

## Obama Pledges \$90M For Laos UXO Effort

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**Vientiane, Laos** On a recent visit to the Laos, President Obama pledged \$90M in a joint three-year project with the Lao Government to clear UXO left over from U.S. bombing campaigns during the Vietnam era.

In his speech to the people of Laos, President Obama stated - "The remnants of war continue to shatter lives here in Laos." "Many of the bombs dropped never exploded. Over the years thousands of Laotians have been killed or injured, farmers tending fields, children playing. The wounds, a missing leg or arm, last a lifetime. That's why I've dramatically increased or funding to remove these unexploded bombs."

Laos President Bounnhang Vorachit reportedly welcomed the pledge and also agreed to ramp up assistance in locating and returning the remains of Americans missing from the war.