

## Aid Is Urged for Children of P.O.W.'s

By BARBARA CAMPBELL

A Long Island executive has begun a nationwide drive to have states provide free college educations for the children of Vietnam prisoners of war and servicemen missing in action.

J. Kevin Murphy, president of the American Courier Corporation of Lake Success, L.I., said he wanted as a private citizen to show the sometimes embittered and lonely families of the prisoners and of the missing soldiers that "we do care about them."

Speaking at a news conference luncheon yesterday at the St. Regis-Sheraton Hotel, Mr. Murphy said he began his national campaign a year ago after reading a magazine article about the son of a prisoner of war who had to work his way through college.

"I thought at the time that no child of a prisoner of war should be denied an education because of financial reasons," he said.

So far National Prisoner of War-Missing in Action Scholarship Committees have been formed in 27 states to get bills to provide free state university and College education.

Mr. Murphy, who says he has won the support of legislators in many states, has also deputized the 20 regional vice presidents of his company—which provides specialized transport services across the country to head committees.

There are 1,800 Americans listed as prisoners of war and missing in action and they have 2,050 children ranging from a year to 22 years old.

According to statistics com-

pared by the scholarship committee the majority of the children will not be entering college for another seven or eight years. Right now there are 155 between the ages of 17 and 22. There are 393 between 14 and 17 and 1,502 under 14.

New York State Senator Thomas Laverne, Republican of Rochester, and the Assembly Majority leader, John E. Kingston, Republican of Mineola, who attended the luncheon, said they would introduce a bill this year to have the state pay for the education at state institutions of children of prisoners of war and servicemen missing in action.

Herbert Stone, who heads the American Courier public relations department, said the South Carolina State Legislature passed such a bill unanimously on Tuesday.