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# FOIA MARKER

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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Backup Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13679  
**Folder ID Number:** 13679-003

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**Folder Title:**  
National League of Families, 7/28/89

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER 14

DATE 7-31-89 SCUMBERMUND (SP)

TO Bob Shurman - HHS

FAX NUMBER 245-2247 — .472-6929

OFFICE NUMBER 245-1850 245-6343

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FROM Christina Martini

FAX NUMBER 456-6218

OFFICE NUMBER 456-7750

Christina

REMARKS: NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES/J.W. MARRIOTT  
JULY 28, 1989/3:20 P.M.

THANK YOU GEORGE AND ANN. IT'S AN HONOR TO BE  
BACK WITH THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES.

EARLIER, I WAS REFLECTING ON THE MAGNITUDE OF WHAT  
YOU HAVE ENDURED THROUGH SO MANY YEARS OF UNCERTAINTY.  
DESPITE YOUR BURDENS, YOU HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT A CHANGE  
IN OUR NATION THAT WILL NEVER BE REVERSED. YOUR  
ORGANIZATION PROVIDES US ALL WITH A STIRRING EXAMPLE OF  
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YOUR FLAG CAN BE SEEN ACROSS THIS LAND -- OVER STATEHOUSES, FIRE STATIONS, SCHOOLS, MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND STADIUMS, EVEN ON SHIPS AT SEA -- A STIRRING REMINDER THAT AMERICA'S SONS ARE STILL MISSING.

THE IDEALS FOR WHICH YOUR LOVED ONES FOUGHT MAY FINALLY BE COMING TO PASS -- THE FAILURE OF TOTALITARIAN AND REPRESSIVE COMMUNIST REGIMES. THE EVIDENCE IS CLEAR THROUGH RECENT EVENTS IN CHINA, THE SOVIET UNION AND EVEN IN CAMBODIA, WHERE VIETNAM APPEARS TO BE WITHDRAWING ITS TROOPS.

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YOU ALSO HAVE MANY FRIENDS IN BOTH PARTIES IN CONGRESS. I ESPECIALLY WANT TO COMMEND BOB DOLE, JOHN MCCAIN, STEVE SOLARZ, BOB LAGOMARSINO AND BEN GILMAN, FOR SHOWING THE GOVERNMENTS OF INDOCHINA THE STRENGTH OF BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITMENT TO FIND ANSWERS. TO KEEP THIS ISSUE AT THE FOREFRONT, THEY HAVE AGAIN PASSED RESOLUTIONS ESTABLISHING NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY, THIS YEAR ON SEPTEMBER 15TH.

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WE LOOK FORWARD TO NORMALIZING OUR RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM, ONCE A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN CAMBODIA. THAT SETTLEMENT MUST INCLUDE GENUINE POWER SHARING WITH THE NON-COMMUNIST CAMBODIANS LED BY PRINCE SIHANOUK AND IN INTERNATIONALLY VERIFIED TROOP WITHDRAWAL. BUT HANOI MUST CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, THE PACE AND SCOPE OF THIS PROCESS WILL BE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY THE SERIOUSNESS OF THEIR COOPERATION ON POW/MIA AND OTHER HUMANITARIAN ISSUES.

IN LAOS, SO MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN, AND SO FEW ANSWERS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. IN LIGHT OF THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED, THEIR AGREEMENT EARLIER THIS YEAR TO A YEAR-ROUND PROGRAM OF COOPERATION IS ENCOURAGING. YOU CAN BE CERTAIN THAT WE ARE SEEKING TO EXPAND THIS AGREEMENT IN EVERY POSSIBLY WAY.

WE ALSO WELCOME THE LAO GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT TO WORK BILATERALLY WITH US ON COMBATING THE INTERNATIONAL SCOURGE OF NARCOTICS. IMPLEMENTING THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE CRITICALLY IMPORTANT TO OUR IMPROVED BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, WHICH HAS EXPANDED STEADILY SINCE 1982. WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE IN OUR RELATIONS WITH LAOS, RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF STEPS THEY ARE TAKING TOWARD OPENING THEIR SOCIETY AND DEVELOPING THEIR ECONOMY FOR THE GOOD OF THE LAO PEOPLE.

