

# EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the  
**American Ex-Prisoners of War**

Volume 66

[www.axpow.org](http://www.axpow.org)

Number 2

February 2009



*We exist to help those who cannot help themselves*



*February 23, 1945...the Liberation of Los Baños*

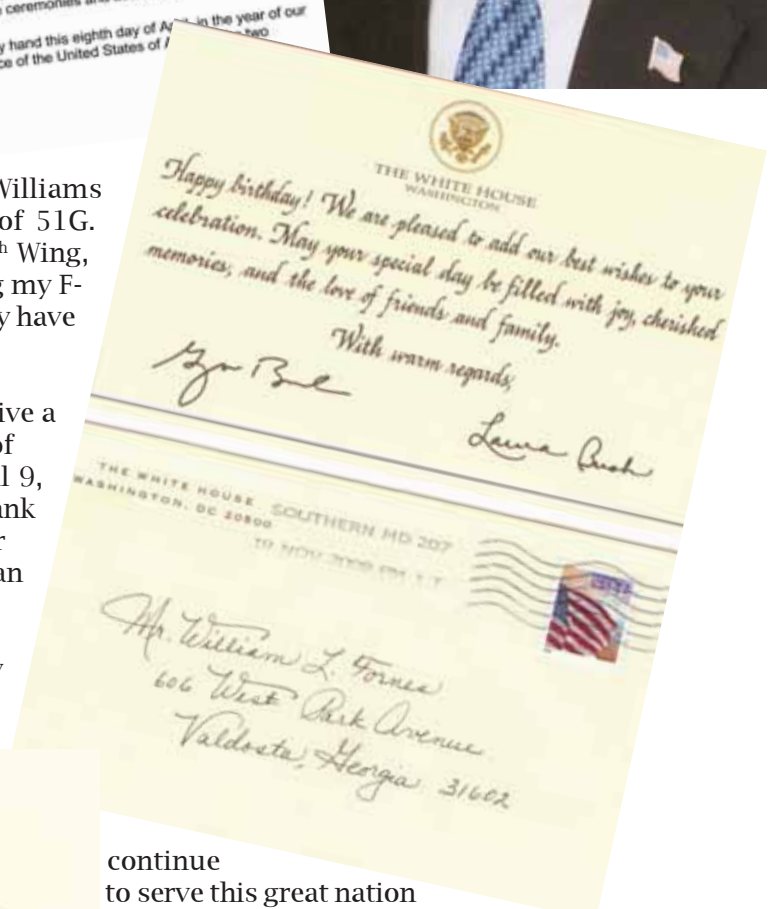
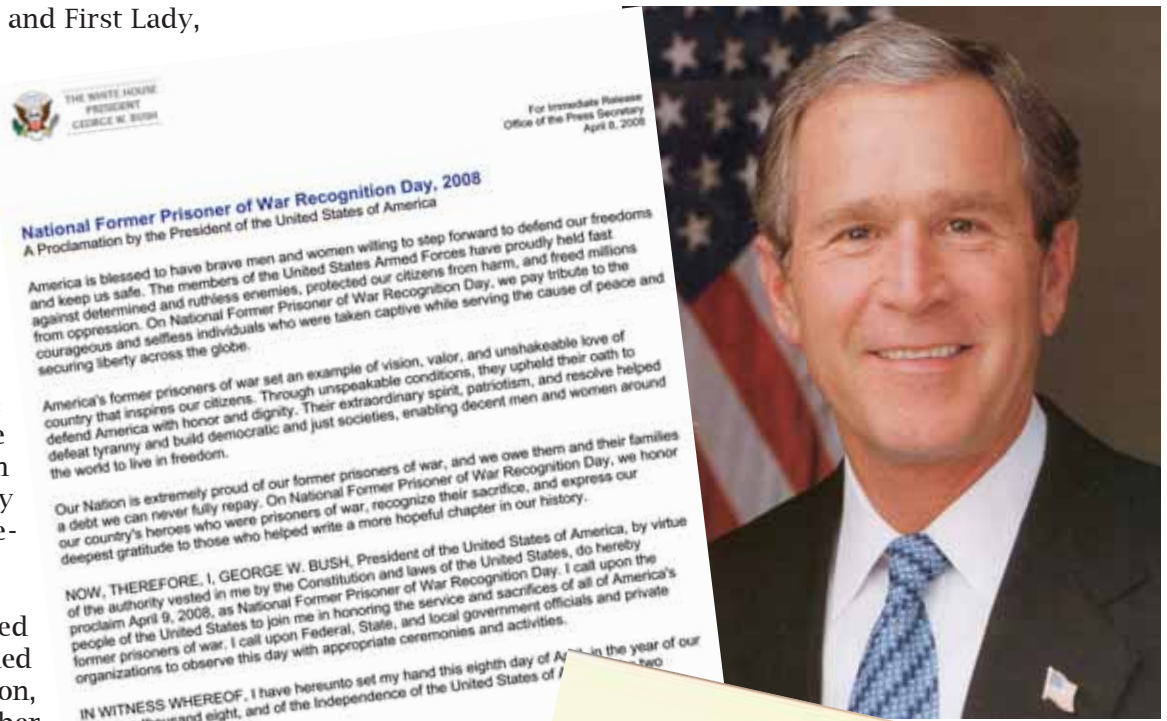
Dear Mr. President and First Lady,

I was so pleased to receive your and Laura's (if I may be so bold) best wishes for my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. I was fortunate to celebrate the occasion with my family and to share the wishes from the White House with family and many friends who responded with awe.

First, I was honored to have been assigned to the 111<sup>th</sup> Squadron, 136<sup>th</sup> Fighter-Bomber Wing stationed at K-2 Korea in January 1952 after completing Pilot Training at Williams AFB, Chandler, Arizona in October 1951, Class of 51G. Having flown 49 missions with the 136<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> Wing, my fiftieth mission resulted in my failure to bring my F-84 home on August 6, 1952. My sister, Adeline may have already explained the after effects.

Today, December 15, 2008, I was shocked to receive a personal letter from you with photo and a copy of your POW Recognition Day Proclamation of April 9, 2008. Perhaps you may have time to read this thank you response and allow me to thank you for your service to America in a much greater capacity than this farm boy from Virginia.

May you now look forward to your retirement only to seek other ways you and the First Lady can



continue to serve this great nation as Nancy and I still do.

A Citizen,  
**Bill**  
William L Fornes

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### On the cover:

On February 23, 1945, the First Battalion, 511<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment took part in the brilliant and decisive raid which liberated Los Baños Internment Camp from the Japanese Army.

In 1995, for the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the Philippines from the Japanese in World War II, the Philippine government issued a special series of postage stamps. This is one of them. It portrays the old gate to the campus of the University of the Philippines Los Baños. Behind the gate (and really not that close) stands Baker Hall, an old gymnasium, used by the Japanese guards as a dormitory for some of the male civilian prisoners, Americans and British and other Allied nationalities. It survived the war and is back in good service as a physical education center. Around the edge of the stamp are listed most of the American and Filipino military units who carried out the daring and superbly successful raid that freed every one of the 2,147 internees from Los Baños Internment Camp.

### Welcome Home!

It was February 12, 1973 and their POWs held in Vietnam realized their long ordeal was over. The C-141 Starlifter, painted white with its Red Cross tail flash, picked up the first 40 POWs. The men waited quietly and patiently, they had vowed to show no emotion to their North Vietnamese captors. They boarded the aircraft, took their seats and prepared for takeoff. As soon as the Starlifter's wheels left the runway, a resounding cheer went up from all on board. They were finally free. Clark Air Base, The Philippines was their first stop before going back home to the U.S.

In all, over 500 POWs were flown out of North Vietnam in C-141s during "Operation Homecoming."

### Don't forget your Valentine!

There are varying opinions as to the origin of Valentine's Day. Some experts state that it originated from St. Valentine, a Roman who was martyred for refusing to give up Christianity. He died on February 14, 269 A.D., the same day that had been devoted to love lotteries. Legend also says that St. Valentine left a farewell note for the jailer's daughter, who had become his friend, and signed it "From Your Valentine". In 496 A.D. Pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honor St. Valentine.



Gradually, February 14 became the date for exchanging love messages and St. Valentine became the patron saint of lovers. In the United States, Miss Esther Howland is given credit for sending the first valentine cards. Commercial valentines were introduced in the 1800's. The spirit of good continues as valentines are sent out with sentimental verses and children exchange valentine cards at school.

#### *Publisher*

**PNC Maurice Sharp**  
 9716 54th Street CT West  
 University Place, WA 98467-1118  
 (253) 565-0444  
 SHARP1955@msn.com

#### *Editor*

**Cheryl Cerbone**  
 23 Cove View Drive  
 South Yarmouth, MA 02664  
 (508) 394-5250  
 (508) 760-2008 fax  
 axpoweditor@comcast.net

*Deadline for the Mar/April 2009 issue is Feb 1, 2009*

**Please send all materials to the editor at the above address.**

EX-POW Bulletin (ISSN 0161-7451) is published nine times annually (Jan. Feb. Mar./Apr. May June July/Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov/Dec.) by the American Ex-Prisoners of War, 3201 E. Pioneer Pkwy, Arlington, TX 76010. Periodical postage paid at Arlington, TX and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: send address changes to EX-POW Bulletin, AXPOW Headquarters, 3201 E. Pioneer Pkwy. Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010-5396. Founded April 14, 1942, in Albuquerque, NM, then known as Bataan Relief Organization, Washington State non-profit corporation, "American Ex-Prisoners of War", October 11, 1949, recorded as Document No. 133762, Roll 1, Page 386-392. NONPROFIT CORPORATION. Nationally Chartered August 10, 1982. Appearance in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the American Ex-Prisoners of War of the product or service advertised. The publisher reserves the right to decline or discontinue any such advertisement.

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# axpow officers & directors 2008-2009

National Headquarters - Clydie J. Morgan, Adjutant

3201 E. Pioneer Pkwy, #40, Arlington, TX 76010

(817) 649-2979 (817) 649-0109 fax HQ@axpow.org

## Officers

### National Commander

#### Jim Clark

214 Oakdale  
Bastrop, LA 71220-2330  
(318) 281-5505 phone & fax  
jaclark@bayou.com

### National Senior Vice Commander

#### Kenny H Hanson

9401 Lyndale Ave S #228  
Bloomington MN 55420  
(952) 888-2703 - Voice  
powra17313465@netzero.net

### National Treasurer

#### Sonnie Bill Mottern

279 Huckleberry Road  
Bluff City, Tenn. 37618  
(423) 542-1824; (423) 542-3469 fax  
pwtreas@earthlink.net

### National Judge Advocate

#### Dave Drummond

1 Crane Court  
Manalapan, NJ 07726  
(732) 446-4198  
ddrummon@optonline.net

### National Chaplain

#### James H. Beaver

PO Box 2103  
Abingdon, VA 24212  
(276) 623-0875  
ghbrn@aol.com

### Jr. Vice Commanders

#### Charles Susino - Eastern Zone

136 Jefferson Street  
Metuchen, NJ 08840  
(732) 549-5775

#### Morris Barker - Central Zone

710 Chapel View  
Waco, Tx 76712  
mbarker001@hotmail.com  
(254) 732-5640

#### PNC James Cooper - Western Zone

PO Box 65  
Douglas, AZ 85608  
(520) 364-8582; (520) 805-9401 fax  
jcoopdogaz@yahoo.com

## North East Region

#### Franklin R. Koehler

243 Torrey Pines Dr.  
Toms River, NJ 08757  
(732) 244-4629; (732) 505-8702 fax  
relheok1@aol.com

#### Laura McIntyre

PO Box 475  
Hardwick, MA 01037  
(413) 477-8260 (413) 477-0172 fax  
axpow62a@msn.com

## East Central Region

#### Judy Lee

PO Box 248  
Madisonville, TN 37354  
(423) 442-3223; (423) 442-4702 fax  
leejudith5@bellsouth.net

#### Paul E. Galanti

21 Maxwell Road  
Richmond, VA 23226  
(804)389-1668  
p.galanti@verizon.net

## Southeast Region

#### Wm "Bill" Jeffers

3522 Millbrook way Cr  
Greenacres, FL 33463  
(561) 969-6036  
robill1@aol.com

#### Sid Hecker

7730 Laie Place  
Diamondhead, MS 39525  
(228) 493-7605  
sidheck@bellsouth.net

## North Central Region

#### Carroll Bogard

726 N. Carolina Place  
Mason City, IA 50401  
(641) 424-4870

#### Larry Dwyer

814 Woodlawn Ave.  
Muscatine, IA 52761  
(563) 263-5249

#### Senior Director, PNC Warren King, Jr.

PNC Warren G King Sr (Mary)  
1015 Mitchell Rd  
Nashville TN 37206-1113  
(615) 226-7811 - Voice  
(615) 262-3049 - Fax

## Directors

## Mid-Central Region

#### Grover L. Swearingen

408 Fair Park Avenue  
West Union, OH 45693  
(937) 544-2459 phone & fax  
db6194@dragonbbs.com

#### Deanie Schmidt

1001 Parkview Blvd. #316  
Columbus, OH 43219  
(614) 372-0788  
schmidt1925@gmail.com

## South Central Region

#### James L. Lollar

292 VZ CR 3727  
Wills Point, TX 75169  
(903) 560-1734; (903) 560-1705 fax  
B52Gunner@StarBand.net

#### Pam Warner Eslinger

PO Box 117  
Hammon, OK 73650  
(580) 473-2783  
elib@hammon.k12.ok.us

## Northwest Region

#### Bonnie Sharp

9716 54th Street CT West  
University Place, WA 98467-1118  
(253) 565-0444  
SHARP1955@msn.com

## Southwest Region

#### Milton "Skip" Moore

2965 Sierra Bermeja  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85650  
(520) 459-7295; (520) 533-3757 fax  
skip.m.moore@us.army.mil

#### Lewis "Lew" Sleeper

6636 E VillaDoradoTucson, AZ 85715  
(520) 751-9628 Voice  
(520) 490-1082 Cell  
sleepj1@aol.com



Committee addresses appear  
with their columns



**National Commander  
Jim Clark**

Although this is being written on New Year's Day, 2009, it's for the February Bulletin. My term in office is almost half over. I've been gratified by the support received by myself and this Board of Directors as we work toward expanding our financial stability and growth of AXPOW. Your officers are working in unison to ensure our future.

