



## Different Views

**J**ohn Dimitri Negroponte served as a political officer in the Saigon Embassy and fell out of favor with Kissinger after arguing that the chief US negotiator (Kissinger) was making too many concessions to the North Vietnamese in order to end the war and get US forces out of Vietnam - the time frame was the early 70's.

Negroponte is listed as attending an meeting of PW/MIA Interagency Group (IAG) on 7 November 1980 at 10:30 hours in Room 1D956, the Pentagon, representing the State Department. At the meeting DIA provided an update on their activities, including information recently obtained from a Lao source concerning five American PWs sighted in 1976. RADM Tuttle indicated that the source had been extensively interviewed and polygraphed, positively thus far. The PWs were sighted near Vieng Xay, Laos by a source originating from the League, provided to DIA for follow-up. RADM Tuttle also briefed on a source who reportedly had information on 18 US PWs and 43 Lao PWs, near Kham Keut, Laos-this source has also passed a polygraph.

The point here is Negroponte who

speaks Vietnamese sat on an oversight group and received and reviewed intelligence on live American POWs, and he was never called upon to step forward and speak publicly on the record about his knowledge of this information or his management input on what was done to develop this information into a confirmed live sighting report. Somebody dropped the ball on this data.

In the mid 80's Commodore Thomas A. Brooks, the Assistant Deputy Director for Collection Management at the Defense Intelligence Agency, wrote: "Thus, there is a great element of truth in General Tighe's statement that we have done a SLOPPY JOB. I come to the same conclusion after having looked into the issue probably in somewhat more detail than General Tighe, but not for as long a period of time."

Now, in the mid-90's Secretary of State Warren Christopher is looking at the issue of improved ties with the Vietnam Communists in the form of full Diplomatic Relations, but based upon what view, what advice, what review of the facts?

### HANOI CONTINUES TO LIE

On January 6, 1995 contained in FBIS-EAS 95-05 the Vietnamese Communist government made this claim: "During the year (1994) Vietnam sent the US remains of 500 American MIAs from the Vietnam War." **The Insider** challenged this view expressed over Hanoi



*This information service is designed to help President Clinton's appointees and other officials understand that there are unresolved problems of Americans who were captured alive and taken prisoner (POWs), but who were not released.*

**Official Notice****1995 Evidence Kit**

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**Michael Van Atta, Director**  
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**P.O. Box 735**  
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Radio and reprinted in the Indochina Chronology by Douglas Pike. That facts are stated in the Department of Defense POW/MIA newsletter dated March 1995. Only 22 MIA remains were turned over by

Hanoi in 1994 that were positively identified. Dr. Pike, a former diplomat responded: "...if there are still people out there who believe Hanoi statistics they are beyond our help." Clearly, the US Department of Defense has maintained a public position that Hanoi has helped locate answers on the last known alive POW cases and cases of discrepancy where missing Americans were in the grasp of Hanoi's troops. Hanoi has maintained that it holds no live Americans on its lands and the US Defense Intelligence Agency (the agency responsible for tracking down leads on live and missing Americans in Vietnam) has maintained a position that it has no evidence that live American prisoners are currently being held by Hanoi's troops or secret police, but they can not rule out the possibility.

**EVIDENCE OF LIVE AMERICAN POWS IN VIETNAM**

If anyone has information to the contrary, they are encouraged to step forward and present it. Well that is exactly what has happened. The live POW Lobby of America located evidence and knowledge (proof) that live Americans were on Vietnam's soil and presented that facts to the CIA in the following letter:

May 18, 1995

John M. Deutch, CIA Director  
 George Tent, CIA Deputy  
 Nora Slatkin, CIA Executive Director

Michael J. O'Neil, CIA Chief of Staff  
 Central Intelligence Agency Washington, DC 20505

RE: Live Americans (prisoners) in SE Asia

*This information service is designed to help President Clinton's appointees and other officials understand that there are unresolved problems of Americans who were captured alive and taken prisoner (POWs), but who were not released.*

Americans, I felt that this information was fresh, current and specific as to location. But, no one has contacted me to obtain the details that could lead to the location of a live American, nor has anyone asked to interview or debrief the three team members who collected this first hand knowledge on live Americans.

I am seeking your help in checking into what is going on with this live sighting report that was current as of May 1995 about three live Americans in Vietnam.

Sincerely,  
 Michael Van Atta  
 P. O. Box 735  
 Stewartstown, PA 17363  
 717-993-5498

Quite clearly there is a move afoot to open ties with Vietnam and to forget the POWs. The Washington Post, the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal have all lent/given editorial support to the idea that its is time for the US to recognize Vietnam and establish full diplomatic Embassy Offices in each others country. Even in the face of evidence that Vietnam still has live Americans under their control and guarded by Communist Vietnamese troops.

