EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the

American Ex-Prisoners of War

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March/April 2009



We exist to help those who cannot help themselves

Insíde: News, Events, Purple Heart Elígíbílíty...



Stories...Outreach, Information... Success and more

April 14, 1942~Our Birthday!

TET 2009 at the Nam Viet Restaurant



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Deadline for the May 2009 issue is March 25,2009

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

March/April 2009

Thursday, April 9, 1942

In the Philippines... American General King surrenders 75,000 men (12,000 Americans) to the Japanese. A death march begins for the prisoners as they are taken to San Fernado, 100 miles away. Many thousands of them die on the march. Resistance continues in isolated areas of Luzon and other islands. General Wainwright and his troops continue to hold out on Corregidor Island.

In the India Ocean... The Japanese fleet continues its attacks. It is hunting the main British fleet. Trincomalee is attacked by Japanese aircraft and the British carrier HMS *Hermes* is attacked and sunk..

In Burma...In the Irrawaddy Valley, both the Japanese and British forces prepare offensives. The Japanese however have the advantage of earlier reinforcement and are in a position to attack first.

On the Eastern Front... German forces in the north advance to begin the relief of the encircled 16th Army forces at Demyansk. Meanwhile, in the Crimea, Soviet attacks are renewed with little success in the area.

At home... Information was leaking out about the atrocities and subhuman treatment that American prisoners of war were receiving in Japanese prison camps in the Pacific. When wives and mothers heard about their sons and husbands who had been taken prisoner, they started calling and writing their congressmen in an effort to find help or get assistance for their loved ones. Finally, two mothers, whose sons were members of the 200th Coast Artillery and had been captured by the Japanese, came up with an idea. It was Mrs. Charles W. Bickford and Mrs. Fred E. Landon who, on April 10, 1942, persuaded other parents and relatives to hold a mass meeting. They formed an organization to get relief to the captured boys on Bataan. On April 14th, the Bataan Relief Organization began with Dr. V. H. Spensley, as Chairman. Their motto was "We will not let them down."

Happy Birthday, AXPOW!

Sick Call: PNC Zack Roberts PJVC Rich Manners PVAVS Director "Cay" Burns

All are recuperating at home. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Cheryl

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Committee addresses appear with their columns



National Commander Jim Clark

Dear Members and friends,

The time between (commander's) writing and (members') reading is normally about a month. For combined issues, like this one, it stretches even longer. There's a good possibility that much of what is in this column will be updated by the time you read it. But that's the nature of the publishing business.

Our Board of Directors met March 5-7 in Arlington, Texas – AXPOW's National Headquarters. There were a number of items on the agenda from the different committees. It has been most gratifying this year to see the hard work done by our Board and committee members. Everyone is focused on the future of our organization and how best to keep it strong and healthy in the future.

I've been writing about the Strategic Planning Committee's work now for some time. You can read their report in this issue of the Bulletin. Their ideas are still in the formulating stage, so if you have suggestions, please get them to Chairman Sid Hecker or other committee members. We're looking forward to more complete plans to submit at the convention in Boise this September.

Also in the Bulletin this month is an article - and a request for help - about the Purple Heart for POWs captured before April 25, 1962 (the majority of our members). NSO Director Doris Jenks and Editor Cheryl Cerbone have been receiving calls since the Nov/Dec. article on the National Purple Heart Hall of Fame.

In it, eligibility for the Purple Heart is simply listed as former prisoners of war. That's not entirely accurate, but in researching the criteria, more questions than answers have come up and it appears that the awarding of the Purple Heart is not consistently applied for ex-POWs. If you have received the Purple Heart after 1996 – or been turned down for the award, please let us know. There are steps we can take to try to have the different branches of service use one set of criteria across the board. Send your comments to the Editor.

Another item brought up at Midyear is the long-overdue support of the Civilian ex-POWs in our organization. Back in the 1990s, there were a number of Bills submitted to Congress to create equality between civilian and military POWs for disability compensation purposes. The Dept. of Labor is the government entity responsible for this group of members; currently they are treated much differently than their military counterparts.

The last bill, submitted in 1994, stated simply:

ELIGIBILITY- A former civilian prisoner of war is entitled to receive necessary medical care and disability benefits for any injury or disability resulting from the period of hidina. internment or presumptive medical and dental condition related to a period of internment provided for former military prisoners of war under section 1112(b) of title 38, United States Code, shall be extended to former civilian prisoners of war and shall be considered to have been incurred in or aggravated by such period of internment or hiding without regard to the absence of any record of such injury.

For many, many years, the Civilian members of our organization worked side by side with their military counterparts to ensure that they were eligible for the benefits they are entitled to. We owe them no less than our efforts on their behalf. It is the right thing to do and long past the right time to do it.

Vim

news from hq



From the National Treasurer, Sonnie B. Mottern:

AXPOW Chapters are part of the National Group Return.

Every year, we receive questions about postcard filing as a subordinate.

Form 990-N (e-postcard): Group return Subordinates Need to File

If your organization is a subordinate of a parent organization and your organization is included on the parent's group return, you are not required to file the e-Postcard. The group return satisfies your reporting requirement.

Since you file a list of departments and chapters with the IRS this fulfils this requirement.

According to the IRS site http://www.irs.gov/charities/article/0,,id=169250,00.html:

Who Must File

Most small tax-exempt organizations with gross receipts that are normally \$25,000 or less must file the e-Postcard. Exceptions to this requirement include:

Organizations that are included in a group return, and

<u>Churches</u>, their integrated auxiliaries, and conventions or associations of churches.

You are included in a group return.

I hope this helps clear up the confusion. You do not have to file with IRS.

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009

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SENATOR BOB DOLE REMARKS CONFIRMATION HEARING OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SECRETARY NOMINEE GENERAL ERIC SHINSEKI SENATE VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE January 14,2009

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee. I'm pleased to be here with my former colleague and dear friend, Senator Dan Inouye, to introduce an American hero.

General Shinseki has an outstanding, impeccable record of service and personal sacrifice for our country. I personally thank him for all he has done from Vietnam, to Bosnia, to Afghanistan and Iraq, to the present day for his willingness again to offer his dedication, knowledge and experience to this country. I know his assignment will take time away from his cherished grandchildren, which is not easy, particularly when General Shinseki has already given as much as he has.

As I said when Senator Inouye and I had the pleasure of introducing the current Secretary, General James Peake: it is good to have a Secretary who has been a patient and who knows what it is like to have been in the system.

General Shinseki has lived with a disability since his service in Vietnam. A day does not go by that he is not inconvenienced in some way or his life affected because he sacrificed for his belief in his country.

General Shinseki is a West Point graduate as was General Peake. He was Army Chief of Staff when the

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009 President appointed Secretary Peake Army Surgeon General. Both men were wounded twice in Vietnam. They are long time friends. With General Shinseki following General Peake the President Elect is doing the right thing by ensuring continuity for our veterans — who deserve the best and they will get it with this appointment.

General Shinseki will be a strong voice for vets in the new administration and an individual who truly knows what our commitment to deserving veterans should be. About two years ago I was on a flight with a colonel who was headed to Afghanistan for a second time. He handed me a card and on the back was a quote by John Stewart Mill: "War is an ugly thing," it read, "but it is not the ugliest of things. The decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks that nothing is worth war is much worse. The person who has nothing for which he is willing to fight, nothing which is more important than his own personal safety, is a miserable creature and has no chance of being free unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself." This is something General Shinseki understands.

As a free country, America honors its commitments, and the first of those commitments is support to men and women in uniform and their families who risk everything in most cases. We will keep our commitment because we have men like General Shinseki who will serve and do everything that should be done for our deserving veterans and promised them by a grateful nation.

As the members of this committee know, in 2007, I joined former HHS Secretary Donna Shalala on a Presidential Commission examining the care that we provide to our warriors returning home from our recent and ongoing wars.

We found excellent care within the DoD and VA systems, but we also found many challenges that needed to be addressed so that patients and families were not burdened more than they already are when a loved one in the service faces serious injury or a lifelong disability.

I was pleased that President Bush and many members of Congress in both parties took many, if not all, of our recommendations to heart. They were recommendations that we constructed through what we believe was rigorous examination and broad input from many people that know the system inside and out, what its strengths and what its weaknesses are.

When I called General Shinseki and offered to help, I learned he does not consider being Secretary of VA as political appointment and I compliment President Elect Obama for keeping the VA that way.

The VA certainly should be free of politics. The President Elect has made a wise choice and his appointment is yet another powerful indicator of how we care for, and respect, our men and women who serve our country.

I cannot think of a better person to look after our 25 million plus veterans than this true American hero who has done about everything one can think of in serving his country. I wish I were still in the Senate so I could vote for his confirmation.

God Bless America, General Shinseki, and our men and women whose service has kept us free.

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



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Outreach Action! Never a dull day!

Surely, between Christmas and New Years, Outreach will take a break. And the down week goes like this: Dec. 29, a nice phone call from Gary in Arkansas, whose father is in a VA contract nursing home in northeast Texas, and loves it; when he goes to the Bonham VAMC, he is always treated so well.

Same day, call from Louis in Lufkin, TX: "Thank you for your help with the Houston VARO; I got that extra benefit – Aid & Attendance – since I can't use my legs."

Dec. 30, get e-mail from Lois Coleman in Hutchinson, Kansas. "I read in the Bulletin's Outreach column about ALS now being a presumptive, for ALL veterans, not just POWs; we have a friend here whose husband died of ALS in 1980. Shouldn't she be eligible for the DIC?" I call Wichita VARO's POW Coordinator Ruthanne Grove-Alford to make sure. She said Yes! And she said she would do the claim to save time; have that widow call me. I call Mrs. T, widow in Hutchinson, gave her Ruthanne's direct line. She sent Mrs. T the widow's benefit claim papers, and claim is now in process. Finally, 29 years after husband's ALS death, Mrs. T will get her VA widow's benefit, AND ChampVA.

Dec. 31, I call Maxine whose husband died in 1963 of ALS; her claim for DIC went to South Carolina VA in October, 2008. "Maxine, have you heard from the VA?" "No, they're not going to give me anything." On Jan. 2, 2009, I call SC POW Coordinator Doug Chapman to check on Maxine's claim. Doug says, "We've already got her scheduled for the DIC." I asked him to call her to quell her negative thoughts. Doug calls her, according to her a nice 30 minute call, and tells her of her widow's benefit. Maxine can't believe it. What a way to start out the New Year, 46 years after her husband's death.

Jan. 3, mail comes with 401st Bomb Group's POOP FROM GROUP. Page 4, picture of Robert Keck crew, with names of crew, all former POWs in WWII Germany. None is AXPOW member. 401st BG Editor will try to help me make contact, to make sure surviving crew members or widows know of VA benefits. Page 5, picture of Butterfoss crew, all former German POWs. Only one is a member of AXPOW. Call him, JW in Charleston, SC. Daughter says, "Dad died in 2007." I ask what he died of. Answer, "Contributing cause was atrial fibrillation", a heart problem. His widow has possibility for VA benefit. We start claim to make sure.

Jan. 5, Betty Harlan, NSO in Sudan, TX sends email about former German POW, FW, who has written a book about his Stalag 17B experience. I call him in Kilgore, TX and find Shreveport, LA VA service officer is helping him get a boost from his 90% rating to 100% due to unemployability. I encourage his wife to let me know when he gets his 100%, so she can then apply for ChampVA. Thanks, Betty Harlan, for your vigilance!

Word of Mouth! It is so important. It is YOU thinking of someone you know, who may not know VA benefits for former POWs and their widows. For instance, just this week, Dallas widow Mary calls; a friend tells her of VA benefits; her husband died in 1978, heart trouble; claim on way to POW Coordinator Ginger Raney, Waco TX VARO.

Wilda calls, a friend alerted her; husband died of ALS in Jan. 1995. NSO Betty Harlan close by in TX Panhandle will help her with VA. Don Murray calls from Lewisburg, PA; WWII German POW buddy Richard in West Hills, CA with no VA benefits; will refer to NSO Harry Corre in W. Los Angeles VAMC for POW Protocol Exam.

