

EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the
American Ex-Prisoners of War

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September/October 2010

Happy Birthday, Mom!
It was Sally Morgan's 80th birthday
on September 1st and she still keeps us "kids" toeing
the line :-)



That's Sally on the left

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*Deadline for the Nov/Dec 2010
issue is Oct 1, 2010.*

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

By the time you receive this Bulletin, your national officers and members will be attending the 63rd National Convention in Albany, Georgia. We're looking forward to visiting Andersonville National Historic Site -- home of OUR National POW Museum again. Many of our members have not seen it since the dedication in April, 1998. We wish all our members could attend, but we'll have pictures and convention news in the Nov/Dec issue of the Ex-POW Bulletin.

Cover: USS *Constitution*, known as "Old Ironsides," is a wooden-hulled, three-masted frigate of the United States Navy. Named after the United States Constitution, she is the oldest commissioned ship afloat in the world (HMS Victory is older but is permanently in dry dock) and is still in service in the US Navy. The *Constitution* was one of the six original frigates authorized for construction by the Naval Act of 1794 and was launched in 1798. Joshua Humphreys designed them to be the Navy's capital ships and so *Constitution* and her sisters were larger and more heavily armed than the standard frigates of the period. She is shown on the cover at her bicentennial sail in 1997.

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**National Commander
Kenny H Hanson**

This will be my last address to you, the membership of American Ex-Prisoners of War.

On my visit to the Arizona state convention, I sadly learned that one man who was in prison camp with me was killed in a home invasion. What a waste of humanity it is when a good person is killed by a worthless thug.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as your National Commander. This year has given me a close-up view of how very great our membership is. This organization is supported by a certain percentage of our members. Can you imagine what a great organization it could be if all of the members would support it.

I made certain appointments during my year and I had very good reasons for making those appointments. Some people called me the "uninformed commander". Well, I can say that I was very well informed, that's why I made the appointments or non-appointments that I did.

Please call your members of Congress and urge them to support Bills HR944 and S977. These are the bills for our presumptive for Diabetes. Please ask them to call Rep. Bilirakis and Sen. Patty Murray's offices to co-sponsor these bills.

In the last issue of the Ex-POW Bulletin, I spoke about our new Visa Rewards Credit Card and I said that if just 20% of our membership got this new card, it would add \$200,000 to our treasury. Well, you all took me up on my challenge. National Headquarters is getting calls from members wanting the paper application; the on-line application orders are coming in strongly. So thank you if you have already applied for the AXPOW credit card, and if you haven't yet, please look at the application in each issue of the Bulletin and apply soon. One thing I didn't mention last issue is that you don't have to be a member to carry this beautiful card - you can get your kids, your neighbors, your church members - anyone who supports ex-prisoners of war can apply.

Another good fundraiser is our annual AXPOW calendar. It has been printed and is probably in your mailbox or enroute to you. We hope you enjoy the cartoons done by our members and we hope you can give generously to support our programs.

Lastly, I want to thank the vast majority of members who strongly supported me this past year. I fervently hope that you will support the next commander as well.

I will be seeing you around; in fact, I hope to see you in Albany Georgia in September!

Yours in fellowship,
Kenny



news from hq



It has been a great year with Commander Kenny and the Board. I hope many of you can make it to Albany, Georgia for the convention.

It is time to remind our annual members to get their dues in for 2011. We appreciate you.

Be sure to check out the new roster book. It is now available from National Headquarters for \$45 including postage and handling. This book was produced in-house. It helps keep the cost down for you. We are also offering a CD-ROM of the book. It is also \$45. If you buy them both the cost is \$65. As we are going to press, we just received our shipment of rosters and will have them available at the National Convention in Albany, GA. If you purchase them at the convention, they are \$40 each (shipping and handling costs are not added.)

The 2011 AXPOW Calendar is ready to be mailed as this issue goes to press. Look for it in your mailboxes soon! The last program for 2010 will be the holiday/personalized labels. You should be receiving them in late November.

All you Snowbirds, let us know when you are on the move so you don't miss a single issue of the magazine.

See you in Albany!
Your National Headquarters
Clydie, Marsha, Sally and Donna

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



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OUTREACH ELEMENTS Scene Unseen

We exist to help those who cannot help themselves! Our slogan. We hold that out as an important justification for our being. Yes, our National Service Officer program seems to be our caring action point. We have over 50 active, experienced NSOs around the country. It truly takes years, after attending an NSO seminar, to develop as an effective NSO. The on-the-job work of doing claims hones skills that get the job done in our advocacy for former POWs and families, in achieving VA benefits due them.

BUT, an element of outreach for us all is the VA POW Advisory Committee. It is made up of former prisoners of war from WWII, Korean War, Vietnam and Iraq, almost all of them members of AXPOW, to improve the VA system of addressing and handling former POW needs, for better consideration of claims. Their efforts include many facets, such as advising the VA on the need for new presumptives, educating medical personnel (doctors and nurses especially) about what residual problems

to look for in POWs' health needs, dealing with perceived VA deficiencies in certain VA offices, and even meeting at those locations where personnel insensitivities exist; several VA offices that I know of personally have improved their caring functions, noticeably. Recently, the VA POW Advisory Committee sought to have claims kept in the local state VA offices, rather than sending them to just three VA offices in Philadelphia, Milwaukee and St. Paul; and that has been done, to expedite claims processing. Most of us do not realize the important work done behind the scenes by the VA POW Advisory Committee. It has been an important factor in our getting later presumptive disability conditions for former POWs, and so crucial the Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for our widows and other dependents, terms for which VAPOWAC member Richard McCaulley and others wrote out in Committee, passed by the Committee, presented to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and APPROVED for widows and dependents of former POWs. What a service in real outreach to all our families. We bow to the POW Advisory Committee!

While the volume of former POWs claims for our NSOs has declined in number, the emphasis is now on helping widows get their DIC and Aid & Attendance, plus ChampVA, the free Medicare supplement.

Aid & Attendance is a VA benefit we all need to know more about. NSO Doris Jenks in New Port Richey, FL writes of a sad case of a family unaware of A&A: "I saw his picture with his obituary. I had helped Leonard get his 100% DC rating years before, a former POW who lost his legs when shot as he parachuted from a bomber into German hands. Now I called and his daughter told me her mother had been in a care facility for the past four years, I told her she would have been eligible for Aid & Attendance those four years, and certainly would be now, an add-on to her DIC. She said they sure could have used that extra money for her mother's care. So I've sent the VA form to the daughter. It's important that we under-

stand these extra items we may be eligible for.

"Additional compensation for a spouse and/or widow can be applied for using VA Form 21-2680. Any spouse and/or widow with disabilities preventing them from doing everyday chores may be eligible for additional compensation. This form can be obtained on the Internet, through va.gov or by calling the Former POW office in St. Petersburg, FL at 727-319-5914.

"An additional amount of \$135 monthly may be granted for Housebound, or an additional \$286 monthly may be granted for Aid & Attendance. The form must be completed by the spouse and/or widow's doctor and sent to the VARO in their state. The VA will determine which category to grant based on the completed form.

Enhanced DIC some can enjoy. Current Basic Rate is \$1,154, if a former POW has his/her 100% for at least one year before death or dies of a former POW presumptive and/or a service-connected disability. Enhanced DIC, add \$246 if at the time of veteran's death, veteran was in receipt of or entitled to receive compensation for a service-connected disability rated totally disabling (including a rating based on individual Unemployability) for a continuous period of at least 8 years immediately preceding death AND surviving spouse was married to the veteran for those same 8 years. Basic DIC + Aid & Attendance + Enhanced DIC = \$1,646, if..." Alertness to these special benefits can provide real outreach. Thank you, Doris, for good enlightenment!

Thank you notes with rewarding news, like: From Ann in Rochester, NY. "Dear Fred, last Sept. 2009, you got the VA to correct their denial of my ALS claim, and I am receiving my VA monthly check, and am enjoying ChampVA, and I'm very happy with all. I want to thank you again. You cannot imagine the stress that has gone in my life. When I learn of a veteran's ALS death, I tell them to call you or go to the VA to apply for the widow's benefit. Thank you, Ann."

nso



Ruth Powell, Director - NSO

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ChampVA for Life

By BETTY HARLAN, NSO,
American Ex Prisoners of War —
email: bettyh@fivearea.com.

CHAMPVA FOR LIFE (CFL) is the free medical benefit signed into law October, 2001 which reinstated spouses that had lost CFL due to becoming eligible for Medicare.

Those eligible for this medical benefit are the spouse or widow(er) of a veteran who is 100% service connected, not military retired. Also those deceased veterans whose deaths are deemed to have been a service connected death. Also eligible are the following: a child under the age of 18, a disabled child no matter what age, if that child is incapable of earning his own way; and became incapacitated before age 18 (as determined by the VA Regional Office); and a full-time student age 18 to 23 who is enrolled in an approved educational institution (school certificate required).

FORMS : Form 10-10d and Form 10-7959c. Spouse signs both the documents, not the veteran. VA Form 21-4138 for reinstatement. NOTE: If applicant has a current Medicare supplemental policy, CFL will be considered a supplement to

that Medicare supplemental policy and will not pay anything on the medical bill, so it is advised that as soon as CFL is granted and ID Card received, the applicant should then cancel the Medicare supplement by calling or writing them. Then fill out another Form 10-7959c and send it to Denver notifying them that the Medicare supplemental policy has been cancelled showing the end date, and then CHAMPVA FOR LIFE (CFL) will be the primary Medicare supplemental policy. What Medicare approves and pays 80% of, CFL will pay the 20% after the annual deductible is satisfied.

An ID card and handbook will be sent along with a packet of forms to explain more about the program. The ID card should be carried in the billfold along with the Medicare card. There is also a Pharmacy Card to be used if a prescription has to be filled at a local pharmacy. Show this card to get the CHAMPVA discount. If an existing Medicare supplement is NOT cancelled, CFL will NOT pay the 20%.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT HAD CHAMPVA BEFORE, the following copies (not certified) are required to be sent with the Application.

1. For a widow or widower: The *award letter* granting DIC. Or For a spouse of a 100% SC veteran, a copy of the *rating decision* which states that the veteran is *permanently and totally disabled*.

2. *Marriage license*. (In the case of a common law marriage, send copies of all documents that were sent to the VA when applying for 100% service connection. Approval will be up to the discretion of the eligibility clerks at the CHAMPVA central office.)

3. If on Medicare, the applicant must send *copy of his or her Medicare card*, and if that person has a *Medicare supplement* send copy of that card .

4. The veteran's *DD214 (Discharge)* or separation papers from the service.

Send the 2 forms together with the 4 proof documents, to the address in Denver, CO as shown at the top of form 10-10d. Instructions and claim forms will be sent with the approval packet, along with a handbook and instructions how to get your first prescription order mailed to Wyoming.

BENEFITS: For those on Medicare, it is a FREE Medicare supplement. CFL will pay for ALL prescription drugs if ordered through the CHAMPVA system in Cheyenne, Wyoming for the western half of the nation, and through Dublin, GA, for the eastern half of the nation. (Address & order forms will be sent with approval packet.) If prescription drugs are bought through local pharmacy a co-pay of 25% is required, along with an annual deductible of \$50.00.

E-mail sites for CHAMPVA: Inquiries: www.va.gov/hac Customer Service: www.mychampva.com

A nationwide group of AXPOW National Service Officers are stationed at Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Offices and Medical Centers.

Information, counseling and claims service are offered to all veterans and their dependants in matters concerning education, disability compensation, employment, hospitalization, rehabilitation, pension and other benefits... all at no cost to the claimant

Accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs, these dedicated National Service Officers are trained in all aspects of veterans' benefits, keeping abreast of changes in VA regulations, policies, procedures and entitlements.

American POWs in Korea

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Part VI Final

Temporary Camps

After their capture prisoners were usually quickly moved from the area and taken to a temporary camp. Often this meant a march for many days with little food, water, medical care, or shelter. Their guards frequently became lost. Many POWs report passing through the same area twice between capture and arrival at any kind of camp. Some spent weeks and even months marching from point to point and back again with a few days of rest every now and then. Not everyone was taken to a camp. More than just a few were used as truck drivers or cargo handlers and forced to work for their captors. This meant they were targets for UN artillery and planes. Many of these men were last seen by fellow POWs in places like Pyongyang and never seen again. The majority of POWs were taken to collection points where they were joined by other prisoners and then marched on to a temporary camp. Prior to January 1951 there were no permanent camps. Even after the establishment of camps One, Three, and Five prisoners were still held in temporary camps before being sent on.

Conditions at these temporary camps were terrible. The only improvement over the marches was the fact that some kind of shelter was available.

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The lack of food, water, and medical care continued. Death tolls were high and by the time the POWs were marched from their temporary camp to one of the permanent camps on the Yalu many were in no condition to survive the march.

There are over one hundred and fifty locations listed in official studies of collection points and temporary camps, more than thirty in and around Pyongyang. Many of them are duplicates, called one name by one group of prisoners and a different name by another. Some of them were christened the Bunkers, Death House, Fourteen Day Place, Half-way House, Pan's Camp, Pike's Peak, and Twin Peaks. Even today the actual location for some of these places has not been determined. Most of these smaller camps held a few POWs for short periods of time. There were several temporary camps that held large numbers of prisoners and were used for months at a time. There are only educated guesses at how many POWs were held in these camps and how many died there. Bean Camp, Mining Camp, Death Valley, The Valley, Kanggye, and the Apex Camps held large numbers of American POWs. The Caves and Pak's Palace held small numbers of Americans at any one time. Camp 12 held a small group on which the North Koreans put extreme pressure to create propaganda material. Pak's Palace was more a North Korean interrogation center than a POW camp.

The term "camp" really just means a location, a place, where the POWs were kept. A camp was simply a village of typical Korean homes, or huts, where sometimes the families were told to get out and the POWs then packed into the homes. Frequently the village schoolhouse was taken over and used as a barracks. At Bean Camp and Mining Camp the buildings once used to house the mine workers were used to house POWs. The picture most people have of a prisoner of war camp, long buildings

surrounded by barbed wire and guard towers, does not apply to what are called the camps in North Korea. The POW camps in North Korea were in such remote mountainous areas that no barbed wire or guard towers were necessary. Guards always patrolled the area around the camps but the mountains and the distance to friendly forces were better than barbed wire. Hundreds of POWs escaped from these camps but every one was recaptured.

Bean Camp (38 42 N 126 21 E) (Bean Camp was sometimes referred to as Mining Camp)

Bean Camp was located about 35 miles by road southeast of Pyongyang. It was just to the south of the city of Suan. The camp was a major collecting point, a place to hold POWs until the decision was made to send them on to the permanent camps on the Yalu. Prisoners were held here from about January 1951 until the next fall.

The barracks were the quarters of miners that had worked there in earlier years. There were about sixteen buildings, 60 feet by 18 feet, divided into rooms of 10' by 10' with dirt floors. Each room held about fifteen POWs. (Some descriptions say the rooms were 8' by 8' with about ten men per room.) There were three wells in the dirt road which ran through the camp but only one had water. Mountains surrounded the area. The camp held about nine hundred POWs, mostly American with some British, Australian, and Turks. Black POWs were kept in a separate company. The bulk of POWs held here were sent to Camp 1 in late April 1951.

