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SUBJECT: JCSD TRIP TO BUDAPEST, HUNGARY, AND MOSCOW, RUSSIA,  
FEBRUARY 17 – APRIL 19, 2004.

1. BACKGROUND: REPRESENTATIVES OF THE JOINT COMMISSION  
SUPPORT DIRECTORATE OF THE DEFENSE PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING  
PERSONNEL OFFICE (DPMO), (b)(6)

(b)(6) DEPLOYED TO BUDAPEST, HUNGARY, AND MOSCOW, RUSSIA,  
FROM FEBRUARY 17 TO APRIL 19, 2004, TO PERFORM ARCHIVAL  
RESEARCH, CONDUCT INTERVIEWS, MEET WITH OTHER RESEARCHERS,  
AND DEVELOP LEADS FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION. (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) JOINED THE TEAM IN MOSCOW.

2. (b)(6) CONDUCTED RESEARCH IN THE HUNGARIAN  
MILITARY HISTORY INSTITUTE AND MUSEUM ARCHIVES, BUDAPEST,  
KAPISZTRAN TER 2-4. CONTACT: (b)(6)  
RESULTS FOLLOW:

A. EXAMINED OVER 12,000 PAGES OF DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE  
HUNGARIAN CONTINGENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF  
CONTROL AND SUPERVISION (ICCS), WHICH DETAILED THE HUNGARIAN  
ELEMENT'S ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM BETWEEN 1973 AND 1975.

B. THE DOCUMENTS CONTAINED INFORMATION RANGING FROM LOW-  
LEVEL LOGISTICAL ISSUES TO HIGH-LEVEL REPORTS ON MEETINGS  
BETWEEN HUNGARIAN AND SOVIET MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

C. NO INFORMATION REGARDING SPECIFIC AMERICAN POW/MIA CASES  
WAS FOUND.

D. A DECLASSIFIED TOP SECRET DOCUMENT FROM HUNGARIAN DEPUTY  
FOREIGN MINISTER JOZSEF MARJAI DETAILS HIS MEETINGS IN MARCH,  
1973, WITH SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTERS N. P. FIRJUBIN, K. F.  
KATUSHEV, AND O. B. RAKHMANIN. THE DOCUMENT GIVES SOLID  
EVIDENCE THAT HUNGARY USED ITS ICCS TEAMS TO COLLECT DAILY  
TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE THROUGHOUT SOUTH VIETNAM AND  
TRANSMITTED IT TO BUDAPEST, WHERE IT WAS PASSED ON TO THE  
SOVIETS. THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP LAUDED THE HUNGARIAN EFFORT  
SEVERAL TIMES THROUGHOUT THE 12-PAGE DOCUMENT FOR THE VALUE  
OF THE INFORMATION RECEIVED.

E. ANOTHER DECLASSIFIED TOP SECRET DOCUMENT DID CONTAIN  
MENTION OF THE POW/MIA ISSUE IN GENERAL TERMS. THIS DOCUMENT  
FROM THE HUNGARIAN ICCS TEAM IN SAIGON SUMMARIZES A MEETING  
BETWEEN TWO HUNGARIAN LT COLONELS (LASZLO ROZHA AND I.  
PATAKI) AND LT COLONEL TRINH, REPRESENTING THE DEMOCRATIC  
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (DRV) AND THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY

GOVERNMENT (PRG) ON AUGUST 20, 1973. THE PARTICIPANTS DISCUSSED A MEETING OF THE TWO-PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION (TPJMC) HELD ON AUGUST 20, 1973. (b)(6) STATED THAT THE ISSUE OF SEARCHING FOR AMERICAN MIAS AND THE RETURN OF AMERICAN REMAINS WAS BROUGHT UP BY THE AMERICAN NEGOTIATOR. (b)(6) (b)(6) WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE VIEWPOINT OF THE DRV AND THE PRG WAS THAT THEY WOULD IMMEDIATELY SEE TO SEARCHING FOR THE MIAS AS SOON AS THE PRISONER EXCHANGE ISSUE (BETWEEN THE TWO VIETNAMESE SIDES) WAS SETTLED AND THAT THEY WOULD ASK FOR AMERICAN ASSISTANCE TO ACHIEVE THIS.

F. DEVELOPED A DETAILED ROSTER OF 199 PARTICIPANTS IN THE FIRST ICCS ROTATION, WHICH DEPLOYED TO SOUTH VIETNAM IN 1973. THE ROSTER LISTS THE NAME, RANK, ELEMENT, AND LOCATION FOR EACH OF THE INDIVIDUALS. THE TEAMS WERE DEPLOYED IN 37 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT SOUTH VIETNAM. THE ARCHIVE DIRECTOR HAD STRONG RESERVATIONS BASED ON PRIVACY CONCERNS ABOUT PHOTOCOPYING REPORTS THAT CONTAINED THIS INFORMATION, BUT SHE ALLOWED THE TAKING OF HANDWRITTEN NOTES. THIS INFORMATION COULD BE USEFUL IN LOCATING INDIVIDUALS FOR POTENTIAL INTERVIEWS.

(b)(6) 3. (b)(6) CONDUCTED RESEARCH IN THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL ARCHIVES, BUDAPEST, HESS ANDRAS TER 5. CONTACT: (b)(6) (b)(6) RESULTS FOLLOW:

A. REVIEWED DECLASSIFIED HUNGARIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS' DOCUMENTS FROM THE KOREAN AND VIETNAM WARS.

B. DISCOVERED A COLLECTION OF NINE HANDWRITTEN LETTERS FROM (b)(6) WHO TRAVELED AND REPORTED THROUGHOUT NORTH KOREA, TO KAROLY PASZTOR, THE HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR TO NORTH KOREA DURING THE WAR. THE LETTERS WERE WRITTEN FROM JULY 18, 1952 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 15, 1952. JCSD ANALYSTS INTERVIEWED (b)(6) IN 1998. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT THIS GROUP OF LETTERS WAS FORWARDED FROM PYONGYANG ON DECEMBER 31, 1957, APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR AFTER (b)(6) ESCAPED TO THE WEST DURING THE HUNGARIAN UPRISING IN LATE 1956. THERE ARE SEVERAL REFERENCES TO THE POW EXCHANGE ISSUE AND THE PROPAGANDA GENERATED BY THE COMMUNISTS REGARDING THE POWS. JCSD IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THESE LETTERS.

C. ANOTHER GROUP OF DOCUMENTS DESCRIBED THE REPATRIATION OF HUNGARIAN NATIONALS, AS WELL AS OTHER INDIVIDUALS FROM THE EASTERN BLOC, SERVING IN THE FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION WHO WERE

CAPTURED IN VIETNAM BY COMMUNIST FORCES IN THE EARLY 1950S. THESE DOCUMENTS CONTAIN ROSTERS OF THE REPATRIATEES AND DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS OF THEIR MOVEMENT AS THEY RETURNED TO HUNGARY AND OTHER EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES. THIS INFORMATION MAY BE USEFUL IN ANALYZING AND CORROBORATING REPORTED SIGHTINGS OF SUPPOSED AMERICAN POWS BEING SENT TO SIBERIA BY RAIL.

4. (b)(6) CONDUCTED RESEARCH IN THE OPEN SOCIETY ARCHIVES, CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY, BUDAPEST, OKTOBER 6 UTCA 12, CONTACT: (b)(6) RESULTS FOLLOW:

A. EXAMINED OVER 9,500 PAGES OF DOCUMENTS AND 1,000 INDEX CARDS RELATING TO POLITICAL REPRESSION, SAMIZDAT, AND THE GULAG IN THE SOVIET UNION. WORK WAS CONDUCTED WITH FOND HU OSA 300 (RECORDS OF RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY RESEARCH INSTITUTE, 1949-1994.) THESE DOCUMENTS PROVIDE VALUABLE INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURE, ORGANIZATION, AND OPERATIONS OF THE SOVIET PENAL SYSTEM. THEY WERE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION ON SOVIET PRISON CAMPS AND PSYCHIATRIC PRISONS FROM 1961 TO 1994. PRIOR TO THIS, JCSD LACKED SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION ON THE TOPIC FROM THIS PERIOD.

B. COPIED 285 PAGES CONCERNING THE SOVIET PENAL SYSTEM FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS.

C. COLLECTED 520 NAMES OF PRISONERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE SOVIET PENAL SYSTEM. THESE NAMES WILL ASSIST IN JCSD'S INTERVIEW PROGRAM.

D. BRIEFED THE OPEN SOCIETY ARCHIVES STAFF ON JCSD'S WORK. THEY WERE VERY INTERESTED AND SUPPORTIVE. (b)(6) OTHER STAFF MEMBERS OFFERED TO HELP JCSD IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.

5. WHILE IN HUNGARY (b)(6) INTERVIEWED THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

A. (b)(6) IS AN HISTORIAN WHO SPECIALIZES IN WORLD WAR TWO PRISONERS OF WAR, THE HOLOCAUST, AND FORCED MIGRATION. DURING A 2003 MEETING (b)(6) HAD STATED TO (b)(6) THAT HE HAD SEVERAL LETTERS FROM FORMER HUNGARIAN PRISONERS OF THE SOVIETS AND THAT HE BELIEVED SOME HAD REFERENCED AMERICANS. DURING THIS MOST RECENT MEETING, HE STATED THAT HE HAD REVIEWED THESE LETTERS AND FOUND NO REFERENCES TO AMERICANS. HE WAS VERY SUPPORTIVE AND STATED THAT HE WOULD NOTIFY JCSD IF HE LEARNED ANYTHING

PERTINENT TO ITS WORK. (b)(6) ALSO PROVIDED CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE TERROR MUSEUM.

(b)(6)

B. (b)(6) CONTACT INFORMATION: (b)(6) (DAUGHTER) TEL: (b)(6) A FORMER POW HELD IN THE SOVIET UNION. (b)(6) WAS BORN (b)(6) IN SARIIEGY, HUNGARY. THE SOVIETS CAPTURED HIM ON APPROXIMATELY JANUARY 9, 1945. THEY TRANSFERRED HIM TO THE OGPU SHAKTA POW CAMP NEAR NOVOSHAKHTINSK. HE WAS RELEASED AROUND SEPTEMBER 10, 1948. (b)(6) HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT AMERICAN OR ALLIED PERSONNEL. HE BELIEVES THAT HIS BROTHER, WHO WAS CAPTURED AND IMPRISONED WITH HIM, MAY HAVE SUCH INFORMATION, AND A FOLLOW-UP INTERVIEW WITH THE BROTHER IS PLANNED FOR SEPTEMBER 2004.

6. (b)(6) PERFORMED RESEARCH IN THE RUSSIAN STATE MILITARY ARCHIVES (RGVA), MOSCOW. ADMIRAL MAKAROVA ST 29. CONTACT: (b)(6) (b)(6) RESULTS FOLLOW:

(b)(6)

A. REVIEWED ALL NAZI TROPHY DOCUMENTS LISTED IN THE FINDING GUIDES. THESE DOCUMENTS CONTAINED FEW REFERENCES TO AMERICAN POWS.

B. (b)(6) STATED THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE TROPHY DOCUMENTS ARE NOT LISTED IN ANY FINDING GUIDES. HE PROVIDED SOME SAMPLES OF THE UNCATALOGUED MATERIAL, WHICH CONTAINED INFORMATION ON THE GRAVES OF AMERICAN AIRMEN SHOT DOWN IN GERMANY. SOME OF THE BURIED INDIVIDUALS WERE MEMBERS OF CREWS WHOSE MEMBERS REMAIN UNACCOUNTED FOR. JCSD IS CURRENTLY DEVELOPING A CONTRACT PROPOSAL TO HAVE RGVA CONDUCT A DETAILED SEARCH OF THIS COLLECTION.

C. (b)(6) REVIEWED ABOUT 4,000 PAGES OF MAIN ADMINISTRATION OF PRISONERS OF WAR AND INTERNEES DOCUMENTS. JCSD RESEARCHERS NOTED SEVERAL REFERENCES TO AMERICAN AND BRITISH PRISONERS AND INTERNEES.

(b)(6)

FOND 1E, OPIS 01, DELO 129, PAGE 3, DATED SEPTEMBER 1951 IS A LIST OF BURIED POWS AND INTERNEES BY NATIONALITY AND REGION. A TOTAL OF EIGHT AMERICANS AND 12 BRITISH NATIONALS ARE LISTED AS HAVING BEEN BURIED IN EIGHT SEPARATE REGIONS. AFTER CONSULTING WITH (b)(6) JCSD ANALYSTS COMPILED A LIST OF 66 CAMPS LOCATED IN THESE REGIONS AND BEGAN REVIEWING THE RECORDS OF THESE CAMPS TO LOCATE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE INDIVIDUALS. APPROXIMATELY TEN DELA (FILES) WERE REVIEWED, AND FURTHER RESEARCH IS NECESSARY.

FOND 1A, OPIS 15, DELO 203, IS THE "FORMULAR" FOR CAMP 256, LOCATED IN VOROSHILOVGRADSKAYA OBLAST' FOR 1946-1949. THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS STATISTICAL LISTS OF PRISONERS BY NATIONALITY FOR EVERY YEAR COVERED. A PARAGRAPH FOLLOWING THE STATISTICAL TABLE MENTIONS THAT, AMONG THE NATIONALITIES OF PRISONERS, THERE WERE ENGLISH AND AMERICAN PRISONERS. PAGE 118 LISTS ENGLISH AND AMERICAN PRISONERS AMONG THE NATIONALITIES THAT THE SOVIETS REPATRIATED BETWEEN 1945-1949.

FOND 1E/P, OPIS 01, DELO 141, A RECORD OF THE MOVEMENT AND PRESENCE OF INTERNED AND ARRESTED GERMANS (GROUP "B") FOR THE PERIOD 1945-1951. THIS LISTS U.S. CITIZENS OF GERMAN, HUNGARIAN, POLISH, AND OTHER ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS. THESE REFERENCES ARE IN ANNUAL MONTHLY TABLES OF NUMBERS OF PRISONERS BY CITIZENSHIP AND NATIONALITY.

IT IS NOT CLEAR IN THESE DOCUMENTS IF THESE ARE AMERICAN AND BRITISH ALLIED SOLDIERS, OR IF THEY ARE AMERICANS AND BRITISH CITIZENS WHO WERE FIGHTING ON THE SIDE OF THE AXIS POWERS.

7. (b)(6) CONDUCTED RESEARCH AT THE STATE ARCHIVES OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION (GARF), BOL'SHAYA PIROGOVSKAYA 17, MOSCOW. RESULTS FOLLOW:

(b)(6) A. REVIEWED APPROXIMATELY 1,400 PAGES OF DOCUMENTS IN FOND 9414, RECORDS OF THE MAIN ADMINISTRATION OF CAMPS AND PLACES OF CONFINEMENT (GULAG), AND FOND 9407, RECORDS OF THE MAIN ADMINISTRATION OF RAILROAD CAMPS.

B. WHILE THESE RECORDS PROVIDED VALUABLE BACKGROUND INFORMATION, NO MENTION OF AMERICANS WAS NOTED IN THESE FILES.

8. (b)(6) INTERVIEWED THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS IN MOSCOW:

A. (b)(6)  
TEL: (b)(6) HE SERVED HIS FIRST TERM IN THE OLP OF MINLAG IN INTA, KOMI REPUBLIC. (b)(6) WAS ARRESTED ON THE NIGHT OF MARCH 5, 1953. SPENT SOME TIME IN THE LUBYANKA INTERNAL PRISON AND LEFORTOVO PRISON, AND WAS THEN SENT TO INTA.

(b)(6) IN 1954, WHILE IN MINLAG, (b)(6) KNEW A PERSON WHO CLAIMED TO BE AN AMERICAN OF GERMAN ORIGIN. THE PERSON'S NAME WAS ALEXANDER MUELLER VON SEIDLITZ, A.K.A. TEZHE. SEIDLITZ WAS ABOUT 10 YEARS OLDER THAN (b)(6) WHO WAS 18-19 AT THAT TIME. ACCORDING TO (b)(6) VON SEIDLITZ SAID THAT HE WAS

FROM EITHER SAN FRANCISCO OR PHILADELPHIA (b)(6) WAS UNABLE TO RECOLLECT WHICH EXACTLY). HE AND SEIDLITZ BECAME FRIENDS..

(b)(6) ON 19 NOVEMBER 1954, (b)(6) 19<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY, SEIDLITZ PRESENTED A SELF-MADE GREETING CARD TO HIM. THE CARD CONTAINED A GREETING IN ENGLISH, WRITTEN IN BLACK INK. (b)(6) PROVIDED JCSD ANALYSTS WITH A SCANNED COPY OF THE TEXT OF THE GREETING ON A DISKETTE.

(b)(6) ADDED THAT ANOTHER PRISONER, A GERMAN, HAD TOLD HIM THAT IN REALITY VON SEIDLITZ WAS GERMAN, NOT AMERICAN. ACCORDING TO (b)(6) SEIDLITZ, AS AN ETHNIC GERMAN, WAS RELEASED FROM THE CAMP TOGETHER WITH OTHER GERMANS AT THE REQUEST OF CHANCELLOR ADENAUER. (b)(6) WAS RELEASED ON 21 APRIL 1956. ON FEBRUARY 18, 1959, HE WAS ARRESTED ON POLITICAL CHARGES AGAIN AND SPENT ABOUT SEVEN MONTHS IN THE LUBYANKA INTERNAL PRISON AND THE SERBSKIY PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTE IN MOSCOW. ON 3 AUGUST 1959, HE WAS RELEASED. LATER, HE WAS FULLY REHABILITATED AND BECAME A HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST.

(b)(6) AND HIS WIFE (b)(6) ARE BOTH PUBLISHED AUTHORS. THE SOVIETS FIRST ARRESTED (b)(6) IN 1948. HE WAS FIRST IMPRISONED IN STEPAG IN KAZAKHSTAN. LATER HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO MINLAG, INTA, KOMI REPUBLIC. (b)(6) REPORTED THAT HE MET ALEXANDER MUELLER VON SEIDLITZ IN INTA. HIS STATEMENTS ABOUT SEIDLITZ WERE SIMILAR TO THOSE MADE BY (b)(6) WAS RELEASED FROM INTA IN 1956. IN 1959 HE WAS ARRESTED A SECOND TIME AND IMPRISONED IN DUBRAVLAGE, MORDOVIA, FOR SEVEN YEARS. (b)(6) HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT AMERICANS OTHER THAN SEIDLITZ.

(JCSD COMMENT: ALEXANDER MUELLER (MILLER) VON SEIDLITZ HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF VARIOUS REPORTS DATING AS FAR BACK AS THE EARLY 1950'S. NO EVIDENCE HAS BEEN FOUND TO INDICATE THAT HE WAS AN AMERICAN SERVICEMAN.)

9. (b)(6) TRAVELED TO SYKTYVKAR, RUSSIA, TO MEET WITH (b)(6)

(b)(6) THIS WAS A FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH (b)(6) IN 2002. (b)(6) HAD STATED THAT HE WOULD CONDUCT RESEARCH IN THE LOCAL SYKTYVKAR AND UKHTA AREAS, AS WELL AS IN THE UMVD AND UFSB ARCHIVES ON BEHALF OF JCSD. THE TOPIC OF RESEARCH WAS THE IMPRISONMENT AND BURIAL OF A PURPORTED US AIRMAN NEAR UKHTA IN 1949. THE ORIGINAL INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED BY JCSD FROM A USAF WRINGER REPORT DATED 18 MAY 1954. THE CURRENT MEETING WAS TO DISCUSS

THE RESULTS OF HIS WORK. (b)(6) STATED THAT HE HAD NARROWED DOWN THE LOCATION OF THE CAMP GRAVEYARD TO TWO AREAS NORTH OF UKHTA. HE PASSED ALONG A DETAILED REPORT CONTAINING THE POSSIBLE LOCATION OF THE CAMP AND ITS CEMETERY. HE ALSO CONVEYED RESPONSES TO HIS REQUESTS FROM THE REGIONAL SECURITY SERVICES' ARCHIVES AND THE RESULTS OF ORAL INTERVIEWS HE CONDUCTED IN THE LOCAL AREA. JCSD IS CURRENTLY REVIEWING THIS INFORMATION.

(b)(6)

10. (b)(6) PARTICIPATED IN A MEETING AT THE RUSSIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE MILITARY MEDICAL MUSEUM ARCHIVES IN ST. PETERSBURG, LAZERETNIJ PEREULOK 2. CONTACT: (b)(6) (b)(6) THE PRIMARY GOAL OF THE MEETING WAS TO TAKE POSSESSION OF DOCUMENTS ON AMERICAN WORLD WAR II SERVICEMEN WHO RECEIVED MEDICAL CARE FROM SOVIET MILITARY MEDICAL UNITS. JCSD CURRENTLY HAS A CONTRACT WITH THE MEDICAL ARCHIVE TO CONDUCT A DETAILED SEARCH OF ITS HOLDINGS. THE MAJORITY OF CASES RECEIVED WERE MERCHANT MARINE PERSONNEL WHO WERE INJURED DURING ATTACKS ON ALLIED CONVOYS CARRYING WAR SUPPLIES TO THE SOVIET UNION. THE RECORDS OF ONE MISSING AMERICAN AIRMAN SHOT DOWN OVER HUNGARY WERE FOUND. UNFORTUNATELY THE LOCATION OF HIS REMAINS IS NOT SPECIFIC ENOUGH TO PERMIT RECOVERY; THEREFORE MORE RESEARCH NEEDS TO BE CONDUCTED IN HUNGARY TO DETERMINE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXACT LOCATION OF HIS GRAVE.

**KARTA Center's research project: *Searching for information on American citizens gone missing during World War II and after it in the territory of USSR.***

**Final narrative report for the period February 1 — December 31, 1999.**

**1. Gathering information from the written sources:**

We finished review of 2940 memoirs in the Eastern Archive's collection (we read 1200 units this year). Review of witnesses' accounts recorded on the tapes was also concluded. Totally we heard about 1300 accounts, in sum 2,000 hours of recorded testimonies.

We have done an archival research in territory of Poland, especially in such archives as:

- Poznań: Raczyński' Library and Adam Mickiewicz University Library,
- Wrocław: Ossolineum Library and local Siberians' Association collection;
- Gdańsk: Gdańsk University Library, regional Word Union of National Army Combatants collection, The Gdańsk Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences,
- Szczecin: Western Pomeranian Siberian Union, The S. Staszic Pomeranian Library
- Łódź: University Library, research in collections of "Wiano" (former Home Army members from Vilnius district organization) memoirs, local Siberians' Association collection,
- Warsaw: Warsaw University Library, Institute of History in Polish Academy of Sciences, Central Memoirs Library of Polish Archival Society,
- Siberian Union of the Warmińsko-Mazurski Region in Ketrzyn.

The 3-4 members of our team made all of these researches.

We also made efforts aimed to gain information about Poles — former prisoners of Gulag. We carried out researches in the governmental archives like: Central Archive of Ministry of the Interior, Central Commission of Inquiry on the Crimes Against the Polish People. There are collected the documents of State Repatriation Department, which had been active in the '40s and '50s. This Department was engaged in registration of Polish citizens among others coming back from the Soviet camps. Beside this we made a research in the Central Military Archive. There are the documents about Polish citizens deported after the WW II to the camps in Vorkuta from Vilnius.

Researches mentioned above were conducted mostly by a crew of this government archives.

**2. Gathering information on persons — prisoners of the Soviet camps:**

This way of searching gave us the interesting effects. Contacts with witnesses enabled better geographic and chronological knowledge on the events. Information obtained this way usually is more detailed then other. We have sent about 500 letters to former prisoners of Soviet camps and we have received 7 confirmations. About 340 interviews had been made by phone and personally), giving 9 information.

