Mr. Sydney H. Schanberg  
Editor, Special Projects  
APBNews.com  
65 Broadway, 17th Floor  
New York, NY 10006-2503

Dear Mr. Schanberg:

This is in response to your January 21, 2000, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request which was received in this Directorate, January 24, 2000.

The Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Affairs Office (DPMO) file search revealed one document, Lieutenant Commander John S. McCain's 1973 "Operation Homecoming" debriefing report, as responsive to your request. Mr. John Horn, Chief, FOIA Branch, DPMO, an Initial Denial Authority, has denied this report in its entirety pursuant to 5 USC 552(b)(3), which pertains to information exempt from release by statute. The relevant statute is Title 10 USC Section 1506(f), which prohibits disclosure of a record or the debriefing of a missing person returned to United States Control during the period beginning on July 8, 1959, and ending on February 10, 1996.

You may appeal Mr. Horn's decision to deny the information by offering justification to support reversal of the initial denial. Any such appeal should be postmarked within 60 calendar days of the date above to the Directorate for Freedom of Information and Security Review, Room 2C757, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1155. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIA number assigned to your request.

There are no assessable fees for this response.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

H.R. McInerney  
Director