him after his address and gave him some letters from families with relatives being held by the Viet Cong. He accepted the letters.

ED12812-2

Later, after the meeting, FERNANDEZ told [redacted] he was unhappy with MAGGIE GEDDES and BARBARA WEBSTER, members of the committee, because they were harsh in dealing with relatives of prisoners. FERNANDEZ said he and other members were going to hold a meeting and would caution GEDDES and WEBSTER not to call the missing servicemen criminals because they engaged in bombing North Vietnam. [redacted] asked if the committee would consider firing GEDDES and WEBSTER. FERNANDEZ laughingly said, "No, they would probably bomb us." [redacted] said this was a reference to the fact that GEDDES and WEBSTER were members of the New York Seven who had bombed a draft board in New York City.

[redacted] said she had no personal contact with any other members of the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, and has received only two form letters from the committee.

She does not know any other person with a missing son or husband who may have had contacts with committee members, with the exception of Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] Pennsylvania, who are friendly with [redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date October 28, 1970

**Mrs. [REDACTED] New Jersey, advised that her son, [REDACTED] is a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.**

The first letter she had from him was received on April 24, 1970, written by him on December 13, 1969. In March, 1970, she received a telephone call from a CORA WEISS, presumably calling from New York City, and was told by her that a letter was on its way to her from her son. She had also heard from her husband, from whom she is separated, that a letter was coming. She believed that he had been notified of this through the United States Air Force.

With this first letter came a cover letter from a ROGER G. FREDRICKSON, American Friends Service Committee, dated January 20, 1970, who said that he had been in North Vietnam and was bringing back 69 letters from 64 prisoners of war; and in keeping with the wishes of the North Vietnam Government, he was turning the letters over to Colifam for transmittal to the addressees.

The next letter she received on June 26, 1970, and as best she can recall, it was not accompanied by any cover communication.

The next two letters were received in September, 1970, and had a two page cover letter dated September 18, 1970, signed by CORA WEISS. It was apparently a form letter describing the seizure of letters at Kennedy Airport brought into the United States by Colifam. Accompanying it was a short hand written note signed by CORA WEISS, merely saying that two letters had arrived and one was being sent to each address. Mrs. [REDACTED] explained that she had recently moved and had two addresses on file with Colifam. The other letter was forwarded to her by postal authorities.

Mrs. [REDACTED] has sent four letters to her son utilizing the services of and the forms supplied by Colifam. She does not know if her son has received any of these letters. She has never met or had any personal contact, other than the telephone call

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

CN345,570

New Jersey

NEW JERSEY COLIFAM

Ph. # Newark 97-353

on 10/19/70

by SA [REDACTED]

Date dictated 10/20/70

Agency:

2  
NK 97-353

described above with any members of Colifan.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 10/28/70

Mrs. [redacted] *b7c*  
 [redacted] New Jersey, on October 20, 1970, advised  
 that in April, 1970, CORA WEISS, a member of the Committee  
 of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam  
 in New York City, telephonically contacted her to advise that  
 the committee had a letter for Mrs. [redacted] and her husband *b7c*  
 from their son, who had been missing for three years. WEISS  
 said only that the committee would forward the letter to the  
 [redacted] It arrived at their home a few days later.

*b7c* The [redacted] sent three letters to their son  
 through the committee and have had no other contact with the  
 committee, except for a letter about a trip the Reverend  
 FERNANDEZ had made to southeast Asia. [redacted] said she never  
 wrote to the committee and knows nobody else who may have  
 had contact with the committee. *b7c*

E0125122

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED *b7c*  
 DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
 CN345,570 FOU/MR/PUR E012512

On 10/20/70 at [redacted] New Jersey *b7c* File # Newark 97-353  
 by SA [redacted] *b7c* Date dictated 10/26/70

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date October 29, 1970

b2c

Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] New Jersey, advised they are the parents of [redacted]. They said they have never heard directly from their son since he was captured, which was five years ago. He is the father [redacted] and his wife lives in Florida; however, their daughter-in-law sends them copies of the few letters that she has received from him.

They, themselves, have sent letters to him but never received any acknowledgement of these letters. They have sent packages through the Friends Church or the Quakers as they know it. Mrs. [redacted] said she never received any acknowledgement of these gifts or whether they were ever received.

Neither Mr. or Mrs. [redacted] have ever heard of the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam. However, both stated if they did receive any information they would immediately contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

EO12812-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 7803 [redacted]  
CN 345,570 POW/MIA PR EO 12812

b2c

On 10/23/70 at [redacted] File # NY 97-353

b2c

by SA [redacted] Date dictated 10/26/70

b2c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

October 22, 1970

Date

b7c

Mrs. [redacted] mailing address [redacted] New Jersey, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

She is the mother of [redacted] United States Air Force, who was shot down over North Vietnam on [redacted] 1967.

Mrs. [redacted] learned from the United States Air Force in August 1969, that her son, [redacted] was imprisoned by the North Vietnamese forces and was a prisoner-of-war. She advised that she has never received any mail or other type of communications from her son since he was imprisoned in North Vietnam.

Mrs. [redacted] advised that during this time she has been in constant contact with the Office of Air Force Personnel concerning her son's imprisonment. She advised that her son was formerly married, but that his wife divorced him approximately one year ago and has remarried. She felt that her former daughter-in-law's present address is unknown to any organization which would be soliciting her cooperation in connection with [redacted] imprisonment.

Mrs. [redacted] advised that she has received only one communication from the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Retained in North Vietnam which was dated May 4, 1970, and which she made available at this time. She advised that she has never been contacted telephonically or personally by any member of COLIFAM and she was not familiar with the organization and its purposes other than as contained in the letter which she had obtained from them in May.

Mrs. [redacted] advised that she has not utilized the form furnished by COLIFAM by which she could communicate with her son, but that in view of the lack of any other mail received from him she was considering submitting a letter through this committee. She stated that prior to any such action she would contact the Office of Air Force Personnel for any instructions regarding this matter.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9103  
POL/JMA PLE:O/RTR/CW365/S70

EO 12812-2

On 10/12/70 at [redacted] N.J. File # Newark 97-353  
by SA [redacted] SA [redacted] Date dictated 10/16/70

b7c

NK 96-353

T  
E0130-2  
I

Mrs. [redacted] <sup>b2c</sup> advised that she knows of no other members of families of prisoners-of-war who have been contacted by COLIFAM. She noted that at no time has there ever been any attempt made to influence her to utilize services of COLIFAM and no duress has been placed on her by any member of this committee to utilize its services.

Mrs. [redacted] <sup>b7c</sup> made available a copy of the letter received from COLIFAM dated May 4, 1970.

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

Working with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

3

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

May 4, 1970

Co-chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss  
  
Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

From: Rev. Richard Fernandez  
To: The families of the 335 presently confirmed prisoners held in North Vietnam  
Re: Information on correspondence with prisoners

Committee:  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Devis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchtet  
\*Maggie Gaddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meucham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schumann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

On April 20th I returned from a three-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. In North Vietnam I spoke with officials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families here. The following information was emphasized to me by the North Vietnamese authorities and we are anxious to make sure that you are aware of it:

- 1) The Vietnamese recommend that families use the air-letter form (enclosed) for correspondence.
- 2) Communication to pilots should be limited to matters of family and health.
- 3) Pilots are allowed to receive one letter per month and one package every other month (not over six pounds in weight).

\*staff

Detention Camp authorities have said that they do not wish to receive several letters and/or packages per month for a given pilot from different members of the same family. Families should make arrangements for alternating letters each month if different members

want to write.

The North Vietnamese authorities indicated that, from this point forward, they will not feel responsible for forwarding letters and packages that do not adhere to the above.

If the letter form is mailed directly it can go in another envelope but the mail route, "via Moscow, U.S.S.R.," should definitely be included in the address. If letters are sent to the Committee of Liaison for forwarding please enclose but do not affix stamps as we send letters on in packets. The Committee cannot forward packages for families.

While I was in Hanoi, Prof. Douglas Dowd of Cornell University and I met with three pilots: Cdr. Robert Schweitzer of Lemoore, California; Cdr. Walter Wilbur of Virginia Beach and Lt. Col. Edison Miller of Santa Ana, California. The three men were in good health, and said they had daily exercise and reading material. The three pilots advised us that they had been getting letters and packages from their

62  
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803  
RUBIN/ML/ED/LLZ  
CJWS/S/TC

101 17-050  
4  
Richard Fernandez memo - page 2.

families, and asked that packages include toilet articles and canned foods. In particular they mentioned soap, shaving cream (no razors or blades), toothpaste, powdered milk and cream, instant coffee and non-melting candy. They said they do not need clothes.

Also, in my discussions with the Vietnam Committee of Solidarity with the American People, the Committee of Liaison's contact in North Vietnam, we confirmed that since December over 800 letters have been sent from Hanoi through the Committee of Liaison. Of those, 156 letters are still on their way from Hanoi to families here.

We hope that this information clarifies some aspects of correspondence for you. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457899)

DATE: 11/30/70

FROM :

SAC, BUFFALO (100-20689) (P)

SUBJECT:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN  
NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)  
IS - MISCELLANEOUS  
REGISTRATION ACT  
(OO: NEW YORK)

Re mylet, 10/29/70.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five (5) copies each of two (2) LHMS dated and captioned as above. Also enclosed for New York are two (2) copies of each of above LHMS as New York is Office of Origin in this matter.

The Agent conducting the interviews of Mrs. [redacted] and Mrs. [redacted] on 10/8/70 was SA [redacted]

LEADS

BUFFALO

AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

Will continue interviewing relatives of individuals named on list.

- 2 - Bureau (Encls. 10) (RM)
- 2 - New York (Encls. 4) (RM)
- 2 - Buffalo

ENCLOSURE

EX-115  
REC-25

750493 9803

CN345570  
RUMIA PVED1282  
CONFIDENTIAL

DATE 9/2/82

#220,673

-4-7-97-192

DEC 3 1970

AGENCY: ARMY, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER., STATE, CIA

RAO (ISD, CRO, SRO) [redacted]

DATE FORW: 12/31/70  
HOW FORW: 815

57 JAN 2

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OTHERWISE





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Buffalo, New York  
November 30, 1970

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM  
(COLIFAM)

On October 8, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b2c</sup>  
was interviewed by a representative of the Federal Bureau of  
Investigation and furnished the following information:

E012812-2

9803 [REDACTED] <sup>b2c</sup>  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3-19-93 BY MIA-POW Special

DATE 9/2/82 BY [REDACTED] <sup>b2c</sup>

1230,693 7/26/93 9803  
POW/MIA AREO 12872  
CU345,570 <sup>b2c</sup>

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OTHERWISE

11-4-11-110  
ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

-1-

*b2c* Date 10/20/70

Mrs. [redacted] advised that her husband, [redacted] U. S. Air Force, was lost over South Vietnam when his [redacted] was destroyed [redacted] years ago.

*b2c* She said that she has never been contacted by a representative of the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) or any similar type organization. She advised that she has written to the Cora Weiss Organization, which has had some contact with North Vietnam and has been successful in getting information about prisoners detained in North Vietnam. She said that she had merely written a letter to this organization to make it known that her husband was missing. She never received any response from this organization.

She advised that she has been in contact with most of the relatives of missing servicemen in this area, and to her knowledge, no one has been contacted by the COLIFAM group.

*E012812-2*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9805 [redacted] *b2c*  
POW/MIA Pr E012812 CN 345,570

On 10/8/70 at [redacted] *b2c* New York File # Buffalo 100-20689

by SA [redacted] *b2c - 2 -* Date dictated 10/14/70

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)

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to be distributed outside your agency.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Buffalo, New York  
November 30, 1970

**COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)**

On October 8, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> was interviewed by a representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and furnished the following information:

E012812-2

*NEA-EDW Special*

*2800 [unclear] [unclear]*

[REDACTED]

b7c

9/2/82

#220,673

72913 480

POW/HMPure 012812  
CU345,570

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OTHERWISE

ENCLOSURE

7899-1913

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b2c

-1-

Date 10/20/70

Mrs. [redacted] advised that she has heard nothing about her son, [redacted] U. S. Air Force, since he was reported missing on [redacted] 1968. She remarked that her son was on a mission over Hanoi at the time. His wingman later reported that he was fifteen miles approximately from [redacted] when he saw an explosion come from the area in which [redacted] was located.

She advised that she has never been contacted by a representative of the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) or any other similar type organization. She personally feels that her son is dead and has never received any information to make her think to the contrary.

b7c Mrs. [redacted] advised that her son's wife and two children are now living in Texas. Her [redacted] resides in [redacted] New York. She remarked that none of them have been contacted by the organization mentioned above.

EO 12812-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED b2c  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
POW/MIA Air EO 12812  
CN 345,570

on 10/8/70 at [redacted] New York File # Buffalo 100-20689  
by SA [redacted] b2c - 2 - Date dictated 10/14/70

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)

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nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI  
and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not  
to be distributed outside your agency.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457889)

FROM : SAC, BUFFALO (100-20689) (P)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)  
IS - MISC  
REGISTRATION ACT  
(OO: NEW YORK)

DATE: 11/30/70

b2c  
[Redacted]

Re New York airtel to Bureau and all Offices, 6/9/70, and San Antonio let to Bureau and all Offices, 8/27/70.

On 11/12/70, Mrs. [Redacted] New York, advised SA [Redacted] that her daughter [Redacted] wife of [Redacted] is now residing at [Redacted] Florida, telephone number [Redacted]. Mrs. [Redacted] advised she felt sure her daughter had not been contacted by Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam.

b2c

LEAD

EO 12812-2

JACKSONVILLE

b2c

AT [Redacted] FLORIDA

DATE 9/2/72

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9/2/72 BY [Redacted]

7/26/93  
2803

AWM/MIA  
per EO 12812  
EN 315, S

b2c

Interview Mrs. [Redacted] in accordance with instructions set out in referenced communications.

- (2) - Bureau (RM)
- 2 - New York (RM)
- 2 - Buffalo

(6)

b2c

EX-106

REC 70 100 -

- 193

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OTHERWISE



DEC 9 1970

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FBI

Date: 12/3/70

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457899)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-168469)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)  
IS-MISC  
REGISTRATION ACT ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
(OO:NY) HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803  
FOIA MIA per EO 13526, COLIFAM 5/70

EO 12812-2

On 12/2/70,

[redacted] NY, advised that [redacted] and JAMES DE WEESE, a reporter from the "Piqua Daily Call", Piqua, Ohio, are leaving the US on a trip to obtain entrance into North Vietnam in an effort to obtain information concerning POWs.

[redacted] and [redacted] have a brother by the name of [redacted] who has been missing in action in Vietnam. On 12/3/70, COLIFAM forwarded a letter dated 11/20/70 from the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity with the American People which contained information that [redacted] was never detained in North Vietnam.

NY will maintain contact with [redacted] and will make efforts to debrief [redacted] upon his return to the US in an effort to gather possible intelligence information.

REC 27 100-457899-194

2-Bureau (RM)  
1-New York

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OTHERWISE

DEC 4 1970

DEC 10 1970

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Special Agent in Charge



They said Mrs. KETCHUM is in almost daily contact with Mrs. [REDACTED] Michigan, and [REDACTED] b2c

[REDACTED] both of whom are wives of POWs and reside close to Selfridge Air Force Base. They said based on their contacts with Mrs. KETCHUM they believed that any contact by the FBI with KETCHUM, [REDACTED] would result in either newspaper or radio publicity in this area. They said both Mrs. [REDACTED] and Mrs. [REDACTED] are trying to develop new ways to publicize POWs. b2c b2c

On 10/12/70, SA [REDACTED] OSI, said that both Mrs. [REDACTED] and Mrs. [REDACTED] have expressed concern to Mrs. KETCHUM that the alleged acts by Customs Officials at Kennedy Airport, New York, may hinder their source of communicating with POWs in North Vietnam. SA [REDACTED] also stated all POW relatives have been instructed by Military Authorities to furnish no information to anyone and to immediately report any attempted contact by anyone to the nearest Military installation Personal Affairs Office, also are to notify RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas. b2c b2c

E012812-2

In line with that SA [REDACTED] of OSI advised that right after the FBI agents left the home of Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] (interview in LHM) they called Selfridge Air Force Base and talked to Mrs. KETCHUM, Mrs. KETCHUM then called he [REDACTED] who said the FBI agents were personally known to him. He said because of that Mrs. KETCHUM did not call Randolph Air Force Base. b2c

In view of the above, Mrs. [REDACTED] and Mrs. [REDACTED] are not being contacted. It is not believed they would be the least bit cooperative and widespread publicity could result.

Source mentioned in LHM is SA [REDACTED] OSI, who furnished the COLIFAM letter, received from Mrs. KETCHUM who in turn received it from Mrs. [REDACTED] b2c



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Detroit, Michigan  
November 19, 1970

Re: Committee of Liaison with  
Families of Servicemen Detained  
in North Vietnam (COLIFAM)

On page 4A of the October 13, 1970, edition of the  
"Macomb Daily", a daily newspaper published in Mt.  
Clemens, Michigan, appeared an article captioned  
"High-Twelve Club Urges Campaign to Free POWs". The  
article is set out as follows:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] 67- E012812-2  
CN 345,570 POW/MIA PR E012812

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

100-454111-195

ENCLOSURE

# High-Twelve Club Urges Campaign to Free POWs

By ROBERT SELWA  
Staff Writer

**MOUNT CLEMENS** — "Start writing the governments of the United States, North Vietnam and other countries to get the prisoners in the Vietnam War freed", members of the High Twelve Service Club of Mount Clemens were told Monday.

The plea was made at a noon luncheon in Mount Clemens by a club member and his two guests speakers, one the father of a Vietnam War prisoner and the other a former prisoner in Korea.

The speakers were Clarence J. Fleig of Harrison Township, father-in-law of Maj. Donald Odell who is a prisoner of the North Vietnamese Army, and James Thompson of Detroit, an Army housing assistant who spent 33 months in a North Korean prison during the Korean War.

LARRY LcFAVOUR, a Harrison Township insurance salesman, introduced the speakers and joined their plea for action on the prisoner problem by telling club members to write letters and bring them to the next club meeting next Monday.

The letters are to go to governments of combatant and noncombatant nations urging humane treatment for prisoners and their earliest possible release.