The name of the camp came from the soya beans the prisoners were fed. They were fed twice daily at about 0930 and 1600. Each meal consisted of one tennis ball sized cake of millet, corn, kaoling (sorghum), and soya

medsearch continued...

beans. The corn and beans were never cooked properly which caused further problems for those with dysentery. Improper cooking left sharp edges which tore at intestinal linings. At night the meal was one grain cake and about a half pint of soya bean soup. Thus the name - Bean Camp. (Although some referred to the camp as Mining Camp.) The improperly cooked corn led to pellagra, which caused a number of deaths. The sick were fed a diet of grain with turnips added. The turnips added salt and minerals which all the POWs needed but did not receive. Prisoners had to line up to get their food, including a line for the sick. Some were too sick to leave their barracks. If they had a friend who would bring them food they ate. Food was of poor quality and quantity. A count was made in each room to determine how many balls of grain would be given to that room. At least one room kept the body of a dead POW in the room as long as they could to get the extra food.

A mixture of gun powder and ground dog bones was given to some as treatment for diarrhea. A few prisoners had iodine applied to wounds. That was the extent of medical treatment. Close to half the camp developed pneumonia. The Chinese did nothing for this problem. At least one room was used as a place for the sick. The wounds, and probably the feces, attracted hordes of flies. No water was available for bathing.

Slit trenches were provided for latrines. With the large number of prisoners sick with diarrhea and dysentery the whole area was covered with feces. No water was available except for one well. Prisoners would use that well to clean their feces covered clothing. The well water soon became full of worms. Some prisoners would drink from the well without boiling the water. Usually they had no means to boil the water. The men were also ridden with lice. Many had arrived at the camp after marching long distances from their point of capture with little food along the way. These conditions, combined with food of poor quality and quan-

tity, led to the death of at least thirty percent of the POWs during the short time the camp was used. One prisoner counted three hundred and eighty graves when he left Bean Camp.

Three times a week prisoners had to read out loud from the Shanghai News and other communist papers. Then they had to discuss what they had read. There was no mail sent or received at Bean Camp. Work consisted of burial details and wood gathering details. Gathering wood meant a five mile round trip over a mountain pass and bringing back a prescribed amount of fire wood. POWs were punished for not carrying enough fire wood, for leaving their room in the barracks without permission, or for talking to civilians in the area. Punishment consisted of cutting back on the already inadequate food ration, being placed in isolation, or being forced to stand at attention all day. The latter may seem a mild punishment until you consider the POWs were malnourished, frequently had diarrhea or dysentery, and received beatings when unable to maintain the position of attention.

The Chinese made officers remove their insignia. Enlisted POWs were told they did not have to take orders from their officers. A corporal was made the commander of the officers company in the camp. The officers were carefully watched to see they did not communicate with the enlisted. As a result, military discipline did not exist in the camp. Prisoners stole from each other. The cooks, who were POWs but not American, sold extra food, of which there should have been none. The POWs had only the clothes they were captured in. Some had parts of their uniforms, including boots, taken from them at capture. No blankets of any kind were issued at Bean Camp.

The Chinese refused to mark the camp in any way to identify it as a POW camp. They used the town as a resting point for their own troops and that brought attacks by American aircraft. The third attack in April 1951 killed about twenty POWs. Two

days later the POWs were sent to Camp 1, one group of about 350 leaving on 24 April and another group of the same size leaving on the 25th. (See Execution and Death Marches.) Those too sick to move were kept behind. When newly captured men came into camp in May they were all sent to nearby Mining Camp. Small numbers of prisoners may have been held at Bean Camp into the fall of 1951.

Mining Camp (38 47 N 126 22 E)

This temporary holding camp was in a village about thirty-five miles east of Pyongyang and six miles north of Bean Camp. A stream ran through the center of town with hills all around. The village had about 300 Korean homes and a number of large barracks type buildings which had been used to house the mine workers. Each of them was about one hundred feet long with a hall running down the center and four or five rooms to each side. The individual rooms measured about ten feet by ten feet in size.

Prisoners held here from late December 1950 until June 1951 were kept in two of these barracks with the officers held separately. During this time period there were about eight hundred prisoners held at Mining Camp with twenty five or more in each ten by ten room. They received two meals a day of ground corn. There was little or no water available and no medical care of any kind was provided. It is estimated about half of this group died. In June most of the survivors were sent to Camp 1 with some of the very ill kept back.

New captures in June and July were brought to Mining Camp next. By September they numbered between four and five hundred with one hundred South Koreans, a few each British, French, and Turkish, and the rest being American. As always the officers were kept apart from the enlisted. Some of the enlisted talk about being kept in a schoolhouse up on a hill across the stream from the

medsearch continued...

officer's huts. The first bath they were allowed was in a large communal tub holding fifteen men at a time. All the prisoners used the same water and then had to put back on the same filthy clothes they had been wearing since their capture. By the time this group left for Camp 1 on 20 September 1951 about one hundred eighty of them had died.

The majority of the deaths were caused by starvation. Meals were usually a watery soup and some days nothing at all. The prisoners received no clothing and no blankets. Latrine facilities were primitive and not adequate for the number of men. Beatings from the guards were common. One prisoner who attempted escape was made to dig his own grave and then executed in it. Even under those circumstances another prisoner attempted to escape the next day. Dysentery, beriberi, and scurvy were common. Lice were a constant problem and impossible to control under the circumstances. Political lectures began in all the camps in April of 1951, including Mining Camp.

Those prisoners too sick to make the September 1951 march were kept back. They were joined by a few POWs captured in the fall. In December they were all sent by truck to Camp 5. Eight Americans were held at Mining Camp with thirty South Korean prisoners in July of 1952. With all the buildings available they were still crammed into one ten by ten room. They received no clothing or medical treatment but the two meals a day were boiled rice and cabbage soup.

Not all the POWs were sent to Camps 1 or 5. A few were sent to Pak's Palace near Pyongyang for interrogation and attempts at indoctrination.

An officer captured in mid July 1953 was held at what he called Camp Suan from the end of July until 21 August. With him were about 180 enlisted men and a dozen officers.

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Most of the prisoners were American. He described the food and medical care as "atrocious". This reference to Camp Suan could have been either Mining Camp or Bean Camp.

Death Valley (40 12 N 125 45 E) (sometimes referred to as Mining Camp or a mining camp)

Death Valley was located in an old mining camp just north of Pukchin, about thirty four linear miles southeast of Camp 5 and eighty miles almost due north of Pyongyang. The valley ran north and south with mountains rising up half a mile on both sides. The Chinese controlled the southern part of the camp and the North Koreans the northern part. Farther north up the valley was a base area for North Korean troops. A small stream ran through the valley. The first prisoners arrived here the last week of December 1950. Some estimates put close to 2,500 prisoners held at Death Valley with the eventual death toll at about 700.

The POWs were housed in the former mining barracks. Each had six to eight rooms ten feet by ten feet in size. There were no real windows and doors, just the openings. Twenty five to thirty prisoners were packed into each room. They slept in shifts and remained in the rooms as much as possible for the warmth generated by their body heat. If the prisoners did not have lice before they arrived they did shortly thereafter. Scabies became a problem for most. No clothing of any kind was issued to the prisoners. Many of them were missing boots and coats which had been taken from them when they were captured. The dead were stripped of their clothing to be used by the living. The bodies were then stacked in nearby caves.

The POWs were fed about nine ounces of cracked corn or millet a day in two meals. Some days they got nothing. For the first few weeks the food was served into whatever container individuals had. For many this meant cupping their hands or using their caps. Bowls were later provided. The food was seldom boiled long enough and therefore difficult to digest. No vegetables or

salt were provided. The calorie intake was so limited huts would keep the dead in the room as long as possible so the head count would get them extra food. POWs had to go into the hills every day to gather wood. That three to five mile hike into the steep hillsides burned calories their diet could not replenish. Only once was meat included in a meal when one pig was butchered for the entire camp.

Water was available from the stream but the North Korean troops in the upper part of the valley used the stream as their latrine. With no containers to boil water in and little fuel for fires to boil the water, most, if not all, soon had diarrhea. The latrine provided in the lower camp was simply a low area in the middle of the camp. Because of the food and the contaminated water everyone had diarrhea and dysentery. Prisoners often never made it to the latrine area which resulted in feces everywhere. Washing of clothing was impossible which meant feces was in the huts. No soap or water was available to even wash their hands. Their were no tools other than bare hands to clean up the latrines or bury the dead. The extreme cold, poor diet, and terrible hygienic conditions led to dysentery, severe frostbite, fever, pneumonia, and death. There were five Army doctors in the POW population but they were allowed to do little more than wash old bandages to use again and again. Estimates of the number of deaths range from five to eight hundred.

In April one speaker began giving lectures to those still at Death Valley. Many POWs attended as the room used for these lectures was heated and a single tobacco leaf was given to anyone who attended.

On 21 and 22 January 1951 most of the POWs were sent by foot to Camp 5. Each group numbered about 600 men. The first group to depart included many sick and wounded. They took seven days to get to Camp 5. Those who left on 22 January arrived at Camp 5 in three days. Many of those who survived the march were so weak they died shortly after their arrival. About 300 sick and

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injured were kept back. On 13 May only 109 of that group were still alive when they were sent by ox cart to Camp 5. Eleven died on the ten day march and 75 more died within a few weeks of arriving.

The Valley (40 34 N 125 30 E) (sometimes referred to as Sambokal or Sambakkol)

The Valley was five miles southeast of Camp 5. The first POWs came into the valley about 20 November 1950 after a three week march. They had originally been sent to Pyoktong but a bombing raid on the town the day before made the Chinese decide to remove them to this valley. The valley ran east to west. Officers were held at the east end of the valley, enlisted men at the western end. There were about 30 officers and 720 enlisted men. The Chinese and North Koreans shared control of this camp.

The prisoners were housed in the standard Korean home, each of three

rooms. About twenty men were crammed into each room. They were given no shoes, clothing, or blankets. Many were still wearing summer uniforms and some had no boots. The temperatures were well below zero. No water was supplied. Snow became their water source. No latrines were available. No medical care was provided. Lice, scabies, and fevers were common. Conditions were so bad the guards would hold their noses when they had to enter the huts to conduct head counts.

The enlisted men were required to carry firewood and food supplies from a central supply point back to the camp. Little firewood was available to heat the huts. It was primarily used to boil the millet and sorghum they were fed. At times they got only whole kernel corn. The daily food intake was about four hundred grams. The meals were undercooked and lacking in protein. Dried corn stalks were given to some of the POWs to be used as bedding. They searched through the stalks for any ears of corn they could find to eat.

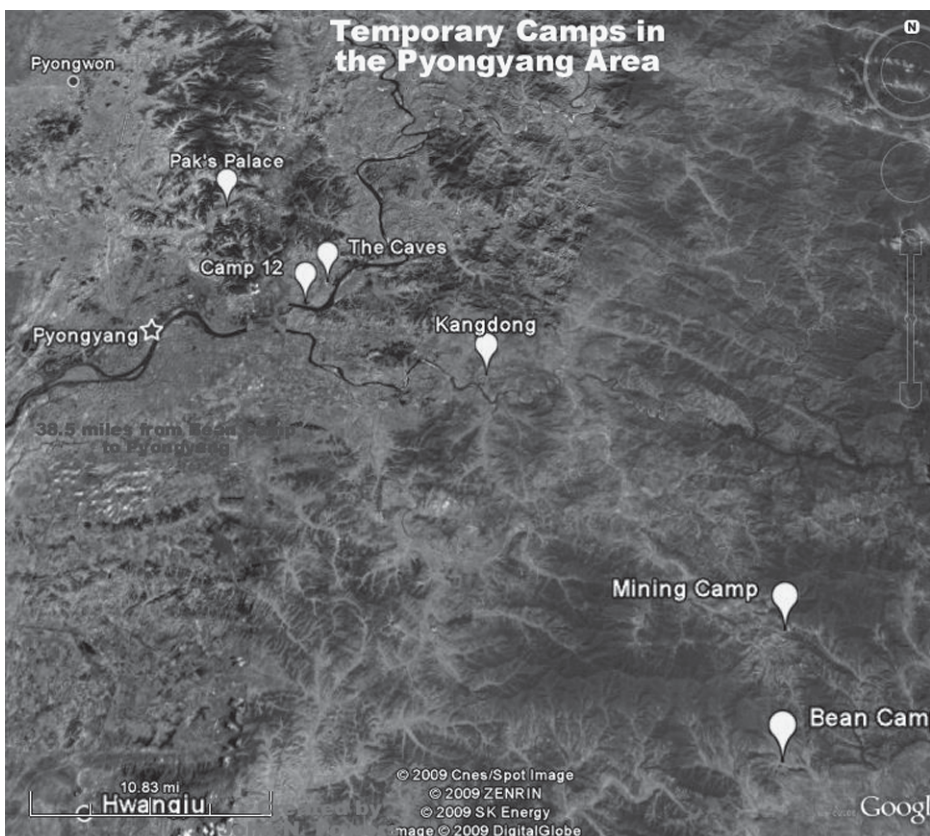
The two senior officers at Valley Camp made a strong effort to instill discipline among the POWs, even ordering the men not to discuss food. Through their leadership only twenty to 25 deaths occurred among the approximately 750 prisoners. (Some sources give the POW population as 1500.) Most of those who died had been wounded prior to capture.

Valley Camp was closed on 20 January 1951 and the POWs sent back to Camp 5 at Pyoktong.

Kanggye - Camp 10 (41 02 25 N 126 39 08 E) (sometimes referred to as Peaceful Valley)

The Kanggye camp was in a valley a few miles north of the city of Kanggye. Some 250-300 POWs captured at Chosin in December 1950 were held here in Korean homes. They arrived in mid-December after a two week march. Their uniforms were taken and the standard Chinese "student" uniforms were issued. The uniforms were dyed a dark blue and were padded with cotton for winter use. The prisoners were housed ten to twelve per room sleeping with their heads to the wall and their legs overlapping. The huts were heated and they were issued one blanket for every two prisoners. Their only work detail was to cut wood for heating the huts. The most common medical treatment was the cutting away of dead tissue on frost bitten feet. One POW had a bullet removed from his hip by a Chinese doctor using a pen knife. Others received similar minimal care for various wounds. Meals consisted of sorghum with rice every ten days. Soy beans and pork were periodically added to the two meals a day. Approximately twenty five POWs died at Camp 10.

Right from the beginning the POWs were told they would be released if they cooperated. Lectures were given in the huts. Instructors would sit in the open door and talk for hours. The prisoners just wanted them to go away so they could close the door



The Google photo above shows those temporary camps in the Pyongyang area. The linear distance from Bean Camp to Pyongyang is 38.5 miles. Pak's Palace is 10 miles northeast of Pyongyang. The actual road miles for POWs being marched from one location to another would have been more.

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again and get warm. Eventually the squad leaders had to lead the lectures. They would watch for any Chinese to approach the hut and then pretend to be seriously discussing some issue. Written responses were required to questions about prisoner opinions on various articles in Communist papers.

