



**NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES OF AMERICAN
PRISONERS & MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2023

Ann Mills Griffiths
Chairman of the Board

**DR. GEORGE J. "JAY" VEITH
ANNOUNCED AS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The National League of POW/MIA Families is pleased and proud to announce a highly qualified individual, Dr. Jay Veith, has agreed to serve as our Executive Director, principal spokesman and leader of policy and operations implementation. Since May 28, 1970, the League has sought the fullest possible accounting for our Nation's unreturned Vietnam War Veterans, America's POW/MIAs, seeking answers for impacted families to end their uncertainty.

Initially downplayed post-war and cast as an obstacle to normalization of relations, then President Ronald Reagan's personal interest and commitment served as the basis for humanitarian cooperation between the two former enemies. As a result of the Reagan Administration's step-by-step policy of humanitarian reciprocity, 1,062 American servicemen and civilians, initially listed as captured (POW), missing (MIA) or unaccounted-for (KIA/BNR), have been recovered and returned to their families and the Nation they served.

There are still 1,579 Americans listed as missing and unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War, and time is running out. All will never be recovered due to wartime circumstances, precisely the reason we have sought the "fullest possible accounting" from inception. We are honored and grateful that this recognized expert on the Vietnam War, successful author, lecturer and skilled analyst, has agreed to represent the POW/MIA families now, before it is too late! The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), has stated publicly that accounting for our Vietnam War missing is its highest operational priority. DPAA is ably assisted by the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) team of highly trained specialists, known as Stony Beach, focused solely on Vietnam War accounting. Let's do it!

Dr. Jay Veith is a former U.S. Army Captain who served in armor units in the United States and Germany from 1979 –1987. He earned his PhD in history from Monash University and is the author of four books on the Vietnam War. They include *Code-Name Bright Light: The Untold Story of U.S. POW Rescue Efforts During the Vietnam War* (New York: The Free Press, 1998); *Leave No Man Behind: Bill Bell and the Search for American POW/MIAs from the Vietnam War* (Madison, WI: Goblinfern Press, 2004); *Black April: The Fall of South Vietnam, 1973-1975* (New York: Encounter Press, 2012); and most recently, *Drawn Swords in a Distant Land: South Vietnam's Shattered Dreams* (New York: Encounter Press, 2021). Dr. Veith also published an e-book with the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars titled "The Return to War: North Vietnamese Decision-Making, 1973-1975" (Washington, DC: Cold War International History Project, November 2017). He has testified before Congress, spoken at countless events on the POW/MIA accounting mission, and presented numerous papers at scholarly conferences on the Vietnam War. His CV is available upon request.

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