Hi Yo, Silver! There’s a new Director in town!

Tall. Thin. Carries a notebook. More Gary Cooper, than John Wayne. Mike Linnington has set up office as the new director of DPAA. Recent generations might think Russell Crowe. Bradley Cooper.

Hyperbole? Sure. Expectations should be high for this director. He has the authority to reach them. Congress says so. He’s heading in the right direction too. At family updates, he is filling his notebook with family members’ concerns then sculpts his promises accordingly.

There was the request to have DPAA personnel available in the hotel lobby the night before annual Korean/Cold War briefings. Arriving family members have questions, and only other family members are there for answers; a party without a host. Sure enough, August came and there was someone greeting family members in the lobby. It was Mr. Linnington himself. Sitting with family members, getting to know them, filling in his notebook.

Then there’s the U.S.-China archival agreement. After seven years of pursuing China’s records on U.S. Korean War air and POW camp losses, it was learned that the Chinese agency signing the agreement didn’t actually control all those records (see China p. 4). Kinda like one fella selling a horse he didn’t own then promising to see if the real owner would let it go. Well, Mike Linnington rode up with his policy advisor and a plan of action. The plan may not produce any action, but having the director take on the challenge was like a spring day on the prairie.

There are other challenges to come. Will Mr. Linnington stand tall in turning around the White House policy against returning investigation and recovery teams to North Korea? Will live sighting reports become more than an issue to explain away? Declassification? Will the agency become proactive in nature rather than not?

The signs are positive. Mr. Linnington is spreading his we can personality throughout the ranks. Response by staff to queries is quicker. Long-termers are initiating extra steps on their own to resolve issues. The west is growing and this director says he wants to grow with it. The reins are in his hands. Hi Yo, Silver!

History

* Chinese forces stationed 6000 scouts on mountain tops in North Korea reporting aircraft entering the country.

* There are 626 unresolved aircraft losses, representing 968 missing airmen.

(Courtesy DPAA)
To Know or Not to Know?

As many know, the remains of nearly 1400 of our loved ones have been back for decades. They are buried in Hawaii’s Punch Bowl cemetery or wait for identification on DPAA’s laboratory shelves. It is only their names that are missing. (Please see Who Are They? page 7)

Some information came back with many of the remains – the battlefield where they were found, clothing and other artifacts. The names of missing men are actually associated with many. They are soldiers missing in the same battle or airmen whose planes went down in the same general area. Some may share the same DNA sequence. It is all part of the government’s identification process. Gathering possibilities then whittling them down until there is only one name: The man’s name.

Any of our loved ones could be among names associated with a set of remains. Generally, we aren’t told. It is part of the government’s policy to protect us from raised hopes. The connection with most names is often a long shot.

I have wondered if I’d want to be told; to have my hopes raised, no matter how flimsy the connection or how long it could be before learning for sure.

Then it kinda happened. My father’s name wasn’t directly connected to a set of remains but I was told that the X-files of five different sets of remains buried in the Punch Bowl indicated they were air losses that came from the general area as my father’s crash site.

Yes, my hopes rose. They didn’t soar through the roof. The odds against any of the five remains being his were apparent. Still, hope was there. There was a possibility he may have been found.

More than that, I could actively pursue a lead in his case. How often do we wish there was something we could do ourselves? One-by-one, I went through the five X-files. And one-by-one, there was reason to see that none of the five could be my father.

Yes, it was disappointing. No more so than hearing nothing for sixty years though. Even the possibility that he could be found was a faint light at the end of the decades long tunnel that represented another kind of hope - the kind with no reason, blind hope.

Do I want to know when even a whisper of information arises about my father? Absolutely. Tell me anytime. A little hope, now and then, shakes things up. It’s a good kind of hope. Let me be the one to measure how high the hope goes.

Rick Downes, President
(Lt. Hal Downes - MIA 1952)

Family Member To-Do List

We are strongest when the families work together. There are many ways to be involved:

* An aware Congress is our most effective advocate. Your local congressional offices are important support (Senators and House). There will be a legislative aide there to get to know. Familiarize him/her with your loved-one’s case. They like to hear from you. Let them know about the issues. Begin with declassification. Ask them to contact Rep. Nugent’s office in support. Links: http://www senate.gov/senators/contact/, http://www house.gov representatives/find/

* The Petition on page 10 calls on all governments involved to move the POW/MIA mission forward. We are halfway to our goal! Print and circulate at gatherings. Send them back to us. You’ll be broadening awareness and providing a critical tool to support the mission.

