

## Soviets report U.S. POW from Vietnam now living in Russia

- By Nov 16, 1991

WASHINGTON (AP) - The State Department cast doubts Friday on Soviet reports an American POW from the Vietnam War is living in central Russia, but said efforts are being made to gain access to the restricted area where the man is said to be.

Ken Quinn, deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, said the original Russian-language report was less clear than its English translation in claiming the American pilot was living in the remote Kazakhstan village of Saryshagansk.

Quinn said embassy officials in Moscow had contacted the journalist from the newspaper Kommersant who wrote the Nov. 3 report and found that the Russian version was much less certain about whether the unidentified American continued to reside in the town.

Quinn, who is also chairman of the POW-MIA Interagency Group, said the journalist had only second-hand reports of the American and did not know if the man was still there.

The Kommersant article said the pilot was shot down over Vietnam in May 1967 and transported to Alma Alta, Kazakhstan, in September of that year.

Quinn said the embassy would try to send a staffer to Saryshagansk, but must first receive permission from Soviet authorities because the village is near a testing range with restricted access for outsiders.

President Bush and Secretary of State James A. Baker have asked the Soviet Union to look into reports that American POWs from World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam were secretly shipped to the Soviet Union. The Soviets have denied knowledge of any living POWs but promised to cooperate in any enquiries.

Quinn spoke to the Senate Select Committee on POW-MIA Affairs.

[http://journaltimes.com/news/national/soviets-report-u-s-pow-from-vietnam-now-living-in/article\\_8eac8c29-13ca-5e4d-8fdf-0ac08b764977.html](http://journaltimes.com/news/national/soviets-report-u-s-pow-from-vietnam-now-living-in/article_8eac8c29-13ca-5e4d-8fdf-0ac08b764977.html)



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