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CRES-504/92
7 August 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
FROM: Charles Boykin
Acting Chief, Collection Requirements and
Evaluation Staff, DI
SUBJECT: Declassification of Document on POW/MIAs (U)

1. Action: Approve the declassification of the attached document on **Possible POW/MIA-Associated Markings in Southeast Asia**. This will respond to a Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs request. (U)

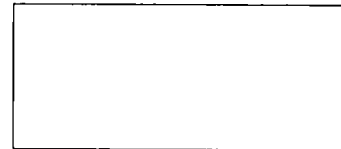
2. Background: We have been working with OIA to provide the Committee with documentation and graphics describing possible evidence that American POW/MIAs made markings on a prison roof in Vietnam and on the ground in Laos. OIA has analyzed this possibility using historical imagery. (~~S/NF~~)

3. On 29 July, the Committee's lead staffer on this issue wrote to the Office of Congressional Affairs seeking declassification of imagery and classified OIA documents already provided to the Committee. **We do not want the imagery declassified because, in addition to the precedent it would set, it does not prove or disprove that POWs were present or made warning signals.** We believe public release of the imagery will raise, not reduce speculation about the POW/MIAs. It would surely increase pressure to release additional satellite imagery on other high interest issues, and give the media, Congress, and others the opportunity to second guess analysis of raw intelligence data. (~~S/NF~~)

4. Proposed Approach: OIA has prepared two unclassified line drawings to satisfy the 29 July request. The lead staffer recently visited OIA and expressed general satisfaction with the drawings. We think including the declassified text will fulfill the request. We maintained the substance of the original documents (enclosed in folder), but removed text we consider sensitive (~~S/NF~~)

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(b)(3) NatSecAct

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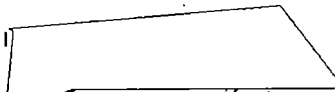
CIA. 09-0814

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5. Staff Position: We recommend declassification of the attached document. In the event this fails to meet the requirements of the Committee, we have a draft memo to the DCI through you requesting declassification of the actual imagery, including implications of a decision to do so and suggestions on how to handle it procedurally. (S/NF)

(b)(3) CIAAct


Charles Boykin

No

Attachment

APPROVED:



(b)(3) CIAAct

Deputy Director for Intelligence

11 AUG 1992

Date

DISAPPROVED:

Deputy Director for Intelligence

Date

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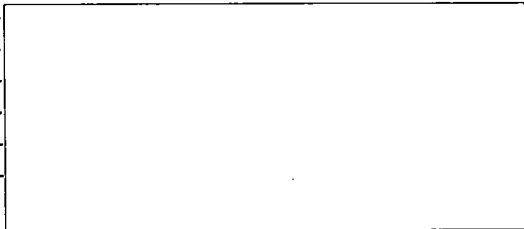
(b)(3) CIAAct

DI/CRES/IPG/RWeber:raw [redacted] (7 Aug 92)

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