* Attend government briefings. Many of us have seen and heard it all, yet go anyway. Attendance sends word to the government that we want closure in the present frame of time, not some unending point in the future. The new director has formed a family member committee to share your ideas on improving the updates. Contact Sheila Badzioch at: torchtorchy@att.net or 281-797-4787.

* Renew your membership to the Coalition.

* Issue of the Year – 2016: The U.S. forms a tripartnership with China and North Korea to utilize information from China’s archives to investigate Korean War air and P.O.W. camp losses inside North Korea. Spread the word!
White House

The decision to return investigating and recovery teams to North Korea will be made here. The President has the final word but consensus is that the policy will be developed within the National Security Council. At this point, their official position juggles the humanitarian "no man left behind" commitment with the politically driven policy "investigative and recovery teams will not be renegotiated until North Korea meets its international commitments."

Congress

When an issue within the POW/MIA effort moves forward, chances are that members of congress and their staffs have taken it on as their own.

* Senator Ayotte (NH) has been a stalwart supporter of the mission through committee hearings, direct communication with the Administration, and along with Senator McCaskill (MO), mandating the current reorganization of the POW/MIA accounting agency.

* Rep. Nugent (FL) and his staff are working hand-in-hand with the Coalition to present legislation on the declassification of sixty year old documents relating to the Korean War’s missing men.

* Representatives Thompson (PA) and Connolly (VA) introduced Res. 56, to ensure that countries entering into future trade deals with the United States provide transparency and efficiency in the research and recovery of the missing men.

* Rep. Gus Bilirakis (FL) introduced the Perpetual POW/MIA Stamp Act that will honor missing men and promote the mission.

The commitment and dedication of Congress relies heavily on the insights and support that comes from family member constituents. This is a direct way for families to actively pursue their missing men’s fate.

DPAA

The reorganization odyssey is about to be completed. The budgets of multiple former agencies (DPMO, JPAC, LSEL) have been merged into one. Top level direction has been consolidated and new authorities have been cleared. One of these new authorities allows the DPAA to work on projects with nongovernmental partners (Public/Private Partnerships). The current focus is primarily on academic/research and recovery team support for local efforts. There are also signs that the long-standing culture of the workforce is taking a positive direction. The DPAA is holding monthly conference calls with of family organizations, VSOs and MSOs. Questions are responded to quickly, with staff taking it upon themselves to go beyond what is requested and offer broader approaches.

2015 Annual DC Family Member Briefing

Since Dir. Linnington had only been on the job for a few months, this year’s August briefing was carried out under the long-time format. The presentations were broad-based, geared to new family members, and offered few new perspectives. Experienced family members were left with the responsibility to flesh out the full depth of several issues through the Q&As, including live sighting reports in North Korea and the China Archival Agreement mix/up.

One of the first steps Dir. Linnington took was to organize a group of family members to bring together ideas on how to improve the briefings, through both format and content. One of the challenges will be to inspire family members to return year-to-year, while still providing new family members the overview they need. A subsequent DPAA regional family briefing in Portland, Maine, showed signs of growth.

The hotel itself was fine. Future considerations could include closer proximity to anything interesting, (transportation was provided to the Korean War monument and other sights), and a lounge area large enough to allow significant numbers of family members to interact away from the meetings.

Like all family member briefings, this year’s gathering was another opportunity to learn, express emotion, and get to know one another. It is easy to be grateful for them.

2016 Annual Briefing - Another positive sign. The dates for the 2016 Annual Korean/Cold War have been set: August 11-12th., DC. The hotel has yet to be decided. The dates are there though. Mark your calendars!
Korea

DPRK (North Korea)
Returning Investigative and Recovery Teams to North Korea

According to the DPAA, next year (2016) may be a time to revisit the return of JFOs to North Korea. The biggest hurdle is our government’s policy toward the DPRK: "Investigative and recovery teams will not be renegotiated until North Korea meets its international commitments." This, of course, lumps the humanitarian accounting mission under the political policy between the two countries. North Korea shows no signs of doing what they’re told. This leaves separating the humanitarian from the political policy as the one strategy that will allow teams to return.

