

EX-POW BULLETIN

the official voice of the

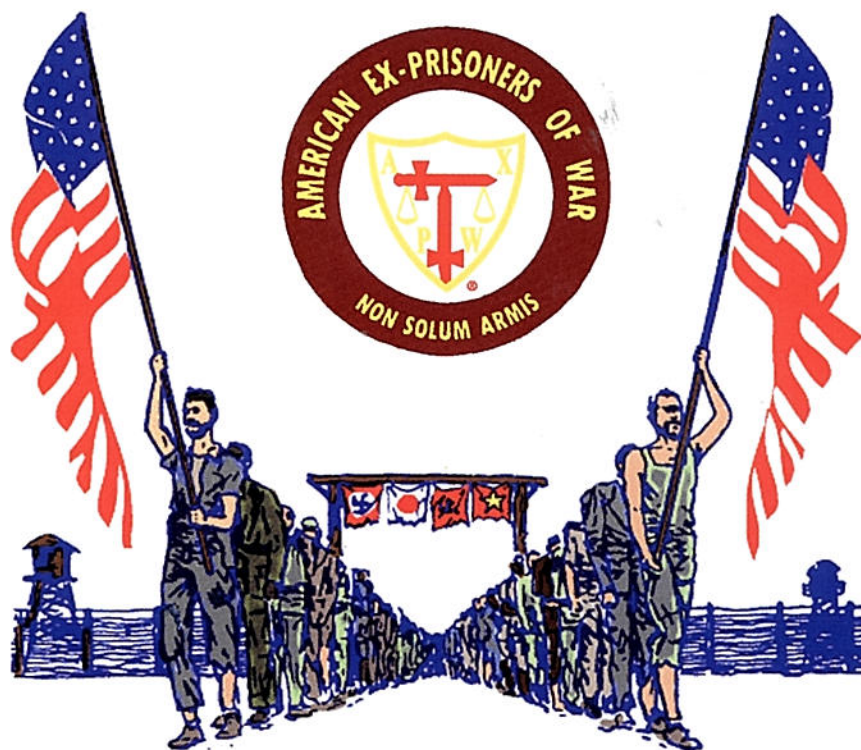
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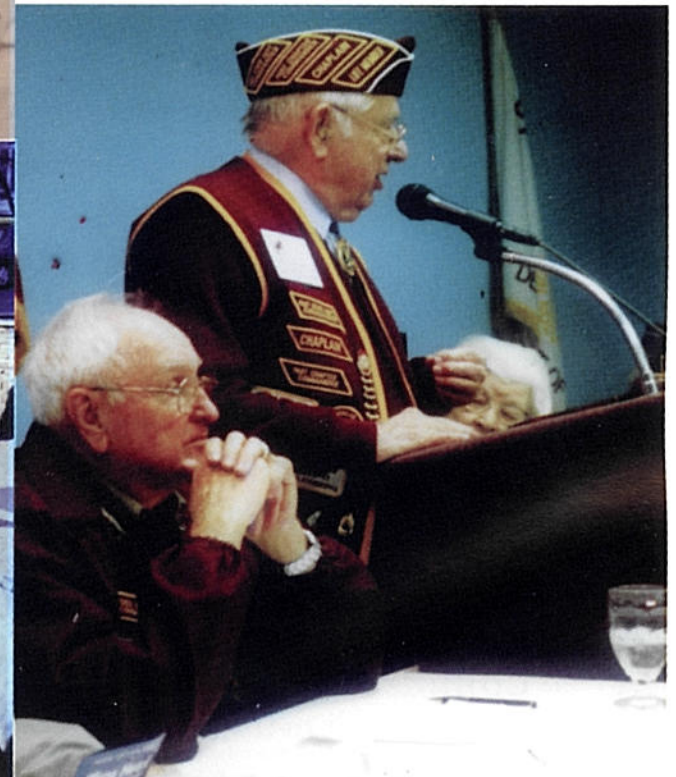
We exist to help those who cannot help themselves



Inside: cut-out-and-keep Congressional Veterans Affairs Committees...national convention information...news, events, NSO success stories... and more



Clockwise from top left: First Lady Laura Bush met with our own COL. Rhonda Cornum, MD at Landstuhl RMC; TET 2005 reunion; SVC Gerald Harvey and Dept. Commander Morris Barker at the Texas Mid-Year; John H. McCracken at the Arthur St. Clair Memorial Grove in Ligonier, PA; Texas Dept. Commander Morris Barker introduces the "Andrews Sisters".



national commander



James Cooper

Most of the Prisoners of War in the European Theatre were liberated during the last two weeks of April or the first days of May, 1945. This year is the 60th Anniversary of that series of events. To write about a normal day would be of no interest to others who had been incarcerated.

But the men from the central compound of Stalag Luft III had two unusual days during the month of April. We had been forced to evacuate to Moosburg.

The first of these two days was the Latrine Mutiny. For several days, the latrines had not been pumped out and they began to overflow into the area where we lined up to be counted. Definitely a health hazard, so the Senior American Officer told us not to fall out for the afternoon count. He said when they brought in the guns and dogs, we should not resist. He was sure the camp commandant was unaware of the condition and they would have to get his permission to bring in the dogs. Things went as predicted until it was time to fall in.

The commandant said since we had failed to show up at the regular time, he was removing Colonel Smith from command and he ordered us to fall in. Nobody

moved. He thereupon ordered the guards to round us up. I was in the first group of twelve to fifteen marched up to our normal formation. The guards then left, and so did we. When the guards returned, there was no one there. They looked at each other and then all left again and so did the second group who had been marched into position.

The anger of the commandant was plain to see, but whether at us or the soldiers busy accomplishing nothing was hard to say. Probably equally upset with both groups. He had made another strategic mistake; he had brought the machine guns into the compound. I saw where I could get through two buildings and get behind the gunners. But when I got there, there were already three of our group looking over the gunners' shoulders saying, "That goes there and that goes there". The body language of the gunners showed they were very uncomfortable with the interest spectators behind them. On looking around, I saw each of the guns had a similar group, so I returned to watch the Keystone Kop routine being carried on below. The four soldiers were still busy rounding up people who drifted away when they left.

Finally the commandant gave up and announced Colonel Smith was in command. The Colonel gave the command to fall in. Everybody did. And so ended the Latrine Mutiny.

Not long afterward, the Germans announced the death of President Franklin Roosevelt. We told the Germans we were going to have a memorial service. They brought up the guns again, but this time did not bring them into the compound. On a day were three men - a Catholic chaplain, a Protestant chaplain and a Rabbi. I had a

great deal of respect for the Rabbi, standing there in front of the guns in Nazi Germany, leading the prayers in his turn. Years later, I found out the Catholic chaplain was also nervous, as this was before the ecumenical movement and he thought he might be disciplined for participating in a service with other religions.

These two days showed we could influence camp conditions if we worked together.



Finally, I wish to thank Mrs. Brooks for writing about my January column. I am not a good communicator and did not explain fully my reasoning. Our by-laws were written without taking spouses of descendants into consideration. They neither mention them nor forbid their membership, but the laws of the State of Washington do. The last group of eligible people states, "and heirs at law". Our by-laws should not be in violation of Washington law, and they are not. It was for this reason I stated we should look at canceling these memberships in case of divorce, annulment or legal separation.

Jim



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Happy Birthday, AXPOW!

On April 9, 1942

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

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

Offer to 2A POWs:

My father, Charles Bachini, Sr., was a POW at Stalag 2A, Neubrandenburg, Germany during WWII. While there he was given five woodcuts by Polish POWs as Christmas cards. Upon his death in 1996, I published them for family use as holiday cards. I would like to offer them (on a first-come, first-served basis) to any living POWs from Stalag 2A who were with him in Barrack #24 West. Please write me at the following address: Charles Bachini, Jr., PO Box 523, Essex, MA 01920.

New Website:

Nearly sixty years after the end of World War II, Japanese researchers have compiled a comprehensive database detailing the fate of the 3,526 Allied prisoners of war who died in Japan between 1941 and 1945. Until now, the information was often incomplete or inaccurate, and efforts to uncover more have been hampered by the destruction of records by the Japanese at the end of the war. But painstaking research by Japanese volunteers has yielded new details on where the men were held and forced to work and how they died. The database is now on the Internet in English. The research network can be accessed at <http://homepage3.nifty.com/pow-j/e/>

Correction:

Cheryl—many thanks for placing my request for info on my late husband Albert C. Johnson in the March issue of the EX-POW Bulletin. It was all great except for my email address. My address is mnkj@friendlycity.net. Thank you again, Nell Johnson.

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sr. vice commander



Gerald Harvey

When you read this, we will be getting ready for the Mid-Year Meeting of the AXPOW National Board of Directors. Most of our members have never been able to attend one of these meetings. The meeting this year will be April 10 to 14 at the Sheraton Pentagon South Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia, across the river from Washington, DC. This is a time when your Board looks at what has transpired since the last National Convention, listens to committee reports, and considers the concerns of members that have been brought to our attention. If you have concerns or questions about something that you see happening in our organization, get with your National Director and share your thoughts with him. You may have suggestions of ways that our or-

ganization can be organized or can work in a more efficient manner. National Directors represent the members in their respective areas. They cannot share your thoughts with the Board unless you share your thoughts with them.

I have had several members ask me where they could get a credit card application to get our American Ex-Prisoner of War credit card. I am sure there are many more of you who would like this information. The name of the bank is MBNA America. I have talked to the bank and this is what I have learned. There is no printed application form. You have to apply by telephone or on the internet. By telephone you can call the customer service at (800) 421 2110. You have to punch a lot of numbers to finally get a person. You may get a person more quickly by calling (866) 867 6339 or (800) 932 2775. The address on line is www.MBNA.com. You will see a button that says "Contact us". Punching there automatically sets up an email connection where you can write to them and they will reply to you. You will not "talk" to anyone.

1. They have lots and lots of cards for organizations, corporations, etc. When you get a person, tell him/her that you want to apply for an American Ex-Prisoner of War credit card.

2. You will be asked a number of questions. They will want to know your name, address, Social Security Number and date of birth.

3. Do you own your home? do you rent? do you have a mortgage and how much is it?

4. They will ask what your regular monthly income is.

5. What is your mother's maiden name (you may give them some other name—one that you are sure to remember). This is your password when you call in about your account.

7. How many cards do you need?

When you sign up, AXPOW immediately gets \$25. We get \$1 each year that you keep the account. We also get one half of one percent of everything you charge. There is no annual fee. Currently AXPOW is receiving about a thousand dollars a month. The card is easy to get and you will be helping our organization to carry on our programs.

GERALD

national adjutant



Clydie J. Morgan
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It's spring! Here in Texas, it's even moving quickly into summer weather! For all of you who have

spent the last long months in snow, you should be enjoying the first spring flowers. And with spring flowers, come the flurry of State Dept. conventions. Try and attend your convention if you can. They are a great opportunity to meet old friends and meet new ones.

Our spring fundraiser went out in March. We hope you are enjoying your 60th Anniversary pins. We've gotten a few questions about our fundraising programs recently. Our vendor, John Hasychak, works the same way that Brick Mill used to. We are charged for the product (pins, labels, calendars, etc.) and we pay for the postage. Every dollar you send in goes directly into our accounts after the product and postage are paid for. They do not take a percentage of the profits the

way some fundraisers do. You can feel confident sending your money to JH Marketing Services. We've been working with John for many years - since he was at Brick Mill before starting his own company.

We're looking for members who can help identify the people in the POW MedSearch pictures that we offer. We've gotten a number of requests for their names. Look in the March issue for the pictures.

It's not too early to start making plans for our National Convention in September. You'll find information in the Bulletin each month. Make your reservations early!

Until next month,
Clydie, Sally, Marsha & Donna
Your National Headquarters

jr. vice commander

Central Zone



Robert Fletcher

Since I last communicated with you, I have had the opportunity to do some traveling for the AX-POWs. In the middle of January, I attended the California Midwinter Conference that was held in Bakersfield and ably run by Commander Ted Cadwallader. A prominent topic of discussion at the conference was the increasing loss of members due to death. As a result, at least 5 chapters have dropped below 10 members, resulting in the need to combine chapters in order to keep them viable under our charter.

At the end of January, I then attended the Texas Midwinter Conference held in Odessa under the leadership of Commander Morris Barker. As in California, the increasing rate of ex-POW deaths is devastating the membership rolls. Our membership is aging rapidly. The resulting loss of members due to death is a problem that our organization can no longer ignore. Besides making it harder to maintain local chapters, our national budget is being strained to the point where our expenses will at any moment significantly exceed our income. We've seen a decline in membership from our 1990s high of nearly 32,000 to our current 25,000+.

As anyone responsible for paying the bills knows, this is a situation that cannot continue indefinitely. The national officers will be holding their midyear board meeting in

Washington D.C. in April. At that time, I intend to push for ways in which we can cut our expenses in order to maintain our organization. For instance, much as we enjoy receiving this monthly Bulletin, should we save printing and mailing costs by cutting down the number of issues per year? And if not the Bulletin, how else can we cut expenses? Or should we continue on our present course until all of our reserves are spent within the next few years, and then disband the AX-POWs? I would like to hear what you think.

I want to close by sending my best wishes to the Department of South Carolina and their Commander William Pebley. They will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the ending of World War II when they meet April 15-17. I cannot be with you due to the meeting in Washington D.C., but I will be with you in spirit.

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The lawsuit brought by a number of ex-internees against the United States, *Achenbach et al. vs. United States*, has ended. The lawsuit sought reparations for war damages to the individuals because of the failure of the United States Government to provide warning of war and to encourage the evacuation of American citizens from threatened areas in the Far East in 1940 and 1941. In a letter to all the participants in the case, Mr. Anthony D'Amato, the attorney representing the internees in the Federal courts, wrote:

"The Court took a stingy and crabbed view of the statute of limitations, yet there is some precedent for its view in case law. The Court's reasoning was as follows: Back in 1948 at least one internee testified before Congress that the government had failed to warn the American civilians in the Philippines that they were in a danger zone and should evacuate from the islands.

He said that the internees were "expendables." Other internees, even if they had not known about the failure to warn, could have learned about it by reading the Congressional testimony. At that point, the Court held, the internees should have hired a lawyer to look into the possibility of suing the United States for its failure to warn. Such a lawyer would then have been in a position, theoretically at least, to do the same kind of research I did, and come up with the same cause of action that I have

The Court of Appeals did not write an opinion in the case, it simply affirmed the District Court's decision without an opinion.

I responded to Mr. D'Amato and he answered my comments with this reply: "You are not alone in having entered the case against the United States with half a heart. But if we had won against the United States, the US could have sued Japan for indemnity for the maltreatment of US civilians. So the real target of our case was Japan."

I wish the Courts had had the wisdom to see it that way.

Curtis Brooks

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on capitol hill



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Our new Chairman, Steve Buyer (pronounced Boo-yer) has been on the House Veterans Affairs Committee since the first day he entered the US Congress as the Representative of the 4th District of Indiana 12 years ago. The House Republican Conference ratified the Steering Committee's selection that he be chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, position previously held by Chris Smith of New Jersey's 4th District who was presented our Barbed Wire Award last year for his outstanding service to former prisoners of war. Buyer is a decorated veteran of modern warfare, which gives him a good insight into the problem's of today's returning veterans.

A graduate of The Citadel in South Carolina, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army Reserve and was called to active duty in the Gulf War. After earning his law degree, he served three years in the JAG Corps. While serving in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm as an Operational Law Judge Advocate, he was assigned to the Western Enemy Prisoner of War Camp, providing legal advice on international law and the Geneva Conventions regarding the treatment of prisoners of war, detainees and refugees. He also served as an Armed Forces liaison with delegates of the International Red Cross. It is safe to say that he is the first chairman of this committee who has practical and first hand knowledge of the life of a POW even though he was not one of them. Congressman Buyer con-

tinues to serve as a Colonel in the Army Reserve.

The organization of the committee for the 109th Congress has been completely revamped with four new subcommittee chairmen and the addition of a new subcommittee to focus on veteran transition to civilian life. The subcommittee that was known as Subcommittee on Benefits is now the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs. This newly-named subcommittee will have jurisdiction over compensation, pension, life insurance, national cemeteries, burial benefits and the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Chairman is Jeff Miller (R-FL 01).

Since being elected to Congress in 2001, Mr. Miller has established himself nationally as a strong advocate for veterans concerns. He pushed hard for changes to concurrent receipt and his initiation of a greater co-sharing policy between the military and veterans' clinics. In 2004, Miller's measure to end the "Widows Tax" by improving the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) was signed into law. Congressman Miller was born in St. Petersburg, FL 46 years ago. After graduating from the University of Florida, he served in the State legislature before being elected to the US Congress.

Our long-time friend, Representative Michael Bilirakis (R-FL 09) is continuing as Vice Chairman of the committee, a position he has held since the 108th Congress. He will also serve as chairman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee. The Veterans Affairs Com-

mittee has had the benefit of his wisdom since he first joined it in 1982.

Congressman Henry Brown (R-SC 01) is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Health. He was previously chairman of the Benefits Committee. The Health committee has jurisdiction over more than 1,300 sites of care, including hospitals, community and facility-based clinics, nursing homes and various other facilities.

The new Subcommittee will focus on assisting veterans' transition back to civilian lives and will be named the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, chaired by Congressman John Boozman (R-AR 03). This Subcommittee will have jurisdiction over veterans' education, vocational rehabilitation, housing programs, readjustment to civilian life and servicemembers' civil relief. Representative Boozman was a successful businessman and life-long resident of Arkansas' 3rd District. In 1977, after graduating from Southern College of Optometry, he co-founded Boozman-Hof Regional Eye Clinic, which has become a major provider of eye care to Northwest Arkansas. Sworn in on November 28, 2001, Boozman was chosen in a special election to replace Asa Hutchinson, who resigned to accept President Bush's appointment to become Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

There are two new appointments to the Veterans Affairs Committee. They are Devin Nunes (R-CA 21) and Michael Turner (R-OH 03).

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INFORMATION FOR WIVES/WIDOWS OF FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR

1) ChampVA Health Insurance is available to all wives whose husbands are rated 100% and widows in receipt of DIC, whose husbands are NOT retired military. ChampVA Health Insurance can be the primary insurance for wives under the age of 65 or as a supplement to Medicares for those over 65. ChampVA is a complete health insurance and covers hospital bills, doctor bills and free prescriptions. Former Prisoners of War are NOT eligible for ChampVA. Note: When using Meds By Mail, it is wise to immediately mail your renewal prescription slips back to either Wyoming or Georgia. Even though you just received your 90 day prescription, mail it back and when it is due Meds By Mail will ship it to you. This will prevent you from either losing the slips or mailing it back too late and you will run out before the new order arrives.

2) Wives should be in receipt of Form 21-534 Application for Dependent and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and Form 21-22 Appointment of Veterans Service Representative. Wives Claimant's Representative. Wives should have their husbands supply the information needed for Form 21-534. The areas relating to finances do not need to be completed for DIC. Then the forms should be kept with your estate planning.

3) Wives should call 1-800-827-1000 and notify the V.A. of their husband's death as soon as possible. 4) Most Funeral Directors file for the Burial Benefit. You should ask if this will be done, if not, you must file yourself.

5) If you have been denied DIC in the past or you never filed before, please look at the cause of death of your husband. Even if he never filed, but died of a Former POW presumptive, with the relaxing of the requirements for service connection for presumptives since Oct. 7, 2004, you may now be eligible for DIC.

One of our most active National Service Officers in Florida asked that his name be noted in this column as a contact for help in states where there is no Ex-POW NSO. His name is:
Irwin J. Stovroff
7374 Woodmont Ct.
Boca Raton, FL 33434
(561) 422-7475 (Office - Mon. and Wed.); (561) 488-6155 (Home)
E-mail - irwinjfi@aol.com

You should also know what disabilities your husband is service-connected for by the V.A. Question #10 on Form 21-534 asks "Are you claiming that the cause of death was due to service?" Answer "Yes" if the long form death certificate lists a disability your husband was service connected for by the V.A. or if he died of a Former POW Presumptive, such as heart disease, stroke or liver. If you check "Yes" and the death is not service connected, this may result in a delay of the processing of your DIC benefit.

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Packet #5 (What Every POW's Wife Should Know Before She is Your Widow) has been updated again, with much time and effort on the part of Marlene Agnes, to include the most recent laws and benefits published. The packet (approximately 110 pages) may be purchased from National Headquarters. Cost of the updated packet is \$15.00~includes S/H.

Every now and then we focus on one or more of the presumptives for former prisoners of war. This month, our article is on peripheral neuropathy. Sources: NIH and the Mayo Clinic.

Peripheral neuropathy is a term used to describe disorders of your peripheral nervous system. Your peripheral nervous system includes nerves in your face, arms, legs, torso, and some cranial nerves. In fact, all of your nerves not located in your central nervous system — which includes the brain and the spinal cord — are peripheral nerves.

Neuropathies may affect just one nerve (mononeuropathy) or several nerves (polyneuropathy). Your nerves provide communication between your brain and your muscles, skin, internal organs and blood vessels. When damaged, your nerves can't communicate properly, and that miscommunication causes symptoms such as pain or numbness.

Peripheral neuropathy often affects people with diabetes and autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and lupus. Certain vitamin deficiencies, some medications and alcoholism can also damage peripheral nerves.

Treating the underlying condition may relieve some cases of peripheral neuropathy. In other cases, treatment may focus on managing pain. Peripheral nerves have a remarkable ability to regenerate themselves, and new treatments using nerve growth factors or gene

therapy may offer even better chances for recovery in the future.

Signs and Symptoms

Neurologic symptoms may occur related to your central nervous system, which consists of your brain and spinal cord, or your peripheral nervous system, which links your spinal cord and brain to all other parts of your body. The extensive network of peripheral nerves helps your muscles contract (motor nerves) and allows you to feel a range of sensations (sensory nerves). In addition, your peripheral nerves help control some of the involuntary functions of the autonomic nervous system, which regulates your internal organs, sweat glands and blood pressure.

Unfortunately, peripheral nerves are fragile and easily damaged. Damage to a peripheral nerve can interfere with the communication between the area it serves and your brain, affecting your ability to move certain muscles or feel normal sensations. Your symptoms will depend on the cause of your neuropathy and on which nerve or nerves are involved.

If a sensory nerve is damaged, you're likely to experience symptoms that may include:

- Pain
- Numbness
- Tingling
- Burning
- Loss of feeling

These symptoms often begin gradually. You may have a tingling sensation or numbness that starts in your toes or the balls of your feet and spreads upward. Tingling might also begin in your hands and extend up

your arms. In some cases your skin may become so sensitive that the slightest touch is agonizing. You may also have numbness, or even a complete lack of feeling, in your hands or feet.

At times your symptoms may be barely noticeable, and some people go years without realizing anything is wrong. For others, symptoms are constant, and especially at night may be almost unbearable. Signs and symptoms may include:

- The sensation that you're wearing an invisible glove or sock
- Burning pain
- Sharp, jabbing or electric-like pain
- Extreme sensitivity to touch, even light touch
- Lack of coordination

If your motor nerves are affected, you may have weakness or paralysis of the muscles controlled by those nerves. And if you have damage to nerves that control certain functions of the autonomic nervous system, you might have bowel or bladder problems, reduced sweating or impotence. You might also experience a sharp fall in your blood pressure when you stand up, which may cause you to faint or feel lightheaded.

Causes

A number of factors can cause neuropathies. When a single nerve is affected, the most likely cause is trauma or some type of repetitive use that puts pressure on the nerve. Nerve pressure can result from using a cast or crutches, spending a long time in an unnatural position — such as typing at a computer keyboard — or having a tumor or abnormal bone growth.

When damage occurs to several nerves, the cause is frequently diabetes. About half of all people with diabetes develop some type of neuropathy. Other common causes include alcoholism, HIV/AIDS, inherited disorders and a deficiency of certain vitamins, especially B vitamins.

Autoimmune diseases, including lupus and rheumatoid arthritis, kidney disease, liver disease and an underactive thyroid (hypothyroidism) also can damage peripheral nerves. So can exposure to poisons, some toxic substances and certain medications — especially those used to treat cancer. You may even inherit a tendency to develop peripheral neuropathy.

Sometimes bacterial or viral infections may cause neuropathy. An acute condition called Guillain-Barre syndrome frequently causes severe damage to all or part of your peripheral nerves by destroying the myelin sheath that covers nerve fibers. The myelin sheath acts as an insulator for your nerves and helps conduct nerve impulses. Although the exact cause of Guillain-Barre syndrome isn't known, approximately two-thirds of cases occur after an infection, surgery or immunization.

Risk Factors

Having diabetes places you at high risk of developing peripheral nerve damage. In fact, about half of people with diabetes have some form of neuropathy. The risk increases the longer you have diabetes, and is highest for those who've had the disease for more than 25 years. Your risk is even greater if you are older than 40 or have difficulty controlling your blood sugar level.

Although researchers don't understand exactly how damage occurs, a high blood sugar level seems to impair your nerves' ability to transmit signals. You can help reduce your risk by carefully following a

medically approved plan for keeping your blood sugar level as close to normal as possible.

Your risk of developing peripheral neuropathy is also higher if you have one or more of the following risk factors:

- Alcohol abuse. Excessive drinking of alcohol can affect your nervous system, causing numbness of your hands and feet.

- Vitamin deficiency. A lack of certain vitamins, especially B-1 (thiamin) and B-12. Pernicious anemia, which occurs when your body can't absorb B-12 properly, often leads to peripheral neuropathy.

- Autoimmune diseases. You're more likely to develop peripheral neuropathy if you have an autoimmune disease such as lupus or rheumatoid arthritis, or if your immune system is compromised by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or AIDS.

Other health problems. Medical conditions including certain types of cancer, kidney and liver disease, also can put you at risk for nerve damage.

Repetitive stress. A job or hobby that puts stress on one nerve for long periods of time increases your chances of developing peripheral neuropathy.

In carpal tunnel syndrome, for example, the median nerve that extends through your wrist into your fingers becomes compressed. Repetitive assembly line work or work involving prolonged, heavy gripping can compress the median nerve. Playing golf, tennis or a musical instrument and using vibrating power tools or even crutches also can put pressure on peripheral nerves.

Toxic substances. Exposure to some toxic substances can make you susceptible to peripheral nerve damage. These substances include heavy metals, such as lead, mercury and arsenic; organic solvents; carbon monoxide and certain medications, such as those used to treat cancer or AIDS.

When to seek medical advice

See your doctor regularly if you have diabetes, a compromised immune system or any other chronic medical condition.

If you have a cut or sore on your foot that doesn't seem to be healing, is infected or is getting worse, see your doctor promptly, especially if you have diabetes. Even minor sores that don't heal can turn into ulcers. In the most severe cases, untreated foot ulcers may become gangrenous — a condition in which the tissue dies — and require surgery or even amputation of your foot.

Seek medical care right away if you notice any unusual tingling, weakness or pain in your hands or feet. Early diagnosis and treatment offer the best chance for controlling your symptoms and preventing further damage to your peripheral nerves. If your symptoms are interfering with your sleep or you feel depressed, your doctor may be able to suggest treatments that can help.

Screening and Diagnosis

Peripheral neuropathy isn't a single disease, but rather a syndrome with many causes. For that reason it can be difficult to diagnose. To help in the diagnosis, your doctor will likely take a full medical history and perform a physical and neurologic exam that may include checking your tendon reflexes, your muscle strength and tone, your ability to feel certain sensations, and your posture and coordination.

Your doctor also may request blood tests to check your level of vitamin B-12, a urinalysis, thyroid function tests and, often, electromyography (EMG) — a test that measures the electrical discharges produced in your muscles. As a part of this test you'll be asked to have a nerve conduction study, which measures how

medsearch continued...

quickly your nerves carry electrical signals. A nerve conduction study is often used to diagnose carpal tunnel syndrome and other peripheral nerve disorders.

Your doctor may recommend a nerve biopsy, a procedure in which a small portion of a nerve is removed and examined for abnormalities. But even a nerve biopsy may not always reveal what's damaging your nerves.

Complications

Diabetic neuropathy may cause a number of complications. Damage to the nerves in your feet, along with poor circulation, can lead to ulcers and even gangrene. But it's not only your feet that are vulnerable — diabetes-related neuropathy can affect any organ in your body. If nerves related to digestion are damaged, for instance, your stomach may empty too slowly, which may cause constant nausea, vomiting and bloating. Or you may have frequent constipation or diarrhea. In some cases you may have problems with bladder control or impotence.

Other complications include:

- Partial or complete loss of movement or sensation
- Ulcers
- Relationship problems due to impotence
- Depression
- Weight loss
- Difficulty breathing or swallowing

Treatment

The goal of treatment is to manage the underlying condition causing your neuropathy and to repair damage, as well as provide symptom relief. If your doctor hasn't been able to determine the cause of your neuropathy, he or she may try a

variety of medications to see which help ease your symptoms.

Controlling a chronic condition may not eliminate your neuropathy, but it can play a key role in managing it. Here's what your doctor may recommend for treating various underlying conditions:

Diabetes. If you have diabetes, you and your doctor can work together to keep your blood sugar level as close to normal as possible. Maintaining normal blood sugar levels helps protect your nerves.

Vitamin deficiency. If your neuropathy is the result of a vitamin deficiency, it's likely your symptoms will improve once the deficiency is corrected. Your doctor may recommend injections of vitamin B-12 daily for a few days, then once a month. If you have pernicious anemia, you'll need regular injections for the rest of your life, and possibly additional vitamin supplements. You'll also need to eat a healthy diet.

Autoimmune disorder. If your neuropathy is caused by an inflammatory or autoimmune process, treatment will be aimed at modulating your immune response.

Nerve pressure. In cases where neuropathy is the result of pressure on a nerve, treatment will likely focus first on eliminating the source of the pressure. That might mean adding ergonomic chairs, desks or keyboards to your home or office, changing the way you hold tools or instruments, or taking a break from certain hobbies or sports. In some cases of nerve compression, you may need surgery to correct the problem.

Toxic substances or medications. If toxins or medications are responsible for the neuropathy, it's critical that you stop taking the medication or avoid further exposure to the toxin to prevent the neuropathy from progressing further.

Research aimed at finding more effective treatments for peripheral neuropathy is ongoing. For example, researchers are looking at develop-

ing nerve growth factors to reproduce the chemicals that signal your body to repair small nerve fibers. Other scientists are studying the use of the antioxidant alpha lipoic acid (thioctic acid) to treat diabetic neuropathy. Unfortunately, no medications can repair nerve damage yet, but the body can regenerate nerves if the offending substance is removed.

Therapies

Several drug-free therapies and techniques may also help with pain relief. Doctors frequently use them in conjunction with medications, but some may be effective on their own. They include:

Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS). Your doctor may prescribe this therapy, which may help prevent pain signals from reaching your brain. TENS delivers tiny electrical impulses to specific nerve pathways through small electrodes placed on your skin.

Biofeedback. This therapy uses a special machine to teach you how to control certain body responses that reduce pain. You then learn how to control these same responses yourself.

Acupuncture. The National Institutes of Health have found that acupuncture can be an effective treatment for chronic pain, possibly including the pain of neuropathy.

Hypnosis. Many adults can be hypnotized by a trained professional, but for hypnosis to be most effective, you also have to be a willing and motivated participant.

Relaxation techniques. Designed to help reduce the muscle tension that makes pain worse, relaxation techniques range from deep-breathing exercises to visualization (imagining yourself floating in a tropical ocean, for example), yoga and meditation. You might want to take classes in one or more of these techniques, or you can learn them yourself using books or tapes.

Talk to a counselor or therapist. Insomnia, depression and impotence are possible complications of peripheral neuropathy. There are treatments that can help.

DONATIONS

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

GERMAN CAMPS

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

mail to:

American Ex-Prisoners of War
3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
Arlington, TX 76010-5396
817-649-2979

shipping/handling charges: domestic orders - for orders up to \$3.00, add \$1.00; over \$3.00, add \$3.00, overseas orders - for orders up to \$3.00, add \$2.00; over \$3.00, add \$5.00.

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

MasterCard/VISA (Circle One)

Credit Card #

Expiration Date

POW 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.

JAPANESE CAMPS

DONATIONS

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

pow-mia committee



PNC John Edwards, Chairman

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

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

POW/MIAs - Vietnam War

There are now 1,840 Americans listed by the Defense Department as missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War - 1,403 in Vietnam, 375 in Laos, 55 in Cambodia and 7 in PRC territorial waters. The League was informed today that COL Sheldon J. Burnett, USA, from NH, and CWO (3) Randolph J. Ard, USA, are now accounted for. The remains of these two Americans were jointly recovered in Laos in October, 2004, and recently identified. Others have been ID'd, not yet announced by DPMO, perhaps due to delays in scheduling ID consultations with the primary-next-of-kin (PNOK).

JPAC/CIL Recovery Teams deploy to many countries around the world to

conduct excavations, with increasing emphasis on WWII, and teams recently concluding operations in Papua New Guinea (PNG) plus now in Fiji with a small team to conduct surveys. Despite serious restraints, five joint recoveries (using a total of 28 US personnel for each excavation period) are scheduled in North Korea (DPRK) this year. Previously postponed talks are again scheduled to be held in Burma in early March to set the stage for field operations that were also previously halted. Though political divisions between the US and Burma (Myanmar) should not be permitted to impede working toward humanitarian accounting objectives, such appears to have occurred.

Missing Korean War Serviceman Identified

On February 25, 2005, the Department of Defense announced that the remains of a U. S. Air Force pilot who has been missing in action from the Korean War since September 1952 have been identified and will soon be returned to his family for burial with full military honors. Air Force Captain Troy "Gordie" Cope of Norfolk, Ark., will be buried in Plano, Texas, on May 31, 2005.

