



PRESS RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 9, 2023

**No. 23-1
Contact: Mokie Porter
301-996-0901**

Vietnam Veterans of America Bids Farewell to the National League of Families, Stands With the Families of the Missing

(Washington, D.C.) – “Since its charter in 1970, the National League of POW/MIA Families has been an indomitable force in its determination to achieve the return of all Prisoners of Wars, the fullest possible accounting for the missing, and the repatriation of all recoverable remains,” said VVA President Jack McManus. “It is with heavy hearts that we receive the news of the dissolution of this fine organization. The League has changed the course of history, and the way, we, as a nation, deal with the accounting of our war missing.”

“To the families of our missing and unaccounted for comrades, we stand with you. As Vietnam veterans, we will not allow the families of the missing to lose their voice in Washington, D.C., in Southeast Asia, and elsewhere around the globe,” said McManus. “VVA’s most solemn priority remains the fullest accounting for those last-known alive, those known to be in captivity who were not returned at the end of the War, and those missing from the battlefield.”

“Time is of the essence,” noted McManus. “We cannot afford to lose sight of our mission. Witnesses are dying, remains are disintegrating, the landscape is changing. In the absence of the League, we must double our efforts for the families of those who have not yet returned home. We will continue to ensure that funding is allocated on Capitol Hill and that repeated delays in funding don’t interfere with putting recovery teams in Vietnam and Laos—ensuring that the recovery of Vietnam War losses remain the Number One priority.”

“In March, Vietnam Veterans of America will convene a POW/MIA summit with our VSO and MSO partners on behalf of the families of our fellow combatants who are still not home from our long-ago war,” said McManus. “VVA will be here for them until we are gone.”

---30---