

US team in search of NE war martyr



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Syed Miraz Ahmed 8 November 2017 Updated 9 Nov 13127 views

Investigators from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) returned to [India](#) this week to continue the search for remains of U.S. personnel missing since World War II. Last year, DPAA deployed a team to northeast [India](#) for 30 days in search of remains for unaccounted-for U.S. airmen, and this is their fifth mission to [India](#) since 2013.

There are approximately 400 U.S. airmen missing in [India](#), most of whose remains are believed to be located in the Himalayan Mountains in northeast [India](#). During World War II, the United States provided supplies to the Chinese Army by flying [over](#) the Himalayas, a route known as “The Hump.” Many of these aircraft went missing and were never [found](#) in the mountainous terrain.

During DPAA’s missions in 2015 and 2016, remains were recovered and are in the process of being identified through DNA testing. [One](#) set of remains from the 2015 recovery mission was positively identified as U.S. Army [Air](#) Force's 1st Lt. Robert E. Oxford. In 2016, a local villager turned [over](#) additional remains thought to be associated with another U.S. crash site.

This year, the team will conduct a similar mission in northeast [India](#), surveying several different sites from those visited during the 2016 investigation effort.

[Mary](#) Kay Carlson, the Chargé d’Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in [New Delhi](#) said, “The United States works with governments around the world to provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel to their families and the nation. This is the fifth DPAA mission to [India](#) since 2013, demonstrating successful cooperation between the governments of [India](#) and the United States. This positive relationship underscores the dedication each nation brings to this humanitarian mission.”

DPAA’s mission is to provide the fullest possible accounting for U.S. missing personnel to their families and the nation.

Syed Miraz Ahmed

Writes, edits and researches. In 2013 he was conferred the Rotary International District 3240 Young Achiever Award for his work in the area of environment and digital journalism. In 2006 he was awarded first in the category of Wildlife Photography by the Department of Environment & Forests and Tourism, Government of Assam.

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