### 3. Research abroad:

We have also started researches in the neighbor, eastern countries: Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine.

At first we started in Lithuania, because of quite huge and well-organized Polish community in this country. During the visit in Vilnius we interviewed the representatives of Polish community of Lithuania — especially the former prisoners of Soviet camps. They are organized in the Polish Section of Political Prisoners and Deportees Community of Vilnius (Politiniiu Kaliniu ir Tremtiniu Bendrija). We talked with (b)(6) of the Polish Section. There are about 330 Poles in this community. Unfortunately most of them are the members of families deported to Siberia and Kazakhstan in 1940 – 46, or members of the Polish Home Army interned in 1944 – 48, so they are not a target group of our searches. However we were successful in selecting the group of persons, which stayed in camps after 1950, and we make contacts with them.

We had also two meetings (in Warsaw and in Vilnius) with representative of the Genocide and Resistance Research Center of Lithuania (Lietuvos Gyventoju Genocido ir Rezistencijos Tyrimo Centras) — (b)(6). We talked about possibility of contacting with Lithuanian, former prisoners of the Soviet camps, and about eventually query in their collection of memories. As far our work in Lithuania didn't give us any new information about American's POW.

In Bielarus we contacted Polish "Siberian" exiles, which lives there. Meetings with representatives of Polish organizations (Union of Polish at Bielarus) didn't give any concrete results. We started individual contacts with Poles – former prisoners of Soviet camps. We find it quite difficult, probably because of political situation in this country. Some of these contacts showed theirs advanced reserve and aversion to unburden oneself.

Our research in the Ukraine we have started from correspondence with a few Poles – former prisoners of Soviet camps (using addresses collected by our Center in other projects). Next step we plan is a research trip to the Ukraine, especially to the Lviv and Zhitomir regions aimed to interview members of Polish combatant organizations existing there.

### 4. Registrations and systematization of incoming information:

Mentioned activities have brought 24 information (9 by interview), (7 by correspondence), (8 by archival search). A statistic of traces is as following:

Komi RA	- 11	(Vorkuta - 8, Ukhta - 2, Inra - 1)
Krasnoyarski Kray	- 3	(Noril'sk - 1, Severo-Yeniseysk - 1, Nizhniy Ingash - 1)
Mordovskaya RA	- 1	(Pot'ma)
Irkutsk District	- 4	(Tayshet-Brack - 3, Ussolye Sibirskoye - 1)
Magadan District	- 1	
Gorkovsk District	- 1	(Suhobezvodnoje)
Wladymir District	- 1	(Wladymir on Klazma River)
Ukraine	- 1	(Krasnodon)

During the reported period we carried out significantly more archival searches than previously. The results show that there is no direct relation between the efforts and the number of information gathered. A personal contact with former prisoners of Soviet camps seems to be more efficient method. The conclusion of our research is a necessity of focusing in future especially on personal contacts as the most effective method.

## AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF KOMI

Account by (b)(6) Vorkuta, coal-mine No. 29, 1951-07.1953)

"There was Bruno Szpilman in my brigade in camp No. 29 in Vorkuta. He was a German (probably an American citizen), who came from USA to Germany (Berlin) just before WW II. After the War Americans sent him as a spy to the Soviet zone in Eastern Germany. Russians captured him, and sentenced for 10 years. He left Vorkuta with a group of about 1100 prisoners, which had a short sentences. He took our addresses hidden in his hat. They probably went to Kaliningrad and then to Germany."

There were also: Edward Buca, Witold Ignatowicz from Inowroclaw [Poland] and Gryczanik at the coal-mine No. 29

(b)(6)

Account by (b)(6) (Vorkuta, coal-mine No. 7, 1951-07.1953, prison in Tayshet, 1954)

There was an American colonel from intelligence, kidnapped in Berlin. They moved him to Moscow (Lubianka prison). He was sentenced to death, they changed it for 25 years. He worked in mine No 7 [in Vorkuta]. My friend (b)(6) knew him well. I don't remember his name. I met him once again in prison in Tayshet (between 13.05 -15.06.1954). They were moving us [from Tayshet] to Krasnoyarsk, whereas he was convoked to Moscow. He told me that he had been sent to Moscow after uprising in coal-mine No. 7 in Vorkuta in 1953, and sentenced to death (because of participation in uprising) once again. They changed it for 10 years and sent him to camp somewhere in Irkutsk district. He was middle high, blond hair, about 45 years old.

Account by (b)(6) Vorkuta)

"There was US citizen, named Zhorka in my camp. He was giving out batteries. As far as I remember he had 3 factories in USA. He was changed for Russian after some times. As far as I concern they treasured him.

(b)(6)

Account by (b)(6) Vorkuta, mine No. 11, 1950-1954)

He was moved from coal-mine No. 9-10 to coal-mine No. 11 in Vorkuta. There were 6 barracks in this camp. He stayed there for 9 months. He came into a good contact with an American officer, named LANGIER, who had been captured by Russians somewhere in Eastern Asia and sentenced, for espionage. Langier worked at the baths. He spoke Polish a little, because as he said he had some Polish friends in USA. He came probably from Alabama. He was tall, fair-haired and very friendly. Langier sometimes used to share a food with Skawinski. He also helped him to removed to coal-mine No. 9-10 (Langier had a good relationship with camp doctor). When Skawinski were released from the camp in 1954, camp at the coal-mine No 11 didn't exist, and he supposed that Langier had to be moved somewhere else earlier. He didn't hear anything about Langier after that.

Account by (b)(6) Vorkuta, camp No. 4, 1953-1955)

At the coal-mine and camp No. 4 in Vorkuta stayed between 1953-1954 an American serviceman. Russians in Berlin captured him, when he had visiting his girl-friend in the Soviet zone and he was sentenced under the espionage charge. He was a young, tall and thin Indian.

(b)(6) knew him because he had been teaching the English his friend (b)(6) (b)(6) from Zhitomir in Ukraine).

(b)(6)

Mr. Marczuk – an American citizen of Polish origin, who came from Bielarus also stayed there.

Account by (b)(6) (Vorkuta, camp No. 8, 1949-1956)

During his stay at the coal-mine No. 8 in Vorkuta he met two foreigners, which spoke English. He was told that they were Americans. Both of them were over 40 years old. They didn't work down at the coal-mine.

Mieczysław Strzelecki (Vorkuta, 1955-1956)

Mieczysław Strzelecki died in 1972. (b)(6) wrote :

„He told us, that there were many nationalities, from Japanese to Americans. He called them Anglo-Saxon. They spoke English, but they were separated [from other prisoners]. They arrived [to Vorkuta] later, in 1955 — 56, before the amnesty for Polish prisoners. They were in very bad condition, and they seemed to be unused to such a camp

(b)(6) Account by (b)(6) (Inta, camp No. 3, 1954)

„I met two Americans in camp No. 3 in Inta, in 1954. They worked in my brigade. Władysław Szyszko was a chief of the brigade. When we were building a bridge one of this Americans jumped to Kosju river and drown.

#### OTHER REGIONS OF THE SOVIET UNION

Account by (b)(6) (Russia, Irkutsk District, Tayshet - Brack, 1947)

Probably in spring 1947, in one of the Tayshet-Brack railway's camps he saw a group (about 8) of people in American uniforms, which was convoyed by the guard to the railway station.

(b)(6) (Russia, Irkutsk District, Tayshet- Brack 1951- 1952)

Czuna camp No. 019, on Tayshet - Brack railway, 14) km from Tayshet. In the end of the summer 1951 (or 1952) a man seemed to be an American (maybe Russian emigrant from USA), earlier sentenced as an American spy, escaped from the camp

Account by (b)(6) (Russia, Mordvinskaya RA, Pot'ma, camp No. 19, 1948-?)

He was a chief of the brigade in camp No. 19 in Pot'ma. They worked in the forest. There were also a few Americans among 17 nationalities in his brigade

(b)(6) Account by (b)(6) (Russia, Krasnoyarski Kray, Nizhniy Ingash, camp No. 2, 11.1946)

„One day, when we were walking around the camp, suddenly young man asked us in very poor Russian:

— Are you a Russian?

— No — I answered. — We are Polish.

I recognized in his face, that he didn't understand too much — but he introduced himself.

— I am American

— I am Polish — I also introduced myself.

He smiled. [...] We spoke in special „Esperanto" language (some of English, German and Latin)

After this I regained that he was an agent of American intelligence service. As he said — after Russian army encroachment on Vien he was arrested by Russian army intelligence and deported

to Russia. He tried to communicate with US embassy in Wien, and in Moscow, his protests and petitions failed. He was strictly isolated by the NKWD. His name was Jim Fabian. He was tall, and as far as I remember fair-haired, had blue eyes. Dressed in quilted jacket. We met him once again and spoke for a while, but it was our last meeting. It was the end of November [1946]."

Account by (b)(6) (Russia, Gorki District, Suhobezvodnoye, camp No. 17, 1950)  
In the camp stayed an American. He worked at the canteen's door and kept eye on dishes. They said, that he was a boxer. He was over 40 years old, and over 170 cm high. He had an European appearance.

Account by (b)(6) (prison in Wladymir on Klazma River, Russia, 01.07.1944-15.07.1952,  
He met an US sergeant (Black) in prison in Wladymir on Klazma River. He was a driver, kidnapped in Vien, because of his gold teeth with diamonds

Where were also:

1. prof Carl Clauberg – from KL Auswitch
2. Walter Smidt – German non-com taken prisoner in Stalingrad
3. Nalimacu Sigejosi -- Japanese non-com from Mandzuko
4. Zak Borizak – French navy-cadet, from Lyon
5. Second Lieutenant, doctor, young English paratrooper grasped by Germans in Arnhem (1944)
6. archbishop Mieczyslaw Rejnis – from Lithuania
7. Stanislaw Mironas – Prime Minister from Lithuania
8. bishop Matulonis – from Lithuania
9. Witalas Klaunius – from Lithuania (Szauliai)
10. Wladyslaw Byszek – captain of Polish Home Army, who took part in the Warsaw Uprising

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Account by (b)(6) (Komi RA, Ukhta, camp No. 1, 1945-1948)  
Between May 1945 and October 1948 he stayed in Uchta, in oil-mine's camp No. 1. There were also Americans from Spanish war.

Account by (b)(6) (Komi RA, Ukhta, camp No. 1, 1941-1942)  
He met an American citizen, dying from consumption in camp's No.1 hospital barrack. He's name was Rajehunin (Finn nationality). He left his house and family in USA before World War II and as a communist came to USSR. He specialized in high chimney's building.

Account by (b)(6) (Komi RA, Vorkuta, 1945-1946)  
Working in Vorkuta he used to meet foreigners like Germans, English men and Americans. He doesn't remember a number of Americans. In November or December 1946 all of this foreigners were taken from the camp

Account by (b)(6) (Krasnoyarski Kray, Severo-Yenisieysk, 1952-1955)  
She was working as a nurse in hospital in Severo-Yenisieysk. She remembers an American citizen of Polish nationality. Probably he was a pilot, and he lived there since WW II. He was about 40 years old. From time to time he used to come to this town from taiga with furs

Account by (b)(6) (Krasnoyarski Kray, Noril'sk, 1945-1955)  
He writes that there were also Americans among many nationalities

Account by (b)(6) (Russia, Irkutsk District, Usole Sibirskoye, 1950)  
In the transferring camp in Mama's housing estate in Usole Sibirskoye (1950) he met an American citizen of Lithuanian nationality, doctor of psychology. He was arrested, when he had visited his family in Lithuania, and was brought to Siberia. President of USA asked Russian government about him. This man was unusually fat, and he coursed communists

Account by (b)(6) (Ukraine, Woroshylowgrad District, Krasnodon, 1944-1945)  
There were also Poles, which had an American citizenship in this camp. Old lady, (called „Amerykanka”), came from USA before WW II to Poland to visit her family. War found her in Poland.  
There was also a young man, who had American citizenship. He was a son of an owner of Rucker's factory in Lviv. I had a conversation in English with him.

(b)(6) (Russia, Magadan District, 1947-1956)  
Jan Czezura died three years ago. His wife, Mina Czezura wrote to us, that he had been talking about people he had met in the Soviet camps. He stated that there were also American citizens, White and Black as well.

(b)(6)  
He spent 10 years in the Soviet camps in: Borovichi, Naklonna, Tayshet-Brack (to 1953), Onisk (1953-1954). He died in 1995. His wife, Genowefa Zarczuk confirmed that he met Germans, Americans and prisoners of others nationality in camps

(b)(6) (Russia, Irkutsk District, Tayshet- Brack 1948)  
She met an American woman. It took place probably in 1948 in one of the camps at the Tayshet-Brack railway

Project coordinator

(b)(6)

3

11/05/99  
dymoda/JCSP/East Europe/Waldi hard drive/Beth Wald  
Eastern Europe/Gulag - sources

Site 2

a. Krasnoyarski Kray, Norylsk, 1945-1955

Source writes that there were also Americans among many nationalities.

b. Norylsk, GOR-Lag at the "Mydstroy", 1950

"To our camp came Fred Hopkins, an American. He had been arrested and sentenced under the espionage charge for their activities in East Berlin. (...) he was sly. He spoke six languages fluently, among others Polish and Russian. I was in the same brigade with him and we conversed very often. The American was in deadly fear of frost (...) he explained he spend most of his life in a warm climate under the palms of Cuba. Hopkins very often quarreled with Loshka, also an American but of Russian origin. In turn Loshka had a patron - chief of the kitchen, also an American of Russian origin, former sailor of the merchant marine (...). After some time Hopkins became a diviner well known in the camp. I talked ith him many times about Poland. He knew Poland better than I. He spoke a lot about [country name] reality before the war as well as its future (...). Hopkins was transferred to other camp soon.

c. Norylsk

In the 50s an American and a young Pole were seen in the camp. They were apprehended in New York after communist demonstration took by ship to Murmansk

d. Norylsk, "Miedwiezka", 1952-54

He didn't see but he heard from the fellow-prisoners, that two Americans were in the camp, about 30-35 years old, probably pilots. He was unable neither to give more details nor to describe their appearance.

e. Norylsk, "Miedwiezka", 1953-54

He did not see but he heard from the fellow-prisoners, that two Americans were in the camp, about 30-35 years old, probably pilots. He is unable to give more details nor to describe their appearance.

f. Norylsk, camp No. 4, "Miedstroy"

At the beginning of the 50s in Norylsk landed up a group of foreigners, prisoners-of-war (UN volunteers in Korean War according to source's suggestion). Source kept them to work as potentially better educated (he was a foreman for energetic matters). About 12 men were in this group, mainly the Scotch, some Germans and 2 or 3 Americans. All of them were conforming themselves very hardly to the camp reality. He remember quite will a man named Frank Hopkins who worked as a plumber. He was young, chubby and fair-haired and was a son of farmer.

(f, continued) Source describes a story of secret broadcasting station which he constructed. Using a password given by a Scot pilot he came into contact with a military base in San Francisco. He was asked to hand over a list with names of American citizens imprisoned in the camp and also other foreigners including Poles. It was settled,

that on March 18, 1952 an American plane was to land 50 miles of Norilsk to take the possibly refugees.

g. Source met "American" or "English" pilot – probably captain – in Norilsk in the first half of 1953. This pilot carried out reconnaissance flight during the Korean War and due to bad weather and instruments collapse he had to land in Dalny, USSR. At once he was arrested and condemned under sentence of espionage and imprisoned in the camp. According to source the pilot was a man about 30 years old, tall, dark-haired, looked well ("healthy"). He was wearing, under prison clothes, an "English" military blouse. The meeting took place in the camp no. 5 in Norilsk – the prisoners of this camp worked at the city enlargement. According to source the pilot did not act any function in the camp. His good appearance and military blouse could testify to a short imprisonment.

(g. continued) Source describes the meeting in the following way: in the camp to the group of [foreigners] (including source) approached the pilot and said in [their language] "Hallo". Surprised [foreigners] asked "How are you". "English pilot" answered the man. Further conversation was conducted partially by a dump show because nobody of the [foreigners] knew English at all. The pilot said he had served in Korea in the reconnaissance air forces. He also said, that during the WW II he had been in Africa altogether with ... Source do not know the further pilot's fate – in May-June '53 the camp revolt of prisoners took place and in July source, as one of the revolt's leaders, was transported to Kolyma where he stayed until '56. Source did not meet any other Americans (or Englishmen) in the camps and did not hear about them.

Site 3

a. Magadan, 1955

1. Foreigners from *tyga* were conveyed to the camp (also the Americans were among them). Then they were next moved to the central transferring point and after some time released.

2. In the camp was American of Russian origin who worked as a foreman. He was sentenced to 25 years of imprisonment. He was two meter high, of athletic build man. Source heard, the American was a World Champion in some game.

b. Arkagala Ugolna, Magadan District, Russia

"...I met also a Ukrainian in the Arkagala Ugolna camp. He fought on the American side in Korea and was taken prisoner in North Korea and next he landed up in Kolyma. I don't remember his name. I only heard he had been a soldier of the Ukrainian Uprising Army and joined Americans in Czech Republic.. "

## Site 8

### a. Vorkuta, 1955-1956

Source died in 1972. His daughter wrote: "He said, that there were many nationalities, from Japanese to Americans. He called them Anglosas (Anglo-Saxon?). They spoke English, but they were separated [from other prisoners]. They arrived [to Vorkuta] later, in 1955-1956, before amnesty for [certain] prisoners. They were in very bad condition, and they seemed to be unused to such a camp.

### b. Vorkuta

After Stalin's death source met an American at the same age like he (around 35 years old). He was tall. The American lived in the same barrack for a few days, he knew some words in Russian and probably did not work at the coal-mine. He explained to fellow-prisoners, that it was not right to wait for a Soviet-American war because the United States did not want it. Source does not know how the American landed up in the camp and what happened with him later.

### c. Vorkuta, coal-mine No. 14 - Shu 2 - 1945-54

Two Americans about 40 years old were in the coal-mine No. 14. They were taken away probably in 1953 together with other foreigners. He didn't contact them only saw them once.

### d. Vorkuta, 1945-53

There were three Americans with him (and also Englishman) till the '53. He saw them - they were emaciated like everybody.

### e. Vorkuta, coal-mine No. 1 "Kapitalnaya"

He landed up in the coal-mine No. 1 on the turn of 1950. Other prisoners showed him an American colonel. He looked about 60 years old, quite tall, broad-shouldered and pale man. He wore a quilted jacket and didn't converse with other prisoners (probably couldn't speak Russian). After some time he was called by the camp's administration, received his gold ring and watch back, and was lead out to Vorkuta (later rumors on his release circulated in the camp).

### f. Vorkuta, coal-mine No. 6

An American came to the camp probably in June 1953. Prisoners talked he was a pilot from spy-plane downed by the Soviets. He was about 40 years old, over 180 cm high, of oval face. He had shaved head and wore quilted jacket as everybody. His Russian was very poor. Source saw him for a while because [certain] prisoners were being prepared for release. The American was to be released too (as other prisoners said).

### g. Vorkuta, coal-mine No. 6

He remembers a young American (20-25 years old), thin, medium-sized. It was in '51 or '52. He spoke Russian like others. He worked in the baths. Probably he was brought from Germany (captured?).

h. Vorkuta coal mine No. 6

In the coal-mine stayed an American, who had been arrested by Russians during the revolt in Berlin. He was not sentenced under any charge, but he was treated as a spy. His name sounded something like "Cherny". He was a tall, handsome and vigour, dark-haired man. He could not speak English and due to it he had friendly relations with only one prisoner - a Russian, who spoke English. He declared himself as enemy of communism. He was taken from the camp at the beginning of 1954

i. Vorkuta, coal-mine No. 6, till 1955

Source till 1955 stayed in the coal-mine No. 6, where also two Americans were imprisoned.

j. Vorkuta, coal-mines No. 6 and No. 10, 1951-56

He was imprisoned at the coal-mine No. 40, where also worked two Americans.

k. Vorkuta, mine No. 11, 1950-1954

He was moved from a coal-mine No. 9-10 to coal-mine No. 11 in Vorkuta. There were 6 barracks in this camp. He stayed there for 9 months. He came into a good contact with an American officer, named LANGIER, who had been captured by Russians somewhere in Eastern Asia and sentenced, as a spy. Langier worked at the baths. He came probably from Alabama. He was tall, fair-haired, and very friendly. Langier sometimes used to share a food with source. He also helped him to remove to coal-mine No. 9-10 (Langier had good relation with camp's doctor). When source was released from the camp in 1954, the camp at the coalmines Nr. 11 didn't exist, and he supposed that Langier must have been moved somewhere else earlier. He had not heard anything about Langier after that.

l. Vorkuta, coal-mine No. 14

In the coal-mine No. 14 there were two Americans around 40 years old. They probably were brought from the camp in '53, when other foreign prisoners were displaced. He had no contact with them (they were only shown him by other prisoners.).

m. Vorkuta, coal-mine No. 6, before 1955

He was imprisoned at the coal-mine No. 40, where also worked two Americans.

Site 15

a. Prison in Gorki, Russia, 1950

Three Americans were in the camp in 1950. He saw them in cell for 50 persons.

b. Russia, Gorki District, Suchobezvodnoye, camp No. 17, 1950

An American stayed in this camp. He worked at the canteen's door and kept an eye on dishes. It was said that he was a boxer. He was over 40 years old and over 170 cm high. He had a European appearance.

Site 16

a. Iata, 1952-54

"Twenty five thousands of former prisoners of various nationality lived in the country pace (*posiolok*) at this time. They were interdicted from coming back to their homeland. The Americans also were among them."

b. Iata, camp No. 3, 1954

"I met two Americans in a camp No. 3 in Iata, in 1954. They worked in my brigade. When we were building a bridge one of these Americans jumped to Kosju River and drowned."

Site 17

b. Kolyma, Elgen camp and D-2 Miaunga

In the Elgen camp he met an American of Jewish nationality named Lerner. He came from USA to USSR due to his communist views. He was arrested immediately there and sentenced under the "espionage" charge to 25 years of labour camp. Source was moved to another camp after some time. He met Lerner the second time in Miaunga at the power plant construction. It held in 1955. Lerner asked source to inform about his fate the Israeli Embassy (after return to his country).

Site 18

a. Pot'ma, Mordwinska Autonomous Republic, Russia

In the transition camp: "...An American was also there [...] It could be on the turn of September of 1953."

b. Yavas near Pot'ma, camp No. 10, Mordovska Autonomous Republic, April-August 1955

In a group of foreigners was one American. The foreigners started to departure from the camp in August 1955.

Site 19

a. He spent 10 years in Soviet camps in: Borowieze, Naklonna, Tayshet-Brack (to 1953), Omsk (1953-1954). Died in 1995. His wife confirmed that he met Germans, Americans and others nationality prisoners in camps.

b. Russia, Irkuck Districk, Tayshet-Brack 1951-1952

Czuna camp No. 019, on the Tayshet - Brack railway, 141 km from Tayshet. In the end of summer 1951 (or 1952) a man seemed to be an American (maybe Russian emigrant from USA), who was sentenced as an American spy, escaped from camp.