On Sept. 16, 1952, Captain Cope and his wingman, both piloting F-86 Saber Jets from Kimpo Air Base, South Korea, were flying near the Yalu River that separates North Korea and China. The two Airmen were conducting a combat air patrol in the area commonly referred to as "MiG Alley" by Korean War veterans.

During the patrol, they encountered six North Korean Air Force MiG-15s. In the ensuing aerial dogfight, Captain Cope's wingman pursued two of the MiGs, and following the chase, returned to Kimpo where he expected to find Captain Cope. However, Captain Cope did not return and was not seen or heard from again.

In 1995, an American businessman, while touring the military museum in

Dandong, China, noted a metal identification tag, or dog tag, on display. The tag had Captain Cope's name and service information on it. The businessman copied the dog tag information and reported it to U.S. authorities upon his return. The U.S. authorities made inquiries to both the Chinese and North Korean governments, but no further information was provided that yielded any leads to the Cope loss.

Then in 1999, during an archival research by researchers from the Department of Defense's Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO), detailed documents about Captains Cope's shutdown were discovered in Russian archives in Podolsk. The archives contained documents that included statements and drawings by the Russian pilots who were flying the MiG-15s for the North Koreans during the aerial combat that September day in 1952. They also found reports in these documents detailing the ground search by Russian and Chinese officials in Dandong where the crash site was located.

Following DPMO's discussions with the Chinese government in 2003, a team of specialists from the Pacific Command's Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) excavated the site in May 2004 and found aircraft debris and human remains. These remains were identified in October.

Dandong citizens and officials assisted the team throughout the excavation. Jerry Jennings, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, praised the Chinese citizens and officials for their assistance in resolving Captain Cope's case. "Without the assistance of the people of Dandong, this would not have been possible. The family of Troy Cope and the American people express our appreciation to all those who helped us bring Troy Cope home again," said Jennings.

Ex-POW Bulletin

April 2005

Service Foundation



President Norman Bussell

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Mohegan Lake, NY 10547

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AXPOWFoundation@prodigy.net
www.powfoundation.org

The Foundation is pleased to announce that a \$1,000 grant has been approved for the Department of Minnesota's 13th Annual Student Essay Contest. The contest, entitled *Behind Barbed Wire*, is open to Minnesota students in grades 7 through 12 and \$2,000 in cash prizes will be awarded. Some of the winners will be invited to the Department Convention in St. Cloud in May.

Over the years, the Department of Minnesota has developed promo-

VA Outreach

S*O*O*N

Before it's too late

NSO Fred Campbell, Chairman

3312 Chatterton Dr.

San Angelo, TX 76904

325-944-4002; fredrev@webtv.net

Committee members:

NSO Frank Kravetz (412) 824-2674;
ND Bill Richardson (910) 864-7318;
ND Bonnie Sharp (253) 565-0444.

To quote a King's Call for Real Freedom for All ~

I Have a Dream!

I have a dream...that every former prisoner of war and their surviving spouses or dependents receive the benefits to which they are legally entitled by the Department of Veterans Affairs. In a way, it is an impossible dream. Because many former POWs have a bitterness that won't go away due to past treatment. Others have never been informed about what is available to

tional material and contest rules which are most professional in appearance and content. We commend them highly for their work and hope that many other State Departments will decide to launch similar programs. The information that these students will glean while doing the research necessary to write an essay, will remain in their memory banks for years to come and will pay dividends when they pass on to others their knowledge about POWs.

Your Foundation is eager to help fund these kinds of programs in conjunction with other State Departments. Why not start an essay contest in your own state? You'll find that it's one of the most rewarding and effective ways to get young Americans interested in the POW experience. And getting your own state program started, really isn't that difficult. But to make it even easier, Renee M. Miller, Chairperson of the Minnesota Annual Essay Contest has generously offered to share her years of experience with you by sending you the very same materials that produced

them. And some seem to harbor uneasiness about having had to give up to the enemy. Even when the choices were slim to none when you had to parachute into enemy territory, or you were surrounded by your adversaries and your alter-

native was to get shot. But there is headway. Most of you have received recent letters from your VA Regional Offices, telling of the new presumptive conditions - Heart and Stroke - and inviting you to call or write your VAWRO POW Coordinator to present or reopen your claim as a former POW. Our Waco, Texas, POW Coordinator has been excited about the response from over 800 such letters sent out in January. As of February 11, 2005, 377 had responded. Maybe "excited" is the wrong word to describe being snowed under. The point: The VA is really reaching out, trying to get all POWs their benefits, so their widows will receive theirs when... Now, from our AXPOW angle. It may be an impossible dream, but 50 of

512 essay submissions in last year's contest. You can call her at: 1-651-698-4321, or write to her: Renee M. Miller, 1941 Ford Parkway, #107, St. Paul, MN 55116.

We understand that several other State Departments are presently writing grant requests for Foundation help with scholarship programs and essay contests that they are planning. These are non-demanding enterprises that anyone can do. We look forward to hearing from your

state. Another item that is funded by the Foundation and is high on its priority list is the Education Program. Bob Bieber, National Chairman of the Education Committee, and a Director on the Foundation Board, has done an excellent job with this program. An important part of the Education Program is the Speaker's Bureau, which helps to develop materials that AXPOW speakers in Chapters all over the U.S. can use when addressing students or organizations. Foundation Director Roy Livingston has plans for additional speaker's aids in the near future.

our NSOs and others across the country are busy with this AXPOW National Directory Outreach. It has begun. Some were named in the March Bulletin column, and with these people will be trying to call everyone listed in the Directory to help you get your benefits: Cheryl Cerbone; Louise Dunham, Jack Messemer; Ed Henry; Marion Rippee; Betty Harlan, Caroline Edwards, Bill Leonard; Sonny Mortern; Norm & Melanie Bussell; Gil Turley, Sherrie Bieber; Alan Dunbar; Walter Lang; Guy Stephens; Curtis Campbell; Katherine Arnold; Betty Grinstead; Ray Larriba; Wren Bowyer, Frank Berger, Jim Aujaia; Robert Fletcher; Eugene Inman; Dudley Riley; Les

BECAUSE WE KNOW: Not all POWs and Widows have their due benefits, just because they are listed in the AXPOW Directory.

news, events and information



April 4-7, 2005. Department of Tennessee Annual Convention will be held at Music Road, Hotel, 303 Henderson Chapel Rd. Pigeon Forge, TN. 37863. 800-429-7700. For more information, contact: Louise Burchby, 3340 South Snyder Rd., Kodak, TN 37764. 865-933-0447.

April 15-17, 2005. The Department of South Carolina will be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the end of WWII. The convention will be held at the Columbia Embassy Suites Hotel, Columbia, SC. Contact: SC Dept. Commander William Pebley at 803-932-7658; or Committee Chairman Guy Wright, 803-892-2376.

April 27-28, 2005. Department of Missouri Annual Convention will be held at the Inn at Grand Glaize, Osage Beach, MO. Contact: Cmdr. Len Gregg, 660-747-7868; or Delta J. Endecott, Adj-Treasurer 816-657-4422.

April 27-May 1, 2005. Stalag Luft III 60th Anniversary Celebration of our Liberation will be held at the Radisson Hotel City Center in Tucson, AZ. Contact: Tom Thomas (630) 668-0215, or Bob Weinberg (830) 257-4643 if you are not on our mailing list for the program mailed out in January.

April 29-May 7, 2005. 60th Anniversary of the liberation of Italy will be hosted by the American Legion Post 50. Contact: Kenneth G. Kraetzer, Jr. (914) 381-5353; kgk914@aol.com.

May 1-4, 2005. Stalag 17B Reunion will be held at the Radisson Opreyland, Nashville, TN. Contact Pat Moulis, 37376 N. US 19, # 101, Palm Harbor, FL (727) 937-7499.

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May 3, 2005. The Department of Colorado will have a one-day convention at the Holiday Inn, Denver West Village, 14707 West Colfax Ave., Golden, CO 80401. Reservations: 800-729-2830. Contact PNC Richard Throckmorton, 303-422-2941.

May 4-6, 2005. 4th Marine Regiment (Bataan and Corregidor) Reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn, Arlington, TX. For information, contact Martin Christie, 23424 Mobile St., West Hills, CA 91307-3323; retiree539@yahoo.com.

May 10-12, 2005. The Minnesota State Convention will be held at the Kelly Inn, St. Cloud, MN. Reservations: 320-253-0606. For information, contact Earl F. Miller, Commander, Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter, 1941 Ford Parkway #107, St. Paul, MN 55116; 651-698-4321.

May 13, 2005. Stalag Luft IV, Germany, Reunion will be held at Camp Dix, New Jersey. There will be a luncheon from 1-5PM. Contact: Herbert S. Gold, 406 Highland St., Cresskill, NJ 07626; 201-569-3079; email: HSGOLD27200. Or Joseph O'Donnell, 20 ORourke Dr., Robbinsville, NJ 08691; 609-585-1346. Contact Joe for overnight accommodations.

May 15-16, 2005. Dept. of Mass. Annual Convention will be held at the Tewksbury Holiday Inn. For more information, contact Irving Lerner, 508-757-4051.

May 27-29, 2005. The Department of Georgia Annual Convention will be held in Perry, Georgia. On the 29th we go to Andersonville for the ceremonies. For further information contact Commander Theron Powell, 770-923-2762 or Ray Reiersen at 912-925-7073.

June 2-5, 2005. The Department of Florida will hold its annual convention at the Downtown Hilton Hotel, St. Petersburg, FL. For more

information, contact SVC Bill Allen, 421 Fourth Avenue North, Tierra Verde, FL; 727-866-8337.

June 6 - 9, 2005. The Dept. of New York 21st Annual Convention will again be held at the Hudson Valley Resort & Spa in Kerhonkson, N.Y. 12446. Contact: Eugene Powell, Commander, 456 Christian Herald Rd., Valley Cottage, N.Y. 10989; 845-480-5172; geneval@optonline.net.

June 10-12, 2005. The Department of West Virginia Annual Convention will be held at the Holiday Inn, 100 Lodgeville Rd., Bridgeport, WV. Contact: Dept. Commander Norman Waldman, 126 Highland Ave., Waynesburg, PA 15376; 724-852-2543. Or Chapter Commander Annette Smith, 621 Front St., Brownsville, PA 15417; 724-785-8536.

June 13-19, 2005. Welcome Home...America's Tribute to Vietnam Veterans will be held in Branson, MO. Contact: Gary Linderer, 1756 Bee Creek Road, Suite F, Branson, MO 65616; 417-336-5719.

June 15, 2005. The 5th Army Association tour of Italy. They will be visiting Rome, Venice, Florence, Pisa, Sorrento and a special stop at the American Military Cemetery near Anzio. Please contact Sy Canton at 5277B Lakefront Blvd, Delray Beach, FL 33484; (561) 865-8495.

July 12-16, 2005. The 42nd Rainbow Infantry Division Reunion will be held in Indianapolis, IN. Contact: Pete Pettus, 1121 N. Desloge Dr., B1, Desloge, MO 63601; 573-431-6184; jrpazir@juno.com.

July 13-16, 2005. Second Battalion (2/4) Fourth Marines Association Reunion will be held in San Diego, CA. All or any attached personnel are also invited. Contact: Becky Valdez, 8221 E. Birch Tree LA., Anaheim Hills, CA., 92808; (714) 281-2846; fxala@hotmail.com.

news, events, information

continued...

July 17-23, 2005. The 4th Infantry (IVY) Division Assn. National Reunion. Contact: Gregory Rollinger, 8891 Avary Path R-4, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077; www.4thininfantry.org.

July 21-25, 2005. The WWII PT Boats, Bases, Tenders 41st Annual Reunion will be held at the Hyatt Regency Wichita, Wichita, KS. Complete information may be obtained at PO Box 38070, Germantown, TN 38183; 901-755-8440; ptboats@ptboats.org.

July 28-31, 2005. Co. "B" 9th AIB 6th Armored Division 60th Annual Reunion will be held in Asheville, NC. Contact: Dee R. Williamson, 714 8th St., Newport, TN 37821; 423-673-5191.

August 24-27, 2005. The 86th Annual Convention of the 80th Division Veterans Assn. will be held at the Marriott North, 6500 Doubletree Ave., Columbus, OH 43229; (614) 885-1885. Chairman: Walter Spangler, 8275 Hagerly Rd, Asheville, OH 43103; (740) 474-5734.

August 26-28, 2005. Department of North Carolina Annual Convention will be held at the Woodlawn Inn and Conference Center, 212 W. Woodlawn Road, Charlotte, NC 28120. Room rate is \$55.50 plus tax. For reservations, call 704-525-8350. Contact: Roy Hudnall, Dept. Commander, 704-841-2174.

Aug. 27-31, 2005. The 42nd and final Annual Reunion for Survivors of Bataan, Corregidor and Former Prisoners of War of the Far East will again be held at the Fontana Village. Reservations: 800-849-2258. For information, please contact Wayne Caringer, PO Box 46, Robinsville, NC 28771; (828) 479-6205.

Sept. 7-11, 2005. The Mukden Survivors Annual Reunion will be held in Kingston, NY, at the Ramada Inn.

We are working on a visit and possibly a seminar at West Point, as well as a boat ride up the Hudson and a tour of Historic Kingston, First Capital of NY state during the Revolutionary War. Our banquet dinner will be Saturday evening. For additional information - please contact: Sheldon Zimler 845-339-9960; email address: Shelzanne@aol.com, or write to: 90 Fairview Avenue, #7-8, Kingston, NY 12401.

Sept. 15-18, 2005. The Third Infantry Division Society and attached units will hold their 86th reunion at the Red Lion Hanalei Hotel, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108; 800-882-0858. Contact: Bruce Monkman, 818-343-3370; brucemonkman@earthlink.net, or Linda Irvine, 360-663-2521; info@TheReunionBtrat.com.

Sept. 21-25, 2005. USS Abanki AFT 96 Reunion will be held in Bowie, Maryland. Contact: Adolph Channel, R.R. 1, Box 246A, Marlinton, WV 24954; (304) 799-6442; achannell@marlintonwv.com.

Sept. 27-Oct. 2, 2005. AXPON National Convention will be held in Denver, CO at the Doubletree Hotel, 3203 Quebec St. Registration forms and additional information will be in the next Bulletin.

Sept. 29-Oct. 5, 2005. The 45th Infantry Division Association (Thunderbirds) Reunion will be held in Oklahoma City, OK. Please contact: Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111; (210) 681-9134.

looking for



I am assisting Edward Deaton, a prisoner of War in Germany who was in Stalag XI-A Altengrabow and moved several times. He was with the 83rd Infantry who was liberated

under Commander General Macon. Ed is looking for the list of 53 names of the US prisoners of war who were returned to Military control from Stalag XI-A. We have searched for the Veterans Administration list prepared from the Prisoner of War Information Bureau IBM cards. We have been unable to come up with a list of names and this does mean a lot to Edward Deaton. Thanking you in advance. Ed's address is: c/o Jo Jean DeHony, P. O. Box 1652, Cody, WY 82414.

I am the author of the book **A Gathering of Eagles**. I am currently working on the Ex-POW category book entitled: **Prisoners of Hope - A Gathering of Eagles**. The book will go to the publisher this summer and be out in the fall. All of the Ex-POW's involved in the project will receive complimentary books from the publisher. The book includes a photograph of the individual and also their "advice/wisdom for life."

If anyone wants to offer an inspirational story, and/or story of faith they can have this included in the book. All of the profit for the Eagle series books and videos is used for financial need scholarships to send kids to Christian and/or parochial schools. These schools still teach the importance of love of nation and love of God. If possible, I would like to ask you to offer this invitation to your membership. I can be contacted with the information below. Thank you, COL Jim Coy, (Ret), Rt. 8, 4180 N. HWY PP, Columbia, Missouri 65202; 573-474-5839 home, 573-814-6000 work ext. 2572; email: jimmie.coy@med.va.gov.

Searching for World War II POWs born and/or raised in Minnesota. The POW Oral History Project, founded in 2002 and based at Concordia University, St Paul (Minnesota), exists to collect, transcribe, and permanently archive individual POW experiences from the period of US involvement in the Second World War (1941-45). We work with ser-

vice personnel who were prisoners of either the Germans or the Japanese. The specific focus of this project is Minnesota ex-POWs.

"Minnesotan" is broadly defined to include those who were born and/or raised in the state, or resided here for a meaningful period of time. To date we have conducted and transcribed interviews with more than 65 Minnesota World War II POWs. This project is endorsed by Dick Carroll, 2004-05 State Commander, American Ex-POWs Department of Minnesota; the Minnesota Historical Society, an official state agency; and others. We are currently searching for additional Minnesota POWs, especially men currently residing outside the state. We conduct audio interviews (approximately 90 minutes) on these themes: capture; memories of camps, work details, forced marches, ship transport; liberation; postwar years; life as an ex-POW. The structured interviews are conducted in a relaxed atmosphere. Depending on your distance from St Paul, MN, interviews may be conducted by telephone.

We welcome inquiries from all World War II POWs, and are especially interested at this time in speaking with: Pacific Theater POWs (all services); US Navy POWs; enlisted men on work details (POWs of Germans). All interviews are transcribed, and interviewees receive a copy. In addition, copies of interview transcripts will be archived at Concordia University, St. Paul, the Minnesota Historical Society, St Paul, and additional locations as they are identified. There is no cost whatsoever, and no attempt to solicit money is ever made. Our primary funding is through the Minnesota Historical Society, Concordia University, St Paul, and private donors. To request an information brochure, ask for references, or ask about an interview, please contact project director Dr Thomas Saylor at: 651-641-8253

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(office phone) or saylor@csp.edu (college e-mail). Dr Thomas Saylor, History Department, Concordia University, 275 N. Syndicate, St Paul, MN.

I am trying to gather information concerning my uncle, **Woodrow H. Smith**, who was a POW at Stalag Luft 4B. If anyone can help me, please reply to woodyhall@peoplepc.com or to Woodrow L. Hall, 87 Colbert Road, Dallas, GA 30132. Thank You, Woodrow Hall.

I am currently working on a BBC program to commemorate the 60 years since VE day. At the moment I am researching a story about a unit that was involved in the **liberation of Bergen Belsen** in Germany. However during the course of my research I read the war diaries for that unit and there is a mention of a POW camp near Bergen at a place called Dohnsen. It was here that it stated there were 250 American POWs; however I cannot find any record of a camp being there. Steve Bonser, Tel: 020 8225 6367. Mob: 07973 198853; Fax: 020 8225 8283; Rm 3090. BBC Television Centre, London, W12 7TS. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

I am trying to contact **William Metzler and wife Bonnie**. I am his sister Pamela's best friend. I know he lived in Seattle and moved to Indianapolis. Thank you, Beezie MacNeil, 1401 CoCo's Run, Green Bay, WI 54313; (920) 434-6764.

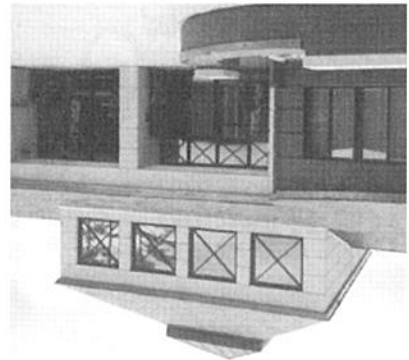
I am trying to locate **Lt Colonel John H. Van Vliet**, who commanded the 3rd Battalion of the 168th Infantry in WW II. He was captured on February 17, 1943 in North Africa. He was in several German prisoner of war camps, including Oflag 64, and was taken to see the Katyn massacre site as a German prisoner of war. He testified about his experience at Katyn during a House hearing in 1952. My mother, Nancy Heberden, was an army nurse and met him prior to his service in North Africa. She would like to locate him, if he is still alive. Thanks for any help that you can give me. I

know that he gave an oral history of his experiences in the prisoner of war camps at one point. If anyone emails back, please put the name Van Vliet in the subject line, so I don't erase the message as spam. Sheila Avruch, 9122 Ashmeade Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032. avruchs@aol.com.

I am seeking information about a small group of **Korean POW's** who were released on or about February 10, 1951. There were about thirty in the group. My late husband, **Cpl. Thomas I. Gutierrez, Jr.**, from Denver, Colorado, was one of them. Also seeking information about members of his unit prior to his capture on November 30, 1950 near Kunu-ri. He served with the 2nd Infantry, 2nd Engineers Combat Battalion, Dog Company. If you have information to share, please contact me Gayle Gutierrez, 15756 Via Sonata, San Lorenzo, Ca 94580. gayle@ceecom.net.

I have information about some personal property belonging to **Richard Daramus** who was a POW at a Stalag during WWII. Mr. Daramus was from Pennsylvania and his wife from Shannon, North Carolina. Please send any information about Mr. Daramus' whereabouts or family members to me at wfreccia@aol.com or Dr. William Freccia, 1312 Avon Street, Fayetteville, NC 28304. My phone number is (800) 763-5301. Thank you very much. William F. Freccia, DDS, LTC (Ret), US Army Dental Corps USMA '67.

I am always searching for anyone who may have known my great-uncle, **Pvt. John T. (JT) Stanton**. He trained at Ft. Knox and went on to Camp Polk, with the 192nd Tank Battalion HQ Company in the fall of 1941. They all subsequently shipped out to the Philippines via San Francisco. Like all the others, he was captured when the order to surrender came and eventually died at Cabanatuan on 30 August, 1941. Cara St.Louis-Farrelly, 165 Purcell Ave, Bardstown, KY 40004; ctottenham@aol.com.



Andersonville NHS
496 Cemetery Road
Andersonville, GA 31711
(229) 924-0343
Alan_Marsh@nps.gov
Kandace_Muller@nps.gov
Joan P. Stibitz
Lead Park Ranger
Andersonville NHS
Joan_Stibitz@nps.gov

**Park Is Honored
With Director's Visit**

On the afternoon of February 16th, excitement was building in the National Prisoner of War Museum. The Director of the National Park Service, Fran Mainella, was on her way for a short visit to the park. Museum staff had made sure that everything in the Museum was in top shape, exhibit cases were sparkling, and a new temporary exhibit had been installed just that morning.

Ms. Mainella arrived right on schedule along with Southeast Regional Director Pat Hooks. She greeted Museum staff including Park Superintendent Fred Boyles, Park Ranger Joan Stibitz, Park Curator Kandace Muller, Park Volunteers Betty Johnson and James Culppeper, and Eastern National bookstore manager Carole Zabadah. She shared with us the fact that she had visited the park before, but had not had the opportunity to see the Museum and was very excited about getting the chance to view the exhibits at long last. Superintendent Boyles led a tour of the Museum

pointing out some of the more unique aspects of the exhibits and artifacts. She was especially intrigued by the War of 1812 era ship model carved from bones on display in the Morale and Relationships area of the exhibits. The newly installed temporary exhibit caught Ms. Mainella's attention. She was very interested in reading excerpts from letters of World War II prisoners and on how important the written word was to those held and for those waiting at home. Park Curator Muller explained that by mounting temporary exhibits, the Museum was able to show more of the park's curatorial collection, especially fragile items such as letters and photographs that can be irreparably damaged by exposure to light and humidity if displayed on a long term basis. As the short Museum tour progressed, the group was joined by two reporters from local newspapers. Ms. Mainella expressed her pleasure at being able to visit South-Georgia. Southeast Regional Director Pat Hooks said that Fred Boyles, who has been top manager at both parks, will remain at Andersonville as superintendent, where he will be able to devote all of his efforts to the well-known Civil War prison site that now serves as a memorial to all American servicemen and women who have been prisoners of war.



Fran Mainella was appointed as the 16th Director of the National Park Service by President George W. Bush in 2001. Although originally from Connecticut, she spent many years in the state of Florida, working in municipal parks and recreation programs. She served for twelve years as the Director of Florida State Parks before being appointed

to the National Park Service Director position. Ms. Mainella is the first female Director of the National Park Service.

Management of National Park Sites To Be Separated

During her visit to Andersonville and Jimmy Carter National Historic Sites, Mainella announced to the staff that the administration of the two neighboring parks would soon be separated. The Jimmy Carter National Historic Site will get its own superintendent and management team in recognition of its growing importance to tourism in southwest Georgia. Southeast Regional Director Pat Hooks said that Fred Boyles, who has been top manager at both parks, will remain at Andersonville as superintendent, where he will be able to devote all of his efforts to the well-known Civil War prison site that now serves as a memorial to all American servicemen and women who have been prisoners of war.

The management separation of the two parks should be completed by early summer, following the selection of a new manager at Jimmy Carter National Historic Site.

CAPTION: Superintendent Fred Boyles and NPS Director Fran Mainella look over her visit itinerary in the lobby of the National Prisoner of War Museum.

Veterans Affairs Committees~109th Congress

House & Senate~Cut out and keep

Representative	Legislative Contact	Office	Phone#	Fax#
REPUBLICANS				
Steve Buyer (IN)	Kimo Hollingsworth			
Chairman	Myrna Dugan (LD)	R-2230	(202) 225-5038	(202) 225-2267
Mike Bilirakis (FL)	Rebecca Hyder	R-2408	(202) 225-5755	(202) 225-4085
Terry Everett (AL)	Brownyn Massey	R-2312	(202) 225-2901	(202) 225-8913
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Jeff Miller (FL)	Helen Walker	C-324	(202) 225-4136	(202) 225-3414
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DEMOCRATS				
Lane Evans (IL)				
Ranking Member	Mary Ellen McCarthy	R-2211	(202) 225-9756	(202) 225-6392
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Luiz Gutierrez (IL)	Tom Kotarac			
	Susan Collins			
	Jennice Fuentes	R-2367	(202) 225-8203	(202) 225-7810
Corrine Brown (FL)	Lee Footer	R-2444	(202) 225-0123	(202) 225-2256
Vic Snyder (AR)	Joy McGlaun	L-133C	(202) 225-2506	(202) 225-5903
Mike Michaud (ME)	Michael Brownlie			
	Adam Greenlaw	C-437	(202) 225-6306	(202) 225-2943
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	Javier Martinez	R-2433	(202) 225-4831	(202) 225-2010
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Tom Udall (NM)	Cynthia Cook	L-1414	(202) 225-6190	(202) 226-1331
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Republican				
Larry E. Craig (ID) Chairman	Gordon Matlock	SH-520	(202) 224-2752	(202) 224-1067
Arlen Specter (PA)	Scott Boos	SH-711	(202) 224-4254	(202) 228-0608
Kay Bailey Hutchison	Jeremy Hancock	SR-284	(202) 224-5922	(202) 224-9776
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John Ensign (NV)	Darcy Grisier	SR-364	(202) 224-6244	(202) 228-1695
John Thune (SD)	Bob Taylor	SD-B40E	(202) 224-2321	(202) 228-5429
Johnny Isakson (GA)	Tucker Shumack	SR-C4	(202) 224-3643	(202) 228-0724
Democrat				
Daniel K. Akaka (HI) Ranking	Noelani Kalipi	SH-141	(202) 224-6361	(202) 224-2126
John D. Rockefeller, IV (WV)	Barbara Pryor	SH-531	(202) 224-6472	(202) 228-4656
Patty Murray (WA)	Ben McMakin	SR-173	(202) 224-2621	(202) 224-0238
Barak Obama (IL)		SD-B40B	(202) 224-2854	(202) 228-5417
Ken Salazar (CO)	Carlos Monje	SD-B40A	(202) 224-5852	(202) 228-5036
Independent				
James A. Jeffords (VT)	Laurie Schultz-Heim	SD-413	(202) 224-5141	(202) 228-0776

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Members,

forum



Open Letter to the Contentious Members of our Group!

Let's put an end to this idiotic bickering and spend the short time that is left of our lives in pleasant camaraderie with our fellow members. And resolve that, if in the year 2015, some issues are still unsettling, then resume bickering to eternity.

Respectfully,
Joseph B. Glydon
Avenel, NJ

Dear Cheryl:

I really don't know where to start, but want to share my thoughts after all that has been said on TV, newspapers, our magazine, etc. about our treatment of the Iraq terrorists.

No one country pussy-footed with our soldiers or worried about civilians and buildings getting blown up. Everyone is out roaming the streets. You don't know who the enemy is now. It sounds terrible, but I am all for blowing up the country and getting it over with. Of course, nowadays, the US goes back and rebuilds and we pay for it! I wonder if anyone would do that for us.

My husband was drafted in WWII and went for the duration! He was captured within a day or so in the Battle of the Bulge. They killed most of his company and had guns at the heads of POWs a lot. They were marched, put in boxcars and starved, starved and had no warm clothing - just wooden shoes and a square of material for six.

He was "lucky" in getting to work in warehouses and learned to fill pockets with oatmeal or anything edible; better than rutabagas or potato "soup" with the eyes of a cow's head looking at you.

He came home with stomach problems from sawdust bread.

We had a German POW camp, 10 miles from here at Hortonville, WI, and those guys had it good and still complained.

If don't know if I like the immediate news coverage we get today or finding out by radio and newspapers and following our troops on a map.

Today, they don't report the good things - mostly the bad attention-getting things. I think it's terrible. They arrest our men today after what they did in Germany and Japan (worse, my brother said) to our men then.

At least we could usually tell who the enemy was, unless they stole and wore our uniforms.

My son was in Vietnam and there, too, they weren't all in uniform. He was in the Navy on river patrol boats. A white phosphorus hand grenade blew up, crippled his right hand and collapsed a lung. He is doing ok as body-man/painter, but now has diabetes from Agent Orange. Glad to be home and appreciate the United States!

The people we are fighting now in both countries have no respect for life at all. All they've ever known is fighting amongst themselves and I really don't think "we" will ever

change them, new government or not. I can see them going right back to where they were when we leave. Whatever happened to the POW and Purple Heart stamps? Here they were only sold for a very short time. Sincerely,
Katherine M. Popke
New London, WI

Dear Cheryl:

This past October, a very good friend, Stewart Cooper, died. Stewart was a bombardier when his plane was shot down. He was able to bail out, but his left leg had to be amputated because of his injuries. He was in Stalag Luft IV until he was repatriated shortly before the end of the war.

Since then, Stewart collected and saved many historical items. His niece, Gloria Weeks, requested my help in evaluating and placing some of the memorabilia.

After his repatriation, Stewart toured the country as a guest speaker for the American Red cross. One pamphlet from this era reads as follows:

**The Army Air Force
And
The American Red Cross
Present
Repatriated and Escaped
Prisoners of War
In a program for
Next of Kin of Prisoners of War
and Civilian Internees
Saturday, April 7, 1945
Constitution Hall
8:15PM**

This blending of prisoners of war, civilian internees and next of kin began in 1945 with a common purpose - the good and the welfare of all concerned. Collectively, they worked on legislative benefits for all.

members forum continued...

The original organization, the Bataan Veterans Organization, invited the European Theatre POWs to join their organization and this collective organization has worked together for the past 60 years.

Many of our members were late-comers to the organization. They have never served as National Directors or Officers, don't know where and how presumptives were established and have contributed only divisiveness and hostility in their insistence that only prisoners of war serve in official capacities. We should remember that way back in 1961 we had a civilian commander!

All by-laws and resolutions are approved by a 2/3 majority of our members at our national convention. Those members who are not happy with what the majority approves may want to consider either leaving the organization, or stop trying to prevent our members and next of kin from working in peace, harmony and camaraderie.

We won the big battle, but there are more battles ahead, especially the possible erosion of benefits. Remember, the original Veterans Administration was not established to help the veteran, but to limit the liability against false claims.

Sincerely,
PNC Zack Roberts

Dear Cheryl:

I was reading PNC John Klumpp's article in the June 2001 Ex-POW Bulletin. Under OUR MOTTO: "Non Solum Armis" Not by Arms Alone. And our intent: Not by Arms Alone, but by example will we achieve universal accord among men.

Looking back in a 1949 Bulletin, National Director Bryan I. Doughty wrote: under Editorially Speaking - If "Not By Arms Alone." Then What?

The two last words of the above title were added to our motto by one of our members when he first saw our emblem.

"Non Solum Armis" was designed to do just that: cause the person who sees it to wonder, and out of his wonder will be born many surmises and conjectures, but the main objective has already been achieved, he has asked himself, "Then What."

Perhaps it would be better were his question to read "Not by arms alone WILL WHAT be achieved," and start from there.

To many of us, our time behind barbed wire was a course in human relations: We learned to what extremes our buddies would go under the stress of starvation, as well as we also learned the measures an avowed enemy would employ to impose his will or express his animosity.

Those of you who by suffering have earned the right to wear the little white javelin on your lapel will recall the thought that so often recurred to you in prison camp. "Will man forever fight and kill his brother man?"

This we learned; that often the destination between known as a "Good Joe" and A Louse was merely a matter of a stomach that had some rice in it and one that had not. Could it be that this principle could be applied to nations? If so, what could we as an organization do toward helping all nations fill their own rice bowl?

Also we learned that there is something else that some men possess that is either inherent or has been acquired. A sense of fair play. Could this desirable trait that lifts man above the beast to be used in the dealing between nations?

Whether it is done in defense or otherwise, in the final analysis the employment of arms is for the purpose of imposing your will on the antagonist. It is vital therefore that in conjunction with the democratic principle of "equality of the opportunity for all" should be included the principle of fair play. That would ultimately convince the conquered of the benefits of our principles.

An old Chinese proverb says "if an individual is improved, his family benefits; improve the family and the community prospers and happy communities make a happy state." Should we carry that policy to the conference table of nations?

By the above reasoning we arrive at the meaning of our emblem. The swords arranged on a pure white background form the balance scales of fair play.

If the efforts of our AXPOW organization are to be confined to the benefits of only ex-prisoners of war and their next of kin, then we as an organization can survive only as long as we continually improve the lot of those we serve.

Is the knowledge gained from three and one half years of torture, starvation and bloodshed to lie unused because we have not set a goal for ourselves outside of obtaining recompense for the injuries we suffered? Should we not try to use the knowledge to prevent the recurrence of our experience, not only for our children but for all mankind?