Fleig noted that there are now 1600 Americans who are known prisoners of enemy forces in North Vietnam, South Vietnam and Laos or are missing in action. He added that there are 304 Americans who are still prisoners or are unaccounted for from the Korean War of 1950-53.

THOMPSON SAID that during his 33 months in captivity, his diet was inadequate and his weight fell from 185 to 105 pounds. And he wasn't treated any different than other prisoners, he added.

The prisoners walked from a Korean prison camp to one in China 700 miles away during their captivity and their only food was corn, rice and soybeans, he reported.

The Geneva Convention on the Treatment of Prisoners had little or no effect in the Korean and Chinese prison camps in which he was kept, Thompson recalled, at least not until the prisoner issue became a world concern.

"After world opinion played upon the Communists, they began to treat the prisoners better," he reported.

THOMPSON said that no soldier desires to be captured. "No one feels it is being a hero to be a prisoner," he related, "and sometimes as a prisoner I felt it would have been better to have been killed."

He urged all citizens to let the U.S. government and other national governments know that there is concern about prisoners of war.

"We owe it to the prisoners to try these people (the captors) in the court of world opinion," Thompson remarked. "Tell them to release the sick and wounded and to allow letters to be exchanged."

"AND WITH pressure," he predicted, "we would probably have a prisoner exchange even before the war is over."

Fleig said that his son-in-law was captured by the North Vietnamese while on a U.S. Air Force mission on Oct. 17, 1967. It wasn't until Dec. 23, 1969, that Odell's family first learned that he was alive, as the first letter home arrived.

Since then there have been a half dozen more letters from the prisoner allowed through, each on stationery with only six lines, containing only assurances of good health and expressions of family love.

"To know that he is alive is a tremendous relief," Fleig said, "but now we fear for his survival."

HE POINTED OUT that the North Vietnamese do not allow the International Red Cross to inspect the prison camps in that country.

"The prisoners who have been released indicate the treatment is inhumane and the medical facilities primitive," Fleig went on. "They speak of solitary confinement for prolonged periods of time, living in cages, improper diet, removal of fingernails."

"Naturally you can appreciate our deep concern for Don's welfare."

He said that when a joint session of Congress was called on Sept. 22 for a report by former astronaut Frank Borman on the prisoner question, only a few of the members of the Senate and the House showed up.

"I can't help but feel my son is among America's 1600 forgotten heroes," he commented.

After Fleig also urged the audience to write to the members of Congress, to the government of North Vietnam, and to whoever else might be involved or could help, Le Favour told the club members to get writing.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803

62c  
E12312-2  
CN345570 POW/MIA PRE012812

Re: Committee of Liaison with  
Families of Servicemen Detained  
in North Vietnam (COLIFAM)

*b2c* [redacted] *b7c*  
Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] Michigan, who have a son, [redacted]  
[redacted] who is a Prisoner of War (POW) were  
interviewed and advised as follows:

EO 12812-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date October 15, 1970

Mr. [redacted] Michigan, was advised of the identities of [redacted] and [redacted] as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, by an exhibition of credentials. Mr. [redacted] was explained the reason for the interview, after which time he stated that he had been notified by United States Air Force authorities not to discuss any activities regarding any individuals that he might have contacted regarding his son, [redacted] who is currently a prisoner of war being held in North Viet Nam.

b7c

b2c

b7c

b2c

Mr. [redacted] expressed concern for the well being of his son, [redacted] and said although he would very much like to cooperate with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Department of Justice, he would decline to make any comment regarding any group or individual that he has been in contact with regarding his son. Mr. [redacted] advised his son is presently married; however, [redacted] also declined to furnish her name or address, and reiterated these were his instructions that were furnished him by United States Air Force authorities from Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

b7c

E01202-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]

b7c

CN345,570 POW/MIA pr E01202

On 9/28/70 at [redacted] Michigan File # Detroit 100-37260

b7c

by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] Date dictated 10/1/70

b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date October 15, 1970

Mrs. [redacted] Michigan, was advised of the identities of [redacted] and [redacted] as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, by an exhibition of credentials. Mrs. [redacted] was advised the reason for the interview, after which time she stated that as much as she would like to cooperate with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Department of Justice, she would abide by orders issued her husband and herself from Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, to not discuss her son, [redacted] who is currently being held a prisoner of war in Vietnam, with anyone. b7c

Mrs. [redacted] said she would also decline to furnish the whereabouts of her son's wife, and would decline also to comment on any contacts she had regarding individuals who furnished information regarding her son, and reiterated these are instructions furnished her husband and herself by the United States Air Force. b7c

E012812-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED b7c  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
CN345,570 POW/MIA PER E012812

On 0/28/70 at [redacted] Michigan File # Detroit 100-37260 b7c

by SAs [redacted] and [redacted] b7c Date dictated 10/1/70

Re: Committee of Liaison with  
Families of Servicemen Detained in  
North Vietnam (COLIFAM)

b2c

EO12812-2

Mrs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Michigan, who has a son, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] that is a POW was interviewed and advised as follows:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

b2c Date 9/29/70

b2c Mrs. [redacted] Michigan, advised that in about June, 1970, she received a telephone call from BEA SEITZMAN, representing the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM), New York City. She was informed that a letter from her son [redacted] who is prisoner in North Vietnam, was on the way to her. She advised that she did receive a letter from [redacted] about one month later. b2c

b2c Mrs. [redacted] advised that since that time, she has received two letters from COLIFAM, and that these letters dealt only with instruction for addressing letters to her son. She advised that the letters instructed that her letters could be mailed directly to her son and sent to him through COLIFAM. She advised that since she has written to her son about once a month and sends the letters to COLIFAM to be forwarded to [redacted] b2c

b2c Mrs. [redacted] advised that she has no way of telling whether or not her letters are received by [redacted] b2c

b2c Mrs. [redacted] advised that she was able to identify Captain NEUENS in the newsreel that was recently shown of prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

EO 12812-2

b2c Mrs. [redacted] advised that she has received no harrassment from COLIFAM, and her only contact with this committee has related to mailing letters to her son.

b2c Mrs. [redacted] advised that at this time she would like to withhold her opinion as to her willingness to testify should her testimony be needed. She advised that at such time as her testimony might be needed she would make up her mind based on what effect her testimony might have with regard to her son [redacted]

INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9903 [redacted] b2c  
CN 345,570 POW/MIA PR EO 12812

On 9/23/70 at [redacted] Michigan File # Detroit 100-37260  
by EA [redacted] Date dictated 9/24/70

Re: Committee of Liaison with  
Families of Servicemen Detained in  
North Vietnam (COLIFAM)

b2c EOP 12-2

Mrs. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Michigan, who is the wife of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] A POW, was interviewed and advised as  
follows:

b2c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 10/26/70

Mrs. [redacted] Michigan, was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents as well as the nature of the inquiry and she furnished the following voluntary information:

She stated she is the wife of [redacted] and that he is a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. She stated she knows of the organization called the "Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM)" because she gets mail from her husband through this organization. She added that no one from COLIFAM has ever contacted her personally nor has anyone from the organization harassed her in any way. She stated letters from her husband are addressed to her but are sent to her parents' address, Mr. and Mrs. [redacted]

[redacted] Michigan, because her husband feels this confuses the Vietnamese. She advised her husband's letters come in an envelope from COLIFAM along with a short letter from them which usually states that they are glad to be of service. She stated she received the first letter from her husband on December 27, 1969, which came through COLIFAM and that she has received seven letters in all through them.

Mrs. [redacted] stated she writes her husband three letters per month and has sent several packages to him but that she sends everything through Moscow, not through COLIFAM. She advised she has never received any personal objects from her husband since he has been a prisoner of war.

She advised COLIFAM has never revealed any of their contacts, only that someone from their organization goes to Vietnam and hand carries mail back to the United States from prisoners of war. She stated she does not know any other servicemen's families in the area who have been contacted by COLIFAM and that she has never personally

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]

62c  
CLASSIFIED BY SP4MIA/PC/ED/2/7/12

On 10/16/70 at [redacted] Michigan File # Detroit 100-37260

SAs [redacted]

by [redacted] Date dictated 10/19/70

DE 100-37260

2

corresponded with COLIFAM. She added that there is no local COLIFAM organization and that all correspondence from them comes from New York City. *b7c*

*E012812-2*

Mrs. [REDACTED] furnished interviewing agents a letter from COLIFAM, dated May 13, 1970, and she added that she would be willing to testify concerning this matter.

Re: Committee of Liaison with  
Families of Servicemen Detained in  
North Vietnam (COLIFAM)

A copy of the letter from COLIFAM dated  
May 13, 1970, furnished by Mrs. [REDACTED] appears  
as follows:

b7c E00812-2

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

Co-chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kolish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Scitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

May 13, 1970

Dear friend:

Today we received two packages of letters which we have been expecting from prisoners held in North Vietnam. The total number of letters in both packages was 156. Although the packages were mailed a month apart, they both arrived here today.

We are very happy to send herewith the letter addressed to you.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Webster*  
Barbara Webster

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803

CN345,570 POW/MIA PR E012812

E012812-2  
67c

Re: Committee of Liaison with  
Families of Servicemen Detained in  
North Vietnam (COLIFAM)

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on October 13, 1970, furnished the following letter from COLIFAM dated September 18, 1970:

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

# COMMITTEE OF PERSON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

September 18, 1970

Co-chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Friends,

We are very happy to forward the enclosed letters to you. I would like to give you an account of the events that took place around the illegal seizure of these letters at Kennedy Airport on Wednesday. You would have had your mail a day or two earlier had it not been for this interference.

Robert Scheer announced when he left Hanoi that he had been given 379 letters from pilots whose names appeared on the list of 335 previously confirmed prisoners. Mr. Scheer, with a delegation of 10, had spent three months in Algeria, North Korea, China, and North Vietnam, and had accumulated a wide range of materials. However, U.S. Customs officials at Kennedy Airport were interested only in the whereabouts of the letters. Mr. Scheer opened the two packets of letters for the Customs officials to see. They then took him into a private room and demanded that he turn over the mail, saying, "We must open it and read it." He refused to hand over the letters as they had been consigned to him for immediate delivery to families. Finally, the Customs officials agreed to place the letters in bond, where the packages were officially sealed and a receipt given to Mr. Scheer.

(Last Saturday 143 letters were brought by a traveller returning from Hanoi. That brought to 1243 the number of letters from prisoners that have been delivered by hand to the U.S. without interference.)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/95 BY 9803

CN345,570 POW/MIA per E 012812

No explanation has been offered by anyone for the seizure of the mail, and no guarantees have been made that this will not happen again. On Thursday afternoon the State Department assured me that the mail was available to be claimed and expressed concern that it be forwarded immediately to relieve anxiety of waiting families. We reminded the State Department that it was the government that had seized the mail in seeming disregard for the families, prisoners, and the future of communication between them. Mr. Scheer offered to meet with representatives of the State Department at the airport to discuss the situation and see what could be done to prevent future occurrences of this nature. His request was rejected. When he went with Rennie Davis and myself to reclaim the mail, he was unnecessarily harrassed, and the press was ejected from observing the reclamation, despite the fact that the very same people had observed the seizure. When he finally got the letters, Mr. Scheer immediately transferred them to the Committee of Liaison for distribution.

We are very distressed about this incident. This delivery of mail brought first letters from previously confirmed prisoners for four families, some of whom had had no mail for five years. We have devoted considerable time and effort to maintaining a reliable and efficient channel for communication between you and the pilots. At the initiative of the North Vietnamese both the volume and frequency of mail has increased. The pilots have been receiving increasing numbers of packages, including a wide assortment of food, medicines, clothing and various kinds of games. We are not responsible for the consequences that acts of governmental interference may produce.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with us if you have any questions, and kindly inform us of any changes of address. Should you wish us to forward mail to your relatives in North Vietnam we will be glad to do so. There will be several people travelling there in the coming months.

Sincerely yours,

*Cora Weiss*  
Cora Weiss



dead or whether he is a prisoner of war. <sup>b2c</sup> She advised that she is presently [redacted] National League of Families of Men Missing in Action or Prisoners of War in Southeast Asia. Mrs. [redacted] advised that she has appeared in public on several different occasions and that all of her efforts are known to the Air Force and the Air Force is extremely cooperative and furnishes her any and every assistance possible. She further advised that she does not know if her husband is alive at this time.

Mrs. [redacted] <sup>b2c</sup> noted that she has never been contacted personally by any group or organization regarding her husband, however, she has received communications from the "Committee of Liaison", New York, N. Y. She advised that this group on one occasion forwarded to her a postal card apparently written by a friend of the family [redacted] This <sup>b2c</sup> postal card expressed the sentiment for a Blessed and Merry Christmas to the [redacted] family. There was no mention of Mrs. [redacted] husband, who is well known to the writer of the card. [redacted] is a known prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

*EO 12812-2*  
Mrs. [redacted] <sup>b2c</sup> further noted that a form letter was sent to her by the Committee of Liaison at the time the card was forwarded to her, and a typewritten letter was subsequently sent to her by this committee. She advised that all material has been turned over to the Air Force, namely, Lt. Col. A. W. GRATCH, U. S. Air Force, who is attached to the Directorate of Personnel Services, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. She stated that the card and envelopes were returned to her, however, the form letters were retained by Col. GRATCH.

Mrs. [redacted] <sup>b2c</sup> advised that she would inform the FBI in event any additional communications are received from this committee or if she is contacted personally by any member of this committee.

Leads to contact the Randolph Air Force Base concerning this matter is left to the discretion of the office of origin.

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



REC-1 TO  
ATTN: OI

USAFMPC (AFPMSCB)  
RANDOLPH AFB TEXAS 78148

16 JUN 1970

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED]  
Tennessee

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

We are returning the original card from [REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED] as the technical analysis has been completed.

A detailed examination and comparison has been made of the card with  
the known writing of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The ques-  
tioned portion of the card, "Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c represents an  
extremely limited sample for examination. However, within the limits  
imposed by the questioned sample, it was concluded that "Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED] was very probably not written by your husband. It is quite  
possible it was written by [REDACTED] b7c

Your cooperation in making this correspondence available to us is  
greatly appreciated, and we sincerely hope that you may soon receive  
a letter from your husband.

It is our pleasure to be of assistance to you. Please contact us  
whenever the need arises.

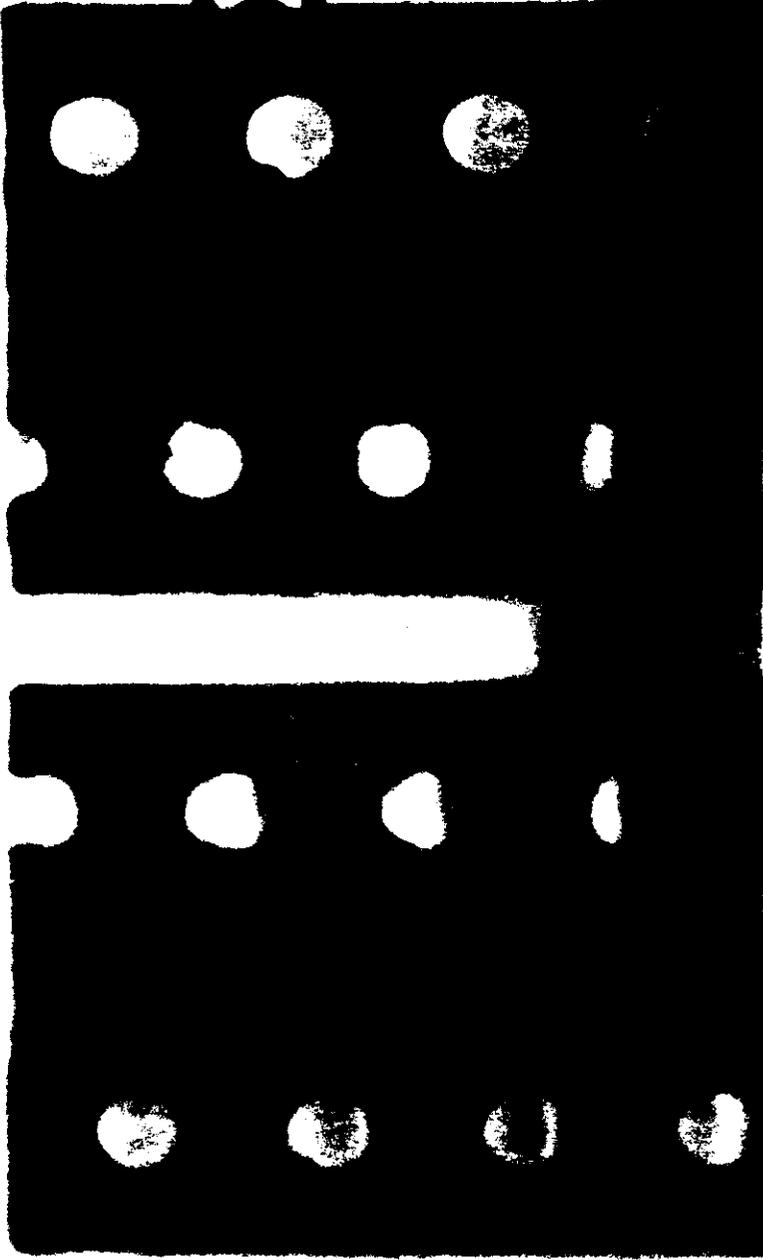
Sincerely

*A. W. Gratch*

A. W. GRATCH, Lt Colonel, USAF  
Directorate of Personnel Services

1 Atch  
PW card, undated

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE





[Illegible text block, possibly a header or address area]

[Illegible text block, possibly a recipient address or title]

50-812

[Illegible text, possibly a subject line or recipient name]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 2-28-73 BY 110  
 [Illegible]



[Illegible text]

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

2nd Floor

365 WEST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/24/93 BY 9803  
[redacted] Poughkeepsie per Ed 12/81/2  
CA 246,570

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten "RECEIVED"*



*Handwritten "First Class"*

*Handwritten "b2c"*

*Handwritten "Mr."*

[redacted]

*Handwritten "b2c"*

*Handwritten "Family"*

*Handwritten "b2c"*

[redacted]

*Handwritten "Tennessee"*

Date November 12, 1970

b7c

b7c

Mrs. [redacted] Tennessee, advised that she is the wife of [redacted] United States Air Force, who has been listed by the Air Force as "missing in action" in the Vietnam conflict. Mrs. [redacted] advised that she has been active in the Tennessee Area in efforts to determine if her husband, as well as other servicemen, is alive or prisoner of North Vietnam. She stated she is presently [redacted] the National League of Families of Men Missing in Action or Prisoners of War in Southeast Asia.

b2c

Mrs. [redacted] further advised that she has never given up hope that her husband may be alive and that all of her efforts to develop information on the behalf of the servicemen who are either prisoners of war or who have been listed as missing in action are well known to the Air Force. She advised that the Air Force is extremely cooperative and furnishes her every assistance possible.

b7c

Mrs. [redacted] stated that she has never been personally contacted by any group or organization other than the Air Force regarding her husband or any other prisoner of war or serviceman missing in action. She did advise, however, that in April, 1970, she received a communication from a group who called themselves the Committee of Liaison with address of 365 W. 42nd Street, New York, N. Y. The details of this contact are:

Exp 812-2

A Manila envelope addressed to Mrs. [redacted] and Family, [redacted] Tenn., postmarked New York, N. Y., April 9, 1970, and bearing the return address of "Committee of Liaison", 2nd Floor, 365 W. 42nd Street, New York, N. Y., was received by Mrs. [redacted] at her residence at [redacted]. This envelope contained another plain white envelope which was addressed to Mrs. [redacted] and family, [redacted] Tenn. This envelope bears the postmark of Vietnam, HA-NOI; the date is not legible. The return address on this envelope is [redacted] Camp of Detention for U S Pilots Captured in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

b7c

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

b7c

DATE 7/26/93 BY 9863  
FOUO/MIA and 12812  
Tennessee File # TK 100-4158

On 11/4/70

by SA [redacted]

Date dictated 11/6/70

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

The plain white envelope contained a postcard addressed to Mrs. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED] Tenn., USA. This [REDACTED] was written in ink and bears the signature of [REDACTED] according to Mrs. [REDACTED] is [REDACTED] who is a close personal friend of the [REDACTED] family and is a known prisoner of war. The handwriting on this postal card, besides the address of Mrs. [REDACTED] is "Scenic Halong Bay where U.S. first bombed North Vietnam." (Mrs. [REDACTED] is of the opinion that this sentence describes the reverse side of the postal card.)

