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Prisoners of War

June 13, 1952

My dear Mr. Mayall:

The President has requested me to acknowledge your letter of May seventh and to tell you that he is very glad that you felt free to send him this expression of your views regarding the Korean situation. I can assure you in all earnestness that he is not unmindful of what it means to you to have your son, a 2nd Lieutenant in the First Marine Division, in Korea, and he certainly shares your anxiety for his safety.

I think I should add that the labors of our representatives in the Far East are unceasing toward bringing this conflict to a successful conclusion which will, of course, include the exchange of Prisoners of War. The President, himself, is also doing everything he possibly can to bring peace to the world and he is deeply concerned for you and all the parents of our servicemen who are called upon to share the responsibilities which these difficult times place upon us.

Very sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

Mr. James T. Mayall,
Pioneer Building,
St. Paul 1, Minnesota.



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James T. Mayall
Investment Counsel
Pioneer Building
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

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May 7, 1952.

Dear President Truman:

I believe we should turn the North Korean and Chinese prisoners back to the North Koreans irrespective of their wishes. I do not believe that we have any right to hold them and thus prolong the war.

My son is a 2nd. Lieutenant in the 1st. Marine Division, and is in the front line at present. And I would not trade the life of one American boy for all the Koreans.

With best wishes,

James T. Mayall