(4)

Arkusz1

## Financial report for the period: July 1 - December 31, 1999

The exchange rate: 1 US\$ = 4.1483 PLN (31.12.1999)

Type of Expenditure	Cost in Polish Currency	Cost in US Dollars
<b>1. Permanent Staff</b>		
<i>project coordinator</i>		
July	2,180.90	525.73
August	2,180.90	525.73
September	2,644.45	637.48
October	2,592.36	624.92
November	2,592.36	624.92
December	2,592.36	624.92
<i>expert consultant</i>		
July	1,319.22	318.01
August	1,319.22	318.01
September	1,550.97	373.88
October	1,524.92	367.60
November	1,524.92	367.60
December	1,524.92	367.60
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,547.50</b>	<b>5,676.42</b>
<b>2. Equipment and supplies</b>		
<i>office supplies</i>		
	308.40	74.34
	220.63	53.19
	480.00	115.71
	100.00	24.11
	222.96	53.75
	274.50	66.17
	565.32	136.28
	68.68	16.56
	105.00	25.31
	194.01	46.77
	118.00	28.45
	250.22	60.32
	580.35	139.90
	77.09	18.58
	16.00	3.86
	303.00	73.04
	296.00	71.35
	49.82	12.01
	68.00	16.39
	160.00	38.57
	117.44	28.31
	108.00	26.03
	1,245.51	300.25
	742.92	179.09
	36.00	8.68

## Arkusz1

	305.00	73.52
	12.00	2.89
	375.00	90.40
	39.53	9.53
	500.00	120.53
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,939.38</b>	<b>1,913.89</b>
<b>3. Communications</b>		
<i>telephone, fax, e-mail</i>	9,155.64	2,207.08
<i>postage</i>	1,745.62	420.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,901.26</b>	<b>2,627.89</b>
<b>4. Travel and Per Diem</b>		
<i>travel expenses</i>		
	328.38	79.16
	502.52	121.14
	403.27	97.21
	250.82	60.46
	292.35	70.47
	316.29	76.25
	371.16	89.47
	95.70	23.07
	228.78	55.15
	102.00	24.59
	317.70	76.59
	97.60	23.53
	362.66	87.42
	334.62	80.66
	391.50	94.38
	370.64	89.35
	429.17	103.46
	231.80	55.88
	596.90	143.89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,023.86</b>	<b>1,452.13</b>
<b>5. Honoraria and Consulting Fees</b>		
<i>archival and bibliographic expenses</i>		
	300.00	72.32
	570.00	137.41
	1,326.00	319.65
	1,143.07	275.55
	1,143.07	275.55
	944.00	227.56
	897.87	216.44
	1,318.86	317.93
	1,346.80	324.66
	366.00	88.23
	180.00	43.39
	312.00	75.21
	330.00	79.55
	144.00	34.71
	180.00	43.39
	144.00	34.71
	240.00	57.86

## Arkusz1

	1,448.67	349.22
	1,245.59	300.27
	1,272.00	306.63
	1,230.00	296.51
	876.00	211.17
	1,248.00	300.85
	1,416.00	341.34
	1,236.00	297.95
	1,464.00	352.92
	250.00	60.27
	800.00	192.85
	1,300.00	313.38
	550.00	132.58
	220.00	53.03
	550.00	132.58
	220.00	53.03
	650.00	156.69
	826.00	199.12
	900.00	216.96
	900.00	216.96
	180.00	43.39
	1,230.00	296.51
	300.00	72.32
	100.00	24.11
	280.00	67.50
	1,000.00	241.06
	1,160.00	279.63
	650.00	156.69
	280.00	67.50
	1,296.35	312.50
	1,150.00	277.22
	550.00	132.58
	1,474.72	355.50
	1,395.00	336.28
	1,020.00	245.88
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41,554.00</b>	<b>10,017.12</b>
<b>6. Administrative and Other Direct Expenses</b>		
<i>copying archival materials</i>		
	38.00	9.16
	980.95	236.47
<i>bookkeeping</i>		
	2,592.35	624.92
	500.00	120.53
<i>local costs</i>		
Electricity	1,135.69	273.77
Facility rental	6,911.39	1,666.08
Administration costs	3,212.43	774.40
translation	825.00	198.88
	110.00	26.52
bank provision	10.50	2.53
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,316.31</b>	<b>3,933.25</b>

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>106,282.31</b>	<b>25,620.69</b>
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<b>A. Founds received:</b>		
I drawdown (07.04.1999)		13,218.00
II drawdown (30.07.1999)		12,000.00
III drawdown (12.01.2000)		12,000.00
<b>US \$ TOTAL</b>		<b>37,218.00</b>

<b>B. Financial reports:</b>	<b>PLN</b>	<b>US \$</b>
I financial report for the period 01.02.99.-30.06.99	46,634.48	11,597.73
II financial report for the period 01.07.99.-31.12.99	106,282.31	25,620.69
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>152,916.79</b>	<b>37,218.42</b>

5

**KARTA Center's research project: *Searching for information on American citizens gone missing during World War II and after it in the territory of USSR.***  
**Narrative report for the period February 1 — June 30, 1999.**

**Gathering information from the written sources:**

Searches in the KARTA Archives (Eastern Archives) have been carried out during the reported period (about 720 memories have been read, and about 280 units left). Review of witnesses' accounts recorded on the tapes is in progress. We heard about 450 units as far, and about 850 units left. It has brought 5 information. We started research in territory of Poznań (Raczyński Library and Adam Mickiewicz University Library) and Wrocław (Ossolineum Library and local Siberians' Association archive). It gave us 1 information.

**Gathering information on persons — prisoners of the Soviet camps:**

We sent 340 letters to prisoners of Soviet camps and received 6 confirmations. About 230 interviews (phone calls and directly) were held giving 7 information.

**Registrations and systematization of incoming information:**

Mentioned activities have brought 19 new information (7 by interviews), (6 by correspondence), (6 by archival searches). A statistic of traces is as following:

Komi RA	- 8 (Vorkuta - 5, Ukhta - 2, Ina - 1)
Krasnoyarski Krai	- 3 (Norylsk - 1, Siewiero-Jenisejsk - 1, Niznyj Ingasz - 1)
Mordovska RA	- 1 (Poc'ma)
Irkuck District	- 3 (Tajshet-Bruck - 2, Usolie Sibirskoje - 1)
Magadan District	- 1
Gorkovsk District	- 1 (Suhobezvodnoje)
Ukraine	- 1 (Krasnodon)

**Research abroad:**

Recently we have started researches in Lithuania. We had two meetings (in Warsaw and in Vilnius) with representative of the Genocide and Resistance Research Center of Lithuania (Lietuvos Gyventojų Genocido ir Rezistencijos Tyrimo Centras) (b)(6). We noticed that they had worked on this problem few years before, but there is still something to do with it. We have made a conclusion that there is about 300 memories to read in the Centers' archive, and most of all there is a need of contact, like we do it in Poland, with living former prisoners of camps in cooperation with local combatant organizations. In this case it would be very helpful to use the Center's computer database with information about the repressed by Soviets in Lithuania.

During the visit in Vilnius we have reviewed Polish community of Lithuania — especially prisoners of Soviet camps. They are organized in the Polish Section of Political Prisoners and Deportees Community of Vilnius (Politinio Kalinių ir Tremtinių Bendrija). We talked with (b)(6) of the Polish Section. There are about 330 Polish in this community. Unfortunately most of them are members of the families deported to Siberia and Kazakhstan, or members of the Polish Home Army interned in 1944-1948. Unfortunately they are not the target group of our searching. We selected some addresses of a very few persons, which were held in camps after 1950, and we are going to contact with them.

Our agent made an interview with one woman, tending towards to check our information. We heard that in Sviencionelaj (Vilnius region) in 1949-1950 two women were punished for correspondence with two Americans or English, which were kept in Soviet camp. It was clear after this interview, that they were English, not Americans.

#### AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF KOMI

Account by (b)(6) Vorkuta, mine No. 11, 1950-1954)

(b)(6) He was moved from a coal-mine No. 9-10 to a coal-mine No. 11 in Vorkuta. There were 6 barracks in this camp. He stayed there for 9 months. He came into a good contact with an American officer, named LANGIER, who had been captured by Russians somewhere in Eastern Asia and sentenced, as a spy. Langier worked at the baths. He spoke a little Polish, because as he said he had some Polish friends in USA. He came probably from Alabama. He was tall, fair-haired, and very friendly. Langier sometimes used to share a food with (b)(6). He also helped him to remove to a coal-mine No. 9-10 (Langier had good relation with camp's doctor). When (b)(6) was released from the camp in 1954, the camp at the coalmines Nr.11 didn't exist, and he supposed that Langier must have been moved somewhere else earlier. He has not heard anything about Langier after that.

Account by (b)(6) Vorkuta, camp No. 4, 1953-1955)

In the coalmine and camp No.4 in Vorkuta stayed in 1953-1954 an American serviceman. Russians in Berlin captured him, when he had visited his girl friend in Soviet zone and sentenced as a spy. He was young, tall and thin Indian. (b)(6) knew him because he taught English his friend (b)(6) from Zytomierz in Ukraine).

There was also Marczuk - American citizen, Polish native, came from Belarus.

Account by (b)(6) Vorkuta, camp No. 8, 1949-1956)

During his staying at a coalmine No. 8 in Vorkuta he met two foreigners, who spoke English to each other. He was told that they were Americans. Both were over 40 years old. They didn't work down in the coalmine.

Mieczysław Strzelecki (Vorkuta, 1955-1956)

(b)(6) Mieczysław Strzelecki died in 1972. (b)(6) wrote:

„He said, that there were many nationalities, from Japanese to Americans. He called them Anglosas (Anglo-Saxon?). They spoke English, but they were separated [from other prisoners]. They arrived [to Vorkuta] later, in 1955-1956, before amnesty for Polish prisoners. They were in very bad condition, and they seemed to be unuse in a such camp.

Account by (b)(6) (Inta, camp No. 3, 1954)

„I met two Americans in a camp No. 3 in Inta, in 1954. They worked in my brigade. Władysław Szyszko was a chief of this brigade. When we were building a bridge one of these Americans jumped to Kosių River and drown.

**OTHER REGIONS OF THE SOVIET UNION**

Account by (b)(6) (Russia, Irkutsk District, Tayshet - Brack, 1947)

Probably in spring 1947, in one of the Tayshet-Brack railway's camps he saw a group (about 8) of persons in American uniforms, which were convoyed by the guard to the railway station.

(b)(6) (Russia, Irkutsk District, Tayshet- Brack 1951- 1952)

Czuma camp No. 019, on the Tayshet - Brack railway, 141 km from Tayshet. In the end of summer 1951 (or 1952) a man seemed to be an American (maybe Russian emigrant from USA), who was sentenced as an American spy, escaped from camp.

Account by (b)(6) (Russia, Mordwińska RA, Pot'ma, camp No. 19, 1948-?)

He was a chief of the brigade in camp No. 19 in Pot'ma. They worked in a forest. There were also a few Americans among 17 nationalities in his brigade.

Account by (b)(6) (Russia, Krasnoyarski Kray, Nizny Ingatz, camp No. 2, 11.1946)

„One day, when we were walking around the camp, suddenly a young man asked us in very poor Russian

- Are you Russian?

— No — I answered. — We are Polish.

I recognized in his face, that he didn't understand too much — but he introduced himself:

- I am American

— I am Polish — I also introduced myself.

He smiled. [...] We spoke in a special „Esperanto" (some of English, German and Latin). After this I recognised that he is an agent of American intelligence service. As he said — after Russian army encroachment on Wien he was arrested by Russian army intelligence and. His attempts to communicate with US embassy in Wien, and in Moscow, his protests and petitions failed. He was strictly isolated by the NKWD. His name was Jim Fabian. He was tall, and as far as I remember fair-haired, with blue eyes. He was dressed in a quilted jacket. We met him once again and we spoke for a while, but it was our last meeting. It was the end of the November [1946]."

Account by (b)(6) (Russia, Gorki District, Suchobezwodnoje, camp No. 17, 1950)

An American stayed in this camp. He worked at the canteen's door and kept an eye on dishes. It was said, that he was a boxer. He was over 40 years old and over 170 cm high. He had a European appearance.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Account by (b)(6) (Komi RA, Uchta, camp No. 1, 1945-1948)

Between May 1945 and October 1948 he stayed in Uchta, in oil-mine's camp No. 1. There were also Americans from the Espania war.

Account by (b)(6) Komi RA, Ukhta, camp No. 1, 1941-1942)

He met an American citizen, dying from consumption in camp's No.1 hospital barrack. He's name was Rajchunin (Finn nationality). He left his house and family in USA before the World War II, and as a communist came to Soviet Union. He specialized in high chimney's building.

Account by (b)(6) Komi RA, Vorkuta, 1945-1946)

Working in brickfield in Vorkuta he used to meet foreigners like Germans, English and Americans. He doesn't remember a number of Americans. In November or December 1946 all of these foreigners were taken from the camp

(b)(6)

Account by (b)(6) Krasnoyarski Kray, Siewiero-Jenisejsk, 1952-1955)

She was working as a nurse in hospital in Siewiero-Jenisejsk. She remembers an American citizen of Polish nationality. Probably he was a pilot, and he has lived there since the WW II. He was about 40 years old. From time to time he used to come to this town from taiga with furs.

Account by (b)(6) Krasnoyarski Kray, Norysk, 1945-1955)

He writes that there were also Americans among many nationalities.

Account by (b)(6) Russia, Irkuck District, Usole Syberyjskie, 1950)

In the transferring camp in Mama's housing estate in Usole Sibirskoje (1950) he met an American citizen of Lithuanian nationality, doctor of psychology. He was arrested, when he had visited his family in Lithuania, and was brought to the Siberia. The President of USA asked Russian government about him. This man was unusual fat, and he cursed communists.

Account by (b)(6) Ukraine, Woroszylowgrad District, Krasnodon, 1944-1945)

There were also Polish, which had American citizenship in this camp. Old lady, (called „Amerykanka”), came from USA before the WW II to Poland to visit her family. The war found her in Poland.

(b)(6)

There was also a young man, who had American citizenship. He was a son of an owner of Rucker's factory in Lvov. I had a conversation in English with him.

Jan Czczura (Russia, Magadan District, 1947-1956)

Jan Czczura died three years ago. (b)(6) wrote to us, that he had been talking about people he had met in Soviet camps. He stated that there were also American citizens, White as well as Black.

Józef Zarczuk

He spent 10 years in Soviet camps in: Botowicze, Naktowna, Tayshet-Breck (to 1953), Omsk (1953-1954). Died in 1995. (b)(6) confirmed that he met Germans, Americans and others nationality prisoners in camps.

(b)(6)

Arkusz1

**Financial report for the period: February 1 - June 30, 1999**

Amount of US\$ received in the first drawdown = 13.218

Amount of PLN received = 53.148,58

The exchange rate: (07.04.1999; 1 US\$=4,021 PLN)

Type of Expenditure	Cost in Polish Currency	Cost in US Dollars
<b>1. Permanent Staff</b>		
<i>project coordinator</i>		
February	2,074.10	515.82
March	2,074.10	515.82
April	2,095.52	521.14
May	2,095.52	521.14
June	2,095.52	521.14
<i>expert consultant</i>		
February	1,259.26	313.17
March	1,178.53	283.09
April	1,182.70	289.16
May	1,289.57	315.73
June	1,287.57	315.24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,572.39</b>	<b>4,121.46</b>
<b>2. Equipment and supplies</b>		
<i>office supplies</i>		
	280.79	64.86
	47.98	11.93
	122.01	30.34
	428.56	106.08
	48.75	12.37
	298.00	73.61
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,203.07</b>	<b>299.20</b>
<b>3. Communications</b>		
<i>telephone, fax, e-mail</i>	4,118.95	1,024.01
<i>postage</i>	480.93	119.60
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,600.88</b>	<b>1,144.21</b>
<b>4. Travel and Per Diem</b>		
<i>travel expenses</i>		
	128.22	31.39
	97.22	24.18
	403.37	100.32
	400.84	99.69
	36.20	9.00
	110.20	27.41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,174.05</b>	<b>291.98</b>
<b>5. Honoraria and Consulting Fees</b>		
<i>archival and bibliographic expenses</i>		
	114.00	28.35
	204.00	50.73
	78.00	19.40
	202.00	50.24
	144.00	35.81
	1,200.00	298.43
	480.00	119.37
	720.00	178.06



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II. w obszarze północnym

33. (b)(6)

III. Grupa walidacyjna

34. (b)(6)
35. (b)(6)

IV. Dla obserwowania reprodukcji

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Notatka służbowa

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W dniu 21 października 1955 roku odbyła się walidacja jeńca amerykańskiego E.S. Dickensona, który zgłosił chęć repatriacji. Przewodniczący<sup>em</sup> Komisji Walidacyjnej był mjr. wojsk hinduskich Baldur Singh. Z ramienia delegacji polskiej brał udział w Komisji "alidacyjnej" ob. Jerzy Lobman. Jeniec wyraził chęć repatriacji.

Przekazanie jeńca miało odbyć się o godz. 16-tej, przy czym już na Komisji Walidacyjnej przewodniczący namawiał przedstawicieli Polski i Czechosłowacji do niebrania udziału w przekazaniu. Delegaci Polski i Czechosłowacji wyrazili pomimo to chęć asystowania przy przekazywaniu jeńca, po czym mjr. Singh umówił się z nimi na godz. 15.45 w pbozie hinduskim.

Po przybyciu delegatów Polski i Czechosłowacji na umówione miejsce mjr. Singh prosił, by jechali za nim na miejsce przekazania. Na pytanie delegata polskiego, czy przekazanie nie odbędzie się jak zwykle w Panmundżonie, Singh dał odpowiedź przeczącą. Delegat Polski zaprotestował. Singh udał się gdzieś dla zasięgnięcia informacji po czym oświadczył, że jako przewodniczący nie będzie prowadził prywatnych rozmów z Polakami i Czechami, a na zastrzeżenia udzieli odpowiedzi na miejscu gdy będą obecni delegaci szwajcarski i szwedzki. Po naradzie z delegatem czechosłowackim delegat polski uznał za stosowne pojechać za Hindusami, zakładając, że zawsze zdąży wycofać się w miejscu przekazywania. Okazało się, że przekazanie odbywa się w dawnym "Freedom Village". Po drodze do miejsca przeznaczenia na punkcie kontrolnym MP przepuściło samochód Hindusa, natomiast zatrzymało Polaków i Czechów.

Hindus wszedł do strażnicy, próbując interweniować, zobaczył jednak przez okno z daleka, że przekazywanie rozpoczęło<sup>o</sup> również bez niego wskoczył do samochodu i odjechał. Wobec takiej sytuacji delegaci polski i czechosłowacki wrócili do obozu hinduskiego i złożyli ostry protest wobec szefa sztabu bryg. Kaula.

Kaul oświadczył, że sprawa miejsca przekazywania nie leży ani w kompetencji majora ani jego i że należy zameldować o tej sprawie szefowi delegacji polskiej i złożyć pisemny protest. Jeśli chodzi o zatrzymanie przez MP to ~~jest~~ to zdaniem Kaula wynikiem <sup>nie</sup> tego, że major, który nigdy tymi sprawami się nie zajmował nie uprzedził przy tym MP o przejeździe Polaków i Czechów. Kaul zwrócił uwagę Singhowi w tej sprawie w obecności delegatów Polski i Czechosłowacji.

Delegat Polski podkreślił, że jakkolwiek szykany MP są same

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w sobie sprawą poważną, to jednak w tym wypadku jest to zagadnienie drugorzędne, gdyż cała sprawa nie miałaby miejsca, gdyby przekazanie jeńca odbyło się zgodnie z obowiązującymi nas umowami i postanowieniami w Pannundżonie. Laul ponownie stwierdził, że nie jest w tej sprawie kompetentny i czeka na pisemne oświadczenie delegacji polskiej.

(b)(6)

21 października 1953

(b)(6)

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**List of the POLISH DELEGATION  
to the NEUTRAL NATIONS REPATRIATION COMMISSION**

1.

(b)(6)

Minister Plenipotentiary  
Representative of the Polish  
People's Republic to the  
Neutral Nations Repatriation  
Commission

2.

Alternate Member

3.

Political Adviser

4.

Assistant - Liaison Officer

5.

Assistant - Press Officer

6.

Assistant - Legal Adviser

7.

Assistant - Medical Officer

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Assistant

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35.		"	
36.		"	
37.		"	
38.		"	
39.		"	
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44.		"	(b)(6)
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46.		"	
47.		"	
48.		Driver	
49.		"	
50.		"	
51.		Cook	

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[REDACTED]

## THE KARTA CENTER PROJECT CONCERNING RESEARCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION ON THE FATE OF MISSING AMERICANS DURING AND AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Dates of Project: September 17, 2002 – September 16, 2003  
 Narrative Report for the period: September 17, 2002 – September 16, 2003

### Summary

Actions coordinated by the KARTA Center as part of the Project of research on the fate of American servicemen missing in Poland and other Central and East European countries during and after the Second World War, as well as the search for American servicemen missing during the Vietnam and Korean wars covered, in addition to Poland, also the Ukraine, Belarus, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary. The work carried out under the Project resulted in gathering diversified information concerning the US citizens, including further cases of shoot-downs of aircraft. The materials gathered have not only produced new information that we had not been aware of before but also supplemented threads undertaken in the previous editions of the Project. Several dozen cases were investigated – from modest individual testimonies pertaining to meetings with American servicemen to large-scale field operations covering contacts with several dozen correspondents. The comprehensive nature of the search and the use of various techniques of information gathering and search for eyewitnesses produced favorable results. In order to implement the Project's objectives, in each of the participating countries:

1. queries were conducted at state archives;
2. queries were conducted at libraries;
3. appeals were addressed to the residents of areas where American airplanes crashed;
4. press announcements were published, and radio and TV communiqués aired;
5. contacts were established with organizations grouping participants in resistance movements and former inmates of Soviet labor camps;
6. direct contacts were established with eyewitnesses;
7. contacts were established with state institutions;
8. search was conducted into servicemen burial sites at parish cemeteries

### I. archival queries

Archival queries were conducted at selected state collections that, according to earlier findings, could have included documents on the fate of Americans missing in the countries covered by the program

Queries were conducted at:

- The White Eagle Museum in Skarzysko-Kamienna

The earlier research showed that during the Second World War POWs, including Americans, were executed in the premises of the metal factory in Skarzysko. The archival search failed to produce the expected results

- The State Archives in Katowice

The Archives were asked to find a letter by the county (*powiat*) chief in Niemodlin addressed to the Śląsko-Dąbrowski Provincial Office, dated August 22, 1946. The document is important for explaining the question of possible burials of American servicemen in Łambinowice. Unfortunately, the query produced a negative result

- The State Archives in Kielce

The research was connected with the alleged shooting down of American aircraft in Barycz near Końskie in the fall of 1943 (the details of this case were described in our previous

report). Our analyses covered the records of the Końskie *Gmina* (administrative district), the Local Council in Końskie, the Końskie District Starosty, and the Kielce Provincial Office of 1945-50. Unfortunately, no documents confirming the shooting down of the aircraft were found

- The State Archives in Kielce (Starachowice Branch)

The search focused on information on the aircraft shot down near Barycz, but, unfortunately, produced no results.

- The Central Archives of Modern Records (Archiwum Akt Nowych) in Warsaw

Analyses covered the following file set inventories: German Occupational Authorities, Regierung des Generalgouvernements, Military Camps, Home Army, Delegatura (Representation) in Poland of the Polish Government-in-Exile, Ministry of Public Security, Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Information and Propaganda, Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of Regained Territories, Ministry of Reconstruction, Polish Red Cross Organization - Main Board, Polish Red Cross Organization - Foreign Representations, Polish National Liberation Committee (PKWN)

A detailed analysis covered the "Ministry of Regained Territories" set file No. 332 "Care over cemeteries and graves of foreign soldiers, prisoners of war and inmates - lists, protocols, situational sketches, correspondence" (01.1946 - 12.1948). The correspondence concerning the tidying up of the British POWs cemetery in Żagań after it had been devastated by the Ukrainian repatriates from Germany includes a copy of the list of those buried issued by a German mayor of Żagań. File no. 8 includes information about two American citizens Sgt. U. Wisman and Cpl. L. Schaeffer.