Your support of AXPOW is unwavering as well. Our direct mail programs this year - 2009 calendar and labels - as well as the upcoming Feb. program have been especially well received. Donations are still coming in on a regular basis for the Volunteer Funding Program developed by Jr. Vice Commander Morris Barker. And contributions to our funds in memory of/in honor of people close to you show your support in a very tangible manner.

I'm amazed by the progress of the Strategic Planning Committee. Almost every week, new ideas are submitted and Chairman Sid Hecker makes sure his committee members are kept abreast of developments. They've set up a "round robin" exchange among those on email so they can comment, expand on ideas or just keep each other pumped up about their progress. Everyone is enthusiastic and that enthusiasm is translating into workable solutions for the future of our organization. Thank you to each and every one of you.

This is February, so I would be remiss if I did not give space for the VAVS National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans.

The National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Program was established as an official Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) program in March 1978. The purpose of the National Salute is to:

- pay tribute and express appreciation to hospitalized veterans;
- increase community awareness of the role of the VA medical center;
- encourage citizens to visit hospitalized veterans and to become involved as volunteers

The week of February 14 each year is your opportunity to say thank you to more than 98,000 veterans of the U.S. armed services who are cared for every day in Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers, outpatient clinics, domiciliarys, and nursing homes.

During the National Salute, VA invites individuals, veterans groups, military personnel, civic organizations, businesses, schools, local media, celebrities and sports stars to participate in a variety of activities at the VA medical centers. The activities and events include special ward visits and valentine distributions; photo opportunities; school essay contests; special recreation activities and veteran recognition programs.

The week also provides an opportunity for the community to become acquainted with the volunteer opportunities within the medical center.

Contact your nearest VA Medical Center and ask for Voluntary Service to discover the wonderful things you can do to salute America's Heroes.

Yours in fellowship.

*Jim*

# news from hq



The National Midyear meeting is coming up next month in March. It will be here in Arlington, Texas at the Hilton Hotel where the National Convention was held in 2004. There have been some big changes around here since then. Come and see the brand spankin' new football stadium for the Dallas Cowboys! It is amazing. It's about two miles from the hotel but that's okay. You can see the darn thing from anywhere in the city!

See the announcement in last month's Bulletin for details. We hope to see you then. The National Board meetings are open to all members.

Thank you to all who have kept Marsha in your prayers. She is recovering from surgery for breast cancer and appreciates your good thoughts and support. January 5 was her first day back at work. Marsha is cancer free but will take chemotherapy for several months. We are thankful for her recovery and grateful for all the support you have shown. Marsha says thank you.

Clydie, Marsha, Sally & Donna  
Your National Headquarters



**Ex-POW Bulletin  
February 2009**

Les Jackson,  
Executive Director, DC Office



1722 Eye Street, NW  
#204  
Washington, D.C. 20421  
(202) 530-9220;  
(202) 223-8818 fax  
e-mail: lesjax@cox.net

## on capitol hill

Legislative Committee  
NC James Clark, Chairman  
Committee Member  
Mary Rolan  
7450 Spring Village Dr. CC510  
Springfield, VA 22150  
(703) 923-9444

The following letter was received  
by a number of AXPOW members  
who worked on the Bill.

Congress of  
the United States  
House of Representatives

BOB FILNER  
51st District, California  
Veterans Affairs  
Committee Chairman

December 2, 2008

Leslie H Jackson  
Executive Director, DC Office  
American Ex-Prisoners of War  
1722 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20421

Dear Leslie:

I was very pleased to see a mention in the Nov/Dec 2008 EX-POW Bulletin of the expansion of Purple Heart eligibility to include all prisoners of war who died in captivity.

As you recall, it was Rick and Brenda Tavares of Campo, California and Wilbur "Shorty" Estabrook of Selma, Texas who brought this need for expansion to my attention. Prisoners who died of beatings, starvation, freezing and other causes were not able to receive the Purple Heart posthumously up to now. Brenda's uncle and Shorty were prisoners of war during the Korean War. So I introduced, in the 108<sup>th</sup> session of Congress, the "Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act", which started the journey that is now complete.

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I am most grateful for the support of the American Ex-Prisoners of War who from the beginning vigorously supported the expansion of the Purple Heart.

Sincerely,  
(signed)  
BOB FILNER  
Member of Congress



### Congressman Filner's Bill Extends Purple Heart to All Deceased Prisoners of War! Department of Defense to Present Award

October 7, 2008

Bob Filner, Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, announced that the Purple Heart will be presented posthumously to all prisoners of war who die in captivity. The legislation that makes this possible is Filner's bill, the Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act, passed by Congress in 2006. The Department of Defense announced its complete implementation on October 6, 2008.

"The law now presumes that the death of all service members who die in captivity was the result of

enemy action or the result of wounds incurred in action with the enemy during capture and imprisonment," said Chairman Filner (D-CA). "Before passage of my bill, prisoners of war who died during imprisonment of wounds inflicted by an instrument of war were eligible for posthumous Purple Heart recognition, but those who died of starvation, disease, abuse, freezing or other causes during captivity were not. There should be no false distinction indicating more courage or more sacrifice by some prisoners of war over others," said Filner. The Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act had over 200 co-sponsors and broad bi-partisan support in Congress. In addition, many major Veteran Service Organizations supported the bill, including the American Legion, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, and the American Ex-Prisoners of War. The Senate bill was introduced by Senator Barbara Boxer.

"The inspiration for my bill came from Wilbert 'Shorty' Estabrook, who was imprisoned for more than three years during the Korean War, and Rick and Brenda Tavares. Brenda's uncle, Corporal Melvin Morgan, died in Korea of starvation and beatings in 1950 at the age of 20," said Filner.

Each military department will publish application procedures and will ensure that the information is accessible to the general public. Family members with questions may contact the Services: Army Military Awards Branch (703) 325-8700, Navy Personnel Command Retired Records Section (314) 592 -1150, Air Force Personnel Center (800) 616-3775, and Marine Corps Military Awards Branch (730) 784-9340.

# VA Outreach S\*O\*O\*N Before it's too late



**NSO Fred Campbell, Chairman**  
3312 Chatterton Dr.  
San Angelo, TX 76904  
325-944-4002; [fredrev@webtv.net](mailto:fredrev@webtv.net)

**Outreach: Many ways to skin a cat. Sometimes it seems hopeless, but when we work together, it's amazing what the results can be.**

Like:

Letter comes from Bill Norwood of Cleveland, TN, life member of AX-POW and leader also of the Korean POW organization. "Widow of POW who was in the same camp with Bill in Korea, confined to assisted living; husband had only 60% disability rating when he died. She has been told by the VA that she is not eligible for DIC since her husband was not rated 100% at the time of death. What to do to get a review of case?"

I ask Bill to find out what death certificate stated as cause of death. Widow said, "Cardiomyopathy". That heart problem should make her eligible. NSO Charles Heffron just 25 miles away in Athens, TN will do the claim.

Next, a call from Big Spring VAMC's Chief of Social Work and POW Coordinator, Linda Ray: Billy G claims to have been a Korean POW, coming in with obvious PTSD. His records burned in St. Louis fire, no way to confirm. I call Bill Norwood in Cleveland, TN; he has a complete

list of former Korean POWs. Billy G is not on the list. Contact Claude Watkins, our AXPOW guru in Virginia; Billy G is not on his list of former POWs. Check with Ginger Raney, POW Coordinator in Waco VARO; her records show he is not listed as former POW. Many people spend effort and time to try to confirm the advantage of POW status. The basic burden of proof lies with the veteran, but we all want to help. Sometimes we find they were not POWs, and some were not even veterans.

Networking goes on: Call about former POW in Michigan. Give him phone number of member Robert Fletcher in Ann Arbor who refers him to Paralyzed Veterans of America NSO in Detroit VARO. Hopefully a happy result of networking.

The POW Coordinators in VA Regional Offices can be so very helpful. We should all appreciate their good help with our POW claims. For instance, I call Audrey Dorry in the Denver VARO with concern about a POW whose trip to Denver for examinations would be a true hardship, 800 miles roundtrip, and need to have all exams on same day to make one trip do it. Ms. Dorry says he will get a good examination here, in one day. And he did; two weeks after exams, he got letter from POW doctor, saying he would have his rating within a month. Thanks to those who care.

TAPS Column, Nov/Dec EX-POW Bulletin. The new widows listed are being contacted to make sure they have their DIC, or are being helped by someone to see if they are eligible. These NSOs are reading out to help them: MS-Nancy Mullins, Jackson VA POW Coordinator; FL-Doris Jenks, Jo-Ann Kannipinn; NJ-Karnig Thomasian; OH-Doc Unger; WA-Bonnie Sharp, Lloyd Gabriel; MA-Katherine Arnold; MT-Rudy Collins; PA-Don Lewis; ID-Lloyd Gabriel; AL/AR/IL/TX/KS/KY/LA/CO/OK-Fred Campbell.

Making these calls can be tedious when you don't seem to be helping anyone, though most seem to be appreciated. Today is Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Call to IL widow. She is getting DIC, but needs ChampVA information, which I send. Call to KS widow, who is now getting DIC. Call to CO widow, where Denver VARO POW Coordinator Audrey Dorry has helped her get her DIC. Call to AR widow where Little Rock VA helped her to get her DIC at once. Call to AL widows, both of whom have their DIC already. Calls to KY & LA widows, left message on recorders. And finally call to OK widow: "Mrs. R, I'm calling to make sure you have your VA widow's benefit." Her reply, "I didn't know I could get one. They told me I had too much income, and my husband had 100% disability rating when he died in May 2008". "Mrs. R, if he had 100% for at least one year, you are automatically eligible for the DIC. I will send you the VA claim papers at once". Dec. 18, 2008 turned out to be a productive day.

**If you know of any former POW who has Lou Gehrig's Disease or a widow of one who died of ALS, please let us know. ALS became a presumptive for disability on Sept. 23, 2008, for veterans, including POWs.**

**Nearly 11,000 Survivors to Receive Retroactive Payments by New Years. Search for Other Eligible Survivors Continues**

WASHINGTON (Dec. 24, 2008) — The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has identified nearly 11,000 surviving spouses of deceased veterans who will receive a lump-sum payment before the New Year to correct an error in their VA benefits. Also documented were

## outreach continued...

more than 73,000 who had been previously paid. VA officials are still tracking down eligible survivors.

Payments will be released to these survivors on Dec. 29. The total value of the payments is about \$24 million.

At issue is a 1996 federal law that makes a surviving spouse eligible to receive the veteran's VA compensation or pension benefit for the month of the veteran's death. VA failed to properly implement that law in all cases.

Most likely to have been affected by this problem are surviving spouses who never applied for VA survivors' benefits following the death of a veteran. Eligible for the payment are surviving spouses of veterans who died after Dec. 31, 1996. The Department doesn't have current addresses for many of them, which makes the process of contacting them difficult.

VA has established a special Survivor Call Center (1-800-749-8387) for spouses who believe they may be eligible for this retroactive benefit.

The Call Center is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Central Standard Time. Inquiries may also be submitted through the Internet at [www.vba.va.gov/survivorsbenefit.htm](http://www.vba.va.gov/survivorsbenefit.htm).

If you know of any POW widows who may be eligible, please contact an AXPOW NSO; or call me directly. You can help!  
(FC)



**Doris Jenks**  
**National Service Director**  
1120 Daleside Lane  
New Port Richey, Fl. 34655  
(727) 372-7238 - Home  
(727) 319-5914 - Office  
[Ljenks@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Ljenks@tampabay.rr.com)

Some widows and wives are still confused on how the Meds by Mail program from CHAMPVA works. Here is a list of frequently asked questions:

### **MEDS BY MAIL PROGRAM FROM CHAMPVA:**

**What Are the Benefits of using Meds by Mail?** MbM is a safe, convenient and easy way to obtain your nonurgent maintenance medications AT NO COST to you as part of your CHAMPVA benefits package. Your medications will be delivered to your home (MbM is not for urgent medications-urgent medications should be obtained at your local pharmacy).

**Can I Use MbM if I Have Medicare Part D?** No. Since Medicare Part D is a prescription program and is considered other health insurance (OHI), you would not be eligible for use MbM. CHAMPVA beneficiaries with OHI that includes prescription drug coverage are not eligible for the MbM program.

**How Long Does It Take to Get a Prescription Filled (Including Refills)?** Allow up to 21 days from the day you mail your initial order.

**Will I Receive Generic Medication?** MbM is a generic program and utilizes generic medications as often as possible. Rest assured that if you receive a generic medication you are receiving the same active ingredients that work just as effectively as the brand-name medication.

## NSO

**How Do I Place an Order?** Ask your doctor to write your prescription for a 90 day supply plus refills, not to exceed 6 months for controlled substances and up to one year for all noncontrolled substances.

**How Do I Get a Refill?** If your health care provider included refills with your prescription, a refill slip will be sent to you with each Meds by Mail delivery. You should return your refill slip as soon as you receive your medication order.

**Can I Still Use My Local Pharmacy?** You should always use your local pharmacy for urgent care medications. If you don't have other health insurance that includes prescription drugs, consider using an SXC Network Pharmacy. Costs for your prescriptions are often less with a network pharmacy, resulting in a lower cost share, and there are no claims for you to file. For more information, contact SXC at 1-888-546-5502. If you do not use an SXC Network Pharmacy for your urgent medications, you may have to pay the total cost of the prescription and submit your claim to CHAMPVA.

**Where Can I find More Information?** Additional details about the program can be found in the MbM brochure, or you can call the Health Administrative Center at 1-800-733-8387.

**How Do I Get Forms?** You can obtain forms one of the following ways:

- 1) Call CHAMPVA at 1-800-733-8387 and ask that they be mailed to you.
- 2) Email CHAMPVA and request that they be mailed to you. Follow the directions for submitting secure email at this web link: [www.va.gov/hac/contact](http://www.va.gov/hac/contact)
- 3) Download forms from [www.va.gov/hac](http://www.va.gov/hac). Select the tab HAC FORMS on the left and then scroll down to the form you need.

Doris Jenks



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*Packet #5 (What Every POW's Wife Should Know Before She is Your Widow) has been updated again, with much time and effort on the part of Marlene Agnes, to include the most recent laws and benefits published. The packet may be purchased from National Headquarters. Cost of the updated packet is \$15.00~includes S/H.*

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## **What Is Deep Vein Thrombosis?**

Deep vein thrombosis (throm-BO-sis), or DVT, is a blood clot that forms in a vein deep in the body. Blood clots occur when blood thickens and clumps together.

Most deep vein blood clots occur in the lower leg or thigh. They also can occur in other parts of the body.

A blood clot in a deep vein can break off and travel through the bloodstream. The loose clot is called an embolus. When the clot travels to the lungs and blocks blood flow, the condition is called pulmonary embolism or PE.

PE is a very serious condition. It can damage the lungs and other organs in the body and cause death.

Blood clots in the thigh are more likely to break off and cause PE than blood clots in the lower leg or other parts of the body.

Blood clots also can form in the veins closer to the skin's surface. However, these clots won't break off and cause PE.

## **Other Names for DVT:**

Blood clot in the legs.

Venous thrombosis.

Venous thromboembolism (VTE). This term is used for both deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism.

## **What Causes Deep Vein Thrombosis?**

Blood clots can form in your body's deep veins when:

Damage occurs to a vein's inner lining. This damage may result from injuries caused by physical, chemical, and biological factors. Such factors include surgery, serious injury,

inflammation, or an immune response.

Blood flow is sluggish or slow. Lack of motion can cause sluggish or slowed blood flow. This may occur after surgery, if you're ill and in bed for a long time, or if you're traveling for a long time.

Your blood is thicker or more likely to clot than usual. Certain inherited conditions (such as factor V Leiden) increase blood's tendency to clot. This also is true of treatment with hormone replacement therapy or birth control pills.

## **Who Is At Risk for Deep Vein Thrombosis?**

Many factors increase your risk for deep vein thrombosis (DVT). They include:

A history of DVT.

Disorders or factors that make your blood thicker or more likely to clot than normal. Certain inherited blood disorders (such as factor V Leiden) will do this. This also is true of treatment with hormone replacement therapy or using birth control pills.

Injury to a deep vein from surgery, a broken bone, or other trauma.

Slow blood flow in a deep vein from lack of movement. This may occur after surgery, if you're ill and in bed for a long time, or if you're traveling for a long time.

Recent or ongoing treatment for cancer.

A central venous catheter. This is a tube placed in vein to allow easy access to the bloodstream for medical treatment.

Being older than 60 (although DVT can occur in any age group).

Being overweight or obese.

Your risk for DVT increases if you have more than one of the risk factors listed above.

## **What Are the Signs and Symptoms of Deep Vein Thrombosis?**

The signs and symptoms of deep vein thrombosis (DVT) may be related to DVT itself or to pulmonary embolism. See your doctor right away if you have symptoms of either. Both DVT and PE can cause serious, possibly life-threatening complications if not treated.

## **Deep Vein Thrombosis**

Only about half of the people with DVT have symptoms. These symptoms occur in the leg affected by the deep vein clot. They include:

Swelling of the leg or along a vein in the leg

Pain or tenderness in the leg, which you may feel only when standing or walking

Increased warmth in the area of the leg that's swollen or in pain

Red or discolored skin on the leg.

## **Pulmonary Embolism**

Some people don't know they have DVT until they have signs or symptoms of PE. Symptoms of PE include:

Unexplained shortness of breath

Pain with deep breathing

Coughing up blood

Rapid breathing and a fast heart rate also may be signs of PE.

## **How Is Deep Vein Thrombosis Diagnosed?**

Your doctor will diagnose deep vein thrombosis (DVT) based on your medical history, a physical exam, and the results from tests. He or she will identify your risk factors and rule out other causes for your symptoms.

## medsearch continued...

### Medical History

To learn about your medical history, your doctor may ask about:

Your overall health

Any prescription medicines you're taking

Any recent surgeries or injuries you've had

Whether you've been treated for cancer

### Physical Exam

During the physical exam, your doctor will check your legs for signs of DVT. He or she also will check your blood pressure and your heart and lungs.

### Diagnostic Tests

You may need one or more tests to find out whether you have DVT. The most common tests used to diagnose DVT are:

**Ultrasound.** This is the most common test for diagnosing deep vein blood clots. It uses sound waves to create pictures of blood flowing through the arteries and veins in the affected leg.

**A D-dimer test.** This test measures a substance in the blood that's released when a blood clot dissolves. If the test shows high levels of the substance, you may have a deep vein blood clot. If your test is normal and you have few risk factors, DVT isn't likely.

**Venography (ve-NOG-ra-fee).** This test is used if ultrasound doesn't provide a clear diagnosis. Dye is injected into a vein, and then an x ray is taken of the leg. The dye makes the vein visible on the x ray. The x ray will show whether blood flow is slow in the vein. This may indicate a blood clot.

Other less common tests used to diagnose DVT include magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) scanning. These tests provide pictures of the inside of the body.

You may need blood tests to check whether you have an inherited blood clotting disorder that can cause DVT.

You may have this type of disorder if you have repeated blood clots that can't be linked to another cause, or if you develop a blood clot in an unusual location, such as a vein in the liver, kidney, or brain.

If your doctor thinks that you have pulmonary embolism (PE), he or she may order extra tests, such as a ventilation perfusion scan (V/Q scan). The V/Q scan uses a radioactive material to show how well oxygen and blood are flowing to all areas of the lungs.

### How Is Deep Vein Thrombosis Treated?

#### Goals of Treatment

The main goals of treating deep vein thrombosis (DVT) are to:

Stop the blood clot from getting bigger

Prevent the blood clot from breaking off and moving to your lungs

Reduce your chance of having another blood clot

#### Medicines

Medicines are used to prevent and treat DVT.

#### Anticoagulants

Anticoagulants are the most common medicines for treating DVT. They're also known as blood thinners.

These medicines decrease your blood's ability to clot. They also stop existing blood clots from getting bigger. However, blood thinners can't break up blood clots that have already formed. (The body dissolves most blood clots with time.)

Blood thinners can be taken as either a pill, an injection under the skin, or through a needle or tube inserted into a vein (called intravenous, or IV, injection).

Warfarin and heparin are two blood thinners used to treat DVT. Warfarin is given in pill form. (Coumadin® is a common brand name for warfarin.)

Heparin is given as an injection or through an IV tube. There are different types of heparin. Your doctor will discuss the options with you.

Your doctor may treat you with both heparin and warfarin at the same time. Heparin acts quickly. Warfarin takes 2 to 3 days before it starts to work. Once the warfarin starts to work, the heparin is stopped.

Pregnant women usually are treated with heparin only, because warfarin is dangerous during pregnancy.

Treatment for DVT with blood thinners usually lasts from 3 to 6 months. The following situations may change the length of treatment.

If your blood clot occurred after a short-term risk (for example, surgery), your treatment time may be shorter.

If you've had blood clots before, your treatment time may last longer.

If you have certain other illnesses, such as cancer, you may need to take blood thinners for as long as you have the illness.

The most common side effect of blood thinners is bleeding. This happens if the medicine thins your blood too much. This side effect can be life threatening.

Sometimes, the bleeding is internal (inside your body). People treated with blood thinners usually receive regular blood tests to measure their blood's ability to clot. These blood tests are called PT and PTT tests.

These tests also help your doctor make sure you're taking the right amount of medicine. Call your doctor right away if you have easy bruising or bleeding. This may be a sign that your medicines have thinned your blood too much.

#### Thrombin Inhibitors

These medicines interfere with the blood clotting process. They're used to treat blood clots in patients who can't take heparin.

#### Thrombolytics

These medicines are given to quickly dissolve a blood clot. They're used

## medsearch cont'd...

to treat large blood clots that cause severe symptoms.

Because thrombolytics can cause sudden bleeding, they're used only in life-threatening situations.

### Other Types of Treatment

#### **Vena Cava Filter**

A vena cava filter is used if you can't take blood thinners or if you're taking blood thinners and still developing blood clots.

The filter is inserted inside a large vein called the vena cava. The filter catches blood clots that break off in a vein before they move to the lungs. This prevents pulmonary embolism. However, it doesn't stop new blood clots from forming.

#### **Graduated Compression Stockings**

These stockings can reduce the swelling that may occur after a blood clot has developed in your leg. Graduated compression stockings are worn on the legs from the arch of the foot to just above or below the knee.

These stockings are tight at the ankle and become looser as they go up the leg. This creates gentle pressure up the leg. The pressure keeps blood from pooling and clotting.

These stockings should be worn for at least a year after DVT is diagnosed.

### How Can Deep Vein Thrombosis Be Prevented?

You can take steps to prevent deep vein thrombosis (DVT).

If you're at risk for DVT or pulmonary embolism (PE), you can help prevent the condition by:

- Seeing your doctor regularly.

- Taking all medicines your doctor prescribes.

- Getting out of bed and moving around as soon as possible after surgery or illness. This lowers your chance of developing a blood clot.

- Exercising your lower leg muscles during long trips. This helps prevent a blood clot from forming.

If you've had DVT or PE before, you can help prevent future blood clots by following the above steps and:

- Taking all medicines your doctor prescribes to prevent or treat blood clots

- Following up with your doctor for tests and treatment

- Using compression stockings as your doctor directs to prevent swelling in your legs from DVT

Contact your doctor at once if you have any signs or symptoms of DVT or PE.

### Travel Tips

Your risk of developing DVT while traveling is small. The risk increases if the travel time is longer than 4 hours, or if you have other risk factors for DVT.

During long trips, it may help to:

- Walk up and down the aisles of the bus, train, or airplane. If traveling by car, stop about every hour and walk around.

- Move your legs and flex and stretch your feet to encourage blood flow in your calves.

- Wear loose and comfortable clothing.

- Drink plenty of fluids and avoid alcohol.

If you're at increased risk for DVT, your doctor may recommend wearing compression stockings during travel or taking a blood-thinning medicine before traveling.

### Living With Deep Vein Thrombosis

If you've had a deep vein blood clot, you're at greater risk for another one. During treatment and after, it's important to:

- Take steps to prevent deep vein thrombosis (DVT). (See "[How Can Deep Vein Thrombosis Be Prevented?](#)")

- Check your legs for signs and symptoms of DVT. These include swollen areas, pain or tenderness, increased warmth in swollen or painful areas, or red or discolored skin on the legs.

- Contact your doctor right away if you have signs and symptoms of DVT.

### Ongoing Health Care Needs

Medicines that thin your blood and prevent blood clots are used to treat DVT. These medicines can thin your blood too much and cause bleeding

(sometimes inside the body). This side effect can be life threatening.

Bleeding may occur in the digestive system or the brain. Signs and symptoms of bleeding in the digestive system include:

- Bright red vomit or vomit that looks like coffee grounds

- Bright red blood in your stools or black, tarry stools

- Pain in your abdomen

Signs and symptoms of bleeding in the brain include:

- Severe pain in your head

- Sudden changes in your vision

- Sudden loss of movement in your arms or legs

- Memory loss or confusion

If you have any of these signs or symptoms, get treatment right away. You also should seek treatment right away if you have a lot of bleeding after a fall or injury. This could be a sign that your DVT medicines have thinned your blood too much.

Talk to your doctor before taking any medicines other than your DVT medicines. This includes over-the-counter medicines. Aspirin, for example, also can thin your blood. Taking two medicines that thin your blood may raise your risk for bleeding.

Ask your doctor about how your diet affects these medicines. Your doctor can help you plan a balanced and healthy diet.

Discuss with your doctor whether drinking alcohol will interfere with your medicines. Your doctor can tell you what amount of alcohol is safe for you.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
9000 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

# AXPOW MEDSEARCH CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

## JAPANESE CAMPS

	DONATIONS
Akenobe #6	\$.70
Batavia, Java	.90
Beppa	.50
Bilibid Prison	1.30
Bridge House Jail, China	.50
Burma	.40
Cabanatuan #1	.50
Cabanatuan #3	2.10
Camp O'Donnell	.60
Changi, Singapore	.70
D 12, Hitachi	.90
Davao Penal Colony	.70
Fengtai, China	.50
Fukuoka #1	.90
Fukuoka #2	.90
Fukuoka #3	.90
Fukuoka #10	.70
Fukuoka #11	.50
Fukuoka #17	.70
Fukuoka #22	.70
Hakodate Branch Camp #2	.70
Hoten, Juken, Manchuria	.70
Initial Phase – Philippines	1.10
Jinsen, Korea	.50
Kiangwan, China	.70
Manila, Port Area	.40
Mitushima, Tokyo Camp #2-D	.70
Makaishima, Honshu	.70
Mukden, Manchuria (temporary)	.50
Nakhon Pathom, Thailand	.50
Naval POW Camp, Shanghai	.40
Notogawa #9-B	.50
October Ship (Hellship)	.90
Omine	.50
Osaka #3, Oeyama	.70
Osaka #5-B	.70
Osaka #12-B	.70
Osaka Group, Sakurajima, Osaka	.70
Palawan Barracks	.90
Rangoon Prison, Burma	.90
Roku Poshi	.70
Saigon POW Camp,	.50
French Indo-China	.70
Sendai Camp #6, Hanawa	.50
Sendai Camp #11	

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## JAPANESE CAMPS

	DONATIONS
Southeast Asia-Saigon, Port Area	.50
SS Oryuku Maru (Hellship)	.90
Sumatra	.90
Thailand (Siam)	.50
Tientsin, China	.40
Umeda Bonshu	.70
Utashinai, Hokkaido	.50
War Road Jail, China	.50
Woosung	.50
Zentsuji Headquarters	1.10
Taiwan Formosa, includes Camps 31,	
Taihoku: Camp V, Taihoku: Camp VI,	
Taihoku, Kinkaseki: Camp II, Taichu:	
Camp III, Heito: Camp IV, Kagi &	
Tako	2.10

## GERMAN CAMPS

	DONATIONS
Camp Conditions (general)	.70
Dulag Luft	.40
Hohemark Hospital & Luckenwalde	.90
Marlag und Milag Nord	.90
Oflag 13-B	1.50
Oflag 64	
Reserve-Lazaret Obermassfeld	.70
(the orthopedic hospital)	
Rumania	.50
Stalag 2-B	1.50
Stalag 3-B	1.70
Stalag 7-A	1.50
Stalag 9-B	1.10
Stalag 17-B	1.50
Stalag Luft 1	1.50
Stalag Luft 3	1.50
Stalag Luft 4	.40
Stalag Luft 6	.40
Transit Camp - Section of Dulag Luft	1.10
German Orders Governing Prisoners	
of War in Europe	2.30

**Camp descriptions available from AXPOW. All are from the National Archives. If your camp is not listed, it is because the National Archives does not have it.**

*\*Shipping / Handling fees: For orders up to 4.00, add \$3.00; For orders 4.01 to 7.99, add \$4.00; For orders 8.00 to 25.00, add \$8.00, For orders 25.01 to 49.99, add \$13.00; For orders 50.00 to 99.99, add \$15.00 For orders over 100.00, add \$20.00.*

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# andersonville



Andersonville NHS  
496 Cemetery Road  
Andersonville, GA 31711  
(229) 924-0343  
Fred Boyles, Superintendent  
fred\_boyles@nps.gov

## News from the Park

The Traveling Exhibit project has moved on to the next phase in planning. In early January the design team from Museum Design Associates of Cambridge, Massachusetts and the Park Service Exhibit staff from Harpers Ferry, West Virginia met at the park. The result of that effort was to determine what the visitor experience would be along with which stories would be best communicated. The team also discussed with park personnel the special planning that goes into an on the road exhibit. Donations continue to come into the special account set up for the project but more will be needed when the most costly phase of fabrication is done. Tax deductible donations can be sent to **POW Traveling Legacy**, PO Box 186, Andersonville, GA 31711.

