

THE FRONT PAGE

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



<http://www.koreacoldwar.org>
May 2014 Issue #44
POW-MIA WE Remember!

SEND TO:

2014 FAMILY UPDATE SCHEDULE

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Korean / Cold War Annual Government Meeting will take place August 14-15 2014 at the same hotel as last year.

HYATT REGENCY CRYSTAL CITY

**2799 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22202**

**You should be hearing from your
Casualty offices soon.**

**We are looking forward to seeing you
there.**

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)

Congressional Contacts:

<http://congress.org/congressorg/home/>

US Senate: <http://www.senate.gov/>

House: <http://www.house.gov/>

White House: <http://www.whitehouse.gov>

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TRIBUTE TO AN AMERICAN HERO: ADMIRAL JEREMIAH A. DENTON, R.I.P.

By Attorney Rees Lloyd
April 1, 2014
NewsWithViews.com

America has lost one of its greatest native sons, Rear Admiral Jeremiah A. Denton (USN, ret.) who epitomized all that is good and great in the American patriotic character as a warrior, statesman and humanitarian. He was an extraordinary American patriot who lived his life in service to God and Country.

Adm. Denton, one of America's greatest military heroes, died on March 28, 2014, in his 89th year. But his example of undaunted courage in combat and in almost eight torture-filled years as a Prisoner of War in Vietnam, will live through the ages as a testament to what can be accomplished through love of family, love of country, and unconquerable faith in God.

It was his faith in God that Adm. Denton attested enabled him to survive the unspeakable torture he and other American POW's endured for resisting demands of their communist captors to denounce and repudiate their country.

That the communists were in fact torturing American POW's in violation of the Geneva Accords was first definitively exposed and confirmed by POW Jeremiah Denton in a now famous act that almost cost him his life. In May, 1966, when the communists attempted to use him for propaganda purposes through a Japanese television documentary intended to show communist benevolence to the POW's, Denton blinked repeatedly as if the bright light bothered his eyes. In fact, he was blinking "T-O-R-T-U-R-E" in Morse Code. After the broadcast, when the communists realized that Denton had duped them, he was tortured so horrendously that he was near death—and actually wished to die to end it.

He powerfully exposed war crime torture by the communists in the now classic book he authored: *When Hell Was In Session*. It is a book which ought to be read in every American schoolroom, and every American home. (A new edition, with an epilogue containing Adm. Denton's thoughts on the current American condition, has been published by WND Books.)

It was Adm. Denton's service in defense of American freedom in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, including during his long captivity as a POW from July 18, 1965, to Feb. 13, 1975, some four (4) years of which was in solitary confinement due to his leadership, which led him to be universally respected by his fellow POWs, and to be hailed by former President Ronald Reagan as "a great hero."

What Adm. Denton did as a warrior, and how he was respected as a leader by POWs who resisted their communist torturers, is confirmed and illuminated by author Alvin Townley in his just published epic account of POWs courage and sacrifice: *DEFIANT: The POWs Who Endured Vietnam's Most Infamous Prison, The Women Who Fought For Them, And The One Who Never Returned.*

When finally released on Feb. 13, 1975, Denton was chosen to speak for his fellow POWs when they stepped off the plane at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines. The heartfelt simplicity of Denton's words are a reflection of his modesty, his essential goodness, his soul: "We are honored to have had the opportunity to serve our county under difficult circumstances. We are profoundly grateful to our commander in chief and to our nation for this day," Denton said, then added with emotion: "God bless America."



IN MY OPINION

by Irene Mandra

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel from the Department of Defense wants the Defense Prisoner of War, Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) to change the way it accounts for our servicemen and women missing from past wars. He has given the job to acting undersecretary of Defense for policy Mr. Mike Lumpkin.

DPMO and Joint Prisoner of War Missing in Action Accounting Command (JAPAC) will be one agency. We have included a copy of General Winfield's statement about this in the Update from DPMO.

