THE OLD BREED NEWS

VOL. LXIX • NO. 1

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2019
JANUARY - FEBRUARY - MARCH 2020

The Official Publication of the 1st Marine Division Association, Incorporated

The circle of life

RIP and Semper Fi, Denny and Steve

We lost two of our most dedicated leaders recently, Denny Weisberger and Steve Lackernick. A Celebration of Life for our longtime friend and Chaplain GySgt William "Denny" Weisgerber was held 26 January in Milpitas, California.

The Association was represented by President Jerry Johs and Vice President A.J. Burn. Local members attending included LtCol John Stevens, Sgt Don Reid, and SSgt Henry Tassinari.

We lost two of our best in Denny and Steve.

Stay healthy, Major White

But, where there is death there is life. While some Marines go to guard the gates of heaven others remain to cherish their memories—sometimes for 104 years—such as Major Bill White, USMC (ret), who was feted recently by the Chicago Marines.

Operation Valentine: Major Bill White (USMC Ret)

Local U.S. Marine veterans joined-in with the card signing regiment of MCL Burbank Det. #072 and Chicago Pd#12, Pk of IL at their meeting for "Operation Valentine," a request made by a 104-year



Major Bill White



William D. "Denny" Weisgerber

centenarian and WWII U.S. Marine veteran, Major Bill White (USMC Ret.). He is a Purple Heart recipient and Iwo Jima survivor who resides in California.

Led by Commandant Jason Torres, MCL Burbank Det. #072 garnered over 250 cards in about a week, many with multiple signatures placed across each card in every direction, from its members and the community. The cards expressed well wishes of gratitude from the heart for this very young U.S. Marine veteran.

Major White had "Borne the Battle" storming a beachhead on an island no one heard of practically seventy-five years ago next week (Feb.19), and later where Ole Glory can be seen from afar placed atop the highest peak on Feb. 23rd. The colors "Scarlet and Gold" run deeper than the threads under the Dress Blue uniform. They best exemplify the virtual meaning "We take care of our Own."

Please turn to **CIRCLE** on page 3

Last of the First Club

By Col. Richard B. Rothwell, USMC (Ret.)



Part 1 of 2 Parts

The bottle to be opened at FMDA's 73rd reunion

Editor's note: The 1st Marine Division has been home-based at Camp Pendleton since 1948, when it returned from its World War II combat and occupational duties. The term "home" is relative because the Division has been absent for extended periods while answering our nation's call in Korea, Vietnam, Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, and several places in between. This is part of the 1st Marine Division story and, therefore, part of Camp Pendleton history.

"Last Man" clubs are hardly new. Some say the idea began in the 1650s with upside-down Ponzi investment schemes called tontines. They were named after a Neapolitan banker who invented them and became a popular way to raise and invest money.

Investors paid a sum into the fund and received annual dividends based on the success of their investment. To make the game more exciting, the shares of any investor who died were divided among the survivors. This, of course, raised the possibility of huge gains for the last man standing. Unfortunately, it also encouraged age gaming.

More than one investor was known to have placed his shares under the name of an infant son or daughter. Worse, the rules also encouraged some investors to do away with competitors who stood between them and

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The 1st Marine Division Association

Officers and Committees

Executive Committee
2019 – 2021

President Jerry Johs
22 Pollari Road, Raymond, WA 98577-9227
Cell (503) 784-7697
Email: Geronamo0122@gmail.com

Vice President Arthur John (A.J.) Burn
107 Ervine Ave, Linwood, PA 19061-4315
Cell (494-5818
Email: ajburn49@aol.com

Deputy Vice President, East Elmer Hawkins
450 Basin St, Daytona Beach FL 32114-5048
Cell: (386) 679-3814
Email: EHAWKINS23@AOL.COM

Deputy Vice President, Central Phillip Peeler, Sr
2207 NE Chipman Rd, Lee's Summit MO 64086
Cell (816) 695-9700
Email phllpeeler@yahoo.com

Deputy Vice President, West
Stephen C. Dulin
12876 Spring Meadow Dr., Galt CA 95632-9010
Cell (209)327-5902
Email deltaoscarcharlie@att.net

Treasurer A. J. Burn (Acting)
107 Ervine Ave, Linwood, PA19061-4315
Cell (610)494-5818
Email ajburn49@aol.com

Secretary Pierre A. Sims
841 W. Birchtree Lane, Claymont, DE 19703-1604
Home (302) 792-1497 Cell (215) 605-0723
Email: pierresims@comcast.net

Legal James T. Allison
475 N. Highland St, Apt7B, Memphis, TN 38122
Home (901) 324-2231 Cell (901) 494-0206
Email: jamestallison@att.net

Chaplain Jerry Corrento
19 Cherry Lane, Levittown PA 19055-1603
Home (215)486-5053 Cell (215)840-2257
Email: jcorrento@verizon.net

Sgt-At-Arms
(OPEN)

DAL, East: Jerry Corrento, Jr.
66 Gaping Rock Rd, Levittown PA 19057
Cell (267)300-6938
Email gcorr4267@gmail.com

DAL, Central: Paul Wojahn
24303 180th Ave, New Ulm MN 56073-4001
Home (507)359-7595

DAL, West
(OPEN)

COMMITTEES

History Committee
Chairman: Tom McLeod (museumpacific@cableone.net)
A.J. Burn

Scholarship Selection Committee
Chairman: Len Hayes (lenhayes@cox.net)
A.J. Burn
Brandon Ebeling
Elmer Hawkins
Charlie Kershaw
Tom McLeod
Pierre Sims

Finance Committee
Chairman: Elmer Hawkins (ehawkins23@aol.com)
A.J. Burn
Jerry Johs
David Snider
Ken Vitucci

Awards Committee
Chairman: AJ Burn (ajburn49@aol.com)

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Co-Chairman: AJ Burn / Jerry Corrento
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Chairman: Marty Vasquez
Dan Smith
Bill Unger
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Blue Diamond Committee
Chairman: John Stevens (usmcable7@gmail.com)
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Fund Raising Committee
Chairman: Jerry Johs (geronamo0122@gmail.com)
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By-Laws Committee
Chairman: A.J. Burn (ajburn49@aol.com)
Jerry Johs
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Jerry Corrento, Jr.

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Membership Committee
Chairman: Jerry Johs (geronamo0122@gmail.com)
A.J. Burn
Elmer Hawkins
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Nominating Committee
Chairman: Elmer Hawkins (ehawkins23@aol.com)
Jerry Corrento
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Unit Directors
1st Marines Jerry Johs
5th Marines John Loudermilk
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11th Marines Howard Wilt
Engineer BN Paul Wojahn
Aviation Jerry Corrento
Recon BN Open

Updated 17 March 2020

ASSOCIATION STAFF

June Cormier - Executive Assistant
(760) 763-3267
P.O. Box 9000, #902, Oceanside, CA 92051
(760) 763-3268; june.oldbreed@fmda.us

SgtMaj Marty Vasquez - Volunteer Liaison Officer (760) 763-3269

Dennis J. Coady - Administrative Assistant
(760) 763-3268; dennis.oldbreed@fmda.us

Editor, The Old Breed News
Arthur G. Sharp
2473 New Haven Circle
Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141
(813) 614-1326
Email: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Publisher, The Old Breed News
Finisterre Publishing Incorporated
3 Black Skimmer Ct.
Beaufort, SC 29907
(843) 521-1896
Email: Finisterre@ISLC.net

SCHOLARSHIP DATE ANNOUNCED



Attention Scholarship applicants and awardees:

Applications for school year 2021 scholarships will be accepted on or after 1 March 2020.

Current awardees are reminded to submit proof of attendance for fall semester 2020.

All applications should be delivered by mail to Len Hayes, 919 Rivertree Dr., Oceanside CA 92058. Questions? Call (760) 712 7088

President's Message

Jerry Johs



I hope everyone who attended this year's anniversary had a great time. Please join us for the upcoming Reunion taking place at Hilton Dulles Airport Hotel in August. The reservations line and online registration are at the button in the From the Headquarters section below.

Don't forget for those who are on committees or any meetings that there is a handful of important business meetings in April taking place at the hotel above. When we have the dates we will let you all know.

We are still in the planning stage for the tours that will be taking place while we are there. Keep checking your electronic OBN and BDN for any new updates for planned tours and events.

If you know of someone who is still not on our electronic OBN and BDN email lists, please have them contact the office to give them their email address.

Incidentally, read the important message about the FMDA President's status on page 4. Semper Fi,

Jerry Johs, FMDA President

CIRCLE from page 1

Leave no veteran behind is no longer an option. It has become our inspirational Call-to-Duty. We were once, and always will be, Marines. The few and the proud have answered your call, Sir!

Welcome Home Major White. Welcome Home and thank you for your service!

The "Once & Always" continue to march the veterans' agenda forward for those who proudly served in the air, on land and seas.

S/F Chicago MARINES,
George Mulvaney, 773-704-2150



Bill Call

And member Bill Call of Clackamas, Oregon was not far behind. He recently celebrated his 93rd birthday. As Elton John sang, "That's the circle, the circle of life."

Check your label

Your Unit & Service Era

Membership Dues Expiration Date: Month and Year (Life = 0000)

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I-3-5  WWII              0218
JOHN Q MARINE
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Check your name and address (Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). Notify the Membership Chairman if you find an error. **If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4)**, your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 03-10-2020

Life	Annual	Assoc. Annual	Friend	Total
5,093	970	79	20	6,162

Goodbye to a Dear Old Friend of the Association



Mary Lou Russo Tassinari

You don't have to be a Marine to serve with Marines. That was true of Mary Lou Russo Tassinari, wife of FMDA member Henry Tassinari of the Golden Gate Chapter, who passed away on Christmas Eve 2019.

From 1951 to 1962 Mary Lou worked at Oakland Naval Supply Center. In 1954, Mary Lou met Henry Tassinari at a USO dance and they married in November of that year. They rented an apartment in Oakland until 1958, when they moved to a house they bought in the Walnut Creek area. They lived in that same house until this time - except for the period 1962 to 1967, when Henry, a Marine Staff Sergeant, was assigned to Headquarters, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, CA, and reassigned in 1964 to Reno, Nevada, where he and Mary Lou made lifelong friends. When they returned to Walnut Creek they moved back into their "home," which they had rented for those five years.

She volunteered at numerous organizations, including the Walnut Creek Senior Club (monthly Wine and Dine), several Marine Corps groups in the area (Marine Corps League, 1st Marine Division Association, and others), and her favorite, the White Elephant Sale, a benefit for the Oakland Museum.

Mary Lou will be missed by her family, to whom we offer our condolences, friends, and members of the FMDA.

Semper Fi, Mary Lou Tassinari.

NOTE: The details in this farewell are extracted from Mary Lou's obituary, https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/eastbaytimes/obituary.aspx?n=mary-lou-tassinari&pid=194968151&fhid=2384

QUIZ: Which island on which the 1st Marine Division fought in the early part of WWII has been rented by the Chinese? (See the answer on page 4).

The Editor's Desk©

Art Sharp



Old Corporal Hubbard went to the cupboard, and found that the cupboard was bare…

This issue may seem a bit disjointed with its combination of regular, late, and holiday stories. No, we're not getting a head start on our 2020 holiday stories, although we would like to. The holiday stories in this issue are holdovers from our 4th Quarter 2019 issue, which was not published. I mean the entire issue, not just the stories.

Actually, the lack of a 4th Quarter 2019 issue was helpful, at least to the editorial staff. It gave us a chance to replenish our editorial pantry. But, in the process we learned that the shelves are practically bare. We need to restock them.

We are still looking for stories, photos, anecdotes, maps, memoirs, profiles of members, etc. relating to the First Marine Division and your association to fill those shelves. We encourage feedback regarding the material we publish, suggestions for future issues, etc. More chapter news would be helpful.

I suspect that some members don't contribute because they believe mistakenly that we are looking for war-related stories only. That is not true. Many of us served for four years or more (or less) during periods when no wars were in progress. Yet, even in absence of organized combat (which may be an oxymoron) we were involved in some interesting experiences starting with boot camp. Those are worthy of inclusion in the *Old Breed News* too.

Many of our members perform newsworthy post-USMC activities that reflect on their Marine Corps training. As a result they win civic awards, are featured in newspaper articles, earn plaudits from organizations to which they belong…Such information would be of interest in a "Members in the News" segment—and might help attract new members.

So, if you have any stories or information that you would like to see in *Old Breed News*, please send it in. We have to keep the pantry stocked and future issues filled. I dread the day that I find the cupboard bare—if there is such a thing as a cupboard. It seems to me that one of my DIs at Parris Island told me once that if the Marine Corps wanted me to have a cupboard it would issue me one. I guess it didn't want me to have one, since I never got a cupboard with my 782 gear. (Ah, yes: I can picture younger members asking just what 782 gear might be.)

By the way, what is a cupboard?

I look forward to receiving your submissions.

The State of the FMDA Presidency and the 2020 Anniversary Meetings

The last few elections have found the FMDA with only one candidate for President. With multiple candidates our problem may not have arisen.

The last election cycle found the Association with one candidate, James Fossos, submitting his application by the deadline. Thus, he was the only candidate who was in accord with the current trend. Before the election Fossos suffered from medical problems, but he expressed his desire to be in Louisville and take the reins of Presidency of the FMDA. Unfortunately, medical problems persisted and he was unable to attend.

This left the FMDA with two alternatives according to the By-laws. Article 5, section B Subsection 1c allows for Officers to remain until their successor is appointed or elected. Although the President was elected, he was unable to assume his duties.

Article 5 Section D, Subsection b1 has the Vice-President take over the duties should the President be incapacitated, but President Elect Fossos never assumed his duties. It was decided to have Jerry Johs remain as President until the Anniversary and allow time for Fossos to recover. Conversations with Fossos were optimistic and he expressed a desire to perform his duties.

At the 2020 Anniversary Fossos was still hampered medically and was unable to attend. At the Executive Committee Meeting. officers voted unanimously to allow Johs to remain as President until the next election or whenever Fossos is physically fit to take over. This action allows the FMDA maximum continuity and minimal disruption of the Officers. This was especially desirable with the medical problems of Fossos and the deaths of Weisgerber and Lakernick.

The subsequent meetings of the Board of Directors and the Membership that afternoon were unable to raise a quorum.

Now let us focus on the future. Support President Johs and the FMDA. Pray for Fossos. Keep marching forward.

Executive Board, from its meeting on 31 January 2020 aboard Camp Pendleton, California.

QUIZ ANSWER: Tulagi. According to an article in the October 17, 2019 UK-based The Times:

"Beijing has extended its influence and control over the approaches to Australia by leasing a Pacific island from the impoverished Solomon Islands.

"The deal to rent the island of Tulagi to a conglomerate closely linked to the Chinese government has raised concerns that Beijing will establish a military foothold about 1,000 miles from Australia's northeast coast.

"Details of the deal have emerged just days after the Solomons switched diplomatic allegiance to Beijing from Taiwan, which China regards as a renegade province."

LAST from page 1

the benefit of being that last man. Such behavior eventually led to tontines being banned in the United States and Great Britain.

Last Man Bottle Clubs are a more gentlemanly adaptation of this earlier rough and tumble scheme. Typically, comrades from a common adventure, often a military campaign, designate a bottle of fine or not so fine spirits to be kept unopened until only one of their number remains alive. The lone survivor then opens the bottle and drinks a toast to those who have fallen before.

Though less likely to bring out the darker side of human nature, last man bottle clubs have also led to unintended consequences. In July 1885, 34 Civil War veterans of Minnesota Company B formed one of the first such clubs in the United States. The prize was a bottle of wine donated by one of the founders. Each year the group met in a room containing 34 chairs. As years passed fewer and fewer chairs were occupied. By 1928, only three of the original 34 members remained alive. What started as a soldierly, comradely gathering to remember deeds of their youth had become a painful reminder of old friends lost and of the inevitable fate of those who remained. The group disbanded that year.

Shortly before he died in 1935, Charles Lockwood, the last survivor of Company B, was quoted as saying, "Don't any one ever start another club like this."

Members of a World War II last man bottle club in the state of Washington State take a lighter approach, greeting each other with gallows humor:

"How are you doing?"

"Great!"

"Darn."

Mr. Lockwood's admonition notwithstanding, something compels men who have faced great danger together to keep their memories alive through last man clubs. Perhaps they do it to perpetuate a strong bond forged in combat. Perhaps they hoped it would keep their accomplishments from being forgotten. Regardless of why they do it or whether the "last man" will see his status as an honor or burden, last man bottle clubs remain common among warriors. The Marines and sailors of the 1st Marine Division who fought on Guadalcanal and



Gen Alexander A. Vandegrift, commander of the division during the Guadalcanal and Solomon Island campaigns and 18th Commandant of the Marine Corps, inspects the Last of the First bottle at a division reunion.

follow-on Pacific Theater campaigns were no different.

The division landed on Guadalcanal and the nearby, smaller islands of Tulagi, Gavutu, and Tanambogo on August 7, 1942. It was the first predominately American ground offensive of World War II. The battles for the three outlying islands were fierce, but short. All were secured within two days. In contrast, the main landing on Guadalcanal met only light resistance. That soon changed.

The Japanese recognized the strategic importance of Guadalcanal to their continued advances and, if lost, as a threat to their major base in Rabaul. They countered ferociously, bringing reinforcements by sea to stop the Marines. Ashore, the jungle battles against foes and disease were fierce and deadly, fought by geographically isolated forces, dependent on their navies to sustain them. At sea American and Japanese ships and aircraft clashed in a mighty test of power and will. The outcome on the deep would determine the victor ashore.

Relieved by other Marine and Army units in early December, the war-weary 1st Marine Division headed to Australia for rest and rehabilitation and to prepare for its next campaign. While the final outcome on Guadalcanal appeared certain, the replacements continued the struggle until February 1943, when the Japanese finally withdrew the remnants of their forces.

It is hard for many of us today to understand or fully appreciate the significance of what the 1st Marine Division and the U.S. Navy accomplished at Guadalcanal. The advance of Japanese forces in the Southern Pacific was stopped: Australia and New Zealand were saved. On the home front, American defeats at Pearl Harbor, Wake Island, and the Philippines, if not avenged, were mitigated by the resounding victory. To the men who fought with the 1st Marine Division a legacy was born.

Two years to the day after the landing on Guadalcanal 14 Marines who had participated in that battle gathered at the Piedmont Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia to reminisce and establish the "Last of the First," reportedly the first U.S. last man's bottle club of World War II. Membership was opened to Marines and sailors of the 1st Marine Division (Reinforced), Fleet Marine Force Pacific, who had "actually participated in active combat operations during World War II and who are active duty or who left the service under honorable conditions."

By August 1944, the Division had gone on to fight in New Guinea and New Britain, making some 20,000 veterans eligible. What the founders could not know was that the battles for Peleliu and Okinawa lay ahead. By V-J Day more than 50,000 Marines and sailors would be eligible to join.

The group elected Warrant Officer Luther A. McLendon as president. Sergeant James R. Northrop must have been a very popular man that evening. His friends elected him vice president, secretary, treasurer, and custodian of the bottle. The reason for his popularity is lost in history, but there is precedent to suggest that he may have been nominated and elected while out of the room.

The founders elected Lieutenant General Alexander Archer Vandergrift, who commanded the Division during the Guadalcanal and Solomon Island Campaigns, as honorary president. However, if he happened to attend a meeting, he would have to leave his insignia at the door. By-laws stated that there were to be no officers or enlisted — just members.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Hopefully we will print Part II on our next issue—if we can locate it. This article is reprinted from "GROUNDBREAKER," a publication of the Camp Pendleton Historical Society, Fourth Quarter 2011, Vol. 5, #4, pp. 1, 2, and 4.

