

the Air Force JSSA deputy chief saw the letters SEREX, the head of the POW/MIA office (General Wold) wrote the Star Tribune claiming no Defense Department employee ever saw the letters "SEREX." In October 1996 the POW/MIA office confessed their statement was false. The only excuse for this offered is a vague statement open to many interpretations. DPMO has refused to elaborate.

The August 29, 1994 statement by the POW/MIA office to the head of the House Intelligence committee is a pure fabrication—with invented details to give it apparent credibility. This is an outrageous attempt to obstruct justice and prevent a potential investigation by the House Intelligence Committee. No excuse for this statement has been forthcoming by the POW/MIA office to date.

Discussion of TA. The POW/MIA office now confesses that the letters "TA" were used during the war as E&E codes. Their office previously claimed to the best of their knowledge they were not. It turns out the codes were not used just for one month, but from October 1972 to April 10, 1973!

Note the previous dates relate to May 1973 symbols discussed in the October 15, 1992 testimony of Assistant Secretary of Defense Duane Andrews. Andrews was sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and did not do so. Had the Senate Select POW/MIA committee been told that TA were active escape and evasion symbols for those missing from October 1972 to April 10, 1973, they may have concluded that the symbols photographed in May 1973 were made by an American. Again, the government is entitled to take any position it desires. However, the law does not allow government officials to lie, mislead, or conceal information to support their position. Doing so under sworn oath is called "perjury."

Discussion of GX2527. The POW/MIA office has been confronted with the statement from the SSC final report: "This consultant had detected, with '100 percent confidence' a faint 'GX2527' in a photograph of a prison facility in Vietnam taken in June, 1992. This number correlates to the primary and backup distress symbols and authenticator number of a pilot lost in Laos in 1969." Their office has also been confronted with expert testimony from the Air Force JSSA stating GX2527 is a valid pilot distress symbol. JSSA is the very agency that teaches pilots the rescue symbols. The POW/MIA office on one occasion said whether GX2527 is a valid distress symbol is not relevant. They still have not admitted GX2527 is a valid distress symbol, indeed, they often deny it.

On a second point, the POW/MIA office previously stated "The letters 'GX' have no known correlation to any American missing Southeast Asia." They now say GX were valid for the months of September, 1971 and point out this is two years after MIA Peter Matthes was shot down. Clearly, they lied when they said GX correlated to no known missing American—there are multiple Americans missing in September 1971. The POW/MIA office has refused to respond to numerous inquiries asking what rescue letters they claim were valid for November 1969.

Discussion of USA. The POW/MIA office, the same office that has refused to follow recommendations of the SSC regarding imagery because they say they are so positive of their findings, now claims an imagery analyst made a mistake. It stretches the imagination to believe an imagery analyst could not tell land from water. The POW/MIA office claims new analysis showed the unnamed imagery analyst was mistaken. Yet in my FOIA request, which asked for all documents relating to the USA letters, I received not one document to support the POW/MIA office's latest story.

REFERENCES

December 6, 1988—CIA analysis of USA letters, provided by DPMO in FOIA request.

October 15, 1992—statement to SSC from Assistant Secretary Defense Duane Andrews.

August 29, 1994—POW/MIA office letter to House Intelligence Committee Chairman.

December 6, 1994—letter from General James Wold to Minneapolis Star Tribune.

August 1995—POW/MIA office report "Satellite imagery and Ground Distress Symbols."

May 1, 1996—letter from POW/MIA office to Senator Wellstone.

October 10, 1996—letter from POW/MIA office to Senator Wellstone. •

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL CHARLES R. LARSON, UNITED STATES NAVY

• Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize and say farewell to an outstanding naval officer and dear friend, Admiral Charles R. Larson. It is an honor and a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and to commend him for the superb service he has provided the United States Navy and our great nation during a truly distinguished military career. Admiral Larson's achievements over his 40-year career are unparalleled in our modern Navy. In addition to being a superb naval officer and my well-respected classmate at the United States Naval Academy, Admiral Larson was the youngest officer in the history of our Navy to be promoted to Admiral. Upon retirement in June, he will have served in 11 positions spanning more than 19 years as a flag officer.

Admiral Charles R. Larson assumed duties as the 55th Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy on 1 August 1994. Prior to his arrival, Admiral Lawson served from March 1991–July 1994 as Commander in Chief of the U.S. Pacific Command (CINCPAC) located in Honolulu, Hawaii. As the senior U.S. military commander in the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas, he led the largest of the unified commands and directed all Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force operations across 103 million square miles—more than 50 percent of the Earth's surface. In his position as Commander of CINCPAC, Admiral Larson had primary responsibility for 350,000 personnel and the readiness of all U.S. forces in the theater, and was accountable to the President and the Secretary of the Defense. He was also the U.S. Military representative for collective defense arrangements in the Pacific and worked with 44 countries in the Pacific Rim.

