



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 WORLDWIDE

Specialized JPAC teams search in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (August 22, 2012) – Specialized investigative and archaeological recovery teams from the [U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command \(JPAC\)](#) are deployed to Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands searching for more than 70 Americans who remain unaccounted-for from World War II.

12-1NH (Vanuatu). Two recovery teams comprised of approximately 25 JPAC team members are excavating separate aircraft crash sites in Espiritu Santo and Mavea searching for evidence associated to four individuals lost during World War II. The teams will be in country for approximately 45 days.

12-1BP (Solomon Islands). An eight-person team conducted investigations on Guadalcanal searching for more than 65 individuals unaccounted-for from World War II.

Recovery teams search for human remains, life support items and other material evidence (personal and military issued items) that may lead to identifications. 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 employing more than 450 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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