So, how does one get through to their government, when their government makes the simple choose to ignore the request of its citizens? Please send your answers in by August 31, 1995, so they can be published by **THE INSIDER**.

Remember, **THE INSIDER** is the live American POW in Vietnam who still is in prison and still wants to come home!  
 Sincerely,

Michael Van Atta  
 Director  
 The POW Educational Fund, Inc.  
 P. O. Box 735  
 Stewartstown, PA 17363  
 717-993-5498

**Prisoners of War Missing in Action**

A group of current and former intelligence officers has established an educational fund to provide government officials and the general public with hard factual proof that Americans were captured alive, in war, and were not released. The group publishes a monthly newsletter called

**The Insider**

that reviews CIA documents and provides insight through review of POW sightings and discrepancy cases of captives who were not released. For subscriptions or information, please contact:

**Michael Van Atta, Director**  
**The POW Educational Fund**  
**P.O. Box 735**  
**Stewartstown Station, PA 17363**  
**or phone**  
**(717) 993-5498**

**Cluster Map Now Available**

Now you can have your own copy of the famous "Cluster Map" which reports on 928 sighting locations. This 11" by 17" color map was made with data taken from 16,000 source intelligence reports which have already filtered out all non prisoner or 'accounted-for' reports. All reports of Garwood, Kay, Gay, or Gougelman, as well as yachtsmen, smugglers, living freely, foreign nationals, dog tag reports, remains reports, and crash site reports have already been filtered out for you. The data is a picture of DIA's database with 928 live sighting prisoner reports, pinpointing their locations, current to April 8, 1992 sighting reports.

216 blue pins - 1970's eyewitness  
484 red pins - 1980-1990 eyewitness  
228 yellow - hearsay, date not reported

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nam until March 1993 - three months after the Senate Committee on POW/MIA Affairs, went out of business. Yet, Mr. McCain wants to continue to express the findings of this two year old report - that they found no evidence of live US POWs still being held. I found evidence of live POWs in May 1995 and simply offered to provide it to Mr. McCain and he ignored the contents of my letter.

I said nothing about conspiracy theories or the wisdom of lifting the trade embargo, yet Mr. McCain attempted to justify his support of these decisions. I am not concerned about who supported these

decisions. All I am trying to do is give responsible US government officials information collected by the private sector on Americans that are in Vietnam's hands. Mr. McCain demonstrated that he is not responsible individual and that he is a fool.

Winston Lord, Anthony Lake, Ronald Brown, Sen. Kerry, Sen. Gramm, Sen. Thurmond, Sen. Dole, Sen. Smith, Hershel Golber and Nancy Soderberg all failed to respond. So, is Mr. Perry Myers right after all or have we not drive home the point to our elected and appointed officials? Should we all give up?

**TRYING AGAIN**

On June 25, 1995 the following letter was sent to US officials in Vietnam (James Hall and company), Gen. John Vessey (Clinton's the Special Envoy to Vietnam) and all the Washington officials in charge of the POW issue, including Bill Feeney and Dave Goldberg at the National Ground Intelligence Center, US Army Foreign Science & Technology Center, 220 7th St. NE, Charlottesville, VA 22903. None have yet to respond.

June 25, 1995  
Winston Lord  
Asst. Secretary of State for  
East Asia & Pacific Affairs  
2201 C. St. NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Winston,

I sent the attached letter to the CIA on May 18, 1995 with details about Americans that were held in a military compound in Vietnam. Having sent 16 search teams into Vietnam to look for missing

Dear John, George, Nora and Michael,

Congratulations upon your new assignment as the leaders of the CIA. Hopefully your new team will produce results.

I would like to call to your attention that my organization has, since March 1993, sent 16 investigative teams to look for live but missing Americans in SE Asia. Team #16 located three Americans and we seek your help in securing their release. These are the details:

Team #16 returned May 6, 1995 from Vietnam, where they located a Doctor at a medical aid station, who told them that there were three live American POWs up the road to the right near a military compound. The team motor biked to the right turn at the described intersection. They stopped to get gas and were arrested, detained, questioned and turned back by the local police at a substation and then the District police.

What does this mean? We sent a team into this area a year ago and photographed very young Amer-Asian children, fathered after the Vietnam war ended in 1975, 20 years ago - the children were ages 6 to 10.