BENGHAZI

An Al-Qaeda affiliated group behind the attack, killed four Americans. I have never heard before, in our history, that our men called for help and no one came. There was no excuse, we had the personnel.

How would you like to be the Mother of those Marines fighting for their life, or the ambassador who was dragged through the streets? We send our sons and daughters into the Armed Service to protect this country. How did politics get involved?

Chit Chat News

It's with a heavy heart that we inform you that our member, Lena Mandra Donato has passed away. Lena's generosity had no bounds. If it wasn't donations, she would send postage stamps for our use. Her heart was with the POW/MIA issue. She will be missed terribly.

After 19 years of service, Phil O'Brien has retired from DPMO. Phil was a research analyst for the Korean War Division. He will be greatly missed.

After 11 years of service, Herb Artola has retired from DPMO. He was the primary researcher for the Northeast Asia division. He will be greatly missed as well.

UPDATE FROM DPMO

Personnel Accounting Community Reorganization:

On February 20, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel directed the Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Michael Lumpkin, to provide him with recommendations on how to reorganize the Personnel Accounting Community so that DoD can more effectively account for our missing personnel and ensure their families receive timely and accurate information. Based on his recommendations, those of past reviews, and input from Veteran Service Organizations and Family Organizations, Secretary Hagel announced on March 31, the actions he has directed the DoD to undertake to reorganize the mission of accounting for our personnel from previous wars into a single, accountable organization that has complete oversight of personnel accounting resources, research and operations.

Secretary Hagel's decision to reorganize DoD's Personnel Accounting mission includes the following:

1. DoD will establish a new Defense Agency that combines DPMO, JPAC, and select functions of the U.S. Air Force's Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory. This agency will be led by a presidentially appointed official with a general officer deputy, and will be overseen by the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. All communications with family members of the missing from past conflicts will be managed and organized by this new agency. DoD will provide proposed changes to existing legislation needed to support this decision for consideration in the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act.
2. To streamline the identification process, an Armed Forces Medical Examiner working for the new agency will be the single DoD identification authority for past conflict identifications. They will oversee the scientific operations of the Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii, the satellite laboratory in Omaha, Neb., and the Life Science Equipment Laboratory in Dayton, Ohio.
3. DoD will work with Congress to realign its appropriations for this mission into a single budget line, allowing for greater execution flexibility in the accounting mission with the ability to align resources to respond more effectively.
4. To improve the search, recovery, and identification process, the DoD will implement a centralized database and case management system containing all missing service members' information.
5. Secretary Hagel has also directed DoD to develop proposals for expanding public-private partnerships in identifying our missing. The goal is to leverage the capabilities and efforts of organizations outside of government that responsibly work to account for our missing. Implementation of these steps will help improve the accounting mission, increase the number of identifications of our missing, provide greater transparency for their families, and expand our case file system to include all missing personnel. DoD will continue to do everything possible to account for and bring home our missing and fallen service personnel.

Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office
Progress on Korean War Personnel Accounting
As of April 8, 2014

Korean War Statistics: Total unaccounted for: **7888** (1)

Total joint field activities (JFAs) completed in North Korea: 1996 – present: 33

Total joint field activities (JFAs/KFEs) completed in South Korea: 1996 – present: 44

Korean War Accounting Efforts on the Peninsula

Korean War Personnel Accounting Strategy – main avenues of pursuit are:

- **Resolution of the Live Prisoner Issue.** Finding live Americans is the highest priority of our accounting process. DPMO, with the full support of the U.S. intelligence community, aggressively investigates all credible reports and sightings of alleged American survivors of the Korean War living in North Korea. Since 1995, more than 25,000 defectors from North Korea have been screened for information concerning Americans possibly living in the North. To date, this effort has produced no useful information concerning live Americans. Most reports of live Americans in North Korea pertain to six known U.S. defectors. Of the six defectors, only one remains alive in North Korea. Four are reported to have died in the North, and one, Sergeant Jenkins, was returned to U.S. control in 2004.

