

Minister and the Missing

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Washington

The State Department expressed concern yesterday over a midwestern minister who claimed he arranged a Mexico City meeting between Communist agents and the mother of a U.S. pilot shot down over Laos.

"This report has already caused a good deal of anxiety and anguish among the families of our missing-in-action personnel," a department statement said in

response to news accounts involving the Rev. Paul Lindstrom of Chicago, and an Evanston, Ill., widow.

The Illinois woman, Jean Macdonald, said she returned last weekend from a meeting in Mexico City with two men who showed her a picture of a man she identified as her son.

Mrs. Macdonald said the two men, who refused to give their names and identified themselves only as

Communists, demanded between \$25,000 and \$500,000 for proof that her son is alive and to start negotiations for his release from captivity in Laos.

Her son, First Lieutenant George D. Macdonald, a

navigator aboard an Air Force C-130 cargo plane, was shot down Dec. 21, 1972, over Laos.

The Rev. Mr. Lindstrom, a fervent anti-Communist who has been active in private efforts to help find and free POWs and MIAs, said he arranged the Mexico meeting.