

SUBJECT: VIETNAM-ERA UNACCOUNTED FOR STATISTICAL REPORT

1. **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:

Figure 1
AMERICANS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

| <u>COMPONENT</u> | <u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u> | | | | | TOTALS |
|------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|
| | VN | VS | LA | CB | CH | |
| ARMY | 10 | 501 | 109 | 35 | 0 | 655 |
| NAVY | 288 | 93 | 29 | 2 | 8 | 420 |
| MARINE CORPS | 26 | 204 | 22 | 14 | 0 | 266 |
| AIR FORCE | 242 | 167 | 272 | 19 | 0 | 700 |
| COAST GUARD | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| CIVILIANS | 0 | 22 | 12 | 5 | 0 | 39 |
| TOTALS | 566 | 988 | 444 | 75 | 8 | 2081 * |

VN = VIETNAM, NORTH

VS = VIETNAM, SOUTH

LA = LAOS

CB = CAMBODIA

CH = CHINA

*INCLUDES 468 AT SEA/OVER WATER LOSSES

2. **ACCOUNTING FOR U.S. PERSONNEL:** The Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii reports that since 1973, the U.S. has accounted for 502 Americans from Southeast Asia.

Figure 2
AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR POST-1973

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| VIETNAM | 373* |
| CHINA | 2** |
| LAOS | 122 |
| CAMBODIA | 5 |
| TOTAL | 502*** |

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.

3. **U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS:** Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 21,062 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

Figure 3
SUMMARY OF REPORTS

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS | 1,891 |
| HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS | 4,545 |
| CRASH/GRAVESITES | 5,095 |
| DOGTAGS | 9,531 |
| Total | 21,062 |

a. Of the 1,891 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1,780 (94%) reports are resolved.

-- 1,248 (66%) 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%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.

-- 487 (26%) reports were determined to be fabrications.

b. The remaining 111 (6%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U. S. Government analytical and collection efforts:

-- 99 (5%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.

-- 12 (1%) 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:

Figure 4
TIMELINE: UNRESOLVED LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS

| Pre-76 | 76-80 | 81-85 | 86-90 | 91 | 92 | 93 | 94 | 95 | 96 | 97 | 98 | 99 | Total |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------------|
| 75 | 10 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 111 |