- **Joint Field Activities (JFAs) in North Korea.** JFAs consist of investigative and recovery operations. The U.S. conducted 33 JFAs in North Korea from 1996 through 2005. The U.S. government pays fair and reasonable compensation for the efforts associated with recovering remains, but does not pay for remains or information.

- **Identification of remains already recovered and under U.S. control.** Unidentified Korean War remains are located at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific and at JPAC's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii. Efforts are underway to identify these remains using DNA and other methods.

- **Investigative and remains recovery operations in South Korea and China.** Approximately 950 remains are located in South Korea and fewer than 20 are known to be in China.

- **Korean War era archives.** DoD continues to conduct archival research in the U.S., South Korea, Russia, Eastern Europe, and China. We have also conducted research in North Korean archives, and currently we have an arrangement with China for the Peoples Liberation Army to search its military records for information on U.S. personnel. Chinese Communist Forces administered and operated the POW camps in North Korea for most of the war.

- **Oral history programs in the U.S., South Korea, Russia, and China.** DoD periodically interviews Korean War veterans in the U.S., South Korea, Russia and China. These efforts are designed to uncover information that will help determine the circumstances of loss for missing servicemen; build our knowledge base of Korean War loss incidents; and gain eyewitness accounts of prison camp life and prisoner movements.

Cold War Loss-Sea of Japan: On April 15, 1969, North Korean fighter aircraft shot down a U.S. Navy EC-121 aircraft carrying a crew of 31 over the Sea of Japan. U.S. Navy ships recovered two remains; 29 U.S. service members are still unaccounted-for as a result of this incident.

(1)This is a working number from the Personnel Missing Korea (PMKOR) list.

COLD WAR CORNER

I would like to sincerely thank all of you who participated in the Cold War Writing Campaign. The letters were hand delivered to Senator Dianne Feinstein's office in March. The reason these letters have gone to her office is because she is Head of Intelligence. She contacted me several years ago stating "she heard I was having difficulty with a federal agency and could she help." (It is not because I live in California and she is one of the Senators here). I have kept that door open after my initial response in 2012.

Through her office was the first time I did a FOIA to the NSA. Before that, I DID NOT KNOW I COULD! I find that fact sad that after attending so many updates and WDC meetings that that information is not offered or suggested by our Casualty Officers or by those who stand in front of these meetings making such comments that " We are their highest priority" or" They will do everything they can to bring our family members home."

I share with you my first reply from the NSA, as this leads to a major complaint /concern I have regarding the help DPMO does NOT offer us: "Ms. Raglin has never submitted a FOIA request to the NSA nor has any other government agency consulted with NSA or referred documents to NSA for review in response to a request from Ms. Raglin."

Hey family members, something is terribly wrong here! WHY HASN'T ANY ONE OF THOSE WHO STAND BEFORE US AT THESE MEETINGS, OR OUR CASUALTY OFFICERS MADE ANY REQUESTS ON OUR BEHALF? WHY?! If these folks really want to assist us in finding closure and answers, why haven't they written a letter On our behalf? Would it not have more depth and meaning if they stood together and made written requests to declassify old documents for us, and with us?

I am so tired of pleading and begging with my letters. My knees are sore and my heart aches. How often have we all heard we do not get answers because of the Executive Order? In my attempt to understand this process, I have read through The Federal Register, Vol. 75, No.2, Jan. 5, 2011 and Presidential Document (Title 3-The President) Executive Order 13426 of Dec. 29, 2009 .

I have discovered:

- 1) The "Duration of Classification" can be based on the National Security Sensitivity of the information.
- 2) "Original Classification", Section 4.2- "That the declassification of documents could cause "exceptional grave" or "serious damage to" or any "damage" to the

National Security of the United States of America.”

3) “No information may remain classified indefinitely.”

