

JOINT POW/MIA ACCOUNTING COMMAND



ACCOUNTING FOR AMERICANS LOST DURING PAST U.S. CONFLICTS

Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command
Public Affairs Office
(808) 448-1934
www.jpac.pacom.mil
Pao_mail@jpac.pacom.mil
Contact: Elizabeth Feeney

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~ NEWS RELEASE ~

JPAC TO HOST ARRIVAL CEREMONY FOR AMERICA'S HEROES SEPTEMBER 9 *JPAC to honor missing Americans from Vietnam War*

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (Sept. 6, 2011) – The U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command will host an Arrival Ceremony Friday, Sept. 9 at 9 a.m. in Hangar 35, to honor fallen U.S. personnel whose identities remain unknown.

The remains receiving full military honors represent losses associated with the Vietnam War. An honor detail made up of joint military members will carry two flag-draped transfer cases from a C-17 to a bus that will transport the cases to JPAC's laboratory for analyses. The transfer cases represent the Vietnam War and were recovered from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Once the transfer cases arrive at JPAC's Central Identification Laboratory (CIL), the forensic identification will begin. If and when identifications are established, the names will be announced following next-of-kin notification.

Falling directly under the U.S. Pacific Command, JPAC is a jointly-manned organization of more than 400 military and civilian specialists that has, with its predecessor organizations, investigated and recovered missing Americans since the 1970's. Since 2003, JPAC has identified more than 750 Americans. Combined with the efforts of its predecessor units, close to 2,000 Americans have been identified since the accounting effort began in the 1970's.

The ultimate goal of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, and of the agencies involved in returning America's heroes home, is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans lost during the nation's past conflicts.

Media interested in attending the ceremony must contact JPAC Public Affairs before noon on Sept. 8 to receive instructions for base access. All media will be escorted.

"Until They Are Home"
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