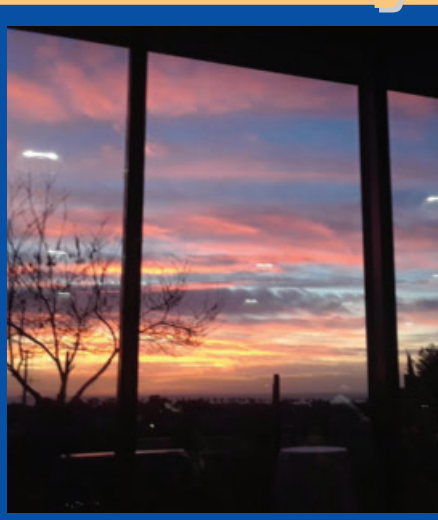
The First Marine Division's Birthday

79th Annual Birthday Gathering a Success

We recently enjoyed another successful birthday gathering. As this photo collage suggests, we had a great turnout and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Gathering #80 is just a few months off. It might seem a little early to start making plans. After all, we haven't even finished our 2020 reunion yet. But, look at it this way: you have two great opportunities upcoming to meet with your FMDA buddies. Why not start planning now?

















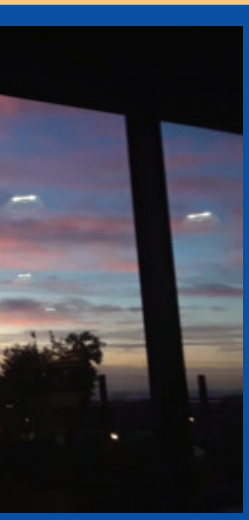






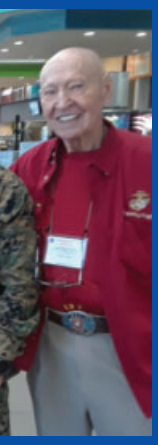


Gathering

























Can't we just leave in peace?

As the U.S. Marines wound down their active involvement in Vietnam they became involved in a combination of logistical and military operations. The North Vietnamese were not going to let them depart without a few warning shots—literally. And the Marines were going to take a few of their own as they completed their part of "Operation Imperial Lake," a joint operation with U.S. Army units.

"Operation Imperial Lake," the 1st Marine Division's final operation of the war, lasted from September 1, 1970 to May 7, 1971, by which time the Marines were long gone.

OPERATION IMPERIAL LAKE TIME TABLE

January to May 1971

■ On 8 January, 1/5 Marines withdrew its forward command post and one of its companies from the operation.

■ On 25 January, 2nd Platoon, Company L, 3/5 Marines engaged 10 PAVN 2.48 kilometers (1.54 mi) northeast of Firebase Ross, killing 9 for no losses.

■ On 13 February, the 2/5 Marines command group replaced the 3/5 Marines command group on Hill 381 and assumed command of the operation. On 15 February Companies K and L, 3/5 Marines were withdrawn to Hill 34 (16.002°N 108.17°E) near Da Nang Air Base for redeployment to the United States.

■ 1st Battalion, 11th Marines took over artillery support replacing the 2/11 Marines who were also being redeployed. With the planned closure of Firebases Ross and Ryder, the 1/11 Marines moved to new firebases in the Quế Sơn Mountains at Hills 218, 381, 425 and 510.

■ In January and February, the Marines killed 85 alleged PAVN/VC for the loss of 1 Marine. The operation continued to uncover large quantities of ammunition and supplies, disrupting their logistics network. These included unarmed women and children killed during the Son Thang massacre.

■ On 1 March, the 2/5 Marines moved its command post from Hill 381 to LZ Baldy in preparation for their redeployment, on 2 March, the 1st Marine Regiment took control of the operation and established its command post on Hill 510 and on 3 March Companies F and H, 2/5 Marines were withdrawn from the operation.

■ On 23 March, 1/5 Marines moved its command post and two companies from Hill 510 in preparation for redeployment and 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines established their command post on Hill 510 together with Companies K and L.

■ On 28 March, the 1st Marine Division expanded the Imperial Lake area of operations to include the mountains west and northwest of Danang, known as the "Rocket Belt." On 30 March Companies K and L had left Hill 510 and moved back to the Rocket Belt, leaving one platoon on the hill.

■ On 6 April, Company B, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment was landed at Hill 510, beginning the handover of the area of operations to the 23rd Infantry Division. From 7 to 8 April, the 3/1 Marines command post and the platoon from Company L, 3/1 Marines left Hill 510. On 13 April the 25th Infantry Division formally assumed control of southern Quảng Nam Province.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Imperial_Lake

"Operation Imperial Lake," the 1st Marine Division's final operation of the war, lasted from September 1, 1970 to May 7, 1971, by which time the Marines were long gone. Until they were, they could not let their guard down, which was reflected in 1/5's Command Report for the period 1 March – 31 March 1971. Here is a part of that report.

1971 NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During this period the Battalion continued its mission in the assigned operating area under the operational control of the 1st Marine Division while simultaneously continuing operation "IMPERIAL LAKE" in the Que Son Mountains with a Battalion Forward Command Group and various subordinate elements. The latter forces were under the operational control of the 1st Marine Regiment. Additional responsibility for the security of Baldy Combat Base (former Command Post of the Fifth Marine Regiment and units of the 11th Marine Artillery Regiment) was accomplished from 1-20 March 1971. Second Battalion, First Marines provided one company unit to this Battalion for assistance in these tasks as well as one field grade officer who was placed in command of the forces at Baldy Combat Base.

2. Units operating in the Que Son Mountains (IMPERIAL LAKE) discovered numerous base camps, tunnels, and staging areas. Six enemy soldiers (VC/NVA) were killed and numerous items of ordnance weapons, foodstuffs, medical supplies, materials and valuable intelligence documents were captured. Logistical Support activity for all forward elements was accomplished from the helicopter landing zone at Hill 34 (AT98970) and provided adequate support at all times.

A field galley was established at the Battalion Forward Command Post and provided hot meals almost daily. This command post was visited periodically by the Commanding General, Major General C. F. WIDDECKE, the Assistant Division Commander, Brigadier General E. H. SIMMONS, and other dignitaries and officials of various services. Battery "C," 1st Battalion, 11th Marines provided direct fire sup-

port with two 155mm Howitzers and. four l05mm Howitzers collocated with the Forward Command Group on Hill 510. Organic forces returned to Hill 34 Command Post on 21 March 1971, and this Battalion's participation in Operation "IMPERIAL LAKE" and operational control by 1st Marine Regiment was terminated. Throughout the month of March the administration, supply, and logistical efforts were performing multiple missions; supporting the forward elements involved with "Operation IMPERIAL LAKE," providing support to the forces securing the battalion rear operating area on Division Ridge, Hill 327, Hill 340 and the area surrounding the Force Logistics Command cantonment as well as continuing preparations for stand-down on 24 March and eventual embarkation of the battalion.

The operating area and the command post cantonment was relinquished to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines at 1200H on 24 March and the battalion assumed a "Stand-Down" posture, less Company C, which remained on Division Ridge under the operational control of 2/1 in anticipation of enemy rocket, mortar and ground attack possibilities.

Simultaneously with the stand-down accomplishment, the battalion relocated to the northern end of the cantonment into quarters, offices and building facilities formerly occupied by other stand-down units and began the administrative work load of hundreds of individual transferees, combined with almost "around the clock" working details in preparation for embarkation, or invoice of supplies, weapons, vehicles, equipment and property to the forces of the Republic of Vietnam or other U. S. Armed. Forces. The Civic Action Program continued its MedCap and people to people functions through 23 March when the relieving battalion assumed the various projects currently in progress. No communication problems were encountered, although requirements were dramatically increased during the "IMPERIAL LAKE" participation.

Source: https://www.vietnam.ttu.edu/reports/images.php?img=/images/1201/1201048063.pdf

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and Happy Holidays to All

At this holy time of the year everyone is getting ready to hold celebrations, many of a religious nature. Religion aside, I present one of the most touching moments I ever had concerning giving and receiving thanks.

I am an 87-year-young Marine who served in Korea from October 1952 until September 1953 with D/2/1 as an 0300. For the final three months of that time we were between the MLR, on outposts, or occasionally in reserve areas.

The particular event I am referencing occurred on Christmas Eve 1952. The lieutenant got us together and said our job that night was to spend the night on a blocking position near Outpost Reno.

"Bring a lot of warm clothes," he said.

We did a force march there, using back packs to carry our parkas. We didn't wear them until we got there so we wouldn't be slowed down. When we got there we entered two-man foxholes and set up a 100 percent watch.

The Chinese were active that Christmas Eve. They played carols and songs like "White Christmas" over speakers all night. They sent messages like "Drop your weapons, Marines. Come on over for warm food. Don't fight for the warmongers at home in their warm houses."

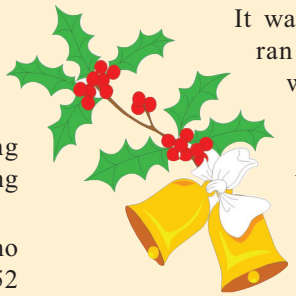
About that time we got a fix on the loud speakers and called in mortar fire. After a few rounds of adjustment and fire for effect, about twenty minutes later we got a different message:

"Marines, why did you do that? We're your friends. Come over. We will treat you well."

We got on the phone again. Fire the same mission one more time.

Okay, now you know how I spent Christmas Eve 1952.

My post-war life was a good one. I married and had five wonderful daughters. Now I'm in my middle 80s. Korea was miles away and I had forgotten it until another Christmas Eve arrived.



It was five p.m. and I ran out of Chablis wine. I buy a jug at a time, so I went with my wife Pat, to the wine store in Orangeburg, New York, where I live. I went in to pick up my bottle. I stood behind another customer and then paid my bill to the owner, a Korean gentlemen. On my way out I stopped and said, "Sir, I was in your country."

He looked at me and I said "I was a Marine 65 Years ago tonight, on Christmas Eve I was trying to stay warm in a hole in the ground, with snow falling on me. I was listening to propaganda the enemy was broadcasting to us to surrender. We did not."

I said a few more words, including "Merry Christmas." But the Korean gentleman did not say a word, not even a return "Merry Christmas." I took my wine and walked out. Just as I opened the car door I heard a voice calling from behind. It was the old Korean man.

He handed me a bottle of wine and said, "Thank you, sir, for helping save our country. I was a little boy at home in my bed sleeping while the Marines were protecting me. Thank you very much."

He had tears in his eyes. I had a few myself. We hugged. He said, "Merry Christmas, sir."

I will never forget that moment. God Bless the U.S. Marine Corps for letting me be there and return home to tell that story.

Merry Christmas, Marines.

Incidentally, I am particularly proud of the Marine Corps Marathon, which in later years I decided to run. I ran 25 consecutive Marine Corps Marathons, the only Korean War veteran ever to do that.

Art Cooke, artcooke2000@yahoo.com

Dates, Site for 2020 Reunion Set

Dates to remember for FMDA Boards and Committees Meeting: April 23-26, 2020

• Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon VA 20171

• Hotel phone: 1-703-478-2900

• Group Name: FMDA Board Meeting

• Room rate: $104.

• Reservations cutoff date: 31 March 2020

Reservations link: *https://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/I/IADAH-HF-FB23IC-20200423/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POGReservations*

Last Man Bottle To Be Opened

Our 73rd Annual Reunion, 14-23 August, 2020, near Washington, D.C.

The 1st Marine Division Association returns to our nation's capital for our 73rd Annual Reunion. We have met there before: 1950, 1952, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1979, 1984, 1992, 2004, and 2011.

Our base will be the Hilton Dulles Airport Hotel, Herndon, Virginia.

We will mark the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Iwo Jima (19 February-26 March 1945), and commemorate the 14 August Victory over Japan Day and the 2 September 1945 Surrender Signing that ended the



Hilton Dulles Airport Hotel, Herndon, Virginia

Pacific Campaign of World War II.

Quiz: What is the only U.S. state that celebrates VJ as an official holiday? (Answer follows)

At the Reunion banquet the 1st Division's Last Man Bottle will be opened and shared among those Pacific Campaign Marines gathered there.

Come join us. Activities are in the planning stage. We are exploring visits to:

• National Museum of the Marine Corps

• Vietnam Memorial Wall for our memorial service

• Iwo Jima Memorial



The Iwo Jima Memorial in Arlington, VA

• World War II Memorial

Please let us know of any other sites you would want considered. We are looking into having a bus available to shuttle from the hotel into downtown D.C.

This year's banquet will feature the opening of the 1st Division's Last Man Bottle.

Developing details of the itinerary will printed in upcoming editions of the Blue Diamond News and the OBN.

You can keep current on the Association events at our website: *www.firstmardivassoc.com*

And, for a look at the highlights of Washington D.C. access https://washington.org/

Welcome to the 73rd Annual Reunion of the First Marine Division reservation site!

Located just three miles from Dulles International Airport (IAD) and 30 miles from Washington D.C., this hotel is ideal for both business travelers, with its proximity to local corporations and government offices, and leisure guests seeking to explore the area or take the metro to the popular attractions of D.C. Features include spacious guest rooms, on-property dining options, a large fitness center, and a salt water swimming pool.

• A block of rooms has been reserved for August 15, 2020-August 24, 2020.

• An additional $10.00 per person will apply for triple or quad occupancy

• Cutoff date for reservations is August 1, 2020.

To contact the hotel:

13869 Park Center Road
Herndon, Virginia 20171, USA
Tel: 703-478-2900
Fax: 703-834-1996

See you at the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport in August! We hope you enjoy your stay and your group's event!

From the hotel's website, which is *https://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/virginia/hilton-washington-dulles-airport-IADAHHF/index.html:*

Top Conveniences

• 3 miles from Dulles International Airport (IAD) and 30 minutes to Washington DC

• Complimentary Airport Shuttle, hotel parking and basic in-room WiFi

• Executive Rooms offer access to Executive Lounge with daily refreshments

• Spacious fitness center, indoor saltwater swimming pool, and whirlpool

• Old Ox Grill Restaurant, outdoor fire pits, Cardinal Lounge, plus honey bee farm on-site

• Over 40,000 sq. ft. of meeting and event space, with 3 spacious ballrooms and 29 breakout rooms

Local Attractions

• National Air & Space Museum

• Winery at Bull Run

• Pleasant Valley Golf

• Tyson's Corner Center

• Reston Town Center

Quiz Answer: Rhode Island.



A view of the Washington Monument (Photo from *washington.org, by @timothyharnisch)*

Helpful links for finding info

Here is a link to a document put out by Congressional Research Service on locating military records.

https://www.archives.gov/research/military/marine-corps/command-chronology

Command Chronologies: Vietnam War | National Archives

This series primarily consists of command chronologies of U.S. Marine Corps units that served during the time of the Vietnam Conflict, and includes the records of those units that served in Vietnam as well as domestically and throughout the world.

Most of these chronologies include four common sections of information: organizational data, narrative summaries of events, accomplishments and losses, sequential listings of significant events within the unit, and supporting documentation.

More extensive chronologies include lists of commanders, lists of staff officers, lists of location(s) where units were stationed, lists of awards and training received, lists of operations participated in, situation reports, and records relating to community relations activities. ...

www.archives.gov

Another source:

Email Ann Kelsey, "VVHP" Resource Librarian, for addresses to obtain records. Be sure to give as much information as you can about yourself, your unit, and your tour of duty. *http://www.vietvet.org/ records.htm*

Record Archives, Unit Diaries, Rosters, Etc.

Marine Corps Unit Records are housed at the USMC Historical Division at the Washington Navy Yard in Washington, D.C. The unit records are very good and quite extensive, which actually makes for a bit of a problem ... there is so much material it often requires quite a bit of research to find particular documents.

www.vietvet.org

and another:

Marine Corps University: How to Find Muster Rolls and Unit Diaries

https://www.usmcu.edu/Research/Marine-Corps-History-Division/Information-for-Units/Muster-Rolls-and-Unit-Diaries/

Marine Corps University > Research > Marine Corps History Division > Information for Units > Muster Rolls and Unit Diaries

Helpful Hint: Muster Rolls/Rosters of Recruit Training Battalions at Parris Island or San Diego do not include Recruit Platoon numbers. Researchers should attempt to provide the lowest unit echelon known along with the specific month and year when making request (i.e.: Company A, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines for April 1968).

www.usmcu.edu

Thanks to Dennis Coady at FMDA HQ for this helpful info.

Don't forget you can shop online at the PX

All honorably discharged veterans can shop online through the Army & Air Force Exchange Service. Shoppers can save significant amounts of money doing so, since there is no state sales tax and shipping on purchases over $49 is free.

The Exchange's commitment to veterans includes veteran shoppers—in 2017, the Department of Defense concurred with extending a lifelong online military Exchange shopping benefit to all honorably discharged veterans.

Veterans can visit ShopMy Exchange.com/vets to learn more. All you need is a DD-214 to get registered and get shopping.

DOD and VA Will Commemorate National Vietnam War Veterans Day, 3rd Anniversary

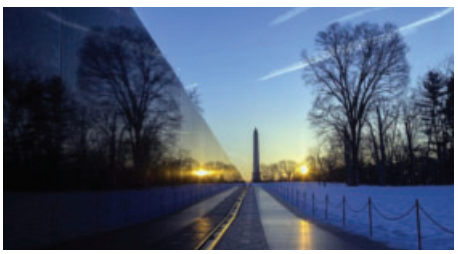


WASHINGTON – The Department of Defense will conduct a wreath laying ceremony with the Department of Veterans Affairs at The Vietnam War Memorial on March 29, 2020. On March 28, 2017, President Trump signed into law The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017, establishing The National Vietnam War Veterans Day that will, henceforth, be celebrated each year on March 29.

This will be the third anniversary of that special day. DOD will also support over 1,600 events in many states across the nation to recognize, honor, and thank U.S. Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifices.

In 2019, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, Kim Joiner, hosted the ceremony at the Vietnam War Memorial to continue the department's contribution to the commemoration. "Publicly and individually presenting a Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin to the men and women representing all who served during this challenging time in our Nation's history will be the privilege of a lifetime," said Joiner.

She was joined by Veterans Affairs Executive Director, Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, Gary Tallman. "We are proud to partner with DOD for this noble mission to support communities – large and small alike – throughout the nation to thank and honor thousands of Vietnam veterans and their families."



Va Benefits For Korean War Veterans

Following World War II, Korea was divided into two administrative regions separated by the 38thparallel. North Korea was occupied by the Soviet-backed Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and South Korea was administered by the American-backed Republic of Korea

In June 1950, 75,000 members of the DPRK Army, with support from both the Soviet Union and China, crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded the Republic of Korea. In response, the United States formed and led an international alliance to defend the South.

After three years, an official cease-fire was announced stopping hostilities between the North and South. The Korean Armistice Agreement established the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), a 2.5 mile wide border that acts as a buffer between the two Koreas. The war was considered ended at that point, but a peace treaty was never signed.

Service-Connected Disability Benefits for Korean Vets

Korean War veterans with a disability or injury that occurred (or was aggravated) during the war, may qualify for service-connected disability compensation. *Eligibility requirements include having been discharged from service under other than dishonorable conditions.*

Aid & Attendance for Korean War Veterans

Korean War veterans with non-service connected health issues who need long-term care may be eligible for Aid & Attendance. The Aid & Attendance benefit is a tax-free pension for qualified Korean War veterans, their spouses and surviving spouses who need help with some of the activities of daily living. The veteran must have served at least 90 days of active duty, with at least one day during an eligible period of war. The eligible wartime period for the Korean Conflict is June 27, 1950 through January 31, 1955. Additional requirements include having an honorable or other than dishonorable discharge.

The Aid & Attendance benefit does not need to be paid back. It is a lifetime benefit to cover the cost of home care, board and care, adult day care, assisted living and skilled nursing. For more information, contact an American Veterans Aid benefit consultant at (877) 427-8065.

Korean War Veteran Health Risks

During the Korean War, service members were exposed to many hazards with serious long-term health consequences, such as below freezing climate conditions, noise and vibration, radiation (nuclear weapons testing or cleanup), chemical warfare agent experiments, asbestos, industrial solvents, fuels, lead, PCBs and chemical agent resistant coating (CARC).

Cold Injuries

Siberian winds cause temperatures in various parts of Korea to drop below 0 degrees F. During the Chosin Reservoir Campaign, which lasted from October 1950 through December 1950, the temperature dropped to 50 degrees F below zero, with a wind chill factor of 100 degrees F below zero. Cold injuries included hypothermia, frostbite and trench foot.

