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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SECRETARY COHEN TO HOST  
POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY**

Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen will host the National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at the River Entrance Parade Field outside the Pentagon on Friday, Sept. 18, 1998 at 11 a.m. (EDT).

President Clinton will issue a proclamation citing the sacrifices of America's servicemen and women and their families, especially those whose fate is still undetermined. The POW/MIA flag will be flown this day over the White House, the U.S. Capitol, the Departments of State, Defense, and Veterans Affairs, the Selective Service System headquarters, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, post offices, major military installations and national cemeteries across the country. Additionally, many states, communities, family and veteran organizations will commemorate the day in local ceremonies.

In addition to remarks by Cohen, retired Air Force Col. Norman A. McDaniel will address the audience of former POWs, families, veterans, servicemen and women at the formal ceremony. McDaniel's aircraft was shot down over North Vietnam in 1966. He was held captive as a POW for more than six years.

The event, traditionally held on the third Friday in September, will include formal military honors with assembled troops from all the Services. A flyover of military aircraft is scheduled to conclude with the "Missing Man" formation.

The public is invited to attend the ceremony.