

Subject: FW: To Whom It May Concern
To: <info@pownetwork.org>

Mary--
This is what the forensics people in TX sent us in October. See below & attachments--Lee

From: Lee [mailto:zlee18@peoplepc.com]
Sent: Thu 10/23/2008 6:43 PM
To: Covino, Lee
Subject: Fw: To Whom It May Concern

-----Forwarded Message-----
From: LESTER
Sent: Oct 22, 2008 9:32 PM
To: Lee Covino
Subject: Fw: To Whom It May Concern

Subject: To Whom It May Concern

Hello,

I am an equipment analyst at the Life Science Equipment Laboratory (LSEL) located at Brooks City-Base in San Antonio, Texas. Our lab assists DoD with its POW/MIA personnel recovery mission. Recently I was assigned a case concerning Major Kevin O'Brien and during my examination of recovered material I noticed the bottom half of a red ink pen labeled "Bravo Battery, 2nd Battalion" (see attachments). My research led me to the 94th Artillery website and sure enough, his name was listed in the MIA section. Can any of your members tell me where I might find/borrow a Bravo Battery ink pen from that timeframe? It would be used as a "Master Reference" for the ink pen artifact identified in the attachments. Here is the information you list on Major O'Brien:

Kevin O'Brien

HQB 2nd Battalion 94th Artillery, 108th Artillery Group

Date of Loss: 09 Jan 1969

Panel 35W-Row 061

HOR: Farmingville, NY

Casualty: Died while missing

Thank you in advance for any assistance you provide.

V/r

Equipment Specialist
648th Aeronautical Systems Squadron
Comm: 210.536.3794
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LIFE SCIENCES ARTIFACT SECTION

The Life Sciences Artifact Section (LSAS) operates as an adjunct department of the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory (LSEL), and is part of the 77TH Aeronautical Systems Group at Brooks City-Base, Texas. The specialized mission of the Life Sciences Artifact Section is to provide scientific support to various organizations within the Department of Defense involved in obtaining the fullest possible accounting of American personnel who remain missing from various military conflicts dating back to World War II. Such organizations include the Pentagon's Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command.

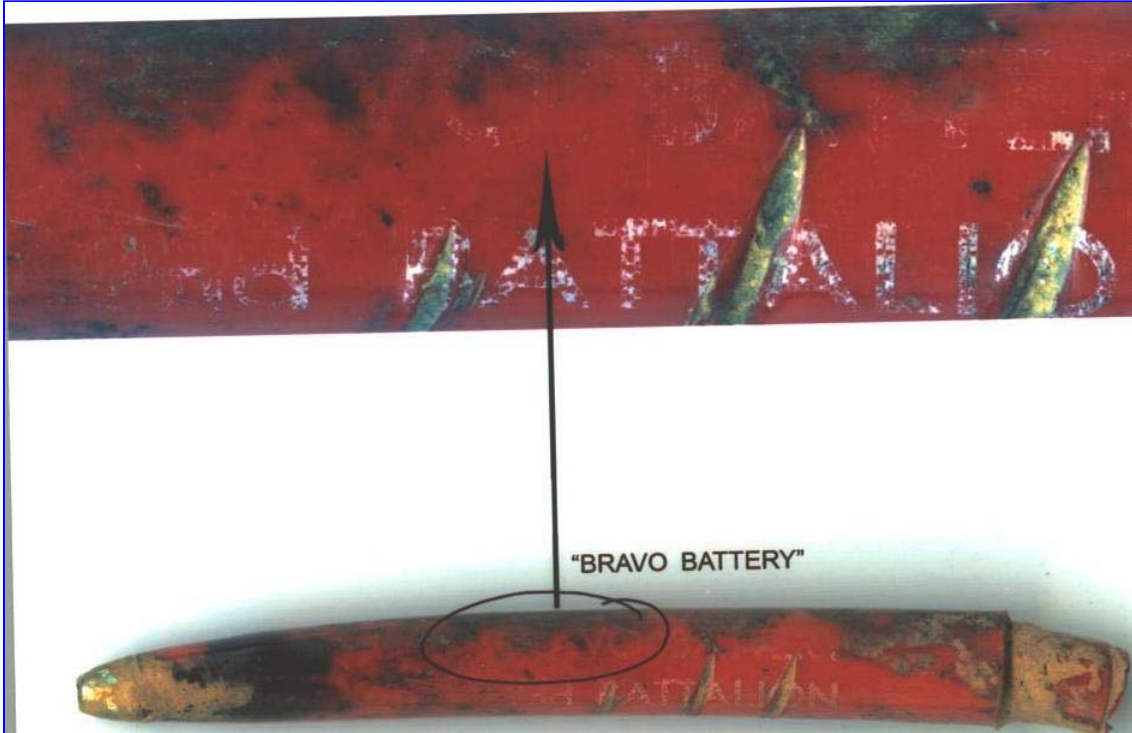
The Life Sciences Artifact Section mission evolved as a result of successful studies being performed upon equipment artifacts, returned to the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory from sites of military action in Southeast Asia. Life Sciences Equipment can be broadly described as encompassing all forms of military uniforms, flight ensembles and maintenance apparel; aircraft fixed or ejection seats, along with other related escape devices; various types of parachute systems; air, land, and water environment survival aids (like locator beacons and rafts); and other general equipment employed by military personnel for emergency or combat theater escape, evasion and rescue. Concurrent with present day laboratory studies accomplished upon such equipment, which frequently provides strong supporting evidence to that derived from medical or pathological findings (as to the presence or actions of personnel involved in aircrashes or similar destructive situations), it was discovered that these studies could likewise aid in the accountability of people at historic sites, especially in such instances when no human remains were found.

