

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES

JULY 21, 1995

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, I
WAS PRESENT AT A MEETING IN
CONSTITUTION HALL WHICH
ESTABLISHED THE LEAGUE OF
FAMILIES. TWENTY-FIVE YEARS
LATER, MY COMMITMENT TO
ACHIEVING THE FULLEST
POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING FOR**

**THOSE MISSING FROM THE WAR
IN SOUTH EAST ASIA REMAINS
AS STRONG AS EVER.**

**THIS IS NOT AN EASY TIME
FOR YOU -- BUT IT HAS NEVER
BEEN EASY FOR THE LEAGUE.
FOR 25 YEARS THE LEAGUE HAS
WORKED FOR THE FULLEST
POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING. FOR 25
YEARS THE LEAGUE HAS**

**ENDURED CRITICISM FROM
THOSE WHO HAD AGENDAS
OTHER THAN ACCOUNTING FOR
THOSE WHO SERVED THEIR
COUNTRY. I REMEMBER WHEN
THE UNFOUNDED CONSPIRACY
THEORIES HAD YOU IN LEAGUE
WITH THE UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT, ENGAGED IN
SOME KIND OF COVER-UP. NOW,**

**THE MEDIA AND SOME IN THE
CLINTON ADMINISTRATION IMPLY
YOU ARE EXTREMISTS BECAUSE
YOU CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR
ANSWERS BASED ON LONG-
ESTABLISHED FACTS.**

**LET ME BE CLEAR. THE
CLINTON ADMINISTRATION, IN
TWO SHORT YEARS, HAS
JEOPARDIZED TWO DECADES OF**

**SEROUS, PAINSTAKING EFFORT.
NO LONGER IS PROGRESS
MEASURED BY RESULTS -- IT IS
MEASURED BY ACTIVITY. NO
LONGER IS RECIPROCITY THE
WATCHWORD -- IT IS
PREEMPTIVE CONCESSIONS. NO
LONGER ARE THE WORDS OF
PRESIDENT-ELECT CLINTON ON
POW/MIA ACCOUNTING VALID.**

**HIS VETERANS DAY, 1992
PLEDGE -- NO RECOGNITION
WHILE VIETNAM IS EVEN
SUSPECTED OF WITHHOLDING
INFORMATION -- HAS GONE THE
WAY OF SO MANY OTHER
COMMITMENTS MADE BY THIS
PRESIDENT.**

**THE DECISION TO
NORMALIZE IS NOT THE END OF**

**THE PROCESS. HAVING AN
EMBASSY IN HANOI -- WITH OR
WITHOUT AN AMBASSADOR --
DOES NOT MEAN YOUR SEARCH
IS OVER. THE DECISION TO
NORMALIZE DOES NOT MEAN
THE CONGRESSIONAL ROLE IS
OVER -- WE WILL BE THERE FOR
THE CONFIRMATION OF AN
AMBASSADOR, FOR FUNDING**

**FOR AN EMBASSY, FOR
DECISIONS ABOUT OPIC, AND
FOR ANY ACTION ON MOST
FAVORED NATION STATUS.**

**THERE ARE THOSE WHO
WANT TO PUT THE POW/MIA
ISSUE BEHIND -- FOR REASONS
OF BUSINESS PROFIT, OR FOR
IDEOLOGY, OR FOR SOME
STRATEGIC IDEA. IN MY VIEW,**

**THAT IS WRONG. THERE MAY BE
A LARGE MARKET SOME DAY IN
VIETNAM. THERE IS AN
IMPORTANT STRATEGIC REASON
FOR VIETNAM TO BE INTEGRATED
INTO THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN
SECURITY REGIME. BUT THAT IS
NOT ENOUGH TO JUSTIFY AN
AMERICAN SEAL OF APPROVAL,
DELIVERED BY AN AMERICAN**

AMBASSADOR.

**JUST AS WE SHOULD NEVER
ASK AMERICANS TO RISK THEIR
LIVES IN FOREIGN LANDS UNLESS
AMERICA IS PREPARED TO GIVE
THEM THE MEANS TO
ACCOMPLISH THEIR MISSION, WE
SHOULD NEVER GIVE UP IN
TRYING TO ACCOUNT FOR THOSE
WHO MOST LIKELY MADE THE**

**ULTIMATE SACRIFICE. LIKE ALL
OF YOU HERE TONIGHT, I WILL
NOT.**

**LET ME CLOSE WITH THE
WORDS OF THE PRESIDENT WHO
MADE ACCOUNTING FOR POW'S
AND MIA'S A VALID "MATTER OF
THE HIGHEST NATIONAL
PRIORITY." IN 1984, WHEN
VIETNAM'S UNKNOWN SOLDIER**