An estimated 5,000 Korean service members with cold injuries were evacuated from Korea during the winter of 1950-1951. Cold injuries can develop into more series health conditions such as diabetes and peripheral vascular disease.

Noise & Vibration Injuries

Hearing loss is one of the most common types of military-related injuries. The noise and vibration from guns, explosives, aircraft, communication devices and machinery can cause hearing loss, tinnitus and other types of acoustic trauma. Korean War hazardous noise exposure occurred during training, various types of military operations and combat.

Radiation Exposure

Korean War veterans who participated in nuclear-related activities were exposed to radiation that caused serious and even fatal diseases, such as cancer, leukemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma. Other types of radiation exposure included:

• X-ray radiation from high voltage vacuum tubes at stations operated by the U.S. Coast Guard.

• Pilots, submariners, divers and other individuals who received Nasopharyngeal (nose and throat) radium irradiation treatments to prevent ear damage from pressure changes.

Other Occupational Hazards

In addition to noise, vibration and radiation hazards, many Korean veterans were also exposed to asbestos, industrial solvents, lead, fuels, PCBs and CARC paint.

Asbestos is a fibrous mineral found in rock and soil that can cause serious health problems, including cancer and lung disease. Korean War veterans may have been exposed to asbestos if their work involved:

• Mining
• Milling
• Building and repairing ships or other types of shipyard work
• Insulation
• Building demolition
• Carpentry, construction, manufacturing and installation of certain types of products, like flooring and roofing.

Industrial solvents were used during the Korean War to clean, degrease and strip or thin paint. Long-term exposure to industrial solvents can cause various health problems such as:

• Breathing problems
• Neurological damage
• Visual problems

Lead Poisoning

Lead poisoning was another potential hazard for Korean War veterans. Lead is a toxic metal that can accumulate in the body. Korean War veterans may have been exposed to lead if they drank water from old lead pipes, came in contact with lead-based paints, or spent long periods of time at an indoor firing range.

Air, dust, soil and commercial products can also contain lead. Symptoms of lead poisoning include fatigue, gastrointestinal problems, anemia, increased blood pressure, weakness, decreased memory, difficulty concentrating, hyperactivity and irritability.

Diesel and jet fuel

Exposure to diesel and jet fuel also impacted the health of Korean War service members. The gases and air particles from the combustion or burning of diesel and jet fuel contain toxic chemicals that can harm the body. Prolonged exposure can lead to respiratory problems and lung cancer.

PCBs

PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) are manufactured organic chemicals that were used as coolants and lubricants in various products until 1977. PCB exposure can lead to numerous health issues such as liver problems, neurotoxicity and cancer. Korean War veterans who repaired PCB transformers, capacitors and conduits were at risk for PCB exposure.

CARC

CARC (Chemical Agent Resistant Coating) paint, also known as camouflage paint, was used by the military to make the metal surfaces on vehicles, helicopters, and certain types of equipment more resistant to corrosion and chemical warfare agents.

Korean War veterans who painted tanks, armored personnel carriers, and other military vehicles may have been exposed to CARC paint. Health issues resulting from CARC paint include respiratory problems and kidney damage.

Korean War Veterans may be eligible for a wide-variety of benefits available to all U.S. military Veterans. VA benefits include disability compensation, pension, education and training, health care, home loans, insurance, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and burial. See our Veterans page for an overview of the benefits available to all veterans.

The following sections provide information tailored to the experiences of Korean War veterans to help you better understand specific VA benefits for which you may qualify:

Benefits for Korean War Veterans Who Experience Cold Injuries

Veterans who experienced cold injuries may have medical conditions resulting from a cold-related disease or injury. Examples of cold-related medical conditions include:

- skin cancer in frostbite scars
- arthritis
- fallen arches
- stiff toes
- cold sensitization.

These cold-related problems may worsen as veterans grow older and develop complicating conditions such as diabetes and peripheral vascular disease, which place them at higher risk for late amputations.

Learn more about cold injuries on the Veterans Health Administration's Cold Injuries page, and about how service-connected cold injuries or diseases may qualify you for VA Disability Compensation benefits.

Benefits for Korean War Veterans Exposed to Ionizing Radiation

Korean War-era veterans may qualify for health care and compensation benefits if you were exposed to ionizing radiation during military service. Health care services include an Ionizing Radiation Registry health exam and clinical treatment at VA's War Related Illness and Injury Study Centers.

You may also be entitled to disability compensation benefits if you have certain cancers as a result of exposure to ionizing radiation during military service.

Learn more about VA benefits for Veterans exposed to ionizing radiation at:

- Veterans Health Administration's Radiation page
- Disability Compensation Ionizing Radiation Exposure page

Benefits for Korean War veterans who participated in Radiation-Risk Activities

Korean War-era veterans may qualify for health care and compensation benefits if you participated in certain radiation-risk activities, such as nuclear weapons testing, during military service. These veterans may be informally referred to as "Atomic Veterans."

Health care services include an Ionizing Radiation Registry health exam and clinical treatment at VA's War Related Illness and Injury Study Centers. You may also be entitled to disability compensation benefits if you have certain cancers as a result of your participation in a radiation-risk activity during military service.

Learn more about VA benefits for Veterans who participated in radiation-risk activities at:

- Veterans Health Administration's Radiation Risk Activity page
- Disability Compensation Radiogenic Diseases Exposure page

How to Apply

The specific VA benefit or program web page will provide tailored information about how to apply for a particular benefit or program. Generally, service members, veterans, and families can apply for VA benefits using one of the methods below.

- Apply online using eBenefits, OR
- Work with an accredited representative or agent, OR
- Go to a VA regional office and have a VA employee assist you. You can find your regional office on our Facility Locator page.

lnje, South Korea, August 1951

By Francis M. Albin

After a few hours of reaching this place called lnje, a group of us replacements looked around for some unused open areas where we should think about setting up our pup tents. Here, the Marine Corps 3rd Infantry Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment had been in ready reserve for a couple of weeks.

Our 3rd Battalion was made up of three infantry companies, identified as G, H, and I, or "George," "Howe," and "Item" Companies. The three companies were currently occupying an area equal to a couple of city blocks along the east side of the MSR (Main Supply Route) and a river. (See a sketch of the map of lnje).

A Marine Corps infantry company at full strength in the 1950s had a total of 250 men each. Each company had five platoons. To these companies, a battalion might have attachments of machine gun units, mortar units, truck transportation units, and a headquarters and supply unit or company. Totaled, the 3rd Battalion had nearly 1,000 troops.

I, along with another replacement members, decided to set up our tent. Our backpacks had some wooden tent pegs. After setting the tent we used our trenching tools (a small fold up shovel) to dig a small trench so that any rainwater would not enter the tent. We had become quite experienced at setting-up these tents at Camp Pendleton.

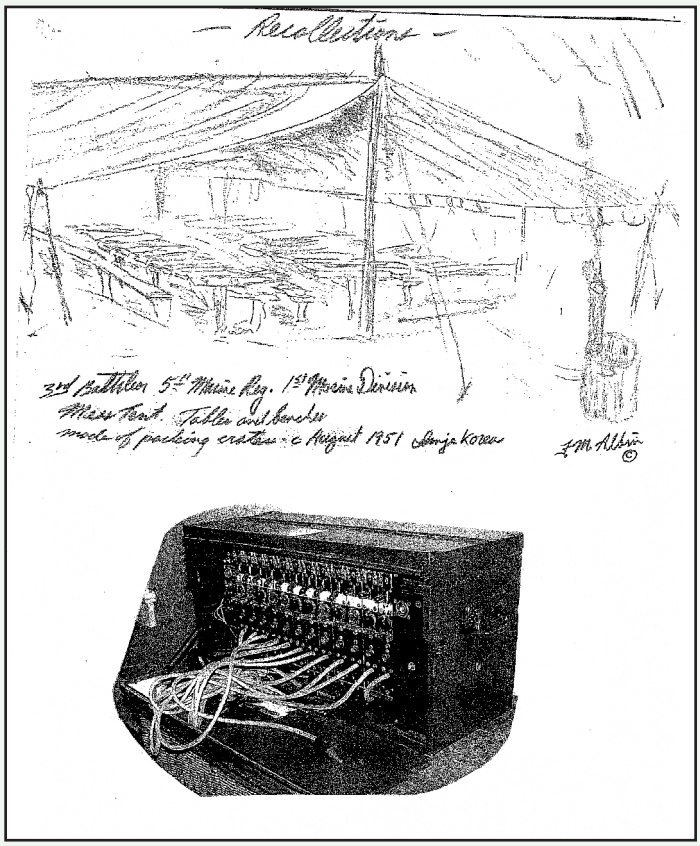
The shelter halves were made of a camouflage cotton material. One side of the material was a darkish green or olive drab color pattern. The reverse side was brownish in color, something you would use to blend in with leaves in the spring and fall seasons.

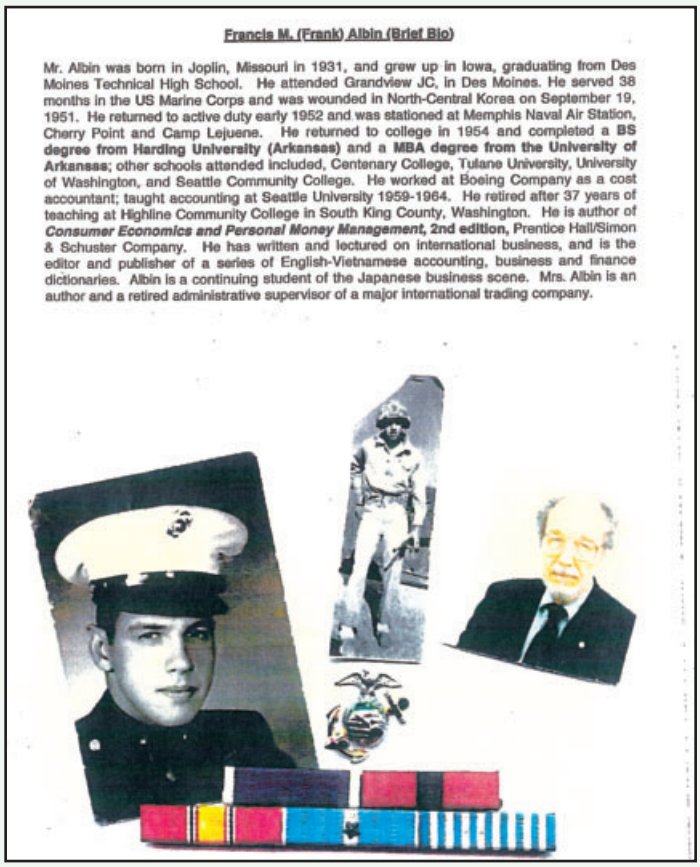
The cloth tent material was not waterproof, but only water repellent. That is, you had to be careful not to touch or rub up against the tent during a rain from the underside, as this could create a spot for leakage and drips. Next, we placed our ponchos on the bare ground and then rolled-out our summer lightweight nylon sleeping bags with the wool liner and laid them out inside the tent. We both stowed our backpacks, rifles and other "782 gear" inside the tent.

I did not know for a couple of days that lnje was some sort of a village. There were only remnants of structures, perhaps parts of sheds or holding pens. In the lnje area, a river ran from south to north and it had a swift and cold current. On the far side of the river there was a near vertical hillside or low mountainside.

As the evening wore on, there might be a movie when it grew dark. However, I was too tired to go and decided to try to get some sleep. In the evening, there were some clouds forming and a few drops of rain began falling on our tent. Soon, a light rain began to fall throughout the evening and it was noticeable as each raindrop was audible as it struck the tent.

It continued to rain lightly throughout the night and early morning. Sometime around 4 and 5 a.m. my side of the tent was beginning to get wet. So were my nylon sleeping bag and some



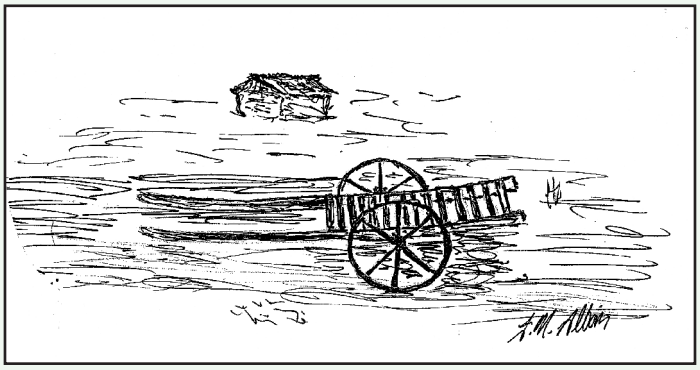

Francis M. (Frank) Albin (Brief Bio)

Mr. Albin was born in Joplin, Missouri in 1931, and grew up in Iowa, graduating from Des Moines Technical High School. He attended Grandview JC, in Des Moines. He served 38 months in the US Marine Corps and was wounded in North-Central Korea on September 19, 1951. He returned to active duty early 1952 and was stationed at Memphis Naval Air Station, Cherry Point and Camp Lejuene. He returned to college in 1954 and completed a **BS degree from Harding University (Arkansas)** and a **MBA degree from the University of Arkansas**; other schools attended included, Centenary College, Tulane University, University of Washington, and Seattle Community College. He worked at Boeing Company as a cost accountant; taught accounting at Seattle University 1959-1964. He retired after 37 years of teaching at Highline Community College in South King County, Washington. He is author of ***Consumer Economics and Personal Money Management*, 2nd edition,** Prentice Hall/Simon & Schuster Company. He has written and lectured on international business, and is the editor and publisher of a series of English-Vietnamese accounting, business and finance dictionaries. Albin is a continuing student of the Japanese business scene. Mrs. Albin is an author and a retired administrative supervisor of a major international trading company.

INJE, SOUTH KOREA
11th Replacement Draft
With the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division
In August 1951

By Francis M. Albin
Marine Corps Support Group
Seattle Area





of my wool inner liner. I tried several maneuvers to stay dry as much as possible. In the early dawn, several other Marines were learning that they too should make deeper trenches around their tents.

Well, there was nothing like getting off to a wet start on the day. The cooks were up in a nearby "mess hall tent" preparing the breakfast. The mess men were busy working with large size metal garbage cans. They contained water and a submerged heating unit system. These stoves operated with kerosene stove oil.

Some of the garbage cans would contain hot soapy water to wash canteen cups and mess kits in. Two more series of garbage cans with heating units contained only boiling rinse water. After these rinses, the canteen cups, mess kits and utensils were clean and they dried quickly for later use.

The meals that we would be eating were similar to the C-Rations that we had been eating. However, the cooks were opening up one-gallon tin cans and emptying the contents into large metal pans. These large pans were kept on top of field kitchen stoves. They were the back-ups for the mess-men on the food serving line. In the morning, we also had powdered milk to drink. The powdered milk was mixed with water in large containers and then served in large pitchers at the mess tables. There were probably three more such "mess halls" in the battalion.

The mess hall was a large squad tent. Old wooden ammunition boxes were broken down and the lumber was used to fabricate crude tabletops and benches. Posts had been driven into the ground and other posts were laid horizontally, forming benches and tables. It wasn't quite Marine Corps "family style" eating, but it was comfortable.

These meals were called B-Rations as to the meals we were eating in the Battalion. There seemed to be heavy emphasis on corned beef hash, beans and franks, and ham and lima beans. The term "A - Rations" described the meals eaten in noncombat areas, where fresh milk, vegetables, bread, cakes and pies might be served. These were the meals prepared at Camp Pendleton in California.

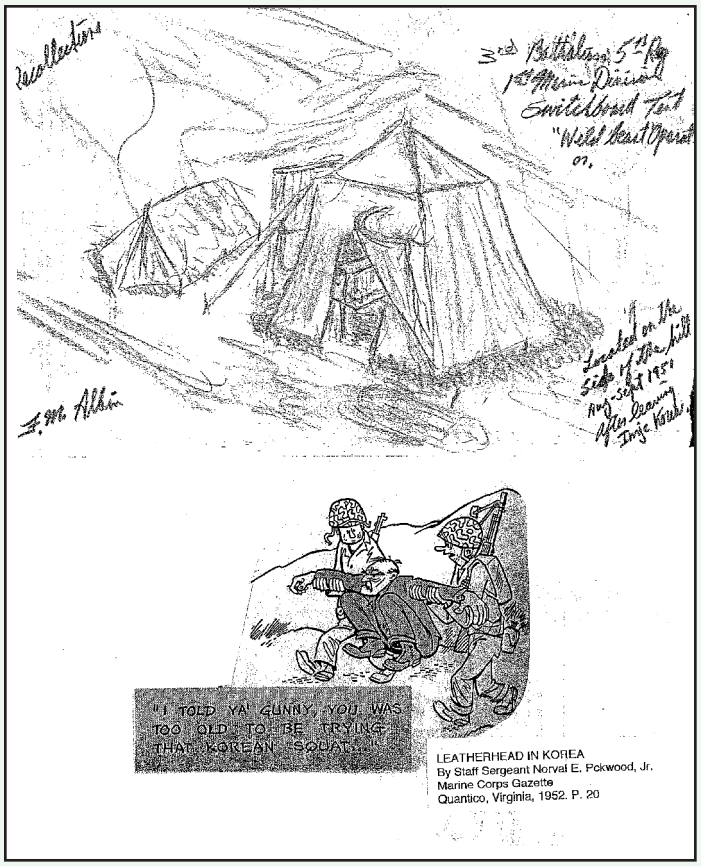
Having a table to set your mess kit and canteen cup on was a great creature comfort compared with trying to eat with the mess kit and canteen cup on the ground. American troops are not accustomed to "Korean squatting" for long periods of time, whether eating or doing some work.

Our South Korean workers attached to the battalion (sometimes referred to as mules) could sit in this "Korean squatting position" for hours talking to each other, smoking cigarettes, or working on something. The ground seemingly was always damp and sitting on it was out of the question. There was an abundance of strange looking insects everywhere.

Later in the morning several of us replacements were ordered to go over to the Battalion S-2 (intelligence) tent. A staff sergeant would be interviewing each of us. To me, a staff sergeant was a high position. I had been addressing corporals and "buck sergeants" as "Sir" since I joined the Corps.

When it was my turn to be interviewed, the staff sergeant asked me several questions as to where I was from and what jobs and skills and education I had. I answered his questions, stating that I had just completed a semester of college at Grandview JC in Des Moines, Iowa, that I could drive various size trucks, I had participated in track and football and majored in vocational electrical work at Des Moines Technical High School in Iowa.

My knowledge of electrical work must have been convincing enough for him to direct me over to the telephone section. The telephone unit was a part of the Headquarters and Supply Company (H&S) within the Third Battalion, Fifth Marine



LEATHERHEAD IN KOREA
By Staff Sergeant Norval E. Pickwood, Jr.
Marine Corps Gazette
Quantico, Virginia, 1952. P. 20

Regiment. I immediately picked up my belongings and walked over to the nearby wire platoon. I was told to see a Sergeant Milar, who was in charge of the telephone wiremen. I was the only person from this portion of the 11th Replacement Draft to come into the telephone unit.

I was introduced to some of the Marines in the unit. I soon learned that the majority of the Marines had come to Korea with "The Brigade" and had landed at Inchon, on September 15, 1950—a year ago. They had moved north with the Brigade that eventually became the First Marine Division all the way up to the Yalu River.

These Marines were in all those horrendous areas of Hagaruri and the Chosin Reservoir and had been forced south to the Port of Hungnam and evacuated· south to the southern part of Korea. The brutal cold winter took its toll on friend and foe alike. Many Marines had suffered frostbite from the type of footwear they wore, called "snow-packs."

From the beginning, I really had to study and learn the military technical names and buzzwords of the equipment, the telephones, the switchboards, splicing, combat wire, etc. I learned to handle the switchboard after a while. Being new, I frequently served as the switchboard operator on four-hour shifts from midnight to 4 a.m. or from 4 a.m. to 8 a.m.