Maxine Cupp calls from SC; New York friend 92 year old WWII Japanese POW who has no VA benefits. I called him, a non-complainer, "Yeah, it hurts a bit, but I'm all right." We're getting a POW Protocol Physical ordered. WORD OF MOUTH!

TAPS column, Jan/09 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 reaching out to them: CA, Frank Burger, Patricia Benker, Marilyn Corre and POW Coordinator Dennis Uldricks; SC, Lawrence King; NV, Alan Dunbar; MN, Richard Carroll; OH, Doc Unger; MA, Katherine Arnold; VA, Beth Brooks; NC, Paul Dallas; IN, Robert McClure; IL/OR/TX/WV, Fred Campbell.

Making these calls can be tedious when you don't seem to be helping anyone, thought most seem to be appreciated, as they show American Ex-Prisoners of War cares. As in this Jan. 18th note from Toni: "I

outreach continued...

want to thank you for the effort and time you expended in helping me finally receive my DIC benefits, (16 years after her husband's death). What you do to help military widows is highly appreciated." Surely this is for all our National Service Officers.

Our NSO network is effective. Example: Doris Jenks receives letter from Elsie in CT; a friend told her she might be eligible for DIC...husband died in 1982, was a POW in Germany. She said she looked on the internet and saw nothing relative to her situation. I make the Outreach call, "Elsie, what does your husband's death certificate show as cause of death?" "Heart attack." DIC claim papers are on the way, and she should get the DIC 17 years after his death, plus eligibility for ChampVA, the free Medicare supplement.

If you know of any former POW who has Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS) 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.



nso

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Some Former Prisoners of War are re-marrying after their spouses have died. A few are unaware they must notify the VA of this re-marriage. This is done by completing VA Form 21-686 and sending it to the V.A. Regional office in their state, along with a copy of their marriage certificate.

Notifying the VA of your marriage will result in an increase in your monthly compensation of \$150 if you are in receiving your 100%. If, you do not have your 100%, there still will be increase of a lesser amount, as long as you have at least 30%. In addition, to the additional compensation, your spouse will be eligible to apply for either CHAMPVA or TRICARE health in-

surance. CHAMPVA is for spouses or veterans rated 100%, TRICARE is for spouses whose husbands served at least 20 years in the military. For a spouse to be eligible for either CHAMPA or TRICARE FOR LIFE, if she is over the age of 65, she must have Medicare Part B. After one year of marriage to a Former Prisoner of War, the spouse is eligible for Dependents Indemnity Compensation should he die before her. The current monthly amount for DIC is \$1,154.

In addition, a new spouse will be eligible to apply for a military I.D. card, if the veteran is rated 100% by the VA or is retired military. The cards are issued at military installations. This is a great benefit if you want to stay or shop at any military installation or any military owned hotel. The savings can be substantial at these military facilities. There is a publication called "Temporary Military Lodging" which lists every military installation. This can be ordered by calling (703) 237-0207 or through the internet at: www.militaryliving.com. If you have any questions or need to add a wife to your VA benefit and need Form 21-686, please call our VA office at (727) 319-5914. We are there from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Eastern time.

This story was written as a class project by Colton Barton, grandson of Ex-POW Don Barton (POW in North Korea 28 months) of Portland, OR. Colt is a 12-year old seventh grade student. His story was chosen as the best in class and read aloud to other students.

Veterans Day

By: Colt Barton, Nov. 2008

Veterans Day is one day that has special meaning to me. My grandfather served for our country in the Korean War and was captured and spent three years as a prisoner of war. I am very proud of him and he is one of my greatest heroes because of that. He has not forgotten about the war and devotes most of his life to sharing his story and help build a memorial that stands in Wilsonville, Oregon. I often think of our soldiers who are only 18 or 19 years old and I wonder if in 5 years would I be ready to fight for

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009 8 our country? I would hope so, but in the meantime, I thank them. The remarkable men and women who demonstrate courage, commitment, and compassion, and self sacrifice on a daily basis which makes our country a better place and that is why I can call them American Heroes.

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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.

m What Is Peripheral **Arterial Disease?**

Peripheral arterial disease (P.A.D.) occurs when plaque builds up in the arteries that carry blood to your head, organs, and limbs. Plaque is made up of fat, cholesterol, calcium, fibrous tissue, and other substances in the blood.

When plaque builds up in arteries, the condition is called atherosclerosis. Over time, plaque can harden and narrow the arteries. This limits the flow of oxygen-rich blood to your organs and other parts of your body.

P.A.D. usually affects the legs, but also can affect the arteries that carry blood from your heart to your head, arms, kidneys, and stomach. This article focuses on P.A.D. that affects blood flow to the legs.

Normal Artery and Artery With Plaque Buildup

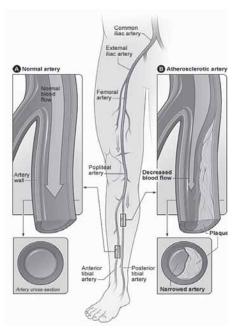
The illustration shows how P.A.D. can affect arteries in the legs. Figure A shows a normal artery with normal blood flow. The inset image shows a cross-section of the normal artery. Figure B shows an artery with plaque buildup that's partially blocking blood flow. The inset image shows a cross-section of the narrowed artery.

Overview

Blocked blood flow to your legs can cause pain and numbness. It also can raise your risk of getting an infection in the affected limbs. It may be hard for your body to fight the infection.

If severe enough, blocked blood flow can cause tissue death (gangrene). In very serious cases, this can lead to leg amputation.

If you have leg pain when you walk or climb stairs, talk to your doctor. Sometimes older people think that leg pain is just a symptom of aging. However, the cause for the pain could be P.A.D. Tell your doctor if you're feeling pain in your legs and discuss whether you should be tested for P.A.D.



Smoking is the main risk factor for P.A.D. If you smoke or have a history of smoking, your risk for P.A.D. increases four times. Other factors, such as age and having certain diseases or conditions, also increase your risk.

Outlook

If you have P.A.D., your risk for coronary artery disease, heart attack, stroke, and transient ischemic attack ("mini-stroke") is six to seven times greater than the risk for

people who don't have P.A.D. If you have heart disease, you have a 1 in 3 chance of having blocked leg arteries.

Although P.A.D. is serious, it's treatable. If you have the disease, it's important to see your doctor regularly and treat the underlying atherosclerosis.

P.A.D. treatment may slow or stop disease progress and reduce the risk of complications. Treatments include lifestyle changes, medicines, and surgery or procedures. Researchers continue to explore new therapies for P.A.D.

Other Names for Peripheral **Arterial Disease**

Atherosclerotic peripheral arterial disease

Peripheral vascular disease Vascular disease Hardening of the arteries Claudication Poor circulation

Leg cramps from poor circulation

What Causes Peripheral Arterial Disease?

The most common cause of peripheral arterial disease (P.A.D.) is atherosclerosis. The exact cause of atherosclerosis isn't known.

The disease may start when certain factors damage the inner layers of the arteries. These factors include: Smoking

High amounts of certain fats and cholesterol in the blood High blood pressure

medsearch continued...

High amounts of sugar in the blood due to insulin resistance or diabetes

When damage occurs, your body starts a healing process. The healing may cause plaque to build up where the arteries are damaged.

Over time, the plaque may crack. Blood cell fragments called platelets stick to the injured lining of the artery and may clump together to form blood clots.

The buildup of plaque or blood clots can severely narrow or block the arteries and limit the flow of oxygen-rich blood to your body.

Who Is At Risk for Peripheral Arterial Disease?

Peripheral arterial disease (P.A.D.) affects 8 to 12 million people in the United States. African Americans are more than twice as likely as Caucasians to have P.A.D.

The major risk factors for P.A.D. are smoking, age, and having certain diseases or conditions.

Smoking

Smoking is more closely related to getting P.A.D. than any other risk factor. Your risk for P.A.D. increases four times if you smoke or have a history of smoking. On average, smokers who develop P.A.D. have symptoms 10 years earlier than nonsmokers who develop P.A.D. Quitting smoking slows the progress of P.A.D. Smoking even one or two cigarettes a day can interfere with P.A.D. treatments. Smokers and people who have diabetes are at highest risk for P.A.D. complications, including gangrene (tissue death) in the leg from decreased blood flow.

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Age

As you get older, your risk for P.A.D. increases. Genetic or lifestyle factors cause plaque to build in your arteries as you age.

About 5 percent of U.S. adults who are older than 50 have P.A.D. Among adults aged 65 and older, 12 to 20 percent may have P.A.D. Older age combined with other risk factors, such as smoking or diabetes, also puts you at higher risk.

Diseases and Conditions

A number of diseases and conditions can raise your risk for P.A.D. These include:

Diabetes. One in three people who has diabetes and is older than 50 is likely to have P.A.D.

High blood pressure or a family history.

High blood cholesterol or a family history.

Heart disease or a family history. Stroke or a family history.

What Are the Signs and Symptoms of Peripheral Arterial Disease?

At least half of the people who have peripheral arterial disease (P.A.D.) don't have any signs or symptoms of it. Others may have a number of signs and symptoms.

Even if you don't have signs or symptoms, discuss with your doctor whether you should get checked for P.A.D. if you're:

Aged 70 or older

Aged 50 or older and have a history of smoking or diabetes Younger than 50 and have diabetes and one or more risk factors for atherosclerosis

People who have P.A.D. may have symptoms when walking or climbing stairs. These may include pain, numbness, aching, or heaviness in the leg muscles. Symptoms also may include cramping in the affected leg(s) and in the buttocks, thighs, calves, and feet. Symptoms may ease after resting.

These symptoms are called intermittent claudication. During physi-

cal activity, your muscles need increased blood flow. If your blood vessels are narrowed or blocked, your muscles won't get enough blood. When resting, the muscles need less blood flow, so the pain goes away.

About 10 percent of people who have P.A.D. have claudication. This symptom is more likely in people who also have atherosclerosis in other arteries.

Other Signs and Symptoms

Weak or absent pulses in the legs or feet

Sores or wounds on the toes, feet, or legs that heal slowly, poorly, or not at all

A pale or bluish color to the skin A lower temperature in one leg compared to the other leg

Poor nail growth on the toes and decreased hair growth on the legs Erectile dysfunction, especially among men who have diabetes

How Is Peripheral Arterial Disease Diagnosed?

Peripheral arterial disease (P.A.D.) is diagnosed based on your medical and family histories, a physical exam, and results from tests.

P.A.D. often is diagnosed after symptoms are reported. An accurate diagnosis is important, because people who have P.A.D. are at increased risk for coronary artery disease (CAD), heart attack, stroke, and transient ischemic attack ("mini-stroke"). If you have P.A.D., your doctor also may want to look for signs of these conditions.

Medical and Family Histories

To learn about your medical and family histories, your doctor may ask:

Whether you have any risk factors for P.A.D.

About your symptoms, including any symptoms that occur when walking, exercising, sitting, standing, or climbing

About your diet

medsearch cont'd...

About any medicines you take, including prescription and over-thecounter medicines

Whether anyone in your family has a history of cardiovascular disease

Physical Exam

During the physical exam, your doctor will look for signs and symptoms of P.A.D. He or she may check the blood flow in your legs or feet to see whether you have weak or absent pulses.

Your doctor also may check the pulses in your leg arteries for an abnormal whooshing sound called a bruit. He or she can hear this sound with a stethoscope. A bruit may be a warning sign of a narrowed or blocked section of artery.

During the physical exam, your doctor may compare blood pressure between your limbs to see whether the pressure is lower in one.

He or she also may check for poor wound healing or any changes in your hair, skin, or nails that may be signs of P.A.D.

Diagnostic Tests

Ankle-Brachial Index Doppler Ultrasound Treadmill Test Magnetic Resonance Angiogram Arteriogram Blood Tests

How Is Peripheral Arterial Disease Treated?

