

The Achievement Document of Military Archives Cooperation between the People's Republic of China and the United States of America

August 2010 - August 2011

PLA Archives Department

Content

1. Overview.....	1
2. About searching work.....	3
(1) Working process.....	3
(2) Document numbers.....	4
(3) Working days.....	4
(4) Number of staff engaged in the work.....	5
3. Abstract of archives information.....	5
(1) 1944 one U.S plane crashed at Ermei mountain area of Sichuan province...5	
(2) Sep 16, 1945 U.S C-109 plane crashing case.....	6
(3) August 23, 1956 U.S. Reconnaissance plane crashing case.....	7
(4) Sep. 12, 1952 U.S plane crashing case after bombing of Lagu sentry post...8	
(5) May 2, 1953 U.S plane crashing case.....	8
(6) Feb. 16, 1953, several U.S planes crashing case.....	8
(7) 1953 one U.S F9F plane crashing case at Wenchuan region, north of Yuanshan Mountain.....	9
4. About on-the-spot verification of U.S MIA whereabouts.....	9
(1). On-the-spot surveying situation.....	9

(2). Witnesses and know-how people talk record.....	10
(3). Newly found history photos.....	12
(4). Working photos of on-the-spot survey work.....	17

1. Overview

In line with the related “Memorandums”, the PLA Archives Department has carried out friendly, concrete and effective cooperation with U.S DoD POW/MIA office in search of U.S MIAs before and after the Korean War.

From September 2010 to September 2011, based on the related clues of the “Memorandum of required searching target area” (Plan A) provided by U.S side, we have carried out the searching work among several million military archives before and after the Korean War period which were stored in our department. Up till now, about 30% work has been accomplished. We have further found another 123 archives related to the whereabouts of U.S MIAs. In November 2010, the U.S side provided a “2010-2011 Case Suggestions to the People’s Republic of China”. Our department carried out inquiry and verification to the two cases (MACR9720 and MACR10591). On the base of searching military archives information, we have also

Established a special investigation team heading for Chengdu and Ermei Mountain Areas of Sichuan Province to investigate and carry out on-the-spot survey for these two cases. Based on the clues, the team went to various archives departments of Sichuan provinces to search the archives and we have made achievements in verifying these clues and also have made positive progress in verifying works.

From Feb. 13 to March 24th, 2011, in line with the instructions from FAO, MND, PRC, the PLA Archives Department send staff to Chaozhou of Guangdong Province to cooperate with U.S side in search of U. S navy PBM-5 patrol plane wreckage in Raoping. The PLA Archives Department staff arrived at Chaozhou on Feb. 13 and carried out the advanced preparation work. They coordinated with comrades from local foreign affairs office and organized the local villagers to open the road for climbing mountain; got in touch with three witnesses at Shangshe village and Jiaoshuiteng village; and careful arrangement for the lodging, accommodation and transportation of U.S persons. During the whole searching process, they participated U.S 4 x 4 grid searching and help the U.S side with the translation work. Based on the archives provided by the PLA Archives Department and 5 photos provided by local government, the precise crashing site has been further determined, and part of plane wreckage, plane part, the trousers of U.S pilots and cotton pieces have been found. On March 18th, JPAC head MG Tom arrived at

Chaozhou to visit the U.S side staff, he gave high appraisal to the work of PLA Archives Department. MG Tom said, without military archive cooperation, it is impossible to find the missing U.S plane in Raoping area of Chaozhou, Guangdong Province, he hoped the military cooperation with PLA Archives Department could be continued.

In later April 2011, PLA Archives delegation visited U.S, and carried out positive and pragmatic discussion with DPMO. The Chinese side briefed U.S side on the situation of searching for whereabouts clues for U.S MIAs. The two sides have fully affirmed the progress and achievements of three years' military archive cooperation. The U.S side has proposed suggestion to extend the cooperation time and expand archive searching scope and handed in the "Memo of Cooperation (draft)", the two sides have reached initial consensus on work arrangement. The Chinese side has studied the U.S side's "draft" and agrees the suggestion to sign new "Memo of Cooperation" later this year.

2. About searching work

(1) Working process

Under the leadership of MND FAO of PRC, the PLA Archives Department organized subordinated departments to fully carry out the searching work for the archive clues involving U.S MIAs before and after Korean War. With reference to the required information type listed on “Memorandum of required searching target area” (Plan A) provide by DPMO of U.S DoD, it has, one by one, sorted out, reviewed and analyzed the PLA Volunteer Troops archives and related military archives of the same period, the reviewed and analyzed related archives are more than 600,000 pages, with categories including situation reports, situation briefing, duty diaries and statistics reports.

(2) Document page

The total document pages of this 12 month working report to U.S DPMO are 30 pages, among them, 5 pages of military archive information abstracts, 3 pages of on-the-spot investigation records, and 22 pages of others.

(3) Working days

The U.S-China Military Archives Cooperation Office and departments including archives collection and sorting, keeping and using have jointly collected, sorted, reviewed, analyzed and carried out on-the-spot work, which has totally cost 270

Working days/persons.

(4) Number of staff engaged in the work

The PLA Archives Department has organized 6 archive professionals and hired 4 military archive research experts to compose a research team. The U.S-China Military Archives Cooperation Office and departments including archives collection and sorting, keeping and using total 10 persons, they are specially focusing on the related work of U.S-China military archives cooperation. The persons of PLA Archives Department participated to this work total 20 people.

3. Abstract of archives information

Through the work of earlier stage, the PLA Archives Department has found out corresponding cases from the military archives during the Korean War period in line with “Memorandum of required searching target area” (Plan A) and “2010-2011 Case Suggestions to the People’s Republic of China, the abstracts are as below:

(1) 1944 one U.S plane crashed at Ermei mountain area of Sichuan province

ErMei City Archives Department of Sichuan Province recorded: On March 18, 1944, one plane was flying from north to south, the flying altitude was minimum low, it would definitely crash, this morning

at 10 O'clock, it was said that the plane crashed, it was not determined whether it was true or not. We send local residence permit staff Li Yingfang as well as local security chief Zhou Shian and Wang Tianshou to head for the crashing site for investigation. At Huangpucao, 40 Lis from our office, the plane was found crashed, one dirty corpse was found and other corpses were scattered into pieces, because it was at cliff area and in deep forest, it was accumulated with snows and people seldom walked into this area, only stuff around this dirty corpse were picked up.

(2) Sep 16, 1945 U.S plane C-109 crashing case

The archive stored at Sichuan Provincial Archives Department recorded (A):

On Oct. 7, 1947, one U.S plane wreckage was found at Ebian county, five U.S bodies were buried at the road side. We have send persons to meet with U.S Military Tomb Registration Department Lieutenant Mudake and Han Gelan to look for the body remains of U.S crashing plane at Ebian county.

The archive stored at Sichuan Provincial Archives Department recorded (B):

On Oct. 7, 1947, Mr. Lou of Mao county went into forest to pick up the Chinese herbs, and this old man found one U.S plane wreckage at Huangcaoping, north of the mountain, the wreckage included cockpit and the tail, some small parts had been dismantled, some corpse bones and one bomber are found.

The archive stored at Sichuan Provincial Archives Department recorded (C) :

On October 9, 1947, U.S air force Capt. Bolei went to Dianmenshi of Emei mountain to deal with 1945 U.S plane crashing case. According to Dongwu, head of Emei county of Chengdu city, the Fuxingxian village of Emei county had reported that one U.S plane (238) crashed, it had U.S national emblem on it, five corpses were found, the plane parts scattered around, the location is Tianmenshi, near Qingyinge, staff were send to take care of the corpses.

(3) Aug. 23, 1956 U.S reconnaissance plane crashing case

The PLA Archives Department archive recorded: Aug. 23, 1956 night, one U.S naval patrol plane P4M-1 were shot down at sea surface new Qushan island, north of Dinghai, $122^{\circ}32'$ E and $30^{\circ}25'$ N. Height 1,500 – 2,000 m, speed 300 -350 orientation 140° , it was flying from north to south, it invaded Chinese territorial sea at $122^{\circ}30'$ E and $31^{\circ}20'$ N at 23:54'10'', it changed to orientation 200° , and invaded directly into sky of our Dinghai and Zhoushan island, and invaded $122^{\circ}15'$ E and $30^{\circ}37'$ N at 0:13'30' on 23rd over Xiachuan island, and then it changed orientation 145° , and flew toward southeast direction.

Fighting process: The PLA air force was instructed to intercept the enemy plane at 23:50 on 22nd. At 0:17'09' on 23rd, under the guidance of radar, the enemy plane was detected near Qushan area, the first attack was launched when the enemy plane is 500-600 meters away at 0:17'09'', and the second attack was launched at 0:17:58'',

And when the enemy plane were found fighting back, the third attack was launched, the enemy plane got fire and our plane surveyed the enemy plane until 0:20'22", when the enemy plane shot down at sea surface 15 KM southeast of Qushan, our plane returned.

(4) Sep. 12, 1952 U.S plane crashing case after bombing of Lagu sentry post

The PLA Archives Department archive recorded: Sep. 12, 1952 night, the U.S plane bombed our Lagu sentry post, one U.S plane was shot down by our military region, but the whereabouts was unclear.

(5) May 2, 1953 U.S plane crashing case

The PLA Archives Department archive recorded: 17 U.S planes were shot down on July 5, 11, 16, 17 and 20, 1953, and during these five days, 28 U.S planes were damaged. Among these days, 5 planes were shot down on July 20, 2 of them crashed at the battlefield of our No. 515 Regiment, one plane exploded in the sky, one plane crashed at Qingchunjiang River and one plane crashed at west sea surface.

(6) Feb. 16, 1953, several U.S planes crashing case

The PLA Archives Department archive recorded: On Feb. 15, 1953, at Lagu sentry post, No. 504 Regiment shot down one F-86 plane, two F-84 planes;

No. 506 Regiment shot down one F-84 and one F-86, among them, the cockpit of one F-86 was found near the battlefield of No. 6 Company of No. 506 Regiment, other planes crashed near Changcheng city.

(7) 1953 one U.S F9F plane crashing case at Wenchuan region, north of Yuanshan

The PLA Archives Department archive recorded: One U.S F9F plane was shot down by anti-aircraft gun at 06:35 on Feb. 28, 1953, place: $127^{\circ}16'$ E and $39^{\circ}18'$ N (near Wenchuan , north of Yuanshan mountain. The plane burned down, no pilot witnessed parachuting.

4. About on-the-spot verification of U.S MIA whereabouts

(1) On-the-spot surveying situation

From July 12 to July 15, 2011, the PLA Archives Department investigation team had went o Chengdu M.R Archives Department, Sichuan Provincial Archives Department, Chengdu city Archives Department, Emeishan city Archives Department and Jianchuan Museum to look for the MIAs whereabouts and clues. Based on the clues provided by the U.S side, we went to Sichuan area to investigate MACR9720 and MACR10591 cases, we have interviewed 4 incidents witnesses and know-how, investigated U.S MIAs' whereabouts and carried out on-the-spot survey to verify related situation.

(2). Witnesses and know-how people talk record

1. On July 14, 2011, the PLA Archives Department investigation team headed for Huangwan village at Emei city of Sichuan Province, investigating with know-how about the crashing situation of C-109 (tail number 42-51887) and the burial place of the pilot. This C-109 was subordinated to No 2 Transportation command of No. 20 Bomber Commander of U.S No. 20 Air Force Group Army, and it crashed on Sep. 16, 1944.

Lu Junfeng, villager of Chadi village recalled, "I was then 12 years old, when the plane crashed, I was harvesting crops, when I heard the huge noise, I went to the spot. I saw four bodies, and someone moved bodies to one shed."

Yang Tongyue, villager of Wannian village recalled, "It was 1944, my parents all saw the crashed plane, they have died. The plane crashing place was at very remote area. It would take more than 12 hours by foot if go and return from Emei mountain foot, the mountain was very steep, the plane pieces should be found under mountain streams, or possibly the MIAs' corpse could be found, but it was really hard to find.

2. July July 13, 2011, the PLA Archives Department investigation team headed for Jianchuan Mesuem of Anren county, Chengdu, Sichuan Province, they inquired to the know-how about one C-47 (tail number 44-39287) which crashed on Nov. 18,

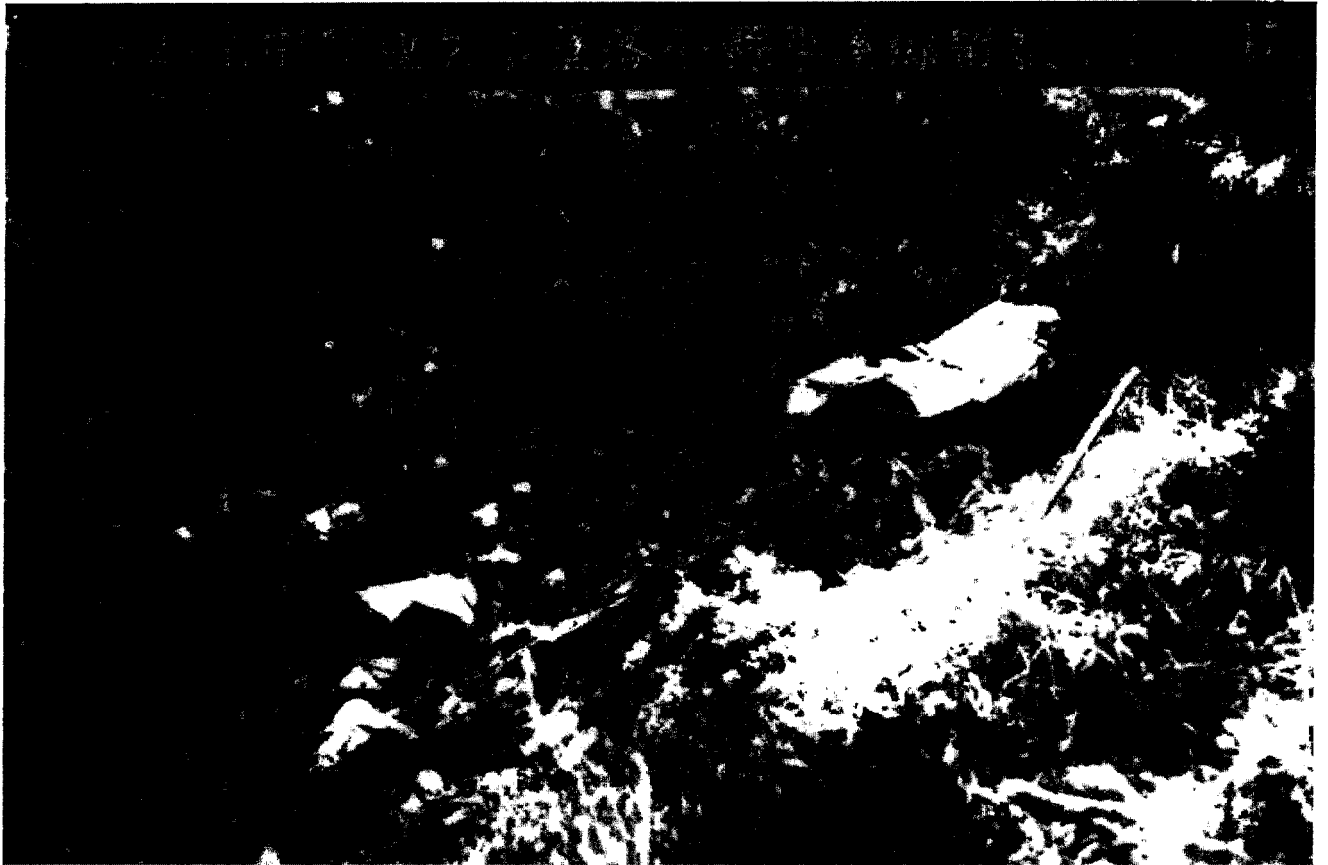
Mr. He, deputy director of the Museum said: The U.S side mentioned Paoting mountain is actually the Baoding mountain at Wenchun county of Sichuan Province. The archives that our Museum collected has proofed this crashing incident. According to the verification, the altitude above the sea level of this Baoding mountain is around 5,000 meters, it is always covered with snow. The second year after the crash, the then KMT government had organized searching and found three remains. After the establishment of this Museum, for three times, we have organized persons to go to this place to look for the plane wreckage. In 2007, I lead the team and it took us half a month for us to climb to the top and we brought back two plane engine parts, they are now displayed at our Museum. According to the introduction of Mr. He, the mountain road is very dangerous, and the crashing plane is down under a very steep cliff, so they did not dare to carry out further search, American pilots remains might be found there.

(3) Newly found history photos

1. Photo one of U.S naval PBM-5 patrol plane crashed at Raoping of Guangdong Province on May 11, 1950



2. Photo two of U.S naval PBM-5 patrol plane crashed at Raoping of Guangdong Province on May 11, 1950

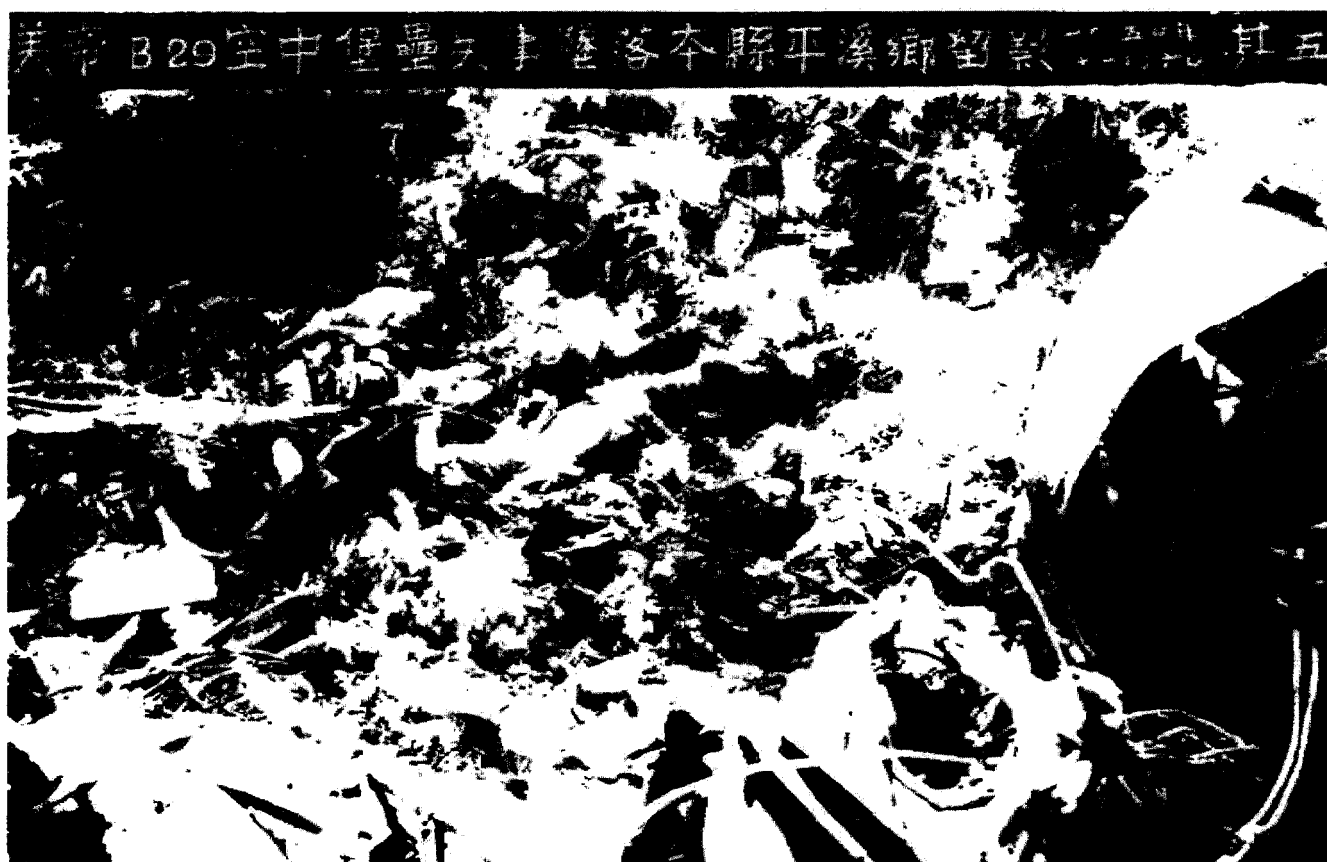


3. Photo three of U.S naval PBM-5 patrol plane crashed at Raoping of Guangdong Province on May 11, 1950

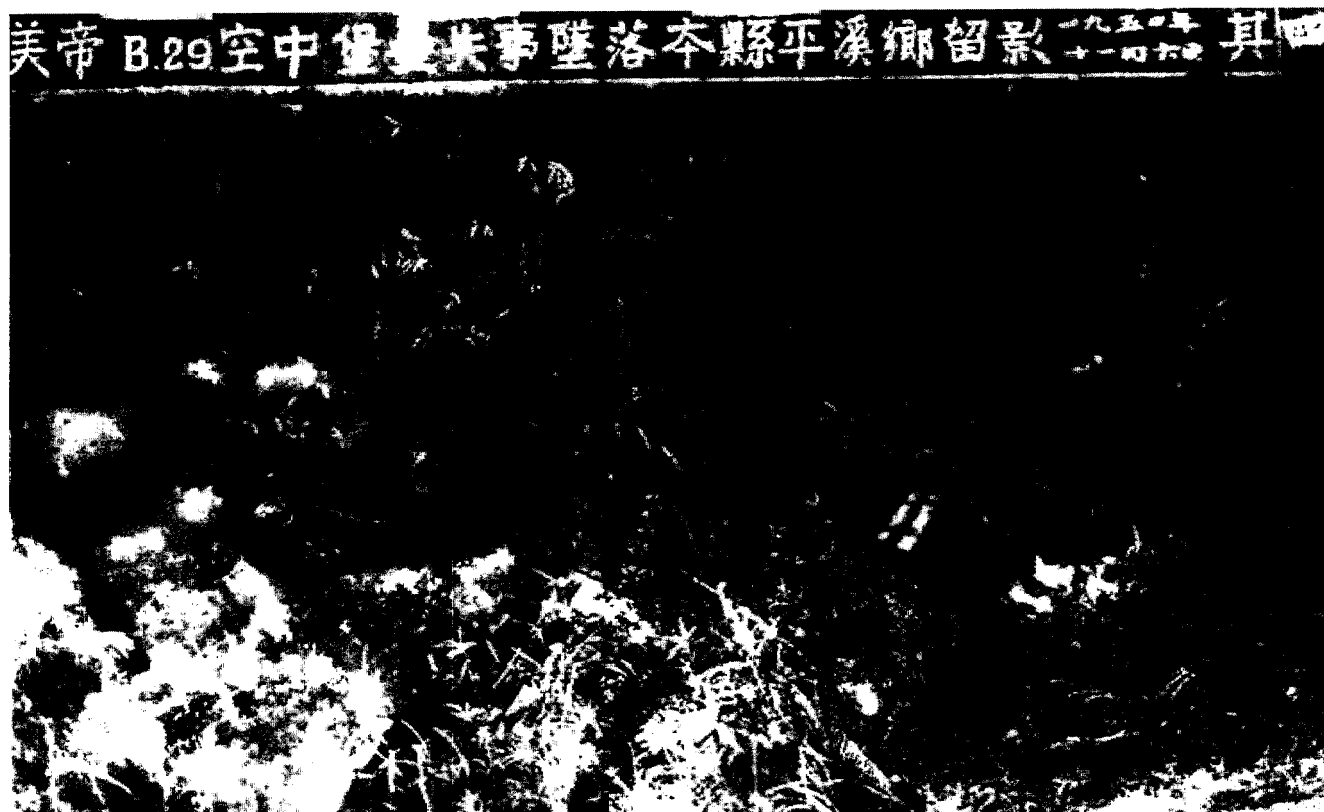
美軍PBM-5型海上偵察機於五月十一日在雷平縣墜落



4. Photo four of U.S naval PBM-5 patrol plane crashed at Raoping of Guangdong Province on May 11, 1950



4. Photo five of U.S naval PBM-5 patrol plane crashed at Raoping of Guangdong Province on May 11, 1950



(4). Working photos of on-the-spot survey work

1. From Feb. 14 to March 24, the PLA Archives Department send persons to join the JPAC working team and headed for Chaozhou of Guangdong Province to carry out on-the-spot digging. MFA and PLA Archives Department working staff are discussing with local foreign affairs office staff.

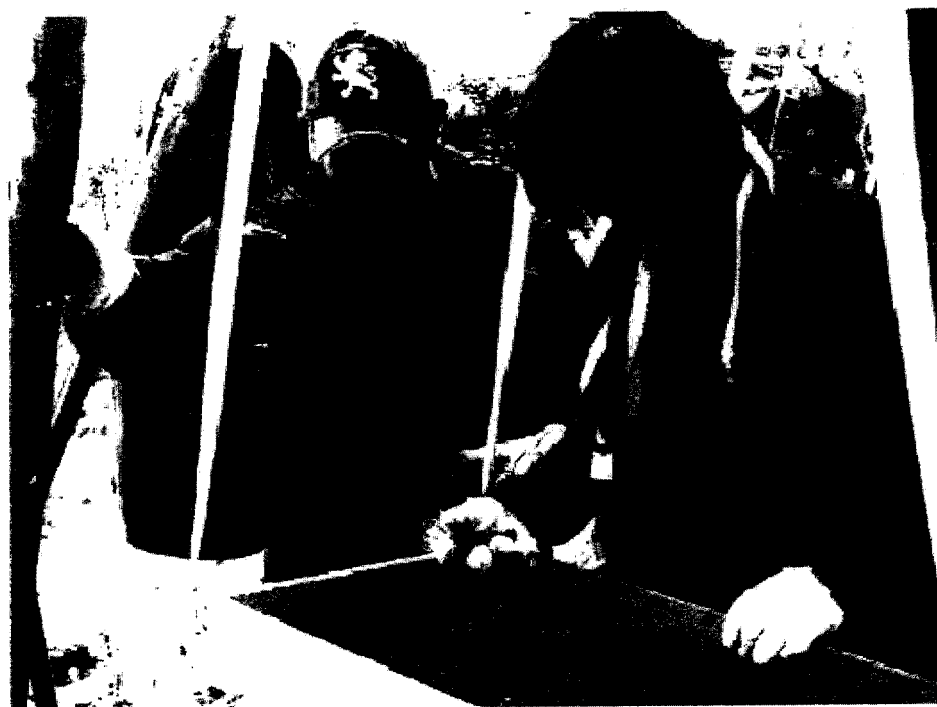
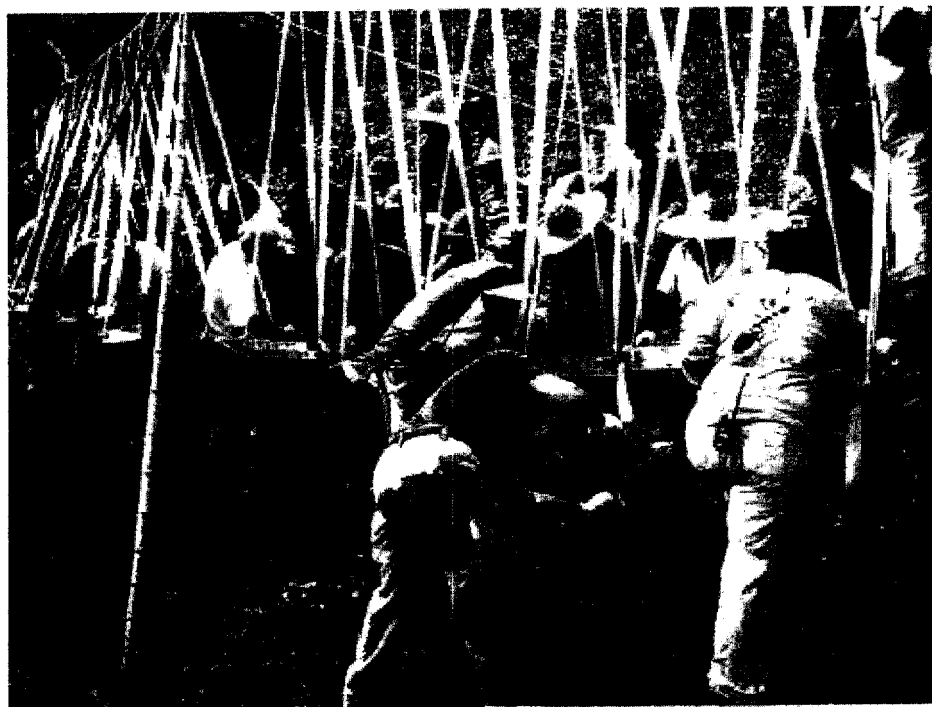


2. From Feb. 14 to March 24, 2011, PLA Archives Department, Chaozhou city

Television staff are talking with JAPC tem media spokeswomen.



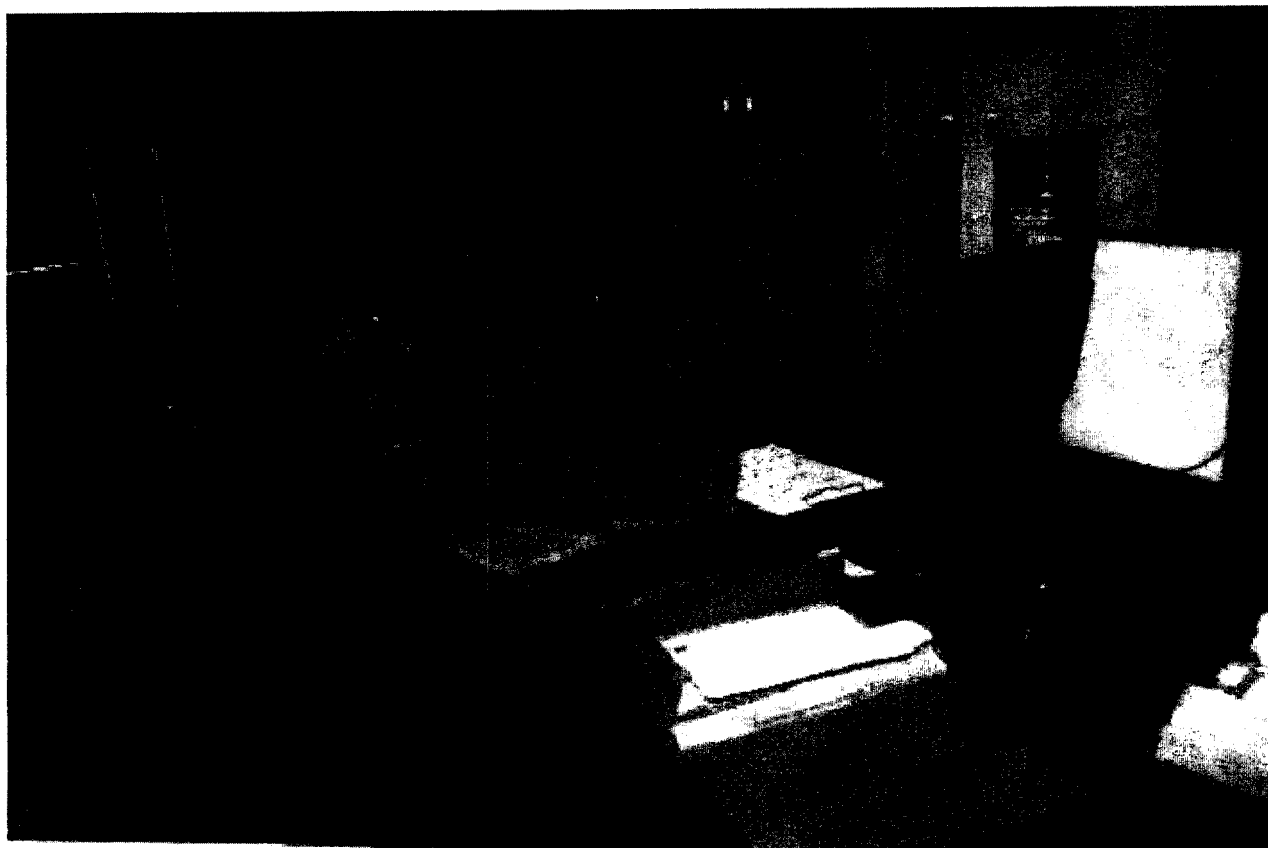
3. From Feb. 14 to March 24, 2011, PLA Archives Department has sent persons to participate the JPAC digging team to dig on the spot.



4. On July 12, 2011, the PLA Achieves Department investigation team headed for Sichuan Provincial Achieves Department to verify achieves clues of whereabouts of U.S MIAs.



5. On July 12, 2011, the PLA Achieves Department investigation team headed for Sichuan Provincial Achieves Department to verify achieves clues of whereabouts of U.S MIAs.



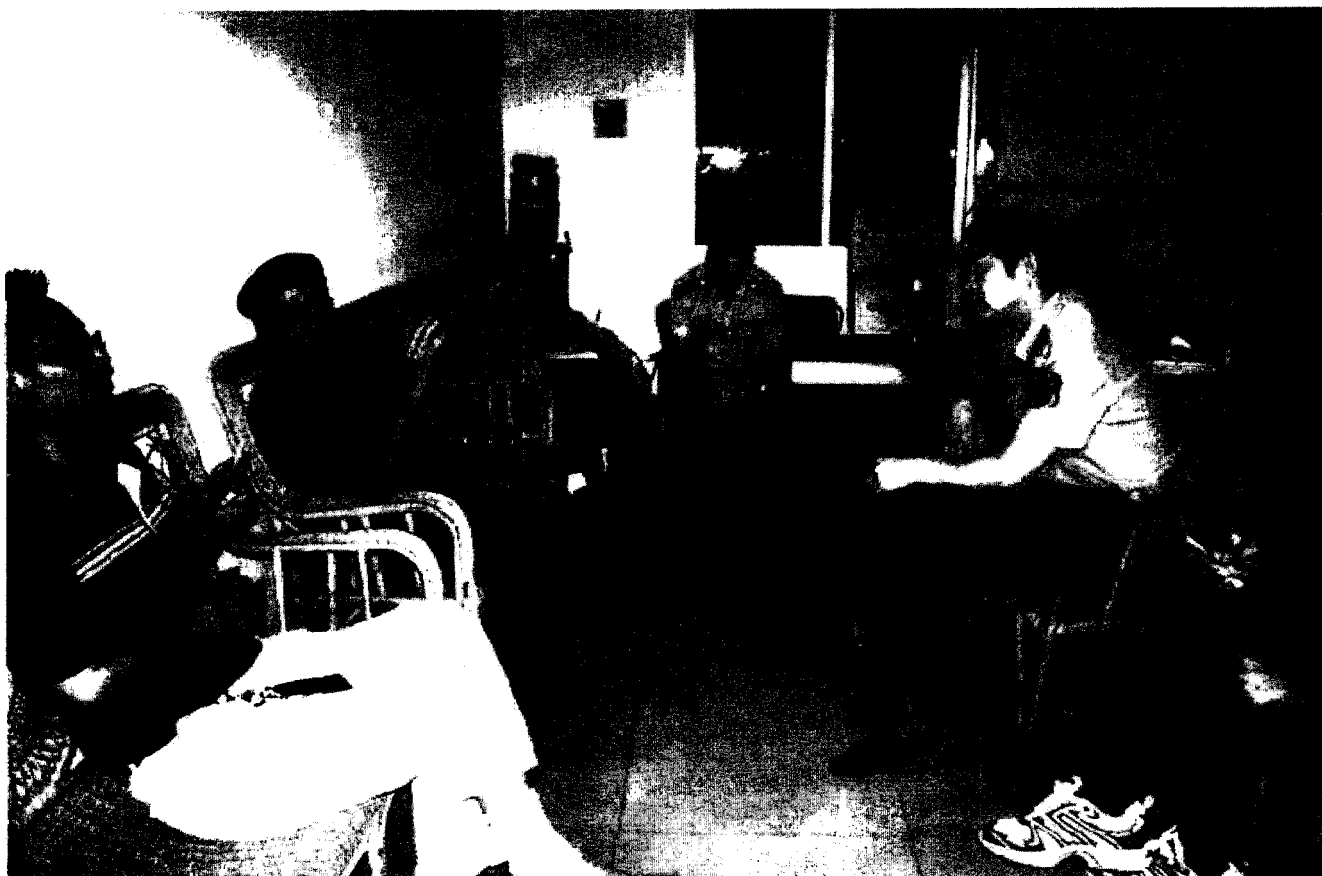
6. On July 15, 2011, the PLA Achieves Department investigation team headed for Emeishan City Achieves Department to verify achieves clues of whereabouts of U.S MIAs.



7. On July 14, 2011, Luo Junfeng (78 years old), villager of Wannian village, Huangwan town of Emei city is talking about the crashing situation and crashing site of the U.S plane crashed on Sep. 16, 1944



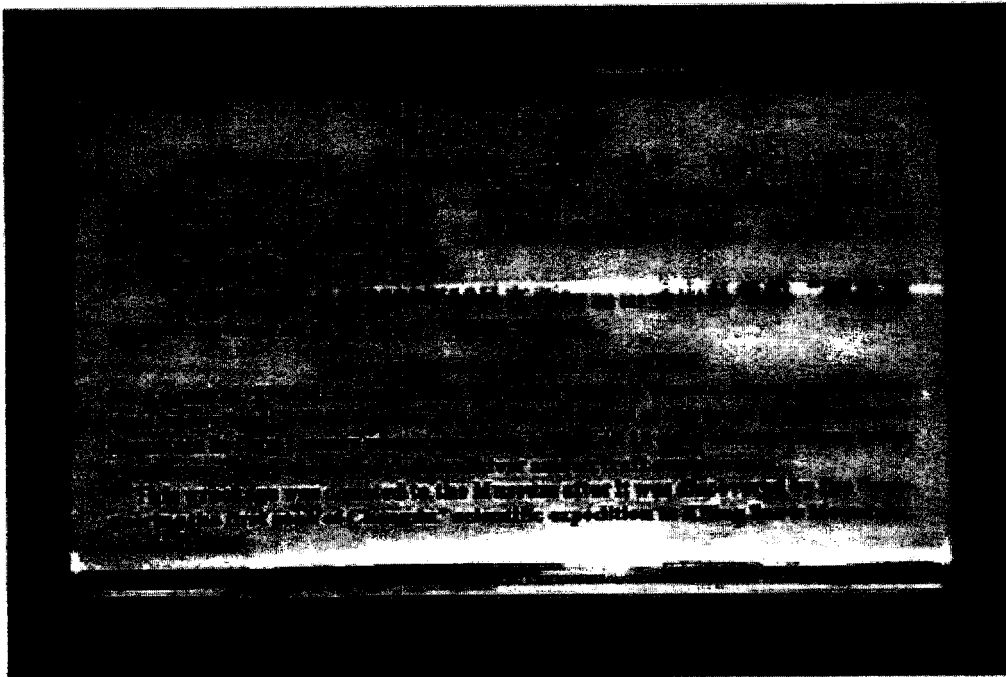
8. On July 14th, 2011, the PLA Archives Department Investigation Team are talking with Party Committee members of Wannian village, Huangwan town of Emei city to investigate and verify U.S MIAs whereabouts.



9. On July 14th, 2011, local know-how pointed out the U.S plane crashing place to the PLA Archives Department Investigation Team, and described the crashing situation.



10. At the "Flying Tigers" hall of Jianchuan Museum, some related U.S plane wreckages were displayed.



11. Some U.S plane crashing clues collected at "Flying Tiger" Hall of Jianchuan Museum

美金券散落在飞机周围，在当地引发了一场捡“勾勾票子”的风波。1945年冬，美国空军寻人队一行三人在飞机失事地点找到驾驶员遗骸，并运回成都。

1946年7月，成都川康绥靖公署派员来到宝顶山，将其轻便部件拆走，留下机架在山腰上。

The customs gold unit note scattered around the airplane, resulting in an event of "picking up gold unit note" locally. In the winter of 1945, 3 members of the searching team of US Air Force reached the crashing site, found the remains of pilots and transported them back to Chengdu.

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12. Mr. He (second right), deputy director of Jianchuan Museum had participated the on-the-spot search of U.S plane wreckage in 2007. On July 18th, Mr. He is talking to the PLA Archives Department about U.S plane crashing site situation.



13. In November 2007, Jianchuan Museum and Chengdu Television organized staff to look for the plane wreckage at Baodingshan Mountain of Wenchuan county, plane parts were collected and brought back (provided by Jianchuan Museum).



14. In November 2007, Jianchuan Museum organized staff to look for plane wreckage at Baodingshan Mountain of Wenchun county, the picture shows the staff are transporting plane parts back on the way returning. (provided by Jianchuan Museum.