Files 28-29 a letter from the Ministry of Public Administration to the Ministry of the Regained Territories dated June 17, 1946, with a letter by Kazimierz Piławski of Słupsk dated May 20, 1946 (file 29) attached. The author replies to the appeal by the Ministry of Public Administration published in the *Gazeta Ludowa* paper of May 16, 1945 (in fact 1946) and writes that "at the German cemetery in Słupsk" there is a separate site of burial of POWs from the Allied Forces, including graves of the French, Belgians, and Italians but also two Americans. These graves were marked with crosses with a national flag painted on them and had inscriptions that the author re-wrote as: KGF Carl Rowinski ASN-3348895 6-17-23 and KGF James Buffenmeyer ASN 6938908 5-31-21 1-2-43. Piławski went to the cemetery on the very date the letter was written and discovered that the crosses were destroyed and the graves were deprived of their identification marks.

File 32 of the said section includes correspondence on the grave of Lieutenant Frank Sibbett no. 0759095 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Ministry of the Regained Territories dated January 29, 1947. It refers to a letter by the American Graves Registration Command in Paris and includes a request by the parents of the late serviceman allegedly buried in Międzyrzec not to exhume his body but to wait for their final decision. File 33 is a letter from the Ministry of the Regained Territories to the Poznań Provincial Office's Branch in Gorzów Wielkopolski on to the same issue. File 35 a letter by the Provincial Office in Poznań (Gorzów Branch) to the Ministry of the Regained Territories dated March 22, 1947, notifying the Ministry that the Sibbett grave was not found. According to the Office's findings, after the USAF raid of Poznań on the Pentecost in 1944, American aircraft was brought down after an air fight between the villages of Zolwin and Kuligowo of the Międzyrzec District (*powiat*). Some of the crewmembers saved their lives but one airman was killed, one was heavily injured and seven were taken captive and placed in the barracks in Międzyrzec. The local population reported that the wounded airman was of an "Israelite origin". The Office stated the lack of annotations in the parish books about the burial of any Allied Forces airman in the Roman-Catholic cemetery in Międzyrzec.

File 47: a letter from the Ministry of the Regained Territories to the Gorzów Wielkopolski Branch of the Poznań Provincial Office (May 7, 1946) ordering to make "a list of foreign servicemen and deportees who died in connection with the war in the area of the province"

File 101: a letter by the Provincial Office in Gdańsk, Department of Reconstruction, to the Ministry of the Regained Territories dated August 16, 1947, reporting the sending of the list of foreigners' graves.

File 102: a list of citizens of various nationalities killed in Gdańsk. The list includes four names of Americans: Elack Gilbert, Sewdyer James, Smith James, and Jorslan F W

File 122: Ministry of the Reconstruction, a copied typescript dated August 30, 1947 including information that an exhumation team from the US will soon start working in Poland. The letter contains a request for supplementing the list of graves of American servicemen. Since the lists are not complete — the provincial and local (*poviat*) authorities should provide the Team with supplementary records. The bodies of the exhumed servicemen are to be transported from all over Poland to the basement of the Holy Cross Church in Warsaw where they will be kept until carried to the site of their permanent rest.

Files 131-132: "The list of servicemen, American citizens killed in the area of the Szczecin province" includes 25 items, of which 23 names and two items with annotations on common graves with the bodies of unidentified American servicemen. In addition to the names, citizenships, and cemetery the list also gives the causes of death. It also covers servicemen mentioned in K. Pilawski's letter.

In the "German Occupational Authorities" set the following units were analyzed: 214/VIII v 1 "Secret State Police Opole Branch, 1943-1944" and 214/VIII v 2-4 "Secret State Police Katowice Branch, 1940-1944". Weekly Gestapo reports included in those units, in spite of very accurate records of acts of sabotage, propaganda, cases of illegal contacts with POWs, arrests, etc. as well as cases of enemy parachutists being captured, enemy balloon crashes and aircraft shoot-downs do not contain any information on shoot-downs of Allied Forces' aircraft and the fate of their crewmen. The Gestapo materials in Opole lack any mention of the fate of the airmen of the USAF aircraft shot down over Blachownia Śląska in December 1944. Since the files cover only the period till May 1944.

In the "Ministry of Public Administration" set the following information was found:

File 897: "Organization of wartime graves: organizational guidelines, correspondence on exhumation of corpses".

Card 19: information by the County (*Powiat*) Chief Office in Gorlice for the Provincial Office in Rzeszów dated July 24, 1946 regarding the graves of Polish airmen from Halifax shot down in Krzywa near Gładyszowo in 1944 — the note refers to materials gathered by the Provincial Office on the basis of a rescript by the Ministry of Public Administration of June 21, 1946 Register Daily number L-AA-V-4/1/46, ordering the local authorities to seek American servicemen's graves.

File 732: "Polish Red Cross Organization — activity, support of administrative authorities".

Card 8: Letter L:7443/VIII/174/44 of January 13, 1945 made in the Provincial Office in Rzeszów, informing the Polish Red Cross Organization (PCK) that on matters related to the records of wartime graves it should address the Polish National Liberation Committee (PKWN).

Card 45: "PCK Information Bureau gathers materials pertaining to foreigners to be able to pass them on to the countries involved on the principle of reciprocity".

Card 58: reports on the search for those missing; containing only general numerical data.

Card 60: a circular letter by the Ministry of Public Administration of October 31, 1945 reference number IV.A.17285/45 concerning the search for British prisoners of war;

Cards 86-87: a report concerning the records of wartime losses, PCK participation in care over graves, the search conducted, and PCK employees' participation in exhumations;

Card 100: a recommendation for each [PCK] branch to investigate its area so as to provide the head office with detailed information on military hospitals, both permanent and field ones as well as the civilian ones, where war victims were treated, on prisons and concentration, penal, labor and POW camps;

Card 101: an order to make a list of graves of war victims by September 1, 1947;

Card 120: PCK participation in exhumations: PCK recording clerks' participation in the exhumation of 9,945 corpses; the PCK register as at December 1, 1946 included 55,984 foreigners;

Card 145: a circular letter by the Ministry of Public Administration concerning the search of US servicemen's graves;

The "Polish Red Cross Organization - Main Board" set

File 12: reports since 1945

Card 29 and the following ones: the report for 1945 860,395 foreigners of 40 nationalities registered; the report for 1946: exhumations were conducted by Local (Communal) Boards or Committees, PCK sent recording clerks, a separate register of foreigners (60,000 cards) as well as registers of "Exhumed Grave Symbols" with 8,743 items, "Exhumation Areas" - 325 items, and "The Unknown Exhumed" - 44,659 items.

File No. 65: "Secret and Independent Foreign Section"

Card 36: The Foreign Ministry sends to PCK a letter by J. Zawodny asking for help in finding American airman missing in Korea Chadwick B. Smith, with a recommendation to reply that the applicant should address the North Korean Red Cross Organization

The analysis of archival documents kept by the Central Archives of Modern Records (AAN) indicates that the records are highly incomplete, some units look as if they were created ex post or broken up when passed on by the ministries to the AAN. A portion of the documents might have been scrapped still before their archiving. Chances for finding more information in the files deposited at the AAN can be considered as slender, and chances for finding materials concerning specific persons seem to be doubtful. Especially the large extent to which the files of the Ministry of Reconstruction have been broken up renders it impossible to find any data covering to the whole country (e.g. the files of the Administrative and Construction Department supervising the Sections of Reconstruction and Wartime Graves are composed exclusively of plans of various state buildings)

It seems that the materials and information gathered by local authorities in 1946 with copies sent to the Ministry of Public Administration and the Ministry of Regained Territories (perhaps also Ministry of Reconstruction) were passed on to the US search mission in full. The incomplete ministerial files visibly lack almost the entire correspondence with local offices, copies of lists compiled (the lists preserved in the set on the Ministry of Regained Territories should be considered as an exception), confirmations of their passing on to the US side, etc. Also the files related to the construction of British cemeteries in Poland (in Zagan and Malbork) are either broken up or non-existent. Therefore, one can hardly say what specific materials have been conveyed to the US mission. It should be added that the preserved lists of buried US soldiers certainly include also prisoners of war who died at POW camps (and not only were killed in aircraft shoot-downs); the US servicemen might have also been included in the lists of buried British servicemen.

The full lists of American servicemen buried in Poland are most likely to be found at local archives keeping the files of provincial offices from the years 1944-1948 (AAN keeps the files of provincial offices created before 1939). In particular, such information should be sought in units generated by the Reconstruction, Administrative-and-Legal and Social-and-

Political Departments of provincial offices and Independent Wartime Graves Sections at provincial offices or county (*poviat*) chief offices, where the search is going to be made in the next edition of the Project. It should be assumed that while fulfilling the order of the Ministry of Public Administration, such provincial office departments engaged in relevant correspondence with local authorities and produced ready lists. The Provincial Reconstruction Departments and Independent Wartime Graves Sections, as structures operating within the consolidated administration at provincial offices and county (*poviat*) chief offices, were subordinated to the Ministry of Reconstruction, but the preserved fragmentary files of that ministry do not allow for stating whether the above-mentioned sections participated in the search and exhumation of the US servicemen's graves. Such information may be preserved only in the files kept by local archives. It cannot be ruled out that references to the discovered graves of soldiers of the Allied Forces, exhumations and cooperation with the American mission can be found in the files produced by other local institutions, especially by county (*poviat*) chief offices and municipal or communal authorities. It should be stressed that, in line with the instruction by the Ministry of Public Administration, upon the arrival of the American mission, local authorities were to provide information directly to the mission without the Ministry's participation.

Since, in line with the guidelines contained in the files of the Ministry of Public Administration, the recording clerks of the Polish Red Cross Organization (PCK) participated in the search of wartime graves, their opening and exhumations, it can be expected that the PCK Information and Search Bureau may have documents locating wartime cemeteries, and probably also containing information about the possible identification and transportation of corpses. The materials gathered by the PCK Information Bureau may also contain references to the search for American servicemen missing in Poland carried out on motion of their families, other Red Cross Organizations or relevant authorities. The search for these materials will be also included in the assignments for the next edition of the Project.

Basically, the captured crewmen of the shot-down aircraft should have been handed over to military authorities, but one should also remember about the ordinance effective as of 1942 to render parachutists under the SS jurisdiction — this applied to parachutist agents and saboteurs but, towards the end of the war (practically from 1944), also to crews of combat aircraft. Servicemen handed over to the SS as a rule were taken to concentration camps where they were killed (the "Kugel" action) — usually without any traces left. References to the capture of airmen saved from the aircraft crash — that is taking them captive — should be at the disposal of the Central Museum of Prisoners of War in Lambinowice (where we have applied already twice with a request for a query, but did not receive any results by the end of the reporting period), the International Red Cross Committee in Geneva and Deutsche Dienststelle in Berlin (WASSt).

- The Military Archives in Prague

An introductory research was made in the sections of "Letecká válka na území ČSR" 1945 (Air war over the Czech Republic), including information prepared by the department of Vojenského Historického Ústavu based mainly on questionnaires filled in the years 1946–50. The section covers some 2.3 meters of files. "Nemecké letectvo" — a set of documents of the Luftwaffe command, including some 0.7 meters of files.

"Kmenový tabor VIII B" — files of POW camps VIII A, B, C, D, F, 318, 344, and 366

A fairly detailed investigation was made into the "Letecká válka nad území Protektorátu" set. The materials gathered constitute extensive documentation of the research carried out by the employees of the Military Historical Institute in Prague. The work started in 1947. No evidence of attempts to save American airmen during the Second World War was found in the

materials. A handwritten list of a shot-down aircraft of the Allied Forces and a list of air raids by the Allied Forces aircraft was obtained

- State Archives of the Republic of Belarus in Minsk

The analysis covered materials concerning foreigners sentenced in Belarus during the Second World War provided by the KGB in 2002. No information about the US citizens was found in those materials

- Regional Section of the Poviát Public Library "Pod Atlantami" in Wałbrzych

The Section was asked to conduct a query into materials concerning the US bomber that landed in the meadows between Szczawno Zdrój and Wałbrzych in 1945. The aircraft took off on March 22, 1945 from the airport in southern Italy with an order to bomb the refinery in Ruhland. The aircraft was damaged by artillery and had a large hole in its right wing. The airmen that descended by parachute were captured by the Germans near Szczawno Zdrój; they were freed a few months later. The Section was asked to look for documents that might be helpful in explaining the fate of those who remained aboard the bomber. Pilot John W. Pierik, Second Pilot Robert W. Steele, Navigator Harold A. Taylor and Bombardier John P. Yatsco. The chances for obtaining this information seem to be considerable, as the Section collects various regional materials. The query is not over yet (see also the section on appeals addressed to the residents of areas where American airplanes crashed and queries at libraries)

- Górnosławskie Museum in Bytom

The Museum was asked to carry out a query into materials concerning the American aircraft shot down during the Second World War over the territory under the Museum's competences. No results of the search were received by the end of the reporting period.

- State Scientific Institute, Silesian Institute in Opole

The Institut was asked to carry out a query into materials concerning the American aircraft shot down during the Second World War over the territory under the Institut's competences. No results of the search were received by the end of the reporting period.

- Foreign Ministry Archives in Warsaw

An initial query was conducted into materials concerning the Polish medical missions in Korea and Vietnam. As a result of the probe into the holding a few folders that can include significant materials were found. folder No. 23/431 -- with a list of POWs, including several dozen Americans; folder No. 43/650(1)-(6) -- includes photographs showing American POWs, folder No. 25/472 -- includes a list of members of the repatriate commission. Copies of selected documents were ordered. x

- Central Prisoner-of-War Museum in Łambinowice

The Museum was asked to carry out a query into the documents concerning the US servicemen kept during the Second World War at Łambinowice POW camps and exhumation of the US servicemen corpses after the Second World War. No results of the search were received by the end of the reporting period.

Search was also conducted at Hungarian archives where copies of selected documents were ordered. A detailed report by the Hungarian Project executor was sent as a separate file \* of documents

## 2. library queries

Research was conducted in both Polish and foreign publications. A dozen or so books and press reports referred to the fate of American soldiers missing in Poland or other countries in Central and Eastern Europe. The following Polish and Czech publications seem to be the most interesting ones

- Andrzej Wojdyła, *Losy załogi amerykańskiego bombowca Boeing B-17G „Latująca Forteca” zestrzelonego nad Orawą 13 września 1944, w świetle relacji żołnierza Armii Krajowej Andrzeja Wojdyły ps. „Felek”* (The fate of the crew of the American bomber

Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress shot down over Orava on September 13, 1944 in the light of a report by the Home Army serviceman Andrzej Wojdyla "Felek"), ed. by Robert Kowalski, (in:) "Orawa" no. 39 (2001), p. 67-78.

The text concerns the Boeing B-17G aircraft participating in the mission of bombing a conglomerate of chemical plants in Blachownia Śląska near Kędzierzyn, shot down by German fighters on September 13, 1944 over Jablonka Orawska. It was Bomber no. 44-6412 from the 817<sup>th</sup> Squadron Wings 5 of the 483<sup>rd</sup> Bombing Group. Its crewmen consisted of ten airmen. The author reports that the queries helped to identify the names of six of them without any doubt, including five taken over by the Home Army servicemen. The crew included Pilot Colonel Everett J. Robson, Lieutenant August Kroschewski, Richard L. Hansler, Sergeant Harold E. Beam, Sergeant Gordon W. Seterbeck, Sergeant Alois Suhling and Stock, van Oostrom, Nance, Barry. The reports by the airmen saved by the Polish guerillas indicate that the aircraft was seriously damaged over the target, which resulted in an unintentional separation of the aircraft from the formation. The damaged aircraft, deprived of its protection was noticed and attacked by two German patrol fighters Messerschmitt Me-109G, most probably belonging to JG-52, that took off from the Kraków airfield in Czyżyny. The downed bomber began to describe circles in the air over the locality of Piekelnik, and its crew began evacuation. The last one to leave the aircraft was the first pilot. The aircraft crashed between the villages of Podczerwone and Koniówka against a railway embankment of the Nowy Targ – Sucha Góra route. The rescued airmen found shelter thanks to the servicemen of the Orava Unit of the Home Army "Limba" under the command of Reserve Second Lieutenant Andrzej Jazowski "Jurek". The fate of the four airmen who were caught by the Germans is basically unknown. Their traces lead to Zakopane and the "Palace" Gestapo prison. The author of the memoirs writes: *The remaining four airmen fell down to the peat land of the Czarny Dunajec river. The last one of them, the ninth, jumped next to the burning aircraft and fell straight into the Gestapo hands. The four airmen "captured" in this way were taken by the Germans to the Palace prison in Zakopane. After a few days, they were executed there by the Germans – the local mountaineers say – as there is no trace left of them* (p. 77). So far we have not managed to locate the place where the files of the Zakopane Gestapo are kept (if they survived at all) as they could help explain the fate of the airmen.

- Robert Kowalski, „Latająca Forteca” z Koniówki – aktualny stan badań (The Flying Fortress of Koniówka – the Current State of Research), (in:) *Lotnicza historia, archeologia i tradycja miejsca. Materiały z konferencji naukowej Nowy Targ 13-15 września 2002* (The Air History, Archaeology, and Tradition of the Site. Proceedings of a Scientific Conference, Nowy Targ September 13-15, 2002), Nowy Targ 2002, p. 303-314.

The article refers to the above case of the Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress shot down over Orava on September 13, 1944, but adds some new interesting facts. Only five airmen of the ten-strong crew returned home. The rest of them are listed as missing in action. The intensive research work – the author of the article writes – began in mid-2001, but information on the crash of the American aircraft circled among the local population for many years. The crash site is defined in detail – some one kilometer west of the Koniówka locality in the Czarny Dunajec area (*gmina*). The text includes the description of the fate of the crew, with particularly interesting passages pertaining to the ones taken by the Gestapo to the Palace. *The crewmen of the crashed aircraft was scattered on both sides of the then border between the Republic of Slovakia and the German-occupied Poland. Five of them landed in Orava, another five remained in the Podhale region. (...) West of the Czarny Dunajec river a landing American airman was seen by many residents of the locality. A majority of them hurried towards him. Unfortunately, despite urgent requests, he did not go towards the village (...) he decided to leave his parachute and went towards the nearby forest. There, he was detained by*

German border guards and taken to a police station in Czarny Dunajec. Another two landed near Chocholów. Both were also caught by German soldiers. The last one, most probably Lieutenant Pilot Robson, touched down near the village of Podczerwone. The residents of the village remember that he did not try to hide, but sat by his folded parachute and waited for the arrival of the Germans. After a brief search he got into the car that took him to Czarny Dunajec.

All the crewmembers of the Flying Fortress caught in Podhale were interrogated in Czarny Dunajec. The interrogation was attended by Local (gmina) Secretary Jan Leja, who, unfortunately, is dead now. Gestapo officers from Zakopane came in the afternoon to take the airmen. They took the airmen and transported them to the "Palace" where no trace has been left of them. The later fate of the Americans is not known in detail, but there is some indirect evidence that they were murdered in the Podhale place of torture. The "Palace" prisoner Edward Żegleń was an eyewitness of their tragic fate. In his memoirs published by the *Życie Warszawy* daily in February 1965 he wrote: I was then kept in a cell with a small window overlooking the "Palace's" backyard. Behind a bend there was a wall where the prisoners were executed. To have a better view I climbed the heater. Gestapo man Schmisch along with another Gestapo man whom we called Wiktor took two young men in airmen's uniforms through the back door, one of them was white the other black. No one have ever returned alive from under that wall.

Information on the tragic fate of Lieutenant Evert J. Robson and another four crewmembers is also included in other reports, though not by eyewitnesses (...). For example, we can read that two young men in airmen's - "Allied Forces uniforms" - were taken to Kościelisko and killed when "attempting to escape". Unfortunately, this information has not been confirmed so far because the full documentation of the Zakopane prison has not been found. (...) on the basis of materials gathered to date we can (...) put forward a cautious thesis boiling down to the statement that five American airmen were brutally murdered by the Gestapo men from Zakopane.

- Michał Mucha, *Sily powietrzne Armii Stanów Zjednoczonych nad Wielkopolską podczas II wojny światowej* (The US Air Forces over the Wielkopolska Region during the Second World War) (in:) *Lotnicza historia, archeologia i tradycja miejsca. Materiały z konferencji naukowej Nowy Targ 13-15 września 2002* (The Air History, Archaeology, and Tradition of the Site. Proceedings of a Scientific Conference, Nowy Targ, September 13-15, 2002), Nowy Targ 2002, p. 243-250.

Even though near Poznań there were not many targets for the strategic air forces, the routes of several hundred long-haul aircraft went over the Wielkopolska area in the years 1944 and 1945. The author describes selected expeditions over Wielkopolska. The first two expeditions over Poznań were sent during the so-called Great Week, in February 1944, when the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force attacked the German aircraft industry. On May 29, 1944 the biggest raid of the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force on the German targets in Wielkopolska took place. The Focke-Wulf factory located on the premises of the Poznań Fair was attacked. Bombs were also dropped on branches of the Telefunken factory and the railway repair plant. The only loss was the aircraft of the 384<sup>th</sup> Group that went on fire for unknown reasons during the last stage of its flight and exploded near Grodzisk Wielkopolski. The whole crew managed to jump on parachutes and was taken captive.

Attention should be also called to another shuttle flight under the Frantic operation carried out on June 21, 1944. A total of 145 Fortresses of the Third Air Division attacked the refinery in Ruhland, south of Berlin, and instead of returning to England flew eastwards, to the Ukraine. The bombers were protected by a total of more than 230 fighters of various types. East of Warsaw the expedition was attacked by Luftwaffe fighters. Pilots of the Fourth Group reported the shooting of two of them. One aircraft crashed near Siedlce. An airman's grave

can be still found on the local cemetery there. One of the Flying Fortresses was also shot down near Woroniec. The Germans caught three crewmen, another seven managed to avoid captivity with the help of the Home Army. They fought in guerilla troops until the front came.

Supporting the Soviet offensive, on February 3, 1945, the 8<sup>th</sup> AF attacked a railway transport in Berlin. On that day, one thousand bombers from the First and Third Air Division assisted by more than 600 fighters appeared over the city. The crews of at least six damaged Flying Fortresses sought shelter near the Odra river. Only a few Americans were taken captive. A firm majority of them returned to their bases still before the end of the war.

Six days later, another bomber B-17G came flying near Jarocin. It belonged to the 303<sup>rd</sup> Bombing Group. Before the airmen managed to leave the burning aircraft, one of the wings broke loose. Five airmen were killed. There is a monument commemorating them on the crash site.

On March 2, after the raid of Dresden, another two Flying Fortresses reached Poland. The crew of one of them jumped the aircraft on parachutes near Turek where they were aided by the Home Army servicemen.

On March 15, after the raids of Ruhland and Oranienburg, a dozen or so bombers and fighters of the 8<sup>th</sup> AF flew to Poland. Two Fortresses landed near Babimost and Poznań. Their crews were taken over by the Russians and there are many indications that they returned safely to their units.

On March 18, 1945, nearly one thousand Fortresses and more than 300 Liberators were sent over Berlin from their bases in Great Britain. A member of the 385<sup>th</sup> Bombing Group that managed to come flying from Berlin despite serious damages landed in the field near Grodzisk Wielkopolski. Its flight could have been longer if it had not been for the attack of a Soviet fighter. As a result of that attack two riflemen were wounded. One of them had had his arm amputated in a hospital in Grodzisk. The other one died and was buried in St. Ann's square.