When/if that gets done, the two sides will need to review the 2011 agreement. The logistics of getting equipment over there will not need to be repeated. All that was wisely left in South Korea after the 2012 operations fell apart. New staff will need to be trained in search-and-evade training. Investigative teams searching for air loss sites will need to be part of the new agreement. According to DPAA (regarding all wars): "Most of the gravesites investigated are witness driven." The witnesses to air loss crash sites in the DPRK are all in the DPRK. They need to be interviewed. Once an agreement is okayed and renegotiated, DPAA says operations can reboot in about 6 months. Therefore, an agreement in the spring might mean recovery teams couldn’t go until after winter. Interview teams should go any time.

Republic of Korea (South Korea)

South Korea's MAKRI (DPAA's counterpart) and DPAA are broadening their scope of working together in the ROK. This includes a joint forensic review. South Korea traditionally cremates remains. Those they find need to be assessed beforehand to determine if they are American. U.S. teams will no longer be there during winter and summer months when extreme weather is a factor.

China

In 2008, the archival agreement was arranged between the U.S. and China’s People’s Liberation Army to have them search their records for information on American MIAs. In exchange, the U.S. provided funding for the research along with guidance in developing China’s archives. Records for the P.O.W. camps run by China in North Korea during the war were among those designated for research. Seven years later, China has only focused their search on U.S. air losses over China. This year, DPAA personnel were encouraged to ask when the PLA would include the camp records. (500 Americans are unaccounted for in Camp 5 alone.) In response, the PLA acknowledged that they didn’t actually control those records. They were in the hands of another agency. Dir. Linnington hopes to travel to China next year. On his agenda is a plan to gain access to those important files, along with records covering U.S. air losses over North Korea.

Russia

USRJC/JCSD - The US and Russia are reforming the full Joint Commission. The Russian side opened its first office in DC last May. The US has long had a Moscow office, last seen doing research at the Podolsk archives (conducted by Russian hires.) DPAA is planning to visit Russia in the spring. The hope will be to follow-up on work done in the 1990s finding that Americans were taken to the Gulags.

Cold War (1946-1991)

Melody Raglin

Well, the Cold war couldn’t be any COLDER! The only news is that we are welcoming a couple of Russians coming to DC so they can have access to OUR archives. It’s the same ole, same ole. A new committee is forming which sounds like all of the other ones formed and the only difference is that they call themselves something new. Pretty bad.

(Machinist Mate Doyle Raglin, Melody’s father, MIA—Baltic Sea 1951)
Our Collective Voice - Coalition News

The Coalition’s mission calls for work in advocacy, outreach, and research. Here are critical issues within each facet and Coalition projects geared toward their end.

Advocacy
* Accessing North Korea
* Live Sighting Reports

OutReach
* Family member Support
* Broaden Public Awareness

Research
* Accessing U.S., China, Russia’s Archives

Coalition’s Projects and Goals
* World Governments Petition
* Congressional Briefings
* Plot Live Sighting Locations

* Update & Review - Newsletter
* FMFW – Video Series
* New Family Outreach
* Declass. Legislation / U.S. Archives
* US/China/Russia agreements
* X-Files – Internet Access

Congress - Our work with Sen. Ayotte’s and Rep. Nugent’s offices is ongoing and proven. They are true advocates of the mission. Two Coalition trips to Capitol Hill this year also featured meaningful meetings with the offices of Senators Feinstein, Rounds, Shaheen, Blumenthal, Gillibrand, Graham, King and Collins. House offices included those of Reps. Guinta, Heck, Wilson, Tsongas, Jones, Thompson, Connelly, Walz, Roz-Lehtinen, Cramer, Speir, and LoBiondo. We thank their staff members for their insights and support going forward. Primary issues discussed featured: Declassification, DPAA’s reorganization, and returning investigative/recovery teams to North Korea.

October Congressional Briefing - The Coalition partnered with the National Committee on North Korea, Congressmen Rangel and Johnson, both Korean War veterans, in a Congressional briefing on the Korean War POW/MIA accounting mission. Rep. Rangel opened with a moving talk on the impact the Battle of Kunu-ri (November 3–Dec 1st 1950) had on his life. Rep. Nugent followed with his commitment to have declassification legislation part of next year’s defense spending bill. DPAA Director Limington, as the guest speaker, presented a comprehensive, straightforward look at the agency’s transformation and mission’s status. Donna Knox, Coalition Legislative Liaison, broke down critical issues from the family’s perspective. Rick Downes, Coalition’s President, closed the event with the emotional context of the mission.

