

# Defense Prisoner of War / Missing Personnel Office





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DPMO Policy



# The Personnel Accounting Community



Service and Dept of State Casualty Offices (SCOs) OSD/Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO)

Joint
POW/MIA
Accounting
Command
(JPAC)

U.S. Air Force Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory (LSEL) Armed Forces
DNA
Identification
Laboratory
(AFDIL)



## The U.S.-Russia Joint Commission (USRJC)



- U.S. and Russian Co-Chairs
- DPMO supporting USRJC
  - Russian linguists/analysts
  - Moscow office
- Developments
  - Russian side reconstituted
  - Increased access to previously classified Soviet material





### Missing from WWII Forward





More than 83,000 missing from WWII forward; <55,000 estimated on land Experience suggests <50% on land may actually be recovered Estimated recoverable from all wars: ~27,000 total



## 2010 Legislation



- Currently 75-85 IDs per year; increase capacity to identify 200 per year by 2015
- WWII, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, Persian Gulf War
- Establish personnel files
- Affects all aspects of finding the missing





### The Other Wars



- World War II: Approx 74,000 unaccounted for; research intensive; build case files
- Vietnam: 1,685 unaccounted for; approx 200 excavation site backlog
- Persian Gulf/Southwest Asia: Current & evolving requirement

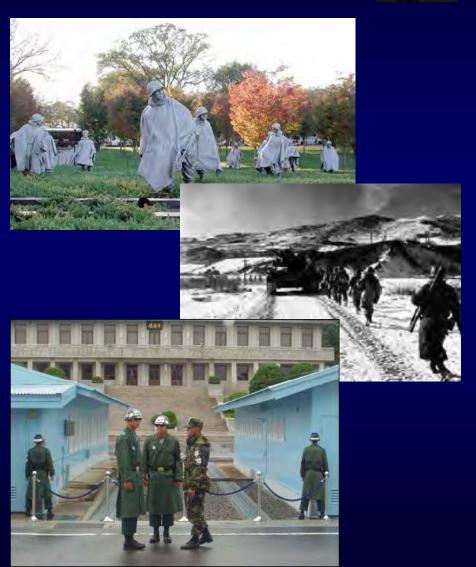




## Korean War Challenges



- 7,987 unaccounted-for Americans
- Live prisoner issue
- Recovery operations in North Korea suspended in 2005
- Talks this fall on restarting operations





## Korean War The Way Ahead



- Discuss resumption of operations in the north
- Identify remains already in U.S. control
- Continue operations in South Korea & China
- Continue work in archives and oral history program







### Cold War



### Challenges

- 13 incidents, 125 losses; all over water except one
- Air losses near borders of China, North Korea, and former Soviet Union
- The Way Ahead
  - Access to Russian and Chinese archives





### Conclusion



"As a grateful Nation...we will not rest until we have accounted for the missing members of our Armed Forces.

We demonstrate our deep gratitude and admiration for our brave patriots not in words alone, but in our actions to bring them home.... [Our] work will not be complete, nor our commitment fulfilled, until the families of those taken or missing in action can rest knowing the fate of their loved ones."



President Barack Obama, September 16, 2010
Presidential Proclamation,
National POW/MIA Recognition Day