The field telephones, called EE8s, operated with regular D Size flashlight batteries. There was also a small crank that was attached to a magneto, and there were terminals to attach wires. The phone was encased in a heavy leather carrying case.

At the time, the code identification for the 3rd Battalion was "wild beast." When answering an incoming call to the switchboard, one was to say, "Wild Beast Operator!" The switchboard only handled ten phone lines. It could be operated completely in the dark. Being in a reserve area we could use a flashlight when a call came in. Incoming calls also triggered a piece of metal that dropped down and one could feel and touch the circuit-call coming into the operator.

Another feature I soon learned was that our wiremen were often called to "trouble shoot" and locate downed telephone wires. Our telephone platoon might receive word about some breakdown of telephone lines along the MSR and to the north. A senior wireman had the authority to requisition a jeep and a driver, and write out our tentative destination.

Our trips were always to the north and specifically to the "Kansas Line," a major fortified fallback position just in case the enemy should overrun our troops on the front lines. The Kansas Line was our jumping off point, and we would head north testing the wires along some footpath.

We would leave the jeep driver parked alongside the road and possibly not see him again for 3-4 hours. We maintained our discipline of remaining around five yards apart as we went up a hill along some path. Wiring in the field was simply reeling out the wire along a path, looping it around a tree branch, and moving on. Splicing a piece of combat wire was a matter of peeling back enough insulation on the wire, tying a basic "square knot," and wrapping some friction tape around the splice.

If we were "trouble shooting" a line, we would give the wire a good pull or shake in case it might be booby trapped. These trips took place every few days to the north. I could see from some of our hills that we were near the front line as our Marine F4U Corsair fighter planes were flying overhead and strafing the North Korean positions on the far hillsides. Or, I might see a Grumman fighter plane dropping napalm on to enemy positions. We saw our 105 mm and 155 mm Howitzer artillery pieces nearby continually firing at the enemy lines.

Epilogue

The following pieces of information may be of some help searching for some of this war in 1951:

US Army Action: Battle of Bloody Ridge - August 14th to September 5, 1951.

US Army Action: Battle of Heart Break Ridge-September 13 to October·15, 1951.

I was assigned to H Company. The Commander was 1st Lieutenant Bruce F. Meyers, USMC. He became a full colonel, career officer, wrote books, and currently lives in nearby Issaquah, WA. He is active in our Support Group. His books include Swift, Silent, and Deadly and Fortune Favors the Brave. (We were both wounded, at different times, on the same day, September 19, 1951. We were probably on Hill 812 and looking north onto Hill 1052.

I met Bruce F. Meyers by chance at the Seattle Rainier Club in 2002. He has provided me with some photographs, maps, and oral history. (When I was in Korea as a PFC I did not know then 1st Lt. Meyers.)

The Commander of the 3rd Battalion 5th Marines was Lt. Col. Donald R. Kennedy in 1951. I was working the switchboard on

the morning of September 16, 1951, Korean local time, and. I woke up this Commander. It was the day the 3rd Marine Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment would go on the offensive against the North Koreans. Col. Richard G. Weede was the Commander of the 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division at that time. He came out to welcome us as new replacements when we arrived. He also was noted for carrying a Thompson sub machine gun slung over his shoulder.

I was wounded in the late afternoon of September 19, 1951. I was serving as an "infantry wireman" in H Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. I had studied electrical work at Des Moines Tech High School in Iowa. My MOS was still a 0311, infantry rifleman.

The war became stalemated on September 20 - 21, 1951... See General Van Fleet, the 8th Army.

According to Leatherneck Magazine December 1951: Marine Casualties for September 17, 1951 to October 14, 1951: Killed, 221; Missing, 4; Wounded, 2,084.

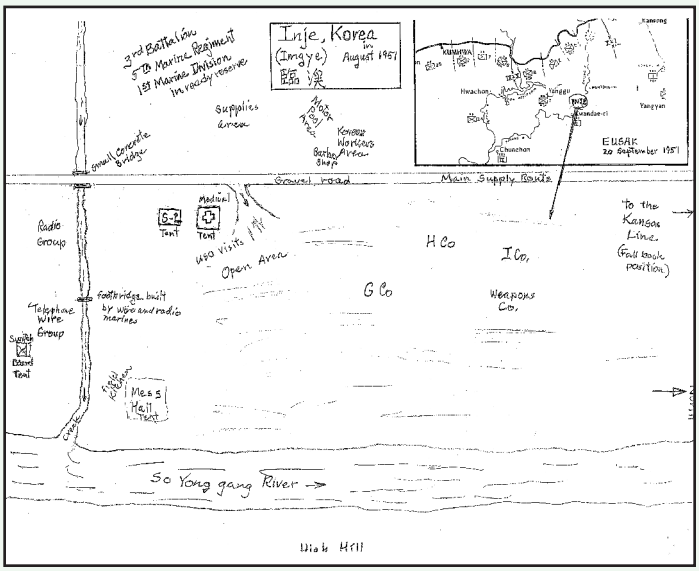
U.S. Marines of the First Marine Division Reconnaissance Company make the first helicopter invasion on Hill 812, to relieve the Republic of Korea 8th Division, during the renewed fighting in Korea. Photo taken 09/20/1951.

US Marine Report

Hill 749 and Hill 812 were originally captured by the United States Marines during the period 11 to 20 Sep 1951. They were taken by the 1st, 5th and 7th Regiments of the 1st Marine Division. The source for information on their fighting is the five volume report entitled "U. S. Marine Operations in Korea," published in 1962. The capture of Hills 749 and 812 is described in detail on pages 173 to 198 of Volume IV of that five volume set. Volume IV is entitled "The East Central Front."

These two hills were captured in four days by the Marines in late 1951 during the warfare of "movement" in Korea. They were held by the 179th Inf during October, November and December of 1952 during the warfare of "position" in Korea.

(Sgt) Francis M. Albin, 1200 Bolyston Ave #1000, Seattle, WA 98101, 206-322-1253, hidekobin@hotmail.com. (Sgt) Francis M. Albin went to guard the gates of Heaven on 5/19/2019



A Real Christmas Tree, Con Thien, Vietnam, 1968



A Christmas tree in Vietnam

"A Real Christmas Tree: Private First Class Steve H. Boggn (The Dalles, Oregon) and Corporal Ren G. Horton (Marion, Indiana), members of 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment [1/12], decorate a real Christmas tree at Con Thien.

Many artificial trees have been sent to Marines in Vietnam, but Boggn was quite surprised when he received a real Christmas tree from his grandmother, Mrs. Marie Boggn (official USMC photo by Corporal J. G. McCullough)."

From the Jonathan Abel Collection (COLL/3611), Marine Corps Archives & Special Collections, Quantico, Virginia (OFFICIAL USMC PHOTOGRAPH)

Reunion Calendar: 2020

NOTE: Some people are submitting reunion notices barely a few days or weeks before the actual gatherings. Please allow at least four months—six or more is better—if you want your reunion notices printed in more than one issue and in enough time to give potential attendees adequate notice to make plans to be there.

The Old Breed News is not responsible for the content of reunion notices.

APRIL

Outpost International Society of the 3rd Inf. Div., Korean War Historical Seminar, Apr. 16-18, American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield, Virginia and/ Memorial Amphitheater, Arlington National Cemetery. Monika or Tim Stoy, timmoni15@yahoo.com

JUNE

Korean War Veterans Assn., 22-26 June, Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel. 900 South Orme St., Arlington, VA 22204, 703-521-1900. A. J. Key, alveskey@sbcglobal.net

AUGUST

First Marine Division Assn., 14-23 Aug., Hilton Dulles Airport Hotel, 13869 Park Center Rd., Herndon, Virginia 20171, 703-478-2900

OCTOBER

The Chosin Few, Oct. 14-18, 70th Anniversary, Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport, 2799 N Jefferson St, Arlington, VA 22207, (703) 418-1234. Jerry Wadley, Bus. Mgr., 843-379-1011

Chapter Scuttlebutt

News from the Chapters of the 1st Marine Division Association

Desert Cities/Mitchell Paige Chapter

Chartered in 1998 by Marine Corps Veterans including namesake Colonel Mitchell Paige USMC. Colonel Paige, longtime Valley resident, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic action while a Platoon Sergeant with the 7th Regiment at the Battle of Guadalcanal, Pacific Theater of WWII. Colonel Paige marched to Heaven on November 15, 2003.

He is survived by his wife Marilyn Paige who still attends our chapter metings, luncheons and Marine Corps Award Ceremonies when she is able.



Desert Cities/Mitchell Paige chapter founder Mitchell Paige

My wife Nancy and I had the pleasure and honor of attending and representing our Chapter at the 7th Regiment's Marine Corps Birthday Ball in Las Vegas. It was indeed a double honor for me because, much to my surprise, I was the oldest Marine present and as such participated in the traditional cake cutting ceremony.

Our seasonal fund raising drive is right on pace with previous years thanks to members who stood double and triple watches from day one. The donations we received at Jensen's primarily support our emergency fund program for Marine families, our Christmas dinner program, our support to Marine JROTC program, and the Devil Pups program.

Over the years Jensen's customers have been very generous with their donations. That's why it is so important to staff every watch at both Jensen's markets. I hope one day to be able to say every member of our Chapter participated in our fundraising effort by standing a watch at Jensen's.

Incidentally, you can watch Col. Paige tell his story at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FA3jz6H3H0k&feature=youtu.be. And, be sure to check the chapter's website at https://www.fmdadesert.org/

Harry Covert, President

Tun Tavern Swashbucklers

The Tun Tavern Club meets several times a year for dinner, fellowship, camaraderie, to swap sea stories and to pig out on food and grog. The few shekels accumulated by the club, if any, are turned over to the chapter to use at its discretion. There are no club officers or rules or regulations guiding the demeanor of members and guests other than military courtesy extended to each other.

From time to time members may be tasked with sharing their military experiences with the members. Tun Tavern meetings are open to guests, both military and civilian.

Current Tun Tavern Members

Wes Ahlgren; Michael Bales (in memoriam); Harry Covert; Joe Daily; Dave Dangwillo; Dave Franklin; Charlie Garbarini; Bob Ferris; Frank Gillette; Charlie Hall; Sam Huttenhower; Jim Irwin; Franz Jevene; Howard Lehman; Jimmy Martin; Vince Mast; Gene McClendon; Jack Mennis; George Moffatt; Hank Monahan; Gene Mooring; James Olson; Mike Ostrom; Marilyn Paige; Dino Ruffoni; Henry Sanchez; Sandy Sandoval; Bob Shepard; Buddy Sklar; George Stettler; Dale Turner; Quint Villanueva; Mike Walker; Michael Walker; Myrl Wallace; Linn Wiley; Tom Woulfe

Oregon/Columbia River Chapter

We enjoyed celebrating the 244th birthday at Jeff and Cheryl's Restaurant on November 9, 2019. There were 39 Marines and guests in attendance, which was the largest group in quite a while. Good company, good food and good service. It did take a bit longer to be served, but with the increase in attendance it was OK.



The Oregon/Columbia River chapter's 244th birthday cake

President Gene Mosbrucker opened the event with the pledge of allegiance, followed by Chaplain Al Hein's invocation. The cake ceremony was next with the most "mature" Marine (Golda Fabian) and the youngest Marine (Jeremiah Hansen) being the recipients of the first pieces of cake. Gary Brannan and Steve Easterday officiated.

Al Hein recited the "Empty Chair," by Boyce Clarke and Gary Brannan read the "Missing Man" as they stood by the special table.

Lunch had been ordered from the menu and was served. It was accompanied by plenty of good conversation and many,

many "sea stories." There were Lady Marines, wives, and sweethearts there. It's always nice to have some Roses among the Thorns.



Meal orders being placed at Oregon/Columbia River USMC birthday celebration



Members and guests engage in camaraderie at birthday party



Part of crowd at Oregon/Columbia River gathering

Gary Brannan assembled an interesting and continuous slide show. Marine Jerry Brixius brought the uniforms from the Uniform Museum housed at the VFW 661 Post.

The fund raiser (books for sale) and the door prizes and table flowers were distributed. Singing the Marines Hymn and Benediction brought the 244th celebration to a close.

Semper Fidelis!

Bob "Doc" Wickman, USN/USMC
Korea '53 - '54, rcwickman@comcast.net

Rocky Mountain Chapter

We held our annual Christmas luncheon and installation of new officers on December 21, 2019 at the Mount Vernon Canyon Country Club. (Photos were taken by Tim Dunn)

John Decker



Members of the Rocky Mountain chapter at their annual Christmas party: Grady Birdsong, Skip Munger, Bill Purcell, Robert Brockish (Director and past president), Timothy Dunn (Director) Ted Ski, Justin McDonald, John Decker, and Joe Porter (L-R)



New officers of Rocky Mountain chapter: Kitty Purcell, wife of the new president, William (Bill) Purcell, President, Skip Munger, Secretary, Grady Birdsong, Treasurer and John Decker, Vice President (L-R)

Survivors Pension — What You Need to Know

Did you know a tax-free monetary benefit may be payable to low-income, surviving spouses of a deceased Veteran with wartime service who have not remarried? It may also be available to unmarried children of deceased veterans. Learn more at *https://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/spousepen.asp?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=govdelivery&utm_campaign=september2018&utm_term=Spouse-Pension&utm_content=readmore*

Contributions to the First Marine Division Association

General Fund

General Fund Donations = 41; Total = $13,100.13

• CPL MARK S. ANDERSON	4th	50
• COL OLIVER J. BUTLER JR USA(RET)	2nd	25
• HM3 JOHN SON CHANG	3rd	500
• DR DANIEL CRANE/CRANE CHIROPRACTIC GROUP In memory of Steven P. Lakernick	1st	100
• BGEN MICHAEL P. DOWNS USMC(RET) In memory of all deceased Marines and Sailors that served with F/2/5 in Vietnam.	12th	100
• FRANKLIN MADISON (formerly AFFINION GROUP)	32nd	194.86
• FRANKLIN MADISON (formerly AFFINION GROUP)	33rd	151.92
• FRANKLIN MADISON (formerly AFFINION GROUP)	34rd	364.50
• FRANKLIN MADISON (formerly AFFINION GROUP)	35th	195.46
• FRANKLIN MADISON (formerly AFFINION GROUP)	36th	128.39
• MSGT JAMES R. GUMMOW	25th	25
• SGT ELMER J. HAWKINS	37th	100
• PFC PETER N. HEALY	3rd	65
• IBM EMPLOYEE SERVICES CENTER	103rd	11
• IBM EMPLOYEE SERVICES CENTER	101st	11
• IBM EMPLOYEE SERVICES CENTER	102nd	11
• IBM EMPLOYEE SERVICES CENTER	104th	11
• IBM EMPLOYEE SERVICES CENTER	105th	11
• IBM EMPLOYEE SERVICES CENTER	106th	11
• IBM EMPLOYEE SERVICES CENTER	107th	11
• IBM EMPLOYEE SERVICES CENTER	108th	12
• IBM EMPLOYEE SERVICES CENTER	109th	11
• SGT JAMES F. KIRBY	15th	65
• SGT DUANE L. MAGNAN	13th	50
• GEORGE A. MCNULTY In memory of Steve "Doc" Lakernick	1st	50
• 1STLT GREGORY E. MELNICK JR	12th	65
• SSGT JOHN A. MULLAN	12th	45
• SSGT JOHN A. MULLAN	11th	100
• CPL JAIME L. OBRECHT	13th	50
• CAPT WILLIAM R. OTTO USMC(RET)	56th	25
• CAPT WILLIAM R. OTTO USMC(RET)	55th	25
• PENNDALE SUNSHINE c/o DONNA POLEY In memory of Mr. Steven P. Lakernick	1st	30
• SSGT DONALD S. PITT	29th	25
• SSGT JERRY P. REED	6th	50
• GEORGE M. THOMAS	11th	50
• USAA	12th	10000
• SGT ROBERT J. VAGELL	46th	50
• VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA CHAPTER 468 On behalf of the memory of Steve "Doc" Lakernick, a beloved Marine	1st	200
• LTCOL KEITH S. WEINSAFT		15
• MRS HARRIETT WENHOLD In memory of Steven "Doc" Lakernick	3rd	100
• SGT MATTHEW W. ZELASCO	16th	5

OBN Plea

OBN Plea Donations = 5; Total = $550

• CPL THOMAS LADNER In support of The Old Breed News	31st	10
• CPL JOSEPH R. LANTZ	17th	25
• CAPT JOHN H. RICKERT	12th	200
• SSGT RALPH G. SCHWARTZ	3rd	15
• MGYSGT HOWARD C. SNOWDEN	21st	300

Scholarship Fund

Donations = 4; Total = $110.00

• SSGT DONALD S. PITT	30th	25
• LTCOL THOMAS M. VETTER SR USMCR(RET)	56th	50
• PVT PAUL W. WOJAHN	12th	30
• SGT MATTHEW W. ZELASCO	10th	5

General Fund

Blue Diamond Donations = 3; Total = $300.00

1STSGT GEORGE E. GALVAN USMC(RET) In memory of my wife Gaye L. Galvan	83rd	100
SGTMAJ JOHN R. MASSARO USMC(RET)	8th	100
WILLIAM TURNER JR	2	100

General Fund–Life Members

Life Member = 27; Total = $1264.00

• CPL DONALD E. AHLGREN In Memory of SgtMaj Thomas E. Duke	17th	25
• SSGT RALPH C. AST	61st	100
• CPL NORMAN DYER	6th	200
• LCPL GARY L. HELSEL	2nd	25
• CPL HARRY Y. HIGAKI	10th	20
• RICHARD T. HOLBROOK	10th	25
• CPL JOSEPH R. LANTZ	16th	15
• CPL IRVIN A. MAY USMC(RET)	21st	50
• CPL IRVIN A. MAY USMC(RET)	22nd	50
• SGT RICHARD G. MITCHELL	13th	50
• SGT JOHN S. O'KEEFFE	116th	10
• SGT JOHN S. O'KEEFFE	117th	10
• SGT JOHN S. O'KEEFFE	118th	10
• SGT JOHN S. O'KEEFFE	119th	10
• CAPT WILLIAM R. OTTO USMC(RET)	54th	25
• MGYSGT CHARLES D. PICKERING	36th	25
• COL O. IVAR SVENSON JR USMC(RET)	6th	25
• 1STSGT WILLIE A. TARVER USMC(RET)	21st	15
• SGT ROBERT J. VAGELL	45th	105
• LTCOL THOMAS M. VETTER SR USMCR(RET)	30th	50
• COL ERIC P. VISSER USMC(RET)	5th	100
• CPL EDWARD VITAL	5th	25
• CPL ROBERT E. WAHLBECK In memory of my wife Gloria	11th	50
• CPL ROBERT E. WAHLBECK In Memory of my beloved son Eddy 5/12/10	12th	50
• CPL ROBERT E. WAHLBECK In Memory of Plt 683 - 1944 S.D.	13th	50
• CPL ROBERT E. WAHLBECK In Memory of 44 KIA at Chosin	14th	44
• PVT PAUL W. WOJAHN	28th	100

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NEWS you can use

New For 2020: Commissary, Exchanges Opening Up To 4 Million More People

Military stores are gearing up for a potential 4 million extra people who will be eligible to shop at commissaries and exchanges, and to use certain morale, welfare and recreation facilities starting Jan. 1. The new benefit was authorized by law for all veterans with VA service-connected disability ratings; Purple Heart recipients; veterans who are former prisoners of war; and primary family caregivers of eligible veterans under the VA caregiver program.

It's the largest patronage expansion in more than 60 years. Currently about 6 million total households are eligible for the benefit; this increases that number by 60 percent.

It's the largest patronage expansion in more than 60 years. Currently about 6 million total households are eligible for the benefit; this increases that number by 60 percent. Not all of the 4 million people are expected to use the benefit, because of distance and other factors, but officials are working to ensure no out-of-stock situations occur at stores in states with high populations of disabled veterans and in states with higher cost of living.

