

JOINT POW/MIA ACCOUNTING COMMAND



ACCOUNTING FOR AMERICANS LOST DURING PAST U.S. CONFLICTS

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~ NEWS ADVISORY ~

POW/MIA RECOVERY TEAMS SEARCH FOR UNACCOUNTED-FOR AMERICANS

Search for Americans missing from the Vietnam War, Korean War, World War II

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (Nov. 4, 2011) – Several archeological recovery and investigation teams from the [U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command \(JPAC\)](http://www.jpac.pacom.mil) recently deployed to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Republic of Korea, Europe, and the People's Republic of China searching for Americans who remain unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War, Korean War, and World War II. About 135 JPAC team members deployed from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, to investigate and excavate several ground and aircraft crash sites in search of more than 100 Americans who remain unaccounted-for from these conflicts.

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

Vietnam: Approximately 75 JPAC team members will excavate multiple sites associated with Vietnam War losses. Five recovery teams will search in the Thai Nguyen, Bac Giang, Lang Son, Son La, and Thanh Hoa provinces at aircraft crash and burial sites for six Americans. Two investigation teams will authenticate eyewitness leads and conduct field research, searching for information on more than 50 missing individuals and 31 unsolved cases. Lastly, a scientific team will conduct a Joint Forensic Review to determine racial affiliation of remains in country. The approximately 35-day undertaking marks the 105th Joint Field Activity in Vietnam.

Laos: About 30 JPAC team members deployed to the Khammouan, Xekong, and Savannakhet provinces to excavate three aircraft crash sites in search of 11 Americans. The approximately 35-day deployment marks the 120th Joint Field Activity in Laos.

South Korea: More than 15 personnel from JPAC and the U.S. Navy's Underwater Construction Team Two (UCT-2), home ported in Port Hueneme, Calif., are investigating underwater aircraft crash sites in the Han River. The team will explore the three underwater sites for about 30 days searching for information on four Americans who remain unaccounted-for from the Korean War.

Europe: A five person investigation team will research seven cases in the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic, and Kingdom of Belgium which are associated with World War II losses. The team will authenticate eyewitness leads generated through historical research and conduct field research for information on 19 missing individuals.

China: A 10 person recovery team will search a PMB-5 Mariner aircraft crash site in the Guangdong province where 11 Americans are believed to have perished during the Korean War.

These were the first missions to deploy for Fiscal Year 2012.

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.

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.

"Until They Are Home"

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