



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command Public Affairs Office

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~ NEWS ADVISORY ~

POW/MIA TEAMS SEARCH FOR UNACCOUNTED-FOR AMERICANS IN LAOS

Specialized JPAC investigation, recovery teams search for unaccounted-for Americans

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (May 10, 2012) – Specialized investigative and archaeological recovery teams from the [U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command \(JPAC\)](#) are deployed to Laos searching for Americans who remain unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War.

Two recovery teams with more than 35 JPAC personnel are excavating two aircraft crash sites in the Savannakhet province; the team is searching for evidence of eight Americans unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War.

Additionally, an investigation team is searching for clues by canvassing local villages for information, researching archives and interviewing witnesses. The team will search in the Savannakhet and Khammouan provinces for information that relates to eight aircraft crash sites and 13 individuals.

The approximately 40-day deployment marks the 124th joint field activity in Laos.

Recovery teams search for human remains, life support items and other material evidence (personal and military issued items) that may lead to identification. Investigation teams authenticate leads from eyewitnesses, conduct field research and gather information throughout various locations to determine whether or not there will be a return visit for excavation at a later date.

Falling directly under the U.S. Pacific Command and employed by more than 400 joint military and civilian personnel, JPAC continues its search for the more than 83,000 Americans still missing from past conflicts. The ultimate goal of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, and of the agencies involved in returning America's heroes home, is to conduct global search, recovery, and laboratory operations in order to support the Department of Defense's personnel accounting efforts.

"Until They Are Home"

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