

REQUEST/RECEIPT FOR TRANSMISSION

WASHINGTON

11
28 OCT 1947

DATE AND TIME TRANSMITTED	SITE D	DATE AND TIME RECEIVED <i>B</i> OCT 29 AM 11 47 <i>[Signature]</i>
	SSN NBR <u>731</u>	

TO BE COMPLETED BY REQUESTER

FROM Lt Col For OFFICE DESK OASD/ISA (PW-MIA) PHONE NBR 695-4133

SUBJECT Ltr to Col Walker Exec Director, League of Families

CLASSIFICATION UNCL PAGES 2

DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS HOLD FOR NORMAL DUTY HOURS
 IMMEDIATELY

NOTE: FURNISH AFTER DUTY HOUR CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR EACH ADDRESSEE REQUIRING AFTER HOUR DELIVERY.

TRANSMIT TO

AGENCY	INDIVIDUALS NAME	OFFICE	ROOM NBR	PHONE NBR
STATE	MIKE GELNER	EAYLK	6317 NS	632-0810

REMARKS: Mike -
Plz "chop" on the ltr to Col Walker
Ty

Colonel Charles E. Walker, USAF-Ret
Chairman of the Board
National League of Families of American
Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia
1608 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Colonel Walker,

This is in response to your letter of September 29 concerning progress made thus far by the Interagency Group (IAG).

As you are well aware, progress toward securing the fullest possible accounting of our missing in Indochina has been painfully slow. The IAG was established to examine the entire accounting issue and to explore possible avenues by which to break the impasse. Unfortunately, progress continues to be hampered by Vietnamese and Laotian intransigence on the matter and regardless of our initiatives movement must be measured in terms of their cooperation. The IAG has continued to address new approaches, most recently one postulated by the JCS. Procedures developed within the IAG were central to the October 1-4 discussions between JCRC representatives and Vietnamese officials in Hanoi. Although no substantive progress was made, we would hope that the discussions will mark the beginning of further direct dialogue on the accounting issue.

As you know, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Negroonte has requested a review of U.S. Government PW/MIA accounting policy for presentation at the November 7 IAG meeting. We will have a better idea of what is needed in the way of policy following State's review. At its September 5 meeting the IAG agreed on a PW/MIA policy statement regarding sightings of live Americans in Indochina and it will be released following the November 7 meeting.

Since its inception earlier this year, IAG meetings have been held in March, July, and September. Our next forum will be held on November 7. Although the meetings have not followed a rigid schedule, it would seem that substantive meetings are to be desired rather than those which might be of a pro forma nature. I will raise the question of regularly scheduled

meetings with the IAG membership on November 7 and get its preference.

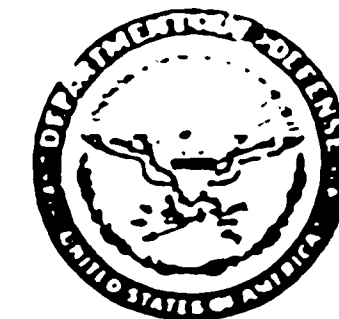
We all agree that the Indochina governments should and ought to do more to account for our missing. Despite the frustrating lack of progress, the IAG will continue to seek ways to solicit every assistance from them in obtaining the fullest possible accounting of our missing.

Sincerely,

R.F.C. for D.S.J.

COORD:

STATE: Mike Gelner(EA/VLK)



INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

5 November 1980

Colonel Charles E. Walker, USAF (Ret.)
Chairman of the Board
National League of Families of American
Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia
1608 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

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Since its inception earlier this year, IAG meetings have been held in March, July, and September. Our next forum will be held on November 7. The meetings have not followed a rigid schedule. We prefer substantive meetings as needed rather than to hold meetings on a fixed schedule, some of which might be of a pro forma nature.

We all believe that the Indochina governments can and ought to do more to account for our missing personnel. Despite the lack of progress, the IAG will continue to seek ways to remind the Vietnamese of their humanitarian obligation to help in obtaining the fullest possible accounting.

Sincerely,



Donald S. Jones
Rear Admiral, USN
Director, East Asia
& Pacific Region



NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES
OF AMERICAN PRISONERS AND MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

1608 K STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006 (202) 223-6846

September 29, 1980

RADM Donald S. Jones, USN
Deputy Director, East Asia & Pacific Affairs
OSD/ISA
The Pentagon, Room 4C837
Washington, D. C. 20301

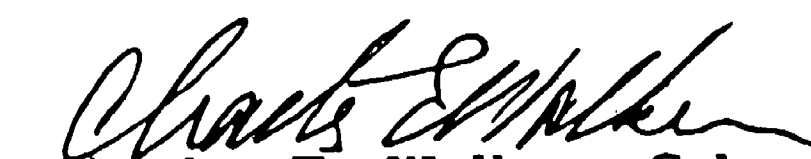
Dear Admiral Jones:

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the National League of Families held September 12th and 13th, 1980, I was asked to express the Board's unanimous disappointment with the lack of visable progress thus far made by the Interagency Group. Please know that we do not mean to be unnecessarily critical, but rather urge you to move more swiftly in an effort to bring this important issue to an honorable conclusion.

- 1) be unnecessarily critical, but rather urge you to move more swiftly in an effort to bring this important issue to an honorable conclusion.
- 2) Toward that end, the Board has suggested that the IAG establish an early target date by which an agreed upon national POW/MIA policy will be formulated. Further, we feel it would be most productive if the group
- 3) would meet more frequently, at least once a month.

- 4) Again, please know how appreciative all of the families are for your personal interest and dedication to obtaining an accounting for our men.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Walker, Colonel, USAF (Ret.)
Chairman of the Board

cc: Ann Mills Griffiths

Colonel Charles E. Walker, USAF Ret.
Chairman of the Board
National League of Families of American
Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia
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Washington, D. C. 20006

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-2-

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We all believe that the Indochina governments can and ought to do more to account for our missing ^{personnel.} Despite the lack of progress, the IAG will continue to seek ways to remind the Vietnamese of their humanitarian obligation to help in obtaining the fullest possible accounting of our missing.

Sincerely,

CC Ann Mills Griffiths