

that I can relate to some of the feelings and some of the difficulty that came out of that era and I believe that I can. The prisoner of war, missing in action, situation whenever we're engaged in whatever fashion we may be, whether it's the Persian Gulf now, or whether it was Vietnam, is probably one of the most gut-wrenching, difficult situations for the very human beings that are involved. When the prisoner of war individual stepped off the plane coming back from Vietnam, I believe in 1973, it was probably the only time that my entire experience in Vietnam put me in tears because each one of those individuals, when they came off that plane, those that were released that were prisoners of war stepped out of the edge...out onto the gangway and their name was called out and the date of capture was identified. And we talked to one another and sat there and thought about the fact that in many cases we had people who were five, six, seven years in captivity, whether they went to Vietnam as...I didn't volunteer to go to Vietnam, in fact, I worked very hard not going to Vietnam, went anyway, wasn't excited about the war. Probably maybe the difference between Dan Quayle and I is that we both tried the same thing and his worked and mine didn't, so now I'm a war hero and he's what he is. But it was one of those situations where it had nothing to do with my agreeing with what was going on in the war but I went and I did my duty. I was back for four years, myself, had gone back to college, had done several things and finally it wasn't till the day that the prisoner of war individuals stepped off of that plane that I could actually relate to the time frame, the fact that I had not only served, some of these people were captured two, three years before I even went. I was home for four years. My life was back in order, these people were just now coming off the plane and being recognized and I think probably in many cases some of the prisoner of war persons, some of the missing in action, for them and their families is possibly even more gut-wrenching than death itself, not knowing and wonderment and all that goes with it. And I think that the POW-MIA flag, as we have recognized in modern times, is one of those symbols to all of us. As far as I'm concerned it's probably literally only, if at all, a step below the American flag but not much because it symbolizes to us and a recognition to us what those sacrifices truly are for the individuals and what it means to the family, what an emotional trauma it is and let's not forget those individuals simply because the crisis is over. The Vietnam people, we still have many people who we don't know what happened to them, but now that we're looking at the Persian Gulf if we get...we already have prisoners of war