Federal officials have determined that disabled veterans will use their Veterans Health Identification Card (VHIC) to gain access to military installations, and to shop and use MWR facilities. The VHIC must display the veteran's eligibility status — Purple Heart recipient, former POW, or service-connected. Current Defense Department policy and the law have long allowed these benefits for Medal of Honor recipients and veterans with 100 percent service-connected disability ratings.

Most installations' front gate scanning systems now have the capability to scan the VHIC cards. However, these newly-eligible patrons should allow some extra time when they first visit the installation to stop at the visitor control center, where they must pass an on-the-spot background check. Depending on the type of installation, patrons may be enrolled for recurring access to allow them to proceed to the gate without stopping at the visitor control center on future visits. Spouses can't buy anything, but they and other family members can accompany the veteran into the store.

An estimated 37,000 veterans qualify for the new benefit, but don't qualify for the VHIC for various reasons. They won't have access to the installations during the first phase of the rollout. A credentialing solution is being worked out for these veterans, and will be rolled out at an unspecified later date.

Caregivers approved and designated as the primary family caregivers of eligible veterans under the VA Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers will receive an eligibility letter from the VA's Office of Community Care.



(Defense Commissary Agency photo/Kevin Robinson)

Newly eligible customers who shop in commissaries will pay a fee of 1.9 percent of their transaction if they pay with a commercial credit card, and 0.5 percent if they use a debit card. These fees won't apply to those paying with a Military Star card, cash or check. By law, the expansion of customers can't include extra costs associated with using credit cards in commissaries; the cost must be passed on to the customer.

Commercial credit card companies charge transaction fees to retailers when customers use their credit cards. The fees only apply to newly eligible patrons. But, as has been the practice for decades, all customers pay a 5 percent surcharge on transactions required by law to pay for commissary construction, equipment and maintenance.

The benefit extends to revenue-generating MWR activities such as golf courses, bowling centers, movie theaters, RV campgrounds and recreational lodging.

Quests & Queries

With which company did Lonnie Bradford serve?

Is there a way I can find out which company in 1/5 a corpsman served with in '69-'70? HM2 Lonnie Bradford was one of the corpsmen at the Camp Dai La forward BAS in '70.

There was a mixture of corpsmen from all four companies assigned to the BAS, and I don't remember if Lonnie was with Charlie Co. or one of the other three companies.

If you can help point me in the right direction, it would be much appreciated.

Lanier "Doc" Norman, bandlnorm@dtccom.net

We found this info at the VA Gravesite Locator, *https://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/index.html*. We're not certain if this is the same Lonnie Bradford.

BRADFORD, LONNIE FRANKLIN
HM3 US NAVY
VIETNAM
DATE OF BIRTH: 05/27/1949
DATE OF DEATH: 07/06/2004
BURIED AT: IOOF CEMETERY, 15490 W SOUTH AVE HWY 80
EAST TONKAWA, OK 74653, (580) 765-4411

TAPS

* Life Member

PFC JOSEPH J. ACCOLLA D-1-7 WWII MEDFORD, MA 12/23/2009

***CPL ALVIN D. ACKERSON** D-2-11 KO KIMBERLING CITY, MO 3/8/2003

***COL EDWARD R. ADAMEK JR** MAG-32 WWII CH KO OAKDALE, MN 10/10/2014

***JOHN (JP) P. ADAMS** 1 MAW KO ARVADA, CO 11/14/2018

HM2 ROBERT D. ADAMS HQ-1MAR KO NORTHRIDGE, CA 10/27/2016

MRS SHIRLEY J. ADAMS ASSOCIATE LA VISTA, NE 7/4/2019

***GYSGT HENRY L. ADCOCK** H&S-2-1 VN TRENTON, OH 1/20/2010

LCPL VICTOR L. AGPALO USMC SVC CO HQBN VN DUBLIN, CA 8/21/2016

HM1 JOSEPH J. ALCEDO 1ST PIONEER BN 1ST MAR DIV KO MILL VALLEY, CA 2/7/2018

***CPL EDWIN W. ALLARD** F-2-7 KO DARTMOUTH, MA 7/27/2018

***CAPT BILL H. ALLEN** USMC(RET) SIG-5MAR WWII CH KO MCDONOUGH, GA

1STLT CHESTER W. ALLEN G Co 1st Mar 1st Mar Div ESCONDIDO, CA 12/7/2019

CPL GALE ALLEN AAR69-73 BULLHEAD CITY, AZ 9/15/2017

***CPL JAMES C. ANDERSON** K-3-5 WWII CH POWELL, WY 2/1/2018

SSGT RICHARD D. ANDREWS F-2-7 KO LITTLETON, CO 1/30/2016

***SGT WILLIAM N. ANDREWS** WPNS-7MAR 3-11MAR WWII CH KO TULSA, OK

***SSGT KENNETH A. ANDROES** D-1RECON VN DALLAS , OR 6/3/2019

***CPL HAROLD E. ANGER** WPNS-7MAR WWII MIDLAND, MI 8/7/2019

***SGT DONALD (DON) J. ANGLIM** 4.2MRTR-5MAR KO SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 2/24/2019

***CPL DANNY L. ANGLIN** HQ-HQ KO WARSAW, IN 12/6/2014

***CPL RODERICK C. ANGSTMAN** SIGNAL CO KO MOORHEAD, MN 9/21/2019

***CPL CARL ANILOFF** K-3-7 PHILADELPHIA, PA 4/26/1999

CPL ROBERT R. ANSON C-1-7 WWII SARASOTA, FL 10/8/2005

CPL DOUGLAS H. ANTLE HQ-1ST MAR DIV VN LEE'S SUMMIT, MO 10/2/2014

SGT GERALD J. ANTON F-2-1 VN BETHEL PARK, PA 10/10/2013

***SGTMAJ RONALD ANTONIO** (RET) 1RECON FORRECON VN SWA MIDDLETOWN, NJ

***SGT ROBERT D. APPLEBY** 81MM WPNS-3-7 KO VN SHERWOOD, AR 7/24/2005

MGYSGT ROBERT ARAGON 1-155 BTRY 1ST MAW SAN MARCOS, CA 9/21/2012

***CPL RONALD D. ARMET JR** B-1RECON VN LINDENHURST, NY 1/10/2006

MSGT SALVATORE ARNO JR USMC (RET) I-3-7 I-3-5 WWII KO DAYTONA BEACH, FL 7/24/2015

***SGT CHARLES E. ARNOLD** HQ-HQ WWII CH HOUSTON, TX 4/21/2004

CJ ARNOLD GEORGETOWN, MA 2/28/2013

LT WILLIAM D. ARNOLD 3/1-1MAR WWII CH LEWISVILLE, TX 4/28/2004

SSGT JEROME F. ARNOLDY WPNS-2-1 KO CHICO, CA 10/9/2016

SGT GERARD G. ARRIBERE 4.2-1MAR KO SAN JOSE, CA 6/13/2017

SGT TED E. ARTHUR F-2-1 MAG13 WWII CH KO SALEM, OR 7/16/2011

SGT EDDIE R. ASH 1RECON VN PRINCETON, WV 12/7/2012

***CPL F. M. ASHCRAFT** DFF-2-7 WWII CH SAINT CHARLES, MO 2/10/2015

***SGT ERLING (WHITEY) ASHEIM** 3D BN 1ST MAR KO NEW CITY, NY 6/10/2019

***CAPT CALVIN H. ASHLEY** G-3-1 HQ-HQ KO VN EVANSVILLE, IN 8/17/2017

PFC MAX ASHLEY 1PION HQ-HQ WWII CH BOCA RATON, FL 12/4/2002

***SSGT JED L. ASHTON** HQ-1TK KO FILLMORE, UT 3/20/2003

RITA J. ASHTON ASSOCIATE OCEANSIDE, CA 11/29/2013

CPL DARVILLE E. ATHERTON A-1-5 L-3-5 WWII CH WHEELER, TX 7/9/2007

SGT ROBERT L. ATKINS SVC-1ENGR KO LITTLE ROCK, AR 7/26/2019

***BRUCE A. ATTEBERY** RECON KO OCEANSIDE, CA 3/17/2015

***SSGT C. D. AUBUCHON** D-2-11 KO CHESTERFIELD, MO 5/26/2019

MSGT ROGER P. AUCLAIR 4JASCO WWII ROCKWOOD, ME 3/14/2016

***2NDLT ALBERT J. AUER** A-1-1 CH NEWPORT BEACH, CA 6/6/2010

***J. M. AULT** I/S/O-2-5 VN LAFITTE, LA 3/12/2012

MSGT DONALD E. AUSTIN 1AMTRAC KO VN SUMMERVILLE, SC 7/10/2017

SSGT RALPH G. AVEY JR 1MT WWII KO CANYON LAKE, TX 6/22/2004

***PFC WILLIAM J. BABINEAU** TRANS-9MT MABS16 VN CHARLTON, MA 11/26/2015

***CPL GEORGE H. BACEL** H&S-1-11 WWII LAKELAND, FL 3/3/2010

CPL STEVE V. BACKER M-3-5 WWII INDIALANTIC, FL 6/29/2007

CPL RIC BACKMAN 3MAR VN CASTLE ROCK, CO 10/26/2014

***CPL JOHN T. BACON** 1TK VN WALNUT CREEK, CA 11/16/2007

SSGT JOSEPH P. BAGRICH 11DEF 1MAR WWII CLEVELAND HTS, OH 12/10/2014

***BENNY BAGWELL** A-1-5 WWII KO TRINITY, TX 7/8/2019

***BRIAN H. BAILEY** WPNS-1-5 WWII KO SUN CITY, AZ 2/17/2019

CAPT JOHN D. BAILEY VMFA-334 VN HAMILTON, MT 1/13/2015

LTCOL HERBERT J. BAIN ATT RCT8 APA18 WWII KO VN PARADISE, CA 1/24/2009

***CPL ROBERT A. BAIRD** A-1-7 KO KNOXVILLE, TN 6/25/2016

***GYSGT ANGELONE G. BAKAS** B-1 PARSPLTROOP WWII NORTH READING, MA

CAPT STEPHEN E. BAKER 7TH MAR B CO BRATTLEBURG, VT 7/2/2016

***CPL WILLIAM W. BAKER** I-3-7 WWII CH BEALLSVILLE, PA 11/22/2013

MARCEL BALDINGER WWII HARPER WOODS, MI 10/25/2009

***MARVIN G. BALDWIN** WPNS-7MAR WWII CH SCOTTSDALE, AZ 7/6/2008

RICHARD L. BALDWIN 4TH JASCO WWII ALEDO, IL 2/28/2008

MRS BESSIE BALES ASSOCIATE VENTURA, CA 8/27/2014

HM3 DONALD K. BALES 1CSG 1MED Bn KO VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 11/3/2007