"Dear [REDACTED] and boys, b7c

"A Blessed, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and entire family. I pray you're doing O.K. I'm just fine and I'm sure they will do their best to give us a good Christmas here.

"God Bless you.

"Love to all, b7c  
[REDACTED]

FD12812-2  
In addition to the above described items, there was a form letter of the Committee of Liaison which in substance stated that they had received packages of mail and more were coming and that the enclosed letter was one of the packages. Mrs. [REDACTED] subsequently received a second letter from the Committee of Liaison which was typewritten. This letter desired to know if Mrs. [REDACTED] wanted to use their services in contacting loved ones. Enclosed with this letter was a form letter for possible replies. b7c

The Air Force was notified of the receipt of these items and the letters received from the Committee of Liaison were furnished to the Air Force, who has retained them. Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that she does not recall whose name appeared on the letters from the Committee of Liaison. b7c

In regard to [redacted] Mrs. [redacted] explained that this individual has been a very close personal friend to her husband and to herself and to her entire family. She advised that he is a known prisoner of war and has written to his own family in the United States. b7c

*ED 12812-2*  
Mrs. [redacted] further advised that she is the only wife in the [redacted] area whose husband is listed as missing in action. She stated that there are other individuals in [redacted] who have relatives missing in action. These are primarily parents with their sons being the ones listed as missing. She advised that she does not know of any of these persons having been contacted by the Committee of Liaison. b7c

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>INDIANAPOLIS</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE <b>12/2/70</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>9/11/70 - 11/9/70</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>	TYPED BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IS - MISCELLANEOUS REGISTRATION ACT</b>	

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Albany dated, 10/12/70.

-P-

ENCLOSURES:

One copy each of the following are being enclosed for the Bureau and New York of the following correspondence received by Mrs. [REDACTED]

A letter from COLIFAM dated April 8, 1970, signed STEVEN HALLIWELL and BARBARA WEBSTER;

Letter from COLIFAM dated April 20, 1970, signed STEVEN E. HALLIWELL;

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

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- 3 - Bureau (100-457899) (RM) (Enc. 8)
- 2 - New York (100-168469) (Enc. 8) (RM)
- 2 - Indianapolis (100-20786)

3cc destroyed

100-457899-191 REC-79

TO DEC 7 1970

EX-113

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/24/93 BY 9801 [REDACTED]

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	RAIO-ISA		
Request Recd.			
Date Fwd.	12/2/70		
How Fwd.			

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DEC 22 1970

IF 100-20786

Letter from COLIFAM dated May 4, 1970, which is incomplete;

Letter from COLIFAM dated June 14, 1970, signed BARBARA WEBSTER;

Western Union Telegram dated August 8, 1969, signed RENNARD C. DAVIS;

Letter undated from RENNARD C. DAVIS;

*FD 12812-2 b2c*  
The following letters received by Mrs. [REDACTED] from the American Friends Service Committee, Incorporated dated December 15, 1969, and January 20, 1970, signed LOUIS W. SCHNEIDER and LOUIS W. SCHNEIDER and ROGER G. FREDRICKSON respectively. *b2c*

LEADS:

INDIANAPOLIS  
At Indianapolis, Indiana

Will follow and report results of additional outstanding investigation.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

All individuals interviewed were advised that this investigation is being conducted at the direction of J. WALTER YEAGLEY, Assistant Attorney General.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:  
Date:

[Redacted] *b7c*  
December 2, 1970

Office: INDIANAPOLIS

Field Office File #:

100-20786

Bureau File #:

100-457899

Title:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES  
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH  
VIETNAM (COLIFAM)

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - MISCELLANEOUS  
REGISTRATION ACT

Synopsis:

*b7c*  
Mr. [Redacted] Mrs. [Redacted] and Mrs. [Redacted]  
[Redacted] were interviewed concerning the Committee of Liaison  
With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM)  
and they provided information relating to their knowledge of or  
contact with COLIFAM. Interviews of Mrs. [Redacted]  
Mr. [Redacted] Mrs. [Redacted] Mrs. [Redacted]  
*b7c* [Redacted] Mrs. [Redacted] Mr. [Redacted] Mrs. [Redacted]  
[Redacted] Mrs. [Redacted] and Mrs. [Redacted] produced  
negative results concerning any contact with COLIFAM. *b7c*

*EAD 8/12*

*b7c*

-P-

DETAILS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED *b7c*  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9805 [Redacted]  
CN345,570 POW/MIA P#E012812

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

*b7c*  
Date September 17, 1970

*b7c*  
Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] Indiana, advised that their son, [redacted] U. S. Air Force Serial Number [redacted] enlisted in the U. S. Air Force in [redacted] 1965, and went to Vietnam in [redacted] 1966. Notification was received from the U. S. Air Force in [redacted] 1966, that their son was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

*b7c*  
Mrs. [redacted] further advised as follows:

She received a letter sometime in March, 1968, from Reverend DANIEL BERRIGAN, Cornell University, concerning prisoners of war in North Vietnam. BERRIGAN suggested that families of prisoners of war write to DAVID DELLENGER, Editor, Liberation Magazine, 5 Beekman Street, New York, New York, if they wish to communicate with prisoners.

*b7c*  
Mrs. [redacted] wrote a letter to DAVID DELLENGER and enclosed a letter addressed to her son in North Vietnam.

*EO 12812-2*

She received a letter dated April 2, 1968, from BARBARA WEBSTER, Liberation Magazine, acknowledging receipt of her personal letter to her son and informed Mrs. [redacted] that the letter was taken to Hanoi by FRANZ SHURMANN. A memo from DAVID DELLENGER was also enclosed in the letter from BARBARA WEBSTER. *b7c*

In January, 1970, an information sheet from the "Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam" was received through the mail, which contained information that a Committee of Liaison had been established to facilitate communication between families in the United States and servicemen imprisoned in North Vietnam.

*b7c*  
Sometime in April, 1970, Mrs. [redacted] received a telephone call from a person who identified herself as BARBARA WEBSTER, who stated that it had been confirmed that her son was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. Mrs. [redacted] stated that she informed the caller that she had already known that.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9503 [redacted]

On 9/11/70 at [redacted] Indiana File # IP 100-20786

by SA [redacted] Date dictated 9/14/70

2  
IP 100-20786

A letter was received in April, 1970, from "Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam" (COLIFAM), signed by CORA WEISS and DAVE DELLINGER advising that official confirmation had been received that her son was being held in North Vietnam.

A letter was received <sup>b7c</sup> from COLIFAM dated April 20, 1970, signed by STEVEN E. HALLIWELL and which a letter from her son was enclosed. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that the letter was very short and personal and that she forwarded it to the U. S. Air Force.

*EO 12812-2*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> stated that she has received no additional information from COLIFAM since that time. She has had no personal contact with any member of COLIFAM and received only the one phone call from the individual who identified herself as BARBARA WEBSTER. She stated that she received only one letter from her son through COLIFAM, which was enclosed in the letter dated April 20, 1970. She is in possession of no additional information concerning any contact by COLIFAM with families of other prisoners of war.

Mrs. [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> stated that she would be willing to testify concerning this matter.

The following are copies of communications received from COLIFAM:



# Cornell University

CORNELL UNITED RELIGIOUS WORK

ANABEL TAYLOR HALL  
ITHACA, NEW YORK 14850

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/24/73 BY [redacted]  
CROSS REF: POW/MIA PRO [redacted]

67c

March 3, 1973

Dear Friends,

I hope you will pardon this form letter. I have received from many families requests for information on prisoners of war in Viet Nam. So I must find a way of answering all such letters within a reasonable time.

Professor Zinn and I left with the North Vietnamese authorities, a list of prisoners listed in the United States as 'missing in action.' We asked the authorities to verify whether these men were still living. Our request was received courteously, and we were assured that if a favorable reply were received from the military and political leaders, we would hear of it. As of now, no such reply has been received.

We brought with us letter to prisoners from their families, and carried back with us a number of letters from the prisoners. I suggest that all families wishing to communicate with prisoners, send letters to Mr. David Dellinger, Editor, Liberation Magazine, 5 Beckman Street, New York, N.Y. Mr. Dellinger has been intermediary between the North Vietnamese and the American Peace Congress. It is probable that another American group will be invited to Hanoi in the near future; if so, they will carry your letters.

Many of you are relatives of men listed as missing in action, and have asked whether Professor Zinn or I could gain information about their fate. Alas, we have no such resources. I can only suggest that you forward the name, and some particulars, about such men, to Mr. Dellinger; the next group going to Hanoi can do whatever is possible in this regard.

You have also asked about the conditions in the camps, the physical condition of the men, etc. May I reassure you in this matter. The three pilots whose release we obtained, were in good physical and mental condition; their weight was par or slightly over; and this though two of them had been wounded in coming to earth. Indeed, we had every indication that the North Vietnamese were doing what they could, in a small developing country under our bombs, to act humanely toward prisoners.

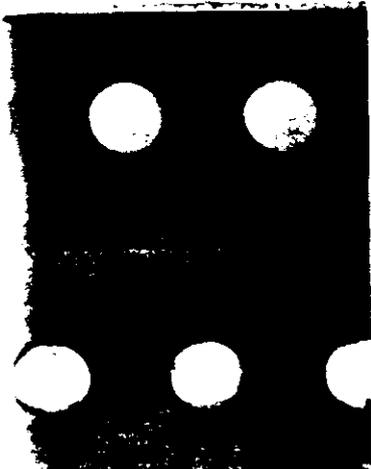
I regret with all my heart that more information is not at hand for us to relieve your sorrow; and I pray (with you) that a cruel and wasting war may soon end.

Sincerely,

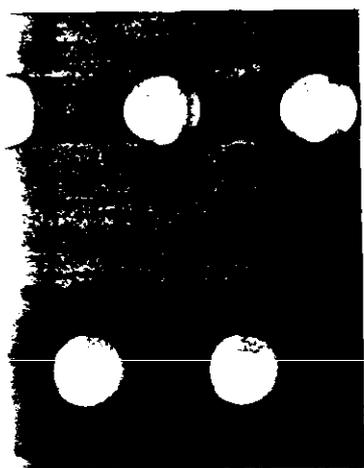
(Rev.) Daniel Berrigan, S.J.

62c

Dear Father [redacted] - I am so sorry the above is all the information I have. Please be sure, and assure your family. I am with you in your sorrow and uncertainty -  
Dan Berrigan, S.J.



Ed 12812-2



# LIBERTARIAN

3 Spadina Street • New York, N.Y. 10038  
Telephone: (212) CD 7-1488 • Cable: PEACEMOVE

EDITORIAL BOARD: A.J. Muste (1885-1967), Chairman;  
Dave Dellinger, Editor; Barbara Deming; Paul Goodman; Sidney Lane; Staughton Lynd  
Lamar Hoover, Managing Editor; Ralph Di Gio, Treasurer  
Associate Editors: Kay Boyle; Tom Hayden; Nat Hentoff; Mollard Sibley

April 2, 1968

Mrs. [REDACTED] b2c  
Mrs. [REDACTED]

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED] b2c

The letter to your son which you sent us in March was taken to hand by Franz Schumann. The enclosed here from Dave Dellinger will hopefully shed some light on questions you may have.

E012812-2

Sincerely,  
*Barbara Weister*  
Barbara Weister

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/21/73 BY 9803 [REDACTED] b2c  
CN 345,570 POW/MIA per CIA 12812

INFORMATION FOR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF MEN IN  
THE ARMED FORCES WHO HAVE WRITTEN ASKING FOR POSSIBLE  
ASSISTANCE IN FINDING OUT ABOUT THEIR LOVED ONES OR IN  
GETTING LETTERS TO AND FROM PRISONERS OF WAR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/24/93 BY 9805

670 E012812-2  
2010 JMA RE E012812 E0346570

FROM DAVE DELLINGER

First of all let me say that I am touched more than I can say by many of the letters I have received and in any case am deeply moved by the plight of the men themselves and of those who love them and are separated from them under extremely painful and difficult circumstances. Unfortunately, as I am sure most of you realize, in most cases there is all too little that I or any other American can do to be of help. Before I discuss what may and may not be possible, however, let me apologize for not being able to write each of you personally, promptly, and in adequate detail. I have literally been swamped by letters and phone calls. Even if I had no other work, I doubt if I could keep in proper touch with all those who have written, but unfortunately, my work requires that I travel a great deal and, particularly when I am out of town there is often a gap between the time your letter arrives and the time I am able to read it, let alone answer it. However, if there is anything that can or should be done in my absence, my associate, Barbara Webster, makes sure that it is taken care of promptly. Because I don't like to keep you in suspense in a matter as heartrending as that which has occasioned your letter and because I am ashamed already to have kept a number of you waiting far too long, I have finally decided to write this memo, which Barbara can send out at once to everyone. Whenever possible we will write you individually as well, and will certainly do so if at any time we have more precise information that applies to you personally. If you do not hear from us it is because we have nothing more specific to add, but be assured that we are doing everything in our limited power to get your inquiry into the hands of the proper Vietnamese, or your letter into the hands of your relative or friend.

Now, as to what can be done, what probably can't be done, and the things that I am presently unclear about, let me write as accurately as I possibly can and hope that I do not understate or overstate the case.

GENERAL RELATIONSHIPS AND PRISONER RELEASES

I myself have visited Hanoi twice, once in October-November 1966 and once in May-June 1967. Sometimes as long as six months go by without a visit by an American journalist or member of the anti-war movement and sometimes there is a trip every month or six weeks. In addition to these trips, I and a number of other members of the anti-war movement have intermittent contacts with North Vietnamese and members of the National Liberation Front in Paris, Prague, Havana or in various other cities on occasions when international conferences of one kind or another take place. In all such contacts, both the N.L.F. and representatives of North Vietnam (the Democratic Republic of Vietnam) stress that their opposition is to the "war-making U.S. government" and not to the American people. In particular they are

very friendly to people who are opposed to the war, whom they consider to be the true representatives of American ideals and of the democratic and peace-loving American people. I say this not to weigh the accuracy of their beliefs or to try to appraise all the probably complicated reasons for their friendliness to the anti-war movement, but to indicate the hopeful side of our attempts to intercede with the Vietnamese in behalf of men captured in Vietnam. In line with their general attitude, the N.L.F. has twice released prisoners "to the American peace movement." (In 1965 and again in November 1967.) The D.R.V. released three captured pilots to representatives of the anti-war movement in February of 1968.

On the more difficult side of things, the Vietnamese are horrified by what they consider to be a war of imperialist aggression by the United States government and in particular, I judge from my contacts that, however hard they try to live up to their belief that the individual is not the enemy, they find it extremely difficult to "excuse" those who have bombed their cities or attacked their villages. When I spoke with Ho Chi Minh in Hanoi, he took a dual approach. On the one hand, he stressed the anguish of all Vietnamese at having their cities bombed, their wives, husbands, parents, children or friends killed and wounded. On the other hand, he surprised me by expressing great sympathy with and compassion for those Americans who, as he sees it, have been either brainwashed by their culture or conscripted by the Armed Forces, into fighting in Vietnam. He said over and over that North Vietnam desires no revenge or punishment but only an end to U.S. attempts to control Vietnam.

In our contacts with American prisoners, we have found that a number of them were threatened or struck by angry peasants, when they parachuted down or were separated from their unit, but were protected and well treated and cared for as soon as the militia or other representatives of the government took them under control. On my second visit I was allowed to visit a prisoner-of-war camp in Hanoi and to talk freely and at length with two of the prisoners. I always distrust such situations, no matter who the captor or captive is, because I know that the situation is highly artificial and that, even with the best of intentions, a prison is a prison. Willy nilly the prisoner is under extreme psychological pressure, just from the fact that it is a prison, that he is dependent upon his keepers, is separated from his loved ones, etc. So I do not want to overstress what I saw or was told (by either the Vietnamese or the U.S. prisoners) but everything that I did see and hear was encouraging. Housing conditions in this particular prison were comfortable and sanitary; the prisoners spoke and acted as if they were in good mental health, and said that they knew of no torture or brainwashing. Incidentally, one of the difficulties I have run up against when talking to representatives of the N.L.F. and the D.R.V. is that they are acutely aware of the torture and beatings of N.L.F. prisoners captured by the U.S. and Saigon armies.