Treatments for peripheral arterial disease (P.A.D.) include lifestyle changes, medicines, and surgery or procedures.

The overall goals of treating P.A.D. are to reduce symptoms, improve quality of life, and prevent complications. Treatment is based on your signs and symptoms, risk factors, and results from a physical exam and tests.

Lifestyle Changes

Treatment often includes making long-lasting lifestyle changes, such as:

Quitting smoking.

Lowering blood pressure.

Lowering high blood cholesterol levels.

Lowering blood glucose levels if you have diabetes, s.

Getting regular physical activity. Follow a healthy eating plan that's low in total fat, saturated fat, *trans* fat, cholesterol, and sodium (salt).

Medicines

Your doctor may prescribe medicines to:

Lower high blood cholesterol levels and high blood pressure

Thin the blood to prevent clots from forming due to low blood flow ·Help ease leg pain that occurs when you walk or climb stairs

Surgery or Procedures

Bypass Grafting Angioplasty

Other Types of Treatment

Researchers are studying cell and gene therapies to treat P.A.D. However, these treatments aren't yet available outside of clinical trials.

How Can Peripheral Arterial Disease Be Prevented?

Taking action to control your risk factors can help prevent or delay peripheral arterial disease and its complications.

Know your family history of health problems related to P.A.D. If you smoke, quit. Follow a healthy eating plan. Get regular physical activity.

These lifestyle changes can reduce your risk for P.A.D. and help prevent and control conditions that can lead to P.A.D., such as diabetes, high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, heart disease, and stroke.

Living With P.A.D.

If you have peripheral arterial disease, you're also more likely to have coronary artery disease (CAD),

heart attack, stroke, and transient ischemic attack (TIA, or "ministroke"). However, you can take steps to treat and control P.A.D. and lower your risk for these other conditions.

Living With Peripheral Arterial Disease Symptoms

If you have P.A.D., you may feel pain in your calf or thigh muscles after walking. Try to take a break and allow the pain to ease before walking again. Over time, this may increase the distance that you can walk without pain.

Talk with your doctor about taking part in a supervised exercise program. This type of program has been shown to reduce P.A.D. symptoms

Check your feet and toes regularly for sores or possible infections. Wear comfortable shoes that fit well. Maintain good foot hygiene and have professional medical treatment for corns, bunions, or calluses.

Ongoing Health Care Needs and Lifestyle Changes

See your doctor for checkups as he or she advises. If you have P.A.D., but don't have symptoms, you should still see your doctor regularly. Take all medicines as your doctor prescribes.

Lifestyle changes can help prevent or delay P.A.D. and other related problems, such as CAD, heart attack, stroke, and TIA. Lifestyle changes include quitting smoking, controlling risk factors, getting regular physical activity, and following a healthy eating plan.

National Institutes of Health NHLBI Health Information Center P.O. Box 30105 Bethesda, MD 20824-0105

> Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009

AXPOW MEDSEARCH CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

		Umeda Bonsnu	./0
		Utashinai, Hokkaido	.50
JAPANESE CAMPS	DONATIONS	War Road Jail, China	.50
Akenobe #6	\$.70	Woosung	.50
Batavia, Java	.90	Zentsuji Headquarters	1.10
		Taiwan Formosa, includes Camps 31,	
Beppa Bilibid Prison	.50	Taihoku: Camp V, Taihoku: Camp VI,	
	1.30	Taihoku, Kinkaseki: Camp II, Taichu:	
Bridge House Jail, China	.50	Camp III, Heito: Camp IV, Kagi &	
Burma Cabanatuan #1	.40	Tako	2.10
Cabanatuan #3	.50		
	2.10		
Camp O'Donnell	.60	GERMAN CAMPS	DONATIONS
Changi, Singapore	.70	Camp Conditions (general)	.70
D 12, Hitachi	.90	Dulag Luft	.40
Davao Penal Colony	.70	Hohemark Hospital & Luckenwalde	.90
Fengtai, China	.50	Marlag und Milag Nord	.90
Fukuoka #1	.90	Oflag 13-B	1.50
Fukuoka #2	.90	Oflag 64	
Fukuoka #3	.90	Reserve-Lazaret Obermassfeld	.70
Fukuoka #10	.70	(the orthopedic hospital)	
Fukuoka #11	.50	Rumania	.50
Fukuoka #17	.70	Stalag 2-B	1.50
Fukuoka #22	.70	Stalag 3-B	1.70
Hakodate Branch Camp #2	.70	Stalag 7-A	1.50
Hoten, Juken, Manchuria	.70	Stalag 9-B	1.10
Initial Phase – Philippines	1.10	Stalag 17-B	1.50
Jinsen, Korea	.50	Stalag Luft 1	1.50
Kiangwan, China	.70	Stalag Luft 3	1.50
Manila, Port Area	.40	Stalag Luft 4	.40
Mitushima, Tokyo Camp #2-D	.70	Stalag Luft 6	.40
Makaishima, Honshu	.70	Transit Camp - Section of Dulag Luft	1.10
Mukden, Manchuria (temporary)	.50	German Orders Governing Prisoners	
Nakhon Pathom, Thailand	.50	of War in Europe	2.30
Naval POW Camp, Shanghai	.40	-	
Notogawa #9-B	.50		
October Ship (Hellship)	.90		
Omine	.50	Camp descriptions available fro	m AXPOW
Osaka #3, Oeyama	.70	All are from the National Archive	
Osaka #5-B	.70	is not listed, it is because the Nat	
Osaka #12-B	.70	,	ionai Arcinves
Osaka Group, Sakurajima, Osaka	.70	does not have it.	
Palawan Barracks	.90		
Rangoon Prison, Burma	.90		
Roku Poshi	.70		

.50

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.50

JAPANESE CAMPS

Sumatra

Thailand (Siam) Tientsin, China

Umeda Bonshu

Southeast Asia-Saigon, Port Area

SS Oryuku Maru (Hellship)

DONATIONS

.50

.90

.90 .50

.40 .70

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009

Saigon POW Camp,

Sendai Camp #11

French Indo-China

Sendai Camp #6, Hanawa

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andersonville



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

Andersonville Embarks on Long Interpretative Planning

By Cashea Arrington, Park Guide

Two days of meetings marked the Comprehensive Interpretive Plan Stakeholder Foundations Workshop for Andersonville National Historic Site.

On Wednesday, January 14th, park staff and park partners sat down to discuss the Long Range Interpretive Plan (LRIP) for Andersonville. Included in the meeting were representatives from Georgia Southwestern State University, Rural Development Center, Little Drummer Boy Museum, Sumter Historical Society, former Prisoners of War, and National Park Service staff from the Southeast Regional Office in Atlanta and Harpers Ferry Center. Those involved shared one common goal...to share their thoughts on future interpretive plans for the park.

One might ask "What is a Long-Range Interpretive Plan?" LRIPs, for short, are a 5 to 10 year vision of what interpretation, education, and visitor experience opportunities should be

offered. These plans recommend the most effective, efficient, and practical ways to address those goals and issues. LRIPs address both non-personal services (interpretive media and facilities) and personal services (programs, personal contacts). Plans match interpretive media to messages to make sure they work well individually and collectively.

Keeping in mind the mission of the National Park Service at Anderson-ville NHS: "to preserve in perpetuity, for inspiration, and commemoration, the historic landscape, structures, monuments and artifacts that illustrate the American Prisoner of War experience and the role of the Civil War prison camps", the LRIP meeting started with an ice breaker, asking why Andersonville is important to each individual.

After individuals shared their thoughts, the group came together to discuss larger and more prominent ideas, ranging from how to improve visitor experiences or enhance collaboration with park partners. Thoughts filled the room as ideas and suggestions were being offered, with former POW Gerald "Gerry" Smith stating "...Once a POW, always a POW".

Chief Ranger Fred Sanchez stated that park visitors should come away with the understanding that the prisoner of war story is "The Story of One." Choice topics to discuss focused on improving the visitor experience for those who come to the park, as well as those who cannot experience Andersonville first hand. Distance learning modules and pod casts, videos and audio clips, made way for discussion on a "National POW Education and Research Center" as a proposed new building at Andersonville, where archives, museum collections, preservation labs. and oral histories will be housed. This Research Center would also hold classrooms and meeting facilities where scholars and other professionals could meet. The meeting lasted throughout the day and conveyed deep thought and meaning from each person in attendance about the future of the park.

The start of the 2nd day of the meeting was a continuation of the day prior. Participants included park volunteers, park staff, park partners and former POWs and long time friend of the park, Bill Robinson, the longest held enlisted POW in Vietnam. The discussions grew deeper into connecting the park visitors in new ways. From updating the online database so that visitors could find family members or research, to updating the driving tour with new advancements in the electronic age. Having a docking station where walking tours could be downloaded onto portable mp3 players or I-pods, was just one idea that sparked conversation. Topics arose on having better communication and connection with the Town of Andersonville as well as the local population.

Fred Sanchez, Chief Ranger at Andersonville mentioned "having events for 4H groups or youth to come fly kites" along with the idea of having the trolley tours in Americus, ride into Andersonville where the visitors could ride around the park listening to the park tour. Mention of the billboards on interstate 75 segued into placing the POW/MIA insignia with information of the Prisoner of War Museum hoping to increase visitation, as Kevin Frye, long time volunteer to the park stated "people drive past and do not realize there is a museum..." commenting on the billboards and placing the POW/MIA insignia for all to see.

In the end, the workshop was a success at brainstorming new and creative ideas for the future of Andersonville National Historic site and brought together hopes and aspirations of park staff, partners and individuals important to the park. Using each of the comments and suggestions from the two day workshop, the Long Range Interpretive Plan will continue to take a course on improving, identifying and analyzing interpretation, education, and visitor experience goals and issues, which suit Andersonville National Historic Site.

namPOW news



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

Ross Perot honored for Service to Veterans

Department of Veterans Affairs Press Release:

January 8, 2009

From: VA Media Relations <va.media.relations@VA.GOV>

VA Salutes Ross Perot

Peake: A Lifetime of Service to Veterans, Military Personnel

WASHINGTON (Jan. 8, 2009) — Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake presented business leader and veterans' advocate Ross Perot a special award Jan. 7 for embodying "the very spirit of America" in his selfless support of veterans and the military.

"Few Americans have done as much as Mr. Perot to enhance the lives of our veterans, military personnel, their families and their survivors," Peake said. "In a lifetime of behind-the-scenes service to care for those who have defended our nation, he has redefined the term veterans advocate."

Perot's veterans' advocacy first gained national recognition in 1969, when he focused attention on the brutal treatment of U.S. prison-

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009 14 ers of war captured during the Vietnam War.

"I am privileged and honored to receive this award," Perot said. "My contributions are insignificant compared to all the services and sacrifices of our military heroes and their families. They are the guardians at the gate of freedom for all of us."

He has quietly provided financial support to the families of POWs, offered scholarships to the children of soldiers killed in action and funded numerous USO events to entertain the troops. During the last 10 years, he has been a major advocate on behalf of Gulf War veterans.

A 1953 graduate of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Perot founded Electronic Data Systems (EDS), one of the world's largest technology services firms, in 1962. Twenty-six years later, he founded Perot Systems Corp., another leader in the technology field.

Nice boiler plate text for an impressive ceremony honoring - finally - the efforts of Patriot H. Ross Perot over the years tirelessly helping veterans of several eras. Most of the membership of the American Ex-Prisoners of War is aware of how

much Mr. Perot did to help the Vietnamese POWs including offering to pay a ransom of \$1 million each to get us out. Remember that \$1 million in the late 60s was an incredible amount of money and the government thought there were about 1,500 POWs.

He's followed our progress since our return often helping subtly and often not so subtly when he perceived a need. Many were helped by being flown hither and yon in search of adequate specialty medical care. Many others - particularly in the latest dust-up - have been the recipient of his funded research into advanced prosthetics,

All of this and much, much more this wonderful man has done without any interest in self promotion or self-aggrandizement. For the sheer volume of his humanity to his fellow military veterans, Ross Perot has finally been recognized. As grandiose as were the words and kudos flowing around, it seemed almost inadequate to honor this 5'7" giant who always stands tall.

