

THE FRONT PAGE

KOREA-COLD WAR
FAMILIES OF THE MISSING
PO BOX 454
FARMINGDALE, NY 11735



<http://www.koreacoldwar.org>

November 2013 Issue #42
POW-MIA WE Remember!

SEND TO:

2014 TENTATIVE FAMILY UPDATE SCHEDULE

January 11, 2014 - Portland, OR, February 22, 2014 Houston, TX,
March 15, 2014 – Charlotte, NC, April 12, 2014 – Las Vegas, NV,
May 10, 2014 Minneapolis, MN,
June 12-14, 2014* Washington, DC, August 14-15, 2014** Washington, DC,
September 13, 2014 – Pittsburgh, PA

*Southeast Asia Annual Government Briefing ** Korean/Cold War Annual Government Briefing

TREASURER'S CORNER

As the holidays approach, it is easy to get distracted. Please send in your membership renewal early. January will be here before you know it.

It is because of you, our members, that we can continue our work. Please take a minute and send your renewal in today.

Thank you!

Korea/Cold War Families of the Missing
PO Box 454
Farmingdale, NY 11735

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IN MY OPINION

by Irene Mandra

DPMO reported to us that on October 22, 2013, Deputy Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter approved a request to convey special government employee status upon General Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, USAF, Retired. This action should strengthen General Foglesong's ability to carry out duties associated with his role as the Co-Chairman of the U.S. Side of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs (USRJC). We certainly hope that this means that the department of defense is committed to support the work of the URJC.

With the holidays upon us, I want to remind you to please send your membership dues in early. Sometimes we get so busy that we forget.

I just want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

FORMER PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH MEETS WITH NORTH KOREAN DEFECTOR

By RFA

Former U.S. President George W. Bush held talks last month with a defector from North Korea who gave a harrowing account of his childhood spent in a camp for political prisoners in a meeting seeking to draw attention to human rights abuses in the reclusive, nuclear-armed nation.

Bush and Shin Dong Hyuk, whose story is told in *Escape From Camp 14*, written by veteran American journalist Blaine Harden, spoke for an hour on Wednesday at the recently opened George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas, Texas, where the former president expressed concern that abuses suffered by prisoners in North Korea during Shin's time in the camp continue today, sources said.

Shin, who escaped in 2005 from Kwan-li-so (Prison labor camp) No. 14 by crawling through an electrified fence, said that Bush had invited him because of the former

president's concern for human rights in North Korea and because he had been impressed by the book about him.

Even now, almost 200,000 inmates of the North Korean camps are subjected to hunger, torture, and other abuse, with some publicly executed for attempting to escape, participants in the meeting said as they called for the world to pay greater attention to the sufferings endured in the camps.

Following the meeting, the former U.S. president and former political prisoner exchanged books, with Shin presenting Bush with a copy of *Escape From Camp 14*, and Bush in turn offering Shin a copy of his memoirs.

"Former president Bush is deeply interested in [the situation of] North Korean human rights, and especially in the political prison camps," said executive director of the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea Greg Scarlatoiu, who attended the meeting.

Bush, who served as U.S. president from 2001-2009, met frequently while in office with North Korean defectors, activists, and their families, and in 2004 signed into law the North Korean Human Rights Act, which provides for humanitarian and legal assistance to North Koreans who have fled the country.

Scarlatoiu added that Wednesday's meeting creates a new opportunity to press the international community, including the U.S., to work to improve human rights in North Korea.

'Unspeakable atrocities'

In September, the head of a U.N. investigation into human rights abuses in North Korea cited "unspeakable atrocities" in the secretive state, saying the international community must take action against leader Kim Jong Un's regime and hold it accountable.

Michael Kirby, chairman of the U.N. Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in North Korea, told the Geneva-based U.N. Human Rights Council that testimonies heard so far by his panel indicate that North Korean authorities are responsible for violations in every area it had been tasked with investigating.

