



National Alliance of Families for the Return of America's Missing Servicemen World War II - Korea - Cold War - Vietnam - Gulf Wars

The Top Seven Reasons We Need H. Res 111 calling for the formation of a House Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs

"To conduct a full investigation of all unresolved matters relating to any United States personnel unaccounted for from the Vietnam era, the Korean conflict, World War II, Cold War Missions, or Gulf War, including MIA's and POW's...." Among the "unresolved matters:"

- 1. The Gulag Study 5th Edition issued Feb. 11, 2005** - compiled by the Joint Commission Support Directorate (JCSD), the investigative arm of the U.S/Russian Joint Commission on POW/MIAs, concluded; **"Americans, including American servicemen, were imprisoned in the former Soviet Union...."**
- 2. Failure to Investigate the "185 Report"** - In 1993, the Defense POW/MIA Office (DPMO) received a report that 185 American POWs had been held in Southeast Asia after 1973, possibly as late as 1976. The report was recognized as possibly credible. During the mid-1990's a Russian geologist was interviewed and reported that he was told in 1976 by Vietnamese counterparts that the Vietnamese Government at that time was holding live American POWs. Neither report has been properly investigated.
- 3. Failure to Authorize Live Sighting Investigations** and the attempt to limit Stony Beach activity. Reports of live POWs in Southeast Asia are not investigated.
- 4. Failure to Properly Investigate Reports of POWs in North Korea** - A Background Paper prepared, in 1996, by I.O. Lee, analyst Defense POW/MIA Office (DPMO) stated: **"There are too many live sighting reports, specifically observations of several Caucasians in a collective farm by Romanians and the North Korean defectors' eyewitness of Americans in DPRK to dismiss that there are no American POW's in North Korea."**
- 5. Failure to Properly Investigate the case of Capt. Michael Scott Speicher** - A well placed source provided the following information to the National Alliance of Families in the summer of 2003; "The one source that claimed to have been held with Speicher and fed him on a daily basis stated they had been held for 10 years in the underground prison; that individual was released and left Iraq. The individual that reported feeding the pilot was talking to an individual outside Iraq when he made the claim, and the U.S. side never interviewed him.... Don't be misled by those who would pooh pooh the Speicher reporting."
- 6. Failure to follow-up on the Conclusions and Recommendations of the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs, January 1993** - " There is evidence, moreover, that indicates the possibility of survival, at least for a small number, after Operation Homecoming...."

"Today, Defense Department files contain evidence that at least 59 Americans were -- or may have been -- taken prisoner and their precise fate is still unclear. This includes the 20-30 not officially acknowledged by Vietnam in 1973. This represents the minimum number of possible live POWs today.... U.S. field teams in Vietnam since 1989 have uncovered evidence that more Americans were in fact taken captive than officially recorded." (Memo dated August 17, 1992, "The Universe of Possible POWs: 1973 versus 1992" by Sedgwick D. Tourison, investigator, for the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs 1991 - 93.)

Isn't it time we ask the next question..... What happened to that "small number"?