

THE FRONT PAGE

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



<http://www.koreacoldwar.org>
November 2014 Issue #46
POW-MIA WE Remember!

SEND TO:

2014 FAMILY UPDATE SCHEDULE

November 8, 2014, Orlando, Fl.

TREASURER'S CORNER

It is time to renew your membership. Please take care of it before you get busy with the holidays.

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PO Box 454
Farmingdale, NY 11735

No application is necessary if you are already a member. Please provide your name and address on the check.

Contact your Congressional Reps through the U.S. Capitol Switchboard - 1-202-224-3121 or House Cloak Room at 1-202-225-7350 (R) and 1-202-225-7330 (D)

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DASD Montague "Q" Winfield Resigns

On October 15, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs and Director, Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, W Montague Winfield submitted his resignation to the Secretary of Defense, effective November 15, 2014.

Major General (Retired) Winfield will return to the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to continue his career in emergency management.

Major General (Retired) Winfield made great strides in bringing the various components of the Personnel Accounting Community together as a team, and his emphasis on families brought new energy to Department of Defense meetings with families and veterans/family service organizations.

His many years of service, as a soldier and a civilian, are appreciated and we wish him continued success at FEMA as he continues to serve our nation.

CHIT CHAT NEWS **by Irene Mandra**

My computer crashed, and unfortunately all of y our e-mail addresses are gone. Please send me an e-mail with y our name and e-mail address.

Many Thanks.

IMandra@optonline.net

STREET NAMED AFTER VETERAN

Yonkers, NY

Cpl Seymour Lehman fought in what has come to be known as the "Forgotten War" (better known as the Korean War), but his legacy of selfless service will forever be remembered now that a portion of Gateway Road has been designated "Corporal Seymour Lehman Way." A dedication ceremony for the new route was held after the passage of a bill sponsored by Council Minority Leader Michael Sabatino.

Korean War veteran fights to keep flagpole in Greenfield neighborhood

GREENFIELD, Ind. - *By Naomi Pescovitz, WTHR*

A Korean war veteran in Greenfield says his flagpole stands for freedom. His homeowners association says the flagpole breaks the rules. The dispute stems from American and Missing In Action flags in Robert and Judy Willits' front yard.

The couple moved to the Fieldstone neighborhood last Christmas. This summer they installed the flagpole. "It means a lot to me. We fought for that flag," Robert Willits said.

Both Robert and his brother, Lester, served in the Korean War. Robert was injured. Lester never came home. "Lester is still there. So I'm going to keep it up," Robert Willits said.

Last month, the Fieldstone Homeowners Association sent a letter to the couple saying they were in violation of the covenants and restrictions of the neighborhood.

The association offered to fly the MIA flag from the community flagpole and said Willits could hang the American flag from a bracket above the garage. The other option: keep the flag where it is and pay a \$500 fine to cover legal fees. Robert Willits says he won't pay the fine, and the flags are staying put.

"With the penalties they've imposed on us, I feel it's really un-American for somebody that is 100 percent disabled vet," Judy Willits said. "No. I am not taking it down," Willits said. "That flag is for the freedom of every person in here. It represents freedom." A group of Hoosier veterans demonstrated around the flagpole in support of the Willits family and their flags.



IN MY OPINION

by Irene Mandra

Dear Members,

I don't have good news. Dr. Paul Cole has been fired from JPAC. I am very upset that they have dismissed this brilliant man. To make things worse, they have given notice to Dr. Tom Holland as well. What can I say? Two good men lost.

I spoke about Dr. Holland's dismissal at the Korean and Cold War Annual Government briefing in Washington DC, this past August. Many families signed a petition in support of Dr. Holland, which I sent to Secretary Chuck Hagel. Apparently it was ignored.

Dr. Holland was pushing for more work on the Korean War remains. This doesn't make him a bad guy. It made me happy that he at least thinks of the Korean War and the emphasis was not only on Vietnam. I realize that JPAC has received bad notices in the Associated Press, but to make Dr. Holland the scapegoat is an outrage.

Two good men are being blamed for JPAC's dysfunction. Shame on this new group who is suppose to make the POW/MIA mission run more efficiently.