DPAA Annual Briefing - This is always an active time for Coalition board members: Meetings on Capitol Hill, research at the National Archives, working with DPAA personnel, furthering issues through the Q&As, our annual board meeting, a family member gathering, and of course checking up on our own missing loved one’s case.

Overview
* Congratulations to board member Mary Jo Loftus’ election as Treasurer, and family member Sheila Badzioch as she takes on Outreach responsibilities. On the other side of the coin, the board accepted Gary Boyle’s resignation. Gary’s role in the accounting mission dates back to the 1970’s. Unfortunately, the focus of administration after administration on remains recovery, leaving the living men to fend for themselves, took its toll. It was time for Gary to step back.

Petition (page 10) - There are 1100 signers to-date, halfway to the first level goal of 2000. Special acknowledgement goes to the incomparable Lorna Akima, along with Joe Long, Judy Wernicke, and Mary Huston for their work getting signatures. A copy is included here for you to participate. Copy as you like; take them with you to gatherings. Please join in!

* The Coalition has taken part in monthly conference calls with DPAA leadership throughout the year.

* The promotional video for the public access series, Forgotten Men of the Forgotten War, is completed.

* Donna Knox has compiled a comprehensive portfolio of post Korean War sightings of missing American POWs, a proposal for bringing the Punch Bowl’s X-Files to the internet is completed, and the Coalition’s bylaws were revised, amended, and fully executed!
The Cease-fire agreement was signed at the end of the Korean War. The Communist were bringing our previously captured men down from the prison camps and housing them in the village of Kaesong where they waited for us to read their names from our POW list. Then the Communist would retrieve them from Kaesong and deliver them to Freedom Village for release. This was standard practice during the months of August and September 1953.

When we ran out of names of known POWs, we folded up the chairs, tables, and tents. Recently released men started shouting, “Where’s Allen, Beardall, Bell, Brennan, & Culbertson?”,” “What about Dougherty, Gross, Guthrie, & Hamblin?”, . . . “I just spent the last 6 days with Hawkins, Koontz, Martin, Miller, and Rountree, . . . where are they?”

It was too late! The Chinese had loaded them up and hauled them away, . . . never to be heard from again. We know of these names because Henry Nielsen and Jack Henderson started a list which resulted in hundreds of names, which was telexed twice in September 1953, yet conveniently lost over the years. When the list was thought to be found and about to be declassified in August 2015, the document went mysteriously missing again.

Yet, there is hope. Through private research, each debriefing report of thousands of returned ex-POWs is being scrutinized for comments about men last seen alive in camp or in Kaesong Aug/Sep 1953 . . . who did not come home.

Charles Byers supposedly died in captivity in December 1950. He was definitely defying that when Oren Hanbaum spotted him alive in Camp 1 on 6 August 1953.

John Goery’s Marine aircraft went down 27 December 1952. Though not witnessed, he was labeled Killed-In-Action. Jack Perry defied that when he reported seeing him alive in Kaesong in September 1953 awaiting repatriation.

The family of Charles E Lovett was told that Charles is simply MIA. Yet at the same time, our government was demanding his return in 1953. He was seen alive in camp 3 by Curtin, Grape, Kostich, Adams, Gaddy, Thompson, Publicover, Servatius, Wolfe, Loutner, Moreland, Lamphier, and Latora. Loutner boldly signed a 546 form stating he saw Charles leaving Camp 3 alive 28 Aug 1953. Rather remarkable for a man labeled merely MIA.

And then there is William F Harris, a Marine who went missing 8 December 1950. A body surfaced that was thought to be Harris but the family wasn’t convinced and DNA could not verify as late as the year 2014. Perhaps, the family should receive Jack Perry’s debrief that states that he saw Harris alive in Kaesong awaiting repatriation in September 1953.

Finally, there is Richard Isbell, known to have died and buried in Camp 5. A set of remains (N-14448) was returned after the war with Richard’s name and service number on it, but the family was never told. When Larry Jolidon revealed that fact in 2000, DPMO immediately responded “U-932. Forensic notes exclude Isbell from N-14448”. On 6 November 2013, unidentified remains N-14448 was disinterred from the National Cemetery in Hawaii and identified on 17 March 2014 as . . . . . Richard Isbell!!!