In early March 1951 the prisoners were all sent by train to Pyongyang. About sixty were separated and told they were to be freed. The bulk of the group was told they needed further education and were sent on to Camp 1. Nineteen from the group of sixty were eventually loaded with propaganda leaflets and let loose near UN lines. The rest of that group were marched from point to point through the summer and eventually ended up at Camp 1 in the fall of 1951.

Kanggye was an experiment in re-education on the part of the Chinese. These were some of the first UN troops captured by the Chinese. Most POWs up until this time had been captured by the North Koreans. The prisoners were treated differently than others in the temporary camps. Within a few days of arriving at Kanggye the POWs were given haircuts and shaves. Their housing was less crowded, their huts were regularly heated, they were issued new clothing, they were given blankets, and their food was a little better. That is not to mean they were on a picnic but conditions in other camps at this time were much harsher. The prisoners at Kanggye were told they would be released if they demonstrated some signs of cooperation, so they demonstrated some signs of cooperation. The Chinese, however, believed the cooperation they saw was a direct result of their "re-education" efforts. They actually believed they had changed the political views of a large percentage of the POWs at Kanggye. They made the assumption that same level of change would be attainable from

any and all UN troops they captured. After the camp was closed they prepared a document describing how POWs could be manipulated, based on their "findings" at Kanggye. That document emphasized the POWs fear of death, fear of not returning home, and suggested severe treatment could soften them up for "re-education". The Chinese attempt at re-education began in all camps the very next month. It took them another year to realize that except for a small handful of POWs, their attempts were futile.

Apex Camps - Camp 7 (41 44 N 126 52 E)

The Apex Camps were the three separate camps the civilian and military POWs were held at in the year immediately following their participation in the Tiger Death March. These camps were the farthest north of all the POW camps and held only the Tiger Death March prisoners. They are called the Apex Camps because of their location on a large point, or apex, of North Korean geography. The third camp of the three, Andong, is also referred to as Camp 7. They were held at Chunggang-jin from 9 to 16 November 1950. Next was Hanjang-ni from 17 November 1950 through 27 March 1951. Finally they were held at An-dong from 27 March to 10 October 1951. All three of these camps were controlled by the North Koreans.

The group arrived at the village of Chunggang-ni on 8 November after 89 died on the movement from Manpo on foot (Tiger Death March). The majority of that number had been executed for failure to keep up with the pace of the march. During their week-long stay at Chunggang-ni the prisoners were housed in a schoolhouse. The civilians were given straw to sleep on, the military POWs slept on the bare floor. The civilians had one stove in the doorway separating the men from the women. The run-down condition of the building meant you had to be near the stove for any heat. The POWs had only body heat to keep them warm.

The group was told their poor health was their own fault - they were not

taking proper care of themselves. As a remedy they were forced to perform calisthenics for at least a few mornings after their arrival. The only medical care was that provided by a Korean nurse and "doctor". These individuals had almost no medical supplies and limited medical knowledge. The two doctors among the prisoners were not allowed to work as doctors, only to carry a small medical bag for the nurse. The military POWs had only the clothing they were captured in. Most of them were wearing summer uniforms. Some had no shoes and some no jackets. Lice were a serious health problem. Keeping them under control required about two hours a day of stripping down piece by piece and killing all the lice found in the seams of their clothing. The cold and the starvation diet made this a risky procedure.

Food was the equivalent of one standard water glass full of millet per day, divided into two meals. Until the prisoners were allowed to prepare their own meals the food was poorly cooked. Even when they were allowed to prepare their own meals they had to improvise a kitchen and learn how to properly cook the grain. Improper cooking of millet causes diarrhea. One of the civilians recalls seeing POWs steal frozen cabbage leaves to add to their diet. Since the well in the schoolyard was dry, water had to be brought from the Yalu on carts pulled by POWs. They would be soaked from the splashing of the water from the barrel in the cart.

Chinese troops were constantly moving through the area and attracted US aircraft. The village was strafed and bombed during the week the prisoners were held there. Four civilians and twenty four of the military POWs died at Chunggang-ni.

On 16 November the group was marched northeast to Hanjang-ni, some still in bare feet. The fifty-one civilians were put into one Korean house. The military POWs were put in other Korean houses and the schoolhouse. The Korean homes had heated floors provided the prisoners had enough wood to burn and were allowed to have a fire for heat. The schoolhouse had little or no heat. In

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all cases the prisoners slept on the floor.

There was little mixing allowed, even of prisoners in neighboring huts. Guards would escort any prisoners outside their huts. Work details were required to haul water, to pick up bundles of wood and the days food from a central storage point, and to grind the grain. During these details the prisoners were able to exchange information, especially while getting water from the well about 100 yards away. Frequently the water detail would have to stand in the frigid cold while the guards chipped the ice from the well to get at the water. The minimal clothing they had made this a very unhealthy activity. No fires were allowed during daylight hours. The guards were concerned smoke would attract the attention of US aircraft. The water detail would have to wait until late evening to thaw out and dry their clothing.

Some sources list 203 military and three civilian deaths at Hanjang-ni, others list 222 as a total. Medical care was almost non-existent. Certain houses were designated as hospitals. For the civilians this was a ruined hut. The room used for patients had only a sack for a door and no heat. The condition of the hut meant no fire could be built so food had to be prepared elsewhere. By the time it got to those in the hospital it was always cold. Temperatures dropped as low as 40 below at night. Patients slept on the floor on a straw mat, covered by another. The walls would be covered with frost. The prisoners constantly tried to hide any signs of illness from the guards so they would not be sent to the hospital. Almost all those sent to these "hospitals" died there. Many of the military POWs died when flu hit them. Already weakened by months of marching across Korea, their starvation diet, the severe cold, and constant diarrhea, too many prisoners had no reserve left when hit by the flu. After November the ground was too frozen to bury the dead.

Most of the military POWs had not had a bath or change of clothing

since they were captured six months earlier. Dysentery was common. Repeatedly having to leave their shelter and step into the frigid night further weakened individuals. Permission had to be granted by the guards before they could leave the hut to use the latrine. Failure to do so often led to being forced to stand in the cold or kneel in the snow with no shirt. At times water was then poured on them. Beatings with rifle butts were common for the slightest of reasons.

Millet continued to be the standard diet at Hanjang-ni. The average was 600 grams per person per day. Meat was included in the meal only a few times and in minuscule amounts. Fish was included only twice. Starting January 1951 one of the meals each day was usually rice. Soya beans were included when available. As time progressed the prisoners became better at cooking their food, especially learning how to cook the millet so it did not cause diarrhea. A major problem for both heating and cooking was the use of green wood. The local villagers were ordered to supply the prisoners with firewood. They naturally kept what they had gathered prior to the winter months and cut new wood for the prisoners. This green wood made starting and maintaining fires difficult.

At least one military POW was beaten so badly he died. He had torn a board from the fence outside a Korean home to help start a fire. The guards would usually become irate when they found POWs removing wood from structures for any reason. Prisoners were told they must not damage property. The guards had no problem throwing the people out of their homes, but it was important to their ideology that home be returned undamaged to its owner.

In January 1951 beriberi appeared among the civilian prisoners. The Koreans supplied soybeans to add to the meals and told the cooks how to prepare them. That solved the beriberi problem. Since the military POWs ate the same or less than the civilians it can be assumed beriberi hit them also.

When an individual died their clothes were removed to be used by the living. Early in 1951 a standard Chinese winter uniform was issued to each POW. At some point they were allowed to steam their clothing and disinfectant was used on the huts, either because of lice or feces, or both.

For a while the military POWs had political lectures about twice a week. In January the Tiger was replaced and gradually beatings by the guards became less common. In early February the diplomats and journalists in the civilian group were removed from Hanjang-ni.

On or about 27 March 1951, the group was moved back down through Chunggang-ni to the third camp at An-dong. This time all the sick were moved in ox-carts. At first the entire group was housed in a large stone structure of ten or twelve rooms, thought by the POWs to have been a hospital, and nearby buildings, all part of a fenced-in compound. The area measured about eight hundred by four hundred feet and was surrounded by a five foot high barbed wire fence. In some sources this is also referred to as a former police compound.

Prior to this point the civilian and military POWs were not allowed much contact with each other, usually only when on work details. Now they were all in the same compound and mixed more freely. Political lectures continued, but after a while the civilian prisoners were told they would not have to attend. In early May the civilians were moved out of the compound to a house about a hundred yards away (one source says a quarter mile). The guards felt there was too much intermingling of the civilian and military POWs. After this move the only contact was again on work details such as wood gathering or at the weekly food distribution point. One of the civilian group escaped a while later and was gone three days before recapture.

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The weather improved and vegetables started appearing at meals. The normal meal of millet changed to kaoling, or sorghum. A day's nutrition was still 600 grams but now of equal parts rice and millet. Daily activities included the standards of cutting and hauling wood and water and collecting the daily rations from the storehouse. Cooking meant first washing and grinding the grain. Wood cutting details had the opportunity to pick wild berries, mushrooms, and wild greens. The daily wood gathering details would consist of two to three hundred POWs, civilians included, going down the road and into the hills to find firewood. Ox-carts would be taken along to carry the day's result.

The civilians set up school sessions for the ten children in their group. Once the civilians were

put into the hut outside the compound they were allowed more freedom of movement. They would wander into the hills gathering wild plants to add to their daily meals. It was at An-dong the prisoners were finally able to bathe, using the stream. New clothing was issued in the summer, including shoes.

Although conditions and treatment improved from the winter months the dying continued. There were sixty nine military deaths at An-dong and at least one civilian death.

The civilians left An-dong by truck on 9 October 1951 and were returned to Manpo. In August of 1952 they were sent to Ujang and March of 1953 to Pyongyang, finally being released into Russian care in April. The military POWs were marched to the Yalu on 10 October 1951 and sent down the river on barges. The officers were sent to Camp 2 and the enlisted to Camp 3. One officer died on the way and about ten enlisted died at Camp 3. On arrival at Camp 2 the officers were described as "...scraggy and dirt-

grimed, clad in rags, and some of them had skin diseases..."

At least fifty percent of the 845 who began the Tiger Death March died while prisoners, almost all of that number dying at the Apex camps. The dates and the number of deaths used here may not be one hundred percent accurate. Different sources use different numbers. Some sources give a figure of 87 civilians beginning the March, others 59 civilians. Some sources say 206 died at Hajang-ni, others say 222. Some sources say 60 died at An-dong, others say 69. A 1994 Rand report lists only 232 of the original 700-800 alive in October 1951. Those numbers put the death toll at seventy percent.

One source says it was the military POWs who were moved from the compound to the house at An-dong. That is incorrect. One house would not have held the military POWs as they numbered over three hundred at that time. Another source says the civilians were moved across the Yalu to a house in Manchuria. That is also incorrect. They were not on the Yalu. There was a small stream that ran through the village of An-dong. The civilians waded across it as they moved from the compound to the house. In their debriefs after the war many of the military POWs seemed to refer to any stream or river as the Yalu.

The Caves - Camp 9 (39 04 N 125 56 E)

The Caves were just northeast of Pyongyang very near to Camp 12. This was a series of dark, cold, and wet caves about one hundred feet deep, in some cases with the entrances boarded over. Others were just large enough to stuff one man inside. The prisoners had to sleep on the ground in the caves even though water was pooled everywhere within. This also served as their drinking water. The area just outside the entrance to each cave was used as a latrine. Since most prisoners had diarrhea they often did not make it even that far. They were fed a small bowl of corn twice a day and given no medical care. Many POWs were



The map above shows the location of the three Apex camps. The distance on the scale refers to altitude above the Earth, not mileage.

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simply allowed to die. One POW estimated he saw three hundred graves when he was held there. In May of 1951 seventy seven POWs arrived at the Caves. Six weeks later only twelve of them were alive. In another group of twenty three there were no survivors after three weeks.

Pak's Palace (in the vicinity of 39 09 N 125 48 E)

Pak's Palace was a Korean run camp located about ten miles northeast of Pyongyang. It had earlier locations in or around the city but was finally situated among a large group of buildings including a brick factory with a one hundred foot high chimney. From this came the name "the Brickyard". POWs at Pak's Palace were held in four rooms in a long thatched roofed building. A barbed wire fence surrounded the building and a courtyard area. A river ran just to the south.

The prisoners were brought there in small numbers to be interrogated by a North Korean team headed by a Major Pak. Pak was not the senior officer but handled the interrogations. There was also a Russian presence in the camp. At times the Russians actually conducted interrogations. In many cases the POWs felt the Russians created the questions asked by the North Koreans.

The majority of the prisoners brought to Pak's Palace were officers, most of them Air Force officers. They were selected by the Koreans from nearby temporary camps until those camps were for the most part closed down. Prisoners were also brought down to Pak's Palace from the permanent camps on the Yalu. Interrogations at Pak's Palace began in February or April of 1951 and continued throughout the war.

While at Pak's Palace the prisoners were forced to work hauling logs, digging bomb shelters in solid rock, and carrying water and supplies for the Koreans. Their food was the same or poorer quality than that in the permanent camps. What little food

they received was frequently withheld completely when prisoners refused to answer questions. Beatings were common as were threats of death. Prisoners were frequently placed in a hole in the side of hill with the entrance completely covered. In May of 1951 three POWs escaped and were not caught for a week or more. When brought back to Pak's Palace they were placed in this hole for twenty six days and forced to use a corner of their small hole in the ground for a latrine. One POW talks about prisoners being housed in a two story building. The presence of diarrhea and dysentery among the prisoners meant that those on the lower floor were hit by urine and excrement.

In June of 1951 there were about thirty US prisoners held there for three weeks before they were sent on to Camp 5. In October of 1951 about twenty POWs held there, sixteen of them US. Some prisoners held here in the summer of 1951 talk about frequent deaths among the POW population. A prisoner held there for the month of September 1951 recorded five deaths.

Camp 12 (39 03 N 125 54 E)

In January 1951 the North Koreans came to Camp 5 and selected twenty POWs to take back to Pyongyang to what became known as Camp 12 - also known to some as Traitor's Row. Those selected were told they would be broadcasting the names of all the prisoners at Camp 5, make broadcasts to their families back home, or work on body recovery at old battlefields. The two lieutenant colonels that had been the senior officers at The Valley were included in the group, one of them selected to be the group leader. Camp 12 was moved around the general area of Pyongyang until June 1951 when it settled just to the northeast of the city.

On their arrival at Camp 12 the prisoners found they were expected to create and sign peace appeals and other propaganda material for the North Koreans. They were informed refusal would lead to their execution.

Lack of cooperation brought death threats or suggestion they were about to be marched back to Camp 5. With their physical condition that would have meant certain death.

The men at Camp 12 were fed just as badly as at the other camps. When they balked at producing the required documents or recordings their rations were cut even further. At one point they begged some locals for food and were given a meal of dog soup. They were frequently threatened with transfer to the Caves, a nearby collection point where many POWs were simply allowed to die. Twice some of the Camp 12 prisoners were sent there for a few weeks when they were not cooperative enough. One group spent three weeks at the Caves during which time the twenty three Americans already there died. Then the men were sent back to Camp 12.

