

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



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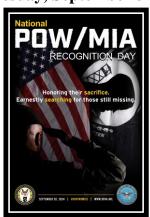
Dear Commemorative Partners,

This month, we observe *National POW/MIA Recognition Day* on Friday, September 20. Each year, the <u>Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency</u> (DPAA) creates a new poster in honor, and this year's theme is *Honoring their sacrifice*. *Earnestly searching for those still missing*. In the 2024 edition (at right), a U.S. Armed Forces service member salutes the American flag and the POW/MIA flag, with the theme reverently displayed. Below left, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Air Force General <u>Charles Q. Brown</u>, <u>Jr.</u>, unveiled the poster in a DPAA June

POW/MIA

Unveiling of this year's National POW/MIA Recognition Day Poster at the Pentagon.

Pentagon ceremony, alongside representatives (l-r) Chad Lindell, Colleen Shine and Bill Bonnell.



2024 Poster

Since last year, *three additional* missing Vietnam War personnel have *been accounted for:* U.S. Marine Corps Captain Ronald Wayne
Forrester, U.S. Air Force pilot, Major John Creighton Gillespie Kerr, and U.S. Air Force Sergeant David Stanley Price. We applaud DPAA in their persistent mission to provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing. It is worth noting that since 1973, *more than one thousand*

have been *identified!* With each discovery, as a Nation we are encouraged, and yet we remain mindful of the families still awaiting news of their loved one. Visit <u>DPAA</u> for more on their efforts, and also learn how you can attend their <u>Hawaii rosette ceremony</u> via livestream or in person, in honor of National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

Last month, in <u>Issue 9</u>, we invited you to join us on a *Vietnam War themed tour* in collaboration with <u>Arlington National Cemetery</u> (ANC). This special *tour* will be held *Friday*, *September 27 at 11 a.m.*, and will visit five grave sites, the Vietnam Helicopter Association Memorial, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the Memorial Amphitheater Display Room exhibit revealing Vietnam War artifacts, and will also include a viewing of the Changing of the Guard. The *tour is free*, but does require registration. Visit <u>ANC's tour site</u> for more information and to register!



Arlington National Cemetery Tram Tour

On September 29, we commemorate <u>Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day</u>. Recognized the last Sunday each September, it was originally designated "Gold Star Mother's Day" nearly nine decades ago. In 2011, it was amended to include families, and every year we take time to pause, and remember their sacrifice.

Finally, stay tuned for our next SITREP, as we hail the <u>United States Air Force</u> on their anniversary, bring you the final *ANC tour* details, and pay tribute to our Vietnam War Gold Star mothers and families.

~ The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration Staff ~