President’s Message

from Franklin “Jack” Chapman

I want to thank each of you who have donated to our Association General Fund this past year. As you know we do not have a membership fee and we depend on the generosity of our members.

The 2005 Reunion is fast approaching and if you have not made your reservations, the cut off date is August 4, 2005. Reservations received after this date will be processed on space and rate availability. I would like to ask, if you are not fully handicapped, please save the handicap rooms for those who are in a wheelchair. Thanks.

Honored

• Clarence Young, 5th RCT was awarded the Silver Star on May 29, 2005. The citation read in part that Young volunteered to stay back and cover his Unit’s withdrawal thus enabling many to avoid capture. He was also awarded a Plaque as an Honoree for the Roll Call of heroes.

• A well-deserved honor was given to Dan McKinney by the Airman’s Leadership School and placed on their Wall of Heroes, Cannon AFB, NM.

• William K. Norwood was the guest speaker at the Polk County, TN, Memorial Day Services.

Congratulations Clarence, Dan, & Bill!

Contributions

• Louise Spears in memory of James Spears.
• James Prewitt, John H. Hasting, and Father John Hotze to our operating fund.
• Lloyd Pate to our Reunion fund.

Board of Directors

Term Expiring 2005
Fred Liddell
Dallas Mossman
Lloyd Pate
Ed Sheffield
Steve Barczykowski

Term Expiring 2006
Calvin Hurd
Bill Norwood
Jack Perry
Patrick Quinn
Jack Chapman

Term Expiring 2007
James Ball
Charles Elder
Bill Allen
Donald Denny
Jose Rodriguez

THIS SPACE LEFT BLANK DUE TO REMOVAL OF ADDRESS.
Sick Call
- Harley Coon
- Harold Addington
- Donald and Jean Denny
- Bo Bolinsky
- Nelda Young
- Lowell Fisher
- George Bingham is now in a nursing home.
- Nick Nishimoto

Taps
BROWN, William B. 2/26/2005, E Co. 38 Inf. 2 Div. Camp 1, 2, & 3. Survived by his wife, Joan.
CROSBIE, Father Philip 3/22/05, Tiger Survivor
FEDENETS, Andrew Sr. Hq Btry, 82 AAA. Bn, 2 Div. Camp 2 & 5.
HARRISON, Hallie wife of Emmet Harrison.
KERN, Henry (Hank) 2/4/2005, survivors: wife, Jessie; 1 son, 3 daughters, his stepmother, 4 brothers, 2 sisters, and 4 grandchildren.
MADSON, Dolores She lost her courageous fight for life on 2/4/2005. She died most peacefully with much love in her heart for all of us. Survived by her husband of 48 years, Senior Vice President, Gordon Madson.

Chaplain’s Corner
Hello to our friends and families. As we face the uncertainties that today may bring, we have the assurance that God knows what we are facing. He is in touch with what is happening to us. He is concerned. So as we plan to attend our reunion let us pray that everyone will have a safe trip. We also ask God to be with the ones who are unable to attend. God knows our needs and we ask him to take care of those in need in Jesus’ name. Amen. We hope to see you in Texas.

Korean War MIA Remains Identified
The Department of Defense has identified remains found last summer in China as those of Roseburg, Oregon native Robert Snoddy, who was co-piloting a spy plane shot down in November 1952. His sister, Ruth Ross, of Creswell, Oregon received the news and said she will bring his cremated remains to be buried near their father’s grave in Eugene, OR. His only child, Roberta, born weeks after he died, and Ms. Ross plan to retrieve Snoddy’s remains from Hawaii, where government investigations and forensic anthropologists worked to identify him.

May 31, 2005, Dallas, Texas. With jets from his old squadron streaking through the clouds overhead in a “missing man” formation, Air Force Captain, Troy “Gordie” Cope was finally laid to rest Tuesday. More than 50 years after his jet crashed during a dogfight in the Korean War. In February 2005, the Pentagon announced it had identified the remains of Cope, whose case put a spotlight on a Russian role in the 1950-53 Korean War that was kept quiet for decades. In 1995, a U.S. businessman spotted Cope’s name on a dog tag on display in a military museum in the Yalu River city of Dandong, China.

During a search by Pentagon analysts of Russia’s Podolsk military archives in 1999, documents describing Cope’s downing on September 16, 1952 were discovered. They included statements and drawings by Russian pilots who had flown the MIG-15s for the North Koreans. The documents contained detailed reports on a search of the crash site by Russian and Chinese officials, giving the Pentagon enough detail to ask the Chinese government for permission to send a team of U.S. specialists to investigate. U.S. Officials found aircraft debris and human remains there in May 2004. Cope, who was 28 when he was shot down, left behind a wife and three young sons.

Raffle Prizes Needed
We will not be giving out door prizes at this year’s reunion, but we will be having the raffle as usual and would appreciate new items for the raffle. Audrey DeLong has graciously accepted to handle the raffle at the San Antonio Reunion. Please call Audrey DeLong, to let her know what you are donating or you can call or e-mail me.
 Secretary of Veterans Affairs

On June 8, 2005, Harley Coon and Elliott Sortillo met with Secretary James Nicholson of Veterans Affairs. I couldn’t attend due to a previously scheduled doctor appointment. Bill Norwood volunteered to go in my place but had to cancel due to the death of his Aunt on Sunday, June 5th. (Our condolences, Bill.)

