

By Senator Jones

40-1452A-01

1 Senate Memorial No. \_\_\_\_\_

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United  
3 States, urging Congress to open an  
4 investigation into the airplane crash of Lt.  
5 Cmdr. Michael S. Speicher in Iraq.

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7 WHEREAS, Lt. Cmdr. Michael S. Speicher, a United States  
8 Navy pilot who mysteriously disappeared in 1991, was the first  
9 casualty of the Persian Gulf War, and

10 WHEREAS, Lt. Cmdr. Michael S. Speicher was a Florida  
11 native whose home was in Jacksonville, and

12 WHEREAS, Lt. Cmdr. Michael S. Speicher is the only  
13 casualty of that conflict whose remains have not been  
14 returned, and

15 WHEREAS, evidence has been found, including his flight  
16 suit and flight recorder, which shows that Lt. Cmdr. Michael  
17 S. Speicher probably successfully ejected from his aircraft  
18 and landed alive in the Iraqi desert, and

19 WHEREAS, evidence has been found which indicates that  
20 Lt. Cmdr. Michael S. Speicher was probably severely injured or  
21 dead when these items were removed, and

22 WHEREAS, the condition of Lt. Cmdr. Michael S.  
23 Speicher's flight suit when it was found indicates that the  
24 suit had been stored for some time and placed in the desert  
25 shortly before it was found at the crash site, which had been  
26 "sanitized," and

27 WHEREAS, the evidence that was found leads to the  
28 conclusion that Saddam Hussein could be holding a live POW or  
29 at least the remains of Lt. Cmdr. Michael S. Speicher, and

30 WHEREAS, the position of this country on prisoners of  
31 war has been summarized in the Army Ranger's creed, "I will

1 never let a fallen comrade fall into the hands of the enemy,"  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, subsequent to the crash of Lt. Cmdr. Michael  
4 S. Speicher's aircraft, military officials believed he may  
5 have survived the crash and were prepared to launch a secret  
6 mission to the crash site, but were overruled by their  
7 superior officers, and

8 WHEREAS, the United States has a sacred trust not only  
9 to keep its sons and daughters out of harm's way but also to  
10 make every effort to return the remains or determine the fate  
11 of those sons and daughters who have fallen, lest they are  
12 forgotten, NOW, THEREFORE,

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14 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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16 That the Congress of the United States is urged to open  
17 an investigation into the fate of Lt. Cmdr. Michael S.  
18 Speicher following the crash of his Navy F-18 aircraft in Iraq  
19 in 1991 and to compel the appropriate military and civilian  
20 authorities to release any information regarding the crash and  
21 the fate of Lt. Cmdr. Michael S. Speicher.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
23 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
24 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
25 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
26 the Florida Delegation to the United States Congress.

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