

Current as of: 10/12/2018

SUBJECT: VIETNAM-ERA 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

COMPONENT	COUNTRY OF LOSS					TOTALS
	VN	VS	LA	CB	CH	
ARMY	10	410	69	23	0	512
NAVY	248	82	17	0	7	354
MARINE CORPS	22	160	16	4	0	202
AIR FORCE	171	124	183	16	0	494
COAST GUARD	0	0	0	0	0	0
CIVILIANS	1	19	5	5	0	30
TOTALS	452	795	290	48	7	1,592
PURSUIT STATUS						
FURTHER PURSUIT	202	497	267	41	7	1,014
DEFERRED	27	51	12	0	0	90
NON-RECOVERABLE	223	247	11	7	0	488
TOTALS	452	795	290	48	7	1,592

VN = VIETNAM, NORTH
CH = CHINA

VS = VIETNAM, SOUTH
LA = LAOS

CB = CAMBODIA

AMERICAN REMAINS REPATRIATED POST - JANUARY 27, 1973:

VIETNAM	726
CHINA	3
LAOS	283
CAMBODIA	42
TOTAL	1,054

This update reports the accounting of USN Lieutenant (LT) Lannom, Richard C. previously missing from North Vietnam and CIV Ritter, George L. previously missing from Laos.

U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS: Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 23,575 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

SUMMARY OF REPORTS

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1,996
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	5,614
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5,947
DOGTAGS	10,018
TOTAL	23,575

- a. Of the 1,996 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1,941 (97.24%) reports are resolved.
 - 1,340 (67.13%) 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 (2.25%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.
 - 556 (27.86%) reports were determined to be fabrications.
- b. The remaining 55 (2.76%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U.S. Government analytical and collection efforts:
 - 48 (2.40%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.
 - 7 (0.35%) reported sightings of Americans in a non-captive environment (i.e. working as truck drivers, married with Vietnamese families).
- c. Since mid-1982, 10,018 “dog tag” reports have been received on over 10,000 names.
 - Generally speaking 93% of those names reported are individuals who returned to the U.S. alive.
 - 5% correspond to U.S. remains that have been recovered/identified and buried in the U.S.
 - 2% 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	1976-1985	1986-1995	1996-2005	2006-2015	Total
36	2	1	10	1	50

NON-CAPTIVE

Pre-1976	1976-1985	1986-1995	1996-2005	2006-2015	Total
0	1	0	4	0	5