



# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION



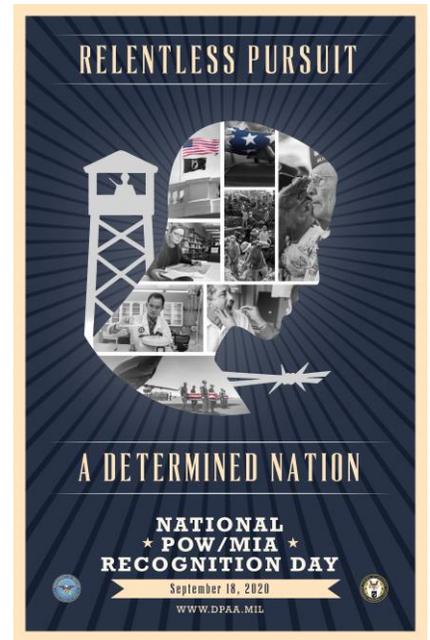
## “SITREP” 2020 – Issue 7

Wednesday, September 9

*Dear Commemorative Partners,*

**National POW/MIA Recognition Day** is **September 18<sup>th</sup>**.

This third Friday each year in September is set aside to remind Americans of the **more than 81,000** Americans unaccounted for from past conflicts, and to re-affirm our Nation’s steadfast commitment to bring them home. Clicking on this year’s poster (at right) will take you to the **Defense Personnel Accounting Agency’s** (DPAA) website, where the poster can be downloaded. According to the DPAA, there remain **1,586** Americans **unaccounted for** from the **Vietnam War** as of August 28, 2020.



The **National League of POW/MIA Families**, a proud Commemorative Partner, has dedicated **50 years** to this noble mission. The League’s aim is *“to obtain the release of all prisoners, the fullest possible accounting for the missing and repatriation of all recoverable remains of those who died serving our nation during the Vietnam War.”*

As you know, our **Certificate of Honor** program provides special recognition of former American military prisoners of war from the Vietnam War, living today in America and abroad, as well as immediate family members of American military personnel still missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. These certificates, along with associated lapel pins, can be requested via our **Partner Portal**.



Another **national observance** in September is **Gold Star Mother’s Day** ... the last Sunday of the month, **September 27<sup>th</sup>**. Established by a joint resolution of Congress and enacted in **36 United States Code § 111**, this day honors and recognizes those who have lost a son or daughter while that child was serving in the United States Armed Forces. Accordingly, each sitting president is annually *“... requested to issue a proclamation calling on ... the people of the United States to display the flag and hold appropriate meetings at homes, churches, or other suitable places, on Gold Star Mother’s Day as a public expression of the love, sorrow, and reverence of the people for Gold Star Mothers.”*



Opening sentences of the 2019 **Presidential Proclamation** reflect this conviction: *“Every life lost in service to our country is precious and irreplaceable. Our deepest sympathy, utmost respect, unwavering support, and profound gratitude go to the families who must endure the ongoing pain of such loss ...”*.

Apropos to this national observance is our recognition of the **58,233** families represented on the **Vietnam Veterans Memorial** in Washington, D.C. and the **Gold Star Mother** associated with each.

*With utmost respect, The VWC Staff*

**Join the Nation ... thank a Vietnam veteran!**