# THE ACHIEVEMENT DOCUMENT OF MILITARY ARCHIVES COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[Original English Title in the Chinese Language Document]

September 2009 – August 2010

Chinese People's Liberation Army Archives Department

[Logo]

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## I. General Overview

Based on the Memorandum of Arrangement Between the Ministry of National Defense, People's Republic of China and the Department of Defense, United States of America to Develop Military Archival Cooperation to Search for Information Relating to U.S. Military Personnel Missing in Action Before, During, and After the Korean War, and the Memorandum of Arrangement on Developing Military Archival Cooperation Between the People's Liberation Army Archives Department and the United States Department of Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office on Information Relating to U.S. Military Personnel Missing in Action Before, During and After the Korean War, the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Archives Department and the U.S. Department of Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office have had friendly, pragmatic and effective cooperation regarding the search for information relating to U.S. military personnel missing in action before, during, and after the Korean War.

From September 2009 to August 2010, the PLA Archives Department, based on relevant leads previously supplied by the U.S. side in Tab A of the *Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Areas Targeted for Search*, carried out a general investigation of several million military files from the Korean War period stored in the archives. As of the present time, approximately 20 percent of the work has been completed. Over 105 files have been discovered with leads to U.S. military personnel missing in action. In April of this year, the U.S. side provided the *Case Recommendations to the People's Republic of China for 2010-2011*. Accordingly, the PLA Archives Department made an organized effort to inquire about and verify four of the recommended cases (Search Site Case 781A, Search Site Case 784A, Search Site Case 654A, and Search Site Case 733A). Based on information found in a search of the military

archives, a special investigation team was formed to go to the Dandong area of Liaoning to conduct interviews and on-site investigation of these four cases. Results have been attained by searching the archives based on leads and by verifying leads based on the archives. Positive developments have been achieved in the search and verification work.

### **II. Regarding the Search Work**

#### A. Search Process

Under the leadership of the Office of the PLA General Staff Department (GSD) and the Foreign Affairs Office of the Ministry of National Defense (MND) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the PLA Archives Department has organized its subordinate departments to carry out a comprehensive search of files with leads regarding the whereabouts of missing U.S. military personnel before, during, and after the Korean War. In accordance with the categories of information listed in Tab A of the *Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Areas Targeted for Search* provided by the U.S. Department of Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office, the Chinese People's Volunteer Army files and the military files related to the same period were sorted, consulted and analyzed. As of the present time, over 400,000 pages of relevant files have been consulted and analyzed in categories that include intelligence reports, situation bulletins, duty logs, and statistical reports.

### **B.** Number of Pages in Document

This annual work report submitted by the PLA Archives Department to the U.S. Department of Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office contains a total of 29 pages, including four pages of extracts from military archival information, 21 pages of records of on-site surveys and investigations, and four pages of other information.

### C. Number of Days Worked

The China-U.S. Military Archival Cooperation Office and the archival research team of the PLA Archives Department, along with related collection, sorting, preservation and use departments have expended a total of 4,500 workdays/persons carrying out archival collection, sorting, consulting and analyzing, and on-site investigations.

### **D.** Number of Participants in the Work

The PLA Archives Department has assigned six archive professionals and hired four military archival research experts to form a research team. The China-U.S. Military Archival Cooperation Office and the departments of archive collection, sorting, preservation and use have a total of ten people specializing in work related to China-U.S. military archival cooperation. The PLA Archives Department has 20 people participating in this work.

### III. Extracts from Archival Information

After the above noted period of work, the PLA Archives Department has found some archival information in archives of the Korean War period that correspond to the categories listed in Tab A of the *Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Areas Targeted for Search* and in the *Case Recommendations to the People's Republic of China for 2010-2011*. They are summarized as follows:

## A. F-86 Fighter That Went Down at the Mouth of the Changdian River, Dandong, Liaoning on April 13, 1952

File Record: At 1300 hours on April 14, 1952, the Northeast Volunteer Army Headquarters reported to the Central Military Commission General Staff: At 900 hours on the 13th, an enemy aircraft was shot down at the mouth of the Changdian River. The body of the aircraft fell at Huanghuagou (nine kilometers NE of the mouth of the Changdian River); the pilot landed at Xiaoxigou (10 kilometers NE of the mouth of the Changdian River).

# B. F-86 Fighter That Went Down at "Kulongshan" Beach in Changhai, Dandong, Liaoning on May 3, 1952

File record: At 2100 hours on May 27, 1952, the Northeast Volunteer Army Headquarters reported to the Central Military Commission General Staff: At 1720 hours on May 3, friendly air forces shot down one F-86 jet fighter at Kulongshan Fishing Village, Changbai District, Andong County. The aircraft came down on the coastline approximately one kilometer SE of Kulongshan (not visible at high tide).