A Fortress of the 487<sup>th</sup> Group fell down near Gorzów Wielkopolski. During their jump the crewmen came under fire from the land. Two killed Americans were buried by the Russians on the crash site, but their graves have not been found to date.

On March 22, aircraft of the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force from Italy crashed near Gorzów Wielkopolski. It was a Fortress from the 483<sup>rd</sup> Bombing Group that flew eastward after the raid of Ruhland. Two crewmembers were killed, with at least one of them having been murdered by the Germans right after landing. Four were taken captive and another four, despite wounds, reached the positions taken by Russians or were freed by the Russians from a German hospital.

- Martin Piša, *Československo a korejská válka* (Czechoslovakia and the Korean War), (in ) "Historický obzor" III-IV 1997, p. 81-85

The article is based on the archival research of the collections of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. The author characterizes both collections: *In the Foreign Ministry's archives there were specific reports from a diplomatic mission in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the materials of the Asian Department of the Foreign Ministry pertaining to the political, military, and economic situation in Korea in the years 1950-53. (...) The picture of the situation is mostly hidden between lines. The actual information covers mainly political reports (...). In terms of volume the material is fairly extensive, which can be explained with the superiors' demands for permanent and frequent reports. (...) then the archival collections of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, its international department and the government presidium (the general and secret chancellery) were used. The volume of archival material pertaining to Korea and related developments in the said period is much smaller (p. 81)*

When analyzing the Korean-Czechoslovak relations during the conflict, the author recalls that a fully equipped field hospital managed by Czechoslovak physicians and serviced by the civilian medical personnel of the medium level was sent to Korea. The sending of the hospital was presented, as the author claims, primarily as a humanitarian act, but the true reasons were primarily of a political and military nature. In the author's opinion, several dozen people were sent from Czechoslovakia to Korea.

An interesting report refers to the placing of parts of equipment and radars from American aircraft at the Czechoslovak Research Institute on the request of the then foreign minister Vilem Široky (archives of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, collection 05-75, Volume 10, archival unit 69).

- Ondřej Schnabl, Jiří Štátný, Prokop Tomek, Martin Piša, *Aktivity československých institucí v jihovýchodní Asii v době korejské a vietnamské války* (Activities of Czechoslovak institutions in South-East Asia during the Korean and Vietnam wars), Praha 2002.

The study is an extract of the "Report on investigating the information on the alleged participation of the Czechoslovak Communist institutions in non-humanitarian treatment of American POWs during the Korean and Vietnam wars". The office employees describe the attitude of the state administration and bodies of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia towards developments in South-East Asia in the years 1950-54 and 1964-68, including primarily the operation of the Czechoslovak hospitals in Korea and Vietnam. The study presents the course of events based on documents and confronts it with General Šejna's reports.

- Vladimír Pilát, *Českoslovenští lékaři v korejské válce I-II* (Czechoslovak military physicians in the Korean war) (in.) "Historie a vojenství" XLIII, 1994 No. 2, p. 132-161 and No. 3, p. 89-106.

The work deals with the activity of a group of Czechoslovak military physicians at the rear of North Korean and Chinese army units — the so-called people's volunteers. It refers to a field hospital sent to Korea. The hospital's chief, who reported to the Czechoslovak military attaché in North Korea, had to file monthly reports on his activity with the Czechoslovak military attaché. In March 1952, the 18-strong personnel of the hospital were ready for departure. In Korea it turned out that the hospital was not prepared to fulfill its tasks in terms of both personnel and equipment. The Czechs worked at the 56<sup>th</sup> North-Korean hospital with its headquarters at the village of Sogam, 35-40 km northwest of Pyongyang. The author writes about the transfer of the hospital in early March 1953 and a new group of physicians and staff. The military stage of the presence of the Czechoslovak health service in North Korea ended in late 1953. The work includes a list of persons who worked at the Czechoslovak hospital during the war in Korea and could have encountered American soldiers.

- Zdeněk Bičík, *Letecké nálety na Pardubice v roce 1944 (souhrnný přehled)*, (in.) "Východočeský sborník historický" 1, Pardubice 1991, p. 187-196.

The study characterizes raids by American troops near Pardubice. It includes information on the raids on December 28, 1944. The Mustangs of the 325<sup>th</sup> Group of fighters attacked the airfield in Chrudim then. Lieutenant W.C. Margetts' aircraft was shot down. After a forced landing near Pelhřimov, the pilot was taken to the local hospital in a serious condition.

The article is supplemented with tables with statistical data on all the three raids (including the number and type of aircraft, time of attack, number, type and weight of the bombs dropped, parameters of individual aircraft types participating in actions, and a list of victims and wounded).

- Andrzej Olejko, *Tropami „Ditney Hill” spod Birczy* (Tracing ‘Ditney Hill’ from the Bircza Vicinity), (in:) Andrzej Olejko, *Tropami zestrzelonych* (Tracing Those Shot-Down), Dębica 2001, p. 19–38 (copy attached).

The text refers to the B-24 “Liberator” bomber from the 15<sup>th</sup> United States Air Forces, where the second pilot was J.J. Gorczyca, covered by our report from the Project’s last year’s edition. The article quotes several comprehensive reports by eyewitnesses. The author also quoted them in the texts included in our report on the Project’s last year’s edition.

It is worthwhile quoting a statement by eyewitnesses from the small village of Dąbrowka Starzeńska in the vicinity of Dynów where Lieutenant Gorczyca most probably was shot down:

*In December 1944, the Russians stationed in the village took a young boy dressed in airman’s leather uniform from the forest to the manor where their headquarters were situated. He was wearing a leather jacket and a pilot’s cap. They tried to communicate with him but to no avail. In the village they found somebody who knew a little bit of English after having worked in the US but this did not help much, either. Then, a woman officer ordered to take the serviceman to the park where he was undressed and she shot him dead on spying charges. Then, two young boys, the Wilczyński brothers, were told to dig a pit and bury him under an oak tree. One of the brothers, Bolesław, is told to have taken a medallion off the airman’s neck and kept it as evidence for some time but lost it during an escape from the village attacked by the UPA Ukrainian Insurgent Army to the other side of the San River. The airman’s grave is in the park under the oak tree. (...). (see also sections on contacts with state institutions)*

- Andrzej Olejko, *Dziesięcin z Dinah Might* (Ten of Dinah Might), (in:) Andrzej Olejko, *Tropami zestrzelonych* (Tracing Those Shot-Down), Dębica 2001, p. 49–59 (copy attached).

The text is about the B-24 Liberator bomber shot down over Błachownia Śląska on September 13, 1944. Crewmembers Navigator Lieutenant Leo Deitz and Second Pilot Lieutenant Lester Porter, who were killed in action, were buried near Saybush (now Żywiec). The text was an incentive for us to seek their graves in the local cemetery (see section on the search for burial sites)

- Beata Maciejewska, *Porucznik w lisiej norze* (Lieutenant in a fox burrow), “Gazeta Wyborcza Wrocław”, May 2–4, 2003.

The article pertains to two aircraft from the 15<sup>th</sup> USAAF that took off from the airport in southern Italy on March 22, 1945 on a mission to bomb the refinery in Ruhland. The first aircraft was under the command of Lieutenant John W. Picrik, the second one — Lieutenant Con Robinson. None of the aircraft returned to their base. One of them landed on the meadows between Szczawno Zdrój and Wałbrzych, the other one near Strzelin between Domaniów and Wiązów.

The story referred to in the article was an object of special research carried out by the KARTA Center. Attempts were made to explain the fate of the crewmembers (see sections on appeals to the residents of areas where American aircraft crashed, archival queries, and press announcements) of both aircraft. Despite a number of actions taken it proved impossible by the end of the reporting period to gather materials necessary for an unequivocal reconstruction of the servicemen’s fate.

An analysis was also carried out on materials sent by the branch of the Slovak Union of Anti-Nazi Fighters in Pezinok. Special attention was paid to:

- the list of American airmen who were taken captive or killed in late June or early July 1944, made on July 14, 1944. The list includes names of 27 soldiers taken captive (in addition to the first name and surname it also includes the military rank, index number and information

on health condition, or the place of hospitalization for those wounded). Healthy airmen were transferred to a provisional POW camp at the dormitory of the Military College in Bratislava. For soldiers who were killed in action (8), in addition to personal data, it also includes information on the date and place of burial (three at the cemetery in the Gajary unit (*gmma*), the Malacky District (*poviat*), four at the cemetery in the Dolnee Lieskovee unit (*gmma*), the Ilava *poviat* and one at the military cemetery in Trenczin).

- the report by Sztefan Schwarz, the commander of the Pezinok garrison made on June 26, 1944 on air duels in the area of Pezinok – Modra – Senec – Sv. Júr. The report includes a detailed description of actions on June 26, 1944 and quotes German losses. It also includes reference to an American bomber shot down near the Slovenský Grob unit (*gmma*), which exploded and burnt after crashing against the ground. Its debris was investigated on the spot by a Slovak-German committee. Its crewmember Allan J. Wisner O-760216 T43 44 AP survived the crash after he had landed on the roof of a house in the Pezinok *gmma*. He was bandaged and transported to the hospital in Bratislava
- the article *Americké kridla nad Slovenskom* (American Wings over Slovakia), published in the "Obrana" journal on September 24, 1944 includes a detailed calendar of actions by the US Air Forces before, during and after the Slovak National Uprising. Particularly valuable reports refer to the losses of the American Air Forces, e.g. two Liberators B-24 shot down on June 16, 1944 over Bratislava and two P-38 fighters shot down on June 26, 1944. American troops suffered heavy losses on July 7, 1944, when seven aircraft were shot over Slovakia (B-24J near Inovec, P-51 Turá Lúka, B-24H Pružina, two B-24J Komarno, B-24J Cerová, B-17G Čalovo). The author also recalls the evacuation of USAAF soldiers and the assistance provided by the American Air Forces for the insurgents, primarily through the destruction of strategic German facilities.
- the article *Americkí letci v Grinave* (American Captives in Grinava), describes the evacuation of the American airmen from the POW camp in Grinava. Before the outbreak of the uprising they were taken out by the camp's commander, Major Ján Šavel. On September 17, 1944, they were transported to a base in Italy. The article also mentions members of the Anglo-American mission in Banská Bystrica who were caught by the Edelweiss unit in late December 1944

### 3. direct appeals to residents of the areas where the American aircraft crashed

Particular attention was drawn to the fate of the crewmembers of the aircraft shot down near Mosina in the Wielkopolska region in March 1945. Two crewmembers who were shot by the Russians were buried probably near the crash site. But detailed information is missing as to both the crash site and the burial site. Appeals were sent to local residents and foresters in the hope that some additional information can be obtained from them. Letters were addressed to the parish in Gorzów, Tarnów, and Dębno, to the Management of the Wielkopolski National Park, Museum Chamber in Mosina and the Forestry Management in Dębno. Unfortunately, the search did not produce expected results.

Large-scale searches were also carried out in the areas where, in spring 1945, the 15<sup>th</sup> USAAF aircraft commanded by Lieutenant John W. Pierik and Lieutenant Con Robinson landed. More than 90 letters were sent to parishes, schools, libraries and institutions located in the vicinity of Szczawno Zdrój and Strzelin. In response to our appeal we received information from local priests and history teachers. The Center was also contacted by the editorial office of "Słowo Regionu Strzeleckiego" interested in the publication of an article on the aircraft commanded by Lieutenant Robinson. The action is not over yet, as not all the materials have been gathered and put into order yet. We are still waiting for a description of the events by Zofia Palarz from Nieszkowice who replied to the appeal addressed by the Dankowice parish priest to the local residents on our request.

#### 4. press announcements and radio communiqués

The Ukrainian executor of the project – LOT "Poshuk", prepared and broadcast via local radio stations an appeal to the residents of Zolochiv (ten times), Chervonograd (three times), Mostiska, Yarmolintse (four times), Kolomyia (13 times), Dolina (three times), Galich (three times), Stryi (four times), Nikolayev (four times), Belaya Tserkov (two times), Zhitomir (eight times) and Lutsk (14 times).

Appeals were also broadcast via the local TV station in Sniatyn (four times).

Appeals appeared as well in the newspaper "Novini Pribuzhzhia" published in Chervonograd, in the regional newspaper "Nash kray" published in Mostiska, in the regional newspaper "Prikarpattia" published in Stryi Sambor, in the regional newspaper "Boykivshchyna" published in Turka, in the newspaper "Vola narodu" published in Busk, in "Narodnaya dumka" and "Gorodotskiy Visnik" published in Gorodok, "Galitska zoria" published in Drohobych, "Golos narodu" published in Pustomyty, "Ridnie pole" published in Stryi, "Kaluske Viche", "Dzvoni Pidhir'a" and "Vikna" published in Kalush, "Svicha" published in Dolina, "Zoria" published in Volochyska, "Dunaevetskiy visnik" published in Dunayevtsy, "Zoria Nadgorynnia" published in Izaslav, "Kray kamianetskiy" and "Podolanin" published in Kamenets Podolskiy, "Krasylivskiy visnik" published in Krasilov, "Letychivska gazeta" published in Letychev, "Netishynskiy visnik" published in Neteshyn, "Trudivnyk Polissia" published in Slavuta, "Zhyttia Starokostiantynivshchyny" published in Starokonstantynov, "Pribuzka zoria", "Podilski visti", "Podilskiy kur'er", "Proskuriv", "Fortetsa" and "Golos gromady" published in Khmelnytskyi, "Shepetivskiy visnik" published in Shepetovka, "Vperiod" published in Yarmolintse, "Zborivska Dzvinytsa" published in Zborov, "Narodne slovo" published in Zbarazh, "Golos znad Bugu" published in Sokal, "Gromada", "Juzhnaya Pravda", "Vecherniy Nikolayev" and "Ridne Pribuzhzhia" published in Nikolayev, "Vilniy golos" published in Kolomyia, "Vola narodu" published in Terebovlya, "Kolos" published in Zaleschiki, "Volyn" published in Lutsk, "Yurivska zemla" and "Gromadskaya dumka" published in Belaya Tserkov, "Echo", "Zhitomirshchyna" and "Lesnoy kray" published in Zhitomir, and other newspapers.

In reply to one of the broadcast appeals a listener informed the researchers by phone that several Americans had stayed in the village Ruda za Bugom (Lvov region). In 1945 or 1946 a few airmen, who spoke neither Russian nor German, found hiding at the home of the late Pavlina Gerasevich. They were given civilian clothes and were dispatched to join the guerilla units. In the attic of the house where the Americans had been hiding the researchers found the remnants of decaying uniforms, and two buttons (one is enclosed). These most probably are the remnants of uniforms worn by American airmen. ?

An announcement was also placed in the fortnightly of the Union of Freedom Fighters, the largest Czech organization grouping former fighters against fascism "Národní osvobození".

Four letters came in reply to an announcement published in the "Národní osvobození" journal. One of the eyewitnesses Dobromil Novotný described his recollections concerning the rescue of several American airmen after the shooting-down of their aircraft near Tišnov in Moravia in spring 1945. Novotný fought then in the R-3 Guerilla Squad of General Luža, he participated in the described events. The downed bomber transported weapons for guerillas. The crew was composed of eight people, with Capt. O Mc Carthy from Dakota as their commander. The whole crew jumped on parachutes. Three crewmembers were hidden by the DELTA Group until the end of the war, the other five were hidden by the unit in which Novotný served. A forester's lodge in Nihovo was their hiding place. The American soldiers took part in some guerilla auctions. When bidding farewell, the Americans gave Novotný their handwritten addresses that he keeps as a souvenir till this very day (Thomas O Mc Carthy, (b)(6) CS

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Robert E. Reasch, S. Sienandook, Iowa).

(b)(6) also replied to the press announcement. He sent a copy of his article describing the events of October 14, 1944 in Napajedle. One of the B-24 Liberator bombers went off course at a high altitude, it was falling down slowly, while describing huge spirals in the air. The aircraft was damaged and could not continue its flight. The pilot sought an emergency-landing site. He chose the area behind Prosinski's estate called America. Ten crewmembers left the aircraft immediately and hid in the nearby forest. Two fighters that accompanied the bombers fired at the bomber and set it on fire. The airmen were caught by the German troops stationed in Otokovice and the Gestapo men of Uherskie Hradiště. Two airmen were shot dead. Their bodies were robbed, even their jackets and shoes were taken away from them. Their corpses were transported to the mortuary at the cemetery in Napajedle. They were buried in the upper part of the cemetery by the wall without markings. After the liberation in 1945 the airmen were exhumed and buried with honors in the cemetery in front of the church next to the Soviet soldiers killed during the liberation of the town. In the late 1940s the airmen were exhumed again and transported to the collective cemetery in France.

The airmen's bodies were identified during their exhumation in 1945. The clerks of the *poviat* court in Napajedle, who carried out the exhumation, drafted a protocol dated October 10, 1945. It included descriptions of the bodies and data from the metal tags. One of the airmen was W. Winters No. O-762857 T 13-440, the other J.W. Johnson No. O-704626 7 43-OT 44. It was also noted in the protocol that in both cases death was caused by a gunshot in the occiput.

Jan Šupálek described an event which took place on August 22, 1944. At noon of that day the witness saw several planes flying over the area situated close to the pond called Včelín. After a while one of the planes steered away from the group and started plummeting down. The pilot jumped from the aircraft using a white parachute. He landed in the Doubrava forest, 700 meters away from Ratiškovice, close to which his plane crashed down. The plane exploded on impact. The witness and his friends first heard shots being fired and then saw empty cartridge-belts coming down near the pond. They picked them up and hid them in a pine copse situated nearby. Next, the witness and his friends joined a group of the residents of Ratiškovice and Dubňany who gathered around the plane. Shortly afterwards the German soldiers drove in from Hodonín. The soldiers and all persons present started searching through the forest. The party in which the witness was included spotted a parachute hanging down from a tree, but the pilot was gone. Bars of chocolate, chewing gum and cigarettes were scattered around the place where he came down. The Germans surrounded the entire Doubrava forest and continued their search for ten days. The witness does not know what has happened to the pilot. He has been trying for many years to find out whether the pilot survived. He talked to the residents of Ratiškovice in the hope that they might offer some information and looked for any clues that could help solve the riddle. However, the presented accounts of the past events differed greatly. After many attempts it has been established that the American pilot was found by a gamekeeper — Kovařík, who hid him in an underground bunker in the forest. After the pilot's wounds had healed the gamekeeper escorted him to Slovakia. The witness has managed to establish the pilot's personal data.

Sheldon Sandler, 2/LT

31.FG - 309.FS - 15 AF

Aircraft: Mustang - P51. - CODE WZ.

Airbase: San Severo, Italy.

The Germans transported the wreck to Hodonín.

Another letter arrived from Jan Hartman from Vojkovo, a great fan of aeronautics and an indefatigable investigator of the history of American aircraft shot down over the Czech

//RMC?

territory. Hartman refers to publications which deal with air battles over Bohemia. Since in 1943-1945 a part of the area in which he is particularly interested (Benešov and Sedčany regions) was incorporated into the so called Truppenübungsplatz Böhmen, from where the local population was gradually deported, the number of witnesses to the events in question is smaller than in other cases. The available sources usually provide the date of the event, the aim of the mission and the names of some airmen. The author of the letter writes also about airmen killed at Konopišti. Information about the case was included in the minutes of the interrogation of witnesses, taken down by the state organs after 1945. The data in question constituted the basis for such publications as *Podblumicko proti okupantům* (Benešov 1966), "Stredočeský sborník historický" No. 14 (Prague 1979) and Jan Pavelka's monograph *Lidé bez domova* (Sedčany 1978). However, the available sources contain contradictory information as far as the number of downed aircraft is concerned. By courtesy of Jan Hartman the KARTA Center has obtained the addresses of persons investigating the history of several incidents involving American airmen. Currently, we are establishing direct contact with these persons in an effort to gather more detailed information.

##### 5. contacts with organizations grouping participants in the resistance movement and former inmates of labor camps

Meetings were held with members of the associations "Memorial" and "Prosvita" in Chervonograd, Sokal, Mostiska, Stary Sambor and Sosnovka, members of the UPA Association and members of the Union of Former Political Prisoners in Stary Sambor, in the village Strilbychi, in villages situated in the region of Peremyshlany, Nikolayev, Stryv, Pustomyty, Drogobych, Buchach, Terebovlya, Kosov, Nadvorna, Tysmenitsa, in the towns Sosnovka, Chervonograd and Ivano-Frankovsk. The persons implementing the program met also with the leaders of the Union of Former Political Prisoners and the UPA Association in the towns Dolina, Bolekhov, Verkhovnia, Sniatyn, Zhydachov, Peremyshlany, Nikolayev, Stryv, Gorodenka, Galich, Rogatyn and Nadvorna, and in the village Vinniki.

Cooperation continued with the Poviát Committee of the Slovak Union of Anti-Nazi Fighters from Myjava (Slovakia). We were presented with bibliographic materials: a fragment of an article by Jaroslav Kalný *Rehabilitácia sú odkladá* (Postponed Rehabilitation) from "Ročenky Odbojárov 2003" (Yearbook of Resistance Movement Members 2003), pertaining to the Slovaks' hiding James Kirchhoff, shot down on November 20, 1944, and the burial sites of him and the people hiding him who were shot by Gestapo at the turn of 1944 and 1945. Also photocopies were sent of photographs from a book by Ján Gálik, *Odboj a oslobodenie Myjavy* (The Resistance Movement and Liberation of Myjava), depicting American soldiers and Slovaks hiding them.

##### 6. direct contacts with eyewitnesses

Ukrainian Project implementer LOT "Poshuk" was particularly active in establishing direct contacts with eyewitnesses. Meetings were held with political prisoners living in Zhydachov, Peremyshlany, Nikolayev, Stryv, Lvov, Chervonograd, Sokal, Stary Sambor, Turka, Olevsk, Busk, the villages of Rudno, Strilbychi, villages of the Ternopol area. Meetings continued with the former political prisoners living now in the villages of the Grodno region.

The testimony most often pertained to a few places of imprisonment:

- Komi

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Gorodno, Luboml region in Volhynia: stayed in camp No. 388 in Inta in 1951-1956. He made friends there with the imprisoned American airman, whose name was George (fellow prisoners called him Yuri). The American was shot

(b)(6)

down in Korea. He spoke much about himself and his family, about his plane being shot down and about the transport to the USSR. Unfortunately, the witness does not remember the details. The American airman was of medium height, thickset, had dark hair and a small moustache.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Tsitsilov in the region of Nadvornia in 1950-1952 a US navy captain - a tall black American, stayed in the sanitary camp Abez in the Komi Republic.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the region of Kolyma met an American in the camp of mine No. 1 in Inta. The man, aged about 40, was of medium height, had a dark complexion and dark hair. He gladly engaged in conversation during work and during meals at the canteen.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Pervomaysk in the region of Nikolayev: in 1949, an American prisoner of Ukrainian descent, whose name was Weriga, worked as a doctor in hospital No. 7 of column No. 8 in the village Kosyu of Minlag in the Komi Republic.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Busk from 1953 he stayed in the camp in Abez in the Komi Republic together with an American airman whose name was Ludwik. The American was aged about 35 and was tall. He escaped from the camp in 1954.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1948-49, at a dispatching point in Inta, Komi Republic, there were two American Jews who worked together with the eyewitness's husband. Their names were Fridman and Wais. One of them worked in a carpet factory, the other in a tailoring shop.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1948, in Inta, there was an American soldier. He was kept separately and he did not work.