(I have written at greater length of my visit to the Hanoi prison camp in the May-June 1967 Liberation and will be glad to send you a copy if you desire. I am not sending it out routinely because in the article I tell of other things that I saw and express my opposition to the war, and I don't want to seem to force my political viewpoint on you or add

to your anguish.)

Also on the negative side of things, the S.L.T. held off on further release of prisoners for two years after its first release, because the two released men, Smith and Hurler, were whisked away by the U.S. Command to Okinawa, held incommunicado for near weeks, and finally released under threat of being charged with having given "aid and comfort to the enemy" during their imprisonment, if they made any public statements about the war or about the conditions of their imprisonment. Similarly, after discussions with the D.R.V. had led them to tell us that they would release three to five prisoners in August 1967 as an act of humanitarianism, as a friendly gesture to the American people they cancelled these releases because they were afraid that the bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong, which began during the very period when the releases were planned, would be interpreted as a sign of weakness and a willingness on their part to negotiate a loss of their sovereignty and independence. When they finally released three prisoners, in February, they told our representatives (Father Daniel Berrigan and Prof. Howard Zinn) that this was a non-political act of humanitarianism associated with their Tet or Vietnamese New Year, for which they asked nothing in return. However, they did release the prisoners to the American peace movement and were understandably disappointed when U.S. Ambassador Sullivan boarded the International Control Commission plane at Vietnam, Laos, and told the men that the matter had been discussed in the White House and at the highest military levels and that instead of returning to the U.S., as planned, on an ordinary commercial flight with Father Berrigan and Prof. Zinn, they should board an Army plane for Thailand (going to one of the bases from which bombers take off for Vietnam) and thence, by military plane, to the U.S. (Howard Zinn discussed this and other questions relating to this prisoner release in The Nation of April 1. Copies of that issue can be obtained from The Nation, 333 Sixth Avenue, New York City, for 50¢.)

#### LETTERS AND INQUIRIES ABOUT MISSING PERSONNEL

Trips to Hanoi are erratic and uncertain. In November 1967 four U.S. students who had been granted visas by Hanoi got as far as Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and then were turned back because the intensive bombardment of North Vietnam made the visit impractical. They were carrying letters for and inquiries about U.S. prisoners. They gave the letters to the North Vietnamese in Phnom Penh, and we assume they were delivered to Hanoi. We have received no answer to the inquiries. Prof. Zinn and Father Berrigan were in Hanoi on January 31, 1968 and arrived in Hanoi on February 1st. They gave letters and inquiries to the Vietnam Peace Committee and were assured that the letters would be delivered and the inquiries passed on to the proper authorities. As in all visits by Americans, they brought back a number of letters from prisoners, which they mailed on their return to this country on February 19th. They brought back no answers to the inquiries. On the one hand they were in Hanoi only a week, on the other hand, there are some indications that the Vietnamese may consider it a matter of

military ~~not~~ to reveal how many prisoners they have  
or what their names are. Many of us have urged them to re-  
lease this information, for humanitarian reasons, but this  
may be one of the places where our advice as anti-war Americans  
is overruled by other, Vietnamese considerations. Or perhaps  
we will receive an answer to the inquiries some day, any day.  
I hesitate to predict, but we will continue to forward such  
inquiries to them and to let them know how helpful it would be,  
from our point of view, for them to answer in any cases where  
they do have information.

Prof. Franz Schumann of California University at Berkeley  
left New York on March 10th and took all letters and inquiries  
that I had received by that date. When he and Mary McCarthy,  
the writer, return from this trip they will undoubtedly bring  
letters which will be mailed at once. If they have any addition-  
al information relevant to your concern I will get it to you  
right away.

Future trips will continue to be unpredictable but there is a  
possibility of one or two trips in the next two months, plus  
the possibility of contacts with North Vietnamese in Europe,  
who may then return to their homeland. I think that if I had  
a relative in prison over there I would use both channels--  
regular mail and the erratic, unpredictable route of the anti-  
war movement. To the best of my knowledge regular mail goes  
by way of China and takes a very long time. It also is unpre-  
dictable. Remember North Vietnam is torn up and under day and  
night bombardment. It can take weeks, perhaps months, to get  
to out-of-the-way places, which may mean some of the prisoner  
camps. In addition, the train or truck or bicycle or peasant  
carrying the mail may be blown up, preventing delivery. Except  
in the case of prisoners housed in Hanoi, this problem remains,  
whether the mail is sent by regular post or is hand delivered  
in Hanoi.

I hope that you take this for granted, but send your letters  
sealed. Naturally I have no guarantees that the Vietnamese  
won't open them -- to the best of my knowledge that is customary  
in all prisons all over the world. But they will travel better  
in sealed envelopes and none of us wants to intrude on your  
privacy.

I hope that this covers the main areas about which you have  
questions and about which I have even tentative information.  
Please do not hesitate to write if there is some other way in  
which you think I might be able to be of assistance. And, as  
I indicated at the beginning, please forgive me if sometimes  
it takes me a little longer to answer than seems right.

April 2, 1963

Liberation  
5 Beckman Street  
N.Y., N.Y. 10038

# ITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street New York N.Y. 10036

212-768-1400

JANUARY, 1970

EOP 812-2

b2c

## INFORMATION SHEET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/73 BY 7105

AM/MA/PT/60/11/2 4344570

### Co-chairmen:

David Dellinger  
Core Weiss

### Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

### Committee (in formation):

Rennie Davis  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
\*Maggie Geddes  
\*Steve Halliwell  
Stewart Macchem  
Prof. Ben Seitzman  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
\*Trudi Young  
\*staff

### Background

In the course of the Vietnam war, links have been built between the people of Vietnam and Americans who oppose the war through numerous meetings and conferences. These meetings have taken place in Europe, Canada, Cuba and Southeast Asia and have included people from both the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam (now part of the Provisional Revolutionary Government).

In these meetings the Vietnamese have always stressed a distinction between the U.S. government, whom they hold responsible for the policy of war, and the U.S. people, whom they believe still value the goals upon which this country was founded--independence, justice, freedom and equality. This same distinction is evident to those Americans who have visited North Vietnam and found that even though the nation is armed to defend itself, the people are encouraged by their government to believe that the American people are basically decent and humane.

It is therefore understandable that the Vietnamese should indicate their basic confidence in the American people through the peace movement which they believe embodies American ideals, rather than the government. And in the past, the Vietnamese have asked the peace movement to receive U.S. servicemen--primarily pilots whose planes were shot down--when the North Vietnamese government has decided to release them. On three separate occasions--February 1968, July 1968 and July 1969--the peace movement has gone to Hanoi and returned with released servicemen; on one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia to receive three released NLF captives.

In addition, Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters there at the request of families, and have brought back letters from servicemen. There have also been occasions when American peace activists have met prisoners and talked with them.

### Functions of the Committee

A Committee of Liaison has now been established as an extension of these past efforts at the request of the North Vietnamese. As on past occasions, the peace movement is responding to a request by the Vietnamese to meet a specific, immediate need and is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam.

The Committee will seek to facilitate communication between families in the U.S. and servicemen now imprisoned in North Vietnam. Basically, the Committee will receive letters from servicemen and forward them through the domestic mails, thereby decreasing, we hope, past problems in the receipt of such mail. We will also forward letters to North Vietnam at the request of relatives. Families are of course still free to send letters and parcels directly but should note that the instructions on mailing previously issued by the State Department are wrong. The correct address is:

name of serviceman  
serial number  
Camp of Detention of U.S. Pilots  
Captured in the D.R.V.  
Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam

via Moscow, U.S.S.R.

In addition, it is possible to contact the Committee through the following address:

requests for information about servicemen from families who are uncertain if their relatives are being held in North Vietnam. Requests should be submitted to the Committee, but there is no certainty when and if the North Vietnamese will be able to respond. The Committee will of course transmit immediately any information that it receives to the family.

### Clarification

Two clarifications are in order: first, it should be noted that the Committee will be dealing solely with the government of North Vietnam and will not have any information on men held in South Vietnam by the Provisional Revolutionary Government. Nor will we be able to provide information at this time concerning men held in Laos or any other Southeast Asian country where U.S. troops and aircraft are presently involved in combat missions.

Secondly, the Committee will function entirely apart from the U.S. government. The U.S. government has frequently made it more difficult for the Vietnamese to be open to the concerns of American families by using the families' genuine desires as a propaganda ploy. The government has further attempted to provoke an angry response from the Vietnamese by publicizing unsubstantiated and inflammatory testimony from fliers already released: apparently, the government has decided to jeopardize existing communications and the possibility of future releases for the sake of propaganda aimed at prolonging the war. The North Vietnamese are also very aware that the U.S. government's claims of humanitarian concerns are contradicted by the well-documented policy of torture and brutality practiced on prisoners taken in the South by U.S. and Saigon troops.

In addition to all these factors, there is the simple fact that the resolution of the fate of all the servicemen now held in North Vietnam waits ultimately upon a U.S. decision to end the war and withdraw all its forces and materiel.

### Who We Are

We firmly believe that the safe return of these men and the half million others that the U.S. maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and aboard naval vessels--who can also be viewed as prisoners, prisoners of their own government since many have been sent to fight in a war against the dictates of their own conscience--can only come with a decision on the part of the U.S. government to withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will continue our efforts to create popular pressure strong enough to force the government to withdraw.

We are active in a variety of organizations committed to ending the war: American Friends Service Committee, the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, Clergy and Laymen Concerned about Vietnam, Women Strike for Peace, The Conspiracy, and Women Against Daddy Warbucks. The Committee is supported by donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work. //

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

MAIL ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

INFORMATION SHEET

Functions of the Committee

The Committee of Liaison seeks to facilitate communication between servicemen imprisoned in North Vietnam and their families in the United States. The Committee receives letters from servicemen and forwards them to the families through the domestic mails. It also forwards letters to North Vietnam at the request of families. Families are, of course, still free to send letters directly but should not the correct address for both letters and packages:

- Chairmen:
  - Dave Dellinger
  - Coro Weiss
- Treasurers:
  - Mrs. Anne Bennett
- Committee (in formation):
  - Rearse Davis
  - Rev. Richard Fernandez
  - Maggie Gaddes
  - Steve Halliwell
  - Stewart Maccham
  - Prof. Leo Scitamon
  - Ethel Taylor
  - Barbara Webster
  - Trudi Young

Name of serviceman, serial number  
 Camp of Detention of U.S. Pilots Captured  
 in the D.R.V.  
 Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam  
via Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Staff  
Captured servicemen may receive one letter a month and one package (not over six pounds in weight) every other month. The Committee does not forward packages. It is suggested that letters sent to the Committee for forwarding be sealed and that stamps be enclosed (not affixed) as letters are forwarded in packets.

The Committee is only able to be of help with respect to men who have been shot down over North Vietnam.

The Committee also is able to request information regarding the status of men thought to have been shot down over North Vietnam and captured there.

For inquiries the Committee needs to have the individual's service number, and any available information as to when and where he was shot down. With respect to such requests the Committee would expect to receive a letter to his family if the individual is being held in North Vietnam. If the individual is known to be dead or if the North Vietnamese have no information regarding him, the Committee expects to receive that word to the extent possible. In any case the Committee will communicate with the family concerned as soon as it receives word. In this way we expect that, as Xuan Huy, head of the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris, has said, gradually all families of servicemen held in North Vietnam will hear from their relatives.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
 POW/MIA Act of 1987 - 203745, 010

b7c  
 E012872-2

1st round

The Committee of Liaison has been established in response to an initiative

created by the North Vietnamese and is an extension of previous efforts. It is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam.

Since 1955 there have been a number of meetings between people of Vietnam (from both the North and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam) and Americans who oppose the war. On three separate occasions representatives of the American anti-war movement have gone to Hanoi and have returned with released servicemen. On one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to receive three American soldiers who were released by the National Liberation Front. Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters to captured servicemen at the request of their families and they have brought back letters when they have returned to the United States. On several occasions such visitors from the peace movement have met with captured pilots in Hanoi.

#### The Committee

The Committee of Liaison believes that the safe return of U.S. servicemen captured in North Vietnam and the half-million others that the United States maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and aboard naval vessels can only come with a decision on the part of the U.S. government to completely withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will also continue our efforts aimed at the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. armed forces and weapons.

As individuals Committee members are active in a variety of organizations and groups committed to ending the war: the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, The Conspiracy, Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam, U.S. Inter-religious Committee on Peace, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Newsreel, Women Against Daddy Warbucks, Lawyers Committee on Vietnam, and Women Strike for Peace.

The Committee of Liaison is entirely dependent on donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

April 7, 1970

Co-chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Holliwel  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Macadam  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Mr. & Mrs. [REDACTED] L7c

Our Committee has recently received official confirmation of 81 more servicemen being held in North Vietnam. By now you should have

heard that [REDACTED] L7c is on this list. The North Vietnamese have now confirmed through the Committee of Liaison a total of 335 men being held.

This notification also means that a letter is en route from him. The enclosed release explains how mail is forwarded via our office. Because mail from Hanoi is very slow we cannot be sure when the letter will come, but we will forward it as soon as it arrives here.

We are very pleased to be able to perform this service and hope that you will feel free to be in touch with us should you have any questions.

At the same time, we are continuing to work towards the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Southeast Asia so that soon all families, American and Vietnamese, can be united again.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/73 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

CS 845,570 POW/MIA Act E0129121

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] L7c  
Cora Weiss Dave Dellinger

P.S. Kindly excuse the mimeographed letter, but there are many families to reach at the same time.

14

**COMMITTEE OF LIAISON**

**with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam**

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

April 20, 1970

Co-chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Coro Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kulish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]: b7c

Rev. Richard Fernandez, a member of the Committee of Liaison, returned today from a two-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. He brought back the enclosed letter along with 201 others from prisoners being held in North Vietnam.

While there, Rev. Fernandez held a lengthy interview with three pilots, Cdr. Robert Schweitzer, Cdr. Walter Wilber and Lt. Col. Edison Miller. He also was advised by North Vietnamese authorities that families should write letters monthly on the enclosed air-letter forms. We are therefore sending several to you at this time and will send more with subsequent mail.

We are of course very pleased to be able to forward this letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

*Steven E. Halliwell*  
Steven E. Halliwell

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

CW316,570 POW/MIA PROJECT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date September 30, 1970

b7c

Mrs. [redacted]  
Indiana, furnished the following information to SA [redacted]

On April 8, 1970, Mrs. [redacted] was sent a letter from her husband accompanied with a letter from the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM), 385 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, 10036, signed by STEVEN E. HALLIWELL.

On April 20, 1970, she was sent a second letter; also enclosed with it was a letter from her husband again from the COLIFAM, signed by STEVEN E. HALLIWELL. A third letter on May 4, 1970, from the COLIFAM was unsigned.

On June 14, 1970, she received a letter again from COLIFAM, signed by BARBARA WEBSTER. This is the last letter she has received from this Committee, and she stated that she would rather not receive a letter from her husband at all if it had to come through organizations such as this one. They have never contacted her personally and have only included their letter with a letter from her husband. Mrs. [redacted] has never been telephoned or talked to in person.

Eop 12-2

[redacted] is required to read and receive all mail to [redacted]. This is the address of her mother, Mrs. [redacted]. The letters that are received from COLIFAM indicate that different individuals have gone to North Vietnam in an effort to bring back some of this mail and are described as Anti-War Activists spending, at times, two weeks in North Vietnam. Mrs. [redacted] stated that other wives of servicemen detained in North Vietnam who have been contacted in a similar manner are as follows:

b7c

b7c

b7c

b7c

Ohio, Telephone Number [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
FOIA/MIA/PV ED/247L CA 345,570

b7c

On 9/22/70 at [redacted] Indiana File # IP 100-20786

by SA [redacted] Date dictated 9/28/70

b7c

IP 100-20786

2

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] Indiana, telephone number [REDACTED]

Mrs. [REDACTED]

Kentucky, [REDACTED] Telephone number [REDACTED]

Mrs. [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED] Louisiana, [REDACTED] Telephone number unknown.

b7c Mrs. [REDACTED] has given the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) the four letters she has received from the COLIFAM. In each one, they speak of a visit of some of their members to North Vietnam and their talks to the prisoners in North Vietnam. Basically the letters give instructions for mailing letters back to their husbands and the correct procedure the North Vietnamese want used for mailing back to North Vietnam. Mrs. [REDACTED] lastly stated that she would be more than willing to cooperate should her testimony be needed at any later date.

EW/28/22

On August 10, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] received an Airmail, Special Delivery letter from a RENNARD C. DAVIS, National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, 339 Lafayette Street, New York, New York, 10012. Enclosed was a Western Union Telegram dated August 8, 1969. She felt that it may have something to do with the COLIFAM; and therefore, she furnished it to the FBI. In that letter, she also received a letter from her husband. b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date October 5, 1970

**[REDACTED]** <sup>b7c</sup> was interviewed and furnished the following information:

<sup>b7c</sup> Mrs. **[REDACTED]** stated that she is the mother of **[REDACTED]** <sup>b7c</sup> United States Air Force, who is listed as missing in action while on duty with the Armed Forces in Viet Nam.

<sup>b7c</sup> Mrs. **[REDACTED]** stated that she has not been contacted by the Committee of Liaison with families of servicemen detained in North Viet Nam.

*E00872-2*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup>  
CN345,570 POW/MIA per E012812

On 9/24/70 at [REDACTED] Indiana <sup>b7c</sup> File # IP 100-20786  
by SA [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> [REDACTED] Date dictated 9/30/70

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date October 6, 1970

1  
Mrs. [redacted] <sup>b2c</sup> was interviewed and furnished the following information:

Mrs. [redacted] <sup>b2c</sup> stated that she has not been contacted by the Committee of the Liaison with families of servicemen detained in North Viet Nam.