Not by arms alone but by example will we achieve universal accord among men. By Bryan Doughty. Bryan died in office as Director October 11, 1951. The Board appointed his wife to finish his term in office and was given a life membership in AXPOW.

Helen Smith
Historian Emeritus
Diana, TX

News Briefs

World War II Commemoration Committee

During the height of World War II, there were more than 12 Million servicemembers on active duty. Nearly 75 percent of them were overseas at any given time by some estimates. According to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, these veterans are dying at a rate of 1,000 a day. As they die, the history that they have dies with them, unless the nation captures these memories and passes them on.

The Department of Defense established a World War II 60th Anniversary Commemoration Committee earlier this year to honor the men and women from the greatest generation who fought abroad and at home. Retired Army Lieutenant General Edward Soyster, the Committee's Executive Director, explains why it's important to remember these brave veterans. "Quote . "These great Americans sacrificed much to assure the freedom of Western Europe and the Pacific," said Soyster. "It's clear that remembering not just the people, but the ideas and lessons learned in freeing Western Europe and the Pacific helps assure that freedom continues to flourish around the world - much as the soldiers of today are doing in the middle east."

The committee's mission is to commemorate World War II events, ideas, alliances, and programs. They will honor those who served and remind Americans of the significance of World War II as the seminal event of the 20th century.

The Committee has assisted with events at cemeteries both in Normandy and Draguian, France. It recently sponsored a wreath laying at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. commemorating the Liberation of Paris 60 years ago. And its members participated in ceremonies in The Netherlands honoring the hundreds of U.S. and Allied service members who lost their lives in Operation Market-Garden in September 1944.

Members of the Operations Division are working with several foreign governments and U.S. military bases overseas on future ceremonies leading up to anniversaries of battles and liberations in Belgium, The Netherlands, the Philippines, Saipan and others. Marine Colonel Jeffery Douglass, the chief of the Operations staff says they're also working with major cities in the United States for regional commemorations. Says Douglass, "As our veterans get older, it's more difficult for them to travel to the battle sites. We want to make sure that they can attend these commemorations so they know how we feel about them. We also want them to bring their friends and families so they can share their experiences with these younger generations."

Anyone looking for details on these events should go to the Commemoration Committee website at www.60wwii.mil for the latest listing of ceremonies and reunions. It also has web links to historic sites, statistics and facts about veterans, and information about the committee.

Soon the website will have an educational link. Army Colonel Dan Wolfe, the Public Education and Awareness Division Chief says, "We want to make sure that the things we learned in World War II don't come back to haunt us in later generations. Remember the adage about those who fail to learn from history being doomed to repeat it? Our job is to be sure that young and

not-so-young alike remember and learn."

The Public Education and Awareness Division wants everyone to understand that World War II truly shaped the future into what it is today. As veterans left the military in the mid to late 1940s, they used GI Bill benefits to pay for college educations, start businesses and buy homes in the suburbs. On the Home Front, women and teenagers who had worked outside the home found new freedom and financial independence. And the baby boom began.

The post-war alliance between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. collapsed and the Cold War began. Lifesaving antibiotics developed for the military found their way into civilian hospitals. And the development of the atomic bomb ushered in the nuclear age.

The economic prosperity that started in the 1940s and the technological advances of the war brought TVs, washing machines and record players into homes in the 1950s. This was followed by great advances like computers in businesses and the space race. There was also the bad, like the fear of the spread of Communism, the Berlin Wall dividing Germany and America's military involvement in Viet Nam.

World War II was a defining period for the United States and the world. It shaped society in ways no one could have imagined. And it started with these brave men and women.

For more information about the committee or upcoming events, go to www.60wwii.mil or write to them at DoD 60th Anniversary of World War II Commemoration Committee, 1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 5413, Arlington, VA, 22209. They can also be reached at 1877-868-2058 or wwii60th@hqda.army.mil.

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news briefs cont...

VA Budget 2006

The House Veterans Affairs Committee, headed by new Chairman Steve Buyer (R-IN), held a hearing on Feb. 16, 2005 to review the VA budget request for FY 2006. The Committee heard testimony from three panels of witnesses including newly confirmed VA Secretary Jim Nicholson and representatives of military and veterans' service organizations. Secretary Nicholson said the Administration's plan increases the VA budget by 2.7% over last year. Witnesses took issue with that description, pointing out that much of the budget increase comes from plans to raise fees and copays for certain veterans and optimistic assumptions about increased collections from veterans' insurance companies. They asserted that, once medical inflation and rising demand for care for combat veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan are taken into account, the proposed budget would not allow the VA even to continue its current level of services.

- 220,000 veterans would stop receiving treatment for their injuries and disabilities at VA hospitals.

- 28,000 fewer veterans would receive long-term care, such as in nursing homes, and it eliminates funding for construction of care facilities throughout the country.

- Waiting times for health care would skyrocket because VA would not have enough funding to provide care.

- Funding for prosthetic research would be slashed by \$9 million, despite the many wounded soldiers returning from overseas.

- Over 3,000 health care workers would be eliminated.

- 700 veterans' benefits staff positions would be cut.

- Hundreds of thousands of veterans would have to pay hundreds of extra dollars out of their own pocket because of increased co-payments and the enrollment fee.

- The four-tenths of a percent increase in the medical care portion of the budget proposal would be less than the required increase in salaries for VA employees.

- VA would be forced to collect more money from veterans and from their insurance companies to make up for the funding shortfall.

The Committee Chairman backed the usage fees and increased copays to sustain the VA health system, asserting that the VA should focus its efforts on the disabled and indigent. Rep. Lane Evans (D-IL), the Committee's senior Democrat, strongly disagreed with the Administration plan, saying the Administration's own estimates show it was designed to drive 213,000 veterans from the VA system. The committee panel was urged by witnesses to provide full funding for all currently enrolled veterans, consistent with the recommendations of the recent President's Task Force on DoD/VA health care. It was also brought to the panel's attention of the critical need for additional funding to reverse cutbacks in claims processing staff and reduce the disability claims backlog, which is now lengthening again just when there is a new influx of disabled returnees from Iraq and Afghanistan. And that immediate action was needed to ensure a seamless transition from military to VA health coverage.

After receiving testimony on the President's proposed 2006 budget for the VA, the Chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs made his recommendations on behalf of Republican members of the Committee in a letter to the Senate Budget Committee. Senator Craig rejected both doubling prescription drug co-pays for veterans and decreased spending on state nursing homes for veterans but did

agree to approve a \$250 a year "enrollment fee" for higher income veterans who have no service connected injuries. The letter also called on Congress to provide \$244 million more on medical services for veterans above what the president had proposed and expressed support for the president's \$200 million proposed increases in funding for mental health services and prosthetic care for returning soldiers and supported an increase in funding to pay for emergency medical services obtained by enrolled veterans at non-VA hospitals.

SBP/DIC Offset

On Feb. 16, 2005, Rep. Henry Brown (R-SC) and 23 other original cosponsors introduced HR 808, which would end the dollar-for-dollar deduction of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (paid by the VA when the member's death is due to service-caused conditions) from the survivor's military Survivor Benefit Plan annuity. Because most SBP annuities are relatively low, the SBP/DIC offset often eliminates most or all of the SBP, leaving many surviving spouses with only the \$993 monthly DIC annuity. HR 808 already has built a list of 54 cosponsors. In the Senate, Senators Bill Nelson (D-FL) and Jon Corzine (D-NJ) have combined the SBP/DIC and paid-up SBP initiatives into a single bill, S. 185. On Feb. 17, 2005, Rep. Jim Saxton introduced his bill (number not yet available), which would change the effective date of 30-year, paid-up SBP from Oct 1, 2008 to Oct 1, 2005. Congress authorized paid-up SBP coverage in 1998 for any member who attains age 70 and has paid at least 30 years of SBP premiums. But the effective date was delayed for 10 years to save money. In effect, this imposed a "Greatest Generation tax" on the oldest military retirees who enrolled when SBP was first enacted in 1972. Before that, many paid premiums under the earlier Retired Servicemen's Family Pro-

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tection Plan. By late 2005, those 1972 SBP enrollees already will have paid almost 20 percent more premiums than a 1978 enrollee will ever have to pay. In the Senate, Senators Bill Nelson (D-FL) and Jon Corzine (D-NJ) have combined the SBP/DIC and paid-up SBP initiatives into a single bill, S. 185.

2.4 Million Veterans Will Pay New Fee

Republican majorities on the House and Senate veterans' affairs committees have voted to impose an enrollment fee of at least \$230 a year on 2.4 million veterans — one of every three now eligible for Veterans Affairs Administration health care. Those targeted are in priority categories 7 and 8, meaning they are neither poor nor suffering from service-connected disabilities. Half of the 2.4 million used the VA health system last year. The Bush administration proposed the enrollment fee to hold down costs. The VA committees rejected another Bush proposal to raise co-payments on VA-filled prescriptions for these same priority 7 and 8 veterans. The House committee, chaired by Rep. Steve Buyer, R-Ind., voted to set the fee for priority 7 enrollees at \$230, matching the enrollment fee of under-65 military retirees using Tricare Prime, the military managed care program. For priority 8 veterans, Buyer proposes a sliding scale fee of \$230 to \$500, depending upon veteran income. How do you feel about this? Contact your public officials now. Your voice matters!

Emergency Registry Helps Locate Family Members, Friends

Mark Cerney, a disabled U.S. Marine veteran, established the National Next-of-Kin Registry, a free emer-

gency contact system that can help citizens find missing loved ones in the event of serious accidents or catastrophic national emergencies. The privately funded NOKR was officially established in January 2004. Four million people have registered to date. People can input personal data about themselves or loved ones at the registry's Web site. Registry users include families and individuals registering personal information about themselves, their children, other relatives, and friends. Other personal identification organizations exist, but they charge as much as \$200 for their services. The NOKR gives affluent, less-wealthy, and indigent citizens the opportunity to archive personal information in the event that that information is needed. Some organizations linked to the NOKR include the "FirstGov" federal government Web site, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the National Center for Missing Adults, the National Association of Medical Examiners, the Amber Alert missing children system, homeless care organizations, and several state and local government and police agencies and coroner's offices. For more information, visit <http://www.nokr.org>.

Concurrent Receipt

It appears increasingly likely the Pentagon will defer to Congress about whether unemployable retirees with non-combat disabilities rated at less than 100% can receive full military retirement and veterans' disability checks if they are eligible for both. If so, it would take months — possibly until late this year — for a decision to be reached about whether 15,000 disabled retirees whose non-combat disabilities are severe enough to prevent them from working should receive their full military retirement without the partial offset for the veterans' disability benefits they receive. Military retirees who have formal 100% disability ratings from the Department of Veterans Affairs are allowed to re-

ceive their full retirement and disability payments. Those with disabilities from combat or combat-related training were made eligible for both payments two years ago, while those with disabilities from non-combat injuries or disease became fully eligible for both benefits Jan. 1, 2005. However, the group of retirees with formal disability ratings of less than 100% known as IU retirees — some as low as 60% — who are nevertheless considered fully disabled because their conditions make them unemployable have been left hanging. Since Oct. 2004, when Congress approved the most recent change in the so-called concurrent receipt rules, the Pentagon has been trying to decide whether these disabled retirees with non-combat, but service-connected, disabilities that keep them from working should get their full retirement pay, the same as other 100% disabled retirees. In December, defense officials told the White House's Office of Management and Budget in a letter that the Pentagon intended to pay the unemployable veterans unless the White House had objections. The language of the letter led the 15,000 fully disabled and unemployable retirees plus many fraternal military organizations to expect the money in their end-of-January checks. However, the order to begin their payments never went out. In December and early January, officials working on the issue were optimistic that the unemployable retirees ultimately would receive the payments. Now, as a final decision has lagged, officials are less sure, and some believe there is as much of a chance of the IU retirees being paid as not being paid because if this were a sure thing, the pay order would already have gone out. If a decision is made to cover the IU retirees, they would be entitled to payments effective Jan. 1, 2005, regardless of when the decision came down. Meanwhile,

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there is no timetable for making that decision. Officials said there is some talk among policymakers about punting the entire issue back to Congress because it was a lack of clarity on this issue in the 2005 Defense Authorization Act that left open the question if IU retirees are to be covered. If Congress has to pass a new law clarifying coverage, that would likely delay payments

Wisconsin Says

"Thank You"

by Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary John A. Scocos (Son of a former World War II Prisoner Of War)

Over the Memorial Day weekend last year, I had the opportunity to attend the National World War II Memorial Dedication in Washington, D.C. I was moved by the Memorial's vast and solemn field of 4,000 gold stars, each one marking more than 100 lives lost, of the 16 million United States soldiers who served in that great Second World War. At that national Memorial, 40 of those gold stars are in symbolic recognition for more than 4,000 Wisconsin service men and women who died.

My own elderly father, John G. Scocos, who was unable to join me in traveling to Washington for the Memorial's dedication, served as part of that Allied effort as a B-24 bombardier, until he was shot down over Austria in the Nazi German region and was held as a Prisoner Of War until he and his fellow POWs were liberated following the Allied victory in Europe.

He passed away on December 3rd at the age of 86. He was a brave servicemember, dedicated to America, and I was so proud of him.

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I have learned firsthand of his sacrifices and his strengths over the years. He survived to return to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where he ran a business and raised a family. He and his "Greatest Generation" asked little and gave much to build the country we have today.

I am honored, not only as a son of a World War II veteran and former POW, but also as the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, to thank the American Ex-Prisoners Of War National Organization, and the Wisconsin Chapter for the tremendous support your members have shown to my father. I'd like to thank in particular Mr. John ("Jack") Maher, a World War II veteran who has served as a past North Central Director, for the fine work that he, the new state commander John E. Thompson, and the Wisconsin Chapter have done to support Wisconsin's veterans. I had the privilege of attending and speaking at the Department of Wisconsin Ex-Prisoner Of War State Convention in Plover, Wisconsin on August 11, 2004. My department holds two events each year to honor former POWs — this year we will recognize POW Remembrance Day on April 9th and POW-MIA Recognition Day on September 16th.

Wisconsin is united in honoring its veterans. As Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, I remain morally committed to reflect that honor by keeping Wisconsin a national leader in serving its veterans, ensuring they and their families receive the benefits and services they have earned. There are so many benefits available that former Prisoners Of War may not be aware of, and it is our job to assist them by providing information and helping them to apply for VA health care and other benefits. This year, we'll pay special tribute to the 150,000 veterans who served in Vietnam, a conflict that ended 30 years ago on April 30th.

We must also support all veterans, the young men and women who are fighting to protect our freedoms — those returning from the front lines as well as those who served in peacetime and in peacekeeping actions around the world, including Asia, Central America, Africa, the Middle East, the Balkans, and the Caribbean.

We need to ensure our men and women returning from those difficult battlefields can reintegrate into the society they're serving.

That's why my top priority in 2005 is a new initiative called "Mission; Welcome Home," an effort in Wisconsin that mobilizes veterans groups, community leaders, business groups — all of us — to help our servicemembers return, like my father did, to run businesses and raise families. "Mission: Welcome Home" is a call to action to create a community of caring and encourage citizens, especially those who are veterans themselves, to help integrate and reintegrate soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan by providing information, welcome home materials, and social support network.

Meanwhile, our department will continue expanding on our successful "I Owe You" program of direct outreach to veterans, by hosting "one-stop shops" of information in various locations in Wisconsin, through our *Supermarkets of Veterans Benefits* events to ensure that Wisconsin veterans and their families are fully aware of their right to federal benefits. In just over three years, we've increased federal benefits to Wisconsin veterans by more than \$250 million.

Just as the national organization of the American Ex-Prisoners of War and its Wisconsin chapter can be proud of the work you do to assist veterans, I remain proud to be part of a state effort that leads the nation in serving veterans.

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John A. Scocos was appointed Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs by the Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs on October 21, 2003.

Keep the Promise

Part II

Litigation was initiated in 1997 to obtain the lifetime health care promised to military retirees. Veterans William Schism and Robert Reinlie brought a Class Act Group [CAG] suit against the government to pay \$10,000 in damages to each veteran affected. The case involved reimbursement for their out-of-pocket expenses by veterans for private insurance coverage or supplements. A three-judge panel found the government illegally breached its promise of lifetime health care. The government's case was kept alive in the lower courts after the Bush administration asked that all eleven judges on a federal appeals court rehear arguments and reverse the previous ruling. Bush won. In ruling against the veterans, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit was sympathetic. The judges said that they could do no more than hope Congress would make good on the promises.

Although defeated in the courts, the promise continued to be pursued by Colonel "Bud" Day and military fraternal organizations through legislative lobbying. The issue now has new life with HR 602 "Keep Our Promise to America's Military Retirees Act" introduced on Feb. 2, 2005. This bill would provide the lifetime medical care that military retirees say the government promised them in recruiting literature. This would be done by waiving health-care enrollment fees for World War II and Korean War-era retirees with Medicare Part B coverage, a requirement for those using Tricare for Life benefits. The bill also would open the Federal Employees Health Benefits pro-

gram to retirees and reimburse any expenses under that plan that would not have been incurred under Tricare. Improvements in pharmacy benefits also are included. A corresponding bill S407 has been introduced in the Senate. You can view language of both bills by going to www.classact-lawsuit.com.

