



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, 1,598 Americans are still missing from the Vietnam War, as well as 7,704 unaccounted-for from the Korean War, 126 from the Cold War and 72,934 from WWII, though thousands from WWII are assessed as unrecoverable deep-sea losses; and

WHEREAS, the families and friends of unaccounted-for Vietnam War Veterans, as well as countless fellow Veterans and other Americans, still await recovery and identification of their remains or, if determined unrecoverable, certainty regarding their fates; and

WHEREAS, successive administrations have reinforced solid commitment to accounting for our Nation's POW/MIAs as a matter of highest national priority for the United States; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with President Trump's pledge to support America's Veterans, we are confident the Trump Administration will end long-standing concerns over adequate funding and personnel; and

WHEREAS, Vietnam and Laos are now cooperating well, yet US intelligence and other evidence indicate that increased unilateral and joint efforts would bring more rapid answers, despite Cambodia's recent intransigence; and

WHEREAS, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China could readily provide much greater assistance in locating and providing documents and responding to questions about unaccounted-for Americans from all wars and conflict since WWII; and

WHEREAS, in view of agreement between President Trump and DPRK Chairman Kim to meet there is reason for hope that the humanitarian mission of accounting for US personnel still unreturned from the Korean War will be suitably addressed; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama commends, supports and shares our Nation's commitment to account as fully as possible for Americans still missing and unaccounted-for from our Nation's past wars and conflicts; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama calls on the President, Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense to consistently raise with foreign counterparts the need for increased actions to account for and return to the United States our missing and unaccounted-for personnel; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama calls on Congress to ensure that the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) receives adequate funding and resources required to accomplish the mission of accounting for our unreturned Veterans, thus signaling globally, and specifically our active duty personnel that America stands behind those who serve;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 21, 2018, as

POW/MIA Recognition Day

in the State of Alabama in honor of all Americans still missing and unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War, Korean War, Cold War and World War II and ask all citizens to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies.

FURTHER, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that all flags in the State of Alabama should be lowered to half-staff at sunrise on September 21, 2018, in honor of all those who have been prisoners of war, or declared missing in action. Flags should be returned to full-staff at sunset on the same day.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 28th day of June 2018.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor