

The original documents are located in Box 17, folder “Missing Persons in Southeast Asia (MIA's)” of the Loen and Leppert Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 16, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
THROUGH: VERN LOEN *VL*
FROM: TOM LOEFFLER *T.L.*
SUBJECT: Request from Rep. Sonny
Montgomery (D-Miss.), Chairman
House Select Committee for
Missing Persons in Southeast Asia

Recently Congressman Montgomery has requested that the White House assist in securing an appearance by Secretary Kissinger before the Congressman's Select Committee for Missing Persons in Southeast Asia. In addition, I understand that the ranking minority member, Rep. Pete McCloskey (R. -Calif.) is also desirous of Secretary Kissinger's appearance before this Committee.

Les Janka has been informed of these requests and states that presently there is a decision memo on the Secretary's desk informing him of the Select Committee's desire for his personal testimony.

Recognizing the pressing time constraints always plaguing the possibility for Kissinger's congressional appearances, I believe it is important that the Secretary make every effort to meet with the Committee at the earliest possible date.

I, therefore, pass along this information for your consideration and await further instructions.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MAY 4 1976

Date

5-4-76

TO:

Chas. Lippert

FROM: Max L. Friedersdorf

For Your Information

Please Handle

Please See Me

Comments, Please

Other

Talked to Max
5/6/76
No action requested
Chf.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 27, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: CHARLES LEPPERT, JR. *CLJ.*
SUBJECT: Negotiations with North Vietnam

I was approached yesterday (Monday, April 26) by a Member of the House Select Committee on Missing Persons in Southeast Asia who is concerned with the President's position on negotiations or talks with regard to normalizing relations with North Vietnam. The Member considers the President's position too hard line and one which will drive people over to the opposition.

The Member suggests, if it's not too late, that the President turn his position on North Vietnam to a statement which says that the House Select Committee on Missing Persons in Southeast Asia went to him after their meeting with the North Vietnamese and told the President that the North Vietnamese were interested in starting talks for the purpose of normalizing relations with the United States. The Committee asked the President to begin talks with the North Vietnamese on the basis of the MIAs issue, that these talks should be exploratory, and that this position was totally endorsed by the National League of Families.

cc: Tom Loeffler
Pat Rowland

Support 271

MEMORANDUM

3920

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

July 15, 1976

JUL 17 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: MILT MITLER

FROM:

fn JEANNE W. DAVIS *lwk*

SUBJECT:

Presidential Meeting with National League of MIA Families

The National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia is holding its annual meeting in Washington July 22-25. Representative Rhodes, among others, has suggested that the President make an impromptu appearance at the League Convention. The Departments of Defense and State recommend (Tab A) that the President do so. The NSC Staff endorses this recommendation, and will provide talking points for the President if the Schedule Proposal is approved.





OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

13 JUL 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR JEANNE W. DAVIS, STAFF SECRETARY
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Suggested Presidential Meeting with National League of
Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast
Asia

Your memorandum of July 9, 1976 requested a recommendation as to whether or not the President should make an appearance at the annual meeting of the National League of Families in Washington during the period July 22-25.

The President has been personally involved in the issue of the missing from its inception; first as a Congressman, then as Vice President, and he has continued to give this problem his personal attention as President. Last year his unannounced visit to the League of Families Convention was recognized as an indication of his own concern for the plight of the missing and their families and established a precedent that should be continued.

The issue of the missing in Southeast Asia continues to be a sensitive matter, and it has received increased public attention since the formation of the House Select Committee to study the problem. Some of the League members have been vocal in expressing their belief that the President and his administration no longer are dedicated to achieving as complete an accounting as possible for the missing. An appearance by the President at this meeting would help allay these fears.

We recommend that the President make an impromptu appearance at the League Convention, preferably during the banquet Saturday evening, July 24. If that time is not acceptable we recommend the preceding Friday afternoon or evening as alternate times.

The Departments of Defense and State are prepared to provide talking points for the President's use during his meeting with League members, as desired.

This memorandum has been coordinated with the Department of State.

M. Staser Holcomb
Rear Admiral, USN
Military Assistant

