

-
-
-
-

LEGACIES OF WAR HISTORY HEALING HOPE **DONATE**

**OUR WORK IS NOT DONE
TAKE ACTION
HOW YOU CAN HELP TODAY**



Which is the TOY?

A bomb blast on March 21, 2017 [injured twelve and killed one, ages 2 to 57, in the northern Lao province of Xieng Khouang](#). The bomblet, one of an estimated 80 million left over from U.S. bombings 40 years ago, was picked up by a girl, age 10, while walking to school who mistook the bomblet as a toy and later brought it back to her home, where it exploded. It is believed to be the highest-casualty unexploded ordnance (UXO) accident in decades. Read our full Legacies of War press release [here](#).

It is unacceptable that Lao people are still being killed and maimed from bombs dropped over forty years ago. This deadly legacy must end so children can walk to school in safety and villagers can live without fear.

Over the past 10 years, [Legacies of War](#) has played a key role in a 10-fold increase in U.S. government funding for clearance and victim assistance in Laos. Instead of \$3 million per year, the U.S. has now pledged \$30 million per year for the next three years. **However, this incident shows that our work is far from done.**

We are working tirelessly to make sure the UXO sector in Laos gets the funding needed to solve the UXO issue once and for all. **But we can't do it without you - help us finish the job.**

"We have a moral obligation to resolve this dark chapter in history, which still threatens the lives and livelihood of the Lao people, many of whom were born two generations after the war ended," stated [Representative Betty McCollum \(D-MN\)](#) and [Sean Duffy \(R-WI\)](#). These two Congress members are leading a bipartisan effort to gather support from their Congressional colleagues in providing no less than \$30 million for UXO clearance in Laos in fiscal year 2018, which would help to fulfill [President Obama's \\$90 million pledge in 2016](#).

We are committed to keeping the issue of Laos and UXO on the radar of policymakers, amidst many new changes in our government - most recently with our support of this bipartisan effort. [We are asking you to make a gift today to help us continue our education and outreach work to make sure that the U.S. follows through on the entirety of its \\$90 million commitment.](#)

In addition to your [donation](#), we are asking you **TODAY** to reach out to your representative [here](#) to ask your Congress member to sign on the " **Support Unexploded Ordnance Removal in Laos**" Dear Colleague letter (detailed instructions and sample below). I hope we can count on you. [We can make a difference - together, we can solve the UXO problem in Laos this lifetime!](#)

Thank you and Kop chai lai lai,



Channapha Khamvongsa
Executive Director

[DONATE NOW](#)

After you make your gift, will you share this appeal with 3 other people to reach out to their Congress member?



Watch a report about the incident by the Lao National Television English News Program



One of the 12 surviving victims in the hospital

**TAKE ACTION - HOW YOU CAN HELP TODAY!
DEADLINE MARCH 28, 2017**



You have **ONLY A FEW DAYS** to ask your Congress member to sign on to a letter being circulated by Representatives Sean Duffy and Betty McCollum that seeks to secure the \$30 million for UXO cleanup in Laos for fiscal year 2018 budget. **The deadline is Tuesday, March 28th!**

1. **FIND** your Representative [here](#).
2. **CALL** or **WRITE** your Representative and ask to speak with the staff person who covers State Dept/Foreign aid for the congressman
3. **EXPLAIN** to the staff that you are a constituent and that you want the Representative to sign the "Support Unexploded Ordnance

Removal in Laos" Dear Colleague letter - the deadline is MARCH 28th!

4. **AFTER THE CALL** (or message), send us an email at info@legaciesofwar.org with the name of the Congress member and staff person you contacted, so that we can follow-up with their office by email

This letter helps to ensure that sustained funding is available for efforts on the ground in Laos, so that accidents like yesterday's don't continue to happen.

If you have any questions about the letter or how to contact your Representative, please email us at info@legacies.org.

SAMPLE NOTE TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

Dear Representative X:

As a constituent in your district, I would like to ask for your support to clear leftover U.S. bombs from Laos, which were dropped over 40 years ago. Could you please join this bi-partisan effort and sign onto the below letter by Tuesday, March 28th.

Sincerely,

Name
Address
Phone number (optional)

Support Unexploded Ordnance Removal in Laos

Dear Colleague:

We ask you to join us in sending a letter to the Appropriations Committee to ask for \$30 million in unexploded ordnance (UXO) removal assistance for Laos in FY 2018.

Between 1964 and 1973, more than 270 million cluster bomblets were dropped on Laos - more than was dropped on Germany and Japan combined during World War II. Less than one percent of the estimated 80 million leftover bombs in Laos has been cleared, resulting in more than 20,000 casualties since the war ended in 1975.

In the last 20 years, the United States has contributed toward clearance operations and mines risk education in Laos. Last year, President Barack Obama became the first sitting U.S. president to visit the country where he pledged \$90 million over three years in continued assistance, including a national UXO survey. Our request for \$30 million in consistent with that pledge.

If you would like to cosign our letter, please contact andy.taylor@mail.house.gov (Rep. Duffy) or marisol.chalas@mail.house.gov (Rep. McCollum) by COB March 28, 2017.

Sincerely,

Sean Duffy
Member of Congress

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress





[Follow us on Twitter](#)



[Like us on Facebook](#)



[Send us an email](#)

Confirm that you like this.

Click the "Like" button.