CAPT FRANK N. BALES G-3-5 KO DENVER, CO 2/19/2008

CPL DONALD J. BALFOUR 1-7MAR KO FAIR OAKS, CA 4/15/2008

***SGT HENRY R. BALL** F-2-1 WWII KO LANCASTER, KY 7/2/2012

CPL ROBERT M. BALTZ 7TH REGT HQ CO WWII CH SAINT MARIES, ID 11/15/2014

MRS MARY ANN BANDY OBN INDIO, CA 2/8/2015

MRS EDNA (INGALLS) BANKS OBN NUTLEY, NJ 3/26/2009

SGT REFUJIO M. BARELA I-3-7 VN RIVERSIDE, CA 4/22/2010

***CPL FRANK W. BARKER** MP CO KO CHICAGO HEIGHTS, IL 10/29/2018

***SGT ROBERT E. BARLEY** 1AMTRAC KO ENGLEWOOD, FL 2/22/2008

***SGT WILLIAM BARLOW** SPLWPNS-11MAR WWII GREAT FALLS, VA 5/15/2010

SGT RICHARD BARNARD 1SIG-HQ KO PROSPECT HEIGHTS, IL 1/20/2007

***COL ROGER H. BARNARD** USMC(RET) H-3-5 3-7 KO VN GAINESVILLE, FL 9/18/2017

PHM1 JAMES C. BARNES H&S14DEF WWII KO SUMMIT, NJ 6/5/2002

***SGT LOUIS E. BARNES** HQ-2-5 CW SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 2/1/2016

***CPL MARVIN M. BARR** H&S-8AMTRAC WWII OBERLIN, OH 8/26/2017

MRS RUTH BARR OBN ONLY URBANNA, VA 2/9/2014

SSGT WILLIAM A. BARR I-3-1 A-1SHPTY KO EPHRATA, PA 4/25/2006

***GEN R. H. BARROW** A-1-1 WWII HOUSTON, TX 10/30/2008

***SSGT GEORGE M. BARROWS SR** HDQTRS-1-1 KO VN JACKSONVILLE, NC 1/13/2016

BILL BARRY WEST HARTFORD, CT 2/24/2014

SGT BOB J. BARRY CUB 19 WWII SAN MARCOS, CA 4/13/2008

PFC PAUL BARTLETT 1ST MAR DIV CH EVERETT, WA 6/18/2018

TSGT CHARLES F. BARTOLOMA HQ-HQ WWII KO CHICAGO, IL 2/16/2010

***SGT ADELLO R. BARTOLUCCI** VMJ1 KO NILES, IL 1/6/2017

CPL GEORGE A. BARTON K-3-7 WWII CH STOWE, VT 2/23/2007

HM2 RAYMOND A. BARTON D-2-1 1ST MAR DIV EVERETT, WA 12/24/2016

***SGT RONALD A. BASE** MAG12-1MAW KO PINEHURST, NC 4/24/2019

HM3 DAVID L. BASS C-1-7 WWII CENTRALIA, WA 8/20/2003

SGT C. RALPH BASSETT A-1-1 KO BRADENTON, FL 10/28/2011

SSGT JOHN J. BASTYS HQ-HQ KO ZIMMERMAN, MN 11/25/2016

GYSGT FELIPE S. BATALON G-3-7 E-2-7 KO VN WAIPAHU, HI 9/15/2017

MRS DORIS BATCHELDER OBN INDIO, CA 12/21/2011

COL WILLIAM L. BATES WPNS-1-1 KO ATLANTA, GA 2/22/2013

***SGT CHARLES R. BATHERSON** AT 5MAR KO WESTLAND, MI 10/25/2017

***GYSGT CHARLES F. BAUER** H&S-1-28 B-1RECON CMC VN YUMA, AZ 1/28/2018

SGT CHARLES H. BAUER C-1-7 KO PITTSBURGH, PA 9/4/2002

SGT LOUIS J. BAUER A-1-7 KO EAGLE RIVER, WI 4/20/2011

SGT WAYNE G. BAUER H&S-1-1 VN HASTINGS, MN 9/20/2011

***MAJ PRENTISS H. BAUGHMAN** TK-HQ WWII CH KO SALINA, KS 7/11/2004

NED BAYCONISH 1ENGR KO RIVER VALE, NJ 12/6/2017

CPL JACK L. BAYLESS B-1-1 BAKERSFIELD, CA 11/14/2005

***LTCOL NORMAN C. BAYLEY** USMC(RET) USS BOSTON WWII LOS ANGELES, CA 12/17/2016

MRS CLEMMIE A. BAZAN OBN APPLE VALLEY, CA 8/23/2010

***SSGT NORMAN L. BEAL** 2-5MAR 1MARBDE KO BRYAN, TX 8/10/2013

***1STLT CURTIS A. BEALL** 81MM HQ-3-1 WWII CH KO DUBLIN, GA 1/10/2013

***1STSGT GEORGE T. BEAN** USMC(RET) W-1-1 WPNS-7MAR WWII CH KO VN CALIFORNIA, MD

MRS ROSEMARY BEANE ASSOCIATE MAPLEWOOD, MN 7/3/2016

SGT JOHN A. BEARD C-1RECON VN MILWAUKEE, WI 2/6/2016

JAMES BEATTY HUFFMAN, TX 2/3/2014

***PFC ROBERT E. BEATTY** I-3-5 KO GIBSONIA, PA 1/20/2015

CPL DENNIS J. BEAUDOIN JR MAG39 SWA HUBBELL, MI 10/15/2019

***SSGT GEORGE E. BEAUVAIS** 1ST CSG 51-53 1STBN 5THMAR KO YALESVILLE, CT 10/8/2018

FRANK BEAVEN H-2-7 DAVISON, MI 6/13/2017

SSGT ROBERT D. BECHDOLT VMTB143 VMSB323 WWII KO Ripley, OH 1/9/2017

CATHIE BECK OBN PACIFICA, CA 7/2/2019

RICHARD G. BECK C-1ENGR 7MAR CH BROOKLYN CENTER, MN 8/3/2019

***SGT WILLIAM J. BECK** A-1-11 KO LOUISVILLE, KY 10/14/2003

HMC RICHARD M. BECKSTEAD USN (RET) A-1-1 KO ESCONDIDO, CA 11/7/2013

CPL BURNELL O. BEEBE 1PION WWII MURRAY, UT 7/9/2007

***CPL VINCE J. BEESON** 11MAR WWII DENVER, CO 11/22/2016

SGT VICTOR F. BELACK B-1-5 VN PALM HARBOR, FL 3/26/2013

1STLT DANIEL C. BELL 3-5MAR KO PORTLAND, OR 6/1/2008

CAPT MAX R. BELOVICH I/WPNS-3-7 KO STANWOOD, WA 10/28/2010

***EDWARD R. BELTRAN** WPNS-1-5 KO SANTA BARBARA, CA 9/5/2010

***PLTSGT STEPHEN E. BENKO** HQ-1-1 WWII CH NEW CANAAN, CT

CHARLES R. BENNER L-3-1 WWII LISBON, OH 11/6/2003

***SGT CARL E. BENNETT** M-3-1 WWII BROOKS, GA 11/30/2006

SGT CLAYTON E. BENNETT 1ST INTL BN 1ST MAR DIV OCEANSIDE, CA 5/4/2019

MRS HILDA BENNETT OBN NEWARK, DE 12/25/2012

MRS MARIE BENNETT OBN BURLESON, TX 3/26/2014

***PFC ROD T. BENNETT** A-1-1 KO MARSHALL, MN 12/23/2017

***SSGT GERALD L. BENOIT** B-1TK HQ-1ENGR KO TOWNSEND, MA 9/19/2015

LCPL CHRISTOPHER E. BENSON BAND 1ST MAR DIV BRADENTON, FL

***MSGT KENNETH R. BENSON** USMC(RET) F-2-7 KO NEWTON, NJ 3/23/2012

EDWARD J. BENSTED 1RAIDER WWII GRAND RAPIDS, MI 5/8/2008

***PFC NORMAN LEE BERCAW** G-2-1 WWII PENSACOLA, FL 11/2/1997

SSGT JOHN A. BERCICH MAG11 2MAW WWII RIVERSIDE, CA 3/29/2003

***SGT JOSEPH C. BERGAN** HQ-HQ KO NEW SMYRNA BEACH, FL 1/11/2006

***HM3 CHARLES E. BERGER** D-1-1 VN CMC KANSAS CITY, KS 3/16/2019

***COL SPENCER S. BERGER** USMC(RET) 2-7MAR WWII AUBURN, NY 7/6/2007

SGT BERNARD R. BERIAU HQ-1RECON-HQ KO HARWICH PORT, MA 2/20/2013

RDMN 3D CLS PAUL BENJAMIN BERKE 1STMARDIV 3RD AMPHIB MOBILE COMM UNIT 43E RANCHO MIRAGE, CA 8/23/2014

***SGT RUBIN BERMAN** A-1-1 KO OXNARD, CA 12/11/2009

DICK BERNARD F-2-7 KO SEA BRIGHT, NJ 9/20/2003

SGT RICHARD E. BERNARD HQ-1MAR VN SAUK VILLAGE, IL 2/27/2009

***CPL JOSEPH A. BERNARDO** B-1-11 VN AVON, MA 3/7/2019

***PFC MICHAEL BERNARDO** B-1-5 WWII HAYDEN, ID 11/23/2014

***HAROLD D. BERNATH** WPNS-7MAR WWII WAUSEON, OH 8/14/2018

***SGT LEE J. BERNDT** C-1-7 KO SUN CITY WEST, AZ 12/14/2012

***SGT ALFRED C. BEROT** 10INF KO PONCHATOULA, LA 8/7/2017

***MGYSGT ALVIN E. BERTAUT** K-3-5 A-3-11 SNIPER WWII VN SWA METAIRIE, LA 3/18/2016

TED W. BESSER H-3-5 KO HARTFORD, IN 2/8/2009

GYSGT WILLIAM A. BETTIS III 1-5 1-7 OCEANSIDE, CA 2/24/2015

Mrs NINA BEVINS OBN ONLY OMAHA, NE 12/12/2014

***HOLLY W. BEYER** ASSOCIATE BROOKINGS, OR 9/7/2019

CWO3 NEAL S. BEZOENIK HQ-HQ CW LOUISVILLE, KY 8/21/2013

SGT I. PAUL BHAME H&S-17MAR WWII MARS, PA 8/15/2015

***ROBERT A. BIANCHI** HQ-1ENGR WWII KO VENTURA, CA 4/8/2013

LTCOL DON BICKEL 1ST 2ND 3RD 4TH 5TH MAR CORPS DIV CHULA VISTA, CA 3/5/2019

ROY E. BIDDLE CHULA VISTA, CA

FREDRICK W. BIEBERICH 4JASCO WWII CH DECATUR, IN 4/8/2019

***SSGT LAWRENCE R. BIELICKE** RECON-HQ KO PIEDMONT, MO 7/7/2012

***PLTSGT LEO T. BIERNACKI** F-2-5 WWII CH LANSING, IL 11/14/2017

***MGYSGT BOBBY G. BIERS** USMC (RET) 1TK-5MAR VN PHOENIX, AZ 11/11/2018

SGT RICHARD B. BIGELOW C-1-11 CH KO BOWLING GREEN, OH 5/11/2016

***CPL JIM E. BIGGINS** C-1MT KO PALMETTO, FL 10/2/2013

***SSGT BILLIE C. BIGGS SR** D-2-11 WWII KO DURHAM, NC 5/31/2001

***PFC W. E. BILNEY** H/L-3-1 WWII CH CHEROKEE, IA 11/24/2001

SN NOEL J. BINDER CVA-33 KO MERAUX, LA 7/19/2010

***COL CARLETON D. BINGHAM** 3-1 CMBT SVC GRP KO GARDNERVILLE, NV 7/11/2015

***SGT PETER J. BINGHEIMER** USMC(RET) H-3-7 KO BUFFALO, NY 3/4/2008

***SSGT CLAUDE D. BIRKHEAD** WPNS-3-7 KO VICTORIA, TX 10/18/2007

PFC WILLIAM R. BISSELL F-2-1 WWII TUSTIN, CA

***PFC JAMES R. BISSONNETTE** E-2-1 KO GRAND RAPIDS, MI 2/21/2000

***CAPT EDWARD C. BITNER** A-1-7 WWII KO WEST CHESTER, PA 8/6/2019

***SSGT HARRY M. BLACK** HQ-1-5 WWII CH KO COLUMBIA, MO 9/14/2012

***LCPL RON G. BLACKBURN** K-3-5 VN HELTONVILLE, IN 8/2/2016

***CPL WALTER C. BLADSTROM** HQ-HQ KO SARASOTA, FL 6/4/2019

PFC DARWIN J. BLAINE F-2-5 WWII CH CHARLOTTE, NC 6/17/2012

CPL MATTHEW B. BLALOCK 2-7MAR ANGLICO KO NAMPA, ID 12/12/2012

SSGT ALVIN J. BLANKEN B-ITK KO BATESVILLE, IN 5/6/2017

***CPL JOHN A. BLAZER** G-3-1 KO SAVANNAH, GA 3/20/2018

SGT GARY J. BLEEK A-1-7 VN STEVENSVILLE, MT 1/3/2015

SGT BUD R. BLISS 1ST ARMD AMPB BN FAIRBANKS , AK 12/30/2011

MR. CHARLEY O. BLISSIT K-3-1 VN FRIENDSWOOD, TX 5/15/2017

***SGT W. SCOTTY BLOMELEY** A-1-1 WWII CH KO BRADENTON, FL 1/10/2019

SGT GEORGE M. BLOOMFIELD B-1TK WWII AUSTIN, TX 12/21/2012

***CPL DALE A. BLUM** A-1-11 VN MONTELLO, WI 7/6/2019

CAPT RICHARD G. BLUM KO,1ST AMTRAC BN, DIVISION HQ, 1ST ARMORED AMTRAC BN Los Angeles, CA 11/1/2016

QMS1 FRANK JOSEPH BOBER USS SEMINOLE AKA104 WWII KO PINE CITY, NY 9/11/2019

***CAPT A. JEFF BODENWEISER** USMC(RET) 2-26MAR VN SALEM, OR 9/25/2009

***DAVID S. BODINE** 1AMTRAC WWII PEMBERTON, NJ 7/4/2016

***CPL CHARLES G. BOGHOSIAN** I-3-5 WWII CH FORT WAYNE, IN 3/31/2014

JOHN F. BOHLANDER G-3-5 KO KEITHSBURG, IL 8/13/2019

***SSGT CHARLES E. BOHLIG** 1MAW KO EDINA, MN 1/18/2012

MRS IRENE BOISVERT OBN ONLY MANCHESTER, NH 1/18/2013

***CPL HARRY L. BOKEMEYER** H-3-11 KO HOUSTON, TX 10/5/2017

***LTCOL THOMAS H. BOLER** AMTRAC WWII KO LAGUNA BEACH, CA 11/20/2008

***SGT WILLIAM R. BOLLINGER** H-1-11 KO PORT ORANGE, FL 12/2/2016

SGT ROBERT E. BOLTON C-1MT-7 WWII CH KENOVA, WV 12/11/2010

***SGT BERNARD RAY BONAR** 12DEF WWII LAS CRUCES, NM 3/17/2010

SGT LEONARD L. BONCZEWSKI D-2-5 KO WANAMIE, PA 12/23/2018

CPL DONALD W. BONESTEEL HQ-1ENGR KO REXFORD, NY 1/13/2010

SGT ANDREW J. BONGIORNO 1-5MAR CH/KO HAUPPAUGE, NY 5/6/2017

***PFC JOHN L. BONNER** HQ-1SVC WWII CH FORNEY, TX 10/15/2010

***CHRISTOPHER L. BONOMO** ASSOCIATE SAN DIMAS, CA 5/16/2017

***SFC JAMES A. BOONE** USA ATT92AFA-11MAR WWII KO GRANBURY, TX 12/5/2008

***CPL LLOYD Z. BOORE** WPNS-7MAR WWII CH BEL AIR, MD 11/2/2019

SSGT PHILIP C. BOOTY HQ/G-2-1 CH Fredericksburg, VA 2/12/2015

***GYSGT ESCOLASTICO C. BORBOA JR** H&S/4.2-5MAR KO FRESNO, CA 3/27/2006

SSGT WILLIAM J. BORGIO K-3-5 I-3-1 VN PRESCOTT, AZ 10/17/2019

CPL FRANK B. BORNHOLDT B-1-5 WWII BEVERLY HILLS, FL 12/25/2008

MSGT JOSEPH M. BOTERF JR USMC(RET) HQ-1-1/5 HQ/K-3-1 WWII CH KO VN HENDERSONVILLE, NC 4/1/2014

***JOSEPH J. BOTTI** HQ-HQ KO LAS VEGAS, NV 2/20/2013

***CPL GILBERT J. BOTVIN SR** 1SIG WWII PALM COAST, FL 11/16/2014

CWO2 GLENN A. BOUCK PNR-WWII, KO, VN TUSTIN, CA 5/15/2012

SSGT HAROLD R. BOURGEOIS C-4-11 1ST8INHOW CW COVINGTON, LA 12/9/2002

MRS HELEN BOWDEN OBN HANCOCK, MI 4/13/2016

***PFC J. C. BOWEN** H-3-1 KO BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC 6/30/2010

SGT JOSEPH A. BOWIE E-2-5/7 WWII CH SEQUIM, WA 11/14/2004

***CPL DONALD K. BOWMAN** E-2-1 KO WHITTAKER, MI 4/19/2012

***CPL HOWARD F. BOWMAN** G/H-3-7 KO GREENFIELD, IN 2/18/2009

SGTMAJ LEONARD E. BOWMAN H-2-1 VN ROCKVILLE CENTER, NY 1/3/2019

TRISH A. BOWMAN HARRISONBURG, VA 2/10/2016

***CPL CHARLES E. BOX** C-1-7 WWII ABILENE, TX 3/11/2014

SGT CLYDE A. BOYD WPNS-5MAR WWII CH PITTSFORD, NY 6/21/2009

***SGT GARY D. BOYER** A-1-1 VN PLATTSBURGH, NY 3/17/2018

SGT LEE ALLEN BOYER F CO 2DN BN 1MARDIV VN SEBASTIAN, FL 3/12/2017

***CPL GEORGE R. BOYETT** A-1-1 KO AUSTIN, TX 9/26/2015

PFC THOMAS R. BOYLE A/D-1-7 WWII KO COLUMBIA, KY 6/21/2010

***PFC ADRIAN F. BOYLSTON** 3-11MAR CH HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC 8/29/2014

CPL RALPH W. BRABAW E-2-11 CW SANFORD, MI 12/24/2018

TSGT JOHN T. BRABAZON 11MAR WWII YARDLEY, PA 6/13/2008

CAPT JOHN E. BRACKEEN USMC B CO 1-5 1ST MAR DIV BROWNSBORO, TX 6/24/2010

SSGT HOWARD A. BRADFORD MTACS2-1MAW KO NEW BERN, NC 12/21/2018

***SGT ALLEN W. BRADLEY** H-3-5 M-3-7 WWII PENSACOLA, FL 10/22/2006

SGTMAJ DANIEL JOHN BRADLEY E-2-7 G-2-1 VN OIF TOMS RIVER, NJ

CPL WILLIAM A. BRADLEY B-1-5 VN COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VA 8/30/2007

***PFC JOHN J. BRADLY** USMC(RET) B-1-1 KO BARRINGTON, NJ 11/5/2011

LCPL RONALD B. BRADSHAW H&S-11MAR VN SABINA, OH 3/24/2013

CPL JACK T. BRADY BTY O, 3-11 SAINT LOUIS, MO 6/19/2013

***CAPT JAMES BRADY** D-2-7 KO EAST HAMPTON, NY 1/27/2009

***SGT JOSEPH J. BRADY** 1TK KO MILLSBORO, DE 11/22/2016

SGT RONALD E. BRAGG B-1TK KO ALPINE, CA 1/16/2013

SGT SALVATORE F. BRANDINO E-2-5 WWII CH ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 1/25/2013

***CPL DONALD C. BRANNIGAN** A-7ENGR KO OAK LAWN, IL 8/25/2016

MARGARET BRATCHER ASSOCIATE LOUISVILLE, KY 5/8/2008

SSGT EARL J. BRAUN MP WWII CH RHINELANDER, WI 1/5/2013

CPL RICHARD E. BRAY A-1TK WWII ALLENTOWN, PA 12/20/2008

SGT NEIL G. BREMSETH C-1-11 KO PRESTON, MN 2/15/2018

***SGT FRANCIS A. BRENNAN** D-2-7 KO GROVE CITY, OH 7/2/2019

***CPL LAWRENCE E. BRENNAN** G-2-1 WWII CH SCOTTSDALE, AZ 1/17/2013

1STSGT TOM BRETT A/B-1-1 CH KO HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 11/22/2005

***CPL DENNIS L. BREU** USMC A-1-1 WWII CH STILLWATER, MN 6/25/2016

***SGT CLYDE L. BREWSTER** G-3-11 WWII LIVERMORE, CA 7/18/2005

***LCPL MARK L. BRIGGS** A CO-1-5-1 HQTRS CO 1-5 JOPLIN, MO 3/4/2007

***PFC SHERY B. BRINKLEY** I-3-1 KO SHREVEPORT, LA 12/25/2012

CPL MARTIN T. BRITTINGHAM JR C-1-5 KO WEST CHESTER, PA 12/9/2016

SGT THOMAS A. BROCK K-3-7 VN ELIZABETH CITY, NC 10/8/2009

CPL CYRIL E. BROCKMAN G-2-7 WWII CH FORT RECOVERY, OH 1/5/2009

SSGT PATRICK R. BROGAN WPNS-3-5 KO BOERNE, TX 1/15/2018

***LTCOL CLIFFORD V. BROKAW III** USMC(RET) W-1-7 KO SOUTHAMPTON, NY 11/22/2015

***COL GEORGE M. BROOKE III** USMC(RET) 3-8IN HOW VN LEXINGTON, VA 3/27/2018

HMCS CHARLES L. BROOKS USN(RET) H&S-1MED WWII CH MEMPHIS, TN 3/27/2006

CLIFFORD W. BROOKS B-8AMTRAC WWII AVON LAKE, OH 10/21/2019

***CAPT H. W. BROOKSHIRE** 2-5MAR VN MOUNT PLEASANT, TX 01/27/2016

GYSGT WILLIAM A. BROSCHAY B TRK CO 7MAR WWII DEARBORN, MI 12/12/2015

REV. GEORGE R. BROSIUS HQ-2-1 WWII CH KO ATHENS, GA 9/2/2014

TSGT ALFRED J. BROSSEAU MAG12 1MAW KO SAN ANTONIO, TX 8/1/2015

***JUSTIN W. BROSSETTE SR** G-3-5 1MAR KO ARABI, LA 12/9/2004

MRS MARIE BROUGHTON OBN ORLANDO, FL 12/7/2016

***CPL AARON BROWN** B-1MT WWII CH PARKLAND, FL 9/4/2013

SGT CHARLES E. BROWN JR B- 7ENGR KO SANTA MARIA, CA 8/2/2007

***CPL DARREL L. BROWN** WPNS-2-1 WWII KO WALNUT CREEK, CA 6/26/2003

MR. DAVID L. BROWN HQ-H&S RECON CW MISHAWAKA, IN 5/29/2014

CPL DERRELL BROWN C-1-5 WWII ODESSA, FL 10/19/2014

***SGT FLOYD L. BROWN** A-1-5 KO REDDING, CA 3/27/2017

CPL GRADY B. BROWN A-1-10 WWII LOUISVILLE, KY 1/31/2003

***LTCOL JEROME W. BROWN JR** ATT 7MAR MCAGTC CW OIF WOODBRIDGE, VA 12/19/2005

MRS JUDITH BROWN OBN ONLY HENDERSON, NV 5/21/2016

***SGT KENNETH E. BROWN** C-1-5 KO FLORENCE, SC 11/23/2018

1STLT RICHARD M. BROWN 1-11MAR 2-5MAR KO CHULA VISTA, CA 3/24/2006

***VICTOR W. BROWN** 1ENGR WWII CH MOUNT JOY, PA 6/8/1998

***WILLIAM (BILL) F. BROWN** MP 1CSG KO SUN CITY, AZ 3/3/2014

MSGT WILLIAM E. BROWN USMC(RET) VMSB144 WWII KO CLINTON, MD 2/12/2019

MRS YVONNE BROWN ASSOCIATE GILBERT, AZ 1/15/2011

***SGT GLENN M. BROWNE** H&S-3-5 C-1-5 KO VN LAS VEGAS, NV

***TSGT HARRY E. BRUCE** H&S/A-1TK KO PANORAMA, TX 3/16/2013

***CAPT ROY R. BRUCHMAN** MP WWII CH KO SAINT PAUL, MN 7/20/2012

MRS TINA T. BRUDER OBN ONLY ALEXANDRIA, VA 6/10/2017

***CPL WILLIAM C. BRUNELL** I-3-7 B-1-11 KO CAPE MAY, NJ 11/29/2015

***GYSGT NORMAN J. BRUNNER** 1RECON-5MAR 2/26MAR VN ORANGE, CA

***SSGT SYL F. BRUNNERT** 1MAW KO FLORISSANT, MO 1/29/2019

***HM3 FRED N. BRYAN** WPNS-1-5 KO LOUISVILLE, KY 11/28/2013

MRS ADELLE BRYDON OBN WYNDMOOR, PA 1/1/2018

PVT JOSEPH J. BUATTI B-1-1 WWII CH SUMMERFIELD, FL 12/21/2006

***SSGT ANDREW H. BUBANAS** I-3-1 WWII KO LOWELL, MA 4/26/2003

***COL A. ERIC BUBECK** USMC(RET) L-3-7 WWII KO ANNAPOLIS, MD 11/8/2010

PFC MARSHEL ELLIS BUCHANAN HQ-HQ WWII CH BURLINGTON, WA 2/20/2004

CPL JAMES G. BUCK HQ-2-1 WWII CH COLUMBUS, NJ 4/22/2004

JULIA BUCK OBN ONLY COLUMBUS, NJ 10/24/2009

***COL JOHN L. BUCKLEY JR** USMC(RET) F-2-5 MAG/12/33 CH KO CHICAGO, IL 9/29/2019

FRANK W. BUDD MD 5MAR CWVN DULUTH, MN 7/5/2011

SGT PHILLIP BUE JR MAG12 MAB12 KO ISLAND LAKE, IL 4/12/2005

MAJ CHARLES M. BUELL D-1ENGR G-1-3 WWII CH KO FARMINGTON, CT 2/8/2009

WILLIAM E. BUESCHER 331 ST FIGHTER INTERCEPT SQ CARDIFF, CA 1/31/2014

***CPL HAROLD BUFF** JR A-1-1 KO MONROE TWP, NJ 9/6/2016

***CPL DONALD J. BUFFINGTON** B-1-1 KO CONRAD, MT 12/20/2016

CPL JOHN R. BUMPAS JR C-1-5 1ST MAR DIV WWII CH MINERAL WELLS, TX 2/7/2010

***2NDLT DELMAS** (KENTUCKY COLONEL) D. BURCHFIELD PHD SPLWPNS-11MAR WWII VN STUARTS DRAFT, VA 1/11/2016

***SGT R. V. BURGIN** K-3-5 WWII LANCASTER, TX 4/6/2019

PFC BARRET S. BURKE VMAC WWII DENVER, CO 8/25/2009

***JAMES T. BURKE** K-3-5 WWII CH CLINTON, IA 4/3/2015

***CAPT JOHN J. BURKE III** USN(RET) 1-11MAR 1ANGLICO VN SAN DIEGO, CA 5/4/2019

STEPHEN D. BURKE WWII DEARBORN, MI 8/12/2016

***CPL JAMES R. BURNETT** B-1AVNENGR WWII KO SUMMERFIELD, FL 1/18/2013

***CPL DONALD B. BURNS** VMF222 MAW7 WWII CH STOCKTON, CA 6/22/2018

SGT GEORGE T. BURNS WPNS-3-1 KO OAKLAND, NJ 12/20/2013

***DR. HOUSTON BURNSIDE** PHD F-2-1 1AMTRAC WWII CH SAN DIEGO, CA 3/11/2018

***GYSGT MELVIN H. BURRIS JR** G-3-5/A-1-7 KO PAXICO, KS 4/23/2006

SGT TRAVIS V. BURROUGH A-1SHPTY CH KO ELLENSBURG, WA 12/7/2018

SGT RAYMOND R. BURROWES A-1-11 KO NAPLES, FL 1/12/2017

CPL W. ERNEST BUSBEE A-1TK I-3-11 WWII AIKEN, SC 4/24/2018

***SGT JOHN F. BUSBY** L-3-5 ZMQ5 WWII NORTH PALM BEACH, FL 7/7/2019

***PFC DENZIL L. BUSH** L-3-1 WWII KIRKWOOD, MO 7/19/2008

***GYSGT E. R. BUSH U**SMC(RET) B-1-1 KO JERICHO, VT 10/1/2001

TSGT HARRISON DOYLE BUSHMAN C-8AMTRAC WWII TACOMA, WA 2/16/2008

SGT ARTHUR W. BUSLER 1AMTRAC KO TWINSBURG, OH 6/3/2018

CPL JOSEPH T. BUSZKIEWICZ MAG11 VN NORTH QUINCY, MA 1/2/2015

***PFC WALTER H. BUTLER** F-2-1 WWII CENTERVILLE, MA 3/22/1998

***SGTMAJ WALTER A. BUTTRICK** WPNS-1-1 HQ-HQ KO VN VANCOUVER, WA 5/22/2009

***CPL JOHN W. BUZBY SR** B-1-5 WWII THOROFARE, NJ 5/26/2016

***SGT CLAUDE T. CABLE** 1ARMAMPH KO FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS, IL 9/14/2017

PFC JOHN P. CAFFREY TACP-1ST MAR DIV KO WATERBURY, CT 2/3/2007

***PFC GABRIEL R. CAGGIANO** G-2-1 WWII REVERE, MA 8/2/2016

MRS LOIS CAIN OBN ONLY DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MI 10/8/2007