Even when cooperating the leaders at Camp 12 were thinking of escape. They drew up detailed plans of rescue by US forces. By this time there were seventy prisoners in or near the camp. The rescue plan called for their recovery by helicopter, or an air drop of weapons and equipment so forty men could break out and be rescued nearby, or dropping equipment and directions for five men to break out and be rescued on the coast. After the war experts studied the plan and said the rescue of the entire group would have worked. To get their plans out to US forces the men at Camp 12 were forced to appear to be cooperating even more so one of their group would be freed as a "peace emissary." In the end the North Koreans decided not to release anyone so the plan was never delivered to friendly forces. The senior American officer made three escape attempts after the release was canceled. In early December 1951 Camp 12 was shut down and the men sent back to Camp 5.

Index and credits in Sept/Oct. EX-POW Bulletin.

AXPOW MEDSEARCH CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

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

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POW/MIA Events

by Alan Marsh

On September 17, 2010 we observe National POW/MIA Recognition Day. For the writer of this article (and I am sure for all of the readers as well), our nation's prisoners of war and those who have not been accounted for are remembered much more often than one day a year. This year marks fourth year we have teamed with both the Friends of Andersonville and Rolling Thunder to honor our nation's POWs and MIAs in conjunction with the day of recognition.

This year's events commence September 15th at 11:00 a.m. with a convocation at Georgia Southwestern State University. We are delighted to have as our guest speaker Ms. JoAnne Shirley, Vice Chairman of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia. Two days later, the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall opens to the public at Andersonville National Historic Site. The 3/5 scale model of the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. will reside at Andersonville through September 25th. On September 23rd we look forward to a visit from AXPOW members attending the

national convention in nearby Albany, Georgia. For a complete list of events please see the schedule below.

September 15

Convocation featuring keynote speaker Ms. JoAnne Shirley.
11:00 am

September 17-25

The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall
8:00 am-7:00 pm

September 17-18

Some Gave All Moving Tribute
8:00 am-7:00 pm

Eight engraved panels list over 4,000 names of fallen soldiers from Beirut, Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, and Operation Enduring Freedom.

September 17

Opening Ceremonies, Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall
10:00 am

All day U.S. Postal Service Cancellation Station featuring special one day only cancellation stamp

September 17

Candlelight Ceremony
8:00 pm

September 18

POW Recognition Ceremony
10:00 a.m.

September 23

AXPOW Opening Ceremonies/
Memorial Service
10:00 a.m.

Lunch

tour of the museum

September 25

5K Run to the Wall
8:00 am-noon

September 25

Closing Ceremonies
5:00 pm

About Andersonville

Sacrifice and Courage From the Revolutionary War to Operation Iraqi Freedom, American prisoners of war have endured untold hardships, and shown tremendous courage. Andersonville NHS commemorates the sacrifices of these brave Americans through exhibits in the National Prisoner of War Museum; preserves the site of Camp Sumter (Andersonville prison); and manages Andersonville National Cemetery.

Andersonville Prison (Camp Sumter) Camp Sumter, commonly called Andersonville, was one of the largest military prisons established by the Confederacy during the Civil War. In existence for 14 months, over 45,000 Union soldiers were confined at the prison. Of these, almost 13,000 died from disease, poor sanitation, malnutrition, overcrowding, and exposure to the elements. The largest number held in the 26½-acre stockade at any one time was more than 32,000, during August of 1864. Today the beauty of the prison site belies the suffering that once took place inside the stockade.

National Prisoner of War Museum

The 1970 legislation responsible for establishing Andersonville National Historic Site instructed the site "to interpret the role of prisoners-of-war camps in history" and "to commemorate the sacrifice of Americans who lost their lives in such camps." To that end, the exhibits in the National Prisoner of War Museum serve as a memorial to all American prisoners of war. The museum opened in 1998 and is dedicated to the American men and women who have suffered as POWs.

Andersonville National Cemetery

The cemetery is the final resting place for those who perished while being held as POWs at Camp Sumter. It is now a National Cemetery, serving as a honored burial place for present-day veterans.

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namPOW news



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Nam-POW Experience

Here's a partial listing of the books that have been written by Vietnam POWs that run the gamut of the entire experience of the war in which POWs were interred the longest. A much more complete list can be seen by visiting the Nam-POW website where Nam-POW Past President and historian Mike McGrath tries to keep up with the list. <http://www.nampows.org/nampowbooks.html>

I've added editorial comments in a few cases.

Alvarez, Everett, Jr. and Anthony S. Pitch, *Chained Eagle*. New York: Donald I. Fine, 1989. (Editor: Ev Alvarez was the longest held POW in North Vietnam. He was captured in the Gulf of Tonkin incident on 5 August 1964.)

Anton, Frank with Tommy Denton, *Why Didn't You Get Me Out?* Arlington, TX: Summit Publishing Group, 1997.

Certain, Robert G., *Unchained Eagle: From Prisoner of War to Prisoner of Christ*. Palm Springs: ETC Publications, 2003. (Editor: Robert Certain, B-52 jock, became an Episcopalian priest and was the primary "preacher" with the military decorations on his smock during the events surrounding President Ford's funeral.)

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Day, George E., *Return With Honor*, Mesa, AZ: Champlin Fighter Museum Press, 1989. Excerpts appear as *Promises to Keep*, Reader's Digest (December 1991), pp 107-111. (Editor: "Bud" Day, one of my personal heroes, caused the creation of "Tricare for Life" which greatly benefits military retirees. He still practices law at age 85. Bud started as a Marine in the South Pacific island battles in WWII.)

Dengler, Dieter, *Escape From Laos*, San Rafael, CA: Presidio Press, 1979.

Denton, Jeremiah A. with Ed Brandt, *When Hell Was in Session*, Washington, D.C.: Morley Books, 1997. Originally published: New York: Reader's Digest Press, 1976. (Editor: U.S. Senator Denton was one of the most senior leaders in Hanoi. Blinked "torture" in morse code to a Japanese TV reporter late 1965 alerting the US government of terrible treatment of POWs by the Communists.)

Guarino, Larry, *A POW's Story: 2801 days in Hanoi*. New York: Ivy Books, 1990.

Lawrence, William P. and Rosario Rausa, *Tennessee Patriot—The Naval Career of Vice Admiral William P. Lawrence, U.S. Navy*. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2006. (Editor: Bill Lawrence was another personal hero. He was as close to a Douglas MacArthur the Naval Academy has ever produced. The *USS William P. Lawrence* DDG-110 will be commissioned in Pensacola early next year.)

McCain, John with Mark Salter, *Faith of My Fathers*. New York: Random House, 1999. (Editor: Arguably John McCain is the most famous of the Vietnam POWs. And, certainly one of the most fun guys to be around.)

McGrath, John M., *Prisoner of War: Six Years in Hanoi*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1975. (Editor: Mike McGrath's book of pen and ink drawings remains the only graphical documentation of the Vietnam POW experience. That my Navy classmate wrestling ace McGrath is also an artist hints of his being a Renaissance Man. He's not.)

Plumb, Charlie as told to Glen DeWerff, *I'm no Hero*. Independence, MO: Independence Press, 1973. **Plumb, Charlie**, *The Last Domino?* In-

dependence, Independence Press, 1975. (Editor: Charlie Plumb is a very prolific author and speaker who has given hundreds of talks around the world.)

Risner, Robinson, *The Passing of the Night: My Seven Years as a Prisoner of the North Vietnamese*. New York: Random House, 1974, 1973. (Editor: Robbie Risner is one of the greatest leaders I've ever known. An Ace in Korea, he was on the cover of *Time* magazine in the Spring of 1965 - shortly before getting shot down and captured. He was in solitary confinement for more than five years.)

Rochester, Stuart I. and Frederick Kiley, *Honor Bound: The History of American Prisoners of War in Southeast Asia, 1961-1973*. Historical Office, Office of the Secretary of State, Wash, DC 1998. Reprint: Naval Institute Press, Annapolis, MD 1999 (call 1-800-233-8764 for copies). (Editor: The definitive study of the POW experience in Vietnam. Compiled over 25 years and greeted with acclaim when it was released.)

Stockdale, James B., *Courage Under Fire: Testing Epictetus's Doctrine in a Laboratory of Human Behavior*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University, Hoover Institution, 1993. **Stockdale, James B.** and Sybil, *In Love and War: The Story of a Family's Ordeal and Sacrifice During the Vietnam Years*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, c1990. Harper & Row, 1984. **Stockdale, James B.**, *A Vietnam Experience: Ten Years of Reflection*. Stanford, CA: Hoover Inst, 1984. **Stockdale, James B.**, *Thoughts of a Philosophical Fighter Pilot*, Stanford, CA: Hoover Inst, 1995. (Editor: What can I say? Admiral Stockdale is the very definition of leadership in a void. We loved the guy.)

Thorsness, Leo K., *Surviving Hell—A POW's Journey*. New York: Encounter Books, 2008. (Editor: Leo's Medal of Honor came from actions before he was a POW although he didn't receive it until after the war. A truly great man.)

Vohden, Ray, *A Story of the Fifth Longest Held POW In US History*, Authorhouse, 2009. (Editor: Ray's book just came out. It's a different perspective written forty years after the fact with the attendant objective study of all the facts.)

pow-mia



PNC John Edwards Chairman

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AMERICANS IDENTIFIED: There are 1,713 Americans listed by DoD as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. Following a group interment ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, it was discovered that four of the eight Air Force personnel represented in the group had not been individually announced as accounted for and subtracted from the number still listed as missing. The four Air Force personnel listed as MIA April

22, 1968 in South Vietnam, now accounted for, are Maj. William T. McPhail, TN, Maj. Thomas B. Mitchell, CO, CMSgt. Thomas E. Knebel, AR, and MSgt. Gary Pate, GA. The individually identified remains of the other four airmen were previously announced as identified and returned to their families for burial. All were jointly recovered May 29, 2002, and identified March 13, 2009.

On July 7th, the Defense POW/MIA Office (DPMO) updated its website to indicate that Chief Warrant Officer 2 Donald L. Wann, USA, of Oklahoma, is now accounted for. Listed as KIA/BNR in South Vietnam on June 1, 1971, his remains were recovered on July 29, 2008 and identified March 10, 2010. On June 25th, the DPMO web site carried the fact that Lt Col William L. Kieffer, Jr., USAF, of Maryland, is also now accounted for. Listed as MIA in Laos on February 11, 1970, Lt Col Kieffer's remains were recovered April 9, 2007 and identified April 26, 2010. The number of Americans returned and identified

since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975 is now 870, though another 63 US personnel, recovered post-incident and identified before the end of the war, bring the total to 933. Of the 1,713 unreturned veterans, 90% were lost in Vietnam or in areas of Laos and Cambodia under Vietnam's wartime control: Vietnam - 1,311 (VN-478 VS-833); Laos - 336; Cambodia - 59; Peoples Republic of China territorial waters - 7. Over 450 were over water losses.

On June 22nd, three JPAC Recovery Teams left Hawaii for Laos where they excavated three aircraft crash sites in two Lao provinces that are associated with the loss of four individuals.

MISSING/CAPTURED

US Service members reported missing or captured while supporting combat operations:

Army Pfc. Bowe R. Bergdahl, 24, June 30, 2009, Afghanistan
Army Staff Sgt. Ahmed K. Altaie, 45, Oct.23, 2006, Baghdad.

AN ODE TO MY BED

As I rush through my day doing those things that I have to do I think of the end of this day-I mean when I lay my head on my pillow and lay flat on my bed. As I approach my bed I flip back the covers and fluff up the pillow and look at this wonderful thing before me. I say, "Hello bed I have missed you today and look forward to the pleasure of your company."

As I enter and stretch I feel a sense of security—like nothing can happen here—like my beautiful bed will protect me through the night as I am chased by unknown monsters only to wake in a sweat with my dear bed consoling me.

I have had many beds in my lifetime but none as warm and beautiful as this one. I have slept on the ground and nearly froze and it is like my bed remembers that like it

was there with me in my suffering days.

My bed knows more about me than anything else in life. It knows when I scratch and what I scratch and urges me on during the attacks of amour.

I really love this bed.

All this bed demands is a good washing of the covers in quality laundry soap with some nice smelling fabric treatment followed by a nice long period to dry.

Then I gather up the sheets and dress my bed with smooth waves of my arms. And now my bed awaits me like a beautiful woman but unlike the woman makes no demands of me.

I spend a large part of my life on my bed and always like to return

to "MY" bed when I am away for a few days.

There is nothing like my own bed.
Shorty the Tiger

tiger survivors



Shorty Estabrook

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civilians



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Who Should Apologize?

On August 6, 2010, U.S. Ambassador John Roos attended the ceremony commemorating the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. This is the first time since Japan's surrender in 1945 that the U.S. has had an official presence at the memorial, and many Japanese interpret this as an apology for dropping the bombs. There is further talk that President Obama will also visit the memorial at some future date, thus casting the Japanese people as victims of World War II.

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Where is the outrage in America? Our media passed over the event with little comment, except for a few outlets suggesting that the apology was overdue, as always occurs on this date. But why do we as a nation have to apologize? The act saved an estimated million Allied casualties and perhaps millions of Japanese lives, including civilians being trained for total resistance, including suicide attacks against our troops.

How soon we forget history. Our Euro-centric culture leads us to believe that the start of World War II occurred at the Polish border in 1939. But many historians believe that the worldwide conflagration started two years earlier when the Japanese created the Marco Polo Bridge incident they used as an excuse to invade China. The Japanese had already been in an undeclared war with the weak Chinese government for more than 40 years, invading Korea in 1894, taking Formosa in 1895, Manchuria in 1931, and part of China north of the great Wall in 1932. Then in 1933 they imposed troops into China near Peking to "maintain order". The incident at the Marco Polo Bridge in 1937 was simply a cover to give them a legal excuse to declare war on the Chinese government, and they soon controlled all of the large industrial cities and ports. Their invasion was brutal with bombings and executions of civilians and the infamous slaughter in the Chinese capital of Nanking.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was primarily to prevent the U.S. from thwarting their plans to take over all of Southeast Asia, and they soon controlled an enormous landmass that included China, Malaya, Burma, the Philippines, the Dutch East Indies, and New Guinea, which provided a rich source of natural materials. They also controlled a large number of Pacific Islands to provide an outlying barrier to protect their home islands.

When the Japanese cast themselves as "victims" and demand an apology for the bombings, they are ignoring their history of aggression and militancy. Before demanding an apology from the U.S, they must look inward at their own nations actions, which directly resulted in an estimate of between 25 and 50 million deaths in Asia. They should think first of apologizing for the Rape of Nanking, the Manila Massacre, the attack on Pearl Harbor, the biological experiments and attacks on China, the brutal conditions under which Allied military and civilians were held, the slave labor camps, the comfort women, and many other atrocities that they committed.

We must not allow any official of the U.S. to act in a way that would imply that we are apologizing to Japan for our actions to end a war that they started. All thinking Americans must arise with outrage at any indication that our government officials are weakening on this issue. I say to those who were prisoners of the Japanese, they took our liberty, our health, and our lives, so let us not now let them also take our dignity.