Admiral Larson was born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. A graduate of North High School in Omaha, Nebraska, he graduated from the United States Naval Academy with distinction in 1958. After being commissioned in the U.S. Navy, he reported to flight training in Pensacola, Florida, and was designated a naval aviator in May 1960. He then reported to Attack Squadron 176, where he flew missions from the aircraft carrier USS *Shangri-La* (CVA 38).

In April 1963, he volunteered and was accepted for nuclear power training. Upon completion, he served in two fleet ballistic submarines, USS *Nathan Hale* and USS *Nathanael Greene*, before reporting as executive officer of the nuclear-powered attack submarine USS *Bergal*.

Admiral Larson was the first naval officer selected as a White House Fellow, serving in 1968 as Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior. From January 1969 to April 1971, he served as Naval Aide to the President of the United States. He reported back to sea duty as executive officer of the nuclear-powered submarine USS *Sculpin*. From August 1973 to July 1976, he served as commanding officer of the nuclear submarine USS *Halibut*. In August 1976, Admiral Larson assumed duties as Commander, Submarine Development Group ONE, in San Diego, California. In this assignment, he headed the Navy's worldwide deep submergence program with a variety of submarines, surface ships, deep submersibles, and diving systems under his command.

As a Flag Officer, Admiral Larson has served in nine assignments both ashore and afloat subsequent to his promotion to Rear Admiral in March 1979. These include: Director of the Strategic Submarine Division and Trident Coordinator on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations; Director, Long Range Planning Group, an organization he established to assist the Chief of Naval Operations identify and prioritize long-range Naval objectives for planning the Navy of the early 21st century; Commander, Submarine Group EIGHT; Commander, Area Anti-Submarine Warfare Forces, SIXTH Fleet; and Commander, Submarines Mediterranean (NATO) in Naples, Italy.

From August 1983 to August 1986, he served as the 51st Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy. In August 1986, Admiral Larson was promoted to Vice Admiral prior to reporting as Commander, Striking Fleet Atlantic/Commander, SECOND FLEET. In August 1988, he reported as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Plans, Policy and Operations.

Admiral Larson was promoted to four-star rank in February 1990 upon being assigned as Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet the Navy component commander in the Pacific theater. After one year in this position, Admiral Larson was nominated by the President and assumed duties as Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command.

Admiral Larson's decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, six Navy Distinguished Service Medals, three Legions of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and Navy Achievement Medal.

For the past four years, Admiral Larson has served as the 55th Superintendent of the United States Naval Academy. Admiral Larson was asked to assume the duties as Superintendent to

return honor, discipline, and a sense of commitment to the 4,000 midshipmen, in the wake of the most trying scandals that the Naval Academy has faced in its 152-year history. As background, on September 27, 1993, the Naval Academy Board of Visitors created the Honor Review Committee, known as the Armitage Committee, named after the Chairman, Ambassador Richard L. Armitage. The Armitage Committee was charged with reviewing the concept, process, and effectiveness of the Naval Academy Honor Concept, particularly in light of the December 1992 compromising of an Electric Engineering exam at the Academy. One significant recommendation of the Armitage Committee was to increase the Superintendent's Academy tour length to four years and make the Superintendent a more senior flag officer than the two-star admirals who had previously served in that position. Admiral Larson was the top choice among several stellar candidates given his maturity, four-star rank, experience, academic background, outstanding character and integrity, and his known ability to reach out and unify all Academy efforts aimed at improving character development: administration, academic departments, athletic department (including varsity athletics), extra-curricular activities, the Office of Chaplains, and the Brigade Honor Committee.

As a member of the Naval Academy's Board of Visitors, I can report that we recently conducted a comprehensive investigation of every aspect of the Naval Academy. We concluded that the Naval Academy is fundamentally sound and on the right track for the 21st century. For that positive endorsement, we have Admiral Larson to thank. I would like to cite a few of the significant changes that Admiral Larson has instituted at the Naval Academy, which I believe will have positive effects for the future of our service academies:

Established a New Leadership Curriculum. The leadership curriculum has been completely revamped, emphasizing a continuum of leadership both in the classroom and in the fleet.

Established a New Ethics Course. A three-credit course, "Moral Reasoning for Naval Leaders," provides a weekly lecture by a faculty philosopher and seminars taught by senior officers with extensive fleet experience.