We now have found an eye witness a Vietnamese Doctor, who most likely treated these three Americans, who told us where they were located. We have been denied access to these Americans by the police who guard the road to their location.

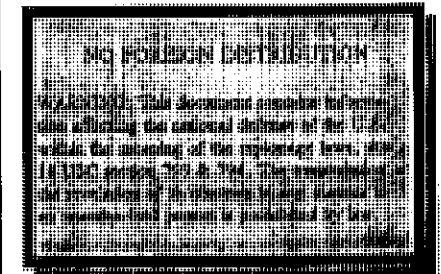
On a map we can point out exactly where the eye witness can be located and exactly where he said the three Americans can be found, beside a Vietnamese military compound.

Two additional notes: 1) We had our own translator, a foreign national now living in the US, and he translated the Vietnamese Doctor's first hand knowledge and directions to these three Americans. 2) While the team was in detention the translator overheard the civilian clad political officer interrogate the arresting

Vietnamese police officers. The concern was how the team got past the first check point and was intercepted at the second check point.

Who would like to go and meet these Americans and dispel the long held notion that Vietnam has no live Americans in detention on their soil? Please assign a case office so that this information can be passed directly into your hands and immediate action can be taken to develop this data.

Sincerely,  
Michael Van Atta, Chairman



The Live POW Lobby of America  
P. O. Box 735, Stewartstown, PA  
17363  
717-993-5498

After issuing this letter to the CIA's new management, who had just been appointed by President Clinton to head the CIA in a new direction, nothing happened! Team #16 had gone half way around the world, found a credible witness who had direct knowledge that live Americans were in Vietnam at a military compound and the witness guided team #16 to their location. Team #16 was arrested, detained and questioned extensively about their presence in the area, and the CIA's only response to this data was silence. In fact, Michael J. O'Neil simply crossed out his name and wrote on his envelope - Return to Sender. So, it becomes clear that the CIA simply does not want the information on live Ameri-

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cans, or so it seems.

### MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE ON THE POW/MIA ISSUE IN WASHINGTON

So, with the CIA running in a quiet mode the Live POW Lobby of America identified all the key leaders who advise the President on relations with Vietnam and progress on the POW/MIA issue and provided them with the same letter dated May 22, 1995 that was sent to the CIA May 18th. They are:

-Winston Lord  
Asst. Secretary of State  
for East Asia & Pacific Affairs  
2201 C. St. NW Washington, DC  
20506

Anthony Lake  
NSC Advisor  
Old Executive Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20520

Warren Christopher  
Secretary of State  
2201 C St. NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Ronald H. Brown  
Commerce Secretary  
14th & Constitution Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Sen. John McCain (AZ) -  
111 Senate Russell Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Sen. John Kerry (MA)  
421 Senate Russell Bldg.

Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Phil Gramm (TX)  
370 Senate Hart Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Strom Thurmond(SC)  
217 Senate Hart Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Bob Dole (KS)  
141 Senate Hart Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Jesse Helms  
430 Senate Dirksen Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

-Sen. Robert C. Smith (NH)  
332 Senate Dirksen Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Nancy Soderberg  
NSC-Chief of Staff  
Old Executive Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20506

Hershel Golber  
Dept. of Veteran Affairs  
810 Vermont Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20420

To press the CIA to act upon the information, the letter sent to the CIA's new management was sent to the private sector leaders and members of the Live POW Lobby of America on June 1, 1995 with the request that the civilian, private sector write to the CIA and ask them to act upon the live POW intelligence collected by Team #16. So, what response

*(Continued on page 5)*

*This information service is designed to help President Clinton's appointees and other officials understand that there are unresolved problems of Americans who were captured alive and taken prisoner (POWs), but who were not released.*

US trade embargo offered the best way to gain the fullest possible accounting of our missing servicemen. I support his decision.

The Vietnamese have been increasingly cooperative in our efforts to account for our missing. Over the last three years, the Department of Defense has worked with the Vietnamese to resolve well over half of those cases involving servicemen most likely to have survived their incidents and taken captive.

Those most closely involved in accounting for our servicemen have attested to this progress and believe that lifting the embargo will facilitate their efforts. Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Special Presidential Emisarry to Vietnam General John Vessey, former Commander in Chief of US Forces in the Pacific General Charles Larson and former Commander Joint Task Force Full Accounting General Thomas Needham, who was charged with the day to day accounting efforts, all expressed support for lifting the embargo.

I want to assure you that I remain committed to achieving the fullest possi-

ble accounting of our missing servicemen. I share the conviction of top military experts, however, that this cause will be best served by lifting the trade embargo.