"We heard from ordinary people who faced torture and imprisonment for doing nothing more than watching foreign soap operas or holding a religious belief," said Kirby, a former Australian judge.

Kirby's commission heard testimony from a former prisoner driven by hunger to eat rodents, lizards, and grass.

It also heard from a young woman who said she saw another female prisoner forced to drown her own baby in a bucket, Kirby said, and a man who said he was forced to collect and burn the corpses of prisoners who died of starvation.

North Korea's mission to the U.N. Human Rights Council in a Sept. 17 statement called the commission's interim findings "fabricated by hostile forces aimed at sabotaging the socialist system of the [North] and defaming it."

Pyongyang has also refused to allow U.N. investigators to enter North Korea, describing defectors offering testimony to the commission as "human scum."

The commission has now held hearings in Seoul, Tokyo, and London ahead of a meeting in Washington, and will present its final findings to the U.N. Human Rights Commission in March.

Reported by Young Jung for RFA's Korean Service. Translated by Doeun Han. Written in English by Richard Finney.

UNIT'S DENTISTS LINK CLUES TO MYSTERY OF MILITARY'S FALLEN

By SSG Erika Ruthman
Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command

Lt. Col. Walter Henry never dreamed his Army career as a dentist would lead him to a job where he would get to help identify Americans missing-in-action from the nation's past conflicts.

Henry is one of only three odontologists working as forensic dentists at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command. JPAC is charged with a full accounting of the estimated 88,000 Americans who never returned home from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War and the Gulf War.

JPAC teams deploy worldwide to sites where clues for unaccounted-for Americans may be located to recover evidence including coat buttons, bone fragments, and dog tags. All evidence that is found at each site is scientifically examined and paired with historical documents in an effort to identify missing Americans to be returned to their families and buried with full military honors.

In about 25 percent of all cases, JPAC teams return with dental remains. That's when JPAC odontologists come into play. Dental remains often offer the best means available to positively identify an individual because teeth are durable and are unique from person to person.

"Enamel found in teeth is the hardest natural tissue found in the body and some of the restorative [dental] materials such as gold, porcelain, amalgam are harder than enamel. Usually, teeth will endure a disaster, which can help in the identification," Army Lt. Col. Gregory Silver, JPAC odontologist said.

The process of matching teeth to a particular person begins by compiling a list of MIAs who might be linked to remains of teeth found at a site. Forensic dentists then re-create dental records based on the teeth 'found in the field' and compare that with historical dental charts. The goal is to find a match with a MIA or exclude MIAs whose teeth do not match.

"The average person has 32 teeth and each tooth has five surfaces to be restored in various combinations. This will give a huge number of possibilities [in an identification]," Silver said. "Dental remains will quickly tell you who someone is or is not."

Once JPAC forensic dentists discover all the similarities between a missing individual's antemortem dental record and a particular set of dental remains, their findings are added to the case file for that MIA.

"Dental evidence resists decomposition and may be analyzed for an indefinite period of time. As we are looking at historic remains, the dental elements are of utmost importance for identification," said Navy Cmdr. Kevin Torske, JPAC's senior forensic odontologist.

At times, there may be very little to examine. This was the situation with Henry's first case at JPAC when he was presented with only three teeth held by a fragment of an upper jaw.

"It was somewhat daunting," Henry said. Henry said he initially thought that he would never crack the case, but he was wrong.

"One tooth had a filling and that was unique enough to one individual," he said.

From only one tooth, Henry established a direct link between the remains and a missing service member.

That service member was part of a B-24 flight crew that crashed with 11 people on board. Dental records were available on all of the crewmen.

"The remains we had could be only one of the crewmembers," Henry said.

While teeth are often critical to the identification process, Torske emphasized that dental work is only a portion of the overall picture.

Dental remains analyzed by JPAC forensic dentists offer another line of evidence to strengthen the case to help identify a missing person, but the final identification is a team effort that involves combining all available evidence.