Visitation in 2008 was actually up by 1% over the previous year. In 2008 159,592 visitors came to Andersonville. This was a surprise since it was anticipated that visitation would decrease. The gas price spike during the Spring and Summer months definitely took its toll. The downturn in the economy was also a factor in discouraging prospective tourists. However, visitation from school groups remains

strong – which means that the park continues to reach our youth with its important story. The park is promoting itself as a great place to visit for short close to home trips in the region.

Another positive note is that sales at our Eastern National sales outlet in the Museum rose by 11% over 2007. Sales tend to go the same way as visitation, so this is major accomplishment thanks to our Bookstore Manager Renee Frye. Many new sales items and book signing events were the main reason that sales climbed. Gross sales for 2008 were over \$195,000 with average sales per visitor was \$2.34. Profits from the sales outlet goes to support the interpretive programs of the park.

In 2009 the park will receive funding for several special projects. An important maintenance project is to clean out the drainage system at the POW Museum which will be done during the Winter months. Funding will also allow for the Curator to hire an assistant to catalog objects in the collection. A special crew of high school students will be hired to make repairs to the CCC features in the Prison Site along with preservation work on the earthworks. Another badly needed project is to replace and upgrade the lighting in the exhibit areas of the POW Museum which will enhance the visitor experience. Finally, a project is planned to replace approximately 500 damaged headstones in the National Cemetery. At the time of this writing, there is much talk about the proposed stimulus package and how it may effect the park. It is still too early to tell, but Andersonville is in a good position to receive funding from this program for a number of maintenance and repair projects.

In the last few months the park has brought on several new employees. Cashea Arrington has been hired as a Park Guide through the student employment program. Bob Seales, a new maintenance worker, is doing primarily grounds work. Charles Carnes is our new custodian. Several other positions are in the process of being filled. These are the Resource Management Specialist, Heavy Equipment Operator and the Chief of Maintenance.

This February 12<sup>th</sup> marks the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Abraham Lincoln. To mark this important national celebration, the park has arranged for Dennis Boggs one of the best Lincoln presenters in the county to come to the park to give programs. During the day, he will make presentations to area schools where he was a huge hit last year. One the evening of February 12<sup>th</sup> he will give a presentation to the community at the historic Rylander Theater in Americus.



*Photo Caption: One of the most popular activities for school groups that visit Andersonville is the Cemetery Ramble. The Ramble is much like a scavenger hunt that allows students to actively learn by looking for clues in the cemetery that reveal stories about the past.*

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Paul E. Galanti  
National Director, East Central  
804.389.1668 (cell)  
p.galanti@verizon.net

## Surviving Hell - From Combat to Captivity

by Col. (Ret.) Leo Thorsness, USAF

### A Review



The Rodney Dangerfield syndrome of lack of respect doesn't apply to Leo Thorsness. Col. Thorsness exudes an aura of respect - not overdone, never caused by self-aggrandizement. Just the calm demeanor that comes from a self-assured confidence and competency but falls far short of cockiness.

In short, Leo Thorsness is the embodiment of everything every red-blooded boy wanted to be after watching a John Wayne movie. The difference is that Col. Leo Thorsness, Medal of Honor, is the real McCoy. Disclaimer: Leo is a friend whom I've admired for years. There's no way I could write this review objectively! Only the mild-mannered yet very dynamic Leo Thorsness, who has lived such and incredible life, could summarize his foundation in 132 pages. But he does just that.

This book is a quick read but it stays with the reader for a long time.

Col. Thorsness was an experienced fighter pilot by the time the Vietnam War heated up. Russian SA-2 surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) had shot down many Air Force and Navy planes and one of the countermeasures was the Wild Weasel program where decoys would get the SAM site to illuminate its radar for another strike aircraft to destroy the site with missiles and bombs. It was a very hazardous mission and many "Weasels" were shot down. Hit on such a mission and with his plane on fire, then Major Thorsness remained on scene to cover his wingman who had been shot down. Thorsness was attempting to keep enemy soldiers away from the downed wingman until rescue helicopters could arrive.

Thorsness tanked, destroyed two Mig-17 fighters and held the bad guys away until help could arrive. For this action on April 17, 1967, Major Thorsness was recommended for the Medal of Honor. Unfortunately, he was shot down and captured and held for nearly six years. Hit by an air-to-air missile, Thorsness and systems operator Harry Johnson were forced to eject at a nearly supersonic airspeed. They were both badly injured from the ejection and subsequent beatings upon their capture.

Leo became a leader in his various camps and cells and provided a source of inspiration to those around him. Leo was beginning "an ordeal that would brutalize me . . . and also allow me to become a better and fuller person." Leo Thorsness' strong religious faith, his patriotism and the love of family helped him to survive the next six years of torture, isolation and neglect. In 1969, two years into his captivity, he learned from a newly captured pilot that he had been recommended for the Medal of Honor, and not until October 1973 was it finally awarded by President Richard Nixon.

He was in solitary confinement for several years but remained in contact with those around



him and actually became a resistance leader during those trying time. Leo helped prepare three of the enlisted men to prepare them for their "battlefield commission" which was subsequently honored by the Air Force. He didn't think it was right for those men to go through the same treatment as the officers for a fraction of the compensation. This was typical of the compassion of this fine officer.

Leo has been heavily involved in politics since his return - he almost beat Sen. George McGovern, a former presidential candidate, when Leo ran against him in 1974. He was a very successful State Senator from Washington State and was as inspirational to his fellow legislators as he was to his "jailbird" friends from Hanoi.

He remains inspirational to all of us today.

*Col Leo K Thorsness-  
1. portrait with pendant MOH.  
2. Ribbons.*

## pow-mia



### PNC John Edwards Chairman

889 Randall Road  
Niskayuna, NY 12309-4815  
(518) 393-3907 phone & fax

POW/MIA car-window decals are available at a cost of \$20 per 100 by sending a check to the League office at 1005 North Glebe Road, Suite 170, Arlington, VA 22201. POW/MIA lapel pins are also available at \$3 each or 2/\$5. For added information please contact the League's web site at [www.pow-miafamilies.org](http://www.pow-miafamilies.org) or call the national office at 703-465-7432. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message.

The National League of Families reports that Vietnam has again delayed in implementing its earlier agreement to allow a US Navy hydrographic ship to conduct joint surveys along its coastline to locate crash sites, etc. Also, a team is headed to China to work out compensation details for what we all hope will be an upcoming Korean War-related excavation site in Dandong Province.

1,742 Americans are still listed by DoD as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War, though over 450 were at sea/over water losses: Vietnam - 1,334 (VN-479 VS-856); Laos - 343; Cambodia - 57; Peoples Republic of China territorial waters - 7. The League seeks the return of all US prisoners, the fullest possible accounting for those still missing and repatriation of all recoverable remains. The League's

highest priority is accounting for Americans last known alive. Official intelligence indicates that Americans known to be in captivity in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia were not returned at the end of the war. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, it must be assumed that these Americans may still be alive. As a policy, the U.S. Government does not rule out the possibility that Americans could still be held. Unilateral return of remains by the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV) has been proven an effective means of obtaining accountability, as have joint field operations in recent years, though the first joint excavation in northern Vietnam occurred in 1985. A comprehensive wartime and post-war process was established by Vietnam to collect and retain information and remains; thus, unilateral efforts by Vietnam to locate and return remains and provide records continue to offer significant potential. Hanoi's earlier commitments to expedite interviews to obtain intelligence information and move forward on coast-line cases, including working out a bilateral agreement for use of a US recovery ship, are welcome and appreciated. These topics have repeatedly been raised during League Delegations, most recently in September 2006, and have now been raised regularly by US officials at the highest levels. Archival research, also a high priority with Vietnam, has produced thousands of documents and photos, but to date the vast majority pertain to returned POWs and Americans previously accounted-for, though recent commitments offer promise, if implemented..

Joint field operations in Laos are very productive. Over the years, the Lao regularly increased flexibility and the number of US personnel permitted in-country in an effort to improve field operations. The Lao approved an archival research program, but results thus far have been disappointing. Agreements be-

tween the U.S. and the Indochina governments now permit Vietnamese witnesses to participate in joint operations in Laos and Cambodia when necessary, but it is a time-consuming, expensive process that could be at least partially alleviated with a decision in Hanoi to unilaterally provide relevant documents, as President Bush requested during his November 2006 visit to Hanoi and Vietnamese PM Dung's visit to Washington in June, 2008. He also certified such to Congress on March 20, 2002, as did the Department of State September 7, 2004, July 15, 2005, August 8, 2006 and March 7, 2008. Research and field activities in Cambodia have received excellent support with a full-time DIA Stony Beach specialist working in the US Embassy in Phnom Penh. Over 80% of US losses in Laos and 90% in Cambodia occurred in areas where Vietnam's forces operated during the war, but Hanoi has not responded to countless US requests for case-specific records on our losses in these countries.

U.S. intelligence and other evidence indicate that many Americans can be accounted for by unilateral Vietnamese efforts to locate and return remains and provide relevant documents and records. Despite this reality, President Clinton regularly certified to Congress that Vietnam was "fully cooperating in good faith" to resolve this issue. The League supported steps by the US to respond to concrete results, not advancing political and economic concessions in the hope that Hanoi would respond. The Clinton administration lifted the trade embargo, established the US Embassy in Hanoi, normalized diplomatic relations, posted a US Ambassador to Vietnam, signed a bilateral trade agreement and established normal trade relations.

## civilians



Walter H. Riley, Chairman  
14521 Cyprus Point Drive  
Dallas, TX 75234  
(972)247-6069  
[whriley222@att.net](mailto:whriley222@att.net)

## Abandoned Hostages

The American Civilian POWs  
of WWII in the Philippines

By Caroline Bailey Pratt

Much has been made of the United States Government's disgraceful treatment of American citizens of Japanese ancestry during WWII. It took some forty years before the government formally acknowledged their mistreatment. But they were not the only group of American citizens who were victims of their government's war-time policies. The Philippine Islands, in 1941, were a US territory and home to more than 6000 American citizens - men, women and children. The buildup of the military forces was very evident to the residents, and the military dependents were ordered back to the states in the spring of 1941. In spite of this, the American business community and others who had made their home in the Philippines (many since the takeover in 1898), were reassured by both military and government officials that there was no cause for concern. War was obviously imminent, but the Philippines would be bypassed, and even if they were attacked, our military strength would prevail. So, with these assurances, the American National Red Cross prepared for the coming war, planning escape routes from Manila and filling their bodegas (warehouses) with food, medicine and other emergency supplies.

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Then, on Monday, December 8, 1941, the long expected hostilities began in a most unexpected way. Within hours after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Japanese planes bombed Clark Field in central Luzon, destroying the US air force in the Philippines as effectively as they had destroyed the US Navy in Hawaii. Within days, the Japanese Army landed on Luzon and rolled toward Manila, the US and Filipino forces retreating before them. Manila was declared an open city on December 25 by General MacArthur in hopes that it would be spared further destruction, but the Japanese continued to bomb the port area, the airbases and other targets within the city. The civilian population, Filipino, American and other allied nationals waiting in fear for the arrival of the Japanese Army. The Japanese arrived in Manila on Jan 2, 1942 and immediately started rounding up the remaining Americans and other "enemy nationals". It was a new experience for us, but the American civilian community had planned ahead, formed the American Emergency Committee which had negotiated for the use of the University of Santo Tomas campus, should the need arise to confine the "enemies" of the Japanese. The initial roundup totaled over 3000 -men, women and children, carrying only food and clothing for three days - who were deposited onto the campus to fend for themselves. At this point, the preplanning of the American Red Cross and the American Emergency Committee prevented the situation from becoming a total disaster. It did not take three days for the prisoners to realize they were not going back to their homes. Few ever saw their homes again and even those who found their houses standing found they had lost all their possessions. But by then, everyone was simply glad to be alive, after more than three years.

During the first six months of their imprisonment, it was the resourcefulness, ingenuity and organizational skills of the prisoners, aided by Filipino, Chinese and other loyal friends who remained on the outside that sustained the prisoners of Santo Tomas Internment Camp. Even after the Japanese Military Authority acknowledged their responsibility toward their prisoners and provided the camp with funds to purchase food, this was done through the contacts

previously made - primarily the Filipino Red Cross workers, both men and women. In order to supplement the meager diet the Japanese funds provided, the Internee Committee sought donations from those prisoners who were able to borrow large sums of money, in the name of their companies, and unbeknownst to their captors, from their former clients and business associates on the outside. When the Japanese ordered all contact with the outside halted in Feb. 1944, it became even more dangerous and difficult to carry out these operations - just when the need became even greater to supplement their diets. By then, the Japanese military had stopped the per diem allotment and, instead, supplied the camp directly with whatever food it saw fit. And since they were losing the war and conditions throughout the Philippines led to massive food shortages, the health of the prisoners declined rapidly.