This is a call for action. If you agree with this statement, please write to President Obama, and your Senators and Congressman. Doing so immediately will make a strong and timely statement that we are not going to tolerate our government backing down on the issue of an apology to Japan. Use your own words, or excerpt from this editorial by Angus Lorenzen.

Thank you from BACEPOW.

If you served in the military after prison camp, please write and let me know. We're compiling number of Civilian POWs who then served in the military. Thanks!



Oct. 20-24, 2010. The 485th BG, B-24s, Italy, '44-'45. 46th Annual Reunion will be held in Charleston, SC at the Sheraton Charleston Airport Hotel. All ranks. Contact: Jim Scheib, jimannscheib@comcast.net, 5360 N. Calle Bujia, Tucson, AZ 85718, 520 615 0397, details: www.485bg.org.

looking
for



Dear Madam,
I became a POW after Warsaw's Uprising in 1944. I graduated from nursing school in Warsaw, Poland just a few days before the Uprising in August, 1944. In no time, I became engaged as a nurse in a newly formed field hospital, which was transformed from the orphanage, 53 Hoza Street. After heavy bombing and 200,000 dead, we had to capitulate. The military survivors were transported by the cattle cars, to a POW camp in Zeithaim, Germany. The wounded soldiers and the doctors and nurses remained in the camp until the end of the war. The German guards left our camp as the war ended in May 1945, and a few days later, the Russians took over. They took complete control. They forced us to return to Poland, now under their control. Several of us escaped from the camp. We managed to get to the American zone. From there I was transported to Italy and worked there as a nurse in the military field hospital, which was as 3rd CCS, under British command. As the time goes by, there are not many of us survivors. I would love to search and get in touch with anyone who happened to be in a POW hospital camp in Zeithaim, Germany from Oct. 1944-

May 1945, or any survivors of Warsaw's Uprising. Thank you. Julia Kubat, 2825 Oakridge Ave., Madison, WI 53704.

My grandfather, James J Costa, was a prisoner of war from 1943 to 1945 in Stalag 17B. I was referred to you for more information about him and his crew. Specifically I am looking for his ID from the POW. Any and all information will be amazing. Are there any surviving crew members still alive? Thank you so much. Gina Costa; potbellypigsayoink@yahoo.com.

News Briefs

Veterans' Medallion Available for Order New Option for Marking Veterans' Graves in Private Cemeteries

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki announced that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is offering bronze medallions to attach to existing, privately purchased headstones or markers, signifying a deceased's status as a Veteran.

The new item can be furnished instead of a traditional government headstone or marker for Veterans whose death occurred on or after Nov. 1, 1990, and whose grave in a private cemetery is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.

Under federal law, eligible Veterans buried in a private cemetery are entitled to either a government-furnished grave marker or the new medallion, but not both. Veterans buried in a national or state Veterans cemetery will receive a government headstone or marker of the

standard design authorized at that cemetery.

The medallion is available in three sizes: 5 inches, 3 inches and 1 ½ inches in width. Each bronze medallion features the image of a folded burial flag adorned with laurels and is inscribed with the word "Veteran" at the top and the branch of service at the bottom.

Next of kin will receive the medallion, along with a kit that will allow the family or the staff of a private cemetery to affix the medallion to a headstone, grave marker, mausoleum or columbarium niche cover.

National Infantry Museum

The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park celebrated its Grand Opening in June. It is located in Columbus, Georgia, just outside the gates of Fort Benning, the Home of the Infantry and one of the Army's largest installations. This tribute to Infantrymen past, present and future is the first of its kind in the United States. Throughout the 190,000-square-foot museum, visitors will take an interactive journey through every war fought by the U.S. over the past two centuries. The museum tells the heroic story of everyday Infantrymen through an enviable collection of more than 30,000 artifacts. Era galleries trace Infantry history from before the Revolutionary War to action today in Iraq and Afghanistan. There is a special gallery recognizing Medal of Honor recipients and one that pays tribute to those who love an Infantryman.

The museum is located at 1775 Legacy Way, Columbus GA 31903
Tel: 706-685-5800.

www.nationalinfantrymuseum.com/

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SPECIAL TREAT

BLACK BREAD BROAT RECIPE

FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR OF NAZI GERMANY MAY BE INTERESTED IN THIS RECIPE FOR WWII BLACK BREAD. THIS RECIPE COMES FROM THE OFFICIAL RECORD FROM THE FOOD PROVIDING MINISTRY PUBLISHED (TOP SECRET) BERLIN 24.XI 1941 AND THE DIRECTOR IN MINISTRY HERR MANSFELD AND HERR MORITZ. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE BEST MIXTURE TO BAKE BLACK BREAD WAS:

50% BRUISED RYE GRAIN
20% SLICED SUGAR BEETS
20% TREE FLOUR (SAW DUST)
10% MINCED LEAVES AND STRAW

FROM OUR OWN EXPERIENCES WITH THE BLACK BREAD, WE ALSO SAW BITS OF GLASS AND SAND. SOMEONE WAS CHEATING ON THE RECIPE!

JOSEPH P. O'DONNELL
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Your Stories



The Air Show Connection

By Lawrence T Carastro
2948 Eastwind Drive
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My daughter had found her - Donna - the baby girl, born five weeks before her father was shot down over Anzio Beachhead. As the pilot of the B-17, it was his 50th mission. I was his left waist gunner. In the 15th Air Force, we were only required to fly 50 missions before we were entitled to R&R. Only four of us survived.

I had parachuted out of the airplane, was captured and was a POW for fourteen months. When I returned home, I tried to contact Mary Cooper, with no success. Sixty-five years later, Donna and her mother, Mary, listed her father with the WWII Memorial in Washington, DC.

As years went by I put my war experiences behind me - but with age you seem to relive the past and I related more stories to my family. I

believe that it is very important our experiences are never forgotten.

One of my daughters, Connie Darby, met Jamie McCollum, at a bible study group. Jamie and her husband, Jim, were WWII orphans, and she gave some ideas where Donna might be found. Sure enough, they contacted the WWII Memorial, and there was all the information they needed to call Donna - that very night. She was so glad to hear that I was still alive, and the only one who could tell her about her father's last flight.

A few months later, we met Donna, her son Frederick, and her mother in Atlanta, a the home of our son, Larry and his wife, Sheri, for a weekend reunion.

Mary Dull had corresponded with my mother during the time I was a POW and I brought those letters with me. Donna brought her scrapbook

and mementos. Captain Cooper was MIA for fourteen months; they finally found his grave at the end of the war and his body was returned home to Norfolk, VA.

In Feb. 2010, the Wings of Freedom Tour flew a B-17 Flying Fortress into my hometown of Fernandina Beach, FL. Donna wanted to come down from Lexington, NC if I would sit with her in the cockpit and answer the many questions she had been contemplating.

We had a nostalgic visit and prayed for peace.

Dr. Frank Adamo: Forgotten and Mispronounced

By Gary Mormimo

Every day, thousands of motorists travel Adamo Drive, Highway 60.

Few remember for whom the street was named; even fewer pronounce the name ah-DAHM-o as Dr. Adamo would have. But Frank Adamo was a gentleman and never complained. He was also one of the greatest of the greatest generation.

Beginnings

Few Tampans began with less and accomplished more than Francesco Scozzari Adamo. He was born in Tampa in 1893, the son of Sicilian immigrants.

When Francesco was born, Ybor City was not yet a decade old. He remembered roaming an unpaved Seventh Avenue. Nothing in his youth promised future success: He only attended a few years of school, suffered from terrible head aches, and began rolling cigars as a pre-teen. He spoke little English.

During the turbulent cigar strike of 1910, Adamo left for Key West, and then moved to Chicago. He took advantage of a local night school to finish grammar school—as a 18-year-old! In an astonishingly brief period, he passed the high school examination, finished one year of college and vaulted to admission at the Chicago College of Medicine and Surgery.

Physician

In 1914, the year the Great War began in Europe, Adamo began medical school. Taking classes by day, he rolled cigars at night. He began practicing medicine in Tampa in September 1919. He reminisced in 1980, "Upon returning, I almost died of the heat . . . You could not open your mouth or you would get a mouthful of mosquitoes."

While interning in Tampa, he was smitten with Euphemia, a young nurse from Scotland's Orkney Is-

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lands. Their marriage survived more than six decades.

During this era, Tampa physicians had to choose whether they wished to work for the Latin mutual aid societies or practice privately. The American Medical Association branded cooperative medical care as "socialistic."

Military Duty

In 1933, Adamo joined the Army Reserve, rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel in 1939. On November 5, 1940, he was called up to active duty, reporting to Fort Benning. In May 1941, he was sent to the Philippines. "I was directed to report to Fort McKinley Hospital in Manila."

The Rock

Sounds of Japanese planes and bombs awakened Adamo the morning of December 8, 1941. He had not yet heard about Pearl Harbor. No one could have imagined the hell that awaited Adamo and thousands of American and Filipino troops and civilians. Japanese troops forced evacuees onto "The Rock," the island of Corregidor in Manila Bay.

On Corregidor, Adamo worked tirelessly to treat wounded soldiers and civilians. Life Magazine profiled Dr. Adamo in its February 16, 1942 issue, describing him as "slight, grayish, calm."

Confronted by mounting numbers of patients suffering from gangrene, he experimented with a new procedure. Traditionally, amputation of the limb was the time-honored remedy for such cases. But Adamo knew that the gangrene ba-

cillus could not survive if exposed to oxygen. Instead, Adamo opened up the wound and applied sulfa drugs, irrigating it every hour with hydrogen peroxide. Adamo had not heard of or seen the new wonder drug penicillin.

As camp physician, he treated men stricken with dysentery, beriberi, malaria, dengue fever, and malnutrition. In the book "P.O.W. in the Pacific," William Donovan credits Adamo with saving his life by treating his acute dysentery with sulfadiazine.

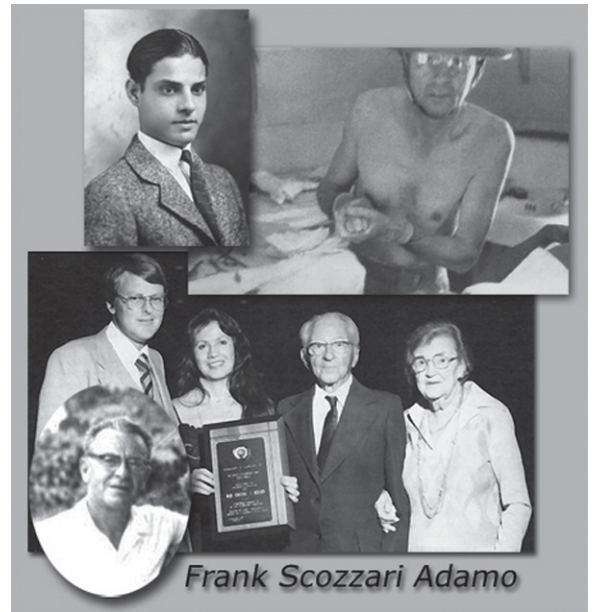
He also treated the enemy. He once saved the life of a young Japanese soldier by performing an emergency appendectomy. He was rewarded with a precious can of peaches.

Life in a Japanese prison camp was harrowing. "The food changed little," he reflected. "Mainly for breakfast there was rice, for lunch was rice and for supper was more rice. We also had a few greens we called whisperweed because you could blow through it, soy beans, and once in a while dried salty fish that we mixed with water."

His only communication with his wife in Tampa was a three-word Red Cross telegram: "I am well." No one believed the message. Meanwhile, his mother lay gravely ill in Ybor City.

Rescue

In January 1945, American planes appeared. On the morning of February 4, 1945, the Japanese guards vanished. Soon, U.S. troops liberated the camp. "One of the first Americans I met was a boy whose father had a jewelry store in Miami! I was happy to see him. He was a very nice fellow." He added pain-



fully, "The next day, we heard that he was killed."

Adamo, like many of the prisoners, was so ravenously hungry—he weighed 95 pounds—that he became sick eating cans of pork. He recovered, and within a few months sailed under the Golden Gate Bridge. "We stopped no place from Hollandia, New Guinea, to San Francisco.

Frank Adamo Day

Mayor Curtis Hixon declared April 27, 1945, "Col. Adamo Day. Upon arriving, he learned that First Avenue had been renamed Frank Adamo Drive. A parade followed. "Persons who had known the famous doctor for years, some since he was a little boy, wouldn't let him go," reported the Tribune. "There were tears in their eyes . . ." Dick Greco (the uncle to the future mayor) proudly pointed to his cheek, gushing, "He kissed me right here."

"About the only thing we had to do was think," he recalled. "And about all we could think about was getting something to eat. I remember I used to sit in a chair . . . and think about the meals I used to have with my old friend, Castenzio

your stories cont'd

Ferlita. I could almost taste sometimes the spaghetti and veal and chicken. And then sometimes I'd think about how nice it would be to have one more steak before I died."

After restoring his health, Dr. Adamo resumed his private surgical practice. He retired at age 80 in 1973. He died June 24, 1988. Born in the 19th century and shaped by the forces of migration and two world wars, Francesco Scozzari Adamo was a great man in any age.

In 1980, Gary Mormino interviewed Dr. Adamo.

Tag's Homecoming

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Staff Sgt. and ex-POW Duthiel "Dutch" Borcharding, of Washington, MO, welcomed a visit to his home by Steve Ebers, senior vice commander of the American legion Post 480 in Steeleville, IL. Steve was there to return one of Dutch's lost dog tags from his service in WWII. Post 480 has a collection of dog tags and now they are tracking down the veterans the tags belong to. So far he has returned 22, with more than 70 left to go.



Way to go!

Susanne Judd was honored earlier this year by her local Veterans Administration center.

She writes about the awards:



One of them is a picture of my "Award of Excellence" that I was given for my volunteer work at the Vet Center in November of 2009.

We had a Veterans Homeless Standdown, the tragedy at Fort Hood on 5 November (we had four Mobile Vet Centers assigned to us for two weeks at the time) and the Thanksgiving box distribution. In the month of November I volunteered a total of 98 hours.

I worked one Saturday and Sunday and the afternoon of the Veterans Day ceremony at the V A hospital (where I placed the wreath).

The other is an acrylic award (Lori put a blue background behind it so that the etching will be readable) for my volunteer work at the Vet Center from September 2008 to April 2010.



Susanne Judd
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From the Mid-Ohio Valley Chapter #15:

1990 was the year the Ladies Auxiliary to Veterans of Foreign Wars, New Matamoras Post 6387 was instituted.

As the elected president, I began researching different programs supported by the VFW. POW/MIA Day

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was something I knew nothing about. My first stop was at the local library where I learned about the League of Families. Most of this information centered around the Vietnam War. My next stop was at the Washington County Veterans Service Office. There I was given names and addresses of local ex-POWs. This gave me something to work with.

Our first POW/MIA Day was Sept. 21, 1990. The program was held in Ferguson Park and the elementary students were permitted to attend. Several ex-POWs from WWII attended...

On Friday, Sept. 17, we will hold our 21st program honoring the ex-POWs

and their wives and families.

New Matamoras VFW and Auxiliary are very grateful to our ex-POWs who visit with us and take their time to talk to the students about their experiences and thank them for returning to us year after year.

Jeanetta Berentz
President of the Ladies Auxiliary to
Post 6387
New Matamoras, OH

From Mid-Ohio Valley Chapter #15:
We would want to thank the VFW Post 6387 and the Ladies Auxiliary for honoring the ex-POWs over the past 20 years and we are delighted to be attending this year on Sept. 17, 2010. Eugene Parker,
Commander

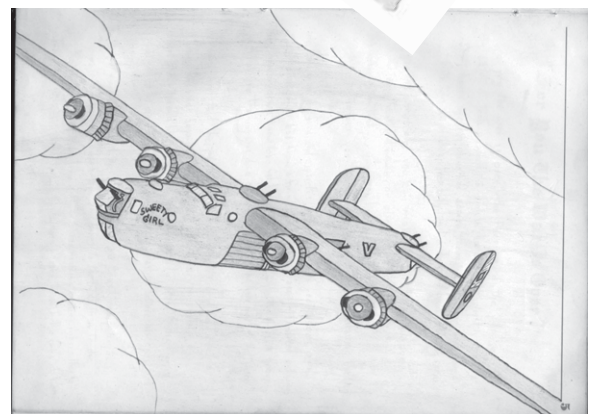
AN ORIGINAL SONG COMPOSED
BY POW HENRY (HANK)
LEERKAMP WHILE HE WAS A POW
IN NORTH KOREA WITH THE TIGER
SURVIVORS GROUP.

Sing this song to the tune of "Beautiful Beautiful TEXAS (where the beautiful blue bonnets grow) Punch this into the internet and you can hear Devon Dawson sing. From Shorty Estabrook, Tiger Survivors

Oh that sorry old war torn Korea
Where the stinking old rice paddies grow
We're proud of all our buddies
That went when old Mac said we go
Now we live in our mud shacks
With straw roofs
And smell of the old banjo
We're still in this sorry Korea
The stinkiest place
That I know.

It's Here! The 2011 AXPOW Calendar!

Look for it in your mailbox
soon...





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 National Headquarters 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.

\$20.00 \$30.00 \$40.00 \$50.00 \$100.00 Other

Please circle one category:

Individual

Chapter

State Department

(If chapter or department, please give name)

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone #

Please make checks payable to American Ex-Prisoners of War - Voluntary Funding
Mail contributions to: National Headquarters
American Ex-Prisoners of War
3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
Arlington, TX 76010
Donations are not tax-deductible at this time

At the National Convention in Springfield, IL, your Board of Directors unanimously approved an annual Voluntary Funding Program for all members. This program is designed to keep our organization solvent and readily available to assist those within our organization. The Board of Directors wholeheartedly support the program in order that our AXPOW organization may continue to function in an orderly and efficient manner in the future, and assist POWs, dependents, and dependent children in their needs. The management of the funding program was assigned to the Ways and Means Committee.

The AXPOW Voluntary Funding Program parallels that of the VFW, whereby the entire membership, including life members, are giving the opportunity to contribute to the operation of the organization, based on ability and willingness to contribute.

It is realized that the Bylaws exempt life members from additional dues; therefore, it is again stressed that this is a VOLUNTARY program - a vital and worthy one - that will help keep the AXPOW organization solvent and available to assist POWs and dependents.

For the 2009-2010 fiscal year, we

budgeted \$35,000 as income to the voluntary funding Program. With 2 months left to go, we are close to meeting that goal. And I thank you for your contributions.

I would urge each of you to continue contributing to the Voluntary Funding Program in order to keep AXPOW functioning for ALL our members.

Morris Barker
National Sr Vice Commander
AXPOW

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American Ex-Prisoners of War
Website Biography
www.axpow.org

If you are not a current member of AXPOW,
you must submit documentation of your POW status.

Name

Nickname

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone

Email

Conflict and Theater of Operation

Branch of Service

Unit

Where were you captured?

Date captured

POW camps you were held in

How long were you a POW?

Date liberated

Medals received

Job in the military

After military service

Submit 1 or 2 photographs (color or black and white).
Biography:(please type or print)

SEND TO: American Ex-Prisoners of War
3201 East Pioneer Parkway #40
Arlington, Texas 76010-5396

Please include your check for \$65 payable to AXPOW. If you have any questions, please contact Clydie Morgan,
National Adjutant, at 817-649-2979; HQ@axpow.org

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new members

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



New Annual Members WelcomeHome!

Kathleen R Fedorchak
Thomas M
Malta NY
Daughter of Harold Perkins, ETO

Pamela S Huber
Williamsville NY
Daughter of John Schultz

Carl W Duenki
Ruth 32400 39675
Sun City Center, FL
121 CAV Recon SQ Troop C
4A, 4B

Robert Kurek 39676
Bloomington, IL
Son of Joseph Kurek, ETO



I WANT YOU

New Life Members Welcome Home!

*denotes new member
to AXPOW

Marvin Roslansky
Josephine M 5269 39673
Apache Junction, AZ
Unsubular Patrol USMC
Zentsuji Shikoku

Clyde E Westmoreland
Joyce 29031 39674
Louisville KY
HQ CO 242 Rainbow Div
4A, 4B

Lina Lucania 39677
Melville NY
Widow of Charles
Lucania
3B 2B 3A

Norma Augerinos 39678
Catonsville MD
Widow of
Steve Augerinos
9B 9A

Frederick Marston
*39679

La Jolla CA
8AF 384BG 544BS
Fresnes Luft 1
8/43-5/45

Leigh W Fuller *39680
Canajoharie NY
Stalag 7°
Robert McQuality *39681
Decatur IL
Son of Robert McQuality



Members' forum



My Friends,

I have had excellent response to my request, through the Bulletin, for information pertaining to Stalag III C and when we were liberated.

Someone suggested to you all that we were liberated March 23rd. One of the responders, referring to his daily written record, says we shipped out of Odessa, Russia on March 23, 1945, and were liberated on Jan 31st, 1945. The Pentagon has my unit recorded as 507 Parachute Inf, 17th Abn Div, when I

jumped into Normandy with an 82nd Abn Div Patch on one sleeve of mu jump suit and a 48-Star Flag on the other sleeve.. Never been in the 17th Abn. The 507 was placed in the 17th Abn some time later, whilst I was enjoying the feast at Stalag III C. By the way, one of two, yet unpublished books is, "From Stalag III C To Doing U T, Or How To Get Four-Year Degree in FIVE."

This morning, before I was out of bed, I had another caller responding to my question published in The POW Bulletin. He lives in Montana and reads the Bulletin faithfully and it is his POW contact. So bully for your publication. I can attest to the fact that we have received no less than half a dozen calls from all over the Nation. Thanks for your great efforts!

Bob Bearden
bdbearden@embarqmail.com

PS By the way, everyone responding to mine agrees that Stalag III C

was liberated on January 31, 1945, and all agreed that we scattered all across eastern Europe during the coldest winter in their history.

Maurice Sharp,

I would like to put an article in the Ex-POW Bulletin to comment and thank Cheryl Cerbone on the excellent work that she did for the Fresno California Chapter #1 on the POW/MIA AXPOW Memorial that we installed in the front of the Veterans Hospital.

Cheryl did a beautiful job of getting all the pictures on that page. It made my day and the year and a half of work to finish that project.

Thanks again.

A POW/MIA AXPOW and Friend
Rudy Giannoni
3815 E. Princeton Ave.
Fresno, CA 93703

POW/MIA Recognition Day September 17, 2010

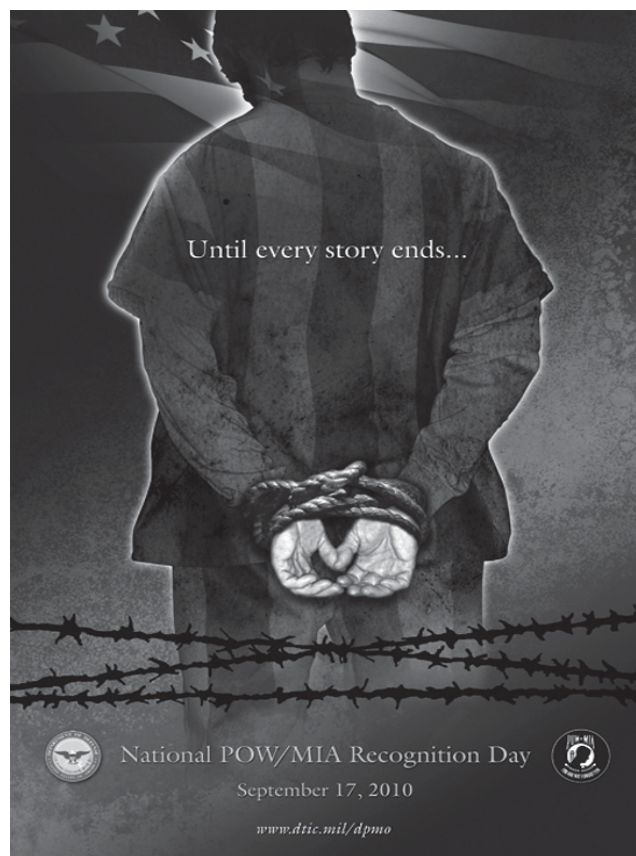
The Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) is responsible for establishing and overseeing policies on the rescue of living Americans and the recovery of the remains of those who are missing in action from foreign battle fields.

Vision: The fullest possible accounting of those who become missing due to hostile action while pursuing U.S. national objectives abroad.

Mission: Establish the most favorable conditions and conduct operations to account for persons missing in past conflicts, and prepare to account for those who remain missing following current and future conflicts.

DPMO is joined in this mission by many other Department of Defense Agencies.

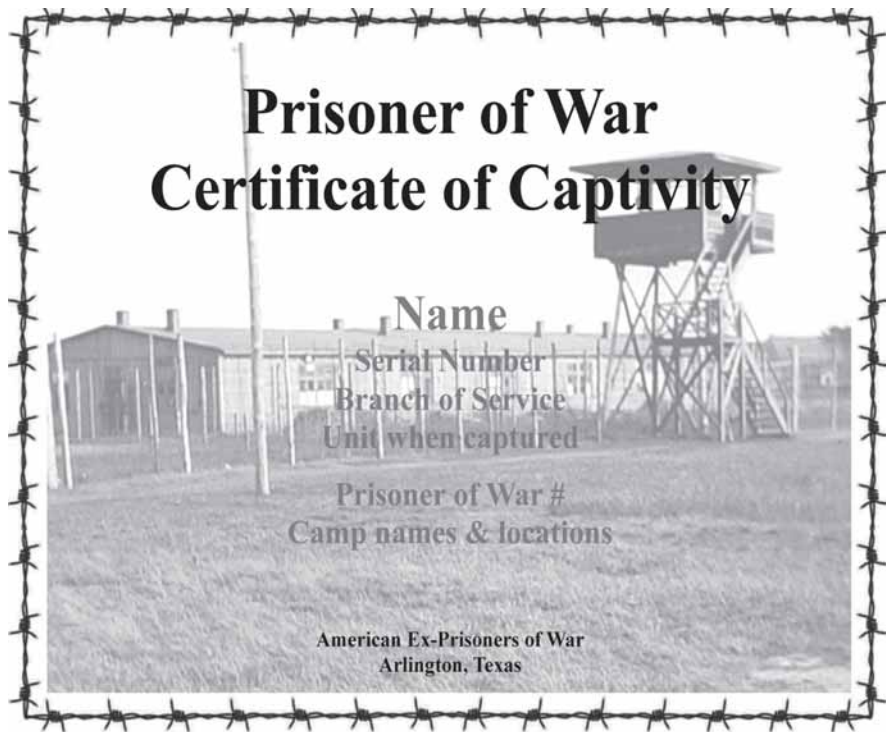
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Certificate of Captivity

Suitable for framing, this certificate of captivity, printed on 8½" x 11" quality paper, proudly displays your history as a prisoner of war. Each certificate background is personalized to the theater of operation. To purchase this certificate from AXPOW, send your name, service number, branch of service, unit when captured, POW number (if known), camp names and locations, along with your payment of \$25.00. You may include a picture with your order.

Please order from National Headquarters. If you are ordering at Convention, you can place your order in the Merchandise Room.



request for membership application American Ex-Prisoners of War



Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____

Membership is open to US Military and Civilians captured
because of their US citizenship and their families.

Do NOT send dues with this request for an application

Life Membership Rates

Under 35	\$360
36-50	\$300
51-60	\$180
61 & over	\$120
Spouse of life member	\$ 40

Annual Membership Rates

Single Membership	\$ 40
Husband & wife	\$ 50

Mail to:

American Ex-Prisoners of War
3201 East Pioneer Parkway, #40
Arlington, TX 76010-5936
(817) 649-2979 voice
(817)649-0109 fax
e-mail:HQ@axpow.org

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contributions



Please send donations to:
National Headquarters, 3201 East
Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40,
Arlington, TX 76010. You can also
make a donation with a credit card
(MasterCard or Visa). Just call 817-
6492979. Thank you!

