



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

Elizabeth Feeney  
(808) 448-1937  
[Elizabeth.feeney@jpac.pacom.mil](mailto:Elizabeth.feeney@jpac.pacom.mil)

Nov. 9, 2012  
Release # 12-28  
JBPHH, Hawaii

~ NEWS ADVISORY ~

**POW/MIA INVESTIGATION TEAMS SEARCH FOR MISSING SERVICE MEMBERS**

*JPAC teams search on land, underwater for approximately 50 Americans missing from WWII*

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (Nov. 9, 2012) – Two specially trained investigation teams from the [U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command](#), JPAC, will conduct humanitarian operations in Papua New Guinea for about six weeks, searching for evidence of approximately 50 Americans who remain unaccounted-for from World War II.

A nine-member investigation team will conduct humanitarian operations throughout West New Britain, East New Britain, and the Central, Gulf, Enga and Morobe provinces, searching for information on nine ground sites and approximately 50 individuals unaccounted-for from World War II.

Additionally, a specialized underwater investigation team will conduct investigations aboard the [USNS Salvor](#) at a suspected World War II-era aircraft crash site located in the Simpson Harbor, New Britain, Papua New Guinea. Approximately 50 people from four organizations compose this team of specialized JPAC personnel, civil service mariners from the USNS Salvor T-ARS 53, divers from the Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit One, and Unmanned Underwater Vehicle specialists from the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit One.

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 500 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"**