DOD Fact Sheet for the Past Conflict Personnel Accounting Transformation (October 7, 2014)

In March 2014, the Secretary of Defense directed the creation of a new Defense agency that will consolidate all activities related to the accounting of missing personnel from past conflicts. The purpose of the consolidation is twofold:

1. To centralize Department of Defense (DoD) authority for past conflict missing personnel accounting; and
2. To resolve issues of duplication and inefficiency within the Department of Defense.

The Department, through the Personnel Accounting Consolidation Task Force (PACT), is in the process of designing the new agency. The new agency will simultaneously operate more efficiently and effectively while meeting the expectations of families of missing DoD personnel from past conflicts. These families are DoD's primary focus, and providing them better service is the goal. Throughout this transformation, all operations and activities pertaining to existing personnel accounting missions will continue.

Accomplishments:

- The Administration submitted a legislative proposal to Congress in May 2014 to establish the new agency.
- A consulting firm, The Clearing, was hired to advise on change management and process design.
- The Deputy Secretary of Defense approved implementation of the transformation plan. The transformation effort will take at least one year to complete, with some efforts focused on cultural change likely to continue after full operating capability is reached in January 2016.
- The plan begins by setting the new agency's mission, vision, and values, followed by process design and organizational structure. Based upon several months of discussions with internal and external stakeholders, the PACT, Joint Personnel Accounting Command (JPAC), and Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) have determined the new vision and mission for the new agency.

- Vision: A world-class workforce fulfills our nation's obligation to account for missing personnel by maximizing the number of those accounted for while ensuring timely, accurate information is provided to their families.
- Mission: We provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel to their families and the nation.
- Values: Compassion, integrity, teamwork, respect, and innovation.

Ongoing Activities:

- Over the next several months, DoD will begin consolidating some activities to achieve initial operational capability (IOC) in January 2015.
 - October: Launch internal working groups on family products and services, collection and analysis, laboratory and forensics, and case management.
 - October-November: medical examiner in place to be the identification authority and oversee scientific operations for the new agency.
 - October: Combine DPMO and JPAC current communications and establish "family experience" to shape the systems and processes for family engagement.
 - October: Combine DPMO and JPAC financial operations.
 - October-December: Develop branding identity for the new agency; i.e., name and logo. Solicit and consider suggestions from family groups and veterans' organizations.
 - November-December: Single process for operations functions and systems are in place to transfer field activities from U.S. Pacific Command to the Office of the Secretary of Defense.
 - By December: Decision on headquarters location and designate an interim director.
- The new agency is projected to reach full operational capability (FOC) by January 2016.
- Families, family groups, veterans' organizations, and others will continue to be consulted throughout the agency implementation process through a number of venues:

- Direct calls and meetings with PACT, The Clearing, and the lead for the future family experience
- The Office of the Secretary for Defense' Public Affairs outreach activities
- Possible focus groups and/or surveys on products and services

Working Groups:

- The first round of internal working groups begins in fall 2014. Other working groups will be held in 2015.
- 2014 working groups are:
 - Family Products and Services
 - Collection and Analysis Methods
 - Lab and Forensics
 - Case Management
 - Field Operations
- The working groups are internal to DoD. Working group members are comprised of volunteer employees from all ranks and sections of DPMO, JPAC, AFDIL, and the Services.
- They work collaboratively to identify best practices in each of the five areas.
- They will make recommendations on functions and processes for the new agency for consideration by senior management.
- All options for functions and ways to work are open for consideration.
- A Strategy and Integration team exists to draft a strategy for the new agency and incorporate individual working group recommendations into a single process for the new agency. The Strategy and Integration team's recommendations will go to PACT, and as required, to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Deputy Secretary of Defense, and Secretary of Defense.
- All members of the workforce are invited to volunteer. Group members were selected based on functional expertise, communication skills, current workload, and diversity within working groups.
- Those not on working groups at this time will have opportunities to volunteer for future working groups and support other projects.