- Mordvin camps

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1947 in Mordovia, in Dubrovlag, in the village of Ust'-Tarna — two disabled Americans were kept. The eyewitness does not remember any details.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1950-51, he worked at a labor camp in the village of Javas in Mordovia together with an Indian who served in the American Army and was arrested for spying. The American was tall, aged about 40-45.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1970-71, American "spies" stayed in the 17<sup>th</sup> separated zone of the Mordvin camps.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Kniazivka in the region of Rozhniatov: stayed in the Mordvinian camp OLP-5 together with the pilot Pauers.

- Vorkuta

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Zhydachov towards the end of 1949, in Vorkuta in the Komi Republic, at labor camp no. 5-153/5-OR, he met two American officers-musicians. Unfortunately, he does not remember any details.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1946-47, an American pilot was at mine no. 2. He used to say that his aircraft was shot by an anti-aircraft canon and went on fire, he jumped on a parachute but landed very unfortunately and was seriously injured. He had large scars on his face. He was taciturn and spoke poor Russian. He was moved somewhere else.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1951-55, he served his sentence together with an American prisoner of Ukrainian descent Bill Marczuk. Marczuk spoke poor Ukrainian. He was small, aged about 30. He kept telling that he served in the American army and was arrested in Germany in 1945.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1952, at the labor camp at mine no. 6 in Vorkutlag, he met an American citizen of Ukrainian descent. He was tall, with a round face, wavy dark blond hair, aged about 30. He lived in a common barrack, he was disabled and, therefore, his work was lighter — he carried snow. He would say that, in 1949, he came on a mission to Lvov and was arrested there for spying. In 1954, the eyewitness was transferred to mine no. 29 where he

also met an American. He was of medium height, with red hair, aged about 40, educated, spoke good Russian. It was said that he was an American Intelligence colonel who was abducted from Germany after the war. He had been in other camps before he was taken to Vorkuta. He lived together with Russian prisoners. He worked in the mine as a warehouse attendant.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from 1949 to 1953, an American stayed in Vorkuta at mine no. 9/10. Contacts with him were banned. The American was of medium height, with dark hair. He was 40.

Eyewitness (b)(6) at mine no. 40 in Vorkuta in 1950, he worked with American pilot John Czekman. The American was about 35, tall. He liked singing.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1947-1948 met an American airman, who had been shot down in Slovakia, in the column Mulda.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Yammitsa in the region of Tysmenitsa until 1953 several American prisoners stayed in the camp Z in the settlement ShU-2 in the vicinity of Vorkuta. Contacts with the Americans were forbidden. They did not speak any Slavonic languages. Later on they were either sent to another place or released.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Nikolayev. In 1952-1955 two young Americans, who had been arrested in Germany, were kept prisoner in mine No. 4 in Vorkuta.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Kosovo: foreigners, American prisoners among them, worked in mine No. 6 in Vorkuta.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Yablunka in Ivano-Frankovsk region. In 1948 an American caught in the coastal area of the USSR was convicted in Vorkuta. He was kept in mine No. 8. In the spring of 1953 the witness stayed together with the American in the camp's hospital. The American was tall and aged about 50.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Nadvorna: in 1954 saw a tall American prisoner selling his flying jacket in the settlement ShU-2 in Vorkuta. He never met the American again.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Delatin in the region of Nadvorna: during his imprisonment in mine No. 29 in Vorkuta worked together with an American (in 1952-1954). The American was tall and dark-haired. Conversation with the American was forbidden.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Kolomyia: in 1953-1955 was held prisoner in the camp of mine No. 3 in the village Gornyy in Vorkuta. He shared a barrack and worked together with an American doctor who had been arrested in the Soviet occupation zone in Germany. The American was sentenced to a life imprisonment. He communicated with the witness in German. The American was a tall blond, about 45 years old. In 1955 he was included in the group of prisoners transferred to other camps.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Kalush: in 1952 an American paratrooper of Ukrainian descent was held prisoner in the camp of mine No. 29 in Vorkuta. His name was Yuri.

• Norilsk camps

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1951-1956, he was at camp no. 54 in Norilsk. American airmen were kept in a separate barrack. They were escorted to work under special surveillance. When they passed other prisoners, the prisoners were told to turn their backs on them. Any contacts were forbidden.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1947-48, at the "Bear's Stream" mine in Norilsk, he saw a young American pilot aged 20-23, he was tall (some 190 cm). Contacts with him were banned.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1946-1947, at the "Medvezhka" labor camp in Norilsk, he saw 6-7 American prisoners who were later taken probably to Taishet.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Dolina: worked together with six American agents of Ukrainian descent in the camp Kayerkan in 1951-1956. They spoke English and Ukrainian.

They were aged 20-25. They worked on the team building a mine. One of them, called Mikhailo, said that he was a captain

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Pereginsk in the region of Rozhniatov, in 1952-1953 a US citizen who spoke Ukrainian and whose name was Lewando was one of the leaders of a strike staged in mine No. 7 of Norillag. The witness has no knowledge of the American's further destinies.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Pereginsk in the region of Rozhniatov: in 1949 met an American pilot in Norillag's OLP-4. The American was aged about 45. He was tall (about 180 cm), very thin and had dark hair. The witness does not know what happened to the American later on

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Khvatov in the region of Busk: stayed in the camp in Norilsk from June 1948 to March 1954. There was an underground organization in the camp, in which two American agents were active. One of them could speak Ukrainian fluently. The two Americans were aged 30-32 and were well built. They were brought in from other camps. Norilsk was the sixth camp in which they were kept. One day they managed to escape from the patrolled zone. They reached "Medvezhka" - 1.5 km away from Norilsk. A plane which waited for them there took off for Alaska. The guards were not very eager to start firing at the plane.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Kolomyia: during his imprisonment in the "Gornyy" special camp No. 4 in Norillag in 1948-1952 worked on a team constructing a copper-works together with an American whose name was Knopus. The American, aged about 40, was of medium height. He was sentenced to a 20-year imprisonment. He headed one of the construction teams. In 1950, the American and three other prisoners tried to escape from the camp. They were caught at the airport and brought back to the camp. Knopus was assigned the duties of an ordinary worker. In 1952, when the witness was released from the camp, the American still worked there.

- Kazakhstan

Eyewitness (b)(6) stayed with two American "spies" in camp No. 392/1 at the copper mine in Dzhezkazgan in 1948-1952. Both Americans were of medium height, aged about 40 and had fair hair. They spoke English and had problems with learning Russian. They lived and worked together with other prisoners. In October 1952 the witness was hospitalized. When he returned to the mine the Americans were no longer there.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Bryn in the region of Galich: in 1950 two Americans - father and son, were brought to the camp at the copper mine in Dzhezkazgan. They wore good clothes - in the camp they were robbed by the imprisoned criminals. They spoke English only. They lived and worked together with other prisoners.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Zolokot in the region of Drogobych: in 1950 worked in a copper mine in the camp Chubay-Nora in Kazakhstan, where he made friends with an American - a tall man of about 40, who was intelligent and spoke Russian fluently. The American told the witness that he had been apprehended in Moscow near an arms factory. He was sentenced to a 25-year imprisonment for spying. The witness remembers that in the early spring of 1950 a column of over 400 prisoners, escorted by guards, was marching to the mine to work. Between the houses on the right hand there were several cars parked. The American marched in the file forming one side of the column. The witness marched next to him not suspecting that the American had any plans to escape. When the column moved close to the place where the cars were parked the American unexpectedly jumped into a jeep whose door was open. Only a few guards were escorting the column and they did not notice the American escaping. They found out that a person was missing only when they started to count the prisoners. It took them a long time to establish which of the prisoners had escaped. The

American was not brought back to the camp and nothing was said about him. The witness believes that the escape was successful.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Nikolayev: worked together with Americans during his imprisonment in Steplag in Dzhezkazgan's OLP 72 in Karaganda region in 1949-1954. The witness remembers that when the Americans received a parcel with food the camp's administration moved them to a separate room where they could eat it peacefully. Otherwise they would be robbed by the imprisoned criminals.

(b)(6)

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Wroclaw: met an American in a camp in Karaganda in the early 1950s. The American was a tall, well educated man aged about 50. He told the witness that he had been dropped on a parachute over Gdansk and Gdynia

- Magadan

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Dolina: remembers her late husband telling her that he and an American stole a dog from the guards of a uranium mine in Magadan. They ate the dog and this saved them from dying from hunger. The event took place between 1947 and 1953

\* Eyewitness (b)(6) from Nikolayev: worked on one team with American pilot Paul Fiodor in the mine Olchan in Magadan region in 1949. The American was shot down in 1944 or 1945. During an attempt to get through to his own people he was apprehended by SMERSH, accused of spying and sentenced to 25 years in prison. He knew a few Russian words. Somebody was sending him parcels. He worked in the mine with a team of drillers

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Kolomyia: met an American in camp No. 43/2 at the "Elgenugol" mine No. 10 in Magadan region in 1954. The American worked in a power plant. He was aged 35-40. He was 170 cm tall, strong and muscular. He had dark hair and an oval face. Contacts with the American were forbidden. In 1955-1956 the witness met two Americans, sentenced for spying, in the special camp at the strip mine in the village Izvestkovyy near Yagodnoe in Magadan region. The two Americans were athletic and excellently educated men - they could speak several foreign languages. The name of one of them was Peterson. He was tall, had a round face, red hair and a beard. He maintained closer contacts with Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian inmates. The name of the other American was Rudolf. He was tall, had a high-bridged nose and was very strong. He spoke Russian. He boxed as an exercise. The Americans took part in the strike staged by prisoners who worked loading lime.

The remaining information obtained:

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1947, at the Vanino Bay, he saw two American inmates. People said they were spies and other inmates were afraid to come into touch with them. They had no special marks, they were 35-40, tall, shapely

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1947, at the tuberculosis ward in the hospital, he met an American sailor who was arrested for "espionage". The American was small, fat, with fawn hair. He was around 30.

(b)(6)

Eyewitness (b)(6) when, in 1950, he came to column no. 44 Nizhneilinsk in Krasnoyarsk Country with his transport, he heard a detailed story about American airmen told by a security officer. When some aircraft landed in the labor camp the Americans started to flee. They ran towards the aircraft. They were shot by security guards. Inmates said that there were some 20 airmen, one of them managed to reach the aircraft that snatched him and flew away. It is not known what happened to him later.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1951-1953 he was in a labor camp in the Mostov area in the Kemerov Oblast. In the barracks there were Ukrainian inmates and also Americans, but contacts with them were forbidden. After a few months they were taken somewhere. Such a situation repeated several times. It was said that they protected facilities over the Elbe river, Soviet border guards went to talk to them. At night the Americans were abducted and sent to labor camps in the USSR. In 1953, the eyewitness was transferred to

Omsk, to a labor camp at the construction site of an oil refinery. There were also several dozen Americans. They were kept in separate barracks, but they had their meals at the camp's canteen. They were not taken to work.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1954 he was moved to OLP 11, where the "boss of American intelligence" was kept. He was of Serbian origin, his name was Chudomir Markovich (aged around 35), and he was arrested in Germany.

(b)(6) Eyewitnesses (b)(6) they lived as special settlers in the village of Talaya in the Taishet area in the Irkutsk Oblast on the Solanaya forest farm. An American lived and died in the settlement in 1955. His Russian was poor. He was buried at the local cemetery.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1946 he worked on the reconstruction of the 117<sup>th</sup> kilometer of the Taishet-Bratsk railway route. A group of inmates from Budapest was brought there. The group included an American, George Bazanari, he was from the Los Angeles area. He was some kind of a representative in Budapest, he helped the Hungarians, he was sentenced to 10 years. In August 1948, he died of exhaustion, he was buried at a small station 282 kilometers from Taishet.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1952-1954, he served as lance corporal for radiolocation at Andul. He knows that American airmen from downed bombers were passed on to the Koreans or Chinese.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in October 1944, near the Mukachov - Uzhhorod road, five American airmen were taken captive. For about two weeks they fought as volunteers in the 987<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Riflemen of the 226<sup>th</sup> Riflemen Division. The eyewitness does not know their later fate.

(b)(6) Eyewitness (b)(6) from Chervonograd: was kept in one cell of the prison in Vladimir with an American in 1962. The American could not speak any Slavonic language. He had a large birth-mark on his neck. The witness does not remember any other details.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Yuzhno-Ukrainsk in Nikolayev region: in 1952-1954 he had an American seaman as a friend in the camp Kingir. The American was called Aklant. He was caught by Soviet troops in Turkey and sentenced to 25 years in prison. He was tall, aged about 45. He spoke Russian with a heavy accent. The witness has no knowledge of the American's further destinies.

\* Eyewitness (b)(6) from Stry in Lvov region: stayed in one barrack with four American airmen in the transfer prison in Pechora at the beginning of May 1948. Their plane became damaged during a flight over the Baltic Sea.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Ugersko, Stry region, stayed with an American airman named Jimmy in column No. 11 in Vikhorevka on the Tayshet - Ust'-Kut railroad in 1950.

\* Eyewitness (b)(6) from Velke Mosty in the region of Sokal: in 1951 eighteen American POWs were kept in the settlement Tambuki in Khabarovsk country, which formed a part of the camp at the local gold mine. After Stalin's death the Americans were transferred to a place unknown to the witness.

(b)(6) Eyewitness (b)(6) from the village Olesko in the region of Busk: stayed in transfer prison No. 25 in Lvov from November 1945 to April 1946. She saw there a tall, nice American aged 25-30. The witness does not know where he could have been sent from Lvov.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Gorodenka, was held prisoner in the 14<sup>th</sup> camp point in Inta in 1948-1950. There were three Americans from camp point 20 on the team he worked with. All the Americans were tried and sentenced for spying. They were aged 40-50.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Kolomyia: saw three Americans in column 4 in Omsk in 1949-1951. They were aged 30-35. Contacts with the Americans were forbidden. They never ate meals in the canteen together with other prisoners.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Kolomyia: lived for about six months in the same barrack with an American agent of Ukrainian descent in Verlag's special camp No. 7 in the village Rudnichnyy in Kirov region in 1953. The American's name was Lopenko. He was tall and aged about 40. He was sentenced to 20 years of hard labor. He worked in the forest cutting trees. Later on he was transferred to another place.

(b)(6) Eyewitness (b)(6) from Kalush: in March 1945 met an American tank-man, who was born in Odessa, in a transfer prison in Lvov. The American's name was Khomich or Khemich. He was about 40 years old and wore a uniform. He could speak Ukrainian.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Kovel served in the 231<sup>st</sup> riflemen's regiment of the 39<sup>th</sup> Army of Zabaykalskiy Front on the territory of Manchuria between May 1945 and August 1946. While staying in Changchun he saw American POWs among whom, he claims, there were ten high ranking officers of the US navy. The witness knows nothing about the further destiny of these American prisoners.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Wroclaw (already mentioned in paragraph concerning Kazakhstan): met an American in the prison Krasnaya Presnia in Moscow in the early 1950s. Conversation with the American was forbidden. He was of medium height, thin and had fair hair. He spoke Russian well. After three days the American was moved from the cell which he had shared with the witness.

#### 7. contacts with state institutions

##### • Branch of the National Remembrance Institute in Rzeszów

In connection with the continuation of search for the grave of lieutenant J.J. Gorczyca (see chapter library queries) the Center has asked the relevant authorities to send the materials relating to the investigation in question to the Branch of the National Remembrance Institute (IPN) in Rzeszów. Information concerning successive attempts at conducting exhumation seemed particularly valuable. The results of the earlier conducted research suggested that the first attempt launched on 22 November 2000 proved unsuccessful because the site indicated by witnesses was not the real place of lieutenant Gorczyca's burial. Unfortunately, the Center has been informed in a letter sent by IPN's branch in Rzeszów that the investigation into the case was discontinued on 5 October 2001 due to the absence of sufficiently convincing evidence that a murder might have been committed. The letter sent by IPN's branch in Rzeszów reads:

*The investigation failed to produce evidence that could allow to state that J. Gorczyca was killed on Poland's territory in December 1944 or that he was shot dead and buried in the park in Dąbrówka Starzeńska. Despite the efforts launched during the investigation no direct witnesses to the event were found. Only one of the witnesses testified that he had helped to bury a man killed by a woman – Soviet soldier, in 1944. However, this man wore a German military uniform. (...) Hence, no actions were launched to discover the traces of a grave in Dąbrówka Starzeńska after the initial excavations had been made in the park in that town.*

##### • Central Address Bureau

In the reporting period, the obtained list of names of Polish employees of diplomatic missions in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos was analyzed. Two chronological determinants were taken as a basis for selection — the date of birth and the period of stay at the mission — Vietnam 1961-1973 with special emphasis put on 1969; Laos 1963-1973; Cambodia 1970-1975. The selected data were computerized (first name and surname, country, mission, position, period of stay, current telephone number, current address, date of establishment of contact, remarks and commentary). Inquiries about 100 people were addressed to the Central Address Bureau. The selection of persons covered by inquiries to the Bureau for making their addresses available was based on several criteria — workplace, period of stay at the mission, position, date of birth. Under the Law on Protection of Personal Data of August 29, 1997

(Dziennik Ustaw 1997, No. 133, Item 883 as later amended) the Bureau, before making the address available, is obliged to first obtain the consent of the person we seek

In the result of correspondence conducted with representatives of the Central Address Register (CBA) it has been established that 42 persons from the selected list of 100 members of diplomatic missions are dead, whereas 18 persons have not agreed to disclose their addresses to the KARTA Center, eight persons have not replied to the letters sent to them by CBA and two persons have not collected the letters addressed to them. Thirty persons have given their consent for CBA to disclose their addresses to the KARTA Center. Telephone contacts were established with 20 of these persons. Unfortunately, only one person — (b)(6)

(b)(6) who stayed in Laos in 1973–1975, has any information to offer about American prisoners in that country. A meeting with the witness is scheduled to be held early in October. The remaining ten persons have not replied so far to the letters with questions addressed to them

#### 8. search for graves at parish cemeteries

- Parish cemetery in Żywiec

In connection with the efforts to identify the graves of crew-members of the plane shot down over Blachownia Śląska on 13 September 1944 (see chapter library queries) the Center has turned to the Board of the Parish Cemetery in Żywiec (formerly Saybush) with a request to provide detailed information. According to the data collected earlier by the Center two American soldiers — most probably the members of the crew of the downed plane, were buried at the local cemetery on 18 September 1944 in two separate graves in the third row marked with numbers 43 and 44. The cemetery's board has not replied to our request yet

#### Prospects

In the light of the results achieved last year it seems that the Center should continue its work in almost all the areas that have attracted its attention. It seems purposeful to develop the search for archival materials, covering both large state records and local archives that collect documents relating to the events which took place in individual regions and in which American soldiers were involved. It also seems purposeful to continue research conducted in libraries, whose results often provide an impulse for further and closer investigation. Actions to establish contacts with organizations grouping former camp inmates and war veterans also seem indispensable. Emphasis should be put on the development of direct contacts with witnesses. Although their testimony is often imprecise and requires thorough checking or is so general that it merely signals the presence of American soldiers in a given area it should be remembered that the generation of participants in the investigated events — witnesses who met American soldiers, is passing away and shortly it will be too late to obtain any information from them. Unfortunately, the large-scale action, in the form of radio appeals and press announcements, launched in Ukraine has not produced the expected results. The reaction has proved minimal in comparison with the effort made. Thus, it seems more purposeful to address appeals for information directly to the residents of carefully selected and defined areas and to the members of organizations that group war veterans. In the next year's edition of the program the Center intends to launch new activities and to continue investigation into the cases that still remain to be fully explained despite strenuous efforts made in the past year.

Administrator of the Project

KARTA Center President

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

**Attachments:**

- 1 Press clippings;**
- 2 Xerographic copies of articles and publications;**
- 3 Xerographic copies of archival materials.**

**THE KARTA CENTER PROJECT CONCERNING FURTHER RESEARCH IN EASTERN EUROPE  
AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION ON THE FATE OF MISSING AMERICANS DURING AND AFTER  
THE SECOND WORLD WAR**

Dates of Project: September 17, 2002 – September 16, 2003  
Financial Report for the period: September 17, 2002 – September 16, 2003

Item	Cost (USD)
1. Permanent staff	13290,75
2. Equipment and supplies	1668,04
3. Communications	3020,96
4. Travel and Per Diem	2780,12
5. Consultant Fees and expenses	16022,47
6. Other direct costs	5517,66
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42300,00</b>

(b)(6)

TFR — —

HUNGARIAN NATIONAL ARCHIVES

REPLIES TO US GOVT

REQUEST TO GOV of Hungary

Regarding information on

AMERICAN AIR CREWMEN

SHOT DOWN OVER HUNGARY

DURING OR AFTER WWII.

ANSWERED W/ NO NEW

INFORMATION ON AMERICAN

MIAs KIAS NOT RECORDED.

From Hungary

807 005

1945 JUL. 1

18 July 1945.

**Enclosure:**

The government of the United States of America desires to locate the remains of American Army personnel who died in Hungary during or after the war, establish a temporary cemetery, and re-inter all remains in that cemetery.

In order to facilitate that work, it would be highly appreciated if your office could compile a list giving the location of all such graves that are known. Further, it is suggested that the mayor of all villages, townships, and cities be advised to report any graves in their areas in order to make the list as complete as possible.

To assist in the identification of certain remains, a report, by location, type, and date, of all American planes shot or forced down in Hungary would be of extreme value.

This situation is serious to proceed with the task of re-intering as soon as possible and therefore it is urged that some expediency be used in compiling the above reports.

I have the honor to be, with highest esteem,

Yours faithfully

WILLIAM S. KEY  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Chief

1945

His Excellency The Prime Minister,  
The Provisional National Government of Hungary.

5595/hub

True Copy  
L.R. Hagan, May 20, 1945

Magyar Országos Levéltár

UJ MAGYAR  
KOZPONTI LEVÉLTÁR

807 015 45

No. 6887.

August 27, 1945.

Sir,

In answer to your letter of July 18, 1945, concerning the location of the remains of American Army personnel who died in Hungary during or after the war, I beg to inform you that I advised the Ministry of the Interior to collect without delay and forward me all available information concerning. The collection of data is in course and I shall have the honour of submitting to you the reports as soon as I receive them.

At the same time I had a summons published in the daily papers by which I invited every person possessing any knowledge of American soldiers' graves or of American planes shot down in Hungary, to inform me of it. I am sending you enclosed the reports hitherto received on the basis of the summons. I thought this the best expedient, for these reports are so different as to their contents that a list could not be compiled of them without leaving out such detailed evidence as might be essential for the identification of certain remains.

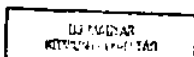
From time to time I shall be sending you the reports thus arriving to me from private sources; as to the compilation of official lists, I am urging them on and shall communicate to you the results as soon as they are obtained.

Sincerely yours

Prime Minister.

Major General William S. Key  
Chief of the United States Military Representation  
Allied Control Commission for Hungary  
B u d a p e s t .

Magyar Országos Levéltár



XIX-A-1-j-XXIII/C-5555-1945 dapr

(6887-1945)

(32d)

38

807 038

Prime Minister of Hungary.

ad 5788/1945.

December 1, 1945.

My dear General,

with reference to my note No. 6337/1945,

I have the honour of sending you enclosed an additional report of the Lord Lieutenant of the county of Bács-Bodrog and the municipality of Baja, concerning crashed American airplanes and the graves of American army personnel on the area of his county.

Very sincerely yours

Prime Minister.

Major General William S. Kie y

Chief of the United States Military Representation

of the Allied Control Commission for Hungary

B u d a p e s t .

