Dear Commemorative Partners,

58,318 names are etched in the black granite of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. Of those, 1,571 are still considered unaccounted for and their families await word of their fate.

It is heartening that since the inaugural event of the Vietnam War Commemoration on Memorial Day 2012, the remains of 53 service members, previously unaccounted for during the Vietnam War, have been returned to their families. This is due to the diligence of experts assigned to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, whose mission is to “provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel to their families and the nation.” Thank you, DPAA!

Thanks also goes to one of our partners, the National League of POW/MIA Families. Originating in the late 1960s, the League’s sole mission 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.” The League’s unwavering dedication to this mission, as well as their continuous support of and loyalty to the 1,602 families (1,571 military, 31 civilian), who earnestly desire and deserve closure, is remarkable.

With our National POW/MIA Recognition Day falling on September 15th this year, we encourage all who are able to join two of our prominent CPs for a candlelight remembrance from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on the East Knoll of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. You will find specific details for this event at http://www.vvmf.org/powmia.

For those unable to attend any local event, please pause to remember the sacrifices of those who were prisoners of war, as well as those who remain unaccounted for and their families.

Thank you for serving as a … “Proud Partner with The U.S.A. Vietnam War Commemoration!”

www.vietnamwar50th.com