

NEWS RELEASE  
JOINT TASK FORCE-FULL ACCOUNTING PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
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MIA SEARCH TEAM DEPLOYS TO VIETNAM

CAMP H.M. SMITH, HAWAII – A team of 99 mostly Hawaii-based U.S. military specialists leave for Vietnam Friday, Apr. 21, with hopes of recovering remains that may lead to the identification of American service members listed as missing in action since the war in Southeast Asia.

On Tuesday, Apr. 25, members from Joint Task Force-Full Accounting at Camp Smith and the U.S. Army's Central Identification Lab at Hickam Air Force Base will join technical representatives from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to begin joint investigations and remains recovery operations in 17 Vietnamese provinces and cities. Forty-nine cases involving aircraft and ground losses are scheduled for investigation during the 30-day operation. There are six primary excavation sites and nine alternate locations.

Since 1973, the remains of 555 American service members, formerly listed as unaccounted for, have been identified and returned to their families. There are currently 2,028 Americans still unaccounted-for from the war in Southeast Asia, 1,518 in Vietnam.

The 99 team members are comprised of 49 U.S. Army, 30 Air Force, 8 Navy, 4 Marines, and 8 Department of Defense civilians.