

**DEFENSE PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING PERSONNEL OFFICE**  
**Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide**  
**FY 2000/2001 Biennial Budget Estimates**

**I. Description of Operations Financed:**

The DPMO addresses DoD concerns in all areas pertaining to the POW/Missing Personnel issue. DPMO: (1) provides advice and assistance to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (USD(P)) and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs (ASD(ISA)) on POW/Missing Personnel matters; (2) supports the USD(P) and the ASD(ISA) in the execution of their responsibilities to develop, coordinate and oversee the implementation of POW/Missing Personnel policy; (3) serves as the lead proponent for POW/Missing Personnel matters, including the policy and oversight within the DoD of the entire process for investigation and recovery related to missing persons (which includes matters related to search, rescue, escape, and evasion); (4) represents DoD in negotiations with foreign governments to achieve the fullest possible accounting of missing American servicemen and select civilians; (5) directs the collection and analysis of information concerning U.S. military and civilian personnel who are missing, imprisoned or unaccounted for; (6) declassifies DoD documents for disclosure and release in accordance with Title 5 United States Code Section 552 and 552a; Title 50 U.S. Code Section 435 Note and Executive Orders 12812 and 12958; (7) maintains channels of communication on POW/Missing Personnel matters among DoD, Congress, POW/Missing Personnel families, veterans organizations and the general public; (8) provides representational authority to established POW/Missing Personnel related interagency fora; and (9) prescribes uniform DoD procedures for determination of the status of missing personnel and for the systematic, comprehensive, and timely collection, analysis, review, dissemination, and periodic update of information related to missing personnel.

1. Communications and External Affairs Directorate: The Communications and External Affairs Directorate is responsible for the publication of a weekly update to Congress, Families, National League of Families, Korean/Cold War Family Association of the Missing, National Alliance of Families, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Vietnam Veterans of America. It is also available via the Internet where as many as 4,000 consumers per week access our site. The Family Support/Casualty Liaison Division conducts Family updates monthly in major metropolitan areas across the U.S. to keep family members well informed of DPMO efforts. Another area is the Declassification and Freedom of Information Act Division which is responsible for declassifying sensitive operational and intelligence reports, files, documents, records and other materials pertaining to unaccounted for United States service members. This effort grew largely in response to legislation passed in 1991 relating to the Vietnam War and amended in 1995 to include the Korean and Cold Wars.

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2. Plans and Policy Directorate: Plans and Policy provides support to the Secretary of Defense and his designated representatives on issues concerning Accounting and Personnel Recovery. The Directorate drafts and coordinates talking points for Vietnamese, Cambodian, Lao, and North Korean talks and negotiations; spearheads to office's strategic planning; and provides technical advise to foreign counterparts, such as the Tripartite Commission on Gulf War Missing resolving Kuwaiti, Saudi, and Iraqi unaccounted for.

3. U.S. Russia Joint Commission Support Directorate: DPMO supports the objectives of the U.S. Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs to ascertain the facts regarding American servicemen who were not repatriated and whose fate remains unresolved on the territory of the former Soviet Union, which include the search for information from the former Warsaw Pact countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

4. Research and Analysis Directorate: The Research and Analysis Directorate provides direct support to the ongoing joint recovery operations, which are allowing US personnel to return to North Korea for the first time since the cessation of hostilities to search battlefield locations, aircraft crash sites, mass burial locations, and POW camp cemeteries.

5. Operations Directorate: The Operations Directorate leads DoD's efforts to develop a coordinated personnel recovery effort. Working with the Services, Joint Staff, and Unified Commanders, they develop policy, oversee training doctrine, and equipment development to ensure the Department can use whatever means necessary to prepare its personnel before conflict and to obtain the release or the recovery of personnel from uncertain and hostile environments and denied areas.

6. Special Projects: In order to gain access to all available POW/MIA related information, the Special Projects Division conducts archival research throughout the U.S. and overseas. The Division identified more than 350 worldwide repositories and visited more than a dozen libraries and archival research facilities in the U.S. in an effort to obtain information concerning unaccounted-for U.S. personnel. In addition, contact has been made with foreign repositories in Europe, Australia, the Former Soviet Union, and countries in Asia. Positive negotiations with Laos and Cambodia will hopefully result in the U.S. gaining access to documents possibly related to unaccounted-for Americans from the Vietnam War.

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II. FORCE STRUCTURE SUMMARY: N/A

III. FINANCIAL SUMMARY (\$ in Thousands):

A. <u>Subactivity Group</u>	FY1998	FY 1999		Current	FY2000
	<u>Actuals</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
1. Communications and External Affairs	429		440		440
2. Plans and Policy	265		403		403
3. U.S. Russia Joint Commission	1,142		1,195		1,195
4. Research and Analysis	276		442		442
5. Operations	177		300		300
6. Special Projects	448		476		476
7. Civilian Pay	6,323		6,126		6,126
8. Resource Management (Includes SLUC and overhead costs)	<u>4,685</u>		<u>4,728</u>		<u>4,683</u>
Total	13,745		14,110		14,065
					14,505

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**III. FINANCIAL SUMMARY (\$ in Thousands) (Continued):**

B. <u>Reconciliation Summary:</u>	Change	Change
	<u>FY99/99</u>	<u>FY99/00</u>
Baseline Funding	14,110	14,065
Congressional Adjustments	-45	0
Supplemental Request	0	0
Price Change	28	374
Functional Transfer		
Program Changes	-28	66
Current Estimate	14,065	14,505
C. <u>Reconciliation: Increases and Decreases (O&amp;M: \$ in Thousands):</u>		
FY 1999 President's Budget		14,110
Congressional Adjustments (Distributed)		0
Total Congressional Adjustments (Distributed)		0
Congressional Adjustments (Undistributed):		
Section 8105 - DRI Savings		-12
Section 8108 - Revised Economic Assumptions		-23
Congressional Earmarks		-10
Total Other Congressional Adjustments (Undistributed)		-45
FY 1999 Appropriated Amount		14,065
Price Change		28
Program Offset due to FY 1999 Price Change		-28
Revised FY 1999 Current Estimate		14,065
Price Change		374

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C. Reconciliation: Increases and Decreases (O&M: \$ in Thousands) (Continued):

Program Change	288
Program increases reflect additional Joint Recovery operations in North Korea, and development of a master plan for Personnel Recovery and Accounting.	
Civilian Personnel Downsizing	-222
Reflects loss of 4 FTE's	
FY 2000 President's Budget	14,505

**IV. Performance Criteria Summary:**

In 1996, the Secretary of Defense was mandated by Title 10, United States Code Section 1501 to establish an Office of Missing Persons. This legislation required the existing office (DPMO) to greatly expand the scope of its roles and responsibilities to include: establishment of comprehensive and uniform procedures for determining and updating the status of missing persons, their personnel files and contents; directs a review of cases dating to 2 September 1945, and requires that boards be appointed to investigate and establish the whereabouts and status of missing persons. Under the new requirements, the mission has expanded to encompass policy oversight of the personnel recovery process as well as the traditional POW/MIA accounting effort. This expanded mission and its subsequent impacts to policy will entail additional personnel, finances and other related resources.

DPMO, in conjunction with PACOM's Joint Task Force Full Accounting, the National Intelligence Community, other Defense and U.S. Governmental agencies, facilitates and investigates leads for all 2081 unaccounted for servicemen from the Vietnam War. The DoD Comprehensive Review of all cases, conducted in 1995, is a dynamic program using analysis, investigation, foreign and U.S. agency coordination, in order to resolve the remaining 2081 unaccounted for represented by 1350 loss cases. This analytical and investigative effort proved critical to providing the Secretary of Defense the necessary information that led to his decision to disinter the remains of the Vietnam Unknown buried in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. The governments of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia have requested 523 requests for unilateral action by DPMO to investigate cases based

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on the results of case analysis and investigation conducted during the year. DPMO meets frequently with all three governments to provide feedback on unilateral work, give updated guidance and reiterate the importance of the effort. DPMO and JTF-FA have developed further pursuit mechanisms for these 1350 cases based on investigation results from the FY98 executed joint field activities.

DPMO continues to provide collection guidance to DoD/non-DoD intelligence collection agencies in an effort to determine the fate of unaccounted-for Americans from Southeast Asia. Additionally, DPMO has continued collection emphasis on Korean War related unaccounted-for cases. DPMO has completed review of 1,000 of 3,200 files containing Korean War POW debriefings for leads in resolving 8100+ unaccounted for American servicemen. Over 300 interviews of former prisoners of war and other veterans were conducted to improve the

knowledge base for Korean War losses. Casualty files were created this year on 300 unaccounted for servicemen from the Korean War. Moreover, over 600 inquiries from Congress, veterans groups, and family members on losses from all wars were researched and answered.

The Director of DPMO meets regularly with North Korean officials to plan joint recovery operations to seek remains of unaccounted for American in North Korea. During 1998, DPMO oversaw five joint recovery operations in North Korea and only the second ever joint archival review of North Korean military war records. The year's excavations recovered the remains of 22 servicemen missing since 1950.

In compliance with 50 U.S. Code Section 435 Note, DPMO continues to declassify and release to the Library of Congress (LOC) information pertaining to the loss incidents of over 2,100 servicemen and civilians unaccounted for from the war in Southeast Asia. This information is used to inform the families, members of Congress, concerned citizens, and the general public of DoD efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Vietnam-era unaccounted for soldiers and civilians. DPMO forwards an average of 25,000 pages per year of declassified material to the LOC to incorporate into the Vietnam-era collection.

The LoC collection contains over 850,000 pages of information associated with the loss incidents of more than 2,100 unaccounted-for Americans.

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DPMO supports the objectives of the U.S. Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs to ascertain the facts regarding American servicemen who were not repatriated and whose fate remains unresolved on the territory of the former Soviet Union, which include the search for information from the former Warsaw Pact countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Recent national attention was drawn to this mission with the burial in Arlington National Cemetery as a group of seventeen airmen whose C130 aircraft was shot down in Armenia during the Cold War. Documentation detailing the Joint Commission's activities is updated regularly and is accessible on-line through the Library of Congress.

DPMO continues to provide assistance to other countries to help them develop their POW/Missing Personnel accounting efforts. This effort is coordinated with our International Security Affairs regional counterpart, the State Department and the National Security Council when appropriate. DPMO has given support to Israel, Australia, Kuwait, Croatia, Finland, Russia, South Korea and the Netherlands. At the request of the Ambassador of Kuwait, DPMO

serves as technical advisor to the Kuwaiti delegation on the Tripartite Commission, which seeks to account for Kuwaiti and Saudi missing from the Gulf War.

DPMO is making great strides toward establishing its policy oversight responsibilities for personnel recovery matters. On June 30, 1997, the Deputy Secretary of Defense signed DoD Directive 2310.2 "Personnel Recovery," as promulgated by DPMO, which establishes DoD policy for this critical matter. DPMO's vision is to lead DoD's efforts to create a fully integrated PR architecture in DoD that ensures the recovery of U.S. personnel worldwide who are isolated in an operational environment. DoD must be capable of recovering through military means, U.S., allied, coalition, friendly military, paramilitary, and other designated personnel when directed, who are placed in danger of isolation, beleaguerment, detention, or capture as a result of hostile or non-hostile action. DoD's PR architecture must also support and complement the recovery of personnel through diplomatic or other means.

