

Dear Representative

Please co-sponsor H.Res. 111, introduced by Congressman Peter King of New York, calling for the formation of a Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs. According to the legislation; "The select committee shall 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, Persian Gulf War, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation Enduring Freedom, including MIA's and POW's missing and captured."

We are aware of past investigations and hearings conducted in both the House and Senate. Those investigations left many "unresolved matters." Additionally, much new information has surfaced since the Senate published its findings in January 1993. Here are several examples;

In 1996, a Background Paper prepared by I.O. Lee, an analyst with the 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."

Another former analyst with the Defense POW/MIA Office provided this information along with many other disturbing details requiring Congressional attention. Specifically, he detailed a report referred to, in house, as the "185 Report," This report discussed the possibility that as many as 185 American POWs were alive as late as 1976. During the same time frame the Joint Casualty Resolution Center (JCRC) concluded their own study. They found the possibility existed that as many as 57 American servicemen might be alive.

In February of 2005, the Joint Commission Support Directorate, the investigative arm of the U.S./Russian Joint POW/MIA Commission concluded; "Americans, including American servicemen, were imprisoned in the Soviet Union."

In March 2006, memos written by a former Defense Intelligence analyst while serving as an investigator with the Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs were discovered. These memos detailed the Vietnamese admission that some 19 servicemen listed as died while missing were in fact captured. These servicemen survived for varying lengths of time. The committee never addressed this matter. In an interesting side note, 10 of the nineteen servicemen Vietnamese official acknowledged "survived into captivity" are among the 57 our own (JCRC)concluded might still be alive.

Then in September of 2008, a memorandum, again written by the same investigator for the Senate committee, based on a consensus of the investigators, stated; "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."

This is but the tip of the iceberg, requiring congressional attention. It is time to address the volumes of new information available on POW/MIA matters from World War II, Korea, Cold War, Vietnam and the Gulf.

Please add your name as a co-sponsor for H.Res 111, as introduced by Congressman King.

Very truly yours,