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April 24, 1995

Department of Defense Hotline
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1900

Re: Case #94-L58352

Comment: If the POW/MIA issue is ever to be resolved it will have to be addressed with truth and integrity. This issue will not be resolved until the government agencies give the documents as well as the truth to the families. There is a solution to finding the answers and it can be obtained if the agencies would take the families into their confidence and work with the families instead of denying, misinforming and just plain ignoring our requests for the truth.

Attachment #1 the wasting of 100 million dollars of taxpayers money. If the Vietnamese are cooperating why is it costing the American taxpayer so much money to get answers from the Vietnamese? The point is over looked that there are many men that were POW not MIA these men should be accounted for with not cost to the American taxpayer.

Attachment #2 is an article that returns remains of an individual who died in captivity 26 years ago---if the Vietnamese are cooperating why has it taken 26 years to get this man's remains? What kind of remains, is it full skeletal, bone fragments or just teeth? If it is not full skeletal what reason do the Vietnamese give for not being full skeletal if he died in their hands?

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**FRAUD AND MISMANAGEMENT IN THE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY,
PERJURY BEFORE THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE, AND FAILURE TO
FOLLOW REGULATIONS.**

**(1) FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENTS: VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 107, UCMJ;
SECTION 907 TITLE 10, U.S.C. [FOR CIVILIANS SIMILAR VIOLATIONS UNDER
TITLE 18, U.S.C.]**

**(2) WILLFUL DERELICTION OF DUTY: VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 92, UCMJ;
SECTION 892 TITLE 10, U.S.C. [FOR CIVILIANS SIMILAR VIOLATIONS UNDER
TITLE 18, U.S.C.]**

**(3) NEGLIGENT DERELICTION OF DUTY: VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 92, UCMJ;
SECTION 892 TITLE 10, U.S.C. [FOR CIVILIANS SIMILAR VIOLATIONS UNDER
TITLE 18, U.S.C.]**

**(4) ACCESSORY AFTER THE FACT: VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 78, UCMJ;
SECTION 878 TITLE 10, U.S.C. [FOR CIVILIANS SIMILAR VIOLATIONS UNDER
TITLE 18, U.S.C.]**

**(5) CONSPIRACY TO MAKE FALSE OFFICIAL STATEMENTS: VIOLATION OF
ARTICLE 81, UCMJ; SECTION 881 TITLE 10, U.S.C. [FOR CIVILIANS SIMILAR
VIOLATIONS UNDER TITLE 18, U.S.C.]**

**(6) CONSPIRACY TO BE WILLFULLY DERELICT IN PERFORMANCE OF
DUTIES: VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 81, UCMJ; SECTION 881 TITLE 10, U.S.C.
[FOR CIVILIANS SIMILAR VIOLATIONS UNDER TITLE 18 U.S.C.]**

**(7) CONSPIRACY TO BE ACCESSORIES AFTER THE FACT: VIOLATION OF
ARTICLE 81, UCMJ; SECTION 881 TITLE 10, U.S.C. [FOR CIVILIANS SIMILAR
VIOLATIONS UNDER TITLE 18, U.S.C.]**

ATTACHMENT # 1

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BC-VIETNAM-ANNIVERSARY-MISSING (SCHEDULED, PICTURE)

U.S. MIAs no longer dominate Vietnam ties

By Jim Wolf

WASHINGTON, April 20 (Reuter) - For the first time since Americans scrambled from their embassy rooftop in Saigon 20 years ago, the fate of those not on the last helicopter out is no longer driving U.S. policy toward Vietnam.

The United States is still spending an estimated \$100 million a year to search for clues on the 2,206 Americans still listed as missing in action or otherwise unaccounted for from the Indochina War, including 1,621 in Vietnam.

But U.S. President Bill Clinton, citing what he calls Hanoi's cooperation in the search, has steadily inched away from Cold War-era policies that played up the MIAs, a convenient tool for isolating Vietnam's communist leadership.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Hanoi's former partner, U.S. planners have increasingly viewed Vietnam as a potential strategic ally against any Chinese adventurism, for instance in the disputed Spratly Islands, as well as a lucrative potential export market.

''Regional stability will be increased by integrating the

Socialist Republic of Vietnam into the family of nations,'' the head of the U.S. Pacific Command, Admiral Richard Macke, told Congress in February.

He added that he had no reason to expect any Vietnamese slackening in the hunt for American MIA data ''when the decision is made to normalise our relations.''

Many activists on the issue have argued that withholding normal relations is the only leverage Washington retains to force the fullest possible accounting.