These are merely just a few of hundreds of similar live sightings of men left behind. Though details are sketchy at best, the families deserve to have all documents and reports mentioning their loved-ones, even when their accuracy is in question.

Together we can . . . and will get answers!

(Capt. John Zimmerlee, Jr. - MIA)
Identifications—Who Are They?

Rick Downes

It is easy to think of the Korean War’s missing men as waiting to be found in faraway countries - Korea, Russia, and China. That’s not the whole case. The remains of roughly 1400 men are already home. That’s seventeen percent of the missing, for the math minded. Some have been here since the end of the war.

These remains fall into two groups. Over 800 were returned at the end of the war and buried as unknowns in the Punch Bowl cemetery (Hawaii). Six hundred other remains have come home through Joint Field Operations (JFOs) and various returns by North Korea beginning in the 1990s. They have been known as numbered X and CIL files. These are not names anyone wants to be known by for eternity. The challenge is to reconnect the remains with the names the men carried when they left home.

Describing remains and talk of storing them on shelves, can take a harsh, cold tone. That being said, a little objective discussion is necessary. Each set of remains will vary in their number of bones. There may be a complete skeleton or the number of bones can decrease to the point where a set of remains may contain a single bone from a finger. These remains, along with accompanying circumstantial information, that might include the location they were found, possessions/artifacts returned with them, dental and x-rays on file, are what is used to connect the remains with the right names.

How This is Being Done

There are two laboratories working to return the Korean War men’s names. The DPAA lab in Hawaii processes them then ships bone samples to the AFDIL lab in Delaware. AFDIL tackles the DNA extraction and analysis, searches the family reference sample (FRS) database for comparative matches then sends a summary report back to the DPAA lab, including any believe to be notations. This report is then added to the collected information associated with each set of remains. The names of missing men that may fit within specific profiles are associated with those remains.

There are two kinds of DNA to consider. The more prevalent, common kind (mitochondrial) can be shared by more than one person. (Seven percent of caucasians, for example, share the same mitochondrial DNA. 400 of the missing men could fall into this scenario.) Mito DNA cannot be relied on as a single identifier.

The other DNA used, nuclear, is unique to each individual but is less prevalent, prone to decay, and samples are harder to get from a bone. There is also a more limited FRS database.

Extracting any DNA from the Punch Bowl remains has been problematic due to the chemical treatment used to protect the remains at the end of the war. DNA identification was not known of at the time. The fixative compound coated or bound with the DNA, like putting gum on it. Uncoated samples need to be found. There is also the hope that the next generation of sequencing technology will help.

An ongoing factor is the development of new technologies. A new demineralization process, for example, allowed better DNA extraction from less bone, permitting work on smaller sets of remains.

Other methods of identification are used, as well. Dental comparisons are often employed. Collar bones can be unique identifiers. Teeth and collar bones must be among the remains, of course, along with dental records and/or a chest x-ray on file to compare them.

Once each month, the DPAA lab runs a computer database that holds all the information gathered about each set of remains, including new family reference samples, circumstantial evidence, retested bone samples, or information from existing sources that hadn’t been accessible before a new technique came into play. The lab is looking for discriminators to narrow the list of names associated with a set of remains. As these factors come into play, there exists the chance that remains will be identified each month. When reports of new identifications are released by DPAA look at the paragraph citing which identifiers were used.

(dpaa.mil/NewsStories/Releases.aspx)

So they wait. While they wait, the families can make sure that we are doing our part. There was a big push for mitochondrial DNA (maternal side) beginning in 2010. The paternal line wasn’t considered relevant at that time. A male relative may not have giving a sample if females in the family had already contributed. New discoveries in nuclear DNA have made certain male lines relevant. The sons of missing men and the son’s grandsons, along with a brother or brother’s son (cousin) can now provide critical nuclear DNA. These males need to get samples in.

Then there are those 800 families (one tenth) that have not provided any reference samples. They need to get hold of their casualty office, have a kit sent, swab their mouth (or whatever is done now) and send it back.

The discussion is of bones and science. The emotional truth is that each set of these remains was a man who faced a tragic end, is still missed, and has spent over half a century without his proper name. The identification process, years in development, including a Congressional mandate, brings hope. Men are getting their names back, and families are finding closure. The pace will never be fast enough. Names are coming though. Each one is a search ended.

