

## **Proclamation**

WHEREAS: There are currently 2,441 Americans still missing or otherwise unaccounted for in Indochina and their families still suffer untold grief due to uncertainty about their fate; and

WHEREAS: The Lao People's Democratic Republic has recently indicated increased willingness to cooperate and agreed with the United States government to improve the overall relationship between our two countries; and

WHEREAS: The Socialist Republic of Vietnam has pledged to accelerate their effort to cooperate with the United States government in resolving this humanitarian issue, separate from other issues dividing our two countries; and

WHEREAS: The President of the United States has declared resolution of the POW-MIA issue a matter of highest national priority and has initiated high level dialogue with the governments of the Lao People's Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on this issue; and

WHEREAS: The citizens of Minnesota fully understand and agree that the fullest possible accounting can only be achieved through government to government cooperation; and

WHEREAS: The citizens of Minnesota support the President's pledge of highest national priority to resolve the status of the 2,441 Americans still missing and unaccounted for in Indochina; and

WHEREAS: The citizens of Minnesota urge the United States government to accelerate efforts in every possible way to obtain the immediate release of any Americans who may still be held captive in Indochina and the return of American servicemen and civilians who died in Souteast Asia whose remains have not been repatriated; and

WHEREAS: The citizens of Minnesota strongly urge the governments of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic to fully cooperate with the United States government in the humanitarian effort to resolve the fate of 2,441 American servicemen and civilians still missing in Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS: The families of America's missing men, including 50 from Minnesota, continue to wait for word on the fate of their loved ones;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim February 2nd to be

POW/MIA DAY OF PRAYER

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in Minnesota to commemorate the 13th Anniversary of the signing of the Paris Peace Accords.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this tenth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-six,

and of the State the one hundred twentyseventh.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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