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EX 10-C

INFORMATION ON THE INTERAGENCY PRISONER OF WAR INTELLIGENCE AD HOC COMMITTEE

*see  
see  
see  
Zimmert*

1. Name of Committee: Interagency Prisoner of War Intelligence Ad Hoc Committee (IPWIC)
2. Meetings held since 1 January 1973: 9
3. Extent to which the Recommendations of the Committee have been adopted: Not applicable. See #5 below.
4. Reason why the Committee work cannot be accomplished within the DoD: CIA is the only non-DoD member to IPWIC. CIA's presence and participation on IPWIC are required.
5. Justification for continuing the Committee:

IPWIC is the only intelligence committee responsible for matters relating to missing and unaccounted for American personnel in Southeast Asia. It provides a working-level forum for a detailed discussion and coordination of intelligence matters pertaining to unaccounted for American personnel. The official members of the Committee are the Services (intelligence and casualty offices), CIA, and DIA. Observers from the Department of State and OASD (ISA) do attend IPWIC meetings, although they are not members.

With the completion of Operation Homecoming, the IPWIC members and observers agreed that meetings could be on an as-needed basis since DIA, as Chairman, keeps the members and observers abreast of all intelligence developments affecting their respective missing personnel or their areas of interest.

Currently there are about 950 Americans unaccounted for and about 1500 Americans listed as killed in action (bodies not recovered). Until the other side provides an accounting of these personnel, intelligence assets will remain the primary sources of information on the fate of these personnel.

At the 15 November 1974 meeting, the members and State Department observer were asked their opinion whether the committee's activities should be continued. The members and State observer stated unanimously that IPWIC should be continued.

EXH. 18-C

EX 15, Doc.

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Central Intelligence Agency



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By HP-M/COJ, RSCA, Date 12/14/94

4 December 1992

**ROGER HALL**  
8715 First Ave., Apt. 027  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
301.585.3361

Mr. J. William Codinha  
Chief Counsel  
Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Codinha:

Your letter of 18 November requested a copy of a counterintelligence paper entitled "North Viet-Nam: The Responsibilities of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam Intelligence and Security Services in the Exploitation of American Prisoners of War." The paper to which you refer was written in 1975 by a counterintelligence officer working on Vietnam operations for the CI Staff. A copy of the paper is enclosed.

After reviewing the document for release to the Committee, the Counterintelligence Center (CIC), the successor organization to the CI Staff, appended a memorandum commenting on and correcting some of the statements made in the paper of 1975; CIC's memorandum is likewise enclosed. If it would assist the Committee's work and understanding, Agency officers who are knowledgeable on these issues are available to expand on the paper and the appended memorandum.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

*John L. Breckenridge*  
John L. Breckenridge  
Deputy Director for Senate Affairs

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MAY 15 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Status of PW/MIA Negotiations in Laos (U)

1. (U) The month of May marked the midpoint of the 60-day period for the release of all prisoners of war (PW) as provided in Article II, Article 3 of the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring National Peace in Laos, signed on 21 February 1973. The 60-day period has been following the establishment of the Provisional Government of National Unity (PNU).

2. (U) Under the Agreement, the PNU is to release 10,000 PW within paragraph 15 of the Agreement. The number of PW and the names of those personnel who died in captivity are to be exchanged by both sides 15 to 30 days following their signing. Although some PW had been released, they were without their personal effects and identification by the Pathet Lao. The PNU was to provide with the lists being provided by either side. The Pathet Lao reportedly maintained that the PNU had not signed a release protocol until the 60-day period had expired.

3. (U) The provisional government was officially formed on 5 April 1974. To date, Pathet Lao officials have taken no positive action to comply with the terms of the Agreement regarding the exchange of US PWs.

4. (U) The Pathet Lao claim to hold only one US PW, Mr. Ernest J. Kay, US civilian, captured on 7 May 1973. While no firm date has been set by the Pathet Lao, Mr. Kay's release is anticipated late in the 60-day period provided for in Article 5. It is reasonable to expect an accounting of other US personnel whose capture was acknowledged by the Pathet Lao. The Pathet Lao undoubtedly also have information concerning the fate of at least some US personnel currently held in a captured or missing status. DIA currently lists five US personnel as prisoners and approximately 300 US personnel as missing-in-action in Laos.

