

## UPDATE: July 20, 2020

**AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR:** The number missing (POW/MIA) and otherwise unaccounted-for (KIA/BNR) from the Vietnam War is now **1,586**. In a July 14<sup>th</sup> release, DPAA announced that 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Alva R. Krogman, USAF, KIA/BNR, was accounted for on July 7<sup>th</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Krogman was flying an O1-F Birdog aircraft on a visual reconnaissance mission over Savannakhet Province, Laos, on January 17, 1967, when his aircraft was hit and went down. Search and Rescue (SAR) operations were initiated immediately, but were shut down within a few hours after one of the SAR aircraft was also shot down. In February of this year, a US team of unexploded ordnance removal specialists initially recovered remains while clearing the site in preparation for an April joint recovery mission. **This is the first identification of a previously unaccounted-for Vietnam War Veteran to be announced since July 26, 2019.**

Of the 1,586, 90% were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Cambodia or Laos under Vietnam's wartime control: Vietnam-1,246 (VN-443, VS-803); Laos-285; Cambodia-48; PRC territorial waters-7. Since chartered in 1970, the League has sought the return of all POWs, the fullest possible accounting for the missing, and repatriation of all recoverable remains. The total accounted for since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975 is **997**. A breakdown by country of these 997 Americans is: Vietnam – 672, Laos – 280, Cambodia – 42, and the PRC – 3. In addition, 63 US personnel were accounted for between 1973 and 1975, the formal end of the Vietnam War, for a grand total of 1,060. These 63 Americans, were accounted for by US-only efforts in accessible areas, not due to cooperation by post-war governments in Vietnam, Laos or Cambodia. A total of 288 have been accounted for from Laos, 727 from Vietnam, 42 from Cambodia and 3 from the PRC.

**ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS/EVENTS CANCELLED; UNILATERAL SRV RECOVERIES ONGOING:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Defense Department ordered a ban on all DoD travel, initially until May 15<sup>th</sup>, extended until June 30<sup>th</sup> and now beginning to be lifted incrementally. DPAA pulled teams from the field to return them to the US and cancelled all field operations until further notice; however, the SRV agreed to conduct unilateral recoveries in Quang Binh Province, North Central Vietnam. DPAA also canceled Family Member Updates (FMUs) previously scheduled for March, April and May, and likely will cancel the FMU scheduled for October in Colorado Springs, CO.

**IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY ALSO LOST DUE TO COVID-19 CORONA VIRUS:** In addition to field operations in Laos and Vietnam being put on hold, the **US-ASEAN Special Summit**, scheduled to be held in Las Vegas on March 14<sup>th</sup>, was cancelled. League Chairman/CEO Ann Mills-Griffiths was scheduled to meet with **Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen** on March 13<sup>th</sup>, and was awaiting confirmation from the Lao and Vietnamese Prime Ministers, when the cancellation was announced.