BU MAGYAR  
ORSZÁGOS LEVÉLTÁR

Magyar Országos Levéltár - XIX - A - 1 - d - XXIII / C - 5595 / 1945 alap (5788 - 1945) (32. d)

46  
807-046  
UNITED STATES MILITARY REPRESENTATION ON THE  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION FOR HUNGARY  
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

29 August 1945

My dear sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of 27 August inclosing a number of communications from various sections of Hungary containing information concerning the location of the remains of American Army personnel who died in Hungary during or after the war.

I deeply appreciate your cooperation in this matter, which is most important to Americans. We are hopeful of locating and collecting the remains of all American soldiers who died in Hungary and assemble and inter them in the burial lot which has been made available to us in the city of Budapest.

The information which you furnished will be fully utilized and we will be grateful for any additional information which may lead to the recovery of the remains of American soldiers.

With assurance of my highest esteem, I am,

Very sincerely,

William S. Pittman  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Chief

His Excellency Miklos Bela  
Prime Minister of Hungary  
Budapest, Hungary

U.S. MAGYAR  
KEZPONTI LEVÉLTÁR

Magyar Országos Levéltár - XIX - A - 1 - d - XXIII/C-5595/1945 alapja (6887-1945) (32 d)

807 076

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATION ON THE  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION FOR HUNGARY  
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

17 October 1945

My dear Prime Minister:

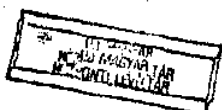
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of reports which you sent me of the chief officials of several counties of their investigations of American airplanes shot down and American soldiers buried in their counties.

Again I thank you most sincerely for your cooperation in this important matter. We are extremely anxious to locate the remains of all U. S. soldiers who lost their lives in Hungary and the cooperation given us by you and your Government has been most helpful in our program.

I shall look forward to receiving the additional reports when the investigations have been completed and I will appreciate your conveying my thanks to the county officials who have assisted us so splendidly in this work.

With assurance of my highest esteem, I am,

Very sincerely,



*William S. Key*  
WILLIAM S. KEY  
Major General, U. S. Army  
Chief

His Excellency Miklos Bela  
Prime Minister of Hungary  
Budapest, Hungary

Magyar Országos Levéltár - XIX - A - 1 - j - XXII / C - 5595 / 1945 alapján (6887 / 1945) (32. d)

607 077

Budapest, 13, October 1945.

My dear General,

Under No 6887/1945. I have had the honour of sending You information concerning American army personnel buried in Hungary, that had come to me from private persons.

On the basis of information received since, I beg to inform You that, according to the reports of the chief county officials, on the territory of the counties Szabolcs-Ung, Szatmár-Bereg, Borsod, Heves, Bihar, Abauj-Torna, Nógrád-Mont, Zemplén and the municipalities of Miskolc and Székesfehérvár no American airplane was shot down and consequently no grave of American soldiers is to be found there.

I have the honour of sending You enclosed the reports of the chief officials of the counties of Jász-Hagykun-Szolnok, Zala, Pest-Bilis-Solt-Kiskun, Tolna, Bács-Bodrog, Hajdu, Veszprém, Pécs, and the municipalities of Kecskénét, Baja and Debrecen on the results of their investigations.

As to the reports, still missing, of the counties Baranya, Győr-Moson-Pozsony, Komárom, Esztergom, Sopron, Vas, Békés, Csanád-Arád-Torontál, Csongrád and the municipalities of Pécs, Győr, Sopron, Mórmezővársárhely and Szeged, I have urged them on by telegram and shall forward them to You on receipt.

Very sincerely Yours

Prime Minister.

Major General  
WILLIAM S. KEY  
Chief of the U.S. Military  
Mission on the Allied Control  
Commission for Hungary,  
B U D A P E S T.

UJ MAGYAR  
KÖZPONTI LEVELTÁR

Magyar Országos Levéltár XIX-A-1-j-XXIII/65595/1945 alapja (6887-1945)

(32.9)

807 085

Prime Minister of Hungary.

ad No. 5788/1945.

November 20, 1945.

My dear General,

I have the honour of sending you enclosed a telegraphic report of the chief administrative official of the county of Csanád in English translation, with the request that you give the necessary instructions as to the future fate of the plane. Hungarian authorities will of course, if necessary, be at your disposal in every respect to carry out your instructions.

I remain, with the expression of my highest consideration

sincerely yours

Prime Minister of Hungary.

1 enclosure.

Major General William S. Key

Chief of the United States Military Mission  
on the Allied Control Commission for Hungary  
B u d a p e s t .

XIX-A-1-j-XXIII/C-5595-1945 dqr

(5788+1945)

(32d)

10. MAGYAR  
KÖZPONTI LEVÉLTÁR

Magyar Országos Levéltár

807 086

XIX-A-1-j-7309-VIII-1975

807 092

92

Prime Minister's Office.

2904/1946. M.E.

Budapest, 9 april, 1946.

My dear General,

The American Military Mission in August 1945 called the attention of my predecessor upon the person of HETTYEY and LADISLAS FLEISCHMANN, inspectors of factory, who maltreated an American pilot when landing on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 1944 at Horthyliget. I have the honor to inform you, my dear General, that the Political Police collected and put on its files their personal data, and on their return will take action against them accordingly. The above named, however, left the country during the time of military operations and so far did not return home.

Accept, my dear General, the assurance of my highest esteem.

Signed

In the absence of the  
Prime Minister

Balogh István  
Under Secretary of State,

*10/9 July*

YIX-A-1-f-VIII-7308-1945 alap. n. (2201)  
(2904-1946)

**Magyar Országos**

807 093

93

U. S. ACC HUNGARY					
FILE NUMBER		MEMO ROUTING SLIP		DATE	
INTER OFFICE USE ONLY					
TO →	CO	STATE	FOR →	NOTATION	
	ECON	EXEC		INFORMATION	
	MIL	ADMIN		NECESSARY ACTION	
	NAV.	HQ. CO		RECOMMENDATION	
	SECY	AG		FILE	
ATTENTION			FROM		
SUBJECT					
(b)(6)			<i>1945 AUG. 27.</i> <i>Károlyi's hand</i> <i>Geo - Can you ask proper authorities to look for these 2 men? - we would like to talk to them.</i>		

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

XIX-A-1-j-VII-7309-1945 daps. (32 d)

Major Oroszgen  
Lovelace

Name typed

Grade

SECTION

Initial

DIVISION

Initial

RETURN TO EXEC

6.

807 094

---

Szigetszentmiklos.

30 July 1944, seven airmen parachuted. One of them landed in Horthyliget where maltreated by Heteyey, Inspector of Factory #1 and Ladislav Fleischmann, Inspector of Factory #1, both at present in Germany.

XIX-A-1-j-VIII-2309-1945 alapu.

(32 d)

Magyar Országos  
Levélár

7.

**THE KARTA CENTER PROJECT CONCERNING RESEARCH IN CENTRAL AND  
EASTERN EUROPE AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION ON THE FATE OF  
MISSING AMERICANS DURING AND AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR**

Dates of Project: September 17, 2002 – September 16, 2003  
Narrative Report for the period: September 17, 2002 – March 16, 2003

**Summary**

Actions coordinated by the KARTA Center as part of the Project concerning research in Poland and other countries in Central and Eastern Europe on the fate of missing Americans during and after the Second World War covered, in addition to Poland, Ukraine, Belarus, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary.

In each of the countries participating in the Project efforts focused on gathering and confirming information. To this end, in the reporting period:

1. queries were conducted at state and social archives;
2. bibliographic queries were carried out on books and press reports;
3. appeals were addressed to the residents of areas where American airplanes crashed;
4. press announcements were published and radio communiqués aired;
5. contacts were established with organizations grouping participants in resistance movements and former inmates of Soviet labor camps;
6. direct contacts were established with eyewitnesses;
7. an inquiry was addressed to the Central Address Bureau in Warsaw for the lists of members of the diplomatic corps working in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia to be made available.

**1. archival queries**

Archival queries were conducted at selected state collections that, according to earlier findings, could have included documents on the fate of Americans missing in the countries covered by the research.

Queries were conducted at:

- The White Eagle Museum in Skarzysko-Kamienna

The earlier research showed that during the Second World POWs, including Americans, were executed in the premises of the metal factory in Skarzysko. The archival search failed to produce the expected results. The only mention of the presence of American POWs in Skarzysko-Kamienna was found in the memoirs of Home Army serviceman Józef Raczyński "Robak."

- The State Archives in Katowice

A request was addressed to the Archives for making available a letter by the Starost of the Niemodlin *powiat* (administrative district) to the Śląsko-Dąbrowski Provincial Office dated September 22, 1946. It seems that the document may contribute to clarifying the question of possible burials of American soldiers in Łambinowice.

- The State Archives in Kielce

The research was connected with the alleged shooting down of American aircraft in Barycz near Końskie in the fall of 1943 (the details of this case were described in our previous report). Our analyses covered the records of the Końskie *Gmina* (administrative district), the Local Council in Końskie, the Końskie District Starosty, and the Kielce Provincial Office of 1945–50. Unfortunately, no documents confirming the shooting down of the aircraft were found.

- The State Archives in Kielce (Starachowice Branch)

The search focused on information on the aircraft shot down near Barycz, but, unfortunately, produced no results.

- The Central Archives of Modern Records (Archiwum Akt Nowych) in Warsaw

Our analysis covered the "Ministry of the Regained Territories" section reference no. 332 "Care over the cemeteries and graves of foreign soldiers, POWs and inmates – lists, protocols, situational sketches, correspondence" (January 1946-December 1948). The correspondence concerning the tidying up of the British POWs cemetery in Żagań after it had been devastated by the Ukrainian repatriates from Germany includes a copy of the list of those buried issued by a German mayor of Żagań. File no. 8 includes information about two American citizens Stg. U. Wisman and Cpl. L. Schaeffer.

Files nos. 28–29: a letter from the Ministry of Public Administration to the Ministry of the Regained Territories dated June 17, 1946, with a letter by Kazimierz Piławski of Słupsk dated May 20, 1946 (file 29) attached. The author replies to the appeal by the Ministry of Public Administration published in the *Gazeta Ludowa* paper of May 16, 1945 (in fact 1946) and writes that "at the German cemetery in Słupsk" there is a separate site of burial of POWs from the Allied Forces, including graves of the French, Belgians, and Italians but also two Americans. These graves were marked with crosses with a national flag painted on them and had inscriptions that the author re-wrote as: KGF Carl Rowinski ASN-3348895 6-17-23 and KGF James Buffenmeyer ASN 6938908 5-31-21 1-2-43. Piławski went to the cemetery on the very date the letter was written and discovered that the crosses were destroyed and the graves were deprived of their identification MARKS.

File 32 of the said section includes correspondence on the grave of Lieutenant Frank Sibbett no. 0759095 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Ministry of the Regained Territories dated January 29, 1947. It refers to a letter by the American Graves Registration Command in Paris and includes a request by the parents of the late serviceman allegedly buried in Międzyrzec not to exhume his body but to wait for their final decision. File 33 is a letter from the Ministry of the Regained Territories to the Poznań Provincial Office's Branch in Gorzów Wielkopolski on to the same issue. File 35: a letter by the Provincial Office in Poznań (Gorzów Branch) to the Ministry of the Regained Territories dated March 22, 1947, notifying the Ministry that the Sibbett grave was not found. According to the Office's findings, after the USAF raid of Poznań on the Pentecost in 1944, American aircraft was brought down after an air fight between the villages of Zolwin and Kuligowo of the Międzyrzec District (*powiat*). Some of the crewmembers saved their lives but one airman was killed, one was heavily injured and seven were taken captive and placed in the barracks in Międzyrzec. The local population reported that the wounded airman was of an "Israelite origin". The Office stated the lack of annotations in the parish books about the burial of any Allied Forces airman in the Roman-Catholic cemetery in Międzyrzec.

File 47: a letter from the Ministry of the Regained Territories to the Gorzów Wielkopolski Branch of the Poznań Provincial Office (May 7, 1946) ordering to make "a list of foreign servicemen and deportees who died in connection with the war in the area of the province".

File 101: a letter by the Provincial Office in Gdańsk, Department of Reconstruction, to the Ministry of the Regained Territories dated August 16, 1947, reporting the sending of the list of foreigners' graves.

File 102: a list of citizens of various nationalities killed in Gdańsk. The list includes four names of Americans: Elack Gilbert, Sewdyer James, Smith James, and Jorslan F.W.

File 122: Ministry of the Reconstruction, a copied typescript dated August 30, 1947 including information that an exhumation team from the US will soon start working in Poland. The letter contains a request for supplementing the list of graves of American servicemen. Since the lists are not complete — the provincial and local (*powiat*) authorities

should provide the Team with supplementary records. The bodies of the exhumed servicemen are to be transported from all over Poland to the basement of the Holy Cross Church in Warsaw where they will be kept until carried to the site of their permanent rest.

Files 131–132: “The list of servicemen, American citizens killed in the area of the Szczecin province” includes 25 items, of which 23 names and two items with annotations on common graves with the bodies of unidentified American servicemen. In addition to the names, citizenships, and cemetery the list also gives the causes of death. It also covers servicemen mentioned in K. Pilawski’s letter

- The Military Archives in Prague

An introductory research was made in the sections of:

“Letecká válka na území CSR” 1945 (Air war over the Czech Republic), including information prepared by the department of Vojenského Historického Ústavu based mainly on questionnaires filled in the years 1946–50. The section covers some 2.3 meters of files.

“Nemecké letectvo” — a set of documents of the Luftwaffe command, including some 0.7 meters of files.

“Kmenový tabor VIII B” — files of POW camps VIII A, B, C, D, F, 318, 344, and 366.

A detailed investigation was made into the section of “Letecká válka nad území Protektorátu”. The materials gathered constitute extensive documentation of the research carried out by the employees of the Military Historical Institute in Prague. The work began in 1947. During the search that is carried out to date no evidence was found of rescue of American airmen.

A request was also submitted for a query to be made in the collections of the Central Museum of Prisoners of War in Łambinowice. But the search of the collection can start only in early July 2003. We have been told that the Museum is under stocktaking at present.

Research was also carried out at Hungarian archives where copies of selected documents were ordered. They will be analyzed in detail in our next report (as we have not received the ordered materials yet).

## 2. bibliographic queries

Research was conducted in both Polish and foreign publications. A dozen or so books and press reports referred to the fate of American soldiers missing in Poland or other countries in Central and Eastern Europe. The following Polish and Czech publications seem to be the most interesting ones:

- Andrzej Wojdyla, *Losy załogi amerykańskiego bombowca Boeing B-17G „Lotująca Forteca” zestrzelonego nad Orawą 13 września 1944, w świetle relacji żołnierza Armii Krajowej Andrzeja Wojdyły ps. „Felek”* (The fate of the crew of the American bomber Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress shot down over Orava on September 13, 1944 in the light of a report by the Home Army serviceman Andrzej Wojdyla “Felek”), ed. by Robert Kowalski, (in:) “Orawa” no. 39 (2001), p. 67–78 (copy attached).

The text concerns the Boeing B-17G aircraft participating in the mission of bombing a conglomerate of chemical plants in Blachownia Śląska near Kędzierzyn, shot down by German fighters on September 13, 1944 over Jablonka Orawska. It was Bomber no. 44-6412 from the 817<sup>th</sup> Squadron Wings 5 of the 483<sup>rd</sup> Bombing Group. Its crewmen consisted of ten airmen. The author reports that the queries helped to identify the names of six of them without any doubt, including five taken over by the Home Army servicemen. The crew included: Pilot Colonel Everett J. Robson, Lieutenant August Kroschewski, Richard L. Hansler, Sergeant Harold E. Beam, Sergeant Gordon W. Seternbeck, Sergeant Alois Suhling and Stock, van Oostrom, Nance, Barry. The reports by the airmen saved by the Polish guerillas indicate that the aircraft was seriously damaged over the target, which resulted in an unintentional

separation of the aircraft from the formation. The damaged aircraft, deprived of its protection was noticed and attacked by two German patrol fighters Messerschmitt Me-109G, most probably belonging to JG-52, that took off from the Kraków airfield in Czyżyny. The downed bomber began to describe circles in the air over the locality of Piekelnik, and its crew began evacuation. The last one to leave the aircraft was the first pilot. The aircraft crashed between the villages of Podczerwone and Koniówka against a railway embankment of the Nowy Targ – Sucha Góra route. The rescued airmen found shelter thanks to the servicemen of the Orava Unit of the Home Army "Limba" under the command of Reserve Second Lieutenant Andrzej Jazowski "Jurek". The fate of the four airmen who were caught by the Germans is basically unknown. Their traces lead to Zakopane and the "Palace" Gestapo prison. The author of the memoirs writes: *The remaining four airmen fell down to the peat land of the Czarny Dunajec river. The last one of them, the ninth, jumped next to the burning aircraft and fell straight into the Gestapo hands. The four airmen "captured" in this way were taken by the Germans to the Palace prison in Zakopane. After a few days, they were executed there by the Germans - the local mountaineers say - as there is no trace left of them (p. 77).* So far we have not managed to locate the place where the files of the Zakopane Gestapo are kept (if they survived at all) as they could help explain the fate of the airmen.

- Robert Kowalski, „*Latająca Forteca*” z Koniówki – aktualny stan badań (The Flying Fortress of Koniówka – the Current State of Research), (in:) *Lotnicza historia, archeologia i tradycja miejsca. Materiały z konferencji naukowej Nowy Targ 13–15 września 2002* (The Air History, Archaeology, and Tradition of the Site. Proceedings of a Scientific Conference, Nowy Targ September 13–15, 2002), Nowy Targ 2002, p. 303–314 (copy attached).

The article refers to the above case of the Boeing B-17 G Flying Fortress shot down over Orava on September 13, 1944, but adds some new interesting facts. Only five airmen of the ten-strong crew returned home. The rest of them are listed as missing in action. The intensive research work – the author of the article writes – began in mid-2001, but information on the crash of the American aircraft circled among the local population for many years. The crash site is defined in detail – some one kilometer west of the Koniówka locality in the Czarny Dunajec area (*gmina*). The text includes the description of the fate of the crew, with particularly interesting passages pertaining to the ones taken by the Gestapo to the Palace: *The crewmen of the crashed aircraft was scattered on both sides of the then border between the Republic of Slovakia and the German-occupied Poland. Five of them landed in Orava, another five remained in the Podhale region. (...) West of the Czarny Dunajec river a landing American airman was seen by many residents of the locality. A majority of them hurried towards him. Unfortunately, despite urgent requests, he did not go towards the village. (...) he decided to leave his parachute and went towards the nearby forest. There, he was detained by German border guards and taken to a police station in Czarny Dunajec. Another two landed near Chocholów. Both were also caught by German soldiers. The last one, most probably Lieutenant Pilot Robson, touched down near the village of Podczerwone. The residents of the village remember that he did not try to hide, but sat by his folded parachute and waited for the arrival of the Germans. After a brief search he got into the car that took him to Czarny Dunajec.*

*All the crewmembers of the Flying Fortress caught in Podhale were interrogated in Czarny Dunajec. The interrogation was attended by Local (gmina) Secretary Jan Leja, who, unfortunately, is dead now. Gestapo officers from Zakopane came in the afternoon to take the airmen. They took the airmen and transported them to the "Palace" where no trace has been left of them. The later fate of the Americans is not known in detail, but there is some indirect evidence that they were murdered in the Podhale place of torture. The "Palace" prisoner Edward Zegleń was an eyewitness of their tragic fate. In his memoirs published by the Życie*

*Warszawy daily in February 1965 he wrote. I was then kept in a cell with a small window overlooking the "Palace's" backyard. Behind a bend there was a wall where the prisoners were executed. To have a better view I climbed the heater. Gestapo man Schmisch along with another Gestapo man whom we called Wiktor took two young men in airmen's uniforms through the back door, one of them was white the other black. No one have ever returned alive from under that wall."*

*Information on the tragic fate of Lieutenant Evert J. Robson and another four crewmembers is also included in other reports, though not by eyewitnesses (...). For example, we can read that two young men in airmen's – "Allied Forces uniforms" – were taken to Kościelisko and killed when "attempting to escape". Unfortunately, this information has not been confirmed so far because the full documentation of the Zakopane prison has not been found. (...) on the basis of materials gathered to date we can (...) put forward a cautious thesis boiling down to the statement that five American airmen were brutally murdered by the Gestapo men from Zakopane.*

- Michał Mucha, *Sily powietrzne Armii Stanów Zjednoczonych nad Wielkopolską podczas II wojny światowej* (The US Air Forces over the Wielkopolska Region during the Second World War) (in:) *Lotnicza historia, archeologia i tradycja miejsca. Materiały z konferencji naukowej Nowy Targ 13-15 września 2002* (The Air History, Archaeology, and Tradition of the Site. Proceedings of a Scientific Conference, Nowy Targ, September 13-15, 2002), Nowy Targ 2002, p. 243-250 (copy attached).

Even though near Poznań there were not many targets for the strategic air forces, the routes of several hundred long-haul aircraft went over the Wielkopolska area in the years 1944 and 1945. The author describes selected expeditions over Wielkopolska. The first two expeditions over Poznań were sent during the so-called Great Week, in February 1944, when the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force attacked the German aircraft industry. On May 29, 1944 the biggest raid of the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force on the German targets in Wielkopolska took place. The Focke-Wulf factory located on the premises of the Poznań Fair was attacked. Bombs were also dropped on branches of the Telefunken factory and the railway repair plant. The only loss was the aircraft of the 384<sup>th</sup> Group that went on fire for unknown reasons during the last stage of its flight and exploded near Grodzisk Wielkopolski. The whole crew managed to jump on parachutes and was taken captive.

Attention should be also called to another shuttle flight under the Frantic operation carried out on June 21, 1944. A total of 145 Fortresses of the Third Air Division attacked the refinery in Ruhland, south of Berlin, and instead of returning to England flew eastwards, to the Ukraine. The bombers were protected by a total of more than 230 fighters of various types. East of Warsaw the expedition was attacked by Luftwaffe fighters. Pilots of the Fourth Group reported the shooting of two of them. One aircraft crashed near Siedlce. An airman's grave can be still found on the local cemetery there. One of the Flying Fortresses was also shot down near Woronic. The Germans caught three crewmen, another seven managed to avoid captivity with the help of the Home Army. They fought in guerilla troops until the front came.

Supporting the Soviet offensive, on February 3, 1945, the 8th AF attacked a railway transport in Berlin. On that day, one thousand bombers from the First and Third Air Division assisted by more than 600 fighters appeared over the city. The crews of at least six damaged Flying Fortresses sought shelter near the Odra river. Only a few Americans were taken captive. A firm majority of them returned to their bases still before the end of the war.

Six days later, another bomber B-17G came flying near Jarocin. It belonged to the 303<sup>rd</sup> Bombing Group. Before the airmen managed to leave the burning aircraft, one of the wings broke loose. Five airmen were killed. There is a monument commemorating them on the crash site.

On March 2, after the raid of Dresden, another two Flying Fortresses reached Poland. The crew of one of them jumped the aircraft on parachutes near Turek where they were aided by the Home Army servicemen.

On March 15, after the raids of Ruhland and Oranienburg, a dozen or so bombers and fighters of the 8<sup>th</sup> AF flew to Poland. Two Fortresses landed near Babimost and Poznań. Their crews were taken over by the Russians and there are many indications that they returned safely to their units.

On March 18, 1945, nearly one thousand Fortresses and more than 300 Liberators were sent over Berlin from their bases in Great Britain. A member of the 385<sup>th</sup> Bombing Group that managed to come flying from Berlin despite serious damages landed in the field near Grodzisk Wielkopolski. Its flight could have been longer if it had not been for the attack of a Soviet fighter. As a result of that attack two riflemen were wounded. One of them had had his arm amputated in a hospital in Grodzisk. The other one died and was buried in St. Ann's square.

