

## Last Load Of POW Bodies

Travis AFB

The last known American prisoners of war from North Vietnam came home yesterday without ceremony in 17 flag-draped coffins.

With only an honor guard on hand and no formal ceremony, the bodies were flown into this air base from Thailand. The Air Force would not release the identities of the men, saying identification procedures had not been completed.

The 17 dead were the last of the 23 American servicemen who the North Vietnamese said died in North Vietnam while POWs. The bodies of the other six men were returned here March 21.

The 23 men were originally listed as missing in action. But on Jan. 27, 1973, the date of the Vietnam cease-fire agreement, the North Vietnamese listed the men as having died in captivity.

Lieutenant Colonel William Reslie, base information officer, said the 17 bodies would be taken to the Oakland Army Terminal to complete identification. Once they are identified, their relatives will be notified.

*Associated Press*