***TSGT HUGO M. CALACI** VMSB333 MAG33 WWII KO CORONA, CA 6/15/2015

JOSEPH CALCATERRA D-9DEF WWII BAYONNE, NJ 6/11/2015

***CPL CURTIS L. CALDWELL** H-3-5 KO LAWRENCEVILLE, GA 1/30/2016

H.P. "BUDDY" CALDWELL ASSOCIATE NASHVILLE, TN 4/3/2016

***SGT OVERTON J. CALDWELL** D-2-1 KO KERRVILLE, TX 11/11/2017

CHARLES CALHOUN MEDFORD LAKES, NJ 12/14/2007

SGT DONALD J. CALL ANGLICO-SIG-5 CH KO BELLINGHAM, WA 5/10/2017

***CPL EVERETT R. CALL** K-3-1 WWII SPRINGFIELD, VA 11/23/2011

***SSGT ROBERT L. CALLAHAN** I/M-4-11 WWII CH KO OVERLAND PARK, KS 11/6/2009

***SGT JOHN L. CAMARA** 1TK-1RECON KO BAYONET POINT, FL 1/27/2016

***SSGT MICHAEL A. CAMBROLA** B-1AMTRAC KO FALL RIVER, MA 10/12/2008

***ROBERT P. CAMERON** H-3-7 WWII CH KO FOX RIVER GROVE, IL 10/5/2004

CPL RAUL CAMPBELL G-2-5 VN SAN ANTONIO, TX 11/8/2018

ROBERT D. CAMPBELL A-1-11 WWII AKRON, OH 1/29/2008

1STSGT SANDY H. CAMPER USMCR(RET) H-3-11 KO COOL RIDGE, WV 7/26/2019

FLORETTA CANADAY OBN ONLY SURVEYOR, WV 11/13/2002

SGTMAJ RAFAEL ANGEL CANDELARIO ALPHA 1STBN 1STMAR, ALPHA 1/5 LAND O' LAKES, FL 6/3/2019

MRS LEORA CANFIELD ASSOCIATE CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH 12/7/2017

PLTSGT ROBERT A. CANFIELD DMIN E-2-5 WWII KO VN REDMOND, WA 8/3/2009

***CPL JOSEPH F. CANTORE** 34TH ROT-DRAFT KO ELMHURST, IL 4/6/2016

SSGT GILBERT CANTU HQ-17ENGR HQ-7MT WWII CH KO SAN ANTONIO, TX 2/17/2010

***PFC J. A. CANTU** C-3-5 CW CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 1/6/2019

***SGT ALFORD C. CARAZZA** 1MARBDE ARTY KO DEWEY, AZ 5/18/2009

***LEO P. CARDARELLI** E-2-1 WWII CH QUINCY, MA 11/17/2018

MRS BETTY CARDEN OBN ONLY CAPE CORAL, FL 3/6/2012

***ARMANDO R. CARLI JR** C-1-5 KO THE VILLAGES, FL 7/12/2013

INEZ L. CARLSON AMES, IA 11/6/2010

SGT RICHARD D. CARLSON E-2-1 KO SPRINGFIELD, MO 11/26/2009

GYSGT WILLIAM D. CARNEY USMC(RET) B-1-5 CH VN YOUNGSTOWN, OH 11/10/2013

***ROBERT (BOB) CARO** USMC BAND-HQ KO OXNARD, CA 2/15/2014

***SGT LYLE D. CARPENTER** MAG-25 WWII LINO LAKES, MN 3/28/2017

***1STLT BERNARD CARR** RN MAG 31 1ST MAR DIV PUYALLUP, WA

***PFC ANGEL S. CARRANZA** C-1-11 KO SAN ANTONIO, TX 7/27/2008

SGTMAJ JUAN F. CARRANZA USMC(RET) C-1-11 1ST FSSG BRANDON, FL 5/14/2015

PETER A. CARRILES F-2-1 KO NEW ROCHELLE, NY 4/16/2003

CPL ROBERT A. CARROLL A-1-5 VN FRESNO, CA 11/25/2019

CPL ROBERT J. CARTE 4JASCO 1ASCO HQ-5MAR WWII CH WELLSBURG, WV 9/25/2005

***MSGT J. G. CARTER** USMC(RET) 1MT WWII KO VN ORLANDO, FL 1/31/2017

PFC JAMES F. CARTER 3-5 1MAR DIV KO MOOREFIELD, WV

***CPL W. F. CARTER** F-2-1 CW GREENSBURG, LA 1/29/2020

***WILLIAM (BILL) O. CARTER** 2RECON KO SPRING, TX 10/1/2018

LTJG WILLIAM R. CARTER USS HARDING WWII FAYETTEVILLE, TN 8/23/2006

CPL EDWARD R. CARUSO VMA131 CMC PHOENIXVILLE, PA 11/24/2018

GYSGT RICHARD J. CASE USMC(RET) 1AAA KO MECHANICSBURG, PA 7/17/2011

CPL WILLIAM J. CHELL E-2-7 WWII STATEN ISLAND, NY 1/27/2004

LCPL PAUL M. CHIAROLANZA MAQ-11-1STMAW, BARRACK JAPAN LANGHORNE, PA 8/8/2018

***SGT ELWARD E. COCKRILL** E-2-7 KO HARLINGEN, TX 4/07/2017

RICHARD SPENCER COGSWELL A-1ENG BN 1MAR DIV KO DEBARY, FL 5/7/2017

SGT DONALD E. COLLINS L-3-1 WWII LARGO, FL 5/21/2019

MRS ALLEEN COX OBN STAUNTON, VA 9/20/2018

***MSGT HAROLD A. CRAMER** E-2-11 WWII CH KO PASADENA, MD 7/19/2018

***SSGT CHARLES M. CRANE** USMC(RET) HQ-1SVC KO ISSAQUAH, WA 8/5/2000

SGT GERALD A. CRAWFORD Henderson Hall, 1 Mar Wing HHM362 FORT MOHAVE, AZ 12/18/2019

***THOMAS W. CRESWELL** F-2-5 KO GREENVILLE, SC 5/25/2000

CPL RALPH M. CROVO E-2-7 WWII MELROSE, MA 12/25/2018

SGT JOHN J. CURTIN JR 1TK KO QUINCY, MA 3/15/2019

***SGT ROY E. CURTIS** I-3-7 KO TOMS RIVER, NJ 10/17/2011

MSGT OMA D. DAY JR B/C-1-7 CH KO GRANT, FL 2/12/2019

LTCOL ANDREW DEBONA 7 MAR PALM DESERT, CA 2/6/2018

ROBERT V. DELANOY A-1-11 WWII KINGSTON, NY 11/7/2006

***SGT JOHN G. DICKERSON** WPNS-3-5 KO BALTIMORE, MD 3/13/2017

COL ARCHIE G. DONAHUE VMF 112 VMF 451 WWII HARLINGEN, TX 7/30/2007

CPL OWEN D. DOSTER K-3-7 E-2-7 CW CASA GRANDE, AZ

CAPT JOHN R. DOWNES JR G-3-5 KO AUSTIN, TX 5/29/2012

SGT GEORGE H. DUNN 1ORD KO DEDHAM, MA 7/12/2019

PFC THOMAS R. DURHAM E-2-1 WWII TRINITY, TX 7/6/2017

SGT ARCHIBALD ECCLESTON III 5MAR WWII CH BALTIMORE, MD 6/4/2019

SGT ORVAL M. ELIASON K-3-5 CH BULLHEAD CITY, AZ 11/5/2018

CPL DAVID H. EPSTEIN HQTRS KO OVERLAND PARK, KS 9/25/2018

***CPL SIDNEY E. ESCHER JR** H-3-1 KO SLIDELL, LA 2/23/2019

***SGT JAMES M. FAIRBAIRN** A-1-5 KO RICHARDSON, TX 11/13/2019

THOMAS F. FARRELL H-3-1 KO BAY SHORE, NY 5/30/2019

***GYSGT TAYLOR FAULKNER** USMC(RET) 1ST MAR DIV SAINT LOUIS, MO 7/11/2019

CWO3 ROGER K. FENSLER HQ-HQ WWII CH ANAHEIM, CA 5/13/2003

***SGT STEPHEN J. FIELD** HOWZ-11MAR VN BUFFALO GROVE, IL 3/12/2019

SSGT TOM E. FILLA HQ-1-11 KO FLORISSANT, MO 2/12/2019

***PHM1 WALTER FINN** CUBI-LUNGA WWII NEW YORK, NY 7/3/2006

***SSGT ELBERT F. FLOYD** MAG-14 1MAW WWII PARACHUTE, CO 2/22/2017

***SGT MERRILL J. FORBES** A-1-7 WWII CH JENISON, MI 10/18/2012

PFC HAROLD D. FOX HQ/D-1-5 WWII MESA, AZ 12/5/2011

PFC GEORGE E. GAFFEY SR C-1TK WWII HOBE SOUND, FL 5/2/2006

***SGT CHARLES R. GARDINER** WPNS-2-5 KO CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE, NJ 9/9/2020

CAPT WILBUR J. GEHRKE A-1-29 WWII SANTA ROSA, CA 6/5/2005

***RALPH J. GEIGER RAJICH** M-4-11 WWII SUPERIOR, WI 6/19/2019

SSGT JOSEPH B. GERACE HQ-7MAR KO BOCA RATON, FL 3/6/2019

CAPT WILLIAM A. GIBNEY USMC(RET) HQ-11 KO VN PITTSFIELD, MA 7/12/2018

JACK T. GILLESPIE F-2-2 WWII SACRAMENTO, CA 3/11/2013

PFC RICHARD H. GIRARDIER C-1-5 WWII CH SAINT CLAIR, MO 4/21/2009

LTJG CHAPLAIN ARTHUR F. GLASSER HQ-17MAR WWII SHORELINE, WA 12/8/2009

***SGT JOE O. GOBLE** B-1-7 WWII NEWTON, NC 8/24/2019

SGT RICHARD E. GOBLIRSCH C-1-5 KO PACIFIC GROVE, CA 6/22/2018

SGT HENRY L. GRACA WPNS-2-1 KO NIAGARA FALLS, NY 11/5/2019

***SGT ROBERT P. GRAY** I-3-7 WWII CH KO SUMMERFIELD, FL 12/5/2017

***SGT EUGENE J. GRIFFIN** D-1-7 KO METUCHEN, NJ 7/19/2000

***CAPT JOHN A. GRIFFITH III** USMC(RET) HQ-11MAR KO VN JACKSONVILLE, FL 1/20/2019

PFC FREDRICK W. GROSS D- 11MAR CW GASSVILLE, AR 8/31/2019

***CPL JOHN J. GUISTI** D-2-7 KO NAUGATUCK, CT 6/8/2013

***TSGT JAMES F. GUNN** USMC(RET) HQ-1TK CH KO POMPANO BEACH, FL 11/11/2017

***1STSGT THOMAS F. HACKETT** USMC(RET) H&S-3-1 KO CLEVELAND, OH 9/21/2017

MSGT RAYMOND A. HAGLER 1MP 1SHPTY KO VN VACAVILLE, CA 8/16/2018

SGT EUGENE M. HAMILTON 11MAR WWII BLOOMSBURG, PA 9/30/2019

***PVT WILLIAM W. HAMILTON** 1MAW CW BIDWELL, OH

***SSGT GEORGE HANDZO JR** USMC(RET) A-1-1/A-1-5 KO VN WILKES-BARRE, PA 1/18/2019

***CPL ROBERT D. HASSLER** B-1-1 VN HAMLET, NC 11/30/2017

CPL THOMAS R. HAYWARD 1ARMAMPH VN KERNERSVILLE, NC 7/7/2019

***PFC GERALD P. HEALY** WPNS-1REGT WWII LARGO, FL 8/14/2009

***SGT JOE R. HEATH** HQ-1SIG KO SEATTLE, WA 8/13/2016

DR. ROBERT E. HEERENS SURGEON-1-5 WWII CH ROCKFORD, IL 10/19/2014

JESSE J. HEIL B-1-11 WWII WENTZVILLE, MO 1/9/2012

WARD M. HEISER H&S-1TK WWII CH LEHIGHTON, PA 10/5/2008

***CPL VAL HEITUR** C-1-5 KO SAN ANSELMO, CA 10/3/2019

SGT TERRENCE W HENRY SR D-1-7 VN COPLAY, PA 11/15/2017

CPL ROBERT E. HILLSTRAND C-1-11 WWII MANNING, SC 3/15/2009

***SGT WILLIAM E. HIXON JR** C-1-7 KO ARLINGTON, KY

CPL LOWELL E. HOCKENSMITH C-1TK KO DES MOINES, IA 10/29/2019

***LTCOL THOMAS A. HODGES** C-1-5 A-1-7 WWII CH KO VN LANCASTER, PA 5/28/2007

***SSGT EDWARD L. HOLDER** M-3-1 KO VN JACKSONVILLE, NC 11/8/2018

***CPL I. P. HOLST** G-3-5 A-1-7 KO OMAHA, NE 12/11/2014

***SGT GORDON C. HORVATH** 1CSG KO DEARBORN HEIGHTS, MI 10/2/2016

CPO (HMC) THOMAS R. HOWARD F-2-7 HQ-7MAR VN GARLAND, TX 5/12/2019

CPO THOMAS R. HOWARD F-2-7 HQ-7MAR VN DALLAS, TX

CHARLES "DOC" W. HUGHES PHD 3-7 KO ARKADELPHIA, AR 3/25/2019

CPL MIKE R. HYATT 11MT VN CANDLER, NC 2/22/2019

***MRS CAROLYN IMMERMAN** ASSOCIATE baldwinsville, NY 7/19/2017

SGTMAJ DOMENICK A. IRRERA USMC(RET) 1-5 VN JACKSONVILLE, NC 4/6/2019

HA1 CHARLES L. JACKSON E-2-7 WWII CH NEW CASTLE, PA 9/24/2018

HM2 LEWIS JENNINGS 1/5 SYCAMORE , IL 11/10/2017

***CPL DAVID G. JOHNSON** G-3-7 KO SANTA ROSA, CA 6/29/2018

SGT EARL B. JOHNSON A-1RECON VN ARNOLD, MD 10/20/2018

***RICHARD D. JOHNSON** G-3-1 KO VALLEJO, CA

***GYSGT PAUL E. JOSIF** USMC(RET) 7SVC CH CANTON, OH 1/24/2018

***SGTMAJ EDDIE L. KAISER** USMC(RET) 7MT H-3-5 WWII KO VN LITTLE ROCK, AR 3/21/2009

LCPL WILLIAM M. KANKKONEN MABS12 VN ASTORIA, OR 12/30/2018

SGT ROBERT L. KEITH JR D-1-1/1-5 VN DILLSBURG, PA 8/14/2011

GEN PAUL X. KELLEY 12/29/2019

CPL THOMAS H. KENNEDY F-2-5 KO NEW YORK, NY 7/21/2019

***SSGT DONALD R. KLEMMER** ANGLICO KO CHINA TOWNSHIP, MI 12/21/2018

LTCOL WILLIAM F. KOEHNLEIN WPNS-1-1 KO BALDWIN, MD 1/20/2016

SGT G. F. KOEPPLINGER 5MAR HQ-HQ WWII Eustis, FL 8/25/2006

***SSGT RON E. KOKAL** HQ-3-5 KO VIRGINIA, MN 2/2/2020

***CPL MIKE KRAYNICK** SPLWPNS-11MAR WWII SAN JOSE, CA 1/8/2004

***CWO2 EDWIN J. KUES** USMC(RET) 1ST TANK BN KO VN SAN DIEGO, CA 12/21/2018

***TSGT LAWRENCE J. LACK JR** C-1ENGR KO CORNELIA, GA 2/4/2019

***HM3 STEVE "DOC" P. LAKERNICK** B/C-1-1 1MAW 1RECON VN MACUNGIE , PA 12/11/2019

***TSGT SAMUEL R. LANE** MAG-11-14 WWII PLANTATION, FL 1/15/2018

***CPL ROBERT J. LANGDON** 1ANGLICO VN ALBUQUERQUE, NM

WILLIAM H. LANGE SEAL-USN VN MOJAVE, CA

***MSGT ROBERT H. LARIMER** H&S-1/7MAR WWII CH BAKERSFIELD, CA 2/18/2014

***LCPL MELVIN R. LAWS** C-1TK CW MONTGOMERY, TX 2/13/2019

***MGYSGT JAMES H. LEATHER** USMC(RET) 1 CSG KO TINTON FALLS, NJ 8/11/2015

***PFC JAMES P. LEDDY** H-3-7 KO BETHPAGE, NY 9/7/2018

SSGT ROBERT A. LEFTWICH MAG 14 WWII HENDERSONVILLE, TN 7/7/2018

***GYSGT CLEVELAND J. LEONESIO JR** 3D-4.5-11MAR VN TURLOCK, CA 7/10/2015

***MAJ JAMES B. LICHTENBERGER** USMC(RET) A-1-5 WWII KO BLAIRSVILLE, GA 6/23/2013

***LEROY H. LILLY** C-1-1 KO NEW HOPE, MN 10/18/2019

***CPHM LLOYD A. LINDENFELSER** USN(RET) H&S-8AMTRAC WWII TREMONT, IL 1/16/2008

***SGT ROBERT W. LOCKE** B BTRY 1-11 CH PAOLA, KS 11/12/2018

GYSGT WALTER F. LOFINK HQ-HQ F-2-7 WWII CH KO VN DALTON, MA 12/26/2017

***ARTHUR A. LOMBARD** A-1-11 WWII BROCKTON, MA 12/17/2006

***SGT EDWARD M. LONDOS** G-3-5 KO GREENWOOD, SC 2/10/2017

PFC CHARLES EDWARD LONG A-1ENGR WWII CH WOODSBORO, MD 11/18/2019

CPL RUSSELL E. LONG H&S-17ENGR WWII CARY, NC 6/16/2013

***CPL JEB S. LORD JR** HQ/C-1-7 WWII CH WEST MONROE, LA 6/10/2016

***SSGT GERALD L. LOYD** B-1SHPTY KO FORT WAYNE, IN 4/23/2019

CPL JOSEPH A. LUONGO K-3-7 WWII CH VN COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VA 2/18/2010

SGT FREDERICK WILLIAM MADDEN H&S CO 1ST ENG BN KO HUDSON, MA 11/2/2018

***1STLT E. C. MADENFORD** USMC(RET) HQ-HQ VN READING, PA 5/13/2015

CPL ALAN MADSEN E-2-5 WWII PENN YAN, NY 12/13/2007

CPL EDWIN B. MAGEE HQCO COMM PLT 1MAR VN SHELBYVILLE, TN 3/4/2010

***SGT ANDREW J. MAGIERA** F-2-7 WWII CHICAGO, IL 2/20/2013

SGT LOUIS R. MAGNOTTI 5MAR KO VIENNA, VA 9/11/2017

***SSGT MILTON R. MAGNUSSEN** B-1-5 VN REDDING, CT 5/25/2000

CPL THOMAS M. MALONE A-1-17 WWII EASTON, PA 10/17/2018

***LTGEN WILLIAM R. MALONEY** USMC(RET) F-2-5 KO VN CHARLOTTE , NC 11/13/2018

SGT FREDERIC W. MANCE L-3-11 WWII SARASOTA, FL 7/22/2003

SGT ROSS H. MANN JR B-1MT WWII WALLA WALLA, WA 11/1/2009

***PFC JOHN A. MANOOGIAN** 1AMTRAC WWII CH CANTON, MI 2/6/2016

***HMC J. P. MARINO** 3-5MAR KO CAPE CORAL, FL 12/2/2016

***SSGT BRUCE C. MARLEY** SIG KO JACKSONVILLE, FL 3/16/2019

LCPL BARRY L. MARQUARDT C BTRY 1ST LAAM BN, B BTRY 2ND LAAM BN SANTA CLARA, CA 11/3/2018

JOHN A. MARSH HQ-7MAR WWII CH TOLEDO, OH 1/15/2007

CPL MANUEL F. MARTINEZ JR H-3-5 KO SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA 10/28/2018

