



Proclamation

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICA'S PRISONERS OF WAR IN VIETNAM

MAY 23-25, 2023

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council on behalf of the City of Westminster are extremely grateful for the sacrifices made by our military and wish to honor them and specifically our American Prisoners of War (POW) in Vietnam during the 50th Anniversary of America's Prisoners of War in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, 50 years ago, the Vietnam War was ended by President Nixon and nearly 600 Prisoners of War came home to their families; and

WHEREAS, the Richard Nixon Foundation hosts the official celebration of the 50th Anniversary of their Repatriation where nearly 200 Prisoners of War and their families attend three days of reunion events from May 23 to May 25, 2023, at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda, California; and

WHEREAS, these Prisoners of War endured the harshest conditions imaginable, including regular subjection to physical and psychological torture, as well as mental abuse and isolation at the hands of their captors, in violation of the Geneva Conventions, to which North Vietnam was a signatory; and

WHEREAS, of the 618 members of the original Vietnam-era Prisoners of War (NAM-POWs) organization, 304 have died, leaving only 314; and

WHEREAS, on May 24, 1973, President and Mrs. Nixon hosted the largest dinner in White House history in honor of the Vietnam Prisoners of War; and on May 24, 2023, exactly 50 years later, nearly 200 of them will dine in the Nixon Library's White House East Room replica and recreate that dinner, down to the menu items and centerpieces.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Chi Charlie Nguyen, Mayor of the City of Westminster, on behalf of Vice Mayor NamQuan Nguyen, and Council Members Amy Phan West, Carlos Manzo, and Kimberly Ho do hereby proclaim May 23-25, 2023 as **NAM-POWS DAYS** in the City of Westminster in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of America's Prisoners of War in Vietnam and recognizing their service and return home.

Signed and Dated this 10th day of May 2023 by the City Council.

Chi Charlie Nguyen, Mayor

NamQuan Nguyen, Vice Mayor, District 4

Amy Phan West, Council Member, District 1

Carlos Manzo, Council Member, District 2

Kimberly Ho, Council Member, District 3