**WAS LAID TO REST AT
ARLINGTON NATIONAL
CEMETERY, PRESIDENT REAGAN
SAID, "OUR DEDICATION TO [THE
POW/MIA] CAUSE MUST BE
STRENGTHENED WITH THESE
EVENTS TODAY. WE WRITE NO
LAST CHAPTERS. WE CLOSE NO
BOOKS. WE PUT AWAY NO
FINAL MEMORIES. AN END TO**

Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics
REMOVAL NOTICE

Date: 9/26/2013

Removed from: Dole Speeches, National League of Families, Crystal City Gateway Marriott

Accession: 329,96,336 Box Number: Box 117 (original) F. 2 July 21, 1995

Removed to:	Oversized Photographs	Box	___
(Circle one)	Oversized Publications	Box	___
	Campaign Material	Box	___
	Oversized Newsprint	Box	___
	Personal Effects	Box	___
	Memorabilia	Box	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Oversized Flats [Posters, Handbills, etc]	Box	___
	Political Cartoons	Box	___
	Textiles	Box	___
	Photograph Collection	Box	___

Size: 2.5" x 3.5" x 1/8"

Format: Patch

Description: Red shield-shaped patch, Yellow border, Yellow type: "VIETNAM", Yellow

Date: 1995 line directly below "VIETNAM", Yellow Star in center of patch,

Subject Terms (if any):

good condition, no fraying

Restrictions: none

Remarks:

Patch related to POW/MIA materials included in folder

Place one copy with removed item
Place one copy in original folder
File one copy in file

This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
<http://dolearchives.ku.edu>

MIA's and POW's

Red Badge of Courage, Inc.

1023 5th Avenue South
SAINT JAMES, MN 56081 - 2123



Believe They Are Alive!

Adrian Fisch,

National Director

Ph. (507) 375-5435

Fax No.: 1-507-375-4142

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Tacoma News Tribune

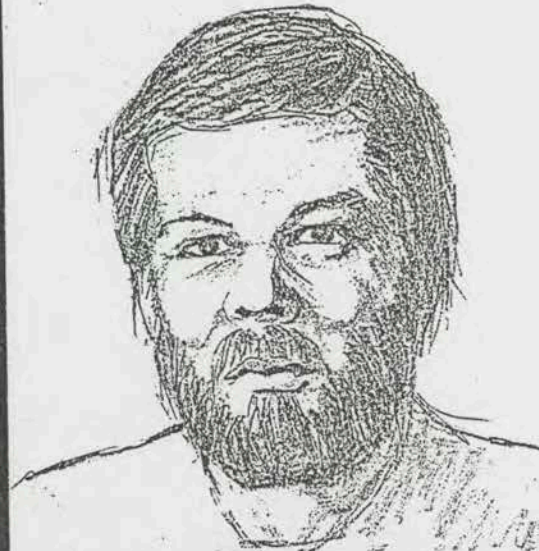
92nd YEAR, NO. 310

TACOMA, WA.

Final

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1975

15c



CAPT GARY H. FORS

In wake of Saigons surrender

Families of MIAs embittered

By ROBERT H. MOTTRAM
TNT Staff Writer

The formal surrender of the Saigon government to the Viet Cong has brought some bitterness to the families of missing American servicemen, but also a pledge to keep fighting for information about their loved ones.

"As far as the families of men who remain missing, it is not the final chapter," said Gail Cozart of Bellevue, state coordinator of Washington Families of MIA-POW.

"There are approximately 50 men who still remain missing from the State of Washington alone," she said. "And some of them we have pictures of being marched through the streets of Hanoi. We continue to do all we can to get an accounting."

Mrs. Cozart's husband, Robert, an Army captain, was listed as missing in the Mekong Delta of South Vietnam March 20, 1970, after his observation plane disappeared.

"A COUPLE of weeks ago, Hanoi released some names of men they said had been killed in crashes of their aircraft in 1965 and 1968," she said. "We have said all along they had more information than they were releasing. This proves our point."

"How they are going to leak it out now for their own benefit is the question," she said, "because this has been the way they always operated in the past."

Emma Hagerman of Puyallup is another woman who has not given up. Her husband Robert, an Air Force lieutenant colonel, was flying an F105 fighter-bomber over Hanoi when he was hit by a SAM missile Nov. 6, 1967. "I was terribly disappointed in Mr. Ford's message a night or two ago," she said, "where he said, 'The war is

over. Let's put it behind us, forget it happened.'

"I find that an awful thing to say as long as we have 1,300 men unaccounted for."

Mrs. Hagerman said she has not given up in her quest for information

ing the North Vietnamese with white flags. If you want to survive, you do what you have to."

It also was a tragedy, she said, "as far as the endeavors that went into trying to save South Vietnam — the lives, the money, the time."



and expects the Washington Families of MIA-POW will support legal action against Hanoi.

"I FEEL my government owes it to me to see that its adversary supplies me with information about my husband," she said. "If they couldn't beat them with a gun, they should take them on in the courts."