New Base Closings List Submitted by Pentagon

The chilling warning is about to go up on new base closings.

President Bush is to select a nine-member independent BRAC commission to study the list submitted by the Pentagon.

The commission will hold regional hearings and could add to the Pentagon's list. The commission's final recommendations go to the president by Sept. 8.

Bush must either endorse or reject the recommendations in their entirety before sending the list to Congress, which must then do the same.

Line-item vetoes are not permitted

American Flag Retirement

You can retire your tattered, worn out and frayed American flags without cost to you. Send your flags to the Kitchen Table Gang Trust, 42922 Avenue 12, Madera, CA 93638-8866 and we will dispose of your flags in a proper and dignified manner with full honors pursuant to the United States Code. Please, don't throw your old flags away, send them to us!

Charles Taliaferro

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<http://www.kitchentablegang.org>

Interesting Websites

By John Kline, Editor 106th Infantry Divison "Cub"

WWII Military Organizational Search
<http://www.military-network.com/ben/associationmenu.cfm>

Then go to the left frame and click on "Association List".

When the "Association Index Table" appears - click on the branch of service the person was in.

For Example: "Infantry." Then search for the name or number of the unit.

Click on that unit name (if you're lucky and it is there), which will take you to an address block, giving you the address to contact for information. If you are fortunate, some of the Association/Alumni Representatives have Home Pages, or have an email address.

Here is another typed in to search for the location a buddy or known service person is buried Overseas. I hit Shift+Ctrl+B and the instructions are typed on the page. Like this:

Overseas Burials

To locate U.S. military personnel buried overseas GO TO the following address: <http://www.abmc.gov/abmc4.htm> Click on that then click on the listing of the "War" you are interested in.
Eg: World War II.

That will take you to a SEARCH BOX. Type in the Last Name SPACE First Name Initial. Click on "Search" and it will eventually show the location the person is buried Or let you know that there is no such name on file. The "Go" icon on the left of the name will take you to a display of the cemetery where that soldier is buried.

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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.

**Do NOT send dues with this request
for an application**

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: axpow@sbcglobal.net

Life Membership Rates

Under 35	\$360
36-50	\$300
51-60	\$180
61 & over	\$120
Spouse of life member	\$ 40
Annual Membership Rates	
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NSO Success Stories

Lasting Memories of Experiences at the American Ex-Prisoners of War 2004 National Convention

By Ginger Raney, Ex-POW Coordinator, Waco, TX VA Regional Office

A former POW who had come from Ohio to attend the American Ex-Prisoners of War 2004 National Convention discovered he was facing a difficult situation. In the rush of preparing to travel to Arlington, Texas, he had forgotten something essential. He had remembered to bring the nebulizer that allows him to maintain his breathing. However, he had neglected to pack enough of the medication, Albuterol, that is used in the breathing machine.

The former POW approached the Waco VA Regional Office exhibit, and told me that someone had said, "If you need something done, go see Ginger Raney." He told me that he had just enough Albuterol with him for two treatments and asked if I could help him get more of the medication.

I called Marci Doty, Patient Advocate for the VA North Texas Health Care System (VANTHCS) in Dallas, and learned that they had set up a First Aid station at the Arlington Hilton Hotel, where the convention was being held.

Then I worked with Don Stevenson, POW Coordinator for the VANTHCS who contacted the staff at the medical center. Acting promptly, the VANTHCS staff confirmed the former POW's prescription and delivered a full supply of the medication to him at the hotel.

The next day, the former POW stopped to talk with me at the Waco VARO exhibit. He wanted to let us

know how much he appreciated our assistance, which had enabled him to stay and attend the full week of the convention.

The moving accounts I heard during the Convention of the harrowing and distressing experiences of former POWs will always retain a deep meaningfulness for me. Also to be treasured are the signatures of former POWs in my memory book; the maps I received of POW prison camps (both German and Japanese); and other mementos, including a POW Commemorative Silver Dollar.

Perhaps the best of all of the memories of the Convention are the heartfelt smiles and hugs of appreciation from former POWs and their spouses. I felt truly privileged and humbled to be photographed standing next to them. There isn't a greater honor than meeting and serving American Ex-Prisoners of War.

Teamwork Succeeds at AXPOW Convention 2004

It is amazing what can happen when we AXPOW folks pull together. There may well be "stars", but it's TEAMWORK that really makes things come together for good.

It started this way. NSO Leonard Rose, head honcho of the Stalag Luft IV good buddies, encouraged Idaho to come to the 2004 AXPOW National Convention. Idaho had never been to the VA for one thing. But he drove to Arlington, Texas from far Northwest. Healthwise with the help of his wife, he just barely made it, to stay with kinfolks in the area. NSO Marion Rippee found Idaho at the Stalag Luft IV meeting Friday night, and Ella Rose registered him and his wife, and the SLIV group all became concerned for this couple with needs.

Saturday, NSO Patricia Benker was talking with Mr. and Mrs. Idaho, when Jackson, Mississippi, VARO's super Social Worker Nancy Mullins happened by with "Can I help you all?" NSO Benker responded, "Yes,

we need a doctor!" Nancy Mullins took charge, going straight to her partner, Dr. Jo Harbour, POW doctor in the Jackson, MS VARO.

"We need a stethoscope, blood pressure cup, etc., and a room for an examination!" The equipment needs were met by personnel there from the VA North Texas Health Care System in Dallas, and Patricia Benker offered her hotel room for this blessed event. In a couple of hours, the examination was done.

A quizzical Mrs. Idaho had to ask: "How do I know you here are legitimate? I can't believe this." They did convince her.

Because of his poor health, Idaho and his wife had to stay in Texas for several weeks; he wasn't strong enough for them to drive home. Three weeks later, Dr. Harbour called to say he had gotten his 100% Disability rating. Mr. and Mrs. Idaho could hardly believe how rewarding a trip like this could be for two Stalag Luft IV "potatoes", when the Eyes of Texas were upon them.

But also, on Saturday, Dr. Jo Harbour examined three more former POWs for 100% ratings, including one AFTER the Saturday night banquet. And Patricia Benker finally got her room back.

AXPOW/VA TEAMWORK can be a wonderful synergy "to help those who cannot help themselves".

2. And, a lady from Peabody, MA cut out the VA Outreach article and last week sent it with her letter to see if she qualified for widow's benefits. Her husband died Jan. 1990; he only had 30% Disability Compensation, but he died of a massive coronary. So she will get DIC (and can really use ChampVA). She's excited! A wonderful "make my day" phone call!

Fred Campbell



Paul E. Galanti
NSO Director ~ R&D
pgalanti@comcast.net

Everything Old is New Again

Sounds like an old song but it's not. Four years ago, I was re-appointed to Secretary Principi's Advisory committee on Former Prisoners of War. Having known the Secretary for many years ranging from social to business when he served first during the Bush (41) years, I took delight in having such a straight shooter in that critical office. It was a boon to veterans of all stripes and, in retrospect, he did a fine job.

Shortly after my being appointed to the committee, I met with Secretary Principi to discuss a rather radical idea that would reform healthcare and benefits in the VA.

Since the VA is the largest closed health system in the U.S., if this idea could be implemented here, it could be easily replicated elsewhere. The name of the game was information management. Data management.

Using current information technology to simplify the process of applying for benefits, checking the qualifications and credentials

of the claimant, and ensuring that the eligible veterans receives everything he or she is entitled to.

Using a Turbo-Tax interface, the application would pull together as needed all the appropriate laws and regulations applicable to veterans, disregard the thousands of pages not required in an individual case, and ease the massive duplication of data currently held on individual veterans. It would be a great tool for service officers to use that would greatly simplify their efforts and make certain that nothing is overlooked in individual cases.

Sounds simple, huh? It is! Secretary Principi really did get it and understood it. He told me he'd been working on just such a program in his last private company and thought it would be a tremendous addition to the tools of the VA. Despite having the blessing of the Top Gun at the VA, it turns out that the bureaucracy was not going to surrender to an idea that was "Not Invented Here." And it didn't.

From the start, the idea was met with skepticism. In an extraordinary meeting that included many of those middle managers whose decisions have incredibly wide impact, the senior under-secretaries were assured that "there's no need to do such a thing since we're already doing it."

Hint: they're not. They're not even coming close. There are not fewer forms or bureaucracy, there are more of each. The much-trumpeted MyHealthVet equates to things that came about at the beginning of the public internet over a decade ago.

Complicated, duplicated forms with multiple potential for error still abound. When the 10 lb. application for benefits package

hits the regional office, too much time is still taken correcting errors that would generate horrific fines if an individual or business tried them with the IRS.

Unless they were old enough to retire, all those VA managers playing devil's advocate when this was proposed are still in place. Most have been promoted including some responsible for the expensive Bay Pines, Florida exercise in wasting money on "New Technology." I don't know what it cost the Intuit company to develop TurboTax, but the simple program makes very quick work of the incredibly complicated task of compiling personal or business data and sending it to the right spot in each of a hundred different IRS forms.

That's all we want to do with Turbo-POWER. Since there are so many POW presumptives, it would be easy to implement and ensure nothing gets overlooked. While nothing equals the value of a trained, experienced service officer for handling claims, a program like Turbo-POWER will ensure that the service officers can do their work more quickly and efficiently.

But Secretary Principi who blessed this effort four years ago is gone. We wish him well. He did a nice job. Secretary Jim Nicholson has been confirmed and is in place. He's a West Pointer and knows the military and management. I bet he'll understand how efficient data management can simplify the entire process of veterans' applying for benefits. I'll try to get in to brief him at our advisory committee meeting. I bet he'll like it, too.

Everything old is new again....

Paul

contributions



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I recently had an infection in my "wa-
ter works plumbing"...spent five days
in the hospital where I got very good
care by dedicated doctors, nurses,
helpers, technicians of all kinds. But
there were those many - what I
thought unnecessary - interruptions.
Thumps, bumps, bangs, loud talking
in the hallway. As usual, during those

long nights, my mind turned to POW
things. I find that regardless how hard
we try to keep things going as
smoothly as possible, there are al-
ways those thumps, bumps, bangs
that seem to interrupt even the most
peaceful times. The true and living
God provided for peace on earth and
good will toward all people and na-
tions, but it seems there are always
those interruptions.

Let us pray: Dear Lord, our eternal
heavenly Father, please forgive us
when we fail to do your will or for-
get that your way is based on love.
Bless in special ways the leaders of
our unique organization. Help them
to keep us as members from drifting
away from our motto: Helping those
who cannot help themselves. Bless
us as we pass those blessings on in
ways that are pleasing to you. We
pray for our nation and those stand-
ing in harm's way as we remember
the POW/MIAs. In your blessed and
holy name we pray. AMEN.

Think on these things

What would happen if each drop
Of rain refused to fall.
Or every sunbeam ceased to shine
Because it was so small.
What would happen if each day
We chose to leave undone
An act of kindness. Just because
It was a little one?

Thought for the month: You will
never offend anyone with a smile
and a helping hand. Try it because
they work wonders.



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taps



Please submit taps notices to: Cheryl Cerbone, 7 Turner Lane, South Yarmouth, MA 02664

ABBOTT, William H., of Decatur, AL passed away early in 2005. During WWII, he served in the Army Air Corps with the 452nd BG, 728th BS. He was a POW in Stalag 17B. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Jewel, one son, two grandsons and one sister.

BARGAS, Pauline C., 88, formerly of Killeen, TX died Feb. 2, 2005. She was a member of the Cen-Tex Chapter #1. Survivors include five sons, five daughters, 25 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Mrs. Bargas was preceded in death by her husband, Ex-POW Alberto on Sept. 23, 1986.

BENEVENTANO, Frank, 88, of Shelton, NY died Jan. 16, 2005. He served in the 26th Regiment of the US Army's 1st Division. He was captured at Kasserine Pass, Tunisia on Feb. 20, 1943. He spent 2 years, 3 months in Stalags VIIA and IIIB. Frank is survived by a brother and two nephews.

BLISS, Ron, a decorated Vietnam War fighter pilot who spent 6 ½ years in the "Hanoi Hilton" POW camp, died Feb. 8, 2005. He was 61. Bliss flew 35 missions over Vietnam before being shot down Sept. 4, 1966. He was making a low-level bombing run when he felt a thump "like a ball-peen hammer hitting the bottom of a piano bench," he said. Bliss ejected from his plane and woke up on a road, his head smashed open by the rear of the ejection seat. He was captured and taken to the prison camp. He was released in 1973. In addition to his wife of 39 years, Charlene, two sons and grandchildren, Bliss is survived by his mother, Jesse Harrington and one sister.

BOEDING, Louis, 92, of West Point, IA passed away Jan. 23, 2005. He served in the Marines in WWII. He was captured May 6, 1942 and spent 1212 days in Japanese POW Camps. His wife, Louise, predeceased him; Survivors include four sons, two daughters, two sisters and five grandchildren.

BREESE, Herbert B. Jr., 79, of Sun City West, AZ, died February 1, 2005. Herb participated in the invasion of Algiers, North Africa in November 1942 and was captured at Faid Pass. He remained in captivity in Sicily, Italy, Austria and Camp 3B near the Polish Border for 27 months. Herb reenlisted in the Army in April 1946 and was sent to Korea with the 3rd Division in August 1950. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Jeanne, and two daughters and 6 grandchildren. He was a life member of Agua Fria Chapter.

CADWALLADER, Billie E., 94, of Escondido, CA passed away February 18, 2005. She was a lifetime member of AXPOW. She was born in 1911 to Australian parents in Manila, Philippine Islands. During the Japanese occupation of the Philippines in World War II she was held as a prisoner for 37 months with thousands of civilians in the Santo Tomas Internment Camp in Manila where she and her husband Bill cared for and provided for their young son until liberation. She was married to Bill for 58 years and preceded in death by him in 1991. Billie is survived by her son Ted, a daughter Susan, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

CHAMPAGNE, Leo Pierre Sr., died Feb. 13, 2005 at the age of 83. Leo was a member of South Louisiana Chapter and Life Member of AXPOW. He served in the 156th Inf. Div. during WWII. Leo was a POW and was liberated by Gen. Patton's 8th Army. He was the beloved husband of Lorraine, father of four sons, two daughters and grandfather of 14.

CONWAY, Thomas F., of Cranford, New Jersey, died January 2, 2005. Serving with the 36 Div, Co B, 141 Inf, Conway was captured in Italy and spent 14 months as a POW in Germany. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Agnes.

COONING, Leon J. (Lee) died January 31, 2005, at Bay Pines VA Medical Center, St. Petersburg, FL. During World War II he served in the European Theatre of Operations, 15th Air Force, 97th Bomb Group, 340th Bomb Squad. He was a Prisoner of War in Stalag Luft III & VIIA. He also served during the Korean and Vietnam wars. He was a member of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, American Ex-POWS. Survivors include Dorothy, his wife of 59 years, one daughter and one son.

DANIELS, Dowaine, 84, died Feb. 19, 2005, in St. Petersburg, FL. In World War II, he was a Captain, serving in the 12th AF, 319th BG, 438th BS. He was a POW in Stalag Luft III. He was a member of the Florida Gulf Coast Chapter. Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Muriel, a daughter, three sons, a sister, and a brother.

DAVIS, Alford W., 80, of Pontotoc, MS passed away Jan. 15, 2005. He served in the Army during WWII. He was a member of the Northeast MS Chapter, AXPOW. He is survived by four daughters, five sons, one sister, 20 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

DELANOY, Howard Sidney, 81, of Red Hook, NY passed away Dec. 3, 2004. He served with the 1st Div., 5th Field Artillery and participated in the "Torch" invasion of N. Africa. He was captured in Tunisia and held in Italian camps until he escaped. He fought with the partisans until he made his way to American lines. He leaves behind his wife of 60 years, Louise, 3 daughters, 7 grandchil-

taps continued

dren, 15 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

DELEMAN, Bernard, of Panama City, Florida, passed away in February, 2005. An AXPOW life member since 1982, he served in the Navy on the US Perch and was a POW in Celebes and Nagasaki. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Aldina.

FARRINGTON, John, of Green Cove Springs, Florida, died Oct. 23, 2004. A B-17 pilot, "Jack" was shot down on 5/10/42. He was the only survivor, after he and the other pilot had drawn straws to see which seat they would sit in. He was on the "Longest March". He is survived by his wife, Maggie.

FELKER, Howard, 81, of East Peoria, IL passed away Dec. 10, 2004. A WWII Air Force veteran, he was a German prisoner of war for 10 months. He is survived by his wife June, 2 daughters, 1 son, 3 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson.

FINANCE, Edwin C., age 85, of Ellington, CT died Jan. 18, 2005. He was a gunner on B-17s with the 379th BG, 8th AF. He was shot down over France and held at Luft 1, Barth. He was a member of the Connecticut Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife, Christian, 2 daughters, 1 son, 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

FLOTRON, Paul "Float", of La Crescenta, California, died in January, 2005. He served with 8 AF 390 BG 570 BS, and was held POW in Luft 1, Barth, Germany.

