

**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>					<b>TOTALS</b>
	VN	VS	LA	CB	CH	
ARMY	9	474	101	26	0	<b>610</b>
NAVY	272	90	28	1	8	<b>399</b>
MARINE CORPS	23	195	16	8	0	<b>242</b>
AIR FORCE	212	160	252	18	0	<b>642</b>
COAST GUARD	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
CIVILIANS	1	20	12	5	0	<b>38</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1932 *</b>
	<u>PURSUIT STATUS</u>					
FURTHER PURSUIT	199	472	349	45	4	<b>1069</b>
DEFERRED	67	111	27	2	1	<b>208</b>
NO FURTHER PURSUIT	251	357	33	11	3	<b>655</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1932</b>

VN = VIETNAM, NORTH      VS = VIETNAM, SOUTH      CB = CAMBODIA  
 CH = CHINA      LA = LAOS  
 \* INCLUDES 459 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 653 Americans from Southeast Asia.

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

VIETNAM	468	*
CHINA	2	**
LAOS	158	
CAMBODIA	25	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>***</b>

**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.

**U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS:** Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 21895 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

**SUMMARY OF REPORTS**

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1914
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	4875
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5346
DOGTAGS	9760
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21895</b>

- a. Of the 1914 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1897 (99.11%) reports are resolved.
  - 1321 (69.02%) 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 (2.35%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.
  - 531 (27.74%) reports were determined to be fabrications.
  
- b. The remaining 17 (0.89%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U.S. Government analytical and collection efforts:
  - 16 (0.84%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.
  - 1 (0.05%) 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**

**CAPTIVE**

Pre-76	76-80	81-85	86-90	91-95	96	97	98	99	00	01	<b>Total</b>
14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	<b>16</b>

**NON-CAPTIVE**

Pre-76	76-80	81-85	86-90	91-95	96	97	98	99	00	01	<b>Total</b>
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>

**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:

**AMERICANS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA\***

<u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u>	<u>PW/MIA</u>	<u>KIA/BNR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NORTH VIETNAM	273	244	517
SOUTH VIETNAM	394	546	940
LAOS	255	154	409
CAMBODIA	28	30	58
CHINA	6	2	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>1932</b>

\* 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	318	292	610
USN	99	300	399
USMC	86	156	242
USAF	422	220	642
USCG	0	1	1
CIVILIAN	31	7	38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>1932</b>

**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, 9760 “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.