When the war broke out, many American civilians who had been living in the Philippines, working for various companies, the government or retired joined the armed forces, leaving behind their families who became POWs in Santo Tomas. Some of the men had been in the Reserves, but most were volunteers. Few survived. News of their death might reach their family through secret channels, but others just disappeared. Tragically, those who had survived the Fall of Bataan, the Death March, the horrendous conditions in Cabanatuan and other military POW camps, died while being transported to Japan on the "Hell Ships". They were sunk by US planes and submarines as late as Jan. 1945 because the US was unaware that American POWs were on board. Contact between the civilian and military POW camp was prohibited by the Japanese, but that did not prevent an underground organization, spearheaded by Margaret Utinsky, "Miss U", from getting money, food and medical supplies into Cabanatuan as well as delivering messages between the two camps. The operation was a closely guarded secret involving a few men from Santo Tomas. The money was smuggled into Santo Tomas first by



## civilians cont'd...

people who had passes to go out on camp business. Throughout the war, the Japanese allowed people with severe medical problems to be treated in one of Manila's many hospitals. Their maintenance was paid for out of the Santo Tomas Internment Camp allotment. Each month, someone from Santo Tomas would make the hospital rounds with the money and take the opportunity to visit with the patients. One patient who remained in the hospital for most of the three years was Ernest Johnson; another was Christian Larsen. Since they were already carrying large sums of money for a legitimate purpose, it was not difficult for the men from Santo Tomas to also bring out the money for the underground. We now know that Johnson, code named "Brave Heart", was the link between the money from Santo Tomas and the underground and it is very likely Chris Larsen was too. Carroll Grinnell, Chairman of the Internee Executive Committee (by order of the Japanese Commandant) had opportunities to leave camp on legitimate business. In light of subsequent events, it seems likely that he may have slipped Johnson some of the money. In his diary entry for Oct. 26, 1944, Fay Bailey, Chief of the Finance Division and treasurer of the American Red Cross (operating surreptitiously) reports a meeting to prepare a financial report on the camp's financial operations at which Grinnell states that "[he] wants to wait and submit all reports at the same time...his expense account will run to P1,000,000." The Red Cross total to date, Bailey records, was P835,000 - the guarantee on loans for cash and credit for money to feed the internees and for other necessities since the Japanese had never provided adequately for their prisoners. To some internees, Grinnell was considered aloof and tight-lipped, but he may have had very good reason to be.

Unfortunately, someone else was not. On the evening of Dec. 23, 1944, the Japanese Military Police took Carroll Grinnell, Alfred Duggleby, Clifford Larsen (believed to have been mistaken for Christian Larsen) and Ernest Johnson, who had recently been returned to camp from the hospital, into custody. No one knew why, at the time. Duggleby was Chief of the Family

Aid Division which provided money to Filipino families whose American fathers were interned. Like Grinnell, he had opportunities to leave camp and may also have been in touch with the underground network. We may never know the full story. The men were never heard from again. Their beheaded bodies were found on Feb. 23, 1945 in a mass grave during the battle for Manila.

Santo Tomas, Los Baños and Camp Holmes in Baguio were the three POW camps in the Philippines where most of the civilian "enemies" of the Japanese were concentrated. By 1944, the people who had been captured and held prisoner on the islands had been brought to Santo Tomas or Los Baños. In Dec. 1944, the prisoners in Baguio were trucked to Manila and thrown into Bilibid prison without any concern for their needs. They did not know, at the time, that they were sharing the prison with the survivors of Bataan and Corregidor deemed too sick and useless to be transported to Japan.

Whenever the American Ex-Prisoner of War organization publishes a list of the POW camps of WWII, they do not include Santo Tomas, Los Baños, or Camp Holmes. What is that the case? Because these camps did not contain military personnel. (*Editor's note: The Camp Descriptions are published by the National Archives, not AXPOW.*) But is that really true, and is that really a valid reason? By failing to recognize these prison camps, the military is failing to recognize the imprisonment of the women in military service - the Navy nurses from the Naval base at Cavite, and the Army nurses who tended the wounded on Bataan and Corregidor. They were brought into Santo Tomas and later the Navy nurses volunteered to go to Los Baños to take charge of the camp hospital there. Their services were much needed and greatly appreciated by the prisoners. For a time, the Japanese had allowed Filipino nurses and doctors to come into camp during the day to care for the patients in the camp hospital, but when the Japanese stopped this, the camp would have been extremely short of nurses had it not been for the Army and Navy nurses. There were other military personnel in camp, too. Some had turned themselves in and were taken to Cabanatuan, but others had kept their true identities secret and also their activities on behalf of the camp.

The inequity of this distinction is further revealed when one learns of the circumstances that led to the civilians being left in the Philippines in the first place. At no time did the US government make a serious effort to repatriate the civilian POWs; the reason being that it had been the decision of the State Dept. not to evacuate them from the Philippines in the first place. This information came out in Congressional hearings after the war. It was believed that withdrawing the Americans who had made their home in the Islands would send the message to the Filipinos that the US was abandoning the Philippines. To retain the loyalty of the Filipinos and to assure them of the United States' loyalty to them, the American civilian residents were left behind to face whatever situation the war might bring. So, in a sense, they became political and military hostages for the benefit of their own government.

Fortunately, when the US forces returned to the Philippines, rescuing the POWs, both military and civilian became a top priority. The operations that freed the prisoners in Cabanatuan on Jan. 30, 1945, Santo Tomas on Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Bilibid on the 4<sup>th</sup> and Los Banos on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> were among the most daring, successful and rewarding actions of the war. The bond is so strong between the rescuers and the rescued that 50 years after these momentous events, they still attend each others' reunions. The veterans are old men now in their 70s and older, but most of the surviving civilian POWs were children in 1945. Rescuing the children was the most meaningful and gratifying action of the war for these men.

Regrettably, the civilian ex-POWs did not make a lasting impression on the men in Washington, DC. 63 years later, the US government still will not honor their claim for recognition as POWs entitled to medical benefits and at least some compensation for their losses. They remain an abandoned group of American citizens who proudly served their country during WWII as prisoners of war because they too believed that their presence in the Philippines would reassure the Filipino people that the US Army would return and defeat the oppressive Japanese invaders.



## looking for

**March 29, 2009. The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Bataan Memorial Death March** will be held at the White Sands Missile Range. The Bataan Memorial Death March is more of a memorial than a race. In 2008 a record number of over 4,400 soldiers and civilians came together to pay tribute to, and honor, the soldiers who were in the original march in the Philippines during WWII. Thirty-two amputees from Iraq and Afghanistan also took part in the Bataan Memorial Death March with almost all completing the entire 26.2 mile distance. Contact: Lisa Blevins, Public Affairs Specialist, 575.678.1134; [lisa.blevins@us.army.mil](mailto:lisa.blevins@us.army.mil).

**August 26-29, 2009. The 80<sup>th</sup> Infantry Blue Ridge Division Veterans Association** will hold its 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion at the Pittsburgh, PA Airport Marriott Hotel. Call for reservations: 412-788-8800. For more information, contact: Donald Stewart, [Donald.Stewart@us.army.mil](mailto:Donald.Stewart@us.army.mil); 412-442-6758.



I have revamped Len Rose's Luft 4 site. It has the same URL ([www.stalagluft4.org](http://www.stalagluft4.org)). I have posted much new material, which you may find of interest. Go take a look! Thanks, Greg Hatton.

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The person I'm interested in is **Capt. Edward L. Sensor** AO 749 331, who was a POW at Stalag III. He passed away on Dec. 21, 2001. He was living in Rockford, IL. Ed was born on June 2, 1919. I was a neighbor of his. Capt Sensor got me to enlist in the IL ANG in 1950. He was a pilot in the Guard. We both were members of the 168<sup>th</sup> BS, 126<sup>th</sup> BW. We were activated on April 1, 1951 and sent to Bordeaux, France, landing there on Dec. 7, 1951. In 1952 we moved north to Laon AFB. Ed's nephew is writing an article about Capt. Sensor's military career and is trying to get info about his uncle's stay at Stalag III. His nephew is George Sensor and can be reached at his e-mail address: [george@sensorenterprises.com](mailto:george@sensorenterprises.com)

George is the son of the late John Sensor whom also was a pilot in the USAF during WW II. Any info that you can release about Capt. Edward L. Sensor, please e-mail it to George Sensor. Thank you for your time. Eugene F. Westerman, 895 Mill St., South Elgin, IL 60177.

I am looking for anyone who was in the **45<sup>th</sup> Div., Co. F, 179<sup>th</sup> Reg.**, involved in the invasion of Sicily, Salerno or Anzio. I was in all of these invasions, taken prisoner at Anzio and marched to a prison camp called "Cinnecita", south of Rome. After 10 days, I escaped and was behind the German lines for 5 months. When Rome fell I was liberated by the 88<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. who took Rome. Please contact me: Floyd Dumas, 5 Thomas St., Glens Falls, NY 12804; 518-792-7891.

I am looking for information about my father, **Estelle Tyrone Tinker**, age 75. He was a POW in the Korean War. He lived in Shawnee OK and he has brothers and sisters there. Brothers: Kyle Tinker,

DeWayne Tinker; sisters Jeannie Lincome, Syble Russo and Pauline (no last name). If you could help me I would very much appreciate it. My name is Debra Balkcom, PO Box 517 Macon GA 31202. Phone 478-741-7596.

I'm trying to find out what happened to the other members of my crew. We flew with the **388<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group, 562<sup>nd</sup> Squadron**. We were shot down on July 31, 1944 on a raid to Munich, Germany. I have lost track of the men on this mission. My name is Edward Levy, Radio operator and Gunner. The men I am interested in are as follows. Pilot-Lt. Crider, Co-Pilot-Fred Gordon, Engineer-Charles Ray Young, Tail gunner- Eugene Johnson, Waist gunner-John Kreitzman, Ball turret Albert South, Bombardier-William Stewart. We were taken prisoner and I was sent to Stalag-Luft 4 and the officers were sent to Stalag-Luft 1. Thank you. Edward Levy, 8050 Palmetto Palm Circle, Tamarac, FL 33321; #954- 721-1537.

I am seeking assistance with locating whatever information may be available to my family regarding my Dad a Romanian Army Corporal during WWII who was held captive by the Nazi Reich in the **Kaisersteinbruch Camp known as STALAG XVIIIA**. His Stalag Tag is stamped as: Front of Tag - 23661; Back of Tag - Nn 62123 with x's stamped over the numbers. My Dad's name is Marin Stroe and is gone now; we lost him on 11 Jan. 2007. He shared some tidbits with three of us sons who, like himself, were enlisted men (VN-Era Army, Marines, Navy 1968-1975), but, combined we really do not know anything. I have not succeeded finding any resources for locating historical documentation of Dad's POW status on my own. On behalf of my brothers and sister, may I offer our gratitude in advance for your communication. Gheorghe Stroe; [gheostro@yahoo.com](mailto:gheostro@yahoo.com).

# News Briefs

## The Descendants Group ~an Auxiliary of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor

We are the children and grandchildren, the nieces and nephews, and friends of the men who fought and died defending Bataan and Corregidor, the airmen who were shot down and the seamen whose ships were sunk. We are the Descendants Group, an Auxiliary of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor (ADBC) and our legacy is to perpetuate the story of the bravery and sacrifice of the men and women who were thrown into the maelstrom of war in the early part of World War II. Our membership is open to anyone else who has an interest in this unique part of American history.

Within hours after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the Japanese bombed sites in the Philippines. What followed was a bloody five month defense of the Philippines in an effort to thwart and delay the advance of the Japanese army. The Fil-American troops were hindered by lack of food, medicine, guns, and ammunition. When the end came for Bataan in April, 1942 the already malnourished and diseased troops were rounded up and forced to march more than 65 miles to prison camps in searing heat. The Japanese guards allowed no stops for water, most men were fed no more than twice, and anyone who could not go on was brutally beaten or bayoneted. For some this ordeal lasted as long as two weeks. Most of the Filipinos and Americans of Bataan and Corregidor were then starved and brutalized in two miserable camps in the Philippines be-

fore being transported in unmarked "hellships" to be used as slave labor in Japan. Many thousands of lives were lost on these voyages as well as in the mines, shipyards, and factories where they were forced to work under deplorable conditions.

The men who suffered these cruelties are now reaching eighty and ninety years of age and have decided to disband the organization to which they have belonged for more than sixty years. It is therefore incumbent upon their descendants to carry on the spirit of the ADBC and keep the story from disappearing from contemporary history. We will enjoy their company now and when the last one is gone we will continue their story through our efforts. We will emphasize educational programs for inclusion in school curriculums, sponsorship of new programs for use on PBS and other outlets, museum programs, and funding for research. We will continue to publish "The Quan" the official publication of the ADBC and intend to carry on the tradition of the annual convention.

We invite everyone who is interested in the stewardship of this legacy to become a member of our group. Please send a check for \$25.00 made out to "Descendants Group" and your name, address, phone number, and email address to Judy Pruitt at 25 Windsor Rd. Brookline, MA 02445-2110.

### Some Veterans to See Another Travel Reimbursement Increase

Service-disabled and low-income veterans who are reimbursed for travel expenses while receiving care at Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities will see an increase in their payments beginning January 9.

A recently passed law allows VA to cut the amount it must withhold from their mileage reimbursement.

The deductible amount will be \$3 for each one-way trip and \$6 for each round trip — with a calendar cap of \$18, or six one-way trips or three round trips, whichever comes first. The previous deductible was \$7.77 for a one-way trip, and \$15.54 for a round trip, with a calendar cap of \$46.62.

"I'm pleased that we can help veterans living far from VA facilities to access the medical and counseling help they deserve, especially in the current economic climate," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. "Together with the increased mileage rate approved last month, we can further reduce the financial hardship some veterans undergo to use our superior health care."

In November, Peake announced VA's second increase in the mileage reimbursement rate during 2008, from 28.5 cents to 41.5 cents a mile.

Service-disabled and low-income veterans are eligible to be reimbursed by VA for the travel costs of receiving health care or counseling at VA facilities. Veterans traveling for Compensation and Pension examinations also qualify for mileage reimbursement. VA can waive deductibles if they cause financial hardship.