Instituted Integrity Development Seminars. During these monthly sessions, midshipmen work to define and clarify their basic moral values, and to determine the importance of those values and their significance to a career as a military officer.

Established Distinguished Chair of Ethics. A world-renowned ethicist has been appointed, who adds considerable expertise to all of the Naval Academy's character development efforts.

Established a Distinguished Professor of Leadership. The current Professor of Leadership is focusing efforts on

improving how leadership is taught and practiced, both in the Division of Professional Development and in Bancroft Hall.

Reaffirmed Honor Concept and Education. Midshipmen ownership of the Naval Academy's Honor Concept has been reaffirmed, and efforts to educate all midshipmen about the history, significance, and value of the Naval Academy Honor Concept have been strengthened.

Returned to a Traditional Plebe Summer. With an emphasis on leadership by example, Admiral Larson returned the Naval Academy to a more traditional summer training period for new midshipmen, challenging them to reach new heights in physical, intellectual, and moral performance, and emphasizing the importance of respect for the dignity of others.

Established a Masters Program for Company Officers. This program allows exceptional junior officers from the fleet to spend their first year in an intense academic environment where they will earn a master's degree in leadership. After being awarded an academic degree, the officers would then use this knowledge, combined with their fleet experience, to become more effective leaders and models for the midshipmen.

Instituted Company Chief Petty Officers. Each Company has been assigned a senior chief petty officer or a Marine Corps gunnery sergeant who provides considerable first-hand fleet experience to the young officers-in-training.

Renewed Accreditation of Academic Program. Under Admiral Larson's leadership, the Naval Academy received renewed academic accreditation in 1986 and 1996. His direction of the academic program for the long term engendered laudatory comments by the inspection teams.

Key Brigade Accomplishments in Academic Year 1996-1997:

74 Midshipmen from the Class of '97 were selected or nominated for graduate education programs, 10 of whom were women—a record number of female participants.

Midshipmen participated in over 16,000 hours of community service, a new record. This effort represents the exponential growth of community service in the Brigade.

Fifteen varsity athletes were named All-Americans for '96-'97. Two of 15 were also GTE Academic All-Americans.

Mr. President, my good friend Chuck Larson, his wife Sally, and daughters Sigrid, Erica, and Kirsten have made many sacrifices during his 40-year naval career, and have contributed significantly to the outstanding naval forces upon which our country relies so heavily. Admiral Larson is a great credit to both the Navy and the country he so proudly serves. As this truly history-making officer now departs for another career, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him fair winds and following seas. He will be greatly missed. '58 is great! ●

THE ALARM INDUSTRY

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, just over two years ago I stood on this floor as the Senate voted overwhelmingly in support of a historic rewrite of the 1934 telecommunications act. We were told at that time that the act would bring the benefits of competition in local telephone exchange service—better service and lower prices for the American consumer.

One part of that legislation in which I had a personal interest were the provisions concerning the burglar and fire alarm industry—a highly competitive industry still dominated by small businesses. Many of us, both in the House and the Senate, feared that allowing the Regional Bells to enter the market prior to real competition in the local telephone exchanges would result in the Bells using their business monopolies and vast financial resources to drive small alarm dealers out of business.

That is why Congress adopted a five year transitional waiting period before the Bells could enter the alarm monitoring business. The bill made an exception for Ameritech.

The Ameritech exception was included because Ameritech had already purchased two large alarm companies—before the bill was passed. However, these acquisitions were quite controversial because they were made during a time when all of the Bells had agreed not to enter this line of business until the legislative rules had been established. Only Ameritech broke that understanding. Nonetheless, the Congress felt it was better to grandfather those acquisitions rather than to force a divestiture.

However, in order to insure that we were not granting a five year competitive advantage to Ameritech over the other Bells, who had kept their pledge not to enter the business, we specifically prohibited further growth by acquisition during the five year transition period. We, in effect, told Ameritech that it could stay in the alarm monitoring business, but that its growth would be restricted to direct marketing to customers.

And, to make our intentions crystal clear, several Senators, including then Majority Leader Bob Dole, engaged in a floor colloquy on the subject when the bill was being considered. At one point I said:

There is one issue which deserves some additional clarification. The bill and the report language clearly prohibit any Bell company already in the industry from purchasing another alarm company for 5 years from date of enactment. However, it is not entirely clear whether such a Bell could circumvent the prohibition by purchasing the underlying customer accounts and assets of an alarm company, but not the company itself. It was my understanding that the conferees intended to prohibit for 5 years the acquisition of other alarm companies in any form, including the purchases of customer accounts and assets.

The two managers of the bill, Commerce Committee Chairman PRESSLER