



IN MY OPINION

By Irene Mandra

There's an old Italian proverb that says "Chi da se stesso può fare alcuna cosa, non aspetti che altri la faccia". It means "expect nothing from friends, you have to do it yourself." I've been thinking of this proverb for many reasons. For almost 30 years, we have been asking DPMO (and now DPAA) to get more information from

the Russians and Chinese about information they may have on our missing loved ones. Each year we hear the same thing, the Russians or Chinese have searched their archives but they have not found any new information. I don't blame the men and women of DPAA. I think the Chinese and Russians are happy to lead us on a goose chase and to take the money that DPAA pays them to search their archives. I'd like to know how much money we have paid these governments for "il nulla" (nothing!) I think it's time we find out how much money we are spending and what are we getting for those efforts! Maybe we would be better off just asking the Russians and Chinese ourselves with a letter writing campaign. I don't know but I know I'm fed up. I also think of that Italian proverb sometimes as I sit at my desk working on this newsletter.....