Ross Perot has overturned apple carts when necessary but nearly always accomplishes what he sets out to do. We all owe Ross Perot a lot. Navy talk for the Navy grad: Bravo Zulu, Sir. Well done.



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 or call the national office at 703-465-7432. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message.

AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR: There are still 1.742 US personnel listed by the Defense POW/MIA Office (DPMO) as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. There have been no recent announcements of Vietnam War personnel identified since December 15th, at which time an announcement was made naming four US Air Force personnel whose remains were included in a group interment on December 18th. The four men were identified as Major Bernard L. Bucher of Eureka, IL; Major John L. McElroy of Eminence, KY; 1st Lieutenant Stephen C. Moreland of Los Angeles, CA; and Staff Sergeant Frank M. Hepler of Glenside, PA. Two other servicemen, individually identified in October 2007, were also part of this group of US personnel lost on May 12, 1968, on board a C-130 Hercules aircraft evacuating Vietnamese citizens from the Kham Duc Special Forces Camp near Da Nang, South Vietnam. They are Captain Warren R. Orr, Jr., USA, of Kewanee, IL, and Airman 1st Class George W. Long, USAF, of Medicine, KS. The remains of these men were recovered over a period of several years from 1993 to 2007, through five separate field investigations and recoveries. This brought to 841 the number of US personnel accounted for since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. 90+% of the 1,742 still missing from the Vietnam War were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Laos and Cambodia under Vietnam's wartime control.

DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE OPENED IN LAOS: A Defense Attaché Office (DAO) was officially opened on December 5th at the US Embassy in Vientiane, Laos. The long-sought agreement to exchange military attaches between the US and Laos was first announced in 2007. The new US Defense Attaché, Army LTC James McAden, met with senior officials at the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of National Defense as part of the DAO opening.

SOLDIER MISSING IN ACTION FROM KOREAN WAR IS IDENTIFIED: The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

He is Sgt. Dougall H. Espey, Jr., U.S. Army, of Mount Laurel, N.J. He will be buried April 3 in Elmira, N.Y.

Espey was assigned to Company L. 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. On Nov. 1, 1950, the 8th Cavalry was occupying a defensive position near Unsan, North Korea in an area known as the "Camel's Head," when elements of two Chinese Communist. Forces divisions struck the 1st Cavalry Division's lines, collapsing the perimeter and forcing a withdrawal. The 3rd Battalion was surrounded and effectively ceased to exist as a fighting unit. Espey was one of the more than 350 servicemen unaccounted-for from the battle at Unsan.

Between 1991-94, North Korea turned over to the U.S. 208 boxes of remains believed to contain the remains of 200-400 U.S. servicemen. North Korean documents turned over with several boxes in 1993 indicated that the remains from those boxes were exhumed near Chonsung-Ri, Unsan County. This location correlates with Espey's last known location.

MISSING WWII SOLDIERS ARE IDENTIFIED: The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of two U.S. servicemen, missing from World War II, have been identified and will be returned to their families for burial with full military honors.

They are Pfc. Julian H. Rogers, of Bloomington, IN, and Pvt. Henry E. Marquez, of Kansas City, KS. Both men were U.S. Army. Rogers will be buried in the Spring in Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C., and Marquez will be buried on May 30 in Kansas City, MO.

In November 1944, the 112th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division, was attacking east through the Hürtgen Forest in an attempt to capture the German towns of Vossenack and Schmidt. On Nov. 4, the Germans counterattacked in what would become one of the longest running battles in U.S. history. Rogers and Marquez, both members of G Company, 112th Infantry Regiment, were reported killed in action near Vossenack on Nov. 4. Their bodies were not recovered.

In 2007, a German citizen searching for wartime relics in the Hürtgen Forest uncovered human remains and military identification tags for Rogers and Marquez. He notified U.S. officials and a Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) team excavated the site later that year. The team recovered human remains and non-biological material.

civilians



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

$\it F$ inally Free

By F. Randall Whetzel

Without prior notice, American Navy planes, PBY Catalinas, flew into Makassar to evacuate US military personnel, survivors of naval battles in the Java Sea and in the Strait between Borneo and Celebes in early 1945. The Makassar airfield was a shambles due to Allied bombing, so the Catalinas were able to land in Makassar harbor. The pilot came ashore and was taken to Japanese military headquarters where he explained their mission. What else could the Japanese do but release the 120 sailors to the US Airmen, since the pilot had written orders from Allied commanders to release and evacuate US military personnel.

The pilot did not know there were US civilians in Makassar, but somehow the word reached him. Apparently he had room on the last flight out for us (Mrs. Deibler, Miss Kemp and the Whetzels). The other colleagues were Canadian. They sent word to bundle together what we had, and off we tore to the harbor. Once on board we finally realized we were out of the clutches of the Japanese government. Euphoria, to say the least. The pilot and crew had not seen an American child for quite a

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009 16 while. Thais was 4 ½ years old – a little doll at that time, with light blond hair, who spoke only Dutch. The crew really made over her. The pilot took the wings off his tunic and gave it to Thais. She still has it and treasures it. We are still trying to locate the pilot. He and his crew brought us out of Makassar into Allied-held territory on Sept. 19, 1945.

We didn't fly far that first day. We landed at Balikpapan on the east coast of Borneo. I could not believe the scene of such utter devastation. In preparation for landing, Allied naval vessels and planes bombed Balikpapan to bits. Nothing was left standing, even trees were bombed. We slept that night in military tent barracks. And you guessed it, heavenly military chow. Maybe rather ordinary for the troops there, but definitely Home Country Buffet for us. The next day we continued our flight to the Philippines, stopping at Palawan Island, another US military base. We arrived on Palawan on the 20th of September, and flew on to Manila on the 22nd. This time on a military land plane.

The US Military Rehabilitation Camp Outside Manila, PI

The Rehabilitation Camp received Ex-POWs, including ex-internees, from all over Asia. The personnel took excellent care of us. We arrived in wornout clothing, to be replaced with some new clothes, mostly military style, but no complaints from us. believe me. We ate in the Officers Mess. What an array of food. We could not get over the amount of butter, meat, and other delicacies we saw thrown out, plates left half-finished. Naturally, we began to put on some much-needed weight. We were given physical examinations and some needed dental work. The SE Asia front was under the command of Lord Mountbattan of the UK. A notable moment was when Lady Mountbattan visited the camp. We spoke with her. She as full of questions, of course. A very gracious lady to say the least.

W never knew exactly when we would be able to get passage back to the USA on a troop transport, so every day was a "wondering" day, but time passed quickly. We could write letters, and that was how we got our first messages and cables to family in Portland, Oregon. The day came when we received word that we were scheduled to leave Oct. 6th on a vessel for the west coast of the USA. Wouldn't you know it, a few days before we were to depart. Thais became ill. The doctors said she could not leave as scheduled. This meant that we might not get another chance to leave for a month or so. So our space on the KLIPFONTAINE was given to others. But God (what a wonderful expression that is; But God) intervened. Thais made a quick recovery, and secondly, a certain Mr. & Mrs. George S. Colley, who were booked on the ship, were delayed. The authorities contacted us and asked if we would like to take their place. It was a cabin for two, and they wondered if we could squeeze into it with the three of us. We would have taken it even if there were six of us...sleeping in relays. So aboard we went. I believe Mr. Colley was in the Army and rated a cabin. I think the other ex-internees slept in dormitorystyle rooms.

It was an uneventful trip back across the Pacific, but wearing life jackets was mandatory at all times because of the danger of floating mines. Some of the officers and crew members of the vessel would mingle with us, asking questions. Captain John F Look found time to visit around amongst the ex-internees. I should mention that Mrs. Deibler was also on board, as well as Margaret Kemp and Rev. & Mrs. Herman Dixon. The Dixons were also missionaries of the C&MA, but were interned in West Borneo. George and Agnes Keith were on board and Agnes Keith will be remembered for her two books "Land Below the Wind", written before WWII, and "Three Came Home" written after WWII. They had lived in North Borneo.

Note: My wife, daughter and I were prisoners of the Japanese in the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia) for 3 ½ years.

Members'

forum

Hello Cheryl,

The Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009 issue of the Philadelphia Inquirer had an interesting story on "Our Last Living Link" to WWI – Frank Buckles. As the last known US military veteran of WWI, had his 108th birthday.

When the United States entered the war against Germany, Frank was just 16 years old. Since I am a former prisoner of war, this next part of Frank's life interested me.

After the war, he joined a shipping company. In 1940, he as in Manila when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. When they invaded the Philippines, Frank was among Western civilians taken prisoner. He was held in different camps for 3 ½ years.

Six months before the end of the war, US and Philippine forces liberated his camp and he was returned to the US. He soon learned that his paychecks from the shipping company had piled up in a bank while he was a POW.

So like many other returning POWs, Frank used that money right away to order a new car. Here again is a part of Frank's story that interested me because I did the very same thing. When I finally got home after discharge, and with accumulated back pay, I ordered a new car. I wonder how many others did the same.

Now by coincidence, the February 2009 issue of the EX-POW Bulletin had some items relating to the Frank Buckles story. The stamp on the cover and the excellent story on pages 16 and 17, "Abandoned Hostages" by Caroline B Pratt. Apparently Frank was in the Los Baños and Santo Tomas camps, maybe others, while being in the groups of thousands taken prisoner by Japan.

The sad ending to what I have talked about above is this, as noted in the Pratt article in the last paragraph. For some 63 years, the US Government will not honor these civilian POWs' claims for medical benefits and compensation. This does not speak well for our Congressmen who constantly find ways to add PORK to bills to benefit their states, but would not pass legislation to care for these civilian POWs.

Keep up the good work as Editor.

John E Legg 45 Anthony Wayne Dr. Wayne, PA 19087 (610) 688-7438

Dear Cheryl,

I've been receiving phone calls from some of our members in New Jersey and other states asking about the "newspaper" they just received from a group with a name similar to ours. The members were confused. One of the questions involved where to send the donations.

In the EX-POW Bulletin, donations are requested to be sent to the National Treasurer Sonnie Bill Mottern, in Tennessee or to National Headquarters in Texas. Donations are accepted and acknowledged in the Contributions section of the magazine. The Volunteer Funding Program is designed to provide operating funds for the organization. Again, your donations are sent to AXPOW. And finally, the American Ex-Prisoners of War has four direct mail programs a year in which donations are mailed to New Hampshire and deposited into the AXPOW Bank of America account under Treasurer Sonnie Bill.

These are the only programs that ensure your donations benefit the American Ex-Prisoners of War.

The newspaper requesting donations from our members has nothing to do with our organization. Your donations to them will NOT go into our treasury. Your donations will NOT benefit our members.

Please be careful where you send your donations. If you want to help the American Ex-Prisoners of War, please donate to the American Ex-Prisoners of War.

Thank you, Charles Susino, JVC-Eastern Zone 136 Jefferson Street Metuchen, NJ 08840

The following was submitted by Joseph Tannehill 2819 N Ash, McAlester, OK 74501

Dear Editor,

I was in the Marine Corps, Bataan and Corregidor, in WWII, also transferred to Japan, on the Moto Maru in Aug. 1944. We were used as slave laborers in a copper mine, owned by Mitsubishi (so I heard) at Hinawa, Japan, until September 1945.

With all the lawsuits over the years, nobody apparently has woken up to the proposition that the "Treaty" on which everything rests, is VOID!

The July-August 2006 Quan, page 23, bottom line, finally answers the question: "The court, therefore, dismissed the case stating that the plaintiff could not hold the government liable for damages that could not be recovered because they signed the Peace Treaty. It reasoned that Japan, as a defeated nation, had no choice but to sign the Treaty"

Anybody with a knowledge of Contract Law should know that a contract has to be entered into freely, without force or intimidation.

