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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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H. Ross Perot, well-known Dallas industrialist has accepted the honorary chairmanship of the special tribute to American Prisoners of War and Americans missing in action. The tribute is to be in Constitution Hall, Washington, D.C., Friday, May 1.

The tribute was organized by Senator Bob Dole (R-Kans.) and has a two fold purpose:

to demonstrate to the wives and other relatives that Americans do care, and
to show the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong that their conduct will not be acceded to by the American public.

Perot has supported the efforts of wives of American prisoners of war, and Americans missing in action. On Thanksgiving last year, he filled a jet transport with Thanksgiving dinner for the Americans being held in North Vietnam and attempted to land and deliver the food to the men to demonstrate to them the loyalty of the American people.

Perot is planning another trip to Vietnam next week.

In announcing Perot's acceptance of the position, Senator Dole said: "Mr. Perot is again demonstrating his genuine concern for those Americans imprisoned by the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong." Regardless of our views on the conduct of the Vietnam War, we all agree our boys have not been treated in accord with the 1949 Geneva Conventions."

As chairman of the event, Perot will have the assistance of U.S. Senators George Murphy (R-Calif), Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.), Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), Edmond S. Muskie (D-Maine), and Peter H. Dominick (R-Colo.), John Stennis (D-Miss.), and Representatives W. C. Daniels (D-VA.), Catherine May (R-Wash.), Olin E. Teague (D-Tex.), Richard Rodebush (R-Ind.), Robert L. F. Sikes (D-Fla.), and Martin B. McKneally (R-N.Y.).

In planning the event. Perot plans to coordinate the plans closely with Mrs. James B. Stockdale of Coronado, Calif., National Coordinator of the National League of Families of American Prisoners in Southeast Asia, and Mrs. James A. Mulligan of Virginia Beach, Va., Area Coordinator of that organization.

In addition to the Senators, Representatives and families of the prisoners, Senator Dole has received the support of nearly every veterans organization.

Dole has pledged to fill Constitution Hall (capacity 3,811) on May 1 as a "resounding show of support" of the American people for their young men imprisoned by the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong.