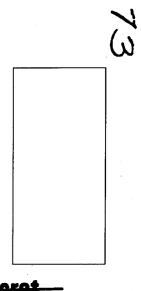


(b) (1) (b) (3) Secret

Cease-Fire Developments



APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: FEB 2001

31 May 1973

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## Fate of US POW

The Communists have informed the US that they need additional information in order to respond to questions about the fate of the US pilot of a contract aircraft that crashed in Pathet Lao territory earlier this month. Senior Lao Communist negotiator Vongvichit has also said that Souphanouvong will not begin a search for MIAs until a new coalition government is formed. The Communists are dissembling on the status of the pilot.

he was captured near the Plaine des Jarres and has since been moved to North Vietnam.

31 May 1973

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