TO THE FAMILIES OF THOSE MISSING IN CAMBODIA, I MUST TELL YOU THAT OUR EFFORTS TO GAIN PHNOM PENH'S HUMANITARIAN COOPERATION ON RESOLVING THE FATES OF YOUR MISSING LOVED ONES HAVE THUS FAR BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. DESPITE THEIR PUBLIC CLAIMS TO BE HOLDING REMAINS OF SOME AMERICANS, OFFICIALS THERE HAVE BEEN DEAF TO OUR APPEALS. I HAVE ASKED SECRETARY BAKER TO RAISE THIS ISSUE DURING THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN CAMBODIA BEGINNING THIS WEEKEND. I CALL ON PHNOM PENH TO ACT RESPONSIBLY, HUMANELY, AND RETURN THESE REMAINS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL SURELY HINDER THEIR EFFORTS TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL RESPECT AND SUPPORT.

THE POLICIES PURSUED DURING THE PAST EIGHT YEARS HAVE SHOWN SOME SUCCESS. INCOMPLETE? YES . . . BUT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE BECAUSE OUR GOVERNMENT IS GIVING IT HIGH PRIORITY.

AS WE PROCEED, WE WILL CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE THE PROCESS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ASSEMBLE THE BEST RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY AND, MOST OF ALL, QUALIFIED PEOPLE TO INTERVIEW REFUGEES, EVALUATE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION, AND NEGOTIATE WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

IT IS WITH THAT LAST MISSION IN MIND THAT I REAPPOINTED A MAN OF THE HIGHEST INTEGRITY AND QUALIFICATIONS, GENERAL JACK VESSEY, AS MY SPECIAL POW/MIA EMISSARY TO HANOI. I KNOW THAT JACK WAS WITH YOU THIS MORNING, AND SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND DEFENSE, AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WILL FOLLOW ME HERE. I HAVE CHARGED THEM ALL TO DO THEIR UTMOST. THEY KNOW, AND SHARE, MY DEEP COMMITMENT TO YOUR MISSING LOVED ONES AND TO YOU.

THE PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE POW/MIA ISSUE RESTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. AND FOR THAT REASON, WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE A VERY TALENTED PUBLIC SERVANT AS OUR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. DICK CHENEY'S YEARS IN CONGRESS AND HIS KNOWLEDGE OF INTELLIGENCE MATTERS GIVE HIM A RARE UNDERSTANDING OF, AND A DEEP APPRECIATION FOR, YOUR CONCERNS.

IN CLOSING, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT IN MY FREQUENT TRAVELS TO CITIES AND TOWNS ACROSS AMERICA, I SEE MANY HEARTFELT DEMONSTRATIONS OF SUPPORT FOR OUR CAUSE. AMERICANS KNOW THAT ACROSS OUR LAND, EVERY THANKSGIVING, THERE ARE FAMILIES THAT STILL SET AN EMPTY CHAIR AT THE TABLE. WE KNOW THAT FADED PHOTOGRAPHS AND SCHOOL MEMENTOS ARE STILL BEING LOVINGLY KEPT IN SCRAPBOOKS. AND QUESTIONS REMAIN, AND WILL REMAIN, UNTIL ANSWERED.

NOW THE MOTHERS, FATHERS, WIVES, CHILDREN AND FRIENDS OF ANOTHER GREAT POWER SHARE THE SAME KIND OF GRIEF, SHARE WITH YOU LINGERING DOUBTS ABOUT MISSING LOVED ONES. THAT THIS POWER, THE SOVIET UNION, BACKED THE NORTH VIETNAMESE; AND THE UNITED STATES BACKED THE AFGHAN FREEDOM-FIGHTERS, IS AN IRONY. BUT THERE IS NO ROOM IN THE AMERICAN HEART FOR A MEAN-SPIRITED AND PETTY INDIFFERENCE. FAR FROM IT.

I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT SOVIET GENERAL-SECRETARY MIKHAIL GORBACHEV RECENTLY MADE A HUMANITARIAN APPEAL FOR OUR HELP IN OBTAINING THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING FOR SOVIET CITIZENS STILL PRISONER AND MISSING IN AFGHANISTAN. LET ME ANSWER HIM TODAY: WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN. AND IN RETURN, WE CONFIDENTLY EXPECT THE SOVIETS WILL DO ALL THEY CAN DO ENCOURAGE MORE SERIOUS AND TIMELY COOPERATION FROM THEIR ALLIES IN INDOCHINA.

WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN RESOLVE THE ANGUISH OF MANY FAMILIES IN TWO LANDS. AND WE CAN DO SOMETHING MORE . . . WE CAN BUILD A NEW SPIRIT OF PEACE.

IN ECCLESIASTES, IT IS WRITTEN THAT THERE IS A TIME FOR WAR, A TIME FOR PEACE AND A TIME TO HEAL. WE WILL NEVER FORGET THOSE WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY. AND WHEN WE RECEIVE FINAL ANSWERS ABOUT THEIR FATE, THEN THIS WILL TRULY BE A TIME FOR HEALING.

THANK YOU, GOD BLESS YOU AND GOD BLESS AMERICA.

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT  
FOR  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1989

EVENTS:

Staff Photo with Board of Directors of the National League of  
Families  
Address to the National League of Families

DRESS:

Men - Business Suit  
Women - Day Dress

CONTACT:

Office of Presidential Advance  
John G. Keller, Jr. - 202/456-7565

Trip Coordinator  
Lucy Muckerman - 202/456-7565

ADVANCE:

Gordon James - LEAD  
Steven Ross - PRESS  
Mark Camillo - USSS  
John Stufflebeem - MIL. AIDE  
John George - WHCA

WEATHER:

Partly Cloudy/Mid 70's

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT  
FOR  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1989

3:15 pm

THE PRESIDENT departs White House en route J.W.  
Marriott Hotel.

MOTORCADE ASSIGNMENTS:

Lead	J. Parmer
Spare	Doctor T. McBride
LIMO	THE PRESIDENT
Follow Up	
Control	Gov. Sununu S. Studdert Mil. Aide
Support	M. Fitzwater Official Photographer Medic
Staff I	E. Rogers Gen. Scowcroft
Press Van I	J. Allison
Press Van II	

(Drive Time: 5 Minutes)

3:20 pm THE PRESIDENT arrives J.W. Marriott Hotel and proceeds to VIP Room.

Met by:

Ms. Karen McManus  
National League of Families Staff

Ms. Betsy Cox  
National League of Families Staff

Mr. Stephen Mills  
National League of Families Staff

EVENT: STAFF PHOTO WITH BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES

CLOSED PRESS

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER ONLY

3:22 pm THE PRESIDENT arrives VIP Room and begins participation in Staff Photo.

3:27 pm THE PRESIDENT concludes participation in Staff Photo, departs VIP Room, and proceeds to Off-Stage Announcement Area.

3:28 pm THE PRESIDENT arrives Off-Stage Announcement Area and holds briefly.

EVENT: ADDRESS TO THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES

OPEN PRESS

RUFFLES AND FLOURISHES

OFF-STAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

REMARKS

3:29 pm THE PRESIDENT is announced onto Stage and proceeds to Seat on Dais.

3:30 pm THE PRESIDENT is introduced for Remarks by Mr. George Brooks, Chairman of the Board, National League of Families.

3:32 pm THE PRESIDENT Remarks.

3:47 pm THE PRESIDENT concludes Remarks, departs Stage, and proceeds to Holding Room.

3:49 pm THE PRESIDENT arrives Holding Room for a brief hold.

3:52 pm THE PRESIDENT departs Holding Room and proceeds to Motorcade.

3:55 pm THE PRESIDENT boards Motorcade and departs J.W. Marriott en route the White House.

MOTORCADE ASSIGNMENTS:

Same as on Arrival.

(Drive Time: 5 Minutes)

4:00 pm

THE PRESIDENT arrives the White House.

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\*JT RES 129

TO THE FAMILIES OF THOSE MISSING IN CAMBODIA, I MUST TELL YOU THAT OUR EFFORTS TO GAIN PHNOM PENH'S HUMANITARIAN COOPERATION ON RESOLVING THE FATES OF YOUR MISSING LOVED ONES HAVE THUS FAR BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. DESPITE THEIR PUBLIC CLAIMS TO BE HOLDING REMAINS OF SOME AMERICANS, OFFICIALS THERE HAVE BEEN DEAF TO OUR APPEALS. I HAVE ASKED SECRETARY BAKER TO RAISE THIS ISSUE DURING THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN CAMBODIA BEGINNING THIS WEEKEND. I CALL ON PHNOM PENH TO ACT RESPONSIBLY, HUMANELY, AND RETURN THESE REMAINS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL SURELY HINDER THEIR EFFORTS TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL RESPECT AND SUPPORT.

