



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

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**POW/MIA ACCOUNTING MISSION IN BRIEF
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WHO WE ARE

The National League of POW/MIA Families is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization founded on May 28, 1970, with a threefold mission: 1) the return of all prisoners; 2) the fullest possible accounting for the missing; and 3) recovery and repatriation of remains of those who died while serving our Nation during the Vietnam War and have yet to be returned. We advocate tirelessly on behalf of their families seeking answers to end their uncertainty through US Government action to achieve their return.

BRIEF HISTORY

In the late 1960s, families of missing servicemen banded together to form the League. What began as a grassroots effort to raise awareness about the plight of Prisoners of War (POW) and Missing in Action (MIA) quickly grew into a national movement. These efforts led to our POW/MIA flag becoming a national symbol for those yet to return from serving during the Vietnam War, including those captured and missing.

WHAT WE DO

The League works directly with the US Government, primarily the Departments of State, Defense, Veterans Affairs, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). DIA's special team of highly trained investigators is equipped with language, cultural and historical knowledge to best obtain useful, case-related information. Their sole purpose is working with counterpart officials and citizens in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia to locate, recover and return unaccounted-for US servicemen and civilians. We also provide support to the POW/MIA families, helping them pursue answers and keep their loved ones' memories alive to ensure they are not forgotten.

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

The League is fueled by a deep respect for those who serve our country and gratitude for the sacrifices they made during the Vietnam War and earlier wars and conflicts. All who serve do so knowing the risks, but work to return home to the family and friends who await them. When they don't, it becomes our Nation's duty to do our best to bring them home, difficult as it often has become over the years. Having said that, and despite significant recovery efforts in past wars, the effort post-Vietnam War was prompted in no small part because so much was televised, positive and negative, so that it became known as the "television war" and very divisive. The families of unreturned POW/MIA personnel live in constant uncertainty about the fate of their loved ones who served and fought for our country.

A HEARTFELT PLEA

Due to the acidic nature of the soil in Southeast Asia, time is very limited when it comes to recovering our unaccounted-for Vietnam War Veterans. Witnesses are also increasingly rare as many are deceased or elderly and can no longer provide useful information. Our missing men answered the call to duty, and now it's our turn to ensure they are not forgotten. This is a mission that unites us all. We ask you to stand with us, to care about accounting for them and bringing them home, and to lend your voice. By doing so, we not only honor them, but do our best to ensure none who serve our country are ever left behind.