Mrs. Henry Fors of Puyallup still seeks knowledge of what happened to her son, Marine Corps Capt. Gary Fors. He was declared missing Dec. 22, 1967, after his F4 fighter was reported shot down inside Laos.

Her husband was hospitalized Monday night for a heart attack, she explained, but should be home in a few days.

"He takes it rather hard," she said. "Our son was over there fighting for our freedom."

Mrs. Cozart sees the Saigon surrender as "a tragedy for the people there, regardless of how the pictures from the cities portray the people welcom-

Mrs. Hagerman sees the surrender as something that could as well have happened during the Lyndon Johnson presidency, though she never actually supported the peace movement.

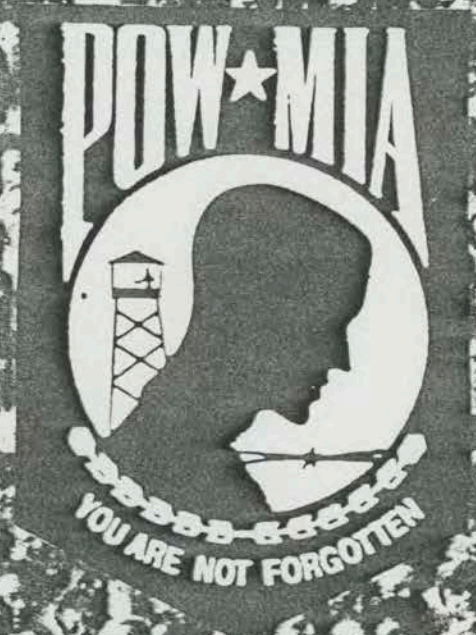
"THE EIGHT POINTS laid down by Ho Chi Minh for settlement in Vietnam" included "overthrow of the Saigon government, removal of the United States, and formation of a coalition government in the south. They never strayed from those points."

"To me, the thing that is so sad is that it was such a terrible waste of our young men, our treasure and our honor," she said, "and that so many of our young people lost faith in our leaders. I'm sorry the caliber of our leaders wasn't what it should have been."

Mrs. Fors said she was disheartened by the way things had gone.

"I imagine pretty soon they'll be telling us we won't be able to find our son," she said. "And they'll be closing the books on it."

Working Towards A Better Tomorrow.



Brian "Bulldog" Burke
P.O. Box 11751
St. Paul, MN 55111-0751
(11507 Keating Ave. So.
Burnsville, MN 55337-5640)
612-890-0541
Fax 612-690-0408

SUCCESS

"To laugh often and love much; to win the respect of intelligent persons and the affection of children; to earn the approbation of honest critics and to endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to give of one's self; to leave the world a bit better; whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to have played and laughed with enthusiasm and sung with exultation; to know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived—this is to have succeeded."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

1803-1882

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1 November 1945

Dear Cletus Wilfred Jaeger,

It gives me special pleasure to welcome you back to your native shores, and to express, on behalf of the people of the United States, the joy we feel at your deliverance from the hands of the enemy. It is a source of profound satisfaction that our efforts to accomplish your return have been successful.

You have fought valiantly and have suffered greatly. As your Commander in Chief, I take pride in your past achievements and express the thanks of a grateful Nation for your services in combat and your steadfastness while a prisoner of war.

May God grant you happiness and a successful future.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Harry Truman".

The Devil's Advocate

Consultant must be able to convince.


Lies.
More Lies.
Statistic

Vietnam-
ese progress toward accounting for
Americans missing in Indochina.

A Healing Ceremony,
Shy of the Truth

"Don't know where,
don't know when"

Way to the Truth?

 Brian P Burke
PO Box 11751
Saint Paul MN 55111

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
Headquarters US Air Force
Washington DC 20330

22 April 1974

Military Personnel

Status Determination Changes for
Missing ~~in Action (MIA)~~ Personnel

This regulation establishes procedures for continuance of a missing ~~in action (MIA)~~ status or for making changes by a finding of death or issuance of a report of death. It implements chapter 10, Title 37, United State Code.

1. Law Governing Status Reviews. Chapter 10, Title 37, United States Code, specifically authorizes continuance of a missing ~~in action~~ status or change in such status by a finding of death (Section 555) or issuance of an official report of death (Section 556):

§555. Secretarial review

(a) When a member of a uniformed service entitled to pay and allowances under section 552 of this title has been in a missing status, and the official report of his death or of the circumstances of his absence has not been received by the Secretary concerned, he shall, before the end of a 12-month period in that status, have the case fully reviewed. After that review and the end of the 12-month period in a missing status, or after a later review which shall be made when warranted by information received or other circumstances, the Secretary concerned, or his designee, may—

(1) if the member can reasonably be presumed to be living, direct a continuance of his missing status; or
(2) make a finding of death.