GALATI, Josephine, of Carson, California, died Dec. 7, 2004. A life member since 1991, she is survived by Anthony Leonard Galati, her husband of 56 years, who was a POW in Stalags 9A and 9B.

GARDNER, Daniel, 84, passed away Feb. 12, 2005. He lived in Mathiston, MS. He served with the 8th AF during WWII. Dan was a POW and active member of the NE MS Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife,

Catherine, 2 daughters, 3 sons, 1 sister, 2 brothers, 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

GEIGER, Joseph W., from Lady Lake, FL and West Chester, PA died Jan. 30, 2005 at the age of 81. He served with the 364th BS, 305th BG. His plane was shot down over France. He was taken prisoner and held in Stalag XVIIIB for 16 months. His wife of 51 years, Betty, survives him. He also leaves 3 sons, 1 daughter and 9 grandchildren.

GUILLORY, Louis D., of Diamondhead, MS passed away Dec. 23, 2004. He was captured while serving with the 96th BG, 8th AF during WWII. He was the treasurer of the Magnolia Chapter, AXPOW and a friend to everyone he met. He leaves his beloved wife, Alvis, daughter Sandi, 1 sister, 2 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. He will be missed.

HALSEMA, James Julius, 86, Philippine scholar, war correspondent and US Foreign Service officer died on February 18, 2005 in Glenmoore PA., his home base of 20 years. Born in Warren, Ohio, Jim moved to the Philippines at the age of five months. Captured in the Japanese invasion of 1941, he spent the next 37 months in internment camps in Baguio (Camp John Hay and Camp Holmes) and Bilibid Prison, Manila before liberation in February, 1945. He is survived by Alice, his wife of 55 years, four children, and five grandchildren.

HAMILTON, Lewis, 79, of Springfield Township, OH passed away Sept. 13, 2004. Lew was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a member of the North Central Ohio Chapter #8. Survivors include his wife, Bonnie, his mother, Eppie, 2 sons, 4 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 5 brothers and 3 sisters.

HAUSAUER, Edwin W., 83, of Lodi, CA died Jan. 13, 2005. He was a WWII veteran, serving as a 7th Armored Div. tank driver. In Aug. 1944, he was captured in France and marched to Stalag 7B in Augsburg. He was a life member of Delta Chap-

ter, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Luella, 2 sons, 1 daughter and 2 grandsons.

HEBERT, Philton J., 89, died Feb. 9, 2005. He was a member of the South Louisiana Chapter, AXPOW. He was a Bataan Death March survivor and a POW of the Japanese for 3 ½ years. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, 3 daughters, 2 sons, 16 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

HERMAN, Margaret, 82, of Austintown, OH passed away Feb. 2, 2005. She was a member of the Mahoning Valley Chapter, AXPOW. She is survived by her husband, ex-POW Robert, 2 daughters, 2 sisters, 3 brothers, 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

HOLMES, Eugene J., of Fayetteville, AR passed away Jan. 15, 2005. He served with Battery D, 24th Field Artillery in the Philippines. He was captured on Bataan and spent 3 ½ years as a POW of the Japanese. His loving wife, Irene, survives him. He also leaves 3 sons, 1 daughter, 1 sister, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

HOUSE, Lawrence, M., of Potsdam, NY died Jan. 30, 2005. He was 85. During WWII, he served with the 8th AF, 447th (Heavy) BG. He was shot down, captured and held for 14 months in Luft 1, Barth. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Sally, 2 daughters, 1 son, 1 brother, 8 grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

IRWIN, Beverly "Bev" S., of Harrisburg, PA died Feb. 20, 2005. He served with the 95th Inf. Div. during WWII. He was a POW. Bev was a member of the Capital City Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include his loving wife of 59 years, Helen, 2 sons, 2 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren and 1 sister.

JOHNSON, Willis A. of San Antonio, Texas, died February 6, 2005. Also

taps continued

known as "Johnny" or "Bill", he was with M Co. 4th Marines. Captured on Corregidor, he spent 90 days in solitary confinement in Mukden, also serving time Kamioka, Cabanatuan and Bilibid. A member of the San Antonio Chapter, he is survived by one son and three daughters.

JULIAN, Nick, 92, a member of the Barbed Wire Chapter #1 (WV) passed away Oct. 23, 2004. During WWII he served with the 82nd Airborne, 325th Glider Infantry. He was wounded at D-Day and held POW for 18 days before being rescued by American forces. Two sisters and one brother survive him; he also leaves numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife, Geraldine.

KAAS, Daniel J., 86, of Emmitsburg, MD passed away Jan. 28, 2005. During WWII he served in the famous 3rd Inf. Reg., then was sent back to the states to help start the 42nd Rainbow Div. On Jan. 4, 1945, he was captured by the Germans and held in Stalag XIII-D, Stalag VII-A, Hammelburg, Nuremburg and Moosburg until liberation. Dan was a life member of AXPOW and member of the Chuck Williams Mid-Maryland Chapter. He is survived by a number of nieces, nephews and other family members.

KERN, Henry "Hank", of Killeen, TX died Feb. 4, 2005. He served in Korea and two tours in Vietnam. He was a former prisoner of war in Korea. He was a member of Cen-Tex Chapter #1. Survivors include his wife, Jessie, a son, three daughters, his stepmother, four brothers, two sisters and four grandchildren.

KLINE, George E., 82, of Mechanicsburg, PA died Feb. 13, 2005. He was an Army Air Force veteran of WWII, where he was a prisoner of war in Romania. Surviving

are 4 sons, 4 daughters, 13 grandchildren and his companion, Doris Hanlon.

KRUSHAS, Anna C., 81, of East Bridgewater, MA passed away Nov. 2, 2004. She was the beloved wife of ex-POW Vit, who served in the 8th AF. Both were very active in the Southeast MA Chapter, AXPOW. In addition to her husband, Anna is survived by 2 sons, 4 sisters, 3 brothers, 3 grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

LEFOR, Herbert A., of Dickinson, ND passed away Feb. 6, 2005. Herb spent 3 years in the Army, one of which was spent in overseas combat. He was captured by the Germans and spent 5 months in a POW camp. He is survived by his wife, Rose. He was a member of Dakota West Chapter, AXPOW.

LONG, Doris, 82, of New Market, IA died Feb. 11, 2005. She was a member of the SW Iowa Chapter, AXPOW. Doris leaves his her husband, ex-POW Rodger (34th Div. Anti-Tank Unit, captured at Faid Pass). She is also survived by 4 children, 10 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and 2 sisters.

McFEE, Lawrence, of Sharon Springs, NY died Jan. 18, 2005. He was 82. During WWII, he served with the 15th AF, 99th BG in Italy. He was shot down, captured and held in Luft 1, Compound North III, Block 9, Room 10. He leaves his loving wife of 55 years, Henrietta, 1 son, 3 daughters, 11 grandchildren and 1 sister. He was a life member of AXPOW.

MILLER, Robert N. "Tiny", of Shakopee, MN died Jan. 24, 2005 at age 86. He was in the 135th Inf. Co. B with the MN National Guard. He left to serve in the 34th Div. "Red Bull". He was wounded in battle and captured at Faid Pass. Tiny was a prisoner in various POW camps - the longest was in Stalag 2B. He was a life member of AXPOW and the Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter. He is survived by his dear wife of 59 years, Dorothy, 1 daughter, 1 son and 5 grandchildren.

NAYLOR, Leonard D., 89, of Ft. Myers Beach, FL passed away Aug. 2004. He was a member of the Southwest Florida Chapter 100, AXPOW. During WWII, he was a member of the 60th CAC Anti-Aircraft from May 1940 to the fall of Corregidor. He spent 3 ½ years in five Japanese POW camps. His daughter, Michele Naylor Bacorn of New Jersey, survives him.

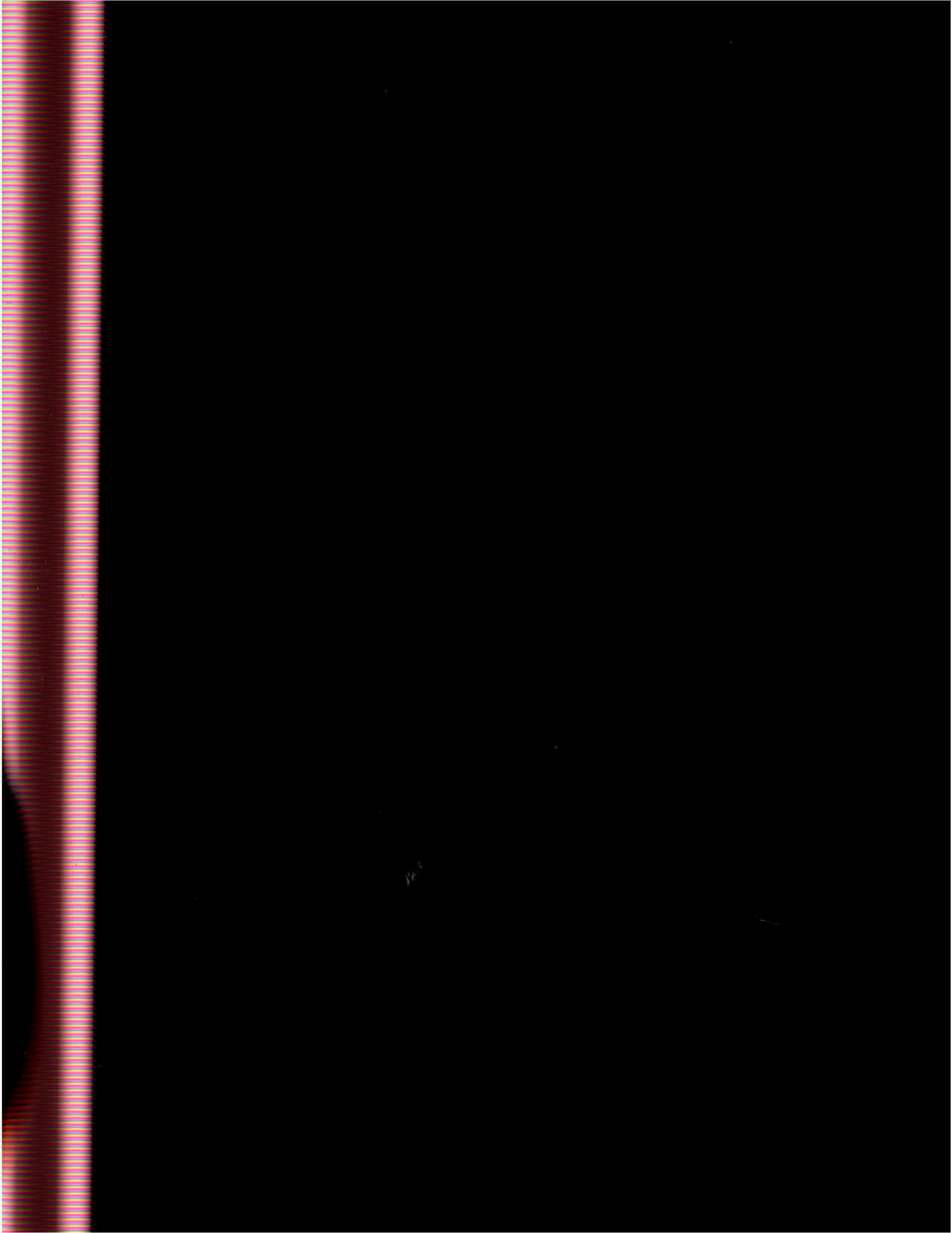
NELSON, Arnold N., 83, of Fresno, CA died Dec. 14, 2004. He was captured on Corregidor while serving with the 60th CA AA Btry. He spent 3 ½ years in Japanese POW camps. He leaves his son, David, and one sister.

NIETMAN, Edna, 85, of Morehead City, NC died Jan. 16, 2005. She was preceded in death by her husband, ex-POW Charles. Both were members of North Alabama Chapter, AXPOW. Survivors include 1 daughter, 1 beloved grandson, and nieces and nephews.

OFFLEY, Bernard D. passed away on January 20, 2005, at the age of 82. He leaves behind his wife Jessie, who resides in Tacoma, Washington. Barney was a long time member of the Tacoma, Washington Chapter, as well as a lifetime member of the American Ex-Prisoners of War Organization.

PATRICK, Wanda M. of Wellsburg, WV died Dec. 4, 2004. Wanda was the widow of ex-POW Birchard. She and her late husband were members of the Barbed Wire Mountaineers Chapter #1. Surviving are 3 sons, 1 daughter, 3 sisters, 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

PEEPLES, Roderick L., of Lakeland, FL passed away Dec. 14, 2004. He was 82. Rod served in the Army during WWII with the 103rd Division. He was a POW in Oflag 64, Poland. He was a member of the Imperial Chapter, AXPOW. His wife, Evelyn, survives him; he also leaves 1 son, 1 daughter, 3 step-children, 2 sisters and 6 grandchildren.



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PERALTA, Ophelia, widow of Leo G. Peralta (deceased 12/11/92), passed away on November 5, 2004.

PHILLIPS, Dorene, of North Canton, OH died Nov. 7, 2004. She was a life member of North Central OH Chapter #8, AXPOW. She is survived by her husband, William, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 2 stepsons, 15 grandchildren and several great- and great-great-grandchildren.

PHILLIPS, Frank P., age 86, of Fridley, CA died Feb. 1, 2005. Frank is survived by his wife, Vera, 2 sons, 2 grandchildren and 1 brother. He served in the Marine Corps during WWII. He spent 3 1/2 years in Japanese POW Camps.

PITTMAN, Russell A., 86, of Akron, OH died Nov. 21, 2004. He served in the Army during WWII and was a POW in Germany for 27 months. He was a member of the North Central Ohio Chapter #8, AXPOW. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Dorothy, 1 daughter, 1 son, 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

PITZO, Mike, of New Middletown, Ohio, died January 28, 2005. He served as an armor-gunner in the 8th AF. Shot down in October, 1943, he was held in Stalag 17B until May, 1945. He is survived by one daughter, two sons, seven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and one sister. He was a member of the Steel Valley Chapter #13, AXPOW.

RAY, Maxine L., of Colorado Springs, CO passed away Jan. 22, 2005. She was a registered nurse when she met her husband, George (WWII Japanese POW). They were married for 59 years. In addition to her loving husband, Maxine is survived by 1 brother and 1 sister. She was an active member and enthusiastic volunteer in the Dept. of Colorado and Rocky Mountain Chapter, AXPOW.

REED, Robert, member of the Barbed Wire Seminole Chapter,

AXPOW, died Feb. 7, 2005. He was a member of "A" Company, 508th Reg., 82nd Airborne Div. He was captured at Normandy, France and held until liberation. He leaves his wife, Pearle.

SCHROEDER, Betty, 76, of Lee's Summit, MO died Dec. 23, 2004. She spent 5 1/2 years as the loving wife of Walter. She was a member of the State Fair Chapter, AXPOW. Other survivors include 3 daughters, 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

SCHROTTER, Beatrice, 82 of Royal Palm Beach, FL passed away on May 8, 2004. She was the loving wife of Harold. "Bea" and Harold were members of the Suncoast Chapter of the AXPOW. They were married shortly after Harold returned as a recently liberated prisoner of war from Germany and their storybook marriage lasted for fifty-eight years. In addition to her husband, she is survived by 1 son, 1 grandson, 1 sister, a niece and 2 nephews.

SCOTT, Rodney, of Fort Worth, Texas, died February 2, 2005. A POW in Korea, Rodney served as chapter commander and treasurer of the Fort Worth Chapter for several years. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte; 1 son, 5 daughters; 28 grandchildren; and 39 great-grandchildren.

SMITH, Woodrow H. passed away Sept. 15, 2004 at the Army and Airman's Home, Washington, DC. During WWII, he served with "G" Co., 506th PIR, captured on D-Day. He was a POW in Stalag 4B. Survivors include his nephew, Woodrow Hall.

STANKUS, Gertrude Leona, 93, widow of former POW Felix Stankus Jr. died Feb. 27, 2005. She is survived by one son, one daughter, many grandchildren and great grandchildren. She loved to play scrabble with her daughter and grandchildren and was loved by all that knew her. B. He was veteran of the army Air Corps. Gertrude loved her great grandchildren and grandchildren.

great grandchildren and

SUMRALL, Patsy, wife of Laurence, passed away Jan. 31, 2005. She and her husband were residents of Gulfport, MS. They were members of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chapter, AXPOW.