The body of the aircraft was destroyed and the pilot killed. Partial documents were fished out of the sea, including an air travel passport ["AIR TRAVEL, CARD" written in English in the Chinese source document] with the number A58555, a picture of the pilot, rank of captain with name of A. GILBERT TENNEY ["A, CILBERT, TENNY" written in English in the source document], service nr. AQ803490.

## C. RB-29 Aircraft That Went Down in Wulongbei in the Zhen'an District of Dandong, Liaoning on January 12, 1953

File record: On January 17, 1953 the Central Military Commission General Staff received a telegraph stating: The following is a report telegraphed from the Joint Force Command Korea on January 14 regarding information on the POWs from the enemy RB-29 aircraft shot down on the night of the 12th: At 2145 hours on the 12th, a RB-29 aircraft was shot down over Yizhou and Andong; it came down in the area of Daolongbei, NE of Andong. The aircraft was from the 5th Flight of the 81st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron; it took off from Yokota airport in Japan at 1630 hours and passed over Xiangyang and Xin'anzhou before arriving at Xinyizhou at an altitude of 6,000-7,000 meters. According to the POWs, their mission was to drop propaganda leaflet bombs; they had a total of 27 of these bombs. Leaflets were discovered in the areas of Andong and Yizhou. Our night aircraft made two attacks; after being hit the aircraft exploded in mid-air. Three of the crew members are dead; we have a total of 11 prisoners: Colonel Yanuode [Arnold], commander of the 581st Air Resupply and Communications Wing, 13th Air Force, 39 years old, service nr. 1212A; Captain Weidi [Vaadi], 91st Squadron, the aircraft commander, 31 years old, service nr. A0-825008; Captain Liuweilin [Llewellyn], navigator, 27 years old, service nr. AO-2072360 (hip injury); Major Baomo [Baumer], pilot, 30 years old, service nr. AO-733786 (severe leg injury); 1Lt Buke [Buck], bombardier, 33 years old, service nr. AO-787245; 2Lt Bulang [Brown], aircraft's copilot, 26 years old, service nr. AO2221928; A2C Dumite [Schmidt], gunner, 20 year old German, service nr. AF1939147; A2C Tangfusheng [Thompson] 21 years old, service nr. AF13361709; A2C Pengjiemin [Benjamin], 20 years old, service nr. AF27345828; Sergeant Bulang [Brown], 21 years old, service nr. AF36809947; and A1C Jiri [Kiba], radio operator, 20 years old, service nr. AF15426310. Among the dead are two identified

through investigation: 1Lt Weiyisi [Weese], service nr. AO-2091871; and Airman Hete [Hart], (no service number).

## D. F-86 Fighter That Went Down in the Mouth of the Yalu River at Dandong, Liaoning on July 20, 1953

File Record: On July 21, 1953 the Central Military Commission Air Defense Headquarters reported to the General Staff Department: According to a report from the Andong Air Defense Headquarters, from 1202 hours to 1207 hours on the 20th, the 515th Anti-Aircraft Artillery (AAA) Regiment; 1st Battalion, 523rd AAA Regiment; 1st Battalion, 542nd AAA Regiment; the independent 43rd AAA Battalion; and the 610th AAA Regiment, all deployed in the Anzhou area, engaged in fierce fighting with enemy aircraft making a raid on the bridge at the Qingzhou River. A total of five enemy aircraft were shot down (two aircraft went down near the place of combat, one aircraft went down in the Qingzhou River, one aircraft exploded in mid-air, and one aircraft fell into the sea).

## E. P-47 Fighter That Went Down in Xiamen, Fujian on December 27, 1952

File Record: On December 29, 1952 the Central Military Commission Air Defense Headquarters reported to the General Staff Department: At 1520 hours on December 27th an enemy P-47 fighter was discovered SE of Xiamen at an altitude of 200-500 meters making a raid on Xiamen. When the encroaching aircraft was 3,000-5,000 meters from our AAA emplacement, our 521st AAA Regiment deployed at that location opened intense fire. At 1612 hours the aircraft was shot down at the Xiamen Airport, and one person, the pilot (a captain), was killed.

## IV. On-site Verification of the Whereabouts of Missing American Personnel Based on Military Archives

### A. On-site Investigation

- 1. From April 23 to April 28, 2010, the PLA Archives Department sent personnel. along with personnel from the PRC Foreign Affairs Office, to accompany a U.S. party of 10 people to carry out a detection survey regarding the downing of a U.S. aircraft in November 1950 in the area of Chaozhou, Guangdong. They went to Jiaoshuikeng Village, Fenghuang Township, Chaoan County on April 24th. On April 25, the personnel from the U.S. side, with direction from an eyewitness, went to Wuhuali mountain, near Jiaoshuikeng Village to conduct a local survey and to search for the remains of missing personnel and articles from the downed plane. No results were obtained from the survey. After this, another eyewitness was contacted; however, due to the steep mountain trail and the physical condition of the elderly person, the survey was not continued.
- 2. From May 18 to May 22, 2010, the investigation team from the PLA Archives Department went to Chaozhou, Guangdong to continue the investigation and verification of the downed U.S. aircraft. A detailed investigation was conducted with eyewitnesses and even more relevant information was learned. A portion of the articles from the aircraft that villagers in the area had picked up were collected (the words USN and For U.S. Navy Use were written on the articles).
- From June 20 to June 25, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team went to the Shenyang Military Region Archives Department, the Liaoning Provincial Archives Department, the Shenyang Municipal Archives Department, the Liaoning

Province Public Security Department, and the Dandong Korean War Memorial to search the archive materials for leads to missing downed U.S. personnel. Based on leads from the archives, the team went to the Dandong area to conduct an investigation and search regarding four cases provided by the U.S. side, cases 781A, 784A, 654A, and 733A. Ten eyewitnesses or persons knowledgeable about the incident were interviewed in order to investigate and understand the situation related to the missing downed U.S. military personnel. An on-site investigation and verification of the relevant circumstances was carried out, and an exploratory excavation was conducted at the burial site of the dead U.S. military aviators in regard to case 784A, resulting in a large amount of valuable information being obtained.

4. From August 3 to August 13, 2010, the PLA Archives Department sent personnel to Raoping, Guangdong to assist personnel from the U.S. side in their search for remains of victims from the crash of a B-29 (Superfortress) in Raoping County, Guangdong on November 5, 1950, resulting in significant progress. By means of site identification by people with knowledge of the area, using photographs taken that year by related departments to compare with the present day site, organizing villagers to cut down trees and clear obstacles, and using special equipment to survey and excavate the site, this search effort located over 500 small pieces of debris and corroded parts (the largest piece being 15 cm long and 12 cm wide); 11 cartridges, shell casings, and bullets (two cartridges are 14 cm long with a diameter of 2 cm); five pieces of rotted cloth; and one U.S. 50-cent coin. The information provided by

the articles found at the site confirmed the specific area where the aircraft crashed and has laid the foundation for the next stage of searching for the remains of victims.

### **B.** Extracts from Talks with Eyewitnesses

 On June 23, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team went to Huanghuagou Village, Changdian County, Dandong City, Liaoning Province to investigate and learn from persons knowledgeable about the incident about the situation of the U.S. aircraft that went down on April 13, 1952 and the burial site of the aviators.

Li Fengxian of Huanghuagou Village recalled: "Twelve years ago, due to changes in the land, Mou Jun and I moved the remains of the U.S. personnel from the original location on the mountain to the west side half way up the mountain. We wrapped the remains in red cloth and buried them at the new location, with several surrounding trees serving as markers."

 On June 24, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team went to Kulongshan Village, Donggang City, Liaoning Province to learn from persons knowledgeable about the situation about the U.S. aircraft that crashed on May 3, 1950.

Yuan Deyu of Kulongshan Village recalled: "That was the fall of 1952; I was returning home from school when I heard that a plane had come down, so I ran to take a look. The plane fell into the sea; the front of the plane was in the sea with the tail sticking out of the water, and the pilot was already dead (I saw first-hand that the pilot had a full beard). To the best of my knowledge the plane has never been recovered." 3. On June 24, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team went to Xinkang Village, Wulongbei Township, Zhen'an District, Dandong City, Liaoning Province to learn from an eyewitness about the U.S. aircraft that crashed on January 12, 1953 and the whereabouts of the U.S. aviators.

Zeng Fanying of Xinkang Village recalled: "At that time I was 30 years old. A U.S. aircraft came down nearby; there were a total of 14 people, and three of them died. One was dead at the scene, another person fell into the trees and died from being impaled, and another ran to a nearby hill and died there. The remaining 11 were all captured by the militia."

4. On June 24, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team went to Gaijiaba Village, Yiquan Township, Donggang City, Liaoning Province to learn from persons knowledgeable of the situation about the U.S aircraft that crashed on July 20, 1953.

Chu Tinghua of Gaijiaba Village recalled: "At that time an aircraft came down at a location five kilometers from here; the pilot died at the scene. No one was allowed to go look, the remains were removed by the local AAA unit. I've heard that the place that the pilot was buried is still there; it is called Zaoshan Cemetery."

### **C.** Some Photographs of the Work

 June 21, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team at the Liaoning Archives Department searching the archives for clues to the whereabouts of missing U.S. military personnel.

[photo]

 June 21, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team at Shenyang Military Region Archives Department searching the archives for clues to missing U.S. military personnel.

[photo]

 June 23, 2010, a villager from Huanghuagou Village, Changdian Township, Kuandian County, Dandong City, Liaoning Province pointing out the first site where the remains of aviators from the U.S. aircraft that went down on April 13, 1952 were buried.