(Special thanks to DPAA staff from DC to Delaware to Hawaii, and Ed Huffine, International Information Academy, for support with this article.)
Membership!
The Coalition pursues multiple facets of the POW/MIA accounting mission. In order to be truly effective in this effort, more time must be invested. Time, as they say, is money, which means increased budgets. Increased budgets need increased funding.

After careful consideration, the Board has decided an increase in membership dues is needed to help fund the next level of the Coalition’s mission. Memberships and renewals will now be $25 a year. Hopefully this won’t impose a hardship on anyone.

The Coalition is initiating an additional approach to fund raising called Project Designation. Through Project Designation, family members can support selected projects by assigning amounts beyond the $25 membership to a project(s) of their choice. The Coalition’s current projects list includes:
* X-Files - Uploading these files onto the Internet
* The Forgotten Men of the Forgotten War series
* DC/Capitol Hill advocacy trips
* Publishing/mailing newsletters to family members without Internet or active email addresses.

We are also initiating Associate Memberships for family friends of missing men and other supporters.

Many family members already donate beyond the membership amount. These contributions have allowed us to develop projects to their current status. They are ready to move on. We hope other family members, friends, and supporters will find directing additional contributions to designated projects a rewarding way to support the overall mission. Remember too, all donations are tax deductible.

We hope you will support these moves forward.

Coalition of Families of Korean and Cold War POW/MIAs
National Membership Application

New

Renewal

Name: _____________________________ Date: ________________
Address: ________________________________________________
City, State, Zip Code __________________________________________
Email: _____________________________ Phone: ________________

Relationship to missing service member:
(Associate Membership / Non family member – please check here: _____)

Service member’s full name: ___________________________ Service #

Branch of Service/Unit or Group:

Date & Area of Loss:

Annual Membership Donation - $25. Please make checks payable to: Coalition of Families.

Send to:
Coalition of Families (Attn: Treasurer) P.O. Box 4194, Portsmouth, NH 03802
In Memory

We are taking this time to give thanks for Dr. Cecil B. Knox III, recently lost to us. Cecil was an ardent supporter of the POW/MIA mission. His uncle was missing-in-action (WWII). His wife Donna's father, grandfather to his children Kirstyn and Dru, is still missing from the Korean War. Donna Knox is a Coalition director, officer, and founding member.

We would like to acknowledge family and friends for donations to the Coalition in Cecil's name: Chessin Gertler, the EnerNOC Account Management Team, Wanda & Joe Errico, Robert Knox, Helen O'Brien, Fred Fox, Jr., Brandon Geller, Hillary and Nate Nussbaum, Kay Spencer, Julia Guren, Heidi Kim, Morris Knox, Lew and Marcia Lipson, and Elinor Hull.

Cecil is missed by many, for all that he brought to their lives. In peace, Cecil.

Live Sighting: American P.O.W. in North Korea

A June, 2000, U.S. embassy document reported that a North Korean citizen requested asylum in exchange for delivering 11 sets of U.S. remains and an American POW from the Korean War. A meeting was arranged between the source of the report and the political officer from the U.S. embassy. According to DPAA, the meeting did take place, but the source, after requesting the meeting, decided not to share information. The source then disappeared. The case remains unresolved. For the full report visit: www.coalitionoffamilies.org/livesightings.html.

DoD’s Generic File of Korean War Live Sightings

This is the current list of classified/declassified reports of encounters with unnamed American POWs inside North Korea.

Case File for the Korean War

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Special thanks to Roadwork Pictures and Hanover Park Entertainment!

Finnigan’s War

Proceeds from these films are being donated to the Coalition. Please visit the websites and purchase these powerful documentaries!

www.createspace.com/379520

Keeping the Promise Alive

www.keepingthepromisealive.com/

Visit coalitionoffamilies.org for other important works: American Trophies and Missing, Presumed Dead. Please also visit Amazon.com for a new book release, Devotion, chronicling pilot Tom Hudner’s quest to retrieve the remains of Jesse Brown, his wingman, from North Korea.
Coalition of Families of Korean and Cold War POW/MIAs

We call upon the governments of the United States, Russia, China, North Korea, and South Korea, to:

* Fully investigate reports that missing American servicemen were kept in captivity following the Korean War,
* Pursue the recovery and identification of American servicemen’s remains located within their borders,
* Honor pledges for full transparency regarding still classified Korean and Cold War documents, and,
* Pursue these humanitarian objectives steadfastly, in the present frame of time, not an unending point in the future.

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