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[Text] On 20 January, the Vietnam office for the search of U.S. servicemen missing in action sent a message to the U.S. MIA office in Hanoi. The message says:

..TEXT:
1. With regard to a statement by Soviet General Oleg Kalugin that KGB personnel questioned a number of

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U.S. POWs in Vietnam from 1975 to 1978, the Vietnamese side has affirmed that this was an ill-intentioned fabrication. However, sympathizing with the concern of the people, Congress, and Government of the United States, Vietnam has conducted serious and careful investigations into this matter.

..TEXT:

2. The result of these investigations showed that there was no interrogation of U.S. prisoners of war by KGB personnel after the U.S. troop withdrawal in 1973 and after the end of the Vietnam war in 1975. The investigations showed that there was only one contact between KGB personnel and a U.S. prisoner of war by the name of Eugene Andre Weaver. Mr. Weaver was captured by Vietnam in Hue city on 31 January 1968. Upon learning that Mr. Weaver was an American of Russian origin, the Soviet side requested to meet with him, and the request was accepted by the Vietnamese side. In January 1973, a KGB official, Mr. Oleg Mechiporenko, met Mr. Weaver on one occasion. The meeting did not resume later because Mr. Weaver refused to meet with him again. In March 1973, the Vietnamese side **returned** Mr. Weaver to the U.S. side.

..TEXT:

3. The abovementioned discussion between a Russian intelligence agent and a U.S. prisoner of war of Russian origin was the only such meeting that occurred, and took place before Vietnam's **return** of U.S. prisoners of war in 1973. This event should not be used as an excuse to cook up the story about Russian intelligence agents questioning U.S. prisoners of war after the end of the war.

..TEXT: