



News Release

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U.S. – CHINA OFFICIALS DISCUSS MIA CASES

Mr. Bob Newberry, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, concluded this week's visit to China today after presenting several U.S. MIA cases to Chinese officials and thanking them for past cooperation.

During meetings with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Peoples Liberation Army (PLA) officials in Beijing, he presented details of 19 known American losses about which the Chinese may have knowledge. There were nine cases from World War II; five from the Korean War; and five from the Vietnam War.

Newberry highlighted two of these cases as holding promise for a successful joint resolution. One involved a C-47 crash in Guangxi near Wei Ming village in 1945. Two Americans and 35 Chinese soldiers perished in the crash and were buried nearby. The site was surveyed by a joint U.S.-China team in August, 2009. Local citizens were very cooperative.

Another case he highlighted was a Korean War crash of a B-29 near Dandong in Liaoning Province. Three U.S. crew members were buried in graves there where Chinese citizens have provided details about the burial location. U.S. officials continue to work with Dandong representatives to establish firm plans for further investigations and excavations to recover the remains.

While Newberry was in Beijing a U.S. team from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office was surveying an area of Guangdong in southern China where an American aircraft is believed to have crashed during the Korean War. Details of their findings are yet to be analyzed.

He thanked Chinese officials for their support in the recovery of U.S. remains from World War II; the Korean War; the Cold War; and the Vietnam War. From 1975 to the present, 25 American remains have been identified from all conflicts as a direct result of the support from the PRC. He also cited progress in archival research through the arrangements signed in 2008 and 2009. As a result of those arrangements, the PLA has already provided documents related to U.S. air losses in China.

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