If I had more time and money, I would tackle this issue and ask a court to declare the Treaty VOID!

With the Treaty voided, there should be no trouble getting our Congress to pass HR 5972, a \$20,000 Compensation Bill.

Very truly yours, Frederick E Saefke, Jr. 1217 N First Street Bismarck, ND 58501 (701) 471-2055

> Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009



March 29, 2009. The 20th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March will be held at the White Sands Missile Range. Contact: Lisa Blevins, Public Affairs Specialist, 575.678.1134; lisa.blevins@us.army.mil.

April 3-4, 2009. The Middle Tennessee Chapter of Ex-POW's will be hosting the TN State Convention. The hospitality room will open Friday at 11:00 AM. All business will be conducted on Saturday beginning at 8:00 AM. Instead of a Saturday evening banquet, we will include a luncheon. The location is: Holiday Inn Nashville-Brentwood, 760 Old Hickory Boulevard, Brentwood, TN 37027. Telephone: (615)373-2600 Fax: 615-377-3893. The room rate is \$92.00. Contact: Elise M. Yealv-Rawlings State Adjutant.

April 26-30, 2009. Anzio Beachhead Veterans of World War II, Inc. Reunion will be held in Savannah, GA. All Allied Forces who served on the beachhead during 1/22/44-5/25/44 on land, at sea, or in the air and their families are invited to attend. Contact: John Boller, 1 Harbor North, Amityville, NY 11701; 631-691-5002.

June 4-6, 2009. Department of Arizona 27th Annual State Convention will be held on June 4-6, 2009. It will be held at the Phoenix-Mesa Holiday Inn, located at 1600 S. Country Club Drive, Mesa, Arizona. For room reservations call 480-964-7000 directly or 1-800-HOLIDAY. Please let them know you're with the AXPOW Dept of AZ State Convention for the discounted room rate. For registration forms and more information,

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009 18 please contact East Valley Chapter Commander, Harry McLane at 480-986-0002.

June 18-20, 2009. The Department of North Carolina will hold its State Convention at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux 1707 Owen Drive, Fayetteville, NC. For reservations call 910-323-0111. You should arrive on the 18th and leave on the 20th. All convention activities will be on the 19th including the banquet. For Additional Information, call Commander Edward Halliburton at 704-846-7302 or contact Paul Dallas at 910-867-2775 or by email; threatt273aol.com.

August 26-29, 2009. The 80th Infantry Blue Ridge Division Veterans Association will hold its 90th Annual Reunion at the Pittsburgh, PA Airport Marriott Hotel. Call for reservations: 412-788-8800. For more information, contact: Donald Stewart, 412-442-6758;

Donald.Stewart@us.army.mil;



AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR history books clearance offer - Volume II, III & IV

While they last, Turner Publishing is offering our Volume II, III & IV books at only \$20 per book, plus \$6.95 s/h. Get all (or any) three of these books at the low combined price of three for \$45, plus \$11.95 combined s/h. Add \$10 each for leather bound copies. As these beautiful, hardbound, library quality books originally retailed at \$52.50 each (\$83.50 for the leather copies), this is an outstanding offer. Do not miss your final opportunity to get your copies of these historical records of the hardships and tragedies experienced by America's POW's in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Call Turner today to place your order: (800)788-3350.



I would like to buy any **POW dollar coins** that widows wives or citizens might be willing to sell. Single coins or the 3 set. Bill Fornes, 606 W. Park Avenue, Valdosta, GA 31602; 229-247-4273; fornesw@bellsouth.net.

Pilot Class Ring from Flying Cadet Class of 1943. As a pilot on the B-17 Jack the Ripper, I was shot down Feb. 22, 1944. When captured, my class ring was taken and never returned. I would like to buy one from anyone willing to part with theirs. Thanks. Norman D. Stuckey, 4777 Upper Valley Pk., Dayton, OH 45424.

I had an Uncle Audie Argus Wade from Arkansas, serial #37 066 545, born Oct. 22, 1914/15 Alabama, who was at Stalag 5A in Ludwigsburg Germany for 4 months during WWII and was there on liberation day. His separation papers said he served 30 months overseas with an infantry company but doesn't state which one. It says he was an infantryman and after 3 months in basic training for an automatic rifle he served for 3 months as a litter bearer and then as a rifleman for 2 years 9 months. His separation papers were drawn at Fort(Camp) Chaffee Arkansas. He was murdered a few years after the war and I am trying to find out something about his military experience. I know he served overseas in the Aleutians, France, and Germany during the war. I am hoping to find someone that knew him or hope to find anyone that might know his company so I can find out more about him in the war. Audie lived in DeValls Bluff Arkansas. Thank you for time and your help. Frances (Wade) Harrell, PO Box 1959, Conway, Arkansas 72033; 501-733-2822.

Yes we can!

Report of theStrategic Planning Committee

ND Sid Hecker, Chairman ND Lew Sleeper ND Judy Lee ND Paul Galanti ND Carroll Bogard Martha Galloway Klumpp

The Strategic Planning Committee is charged with developing a plan to enhance the prospect of AXPOW remaining viable for current and future generations. Our initial "Working Draft" concept is presented below.

The committee is seeking help and cooperation from all our members in a renewed effort to put new life into our American Ex-Prisoner of War organization. National Director for the Southeast Region, Sid Hecker, chairs the Strategic Planning Committee which has been working diligently to develop a program designed to enhance AXPOW, both in membership numbers and financially. program has been labeled "Keeping AXPOW Strong". The concept upon which it is based is a working draft only until we have secured input from our membership.

In essence, "Keeping AXPOW Strong" visualizes an ex-POW legacy organization which will exist perpetually by virtue of being comprised by an ever increasing number of descendants of ex-POWs. Emphasis will be placed on recruiting and encouraging next-ofkin (NOK[1]) of ex-POWs to join and actively participate in both the activities and phase in to ultimately take over complete leadership of the organization. The purpose of the organization will continue to foster patriotism and loyalty, maintain allegiance to the USA, promote defense preparedness, preserve the laws and presumptives as they apply to

all present and future prisoners of war and to politic for the fair treatment of future prisoners of war. The organization will always stand as a memorial to the sacrifices of POWs.

The committee solicited and received some input from our board members. Because it is to be finalized and presented to the membership, the committee asks for input from each member of our organization who wants to help our veterans and surviving spouses retain their present benefits and assist future ex-POWs and spouses "Who Cannot Help Themselves".

Please tell us whether you think the concept/approach of the working draft is one you would support or oppose. We do not expect that we could propose any kind of plan that every member could be expected to support, but if any member can suggest any changes to enhance the expected level of support, please submit your suggestions and the Committee will give everyone's views earnest consideration and will present them to the Board to consider modification of the plan to be submitted for adoption. For any plan for the future direction of AXPOW to possibly implemented, it must have the support of the majority of our members. Your input will help future of decide the our organization.

By the time this is published in the Bulletin, the AXPOW National Directors will have already held its Midyear Meeting on March 6, 2009 in Arlington, Texas. The above subject matter has a high priority for discussion and planning at this meeting. You can expect to be hearing and reading a lot of buzz about this over the course of the next few months. Please pass on any ideas and thoughts you or your state members may have on the subject.

We are requesting all recommendations and suggestions be passed on to Lew Sleeper, National Director Southwest Region. His address, e-mail and phone are listed at the end of this article as well as in the Bulletin. Your support and attention to this matter is most appreciated. Thank you for all you do to support and advance AXPOW.

(Working Draft)

Keeping AXPOW Strong

We can keep our American Ex-Prisoners of War organization strong if we make a major, strategic shift NOW to reinforce our declining, aged and disabled members with our next-of kin(NOK^[2]), all eligible relatives listed in our Bylaws and civilian AX-POW's and other eligible members.

We are all aware of what is happening to our chapter meetings and conventions. Few even strong enough to sell daisies, participate in a Veterans Day parade, or travel long distances to a convention. Yet, we go on without seeing our destiny. Let us consider what may happen if we continue present practices.

Our income will remain strong for a few more years, because what our senior members lack in physical strength they give generously donating and supporting a budget of over \$475,000. Yet, when we consider Actuarial Life Tables, and assume the average to be 86, the life expectancy is 5.08 years. What then? We can't reduce our budget very much and remain viable. An "organizational assessment" at this point is necessary for us to stay true to our mission and purpose in

Strategic Planning Continued.....

planning for the future. To function, we must continue to maintain the Washington office, headquarters, the Bulletin, and expenses for officers and directors. Without change we will probably have to close our doors in about five years.

Yet members of the Strategic Planning Committee over five years ago stated they wanted to implement the desire of our members who felt passionately that our organization continues. They recommended that we recruit 2,000 relatives. It never happened.

But, it can happen, and there is still time!

First we could make it more attractive to our children and grandchildren to model our organization after the Daughters of The American Revolution or the Mayflower Society. We could foster the same pride in being a relative of an ex-prisoner of war as the DAR prides itself in being NOK to the supporters of the American Revolution or MS does in pride of being a descendant of the Mayflower passengers.

Look at the reasons why NOK would benefit from our membership:

- 1. They inherit a living memorial that they can be proud of as descendants of an ex-prisoner of war. They will join a social group bonded by a common experience,
- 2. Just as ex-prisoners of war did, continue to foster patriotism and loyalty, education of the public, and

patriotism and loyalty, education of the public, and Ex-POW Bulletin

Mar/Apr 2009 20 promote the need for preparedness in defense of our country.

- 3. To continue National POW/ MIA Recognition Day. To sell daisies, and participate in events on Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Fourth of July. Participate in parades, wearing our POW vests.
- 4. Unlike the DAR or the Mayflower Society who had to start from scratch in the early 1900s, our relatives would inherit all of our infrastructure....headquarters, the Washington office, Congressional approval, and the Bulletin.
- 5. To preserve our laws and presumptives which apply to all present and future exprisoners of war.
- 6. To politic for fair treatment of future prisoners of war, and prevent torture as means of gaining information from the enemy.

You can think of more reasons. We have enjoyed the social opportunity of meeting in which we tell war stories, and build a common bond. So will our children and grandchildren.

Our Bylaws could be modified just a bit for the benefit of our newest members. We might change Article II Purpose to say: The purpose of our organization, its ex-prisoners of war, and its descendants, is to educate the public about the sacrifices ex-prisoners of war endured to keep our country free....to foster patriotism, maintain allegiance to the United States of America, and preserve and defend her from all enemies.

Currently, our membership is about 20,000. We could try to maintain that membership by replacing with

NOK and other eligible members at the rate of decline of our older members. Again, looking at the actuarial tables, if our average age is 86, we need to recruit 12.4% or 2480 NOK this year, and about 2,000 per year up to five years. Other eligible members would be researched and contacted for inclusion of membership to AX-POW.

To kick-off a membership drive we would develop literature containing the advantages of membership listed above. Each National Director would be in a "recruiting campaign" with a form letter that we design to be mailed by every Director on the same date. This would be followed up with phone calls, and chapter and department visits.

In order to insure strong leadership, the NOK and Korean/Vietnam ex-prisoners of war, could move into officer and director positions over the next five years.

To increase the likelihood of AX-POW survival, and noting that our existing WWII vets, our civilian internees and our current NOK may be in a stronger financial position than younger NOK, consider building a permanent trust to provide investment income.

To augment this campaign, we would publish in each Bulletin a gauge of how we are doing toward our membership and financial goals.

YES WE CAN!

Lew Sleeper National Director, Southwest Region 6636 E Villa Dorado Tucson, AZ 85715 (520) 751-9628 sleepjl@aol.com

(Footnotes)

[1]

'NOK'.

is used herein as an abbreviation to refer to all qualified individuals as defined in our bylaws.

$\begin{array}{c} N_{ews} \\ B_{riefs} \end{array}$

Compensation for Filipino Veterans

Under the recently enacted American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, a new one-time benefit is provided for certain Philippine veterans to be paid from the "Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund." As provided for in section 1002 of H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (enacted February 17, 2009), the Secretary will be establishing an application process for claims to be submitted for this new benefit that must be filed within one-year of the date of enactment of the new law.

