

MEMORANDUM

JULY 12, 1990

TO: SENATOR DOLE

FROM: BILL WISECARVER

SUBJECT: YOUR SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT BEFORE THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES

On Friday, July 13th, at 9:00 am the National League of Families will start their convention. The event will introduce the new Directors of the National League leadership and then have a short award ceremony in which you will receive a lifetime achievement awarded.

The award is the only one that has ever been given, and will be presented by Sue Scott, Chairman of the Board of the National League and by Louise Booth Van Hoozer. Louise Booth Van Hoozer is the sister of Major James E. Booth, USAF, missing since 1968 (shot down in an F-4D over North Vietnam). Her other brother was John Booth Van Hoozer, who, as I understand it, wrote letters for you while you were recuperating in 1945.

The event is schedule to have media coverage, and reporters must be in place by 9:00 am. Clarkson and Sara are handling the press.

The schedule of events is as follows:

- 9:00-9:10... Introductions of National League membership, Invocation and Color Guard.
- 9:10-9:20... Your award ceremony.
- 9:20-10:00.. Following your award, Senator Robb, Rep. Solarz, and Rep. Lagomarsino.
- 10:00-10:15. The Vice-President will speak.

STATEMENT OF SENATOR DOLE
BEFORE THE NATIONAL LEAGUE
JULY 13, 1990

GOOD MORNING LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN, AND HONORED
GUESTS.

IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE
TO MEET WITH THE MEMBERS OF
THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF

FAMILIES.

SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1970,
THE NATIONAL LEAGUE HAS
CONSISTENTLY BEEN OUT FRONT
IN AMERICA'S GOAL OF A FULL
ACCOUNTING FOR OUR
MISSING—IN—ACTION.

I AM VERY PROUD TO
RECEIVE THIS AWARD, BUT IT IS
AN HONOR I SHARE WITH YOU.

MY WORK ON BEHALF OF OUR
MIAs OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS
HAS BEEN FULLY SUPPORTED BY
THE TIRELESS WORK AND
ENDURANCE OF THE NATIONAL
LEAGUE.

ANY SUCCESS I HAVE HAD IN
BRINGING THE POW/MIA ISSUE
TO THE FOREFRONT OF THE
UNITED STATES COMES FROM
THE STRENGTH AND

DETERMINATION OF EACH OF
YOU.

IN 1969, AS A FRESHMAN
SENATOR I HAD THE HONOR TO
BE THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER
BEFORE A GROUP OF POW/MIA
FAMILY MEMBERS ASSEMBLED AT
CONSTITUTION HALL.

THAT TIME, WE SPOKE TO A
GROUP OF ABOUT 20 PEOPLE
AND IT WAS THEN THAT I

DECIDED THAT THE NEXT TIME
WE MET, WE WOULD FILL
CONSTITUTION HALL.

TWO MONTHS LATER, IN MAY,
1969, WE PACKED THE HALL,
AND WORKING TOGETHER TOOK
OUR MESSAGE TO THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE.

WE SAW OUR CONCERN FOR
AMERICANS MISSING—IN—
ACTION BECOME A NATIONAL

ISSUE.

SINCE THAT TIME, WITH YOUR
SUPPORT, AND THE SUPPORT
OF MY COLLEAGUES, I WAS
ABLE TO PASS LEGISLATION FOR
A NATIONAL DAY OF
RECOGNITION FOR OUR MIAs.

IN 1989, WE WERE
SUCCESSFUL IN PASSING A
RESOLUTION THAT ENSURED THE
DISPLAY OF YOUR POW/MIA

FLAG IN THE CAPITOL ROTUNDA
UNTIL A SATISFACTORY
ACCOUNTING OF OUR
SOUTHEAST ASIA POWs AND
MIAs HAS TAKEN PLACE. THAT
FLAG STANDS THERE TODAY AS
A REMINDER TO THE CONGRESS
AND THE MANY VISITORS TO
OUR CAPITOL THAT THE UNITED
STATES DEMANDS TO KNOW THE

WHEREABOUTS OF HER MISSING
SONS.

FROM THE EARLIEST DAYS OF
THIS GREAT UNION, OUR
LIBERTIES HAVE BEEN SECURED
BY THE COURAGE OF THE
BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN OF
OUR ARMED FORCES.

THE SACRIFICES HAVE BEEN
BORNE BY THOSE ON THE
BATTLEFIELD AND BY THEIR

FAMILIES THAT STOOD BY THEM
THROUGH THICK AND THIN.

THESE GREAT AMERICAN
FAMILIES HAVE OFTEN STOOD
ALONE WAITING FOR THE HOME
COMING, OR HAD TO BEAR
THE TERRIBLE LOSS OF THEIR
LOVED ONES.

WE ALL OWE A DEBT OF
GRATITUDE AND A MORAL
RESPONSIBILITY TO THIS SPECIAL

GROUP OF AMERICANS.

NOWHERE IS THIS
RESPONSIBILITY MORE EVIDENT
THAN IN OUR DUTY TO OBTAIN
THE FULLEST POSSIBLE
ACCOUNTING OF AMERICANS
MISSING—IN—ACTION.

THE VIGILANCE AND
DETERMINATION THAT YOU HAVE
SHOWN IS AN INSPIRATION TO
US ALL.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO
DEMAND THAT HANOI LEAD THE
WAY, WITH FULL AND OPEN
DISCLOSURE, ACCOUNTING FOR
THE OVER 2300 AMERICANS
STILL MISSING.

EACH OF YOU HERE TODAY
HAVE THE RIGHT TO OUR BEST
EFFORT.

YOUR PRESENCE HERE ONLY

REAFFIRMS THE DETERMINATION
TO GET ANSWERS TO THAT
ACCOUNTING.

WITH THE SWEEPING CHANGES
MOVING ACROSS THE WORLD
TODAY, WE ARE TOLD THAT
THERE ARE GREAT GAINS TO BE
MADE IN COMPROMISE, AND
THE FORGETTING OF PAST
HOSTILITIES.

BUT IT HAS TO BE A TWO WAY
STREET.

WE ARE ASKED TO GIVE, AND
FORGIVE AND FORGET.

WE CAN, AND HISTORY HAS
PROVEN TIME AND AGAIN THAT
WE ARE THE MOST GIVING AND
FORGIVING NATION THERE HAS
EVER BEEN.

BUT THERE IS NO REASON WHY

WE MUST SACRIFICE OUR IDEALS
IN THE PROCESS.

IF THE NATIONS THAT HAVE
BEEN OUR ENEMIES WANT OUR
HELP, THEN THEY MUST STEP
FORWARD IN GOOD FAITH.

THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON
OF THE POST WORLD WAR TWO
ERA HAS BEEN THAT WE MUST
STICK TOGETHER AND SEND A

CLEAR MESSAGE TO OUR
RIVALS.

THE SAME COURSE THAT
SECURED THE NEW
OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA,
EUROPE, AND SOUTH AMERICA,
MUST BE THE SAME FOR
VIETNAM.

WE MUST HANG TOUGH.

WE MUST STICK TOGETHER ON
THE ISSUE OF OUR MISSING—IN—
ACTION.

YOUR PRESENCE HERE TODAY
IS A CLEAR AND STRONG
MESSAGE THAT WE WILL HANG
TOUGH.

WITH THE HELP OF THE
NATIONAL LEAGUE AND EACH
OF YOU HERE TODAY, WE
REMINDE ALL AMERICANS THAT

WE WILL NOT FORGET THE
BRAVE AMERICANS WHO HAVE
GIVEN SO MUCH.

THANK YOU