YEAR TO DATE ACCOUNTED FOR PER DPMO WEBSITE

- **Cpl. Lonald D. Skeens**, U.S. Army, Company E, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, was lost Sept. 4, 1950, in South Korea. He was accounted for Oct. 11, 2014 and will be buried with full military honors.
- **Sgt. Cameron M. Flack**, U.S. Army, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, was lost Dec. 12, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for Oct. 8, 2014 and will be buried with full military honors.
- **Sgt. Arnold Pitman, U.S. Army, Company L, 3d Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment**, 7th Infantry Division, was lost Dec. 12, 1950 in North Korea. He was accounted for Oct. 7, 2014 and will be buried with full military honors.
- **Sgt. Lee H. Manning**, U.S. Army, Medical Company, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, was lost Dec. 1, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for Aug. 26, 2014 and was buried with full military honors.
- **Master Sgt. Lawrence O. Jock**, Battery A, 955th Field Artillery, 8th U.S. Army, was lost July 14, 1953, in North Korea. He was accounted for June 25, 2014 and was buried with full military honors Aug. 1, 2014, in Malone, N.Y.
- **Cpl. Alva C. Groves**, U.S. Army, Company D, 1st Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, was lost on April 14, 1951, in North Korea. He was accounted for June 12, 2014 and was buried with full military Honors.
- **Cpl. Lucio R. Aguilar**, U.S. Army, Company M, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, was lost on Nov. 28, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for on May 6, 2014 and was buried with full military honors in Corpus Christi, Texas.
- **Sgt. Richard John Archambeault**, U.S. Army, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, was lost on Nov. 2, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for on April 29, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors. The date and location of the funeral are to be determined.
- **Cpl. Harold W. Reed**, U.S. Marine Corps, Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, was lost on Nov. 29, 1950. He was accounted for on April 22, 2014 and was buried with full military honors on May 24, 2014, in Toledo, Ohio.

- **Cpl. William N. Bonner**, U.S. Army, Medical Company, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, was lost on May 31, 1951, in North Korea. He was accounted for on April 22, 2014. He was buried with full military honors in the summer of 2014, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.
- **Cpl. Richard Isbell**, U.S. Army, Company H, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, was lost on April 25, 1951 in South Korea. He was accounted for on April 17, 2014 and was buried with full military honors.
- **Pfc. Arthur Richardson**, U.S. Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, was lost on Jan. 1, 1951, in South Korea. He was accounted for on March 21, 2014 and was buried with full military honors.
- **Cpl. William S. Blasdel**, U.S. Marine Corps, Company H, 3rd Battalion, 11th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, was lost Oct. 28, 1953, in North Korea. He was accounted for March 10, 2014 and was buried with full military honors in the spring of 2014, in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.
- **Cpl. William F. Day**, , U.S. Army, Company C, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team, was lost on Dec. 2, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for on March 6, 2014 and was buried with full military honors April 5, 2014, in La Center, Ky.
- **Sgt. Paul M. Gordon**, U.S. Army, Company H, 2nd Battalion. 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, was lost on Jan.7, 1951, in South Korea. He was accounted for Feb. 12, 2014 and was buried with full military honors June 20, 2014, in Williamstown, Ky.
- **Pfc. Donald C. Durfee**, U.S. Army, Company M, 31st Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), was lost on Dec. 2, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for Jan. 30, 2014 and was buried March 6, 2014, in Rittman, Ohio.
- **Sgt. 1st Class John C. Keller**, U.S. Army, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, was lost on Nov. 2, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for Jan. 29, 2014 and was buried with full military honors in May, 2014, in Florida National Cemetery.

North Korea: Remains of US soldiers being moved

By HYUNG-JIN KIM
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - North Korea said that the remains of American soldiers killed during the Korean War were being neglected and "carried away en masse," in an apparent effort to pressure Washington to resume recovery efforts that could also lead to much-needed money for the impoverished country.

The United States suspended efforts to recover the remains of thousands of U.S. soldiers who died during the Korean War because of the North's plans to launch a long-range rocket in 2012. The U.S. at the time was just starting the process of resuming excavation work that had been suspended in 2005 when Washington said security arrangements for its personnel working in the North were insufficient. North Korea would have received millions of dollars in compensation for its support of the work.

On Oct. 13, an unidentified North Korean military spokesman said in a state media dispatch that the remains of American soldiers are "left here and there uncared and carried away en masse" because of building projects, land reorganization and flood damage.

The U.S. war remains "now look like no better than stones as land rezoning and other gigantic nature-remaking projects made progress" in North Korea, the spokesman said. "The Obama administration should not forget even a moment the proverb saying that even a skeleton cries out of yearning for the homeland."

