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EX-POW WORKS TO BRING OTHERS HOME

Laird Guttersen speaks aggressively about the need to bring home prisoners of war from Vietnam and elsewhere.

He should know. He was held captive by the North Vietnamese for more than five years before being freed in March 1973.

Guttersen, who lives in Tucson, Arizona, travels extensively across the United States in hopes of raising public sentiment over POWs and soldiers missing in action.

Tomorrow, the retired Air Force colonel will get a Congressional Prisoner of War Medal at Pocono International Raceway in Monroe County. The presentation ceremony is sponsored by the Air Force Recruiting Service and will feature an F-16 demonstration and flyover in honor of all POWs and MIAs.

"I will accept it in the name of all the prisoners who died or are dying. They are the real heroes," said Guttersen yesterday at the Sheraton Harrisburg-West, Fairview Twp., during a stopover.

Even though the war, in which 58,000 Americans were killed, ended 15 years ago, Guttersen hopes U.S. diplomats can bring home the bodies of those missing and those Americans still alive.

PATRIOT-NEWS

AMERICA'S PRAYER FOR P.O.W. FREEDOM

O God, a great hurt wounds our hearts this day. We cry to You for healing. This wound is the awful bondage of our people under the cruel communist yoke. We are a frail and fallible lot, but You, O Lord, are all-knowing and all-powerful. Even as You will, it shall be done. Grant our captive people liberation and homecoming for Your glory and Your name's sake, showering mercy on them that all may see no evil can prevail against Your Spirit.

Great universe Maker, You placed Your hand upon the formless dark and brought forth light, mass, and being. You breathed the spirit into man and made of him a creature little lower than the angels. You gave each nation a special angel to guide, direct, guard, and protect it. Hear our humble, loving plea. Send America's angel to our poor captive brothers to comfort, strengthen, and liberate them, that they shall not die in clandestine slavery to those who deny You and despise Your faithful ones. These, Your children, suffer greatly, and only You can counteract the awful evil which binds them fast. We know that You are; that You care; and that nothing is impossible for You. Hear our trustful prayer and their agonized moans, and show them mercy, that all the world shall call You Great Freedom Maker. Amen.

American Families and Friends of
POW-MIAs

MISSING PERSONS ACT OF 1988

House Resolution #4632, known as "The Missing Service Personnel Act of 1988" (MSPA-88) was introduced to the Committee on Armed Services on May 18, 1988. If this bill becomes law, the government must prove, beyond a reasonable doubt, that a missing service person is actually dead, and not being held by some foreign government or force.

1. The Federal Government shall not be allowed to declare a missing military person or civilian dead, solely because of the passage of time.
2. The responsible commander shall be allowed to place a person in missing status, if appropriate, and shall convene a board of initial inquiry not later than 30 days after receiving such notice.
3. After a person is placed in a missing status, only a Board of Inquiry can make a determination of death. No missing person may be declared dead by a board unless evidence other than the passage of time exists which suggests that such person is dead; no evidence which reasonably suggests that such person is alive is in the possession of the Federal Government; complete search of the area where such person was last seen; search of the records of the government or entity having control over the area where such person was last seen.
4. If the missing status is continued, a board of further inquiry shall be convened not later than 1 year after the date on which the board of initial inquiry issued its recommendation.
5. Each board convened shall be composed of active duty military personnel from the uniformed service concerned, unless civilian, and shall include an attorney, a person with past military investigative experience, and one person who is a member of the uniformed services and is qualified in the same field in which the missing person was qualified. And, if the missing person disappeared while in transit, one person qualified as having special knowledge of the mode of transportation used by such missing person at the time of his disappearance.
6. Each member of the immediate family of the missing person being investigated may be invited to attend the meetings of the board of initial inquiry. Meetings shall be scheduled at locations and times convenient for the family members. Reasonable notice of the time and location of such meetings shall be provided to the family members.
8. The meetings shall be OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.
9. Each board may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States any information necessary to carry out its duties.
10. A LAWYER MUST BE ASSIGNED TO ACT AS THE MISSING PERSON'S COUNSEL AND TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE MISSING PERSON, INCLUDING THE RIGHTS OF SUBPOENA AND HABEAS CORPUS.
11. A family member of the missing person being reviewed, has the right of judicial review through the Federal courts.

"ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER?"

Are you an active member
The kind that would be missed,
Or are you just content that
Your name is on the list?

There's quite a program scheduled
That means success if done,
And it can be accomplished
With the help of everyone.

Do you attend the meetings
And mingle with the crowd,
Or would you rather stay at home
And complain both long and loud?

So come to all the meetings
And help with hand and heart.
Don't be just another member,
But take an active part.

Do you give a little time
And help to make things tick,
Or leave the work to just a few
And talk about the clique?

Think it over members
Are you right or wrong,
Are you an active member
Or do you just belong???

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"VOTING RECORDS"

Listed below are the voting records of our Legislative representatives. This is not an endorsement of any candidate or office holder.

