

American Battle Deaths In Viet Nam Reach 400

WASHINGTON (UPI)—American battle deaths in Viet Nam rose to an even 400 this week with the loss of seven men. Two of them were pilots shot down over North Viet Nam. Another seven, including six in air craft shot down over North Viet Nam, were listed as missing.

Accidental deaths among U.S. forces in South Viet Nam meanwhile increased to 180, making the total fatality toll 580 since combat aid to the South Vietnamese government began in late 1961.

Forty men, including some for whom there is little hope, are missing or believed captured.

The pilots identified as killed in action this week were Lt. Cmdr. Frederick P. Crosby, 31, of San Diego, Calif., and Lt. (j.g.) David M. Christian, 24, of Lakeside, Calif. Both were flying Navy planes struck by anti-aircraft fire.

The Defense Department continued its recently - inaugurated policy of withholding the home towns and the identities of relatives of airmen shot down but possibly taken prisoners. It is believed that such information might help their captors.

The missing in this week's air actions were listed by name and age as follows: aviation electronicsman 3C William H. Anspacher Jr., 20; Lt. (j.g.) MMD. McMican, 24; aviation navigator 3C Thomas L. Plants, 25; Ens. Gerald M. Romano, 23; Lt. John B. McKahey, 29; and 1st Lt. Robert D. Peal.

Except for Peal, an Air Force officer, all of the missing were Navy men.

Two Army men were killed in

ambushes during the week, and a third when the South Vietnamese unit he was advising was overrun by Communist guerrillas. One Marine was killed and another died of wounds received May 28.

The Army dead were identified as Maj. Bernard W. Dibbert, 38, of Fayetteville, N.C., QMst. Sgt. Hugh M. Robbins of Lawton, and Capt. Christopher J. O'Sullivan of Astoria, Long Island, N.Y.

Marine Staff Sgt. Willy D. Tyrone, 33, of Abilene, Tex., was killed during the week. Marine Lance Cpl. Roy L. Murphy, 21, of Moultrie, Ga., was transferred to the fatality column. The total number of wounded increased during the week from 2,208 to 2,262.

Of those killed in non-combat accidents, 61 have died in plane crashes and 119 from other causes.

Two were added to the air crash total this week when a Marine plane crashed near Da Nang. They were 1st Lt. Richard E. Heister of Grundy, Va. and Capt. Werner E. Lutz of Fairview, N.J.

GOP Chief Quits

SALEM, Ore. (AP)—Former Gov. Elmo Smith resigned Saturday as volunteer Oregon Republican chairman, saying he was too busy with his newspaper publishing business. The GOP will pay the next chairman a salary.