There comes a time when we must bring armed conflicts to closure. I believe that time has come with respect to Vietnam. The trade embargo was a useful instrument for achieving US foreign policy goals. Those same goals can now be better advanced with different instruments. To continue the embargo of Vietnam would be to punish the Vietnamese for a war that ended almost twenty years ago. It would serve no useful purpose, and indeed, might be counterproductive to our efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting of our missing servicemen.

Thank you again for contacting me. Please, feel free to contact me on this or any other matter of concern."

### THE INSIDERS VIEW

Mr. McCain is the biggest fool of them all.

Why do I say this? Quite clearly, I did not start to send recon teams into Viet-

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mittee Report compiled, assessed and built on all previous government efforts to account for our missing servicemen. It incorporated the findings of over 1000 interviews, 200 sworn depositions, 200 hours of public hearings, and tens of thousand of

pages of documents.

It is the most definitive statement on the issue of our missing in Southeast Asia ever compiled and I am proud to have been a part of the process. Attributable in no small part to the leadership of Senator John Kerry, the Committee managed to reach an extraordinary consensus. The Committee Report was signed by all the members of the Committee.

I would briefly like to go over two of the most important points of consensus included in the report.

The Committee determined that there is no compelling evidence that proves any American POWs remain in captivity in Southeast Asia. There have been major discrepancies in the Vietnamese accounting of our missing, however, and I, like many involved in the issue, continue to operate on the assumption that some men may have survived in captivity following Operation Homecoming.

With regard to the many conspiracy theory which have inflamed passions and made this issue more difficult to address than it otherwise may have been, the Committee found them to have no basis in fact whatsoever. As a veteran and firm supporter of our armed services, I personally find the various conspiracy scenarios, not only absurd, but a profound insult to the service of scores of men and women in uniform. I am glad the members of the Senate Select Committee have put them to rest.

Following the completion of the Committee Report and after dispatching three high level delegations to Vietnam, the President determined that lifting the

**Project:  
Unauthorized Entry**

The Live POW Lobby of America sponsors trips back to Vietnam and Laos to look for the Americans who were captured alive but not released. We provide maps and put you with a team of searchers in an area where there are of live sighting reports. You stay in a hotel at night but search for POWs during the day. We have a search team advisory group that will help you with every detail. We have sent 16 teams in the last 2 years into Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Russia, and Cuba.

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was received, what action taken and what has been done with this knowledge? (NOTE: the exact location has not been disclosed, nor have the individuals who have this first hand knowledge.) Now, it is two months after the data was collected and none of these officials have stepped forward to grasp it. Clearly, by choice, those responsible for finding, fixing the location of, and securing the release of live American POWs have refused to act upon information put at their door. No response from the CIA and others have responded with ignorance as follows:

**ONE PRIVATE SECTOR VIEW**

The following response demonstrates that there is very little faith in the US government to take action on live POW intelligence. Perry L. Myers, President of SEARCH Inc., (Search Efforts and Recovery from Communist Hands) writes:

*May 27, 1995*

*Dear Mike,*

*Recently you had given a partial report reference to Search Team #16, as to Live sighting information about three POWs. In reading a copy of your letter to the Central Intelligence Agency, again I wonder if this is wise.*

*Perhaps I am wrong. And perhaps we might simply agree that we disagree. But, I wouldn't trust anyone in the Government as far as I could throw them.*

*The viewpoint of most of the activists whom I know and have discussed such matters with, all seem to universally agree about such matters. They all seem to agree that the CIA knows what these POWs had for lunch a week ago, knows exactly where they're all at, and will assist the Vietnamese in every way to keep them where they're at.*

*Now I realize this is all opinionated. But, I agree with this philosophy. Spending 7 years in Psyops afforded me the opportunity to see the dark side if the USG. A lesson I'll not forget.*

*Sharing The Insider with Kerry, McCain and the USG, as well as sharing 'AFTER ACTION' reports of search teams is just simply a method of approach that we must agree that we disagree upon.*

*If there were in fact three POWs down that road, undoubtedly they had been moved out within hours of Team 16 being within their proximity.*

*In summary I realize that we must have USG cooperation if we hope to retrieve LIVE POWs. But, it's a pipe dream. The USG simply is not-nor have they ever been-on our side in the matter.*

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**THE INSIDERS VIEW**

Mr. Perry L. Myers should quit working on the live POW problem and move completely away from the live POW issue. Why? First of all, we need winning attitudes, not defeatists. The entire reason POW Activists exist is to force their government to take responsible action on the live POWs. So, far the US government has refused to move in any visible way on the issue of live POWs. The responsible course of action when one develops hard concrete data on live POWs is to put the data in the hands of the US government and demand that they act upon it. Force the US government to act, embarrass them into action. Don't hide the data away, make it public knowledge and force action. The only way the US government is going to act on the live POWs is if you get up from you computer, grab Washington Officials by the throat and jam the information into them. You cannot fight a government who wants to ignore you by sitting at home and criticizing others who take and make the effort to challenge the US government.