THE POLICIES PURSUED DURING THE PAST EIGHT YEARS HAVE SHOWN SOME SUCCESS. INCOMPLETE? YES . . . BUT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE BECAUSE OUR GOVERNMENT IS GIVING IT HIGH PRIORITY.

AS WE PROCEED, WE WILL CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE THE PROCESS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ASSEMBLE THE BEST RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY AND, MOST OF ALL, QUALIFIED PEOPLE TO INTERVIEW REFUGEES, EVALUATE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION, AND NEGOTIATE WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

IT IS WITH THAT LAST MISSION IN MIND THAT I REAPPOINTED A MAN OF THE HIGHEST INTEGRITY AND QUALIFICATIONS, GENERAL JACK VESSEY, AS MY SPECIAL POW/MIA EMISSARY TO HANOI. I KNOW THAT JACK WAS WITH YOU THIS MORNING, AND SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND DEFENSE, AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WILL FOLLOW ME HERE. I HAVE CHARGED THEM ALL TO DO THEIR UTMOST. THEY KNOW, AND SHARE, MY DEEP COMMITMENT TO YOUR MISSING LOVED ONES AND TO YOU.

THE PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE POW/MIA ISSUE RESTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. AND FOR THAT REASON, WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE A VERY TALENTED PUBLIC SERVANT AS OUR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE. DICK CHENEY'S YEARS IN CONGRESS AND HIS KNOWLEDGE OF INTELLIGENCE MATTERS GIVE HIM A RARE UNDERSTANDING OF, AND A DEEP APPRECIATION FOR, YOUR CONCERNS.

IN CLOSING, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT IN MY FREQUENT TRAVELS TO CITIES AND TOWNS ACROSS AMERICA, I SEE MANY HEARTFELT DEMONSTRATIONS OF SUPPORT FOR OUR CAUSE. AMERICANS KNOW THAT ACROSS OUR LAND, EVERY THANKSGIVING, THERE ARE FAMILIES THAT STILL SET AN EMPTY CHAIR AT THE TABLE. WE KNOW THAT FADED PHOTOGRAPHS AND SCHOOL MEMENTOS ARE STILL BEING LOVINGLY KEPT IN SCRAPBOOKS. AND QUESTIONS REMAIN, AND WILL REMAIN, UNTIL ANSWERED.

NOW THE MOTHERS, FATHERS, WIVES, CHILDREN AND FRIENDS OF ANOTHER GREAT POWER SHARE THE SAME KIND OF GRIEF, SHARE WITH YOU LINGERING DOUBTS ABOUT MISSING LOVED ONES. THAT THIS POWER, THE SOVIET UNION, BACKED THE NORTH VIETNAMESE; AND THE UNITED STATES BACKED THE AFGHAN FREEDOM-FIGHTERS, IS AN IRONY. BUT THERE IS NO ROOM IN THE AMERICAN HEART FOR A MEAN-SPIRITED AND PETTY INDIFFERENCE. FAR FROM IT.

I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT SOVIET GENERAL-SECRETARY MIKHAIL GORBACHEV RECENTLY MADE A HUMANITARIAN APPEAL FOR OUR HELP IN OBTAINING THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING FOR SOVIET CITIZENS STILL PRISONER AND MISSING IN AFGHANISTAN. LET ME ANSWER HIM TODAY: WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN. AND IN RETURN, WE CONFIDENTLY EXPECT THE SOVIETS WILL DO ALL THEY CAN DO ENCOURAGE MORE SERIOUS AND TIMELY COOPERATION FROM THEIR ALLIES IN INDOCHINA.

WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN RESOLVE THE ANGUISH OF MANY FAMILIES IN TWO LANDS. AND WE CAN DO SOMETHING MORE . . . WE CAN BUILD A NEW SPIRIT OF PEACE.