Analyst Chang Yong Seok at Seoul National University said the North's statement appears aimed at applying pressure to U.S. politicians and officials ahead of November elections to resume the recovery project, which could give the North a way to get foreign currency and improved ties with Washington.

The U.S. and North Korea, which don't have formal diplomatic relations, are still technically at war because the Korean War ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. The U.S. stations about 28,000 troops in South Korea to help deter North Korean aggression.

North Korea has been seeking better ties with the outside world in what foreign analysts say is an attempt to lure aid and investment to help revive its moribund economy. S Korean and U.S. officials have said the North must first take steps toward nuclear disarmament before talks resume.

There were signs of easing tension earlier in October when a group of high-powered North Korean officials visited South Korea and agreed to revive senior-level talks between the rivals. But the North last week opened fire with machine guns after activists in the South launched balloons carrying anti-Pyongyang leaflets across the heavily armed border. South Korea returned fire. There were no reports of injuries or damage.

SERVICE CASUALTY OFFICES

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

Navy

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
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Korean War Accounting – From DPMO Website

Short refresher

HISTORY:

During Operation Glory in 1954, North Korea returned the remains of more than 3,000 Americans. Concurrently, U.S. Graves Registration teams recovered remains from South Korean battlefields. The United States identified thousands of these remains. In 1956, a total of 848 that could not be identified were buried in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl. Others were added later as unknowns. One of the unknowns was interred in the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

The Army Graves Registrations teams searched the battlefields in the Republic of Korea (ROK) from 1951 to 1956. Today, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) investigates losses in South Korea with the assistance of U.S. Forces in Korea and the ROK government.

From 1990 to 1994, North Korea exhumed and returned 208 boxes of remains. However, JPAC scientists estimate that as many as 400 individuals could be represented in these 208 boxes.

Between July 1996, and May 2005, the Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii (CILHI), which is now part of JPAC, conducted 33 Joint Field Activities (JFAs) in North Korea, which recovered more than 220 sets of remains, which are currently being processed for identification at JPAC in Hawaii. On May 25, 2005, the United States temporarily suspended JFAs in North Korea due to security concerns, but in the spring of 2012, JFAs are expected to resume in North Korea.

Johnnie Johnson List:

In October 1950, a North Korean Army major referred to as "The Tiger" took command of more than 700 American servicemen who had been captured and interned as POWs. In August 1953, following the signing of the armistice, only 262 of these men returned alive. One of the survivors, Army Private First Class Wayne A. "Johnnie" Johnson, risked his life during his imprisonment by secretly recording the names of 496 fellow prisoners who had died during their captivity.

The Department of Defense debriefed all returning American POWs concerning their knowledge of those who did not return from the Communist prison system. Private Johnson's painstakingly written record was a major contribution to this effort and helped to determine or confirm the fate of many POWs.

In 1995 a DPMO analyst learned about Johnson's Tiger Survivors List while attending a Korean War Ex-POW reunion in Sacramento, California. DPMO analysts then located intelligence archives which contained Johnson's original debriefing report as well as other POW reports corroborating his information. Among these records a debriefer's handwritten memorandum recommending that Private Johnson be recognized for his bravery. This information was forwarded to the Department of the Army, and in 1996, Private Johnson was awarded the Silver Star, the nation's third highest military combat decoration for valor.

A document examiner was able to recover almost all the names from Private Johnson's original wartime list. Some entries, however, could not be saved.

To view this list you can visit http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/korea/johnnie_johnson_list/

KOREA-Cold WAR Families of THE Missing, INC.
PO Box 454
FARMINGDALE, NY 11735 USA

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

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

*YOUR Full NAME: _____

*Today's DATE (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

*Address: STREET - _____

*City: _____ STATE: _____ Zip: _____

*Email Address: _____

*HOME PHONE WITH AREA CODE: _____

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CONTACTS/EXPERIENCE/Skills THAT MIGHT BE USEFUL:

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FARMINGDALE, NY 11735
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ATTN: MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION

PLEASE make checks payable TO KOREA-Cold WAR Families of THE Missing, INC.

PLEASE email US AT
info@KOREACOLDWAR.ORG OR imandra@optonline.NET

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