TORNBURG, James J. Sr., of Canastota, NY died Nov. 18, 2004. Jim served with the 4th Div. He was captured in the Hurtgen Forest. As a POW, he was held in Stalag IVB and various labor camps until liberation. He leaves his lovely wife of 58 years, Marjorie, 5 sons, 1 daughter, 4 sisters and 2 brothers. Jim and his wife were strong ex-POW members of the Central NY Chapter. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

VIA, Susan Carrie, 76, of Hummelstown, PA passed away Feb. 4, 2005. Susan was a life member of AXPOW and ADBC. She was the widow of ex-POW Joseph. She is survived by 2 daughters, 1 son, 1 sister, 9 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

WEBB, Paul G., of Denver, CO died Jan. 5, 2005. He was 89. He served in the Pacific with the 22nd BS, 341 BG during WWII and was a POW in Shanghai, Kanwan and Hakodato. He was a former member of Mile High Chapter, AXPOW. His wife, Frances, survives him.

ZWEIFEL, Everett, of Mission, Texas, died Jan. 21, 2005. "E.Z." served as a B-29 pilot when he was shot down over Tokyo and held as a POW in Ofuna.



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 WED SEPT 28
 THU SEPT 29
 FRI SEPT 30
 SAT OCT 1
 SUN OCT 2

NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING - TOURS
 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
 OPENING CEREMONIES-NATIONAL LEGISLATION PROGRAM-
 MEDSEARCH SEMINAR-COMMANDER'S RECEPTION
 MEN AND WOMEN'S WORKSHOPS-EDUCATION SEMINAR-LADIES'
 LUNCHEON-NATIONAL CONVENTION CALL TO ORDER-REUNION NIGHT
 CONTINUATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 BANQUET AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



"America The Beautiful"
58th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
September 27-Oct. 2, 2004
Denver, Colorado



Convention Registration

Registrant's Name _____
Spouse's Name (if attending) _____
Address _____
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Special Needs (Wheel chair, oxygen, etc.) _____
Unit When Captured _____ Theatre _____ Camps _____

REGISTRATION (per person) until September 1 ~ \$55.00
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Payable to: 2005 Convention Fund
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Saturday Night Banquet Choice:
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ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:

1. Tour to Air Force Academy and
Garden of the Gods
Tuesday, Sept. 27 @ \$37.50 per person
Number _____ x \$37.50 \$ _____

2. Tour to Central City/Blackhawk
Tuesday, Sept. 27 @ \$24.00 per person
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3. Ladies Luncheon
Friday, Sept. 30 @ \$21.00 per person
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Registration and Activities
TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____

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2005



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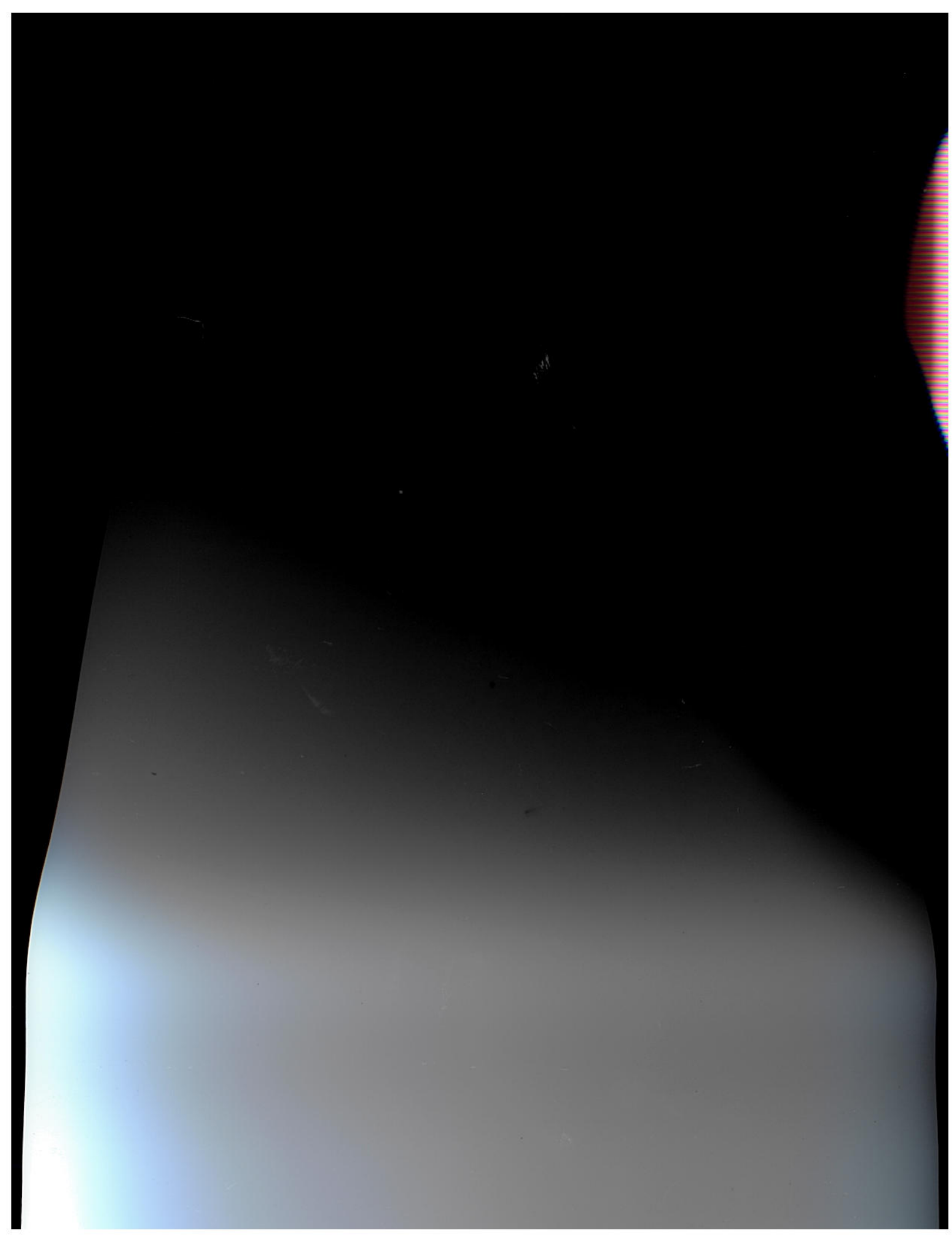
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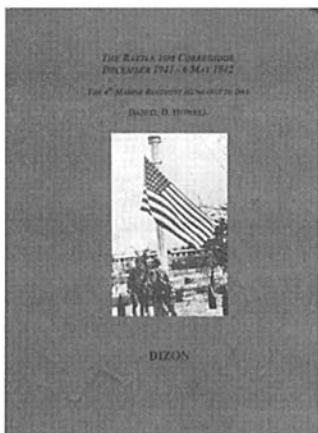
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Ex-POW Bulletin

April 2005

39

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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 **American Ex-Prisoners of War**
and entry to: **50/50 Drawing**
 3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
 Arlington, TX 76010-5396

You do not have to be present to win. Your donation is not tax deductible.

VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Donation not required to enter.

Thank you for your support.

Ex-POW Bulletin

April 2005

40

**American Ex-Prisoners of War
50/50 Drawing -- April 2005**

PLEASE PRINT

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Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

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Thank you for your support.

new members

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



New Annual Members Welcome Home

Steven William Curavo
San Jose, CA
Grandson of Leonard
Curavo, CIV
Santo Tomas, Los Banos

Matthew Robert McGuire
Marilyn I
Sacramento, CA
385 BG 550 BS B-17 radio
operator
Luft 1

Keith D. Hereford
Westminster, CO
AAF
Dulag Luft, Luft 4

Clarence Arthur Giltz
St. Petersburg, FL
8 AF 385 BG 550 BS
Dulag Luft, Nurnburg, 7A

Roy I Albert
Beverly Hills, MI
35 Inf. Div.
Limberg, Luchenwalde,
11A, Potzdam

Stephen F. Orleanski
Joanne
Oceanport, NJ
Co. L, 135 Inf.
2B, Prussia

Alvin "Rosenberg" Russell
Janet
Suffern, NY
8 AF 78 FG 82 FS
18C

Alfred J. Tirabassi
Euclid, OH
Inf., 5A

Clyde A. Phillips
Pauline
Ardmore, OK

USAF
Luft 4
Arthur L. Greenwood
Delta, PA
492 BG H 858 BS
German Hospital

Arthur F. Chance
Weatherford, TX
USAAC
Luft 3
11/44-5/45

Hamet Lee Piercy
South Hill, VA
157 Eng C Bn
4B, 5A
1/1/45-4/45

New Life Members Welcome Home

***denotes new member**

Jack J. Diamond
Judith 17197 38868
Miami, FL
Cannon Co. 422 Inf.
11B, 2A

Nicholas A. Cannata
Josephine 27898 38869
Port Richey, FL
15 AF 429 BS 2 BG
Luft 1
Kenneth R. Collins
Suzanne G. 33185 38870
N. Miami Beach, FL
15 AF 451 BG 724 BS
Luft 3, 7A, Nurnburg

George Alan Rose
Rebecca 38687 38871
Fulshear, TX
334 TFS 4 TFW
Hanoi Hilton, ZOO
6/21/72-3/28/73

Worden W. Kahle 38872
Temperance, MI

Army Inf.
3B, Prussia, others
12/7/42-6/45

Bea Cohen 38873
Los Angeles, CA
Widow of Ray E. Cohen
Manchuria, Japan

Carolyn Reubenking
Red Oak, IA *38874
Sister of Elwin, Diehl, ETO

Madeleine Keryan *38875
Hudson, FL
Widow of Peter Keryan, Jr.
Luft 4, Prussia

Christina Mills 38876
Osceola, IA
Widow of Garould Mills
7A, 3B

Charles W. Robinson, Jr.
Denison, TX *38877
Co. A 398 Inf. Reg. 100 Inf.
Div.
3A, 12A
12/4/44-5/6/45

Marian L. Outlaw *38878
Camden, SC
Widow of Murdic L. Outlaw
7A, Bavaria, Work Camps

Mary L. Kennedy *38879
Hammononton, NJ
Daughter of William
Ungemach, ETO

Lewis Richard Williams
Redfield, KS *38880
8 AF 706 BS 446 BG
Luft 4, Bks 2, Lager A,
Room 4

Eugene R. Cronin *38881
Dallas, TX

AAC
Dulag Luft, Luft 1, Jails
12/4/44-liberation

Raymond C. Ungemach
Pittsburgh, PA *38882
Son of William Ungemach,
ETO

Richard R. Ungemach
Harrisburg, NC *38883
Son of William Ungemach,
ETO

David P. Ungemach *38884
Warner Robins, GA
Son of William Ungemach,
ETO

Leo I. Perkins
Lillian 38885 38886
Lampasas, TX
7A, 17B
8/20/43-5/3/45

Milton M. "Skip" Moore, Jr.
Margie 38887 38888
Sierra Vista, AZ
Son of PNC Milton M.
Moore

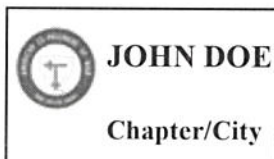
Byron A. Morgan, Sr.
Dell V 38889 38890
Long Beach, CA
US Navy
P e t r o p a v l o v s k ,
Khabarovsk, Tashkent
6/15/44-1/30/45

Talmadge P. Callison
Sara E 38891 38892
Greenwood, SC
464 BG 778 BS
Dulag Luft, Yugoslavia
3/26-4/15

Name Badge Order Form

Choice of attachment
(check one or we choose)

- ☐ Pin-on
☐ Clip-on



Actual size of badge - 2" x 3"

Print information below

First name _____

Last name _____

City or Chapter _____

Name Badge with name & chapter or city..... \$ 8.00*

Cost of additional lines (\$1.00 each)

*includes shipping/handling

Total cost of name badge \$ _____

Ship to: _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

AXPOW Vest Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Size (Men/coat, Women/chest measurement) _____

Long, Regular or Short _____

Name on front of vest _____

Chapter Name (back of vest) _____

Price: \$50.00, includes shipping/handling

Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery.

Mail orders to:

AXPOW NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40

Arlington, Texas 76010-5396

Official AXPOW Cap (specify size)	25.00	Vest Chainguard w/eagles	7.00	AXPOW Metal License Plate Frame	6.00
Maroon AXPOW Sport Cap	8.00	3" Blazer Patch	3.50	Aluminum License Plate	3.00
Eagle Sport Cap	9.00	4" Blazer Patch	3.50	3" Vinyl Decal	1.00
Vinyl Cap Bag	3.00	8" Blazer Patch	10.00	3" Inside Decal	1.00
Barbed Wire pin	2.50	CLOTH STRIPES (specify which title)	2.00	8" Vinyl Decal	5.00
Life Member pin	4.00	Life Member - Chapter Commander		12" Vinyl Decal	10.00
Crossed Flags Lapel pin	4.00	Past Chapter Commander - Chapter Adj/Treas Chapter		Bumper Sticker "Freedom Is Happiness"	1.50
Brooch pin	4.00	Adjutant - Chapter Treasurer		Bumper Sticker "Freedom - Ask us"	1.50
EX-POW pin (goldtone)	4.00	State Department Commander		Memorial Seals	
Logo pin	4.00	Past State Dept. Commander - Department Adjutant		3 sheets, \$1.00; 10 sheets, \$3.00; 20 sheets, 5.00	
POW Stamp pin	2.50	Department Treasurer - Sr. Vice Commander		AXPOW Daisies	1.50 dozen
Past Chapter Commander pin	4.00	Jr. Vice Commander - Chaplain - Historian		In lots of 12 doz, (ie, 24, 36, 48, etc.)	1.25 dozen
Past Department Commander pin	4.00	Service Officer - Legislative Officer		Wall Clock (battery included)	20.00
Eagle pin w/Barbed Wire	7.00	Past Chapter Officer - Past Department Officer		AXPOW Notecards (pkg of 25)	5.00
(specify gold, silver or antique gold)				Special Prayer Cards (pkg of 25)	5.00
Necktie w/logo woven in fabric	20.00	12x18 inch American Flag	5.00	AXPOW Prayer Book	2.00
(specify regular or pre-tied)		12x18 AX-POW Graveside Flag	10.00	Ladies Prayer Book	1.00
AXPOW Logo Bolo Tie	15.00	3x5 ft. AX-POW Flag w/3-color logo		POW Medal Poster Print	5.00
U.S. Flag Bolo Tie	18.50	with fringe, indoor use	60.00	AX-POW Constitution & By-Laws	5.00
Mini POW Medal Bolo Tie	20.00	with grommets, outdoor use	60.00	POW Videotape - ETO or Pacific	11.00
Goldtone Bolo Bezel w/cord	9.00	Canvas Totebag w/4" logo	15.00		
Logo Necklace & Pierced Earrings	10.00	"Speak Out" Education Packet	6.00		
2" Medallion (for plaque)	4.00				

Now accepting Master Card/Visa

QUANTITY	ITEM	SIZE / COLOR	PRICE

For orders up to 7.99, add \$2.00; For orders 8.00 to 24.99, add \$6.00
For orders 25.00 to 49.99, add \$8.00; For orders 50.00 to 99.99, add \$10.00
For orders over 100.00, add \$15.00 Checks/Money Order/Credit Card Accepted.

For credit card orders: Card # _____ Expiration: _____

(Check one) Master Card _____ Visa _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Shipping/Handling/Insurance:

Total: \$ _____

MAIL TO:

AMERICAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

3201 East Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40

Arlington, Texas 76010-5396

817-649-2979

axpowqm@aol.com



National POW/MIA Memorial

RIVERSIDE NATIONAL CEMETERY

A Living Memorial
Riverside, California

Dedication Ceremony
September 16, 2005

MEMORIAL

Honoring 607,000 American prisoners of war
and 173,000 servicemen and women listed as
missing in action since the
Revolution. More than
88,000 Americans remain
MIA.

Sculptor: Lewis Millett Jr.
of Idyllwild.

Cost: \$750,000.



For donations or
information contact:
Riverside National Cemetery
Support Committee
Attn: POW/MIA
Memorial Project - Paul Adkins
22495 Van Buren Blvd.
Riverside, CA 92518
(909) 957-3982 cell or
(909) 820-1577 work
email:
compcomp@earthlink.net
website: <http://www.rncsc.org>

*The Support Committee is all Volunteer.
100% of any gift will go towards National POW/MIA Memorial
construction, repairs and maintenance.*

AXPOW Vests!

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.

\$50.00 each, includes shipping/handling

For pins, vest guards and other items to "dress up" your vest, order from the merchandise page inside.



Thank you for supporting the American Ex-POWS with your purchases of National Merchandise.

change of address form

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

Please print:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone () _____

Please allow 4 weeks to make address corrections.

Mail to: National Headquarters, AXPOW, 3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40, Arlington, TX 76010-5396

Or fax: (817) 649-0109

e-mail: Marsha.coke@axpow.org

Subscription Rates -- non members
\$20.00 per year

Foreign subscriptions
\$30.00 per year

Now accepting MasterCard/Visa

All orders for products sold by
AXPOW National Organization,
including dues/subscriptions
should be mailed to:

American Ex-Prisoners of War
National Headquarters
3201 E. Pioneer Parkway, Suite 40
Arlington, TX 76010-5396
(817) 649-2979/ (817) 649-0109 fax
e-mail: HQ@axpow.org
No collect calls, please