(b) When a finding of death is made under subsection (a) of this section, it shall include the date death is presumed to have occurred for the purpose of—

- (1) ending the crediting of pay and allowances;
- (2) settlement of accounts; and
- (3) payment of death gratuities.

That date is—

(A) the date after the day on which the 12-month period in a missing status ends; or

(B) if the missing status has been continued under subsection (a) of this section, the day determined by the Secretary concerned, or his designee.

(c) For the sole purpose of determining status under this section, a dependent of a member on active duty is treated as if he were a member. Any determination made by the Secretary concerned, or his designee, under this section is conclusive on all other departments and agencies of the United States. The subsection does not entitle a dependent to pay, allowances, or other compensation to which he is not otherwise entitled. Added Pub. L. 89-554, 5(b), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 628.

§556. Secretarial determinations

(a) The Secretary concerned, or his designee, may make any determination necessary to administer this chapter and, when so made, it is conclusive as to—

OPR: DPMS

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AFMPC/DPMS, Randolph AFB TX 78148).

- (1) death or finding of death;
- (2) the fact of dependency under this chapter;
- (3) the fact of dependency for the purpose of paying 6 months' death gratuities authorized by law;
- (4) the fact of dependency under any other law authorizing the payment of pay, allowances, or other emoluments to enlisted members of the armed forces, when the payments are contingent on dependency;
- (5) any other status covered by this chapter;
- (6) an essential date, including one on which evidence or information is received by the Secretary concerned; and
- (7) whether information received concerning a member of a uniformed service is to be construed and acted on as an official report of death.

(b) When the Secretary concerned receives information that he considers establishes conclusively the death of a member of a uniformed service, he shall, notwithstanding any earlier action relating to death or other status of the member, act on it as an official report of death. After the end of the 12-month period in a missing status prescribed by section 555 of this title, the Secretary concerned, or his designee, shall, when he considers that the information received, or a lapse of time without information, establishes a reasonable presumption that a member in a missing status is dead, make a finding of death.

(d) The Secretary concerned, or his designee, may, when warranted by the circumstances, reconsider a determination made under this chapter, and change or modify it.

(h) For the sole purpose of determining status under this section, a dependent of a member of a uniformed service on active duty is treated as if he were a member. Any determination made by the Secretary concerned, or his designee, under this section is conclusive on all other departments and agencies of the United States. This subsection does not entitle a dependent to pay, allowances, or other compensation to which he is not otherwise entitled. Added Pub. L. 89-554, 5(b), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 629.

2. Reviewing Officers. Review hearings to consider cases under Sections 555 and 556, Title 37, U.S.C., shall be made by one or more officers appointed by the Secretary or his designee as circumstances require.

3. Notification to Next of Kin. Next of Kin (NOK) of a ~~MIA~~ member currently receiving governmental financial benefits which could be terminated by a status review will be notified that:

AFR 35-43 22 April 1974

MISSING

- a. The status of the ~~MIA~~ member is to be reviewed on a certain date;
- b. They will be afforded a reasonable opportunity to attend the review hearing with a privately retained civilian attorney if they choose;
- c. They will have reasonable access to information upon which the status review will be based; and
- d. They will be permitted to present any information which they consider relevant to the proceedings.

4. Waiver Provisions. NOK may waive their right to attend the review hearing and still submit written matters on their behalf. Failure without good cause to exercise by the time prescribed, any of the rights extended under this regulation will be construed as a waiver of such rights, in which event the review will proceed as if such rights had been expressly waived.

see ch. 1
5. ~~Policy on Classified Material. Classified material will not be disclosed or made available to NOK, nor will it be considered by the review hearing officer or the Secretary of the Air Force, or his designee, in making a status change. However, every effort will be made to declassify such material so that as much of it as possible can be made known and available to NOK and considered in the status review process.~~

6. Conduct Review of Hearings. Review hearing proceedings will be informal and closed to the

public. They are not adversary proceedings. Strict rules of evidence do not apply. While NOK will be permitted to call witnesses, they are encouraged to use written statements to expedite proceedings. The only limitation as to matters which may be considered shall be one of relevancy and materiality as to whether the member should continue to be carried ~~MIA~~, or whether a report of death or finding of death should be issued.

7. Report of Review Hearings. The officer (or officers) appointed to conduct the review hearing will objectively review the information upon which the status review will be based, including information and argument offered by NOK, and make recommendations to the Secretary of the Air Force or his designee concerning the status of Air Force members falling within the scope of chapter 10, Title 37, USC. A summarized report of the review will be submitted to NOK for comment prior to submission to the Secretary or his designee for final decision. If NOK disagrees with the accuracy of the summary, the disagreement will be resolved by comparing the summary to a mechanical (or other verbatim) recording of the hearing. The recording will prevail over the recollection of the parties to the hearing. The Secretary or his designee will notify NOK of his decision.

