



DEFENSE PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING PERSONNEL OFFICE
2400 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2400

MAR 22 2006

Adrian Cronauer
Special Assistant to the Director

Mr. Louis Dechert
1144 Jim Meyer Drive
Alexandria, LA 71303

Dear Mr. Dechert:

Because you are active and concerned with the POW/MIA issue, I'm writing to seek your creative input.

As you may know the Defense Prisoner of War and Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) prints and distributes an annual poster to commemorate POW/MIA Recognition Day which, this year, occurs on September 15th. Each year, the poster concentrates on a specific theme or slogan. Past year's themes have included:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>THEME</u>	<u>ILLUSTRATION</u>
1999	<i>Keeping the Promise</i>	POW standing by wall & eagle in flight
2000	<i>Lest we forget</i>	Close-up of Soldier w/M-16
2001	<i>Their Service... Our Duty</i>	Montage of snapshots and telegrams
2002	<i>For the Flag. For Honor America's Heroes</i>	Hazy American flag, POW flag & Rescue Huey
2003	<i>Freedom</i>	Battle Scene
2004	<i>Our Solemn Pledge</i>	POW's sitting in a group
2005	<i>Never Forgotten</i>	Lines of troops marching

As you see, the words change from year to year but the overriding premise remains the same: we never forget those Americans who remain unaccounted for and we never give up on accounting for them.

This year, we're inviting family and veterans organizations and other interested in our issue, to participate in the process by contributing your ideas for our forthcoming poster.



We've already reviewed several ideas and you may believe one of these is just right or you might have a far better suggestion. Here's what we've come up with so far:

*Honoring their sacrifice
Fulfilling their trust
Bringing them home*

(Any one of these three could be used individually, and any two as a pair or all three together)

Keeping the Torch Lit

(Some think this is a bit Kennedyesque—which could be either good or bad depending on your viewpoint)

Until they all come home

(A bit close to JPAC's , "Until They are Home")

Be someone who remembers

*They were committed to our freedom
We are committed to their return*

or

Showing our gratitude

Some people outside our office have already weighed-in with similar contributions such as:

*Honor Their Service
Fulfill their Trust*

or

*America's Promise...
Fulfill their Trust*

I hope these examples will start you thinking of a theme for our 2006 poster. We'd also welcome suggestions for artwork or design elements. One person suggested something that would highlight our worldwide effort. Another liked a world map indicating where we have done JROs. An idea submitted was to use a collage of photos from our JROs in Europe, China, DPRK, Vietnam, New Guinea while someone else thought it might be interesting to incorporate patches worn by GIs in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Etc.

Although the poster commemorates POW/MIA day in September, we usually unveil it at the Annual Government Briefings which occurs concurrently with the yearly meeting of the National League of Families which occurs in June. That means we're on a relatively short schedule so I'd appreciate receiving your ideas as soon as your busy schedule permits.

Thanks in advance for any input you can provide. It's all, of course, a part of our efforts to do everything we can to live up to our motto,

"Keeping the Promise"

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Cronauer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Adrian Cronauer
Special Assistant to the Director