IN ECCLESIASTES, IT IS WRITTEN THAT THERE IS A TIME FOR WAR, A TIME FOR PEACE AND A TIME TO HEAL. WE WILL NEVER FORGET THOSE WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY. AND WHEN WE RECEIVE FINAL ANSWERS ABOUT THEIR FATE, THEN THIS WILL TRULY BE A TIME FOR HEALING.

THANK YOU, GOD BLESS YOU AND GOD BLESS AMERICA.

# # #

July 26, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:           CHRISS WINSTON

FROM:               MARK DAVIS

SUBJECT:            NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES SPEECH

I. SUMMARY

On Friday, July 28, 1989, you will address approximately 700 people in the Grand Ballroom of the J. W. Marriott at 3:20 p.m. Crowd will be comprised of the Board of Directors and members of the National League of Families -- a MIA/POW organization. You will be accompanied on stage by 10 people, introduced by George Brooks, Head of the Board of Directors, and then deliver a 15 minute speech as prepared on the teleprompter.

II. DISCUSSION

This speech reaffirms your commitment to learn the fates of MIA/POWs in Indochina.

Davis/Martin  
July 18, 1989  
Draft: One  
Title: Missing

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES/J.W. MARRIOTT  
July 28, 1989/10 ~~a.m.~~ 3:20 pm

*Mills Griffith (sp.)*  
Thank you George, Ann. It's a delight to be back before the National League of Families. Your organization provides us all with the most stirring example of how democracy works.

As you know, Barbara and I returned from Central and Eastern Europe two weeks ago. And in the faces of the brave workers of Gdansk and the hopeful students of Budapest, I saw a truth that cannot be denied: the ideal of democracy is winning the hearts of the peoples of the world.

It is this ideal that we honor when we fly the flag. And it is for this ideal that so many Americans were ready when their country called.

This wasn't always an obvious truth. In years past, those in the American uniform were often ridiculed and attacked by some of their own countrymen. But you did not forget. You did not break ranks.

There was a time when your claims were ignored by your government, when there was a move to close down the office to investigate the fate of your loved ones. And yet you did not forget. You did not break ranks.

Now we are coming to a time when the divisions of the Vietnam War are healing; we have let go of the bitterness of the

past. But with this reconciliation comes a temptation to forget those who served. But still, you did not forget. You did not break ranks.

My friend and predecessor, Ronald Reagan, had a personal commitment to determine the fates of your missing loved ones. Because of his commitment, and your perseverance, the policies of this organization are now the policies of the United States government.

When I sought the presidency, I promised we will write no last chapters, we will close no books, we will put away no final memories until **all** your questions about the missing and about possible prisoners of war are answered.

**And it is as your President that I repeat that pledge . . .**

Let me simply state the policy of this new Administration. As long as there is a possibility that Americans remain alive, we will continue our search as a matter of the highest national priority. If we discover proof of captivity, we will take action -- **whatever action is required -- to bring our men home.**

And so long as you must live without knowledge of the fate of your loved ones, the United States will use its power to insist, in the name of decency, that the governments of Indochina give the fullest possible accounting.

Of course, there is a natural frustration. I hear the voices that say more must be done. If more can be done, then it will be. Understand this: I do not counsel a timid patience. I **counsel a bold persistence.** ((PAUSE))

And our persistence is showing some results; since the government embraced the goals of this organization, many more of you have found answers. There have been sad truths to learn. But every POW-MIA relative that I meet tells me that truth is preferable to the greater agony -- that of not knowing.

The task of learning more is daunting, but at least we can count on some powerful allies in our effort.

First are the national veterans organization, those who have stood side-by-side with us throughout the long years. It was these groups that began the protests of growing government indifference to MIAs. Their contribution cannot be overstated.

Another partner in our quest are the men and women in government who have dedicated their careers to learning the truth about POWs and MIAs. These public servants are not uninspired bureaucrats just going through the motions. They have a deep and abiding commitment to their task. This is a commitment felt throughout the Defense Intelligence Agency, in the embassies and among the American pilots -- those who bring our fallen soldiers out of Hanoi, to come home.

You have friends in Congress too. Few concerns receive such strong bipartisan support as yours. I especially want to commend Bob Dole, Steve Solarz, Bob Lagomarsino and Ben Gilman, for their leadership in showing the strength of their commitment to the Indochinese Governments. To remind us, to keep this issue on the frontburner, they have again passed resolutions establishing National POW/MIA Recognition Day, this year on September 15th.

I must mention how invaluable Ann's guidance has been through the years. Her knowledge and determination are an inspiration, and her participation in the Interagency Group provides critical insights. We will continue to look to Ann for advice and leadership.

And finally, I pledge to do all I can. I will soon issue a proclamation calling upon all Americans to honor their missing countrymen and those who served as POWs by participating in ceremonies across our nation. But this is just a beginning.

As I mentioned in my Inaugural Address, "there are today Americans who are held against their will and Americans who are unaccounted for. Assistance can be shown here and will be long remembered. **Goodwill begets goodwill.**"

We appreciate Vietnam's increased responsiveness to that appeal. An unprecedented level of joint operations has already brought significant progress. But despite our increased activities, many questions remain. Once again, I call upon Hanoi to swiftly dispel the shadow of doubt, to shed light on the fate of your loved ones. **I call on Hanoi to shed this last vestige of armed conflict between us.**

We look forward to normalizing our relations with Vietnam, once a comprehensive settlement has been achieved in Cambodia, one that includes a genuine share of power for the non-communist factions led by Prince Sihanok, as well as an internationally verified troop withdrawal. But Hanoi clearly understand that as a practical matter, the pace and scope of this process will be

directly affected by the seriousness of their cooperation on POW/MIA and other humanitarian issues.

The increased POW/MIA cooperation provided by the Lao Government is particularly important. So many questions remain, and so few answers have been received. In light of the difficulties involved, their agreement earlier this year to a year-round program of cooperation is encouraging. You can be certain that we are seeking to expand this agreement in every possible way.

((We also welcome the Lao Government's agreement to work bilaterally with us on combatting the international scourge of narcotics. Implementing this agreement will be critically important to our improved bilateral relations that has expanded steadily since 1982. We look to the future in our relations with Laos, recognizing the importance of steps they are taking toward opening their society and developing their economy for the good of the Lao people.))

To the families of those missing in Cambodia, our best efforts to gain Cambodia's humanitarian cooperation on resolving the fates of your missing loved ones has thus far been unsuccessful. Despite their public claims to be holding remains of some Americans, officials in Phnom Penh has been deaf to our appeals. I call on Phnom Penh to act responsibly, humanely, and return these remains. Failure to do so reflects very poorly on them. And it will surely hinder their efforts to gain international support.

The policies pursued during the past eight years have shown some success. Limited? Yes. Incomplete? Yes . . . but progress is being made only because our government is now giving it the highest priority.

As we proceed, we will continue to search for ways to improve our investigations. We will continue to assemble the best resources, technology and, most of all, recruit qualified people to interview refugees, evaluate intelligence information, and negotiate with foreign governments.

It is with that last mission in mind that I reappointed a man of the highest integrity and qualifications, General Jack Vessey, as my special POW/MIA emissary to Hanoi. I know that he will be with you this afternoon, along with senior officials from the Departments of State and Defense, and the National Security Council. I have charged them all to do their utmost. They know, and share, my deep commitment to your missing loved ones and to you.

The principle responsibility for POW/MIA issues rests with the Department of Defense. And for that reason, we are fortunate to have a very talented public servant as our Secretary of Defense. Dick Cheney's years in Congress and his knowledge of intelligence matters give him a rare understanding and a deep appreciation of your concerns.

In closing, I want you to know that in my frequent travels to cities and towns across America, I see many heartfelt demonstrations of support for your cause. Americans know that

across our land, every Thanksgiving, there are families that still set an empty chair at the table. We know that yellowed photographs and school mementoes are still being lovingly kept in scrapbooks. And questions remain, and will remain until answered.

Now you are not alone. The mothers and fathers of another great power share your grief, share your lingering doubts. That this power, the Soviet Union, backed the North Vietnamese; and the United States backed the Afghan freedom-fighters, is an irony. But there is no room in the American heart for a mean and petty spirit. Far from it.

I am pleased to note that Soviet General-Secretary Gorbachev recently made a humanitarian appeal for our help in obtaining the fullest possible accounting for Soviet citizens still prisoner and missing in Afghanistan. Let me answer him today: we will do everything we can. And in return, we expect the Soviets to do what they can to encourage more serious and timely cooperation from their allies in Indochina.

Working together, we can resolve the anguish of many families in two lands. And we can do something more . . .

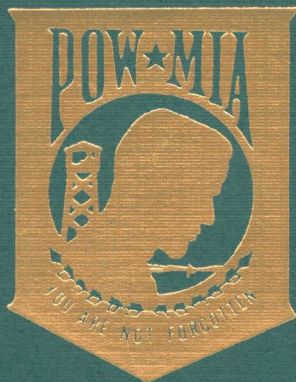
We can gradually build a spirit of trust so that American and Soviet troops will never again fight in a Vietnam, or an Afghanistan.

Thank you, God bless you and God bless America.

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## Twentieth Annual Meeting

National League of Families  
of  
American Prisoners and Missing  
in  
Southeast Asia

July 28-30, 1989

**JULY 28-30, 1989**  
**J.W. MARRIOTT HOTEL**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**ANNUAL MEETING CHAIRMAN**  
**ANN MILLS GRIFFITHS**

**ASSISTANT CHAIRMAN**  
**MARY C. CURRALL**

**COMMITTEES**

NANCY NYSTROM .....	CREDENTIALS	CHAIRMAN
BETSY COX .....	PRESS	CHAIRMAN
KAREN McMANUS .....	RESOLUTIONS	CHAIRMAN
BETTY BARTELS .....	REGISTRATION	CHAIRMAN
LIZ FLICK .....	SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	CHAIRMAN

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CASUALTY OFFICERS:** Military casualty officers will be available for individual consultation during the annual meeting. Family members who wish to set up individual appointments with their casualty representatives should make arrangements during the following times: Thursday, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Friday, 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m. - 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. The Army will be located in the Treasury Room; Navy in the State Room; Marine Corps will be in the Justice Room, and the Air Force will be located in the Commerce Room, all on the second level.

**PRESS OFFICE:** A League press office will be set up on the lower level of the hotel. Media inquiries should be directed to Press Chairman Betsy Cox.

**LEAGUE INFORMATION TABLE:** A table has been set up on the lower level and will be manned by League board members, volunteers and staff before and after scheduled sessions. League flags, logo pins, miniature commemorative coins, note cards and Christmas cards are available. Orders for public awareness materials will be accepted, and materials will be shipped following the annual meeting. Those manning the information table will also be able to answer questions on League matters.

**EMERGENCY NUMBER:** In an emergency, call the hotel operator.

**MILITARY TRANSPORTATION:** Families departing Andrews AFB by military aircraft on Sunday, July 30th, **must** check in with AirForce transportation personnel by 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 29th, and be prepared to depart the hotel **no later than 11:00 a.m. on Sunday.** Check out time at the J.W. Marriott is 12:00 noon.

**U.S. GOVERNMENT BRIEFINGS:** Identified by asterisk (\*).

## FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1989

9:00 AM      **OPENING SESSION**

GRAND BALLROOM

11:45 AM

*Invocation*

Nancy Nystrom

Vice Chairman of the Board

*Welcoming Remarks*

George L. Brooks  
Chairman of the Board

*Introduction of 1989/90 Board of Directors*

**The Honorable Stephen J. Solarz**  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Asian & Pacific Affairs  
U.S. House of Representatives

**The Honorable Robert J. Lagomarsino**  
Chairman, Task Force on POW/MIA  
U.S. House of Representatives

*Veterans Group Presentations*

Air Force Association  
John R. Alison, Member, Board of Directors

Paralyzed Veterans of America  
F. David Parker, Senior Vice President

Red River Valley Association  
Patty Sheridan, Executive Secretary

The Retired Officers Association  
Colonel Charles Cooper, Director of Communications

Non-Commissioned Officers Association  
Chuck Jackson, Executive Officer

**Remarks: The Honorable Edward J. Derwinski**  
**Secretary of Veterans Affairs**

**Unveiling of the 1989 National  
POW/MIA Recognition Day Poster**

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

12:00 PM **MILITARY LUNCHEONS \***  
1:30 PM

AIR FORCE GRAND BALLROOM (4)  
ARMY CAPITOL BALLROOM (D:E)  
NAVY, MARINE CORP, CIVILIANS CAPITOL BALLROOM (F:G)