Contributions are not
tax deductible at this time

GENERAL FUND

Felice Gabrieli, Leominster MA
Virginia Timpanaro, Brick NJ
In memory of David Friedman, by
Irving Lautman
In memory of Dick Skinner, by Jim &
Shirley Muise
In honor of Marion Bitzer, by Paula
Ockerman and Scott Zivoder
In memory of Vera Vorm, by the Mid-
Iowa Chapter
In memory of Vincent Zielinski, by
John & Barbara Hugo
In honor of Morris Shulman's birth-
day, by Dave & Jill Drummond
In memory of Bill Wanhala, by Joyce
& Dennis Adamscheck
In memory of my husband, Clifford
Fox, by Thelma 'Susie'
In memory of Dick Skinner, by Jean
Skinner
In memory of Eddie Johnson, by
Joyce & Dennis Adamscheck
In memory of Gloria Arcand, by
Connecticut Chapter
In memory of Steve Augerinos, by
Robert Stumpf
In memory of Steve Augerinos, by
the Lentsch Family
In memory of Vincent Zielinski, by
Judith Zubert
In memory of Vincent Zielinski, by
M/M Sam Pones & Family
In memory of Vincent Zielinski, by
M/M Norman DiNardo
In memory of Vincent Zielinski, by
Marlene Tkach

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In memory of Vincent Zielinski, by
rosemary Vulcano
In honor of ND Frank Koehler's birth-
day, by Dave & Jill Drummond
In memory of Al Nawrocki, by Rose
Marie Nawrocki
In memory of Aldo Monti, by Thomas
& Evelyn Gezo
In memory of Aldo Monti, by Jane
Boylan
In memory of Aldo Monti, by the Tri-
bune Review Publishing Company
In memory of Aldo Monti, by Anthony
& Barbara Sabatino
In memory of Aldo Monti, by Paul &
Deborah Hess
In memory of Aldo Monti, by Linda
Fryer
In memory of Aldo Monti, by Ruth
Ann Hurley
In memory of Aldo Monti, by Kara
Bue
In memory of Aldo Monti, by Pitts-
burgh Tribune Review
In memory of Aldo Monti, by Robert
Remaley
In memory of Aldo Monti, by
Kathleen Monti
In memory of Emil Raimondi, by
Philip & Laura McIntyre
In memory of Gen. Albert P. Clark,
by Robert Seitzinger
In memory of Gloria Arcand, by Pierre
& Rosemary Kennedy
In memory of Malcolm Turner, by
Philip & Laura McIntyre
In memory of Nick Pellegrino, by
Philip & Laura McIntyre
In memory of PNC Joe & Charlotte
Galloway, by Philip & Laura McIntyre
In memory of PNC John Klumpp, by
Philip & Laura McIntyre
In memory of Rev. Maynard Midthun,
by Robert & Shirley Field
In memory of Walter & Viola
Kwicien, by Philip & Laura McIntyre
LEGISLATIVE FUND
In memory of Elda Matilda Meagher,
by the Department of Maryland
In memory of Cmdr, John H Meyers,
Sr., by the Department of Maryland
In memory of Paul Trainor, by the
Department of Maryland
MEDSEARCH FUND
In memory of William Koenig, by the
Department of Maryland
Marvin & Diane Greenfield
In memory of Norman E Meads, Sr,
by the Department of Maryland
NSO
Marvin Roslansky, Apache Junction
AZ

VOLUNTARY FUNDING

In memory of John Cullanane, Peggy
Cullanane
Anthony E Morse, Laconia NH
Barbara Daugherty, Tucson AZ
Benjamin & Lila Nienart, Lafayette NJ
Bert Krashes, Lake Worth FL
Blaine & LaVerne Briggs, Carlsbad CA
C Norman Gustafson, Scotch Plains
NJ
Caesar Ricciardi, Wynnewood PA
Carmen Lewis, Coppell TX
Christine Gibson, Chandler IN
Don Brice, Nacogdoches TX
Ernest Poulson, Salt Lake City UT
Eugene Ostrowski, Cheektowaga NY
Frederick Slater, Granby CT
George Bubash, Blawnox PA
George Sheehan, Oak Beach NY
Gerald Hanus, Milwaukee WI
Gerold Tucker, Lolo MT
Herb Sheaner, Dallas TX
Irving Lautman, Monroe Township NJ
John McGrath, Toms River NJ
Leora Berger, Salem OR
Lew & Jan Sleeper, Tucson AZ
Lincoln & Mary Hanscom,
Somersworth NH
Manuel Raimundo, Sacramento CA
Mary Chittick Gardner, Arcadia CA
Millie Sigmund, in honor of the Dept
of Iowa
Philip & Laura McIntyre
Philip Wagner, Sacramento CA
PNC James Cooper, Douglas AZ
Ruth Boyles, in honor of the Dept of
Iowa
Shelby Jackson, Marina CA
Tacoma Chapter, WA
Teofil Golec, Eastpointe MI
Walter Tyler, Davis CA
C Norman Gustafson
Lincoln Hanscom
Rosemary Schwier
Sarah Jane Rodgers
David & Mildred Roth
Lysle Lewis, Sarasota FL
Robert Lee Brigham, Rancho Palos
Verdes, CA
Sid Hecker, Diamondhead MS
In honor of Cheryl Cerbone, by Rudy
Giannoni
In honor of Myron Swack, by K
"Kracker" Avedisian
In memory of Dorayne Paulson, by
Betty Bohn
In memory of Erwin Lange, by Shirley
Lange
In memory of Lt Donald Dennis, KIA
3/23/45, by Tom McElherne
In memory of my wife, Nancy, by
Francis Plumly, Barnesville OH



taps



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

Northern Nevada area deaths in the past year, as reported to Ralph Levenberg, Reno VARO. Carol "Higgie" Higginbotham; Charles E. Schmidt, Sr.; Fred Nicklas; Karl Tobey; and William Lawson. No other details are available.

ALBRIGHT, Oren of Midland, Texas. Oren served with the 337th BS 96th BG. He was captured and held in Stalag 17B. Oren was a member of the Permian Basin Chapter, AXPOW. He was predeceased by his wife, Corene.

ALFORD-EVANS, Eleen, beloved widow of Marvin B Alford, 445th BG, 8th AF, POW in Luft IV. Both were members of the Mississippi Chapter, AXPOW. She leaves her 2nd husband, one daughter, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

ARCAND, Gloria, age 85, of Durham, Connecticut, died July 24, 2010. For 65 years she was the wife of Jean Arcand, JVC of the Connecticut Chapter, AXPOW. She was a life member of the chapter. Gloria is survived by her husband, 1 son, 1 daughter, 1 sister, 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

AURELIO, Concordia Mercado, widow of ex-POW Federico E. Golres, passed away March 18, 2010. She was 90 and a member of AXPOW. Survivors include her daughter Candida Aurelio.

BANET, Odell J., 90, of Floyds Knobs, IN died July 28, 2010. During WWII, he served in the AAC; he was a POW in Germany. He was a member of the Kentuckiana Chapter, AXPOW. Odell is survived by his wife of 63 years, Berniece, two daughters and five sons.

BUERSTER, Raymond W., of West Seneca, NY passed away March 18, 2010. He was 86. He was captured while serving with the 645th Tank Destroyers, 324th Inf. 44th Div. in the Battle of the Bulge. He was held in Stalag 4B. His wife, Mary, 6 children, 16 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren survive him.

BOWER, Jo member of the San Diego Chapter, AXPOW died January 18, 2010. She was the wife of Edwin Wren Bowyer a B-24 Pilot, from the 15th Air Force, 461st Bomb Group 767th Bomb Squadron; shot down July 20 1944 and a POW in Stalag Luft I. Wren has been a National Service Officer for AXPOW.

BRAUN, Matthew, 93, of East Syracuse, CT passed away June 29, 2010. During WWII, he was captured on Bataan while serving with the 192nd Tank Battalion. He spent 3 ½ years as a POW in two Japanese camps. Matthew leaves 1 son, 2 daughters, 1 sister and 2 grandchildren.

BRENNER, Resa, member of the San Diego Chapter, AXPOW died March 14, 2010. She was the wife of Sy Brenner who was a Medic with the 103rd Infantry, 2nd Battalion, 401 Regiment and also served American POWs while in Stalag 5A.

BROWN, Betty Zo, beloved wife of ex-POW Leslie, passed away May 22, 2010. She and her husband were members of the Muskogee and Tulsa, OK Chapters. Betty and Leslie were one day short of celebrating their 64th anniversary. She is also survived by 2 sons, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

CECIL, Albert, of Arlington, Texas, died June 10, 2010. Cecil was a member of the Fort Worth Chapter, AXPOW. He served in the 507th Para-

chute Reg, 82nd Airborne Division, and was held in Oflag 64. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Dorothy.

CIERI, Anthony J., 90, of Union City, New Jersey passed away June 14, 2010. He was a proud veteran and member of the 94th Inf. Div., captured near Orsholz and held at Stalag 12A. Survivors include two sons who miss their dad very much and two grandchildren.

COBB, Neal T., of Indianapolis, IN died July 7, 2010. He was 86. During WWII, he served with the 15th AF; He was shot down, captured and held in Slovakia until he escaped in August, 1944. Survivors include his wife, Patricia, 1 brother, 2 daughters, 3 step-sons and 4 grandchildren.

CONN, Dewey, of Martin, KY passed away June 2, 2010. He served with the 8th AF, was shot down over Hamburg and held until liberation. While in captivity, he was marched across Germany in the infamous Black Bread March. He leaves his wife of 64 years, Margarete, 1 daughter and 1 granddaughter.

FEGER, Michael A., 95, of Haledon, NJ died Dec. 27, 2009. He served with the 28th Div., 110th Reg. and was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a member of NJ Chapter 3, AXPOW. He leaves 1 son, 1 granddaughter, 1 brother and several nieces and nephews.

FRASIER, James H. of Marble Falls, TX died July 21, 2010. He was 89. During WWII, James was captured

taps continued...

on Corregidor and held for 3 ½ years. James was a member of the Highland Lakes Chapter, AXPOW and ADBC. His wife, Judy, survives him; he also leaves 1 daughter, 3 sons, 2 step-daughters, 14 grandchildren, 1 brother and 2 sisters.

GROFF, Guy H., Jr., 86, of Mechanicsburg, PA passed away July 14, 2010. He was captured while serving with the 38th Arm'd Inf. Bn Co. C, which joined up with the "Lucky 7th" during WWII. Guy was a member of Capital City Chapter, AXPOW. He leaves his wife of 45 years, Mary, 1 son, 2 daughters, 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

HAMMOND, Robert J., of Point Lookout, NY died May 27, 2010 at the age of 88. During WWII, he served with the 8th AF, 381st BG. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Gloria, 3 children and 5 grandchildren.

HUFFMAN, Isaiah K "Pete" of Greensboro, NC passed away July 23, 2010. He was a founding member of the Greater Greensboro Chapter, AXPOW and a member of ADBC. Pete was captured while serving in the Army in the Philippines during WWII. He leaves his wife, Rosa Lee, 1 daughter, 1 son and 4 grandchildren.

IRVING, Dorothy J., beloved wife of ex-POW Frederick, died Feb. 8, 2010. They lived in Amherst, MA. Frederick was shot down over Hungary and held in Luft III until liberation. Dorothy was recognized for her commitment, creativity and skill in the fields of community relations and education. She will be missed by all who knew her.

JOHNSON, Albert, of Mt. Olive, NC passed away July 9, 2010. He was

86. Al served in the 8th AF during WWII; he was captured and held in Luft 1, Barth until liberation. He was past commander of the Chattanooga Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Beth, 2 children, 4 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

JOLLIFF, William, of Brookville, IN died May 1, 2010. He served in Korea and was a POW there for 28 months. Bill is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Violet.

KASPUTIS, Anthony C., 85, of Terryville, CT died July 30, 2010. He served in the AAF during WWII; he was a POW at Stalag Luft 4. He was a member of the CT. Chapter, AXPOW. Anthony was predeceased by his wife, Jennie. He is survived by 1 son, 2 daughters and 5 grandchildren.

KEIL, Wesley W., of Maquoketa, IA passed away April 28, 2010. During WWII, he served with Co. B, 334th Inf., 84th Div. "The Railsplitters". He was wounded and captured in Germany, and held in Stalag IIB. Survivors include his wife of 64 years, "Billie", 3 sons, 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

KENNARD, Kenton "Neil", passed away June 11, 2010. He lived in Fallbrook and was a member of the Vista Branch of the San Diego POW Chapter. He loved the guys in his Vista Group and was always ready with coffee. He was a member of the US Army's 24th Division in the Korean War and was held prisoner by the Chinese. He is survived by his wife Dorothy.

KRIZAN, Fred A., 89, of Bellmead, Texas died July 16, 2010. During WWII, he served in the Army, 3rd Inf. Div. He was a POW in Germany. Fred leaves 2 daughters, 1 sister, 5 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

LANGE, Erwin, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, died May 12, 2010. A member of the Wisconsin Indianhead Chapter, he served with the 15th AF, 463rd BG. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Shirley; both have been AXPOW life members since 1980. He also leaves 4 daughters, 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. He was an active member and past commander of the Indianhead Chapter, AXPOW.

LEAL, Rosita, member of the San Diego Chapter, AXPOW passed away August 9, 2009. She was the wife of Raymond Leal, an enlisted crew member on a B-17 from the 8th Air Force, 303rd Bomb Group, 427th Bomb Squadron. Ray was shot down November 19, 1944 and was a POW in Stalag Luft IV.

LEIGHTON, Reginald B., of Spring Hill, FL died Oct. 31, 2009 at the age of 89. He was captured in the Philippines; enduring the Bataan Death March, "Hell Ships" and 40 months captivity in Japanese POW camps. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Elizabeth, 2 daughters, 5 granddaughters and 3 great-grandchildren.

LIPSTREUER, Kenneth G., of Mentor, OH died July 13, 2010 at age 88. He was an infantryman in the 12th Armored Division and was severely wounded near the Alsace town of Herrlisheim on January 19, 1945. He remained a prisoner of war until liberated by Moroccan troops in April 1945. Ken leaves his loving wife of 66 years, Arline, 3 sons, 1 daughter and 6 grandchildren.

MAY, Virgil E., of San Angelo, TX died Aug. 4, 2010. He was 92 and served as chaplain for the Concho Valley Chapter, AXPOW for many years. He was captured on Bataan during WWII and endured 3 ½ years of imprisonment in Cabanatuan, O'Donnell, Noetsu. His wife, Fay, 4 children, 5 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren survive him.

taps continued...

MAYO, Glenda I. of the Coastal Plains Chapter in North Carolina died July 8, 2010. She is survived by her husband and best friend of 65 years, Hallett Mayo, of Goldsboro, NC. She also leaves two daughters.

McGOWAN, Dempsey Ernest, of Charlotte, NC passed away May 25, 2010. He was captured while serving on the Navy submarine USS Grenadier. He remained a POW until the end of the war in Japan. Dempsey leaves his wife of 50 years, 1 son, 1 granddaughter, 1 sister and numerous nieces and nephews. He was a member of the Catawba Chapter, AXPOW.

MIDTHUN, Maynard, 89, of Eau Claire, WI passed away May 26, 2010. He served in the Infantry during WWII and was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was held in Stalag 4B. Maynard was chaplain of the WI Indianhead Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include 2 daughters, 1 son, 5 grandchildren, 2 great-grandsons and 1 sister.

MILLS, Robert W., of La Fontaine, IN died May 13, 2010 at the age of 90. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge while serving with the 106th Inf. He was held in Stalags IXB and IXA. Robert was a member of the Marion Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by his wife of almost 69 years, Jeanne, 1 son, 2 daughters, 6 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

MURPHY, Neal, of Schiller Park, IL and member of the Fox River Valley Chapter, AXPOW, died Jan. 20, 2010. He was captured in Alsace-Lorraine while serving with the 781st Tank Bn. He is survived by 6 children, 13 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and a large and loving extended family.

NEFF, Richard [Dick] L., Grove City, OH, died July 5. He was a tail gunner on a B-17, shot down and held

in a prison camp Marburg, Yugoslavia. Survived by 5 daughters, 12 grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren, 1 brother and 2 sisters.

NICKLAS, Fred W., of Reno, NV passed away Dec. 3, 2009 at the age of 90. He served with the 351st BG during WWII; his plane was shot down and he was captured and held in Luft IV and later Luft 1 until liberation. He is survived by 2 sisters and several nieces and nephews.

ORLANDO, Nicholas A., of Cedarhurst, NY passed away Feb. 27, 2010. He was 87. During WWII, he was captured while serving with the 306th BG, 423rd BS, flying out of England. He was held in Stalag 17B. He leaves his wife of 65 years, Katherine, 2 sons, 1 sister, 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

PAPPAS, Michel, of Palm Desert, CA, passed away May 5, 2010. He was captured while serving in the 8th AF during WWII; he was held in Lufts 4 and 1 until liberation. Mike was a member of the Coachella Valley Chapter, AXPOW.

PAULSON, Dorayne, of Luck, Wisconsin, died January 4, 2010. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was held at Stalag 4B. He escaped three times during marches to other camps. He talked of being bombed while in the boxcars on Christmas Eve, of "potato peeling soup" and the "sawdust bread". He is survived by his wife, Betty.