CONTINUATION OF VET CENTERS: YES-Lloyd Bentsen, Dennis DeConcini, John McCain, Jim Kolbe, Morris Udall & Robert Stump
NO-Dan Quayle

JUDICIAL REVIEW: YES-Dennis DeConcini
NO-Dan Quayle, Lloyd Bentsen & John McCain

V.A. UPGRADE: YES-Dennis DeConcini, Lloyd Bentsen & John McCain
NO-Dan Quayle

INCREASE FUNDING FOR VETERAN PROGRAMS: YES-Dennis DeConcini & Lloyd Bentsen
NO-Dan Quayle

SAVE THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION: YES-Dennis DeConcini, Dan Quayle & Lloyd Bentsen

MAINTAIN FUNDING FOR VETERAN HEALTH CARE: YES-Dennis DeConcini
NO-Dan Quayle & Lloyd Bentsen

PRESERVE LEVELS OF V.A. HEALTH CARE FUNDING: YES-Dennis DeConcini, Lloyd Bentsen & Morris Udall

NO-Dan Quayle, Robert Stump, John McCain & Jim Kolbe

FEDERAL CHARTER TO V.V.A.: YES-Dennis DeConcini & Lloyd Bentsen
NO-Dan Quayle

ESTABLISH TWO NEW G.I. BILL PROGRAMS: YES-Dennis DeConcini
NO-Dan Quayle & Lloyd Bentsen

ALLOW COURT REVIEW OF V.A. CLAIMS: YES-Jim Kolbe
NO-John McCain, Morris Udall & Robert Stump

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"WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR, DADDY?"

TWO DECADES LATER, HOW MEN SERVED--OR DIDN'T SERVE--IS AN ISSUE AGAIN

ROBERT KERREY: Robert Kerrey,45,was eager to fight the Viet Cong when he entered the Navy in 1967. After losing part of his right leg in Vietnam, he became a vocal critic of the war and entered politics. Following a term as governor of Nebraska from 1983 to '87, Kerrey decided to leave the Statehouse and is now running for the U.S. Senate.

DONALD TRUMP: New York real-estate developer and casino tycoon Donald Trump,42, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance in 1968 with a B.A. in economics. A high lottery number allowed Trump to avoid the draft and get a head start on his career: while campus protests simmered about him, the billionaire-to-be bought and sold town houses between classes. In resent years Trump has donated and helped raise millions of dollars for Vietnam-veteran causes.

MITCH KAPOR: As a student at Yale University, Mitch Kapor,37,was more into drugs and The Grateful Dead than politics. His student status allowed him to march against the war rather than fight in it--but marching was the extent of his activism. Six years ago Kapor founded the hugely successful Lotus Development computer-software company. In 1986 he left Lotus to start another software firm in Cambridge, Mass.

DANNY OVERSTREET: It took Danny Overstreet,40,a long time to recover from his tour in Vietnam. He worked on the railroad for 18 years, then bought and rebuilt a burned-out nightclub on Detroit's notorious Cass Corridor. A jazz club during the '30s and '40s The Old Miami bar has become an oasis of sorts for fellow vets.

LARRY PRESSLER: Republican Sen. Larry Pressler of South Dakota was a Rhodes scholar in 1966. After finishing up at Oxford, he decided to enlist rather than wait to be drafted. Pressler,46,served two years with the Army in Vietnam before earning degrees from Harvard Law School and the Kennedy School of Government.

NEWSWEEK SEPTEMBER 5, 1988

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12. The missing person's personnel file shall contain all information in the possession of Federal departments and agencies. If classified information is withheld from the personnel file, a notice that the information exists must be in the file.
13. Any person who knowingly and willfully withholds information pertaining to the disappearance or whereabouts of a missing person from that person's personnel file, shall be fined not more than \$100,000 or imprisoned not more than 25 years, or both.
14. Nothing in this bill shall be construed to invalidate or limit the power of any State court or administrative entity, or the power of any court or administrative entity of any political subdivision thereof, to find or declare a person dead for purposes of the law of such State or political subdivision.

WHAT CAN YOU DO REGARDING THE "MISSING PERSONS ACT OF 1988?" Write to your elected representatives and request that they co-sponsor HR 4632, and actively support its passage through the House of Representatives.

Send your letters to: House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representatives to the 100th United States Congress from Arizona are:

John J. Rhodes III
Morris K. Udall

Robert Stump
Jim Kolbe

Jon Kyl

The American Families & Friends of POW-MIAs is distributing "America's Prayer for POW Freedom" cards on a nationwide basis. If you are interested in distributing the cards in your neighborhood, please contact Eleanor Apodaca (326-2631) or Mary Mohs (887-4475). The prayer cards are free and available in quantity. You may also write Eleanor at 4910 E. Lee, Tucson, AZ 85712.

Eleanor D. Apodaca
Sister of Major Victor J. Apodaca, USAF
POW June 8, 1967 North Vietnam

VIETNAM VETERAN WILL HEAD AMERICAN LEGION

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)--The American Legion will for the first time select a Vietnam veteran as its national commander this week.

Delegates to the Legion's 70th annual convention will choose on Thursday between H.F. "Sparky" Gierke, a justice of the North Dakota Supreme Court in Bismarck, and Miles Epling, a court clerk in Point Pleasant, W.Va.