With his busy schedule, Elliott and Harley were amazed that he met with them for 30 minutes. They discussed the history and purpose of our Association. They also asked his assistants if they would look into the following:
• A fee base policy regarding travel to a VA hospital.
• Why the VA won’t fill private doctors prescriptions.
• More travel Allowance to align with the current gas prices.

They also reminded him of our invitation to be the guest speaker at this years reunion.

This and That

Our First Vice President, James Ball and Richard (Dick) Raby and I participated in the wreath laying Ceremony. James and Dick volunteered to carry our colors in the Parade of Flags. Thank you, James and Dick for doing a great job.

On a personal note, flying from El Paso to Dallas and on to Washington D.C. with American Airlines was extraordinary. A flight attendant recognized the POW/MIA pin I was wearing and moved me along with a soldier and sailor from coach to First Class. I must say that the service we received was outstanding!

March 2005 Newsletter
We had over 60 copies of the March newsletters returned by the post office. If you have moved or no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please notify Tim Casey or me.

House Bill 2369

Introduced into the House on May 16, 2005. This bill is to be known as “Honor our Fallen Prisoner of War Act.” House Bill (HB) 2369 would authorize the award of the Purple Heart to all members of the Armed Forces who died or will die while in captivity and who are not otherwise eligible. This will include but will not be limited to freezing, starvation, prolonged exposure, beatings, and torture. All members of the Korean War Ex-POW Association are encouraged to contact their Senators and Representatives requesting they co-sponsor this non-partisan legislation.

For a copy of this bill please contact Shorty Estabrook.

Correction to March 2005 Taps:
Gogantes should be GIGANTES and Salhudtid should be SALAHUDTIN.

Taps, cont.

HIBBARD, Preston J.

LUDWIG, Tony
6/7/05, Camp 1, survived by wife and six children.

PENCE, Claude D.
B Btry, 38 FA. Bn. 2 Div. Camp.

PORTER, Jimmie

SCOTT, Rodney

SEDOTAL, Junis J.
K Co. 38 Inf. 2 Div. Camp 1.

SHIMOMURA, Katie
3/7/2005, wife of Sam Shimomura.

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SHIMOMURA, Katie
3/7/2005, wife of Sam Shimomura.

Korean POW deceased not previously listed

DAVES, John H.
12/1/04, I Co. 32 Inf. 7 Div., Camp 5.

HANNEMANN, William
8/21/2004, survived by his wife, Gloria, 3 children, 7 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

HARDIN, William
C.10/19/2003, B Btry, 38 FA BN, 2 Div. Camp 5 & 3.

HAUGEN, Mathias
1/2/2003, Med. Co. 38 Inf. 2 Div.

LUKASIK, Anthony J. Jr.

MCKIBBEN, Harold L.
12/5/2003, Med Co. 9 Inf. 2 Div, Camp 5 & 4.

MICHELBERG, Albert

PETERSON, Clarence R.


WARREN, Roger

WAIAI, Oliver
Hawaii POW/MIA Recognition Week

The POW/MIA event chaired by our own Nick Nishimoto far outdid past recognition weeks in Hawaii. Nick was presented with a long overdue plaque presented by the Commanding General of JPAC. The plaque tells of Nick’s dedication to the POW/MIA cause and the fact that he has met all repatriated remains even when he was a delegation of one. Great job, Nick. We love Ya.

The following Korean War Ex-POW’s were in attendance: Susumu and Betty Shinagawa, Clarence and Ann Young, Yoshio Tamaki, Masao and Fukue Kawana, Frank and Yasuko Velligas, Ken and Myrna Viles, Donald and Louise Wakehouse, Carl and Betty Weatherman, Donald and Ruriko Campbell, Dennis and Luella Pavik, Joe and Maria Ramirez, Eugene and Julita Ramos, Peggy Sullivan, William Werner, Backie and Margie Yonamine, Shorty and Marty Estabrook, Ralph and Imelda Culbertson, Ray Mellin, Mike Tsutsui, Tomio Tadaki Tamaye, Mary Minietta and Chuck’s daughter Robin, and Harry and Mrs Brunelle.

Information provided by Shorty Estabrook, Tiger Survivor. Thanks, Shorty.

Korean Ex-Pow Family Needs Help

With Dan and Joyce Ann McKinney’s permission, I am including this information about their grandson, Tate T. Detten, who just turned 10 years old on March 3rd. Tate was born with a rare syndrome which is called “Prune-Belly.” This syndrome is characterized by deformities in the urinary tract, absence of abdominal muscles, and dislocated hips.

Due to the urinary tract abnormalities Tate’s kidneys were malformed and damaged resulting in chronic renal failure. Tate has endured 10 years of doctor appointments, multiple surgeries and hospitalizations. He has survived all odds with a kidney function of only about 20%. However, his kidney function has diminished to the point where he is now in need of a transplant.