8. Costs Incurred. Costs incurred by NOK as a result of any aspect of this program are not reimbursable by the Government.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

OFFICIAL

JACK R. BENSON, Colonel, USAF
Director of Administration

GEORGE S. BROWN, General, USAF
Chief of Staff

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0202

(202) 224-6665

Dear Colleague:

March 21, 1995

I invite you to send your foreign policy/trade policy Legislative Assistant to attend a briefing by members of the business community on the status of trade relations with Vietnam. The briefing will be held on Thursday, March 30, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in SR-189.

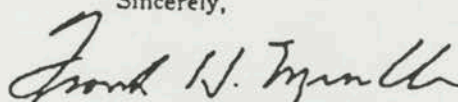
The panel will include representatives from:

- Caterpillar
- General Electric
- Citibank/Citicorp
- Mobil
- Motorola

These companies are all members of the U.S.-Vietnam Trade Council. Virginia Foote and Frances Zwenig, the two principals of the Trade Council, will also be on hand to answer questions.

Please ask your staff to notify Deanna Tanner Okun of my staff who will be hosting the briefing if they plan to attend (x46665).

Sincerely,



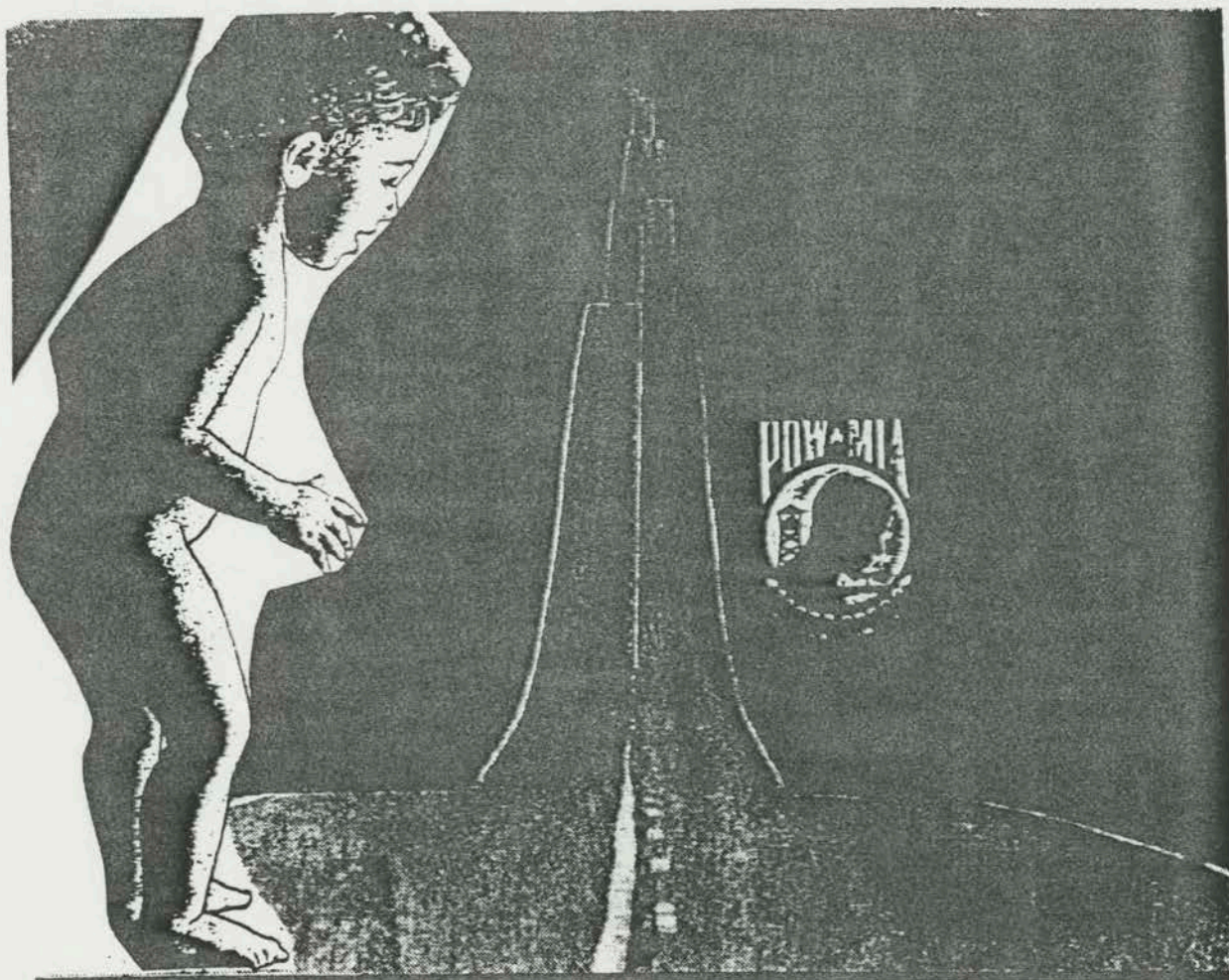
Frank H. Murkowski
United States Senator

Prayer for Peace

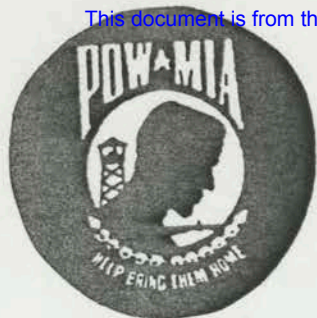
O God, source of all holy desires, right counsels and just works, grant us that peace which the world cannot give, so that we may be obedient to your commands and under your protection enjoy peace in our days and freedom from fear of our enemies. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Act of Love

O my God, I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul, because you are all-good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.



There Has To Be A Big Reason.



**HELL
IS
STILL
IN
SESSION**

BRIAN: Well, you notice what they did at the last hearings. They had McFarlane and Seecourt up there raising their right hand. They're automatically sworn in even if they're not sworn in. They just went about it officially.

JERRY: Ok, I'm going to tell you something else, but you've got to keep it under your hat, ok?

BRIAN: Sure.

JERRY: Uh, there is a chance, see there's been rumors floating around for years that some of the men have walked out.

BRIAN: Well, sure, we talked about that last time.

JERRY: Ok, and some of them have gone out under the government Witness Protection Act, and there's been some of them possibly going out by companies, you know, that are involved over there, both American and foreign, and have just sort of melted into society. We have one here in Montana, we can't catch the son of a bitch but we know he's for real.

BRIAN: Yeah.

JERRY: From around here... We have approximately a 70% chance to... on Memorial Day. ...private hill that he's lived in for the last 12-13 years... walking out.

BRIAN: Well, praise the Lord, Jerry.

JERRY: But they're coming out through the news media if they come out. Contacts are established, but they're scared to death. Lawyers have been arranged to protect... they will be charged with desertion technically, you know, because they didn't report to their commanding officers.

BRIAN: It'll be a Garwood situation, huh?


JERRY: There are numerous lawyers involved here... arrangements are being made, but it's a matter of breaking their fear complex, you know, because what's running through their minds at this stage of the game is traitor or treason... you know, I mean you can imagine what these guys are going through.


BRIAN: Yeah, well.

JERRY: ... turned into a ...



STUMPED?



WHERE  STAND:
THE FACTS.

If all printers (and editors) were determined not to print anything until they were sure it would not offend anybody, there would be very little printed.

— Benjamin Franklin

July 11, 1995

Dear Minnesota Elected Officials:

Today, President William Jefferson Clinton, along with representatives of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam proclaimed agreement to "normalize" diplomatic relations. To us this is not welcomed. After all, there is the unfinished business of Americans abandoned in Southeast Asia.

The United States of America has knowingly left Americans behind during every War including World War II, Korea, the Gulf War and Vietnam, including the Cold War eras as well.

The "outrage" by the International Red Cross or the United Nations on this matter has never been heard at all since the very first American was declared missing in action or held as a prisoner of war.

Back in Paris in 1973, 12 so-called Nations signed the Paris Peace Accords, ending hostilities. Today, as we view a copy, we find that Chapter 4, Article 9 states "the South Vietnamese people shall decide for themselves the political future of South Vietnam," not even indicating remotely to include the "North." Remember, the North invaded the South two years later.

Article 11 guarantees "personal freedom, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of belief, etc. There isn't anyone in the United States government who can swear that this is so, including Winston Lord. The moral aspect of "normalization" we feel, even quakes the folks at the Vatican. President Clinton must thrive on falsehoods.

The portion dealing with POWs was never carried out completely, need we say more?

Is it no wonder why family members and concerned citizens have cried for help? The United States government in conjunction with the Geneva Convention rules has now diminished its efforts to recovering bone fragments and not live Americans. This is unforgiveable.

One of the reasons for communicating in person with either you or your staff is to ensure that the Minnesota delegation "does not forget." We have yet to have anyone come forward to author a bill on behalf of our fellow soldiers. The "code of conduct" held firm by those in the Armed Forces stipulates that "I will not surrender of my own free will."

Is this any reason to treat us "activists" like "troublemakers?" We are simply trying to help the families to account for their loved ones. When we hear "all present and accounted for," we will cease being "radicals" for those who can't speak for themselves.

In the past, we were told of "barriers" to free our fellow citizens, but as of today there are none. We will continue to seek the truth and with your help, change the rules by which we operate. The burden of proof should not be on the next of kin. Agreed?