EO12812-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/2/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
CN345,570 POW/MIA pr EO12812

b2c

On 9/30/70 at [redacted] Indiana

b2c

File # IP 100-20786

by SA [redacted]

b2c

b2c

Date dictated 10/2/70

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 9, 1970

*b2c*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] Indiana, was personally contacted and interviewed at her home, at which time she furnished the following information:

*b7c*  
Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that her son has been missing in action for about four years and eight months. She said that the military has warned her about being approached by individuals and groups concerning her son; however, she has been approached by no one. She further advised that should she be contacted in the future, she will advise the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

*E012812-a*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/2/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]  
*b2c*  
CN345,570 POW/MIA PR E012812

On 11/3/70 at [REDACTED] Indiana File # Indianapolis 100-20786

by SA [REDACTED] *b2c* [REDACTED] Date dictated 11/3/70

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date November 12, 1970

*b7c*  
Mrs. [redacted] mother of [redacted] who is presently listed as missing in action by the United States Air Force, was interviewed at her residence, [redacted]

*b7c*  
Mrs. [redacted] felt that she may have had some contact with the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) during the first part of 1970. She recalled receiving several letters from a group, possibly in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, concerning correspondence with her son; and she wrote one letter to her son which was to be forwarded to him in North Vietnam.

*b7c*  
Mrs. [redacted] only contact with this group was through the mail, and she knew of no other families being contacted by the group.

She was unable to locate the letters which she received from the group but advised that she would notify the Federal Bureau of Investigation if she could find them.

She further advised that she would be willing to testify if requested.

ED12812-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted] *b7c*  
CN346,570 POW/MIA PR ED12812

*b7c*  
On 11/7/70 at [redacted] Indiana File # IP 100-20786  
by SA [redacted] *b7c* [redacted] Date dictated 11/12/70

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date November 12, 1970

1 Mrs. [redacted] <sup>b2c</sup> was contacted at her place of employment at [redacted]

She provided two letters dated December 15, 1969, and January 20, 1970, which were sent to her by the American Friends Service Committee, Inc. and two envelopes postmarked December 23, 1969, and January 27, 1970, which were addressed to her and were from the American Friends Service Committee, Inc.

Mrs. [redacted] <sup>b2c</sup> was sure that she had received one other letter from the American Friends Service Committee, Inc.; but she was unable to locate it.

The letter of January 20, 1970, revealed that letters from American prisoners of war would be transmitted through the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam in keeping with North Vietnamese request.

FD 2812-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
CN345,570 POW/MIA PR EO 12912

On	11/9/70	[redacted] <sup>b2c</sup>	Indiana	IP 100-20786
at				File #
by	SA [redacted] <sup>b2c</sup>	[redacted]		11/12/70
				Date dictated

IP 100-20786

The following individuals were interviewed concerning their knowledge of or contact with the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam and all results were negative:

Interviewing Agent	Interviewee	Date and Place of Interview
SA [REDACTED] <i>b2c</i>	Mr. <i>b2c</i> [REDACTED]	September 29, 1970 <i>b7c</i> [REDACTED] Indiana
SA [REDACTED]	Mrs. [REDACTED]	October 7, 1970 [REDACTED] Indiana
SA [REDACTED]	Mr. [REDACTED]	October 12, 1970 [REDACTED] Indiana
SA [REDACTED]	Mrs. [REDACTED]	October 12, 1970 [REDACTED] Indiana
SA [REDACTED]	Mrs. [REDACTED]	October 13, 1970 [REDACTED] Indiana
SA [REDACTED] <i>b2c</i>	Mrs. [REDACTED] <i>b2c</i>	October 13, 1970 [REDACTED] Indiana <i>b2c</i>

*EOD 8/12-2*

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

**CABLE ADDRESS:**

COLIAFAM

**Co-chairmen:**

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

April 8, 1970

**Treasurer:**

Mrs. Anne Bennett

**Committee**

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter

\*Maggie Geddes

Steve Halliwell

Prof. Donald Kalish

Stewart Meacham

Prof. Bea Seitzman

Prof. Franz Schurmann

Ethel Taylor

\*Barbara Webster

Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear friend:

We are very glad to send you the enclosed letter which we received from North Vietnam today.

Over 400 letters are en route from servicemen being held in North Vietnam. The enclosed letter, along with 79 others, was in the first packet to arrive here out of a total of five packets which we have been expecting.

We are also enclosing a letter form which the North Vietnamese have suggested relatives use when writing to servicemen in North Vietnam. You can mail it on regular letters directly to Hanoi or to our office for forwarding. If you send letters to us, please enclose but do not affix stamps as we forward them on in packets.

For those of you who may not have already received one, we are enclosing an Information Sheet which explains what the Committee of Liaison is.

With hopes for an early decision by the United States to withdraw from Vietnam,

Sincerely,

*Steve Halliwell* *Barbara Webster*  
Steve Halliwell Barbara Webster

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/24/93 BY 9803

POW/MIA ED/12/92  
CAJ345,576

620  
EU/2872-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

MAILING ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

April 20, 1970

Chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Ben Spitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

Staff

Dear Miss [REDACTED]

Rev. Richard Fernandez, a member of the Committee of Liaison, returned today from a two-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. He brought back the enclosed letter along with 201 others from prisoners being held in North Vietnam.

While there, Rev. Fernandez held a lengthy interview with three pilots, Cdr. Robert Schweitzer, Cdr. Walter Wilber and Lt. Col. Edison Miller. He also was advised by North Vietnamese authorities that families should write letters monthly on the enclosed air-letter forms. We are therefore sending several to you at this time and will send more with subsequent mail.

We are of course very pleased to be able to forward this letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

*Steven E. Halliwell*  
Steven E. Halliwell

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]  
POW/MIA PRC 12812  
CA 348,870

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]

CN295,570

FOIA/MIA/PUREO/2812

b2c  
EOD 812-2

May 4, 1970

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

From: Rev. Richard Fernandez

To: The families of the 335 presently confirmed prisoners held in North Vietnam

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Re: Information on correspondence with prisoners

Committee

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Ben Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schottmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

On April 20th I returned from a three-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. In North Vietnam I spoke with officials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families here. The following information was emphasized to me by the North Vietnamese authorities and we are anxious to make sure that you are aware of it:

- 1) The Vietnamese recommend that families use the air-letter form (enclosed) for correspondence.
- 2) Communication to pilots should be limited to matters of family and health.
- 3) Pilots are allowed to receive one letter per month and one package every other month (not over six pounds in weight).

\*staff

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Detention Camp authorities have said that they do not wish to receive several letters and/or packages per month for a given pilot from different members of the same family. Families should make arrangements for alternating letters each month if different members

want to write.

The North Vietnamese authorities indicated that, from this point forward, they will not feel responsible for forwarding letters and packages that do not adhere to the above.

If the letter form is mailed directly it can go in another envelope but the mail route, "via Moscow, U.S.S.R.," should definitely be included in the address. If letters are sent to the Committee of Liaison for forwarding please enclose but do not affix stamps as we send letters on in packets. The Committee cannot forward packages for families.

While I was in Hanoi, Prof. Douglas Dowd of Cornell University and I met with three pilots: Cdr. Robert Schweitzer of Lemoore, California; Cdr. Walter Wilbur of Virginia Beach and Lt. Col. Edison Miller of Santa Ana, California. The three men were in good health and said they had daily exercise and reading material. The three pilots advised us that they had been getting letters and packages from their

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
SEP 28 1970

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

*with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam*

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

COLIAFAM

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted] b2c E812812-2  
CN345,570 POW/MIA PER 01/8/12

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

June 14, 1970

Committee

Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Meacham  
Prof. Bea Seltman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear friend:

We are very glad to send you the enclosed letter from North Vietnam. It, along with 142 others, was brought to this country by Jean Palomdon, Nancy Rubin and Judy Claver -- anti-war activists who spent two weeks in North Vietnam.

The letters were slightly delayed in getting here because all the material they brought back with them, including the letters, was confiscated by the Canadian Customs upon their arrival in Montreal. This was totally unexpected and unprecedented; but they generated enough pressure so that everything was returned to them.

There will be another group going to North Vietnam at the end of this month. If you would like them to take a letter from you, please send it to us in the next week or so.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Webster*

Barbara Webster

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

WU136

SP0125 NP156 RM34 PD

SUX NEW YORK NY AUG 3 NPT

MRS [REDACTED] (DLR OR TELEPHONE IMMEDIATELY)

O/O [REDACTED]

*b7c EO12812-2*

R.D. #2

CANTON PENNA

LAST MONTH I WAS INVITED TO TRAVEL TO NORTH VIETNAM TO ESCORT HOME THREE AMERICAN PRISONERS WHO HAD BEEN RELEASED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE

WHILE IN NORTH VIETNAM, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT HANDED OVER TO ME SEVERAL UNSEALED MESSAGE FORMS FROM OTHER AMERICANS STILL IN THE CAMPS

FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THEIR FAMILIES IN THE STATES. BELOW IS THE TEXT OF THE MESSAGE. I FELT THAT IT WAS ESPECIALLY MOVING AND SPOKE STRONGLY OF THE HUMAN COURAGE OF THE MEN STILL IN THE CAMPS. THINKING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/2/73 BY 9803 [REDACTED]  
CN305576 POW/MIA PROJECT

*b7c EO 12812-2*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

YOU MIGHT WANT TO SHARE SUCH A STATEMENT WITH THE AMERICAN PUBLIC, I  
SUGGESTED TO FRIENDS AT TIME MAGAZINE THAT THEY CONTACT YOU ABOUT THE  
POSSIBILITY OF REPRINTING THE MESSAGE IN THEIR NEXT ISSUE. OF COURSE

THAT IS YOUR DECISION, AND I AM HOLDING THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE ON TO YOU

MESSAGE:

MY DEAREST [REDACTED] I HOPE YOU ARE ALL WELL  
AND ENJOYING THE SUMMER VACATION. I AM FINE. I WANT TO WISH ALL OF  
YOU HAPPY BIRTHDAYS AND KNOW THAT I WILL BE THINKING OF YOU,  
MY DARLING, [REDACTED] ON OUR ANNIVERSARY. GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

ALL MY LOVE, [REDACTED] 15 JULY, 1969 - [REDACTED]

END OF MESSAGE. SINCERELY

*b7c*

*Exhibit 2*

RENNARD C DAVIS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/13/83 BY [REDACTED]

716P EDT AUG 8 69

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

Dear Friend, Enclosed is the message whose contents I wired to you yesterday. This message and a number of others like it were handed to me by a North Vietnamese government representative just prior to boarding the International Control Commission plane that left Hanoi earlier this week. I am happy to be able to send this message along, and I am sorry I could not bring any further news or information about all the prisoners now in Viet Nam.

Yours sincerely, *Bernard C. Davis*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 1803 [REDACTED] *67c*  
CN345,570 POW/MIAPor E012912 *E012812-2*

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE~~

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE INC.



160 North Fifteenth Street,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102  
Phone 215-563-9372

HENRY BLERIS  
Chairman

HENRY J. CADBURY  
Honorary Chairman

BROWNSON P. CLARK  
Executive Secretary

January 20, 1970

Dear Friend,

I am happy to report that during my visit to North Vietnam between December 26, 1969, and January 9, 1970, I was able to deliver to the representatives of the Vietnam (Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with American People) about 500 letters that had been forwarded on to me by you and other family members of prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

Immediately prior to my departure from North Vietnam I was given 69 letters from 64 American prisoners of war, and in keeping with the North Vietnamese request these letters have been given to the

Committee of Liaison  
with Families of Service  
men detained in North  
Vietnam  
365 W. 42nd Street  
New York, New York

for transmittal to the individual addressees. We at the American Friends Service Committee are pleased to have had a part in opening a channel for communication between the prisoners and their families and hope that this will continue.

You may be interested to know that during my visit to North Vietnam I was able to deliver a second contribution of open heart surgical equipment to the Benh Vien Viet-Duc Hospital in Hanoi in keeping with a long-standing Quaker concern for civilian sufferers on both sides of a war.

Following my departure from North Vietnam I traveled on to Quang Ngai in South Vietnam to visit the American Friends Service Committee (Quaker) rehabilitation project for civilian casualties.

I have asked my colleagues in Philadelphia to mail this letter to you prior to my return to the United States, so that you might know more promptly that your letter has safely arrived in Hanoi and was given to the appropriate North Vietnamese authorities with my specific request that it be delivered to the individual addressee.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
5012812-2 b7c  
POW/MIA PAREN 2812  
CN345,570

Most sincerely yours,  
*Roger G. Fredrickson*

for: Louis W. Schneider  
Roger G. Fredrickson

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

RF/h

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE INC.



160 North Fifteenth Street,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102  
Phone 215-563-9372

HENRY BEERITS  
Chairman  
HENRY J. CADBURY  
Honorary Chairman  
BRONSON P. CLARK  
Executive Secretary

December 15, 1969

Dear Friend,

This is but a brief note to acknowledge receipt of your letter addressed to your family member who is being held as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

My current plans call for me to arrive in North Vietnam on or about 26 December at which point I hope to be able to turn your letter along with a large number of other letters from the immediate families of men being held to the appropriate authorities of the Democratic Republic of North Vietnam, along with my request that the letters be delivered to the individual prisoners.

After my return to the United States I will write to you again to let you know whether it was possible to deliver the letters.

Most sincerely yours,

Louis W. Schneider  
Associate Executive Secretary

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/24/93 BY 9803 [redacted]  
POW/MIA/PO E012812 CN345,570

67a  
E012812-2

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552

Section 552a

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(k)(5)

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(b)(9)

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(b)(6)

(k)(7)

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~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York  
November 24, 1970

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. Bufile (100-457899)  
NYfile (100-168469)

Class 4-16-8

DECLASSIFIED BY 9823 [redacted] b7c

ON 7/26/93

CA 349,570

POW/MIA per EO 12812

Committee of Liaison With  
Families of Servicemen  
Detained in North Vietnam

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, furnished the following letters in connection with the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) on November 24, 1970. (S)(u)

(1) Letter dated November 23, 1970, from COLIFAM to the relatives of the Prisoners of War (POWs).

(2) Letter dated Hanoi, November 20, 1970, from the Vietnam Committee For Solidarity With the American People addressed to Cora Weiss.

(3) A second letter dated Hanoi, November 20, 1970, to Cora Weiss.

Cora Weiss

Source stated that Cora Weiss, Co-chairman of COLIFAM, mailed 297 to the families of POWs on November 23, 1970, with a cover letter which is enclosed. u

EO 12812-2

X  
X  
X  
X  
X

~~SECRET~~  
~~GROUP I~~  
~~Excluded from automatic~~  
~~downgrading and~~  
~~declassification~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)  
DATE 3/8/78  
b7c

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

CLASS. BY [redacted] b7c  
DATE [redacted] 9/2/82  
#229,673

100-457899-1177

ENC. 1

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

~~SECRET~~

**with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam**

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

DECLASSIFIED BY 983 [redacted] b7c E0128122  
ON 7/26/93  
FOR MIA PER E0128122 CN845,570

(212) 549-4478

CABLE ADDRESS:  
COLIAFAM

Co-chairmen:  
Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

November 23, 1970

Treasurer:  
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Dear friends:

Committee  
Richard J. Barnett  
Rennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
\*Maggie Geddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Maccham  
Prof. Bea Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Barbara Webster  
Trudi Young

Last night the lawyers who visited North Vietnam returned, bringing a packet of 326 letters from 297 pilots. One of them, Morton Stavis of the Lawyers Committee on American Policy Towards Vietnam, gave us the following report from his conversations there:

"The authorities told me that they receive many 'provocative' packages and letters. Examples they gave were packages containing pieces of iron and metal objects; clothes that are too small (based on the erroneous assumption that the men have lost a lot of weight); letters which don't stick to the rules regarding contents (this makes it more difficult to sort and sometimes impossible to deliver).

They told me that many letters coming as a result of provocative and unfriendly campaigns in the U.S. are clogging the postal channels, making it extremely difficult for legitimate mail to be sorted and delivered.

This is not the case for mail sent by hand."

The North Vietnamese have confirmed directly to the Committee of Liaison that a detention camp was hit in the recent bombings by the U.S., and some casualties were sustained. Should we receive further details we will be in touch with the families involved.

2 Sincerely,  
*Barbara Webster* Barbara Webster

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ỦY BAN VIỆT NAM ĐOÀN KẾT VỚI NHÂN DÂN MỸ  
VIETNAM COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Hanoi - D. R. Vietnam

Cable Address: VIET-MY-Hanoi

DECLASSIFIED BY 980  
ON 7/20/00

PHIÊN BẢN CHỈ DÙNG NỘI BỘ

Hanoi November 20, 1970

Dear Mrs Cora Weiss

With reference to your letters and cables inquiring about pilots supposedly missing in Democratic Republic of Vietnam, we would like to communicate to you the following information we have got from the Democratic Republic of Vietnam Defense Ministry :

(S)

APONADA Victor FR 62506	Never detained in North Vietnam
DIEHL William, Calvin FR 60962	Dead
LURIE Alan, Pierce FR 65266	Present in a DRV detention camp
McDANIEL Eugene, Barker 602046	Present in a DRV detention camp
PARIS Charles C. 678487	Never detained in North Vietnam
PERISHO Gordon S. 655540	Never detained in North Vietnam
CHALBERS Carl Dennis FV 3133401	Present in a DRV detention camp
COLLALORE Allen 643410	Never detained in North Vietnam
CRAYTON Render 529039	Present in a DRV detention camp
DONALD Myron Lee FR 80331	Present in a DRV detention camp
GOSS Bernard FR 30482	Never detained in North Vietnam
GREILING David 577705	Never detained in North Vietnam

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KAUFMAN Joseph	Never detained in North Vietnam
133323852	
LAWRENCE Bruce	Never detained in North Vietnam
12506319	
MAYER Roderick	Never detained in North Vietnam
650074	
McNIGHT George, Grisby	Present in a DRV detention camp
AO 3051289	
MILLIS James	Never detained in North Vietnam
671748	
POLLARD Ben, Marksby	Present in a DRV detention camp
FR 53879	
RUFFIN James	Never detained in North Vietnam
656906	
VARESELAAR Larry	Never detained in North Vietnam
701554	
VESCELIUS Milton	Never detained in North Vietnam
6165391310	
WILLIAMSON Don	Never detained in North Vietnam
46788 A	
WINGSTON Charles	Never detained in North Vietnam
FR 77244	
WORREL Paul	Never detained in North Vietnam
698989	
BAUDER James R.	Never detained in North Vietnam
550038	
BUCKLEY Victor P.	Never detained in North Vietnam
701420	
CLIFFIN Richard A.	Never detained in North Vietnam
76810	
CRONIN Michael P.	Present in a DRV detention camp
668952	
DARCY Edward J.	Never detained in North Vietnam
21205372	
DAVIS Robert C.	Never detained in North Vietnam
59185	

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KYCZEWSKI Robert R. AO 3055101	Never detained in North Vietnam
FORD Randolph W. 564552	Never detained in North Vietnam
FRANKS Fred A. Junior 513370	Present in a DRV detention camp
GIST Tommy E. FR 3109484	Never detained in North Vietnam
HALYBURTON Porter A. 677514	Present in a DRV detention camp
HALL James L. FV 3171400	Never detained in North Vietnam
HEILIG John 667042	Present in a DRV detention camp
KUEHLER Donald R. FV 3156129	Never detained in North Vietnam
KRAMER Gerald D. FV 3155965	Present in a DRV detention camp
LIEBICH Richard W. Junior 673601	Never detained in North Vietnam
HIGHENSBLE Randall J. AY 25854729	Never detained in North Vietnam
OBBSORNS Edwin Junior FR 54560	Never detained in North Vietnam
PILES Peter X. 052359224	Never detained in North Vietnam
SHEET Robert 2nd TDA 2181	Never detained in North Vietnam
SMITH H. 049641	Never detained in North Vietnam
THOMPSON George W. FV 3139155	Never detained in North Vietnam
WRIGHT James J. 663959	Never detained in North Vietnam
CRAMER, Robert Roger FV 3034313	Present in a DRV detention camp

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J. Gatabert

FR 63790

DAVIS, Brent B.

