

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, more than 217,000 Americans have been confined by enemies of the United States during the last one hundred years, with many enduring brutal and inhumane treatment by their captors in violation of international law; and

WHEREAS, today, more than 81,000 of these Americans are still unaccounted for, with 1,627 service members and civilians still missing as a result of the Vietnam War, including 38 from Washington State; and

WHEREAS, families and friends of these missing Americans, as well as their fellow veterans, endure uncertainty concerning their fate; and

WHEREAS, United States Army Chief Warrant Officer Rainier S. Ramos of Blaine was buried with honors at Arlington National Cemetery on June 17, 2015, 47 years after the UH-1C Iroquois helicopter gunship he was piloting was shot down in Quang Tin Province, South Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, as a nation founded on principles of civil rights and justice, we have a moral obligation to continue to make every effort to ascertain the truth about these Americans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim September 18, 2015 as

POW/MIA Recognition Day

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in honoring the bravery and perseverance of former prisoners of war, those still missing, and their families.

Signed this 13th day of July, 2015


Governor Jay Inslee

