

October 23, 2018

Greetings to each of you gathered for the 35th remembrance services hosted by the Beirut Veterans of America.

Since its formation, the Beirut Veterans of America has brought together veterans and their families to honor the brave American service members who lost their lives in Beirut. "The first duty is to remember," and I am grateful to each of you for remembering the fallen men and women who have defended our country in the fight against terror and served courageously on the frontlines of freedom.

My heart grieves with all the families mourning a fallen hero who served in Beirut, and I want you to know that you have the prayers and support of the American people as you honor their memory. Your loved ones stepped forward to defend the precious gift of freedom, and their legacy lives on in the heart of a grateful Nation. Thank you for your commitment to honoring their courage and their sacrifice.

To everyone gathered with the Beirut Veterans of America, I send my best wishes for this 35th remembrance. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Pence

Vice President of the United States