

THE FRONT PAGE

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



<http://www.koreacoldwar.org>
Aug 2017 Issue #56
POW-MIA WE Remember!

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August 10-11, 2017 Korean Cold War Annual, DC September 9, 2017 Detroit, MI – November 4, 2017 Boise. ID, January 20, 2018 San Diego, Ca – February 24, 2018, Fort Myers, FL – March 24, 2018, El Paso TX. – April 22, 2018, Rapid City, SD

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IN MY OPINION

by Irene Mandra

Dear Members,

This article was sent to me by John Zimmerlee, researcher and author. I found it very interesting. I hope you will too.

Easily Identifiable Remains Await Someone Who Cares by John Zimmerlee

It was 1956. The war had been over for 3 years and family members had been asked not to talk about it. Why? Because secretly our Government knew a lot more than they were telling and they couldn't afford for the truth to come out!

Not only had our government left over a thousand men behind alive in Communist prison camps, they also had done a poor job of identifying remains and shipping the wrong bodies home! The mistakes needed to go somewhere , so they buried them as unknowns in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific . . . in Hawaii.

A few years ago, I acquired the forensic files on the unidentified remains, but more recently someone sent me the spreadsheet of the grave sites and their related unidentified X-files. All of a sudden, I had the potential to associate logical missing men with actual grave sites!! So here are some of my early findings.

Of the 848 Korean War unidentified remains in the cemetery, more than half, 433, came through Operation Glory, an exchange of remains after the war. These remains arrived typically with names and service numbers attached to the box by the North Koreans because they were known Americans who died in prison camps. After double checking by the forensic team, these 433 were challenged and excluded from being the name on the casket, and buried as unknowns.

Even if the North Koreans accidentally mixed up the bodies, they somehow came across the name and service number somehow, so anyone with common sense would surmise that these names should be in the POW column, yet 35 of those excluded from the bodies remain MIA and KIA on DPAA's lists.

Lewis Brickell was an MIA, even though Operation Glory remains N-14889 arrived in 1954 with his name on it. Forensics excluded him, so the family was never told. But, in 1999, they disinterred that same remains from grave 928, and miraculously confirmed it as . . . yes you guessed it . . . Lewis Brickell. That story can be repeated over and over again for William Butz, Richard Isbell, Anthony Massey, Arnold Olson, Frank Sandoval, Donald Walker, John Ward, Carl West . . . and probably countless others.

This same scenario occurs for remains recovered from the battlefields where men were identified, then excluded and families never told, then confirmed 60 years later. I'm sure the families of Nehemiah Butler, Richard Clapp, Norman Dufresne, James Constant, Bernard Fisher, Will Giovanniello, Lee Henry, Everett Johnson, Donald Matney, Robert Mitchell, James Mullins, Donald Skeens, Luis Torres, John Ward, Carl West, and Edris Viers, . . . would have jumped at the chance to help confirm or exclude the remains 60 years earlier.

So, back to shipping wrong bodies home. Grave 807 contains X-1404 unidentified remains, but it hasn't always been that way. It was originally shipped home as Eugene Molinar . . . and only one person objected . . . Eugene who came back alive. Only one missing person now actually fits

the forensic criteria, Robert D Miller, but our government sees no need to disinter him.

Commonly, I find comments like “Operation Glory originally labeled remains N-14142 as ‘Reginal Smith’, but his previously identified(?) remains were already returned to his family.” This makes one wonder if the previous identification was accurate. If not, the cemetery is full of mistakes. At least 28 remains share this comment.

Louis Mutta was driving a jeep when it was hit and exploded. His fellow servicemen put him in an abandoned building with the intent to recover him after the incoming attack. The building burned, but there was only one body inside, obviously Mutta. Yet our government wouldn't assume the obvious, and then buried him as unknown in grave 356. It's about time to get him back to his family. When evidence reduces candidacy down to one person, there should be no excuse to procrastinate, yet in 116 cases, only one person is logical and they continue their 60 year long wait for someone to care!

RECENT RECOVERIES

Sgt. William A. Larkins U.S. Army Battery A, 503rd Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division missing 12/1/1950 North Korea. Accounted for on 7/10/2017.

Sgt. 1st Class Max E. Harris U.S. Army Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division missing 12/12/1950 North Korea. Accounted for on 6/23/2017.

Cpl. Clarence R. Skates U.S. Army Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division missing 11/30/1950 North Korea. Accounted for on 6/22/2017.

Master Sgt. George R. Housekeeper, U.S. Army Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division.
missing 12/12/1950 North Korea. Accounted for on 6/21/2017.