[photo]

4. June 23, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team conducting an onsite survey at Huanghuagou Village, Changdian Township, Kuandian County, Dandong City, Liaoning Province. Villager Li Fengxian (first from right) gives his account of moving the burial site of the aviator's remains from the U.S. aircraft that crashed on April 13, 1952.

[photo]

5. June 23, 2010, based on a local villager's identification of the burial site for aviators' remains from a U.S. aircraft that crashed, the PLA Archives Department investigation team organizing an exploratory excavation at Huanghuagou Village, Changdian Township, Kuandian County, Dandong City, Liaoning Province.

[photo]

6. June 23, 2010, based on a local villager's identification of the burial site for the aviators' remains from a downed U.S. aircraft, the PLA Archives Department

investigation team organizes an on-site excavation at Huanghuagou Village, Changdian Township, Kuandian County, Dandong City, Liaoning Province. [*photo*]

- June 24, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team at Kulongshan Village, Changshan Township, Donggang City, Liaoning Province learning from those knowledgeable about the incident about the May 3, 1952 crash of a U.S. aircraft. [photo]
- June 24, 2010, (from left to right) Mou Cunda (76 years old), Yuan Deyu (86 years old), and Shi Yongzeng (72 yers old) from Kulongshan Village, Changshan Township, Donggang City, Liaoning Province give their account of the May 3, 1952 crash of a U.S. aircraft.

[photo]

- June 24, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team at Wulongbei Township, Zhen'an District, Dandong City, Liaoning Province discussing arrangements for an on-site survey with Township government workers.
   [photo]
- 10. June 24, 2010, the PLA Archives Department investigation team talks with Zeng Fanying (91 years old) (center) from Xinkang Village, Wulongbei Township, Zhen'an District, Dandong City, Liaoning Province to learn about the January 12, 1953 crash of a U.S. aircraft and the whereabouts of U.S. military personnel. [photo]
- June 24, 2010, Zeng Fanying (center) from Xinkang Village, Wulongbei Township,
   Zhenan District, Dandong City, Liaoning Province describes the January 12, 1953

crash of a U.S. aircraft to the PLA Archives Department investigation team while at the site.

[photo]

12. June 24, 2010, at Gaijiaba Village, Yiquan Township, Donggang City, Liaoning Province, the PLA Archives Department investigation team verifies the circumstances of the July 20, 1953 crash of a U.S. aircraft with those knowledgeable about the incident.

[photo]

13. June 24, 2010, (from left to right) Sun Yuhe (76 ears old), Chu Tinghua (83 years old), and Sun Qinghe (72 years old) of Gaijiaba Village, Yiquan Township, Donggang City, Liaoning Province give their account of the July 20, 1953 crash of a U.S. aircraft.

[photo]

14. August 3 to August 13, 2010, based on local villagers' identification of a site where the remains of aviators were buried, the PLA Archives Department and U.S. side (JPAC) investigation teams organize an on-site excavation at Raoping County, Guangdong Province.

[photo]

15. August 3 to August 13, 2010, cartridges discovered at the location in Raoping County, Guangdong Province where the PLA Archives Department and U.S. side (JPAC) investigation teams organized an on-site excavation.

[photo]

- 16. August 3 to August 13, 2010, an aircraft part discovered at the location in Raoping County, Guangdong Province where the PLA Archives Department and U.S. side (JPAC) investigation teams organized an on-site excavation.[photo]
- 17. August 3 to August 13, 2010, a cartridge discovered at the location in Raoping County, Guangdong Province where the PLA Archives Department and U.S. side (JPAC) investigation teams organized an on-site excavation.[photo]

## V. Suggestions and Key Points Regarding the Work

- A. The Chinese side proposes that a PLA Military Archival Delegation visit the United States in May 2011 or later to hold the annual technical meeting with the U.S. side. The main topics would be:
  - 1. Report on the detailed situation of the investigation work, and review and appraise the results of the cooperation over the last three years.
  - 2. To listen to the views of the U.S. side on issues regarding cooperation for the next stage.
  - 3. Issues of confidentiality and limits on the use of military archives.
- B. Based on the relevant memorandum between China and the U.S. regarding military archival cooperation, the scope of the search for missing U.S. military personnel is limited to the Korean War period. A search for the whereabouts of missing U.S. military

personnel from other war periods should be carried out after mutual agreement is reached by both parties.

C. Based on the relevant memorandum between China and the U.S. regarding military archival cooperation and the consensus of both sides, along with the deepening cooperation and the expansion of work, we propose that the funding for work that the U.S. side proposes to the Chinese side should be adjusted.

## VI. Confidentiality Agreement

Without the agreement of both sides, the content of this document may not be revealed to third parties.