

## THE FRONT PAGE

KOREA-COLD WAR  
FAMILIES OF THE MISSING  
12 CLIFFORD DRIVE  
FARMINGDALE, NY 11735



<http://www.koreacoldwar.org>  
November 2016      **Issue #54**  
**POW-MIA WE Remember!**

**SEND TO:**

### 2016 and 2017 TENTATIVE FAMILY UPDATE SCHEDULE

November 19, 2016, Reno, NV

January 28, 2017 Phoenix, AZ – February 25, 2017 Charleston, SC

March 24, 2017 New Orleans, LA – April 22, 2017 Kansas City, MO

May 20, 2017 Syracuse, NY – August 10-11, 2017 Korean Cold War Annual, DC

September 9, 2017 Detroit, MI

### PLEASE NOTE OUT NEW ADDRESS

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

Help us continue our work.

Please note our new address

Korea Cold War Families of the Missing  
12 Clifford Drive,  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

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

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>

### Board of Directors and Staff

National Chair– Irene Mandra, Family Member

Vice President-Charlotte Mitnik, Family Member

Treasurer – Gail Stallone, Family Member

Secretary - VACANT

Fundraising – Melody Raglin, Family Member

Editor- Arlene Groden Cohen, Family Member

Webmaster – Danny Gargus



## **IN MY OPINION**

by Irene Mandra

Dear Members,

I thought you would like to read a summary of an article in the NY Times.

A private American delegation visited North Korea last month, two weeks after the country's most recent nuclear bomb test, in a low-key humanitarian mission carried out with the Obama administration's support, the organizer and the White House said Friday.

The visit appeared to be the first face-to-face contact in North Korea between such an American delegation and North Korean officials in nearly two years.

Although the visitors were not acting in any American governmental capacity, North Korea's agreement to receive them suggested that both sides might be seeking an opening, however small, for more engagement - despite tensions over North Korea's nuclear weapon and missile development that have left the country severely isolated.

The Sept. 24-27 visit was organized by the Richardson Center for Global Engagement a nonprofit group led by Bill Richardson, a former New Mexico governor and United Nations ambassador, who has served as an intermediary between North Korea and the United States for many years.

---

## **CHIT CHAT NEWS**

Korea Cold War Families of the Missing is looking to fill the position of Secretary. If you are interested, please contact Irene Mandra at [IMandra@optonline.net](mailto:IMandra@optonline.net).

## Introduction: The Battle of the Chosin

On Thanksgiving Day 1950, American-led United Nations troops were on the march in North Korea. U.S. Marine and Air Force pilots distributed holiday meals, even to those on the front lines. Hopes were high that everyone would be home by Christmas. But soon after that peaceful celebration, American military leaders, including General Douglas MacArthur, were caught off guard by the entrance of the People's Republic of China, led by Mao Zedong, into the five-month-old Korean War. Twelve thousand men of the First Marine Division, along with a few thousand Army soldiers, suddenly found themselves surrounded, outnumbered and at risk of annihilation at the Chosin Reservoir, high in the mountains of North Korea. The two-week battle that followed, fought in brutally cold temperatures, is one of the most celebrated in Marine Corps annals and helped set the course of American foreign policy in the Cold War and beyond. Incorporating interviews with more than 20 veterans of the campaign, *The Battle of Chosin* recounts this epic conflict through the heroic stories of the men who fought it.

A new documentary will air on PBS stations on November 1, 2016. "The Battle of Chosin" is being shown on the series "American Experience". The entire battle will be covered and not limited to either the East or West shores of the Chosin Reservoir. If you should miss it, you can watch the episode online at <http://www.pbs.org/show/american-experience/>

---

### Remains of Korean War MIA soldier came home for Port Jervis burial – By Sharon E. Siegel Times Herald Record

The marker in St. Mary's cemetery bears William Vito Giovanniello's name, his rank in the Army, and a date of death that is, at best, an educated guess. For 65 years, Giovanniello's family has waited and wondered what became of the 21-year-old who left Brooklyn for the Korean War, but never came home.

Their wait ended just a few weeks ago. The remains of Pfc. William Vito Giovanniello, the fourth of six sons born to Italian immigrants Rocco and Elisabetta Giovanniello, have been positively identified, changing his missing-in-action status and allowing for a long-awaited return home. Giovanniello will be received by his family in November and buried in Port Jervis.

A nearly complete skeleton recovered and positively identified this year as Giovanniello's brought a call last month from the United States Army Casualty Past Conflict Unit in Fort Knox to his shocked next-of-kin. "I was dumfounded, and at first in disbelief," said Elizabeth Giovanniello Kendall of Monticello, oldest child of William's oldest brother.

