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Search for MIAs

Washington

The last military unit searching for Americans missing in action in Indochina has left Asia and will probably be inactivated because there is little hope of getting more information in the near future, Pentagon officials said yesterday.

Roger Shields, deputy assistant defense secretary for international security affairs, told the House Select Committee on MIAs that the military unit will probably be inactivated when its work on computerized records is completed.

Shields said the Joint Casualty Resolution Center, drawn from all branches of the armed services, and an associated medical identification laboratory were moved from their base in Thailand in late May and are now stationed at Barbers Point Naval Air Station in Hawaii.

Military sources say that the withdrawal reflects the fact there is little hope that American teams will be allowed to search battle zones in Communist-controlled Indochina.

Military authorities also say chances are remote that any Americans are still being held captive in Indochina.

United Press