pertaining to Americans captured or missing in Southeast Asia that cannot be associated with a specific individual, is not considered casualty related information.

3. Any request for casualty information on an individual by a next-of-kin that appears to be related to a notice of a status review will normally be considered an FOIA request whether or not it expressly cites the FOIA as its basis, and the hearing will be delayed, as in paragraph 1, above. A request from next-of-kin for the service casualty record for reasons other than in connection with the status review will not be treated as an FOIA request nor delay the hearing.

4. Each Military Department will insure that status review boards have security clearance commensurate with the degree of classification in the missing man's case file under review. Although next-of-kin will not be given access to classified information, the review board will have access to all information pertaining to the case.

General guidelines for the conduct of reviews:

1. Notification. All initial and follow-up notification letters will be sent certified mail, return receipt requested, to primary next-of-kin. The letters will outline hearing rights and request a selection of options.

A. The initial notification letter imposes a twenty-one day response time. If no response is received within the allotted time, and after inquiries by the respective service's casualty officers, a second letter will be sent. The next-of-kin will again be informed in writing that failure to respond within twenty-one days will be considered a waiver of rights to a hearing.

2. Next-of-kin will be permitted to present information they deem relevant for inclusion in the record and will be allowed to present witnesses; however, the government has no obligation to provide witnesses requested by the next-of-kin. All expenses, to include legal counsel, travel, and lodging incurred by the next-of-kin will be borne by the next-of-kin without reimbursement by DoD.

In the event problems arise which have not previously been considered, the services should forward a written explanation of the problem, and where legal issues are raised, a copy of the legal recommendation from the service concerned to the Office of PA/MIA Affairs for coordination.

In December 1982, the Defense Intelligence Agency became aware of a U.S. citizen who claimed to possess information on American prisoners of war in Southeast Asia, and that he was attempting to interest U.S. media outlets in his story. An initial review of the data attributed to him revealed that most of it stemmed from widely circulated reports on the issue, i.e. press accounts.

In the following months DIA analysts attempted to interview the source via telephone, in the hope of obtaining more substantive information which could lend itself to investigation. The source refused to discuss any specifics over the telephone, but finally agreed to a meeting with U.S. officials, during which he would turn over his information. Thus, at DIA's request, representatives of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) met with the source to obtain his information. The attached document, from which the source's name has been deleted, is their written report on the information they received from him.

Of immediate interest was the source's claim that he had information on American POWs who were alive. The source told the AFOSI agents that he was aware of 19 POWs who were still alive and that he could provide names, dates of capture, etc. When asked for examples, the source produced what appeared to be a computer listing from which he read off the names and the other information on the seven men mentioned in the AFOSI report. As also noted in the report, the source declined to furnish additional information until he was provided protection and a name change for himself and his family. To this date he has not come forward with any elaborating data.

It is noteworthy that at the same time DIA was attempting to obtain the information from the source, he was in communication with a member of Congress and with the office of the National League of Families. He had offered the League lists which included aircraft losses in Southeast Asia and other data already in the possession of the organization. He apparently provided similar information to the Congressman.

In his contacts with members of the news media and other private citizens, this source acted "cloak and dagger," portraying himself as an operative for a military intelligence unit. Some characterized him as a "James Bond" type. In reality, this source was never associated with any U.S. intelligence activity. Further, contrary to his claims, there is no evidence to suggest that he had visited Vietnam in 1982 or at anytime since the end of the war.

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The seven names the source provided were among the final dozen POW/MIA's to be presumed dead by their respective military services (with the exception of Charles Shelton who is still carried as a prisoner). These names were circulated in numerous reports and documents both inside and outside of the government, to include many press accounts in the early 1980s. It is known that the source periodically visited the League's office and requested this type of information. Additionally, the organization circulated these specific names to its members and other interested parties during the 1981-82 time period.

Inasmuch as this source failed to provide any information that was not readily available to any person interested in the issue, refused to furnish any corroborating data and appeared to be reading names off a list of missing, no further investigation of his reporting was possible.

At 1825 hours on 19 March 1970, an F-4D jet aircraft, tail number 8696, was hit by anti-aircraft fire and crashed near Phanop Village, Khammouane Province, Laos. Both crewmen ejected and parachuted to the ground, with one of the crewmen, 1Lt Dennis G. Pugh, landing in the Ngo River, in the vicinity of coordinates WE 787384. For two days, both men hid and escaped detection, with one of them being rescued by helicopter on 21 March. It is reported that 1Lt Pugh was still in radio contact with him on 21 March, but he had been spotted. The rescued crewmember stated he then heard numerous small arms fire coming from 1Lt Pugh's hiding area and radio contact was then lost.

Data pertaining to 1Lt Pugh are as follows:

- Name: Pugh, Dennis Gerald
- Rank: 1Lt, US Air Force
- Date of Birth: 10 February 1944
- Race: Caucasian
- Height: 1.77 meters
- Weight: 72.4 kilos
- Hair: Brown
- Eyes: Blue