084394

BREIDAN, P. Foley

FR 57572

GOODERHOTE, Wayne Keith

693919

NELSON, Richard C.

638762

ALEXANDER, J. Palenscar Third

669399

JAMES, E. Teague

708549

HOPPER, Earl P.

FR 80425

Never detained in North Vietnam

Never detained in North Vietnam

Never detained in North Vietnam

Present in a DRV detention camp

Never detained in North Vietnam

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VIETNAM COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY  
WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

*Trần Trọng Sảng*

Trần Trọng Sảng

~~SECRET~~

VIETNAM BOON HET VIEI NAM BAN HET  
VIETNAM COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Hanoi - D. R. Vietnam

Cable Address: VIEI-NY-Hanoi

*301-7-67*

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]  
ON 7/26/83

CN 845,570 *FOR MIA RE EOLITE*

Hanoi November 20, 1970

Dear Mrs Cora Weiss

Over the past period, we have received letters from a number of American families inquiring about pilots supposedly missing in Democratic Republic of Vietnam. After inquiring of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam Defense Ministry, we request the Coliafam to convey to the interested families the following information :

*130*

**HASNYTH, John Heber**  
FV 3120117

Present in a DRV detention camp Mr John Heber Hasnyth  
1238 N Delta St.  
St Saw Gabriel, Calif.

**KOTT, Stephen J.**  
085369

Never detained in North Vietnam Mrs Sam A. Kott  
Sands Point Apts.  
Sarasota, Florida 33577

**HANN, James E.**  
FV 3121400

Never detained in North Vietnam Mrs James E, Hann  
2720 Huntington Drive  
San Marino, Calif. 91108

**EBOTT, John**  
505134

Dead No address

**PAYTON, Donald E.**  
43983 A

Never detained in North Vietnam Mrs Donald E. Payton  
1112 Carper Street  
McLean, Virginia, 22101

**PIRIE, James Glenn**  
614186

Present in a DRV detention camp Mrs Barbara Davis Pirie  
746 Crusader St  
Lemoore, California

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NEWSOM, Benjamin Byrd FR 2217686	Dead	No address
BOGIAGES, Christos C.Jr. 3064743	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Bogiages 645 James Lee Road Apt. 102 Fort Walton Beach, Florida, 32548
HUBBS, Donald Richard 535125	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Doanld Richard Hubbs 3705 Balm Drive Bonita, Calif. 92002
CLARE, Lawrence AF 111471SO	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Lawrence Clark 120 Austin Street Salina, Kansas 67401
FERBERTON, Gene Thomas FR 26552	Dead	No address
WESKAMP, Robert Larry FV 3152424	Dead	No address
CZEKHEC, Raymond G. VS 54829745	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mr and Mrs Mathew Czerwiec 8955 Southfield Drive Oak Lawn, Illinois 60455
McGRARY, Jack 14470536	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs W.E. Bidson 725 Florence Avenue Madison, Tennessee 37115
DOBY, Herb FR 29991	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Herb Doby 1000+ Clue Drive Bethesda, Maryland 20034
BALDOCK, Frederick C.Jr 666620	<i>Present in a DRV detention camp</i>	<del>Never detained in North Vietnam</del> Frederick G. Baldock, Sr 7130 Waite Drive, Apt 11 Lemon Grove, Calif. 92045
FELLOWS, John Heaphy 603983	<i>Present in a DRV detention camp</i>	Mrs Patricia Watins Felloves Elletow, Maryland New York
NORTH, Kenneth Walter FR 53694	<i>Present in a DRV detention camp</i>	Mrs Carol (Oglee) 365 MILLWOOD Rd Chappaqua, New York
BALLARD, Arthur T.Jr FR 31816	<i>Present in a DRV detention camp</i>	Mrs Ruth S. Ballard Route No 1 Lake Lure, North Carolina

(D)

28762

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- 3 -

MERONEY, Virgil Kerah III FY 3177979	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Virgil K. Meroney 340 Highland Fayetteville, Arkansas
SMITH, Homer Leroy 521872	Dead	No address
ALCORN, Wendell Reed 658707	Present in a DRV detention camp	Mrs Ruth Alcorn Rd 2 Kittanning, Pennsylvania
DAVIS Robert C. 59185	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Robert C. Davis 23 East Broad Street Box 365 Burlington New Jersey 08016
BOGGS Paschal G. 078290	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs P.G. Boggs P.O. Box 602 Stockbridge, Georgia 30281
CHRISTENSEN William Murray 676700	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mr and Mrs Charles H. Christensen 112 River view "C" Great Falls, Montana 59401
SCHMIDT, Norman FR 42319	Dead	Mrs Mary Ann Schmidt 14162 Monte Verde Rd, Apple Valley, California
ESTOCIN, Michael John 602876	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs M.J. Estocin 6557 Manana Place La Jolla, Calif. 92037
TUCKER, Edwin Byron 560316	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Edwin B. Tucker Box 535 Kathews, Va. 23109
AUSTIN, Williams Renwick II FR 71588	Present in a DRV detention camp	Mrs Myrtle Looper Austin RFD No 1 Box 41 Simpson Verte, South Carolina
ALBRIGHT, John Scott FR 3195411	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mr John Scott Albright 7105 Berkshire Drive Camp Springs, Md 20031
DOOLEY, James E. 606509	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mr Henry E. Dooley Manchester Center Vermont 05255

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-9-

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SIJAN, Lance Peter 80654	Dead	No address
PIKE, Peter X. 052-36-9224	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Peter X. Pike 1 Washington Square Village New York, New York 10012
MITCHELL, Gilbert Louis 680985	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Patsy Mitchell 1003 Princeton Ave. Bakersfield, Calif. 93305
STORZ, Ronald Edward 3057474	Dead	Mr Max Edward Storz 8 Donald Court Elmont New York
DAY, George Everette FR 49555	Present in a DRV detention camp	Mrs Doris M. Day 4317 West Ocotillo Road Glendale, Arizona 85301
HAGERMAN, Robert Warren FR 52894	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Robert W. Hagerman 12614-30th Ave. East Puyallup, Wash. 98371
HOLLEY, Tilden Stewart FR 48394	Never detained in North Vietnam	T.S. Holley 543 Commerce Street West Point, Mississippi 39775
BURNS, Donald Ray FR 44702	Present in a DRV detention camp	Mrs Dorothy Mays Burns 2809 W Marco Dr Mineral Wells, Texas
CAMERON, Kenneth Robbins 554612	Dead	Mr Kenneth Cameron 1105 Lierra St. Berkeley, California
STAFFORD, Hugh Allen 614922	Present in a DRV detention camp	Mrs Roberta L. Stafford 18152 Burlwood Lane Lemoore, California
DAVIS, Brent Eden 084394	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Russell H. Davis, Jr. 102 Edgemont Road Scarsdale, New York 10583
HYSTROM, Bruce A. 496733	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mr and Mrs Urno A. Hystrom 957 Harvey Drive Marion, Ohio
OLSEN, Floyd F. 05514836	Never detained in North Vietnam	Mrs Grace I. Olsen P.O. Box 665 Winfield, Illinois 60190

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COBBLE, Earl Glenn  
FR 61453

Dead

Mrs E.G. Cobble  
1361 Eagon Rd  
Pantiac Mich. 48054

HUGHES, James Lindberg  
FR 43211

Present in a DRV  
detention camp

Mrs James Lindberg Hughes  
115 West Santa Fe, Avenue  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

PEARSON, Robert H.  
FV 3163073

Never detained in  
North Vietnam

Mrs Robert H. Pearson  
1100 Columbia St, Apt. K  
Marysville, Wash. 98270

CAMPBELL, Clyde W.  
FV 5192970

Never detained in  
North Vietnam

Mr and Mrs B.W. Campbell  
512 Richardson  
Longview, Texas

u  
(A)

Vietnam Committee for Solidarity  
with the American People

*Handwritten signature*

Trần Trọng Quát

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Houston, Texas  
November 27, 1970

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH  
FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN  
DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM  
(COLIFAM)  
INTERNAL SECURITY -  
MISCELLANEOUS  
REGISTRATION ACT

MIA-POW Special L2c  
9803 [redacted] 3-30-93  
ED12812-2 L2c  
DATE 9/2/92  
#220,673  
766 F3 9803  
POW/MIA per ED12812  
CN345,570

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100-4571-21

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 11/27/70

*b7c* Mrs. [redacted] *b7c*  
 [redacted] advised that she is the wife of [redacted] a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. She was informed of the identity of the interviewing agent and advised that she was being contacted and interviewed concerning the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam at the direction of J. WALTER YEAGLEY, Assistant Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice. Mrs. [redacted] advised that her husband, a member of the U.S. Air Force, was assigned to Thailand in [redacted] 1967 and on [redacted] 1967 he was listed as missing in action. In [redacted] 1969, Mrs. [redacted] was officially notified that her husband was a prisoner of war and was being detained in North Vietnam.

*b7c* In March 1970, the first letter from her husband was received by Mrs. [redacted] and this was through regular mail channels and the letter was postmarked from Hanoi.

*b7c* Several weeks later Mrs. [redacted] *b7c* received a mimeographed letter dated April 7, 1970 on letterhead stationery of the "Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam". This letter was signed by CORA WEISS and DAVE DELMINGER. This letter also enclosed a two page information sheet explaining the functions of the above committee. This letter indicated that mail had been received by the committee from servicemen being held in North Vietnam and that a letter would be forwarded to her shortly from [redacted] Mrs. [redacted] advised this was the first contact or information she had with this organization. Another letter, dated April 20, 1970, was received from the above committee and included a letter from [redacted] *b7c* This letter also enclosed a number of "letter forms" upon which correspondence should be directed to [redacted] per the request of Vietnamese authorities. Another letter, dated May 4, 1970 was received from the same organization containing information as to how correspondence and packages should be directed to the prisoners.

Another letter from the same group, dated September 18, 1970, was received which enclosed two letters from [redacted] *b7c*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/93 BY 9805 [redacted] *b7c*

CN545,578

Texas File # [redacted] HO 105-2693

11/23/70

On \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

by SA [redacted] *b7c*

11/25/70

Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_

NY 100-2503

Another letter, dated October 30, 1970, which was in the form of a "general information memo" and enclosed reprints of news articles from the "Center Report" and "The Nation" periodicals.

Several weeks ago an airtel letter bearing the salutation of "Dear Devilics" was received setting forth instructions regarding Christmas mail and packages to be sent to prisoners.

Mrs. [redacted] made available the originals of all of the above communications which were subsequently xeroxed and the originals returned to her. The copies of these communications are attached.

Mrs. [redacted] advised she has had no further contact with the above organization other than through the above correspondence. With regard to her testifying in a court of law to the above, she stated that she would prefer awaiting until the release of [redacted]

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E012812-2  
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b7c

**COMMITTEE OF LIAISON**

**with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam**

45 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10018

(212) 765-1490

**CABLE ADDRESS:**

SOLVAPAM

**INFORMATION SHEET**

**Functions of the Committee**

Dave Dellinger  
 Tom Weiss  
 Tompkins  
 Mrs. Anne Bennett  
 Committee (in formation):  
 Ronnie Davis  
 Rev. Richard Fernandez  
 Maggie Gaddas  
 Steve Halliwell  
 Stuart Meechan  
 Prof. Ben Seitzman  
 Ethel Taylor  
 Barbara Webster  
 Iradi Young

The Committee of Liaison seeks to facilitate communication between servicemen imprisoned in North Vietnam and their families in the United States. The Committee receives letters from servicemen and forwards them to the families through the domestic mails. It also forwards letters to North Vietnam at the request of families. Families are, of course, still free to send letters directly but should not the correct address for both letters and packages:

Name of serviceman, serial number  
 Camp of Detention of U.S. Pilots Captured  
 in the D.R.V.  
 Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam  
 via Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Captured servicemen may receive one letter a month and one package (not over six pounds in weight) every other month. The Committee does not forward packages. It is suggested that letters sent to the Committee for forwarding be sealed and that stamps be enclosed (not affixed) as letters are forwarded in packets.

The Committee is only able to be of help with respect to men who have been shot down over North Vietnam.

The Committee also is able to request information regarding the status of men thought to have been shot down over North Vietnam and captured there. For such inquiries the Committee needs to have the individual's service number, and any available information as to when and where he was shot down. With respect to such requests the Committee would expect to receive a letter to his family if the individual is being held in North Vietnam. If the individual is known to be dead or if the North Vietnamese have no information regarding him, the Committee expects to receive that word to the extent possible. In any case the Committee will communicate with the family concerned as soon as it receives word. In this way we expect that, as Xuan Thu, head of the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris, has said, gradually all families of servicemen held in North Vietnam will hear from their relatives.

**Background**

The Committee of Liaison has been established in response to an initiative

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 DATE 7/24/93 BY 9803

POW/MIA Pr ED 12512  
 CN345576

67c ED 12512-2

created by the North Vietnamese and is an extension of previous efforts. It is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam.

Since 1965 there have been a number of meetings between people of Vietnam from both the North and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam) and Americans who oppose the war. On three separate occasions representatives of the American anti-war movement have gone to Hanoi and have returned with released servicemen. On one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to receive three American soldiers who were released by the National Liberation Front. Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters to captured servicemen at the request of their families and they have brought back letters when they have returned to the United States. On several occasions such visitors from the peace movement have met with captured pilots in Hanoi.

#### The Committee

The Committee of Liaison believes that the safe return of U.S. servicemen captured in North Vietnam and the half-million others that the United States maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and aboard naval vessels can only come with a decision on the part of the U.S. government to completely withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will also continue our efforts aimed at the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. armed forces and weapons.

As individuals Committee members are active in a variety of organizations and groups committed to ending the war: the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, The Conspiracy, Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam, U.S. Inter-religious Committee on Peace, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Newsreel, Women Against Daddy Warbucks, Lawyers Committee on Vietnam, and Women Strike for Peace.

The Committee of Liaison is entirely dependent on donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.

**CONFIDENTIAL** **ISDM**

**with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam**

30 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

**CABLE ADDRESS**  
**TOLIFAM**

APR 7, 1970

**Chairman**  
Dave Dellinger  
Core Weiss

**Treasurer**  
Mrs. Anne Bonnell

**Committee**  
Richard J. Bennett  
Bennie Davis  
Madeline Duckles  
Prof. Richard Falk  
Rev. Richard Fernandez  
Norman Fruchter  
Maggie Gaddes  
Steve Halliwell  
Prof. Donald Kalish  
Stewart Maccham  
Prof. Ben Seitzman  
Prof. Franz Schurmann  
Ethel Taylor  
\*Sandra Webster  
Trudi Young

\*staff

EO 12812-2

Dear [redacted] b7c

Our Committee has recently received official confirmation of 81 more servicemen being held in North Vietnam. By now you should have

heard that [redacted] b7c is on this list. The North Vietnamese have now confirmed through the Committee of Liaison a total of 335 men being held.

This notification also means that a letter is en route from him. The enclosed release explains how mail is forwarded via our office. Because mail from Hanoi is very slow we cannot be sure when the letter will come, but we will forward it as soon as it arrives here.

We are very pleased to be able to perform this service and hope that you will feel free to be in touch with us should you have any questions.

At the same time, we are continuing to work towards the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Southeast Asia so that soon all families, American and Vietnamese, can be united again.

Sincerely,

*Francine* Dave Dellinger  
Core Weiss Dave Dellinger

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]

CW345,570 P64/MAR/20/2812

P.S. Kindly excuse the mimeographed letter, but there are many families to reach at the same time.

COMMITTEE OF /SON

With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

200 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10018

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

April 20, 1970

Co-chairmen:

- Dave Dellinger
- Core Weiss

Secretary:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee:

- Richard J. Barnett
- Rennie Davis
- Madeline Duckles
- Prof. Richard Folk
- Rev. Richard Fernandez
- Norman Fruchter
- Maggie Geddes
- Steve Halliwell
- Prof. Donald Kalish
- Stewart Meehan
- Prof. Ben Seitzman
- Prof. Franz Schumann
- Ethel Taylor
- Sarbarc Webster
- Trudi Young

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

Rev. Richard Fernandez, a member of the Committee of Liaison, returned today from a two-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. He brought back the enclosed letter along with 201 others from prisoners being held in North Vietnam.

While there, Rev. Fernandez held a lengthy interview with three pilots, Cdr. Robert Schweitzer, Cdr. Walter Wilber and Lt. Col. Edison Miller. He also was advised by North Vietnamese authorities that families should write letters monthly on the enclosed air-letter forms. We are therefore sending several to you at this time and will send more with subsequent mail.