"Along with anthropology," Torske said, "material evidence, mitochondrial DNA, and historical information, dental [evidence] simply offers another piece of the puzzle in the complex act of identifying historic human remains."

ARMY PFC. NORMAN DUFRESNE

Army Pfc. Norman Dufresne, 20, of Leominster, Mass., was buried Oct. 19, 2013 in Leominster, Mass.

In July 1950, Dufresne and elements of G Company, 2nd Battalion of 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division were deployed astride hills along the Chinju-Hadong road, just west of the Nam River, deep within South Korea. In late July 1950, the North Koreans launched a massive attack against 2nd Battalion positions and the American forces fell back from Chinju. Dufresne was lost during the course of this moving battle. He was reported as missing in action July 30, 1950.

In August 1951, the U.S. Army Graves Registration Service (AGRS) recovered the remains of a U.S. serviceman from a battlefield near Chinju, South Korea. The remains were buried in the United Nations Cemetery in Tanggok. Several months later, the remains were disinterred and transferred to the U.S. Army's Central Identification Unit in Kokura, Japan for laboratory analysis.

In September 1954, a military review board declared the remains unidentifiable. The unidentified remains were transferred to Hawaii, where they were interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as the "Punchbowl."

In 2012, analysts from Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) reevaluated Dufresne's records and determined that, due to the advances in technology, the remains should be exhumed for identification.

To identify Dufresne's remains, scientists from the (JPAC) used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, such as dental comparison and radiograph comparisons.

Today, 7,903 Americans remain unaccounted for from the Korean War. Using modern technology, identifications continue to be made from remains that were previously recovered from North and South Korea.

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ARMY SGT. MELVIN E. WOLFE

Army Sgt. Melvin E. Wolfe, 18, of San Diego, Calif., was buried Sept. 23, in Boulder City, Nev. In late November 1950 Wolfe and members of the K Company, 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT) were deployed along the east side of the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea when they came under attack by Communist forces. The 31st RCT began a fighting withdrawal to a more defensible position near Hagaru-ri, south of the reservoir. Following the battle, Wolfe was reported missing in action on Dec. 12, 1950.

In September 2004, a joint U.S./Democratic People's Republic of Korea (D.P.R.K) team excavated a mass grave south of the Pungnyuri-gang inlet of the Chosin Reservoir. During this excavation operation the team recovered human remains from at least 32 individuals and material evidence such as uniform fragments worn by U.S. service members in the 1950s.

In the identification of Wolfe, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools including mitochondrial DNA – which matched Wolfe's nieces.

ARMY CPL. ARMANDO ALVAREZ

Army Cpl. Armando Alvarez, 20, of El Paso, Texas, was buried Sept. 27, in his hometown. In late 1950, Alvarez and elements of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), were advancing along the eastern side of the Chosin Reservoir, in North Korea. From Nov. 27 to Dec. 1, 1950, the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) encircled and attempted to overrun the U.S. position. As the battle continued, the 31st RCT, known historically as Task Force Faith, began a fighting withdrawal to a more defensible position. Following the battle, Alvarez was reported missing on Dec. 2, 1950.

In Sept. 2004 a joint U.S. and Democratic People's Republic of North Korea (D.P.R.K.) team surveyed and excavated a field south of the P'ungnyuri inlet of the Chosin Reservoir, near the area where Alvarez was last seen, recovering human remains.

To identify Alvarez's remains, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, such as dental comparison and mitochondrial DNA – which matched Alvarez's sister.

ARMY CPL. ROBERT J. TAIT

Army Cpl. Robert J. Tait, 19, of Bar Harbor, Maine, was buried Oct. 5, 2013 in his hometown. In late 1950, Tait, a member of the Headquarters Battery, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, engaged in a battle with enemy forces east of the Chosin Reservoir, in North Korea. As the battle continued, the 31st RCT, known historically as Task Force Faith, began a fighting withdrawal to a more defensible position. Following the battle, Tait was reported missing on Dec. 6, 1950.