2:00 PM **GENERAL SESSION** GRAND BALLROOM  
3:00 PM

*Executive Director's Report*  
Ann Mills Griffiths  
Executive Director

**GENERAL JOHN W. VESSEY JR., USA-RETIRED**  
**PRESIDENTIAL POW/MIA EMISSARY TO HANOI**

3:00 PM **POW/MIA INTERAGENCY FORUM \*** GRAND BALLROOM  
5:00 PM

George L. Brooks,  
Chairman of the Board, Presiding

Dr. Karl D. Jackson  
Assistant to the President and Senior Director of Asian Affairs  
National Security Council

Honorable David L. Lambertson  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Asian and Pacific Affairs

Honorable Carl W. Ford  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for East Asia and the Pacific Region  
Department of Defense

Ann Mills Griffiths  
Executive Director  
National League of Families

5:00 PM **DINNER BREAK**  
7:30 PM

7:30 PM  
9:30 PM

**DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
PRESENTATION\***

**GRAND BALLROOM**

Lt. General Ed Soyster, USA  
Director  
Defense Intelligence Agency

COL Joe Schlatter, USA  
Chief, Special Office for POW/MIA  
Defense Intelligence Agency

**SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1989**

9:30 AM  
11:30 AM

**GENERAL SESSION**

**GRAND BALLROOM**

George L. Brooks  
Chairman of the Board, Presiding

*Finance Report*  
George W. Shine  
Finance Chairman

*Panel Discussion*  
Board of Directors  
Executive Director

(Resolutions for consideration during the official business meeting are requested by the Chair no later than the conclusion of the POW/MIA Interagency Forum, Friday, July 28th, 5:00 pm.)

11:30 AM  
2:00 PM

**LUNCH BREAK**

12:30 PM

**Informal opportunity to meet with  
the Board and Executive Director**

**CAPITOL BALLROOM**

2:00 PM  
4:30 PM

**JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER  
PRESENTATION\***

**GRAND BALLROOM**

George L. Brooks  
Chairman of the Board, Presiding

LTC Joe Harvey, USA  
Commanding Officer, JCRC

Mr. Bill Bell  
Vietnam/Cambodia Specialist

Mr. Bill Gadoury  
Lao Specialist

**CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY PRESENTATION\***

COL Mel Hoherz, USA  
Chief, Casualty and Memorial Affairs

LTC Johnie Webb, USA  
Commanding Officer, CILHI

Dr. William Maples  
Consultant  
Department of the Army

4:30 PM

**NATIONAL VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL**

A special visit to the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial has been arranged during which Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan will address the families. Buses depart **promptly** at 4:45 p.m. from the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance to the hotel, returning **promptly** at 5:45 p.m.

6:15 PM  
7:15 PM

**NO HOST RECEPTION**

**CAPITOL BALLROOM**

7:30 PM  
10:00 PM

**20TH ANNUAL DINNER**

GRAND BALLROOM

*U.S. Marine Corps Band*  
MG Sgt. John D. Lee, USMC, Directing

*Master of Ceremonies*  
George L. Brooks

*Joint Armed Forces Color Guard*  
Military District of Washington

*National Anthem*

*Invocation*  
COL Michael Ashley, USAF

*Introduction of Head Table*

*Dinner*

**HONORABLE RICHARD B. CHENEY**  
**SECRETARY OF DEFENSE**

*Presentation of League Award*

*Special Awards Presentation*

*Raffle Drawing*

*82nd Airborne Division*  
*All American Chorus*  
Specialist Henry L. Fiske, USA, Directing

*Benediction*  
Chaplain Ashley

# SUNDAY, JULY 30, 1989

9:30 AM	<b>COMMEMORATIVE CANDLELIGHT CEREMONY</b> (Seperate Program)	<b>GRAND BALLROOM</b> (1 & 2)
10:30 AM		
11:00 AM	<b>FIRST DEPARTURE FOR ANDREWS AFB</b>	<b>PA AVENUE ENTRANCE LOWER LEVEL</b>

## 1989/90 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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904/781-7164

## LEAGUE STAFF

Ann Mills Griffiths	Executive Director
Mary C. Currall	Director of Operations
Betsy Cox	Director of Public Relations
Sherri Gibson	Administrative Secretary
Melissa Glover	Executive Secretary
Cheryl Smore	Special Assistant
Doris Rogers	Shipping Clerk