In 1993 the Joint Chiefs of Staff designated the LSEL as a support agency of the Joint Task Force-Full Accounting, and following the appropriation of funds by Congress, the Life Sciences Artifact Section was activated on 5 April 1994. The LSAS is currently manned by a cadre of specialists, some holding veteran status, who have extensive backgrounds in numerous types of life sciences equipment deployed by the American military services. Through use of the comprehensive technical library and large collection of equipment reference exhibits maintained by the Laboratory, along with support from other members of its staff, the analysts initially endeavor to match a submitted artifact to the type of equipment and specific system from which it originated, identify its Service applicability, and the time period it was used. Further testing can then be applied, often employing state-of-the-art equipment, along with the full resources of other laboratories to confirm artifact identification. Finally, all equipment and scientific test results are translated into final determinations about accountability of the missing personnel. Accordingly, an identified artifact (such as a piece of aircrew flight suit) can help reconstruct the pattern and type of its host structure, reveal information about which military service utilized it; disclose other details about when it was used and with what aircraft and, along with other artifacts and damage assessments, provide an overall image of what the evidence supports about its previous user and their probable status. Based upon such work the Life Sciences Artifact Section and staff are totally dedicated to the resolution of the POW/MIA issue, and to supporting other agencies

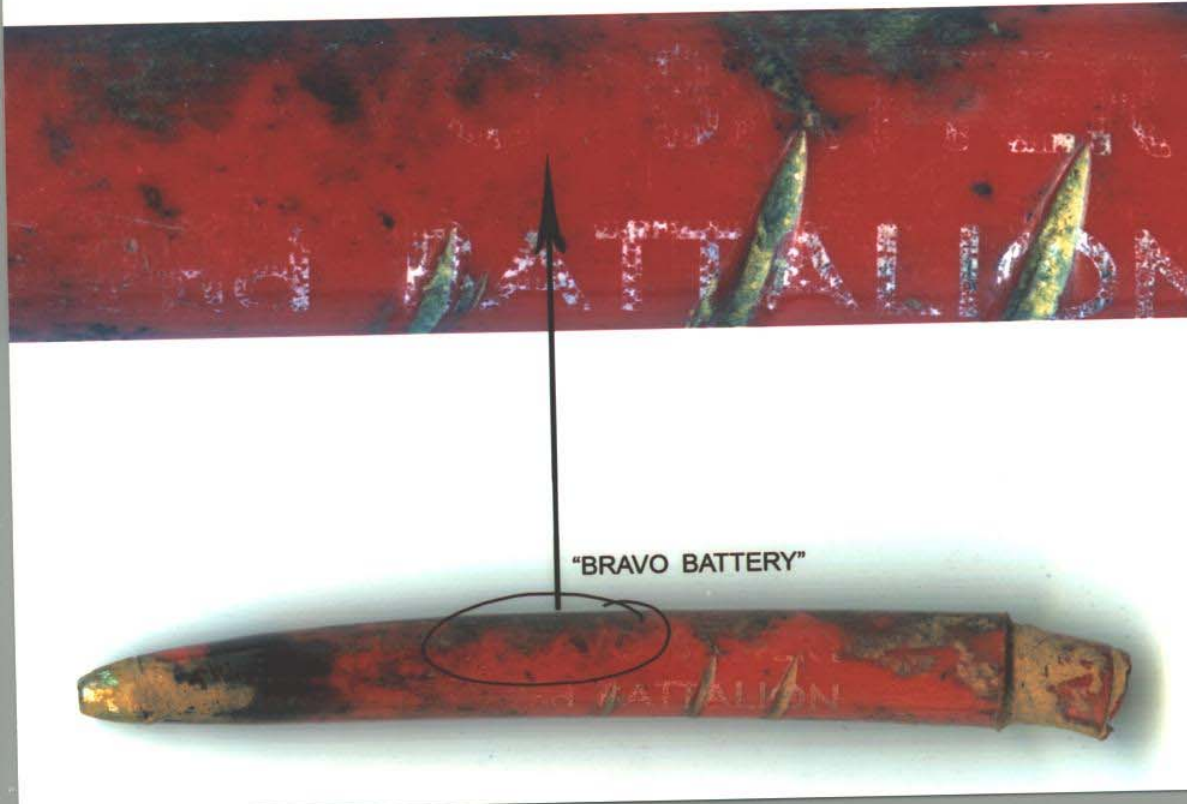
[Life Science Lab1.jpg](#)



[2nd Battalion1.jpg](#)



[2nd Battalion 0021.JPG](#)



"BRAVO BATTERY"

[2nd Battalion 0011.jpg](#)