Information on Missing in Action and Prisoners of War

1. **AMERICANS RECENTLY ACCOUNTED FOR:** Most recently, DPAA’s March 28th Statistics listed three USMC personnel as recently accounted for: Captain John A. House of NY, Cpl Glyn L. Runnels, Jr., of AL, and LCpl John D. Killen, II, of IA. All were listed as KIA/BNR on June 30, 1967, in South Vietnam. Their remains were recovered in June, 2012, and identification was authorized on December 22, 2015.

2. Army Pvt. Walter F. Piper has now been accounted for. Piper, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, was reported missing in action, Feb. 13, 1951 in North Korea.

3. **Soldier Killed In Korean War Accounted For (Henson)** 17-029 | April 27, 2017
   Army Cpl. Freddie L. Henson, 19, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, will be buried May 4 in Houston. In late November 1950, Henson was a member of Battery A, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division.

4. **USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II (Walkowiak)** 17-028 | April 21, 2017
   The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman from World War II have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

5. **USS Oklahoma Sailor From World War II Accounted For (Sederstrom)** 17-027 | April 20, 2017
   The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of Navy Ensign Verdi D. Sederstrom, 25, of Montevideo, Minnesota, will be buried April 26, in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C. On Dec. 7, 1941

6. **Soldier Missing From Korean War Accounted For (Miller)** 17-026 | April 14, 2017
   The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a serviceman, missing from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. Army Pfc. Kenneth R. Miller, 23, of East Cleveland, Ohio, will be buried April 21 in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu.

7. **USS Oklahoma Sailor From World War II Accounted For (Galajdik)** 17-025 | April 14, 2017
   The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman from World War II have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. Navy Fireman 1st Class Michael Galajdik, 25, of Joliet, Illinois, will be buried April 22 in Elwood, Illinois.

8. **Airman Missing From World War II Accounted For (Rothman)** 17-024 | April 12, 2017
   2nd Lt. Marvin B. Rothman the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing from World War II, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Marvin B. Rothman, 21, of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, will be buried April 19 in Arlington National Cemetery, near Washington, D.C.
9. *Marine Missing From World War II Accounted For (Whitehurst)*  
April 05, 2017  
Pfc. James O. Whitehurst  
The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, unaccounted for since World War II, have been identified and are being returned to his family for burial with full military honors. Marine Corps Pfc. James O. Whitehurst, 20, of Ashford, Alabama, will be buried April 12, in Cowarts, Alabama.

10. *Soldier Missing From Korean War Accounted For (Durakovich)*  
April 03, 2017  
The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. Army Master Sgt. Joseph Durakovich, 30, of Gary, Indiana, will be buried April 10 in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

11. *Navy Ensign Verdi D. Sederstrom, 25, of Montevideo, Minnesota, will be buried April 26, in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.*  
On Dec. 7, 1941, Sederstrom was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft.

12. *Army Cpl. George A. Perreault, 20, of Burlington, Vermont, will be buried May 13 in his hometown.*  
On Feb. 5, 1951, Perreault was a part of Support Force 21 and assigned to Headquarters Battery, 15th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, which was supporting Republic of Korean Army (ROKA) attacks against units of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in the area known as the Central Corridor in South Korea. On the evening of February 11, the CPVF launched a massive counterattack against the ROKA regiment.


He will be buried May 13 in his hometown.  
On Feb. 5, 1951, Perreault was a part of Support Force 21 and assigned to Headquarters Battery, 15th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, which was supporting Republic of Korean Army (ROKA) attacks against units of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in the area known as the Central Corridor in South Korea.

15. *Army Cpl. Louis A. Damewood, 21, of Carroll County, Maryland.*  
He will be buried May 12 in his hometown.  
On February 13, 1951, Damewood was a member of Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, when he was reported missing in action.  
The unit was attacking a road block set up by opposing forces near Hoengsong, South Korea, when he was declared missing.  
In 1953, a returning American prisoner of war reported that Damewood had died in Changsong prisoner of war camp in June 1951.  
Based on this information, the U.S. Army declared him deceased as of June 13, 1951.

16. *Navy Fireman 1st Class William H. Kennedy, 24, of Titonka, Iowa.*  
He will be buried May 12 in his hometown.  
On Dec. 7, 1941, Kennedy was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the
ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Kennedy. No single vessel at Pearl Harbor, with the exception of the USS Arizona, suffered as many fatalities.

The number still missing and otherwise unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War is now 1,611. Hope-fully, these are the first of many to be announced as accounted for in 2017, though most had long ago been identified. Of the 1,611 still missing (POW/MIA) and unaccounted-for (KIA/BNR), 90% were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Cambodia or Laos under Vietnam’s wartime control: Vietnam-1,258 (VN-463, VS-795); Laos-297; Cambodia-49; PRC territorial waters-7. (Country-specific numbers fluctuate when investigations result in changes to loss locations.) Since formation 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 now 972.

Following is a breakdown by country of the 972 Americans accounted for since the April 30, 1975 end of the Vietnam War: Vietnam – 661, Laos – 268, Cambodia – 40, and the PRC – 3. In addition, 63 US personnel were accounted for between 1973 and 1975, for a grand total of 1,035. Of the 63, 9 were from Laos, 53 from Vietnam, and 1 from Cambodia. These Americans were accounted for by unilateral US efforts in areas where access was possible, not due to cooperation with the post-war governments of Vietnam, Laos or Cambodia. Added together, a total of 276 have been recovered and identified from Laos, 715 from Vietnam, 41 from Cambodia and 3 from the PRC.

VIETNAM WAR ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS REDUCED: Due to budget constraints, field operations with Vietnam have been dramatically reduced; however, Lao operations have not been as adversely impacted, and a Lao Joint Field Activity (JFA) will begin shortly, the 4th JFA this fiscal year. The earlier JFA in Laos was postponed one week due to an aircraft breakdown and delay in Guam, but a trilateral investigation reportedly began as scheduled on January 9th. The three Recovery Teams (RTs) and one Investigation Team (IT) began late. The lost time was due to US budget and time constraints, NOT any obstruction from the Lao Government. With initial plans to conduct multiple recovery operations and investigations in Vietnam, DPAA deployed only one IT and one RT, as well as a team to handle a Field Forensic Review (FFR) and a Joint Forensic Review (JFR). Thankfully, the Vietnamese Government provided one Vietnamese Recovery Team (VRT) and one Research Investigation Team (RIT). The next JFA in Vietnam will also be significantly smaller. Though the initial plan was to field two ITs and 7 RTs, there now will be only one RT, one VRT, and one Underwater Recovery Team (URT).