

Accept Peace Offer, POW Wives Urge

Washington

Six women claiming to represent 335 families of United States servicemen imprisoned or missing in IndoChina said yesterday they have urged President Nixon to accept the latest Communist peace proposals.

The women, members of a recently formed group called "Families for Immediate Release," said they made their appeal in a letter that was hand-delivered Thursday to the Western White House in San Clemente, Calif.

The signers of the letter noted that the Communists' seven-point plan called for total U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam by year's end and a coalition government in Saigon in exchange for simultaneous release of all American POWs now held.

The women, recalling that the Nixon Administration has termed the unacceptable in that form, said they feared the United States might reject it and sacrifice the POWs rather than lose the pro-American government in South Vietnam.

One of the signers, Mrs. Philip Culbertson, of McLean, Va., said the letter was written and later made public because the women felt the Nixon Administration

was looking for a way to stall on or reject the Communist proposals.

Other signers were Mrs. William Mullen, Oakland; Mrs. Donald Bloodworth, Victorville; Mrs. Bernard Talley, Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. Donovan Lyons, Palos Verdes, and Delia Alvarez, San Jose.

Mrs. Mullen pointed to stories last week attributed to unidentified sources that the Central Intelligence Agency had told Nixon the Communists offer was intended to embarrass the United States.

"How often do CIA reports come out in the press?" she asked. She suggested the story was "planted" to stir up opposition to the proposal.

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