

ROLLING THUNDER[®] MISSION STATEMENT

The major functions of Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. are to publicize the POW/MIA issue, to educate the public of the fact that many American Prisoners of War were left behind after all past wars, to help correct the past, and to protect future veterans from being left behind should they become Prisoners of War/Missing in Action. Rolling Thunder is committed to helping American Veterans from ALL WARS.

- Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. is a class 501(c)(4) non-profit organization with over 88 chartered chapters throughout the United States, and members abroad. Our membership consists of veteran and non-veteran men and women from all wars and peacetime. Visit us online at: www.rollingthunder1.com
- In 2007, Rolling Thunder Charities, Inc. was established as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. This status enables individuals and corporations to receive a tax deduction for funds donated to Rolling Thunder Charities. These funds are used for veterans, active military and their families in need of help. No officers or members of Rolling Thunder, Inc. and/or Rolling Thunder Charities, Inc. receive compensation; we all donate our time.
- We expend over \$500,000 a year, nationwide, educating the public and increasing awareness about the POW/MIA issue and other injustices suffered by veterans and to improve legislation that would rectify the POW/MIA situation and improve veterans' benefits from all wars. The organization regularly donates POW/MIA flags to local area schools, youth groups, non-profit organizations and special interest groups, and organizes flag raising ceremonies promoting public awareness about the POW/MIA issue.
- The organization sponsors search and retrieval missions into Southeast Asia for POWs, MIAs, and the remains of those killed in action.
- Thousands of hours are logged in by Rolling Thunder members at local VA hospitals nationwide; members visit and provide moral support to nursing home veterans and patients suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). We also provide food, clothing and financial aid to homeless veterans.
- Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. helped facilitate the publishing of a POW/MIA U.S. postage stamp through the U.S. Postal Service that displayed dog tags with the declaration, "POW & MIA - NEVER FORGOTTEN."
- H. Resolution 111 – We continue to lobby Congress with more than 260 co-sponsors to establish a Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs. The Committee would conduct a full investigation of all unresolved matters relating to any United States personnel unaccounted for from the Vietnam era, the Korean conflict, WWII, Cold War Missions, or Gulf War, including POWs and MIAs.

Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000 - Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. also co-authored the ***Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000***, which was co-authored and sponsored by Sen. Ben Nighthorse-Campbell. The Act grants refugee status in the United States to nationals of certain foreign countries in which American Vietnam War or Korean War POW/MIAs may be present, if those nationals assist in returning POW/MIAs alive.

Persian Gulf War POW/MIA Accountability Act of 2002, S.1339 - First introduced by Sen. Campbell in August 2001, the legislation amends the ***Bring Them Home Alive Act of 2000*** and extends the granting of refugee status in the United States to nationals of Iraq or the Middle East region, providing the International Broadcasting Bureau, which includes the Voice of America, to broadcast information about the law in the Middle East. The need for this legislation is demonstrated by the case of **SSgt. Matt Maupin (Army)** captured 4/9/04, remains found, identified and returned 3/30/08, as well as, **Pvt. Byron W. Fouty (Army)** and **Sgt. Alex R. Jimenez (Army)**, both captured 5/12/2007, and **Capt. Scott Speicher (Navy)**, a Persian Gulf War Veteran who has been missing since 1991.

Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. continues to lobby for enhanced legislation for finding and returning American Prisoners of War, and for legislation to increase military funding to provide our troops with the proper combat protection gear, better compensation, and to provide our troops and veterans with better healthcare and disability benefits.

Joint POW / MIA Accounting Command Needs Your DNA

You may be able to help the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) identify America's missing heroes. If you are a family member of an individual who is Missing in Action from any war or conflict, JPAC may be able to use a sample of your DNA to help with the identification process. JPAC can only use samples from family members who share the same mitochondria DNA as the missing service member. To learn if you might be a donor for this program, visit JPAC online at www.jpac.pacom.mil. JPAC's mission is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of all Americans missing as a result of our nation's previous conflicts.