

Current as of: 12/21/98

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	498	110	35	0	653
NAVY	287	93	29	2	8	419
MARINE CORPS	26	204	22	14	0	266
AIR FORCE	239	166	271	19	0	695
COAST GUARD	0	1	0	0	0	1
CIVILIANS	0	22	12	5	0	39
TOTALS	562	984	444	75	8	2073 *

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 510 Americans from Southeast Asia.

Figure 2
AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR POST-1973

VIETNAM	378	*
CHINA	2	**
LAOS	125	
CAMBODIA	5	
TOTAL	510	***

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 21,274 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

Figure 3
SUMMARY OF REPORTS

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1,896
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	4,630
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5,131
DOGTAGS	9,686
TOTAL	21,243

- a. Of the 1,896 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1,832 (96.62%) reports are resolved.
 - 1,283 (67.67%) 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 (2.37%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.
 - 504 (26.58%) reports were determined to be fabrications.
- b. The remaining 64 (3.38%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U.S. Government analytical and collection efforts:
 - 56 (2.95%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.
 - 8 (0.42%) reported sightings of Americans in a non-captive environment (i.e. working as a 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
41	9	1	4	1	0	1	1	0	1	4	1	0	64