

KIN OF P.O.W.'S BEAR PLEA FOR AID TO U.N.

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UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Nov. 29—The families of Americans held prisoner in Vietnam came here today with an appeal for assistance. They departed 12 hours later with little to comfort them, but vowing to keep trying.

During their call they slogged through a driving rainstorm to talk with Canadian and Danish delegates. Some had a corridor chat with a Yugoslav and an informal but sympathetic hearing from a Rumanian diplomat.

In the group of 100 were wives and mothers, fathers and children who have relatives among the 1,590 whom the American authorities list as held captive or missing in action in Southeast Asia.

They presented a petition addressed to Secretary General Thant that steered clear of political elements and asked for his help in persuading Hanoi to repatriate the sick and wounded, permit inspection of war camps, identify the captives and release those held for more than two years.

The visit was timed so the group could hear Rear Adm. Alan B. Shepard Jr., the astronaut and a General Assembly delegate, raise the prisoner issue during a debate on human rights in armed conflict.