

April 12, 1997

Ms. Barbara Swowski

Re: Bobby Garwood

Dear Ms. Swowski:

Researcher Roger Hall phoned me several weeks ago, after I offered him the enclosed material, and said you were working on some matters concerning Garwood. I do not recall reading in the material any mention of aircraft mechanics who might resemble americans. You are free to search the material and keep same.

There is a book, Survivors, by Zalin Grant about nine American POWs held in South Vietnam for most of their five years' captivity. Several were held with Garwood. They do not have kind words for him. In fact, there is a Marine report of 15 July 1968 which details contact between a Marine patrol and VC/NVA troops accompanied by a Caucasian who was shot at and hit by the patrol... The chapter is entitled "The American Viet Cong". Garwood claims the wounds on his arm came from when he was initially captured.

In December, 1969, the USMC wrote Garwood's father about information they got from three recently released POWs. They said he was o.k. and seen frequently in the POW compound. Later in the book one of the POWs. Harker or Dr. Kushner, I believe, said Garwood could not have been shot in July because he had gone down to the coast with a bullhorn to exhort Americans to defect... Who will ever know what exactly Garwood is or did?

Trust this finds you well and enjoy the hunt.

Sincerely,

William E. Kirkland