In August 1953, returning U.S. soldiers reported that Tait had been captured on Dec. 2, 1950, and died shortly afterward due to lack of medical care and malnutrition. His remains were not among those returned by the Communist Forces during Operation Glory in 1954.

Between 1991 and 1994, North Korea gave the United States 208 boxes of human remains believed to contain the remains of 350 - 400 U.S. servicemen. North Korean documents, turned over with some of the boxes, indicated that some of the remains were recovered from the area where Tait was believed to have died in 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir. To identify Tait's remains, scientists from the JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, such as dental comparison, and DNA. Three forms of DNA were used to identify Tait's remains – Mitochondrial DNA, which matched his sister, Y-STR and auSTR DNA.

ARMY CPL. HAROLD A. EVANS

Army Cpl. Harold A. Evans, 22, of Linsell, Minn., was buried Oct. 12, in Thief River Falls, Minn. In late 1950, Evans was a member of the Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, which was deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir near Sinhung-ri, South Hamgyong Province, North Korea. After engaging in a battle with enemy forces east of the Chosin Reservoir, members of the 31st RCT, historically known as Task Force Faith, began a fighting withdrawal to a more defensible position. Following the battle, Evans was reported missing on Dec. 12, 1950.

Between 1991 and 1994, North Korea gave the United States 208 boxes of human remains believed to contain the remains of 350 - 400 U.S. servicemen. North Korean documents, turned over with some of the boxes, indicated that some of the remains were recovered from the area where Evans was believed to have died in 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir.

To identify Evans' remains, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, such as dental comparison, radiograph comparisons and DNA analysis. Two forms of DNA were used to identify Evans, Mitochondrial DNA, which matched his sister, and Y-STR DNA, which matched his brother.

ARMY SGT. CHARLES L. SCOTT

Army Sgt. Charles L. Scott, 20, of Lynchburg, Va., was buried Sept. 5, in his hometown. In late November 1950, Scott and elements of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT) were deployed along the east side of the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea when they came under attack by Communist forces. The 31st RCT began a fighting withdrawal to a more defensible position near Hagaru-ri, south of the reservoir. Following the battle, Scott was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950.

In 1954 the United Nations and Communist Forces exchanged the remains of war dead in what came to be known as Operation Glory. Remains that were thought to be American were transferred to the Army's Central Identification Unit in Japan for analysis. Remains that were unidentifiable were interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as "the Punchbowl."

In 2012, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) reassessed the possibility of identifying the remains using modern technology and the decision was made to exhume the remains for identification.

In the identification of Scott, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) used circumstantial evidence, and forensic identification tools such as dental comparisons, radiograph comparisons and mitochondrial DNA – which matched Scott's mother and sister.

ARMY PFC. RONALD C. HUFFMAN

Army Pfc. Ronald C. Huffman, 18, of Lashmeet, W.V., was buried Sept. 21, 2013, in Princeton, W.V. On Feb. 12, 1951, Huffman and the K Company, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment fought Chinese forces in a battle near Saemal, South Korea. By June 1951 the Chinese reported that Huffman had been captured and taken to a prisoner of war camp near Changsong, North Korea. American POWs held with Huffman reported that he died in the camp in July 1951. Chinese officials later confirmed Huffman died on July 22, 1951.

In 1954 the United Nations and Communist Forces exchanged the remains of a POW from the Changsong Camp. Attempts to identify the remains in the 1950s were unsuccessful and the remains were buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as "the Punchbowl."

In 2012, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) reassessed the possibility of identifying the remains using modern technology and the decision was made to exhume the remains for identification. To identify Huffman, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools including dental records and radiograph comparison.