### VA Ramps Up Job Search for Injured Vets

Thirty percent of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) are veterans - the second highest ranking among cabinet departments after the Department of Defense — and nearly 8 percent of VA employees are service-connected disabled veterans. But the VA intends to increase the number of

## news continued...

disabled veterans who obtain employment in its workforce.

"I am proud of this effort," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. "VA knows the true quality of our men and women, and we should be a leader in employing them."

Peake said all severely injured veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan will be contacted by VA's Veterans Employment Coordination Service to determine their interest in — and qualifications for — VA jobs. So far, that office has identified 2,300 severely injured veterans of those wars, of whom 600 expressed interest in VA employment.

The coordination service was established a year ago to recruit veterans into VA, especially those seriously injured in the current wars. It has nine regional coordinators working with local facility human resources offices across the country not only to reach out to potential job candidates but to ensure that local managers know about special authorities available to hire veterans. For example, qualified disabled veterans rated by the Defense Department or VA as having a 30 percent or more service-connected disability can be hired non-competitively.

"Our team is spreading the message that VA is hiring, and we want to hire disabled veterans," said Dennis O. May, director of VA's Veterans Employment Coordination Service.

VA coordinators participate in military career fairs and transition briefings, and partner with veterans organizations, the Department of Labor's Veterans Employment and

Training Service, as well as VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Service, the Marine Corps' Wounded Warrior Regiment and the Army's Warrior Transition Units.

## Japan says WWII POWs worked for premier's company

Allied prisoners held by Japan during World War II dug coal for Prime Minister Taro Aso's family mining company, the government said Dec. 18, 2008 for the first time.

The conservative leader, who has long avoided the sensitive topic, hails from a wealthy family that run Aso Mining Co. and cement interests in the southern prefecture of Fukuoka.

The welfare ministry released documents showing that 300 British, Dutch and Australian prisoners of war worked from May 10, 1945 until Japan's surrender on August 15 at the company's Yoshikuma coal mine.

The documents said two Australian POWs died during the three-month period but the ministry blacked out the causes of their deaths as well as other personal information, citing privacy.

The ministry released the documents on request from the opposition, which is hoping to oust the unpopular premier's long-dominant Liberal Democratic Party in elections next year.

Yukihisa Fujita, the opposition lawmaker spearheading the issue, said he would press for further answers including on how the mine treated prisoners and whether they worked against their will.

"Since this concerns the prime minister, he has the responsibility to verify the labour conditions of the prisoners of war as well as the

cause of their deaths," Fujita told reporters.

Questioned by the opposition, Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone said that the foreign ministry had deleted a passage on a website that declined comment on questions about the Aso mine's treatment of prisoners.

The remarks were posted in 2006 on the website of Japan's consulate general in New York when Aso was foreign minister. Aso's company is also widely believed to have used Korean forced labourers who were brought during Japan's colonial rule of the Korean peninsula.

Aso has tried to steer clear of discussion on whether his company used wartime prisoners or Korean labourers. "No facts have been confirmed," Aso said during a parliamentary hearing last month. "I was four, maybe five at the time. I was too young to recognise anything at that age."

The opposition said it found in the US National Archives a 16-page company report to Japan's POW Information Bureau detailing prisoner conditions at Aso's Yoshikuma mine. According to the document, prisoners of war were better fed, clothed, and housed than Chinese and Korean labourers. The POWs engaged in coal-mining, farming, cooking and digging air trenches.

During World War II, Japan was not a signatory to the 1929 Geneva Convention on the humane treatment of prisoners of war. It ratified a later convention in 1953.

Aso has throughout his career come under fire for sympathetic comments about aspects of Japan's past colonialism. But since taking office in September, Aso has tried to be conciliatory about wartime history, a topic that continues to test relations with other Asian nations.

news continued...

## VA Launches Outreach Partnership Peake: VA Tapping the Power of Communities

The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced a new partnership to help non-government organizations (NGOs) plan, improve and carry out their own programs on behalf of veterans, their families and their survivors.

"VA has a track record of success in working with non-profit groups and businesses that have their own programs for veterans, but we can do more" said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. "By tapping into the power and resources of NGOs, we can ensure more veterans, families and survivors receive not only VA services, but also other assistance in their own communities."

Under the new NGO Gateway Initiative, launched today with the Veterans Coalition Inc., a non-profit organization formed more than two years ago by several major national veterans groups, the Veterans Coalition is available to assist NGOs in identifying the unmet needs of veterans, families and survivors, working with VA to help minimize duplication of effort and confusion among NGOs with programs for veterans. In addition, the program will encourage continuous feedback from NGOs on issues such as physical and mental health, employment, and satisfaction with government services and benefits affecting veterans.

VA will provide a senior-level, career federal employee to serve as an ombudsman to assist NGOs with their programs to serve veterans. To ensure a cooperative relationship, VA's deputy secretary will serve as a non-voting advisory liaison to the group's board of directors.

VA has a long tradition of working with national veterans service organizations on programs benefiting all veterans. VA also has had close relationships with private-sector groups, churches, charities and other non-profit organizations that provide housing for homeless veterans. This new gateway initiative is one more way to extend services to our veterans.

## VA Urges Vets to Sign up for Direct Deposits

Every month, 730,000 veterans or survivors look for their compensation, pension checks or educational assistance payments by mail.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is urging those veterans and family members now receiving paper checks to join nearly 3.1 mil-

lion others whose VA payments are safely deposited electronically.

Peake cited several easy ways to sign up for direct deposit — calling VA toll-free at (800) 333-1795 or online at [www.GoDirect.org](http://www.GoDirect.org). Veterans, and family members who receive VA payments, also can sign up by contacting a VA regional benefits office or their financial institution. Information about direct deposits will be included in VA's monthly compensation and pension envelopes throughout 2009.

The VA Secretary urged veterans to remember that direct deposits relieve worry about mail delivery being delayed by severe weather or natural disasters. The deposits also eliminate trips to banks or credit unions to deposit checks, while providing immediate access to money at the same time each month.

## Air Capital Chapter News

The Air Capital Chapter of the American Ex-Prisoners of War participated in the annual Veterans Day parade in Wichita, KS.

Members of the chapter rode in the antique cars of the Horseless Carriage Club. Friend Larry Menestrina carried the AXPOW flag as part of the color guard. The chapter had six magnetic signs proclaiming "The American Ex-Prisoners of War" affixed to the side of the cars by Commander Ray Avila. The members riding in the autos were Cmdr. Avila, Mathew

Horsch, John & Mary Ellen Mock Vona Noble and Dr. William & Marjorie Paschal. This parade entry was awarded second place among entries in the parade. Photo: Commander Ray Avila of the Air Capital Chapter holding the second place trophy from the Veterans Day parade.



# Your Stories



## An Essay on World War II

by LTC (Ret) William Brown

They walk a little slower these days, and the spring in their step is, for the most part, gone. Sometimes you have to speak louder when talking to them. Time has taken, and is taking, its toll on them. Their ranks row thinner each day.

They probably appear to you like any ordinary group of old people, mostly retirees now, sitting on porch swings or in rocking chairs or wandering around malls. They're ordinary parents and grandparents in all respects, save one.

When they were young, they saved the world. No other generation in the history of the world can make that claim...Not the founders of the American Revolution, not the ancient Greeks or the Romans, not the Baby Boomers, not even the early Christians.

Granted, other generations have had great struggles, and other times have faced daunting challenges, but at best there were, here and there, saviors only of a town or a country, vanguards of unfulfilled promises, dreamers of visions.

America's World War II generation did not, as a group, achieve the heroism of Joan of Arc, nor is there any evidence their souls were "touched by fire" as the American Civil War experience was described by Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. But who would deny that the actions of that generation had a much more profound effect on our world?

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Yet isn't it ironically fitting that victory in the most intense, deadly and important struggle in human history should seem sort of ordinary to those who won it and to those who benefitted the most from it?

You see, America's World War II generation saved the world, not for glory or for honor, not for lasting tribute on the printed page, but simply because it had to be done. No one else was available to do it.

It isn't that the British or the French or the Chinese or the Russians or any other freedom-loving peoples of the world didn't contribute mightily. They did. They suffered unutterably severe hardships, death and destruction. And that is precisely the point. With most of Europe in chains, Asia teetering on the edge of collapse, the Pacific in flames and the incredibly brave British hanging on by their fingernails, it fell to the Americans to save the world from the unspeakable horror of global fascist domination.

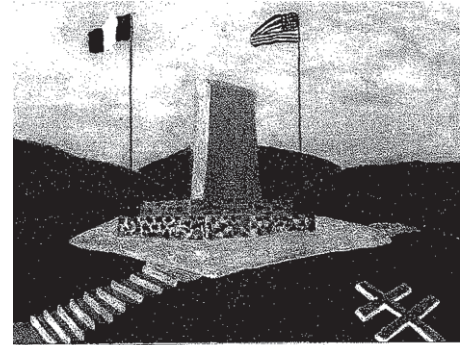
And who were these valiant warriors who secured the blessings of freedom and liberty for the world back in those dark days? Supermen? Millions of Davids or King Richards or equally well-known historical figures? Hardly. Certainly that war had its share of legends. But legends don't win wars. Men and women win wars. Ordinary people like my brother, two uncles and five cousins; people like your Uncle Roy; or maybe even your mother and father.

We need to take a long, loving look at these people now, while we have the chance. If you know any, give them a hug and say "Thanks". No individuals or groups have ever matched their achievements. God willing, no one will ever have to again.

## The Union II Mission

Submitted by Marge Poker,  
Milwaukee Barb Wire Chapter  
From the Chapter archives:

It's very doubtful that any POW will ever forget the day, month and year that he was captured! However, how many paws are remembered, albeit year's later, with reunions, celebrations and just rewards and fellow POW members can learn about it! The EX-POW BULLETIN, the official voice and publication of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, has proven to be the outstanding source for such information. The following is just such an account that many a POW just might relate to.



"Les Saisies Parachutage"  
Union II  
Haute Luce, Savoie  
France  
Art by Jack Risler

As the Allies were invading southern France on August 1, 1944 a commando of seven OSS U.S Marines jumped into the Pass of the Saisies (SAVOIE) in the French Alps. One of the parachutists, Sgt. C. Perry was killed as his parachute failed. This was called the Union II mission. It was as an Anglo-French-American code name mission originating as "Union" on January 6, 1944 in London, England where, then Captain, Ortiz, was given the assignment to estimate the military capacities of the French Resistance of Savoie, Isere, and Drome and establish a plan for a concerted action of the different groups at the time of D-Day.

The Allies found it necessary to determine the needs of adequate supplies and equipment for this BATTALION BULLE and its 3000 maquisards. Parachuting into France from B-17 Bombers, the Union II's Mission's first goal was to familiarize the resistants with the newly designed parachuted 899 cylinders of equipment including Sten guns, pistols, Bren machine guns, rifles, anti-tank guns, personnel grenades, two

## stories, cont'd...

tons of explosives, 2.5 million rounds of ammunition, medical supplies, and rations. Thus began organized sabotage to try to seize the key positions that the retreating German units could destroy, and impossible to delay or prevent their retreat toward Italy, something which could be expected following the Allies' landing in Normandy, and the landings (ANVIL) of August 15<sup>th</sup>. On August 16<sup>th</sup>, close to the village of Centron, Captain Ortiz and two of his friends, Sergeants, John Bodnar and Jack Risler and J. Arcilin, a Frenchman who had been given Sgt. Perry's uniform to wear the week before, suddenly encountered a convoy of heavy trucks and several hundred German soldiers of the 157<sup>th</sup> Alpine Mountain Division. They withdrew into the village under heavy fire...Several days before the Germans completely destroyed the village of Montgirod, the sister village of Centron and shot several hostages accused of harboring the American "terrorists" and collaborating with the enemy. This ordeal was still fresh in Captain Ortiz and the men's minds when they decided the need to surrender. The surrender proposal in German, by Capt. Ortiz- who spoke five languages, -bargained an agreement with the German commander to save the population of the village, thus saving Centron of certain destruction.

The four were taken to German headquarters for interrogation. Ortiz told them to claim they were paratroopers from ANVIL landings since they wore U.S. Army type jackets and Hitler had issued orders to execute OSS agents who were caught. After being transported for several weeks to various locations they arrived at Marlag Nord, a permanent camp for naval

paws located outside the German city of Bremen. The team was into solitary confinement, interrogated by an officer of the Kriegsmarine (German Navy) but refused to "cut a record for the folks back home," an obvious propaganda ploy.

On April 10, 1945, the Germans evacuated the prisoners ahead of the advancing British rescuers. With the help of a fellow POW, Sergeants Risler and Bodnar cut a section from the wooden floorboards of a small storage building and hid in the crawl space. The accomplice sprinkled pepper over their hiding place, which irritated the German guard dogs' sensitive noses, and they avoided detection. On April 29, the 1<sup>st</sup> Scots Armored Group liberated the camp.

In 1984 the team was invited back to Savoy by the French Resistance Association to help celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "famed parachuting of the Saisies Pass to the very spots where 78 of your flying fortresses brought deliverance to us." Jack Risler and John Bodnar with their wives returned to be wined and dined by the grateful village. Ortiz could not attend as he was ill with cancer that would take his life in 1988. In 1994 John Bodnar who remained in the Marine Corps and Jack Risler also returned for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. On the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that Union II Mission in August 2004, the two surviving members of that mission, John Bognar and Jack Risler received the Legion of Honor medal. The award of the Legion d'Honneur, with rank of chevalier was kept a secret from them until the morning of the ceremony before a crowd of 2,500 near the Union II monument. The insignia medal is a white enameled star of five rays on a wreath of leaves with a gold medallion ringed by blue enamel. The Legion of Honor goes back to Napo-



SgtMaj John Bodnar, USMC (Ret) and GySgt Jack Risler, the sole surviving U.S. members of Operation Union II, received the Legion of Honor from a grateful France during a commemoration ceremony on 30 July near Albertville.

leon and represents the highest service to the Republic of France. Years after he left the Marine Corps, Platoon Sgt. Jack Risler was notified that during his nine months as a POW he had been promoted to gunnery sergeant. His Silver Star medal citation from the Secretary of the Navy was presented to him for "...conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action while performing Specialized Duties in enemy-controlled territory."