A Fortress of the 487<sup>th</sup> Group fell down near Gorzów Wielkopolski. During their jump the crewmen came under fire from the land. Two killed Americans were buried by the Russians on the crash site, but their graves have not been found to date (attached are the results of our detailed research into this case).

On March 22, aircraft of the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force from Italy crashed near Gorzów Wielkopolski. It was a Fortress from the 483<sup>rd</sup> Bombing Group that flew eastward after the raid of Ruhland. Two crewmembers were killed, with at least one of them having been murdered by the Germans right after landing. Four were taken captive and another four, despite wounds, reached the positions taken by Russians or were freed by the Russians from a German hospital.

• Martin Piša, *Československo a korejská válka* (Czechoslovakia and the Korean War), (in:) "Historický obzor" III–IV 1997, p. 81–85.

The article is based on the archival research of the collections of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. The author characterizes both collections: *In the Foreign Ministry's archives there were specific reports from a diplomatic mission in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the materials of the Asian Department of the Foreign Ministry pertaining to the political, military, and economic situation in Korea in the years 1950–53 (...) The picture of the situation is mostly hidden between lines. The actual information covers mainly political reports (...). In terms of volume the material is fairly extensive, which can be explained with the superiors' demands for permanent and frequent reports. (...) then the archival collections of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, its international department and the government presidium (the general and secret chancellery) were used. The volume of archival material pertaining to Korea and related developments in the said period is much smaller* (p. 81).

When analyzing the Korean-Czechoslovak relations during the conflict, the author recalls that a fully equipped field hospital managed by Czechoslovak physicians and serviced by the civilian medical personnel of the medium level was sent to Korea. The sending of the hospital was presented, as the author claims, primarily as a humanitarian act, but the true reasons were primarily of a political and military nature. In the author's opinion, several dozen people were sent from Czechoslovakia to Korea.

An interesting report refers to the placing of parts of equipment and radars from American aircraft at the Czechoslovak Research Institute on the request of the then foreign minister Vilem Široky (archives of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, collection 05-/5, Volume 10, archival unit 69).

- Ondřej Schnabl, Jiří Šťastný, Prokop Tomek, Martin Piša, *Aktivita československých institucí v jihovýchodní Asii v době korejské a vietnamské války* (Activities of Czechoslovak institutions in South-East Asia during the Korean and Vietnam wars), Praha 2002.

The study is an extract of the "Report on investigating the information on the alleged participation of the Czechoslovak Communist institutions in non-humanitarian treatment of American POWs during the Korean and Vietnam wars". The office employees describe the attitude of the state administration and bodies of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia towards developments in South-East Asia in the years 1950–54 and 1964–68, including primarily the operation of the Czechoslovak hospitals in Korea and Vietnam. The study presents the course of events based on documents and confronts it with General Šejna's reports.

- Vladimír Pilát, *Českoslovenští lékaři v korejské válce I-II* (Czechoslovak military physicians in the Korean war) (in:) "Historie a vojenství" XLIII, 1994 No. 2, p. 132–161 and No. 3, p. 89–106.

The work deals with the activity of a group of Czechoslovak military physicians at the rear of North Korean and Chinese army units - the so-called people's volunteers. It refers to a field hospital sent to Korea. The hospital's chief, who reported to the Czechoslovak military attaché in North Korea, had to file monthly reports on his activity with the Czechoslovak military attaché. In March 1952, the 18-strong personnel of the hospital were ready for departure. In Korea it turned out that the hospital was not prepared to fulfill its tasks in terms of both personnel and equipment. The Czechs worked at the 56<sup>th</sup> North-Korean hospital with its headquarters at the village of Sogam, 35–40 km northwest of Pyongyang. The author writes about the transfer of the hospital in early March 1953 and a new group of physicians and staff. The military stage of the presence of the Czechoslovak health service in North Korea ended in late 1953. The work includes a list of persons who worked at the Czechoslovak hospital during the war in Korea and could have encountered American soldiers.

- Zdeněk Bičík, *Letecké nálety na Pardubice v roce 1944 (souhrnný přehled)*, (in:) "Východočeský sborník historický" 1, Pardubice 1991, p. 187–196.

The study characterizes raids by American troops near Pardubice. It includes information on the raids on December 28, 1944. The Mustangs of the 325<sup>th</sup> Group of fighters attacked the airfield in Chrudim then. Lieutenant W.C. Margetts' aircraft was shot down. After a forced landing near Pelhřimov, the pilot was taken to the local hospital in a serious condition.

The article is supplemented with tables with statistical data on all the three raids (including the number and type of aircraft, time of attack, number, type and weight of the bombs dropped, parameters of individual aircraft types participating in actions, and a list of victims and wounded).

Following the announcements made in the previous report, materials sent by the branch of the Slovak Union of Anti-Nazi Fighters in Pezinok were analyzed. Special attention was paid to:

- the list of American airmen who were taken captive or killed in late June or early July 1944, made on July 14, 1944. The list includes names of 27 soldiers taken captive (in addition to the first name and surname it also includes the military rank, index number and information on health condition, or the place of hospitalization for those wounded). Healthy airmen were transferred to a provisional POW camp at the dormitory of the Military College in Bratislava. For soldiers who were killed in action (8), in addition to personal data, it also includes information on the date and place of burial (three at the cemetery in the Gajary unit (*gmina*),

the Malacky District (*poviat*), four at the cemetery in the Dolnee Lieskovec unit (*gmina*), the Ilava *poviat* and one at the military cemetery in Trenczin) (copy attached).

- the report by Szefan Schwarz, the commander of the Pezinok garrison made on June 26, 1944 on air duels in the area of Pezinok – Modra – Senec – Sv. Júr. The report includes a detailed description of actions on June 26, 1944 and quotes German losses. It also includes reference to an American bomber shot down near the Slovenský Grob unit (*gmina*), which exploded and burnt after crashing against the ground. Its debris was investigated on the spot by a Slovak-German committee. Its crewmember Allan J. Wisner O-760216 T43 44 AP survived the crash after he had landed on the roof of a house in the Pezinok *gmina*. He was bandaged and transported to the hospital in Bratislava (copy attached).
- the article *Americké kridla nad Slovenskom* (American Wings over Slovakia), published in the "Obrana" journal on September 24, 1944 includes a detailed calendar of actions by the US Air Forces before, during and after the Slovak National Uprising. Particularly valuable reports refer to the losses of the American Air Forces, e.g. two Liberators B-24 shot down on June 16, 1944 over Bratislava and two P-38 fighters shot down on June 26, 1944. American troops suffered heavy losses on July 7, 1944, when seven aircraft were shot over Slovakia (B-24J near Inovec, P-51 Turá Lúka, B-24H Pružina, two B-24J Komárno, B-24J Cerová, B-17G Čalovo). The author also recalls the evacuation of USAAF soldiers and the assistance provided by the American Air Forces for the insurgents, primarily through the destruction of strategic German facilities.
- the article *Americkí letci v Grinave* (American Captives in Grinava), describes the evacuation of the American airmen from the POW camp in Grinava. Before the outbreak of the uprising they were taken out by the camp's commander, Major, Ján Šavel. On September 17, 1944, they were transported to a base in Italy. The article also mentions members of the Anglo-American mission in Banská Bystrica who were caught by the Edelweiss unit in late December 1944.

### 3. direct appeals to residents of the areas where the American aircraft crashed

Special attention in the past reporting period was called to the fate of the crew of the aircraft shot down near Mosina in the Wielkopolska region in March 1945. Two crewmembers who were shot by the Russians were buried probably near the crash site. But detailed information is missing as to both the crash site and the burial site. Appeals were sent to local residents and foresters in the hope that some additional information can be obtained from them. Letters were addressed to the parish in Gorzów, Tarnów, and Dębno, to the Management of the Wielkopolski National Park, Museum Chamber in Mosina and the Forestry Management in Dębno. Unfortunately, no reply has been received so far.

### 4. press announcements and radio communiqués

The Ukrainian Project implementer LOT "Poshuk" prepared and aired on the radio an appeal to the residents of Zlochev (10 times), Czerwonohrad (3 times), and Mostiska.

The appeal was published in the Czerwonohrad newspaper "*Nowini Pribuzzia*", a regional paper published in Mostiska "*Nasz kraj*", regional paper "*Prikarpacie*" published in Stary Sambor, and regional newspaper "*Bojkovshchina*" published in Turka.

An announcement was also placed in the fortnightly of the Union of Freedom Fighters, the largest Czech organization grouping former fighters against fascism "*Národní osvobození*" (press cuttings attached).

Two letters came in reply to an announcement published in the "*Národní osvobození*" journal. One of the eyewitnesses (b)(6) described his recollections concerning the rescue of several American airmen after the shooting-down of their aircraft near Tišnov in Moravia in spring 1945. (b)(6) fought then in the R-3 Guerilla Squad of General Luža, he

(b)(6)

participated in the described events. The downed bomber transported weapons for guerillas. The crew was composed of eight people, with Capt. O Mc Carthy from Dakota as their commander. The whole crew jumped on parachutes. Three crewmembers were hidden by the DELTA Group until the end of the war, the other five were hidden by the unit in which (b)(6) served. A forester's lodge in Nihovo was their hiding place. The American soldiers took part in some guerilla auctions. When bidding farewell, the Americans gave Novotný their handwritten addresses that he keeps as a souvenir till this very day (Thomas O Mc Carthy, (b)(6) CS Jonca, (b)(6) Robert E Reasch, S Sienandook, Iowa).

(b)(6) also replied to the press announcement. He sent a copy of his article describing the events of October 14, 1944 in Napajedle. One of the B-24 Liberator bombers went off course at a high altitude, it was falling down slowly, while describing huge spirals in the air. The aircraft was damaged and could not continue its flight. The pilot sought an emergency-landing site. He chose the area behind Prosinski's estate called America. Ten crewmembers left the aircraft immediately and hid in the nearby forest. Two fighters that accompanied the bombers fired at the bomber and set it on fire. The airmen were caught by the German troops stationed in Otrokovice and the Gestapo men of Uherskie Hradiště. Two airmen were shot dead. Their bodies were robbed, even their jackets and shoes were taken away from them. Their corpses were transported to the mortuary at the cemetery in Napajedle. They were buried in the upper part of the cemetery by the wall without markings. After the liberation in 1945 the airmen were exhumed and buried with honors in the cemetery in front of the church next to the Soviet soldiers killed during the liberation of the town. In the late 1940s the airmen were exhumed again and transported to the collective cemetery in France.

The airmen's bodies were identified during their exhumation in 1945. The clerks of the *poviat* court in Napajedle, who carried out the exhumation, drafted a protocol dated October 10, 1945. It included descriptions of the bodies and data from the metal tags. One of the airmen was W. Winters No. O-762857 T 13-440, the other J.W. Johnson No. O-704626 T 43-OT 44. It was also noted in the protocol that in both cases death was caused by a gunshot in the occiput.

##### **5. contacts with organizations grouping participants in the resistance movement and former inmates of labor camps**

Meetings were organized with members of the "Memorial" and "Prosvita" associations in Czerwonohrad, Sokal, Mostiska, Stary Sambor, members of the UPA association and members of the Union of Former Political Prisoners in Stary Sambor and the village of Strilbychi. LOT "Poshuk" representatives also met with the management of the district branch of the All-Ukrainian UPA Association in Ivano-Frankovsk. Information about the Project was presented to the meetings of former political prisoners in Halich, Burshtyn, and Kolomyia.

Cooperation continued with the Poviát Committee of the Slovak Union of Anti-Nazi Fighters from Myjava (Slovakia). This time we were presented with bibliographic materials: a fragment of an article by Jaroslav Kalný *Rehabilitácia sa odkladá* (Postponed Rehabilitation) from "Ročenky Odbojárov 2003" (Yearbook of Resistance Movement Members 2003), pertaining to the Slovaks' hiding James Kirchhoff, shot down on November 20, 1944, and the burial sites of him and the people hiding him who were shot by Gestapo at the turn of 1944 and 1945. Also photocopies were sent of photographs from a book by Ján Gálik, *Odboj a oslobodenie Myjavy* (The Resistance Movement and Liberation of Myjava), depicting American soldiers and Slovaks hiding them (copies attached).

#### 6. direct contacts with eyewitnesses

Ukrainian Project implementer LOT "Poshuk" was particularly active in establishing direct contacts with eyewitnesses. Meetings were held with political prisoners living in Zhydachov, Pieremyslhany, Mikolajov, Stryj, Lvov, Czerwonohrad, Sokal, Stary Sambor, Turka, Olevsk, Busk, the villages of Rudno, Strilbychi, villages of the Tarnopol area. Meetings continued with the former political prisoners living now in the villages of the Grodno region.

The testimony most often pertained to a few places of imprisonment:

- Mordvin camps

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1947 in Mordovia, in Dubrovlag, in the village of Ust'-Tarna - two disabled Americans were kept. The eyewitness does not remember any details.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1950-51, he worked at a labor camp in the village of Javasy in Mordovia together with an Indian who served in the American Army and was arrested for spying. The American was tall, aged about 40-45.

(b)(6) Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1970-71, American "spies" stayed in the 17<sup>th</sup> separated zone of the Mordvin camps.

- Vorkuta

Eyewitness (b)(6) from Zhydachov: towards the end of 1949, in Vorkuta in the Komi Republic, at labor camp no. 5-153/5-OR, he met two American officers-musicians. Unfortunately, he does not remember any details.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1946-47, an American pilot was at mine no. 2. He used to say that his aircraft was shot by an anti-aircraft canon and went on fire, he jumped on a parachute but landed very unfortunately and was seriously injured. He had large scars on his face. He was taciturn and spoke poor Russian. He was moved somewhere else.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1951-55, he served his sentence together with an American prisoner of Ukrainian descent Bill Marczuk. Marczuk spoke poor Ukrainian. He was small, aged about 30. He kept telling that he served in the American army and was arrested in Germany in 1945.

(b)(6) Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1952, at the labor camp at mine no. 6 in Vorkutlag, he met an American citizen of Ukrainian descent. He was tall, with a round face, wavy dark blond hair, aged about 30. He lived in a common barrack, he was disabled and, therefore, his work was lighter — he carried snow. He would say that, in 1949, he came on a mission to Lvov and was arrested there for spying. In 1954, the eyewitness was transferred to mine no. 29 where he also met an American. He was of medium height, with red hair, aged about 40, educated, spoke good Russian. It was said that he was an American Intelligence colonel who was abducted from Germany after the war. He had been in other camps before he was taken to Vorkuta. He lived together with Russian prisoners. He worked in the mine as a warehouse attendant.

Eyewitness (b)(6) from 1949 to 1953, an American stayed in Vorkuta at mine no. 9/10. Contacts with him were banned. The American was of medium height, with dark hair. He was 40.

Eyewitness (b)(6) at mine no. 40 in Vorkuta in 1950, he worked with American pilot John Czernian. The American was about 35, tall. He liked singing.

- Norilsk camps

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1951-56, he was at camp no. 54 in Norilsk. American airmen were kept in a separate barrack. They were escorted to work under special surveillance. When they passed other prisoners, the prisoners were told to turn their backs on them. Any contacts were forbidden.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1947-48, at the "Bear's Stream" mine in Norilsk, he saw a young American pilot aged 20-23, he was tall (some 190 cm). Contacts with him were banned.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1946-47, at the "Medvezhka" labor camp in Norilsk, he saw 6-7 American prisoners who were later taken probably to Taishet.

The remaining information obtained:

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1948-49, at a dispatching point in Inta, Komi Republic, there were two American Jews who worked together with the eyewitness's husband. Their names were Fridman and Wais. One of them worked in a carpet factory, the other in a tailoring shop.

(b)(6) Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1947, at the Vanino Bay, he saw two American inmates. People said they were spies and other inmates were afraid to come into touch with them. They had no special marks, they were 35-40, tall, shapely.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1947, at the tuberculosis ward in the hospital, he met an American sailor who was arrested for "espionage". The American was small, fat, with fawn hair. He was around 30.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1948, in Inta, there was an American soldier. He was kept separately and he did not work.

Eyewitness (b)(6) when, in 1950, he came to column no. 44 Nizhneilmsk in Krasnoyarsk Country with his transport, he heard a detailed story about American airmen told by a security officer. When some aircraft landed in the labor camp the Americans started to flee. They ran towards the aircraft. They were shot by security guards. Inmates said that there were some 20 airmen, one of them managed to reach the aircraft that snatched him and flew away. It is not known what happened to him later.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1951-53 he was in a labor camp in the Mostov area in the Kemerov Oblast. In the barracks there were Ukrainian inmates and also Americans, but contacts with them were forbidden. After a few months they were taken somewhere. Such a situation repeated several times. It was said that they protected facilities over the Elbe river, Soviet border guards went to talk to them. At night the Americans were abducted and sent to labor camps in the USSR. In 1953, the eyewitness was transferred to Omsk, to a labor camp at the construction site of an oil refinery. There were also several dozen Americans. They were kept in separate barracks, but they had their meals at the camp's canteen. They were not taken to work.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1954, when he was moved to OLP 11, where the "boss of American intelligence" was kept. He was of Serbian origin, his name was Chudomir Markovich (aged around 35), and he was arrested in Germany.

(b)(6) Eyewitnesses (b)(6) they lived as special settlers in the village of Talaya in the Taishet area in the Irkutsk Oblast on the Solanaya forest farm. An American lived and died in the settlement in 1955. His Russian was poor. He was buried at the local cemetery.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in 1946 he worked on the reconstruction of the 117<sup>th</sup> kilometer of the Taishet-Bratsk railway route. A group of inmates from Budapest was brought there. The group included an American, George Bazanari, he was from the Los Angeles area. He was some kind of a representative in Budapest, he helped the Hungarians, he was sentenced to 10 years. In August 1948, he died of exhaustion, he was buried at a small station 282 kilometers from Taishet.

Eyewitness (b)(6) in the years 1952-54, he served as lance corporal for radiolocation at Andul. He knows that American airmen from downed bombers were passed on to the Koreans or Chinese.

(b)(6)

Eyewitness (b)(6) in October 1944, near the Mukachov - Uzhhorod road, five American airmen were taken captive. For about two weeks they fought as volunteers in the 987<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Riflemen of the 226<sup>th</sup> Riflemen Division. The eyewitness does not know their later fate.

#### **7. contacts with the Central Address Bureau**

In the reporting period, the obtained list of names of Polish employees of diplomatic missions in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos was analyzed. Two chronological determinants were taken as a basis for selection — the date of birth and the period of stay at the mission — Vietnam 1961–1973 with special emphasis put on 1969; Laos 1963–1973; Cambodia 1970–1975. The selected data were computerized (first name and surname, country, mission, position, period of stay, current telephone number, current address, date of establishment of contact, remarks and commentary). Inquiries about 100 people were addressed to the Central Address Bureau. The selection of persons covered by inquiries to the Bureau for making their addresses available was based on several criteria — workplace, period of stay at the mission, position, date of birth. Under the Law on Protection of Personal Data of August 29, 1997 (*Dziennik Ustaw* 1997, No. 133, Item 883 as later amended) the Bureau, before making the address available, is obliged to first obtain the consent of the person we seek. So far, we have not received positive answers.

Administrator of the Project

KARTA Center President

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

#### **Attachments:**

1. books;
2. copies of selected articles;
3. press cuttings;
4. study on the crew of the aircraft shot down on March 18, 1945.

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AMERICAN EMBASSY  
Al. Ujazdowskie 29/31  
00-540 Warsaw, Poland

Phone: (48-22) 628-3041  
Fax: (48-22) 625-7710

**FAX COVER SHEET**

No. of Pages (including cover sheet): 8

TO: (b)(6)  
Defense POW/MIA Personnel Office

DATE: 7 February 2000

(b)(6) FAX #: (703) 602-1275

FROM: Political Section (b)(6)

SUBJECT: OPEN LETTER FROM NEW POLISH FOUNDATION.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LETTER FROM A NEW ORGANIZATION I HAVE NOT HEARD  
OF. I'M TRYING TO FIND OUT WHO THESE PEOPLE ARE. IF I LEARN MORE WILL  
LET YOU KNOW

**FOUNDER'S COMMITTEE  
OF INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR WAR CASUALTIES  
"RECONCILIATION"**

Warsaw 2000 01 24

Mr. Daniel Fried  
The Ambassador  
of the United States of America  
Al Upazdowskie 29/31  
00 540 Warsaw

I enclose information concerning the establishment of the "RECONCILIATION" foundation  
for your information and official use.

Should you be interested in the matter mentioned above we can furnish you with a copy of  
the project of the foundation.

Bearing the above in mind we hope that the matter to which we have drawn your attention  
will be of interest to you and will result in long term cooperation.

Chairman of the Founding Committee  
M. F. O. K. W. "RECONCILIATION"

(b)(6)

(signature)

Founder Member

(b)(6)

(signature)

Founder Member

(b)(6)

(signature)

(b)(6)

**FOUNDER'S COMMITTEE  
OF INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR WAR CASUALTIES  
"RECONCILIATION"**

**Mr. Jan Król  
Deputy Speaker of the RP Sejm  
ul. Wiejska 6  
00-950 Warszawa**

Concerning: the search for American POW's, Polish senior and junior officers and policemen who died in Soviet camps on the territories of the former USSR

Dear Mr. Speaker,

With reference to our last conversation I would like to respectfully inform you that after consultations with representatives of the UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT remains have been exhumed from a grave located in a former Soviet camp in the Ukraine.

About 50 camp inmates had been buried in the grave mentioned above, including 18 former American prisoners, who had been captured during the war in Vietnam and were later transported to the USSR. In order to establish their identity the Ukrainian authorities have sent the bones (of the remains) for medical examination. After their names have been established the American authorities will select two names and their (remains') bones will be delivered to the United States by diplomatic post.

The exhumation carried out has brought to the fore the problem of how to transfer the ashes of American airmen imprisoned during the Vietnam War to the American authorities. The signing of the secret treaty between Russia and the Ukraine, after the break-up of the USSR, on maintaining secrecy concerning special services, in particular the KGB and GRU and their archives has complicated matters. In addition the secret decree by president YELTSIN forbidding the disclosure of information concerning American airmen who, after 1964 fell into enemy hands in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, until the year 2030, complicates matters further.

After very difficult and lengthy discussions the Ukrainian authorities have suggested establishing a humanitarian foundation for this purpose. The founder members will be private individuals from the Ukraine, Poland, Russia, Belarus, Germany and the United States of America. This foundation will deal with searching for the (remains of) victims of armed conflicts after the 2nd World War.

The German authorities were the first to voice interest in giving the foundation financial support. Discussions with the American authorities also confirmed their participation in the costs of searching for and exhuming American prisoners.

The name of the foundation has been provisionally registered in Poland under the following name: MIEDZYNARODOWA FUNDACJA OFIAR KONFLIKTÓW WOJENNYCH "RECONCILIATION" (International Foundation for the casualties of War Reconciliation). The Russian authorities have requested help concerning their soldiers who died during the conflict in Afghanistan.



*Defense Attache Office  
Embassy of Poland  
Washington, D.C. 20508  
2224 Wyoming Ave  
USA (202) 232 2303  
Fax (202) 483 5785*

Washington, October 8, 1997

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Enclosed please find a copy of the letter I have recently received from the Director of the Military Historical Institute in Warsaw. The letter is written in Polish and addressed to me but it contains the answer to your request on American POWs from Korean and Vietnam War. It is stated that .... the Military Historical Institute does not possess any documents connected to American citizens taken prisoner during Korean and Vietnam war. We do not also have any sources which contain information connected to this question ...

I hope it would answer your question sent to our Embassy in Washington.

*Sincerely*

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Defense, Military, Naval and Air Attache