4) Part 3- Declassification and Downgrading Sec 3 d “It is presumed that information that continues to meet the classification requirements under this order requires continued protection. In some exceptional cases, however, the need to protect such information may be outweighed by the public interest in disclosure of the information and in these cases the information should be declassified.”

Questions related to 1-4 that I asked with my FOIA:

1) Do the 63 year old documents that I am seeking continue to be deemed “Sensitive” to our National Security?

2) Can this 63 year old incident cause “exceptional grave” or “serious damage” to the National Security of our great nation?

3) When there are over 500 family members attending these POW/MIA meetings annually across this great country of ours, ISN'T THAT ENOUGH PUBLIC INTEREST? WHAT VOLUME IS NECESSARY TO BE DECLARED “PUBLIC INTEREST?”

I am trying to understand your process for declassification. For 12 years I have been told the “methods and means” are still in use today. Or that someone’s uncle could still be alive that was an informant back then. Such comments from our Casualty Officers and DPMO are mere methods of stalling and denying family members real answers.

So my dear family members, thank you for listening. I will share whatever I receive from NSA when I get it. Hope to see you at the next Family Update in DC.

Be well, stay healthy, keep trying!

Respectfully,

Melody Raglin, Daughter of E.D. Raglin AT1, Nov. 6, 1951

RECENTLY ACCOUNTED FOR per DPMO WEBSITE

- **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. He was buried with full military honors May 2014, in Florida National Cemetery.
- **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. He was buried March 6, 2014, in Rittman, Ohio
- **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. He was buried with full military honors June 20, 2014, in Williamstown, Ky.
- **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. He was buried with full military honors April 5, 2014 in La Center, Ky.
- **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. He will be buried with full military honors spring 2014, in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.
- **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. He will be 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. He will be buried with full military honors.

A SOLEMN PROMISE

On May 29, 2014 film producer Richard Jellerson, traveled from California to Washington DC along with his film crew, to be at Arlington National Cemetery to film and record the military funeral for Army Private First Class (PFC) James R. Holmes, who served in Korea with Company K, 3rd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.

PFC Holmes who was taken Prisoner of War on December 1, 1950, died while in captivity and his remains were accounted for on January 14, 2014. He was returned home after 63 years and will be buried with full military honors in Arlington on Thursday, May 29th. Richard will also be conducting interviews with family members and members of Veterans groups and representatives of the DOD office of POW/MIA accountability and will also film and take interviews at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The film is entitled A Solemn Promise, America's Missing in Action and it will share stories like PFC Holmes about: America's 83,281 still unaccounted for POW/MIAs; the stories of their family members still awaiting word after decades of not knowing if their loved ones were dead or alive; and the stories of those whose job it is to locate, identify, return, and bury with full military honors America's fallen warriors.

The titles term A Solemn Promise, refers to the one given to military members before entering into combat a reminder that we will leave no one behind. But, as you can see, that was not true for over 83,000 who are still out there somewhere in or near former battlefields.

The film is being produced by Richard's company; Storyteller Original Films and there is a 10-minute trailer on the company's website at: storytellerfilms.tv Richard, a veteran himself - flying 2 tours of duty in Vietnam -serving the last tour as personal pilot for General Creighton Abrams - previously produced a very popular History Channel special entitled The Personal Experience - Helicopter Warfare in Vietnam.

New Book

Abandoned in Place, The Men We Left Behind and the Untold Story of Operation Pocket Change the Joint Special Operations Command Planned Rescue of American POWs Held in Laos Six Years After the End of the Vietnam War© by Lynn O'Shea.

Please **"LIKE"** Korea Cold War on facebook

After Six Decades, Chinese Soldiers Killed in South Korea Head Home

By CHOE SANG-HUN

SEOUL, South Korea — On March 28, 2014, South Korea repatriated the remains of 437 soldiers from China who were killed during the Korean War six decades ago, a sign of warming ties between the two nations.

The remains had been kept in a little-known burial ground north of Seoul, until recently called the "enemy cemetery."