CPL MANDELL L. MATHESON HQ CO 1ST MAR DIV CW TULSA, OK 12/10/2011

SGT JAMES L. MAYNOR C-1-7 WWII OLYMPIA, WA

***COL THOMAS M. MCCABE** USMCR(RET) HQ-11MAR KO PHOENIXVILLE, PA 2/10/2019

SGT D. W. MCCAULEY M/I-3-1 WWII SCRANTON, PA 12/28/2005

***SGT DONALD S. MCCREA** D CI 1ST ENG BN 1MAR DIV KO AQUEBOGUE, NY 11/28/2017

***BGEN WILLIAM L. MCCULLOCH** USMC(RET) B-1-1 H-3-7 WWII CH KO VN ALEXANDRIA, VA 5/26/2017

LTCOL RUSSELL J. MCCURDY USMC(RET) H&S-1TK WWII CH HUNTINGTON, IN 6/17/2005

PFC CLYDE MCDERMEIT C-1-5 WWII LA CROSSE, KS 6/1/2015

SSGT JOHN A. MCEACHERN C-1AMTRAC KO SOUTH YARMOUTH, MA 10/21/2018

SGT GEORGE E. MCGARITY D-2-1 KO READING, MA 11/24/2018

***SGTMAJ THOMAS J. MCHUGH** USMC(RET) C-1-1 H-3-5 WWII KO JACKSONVILLE, NC 8/24/2015

PFC JOHN A. MCMURRY VMF211 WWII WIMBERLEY, TX 2/5/2010

***SGTMAJ HOWARD J. MEMMER** USMC(RET) D-2-11 WWII VN SONORA, CA

SSGT A. J. MENDONSA WPNS-1MAR WWII REVERE, MA 12/17/2003

MRS JEANETTE & ELMER MILLER ASSOCIATE PHOENIX, AZ 1/15/2019

CPL R. (KANSAS JACK) MILLER HQBN KO WICHITA, KS 8/26/2011

SGT MILTON E. MONTGOMERY HQ-11MAR KO DULUTH, MN

PFC JOHN P. MOONEY H-3-7 KO EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 7/26/2014

CSK WESLEY C. MOORE A-1-7 WWII CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 5/25/2007

SGT EDWARD J. MORAN 1MARDIV 18DEF WWII OLD SAYBROOK, CT 4/4/2003

***PFC WILLIAM G. MUIR** SPT BARRAGE BALLOON WWII BALTIMORE, MD 4/17/2010

PHM1 HORACE W. MULLINAX B-1MED WWII LYMAN, SC 8/29/2012

***MAJ M.F. MURKEY** (RET) 1-SHPTY KO TIMONIUM, MD 6/11/2008

SGT WALLACE M. NAGEL A-1ENGR-17 WWII HIGHLAND, IL 6/2/2004

SGT HERBERT C. NAPPIER JR 1SIG WWII SUN CITY CENTER, FL 12/7/2009

***Brother DAVID NASH** OSST 1SVC CW BALTIMORE, MD 6/10/2006

MRS DOROTHY NEWCOMB HOPKINSVILLE, KY 4/3/2018

SGT DONALD M. O'CONNOR 4.2-5MAR KO LAKE RIDGE, VA 9/17/2018

WILLIAM J. O'KANE HQ-2-11 KO MINOA, NY 10/20/2018

***LTCOL RAYMOND J. O'LEARY** USMC(RET) F-2-7 3-7 KO VN CODY, WY 1/24/2019

CWO3 VINCENT J. ODDO USMC(RET) G-3-1 KO ELLENTON, FL 2/1/2015

***SGT FRANCIS C. OKRASKI** H-3-7 KO MINONK, IL 3/13/2019

ROBERT E. OLSON F-2-5 A-1-7 WWII CH KO DULUTH, MN 7/15/2019

CPL DAN R. OMELINA D-2-5 KO RACINE, WI 7/11/2019

LTCOL HIEROME L. OPIE JR M-3-7 3-5 WWII STAUNTON, VA 1/5/2006

LCPL JOHN R. ORTIZ ANTI-TANK CO 1ST TANK BN 1969 VN HAGERSTOWN, MD 5/15/2018

SGT CHARLES R. OSTERHELDT A-1-5 MAINT-1CSG KO SNEADS FERRY, NC

SGTMAJ WILLIAM S. PARKS USMC(RET) H-3-7 WWII KO HENDERSONVILLE, NC 8/2/2018

SGT LEONARD L. PARTUSCH F-2 B-1-11 WWII CH CINCINNATI, OH 6/10/2017

***CPL CHARLES T. PAYNE** B-1-5 KO DEDHAM, MA 9/14/2008

***SGT GEORGE PAZ** G-3-5 KO EL PASO, TX 6/17/2017

***MAJ JAMES T. PEARCE** D-2-11 WWII PIEDMONT, SC 11/1/2015

SGT JAMES V. PELLA E-2-5 KO PITTSBURGH, PA 8/25/2018

SSGT SID R. PERFETTO H&S-2-7 VN CROGHAN, NY 2/15/2018

MAJ H. B. PETTIT K/L-3-7 WWII CH KO MELBOURNE, FL 3/28/2004

MSGT REGINALD F PICKENS HQ/M-3-1 WWII CH KO BRISTOW, OK 1/16/2007

COL BAYARD S. PICKETT 1MARDIV KO VN MOUNT PLEASANT, SC 12/21/2009

***CPL LOWELL H. PINKSTON** M-3-5 WWII MERRILLVILLE, IN 5/23/2017

PFC ROBERT G. PORTER HQ 3-12 I 3-11 WILMINGTON, NC 12/15/2018

***PAUL J. PRESTON** H-3-11 WWII ALEXANDRIA, VA 9/13/2018

SGT PERRY ROY PUGH B-1-7WWII GRIFFIN, GA 11/24/2019

***SGT GARY A. PURO** ATT-E-2-11 VN DECATUR, MI 05/29/2014

***COL ROBERT J. PUTNAM** C/K-3-1 XO-3-1 WWII WEAVERVILLE, NC 2/6/2006

PFC ROBERT R. QUANDT WPNS-3-5 KO BLOOMINGDALE, IL 8/26/2018

***1STLT EDWARD W. RACELY** HQBN KO BREWSTER, MA 4/10/2019

SGT JIM RATTRAY PIO-1-5-7 KO HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC 8/5/2013

***SGT JOHN H. RAU** H&S-1TK KO METAIRIE, LA 7/19/2019

***GYSGT RALPH R. REICHENBACH** E/F-2-7 1MAW WWII CH KO QUEENSBURY, NY 7/2/2006

***PFC WILLIAM H. REIL** B-1-7 KO DORCHESTER, MA 9/26/2018

***IRVIN H. REYNOLDS** D-1RAIDER WWII UPPER MARLBORO, MD 4/2/2006

***CPL DANIEL P. RICHARD** WPNS-1-7-KO NAPA, CA 3/31/2014

***SSGT STOUGHTON RICHMOND** M-4-11 KO CADWELL, GA 2/25/2004

***SGT WILLIAM D. RITCHIE** H&S-7MAR WWII CH KO DES PLAINS, IL 6/30/2018

***PFC ARTHUR A. ROBINSON** RECON-HQ K-3-1 WWII CH BATTLE CREEK, MI 1/4/2014

***SGT KENNETH R. ROLLINS** H-3-5 KO PASADENA, MD 4/27/2011

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Holiday and continuing series stories wanted for 2020



We are soliciting holiday stories for the 4th Qtr 2020 OBN. Yeah, it may seem a bit premature, but…we did not get one holiday story for our 2019 issue. Let's start building our holiday inventory now for the 4th Qtr 2020 holiday issue.

Please send your stories, photos, and art work recounting anything memorable, special, or routine that occurred anywhere you might have been…involving you, your unit, your friends…on the major year-end holidays, e.g., Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukah, New Year's Day, Boxing Day, Ramadan… The material can relate to war time or peacetime. Hopefully we will get enough stories, photos, and art work to fill the issue.

Hey, it's never too early to get a start on our holiday issue. Send your stories and photos to Arthur G. Sharp, OBN Editor, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573. Or, submit them electronically to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net.

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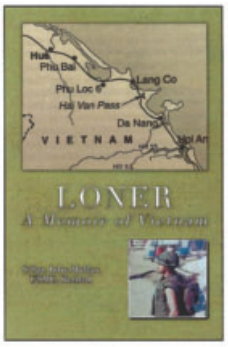
Loner

by S/Sgt. John Mullan, USMC, Retired

Loner is a personal memoir of one man's experience in South Vietnam and the aftermath of serious injury. Told with authentic detail, humor, and pathos, it is the story of an ordinary grunt in an extraordinary situation. From the danger of patrols with Charlie Company, One Five, to the nightmare of the screaming wards of Philadelphia Naval Hospital, this is a fascinating glimpse of a typical Marine's life in wartime and an intense inside view of a survivor's recovery. Spanning only eighteen months but taking over thirty years to write, this is a memorable account of how it was for Staff Sergeant John Mullan.

John Mullan was born in Detroit, Michigan, saw his first parade on VE Day in 1945, and decided to become a Marine when he was ten years old. With a family move, he entered a new school and quickly learned how to be a loner—to be alone and make it on his own. He joined the Marine Corps at age seventeen, met his future wife on his first leave home, and married three years later. After a variety of assignments, he landed the perfect position of recruiter back home. Orders for Vietnam in 1967 resulted in five months of battle experience, three Purple Hearts, and severe injuries including brain damage which required many years of recovery. John considers being retired from the Marine Corps to be the single worst event in his life, but he put his life back together. After completing college, he held a position with the U.S. Post Office for over twenty years and raised four children with his wife Catherine. Awarded the Bronze Star with combat V, John remains devoted to the Marine Corps.

Loner
by S/Sgt. John Mullan USMC, Retired



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HMR-161: Korea's 'Cavalry of the Sky'

By Tom Moore

The U.S. Marine Corps was asked for a second time by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to lead in another military area. The first time was in World War Two, for amphibious assaults. The second time was in the Korean War. This time it was the new transport concept of vertical assault (helicopters) hauling troops and supplies to combat.

Other U.S. military services were into helicopters, but none were into transport helicopters at the time. A squadron was activated on 15 Jan. 1951 at Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, CA, as Marine Helicopter Transport Squadron 161 (HMR-161) Air Fleet Marine Force Pacific. The squadron moved a month later to Marine Corps Air Facility, Santa Ana, CA.

The Greyhawks commanding officer was LTC George Herring, USMC. Most of his pilots were fighter pilots of World War Two. In August 1951 the new squadron deployed to Korea. When the unit was commissioned, none of HMR-161's aircraft had been built. (The designation HMR is based on "H" for helicopter, "M" for Marine, and "R" for transport. Very few of its future mechanics had ever worked on a helicopter, and fewer of its future pilots had been checked out in rotary-winged aircraft. West Coast Units were designated 161, 162, etc.

The Korean War confirmed for the U.S. Marine Corps that transport helicopters were necessary, and from that urgent need HMR-161 was born. HMR-161 was to receive new Sikorsky HRS-1 helicopters as soon as they came off the production line. Until then, the squadron pilots flew conventional aircraft. The squadron received delivery of its full complement of fifteen HRS-1s in July 1951.

The HRS-1 was a Sikorsky-made transport helicopter with a single main rotor and a vertical tail rotor. The ten-place aircraft was about 62 feet long, counting the maximum extension of rotor blades, and 11-1/2 feet wide with blades folded. The aircraft cruised at 90 knots and had a gross weight of over 7,000 pounds at sea level. It had a payload of 1,420 pounds at sea level, with a crew of two and a full load of fuel and oil.



HRS-1/3, redesignated in 1962 CH-19E (Photo Credit: https://www.helis.com/database/modelorg/Marines-HRS-S-55

Under field conditions in mountainous terrain the HRS-1 could lift four to six troops with combat equipment. It could lift up to 1,500 pounds of cargo or three to five casualties in litters. Load capabilities varied with altitude, temperature, fuel load, and pilot experience.

By February 1951, the squadron had 25 officers and 144 enlisted men. On 14-15 August 1951 at NAS North Island, CA a major portion of HMR-161's equipment was loaded on board the *SS Great Falls Victory,* hull number 717, for movement to Korea. The same day all of the squadron's helicopters were loaded aboard the escort carrier *USS Sitkoh Bay* (T-CVE-86), along with a load of USAF F - 86 aircraft.

The squadron, with supplies and equipment, then mustered aboard *USS Sitkoh Bay*, with 40 Marine Corps officers, 231 Marine Corps enlisted men, 1 Navy Medical Officer (Lt. Donald L. Hillian), and 3 Navy Corpsmen. At 0830 on 2 Sept. 1951, *USS Sitkoh Bay* arrived at Pusan, South Korea, and the first transport helicopter squadron in the U.S. Marine Corps prepared for combat.



USS Sitkoh Bay (CVE 86)

The squadron first went to K-1 Pusan, then to K-18, near Kang Nung. The rear echelon was maintained at K-18, while the squadron's helicopters flew on to X-83, in the vicinity of the front line troops. (Airfields in Korea with the designation "K" were USAF fields; those with "X" were auxiliary strips, and "A" were in the proximity of U.S. Army installations.) On 13 September 1951 HMR-161 conducted the first mass helicopter resupply operation in history.

LTC. F.B. Nihart's 2d Battalion, 1st Marines were attacking Hill 749 from Hill 673, along a ridge system. The 400 Korean Service Corps porters could not keep up with the logistical demands imposed upon them because of heavy casualties and high ammunition expenditure. HMR-161 was ordered in to fill the supply and evacuation gap. The operation was named "Windmill-1."

A second major logistical flight (Windmill-II) occurred on 19 Sept. 1951, when supplies were needed in the 5th Marine zone. Ten helicopters carried a total of 12,180 pounds of supplies in 18 flights. This amounted to 6.5 total flight hours, but the squadron took just an hour overall.

On 21 Sept., HMR-161 was ordered to relieve a ROK front-line company with a reinforced reconnaissance company. In four hours some 224 fully equipped troops and 17,772 pounds of cargo were lifted to Hill 884, which later became known as "Mount Helicopter."

After the troops and supplies had been landed, eight miles of wire were laid to connect Hill 884 to the 1st Marine Command Post. The task took the helicopters just 15 minutes. After that, HMR-161 was into "Operation Blackbird," which was night operations. In the dark, in 2 hours and ten minutes, using six helicopters, 200 troops were transported to the landing zone (LZ).

On 11 Oct. 1951, the squadron conducted "Operation Bumble Bee," the relief of one battalion. The squadron was ordered to lift the 3d Battalion, 7th Marines from its bivouac area near

Songge-ri to the reserve battalion area. Twelve HRS-1s flew 156 round trips, totaling 65.9 flight hours, and landed 958 passengers over the space of 6 hours and 10 minutes. That marked the first time an entire battalion had been heli-lifted in combat.

After just two months in the Korean War, HMR-161 had made over 1,000 flights, including 192 medical evacuations, lifted over 150 tons of supplies, and accumulated more than 1,200 flight hours. On Thanksgiving Day, the squadron brought the U.S. Marines 9,400 pounds of turkey dinners.

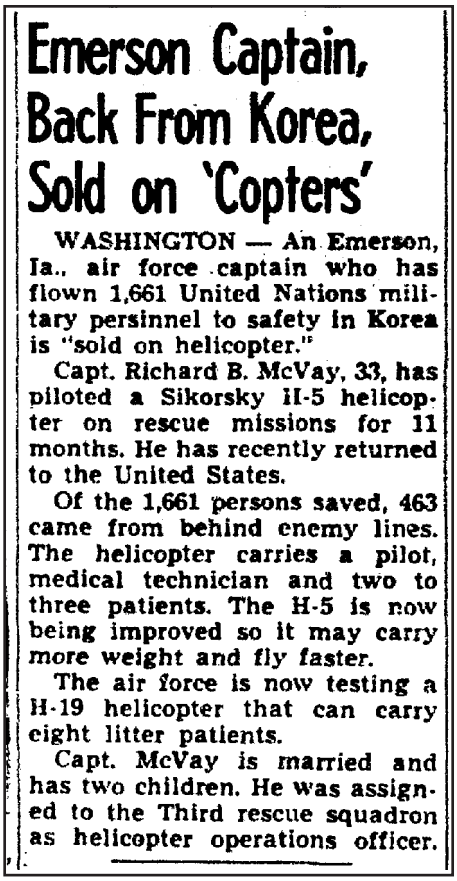
A very important part of the helicopter operation was the 1st Platoon, Company C, 1st Shore Party Battalion. Their duties included improving and enlarging the landing point, unloading helicopters, establishing supply dumps, and loading casualties on board helicopters. In Dec. 1951, the 1st Shore Party Battalion was relieved by the 1st Air Delivery Platoon, Service Command, FMFPac.

HMR-161 received an additional mission, which was to last until the armistice was signed in 1953. One helicopter was dispatched to the United Nations Command, advanced, at Munsan-ni, to transport the United Nations Peace Conference delegates between Munsan-ni and Panmunjom, because a pontoon bridge across the Imjin River was destroyed by ice. HMR-161 sent crew members for a week at a time and rotated the duty throughout the squadron.

During the Korean War HMR-161 flew over 30,000 hours during 32,000 sorties, accounting for over 60,000 troop movements, and it moved over 7.5 million pounds of cargo. After the war, the Greyhawks defended the DMZ from July 1953 to March 1955, then relocated to MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. They took what they had learned in their combat experience in Korea to Vietnam and beyond. Today the squadron is VMM-161, Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron. The Greyhawks' motto is Equitatus Caeli, which translates to "Cavalry of the Sky."

Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps General Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr. (1952 - 1955) said: "Just as the amphibian tractor came to the fore as a troop carrier over the reefs of Pacific atolls during World War Two, so the helicopter became the greatest single innovation during the Korean War as a tactical and humanitarian medium of transportation."

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com



Emerson Captain, Back From Korea, Sold on 'Copters'

WASHINGTON — An Emerson, Ia., air force captain who has flown 1,661 United Nations military persinnel to safety in Korea is "sold on helicopter."

Capt. Richard B. McVay, 33, has piloted a Sikorsky H-5 helicopter on rescue missions for 11 months. He has recently returned to the United States.

Of the 1,661 persons saved, 463 came from behind enemy lines. The helicopter carries a pilot, medical technician and two to three patients. The H-5 is now being improved so it may carry more weight and fly faster.

The air force is now testing a H-19 helicopter that can carry eight litter patients.

Capt. McVay is married and has two children. He was assigned to the Third rescue squadron as helicopter operations officer.

The value of choppers in Korea: Daily Nonpareil, Council Bluffs, IA June 15, 1951, p. 11

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SGT JOHNNY LOPEZ	B-1-7 KO	2037 DAYLIGHT CREST, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78230		
MAJ HARRY L. PRESTON	K-3-5 CW	4511 BRIARDALE ST, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78217-1328		

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- Inchon-Seoul 1950
- CCF Intervention 1950
- Chosin Reservoir 1950
- UN Counteroffensive 1951
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- 2nd Korean Winter 1951-1952
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VIETNAM
1965-1971

- Vietnam Defense 1965
- Vietnam Offensives I–III 1965 to 1968
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- Tet Offensive 1969
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KUWAIT
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