July 14, 1995
Page 2

We thank those of you who took the time to hear our plea, including your support staff people while we made the "rounds" in May. Each of you were presented with information and an invitation to attend the 26th annual National League of Families sessions to be held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott, July 20 to 23, 1995. We ask again to please contact the League at (202) 223-6846 to be placed on the agenda. We certainly hope you are able to devote some time to enhance the Minnesota tradition of "can do." Recently as well as in the past, some of you have "stuck your neck out" on the MIA/POW "humanitarian" issue. We thank you.

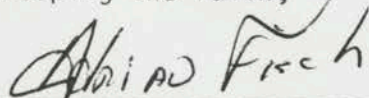
Atomic veterans, Agent Orange exposure, and Gulf War syndrome are just a few of the wounds that linger in the American psyche. Let's eliminate them, too. We need your help.

We look forward to seeing all of you in the next few days. As a reminder to you all that we will "fight to the death" for HR945/S256 co-sponsorship by not less than 100 percent from our Minnesota delegation. If you are not sure, tell us what you believe will work. We have an open door.

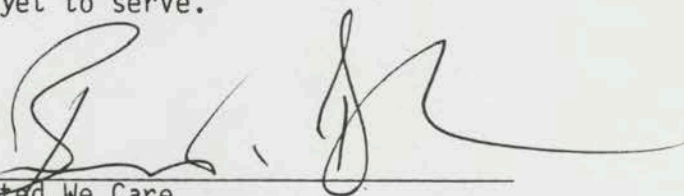
Some folks think we are in this for the accolades and plaques. Wrong! We are not trying to stick feathers up our asses either, we seek the truth.

Once again, we would appreciate your support for these critical offerings all of which help correct the past and protect the future for military personnel (families) serving today and those yet to serve.

Keeping the faith,



Red Badge of Courage
Adrian B. Fisch
1023 Fifth Avenue South
Saint James, MN 56081
(507) 375-5435
(507) 375-4142 FAX



United We Care
Brian "Bulldog" Burke
P. O. Box 11751
Saint Paul, MN 55111-0751
(612) 890-0541
(612) 690-0408 FAX

P.S.: The Senate/House Joint Human Rights report dated, February, 1994, states that the SRV (Socialist Republic of Vietnam) is a one party State ruled by the VCP (Vietnamese Communist Party). Further, "the government continued to restrict individual rights." The Constitution of 1992 "contained references ... that have been used to justify limits on civil liberties."

Further, "the government continued to violate human rights in 1993 ... after their release in 1993, American citizens held on political grounds reported that they were threatened with violence several times in attempts to coerce confessions, although they were not actually beaten." You be the judge. Need we mention any more? Bullshit! If we are satisfied with this report, some one please call the Chaplain for the funeral service. Amen.

Community
Calendar
page 4



Meena
Alexander
page 8



Scholarship
Winner
page 4



ASIAN AMERICAN PRESS

"Building a Strong Community Within Diversity"

Vet burns SRV flag at state capitol

By Thomas Marley

The announced normalization of U.S. relations with Vietnam drew an angry response from a Minnesotan who lost two brothers in the war. A solo protest last Wednesday in Saint Paul illustrated the divisiveness and

emotions are contained in this issue.

Brian Burke of Burnsville burned the flag of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV) in front of the Minnesota state capitol on July 12 as a protest against the diplomatic move an-

nounced by president Clinton last Tuesday.

In the bright afternoon sun on one of the hottest days of the summer, Burke held a SRV flag, yellow with three red

stars, and immolated it on the steps of the state capitol. As TV video crews watched, the charred blackened remains of the flag drifted down in sharp contrast against the shimmering whistone steps.

Burke, a Vietnam veteran who served in the U.S. army, has been active in the POW-MIA issue for a long time. His anger stems from his personal loss, and the nagging questions brought up by normalization.

For Burke, the immediate question raised is 'did my brothers die in vain?' Beyond that Burke and others in the POW-MIA organization assert that the POWs have not been accounted for; that human rights are routinely violated by the Vietnamese government; that Vietnamese refugees have not been adequately taken care of; and the US government has not told the truth about the war in Vietnam. Because of these conditions, says Burke, "there should be no aid and no trade - accounting first."

POW-MIA organization representatives plan to be in Washington D.C. on July 18th for meetings with Minnesota congressional delegation and with the Vietnamese (SRV) embassy. They will continue their search to "find the truth"

BOHICA II

AS YOU KNOW THE AMERICAN LEGION HAS COME OUT IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION (HUMANITARIAN) ISSUE. RECENTLY, AT THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION (HELD IN MINNEAPOLIS-1994) THE POW/MIA COMMITTEE INTRODUCED THE HEAD OF (DPMO), RETIRED BRIG. GENERAL JAMES W. WOLD.

