

**TEXAS 2020-21 MID WINTER CONVENTION
VFW POW/MIA SEMINAR**



JANUARY 23, 2021

**CLARENCE WM. JACKSON, CSQA
POW/MIA 2020-21 STATE CHAIRMAN**



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Today's Agenda



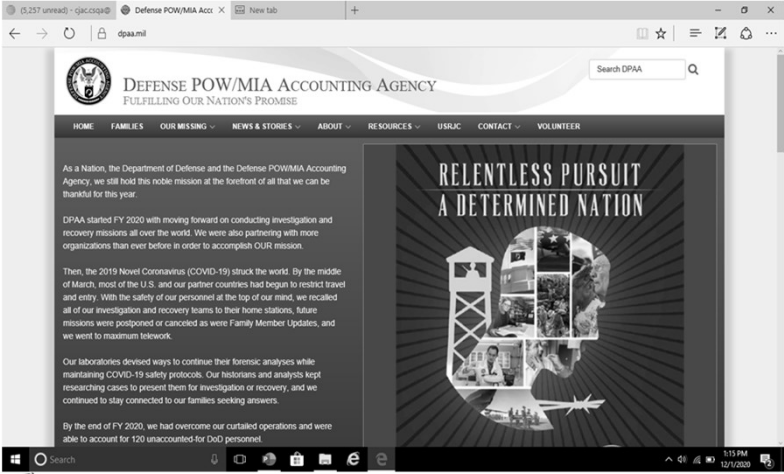
- **Mission**
 - Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)
 - VFW POW/MIA
- **POW/MIA activities**
 - Tiger Lyons' POW/MIA Award
- **National POW/MIA Day**
- **Texas VFW POW/MIA VPR**
- **Reburial of Layton T. Banks**
- **Questions?**



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Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)




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DPAA Mission

- DPAA's mission is to provide the fullest possible accounting for America's missing personnel to their families and the nation



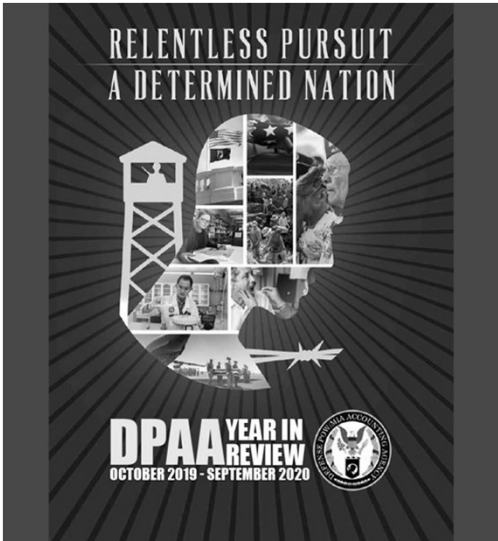
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**Defense
POW/MIA
Accounting
Agency**

<https://www.dpaa.mil/>








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POW/MIA DPAA Numbers

| American Conflicts | Numbers |
|------------------------------|---------|
| World War II | 73,515 |
| Korean War | 7,841 |
| Vietnam | 1,626 |
| Cold War | 126 |
| Various Conflicts since 1991 | 6 |





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VFW POW/MIA MISSION



- Support DPAA's recovery mission
 - Ensure funding thru Congress
 - Visit recovery sites, DPAA HQ
- Remember and Recognize those that are/were held as Prisoners of War, or those Missing in Action and still unaccounted for.



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Texas VFW POW/MIA VPR ACTIVITIES



- National POW/MIA day is always the 3rd Friday of September each year
- Setting up a "Table by the Door"
 - "Missing Man Table", POW/MIA Table
- Conducting Remembrance events (VPR)
- Greeting returning remains of POW/MIA and reburial
- Flying POW/MIA flags at VFW Posts



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Tiger Lyons POW/MIA Award



- In memory of Past State Commander Robert J. “Tiger” Lyons, a former WWII POW, the post most active in promoting the POW/MIA program will be presented a plaque at the State Convention
- Post can self nominate by May 4th, 2021



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National POW/MIA Day



- Established in 1979 through a proclamation signed by President Jimmy Carter. Since then, each subsequent president has issued an annual proclamation commemorating the third Friday in September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day.
- In addition to the national-level ceremony held at the Pentagon, observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities.
- No matter where they are held, these National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies share the common purpose of honoring those who were held captive and returned, as well as those who remain missing.



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Posters



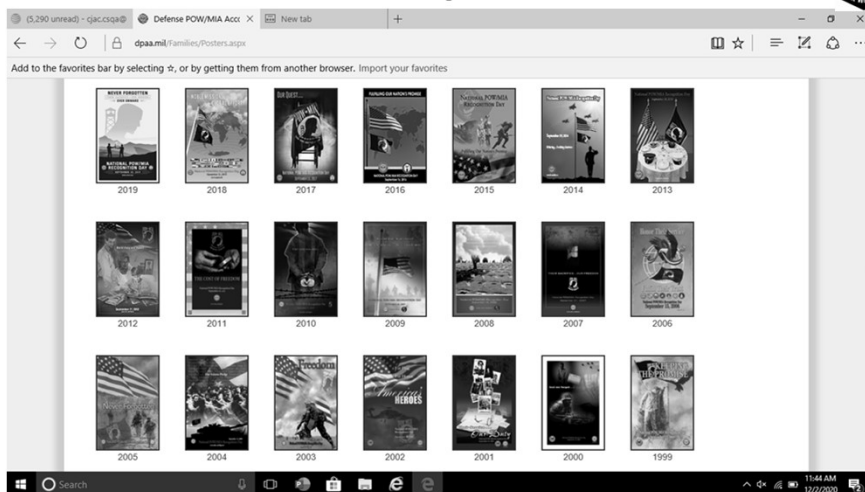
- Since 1999, the POW/MIA Accounting community has created a poster commemorating National POW/MIA Recognition Day.