Both candidates served in the Vietnam War.

"I think it signifies a passing of additional responsibility to the veterans of our era, but that's been going on for a long time," said Gierke, 45, who was in the Army in Vietnam in 1969-70.

Some 20,000 delegates, auxiliary members and guests were expected at the convention.

AZ. DAILY STAR SEPT. 3, 1988

IT'S ABOUT TIME VIETNAM'S VETS TRULY CAME HOME

In the midst of the hoopla and fanfare of an election year, we must all keep in mind what this really means to us Americans. There are some special reflections that we Vietnam veterans have.

It has been 18 years since the official end of the war in Vietnam, and it is time that we veterans truly came home. Most of us know or understand the feeling of being "back in the world" but not being "home." It is time now to make an effort and help other Vietnam veterans and their families get home. This election places us on the crossroads for the direction that we want our country to go.

All of us Vietnam veterans know, but don't always understand, what happened to us when we finally returned home and the war finally ended. We all know that many lost hope and dropped out of society and would not participate in the electoral process. And, along with our fellow Americans, Vietnam veterans lost faith in our government officials to do their jobs in the best interest of the American people. Well, believe it or not, we have to regain that faith. We really cannot survive without it.

This may be directed primarily to the Vietnam veteran, but I assure you it's important to all Americans.

We must reflect as to why we went to fight in behalf of our country. Even those who were drafted. We fought in our belief to preserve all those American ideals we hold true. Those ideals, such as individual freedoms, the right to vote and have a say in government policies, to ensure that all Americans have the opportunity to be all they can be--and much, much more. We cannot and must not stop believing in these ideals.

The message to all Americans is that if you are disillusioned, disenchanted or what have you, then stand up and be counted. Do something about it. When Vietnam veterans last fought it was with guns in hand. Now they must remember to still fight for the preservation of our country. This time it must be with ballots in hand; with letters to our representatives; with phone calls to our representatives; and, yes, maybe even in protest.

The bottom line to all this is that WE are the government. Those people in our state capitols and Washington are our representatives. The power that they have comes from all American citizens. The constitution was drawn up by and for "we the people." How has it become so easy to forget this?

Complaints are constantly being made by people about a group, club, organization or government. To these people I ask: What in hell are you doing about it besides complaining?

Example: In Tucson, Vietnam Veterans of America has a small chapter. Criticisms have been made that the organization does too little, too late. (Sounds like some complaints about our legislative leaders, doesn't it?) To all the complainers I ask, What are you doing to contribute to this organization, your state government and even to your federal government? Any organization requires people who are active and committed to its goals and ideals. Complaining helps no one. Not even the complainer. Taking action will.

Vietnam veterans are asking our fellow Americans and each other to STOP COMPLAINING and GET INVOLVED. Not one of us can do it alone--but together we can move mountains.

Frank Thompson
President
V.V.A. #106



DAVID L. MANES
President

12500 S. Houghton Rd.
Tucson, Arizona 85747
(602) 629-0707

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"NAM JAM 88" is in need of volunteers in the following areas: Concessions, Fund Raising, Maintenance and Clean-up, Product Sales and Poster Distribution....ALSO any Vietnam Vet that would like to present his or her Poem or Song PLEASE contact Dave Croteau at 792-9109. WE NEED YOUR HELP.

The Vietnam Veterans Family Support Committee will be holding its first meeting on Saturday 1st Oct.1988 at 11:00 A.M. Location: 3610 S. Logan Ave. For directions please call Lynn Thompson at 790-1978. For further details contact Patty Bald-Coulter at 623-5203. This meeting is open to any family members of a veteran or anyone who would like to give their support.

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VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Membership in Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. is open to Vietnam Era Veterans
Associate Membership to the Public at Large

Name _____ Phone _____

Present Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

\$20.00 Annual Dues Enclosed _____

Copy of DD Form 214 Enclosed _____

Return this form to

● VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA ●

Tucson Chapter 106, P.O. Box 40903 Tucson, Arizona 85717

I am a Vietnam era veteran and would like to be a Member. (Enclose DD Form 214)

I am not a Vietnam era veteran, but would like to be an Associate Member.

Your Local Chapter No. _____

I want to give more. Enclosed is my check for \$20, \$50, \$ _____ New Member or Renewal

(All contributions are tax deductible.)

Membership Card No. _____

A CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA Tucson Chapter 106
P.O. Box 40903 Tucson, Arizona 85717 (602) 790-7602

GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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	John Shirley	884-7544
	Mike Smith	927-2111

CALENDAR***CALENDAR***CALENDAR***CALENDAR***CALENDAR***CALENDAR***CALENDAR

OCT. 13th - BOARD MEETING: Thursday at D.A.V. 18, 4656 E. 1st St. at 7:30 P.M.

OCT. 27th - GENERAL MEETING: Thursday at D.A.V. 18, 4656 E. 1st St. at 7:30 P.M.

NOV. 10th - BOARD MEETING: Thursday at D.A.V. 18, 4656 E. 1st St. at 7:30 P.M.

NOV. 24th - GENERAL MEETING: Thursday at D.A.V. 18, 4656 E. 1st St. at 7:30 p.m.

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