Enclosed for your information is a copy of General Walters' statement before the House Select Committee on Persons Missing in Action in Southeast Asia. Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lyle L. Miller
Acting Legislative Counsel

Enclosure
As stated

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**Routing and Record Sheet**

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1-7 Despite efforts we are short of this, it seems we should have input to interim reply e.g. we hope it on rep. desires step in editing whatever. What do you think?

(Typed 22 April 1976)
April 27, 1976

The Honorable George Bush
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Bush:

I understand there was a recent prison breakout in Laos, with many anti-Patchet Lao prisoners escaping to Thailand.

I would appreciate your investigating the reported incident to determine whether any of the escapees may have some knowledge of Americans still missing in Laos as a result of the war in Indochina.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

GILLESPIE V. MONTGOMERY
Chairman

Lt. General Vernon A. Walters
Deputy Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear General Walters:

On behalf of the Select Committee, I want to express our strong appreciation for the testimony you offered this morning.

That hearing was undoubtedly one of the most important we will have. Your testimony was perfectly fitted to the occasion. It was finely prepared and finely presented.

I am also very pleased with the candid and thorough statement you prepared for the record. It is precisely what we needed. I am sure that the document will have wide circulation and will bring the intelligence agencies the great credit they deserve for their treatment of the POW/MIA issue.

Again, General Walters, on behalf of the Select Committee, I thank you for your outstanding testimony.

With best regards, I am, Sincerely,

GILLESPIE V. MONTGOMERY
Chairman

cc: Director George Bush

13169

Approved for Release
Date 11 SEP 1985
Select Committee on Missing Persons in Southeast Asia

March 9, 1976

TO:    Mr. Robert Chen
        Office of the Legislative Counsel
        Central Intelligence Agency

FROM:  J. Angus MacDonald, Staff Director

On December 10, 1975, Alan Dawson informed Dr. Kenny of the
staff of the Select Committee, that he was told by the PEO Minister
of Information that there are 80-100 Americans being held in the
Tay Buc region of North Vietnam. He was told that some of these were
prisoners from Laos, and that some were black Americans.

Dawson said that he has not communicated this information
to the U.S. Government since he felt it was largely untrue, and that
he was being used by the Vietnamese to spread unfounded rumors in
order to make the U.S. Government believe many prisoners were
secretly being held, so that U.S. officials would be in a mood to
pay a high price for an accounting.

Privately, however, he felt there were a few Americans being
held.

I want to thank you for your superb help in meeting the
needs of the Select Committee.

Your Deputy Director, General Walters, was outstanding.
His testimony today was precisely what we and the NIA wanted to
hear. So, too, was the document prepared for the
record.

Please extend my thanks to Mr. George Fair, who accompanied
General Walters, and to Mr. Robert Chen and
who coordinated matters with our staff.

The presentation was so factual, concise, and complete,
that we did not need to go into executive session. I look forward
to working with you and your staff in the same fine spirit of
cooperation.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

Gillespie V. Montgomery
Chairman

GW1:3170

Approved for Release
Date 1 Sep 1975

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Approved for Release
Date 1 Sep 1975