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5. In recent months, there have been several uncorroborated reports that US PWs other than Mr. Kay are currently alive in Laos. These reports, received from third- or fourth-hand sources, can be neither verified nor refuted; however, no location information is continuing. A detailed analysis of sighting reports of personnel in Laos through 31 March 1974 was provided in Attachment 2 to DIA Memorandum 5-1024/01 dated 8 April 1974, subject: Reports of Personnel Still Held Captive in Southeast Asia (U).

6. Information received from the American Embassy in Vientiane and discussions with Frank Sieverts, Special Representative, Prisoner of War, Missing in Action Matters, and members of the Department of Defense Prisoner of War/MIA Missing in Action Task Force indicate that every effort is being made to secure the release of Mr. Ernest J. Kay and obtain information regarding US personnel captured and missing in Laos. Ambassador Whitehouse has made strong representations to the Deputy Prime Minister Phoumi Yangvichit, the highest ranking Pathet Lao official in Vientiane, and to other senior Pathet Lao members regarding this matter. Information concerning the PW situation has also been made available to individuals (including the Russian Ambassador in Vientiane) whose embassy officials believe could be helpful in furthering our interests. US efforts continue to stress to Pathet Lao representatives the need to obtain information on US personnel, whether living, missing, or dead. Furthermore, pressure upon the Joint Chiefs of Staff to implement the agreement to give the PW/MIA subject is afforded priority at the JCSIA meetings resumed on 30 April following a 2-day-long recess.

7. (U) This information has also been furnished the Secretary of Defense.

/s/ V. P. de Poix

V. P. de POIX  
Vice Admiral, USN  
Director

cc:  
Director, Joint Staff

(DB)

INTERAGENCY PRISONER OF WAR INTELLIGENCE AD HOC COMMITTEE  
(IPWIC) MINUTES OF MEETING, 18 SEPTEMBER 1970  
ROOM 1020, B BUILDING, ARLINGTON HALL STATION (0930-1110)

1. The following DIA, CIA and Service representatives were present:

CAPT J. S. Harris	DIA	Chairman
CDR J. C. Bruce	DIA	(AP-7C)
Mr. J. T. Berbrich	DIA	(AP-7C)
Mr. E. C. Wheat	USN	(NIC-38)
Capt C. E. Redman	USAF	(AFNIN)
LtCol B. F. Lands	USAF	(OSHS)
Maj J. L. Harvell	USAF	(OSHS)
Maj D. M. Jackson	USAF	(AF/DPEC)
Maj F. E. Sheaffer	USA	(ACSI)
Capt B. R. Greisen	USMC	(A02A)

2. Mr. Robert Scheer, a California candidate for the Peace and Freedom Party for the U. S. Senate, and several other recent visitors to North Vietnam returned to the United States on 16 September 1970 with 379 letters from U.S. prisoners. In the process of clearing customs at the John F. Kennedy International Airport, Mr. Scheer reportedly would not conform to custom regulations and open all his luggage for inspection. As a result, customs authorities impounded that part of his luggage that was not inspected, and this included the 379 letters.

The Chairman stated that it was his understanding that customs officials were hopeful of releasing the impounded luggage in the very near future. Apparently, the luggage is just sitting at the Airport for Mr. Scheer to claim it and to clear it through appropriate channels.

3. The Chairman stated that several wives have received letters from their husbands within the past two days. In the forwarding correspondence prepared by the Committee of Liaison, the next-of-kin were told that 143 letters were recently received from prisoners in North Vietnam. The forwarding correspondence was dated 14 September, and the envelope was postmarked the next day, 15 September. The AFNIN and USN representatives confirmed that the letters received to date indicate that this batch of 143 letters is not a part of the 142/143 letters brought into Canada by Mrs. Jerry Rubin (See 19 June 1970 IPWIC Minutes, paragraph 4).

Cy \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Cys \_\_\_\_\_

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