



MISSING IN AMERICA PROJECT



"It's The Right Thing To Do!"

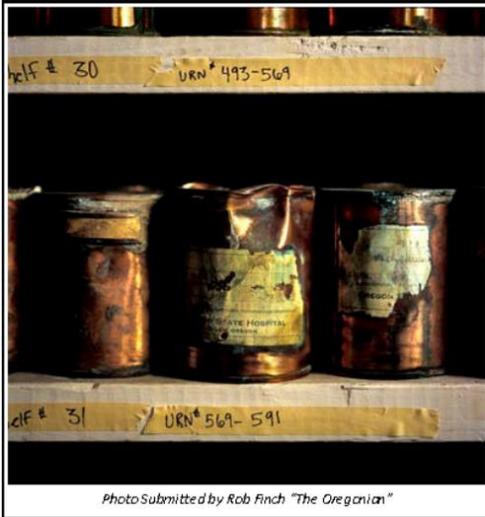


Photo Submitted by Rob Finch "The Oregonian"

Veterans served their country through war and peacetime. Veterans expect to receive a military burial, a recognition by our government of their commitment to our great country. They expect to have honor and respect paid to them as a result of their service, but too many now reside on a shelf in a mortuary or storage facility at a crematorium.

These forgotten veterans have served our country and as such deserve to be buried with honor and respect.

Starting in 2006, the purpose of the Missing in America Project is a massive nationwide effort to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed remains of American Veterans through the joint efforts of private, state and federal organizations. To provide honor and respect to those that have served this country by securing a final resting place for these forgotten heroes.

The Missing In American Veterans Recovery Program (MIAP) is a federal Non-Profit Veterans Organization for the identification, location, verification, and movement of veterans and their dependents.

This task will be executed through the combined cooperative efforts of The American Legion Family, other volunteer and veteran organizations, local funeral homes, State Funeral Commissions, State and National Veterans Administration Agencies, and state and national Veterans Cemetery Administrations.

According to the MIA Project web-site they have now visited 2,326 funeral homes, have found cremains of 19,320 individuals, have identified veteran cremains of 4,210 and have interred 3,912 service men and women.

Recently a state hospital announced that 3,500 cremains were on shelves to be identified. These cremains spanned a time from the 1890's to 1971. It is estimated that as many as 1,000 of these cremains are veterans. This is happening in every state.

We need to blanket every mortuary and cemetery in the United States and let them know there are people who desire to claim our veterans. We need to let them know it is our desire to see they are interred with the honor and respect they deserve and have earned.

These veterans languishing on shelves need us. They need American to step forward and ensure they are buried with honor. They need American to show their thanks for their service. Without them, we would not have the freedoms we enjoy today.

If you wish to help with the Missing In American Project; contact the Natl. SAL VA & R Commission and we will connect you with the MIAP coordinator in your Detachment.

Respectfully submitted,

The Natl. SAL VA & R Commission