We are of course very pleased to be able to forward this letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

Steven E. Halliwell  
Steven E. Halliwell

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted]

CN346570 POW/IMA WEDR12

EDDR12-2

Received

Special Delivery  
about 7/7/70

NGƯỜI GỬI (Address):

HỌ TÊN (Name in full):

SỐ QUÂN (Service number):

NGÀY VÀ NƠI SINH (Date & place of birth):

ĐƠN VỊ (Address):

TRẠI GIAM PHI CÔNG MỸ BỊ BẮT TẠI  
ĐƯƠNG VIỆT-NAM DÂN CHỦ CỘNG HÒA  
VIA MOSCOW, USSR (Camp of detention for U.S. pilots captured  
in the DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC of VIETNAM)

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON  
with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

NGƯỜI GỬI (Address):

HỌ TÊN (Name in full):

ĐƠN VỊ (Address):

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

TELE 765-1690

### MAIL ADDRESS

PO BOX 1000

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DATE 7/26/83 BY 9105

CLASSIFIED

FOR NIA P/ED/1012

May 4, 1970

Chairman:

Dave Dellinger

Core Wells

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee

Richard J. Burnett

Rennie Davis

Madeline Duckles

Prof. Richard Falk

Rev. Richard Fernandez

Norman Fruchter

Maggie Geddes

Steve Halliwell

Prof. Donald Kalish

Stewart Macdon

Prof. Ben Seitzman

Prof. Franz Schurmann

Ethel Taylor

Barbara Webster

Trudi Young

From: RAL, Richard Fernandez

To: The families of the 335 presently confirmed prisoners held in North Vietnam

Re: Information on correspondence with prisoners

On April 20th I returned from a three-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. In North Vietnam I spoke with officials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families here. The following information was emphasized to me by the North Vietnamese authorities and we are anxious to make sure that you are aware of it:

- 1) The Vietnamese recommend that families use the air-letter form (enclosed) for correspondence.
- 2) Communication to pilots should be limited to matters of family and health.
- 3) Pilots are allowed to receive one letter per month and one package every other month (not over six pounds in weight).

\*staff

Detention Camp authorities have said that they do not wish to receive several letters and/or packages per month for a given pilot from different members of the same family. Families should make arrangements for alternating letters each month if different members

went to write.

The North Vietnamese authorities indicated that, from this point forward, they will not feel responsible for forwarding letters and packages that do not adhere to the above.

If the letter form is mailed directly it can go in another envelope but the mail route, "via Moscow, U.S.S.R.," should definitely be included in the address. If letters are sent to the Committee of Liaison for forwarding please enclose but do not affix stamps as we send letters on in packets. The Committee cannot forward packages for families.

While I was in Hanoi, Prof. Douglas Dowd of Cornell University and I met with three pilots: Cdr. Robert Schweitzer of Lemoore, California; Cdr. Walter Wilbur of Virginia Beach and Lt. Col. Edison Miller of Santa Ana, California. The three men were in good health, and said they had daily exercise and reading material. The three pilots advised us that they had been getting letters and packages from their

families, and asked that packages include toilet articles and canned foods. In particular they mentioned soap, shaving cream (no razors or blades), toothpaste, powdered milk and cream, instant coffee and non-melting candy. They said they do not need clothes.

Also, in my discussions with the Vietnam Committee of Solidarity with the American People, the Committee of Liaison's contact in North Vietnam, we confirmed that since December over 800 letters have been sent from Hanoi through the Committee of Liaison. Of those, 156 letters are still on their way from Hanoi to families here.

We hope that this information clarifies some aspects of correspondence for you. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

# COMMITTEE OF USGN

With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 23rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10011

(212) 765-1490

## CABLE ADDRESS

EPICRYAN

September 18, 1970

Chairman  
Dave Dellinger

Core Members

Treasurer

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee

Richard J. Bennett

Rennie Davis

Madeline Duckles

Prof. Richard Falk

Rev. Richard Fernandez

Norman Fraichter

Maggie Geddes

Steve Halliwell

Prof. Donald Kalich

Stewart Macdonald

Prof. Ben Seltzman

Prof. Franz Schurman

Ethel Taylor

Barbara Webster

Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Friends,

We are very happy to forward the enclosed letters to you. I would like to give you an account of the events that took place around the illegal seizure of these letters at Kennedy Airport on Wednesday. You would have had your mail a day or two earlier had it not been for this interference.

Robert Scheer announced when he left Hanoi that he had been given 379 letters from pilots whose names appeared on the list of 335 previously confirmed prisoners. Mr. Scheer, with a delegation of 10, had spent three months in Algeria, North Korea, China, and North Vietnam, and had accumulated a wide range of materials. However, U.S. Customs officials at Kennedy Airport were interested only in the whereabouts of the letters. Mr. Scheer opened the two packets of letters for the Customs officials to see. They then took him into a private room and demanded that he turn over the mail, saying, "He must open it and read it." He refused to hand over the letters as they had been consigned to him for immediate delivery to families. Finally, the Customs officials agreed to place the letters in bond, where the packages were officially sealed and a receipt given to Mr. Scheer.

(Last Saturday 143 letters were brought by a traveller returning from Hanoi. That brought to 1243 the number of letters from prisoners that have been delivered by hand to the U.S. without interference.)

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DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803

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FOUO/MIA NRC012812

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# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036 212 (549 4478)

October 30, 1970

CABLE ADDRESS:

COLIAFAM

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee

Richard J. Barnett

Rennie Davis

Madeline Duckles

Prof. Richard Falk

Rev. Richard Fernandez

Norman Fruchter

\*Maggie Geddes

Steve Halliwell

Prof. Donald Kalish

Stewart Meacham

Prof. Ben Seitzman

Prof. Franz Schurman

Ethel Taylor

\*Barbara Webster

Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear families,

This letter is being sent to all families of confirmed prisoners of war in North Vietnam as a general information memo to respond to the many questions we have received in recent weeks. Kindly excuse the form, but so many of your concerns are similar that we thought this more efficient. We are enclosing air letters for your use. One letter a month is still allowed. Kindly seal all letters sent thru the Committee of Liaison, and staple or clip photos inside the letter form. We have no interest in seeing mail.

A delegation of lawyers is leaving shortly for a visit to the DRV. They have expressed willingness to carry mail with them. Anyone wishing to avail themselves of this opportunity should have mail in our office no later than Nov. 7. We guarantee only that the mail will arrive safely in North Vietnam and will be delivered to the appropriate authorities. We have no way of guaranteeing that the prisoners will get each letter. That is beyond our ability. However, if the mail conforms to the regulations we have no reason to doubt its delivery. We believe that from what we have been told by families, there is some delay, even risk, in sending mail thru postal routes. Much of the mail sent has obviously gotten thru, but some has been returned, or may wait for long periods for irregular flights. The Vietnamese are using hand delivery only for getting mail to the US because of the risky and unpredictable postal channels. Mail has been delayed and has taken months to arrive. They now wait for delegations to bring it.

Last month we sent 250 letters to North Vietnam with a group. All mail presently in the office will be delivered with the next group. As of now, over 1600 letters have been received since Dec. We do not know why some men have written more frequently than others. We also do not know if the list of 335 men announced in April is final for those being held by the North Vietnamese. When asked by family members, we have inquired about specific servicemen for whom there is substantial evidence of their capture. When we have a reply we will, of course, let the families know. It is our understanding that until there is some movement in Paris to respond to the proposals put forward by Mme. Binh on Sept. 17, there will be no further move vis-a-vis POW's. That is, until the two conditions are met; setting a fixed date for

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DATE 7/24/92 BY 9803

POW/MA PREVIOUSLY CLASSIFIED

Ed 8/12/70 (212) 765-1490

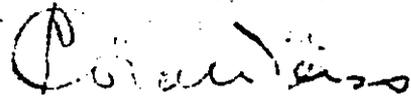
b7c

the total withdrawal of all US forces from Vietnam, and agreeing to withdraw support from the Thieu Ky Khiem regime, they will not be willing to discuss the prisoner issue. They have made it clear that they view this issue as part of the overall solution to the war, and it cannot be dealt with separately. Upon fixing that date and agreeing to withdraw support, prisoners from both DRV as well as those being held by the NLF in the South, will be released. They do not have to wait for the completion of withdrawal of troops.

Many articles, comics, newsletters have appeared on the subject of prisoners. We thought you might be interested in seeing the enclosed which may shed more light on this subject. Mr. Van Dyke is an international lawyer currently on staff at the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Santa Barbara, Calif. He was formerly employed in the State Department working on the matter of prisoners. We send these along because they provide facts and a point of view not frequently seen in a discussion of this topic.

We appreciate being kept informed as to your changes of address, and continue to welcome your questions. We hope you continue to remember that we are here, not there, have no authority in handling prisoner affairs, and have tried to maintain a clear and efficient and reliable channel for communication between you and your sons and husbands. We look forward to the end of our task, for that will represent America's agreement to conclude the war and the release of the prisoners.

Sincerely yours



Mrs. Cora Weiss

P.S. We expect other delegations will be invited to North Vietnam in December and through the winter months. Any mail arriving after Nov. 7 will be held for the next group.

No explanation has been offered by anyone for the seizure of the mail, and no guarantees have been made that this will not happen again. On Thursday afternoon the State Department assured me that the mail was available to be claimed and expressed concern that it be forwarded immediately to relieve anxiety of waiting families. We reminded the State Department that it was the government that had seized the mail in seeming disregard for the families, prisoners, and the future of communication between them. Mr. Scheer offered to meet with representatives of the State Department at the airport to discuss the situation and see what could be done to prevent future occurrences of this nature. His request was rejected. When he went with Rennie Davis and myself to reclaim the mail, he was unnecessarily harrassed, and the press was ejected from observing the reclamation, despite the fact that the very same people had observed the seizure. When he finally got the letters, Mr. Scheer immediately transferred them to the Committee of Liaison for distribution.

We are very distressed about this incident. This delivery of mail brought first letters from previously confirmed prisoners for four families, some of whom had had no mail for five years. We have devoted considerable time and effort to maintaining a reliable and efficient channel for communication between you and the pilots. At the initiative of the North Vietnamese both the volume and frequency of mail has increased. The pilots have been receiving increasing numbers of packages, including a wide assortment of food, medicines, clothing and various kinds of games. We are not responsible for the consequences that acts of governmental interference may produce.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with us if you have any questions, and kindly inform us of any changes of address. Should you wish us to forward mail to your relatives in North Vietnam we will be glad to do so. There will be several people travelling there in the coming months.

Sincerely yours,



Cora Weiss

Jon M. Van Dyke

# PRISONERS OF WAR IN VIETNAM

(ED. NOTE: The following excerpts are drawn from a paper which Visiting Fellow Jon M. Van Dyke presented for discussion at a recent Center roundtable.)

*with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam*

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

Reprinted from the CENTER REPORT Oct. 1970

**COMMITTEE OF LIAISON**

FD 12812-2  
624

For the past year and a half, the U.S. has condemned the North Vietnamese for their treatment of captured Americans. The North Vietnamese are portrayed as evil captors who unrelentingly harass American prisoners. The American prisoners are portrayed as virtuous men who find themselves in North Vietnamese prisons through an unfortunate and totally fortuitous series of events. The "prisoner-of-war problem" is depicted as an issue unrelated to the bombing and fighting that have been taking place in various parts of Southeast Asia throughout the past decade.

Although this effort succeeded in persuading the North Vietnamese to adhere more closely to the formal requirements of the Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War, it is based on two false premises: (1) that the Geneva Convention can be applied without difficulty to the conflict in Vietnam and (2) that the United States and its allies conform to the requirements of the Convention. (The Geneva Convention was drafted in 1949 to deal with the problems of conventional warfare on European battlefields. It is difficult, if not impossible, to apply these provisions to a guerrilla war in Southeast Asia.)

The United States pays only minimal attention to the Convention when it is not in its interest to do so. American soldiers frequently torture captured Viet Cong in order to obtain information about nearby enemy units. Even more frequently, the U.S. permits the Saigon forces to torture prisoners after capture and throughout their period of captivity. The U.S. has failed to punish in any significant way soldiers who have killed or mistreated enemy captives, thus elevating this practice to an official policy. The U.S. also conducts a program of terror to eliminate Viet Cong political cadre a program that operates with total dis-

regard for the safeguards of the Geneva Convention. Finally, because of its desire to give the American public the bleakest possible view of what the enemy's prison camps are like, the Pentagon has muzzled freed Americans who want to talk about the experiences they had in captivity.

The furor that has been created over North Vietnam's prison camps is understandable from a human point of view. There are men in prison who have been separated from their families for a period longer than in any previous war the United States has been involved in. One man has now been in Hanoi over six years.

The furor nonetheless does an injustice to the North Vietnamese, who have probably treated their captives better than any other nation fighting in Asia during this century. During World War II, prisoners of war in Asia were killed and allowed to die with little remorse. Twenty-seven per cent of the prisoners held by the Japanese during that war died, and a shockingly high percentage of the Japanese held in Allied camps failed to survive captivity. The treatment of prisoners during the Korean war was, at best, primitive. And the handling of captives by the United States and the Saigon government is in many respects worse than that of North Vietnam and the Viet Cong.

It is in this perspective that North Vietnam's prison camps must be analyzed. The most serious charges lodged against the North Vietnamese are the accusations of physical abuse brought back by two pilots a year ago. These charges are serious indeed, but the manner in which the Pentagon has handled public information about North Vietnam's camps makes it difficult to accept the statements at face value. The other seven pilots who have been released by North Vietnam have never been formally pre-

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# WERE THEY TORTURED?

## JON M. VAN DYKE

*Mr. Van Dyke, assistant professor of law at Catholic University, Washington, D.C., is now on leave of absence doing legal research in San Francisco. He is the author of North Vietnam's Strategy for Survival, to be published this year by Pacific Books.*

Two of the American fighting men most recently released from North Vietnam held a press conference in early September to "blow the whistle" on North Vietnam's treatment of its prisoners, but their statements raised more questions than they answered—questions not only about North Vietnam's handling of its captives but also about how the Pentagon is using the released men.

At the elaborately staged press conference in the auditorium of the Bethesda Naval Medical Center, Navy Lieut. Robert F. Frishman and Apprentice Seaman Douglas B. Hegdahl said they had been tortured, by being put in small, ovenlike rooms and exposed to mosquitoes and rats. They also asserted that they had heard that other prisoners had received even worse treatment.

Until this press conference the authorities had not permitted any of the nine freed prisoners to give the press more than the most general information about their experiences. Wives of the pilots still in North Vietnam have similarly been discouraged from talking about the letters they receive from prison. The Defense Department's explanation of this muzzling has been that public discussions might dissuade Hanoi from releasing pilots in the future or cause them to retaliate against those remaining in prison.

After the torture-chamber tales of Frishman and Hegdahl, it seems hard to imagine how additional discussion could jeopardize the pilots remaining in North Vietnam, but the day after the press conference, officers of the Pentagon's Public Information Division phoned the seven other released pilots and told them to stay quiet.

Most of the seven followed these instructions and have continued to elude reporters. However, one pilot who was released in August 1968, Maj. Joe V. Carpenter, expressed surprise at the statements made by Frishman and Hegdahl. Although he would not go into any details because of the orders, Carpenter said he had not been tortured in North Vietnam nor had he heard of anyone being tortured. "In general," he stated, "my treatment was good." When asked why the Defense Department would not allow him to speak freely even after the press conference, Carpenter responded, "It's all part of a plan." The question inevitably arises: what plan?

Aside from the issue of the Pentagon's motives, the details given by Frishman and Hegdahl raise some doubts about their broad charge of "torture." The only first-hand examples they mentioned in their prepared statements were (1) being placed in solitary confinement in small rat-infested rooms with tin roofs which became inordinately hot; and (2) being exposed to mosquitoes which bit their legs until they swelled. These episodes, while certainly unpleasant, are different only in degree from the

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treatment the United States Army gave the Green Beret officers who are charged in the recent slaying of a Vietnamese counterspy. They were placed in solitary confinement in 5 by 7 foot cells with no toilet facilities and only a bare light bulb inadequate for reading. The Green Beret officers complained that their cells became inordinately hot.

Frishman and Hegdahl supported their charge of torture by giving examples of more serious physical harassment suffered by two other pilots. They said that Navy Lieut. Comdr. Richard A. Stratton, who made a well-publicized confession in March 1967, gave his statement only after having been strung up by his wrists and having his fingernails pulled out.

The confession was delivered through a loud-speaker to a Hanoi press conference at which one American photographer and a Japanese television crew were present. An American voice from behind a curtain gave a long statement about the war. When this was completed Stratton appeared from behind the curtain. He bowed deeply several times and then left without speaking. When the American photographer reported this scene, the United States protested that its pilots were being brainwashed, a charge which Frishman and Hegdahl now endorse.

It is hard to believe that Stratton actually had his fingernails pulled out, however, when none of the many persons who have seen him have reported physical harm. Because of the storm of protests which followed Stratton's "confession," North Vietnam invited many visitors, including Americans, to meet Stratton. Nobody reported seeing any scars or missing fingernails. Pictures taken of Stratton when he appeared from behind the curtain show that his hands were visible to the reporters, none of whom reported any injury. Pictures taken of Stratton in prison later show him to be a bit downcast, but in good health.

The second example offered by Frishman and Hegdahl was Navy Lieut. Comdr. John S. McCain III, son of the American Commander in the Pacific. McCain was injured quite severely when he landed in a lake in the heart of Hanoi after trying to bomb the city's main power plant on October 26, 1967. According to the two returned pilots, McCain has been kept in solitary confinement during most of his captivity. "It's hard enough just being in solitary confinement," Frishman said, "but when you're wounded like John it's harder." Frishman made no complaint that McCain had actually been physically hurt by the North Vietnamese, so it is difficult to understand why this is an example of torture. Furthermore, McCain was not kept in solitary confinement during the first six months of his captivity when his injuries were most severe. Air Force Lieut. Col. Norris M. Overly said after his release in February 1968 that he had shared a room with McCain.

There are other reasons for wondering about the charges made by Frishman and Hegdahl:

(1) None of the prisoners who had been released earlier complained of unprovoked physical mistreatment. Navy

~~COMMITTEE OF LIAISON~~

~~with FAMILIES of SERVICEMEN DETAINED in NORTH VIETNAM~~

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10035

(212)549-1

Dear Families,

We are very happy to forward the enclosed mail to you-  
It was brought by Prof. Sidney Peck in a package of 571 letters  
written over a 3 month period by most of the known prisoners.

We have also been informed by the Vietnamese regarding  
Christmas mail and packages:

While usually packages of 6lbs are allowed every other  
month, One package of 11 lbs for Xmas/New Years will  
be permitted. The package should be addressed to:  
Name of Servicemen, Serial #, c/o Camp of Detention  
for Servicemen captured in DRV, Hanoi, DRV. VIA MOSCOW.  
Any other means will not be acceptable. Care must be  
taken to send items which will not spoil & will survive  
a long trip of many changes of temperature, and rough  
handling.

