

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>					TOTALS
	VN	VS	LA	CB	CH	
ARMY	9	450	95	24	0	578
NAVY	263	89	19	0	7	378
MARINE CORPS	22	174	16	8	0	220
AIR FORCE	195	160	232	18	0	605
COAST GUARD	0	0	0	0	0	0
CIVILIANS	1	20	8	5	0	34
TOTALS	490	893	370	55	7	1815 *
	<u>PURSUIT STATUS</u>					
FURTHER PURSUIT	194	486	303	46	4	1033
DEFERRED	39	53	28	5	0	125
NO FURTHER PURSUIT	257	354	39	4	3	657
TOTALS	490	893	370	55	7	1815

VN = VIETNAM, NORTH VS = VIETNAM, SOUTH CB = CAMBODIA
 CH = CHINA LA = LAOS
 * INCLUDES 468 AT SEA/OVER WATER LOSSES

AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR POST-1973 REPATRIATED BY:

VIETNAM	540	*
CHINA	3	**
LAOS	197	
CAMBODIA	28	
TOTAL	768	***

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 represents an adjustment in the loss location of two Air Force officers from Laos to North Vietnam. Their remains have not yet been identified, but investigations have shown that the crash site, once reported to be in Laos, is actually in North Vietnam. Therefore, readers will see the Laos numbers drop by two, and the North Vietnam numbers increase by two.

U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS: Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 22717 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

SUMMARY OF REPORTS

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1976
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	5240
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5732
DOGTAGS	9769
TOTAL	22717

- a. Of the 1976 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1942 (98.28%) reports are resolved.
 - 1341 (67.86%) 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 (2.28%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.
 - 556 (28.14%) reports were determined to be fabrications.
- b. The remaining 34 (1.72%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U.S. Government analytical and collection efforts:
 - 31 (1.57%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.
 - 3 (0.15%) reported sightings of Americans in a non-captive environment (i.e. working as truck drivers; married with Vietnamese family).
- c. 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.
- d. 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.

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
23	2	0	1	0	3	2	31

NON-CAPTIVE

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