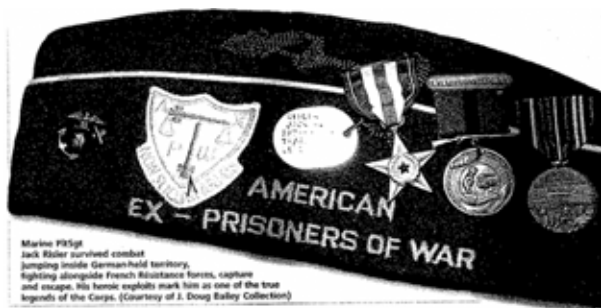
Jack Risler continued to perform specialized duties as the past Commander of the POW's Milwaukee Barb Wire Chapter and for several years now as the Chapter's Historian. Because of the continued efforts of historians such as Jack, the efforts of seeing is not just believing but documenting work behind the legends of cherished POWS would be lost.

PS:

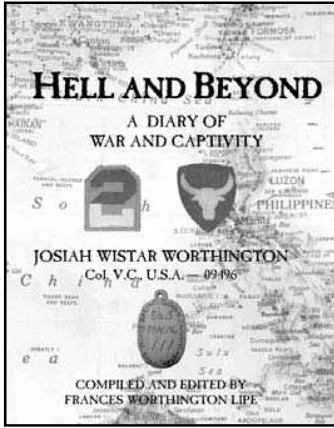
If you've watched a World War II movie on TV recently resembling the story above, it might have been James Cagney in 13 RUE MADELEINE, or Cornell Wilde in OPERATION TOP SECRET. They both used U. S. Marine of World War II, Major Peter J. Ortiz as technical director. He had also been the subject of Ralph Edwards' radio program, THIS IS YOUR LIFE in 1949.

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Marine PVT Sgt Jack Risler survived combat jumping inside German-held territory, fighting alongside French Resistance forces, captured and escape. His name explicitly mark him as one of the true legends of the Corps. (Courtesy of J. Doug Bailey Collection)



**HELL & BEYOND,  
A DIARY OF WAR AND  
CAPTIVITY**

by **Josiah Wistar Worthington, Col. V.C., U.S.A**  
Compiled & edited by Frances Worthington Lipe  
(Full map of all Japanese POW Camps included)

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The AXPOW Volunteer Giving Program parallels that of other VSOs, whereby the entire membership, including life members, is given the opportunity to contribute to the operation of our organization, based on ability and willingness to contribute.



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**Ex-POW Bulletin**  
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---

## My Days in Munich

We started on the thirtieth  
They got us up way early,  
There wasn't a one of us in a hurry  
To be working under a Jerry.

We climbed up in the boxcars  
And it was hell a-riding;  
You freeze your toes and frost your nose  
But we kept right on a-riding.

We finally arrived in Munich  
Our shovels and spades were waiting,  
With pockets full of soap and tea  
We soon were busy trading.

When the watch said three-thirty  
We threw the shovels away,  
Climbed back up in the boxcars  
And started back on our way.  
Your ration of soup was waiting  
And we easily put it away  
Stacked our bread in the boxes  
And went to sleep on the hay.

I dream of good ol' South Dakota  
The land of the sunshine state.  
Hoping for the day when I'll be back  
And eating some hamburger steaks.

I'll be at home forever more,  
With a padlock on my door,

Hand all my dollars to the Red Cross  
And the hell with all the draft boards.

(Written while a POW; captured while serving with the 103<sup>rd</sup> Inf., 7<sup>th</sup> Army)

Charles G Dawes  
1100 William St  
Mitchell, SD 57301

I sailed out of NY Harbor in Oct. 1944, aboard the USS Brooks and spent two weeks at sea. I was eighteen years old. We landed at Marseilles, France on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>.

After eighteen years and six days, I became a prisoner of war, while fighting with the 103<sup>rd</sup> Infantry, 7<sup>th</sup> Army. I spent five months, two weeks in Ludwigsburg, Germany, the rest of the time in Moosburg.

We were liberated by General Patton and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army on April 29, 1945. I returned to New York on the USS Morgan on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

This poem was composed with thoughts of returning home. I'm glad I did.



# taps



Please submit taps notices to: Cheryl Cerbone, 23 Cove View Drive, South Yarmouth, MA 02664

**BURLAGE, George Edward** of Denton, TX died Nov. 30, 2008. He was 90 years old. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1939 and was stationed at Cavite in the Philippines. George was at Cavite when World War II started for the Americans in the Pacific and was captured by Japanese forces after the Battle of Corregidor on May 6, 1942. He was held as a POW by the Japanese for forty months and worked as a slave laborer in the Philippines and in the Mitsubishi coal mines in Japan. He was a member of AXPOW. George is survived by one daughter and two granddaughters. He is also survived by his "little buddy" Peanut.

**DICKERMAN, Clark**, 87, died Nov. 13, 2008. A pilot with the 100<sup>th</sup> BG, 8<sup>th</sup> AF, he was shot down on his 33<sup>rd</sup> mission, captured and sent to Luft III. He was in the march from Sagan to Nurnburg to Moosburg. He leaves his wife of 63 years, Lillian, 4 sons and 8 grandchildren.

**ELLIS, Robert William**, of Bridgeport, WV passed away Dec. 8, 2008. He served with the 28<sup>th</sup> Div., 110<sup>th</sup> Inf. during WWII. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held for five months. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Phyllis, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 1 brother and several nieces and nephews.

**FERTITTA, Joseph**, of Beaumont, TX died July 22, 2008, one month before his 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. He served with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 303<sup>rd</sup> BG and was a POW in Europe. Survivors include his wife, Nancy.

**FOGLE, Dalton M.**, member of the Aqua Fria Chapter, AXPOW died Dec. 26, 2008. He was a WWII veteran, member of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne; he participated in the drop behind German lines the night before D-Day. Dalton was a POW in Rundorf Labor Camp, Stalag 12A.

**GALLOP, Willis**, of Reseda, CA, died February 24, 2008, age 86. He was in the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 545<sup>th</sup> BS 384<sup>th</sup> BG, and was the Nav/Bombardier of the B017 *Dark Angel*. He was shot down on March 17, 1945, and held in Stalag 7A.

**HALL, Douglas**, member of the Old Ft. Smith Chapter (AR), AXPOW, passed away Nov. 24, 2008. Survivors include one niece.

**HANNA, Dale**, 90, of Redwood Falls, MN died Dec. 1, 2008. During WWII he was captured in Germany and held for several months. He was a member of the Prairieland Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

**HAVELICK, John**, of Bridgeport, CT died May 2, 2008. He served with the 88<sup>th</sup> Glider Inf., 13<sup>th</sup> Airborne Div., 79<sup>th</sup> Inf., 560<sup>th</sup> CML. BN in Normandy, France and Rhineland. He was captured Sept. 2, 1944, and was a POW at Stalags 2B and 12A. John was a former member of the Connecticut Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by his wife, Anne.

**HITCHCOCK, Charles R.**, of Carpentersville, IL, died Dec 15, 2008. A life member since 1986, he served with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 81<sup>st</sup> BG and was a POW in Lufts 1 & 4. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Marion.

**HULTQUIST, Glenn Frederick**, 87, of Burlington, IA passed away Dec. 9, 2008. He served as part of a 10-

man squad of B-24 Liberator pilots with the 464<sup>th</sup> BG, 777<sup>th</sup> BS, 15<sup>th</sup> AF. After being shot down, he was captured and held until liberation. Glenn was a member of AXPOW. Survivors include his wife, Lois, 1 brother, 1 stepdaughter, 2 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, 3 nephews and 2 nieces.

**KEATING, Leo E.**, of Dover, NH passed away Aug. 28, 2003. During WWII, he served with the 27<sup>th</sup> FA, Col, Armored Div. in North Africa and Italy. He was captured and held in various camps in Italy. **KEATING, Eleanor**, his loving wife of 58 years, passed away recently. They are survived by 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

**KEEHN, Jack S.**, member of the Big Apple Chapter, AXPOW, died Sept. 6, 2008. He served with the 101<sup>st</sup> "Screaming Eagles" Parachute Division and made several successful jumps before being captured Sept. 26, 1944. He was held until liberation. Jack was very generous with his time, devoted to veterans causes and reaching out to others. He leaves his wife, Elaine, and one son.

**KRAVITZ, Ann**, of Flushing, NY died Dec. 4, 2008. She was 81. Ann was the wife of former POW Sol and a member of the Brooklyn "Key" Chapter, AXPOW.

**LOVE, Irene G.**, of Rosedale, NY passed away October 21, 2008 at the age of 85. She was the loving wife of Ex-POW Harry W. Love (POW in Stalag Luft III and Stalag 7A). Irene and Harry had three children, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren in their sixty-five years of marriage. Both were active members of the Brooklyn Key Chapter, AXPOW.

## taps continued...

**MILLER, David Clifton**, 85, died Dec. 1, 2008 in England. In 1942, he joined other Americans who went to England to fight against the Germans. He ended up a POW in Germany until 1945. David is survived by his wife of 46 years, Shirley; they have spent the last 20 years in England.

**MILNER, Acie Durell "Red"** died Dec. 23, 2008 in Lexington, KY. A native of Tennessee, He was a resident of Louisville from 1945 until Nov. 2008. He was a member of the Kentuckiana Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he served with the 30<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div. He was in the Normandy invasion, later was captured and was a POW in Stalag 3C in Germany. He escaped and found his way home in the winter of 1944-45. Acie was currently Chaplain of the Dept. of Kentucky AXPOW and Sr. Vice Commander of the Kentuckiana Chapter. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Leona, one son, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**PENLAND, Harold**, of Wellford, SC died June 13, 2008. He was a life member of AXPOW and Past State Commander of SC. He was also a life member of Piedmont Chapter #1. Harold served in the Air Force, stationed in England; he was shot down on his 14<sup>th</sup> mission. He leaves one daughter and one son.

**PETERSON, Dorothy L.**, of Sinclairville, NY died Sept. 21, 2008. She was a life member of AXPOW and the Southwestern NY Chapter. Survivors include her husband Robert (Luft I), one son, one daughter and three grandsons.

**ROBINSON, Hubert**, of Pacolet, SC passed away June 29, 2008. He was in the Infantry during WWII; he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. Hubert was a life member of AXPOW and member of the Piedmont

Chapter #1. Survivors include one daughter.

**ROSEMORE, Frederic M**, 85, of Aventura, FL died Nov. 21, 2008. He was a member of the Gold Coast Chapter, AXPOW. Fred was a navigator on a B-17; he was shot down over Hungary and captured. He spent one year in Stalag Luft III. He leaves his loving wife of 63 years, Marion, 5 children, 13 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**RUCKER, Ernest Eugene "Gene"** died December 14, 2008, at his home in Clearwater, FL. He served in the ETO with the 101st Airborne, 35th Infantry Division. He was captured December 12, 1944, and held in Stalags 12A and 9B. He was a member of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter. He is survived by Betty, his wife of 62 years, son Don, daughter Connie, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**STRAWSER, George**, of Austin, TX, died Dec 5, 2008. He served with the 168<sup>th</sup> Combat Team, 34<sup>th</sup> Div, as a Medical Assistant, and was a POW in Germany until liberation. An AXPOW life member since 1988, George was a member of the Capital City Chapter, Texas.

**TAYLOR, William J.**, 84, of South Charleston, SC passed away Dec. 9, 2008. He served in the Army during WWII. He was captured and held in Germany. Willie was a member of Chapter #10, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Betty J., 3 daughters, 1 son, 7 step-children, 10 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

**TEXLEY, Harvey L.**, of Brookings, SD died Sept. 6, 2008 at the age of 87. He was captured in Holland while serving with the Army during WWII; he was held in Luckenwalde Prison and liberated by the Russians. Harvey is survived by one daughter, three sons, two sisters, one brother, eight grand-

children and four great-grandchildren.

**TOPPING, Edward Frederick**, 79, of El Paso, TX died Sept. 19, 2008. During the Korean War, he served with Battery C, 38<sup>th</sup> RC, Field Artillery Bn. He was captured and held for 33 months in Camp 5. His wife, Terri, 7 children, many grandchildren, 3 brothers and 2 sisters survive him. Terri would like to hear from Mr. Rowland who was in camp with her husband.

**VEITCH, Max**, of Toledo, OH passed away Dec. 4, 2008. He was 84. Max was a radio operator-gunner with the 44<sup>th</sup> BG; he was shot down on his 18<sup>th</sup> mission. He was a member of the Maumee Valley Chapter, AXPOW. Max's wife, Betty, 3 sons, 2 daughters and 8 grandchildren miss him very much.

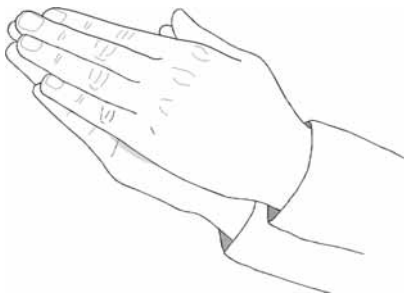
**WASHBURN, John Edward**, of Warner Robins, GA died Dec. 4, 2008. He was a member of the Middle GA Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, John was shot down while on a bombing run of the Ploesti Oil Fields; he was captured and held until liberation. John's wife, Margaret, passed away in June; he is survived by 4 children, 7 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

**YANEZ, Louis A.**, 85, passed away December 6, 2008 in South Bend, IN. He is survived by one daughter and one granddaughter. He also leaves one sister, nieces and nephews. In 1941 he enlisted in the Army Air Corps and trained as a B-17 Engineer and Ball Turret Gunner. On May 10, 1944, his B-17 was shot down after bombing Wiener-Neustadt. The crew survived and was captured in the town of Otterthal, Austria. Yanez spent 17 months in Stalag Luft 4. In 2004, the mayor of Otterthal contacted Yanez to invite him and his surviv-

## taps continued...

ing crewmates to Austria. The town wished to give them the proper welcome they did not receive in 1944. Unfortunately, none of the crew could undertake the trip. The mayor then hiked up a mountain to the B-17 crash site, retrieved some remnants of the aircraft and sent them to Yanez.

**ZUKUNFT, Werner P**, 88, of Hamden, CT died Nov. 27, 2008. Werner served as a navigator on B-17s with the 8<sup>th</sup> AF, 401<sup>st</sup> BG, 613<sup>th</sup> BS. He was shot down over Germany and captured. He was a POW in Stalag Luft III. Werner leaves his wife, Virginia, 1 daughter, 1 son, 3 grandchildren, 1 niece and nephews and a host of close friends.



