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Twenty More POWs Due Home Soon

Examiner News Services

Twenty more American POWs—all of them veterans of at least five years imprisonment in North Vietnam — have been flown from Hanoi today enroute to Clark Air Base in the Philippines.

An Air Force C141 Starlifter medical evacuation plane left Clark at 8 o'clock PST last night to pick them up. They were due back at Clark at 2 a.m. PST today.

The newest group of 20 were being released by the North Vietnamese as a good will gesture following presidential adviser Henry Kissinger's diplomatic visit to Hanoi last week.

All of the 20 are fliers who were shot down over North Vietnam in 1966 and 1967. They are due back in the

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United States around the middle of the week.

The final 20 prisoners of the first 143 released returned home yesterday, landing at Alameda Naval Air Station.

Meanwhile, at Vientiane, Laos, the Communist Pathet Lao said yesterday that no American prisoners of war will be released there until a cease-fire is reached in Laos.

Some 300 Americans have been reported missing in Laos, but no complete list of

POWs held here has been released.

In Peking yesterday, Kissinger met for two hours with Communist party Chairman Mao Tse-tung and a Japanese newspaper reported that an agreement had been reached on American troop withdrawals from Taiwan.

At Key Biscayne White House Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler would say only that the Mao-Kissinger talk was "a frank and wide-ranging conversation in an unconstrained atmosphere."