The purpose of this information is to ask for two things. First and most importantly, please keep all of them in your prayers. Secondly, they are asking for donations. A fund has been set up at Amarillo National Bank in Tate’s name. This account will be used strictly to offset any expense associated with the transplant. All donations will be tax deductible.

Donations can be made by check payable to Amarillo National Bank, PO Box 1, Amarillo, TX 79105. Please mark envelope and check: Benefit Fund for Tate T. Detten.

Attention Travelers: if you are driving through Illinois you may want to check out the Korean War National Museum and Library. It is located at the once Chanute Air Force Base, in Rantoul, Illinois. All of the museum board of directors are Korean War veterans.

Illinois I-57 will bring you to the museum, and the Air Force Base’s museum.

POW Trivia

Do you know who wrote this poem?

A Time to Remember

Not a bugle was heard,
Not a funeral beat,
Nor, even a drum sounding retreat,
As over the ice the corpses were carried,
To that hill where our GIs were buried.
Six feet by 2 feet and 1 foot deep,
In a Korean hill they sleep,
Both, young and old, perhaps one wonders,
“Why” These 1600 had to die.
No little white crosses to bear their names,
But they were not buried in shame.
Although they lie in unknown graves.
They were 1600 American brave.
There were no useless caskets,
To enclose their breast, only GI clothing.
For their last rest.
All colors of men, black, brown and white,
Now 1600 faded lights.
A pill, a powder, or medicine of any kind, may have saved them from that yonder hill,
Those 1600 now lying still.
In their illness, tossing and turning,
Most of them knew there would be no returning.
Some went easy, but most in pain,
Did these 1600 die in vain?
For those of us who may go back,
To enjoy life’s fill, they will still be there on that lonely hill
Forgotten by some, yet remembered by most.
They will be “1600 in their last Post.”

This poem was written by one of our past Presidents in a prison camp in North Korea. Answer on page 5.
Flaws Discovered in Disability Benefits

A commission conducting the first major review of veterans disability benefits in 50 years was warned at its inaugural meeting that perhaps too many veterans have been deemed “unemployable,” which raises their compensation to the level of 100 percent disabled veterans.

Renee L. Szybala, Director for Operations of VA Compensation and Pension Service, told the Veterans Disability Benefits Commission that the number of vets designated “IU” for Individual Unemployability, has doubled in the last six years.

For more information contact:
Tom Philpott, at Military Update PO Box 231111, Centreville, VA 20120-1111 or by e-mail at milupdate@aol.com.

Remains of American MIAs Found in North Korea

May 24, 2005. Specialists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) have recovered remains believed to be those of American soldiers missing in action from the Korean War. The remains will be repatriated to U.S. control at Yongsan Military Compound in Seoul. From Seoul, the remains will be flown to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, where the forensic identification process will take place in the JPAC laboratory to determine the precise number of recovered American soldiers. This is the first repatriation of remains from this year’s recovery operation in North Korea and marks the beginning of the 10th consecutive year for the mission there.

Since 1996, 33 joint operations have been conducted in North Korea during which remains believed to be those of more than 220 Soldiers which have been recovered. There are more than 8,100 MIAs from the Korean War.

The JPAC specialists consisted of a 27–man U.S. element divided into two recovery teams. The first team operated near the Chosin Reservoir where the 1st Marine Division and the Army’s 7th Infantry Division fought Chinese forces November-December 1950. Approximately 1,000 Americans are missing in action from battles of the Chosin campaign.

The second team recovered remains in Unsan County about 60 miles north of Pyongyang. This area was the site of battles between communist forces and the U.S. Army’s 1st Cavalry and 25th Infantry divisions in November 1950.

Reunion Memory Books

Classic Reunions will once again be producing the Memory Book for our reunion in San Antonio. If you are not attending and would like a memory book please use the coupon below and enclose a check for $15.00 (this includes shipping and handling). Please send all checks to the address on the coupon. If you are not attending and would like to be included, please email a photo of you/your family to: clareunion@aol.com. The picture should be at least 2” x 3” and 250 dpi.

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DIRECTIONS TO THE 2005 KOREAN WAR EX-POW ASSOCIATION REUNION
OMNI SAN ANTONIO, 9821 COLONNADE BLVD, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78230

Omni San Antonio hotel is in northwest San Antonio at I-10 and Wurzbach Road in the Colonnade office complex. The hotel is located on the right side of the complex.

From San Antonio International Airport: I-410 West to I-10 West; Exit Wurzbach Road to the Colonnade office complex.

From I-35; Exit 1604 West (Anderson Loop) to I-10 East to San Antonio; Exit Wurzbach, cross under I-10 in turn-around lane; hotel will be on the right.

The hotel is 15 minutes (8 miles) from San Antonio International Airport, 3 minutes (1 mile) to the Medical Center; 15 minutes (12 miles) to the River Walk area, convenient to I-10 and loop 410.

The Colonnade office complex surrounding the hotel features numerous restaurants, a beauty salon, jewelry store, coffee bar and ice cream shop.

SEE YOU THERE!

Tiger Survivors Banquet
Friday night, September 9, 2005. $30.00 adult/$15.00 12 & under. Contact Shorty for more information.