"But I was told they had recovered a nearly complete skeleton, which I was told is extremely rare. Based on all factors — where he was found, and other medical and supporting evidence — the remains have been positively identified as William's."

As she digested this information, Kendall began to notify others in her family, including the widows of William's brothers, her siblings and her cousins. Neither of William's parents, nor any of his siblings, is still living.

However, his three sisters-in-law - Mary, Josephine and Edith Giovanniello - four cousins - Santa Giovanniello, Mary Giovanniello Connors, and Frank and Dominick Labianca - and many nieces, nephews and other family members have been notified.

"We never knew what happened to Uncle Bill," said Rocco Giovanniello, who met with Kendall and their sister, Anna Drapala, to discuss details. "It has always been on our minds, and something all of us have thought about." Drapala said she only wished her grandparents and uncles could have known what they recently learned, that William was killed in battle in South Korea on April 25, 1951. "I can only think of how my grandmother waited," Drapala said.

Born on Sept. 27, 1928, William Giovanniello entered the military at age 21. His service followed that of his father, who was wounded in World War I, and elder siblings who served in World War II. A large family party was held for Giovanniello just before he left Brooklyn in 1950. It was the last time his family ever saw him.

According to a Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency report, Giovanniello's 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Division, Company F was positioned along a major defensive line west of Chorw'on, South Korea on April 25, 1951, when they were attacked by Chinese and North Korean forces.

"The unit was forced to move south, and when they established a roadblock to cover movement, it was found that Giovanniello was not with his unit and reported missing in action," an excerpt reads. In tracing his path since then, the report says that in June of 1951, an unidentified set of remains previously recovered from Yang Mun-Ni was labeled "Unknown X-1219" and buried in the United Nations Cemetery in Korea.

In an ongoing recent push to identify those killed but not identified in the Korean War, the remains were disinterred on May 16 and sent for analysis. This led to the phone call to Elizabeth Kendall and a planned early November flight to bring Giovanniello's body home.

The marker placed in St. Mary's cemetery next to their own father's headstone several years ago designates Pfc. Giovanniello's rank and MIA status. The family is trying to buy the sole remaining plot still available near their family's section in the cemetery, where they will provide a respectful salute to this hero's service in a permanent final resting place.

# **Soldiers Missing From Korean War Identified**

From DPAA website

## **Army Cpl. Donald E. Matney**

On July 20, 1950, Matney was a member of Company H, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division when his unit attempted to delay enemy from capturing a town near Taejon, South Korea. Enemy infantry and armor units were able to force the division out of the town and block withdrawal routes. Matney was reported missing in action following the attacks.

In March 1951, unidentified remains were recovered by a local resident in Taejon and designated X-739. They were moved to the United Nations Military Cemetery in Tanggok, South Korea, where identification was attempted. Due to a lack of substantiating evidence, the remains were not able to be identified and were interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

In May 2016, the remains were disinterred from the cemetery and sent to the laboratory for identification. Scientists used dental, chest radiograph comparison, and anthropological analysis to identify Matney's remains.

Interment services are scheduled for Nov. 19 in Seymour, Missouri.

## **Army Sgt. James E. Martin**

In late November, 1950, Martin was a member of Company I, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Approximately 2,500 U.S. and 700 South Korean soldiers assembled into the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), which was deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when it was engaged by overwhelming numbers of Chinese forces. By Dec. 2, the U.S. Army evacuated approximately 1,500 wounded service members; the remaining soldiers had been either captured or killed in enemy territory. Following the withdrawal, fighting continued. Because Martin could not be accounted for by his unit at the end of the battle, he was reported missing in action as of Dec. 3, 1950.

Martin's name did not appear on any prisoner of war lists and no repatriated Americans reported Martin as a prisoner of war. The U.S. Army declared him deceased as of Dec. 31, 1953. Although the U.S. Army Graves Registration Service hoped to recover American remains that remained north of the Korean Demilitarized Zone after the war, administrative details between the United Nations Command and

North Korea complicated recovery efforts. An agreement was made and in September and October 1954, in what was known as Operation Glory, remains were returned. However, Martin's remains were not included and he was declared non-recoverable.

During the 25th Joint Recovery Operation in 2001, recovery teams conducted operations on the eastern bank of the Chosin Reservoir, Changjin County, North Korea, based on information provided by two Korean witnesses. The site was approximately one kilometer from the 31st RCT's defensive perimeter during its withdrawal. During the excavation, the recovery team recovered possible human remains of at least seven individuals.

