

CIA

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Last POW will be one of the first

Associated Press

VIENTIANE, Laos — Emmet J. Kay of Hawaii, the last known American prisoner of war, will be freed next Thursday as part of a general prisoner exchange between the Communist Pathet Lao and the Laotian army, a diplomatic source reported today.

The Laotian Communists gave neutral diplomats "a categorical assurance" last night they would free the 47-year-old civilian pilot with the first prisoners, the source said. Earlier reports source said.

Kay, 47, was a pilot for Continental Air Services, a charter line. The Pathet Lao captured him when his small plane was forced down on May 7, 1973.