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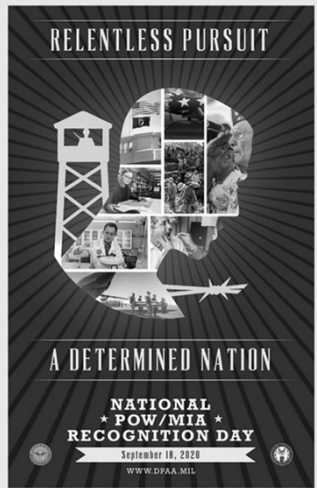
National POW/MIA Posters




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National POW/MIA Day



The 2020 edition of the poster, continues to honor this tradition.




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Setting Up “Table by the Door”



Dedicate and rededicate on National POW/MIA Day each year at your post home



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VFW Remembrance Events



- Use the VFW's POW/MIA speech
 - <https://www.vfw.org/my-vfw/patriotic-holiday-speeches>
- Dedicate the Missing Man Table
- Fly the POW/MIA flag
- Invite ex POW/MIA and families
- Report as VPR



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A black and white photograph of a person standing in a room, facing a large whiteboard. The person is wearing a dark shirt and a cap. To the left of the person is an American flag on a stand. The room has several framed pictures on the wall and a small table with a chair in the foreground.



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A black and white photograph of two people standing in a room. The person on the left is wearing a dark shirt and a cap. The person on the right is wearing a dark shirt and a cap. They are standing in front of a poster that reads "RELENTLESS PURSUIT" and "DETERMINED NATION". There is a small table with a white cloth in front of them.



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**VFW Post
6796's
POW/MIA
Presentation
Team and
VFW Post
1406
Commander**



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Texas VFW POW/MIA Day Events



**Commander
Shawver
attends
POW/MIA
Remembrance
Day for VFW
District 4,
Houston,
Texas, on
Friday,
September 18,
2020.**



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**Texas
VFW
Posts**

Texas VFW Post 688, Boerne
Commander Bob Worrall and Adjutant Adeline Gonsalves Weatherhouse raise a new POW/MIA flag over the Boerne, Texas, Veterans Plaza. Afterwards, Gonsalves Weatherhouse conducted a POW/MIA Remembrance ceremony at a Post dinner gathering.

Texas VFW Post 8925, Austin
The Post conducted a POW/MIA Day ceremony with veterans, family, friends, and a community group. The ceremony was held at the Post's meeting room.

Texas VFW Post 76, San Antonio
The Post conducted a POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony and "Small Table" Meeting. Men's Community.

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DPAA Returning Remains of POW/MIA and Reburial

- DPAA tries to identify, and return remains.
- Any remains returned to Texas are noted so that VFW can be a part of the return activities in our Districts.
- When it has been determined that Texas is getting remains, the POW/MIA Chair notifies the District Commander regarding when and where.
- The POW/MIA Chair and District coordinates with the funeral home and family as needed


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**Texas
Returns
To Allen,
District 1**

NAVY COXSWAIN LAYTON T. BANKS



Navy Coxswain Layton T. Banks of Dallas, Texas, was accounted for on Oct. 8, 2019, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced last week. Banks was 20 years old when he was assigned to the USS Oklahoma battleship, which was moored at Ford Island on Dec. 7, 1941, when Japanese aircraft attacked. Multiple aerial torpedoes struck the battleship and it quickly capsized, trapping hundreds of sailors. Banks was among the Oklahoma's 429 crewmen who died in the attack.




Banks' remains were identified nearly 78 years after he was killed in the attack on Pearl Harbor. (Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency)

"We rather he would not have died, but the sacrifice historically may be worth it," Banks' nephew, David Tittsworth, told FOX4 Dallas-Fort Worth. "I mean look at the America we have today. We are not speaking German." The Navy spent three years recovering the remains of the deceased. However, by 1947 scientists had been able to identify only 35 crew members. Those who went unidentified were subsequently buried in 46 plots at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu, the DPAA said.

In 2015, DPAA personnel exhumed the USS Oklahoma Unknowns from the Punchbowl and scientists used anthropological analysis to identify Banks.

Banks enlisted in the Navy at the age of 17, Tittsworth said. He married just three months before the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Banks will be buried on Oct. 24 in Plano, Texas.





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Reburial of Remains









Family from as far away as Alaska, most States represented

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The
headstone
reads:

Layton
Thomas

Apr 8, 1921
Dec 7, 1941

US Navy


Burial Place
Unknown




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**Thanks To District 1 Posts and District 1
POW/MIA Chairman Robert Rouse**





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Fly POW/MIA Flags At Every Post Home



VFW Posts should show the community that we support POW/MIA programs and fly the flag

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Special Video

- **Patty Stilson's**
"Table by the Door"
 - On youtube, search by title or use this link
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q0luO1c374k>
- Partly made at my post
VFW 6796, Dallas,
District 3




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Y'all Paid Attention?

- When is National POW/MIA Day?
 - 3rd Friday each September
- Which of these are NOT part of the missing man table?
Candle barbed wire bible lemon
- What US president 1st made it national?
 - Jimmy Carter, Navy Veteran
- What war has the most missing?
 - WWII




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QUESTIONS?

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Department of Texas
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