Payments for eligible persons will be either in the amount of \$9,000 for non-United States citizens, or \$15,000 for United States citizens. For eligible persons who accept a payment from the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund, such payment "shall constitute a complete release of any claim against the United States by reason of [such] service" However, nothing in this act "prohibit[s] a person from receiving any benefit (including health care, survivor, or burial benefits) which the person would have been eligible to receive based on laws in effect as of the day before the date of the enactment of this Act."

According to a congressional press release, less than 18,000 of the approximately 300,000 Filipinos who fought under the American flag during World War II are still alive today.

VA

Emergency Care

For veterans enrolled in the VA Health Care system when it is not possible for you to go to a VA medical center, you should go to the nearest hospital that has an emergency room. If you are in an ambulance, the paramedics will usually take you to

the closest emergency room. A medical emergency is when you have an injury or illness that is so severe that without immediate treatment, the injury or illness threatens your health or life. Use your best judgment in deciding whether or not it is a medical emergency. If you believe it is call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. You do not need to call the VA before you obtain emergency care. However, if you are admitted, your family, friends or hospital staff should contact the nearest VA medical center as soon as possible to provide information about your emergency room visit. If the doctor wants to admit you to the hospital, and it is not an emergency you must obtain approval from the VA. You, a friend, a family member, or someone from the non-VA hospital must call the closest VA medical center and speak to the patient transfer or patient administration representative. This must be done within 72 hours of your arrival at the emergency room. If a VA bed is available and if you can be safely transferred, you must be moved. If you refuse to be transferred, the VA will not pay for any further care.

Contact the VA Health Administration Center at (877) 345-8179. All claims should be filed with the nearest VA medical center as quickly as possible. Time limits usually apply. You may have to pay for a portion of your emergency care dependent on several factors which vary according to the care you received. Your local VA medical center's patient benefits counselor can explain these and other factors and their impact on your particular circumstance.

Duckworth Tapped for V

Tapped for VA

President Barack Obama announced his intent to nominate L. Tammy Duckworth, director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, to be the Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). "Effective communications with Veterans and VA's stakeholders is key to improving our services and ensuring Veterans receive the benefits they deserve," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "Tammy Duckworth brings significant talent, leadership and personal experience to this important work."

As assistant secretary, Duckworth will direct VA's public affairs, internal communications and intergovernmental relations. She also will oversee programs for homeless Veterans, consumer affairs and special rehabilitative events.

Duckworth was appointed director of the state Veterans office in Illinois in 2006. In previous testimony before Congress, she expressed her commitment to Veterans and the need for transformation of the Department. "The VA system faces new challenges as a result of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan." She also noted "the patient profile is changing. More wounded soldiers are surviving very serious injuries."

She is serving as a major in the Illinois National Guard and was previously deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom where, as a captain, she was assistant operations officer for a 500-soldier aviation task force. She also served as a logistics officer and company commander. As a helicopter pilot flying combat missions in 2004, she suffered grave injuries when her helicopter was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade, losing both legs and partial use of one arm.

Her previous managerial experience includes coordinating the Center for Nursing Research at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, and working for Rotary International's Asia-Pacific region from 2002 to 2004.

Duckworth earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Hawaii and a master's degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

THE PURPLE HEART & Pows



Whew. The Nov/Dec. Bulletin contained a small article submitted by the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor. There was a paragraph in the article which stated:

The Purple Heart became a decoration available to all who serve, but desired by none. As per United States Army regulations, the Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who, while serving under competent authority in any capacity with one of the U.S. Armed Services after April 5, 1917 has been wounded, killed, died after being wounded, or has been held as a prisoner of war. As it was when *General Washington created it, the* Purple Heart is specifically a combat decoration. (editor's emphasis)

What response! Our NSOs have had their phones ringing almost nonstop. After talking with NSO Director Doris Jenks, I thought some research was needed. My dad and many of our members worked hard in the 1990s to get the Public Law enacted which would allow former POWs captured before 1962 to receive the Purple Heart. At the time, prisoners captured after that time were eligible and this simply cor-

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009 22 rected an inequity. It finally became law as part of the 1996 National Defense Authorization Act.

Should be simple, right? But noooooo. Much like so much legislation, it is open to interpretation. And in this case the interpretation is made by each branch of service. Army may authorize the PH for Prisoner A; his bunkmate, who had been shot down had his denied by Air Force.

Publisher PNC Maurice Sharp received a letter from Mrs. Marion Maier. She has been trying to get the Purple Heart for her deceased husband and hitting a wall. Naively, I had thought that passage of the 1996 law ended any dispute. The law should be applied equally.

We're looking for members who received the Purple Heart after passage of PL 104-106. We're also looking for members who were denied. Please send us your stories and we'll publish some of them. If, as suspected, the law is not being applied consistently, we will make every effort to correct it.

Here's what it SHOULD be:

POW Purple Heart Eligibility: Former American POWs as well as those POWs who were killed or died in prison camp may be eligible to receive the Purple Heart medal. President Kennedy started the procedure by signing Executive Order 11-1016 on April 25, 1962.

Until that time, service members could receive the Purple Heart only during a formally declared state of war. Kennedy's order made it possible to award the medal even without a formal declaration of war. The 1962 order didn't specifically mention POWs or their eligibility because of wounds and injuries suffered in captivity. An Army policy change dated Sept. 27, 1962, allowed Purple Heart awards henceforth to members who might become prisoners of war and be

wounded or injured by their captors. Neither Kennedy's executive order nor the Army change was retroactive. No former prisoners of war of any service, living and dead, who were wounded or injured during captivity before April 25, 1962, were eligible until Congress passed legislation as part of the 1996 National Defense Authorization Act.* Prior to the 1996 legislation none of the 140,000 U.S. service members who surrendered to the Japanese in the Philippines in May 1942 could qualify for a Purple Heart nor were the thousands of former POWs who came later in World War II and in the Korean War.

In legislation signed in 2008, Former American POWs who were killed or died in prison camps are also eligible to receive the Purple Heart medal.

To receive the award supporting documentation is required and may include copies of repatriation medical exams, or a witness statement from a cell mate, for example, stating their buddy was abused at hands of captors. Captors must have deliberately inflicted the injuries or wounds.

To apply complete a Standard Form 180, Request Pertaining to Military Records, available through the RAO/RSO offices, the Office of Veterans Affairs, or on-line at www.archives.gov/research/order/standard-form-180.pdf. The supporting documentation must be included. Applications should be mailed to the appropriate address indicated on the back of the SF 180.

*PUBLIC LAW 104-106 - F EB. 10, 1996

SEC. 621. AWARD OF PURPLE HEART TO PERSONS WOUNDED WHILE HELD AS PRISONERS OF WAR BEFORE APRIL 25, 1962.

(a) AWARD OF PURPLE HEART.— For purposes of the award of the Purple Heart, the Secretary

purple heart continued...

concerned (as defined in section 101 of title 10, United States Code) shall treat a former prisoner of war who was wounded before April 25, 1962, while held as a prisoner of war (or while being taken captive) in the same manner as a former prisoner of war who is wounded on or after that date while held as a prisoner of war (or while being taken captive).

(b) STANDARDS FOR AWARD.—An award of the Purple Heart under subsection (a) shall be made in accordance with the standards in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act for the award of the Purple Heart to persons wounded on or after April 25, 1962.

(C) ELIGIBLE FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR.—A person shall be considered to be a former prisoner of war for purposes of this section if the person is eligible for the prisoner-of-war medal under section 1128 of title 10, United States Code.

Interestingly, The Office of the Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army website lists eligibility requirements as simply:

(9) While held as a prisoner of war or while being taken captive. This is the wording for the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor eligibility requirements as well.

And finally, while reading the eligibility requirements currently (2-2-2009) on MOPH's website, "The Purple Heart is currently awarded pursuant to Executive Order 11016, 25 April 1962, Executive Order 12464, 23 February 1984 and Public Law 98-525, 19 October 1984."

There is NO mention of PL 106-108 for former Prisoners of War. There is also no mention of the 2008 Public Law covering POWs who died in camp.

Your Stories

Missing in Belgium

by Russell R Wilkins rwilk85311@aol.com



At 1:00 PM, 1st battalion was out of ammunition, and the German tanks were working their way around the right flank to surround what was left of PFC Lund's 1st battalion. The Company commander of PFC Lund's B Company, Captain called battalion Ganaway, headquarters asked and permission to withdraw. The order from the battalion was, "stay where you are at all costs!"

By 2:00 PM the German tanks had captured the aid station and made all of the walking wounded march to the road cut where the rest of the battalion was. A German officer walked in front of the tank carrying a white flag and approached Captain Ganaway with an ultimatum; either surrender or watch as his troops killed the American wounded, and then run

over all of his surviving soldiers as he knew they were out of ammunition. The atrocities just 18 days earlier at Malmedy were well known then and fresh in everyone's mind. Every soldier wondered if they would suffer the same fate. The professionalism and bravery displayed that day cannot be underestimated or over looked.

After about 6-1/2 hours of combat, at approximately 3 PM, Major Rosen the S-2 officer from 1st battalion headquarters, who had initially come up to the front to observe the action, surrendered the remaining 150 men of 1st battalion out of the original 500 to the Nazi SS Troops. The capture happened only 40 miles from the Malmedy Massacre.

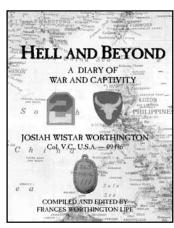
The captives were ordered to discard all of their equipment, but with only a few exceptions were allowed to keep all of their clothing. The temperatures at that time were about 10 degrees.

The men were then marched through snow and in the severe cold to a village still in Belgium, where they were interrogated by a German Officer. The Americans were threatened with torture with some only giving name, rank and serial number. After the interrogation, they were given a 16 ounce can of soft cheese and a loaf of black bread to last them for several days.

In the official "Missing Report" filed 21 February 1945, PFC Elliott Russell Lund, service number 31373644 of Company B, 1st Battalion, 513th Parachute Infantry Regiment, was reported as Missing in Action on January 4th, 1945.

Mr. Wilkins has written "Missing in Belgium" which is available by contacting the author at the above email address.

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009



HELL & BEYOND,

A DIARY OF WAR AND

CAPTIVITY

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Compiled & edited by Frances Worthington Lipe
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AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR VOLUNTEER FUNDING PROGRAM



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.



All contributions are to be sent directly to the National Treasurer to be used for the operation of the organization. A complete accounting of contributors will appear in the Bulletin each month.

I am enclosing my contribution to support the operation of the American Ex-Prisoners of War.

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taps



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

AGUILERA, Vincent "Boogie", died February 7, 2009. Vince was an AX-POW life member. He was a POW in Camp 1, Korea, from April 1951 to August 1953. Vince was an extremely active member of the Fort Worth Chapter. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Lucy, 11 children, 25 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 2 on the way. Vince was always upbeat, smiling and telling jokes. He will be missed greatly by the Fort Worth Chapter.

ANTHONY, Nolan D., 91, of Ennis, TX passed away Jan. 9, 2009. Shortly after being deployed in WWII, his battalion was captured by the Japanese and he spent the rest of the war as a POW. He was a member of AXPOW. He is survived by one son, one daughter, one sister and two grandchildren.

AVERY, Baldwin DC, of Lansdale, PA, died Dec. 17, 2008. A B-24 Pathfinder Pilot with the 8th AF (445th BG/389th BS), he was shot down on a bombing mission over Germany and was in Stalag Luft 3 for nearly 12 months. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Harriet.

BAGLEY, Lillian of Ft. Myers, FL (formerly of Pompano Beach) died Feb. 9, 2008. Lillian was the wife of ex-POW Lee and was a founding member of the Oakland Park Chapter (where she served as Adjutant for 11 years). BAGLEY, Lee passed away May 9, 2008. He served in the Army during WWII and was captured by the Germans and held as a POW. Along with his wife, he was a founding member of the Oakland Park Chapter (serving as Treasurer for 11 years). They are survived by one daughter, one son and many friends.

