

## National Security January Bulletin

### The POW/MIA Flag

In 1971, the wife of MIA serviceman Michael Hoff was a member of the National League of Families. She recognized the need for a symbol for the POW/MIA's. A former World War II pilot, Heisley sketched several designs base on his wartime memories. The design that was chosen depicted a silhouette of a man's head with barbed wire and a watchtower in the background. Below the design the flag bears the motto "You Are Not Forgotten." Following the approval of the National League of Families, flags were manufactured and distributed.

### Occasions for Displaying the POW/MIA flag

- Armed Forces Day (3<sup>rd</sup> Sat in May)
- Memorial Day (Last Mon in May)
- Flag Day (June 14)
- Independence Day (July 4)
- National POW/MIA Recognition Day (3<sup>rd</sup> Fri in Sept)
- Veterans Day (Nov 11)

### Locations for Displaying the POW/MIA flag

- The White House
- The Capitol
- The Korean War Veterans Memorial
- The Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- The World War II Memorial
- Each national cemetery
- Buildings containing the offices of: The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Veteran Affairs, the Director of the Selective Service System
- Each major military installation, as designated by the Secretary of Defense
- Each United States Postal Service

### Protocol for flying the POW/MIA flag

- On one flagpole, the POW/MIA flag is flown below the American flag and above any state flag
- On two flagpoles, the POW/MIA flag is flown on the same pole as the American flag, below the American flag (this pole should be to the flag's own right of the second pole). Any state flag should fly on the second pole.
- On three flagpoles, the American flag should be flown on the pole located to the flag's own right, the POW/MIA flag should be flown on the middle pole, and any state flag should be flown on the pole to the (flag's own) left.

Donna L. Smith

National Security Chairman