

SUBJECT: VIETNAM-ERA UNACCOUNTED FOR STATISTICAL REPORT

BACKGROUND: The Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Service, and the Department of State report the current numbers of Americans who are unaccounted for in Southeast Asia:

AMERICANS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

<u>COMPONENT</u>	<u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u>					<u>TOTALS</u>
	VN	VS	LA	CB	CH	
ARMY	9	462	99	24	0	594
NAVY	267	90	19	0	8	384
MARINE CORPS	22	194	16	8	0	240
AIR FORCE	202	164	240	18	0	624
COAST GUARD	0	0	0	0	0	0
CIVILIANS	1	20	9	5	0	35
TOTALS	501	930	383	55	8	1877 *
	<u>PURSUIT STATUS</u>					
FURTHER PURSUIT	176	467	322	46	4	1015
DEFERRED	68	109	23	2	1	203
NO FURTHER PURSUIT	257	354	38	7	3	659
TOTALS	501	930	383	55	8	1877

VN = VIETNAM, NORTH VS = VIETNAM, SOUTH CB = CAMBODIA
 CH = CHINA LA = LAOS
 * INCLUDES 468 AT SEA/OVER WATER LOSSES

ACCOUNTING FOR U.S. PERSONNEL: The Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii reports that since 1973, the U.S. has accounted for 706 Americans from Southeast Asia.

**AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR POST-1973
 REPATRIATED BY:**

VIETNAM	490	*
CHINA	2	**
LAOS	186	
CAMBODIA	28	
TOTAL	706	***

NOTES:

- * 34 remains from the Official Died in Captivity Lists provided by the Vietnamese in 1973.
- ** 2 ashes returned from China.
- *** 4 remains were recovered and turned over to the U.S. by indigenous personnel; 1 from North Vietnam and 3 from Laos. They are included in the country count.

**** **This change reflects the accounting of an Air Force officer, MIA from North Vietnam.**

U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS: Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 22274 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

SUMMARY OF REPORTS

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1943
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	5020
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5542
DOGTAGS	9769
TOTAL	22274

- a. Of the 1943 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1903 (97.94%) reports are resolved.
 - 1326 (68.24%) reports were equated to Americans who are accounted for (i.e., PW returnees, missionaries, civilians jailed at various times for violation of Vietnamese codes).
 - 45 (2.32%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.
 - 532 (27.38%) reports were determined to be fabrications.

- b. The remaining 40 (2.06%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U.S. Government analytical and collection efforts:
 - 34 (1.75%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.
 - 6 (0.31%) reported sightings of Americans in a non-captive environment (i.e. working as truck drivers; married with Vietnamese family).

- c. The following timeline presents an overview of unresolved firsthand sightings by the year of the sighting:

TIMELINE: UNRESOLVED LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS

Pre-1976	1976-1980	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	Total
21	2	0	1	3	0	13	40

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<u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u>	<u>PW/MIA</u>	<u>KIA/BNR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NORTH VIETNAM	264	237	501
SOUTH VIETNAM	391	539	930
LAOS	238	145	383
CAMBODIA	27	28	55
CHINA	6	2	8
TOTAL	926	951	1877

* Status as of Homecoming

Figure 2 summarizes all unaccounted for Americans in Southeast Asia by components:

U.S. LOSSES BY SERVICE COMPONENT

<u>COMPONENT</u>	<u>PW/MIA</u>	<u>KIA/BNR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
USA	304	290	594
USN	95	289	384
USMC	85	155	240
USAF	411	213	624
USCG	0	0	0
CIVILIAN	31	4	35
TOTAL	926	951	1877

KEY OBSERVATION ABOUT REPORTING: A Vietnamese Government misinformation program has been associated with recent reporting on missing Americans. Those reports all pertain to the alleged recovery of remains and identifying data (i.e., dog tags) by Vietnamese citizens.

- a. Since mid-1982, 9769 “dog tag” reports on 8275 individuals reveal the following trends:
- 7719 (93.28%) of those names reported are individuals who returned to the U.S. alive
 - 386 (4.66%) of the reports correspond to U.S. remains that have been recovered/identified and buried in the U.S.
 - 170 (2.05%) relate to individuals who remain unaccounted for.
- b. In all instances, dog tag reports receive thorough investigative attention, to include informing the military services of those reports with valid names so next of kin can be advised as appropriate.