POLISENO, Dominick F., of Lackawanna, NY died March 3, 2010. He was 91. Dominick was captured in Italy while serving with Darby's Rangers and held in Stalag 11B. He leaves 1 son, 2 daughters, 2 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

POWELL, June M., widow of Leo Powell (AXPOW) passed away July 6, 2010. She was a life member and member of the Fresno Chapter #1. Leo & June rarely missed any meeting with POWs whether it was Chap-

ter or State related. The Powells, who lived in Madera, had turned a portion of their land into an AXPOW Park complete with Gazebo, shade trees, electric lights and American & POW Flags. Survivors include two sons. We as a chapter will miss June and her warm smile.

PRESTON, Lorraine, of Northlake, IL passed away July 19, 2010. She was the widow of ex-POW Orvis C (captured in Abbeville, France). Lorraine was a member of the Fox River Valley Chapter. She leaves a loving family.

QUAGLIARIELLO, Phillip S., of S. Plainfield, NJ died March 3, 2010. During WWII, he served in the Army (Inf. Div.). He was held more than 2 years after being captured in Germany. Phillip was a member of NJ Chapter #1, AXPOW. He is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter, 1 brother, 3 grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

REYES, Angelo, of Salinas, CA and member of the Monterey Chapter, AXPOW died Aug. 18, 2010 at the age of 92. Angelo was captured on Bataan; he endured the Bataan Death March and 3 ½ years of captivity by the Japanese. He leaves 2 sons, 3 daughters, 10 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

ROESCH, Vivian, of Falls City, Nebraska, died May 23, 2010. She was the widow of Wilbur Roesch, who served in the 400th Arm'd FABN. Vivian was a member of the Omaha Chapter.

ROTELLA, Raffaella J., 87, of Patterson, NJ passed away July 3, 2010. She was former chaplain for NJ Chapter 3, AXPOW. She is survived by her loving husband, Louis (former POW in Germany), 1 son, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren and many friends and extended family.

taps continued...

SCHILPEROORT, Clarence, 92, of Modesto, CA died June 21, 2010. He and his twin brother joined the Navy in 1936. Clarence was serving on the USS Houston when he was captured and held for 3 ½ years. He was a member of the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW (Mesa, AZ) and ADBC. Survivors include his loving wife of 64 years, Mary, 1 son, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, 1 brother and 3 sisters.

SCHULTZ, John C., of Cheektowaga, NY died Jan. 25, 2010. He was 90. During WWII, he served in the Army, 103rd Inf., 411th Reg; he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. One daughter survives him.

SHAW, Dwight Leroy, of Twin Falls, ID passed away Jan. 4, 2009. He was 88. During WWII, he served in the AAC in the Philippines with the 5th Airbase Group. He was captured on Corregidor and held for 3 ½ years in Japanese POW camps. Dwight is survived by his wife, Susan, 5 children, 4 stepchildren, 1 nephew and 2 nieces and many, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Dwight was finally awarded the Purple Heart after his death.

SHOWMAN, Stanley D. Sr., 85, of Broadway, VA died April 7, 2010. He was a life member of the Bob Frakes Chapter, AXPOW. During WWII, he served with the 110th Inf., Co. B, 28th Div. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge and held in 9B and 9A. Eleanor, his loving wife of 63 ½ years survives him; he is also survived by 1 daughter, 3 sons, 8 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-granddaughter.

SIRIANNI, Ralph E., of Winthrop, MA and member of MA Chapter #1, AXPOW, passed away May 31, 2010. He was captured while serving in the Army Air Corps during WWII. Survivors include his wife, Mary, 1 daughter, 2 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild and a large and loving extended family.

SMITH, Jean Calvin, 87, of Rutherford, PA died June 2, 2010. He was an Army veteran and former POW in WWII and a member of the PA Capital Chapter, AXPOW. Jean leaves his loving wife, Esther.

SOTIRO, Christopher G., 91, of Clifton, NJ died March 3, 2010. He was captured while serving in the Army; he was held in Stalag IIC until liberation. Chris was a member of NJ Chapter 3, AXPOW. Survivors include 1 daughter, 1 son, 5 grandchildren and 1 sister.

SPENCER, Harley C., of Hughson, CA passed away April 22, 2010. He was 88. He was captured soon after D-Day while serving with the Army, 23rd Inf., 2nd Div. and held in Stalag 12A for 10 months. He leaves his wife, Betty, 1 daughter, 3 stepdaughters, 11 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

STARNES, Robert G., 84, of Lancaster, SC died Jan. 19, 2010. During WWII, he served in the Army; he was a POW in Germany. Survivors include his wife, Rosa, 5 daughters, 1 brother, 4 sisters, 10 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

TAKENAGA, Masami "Joe" of St. Clair Shores, MI died July 15, 2010. During WWII, he served with the 442nd Inf., the highly decorated Japanese-American unit. While he was interned at the Minidok Relocation Camp, he met his beloved wife, Alice. He is survived by her, and by 1 son, 1 daughter and 4 grandchildren.

TESSMER, Glenn A., 93, of Shrewsbury, MA passed away July

20, 2010. He served in WWII with the 93rd BG, stationed in Hardwick, England. He was shot down, captured and held in Stalag 7A. Glenn leaves his wife of 50 years, Johanna, 2 sons and 6 grandchildren.

TIARKS, William M Sr., of Underwood, IA passed away July 9, 2010. He was 85. He was a medic with the 17th Inf. Reg., 7th Inf. Div., captured while serving in Korea. He spent 13 months as a POW. Bill is survived by his loving wife, Dorothy, 1 son, 2 granddaughters, and 1 great-grandson.

TODD-NIXON, Eleanor, member of the San Diego Chapter, AXPOW passed away May 23, 2010. She was the wife of Dr. Thomas C. Nixon, a Marine captured five days after the Japanese took over Guam. During his time as a POW he was at the Korean camp at Inchon/Seoul and later at mines of Otsu, Japan. He has served as a National Service Director for AXPOW.

VEACH, Valla J., of Columbus, NE died Aug. 31, 2009. She was the loving wife of ex-POW Clarence F (POW in Luft III and VIIIA). In addition to Clarence, she leaves 2 children and 4 grandchildren.

VORM, Vera, 89, of Des Moines, IA passed away June 4, 2010. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard. Both were active members of the Mid-Iowa Chapter, AXPOW. Vera is survived by 1 daughter, 3 sons, 12 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 3 sisters.

WALBY, Charles A., of Bloomfield Hills, MI died June 6, 2010. He was captured when his Navy ship was torpedoed in WWII. He spent 1 year in Japanese hands. His 2 children, 6 grandchildren and 5 siblings survive him.

WALDROP, Inez Lindsay passed away June 4, 2010 at the age of 93. She was preceded in death by her husband Mel and one son,

taps continued...

and is survived by two sons, one daughter, eight grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and one sister. Inez was a long time member of the Tacoma Chapter, AXPOW.

WATTS, Verna Mae, died June 15 2010. She was a member of the Agua Fria Chapter, Arizona, life member of AXPOW. Her husband, Lowell Watts, served as Past Arizona State Department Commander, and also served as a past Commander of the Agua Fria Chapter. In addition to her husband, she leaves one daughter and one son.

WERTZ, Julia Wien, 85, of Enola, PA passed away June 7, 2010. She was the beloved wife of ex-POW Israel (captured at Anzio Beachhead in WWII). In addition to her husband, Julia is survived by 1 son, 1 daughter, 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

WHITBY, Ray Leo "Wiff", of Mesa, AZ passed away Aug. 14, 2010. His B-24 was shot down over Italy and he was captured and held until he escaped to Allied lines. Wiff was

active in the East Valley Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his sweetheart, Dee, 4 children, 17 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren.

WOOD, Claud D., of Spartanburg, SC died Jan. 5, 2010. He served in the Army during WWII and was a POW. He was a life member of Piedmont Chapter #1, AXPOW. Claud leaves his wife, Stella and 1 son.

WOOD, Lee Roy, of Hobart, IN died May 30, 2010. He served with the US Paratroopers in the Army for 2 ½ years. He jumped in Normandy and was captured 6 days later. Lee Roy is survived by his wife of 65 years, Betty, 2 daughters, 18 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

WOOLWORTH, Carl, of Michigan passed away June 18, 2010. He served and was a POW in Korea.

ZIPPILLI, Joseph S., 88, of Mount Laurel, NJ died June 13, 2010. He was captured by German soldiers after parachuting from B-24 following a midair collision. He was held in Stalag Luft 3 until liberation. He is survived by his wife Kaye, 3 children, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

After They Are Gone

When someone we love passes
away,
We ache, but we go on;
Our dear departed would want
us to heal,
After they are gone.
Grief is a normal way to mend
The anguish and pain in our
hearts;
We need time to remember and
time to mourn,
Before the recovery starts.
Let's draw together to recuperate,
As we go through this period of
sorrow;
Let's help each other, with
tender care
To find a brighter tomorrow.

By Joanna Fuchs



national chaplain Growing In Grace



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

Psalms 92: 13-14

Those who be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall bring forth fruit in old age, they shall be fat and flourish.

As we grow older, we will be limited in our physical abilities, however, we are promised that even in our old age that God can make us to be spiritually fruitful. Physically, we stop growing in our late twenties, some of us earlier, but we should never stop growing spiritually.

Our spiritual growth should continue in our relationship with God for as long as we can think, pray, read our Bibles and worship Him.

May God Bless all of us and help us grow in Grace.


REV. JAMES H. BEAVER

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2010

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**American Ex-Prisoners of War
MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTION**
to honor a loved one or a former colleague
Donations are not tax-deductible.

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

IN MEMORY OF:

GIVEN BY: _____ Date of Death _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, state and zip code _____

To be contributed to the _____ Fund.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE SENT TO:

Name _____

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Memorial donations should be sent to:
American Ex-Prisoners of War
3201 East Pioneer Parkway #40
Arlington, Texas 76010-5396

(rev. 02/07)



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(rev. 02/07)

Life's Journey

Authored by Cor Longiotti

List Price: \$17.95



Growing up in a small town.
Enduring Life in the great depression era.

Attending Catholic school for six years and graduating from Public High School.

Serving in U.S. Army with the 179th Infantry as a machine gunner in Sicily. Fighting in Italy, landing on the beaches of Salerno and fighting our way to Casino then retreating to make a landing at Anzio. After much fierce fighting getting captured, and spending time as a POW in Italy and Germany. Returning home, getting married, raising a family and working to build a better life.

For a copy of book, go to;

Amazon.com/life_journey-cor-longiotti/dp/1449596630

Or send \$18.00 (shipping included) to;

Cor Longiotti, 522 E. Valley View Rd. Ashland, Or. 97520

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If it's lost, the finder can return it to us and receive a \$15.00 reward. We will return it to you. If you give this as a gift, you need to give us the name and address of your recipient.

This is an attractive, silver-colored and thoughtful item. It is sent in a handy gift box and is ideal for friends and family.

This is a fund-raising project of the Dept. of New York. Profits are being used to give Wounded Warriors and their families a "Taste of the Big Apple". Five days/four nights airfare, hotel, food, admissions.

\$10 each including S/H

To: Dept. of New York, AXPOW
190 Bethel Loop, #104
Brooklyn, NY 11239

50/50 drawing

March 2010

Arlington, TX

1st Place	Walter Riley Dallas, TX	\$431.60
2nd Place	Milton "Skip" Moore Sierra Vista, AZ	\$323.70
3rd Place	Ernest Smith Wichita, KS	\$215.80
4th Place	Sally Morgan Grand Prairie, TX	\$107.90

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

National Headquarters ~ 50/50 Drawing
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beeth2@hotmail.com

Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2010

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

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Name: _____ Telephone: () _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____

Here is my donation of \$5.00 for 6 chances to win the drawing.
Prize amounts are determined by the total amount donated.

Mail your donation and entry to: **American Ex-Prisoners of War
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3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
Arlington, TX 76010-5396**

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Thank you for your support. (3/11)

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Ex-POW Bulletin
Sept/Oct 2010
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The Quartermaster's Shop

order on page 42



AXPOW Pocket Knife

11 function pocket knife includes a stainless steel knife, screwdrivers and much more! AXPOW imprint is protected by an epoxy dome, lasting a lifetime. Rubber grip ensures easy handling...individually gift boxed...folded knife measures 3 3/4"x1"

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The uniform of the American Ex-POWs consists of the military cap and the vest. These vests are custom-made with your name on the front, and your chapter and logo shield on the back. Orders take approximately six weeks to complete.



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The tough casing is made of aircraft aluminum

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Push button, sealed rubber switch, with handy carrying strap. Each is individually

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with AXPOW LOGO

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

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(\$15.00 for one; \$20.00 for two or more)

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(for members only)

Actual size of badge is size of a credit card



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

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Ship to: _____
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(For members only)

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Long, Regular or Short _____

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AXPOW Pocket Knife	13.00	Logo Earrings (pierced or clip)	5.00	AXPOW Metal License Plate Frame	7.00
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(specify regular or pre-tied)		Vest Chainguard w/eagles	8.00	3" Vinyl Decal	1.00
AXPOW Logo Bolo Tie	25.00	3" Blazer Patch	4.00	3" Inside Decal	1.00
U.S. Flag Bolo Tie	20.00	4" Blazer Patch	4.00	8" Vinyl Decal	6.00
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axpowqm@aol.com

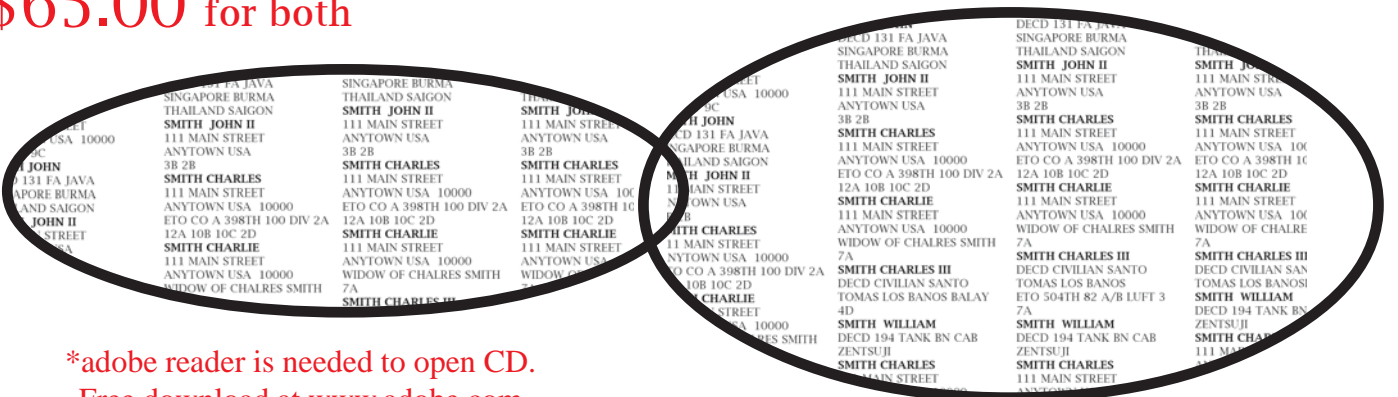


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Rubber grip ensures easy handling
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