

JOINT POW/MIA ACCOUNTING COMMAND



ACCOUNTING FOR AMERICANS LOST DURING PAST U.S. CONFLICTS

Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command
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~ NEWS RELEASE ~

JPAC TO HOST POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY SEPT. 16

Annual event honors sacrifice, commitment made by our nation's heroes

HONOLULU, Hawaii (Sept. 7, 2011) – The U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command will host a ceremony to commemorate National POW/MIA Recognition Day Sept. 16, 10 a.m. at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, to honor former prisoners of war and fallen U.S. personnel whose identities remain unknown.

This year's program will be lead by Maj. Gen. Stephen Tom, JPAC Commander. The keynote speaker, Mrs. Ann Mills-Griffiths, is the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the National League of POW/MIA Families, and has committed more than 30 years to the humanitarian POW/MIA cause. Highlights this year include a wreath laying ceremony, speeches and a poignant and emotional rendition of taps played to our nation's Prisoners of War and those still Missing in Action.

The ceremony is free and open to the public. Appropriate attire for the event is military Class B or service equivalent, or civilian business attire.

Organizations that would like to participate in the wreath laying ceremony must R.S.V.P. to Liz Feeney no later than 12:00 p.m., Sept. 12.

Media wishing to attend the ceremony must contact Liz Feeney before noon, Sept. 12, to receive instructions; all media will be escorted.

Falling directly under the U.S. Pacific Command, JPAC is a jointly-manned organization of more than 400 military and civilian specialists that has, with its predecessor organizations, investigated and recovered missing Americans since the 1970's. Since 2003, JPAC has identified more than 750 Americans. Combined with the efforts of its predecessor units, close to 2,000 Americans have been identified since the accounting effort began in the 1970's.

The ultimate goal of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, and of the agencies involved in returning America's heroes home, is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans lost during the nation's past conflicts.

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