**INTER-OFFICE ROUTING SLIP**

**REFERENCE NUMBER**

**TO**  
President

**ACTION**

- For your information
- Initial and pass on
- For your comments
- Please handle
- Take up with me
- For your approval
- For your decision
- Investigate and report
- Bring up to date
- Draft reply
- For your file
- Note and destroy
- Please return to VPFO

**REMARKS**

**FIRST ONE I'VE SEEN**

**FROM** [Name]

**COPIES ATTACHED**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>VPFo</th>
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<td>20 Mar 72</td>
<td>14 March 72</td>
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**APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE:**

13-Mar-2009
The attached is sent to you for reference and possible letter of commendation. Baker is one of the better, job oriented pilots here. He talks a lot and therefore is open, most of the time, for a caustic comment from his fellow pilots. His leg continues to give him problems and there seems to be no sure, easy cure.

Date of commendation

13 MAR 1972

[Signature]

From C. J. Abadie, Jr., VP/UTH

Date 9 March 1972
7 March 1972

Mr. Clarence Abadie
Vice President
Air America Inc.
Vientiane, Laos

Dear Mr. Abadie,

Capt. Herb Baker, First Officer A. R. Tafoya and Flight Mechanic G. M. Burch, the flight crew of Bell helicopter 96W on 23 Feb 1972, deserve special commendation for their outstanding performance and dedication. This crew successfully medevac'd several wounded men from an upcountry site despite the fact it was completely dark by the time they arrived at the pickup site. Although there were more injured than could be carried in one load, this crew volunteered to return for the remainder of the wounded and were only prevented from attempting this mission due to loss of security at the friendly position. Their willingness to respond caught the attention of the men who work daily with these outstanding airmen and sparked this expression of appreciation and recognition. Please convey our deepest gratitude to Capt. Baker and his crew for their gallantry and our respect for their professionalism.