The admiral's testimony, which he said had been fine-tuned by the White House as well as the departments of state and defence, illustrated the great care taken to avoid inflaming family members, veterans and others who believe Vietnam has failed to come clean with all it knows about missing Americans.

''We can put the war behind us without putting behind the need to achieve a full accounting for American POW/MIA,'' Macke said.

The playing down of the MIAs as an obstacle to bilateral relations began when Clinton lifted a 30-year trade embargo against Hanoi on February 3, 1994, citing progress toward the fullest possible accounting.

With no big domestic political backlash developing from that move, he took the next incremental step in January, agreeing to swap diplomatic liaison offices in Hanoi and Washington.

Pentagon planners have told Vietnamese officials they want to discuss regional strategic matters ``that transcend the POW/MIA issue,' ' as Lew Stern of the office of International Security Affairs, wrote in a January 4 memorandum.

Richard Allen, national security adviser under Ronald Reagan in the early 1980s, said he understood that American use of Vietnamese port facilities in Cam Ranh Bay was already under ``active consideration' ' in the Pentagon.

``It's going to become an imperative for our national security interests to establish at the very minimum a working relationship that would involve the possible use by the United States of existing military facilities,' ' he said in a telephone interview.

MIA advocates have grudgingly concluded that Clinton abandoned their cause as a matter of what Reagan and former president George Bush had called ``the highest national priority.' '

Ted Sampley, an activist who publishes U.S. Veteran Dispatch in Kinston, North Carolina, says his branch of the movement is

now teaming up with the U.S. Vietnamese community to press for political reform in Vietnam.

Calling it the 20th anniversary of the ``destruction of democracy in Vietnam,' ' these activists will mark the April

Vietnam Vet Coming Home

After 26 years, Merrick marine's remains identified

By Arnold Abrams

STAFF WRITER

More than 26 years after Frederick J. Burns died as a prisoner in Vietnam, the marine recruit's remains will be brought home to Long Island for burial later next week.

"At long last it's all over," said Burns' mother, Julia, who was shown dental records by Marine officers at her Merrick home on April 6. "I never lost faith that my son's body would be found. I just hoped it would be within my lifetime."

Although an official Pentagon announcement still is pending, the family of Burns, who died of malnutrition after being captured by Communist forces in 1967, was informed by the Marine Corps that his remains recently were identified and will be flown home April 26.

Burns, who was an 18-year-old corporal when he died, enlisted in the Marine Corps in July, 1967, several weeks after graduating from Merrick's Calhoun High School. He arrived in South Vietnam in mid-December and was taken prisoner on his first patrol, which was ambushed on Christmas night.

According to several fellow prisoners subsequently released by their Viet Cong captors, Burns died on



Fred Burns in 1967

Jan. 2, 1969. His remains, found where they had been buried — on the site of a POW compound in Quang Nam province — were excavated last year by a special team of American servicemen.

"We've known since December, 1969, that Fred was dead," his mother said. "I've been praying since then to get his remains back. He belongs on American soil."

A total of 835 sets of American servicemen's remains have been brought home from Southeast Asia since 1973, according to Beverly Baker, a Pentagon spokeswoman. But Burns will not be added to that figure, she said, until the identification process is formally completed.

"That process is not yet finished," she said. "And there won't be any official announcement until it is."

Such details mattered little to Burns' sister, Carol Foster, who said she burst into tears of happiness when told — unofficially — by Marine officers that her brother's remains had been found.

"I felt it was the greatest news in the world," said Foster, 48, who also is a Merrick resident. "It's what we all had been waiting for."

Among those awaiting such news was Joseph Carbone, a close friend who joined the Marines with

Burns and went through boot camp with him at Parris Island, S.C.

"I'm ecstatic," said Carbone, 46, a veteran Nassau County police detective, who has maintained close contact with the Burns family. "This is the closure of a situation that pained all of us."

Before joining the Marines, Carbone recalled, Burns had applied for admission to several colleges. And, shortly after committing himself to three years' military service, he received a batch of acceptance letters from those schools.

"But there was no question about what he was going to do," the detective said. "It was a matter of moral conviction — Fred wanted to serve his country."

Which is what Richard Kessel, another high school friend of Burns', remembers most vividly about him.

"If there was one person in our school who wanted to go to Vietnam and fight for his country, it was him," said Kessel, chairman of the Long Island Power Authority. "And it wasn't a matter of machismo with him. He felt very strongly about defending national ideals."

Kessel said he saw irony in the news about the identification of Burns' remains and the recent public statements by former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, who now confesses that, by 1967, he believed U.S. forces could not win a military victory in Vietnam.

"I wished he would have said it then," Kessel said of McNamara. "It might have saved the lives of a lot of good people like Fred."

ATTACHMENT
#2

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