DNA analysis, as well as circumstantial and anthropological evidence, were used in identifying Martin's remains.

Interment services are scheduled for Nov. 17 in Anacoco, Louisiana.

### **Army Cpl. Melvin R. Hill**

In late November 1950, Hill was one of 2,500 U.S. and 700 Republic of Korea soldiers assembled into the 31st Regimental Combat Team on the east side of the Chosin River. On the night of Nov. 27, the Chinese People's Volunteer Force surrounded the 31st RCT and attacked. Continued attacks over subsequent days forced Americans to withdraw. By Dec. 6, 1950, approximately 1,500 wounded soldiers were evacuated, and the remaining had been either captured or killed. Hill was reported missing in action as a result of the battles.

Hill's name did not appear on any list as a prisoner of war and no repatriated Americans could provide any information concerning Hill. Based on this information, the U.S. Army declared Hill deceased as of Dec. 31, 1953.

Between 1990 and 1994, North Korea returned to the United States 208 boxes of commingled human remains, which when combined with remains recovered during joint recovery operations in North Korea, included the remains of at least 600 U.S. servicemen who fought during the war. North Korean documents included in the repatriation indicated that some of the remains were recovered from the area where Hill was believed to have died.

Lab analysis, in conjunction with the totality of circumstantial evidence available, established Hill's remains were included.

Interment services are pending.

## **Army Cpl. Milton T. Bullis**

In late November 1950, Bullis was a member of Medical Company, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, fighting units of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in North Korea, in a delaying action south to Kunu-ri.

Within days, the regiment had lost half of its assigned men against attacks from the CPVF. The unit was ordered to withdrawal, and when Bullis could not be accounted for, he was declared missing in action on Dec. 1, 1950.

In April and May of 2005, a Joint Recovery Team conducted the 37th Joint Field Activity in Unsan County, South Pyongan Province, North Korea.

Lab analysis, in conjunction with the totality of circumstantial evidence available, established Bullis' remains were included.

Interment service was Oct. 21 in Holly, Michigan.

## **Army Pfc. William W. Cowan**

Cowan was a member of Company M, 3rd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, when he was reported missing in action, after his unit attacked a road block set up by opposing forces near Hoengsong, South Korea, Feb. 12, 1951.

On Sept. 7, 1954, a set of remains reportedly recovered from the prisoner of war cemetery at Camps 1 and 3, Chang Song, North Korea, were sent to the Central Identification Unit for attempted identification. The set of remains designated X-14230 were declared unidentifiable and transferred to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu.

On June 13, 2016, the remains designated as X-14230 were exhumed and sent to the laboratory for analysis.

Lab analysis, in conjunction with the totality of circumstantial evidence available, established Pfc. Cowan's remains were included.

Interment services are pending.

## **Army Cpl. Roy C. Fink**

Fink was assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when they were engaged by overwhelming numbers of Chinese forces in late November 1950. Wounded soldiers were evacuated, but Fink could not be accounted for and he was reported missing in action as of Dec. 2, 1950.

During the 25th Joint Recovery Operation in 2001, recovery teams conducted operations on the eastern bank of the Chosin Reservoir, in an area where Fink was reported missing. At least seven individuals were recovered and returned to the laboratory for processing.

Lab analysis, in conjunction with the totality of circumstantial evidence available, determined Fink's remains were included.

Interment services are pending.

## **Army Cpl. William H. Smith**

In late November 1950, Smith was a member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, in a position southwest of Unsan, North Korea. The Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) launched a counterattack, hoping to draw the regiment into a trap, forcing them to withdraw to a new defensive line. Smith was reported missing in action Nov. 28, 1950.

Between 1990 and 1994, North Korea returned to the United States 208 boxes of commingled human remains, which helped account for the remains of at least 500 U.S. servicemen who fought during the war.

Lab analysis, in conjunction with the totality of circumstantial evidence available, established Smith's remains were included.

Interment services were Oct. 7 in Elmira, New York.

---

**PLEASE LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**

## **DPAA hosts National POW/MIA Recognition Day**

By Tech. Sgt. Kathrine Dodd

Honolulu - Service members and civilians across the island gathered to honor former American prisoners of war and those who are still missing from past armed conflicts at a ceremony for National POW/MIA Recognition Day. The event, hosted by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, was held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (NMCP) Sept. 16, 2016.

