



DEFENSE PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING PERSONNEL OFFICE
2400 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2400

October 1, 1997

Mr. Robert G. Matthews
Curriculum Development Specialist
SAS Institute
SAS Campus Drive
Cary, NC 27513
(via fax: 919-677-4444)

Dear Mr. Matthews:

Mr. Destatte informed me of your project to develop a curriculum for high school courses on the history of the Vietnam War which includes information about the Department of Defense's efforts to account for the Americans who did not return from that war. I understand that the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory and the Joint Task Force--Full Accounting have invited you to visit their facilities in Hawaii and observe their field work in Vietnam.

Most Americans share a strong belief that our nation should make every reasonable effort to account for our countrymen who were lost in this and other wars. Thousands of American men and women in the Department of Defense have dedicated their talents and energy to this task during the past 35 years. All Americans can be proud of our nation's efforts to account for the men and women lost in our nation's wars. Nevertheless, the accounting issue remains a sensitive subject; in part because many Americans are not aware of the full extent of the government's efforts.

On behalf of the Defense Prisoner of War and Missing Personnel Affairs Office, I want to commend and encourage your project to record the work the Department of Defense is doing to account for Americans who did not return from the war in Southeast Asia, and to bring that information to a nationwide audience of young people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Larry Greer".

LARRY GREER
Special Assistant for Public Affairs