BAKER, David E., of Mitchellville, MD passed away Jan. 29, 2009 at the age of 62. He as deployed to South Vietnam in Jan. 1972 and was captured that June after his aircraft was shot down. He spent the next eight months as a POW in Cambodia. He was released

Ex-POW Bulletin Mar/Apr 2009 26 in Feb. 1973; according to the Air Force, the only AF POW repatriated from Cambodia. Survivors include his wife of 40 years, Carol, 2 children, 1 brother and 1 granddaughter.

BECK, James Edwin, 89, of Montgomery, AL passed away January 10, 2009. He was assigned to the 325th FG, shot down during an aerial engagement in North Africa, taken prisoner and interned in a German POW camp in Italy, from which he later escaped. James was predeceased by his wife, Evelyn Jones Beck; he is survived by one son, one daughter and three grandchildren. James was a member of the Prattville, AL Chapter, AXPOW.

BEST, Fred, 87, of McClellanville, SC passed away Nov. 23, 2008. He was a life member of AXPOW and founding member of the Low Country Chapter. Fred was past Dept. Commander and Past Chapter Commander. During WWII, he served in the AAF; he was captured and held in Stalag 17B. Surviving are his wife of 63 years, Dorothy, 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

BINGHAM, George M. of Lima, OH died Dec. 7, 2008. He was an Army veteran of the Korean War, where he was a POW for 37 months. George served as past commander of the NW Central Ohio, Chapter 7. He leaves his wife, Martha, 3 sons, 2 daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

BIRD, Grant M. of Novato, CA died Dec. 25, 2008. He served with the 386th BG, 555th BS. He was shot down twice; the last time, he was captured and held one year. Grant leaves his wife, Jean, and one son.

BOLT, Clarence E., of Bartlett, TN passed away on Jan. 29, 2009. Originally enlisted in the US Army Reserves, he transferred to the Army Air Corp during WWII. He was assigned to the 15th AF in Italy. He was shot down on his 24th mission over Germany on January 24, 1944 and immediately captured and sent to Stalag Luft in Frankfurt, Germany. He is survived by 2 sisters, 3 children, 5 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

BROWN, Lorraine, of Danvers, Massachusetts, died in December, 2008. The widow of Robert A Brown, Lorraine served as treasurer of Mass. Chapter #1 for many years. She was known by the staff at National Headquarters as "the lady in Massachusetts who ordered a lot of merchandise".

BRUNSON, Burl Warner, of Claude, TX, died Nov. 28, 2008. During WWII, he was shot down near Budapest, captured and held in Luft IV until liberation. He was a very active member of the Panhandle Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his daughter, Mariene, 1 grandson and 3 great-grandchildren.

CALLAHAN, Clifford D. (aka Miller), 86 of Sacramento, CA died Feb. 8, 2009. During WWII, he was a member of the 96th Tank Battalion; he was captured April 9, 1942. He survived the Bataan Death March, the infamous "Hell Ships" and slave labor. As a prisoner of war he was held in O'Donnell and Cabanatuan. He is survived by his wife Dorothy, 5 children, 12 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren.

CATTOOR, Anselm J., 87, of St. Charles, MO died Oct. 29, 2008. He served in the AAF - 460th BG, 760th BS - and was shot down over Hungary, captured and held in Stalag Luft IV. He leaves his wife, Jane, 2 sons, 4 grand-children and 5 great-grandchildren.

CLARK, Orville Eugene, 86, of Cottage Grove, OR died Jan. 22, 2009. He joined the Army before WWII, was captured on Bataan and held 3 ½ years. After the war he became active in veterans affairs. He was a member of the Umpqua River Chapter, AXPOW. 6 children, 7 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren survive him.

CUDWORTH, James W., of Greensboro, NC passed away Sept. 19, 2008. He was captured while serving with the 379th BG, 8th AF during WWII when his plane was shot down over Breman. He was held in Luft III and 7A. Jim was a founding member of the Greater Greensboro Chapter, AXPOW where he served as commander and director. He is survived by his loving wife of 65

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years, Virginia, 2 sons, 2 grandchildren and 1 great-granddaughter.

DAVIS, Donald I., of Sioux Falls, SD passed away Dec. 11, 2008. He was 83. He served in the 80th Inf. Div. during WWII. He was captured and held for 7 months in Germany. Don was a member of the Sioux Falls Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by his wife, Cara Lee, 2 sons, 2 daughters and 11 grandchildren.

DERR, Mary E., of Camp Hill, PA passed away Jan. 27, 2009. She was 87. She was the widow of ex-POW Valentine H. Derr. Mary was a member of the PA Capitol City Chapter, AXPOW. She is survived by one son, two daughters, one sister, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

DRAGAN, Paul, 85, of Warren, OH died Jan 24, 2009. During WWII, he served in the Army. He was a POW. Paul was a member of the Mahoning Valley Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves one brother and two sisters.

DUNCAN, Cliff, of New Albany, MS passed away Jan. 16, 2009. He was a member of the Northeast MS Chapter, AXPOW. Cliff was captured while serving with the Army and held in Germany. Survivors include his wife, Sarah, 2 daughters, 1 son, 6 step-daughters, 4 stepsons, 29 grandchildren, 59 great-grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

EDWARDS, Ralph Frank, 86, life member of AXPOW, died Dec. 27, 2008. He was stationed in Foggia, Italy, with the 15th AF. After capture, he was held in various camps, finally to Hospital Barracks at Stalag 17B. He leaves his wife of 65 years, Alexina, 2 children, 2 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

ELDRED, Aaron W., of Oronogo, MO died Oct. 31, 2008. He served with the 462nd BG, 769th BS during WWII. He was shot down over Mukden, China and imprisoned in Mukden until liberation. Eldred was a member of the Kansas City Chapter. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Lettie, 2 sons, 3 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 1 sister, many nieces and nephews and friends.

FOGLE, Dalton M., of Payson, AZ passed away Dec. 26, 2008. He was 87. Dalton served with the 101st Screaming Eagles Division. He parachuted into Normandy; then he was picked up by German troops. He ended up at Rundorf Slave Labor camp Stalag 12A, where he was held until he escaped. He was a member of the Agua Fria Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife, LaVerne and one son.

FURRIE, Florence C., 80, of Westerville, OH died Feb. 7, 2009. She was a member of the Mahoning Valley Chapter, AXPOW. Florence's husband, ex-POW Nicholas Furrie, predeceased her; she leaves 1 son, 1 daughter, 5 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren and 1 sister

GALUS, Constant "Connie", of Pompano Beach, FL died Jan. 18, 2009. He was shot down while serving with the 445th BG, 702nd BS, 8th AF as a flight engineer. He was held in Lufts IV and I until liberation. Connie was a member of the Oakland Park Chapter and Treasurer of the 8th AF Historical Group in Florida. He is survived by his loving wife, Margaret, 1 sister, 1 brother, and other family and friends.

GORDON, Crayton, of Keller, Texas, died Jan. 6, 2009. A member of the Fort Worth Chapter, he was in the Lost Battalion and was held a POW in Java, Singapore, Japan, and Thailand. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Frankie.

GUTHRIE, Bernard "Bernie" passed away Feb. 7, 2009. During WWII, he served in the Army's 150th Div., 423rd Inf. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and was a POW in Stalag 4B. He was a member of the Vista Branch of the San Diego POW Chapter, AXPOW.

HALL, Douglas L. commander of the Old Fort Smith Chapter, AXPOW, passed away Nov. 24, 2008 in VanBuren, AR. During WWII, he served with the 8th AF. He was captured before the Normandy Invasion and held 11 months. He leaves 1 brother and a number of nieces and nephews and good friends.

JANICKI, Anton, of Varna, IL died Feb. 19, 2009. He was 89. During WWII, he served as a paratrooper with the Army. He was captured in Sicily and held for two years in Germany. Anton was a member of the Heart of Illinois Chap-

ter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife, Eileen, 3 sons, 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

JENKINS, Miles Haldean, 88, died Dec. 4, 2008. He was 88 years old. During WWII, he served with the 101st "Screaming Eagles" Airborne Division. He was also part of the 326th Airborne Medical Company. Miles was captured by the Germans on Dec. 19, 1944, taken to Stalag IV-B, then transferred to Stalag VIII-A. He was liberated after a forced march across Germany. He is survived by his wife, Doris, and family.

LaCOURSE, Joan, 83, of Oregon, OH passed away Feb. 6, 2009. She was a charter member of the Maumee Valley Chapter, AXPOW and had been a very active member. Joan was the widow of Howard (ex-POW captured on Corregidor). She leaves two sons, two daughters, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

LOLLAR, Eleanor M. passed away. Feb. 3, 2009. She was the wife of Dwight L. Lollar, also deceased, who was a POW in the ET during WWII. She leaves 3 daughters, along with numerous grandchildren & great-grandchildren.

LOWE, James passed away February 3, 2009. He was a chapter member of the Agua Fria Chapter, Arizona. He was a B24 Pilot and was in prison for six months. He wife, Elizabeth passed away November 16, 2008. They had 50 years of marriage and lived in Sun City West, Arizona.

MILLER, Paul B., 89, of Huntsville, AL died Jan. 28, 2009. He was a member of the North Alabama Chapter, AXPOW; he was past commander of that chapter. Paul was captured in the Korean War while serving in the Army. He leaves his loving wife of 62 years, Lavelle, 3 daughters, 3 sons, 1 brother, 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

MILLER, Samuel Louis, 88, of Longwood, FL died Sept. 22, 2008. He enlisted in the PA National Guard and was serving in the Army with Co. B, 103rd Combat Engineers when he was

taps continued...

captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was held in Stalags 9A and 9B. He was a life member of AXPOW, past commander of the Broward Chapter, started the South Palm Beach Chapter and served as commander. Sam is survived by his wife of 61 years, Dorothy, 1 son, 1 daughter, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

MORRIS, Louise L., of Sun City Center, FL died Jan. 28, 2009. She was preceded in death by her husband, ex-POW Henry Morris. Survivors include her son, Bob.

MORRIS, Mathew, 96, of Riverside, CA passed away Jan. 23, 2009 on his birthday. He was a civilian worker on Wake Island prior to WWII; he was captured by the Japanese in 1941 and spent the remainder of the war in a Japanese POW camp. He was a member of AX-POW. He is survived by his beloved wife of 59 years, Emily, 2 daughters, 2 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 1 brother and 3 sisters.

MORSE, Douglas E. passed away Dec. 17, 2008 at the age of 89. Doug endured the Bataan Death March and was a Japanese POW in all the major POW camps in the Philippines. He spent 62 days on a "Hell Ship" before arriving in mainland Japan. He spent his time as a POW digging coal in Omine Machi coal mine. He is survived by his devoted wife, Mary, and his four stepchildren whom he adored. Doug was an active and faithful member for many years of the Tacoma Chapter, AXPOW.

NASH, Robert Lee, of Rogersville, AL, died July 3, 2008 on his 55th wedding anniversary. Robert served with the 24th Inf. Div, Co. K, 19th Inf. Reg. in the Korean War. He was captured near Kaesong. He leaves his wife, Elizabeth, one son and one daughter.

NICHOLLS, Harryette L., of Aurora, CO passed away Oct. 29, 2008. She was a member of the Mile High Chapter and a life member of AXPOW. Her husband Ex-POW Edwin (Ned) served in the 8th AF, 390th BG, 570th BS and was held in

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Luft 1. In addition to her husband of 61 years, Harryette is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter and grandchildren.

O'KANE, J. Bernard, 84, of Brewer, ME died Jan. 27, 2009. He served in WWII with the 97th Inf. Div., 387th Reg., 3rd BN Medical Detachment. He was captured near Pilsen, Czechoslovakia. After the war, he served in Japan. He leaves his wife of 50 years, Doris, 5 children and 11 grandchildren.