Re Mail: We have been asked to gather all Xmas & New  
Year cards and deliver them in person. Therefore your  
cards should be in our office the first week of Dec.

Today's mail brought letters from three pilots who have  
appeared on previously published confirmed lists, but who are  
writing letters for the first time.

Additionally we have received official confirmation for the  
first time of 3 more servicemen, bringing the total of known  
prisoners, at this time to 338.

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POW/MIA PREO/12/91  
CAJ/KS/SZ

We also received a response to recent inquiries we have made on behalf of families regarding the status of relatives listed as "MIA". We learned that of 17 inquiries made, regrettably 6 pilots who had been captured are dead. One pilot who was known to have been captured but not listed is now confirmed a prisoner. And 10 who were thought to be captured have "Never been captured in North Vietnam."

We are very pleased to be able to maintain the only open and successful channel of communication between families and detained servicemen.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the many families who have sent kind notes and contributions.

We extend to each of you our best wishes for the holiday season.

Sincerely,

*Cora Weiss*

Mrs. Cora Weiss

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 5 1970

NR46 NY CODE

9 31 PM URGENT 11-5-70

TELETYPE

TO DIRECTOR 100-457899 100-443916

ATTN DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

WASHINGTON FIELD 100-47172

FROM NEW YORK 100-168469

EX-112

REC-25

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED  
IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM), IS- MISC, REGISTRATION ACT.

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DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803

RE BUREAU NITEL, NOVEMBER FOUR, LAST.

POW/MIA per ED12812-002155

FOR THE INFORMATION OF WFO, REBUREAU TEL ADVISED

REPRESENTATIVE OF USAF STATED COLIFAM DIRECTED LETTERS TO  
NEXT OF KIN OF POW'S ADVISING THEM THAT A DELEGATION OF  
LAWYERS IS LEAVING FOR VIETNAM IN THE NEAR FUTURE. FAMILIES  
WISHING TO CORRESPOND WITH THEIR POW RELATIVES WERE INSTRUCTED  
TO FORWARD LETTERS TO COLIFAM REACHING NYC NO LATER THAN  
NOVEMBER SEVEN, NEXT. ASSUMPTION IS MADE DELEGATION OF  
LAWYERS WILL DEPART SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

EX-113

REC-25

BUREAU REQUESTED NEW YORK TO DETERMINE IDENTITY  
ABOVE MENTIONED ATTORNEYS AND THEIR TRAVEL PLANS. REASONS  
FOR TRAVEL SHOULD ALSO BE ASCERTAINED.

22 DEC 8 1970

WFO AND THE BUREAU'S ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO WFO AT  
TO THE BUREAU DATED OCTOBER EIGHT, LAST

25 DEC 22 1970

ALL INFORMATION  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

END PAGE ONE

DEC 9 1970

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b7c

EDD 11-2

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b7c

b7c

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED]

b7c

NEW YORK FEELS THAT THE ATTORNEYS MENTIONED ABOVE  
ARE IDENTICAL WITH THOSE MENTIONED TRAVELLING UNDER THE  
SPONSORSHIP OF COLIFAM. [REDACTED]

EJ2822

[REDACTED]

b7c

WFO RECONTACT THEIR SOURCE IN AN EFFORT TO FURTHER  
VERIFY THE ABOVE.

NEW YORK WILL MAKE EFFORTS TO FURTHER VERIFY AND  
TO ASCERTAIN TRAVEL PLANS AND PURPOSE OF INDIVIDUALS  
INVOLVED.

NEW YORK WILL SUTEL IN FORM SUITABLE FOR  
DISSEMINATION WHEN THE ABOVE IS ASCERTAINED.

END

GMV WASH DC FBI TU

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>DENVER</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE <b>12/8/70</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>9/2 - 11/14/70</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <i>b7c</i>	TYPE
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>IS - MISCELLANEOUS REGISTRATION ACT</b>	<i>b7c</i>

REFERENCES:

*b7c*  
 Denver report of SA **[REDACTED]** 9/4/70.  
 San Antonio letter to the Bureau and all offices, 8/27/70.  
 Denver letter to Mobile, 10/31/70.  
 Mobile letter to Denver, 11/9/70.  
 Portland report of SA **[REDACTED]** 10/30/70.

- P -

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 DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]  
 POW/MIA per EO 12812 CN345510 *b7c*

LEADS:

DENVER DIVISION

*E012812-2*

In covering the following leads, will first review

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED <input type="checkbox"/> NONE						ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:		
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/>
						PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/>			
APPROVED <i>SLW</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <b>[REDACTED]</b> <i>b7c</i>						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW			
COPIES MADE:						20 DEC 14 1970			
(6) - Bureau (100- <b>[REDACTED]</b> 7899) (RM) 2 - New York (100-168469) (RM) 5 - Denver (100-10142)  <i>100 910 D 3 distribution</i>						22 DEC 14 1970			
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations			
Agency	<i>RH-15D</i>					ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE			
Request Recd.									
Date Fwd.	<i>12/31/70</i>								
How Fwd.	<i>1/3</i> <i>b7c</i>								
By	<b>[REDACTED]</b>					<i>b7c</i>			

information contained in New York airtel to the Bureau, 6/9/70 and Bureau letter to all offices, dated 10/12/70. In conducting interview of relatives of POWs, will specifically determine whether these relatives were requested by COLIFAM to furnish any statement condemning the United States' involvement in Vietnam in exchange for letters from POWs in North Vietnam.

AT [REDACTED] WYOMING:

Will interview Mr. and/or Mrs. [REDACTED] who are the parents of [REDACTED]

AT [REDACTED] COLORADO:

Will contact Mrs. [REDACTED], wife of [REDACTED] concerning the news article which appeared in the 11/14/70 issue of the "Denver Post" as set forth in this report.

AT [REDACTED] COLORADO:

Will interview Mr. and/or Mrs. [REDACTED] parents of [REDACTED]

AT [REDACTED] COLORADO:

Will interview Mrs. [REDACTED] mother of [REDACTED]

AT DENVER, COLORADO:

Will interview Mr. and/or Mrs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] parents of [REDACTED] Colorado (suburb of [REDACTED])

Will interview Mr. [REDACTED] father of [REDACTED]

Will interview Mr. and/or Mrs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] parents of [REDACTED] Colorado (suburb of [REDACTED])

E012212-2

DN 100-10142

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Lead to interview [redacted] at [redacted] Pennsylvania, who contacted Attorney WILLIAM KUNTSLER re his brother-in-law, [redacted] MIA, is left to the discretion of the OO, since the letter from KUNTSLER to [redacted] as set forth in this report, is self-explanatory. b7c

The San Antonio Office by letter to the Bureau, 10/27/70, set forth a list of relatives of Air Force POW's and MIA's. This list contained 8 POW's and 40 MIA's within the Denver Division. Denver has interviewed relatives of 2 of these POW's and relatives of 3 MIA's and also the wife of one POW (Mrs. [redacted] who was not on the list in the Denver Division, but was probably on a list for Texas since [redacted] home is [redacted] Texas). b7c

None of these interviews has produced evidence that COLIFAM attempted to extract from recipients of POW letters any statement that they, the wives or relatives of the POW's, condemn U. S. involvement in the Vietnam war.

*EDD8722*  
The New York Office is requested to advise whether it is desired that any of the MIA relatives should be interviewed. Unless advised to the contrary by New York, the Denver Office will proceed with interviews of the 6 POW relatives named in the list submitted to New York and the Bureau by San Antonio, who are located in the Denver Division and who have not yet been contacted and will also conduct interview of [redacted] b7c

In the event the OO obtains advice to the effect that sufficient interviews of POW relatives have already been conducted for purposes of this investigation, it is requested that auxiliary offices be informed as soon as possible.

Information contained in this report pertaining to the interview of Mrs. [redacted] Florida, was set forth in Jacksonville letter to Denver and New York, dated 8/5/70. b7c

DN 100-10142

*T*  
*EOD 12-2*  
Information concerning the interview of [redacted] of [redacted] Texas, was set forth in San Antonio report of SA [redacted], dated 8/17/70. *b7c*

*L*  
Interview of Mrs. [redacted] at [redacted] Colorado, as mentioned in this report was furnished in interview report form (FD 302) to the New York Office by Denver letter, dated 8/12/70. *b7c*

-- D\* --  
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:

[REDACTED] b7c

Office:

DENVER

Date:

DECEMBER 8, 1970

Field Office File #:

100-10142

Bureau File #:

100-457899

Title:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH  
FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN  
DETAINED IN VIETNAM  
(COLIFAM)

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - MISCELLANEOUS  
REGISTRATION ACT

Synopsis:

Mr. [REDACTED] Wyoming, father of Air Force pilot who is Prisoner of War (POW) in North Vietnam, advised he and son's wife received letters from POW son (and husband) in January and June, 1970, through COLIFAM. Mrs. [REDACTED] Colorado, wife of POW held in North Vietnam, stated she received letters from her husband through COLIFAM, but had no solicitation from COLIFAM concerning the letters. Mrs. [REDACTED] Colorado, wife of serviceman Missing in Action (MIA) in Vietnam, advised that her husband's brother at [REDACTED] Pennsylvania, wrote COLIFAM and received answer dated 1/24/70, explaining efforts of COLIFAM. "Denver Post" newspaper, in issue of 11/14/70, carried story of Mrs. BEN M. POLLARD, Colorado Springs, Colorado, who had just learned through telephone call from COLIFAM and a letter transmitted by COLIFAM to Mrs. POLLARD, that her husband, an Air Force pilot is a POW in North Vietnam. b7c b2c

ED 1012-2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [REDACTED]

FOUO/MIA PR 20128120345,570

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

The Jacksonville Division by communication of [REDACTED] August 5, 1970, advised that on August 3, 1970, Mrs. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Florida, wife of Prisoner of War (POW) [REDACTED] had advised that her mother-in-law, Mrs. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Wyoming, had been in contact with the Committee of Liaison with Families of [REDACTED] b2c

DK 100-10142

Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) concerning  
her son.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date September 9, 1970

b7c

Mr. [redacted] Wyoming, advised he is the father of [redacted] a pilot in the U. S. Air Force who was shot down over North Vietnam almost [redacted] years ago. He said his son is a prisoner of the North Vietnamese.

He advised that the first information the family received from his son was that [redacted] wife of [redacted] received a letter from a group called the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam. This letter was received by [redacted] in January, 1970 and enclosed with it was a letter written by [redacted]

b2c

b2c

b7c

He stated that on or about June 28, 1970, he and his wife received a letter from the same organization enclosing a letter from [redacted]

b7c

The letter they received from [redacted] was the only one they have received. He has had no further correspondence from the group that sent the letter.

b7c

Mr. [redacted] advised that he is not in agreement with the ideals of the organization that sent him his son's letter and should he receive any information of value he will furnish it to the FBI and would testify if called upon to do so.

b2c

He said he has not sent any letters to his son through the organization but he has sent letters to him through the American Friends Committee which is apparently approved by the U. S. Air Force. He said during the middle of July, 1970, just a few days prior to July 16, 1970, he received a telephone call from some sergeant at F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Cheyenne, Wyoming, advising that a Mr. KENNETH KIRKPATRICK of the American Friends Committee was leaving for Hanoi on July 16, 1970, and if he wanted Mr.

EOD [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/26/93 BY [redacted]

Author per EOD/2872 CW345,570

b7c

On 9/2/70 at [redacted] Wyoming File # DN 100-10142  
by SA [redacted] Date dictated 9/3/70

b7c

b7c

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DN 100-10142

2

KIRKPATRICK to deliver a letter to his son he should immediately write Mr. KIRKPATRICK at 814 - 40th Street, Northeast, Seattle, Washington.

Since that time he has learned that Mr. KIRKPATRICK has returned to the United States and was apparently able to leave the letter to DOUGLAS because it was not returned.

*EO 12812-2*

Mr. [REDACTED]

*b7c*

provided a copy of the letter and he received from the organization:

This is the group who formed the latter

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam  
365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036 (212)768

Dear Mrs. [redacted] b7c

We are enclosing a letter to you from Douglas Brian Peterson, written from a camp of detention in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. The letter is forwarded to you through the newly formed Committee of Liaison of which we are members.

This letter, along with 68 others, was recently handed to Louis Schneider by Vietnamese authorities in Hanoi, and he mailed them to us from Hong Kong. This was in line with a system for handling such letters which has been opened up to our Committee by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

The Committee of Liaison is composed of individuals active in the American peace movement and opposed to the U.S. military intervention in Vietnam. The Democratic Republic of Vietnam has decided to use our Committee as a channel for communication between the captured airmen in detention camps in North Vietnam and their relatives in the United States.

Please excuse the fact that this letter is dittoed rather than typed on letterhead. We are a new committee and we want you to receive the enclosed without delay. Therefore we are mailing this letter immediately without waiting for printed letterhead and envelopes.

We shall send you further information within the next few days regarding the liaison services our Committee is now able to perform.

In closing we wish to express the deep hope that the U.S. government will come to its senses, withdraw its armed forces from Vietnam, and thus make it possible for the families, both American and Vietnamese which have been separated as a result of this cruel war, to be reunited.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9808 [redacted] b7c

POW/MIA PREDICTED 5,570

Sincerely yours,  
For the Committee of Liaison

Richard Fernandez  
Richard Fernandez  
Clergy and Laymen  
Concerned About Vietnam

Stewart Neacham Ethel Taylor  
Stewart Neacham Ethel Taylor  
American Friends  
Service Committee Women's Strike  
for Peace

Other members of the Committee are: David Dellinger, Core Weiss, Rennie Davis, Anne Bennett, Ben Saksman, Maggie Casper, Trudi Young, Steve Halliwell, Barbara Webster.

EW 12812-2

**COMMITTEE OF LIAISON**

**with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietn**

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-145

**CABLE ADDRESS:**

COLIAFAM

**Co-chairmen:**

Dave Dellinger  
Cora Weiss

June 25, 1970

**Treasurer:**

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Dear friend:

**Committee**

- Richard J. Barnett
- Rennie Davis
- Madeline Duckles
- Prof. Richard Falk
- Rev. Richard Fernandez
- Norman Fruchter
- \*Maggie Gaddes
- Steve Halliwell
- Prof. Donald Kalish
- Stewart Maccham
- Prof. Ben Seitzman
- Prof. Franz Schurmann
- Ethel Taylor
- \*Barbara Webster
- Trudi Young

We are very happy to send you the enclosed letter. It, along with 105 others, was brought back to this country by a group of anti-war people who have just returned from a visit to North Vietnam.

This brings to a total of 1,110 letters which the Committee of Liaison has forwarded on to families since last December.

Sincerely,  
*Barbara Webster*  
Barbara Webster

\*staff

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803

POW/MIA per EDC/CRZ  
CN345,570

62c

E012812-2

DN 100-10142

T  
Ed 812-2

I

The San Antonio Division by report dated August 17, 1970 reported the interview on July 29, 1970 of [REDACTED] the father of POW detained in North Vietnam [REDACTED] who advised that his son's wife, [REDACTED] was then residing at [REDACTED] Colorado.

b2c

b2c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*b7c* October 27, 1970  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

*b7c* Mrs. [redacted] Colorado, advised she is the wife of [redacted] who is a Prisoner of War being held by the North Vietnamese in North Vietnam.

*b7c* [redacted] stated she is familiar with the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) although she has had little personal contact with them. Mrs. [redacted] explained that she has received letters from her husband through this group, but has received no direct solicitation concerning the sending of letters or packages as her in-laws have.

*b7c* Mrs. [redacted] stated that she did make a long-distance telephone call to a CORA WEISS (a member of this committee, who resides in New York City, New York) conferring with her concerning an up-and-coming trip to North Vietnam by COLIFAM. Mrs. [redacted] pointed out this was approximately one month ago.

*b7c* Mrs. [redacted] stated she obtained the list with the telephone number for CORA WEISS from [redacted] of [redacted] Colorado, who has apparently received written communications from the group.

*E012812-2*  
*b7c* Mrs. [redacted] stated that she always finds out when a delegation of COLIFAM is to travel to North Vietnam through the Personnel Service Division of Randolph Air Force Base, who notifies her as to travel dates. Mrs. [redacted] continued that she then sends letters and packages destined for her husband to the group's headquarters and they in turn transport the items to her husband and return with any letters that he may have written her. *b7c*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *7/26/93* BY *9803* [redacted] *b7c*

*0245,570 POW/MIA pr E012812*

On *10/15/70* at [redacted] *b7c* Colorado File # *Denver 100-10142*  
by SA [redacted] *b7c* Date dictated *10/20/70*

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↓

On July 27, 1970, the Denver Division conducted <sup>b7c</sup> interview of Mrs. [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Colorado. Mrs. [REDACTED] whose husband is an Air Force pilot who is considered MIA, advised that Mrs. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Colorado, whose husband is an Air Force pilot MIA in Vietnam, had received some solicitation of COLIFAM following an inquiry by her brother-in-law in Pennsylvania regarding the possible POW status of [REDACTED]

b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date October 26, 1970

Mrs. [redacted] Colorado, advised that she is the wife of [redacted] who is Missing in Action in Vietnam. *b2c*

Mrs. [redacted] *b2c* stated she has received no direct solicitation or contact from the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM).

Mrs. [redacted] pointed out, however, that her *b2c* brother, [redacted] Pennsylvania, did correspond with COLIFAM and received in reply a letter from this organization signed by BARBARA WEBSTER.

Mrs. [redacted] *b2c* advised that she does not like the COLIFAM organization nor the people behind this organization and has, therefore, had nothing to do with them.

Mrs. [redacted] pointed out that [redacted] *b2c* (wife of [redacted] Colorado, who has only recently moved to Colorado Springs, has had direct solicitation with COLIFAM.

Mrs. [redacted] *b2c* furnished the following letter as furnished to her by her brother, [redacted] from [redacted] COLIFAM: *b2c*

*E017812-2*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/26/93 BY 9803 [redacted] *b2c*  
CN345570 POW/MIA PER ETIZK

On 10/16/70 at [redacted] Colorado, *b2c* Denver 100-10142

by SA [redacted] *b2c* Date dictated 10/19/70