

**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	<b>594</b>
NAVY	267	90	19	1	8	<b>385</b>
MARINE CORPS	22	194	16	8	0	<b>240</b>
AIR FORCE	203	164	243	18	0	<b>628</b>
COAST GUARD	0	0	1	0	0	<b>1</b>
CIVILIANS	1	20	9	5	0	<b>35</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1883 *</b>
	<u>PURSUIT STATUS</u>					
FURTHER PURSUIT	177	467	326	47	4	<b>1021</b>
DEFERRED	68	109	23	2	1	<b>203</b>
NO FURTHER PURSUIT	257	354	38	7	3	<b>659</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1883</b>

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 700 Americans from Southeast Asia.

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

VIETNAM	489	*
CHINA	2	**
LAOS	182	
CAMBODIA	27	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>700</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.

**This change reflects the identification of one individual MIA from Cambodia, and the change of loss location of four individuals from South Vietnam to Laos.**

**U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS:** Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 22216 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

**SUMMARY OF REPORTS**

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1943
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	4998
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5506
DOGTAGS	9769
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22216</b>

- 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	<b>Total</b>
21	2	0	1	3	0	13	<b>40</b>

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<u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u>	<u>PW/MIA</u>	<u>KIA/BNR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NORTH VIETNAM	265	237	502
SOUTH VIETNAM	391	539	930
LAOS	238	149	387
CAMBODIA	27	29	56
CHINA	6	2	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>1883</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	304	290	594
USN	95	290	385
USMC	85	155	240
USAF	412	216	628
USCG	0	1	1
CIVILIAN	31	4	35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>956</b>	<b>1883</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, 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.