CHILLIN' IN THE COLD WAR CORNER

Dear Cold War Families,

In my attempt for our few voices to be heard, I am most happy to announce, I thus far have 7 letters ready for Senator Dianne Feinstein. She is head of Intelligence and therefore, the one we write for our Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to request information from the National Security Agency (NSA).

I am realistic. I am patient. I am waiting for a total of 20 letters before I hand deliver them to the Senator's office in San Francisco. I live only 4 hours away and my goal is our visibility and that our voices be heard concerning the declassification of old documents.

If you have never before written a FOIA, I encourage you to do so. It does feel good. It is better than sitting idly by and waiting for someone else to do something about your POW/MIA family member. Did you know that when you write your Senator or Congressman, that your FOIA request gets put to the top. They are required to respond to you within 6-8 weeks. (Same goes for Senator Feinstein as head of Intell).

If you sent a FOIA to NSA or NARA (National Archives), you are on the bottom of the pile. It's that simple.

We must continue to make every attempt to **DECLASSIFY** old documents that could bring closure to so many of us.

In an era where information is being leaked, where are the "wikileaks" for us?

The last 4 presidents have signed the Executive Order to continue "the silence". This also needs to be addressed firmly. Good grief Mr. President and NSA, **LET THESE DOCUMENTS GO!**

Dear Korean War families,

I also invite and encourage you to join us. We are all in this together and we want the same thing: **DECLASSIFY DECLASSIFY.**

CHANGE THE EXECUTIVE ORDER. WE CAN HAVE CLOSURE IF YOU RELEASE OLD DOCUMENTS!

As always, I am hopeful. Onward we go, chipping away at the stone wall of silence and blockades. Letter by letter, **LET'S BE HEARD.** Call me, e-mail me. Let's do this!

Respectfully,

Melody Raglin
530-265-5741

raglinmia@yahoo.com



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Service Casualty Offices serve family members. Each Military Department maintains a service casualty office. The Department of State does the same for civilians. The officials in these offices serve as the primary liaisons for families concerning personnel recovery and accounting. Full-time civilians who have worked this issue for many years and are experienced and knowledgeable help answer family member questions. Military officials also assist to help explain the methods used to account for families' missing loved ones.

Air Force

USAF Missing Persons Branch
550 C Street West, Suite 15
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4716
(800) 531-5501

Army

Department of the Army
U.S. Army Human Resources Command
Attn: CMAOC/PCRB
1600 Spearhead Division Ave, Dept 450
Fort Knox, KY 40122-5405
(800) 892-2490

Marine Corps

Headquarters U. S. Marine Corps
Manpower and Reserve Affairs (MRC)
Personal and Family Readiness Division
3280 Russell Road
Quantico, VA 22134-5103
(800) 847-1597

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Navy Personnel Command
Casualty Assistance Division
POW/MIA Branch (PERS 624)
5720 Integrity Drive
Millington, TN 38055-6210
(800) 443-9298

Department of State

Overseas Citizens Services
U.S. Department of State
4th Floor
2201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20037
Phone: (202) 647-5470

KOREA-Cold WAR Families of THE Missing, INC.
PO Box 454
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PLEASE JOIN US!

Families UNITED in a SEARCH for TRUTH, Dignity, Acknowledgment and Closure

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All projects ARE funded THROUGH CONTRIBUTIONS. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS will GREATLY ASSIST US in OUR ENDEAVORS. MEMBERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP is \$25.00. FROM THEREON, all MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS will BE DUE 1st JANUARY AT \$25.00 PER YEAR.

FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS MAY JOIN/SUBSCRIBE ANY TIME.

WE look FORWARD TO WORKING WITH FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS AS WE STRIVE TO find TRUTH, ANSWERS AND closure.

STAR Fields ARE REQUIRED. PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE.

*I wish to apply AS A Family MEMBER. I wish to apply AS A CONTRIBUTOR. SELECT ONE.

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*NAME AND Rank of POW-MIA: _____

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