

Claire Lee Chennault

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CABLE ADDRESS "CLAULT"
PHONE METROPOLITAN 5797

1000 Cole Avenue
Monroe, Louisiana
May 24, 1954

Mr. George H. Burford
2214 Central Avenue
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Mr. Burford:

In reply to your letter dated 17 May, you may be assured that Mr. Cox and I will continue to do all we can to learn the actual facts of the accident involving James McGovern and your son, Wallace. However, you must realize that the forced landing of the plane occurred deep in Communist held territory and it is doubtful if the French ground forces will ever recover that area.

At the present, the French are reported to be fighting very desperately to hold their outposts in the vicinity of Hanoi and Haiphong. As I reported to you in my first letter, air observers felt that there was no hope for the survival of either pilot in the airplane. I deeply regret the announcement of the news of the crash on the radio prior to your receipt of the message from Mr. Cox. AP, UP, and other *news agencies* ~~pressure ports~~ reserve high priority in cable and radio transmission. We always endeavor to notify the near relatives of any of the personnel who are injured but sometimes fail to transmit our messages ahead of the news agencies reports.

With my very best wishes, I am,

Most sincerely,

C. L. Chennault
C. L. Chennault

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