PARDUE, Tuttle Ernest, of Greensboro, NC died Sept. 11, 2008. He was 84 years old and a member of Greensboro Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he served with the 351st BG, 510th BS. He was shot down over France, captured and held in Luft IV. Survivors include his wife, Virgie and two daughters.

PERRY, William B "Bill", San Diego, CA passed away Jan. 28, 2009. He was taken prisoner on Corregidor, sent to Cabanatuan in the Philippines and in Umeda and Bunshu in Japan. He will be missed by the members of the POW Chapter in San Diego. He is survived by his wife Marilyn whom he called "Mickee".

POIROT, Don, 78, of Lawton died Dec. 15, 2008. He served in Korea with the Army. He was a POW for 3 years in North Korea. He leaves his loving wife Arline, 1 daughter, 1 son, 5 grandchildren and 1 sister.

PROCTOR, Robert Franklin, past commander of the Dept. of Colorado, past Rocky Mountain Chapter commander and veterans' activist in the Pike's Peak area, died Jan. 6, 2009. During WWII, he served in the AAF, flying B17s over Germany. He was a POW there. Survivors include his wife, Barbara, 1 son, 2 stepsons and many grandchildren. He will be missed by all.

PURSSELLEY, Glenn, 92, of Durham, NC died Oct. 29, 2008. Glenn served in the Philippines during WWII. He was held in POW camps in the Philippines and Japan until liberation. For many years, Glenn was a member of the Tar Heel Chapter, AXPOW; he was a life member of National. He is survived by his wife, Allene, 3 daughters, and a number of grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

REDDEN, Edward Eugene, of Gratiot, WI passed away Jan. 20, 2009 at the

age of 85. He served his country during WWII as a member of Co. D, First Battalion, 117th Inf. He was captured on Aug. 7, 1944 and held until liberation. He leaves his wife of 66 years, Virginia and two sons.

REEVES, Robert D., 85, of Washington, IL passed away Jan. 1, 2009. Bob was a member of the Heart of Illinois Chapter, AXPOW. He was predeceased by his wife, Kathryn; he is survived by five children.

REUTER, Charles W. passed away Dec. 12, 2008. He was 88. Charles served with the 773rd BS, 463rd BG during WWII. He was shot down over Budapest and sent to Luft IV where he spent 10 months, then took part in the Black Bread March across Germany. He was liberated by the British on May 2, 1945. Survivors include his son Rodney, and crewmate R.D. Laurence.

RUTAN, Shirley M. of Concord, NC widow of Ex-POW William T Rutan, Sr. (Root) passed away Jan. 9, 2009. She was a member of the Barbed Wire Assn. of NW PA, AXPOW. She is survived by 2 sons, 2 daughters, 3 sisters, 2 brothers, 10 grandchildren and many greatgrandchildren.

SERDA, Gabriel, of Pharr, Texas, died in October, 2007. Serving in 81 Recon, Co A, 1 Armored Div, Gabriel was captured in North Africa and was held in Stalags 7A, 3B, 2B, 3a, Oflags 64 and 21B. A member of the Rio Grande Valley Chapter, he is survived by his wife of 61 years, Coleta.

SERGI, Rocco, of Bradenton, FL, passed away Jan. 14, 2009. He was 83. During WWII, he served with the 106th Inf. Div. He was among more than 7,000 soldiers captured and jammed into crowded boxcars to be sent to various POW camps throughout Germany. He was eventually held in Stalag IX-B. He was a founding member of the Sarasota-Bradenton Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, LaVerne, 2 daughters, 1 son, 1 sister, 4 brothers and 2 grandsons.

SHAW, Dwight Leroy, 88, of Twin Falls, ID died Jan. 4, 2009. In 1940, he enlisted in the AAF, was sent to the Philippines with the 5th Airbase Group. He was captured on Corregidor and held 3 ½ years in Japanese POW camps. Dwight leaves his wife Susan, 5 chil-

taps continued...

dren, 4 stepchildren, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

SIMPSON, Bette, widow of Ira, passed away Feb. 3, 2009. Many members of AXPOW will remember Bette and Ira as hard-working and devoted to "their" organization. Bette will be missed by all her family & friends. Our prayers and sincere condolences are extended to all her loved ones.

SKARLES, James G., 87, Bataan Death March survivor, passed away Dec. 24, 2008. He served as top gunner on a Martin B-26 Marauder with the 397th BG; he was shot down on his 43 mission in August 1944.and spent the rest of the war as a POW in Stalag Luft V1. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, two sons, and two grandsons.

TIPPET, William D. "Tip", of Greensboro, NC passed away Jan. 6, 2009. He was 89. During WWII, he served in the Army. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. Tip was the 1st commander of the Greater Greensboro Chapter, AXPOW and was a hard worker in the chapter. He is survived by 1 daughter, 1 stepson, 4 grandchil-

dren, 7 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

UNREIN, Margaret M., of Columbine Valley, CO died Jan. 19, 2009. She was the beloved wife of Anthony, who was a POW in 12A, 13B, 13A, XIIA, XIIB, XIIIB. In addition to her husband of 63 years, Margaret is survived by 5 children, 9 grandchildren and 7 greatgrandchildren.

VanTUBBERGEN, Harvey John, 85, of Kenosha, WI died Dec. 19, 2008 at age 85. He was captured while serving with Co. C, 351st Inf., 88th Div. during WWII. He spent 7 ½ months in Stalag 7A before liberation. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Dorothy, 6 children, 11 grandchildren, 4 brothers and 3 sisters.

WALLENMEYER, Helen, 91, of Russellville, MO passed away on Dec 25, 2008. She was the wife of Leonard Wallenmeyer. Both were members of Central MO Chapter and life members of national. In addition to her loving husband, she is survived by one son and one daughter.

WASYLON, Paul J., of Troy, MI died Jan. 12, 2009 at the age of 84. He was a member of the Wolverine Chapter, AX-

POW. During WWII, he served in the Army; he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held several months. Paul's two daughters, four grandchildren, one great-grandchild and two sister survive him.

WILLIAMS Troy Lee Sr., age 76, passed away Sept. 9, 2008. Troy was an active member of the Denny Landrum Chapter, AXPOW. He served in Korea with the 2nd Div., 9th Reg., Company D. He was a POW in Camps 3, 5 and Death Valley. He leaves his beloved wife of 51 years, Beulah, 2 sons, 3 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

WILSON, Wilmer Leroy, 86, past commander of the Waco Chapter, AXPOW died Feb. 13, 2009. Leroy was captured on Corregidor while serving in the Philippines. He spent more than 3 years in POW camps. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Fern, 3 sons, 1 daughter, 11 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

WRETMAN, Richard Paul, 90, of Abilene, TX died Sept. 30, 2008. Dick served with the AF during WWII with the 452nd BG. He was a POW in Stalag 17B for 1 ½ years. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy and 2 daughters.

national chaplain



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

The need to follow God: Following in obedience – Genesis 12:1-4 says, "Now the Lord has said unto Abram. Get thee out of thy country and from thy kindred, and from thy Father's house, unto a land that I will show thee. And I will make thee a great nation, and I will bless

thee, and I will make thy name great, and thou shalt be a blessing. And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee, and in thee shall families of the earth be blessed. So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him."

God blessed Abraham because he followed God in obedience. Just imagine what Abraham thought when he heard God's call. He was told to leave his country, his relatives, and his father's house. In Abraham's time, only the fugitives or the homeless would do such a thing as this. Abraham did not even know "where" he was going – but, God did! Nevertheless, Abraham responded obediently to God's will for his life, proving his trust in God.

God fulfilled His promises to Abraham because he followed God in complete obedience. He will do the same for each of us if we will follow and obey. LET US PRAY: Heavenly Father, We acknowledge that we need your guidance in this present time in which we are living, perhaps more than we ever have. We pray for our nation and for our leaders that they will seek your guidance in all their decisions that they must make for the good of our Great Country, for You have said in your word (2Chronicles 7:14): "If my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and heal their land. Almighty God, I pray that we all will obey and follow you. AMEN.

REV. JAMES H. BEAVER

Ex-POW Bulletin

Mar/Apr 2009

new members

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

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Barbara



Annual Members Welcome Home Marysville, CA 103 DIV 12A, 9B Marion C Hitchcock 39546 Carpentersville, IL Roger G. MacDonnell *395 Stuart, FL	551
12A, 9B Carpentersville, II. Stuart, FL	
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1/10/44-5/1/45 Widow of Charles R Son of George	
Herbert D Brown Hitchcock MacDonnell, ETO	
APO AP Ralph I Nelson Luft 1 & 4	
USAF Rhoda M 33674 39542 Gerald W Jeffers	
Camp 2, Ping Chong Hi, Albuquerque, NM Wilma Dale Clotworthy Diane *39552 39	553
Paks Palace 106 INF DIV Cannon Co 39547 Fairfax, VA	
9B Bella Vista, AR Son of William Jeffers,	
Life Members 12/19/44-4/1/45 Widow of Harold W ETO	
Welcome Home Clotworthy	
*new member to AXPOW Eldon F Koob 4B Thomas A Jeffers	
Betty L 38989 39543 12/44-5/45 Kimberly * 39554 39 5	555
Warren G Ledbetter Sacramento, CA Woodbridge, VA	
Glenda Fanning 8288 CO L 112 INF REG 28 DIV John W Jeffers *39548 Son of William Jeffers,	
39539 2A, 12A Leesburg, VA ETO	
Midwest City, OK $10/20/44-4/4/45$ Son of William Jeffers,	
HQ Co 31 US INF ETO William J Tiller	
Fukuoka, Cabanatuan Sharon L McNeal 39544 Linda C 39556 395	557
New Port Richey, FL Javier Serda *39549 Liberty, MS	
Querin E Herlik Daughter of Steve Pharr, TX 87 INF DIV 347 INF	
Patricia 17680 39540 Odahowski, ETO Son of Gabriel Serda, ETO 3A, Others	
Martinez, GA	
146 AVN Co Betty L Kiser 39545 Virginia Anklam *39550 Stan Everett	
South Vietnam, Cambodia Lawrenceville, IL Eau Claire, WI June M 39558 395	559
Widow of William Kiser Widow of George F Bremerton, WA	
Fred W Evans Dulag Luft 1, 7A, 17B Anklam 513 PRCHT INF	

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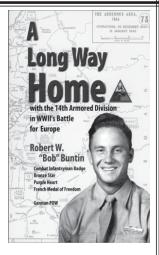
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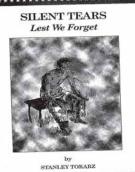
This is a personal account of becoming separated from the remnants of my company and lost in the Vosges Mountains of Southeastern France on New Years Day, 1945. It is a story of survival in the bitter cold of snow-covered mountains, avoiding capture, then suffering that fate after almost a week, all 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

They Experienced Living Hell as POWs.



Stan Tokarz's brother John survived Japanese prison labor camps after enduring the horrors of the infamous Bataan Death March. It was after the fall of the Philippines to the Japanese invaders. Those horrors and torture were never discussed by John, who died in 1991. He just refused to talk about World War II when it came up, indicating that he and

the other POWs. had suffered a great deal.

Stan Tokarz researched the ordeals of capture, torture, starvation, murder, brutality and confinement of the many prisoners of Bataan because he feels our younger generations must have a record of the hell on earth at the hands of the Japanese that our survivors of Bataan and life in the PO camps endured in WWII.

send check or money order:

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

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:

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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

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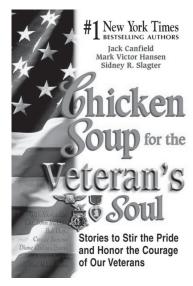
It recounts the peaceful prewar days, their years of hiding and imprisonment and how they adapted to those dramatic events. Despite the years of loss, deprivation and uncertainty of the future, the family maintained an optimistic spirit which would sustain them in their struggle for survival.

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TET 2009, Part II at the Nam Viet Restaurant





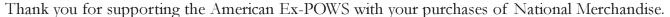
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