## national chaplain



James H. Beaver  
22644 Montego Bay Road  
Abingdon, VA 24211  
(276) 623-0875

This day finds us very early in the beginning of a New Year with all our hopes, dreams and expectations for it. I would like to take this opportunity to wish each of you a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2009.

Even though we live in times when dark clouds loom on the horizon, wars, rumors of wars, a declining economy etc, there is still hope for

our future. We can live with Peace and Tranquillity in our hearts, for Christ said, "Peace I leave with you. My Peace I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14-27) Be of good courage. Our God is still in control.

Courage is not the towering oak,  
but the fragile blossom  
that opens in the snow.  
(unknown)

**PRAYER:** Heavenly Father, we pray for that Peace that only you can give. We ask that you would help us keep Peace in our hearts daily, and not Peace only, but let your Love also be seen in our lives always. Not just on February 14<sup>th</sup>, but every day of this New Year so that we can be a light to others. We realize that a city built on a hill can not be hid. We ask these petitions in the name of Christ Jesus, Our Lord.  
Amen

REV. JAMES H. BEAVER

## Committee News

### From the Strategic Planning Committee:

The committee has been gratified by the response we've received from our membership. Thank you! for taking the time to write and give us your ideas for the future of our organization. We've received a number of suggestions for keeping AXPOW strong and healthy down the road and we're looking for ways to implement them. They range from changing convention dates to reducing the number of officers through attrition. Remember, all members are encouraged to send in your ideas for the national organization. They may be ideas to

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help the organization's finances, long-term planning or operations. Please send your thoughts to ND Sid Hecker, Chairman, 7730 Laie Place, Diamondhead, MS 39525.

### From the Direct Mail Subcommittee:

The 2009 calendars have been quite a hit with our members, shown by your very generous donations! The next program will be coming out this month. It will be a handy AXPOW note pad, with our logo and space for shopping lists, quick notes and more. Again, you are not required to give donations to our direct mail programs, but we really appreciate your generosity. Your donation helps keep AXPOW financially strong. Cheryl Cerbone

### From the Awards Committee:

Do you know a member who has

done an outstanding job for AX-POW? Or a non-member who always gives that extra bit to help ex-POWs? Submit their names and give a short explanation of why you think they should receive an award. Send in your requests to ND Deanie Schmidt, 1001 Parkview Blvd, #316, Columbus, OH 43219.

### From the Outreach Committee:

Join the Outreach Committee! Positions are open to all who are willing to reach out to help former POWs and their dependents receive the VA benefits due them. No salary. Volunteers are paid in gratitude, thanks and smiles from those they help. Contact Chairman Fred Campbell for details. 3312 Chatterton Dr., San Angelo, TX 76904; 325-944-4002.



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to honor a loved one or a former colleague  
Donations are not tax-deductible.

Please feel free to make copies of this form and use when making donations.

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\_\_\_\_\_

**GIVEN BY:**

Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

**Name**

**Address**

**City, state and zip code**

To be contributed to the \_\_\_\_\_ Fund.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE SENT TO:**

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Memorial donations should be sent to:  
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# new members

National Headquarters  
 3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40  
 Arlington, TX 76010; (817) 649-2979  
 Marsha.Coke@axpow.org



## New Annual Members Welcome Home



ROBERT CORMIER  
 ANAHEIM CA  
 GRANDSON OF LEO  
 CORMIER, KOREA

MARCELL MOORE  
 39527  
 OLATHE KS  
 WIDOW OF CARL  
 EDWIN MOORE  
 LUFT 4 & 6



15 AF 32 BS 301 BG  
 DULAG LUFT, LUFT 2 2/  
 44 TO 5/45

SAM A 'TRAP'  
 TRAPASSO  
 MARY 39531 39532  
 OSSINING NY  
 9 INF DIV 60 INF CO 2  
 2 BN  
 12A 9/5/44 T6P 5/45



MARY JO HUFF  
 JERRY DON 39533  
 39534  
 MT VERNON TX  
 DAUGHTER OF VELVIN  
 BOLIN, ETO

PAUL A MANIK  
 ROSE 39535 39536  
 OAK PARK MI  
 CO G 346 INF  
 12A 11A

## New Life Members Welcome Home \*new member

EMMA S DE WILDE  
 39526  
 LEVITTOWN PA  
 WIDOW OF PAUL  
 ERNEST RIESS  
 CAPTURED AND DIED  
 IN KOREA POW CAMP

NORMAN J MARSHANK  
 39528  
 LOS ANGELES CA  
 446 BG  
 LUFT 3 7A

EDWIN H MEYER  
 JANET 39529 39530  
 GRANVILLE OH



JAMES K TURNER  
 BLANCHE C 39537  
 39538  
 DAYTON OH  
 12 ARMD DIV  
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# request for membership application American Ex-Prisoners of War

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Membership is open to US Military and Civilians captured  
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**Do NOT send dues with this request for an application**

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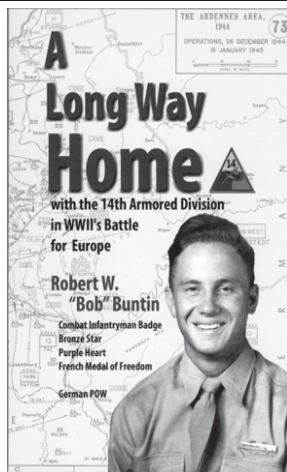
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Life Membership Rates	
Under 35	\$360
36-50	\$300
51-60	\$180
61 & over	\$120
Spouse of life member	\$ 40
Annual Membership Rates	
Single Membership	\$ 40
Husband & wife	\$ 50

This is a personal account of becoming separated from the remnants of my company and lost in the Vosges Mountains of Southeastern France on New Years Day, 1945. It is a story of survival in the bitter cold of snow-covered mountains, avoiding capture, then suffering that fate after almost a week, all alone, and surviving captivity. It is also my experiences as a member of a rifle squad, of being wounded; and about love and war, and the intertwining of the two.

It is an autobiography about growing up in Southside Virginia on a farm, voluntarily drafted into the Army; and becoming a member of the First Rifle Squad of the Third Platoon of 'C' Company, 62nd Armored Infantry Battalion, 14th Armored Division ("The Liberators").

**A Long Way Home**, by Bob Buntin  
 Paperbacks \$15 Hardbacks \$20  
 add \$2 for shipping and handling.  
 Send your order, check payable to: Bob Buntin  
 505 College Ave., Blackstone, Va. 23824



## 50/50 drawing

September 20, 2008  
 Kansas City, Missouri

1st Place	Sid Hecker Diamondhead MS	\$995.80
2nd Place	Donald Behney Camphill PA	\$746.85
3rd Place	Marjorie Trimble San Leandro CA	\$497.90
4th Place	Richard Oberlin West Unity OH	\$248.95

These drawings help raise money needed for our operating expenses. They allow our members to participate in a very worthwhile project, while giving them a chance to win. 50% of the donations will be given to the General Fund and the other 50% are awarded as prizes. The amounts are determined after all donations are received. You do not have to be present to win. Please make copies of the tickets on the other side and offer them to your Chapter members, family and friends. We are asking \$5.00 for 6 tickets. These donations are not tax deductible. Fill out the tickets and send them and your donations to:

**National Headquarters ~ 50/50 Drawing**  
**3201 E. Pioneer Pkway, #40**  
**Arlington, TX 76010-5396**

## A Lovely Little War

*Life in a Japanese prison camp  
 through the eyes of a child*

by Angus Lorenzen

"...played a part in making history...the factual truth..."  
*Publishers Weekly*



*A Lovely Little War* is Angus Lorenzen's own story told through the eyes of a seven-year-old child, torn from a life of privilege in China and thrust into a Japanese World War II internment camp in Manila. Set in an historical framework, Angus mixes the harsh reality of the Santo Tomas camp with light moments of humor that are a big part of a child's life. But the light moments darken after liberation, when he found himself in the cataclysm of the Battle of Manila.

"... played a part in making history ...the factual truth ..."  
*Publishers Weekly*

"*A Lovely Little War* is one of the best books I have read about children who are prisoners of war ... about his experiences as a child ... at Santo Tomas in the Philippines."

"Once you begin, you will not want to put this book down."

Published by History Publishing Company

Available in hardback from bookstores and mail-order from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and [www.historypublishingco.com](http://www.historypublishingco.com)

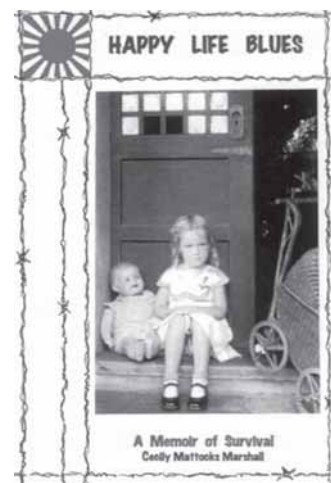
## HAPPY LIFE BLUES

Even as the storm clouds of war were gathering in the Pacific, the Mattocks family was living a happy and productive life in the Philippines. HAPPY LIFE BLUES tells the story of how their lives were changed forever after the events of December, 1941.

It recounts the peaceful prewar days, their years of hiding and imprisonment and how they adapted to those dramatic events. Despite the years of loss, deprivation and uncertainty of the future, the family maintained an optimistic spirit which would sustain them in their struggle for survival.

Available: Amazon.com

Or write to: Cecily Marshall,  
 290 Goodale St.,  
 W. Boylston, MA 01583  
 Price \$15.00 plus \$3.50 S/H



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**American Ex-Prisoners of War  
50/50 Drawing**

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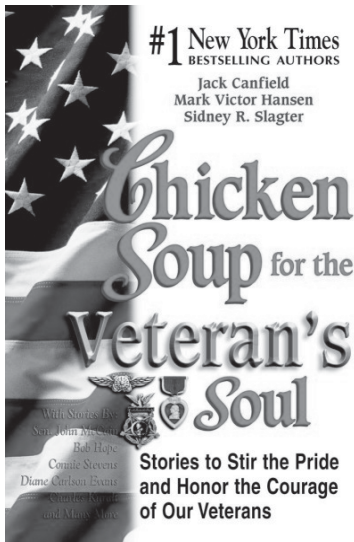
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**Ex-POW Bulletin**  
**February 2009**

### Name Badge Order Form

(for members only)

Actual size of badge is size of a credit card



PLEASE PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Name Badge with name & chapter and city: **\$6.00**

(includes shipping and handling)

Ship to:

Street \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail orders to:

**AXPOW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**  
**3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40**  
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### AXPOW Vest Order Form

(For members only)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Size (Men/coat, Women/chest measurement) \_\_\_\_\_

Long, Regular or Short \_\_\_\_\_

Name on front of vest \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Name (back of vest) \_\_\_\_\_

**Price: \$55.00**, includes shipping/handling

Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery.

Mail orders to:

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**3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40**  
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Official AXPOW Cap (specify size)	40.00	Jeweled Flag Pin	30.00	12x18 AXPOW Graveside Flag	10.00
Vinyl Cap Bag	3.00	USA Jeweled Pin	15.00	3x5 ft. AXPOW Flag w/3-color logo	
Maroon AXPOW Sport Cap	8.00	Logo Necklace	5.00	with fringe, indoor use	60.00
Black Eagle Sport Cap	9.00	Logo Earrings (pierced or clip)	5.00	with grommets, outdoor use	60.00
Canvas Sport Cap (offwhite or tan)	10.00	2" Medallion (for plaque)	5.00	3x5ft. blackPOW/MIA flag, outdoor use	25.00
Necktie w/logo woven in fabric (specify regular or pre-tied)	25.00	Vest Chainguard w/eagles	8.00	AXPOW Metal License Plate Frame	7.00
AXPOW Logo Bolo Tie	15.00	3" Blazer Patch	4.00	Aluminum License Plate	5.00
U.S. Flag Bolo Tie	19.00	4" Blazer Patch	4.00	3" Vinyl Decal	1.00
Mini POW Medal Bolo Tie	20.00	8" Blazer Patch	10.00	3" Inside Decal	1.00
Goldtone Bolo Bezel with cord	9.00	<b>CLOTH STRIPES</b> (specify which title)	3.00	8" Vinyl Decal	6.00
Barbed Wire pin	3.00	Life Member · Chapter Commander		12" Vinyl Decal	10.00
Life Member pin	5.00	Past Chapter Commander · Chapter Adj/Treas Chapter		Bumper Sticker "Freedom – Ask us"	2.00
Crossed Flags Lapel pin	5.00	Adjutant · Chapter Treasurer		AXPOW Wall Clock (includes battery)	20.00
Brooch pin	5.00	State Department Commander		AXPOW Notecards (pkg of 25)	6.00
EX-POW pin (goldtone)	5.00	Past State Dept. Commander · Department Adjutant		Special Prayer Cards (pkg of 25)	6.00
Logo pin	5.00	Department Treasurer · Sr. Vice Commander		AXPOW Prayer Book	2.00
POW Stamp pin	3.00	Jr. Vice Commander · Chaplain · Historian		Ladies Prayer Book	1.00
Past Chapter Commander pin	5.00	Service Officer · Legislative Officer		AXPOW By-Laws	5.00
Past Department Commander pin	5.00	Past Chapter Officer · Past Department Officer		POW Videotape – ETO or Pacific	11.00
Eagle pin w/Barbed Wire (specify gold, silver or antique gold)	8.00			"Speak Out" Education Packet	6.00
				Canvas Totebag w/4" logo	15.00

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**Shipping/Handling/Insurance:**

**Total: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**For credit card orders:** Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

(Check one) Master Card \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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BAD-05-08-11323

**Bronze Grave Medallion  
with  
AXPOW LOGO**

The Medallion is 4", Bronze/Brown with Lacquer, weighs approximate 1lb 4oz, containing 84% copper, balance in other metals. The hardware for mounting is included in each packet.

check with your local cemetery before ordering to see if medallions are permitted.

**\$75.00**

**plus \$15.00 shipping/handling/insurance.**

**Shipping costs on two or more is \$20.00.**



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Include your mailing label for address change or inquiry. If you are receiving duplicate copies, please send both labels. If moving, please give us your new address in the space provided.

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Please allow 4 weeks to make address corrections.

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