



SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION

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The Honorable Sam Johnson
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Johnson,

On behalf of the membership of the Special Forces Association, comprised of active and retired members of the US Army Special Forces, we thank and congratulate you for introducing legislation calling on the Department of Defense, other elements of the Federal Government, and foreign governments to intensify efforts to investigate, recover, and identify missing and unaccounted-for personnel of the United States. You have our whole-hearted support for this legislation.

The resolution you are introducing reinforces past commitments by the US Government to achieve the fullest possible accounting for Americans still missing and unaccounted-for from our nation's past wars and conflicts - a sacred commitment made to those who served selflessly at the cost of their lives and freedom.

It is vitally important that the Congress supports and funds adequately the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in their accounting mission. It is equally important that Congress continues to emphasize to the Department of Defense (DOD) the necessity to pay adequate attention to ensuring DPAA has the policy support, funding and personnel resources needed to investigate, recover, identify and account for as many of our missing and unaccounted-for brothers-in-arms as fully as possible - despite DOD's daunting responsibilities for national security today and into the future. Their contemporary mission is, of course, paramount; but, should not supplant our commitment and responsibilities to those who gave their absolute all in the past.

The legislation you are proposing is made all the more meaningful by your own personal experience and sacrifices - and that of your fellow sponsor, Senator John McCain. We cannot overstate our appreciation of the perspective you two returned Vietnam War Prisoners of War provide.

Thank you for your service, both in the military and Congress. We wish you the best in your continued career, especially as you seek passage of this legislation.

Very respectfully,

Cliff Newman
Executive Director