Communication within the Personnel Recovery Community, for which DPMO is the policy-lead, is a major challenge. Many agencies from throughout the Government, especially within DoD, are undertaking significant initiatives to improve the USG personnel recovery capabilities, but not everyone is aware of the various projects underway. Under the Missing Persons Act (MPA), paragraphs 1501(a)(1)(B), and (a)(2), DPMO is responsible for, "coordination for the

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Department of Defense with other departments and agencies of the United States on all matters concerning missing persons," and, "within DoD among the military departments, the Joint Staff, and the commanders of the combatant commands." It has undertaken several initiatives to enhance this coordination, including a series of conferences, visits to all combatant commands and agencies of the personnel recovery community, visits to observe personnel recovery exercises, publication of a bi-monthly personnel recovery newsletter, and an Internet home page.

DPMO sponsored the first DoD Personnel Recovery Conference at the US Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA in October 1997. It was so successful that DPMO is committed to convening such a conference annually; the next conference being October 6-8, 1998. The primary purpose of these conferences is to gather the senior leadership of DoD and the interagency community to focus on personnel recovery. More substantively, the conferences provide a venue to share and discuss experiences, views and ideas, providing an excellent forum to stimulate development of DoD strategies to improve and increase the Department's personnel recovery efforts.

In June 1998, DPMO convened the inaugural meeting of the Personnel Recovery Advisory Group (PRAG). The PRAG will continue to meet on a quarterly basis. The PRAG, chaired by the DASD (POW/Missing Personnel Affairs), is a policy advisory body composed of representatives of OSD, the Joint Staff, the DoD Intelligence Community, the Air Staff, the CIA, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Department of State. It has a dual purpose, crisis support, and non-crisis policy-level planning. During crises involving personnel recovery incidents, the PRAG will meet as necessary to expeditiously develop coordinated policy options for the SecDef and NCA. As a non-crisis policy-level planning forum, the PRAG convenes to collaboratively develop, review, and recommend policy-level actions and initiatives to support achieving the DoD goal of having a fully integrated personnel recovery capability.

DPMO has also initiated a Personnel Recovery Response Cell (PRRC) exercise program that includes two to three scheduled and no-notice recalls of the PRRC annually. The function of the PRRC is to facilitate informed decision making by OSD principals. The PRRC will accomplish this by addressing issues impacting on the personnel recovery incident, and by expeditiously developing coordinated policy options for the SecDef and the NCA. In the event the USD(P) decides a PRRC is inappropriate, DPMO shall function as an operational coordination center in support of the OSD for evolving personnel recovery policy issues until the incident

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is resolved. The exercise program facilitates the readiness of the PRRC and ensures it meets the expressed needs of the USD(P).

**V. Personnel Summary:**

	<u>FY 1998</u>	<u>FY 1999</u>	<u>FY 2000</u>	<u>Change FY1999/FY200</u>
Active Military End Strength (Total)				
Officer	30	15	15	16*
Enlisted	<u>13</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11*</u>
Total	43	19	19	27*
Civilian End Strength				
U.S. Direct Hire	82	78	74	-4
Civilian FTE's	82	78	74	-4

\*Approval of additional 27 temporary military billets is pending in Office of the Secretary of Defense.

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VI. OP 32 Line Items as Applicable (Dollars in Thousands)

	FY98	<u>Change FY98/FY99</u>		FY99	<u>Change FY99/FY00</u>		
	Actuals	Price Growth	Program Growth	Estimate	Price Growth	Program Growth	FY00 Estimate
Civ Pay	6,296	227	(396)	6,126	270	(222)	6,174
Travel	1,831	20	(188)	1,663	25	35	1,723
Rent	964	0	0	950	0	0	950
Communications	91	1	1	95	1	0	96
Supplies	54	1	137	192	3	160	355
Equipment	0	0	200	554	8	215	777
Other Contracts	4,509	50	268	4,485	67	(122)	4,430
TOTAL	13,745	298	22	14,065	374	66	14,505