I have had it with whiny people who call themselves "POW Activists" but don't do anything to get the live POWs home but complain. Everyone who agrees with Mr. Perry should drop dead or get up and bring them home, but don't attack those who are trying to solve the problem.

The US government says in its public position statement that "it has no evidence" that Vietnam/Laos still hold live POWs, so the only way to overcome this objection to taking action is to go into Vietnam and Laos and get the data and then force it down the throat of the US government. By disagreeing with people

who are taking these risks, to go into a hostile Communist countries and pushing past check points to get arrested in areas where live POWs are reported is stupid. I lay down this challenge to everyone - what have you done to bring home a live POW, today? If the answer is nothing, then quit. If you want to do something about the problem, get up off your butt and solve it.

**THE STATE DEPARTMENT VIEW**

I sent Secretary of State Warren Christopher the same letter I sent to the CIA and on June 5, 1995 Thomas Donilon responded: "Thank you for your letter to Secretary Christopher concerning Vietnam. I know you will understand that it is not possible for him to reply personally to the many letters he has received on foreign policy issues. In response, we have assembled the enclosed Department of State publications which we hope address your concerns. Thank you for this opportunity to communicate with you. Please know that we value your opinion, and will take it and the views of all Americans into account."

**THE INSIDERS VIEW**

I put live POW information in the hands of the Department of State and all they did in response was to send me several PRESS RELEASES from May 16, 1995 a Presidential delegation headed by Gober, Lord and Wold visited Vietnam May 16-17; May 11, 1995, the White House Press Secretary released the knowledge that a top-level delegation was to travel to Vietnam; January 30, 1995 a

Press release put out by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam announcing the opening of Vietnam's liaison office in Washington, DC; January 27, 1995 a press statement by the State Department announcing the opening of the Vietnamese liaison office in Washington, DC.

What a bunch of IMBECILES at the State Department on the issue of live POWs. Someone comes along from the private sector and puts recon teams on the ground in Vietnam and locates the exact location where Vietnam has live Americans under their control and all the State Department can do is send out "press releases" showing how the relations with the Communists in Vietnam are on the fast track to improve.

The State Department just flushed themselves down the toilet with all the elegance they can muster.

**TWO SENATE VIEWS**

VIEW #1 Senator Jesse Helms June 7, 1995

"Thank you for your letter concerning POW/MIAs in Vietnam. I remain opposed to the normalization of diplomatic and commercial relations with Vietnam until there has been an accounting for all POWs and MIAs from the Vietnam War. When a military recruit enters a branch of the armed forces, that young person is vowing to the American people that he is willing to lay his life on the line for his country. In return, he must feel confident in the belief that the United States will do its utmost to secure his release if he is taken prisoner or to determine his fate if he is listed as Missing in Action. This is a workable contract that allows the United States military to function well.

The ability to end the embargo against Vietnam was entirely within the prerogatives of the Presidency. President Clinton did not need the approval of Congress to take this action. Nevertheless, I supported legislation that -- if passed -- would have kept the embargo in

**THE INSIDER** newsletter started publication in January 1982 and is written by a group of current and former intelligence officers who set up an educational fund to provide government officials and the general public with hard, factual proof that Americans were captured alive, in war, who were not released. The group publishes a monthly newsletter called **THE INSIDER** that reviews CIA documents, interviews intelligence officers, provides insight through analytical review of Prisoners of War sightings and discrepancy cases of captives who were not released. **THE INSIDER** is available in hard copy format on a subscription basis at \$24.00 for 12 issues; or using personal computers via phone modem on the military affairs section on COMPUSERVE, the POW Computer Network and the National Forget-Me-Not Association Computer Network. For a hard copy subscription, write to:

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P.O. Box 735  
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place. Unfortunately, that legislation was defeated in the Senate.

Thank you for contacting me to express your concerns."

**THE INSIDERS VIEW**

This is a great improvement in attitude and commitment by Mr. Helms over the State Departments view, but again it falls short of the information I sent on live POWs, we had located.

VIEW #2 Senator John McCain June 5, 1995

Thank you for contacting me concerning the fate of United States servicemen missing in South East Asia.

As you probably know, in January of 1993, the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs completed its work and presented its findings. The January Com-

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