HIS COMMENTS THAT DAY LULLED SOME OF US TO SLEEP AS HE DEVOUTLY PRAISED THE EFFORTS OF THE (USG) ON THE MISSION AND ELUDED TO WHAT HE WAS GOING TO DO TO FULLY ACCOUNT FOR OUR FELLOW AMERICANS MISSING FROM ALL WARS INCLUDING THOSE OF THE COLD WAR AS WELL.

THE FORMER OFFICER STATED THAT "AS A LAWYER AND FORMER PROSECUTOR I AM PREPARED TO LOOK AT ALL THE EVIDENCE ON POW/MIA'S".

MR. WOLD ALSO WELCOMES INPUT FROM POW/MIA ACTIVISTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS.

FURTHER, HE STATES "WE DON'T SEND OUR GUYS AND GALS INTO COMBAT WITHOUT THEM KNOWING WE WILL DO EVERYTHING TO BRING THEM HOME".

HOWEVER, HE DOES NOT STIPULATE WHETHER THEY WILL BE COMING HOME ALIVE OR DEAD AND FOR THAT MATTER JUST PLAIN ABANDONED FOR JUST ONE DAY OR TO INFINITY. WE NOW KNOW IT COULD TAKE FOREVER.

SO, MY FELLOW LEGIONAIRES, I URGE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU TO CHALLENGE THE INTEGRITY OF MR. WOLD AND HIS STAFF OF 500. AFTER ALL, WE ARE SPENDING 100,000,000.00 DOLLARS A YEAR TO FIND THE TRUTH. WITH THIS IN MIND, HERE IS A LIST OF HIS PROMISES.

1. "I WILL FOLLOW UP"
2. REFERENCE THE MATERIAL I GAVE HIM HE SAID "IT WILL NOT DISAPPEAR ON THAT AIRPLANE BACK TO WASHINGTON"
3. "OFFICE WILL BE EFFECTIVE AND AGGRESSIVE"
4. "IT IS A SLOGGING SLOW PROCESS"
5. "CONSIDERING THE FAMILIES NEEDS"
6. "FOLLOW ANY LEADS"
7. "FREEDOM OF ACCESS"

- This document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas
<http://dolearchives.ku.edu>
8. "THIS IS A SLOW AND TEDIOUS PROCESS"
 9. "AT THIS RATE IT MAY TAKE 5 YEARS TO EXCAVATE LAOS"
 10. "EVIDENCE"
 11. "BE A GOOD LISTENER"
 - 12 "WE ARE FOCUSED ON FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING"
 - 13 "PURSUIT OF TRUTH"



YES, MY FELLOW AMERICANS, SOME OF THIS MAY PUZZLE YOU. ANY QUESTIONS, JUST ASK HUGH PETERSON. HE CAN BE CONTACTED THRU MR. WOLD. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, 2400 DEFENSE PENTAGON, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2400.

FOR THE LEGIONARIES IN ATTENDANCE AT THAT MEETING I KNOW IT WAS NOT EASY FOR ANY OF YOU BUT THANKS FOR STANDING UP TO SHOW YOUR "OUTRAGE". THANKS ALSO FOR RAISING YOUR HANDS INDICATING THAT YOU "BELIEVE" WHAT FAMILY MEMBER CAROL HRDLICKA Poured FORTH FROM HER HEART THAT DAY.

NOW IT IS TIME FOR ALL OF US TO GET OFF OUR DUFFS AND DEMONSTRATE EMPHATICALLY THAT WE WILL FEAR NO EVIL IN KEEPING OUR GOVERNMENT AND MR. WOLD ACCOUNTABLE. OH! AND DON'T FORGET THIS ALSO INCLUDES THOSE GOVERNMENTS SUCH AS NORTH KOREA, CHINA, RUSSIA AND OTHERS. THIS IS NOT AS IN SOME PEOPLES VIEW A VIETNAM VENTURE ONLY.

THE CODE OF CONDUCT WHICH APPLIES TO ALL PERSONS IN THE MILITARY STILL APPLIES TO THOSE WE KNOWINGLY LEFT BEHIND. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT WE GO ALL OVER THE WORLD TO "FREE THE OPPRESSED" BUT TO ACCOUNT FOR OWN WE TURN TAIL AND RUN. GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAINS, OVER THE HILLS AND EVERYWHERE THAT THE LORD IS WITH US TO FIND THE TRUTH.

NO WORDS WERE BETTER SPOKEN THAN BY OUR PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER BRUCE THIESEN WHEN HE STATED "THE AMERICAN LEGION BELIEVES THAT OBTAINING THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING OF OUR POW/MIA'S IS THE PARAMOUNT AMERICAN INTEREST" AND HE CLEARLY SIGNALS TO US WHEN HE SAYS THAT "AMERICA'S POW/MIA POLICY IS MISSING IN ACTION".

THE QUESTION IS, ARE WE IN MINNESOTA GOING TO LEAD THE NATION TO AID THE PLIGHT OF THE FAMILIES, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE!

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APRIL 22, 1995