After the national and state of Hawaii anthems played by the Marine Forces Pacific Band at the beginning of the event, Thomas Kahalu Lee Jr., military affairs liaison for the Office of the Governor of Hawaii, delivered a proclamation signed by Governor David Ige, commemorating POW/MIA Recognition Day. Instructions in proclamation not only named POW/MIA Recognition Day as one of the six days of observance in which the National League of Families POW/MIA flag be flown at designated federal institutions across Hawaii, but also listed in memoriam six service members and one civilian from Hawaii who are still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War: U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Klaus J. Bingham, Cpl. Richard D. Martin, Sgt. Leonard M. Tadios, U.S. Air Force 1st Lt. David A. Lum, Senior Airman Ronald K. Miyazaki; U.S. Marine Corps John R. Peacock, and John Tavares.

Among the participants in the ceremony was Dr. Renee Lisjak, DPAA forensic anthropologist, who served as the Master of Ceremonies for her fourth year in a row. When asked why she speaks at the event each year, she stressed how important it was to her.

"I want to represent those who are very passionate about working hard to make a difference, those that take time away from their families and friends to do what they can for those we have lost," she replied. "I'm happy to be the spokesperson for those that might not have the opportunity to express themselves."

Also speaking was U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Mark Spindler, DPAA deputy director. "POW/MIA Recognition Day is a time for us to pause, if only momentarily," said Spindler, "to reflect upon the noble work that is being done by so many dedicated professionals in order to reach the fullest possible accounting to the nation and for their extraordinarily courageous families."

Spindler introduced the keynote speaker, Jay Blount, World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument chief of interpretation and education. Blount addressed the crowd about his experiences as the prior superintendent of the Sicily-Rome American Military Cemetery in Nettuno, Italy. His words hit a feeling that he was at the right place at the right time.

"I can't think of a better place to spend National POW/MIA Recognition Day than as part of a ceremony," he said. "I would like to tell all in attendance, thank you for being here."

"[Observances like this] help keep the memories of prisoners of war and those we've lost alive," he continued. "Bring someone with you next year. This is an event that, to me, is important to all Americans and not just those with a direct connection."

Lisjak continued the ceremony by reading the 95 names of service members with Meghan Tomasita Cosgriff-Hernandez, also a DPAA forensic anthropologist, that have been accounted for since Sept. 18, 2015.

As the last names were read, 20 organizations, to include local military veterans groups, Boy Scout troops and a motorcycle club, moved in procession to lay wreaths of honor on the dedication stone at the base of the steps of the Court of Honor. Counsel generals from Japan, South Korea and New Zealand were also in attendance to place wreaths and pay respects during the solemn occasion.

At ceremony's end, with the last note of taps, all present had remembered that not every story had an ending, not everyone made it back.

---

## **National POW/MIA Recognition Day**

By Staff Sgt. Kristen Duus

The annual National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony was held at the Pentagon, Sept. 16, 2016. The day, which is observed the third Friday of September, is held to remember and honor service members who were prisoners of war or are still considered missing in action.

Speakers at the ceremony included the Secretary of Defense, the Honorable Ash Carter; the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Paul Selva; former Vietnam prisoner of war, Capt. Gerald "Jerry" Coffee; and U.S. Senator John Cornyn.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency works tirelessly to provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel to their families and the nation, and to Fulfill Our Nation's Promise.

## **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**

HQ AFPC/DPFCM  
550 C Street West, Suite 15  
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4716  
(800) 531-5501

### **Army**

Department of the Army  
Attn Past Conflicts AHRC-PDC-R  
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 13)  
5720 Integrity Drive  
Millington, TN 38055-6210  
(800) 443-9298

### **State Department**

U.S. Department of State CA/OCS/ACS/EAP  
SA-17, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor 4th Floor  
Washington, DC 20552-1707  
Phone: (202) 485-6106

## **Honor Our Prisoners and Missing Show Your Support**



**Delicate 1 ½” x 1 ¼ round lapel  
pin. Beautiful Color**

**Price - \$5.50 includes shipping  
and handling.**

**To Order:**

**Send Check or Money Order to:  
Korean Cold War  
12966 Daisy Blue Mine Road  
Nevada City, Ca. 95959**

**E-Mail Melody Raglin at  
[raglinmia@yahoo.com](mailto:raglinmia@yahoo.com)**

Korea Cold War Families of the Missing  
12 Clifford Drive  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

# PLEASE JOIN US!

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

Application for Membership - ALL MEMBERS RECEIVE OUR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER AND EMAIL UPDATES ON THE ISSUE.

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  
12 Clifford Drive  
Farmingdale, NY 11735

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

All contributions are tax deductible.

PASS THIS ALONG TO FRIENDS, FAMILY MEMBERS, VETERANS AND CARING CITIZENS!