

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	26	0	596
NAVY	269	90	28	1	8	396
MARINE CORPS	22	194	16	8	0	240
AIR FORCE	208	167	238	18	0	631
COAST GUARD	0	1	0	0	0	1
CIVILIANS	1	20	10	5	0	36
TOTALS	509	934	391	58	8	1900 *
	<u>PURSUIT STATUS</u>					
FURTHER PURSUIT	184	471	334	48	4	1041
DEFERRED	68	107	22	2	1	200
NO FURTHER PURSUIT	257	356	35	8	3	659
TOTALS	509	934	391	58	8	1900

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 683 Americans from Southeast Asia.

AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR POST-1973

REPATRIATED BY:

VIETNAM	487	*
CHINA	2	**
LAOS	169	
CAMBODIA	25	
TOTAL	683	***

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.

- **Two airmen were mistakenly carried on the list of the unaccounted for. Analysts discovered recently, however, that their remains were buried in 1968 as part of a**

group identification process. Thus, the original number of unaccounted for from South Vietnam drops by two, and no addition is made to the number of remains identified since wartime/Homecoming.

U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS: Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 22096 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

SUMMARY OF REPORTS

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1929
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	4941
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5457
DOGTAGS	9769
TOTAL	22096

- a. Of the 1929 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1903 (98.65%) reports are resolved.
 - 1326 (68.74%) 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 (2.33%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.
 - 532 (27.58%) reports were determined to be fabrications.

- b. The remaining 26 (1.35%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U.S. Government analytical and collection efforts:
 - 22 (1.14%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.
 - 4 (0.21%) 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-1976	1976-1980	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	Total
14	0	0	1	3	0	4	22

NON-CAPTIVE

Pre-1976	1976-1980	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	Total
0	1	0	0	0	0	3	4

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<u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u>	<u>PW/MIA</u>	<u>KIA/BNR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NORTH VIETNAM	267	242	509
SOUTH VIETNAM	391	543	934
LAOS	241	150	391
CAMBODIA	28	30	58
CHINA	6	2	8
TOTAL	933	967	1900

* 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	305	291	596
USN	97	299	396
USMC	85	155	240
USAF	415	216	631
USCG	0	1	1
CIVILIAN	31	5	36
TOTAL	933	967	1900

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.