That it took six decades for the bodies of the fallen Chinese soldiers who had fought with North Korea to be returned home bore testimony to the political uneasiness rooted in a war that has never been formally ended.

Between 1981 and 1989, North Korea accepted the remains of 42 Chinese soldiers from South Korea and transferred them to Beijing. But after receiving the remains of another Chinese soldier in 1997, North Korea refused to take any more, in part because it feared that any indication it was helping to mend relations would weaken its efforts to persuade Washington to sign a formal peace treaty. The United States has said it will not support a treaty at least until Pyongyang gives up its nuclear program.

HOWARD BO CALLAWAY DIES AT 86

Associated Press

Howard "Bo" Callaway Sr., a former Georgia congressman, Army Secretary and one of the founders of Callaway Gardens, died on March 15, 2014. He was 86.

During his military career, Callaway served as a lieutenant. He was a platoon leader in Korea and a tactics instructor at Fort Benning. Callaway ended his military career in 1953.

U.S.-Russia Joint Commission

On Dec. 11, 2013, the U.S. side of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs (USRJC) held its first meeting since June 2010. Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, USAF (Ret.), the U.S. Co-Chair of the USRJC, introduced the newly appointed members, including DASD Winfield, as the DoD commissioner. Foglesong then led a discussion on the U.S. side's organization and his plans to re-energize the work of the commission. DPMO provided an overview on the working relationship between DoD and the commission, what the commission can do to facilitate the personnel accounting mission.

March 26, 2014 marked the 22nd anniversary of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs (USRJC). On this date in 1992, the first plenary session of the USRJC took place in Moscow, Russia.

MIA FAMILY MEMBER REQUESTS

If you are a member of the family of a missing American, you may obtain U.S. government files on your loved ones' case by contacting your Service Casualty office. Casualty Office information is listed in this newsletter.

Family members do NOT have to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

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
2201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20037

MELINDA WHEELER COOKE passed away on April 5, 2014

Melinda was Director for Personnel Accounting Policy in the Department of Defense Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Office. Her career in POW/MIA matters began in 1988 in the POW/MIA Office in the Defense Intelligence Agency, where she served as a Research Intelligence Analyst. In 1993, she moved with the POW/MIA Office when it was shifted to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, where she remained for the duration of her career.

RUDY HE RNaNDEZ, RECI PIENT OF T HE MEDAL OF HONOR IN KOREA, DIES

Rodolfo "Rudy" Hernandez, an Army paratrooper who received the Medal of Honor after single handedly carrying out a bayonet assault on enemy forces during the Korea War, died at a veterans' hospital in Fayetteville, N.C. He was 82.



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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.

*YOUR Full Name: _____

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

*Address: STREET - _____

*City: _____ STATE: _____ Zip: _____

*Email Address: _____

*HOME PHONE WITH AREA CODE: _____

Work PHONE WITH AREA CODE: _____ FAX WITH AREA CODE: _____

CONTACTS/EXPERIENCE/Skills THAT MIGHT BE USEFUL:

GOVERNMENT RESEARCH OTHER: _____

FUND RAISING MILITARY/VETERANS: _____

Media COMPUTERS/TECHNOLOGICAL: _____

If you are applying for Family Membership please complete the rest of this form.

*Applicant's relationship to POW-MIA: _____

*NAME AND RANK OF POW-MIA: _____

*BRANCH OF SERVICE/UNIT OR GROUP: _____

*DATE AND AREA OF LOSS: _____

REASON FOR JOINING THE
KOREA-Cold War Families of the Missing: _____

To join the KOREA-Cold War Families of the Missing, Inc., please tear out this form,
fill in all required areas and mail, along with check, to the following address:

KOREA-Cold War Families of the Missing, Inc.
PO Box 454
FARMINGDALE, NY 11735
USA
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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PASS THIS ALONG TO FRIENDS, FAMILY MEMBERS, VETERANS AND CARING CITIZENS!