Cpl. Thomas H. Mullins U.S. Army Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. Missing 11/2/1950, North Korea.
Accounted for on 6/21/2017.

Pfc. Charlie H. Hill U.S. Army Battery D, 15th Anti-aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Self-propelled Battalion, 7th Infantry Division,
missing 12/2/1950, North Korea. Accounted for on 6/21/2017

Pfc. Albert E. Atkins U.S. Army Company E, 2nd Battalion, 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team
Missing 5/23/1951 South Korea. Accounted for on 6/13/2017.

Cpl. Edward L. Borders U.S. Army Dog Battery, 82nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion (Automatic Weapons), 2nd Infantry Division. Missing
2/13/1951 North Korea. Accounted for 6/5/2017.

Cpl. Glen E. Kritzwiser U.S. Army Battery C, 15th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. Missing on 2/13/1951 North Korea.
Accounted for on 5/9/2017.

Cpl. John Lane U.S. Army Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. Missing 7/31/1950, South
Korea. Accounted for on 5/3/2017.

Cpl. Frank L. Sandoval U.S. Army Battery A, 15th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. Missing 2/13/1951, North Korea.
Accounted for on 5/3/2017

Cpl. Richard J. Seadore U.S. Army Company D, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. Missing, 12/14/1950, South
Korea. Accounted for on 4/28/2017.

From The Quest Magazine (DPAA)

Major Renovation project underway at Honolulu Memorial

Story By Sarah Hermann, ABMC

HONOLULU-- The Honolulu Memorial at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific is undergoing a major renovation, which began in 2014. The Italian Trani limestone panels at the Courts of the Missing, containing more than 25,000 names from World War II and the Korean War, will be replaced and re-engraved. The original stone selected in the 1960s proved to be prone to staining, deteriorating the overall look of the memorial. The American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) committed more than \$10 million for this project, which included a year-long study to identify an appropriate stone of similar appearance, but higher quality and design, and an improved mounting system. The stone selected is a Portuguese limestone. The work on the eight Courts of the Missing is expected to be completed in 2018.

The Courts of the Missing at the Honolulu Memorial honors those Americans who went missing in action, or were lost or buried at sea in the Pacific during World War II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War. The Honolulu Memorial includes only a portion of the names from World War II who were lost in the Pacific—more than 36,000 names are engraved on the Walls of the Missing at Manila American Cemetery in the Philippines. The Courts of the Missing for the Vietnam War, which were added in the 1980s, are in fair condition, of a different stone and unnecessary to replace at the current time.

The Army Corps of Engineers is leading the site management of the project, which includes construction work by MIRA Image Construction LLC, and architectural design and historic preservation by Fung Associates, Inc. The memorial is located within the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, which is operated by the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), an agency within the Department of Veterans Affairs. The cemetery will remain open and accessible to the public with normal operating hours.

During the work, portions of the Courts of the Missing will not be accessible to the public due to safety concerns. The majority of the monument itself will be open including all map pavilions, the chapel, the upper terrace, the Vietnam Courts of Missing and the public restrooms. If you are planning a visit to honor someone commemorated in the Courts of the Missing, please contact Tim Nosal at 703-696-6789 for the most up-to-date information.

Science, Ancestry and Identity: What I learned from following my DNA

Story by Senior Airman Ashlin Federick, Armed Forces Medical Examiner

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Delaware – As I settled into my new assignment at the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System this past year I embarked on a personal DNA journey. To be honest, I never really understood the in-depth specifics surrounding DNA and the potential influence it has in providing closure to military families.

Last year I had the opportunity to attend a Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency Family Member Update in Arlington, Virginia. This is an event like no other. Family members of those still unaccounted for from past conflicts gathered in one location to hear briefings from various experts and receive updates about their specific cases. I witnessed relatives of those lost contribute Family Reference Samples to the AFMES's DNA identification lab. The reference samples can then be used to possibly match their DNA to their unidentified loved ones. This was all very interesting to me because I never really thought about DNA in this manner before.

As a military service member, we are required to have a blood stained card on file for the purpose of identification. A DNA data base for military members does not exist. Since I now work at AFMES and may go into the labs on occasion, it is necessary for my DNA sequence to be on file for exclusionary purposes. For this reason I was able to go through the exact

same process family members do by having my DNA collected and analyzed. I felt the need to follow this process and share my story. I have never been really good in science so it took me a few minutes to learn all the scientific terms for what the analysts were doing but after a day or so I began to understand.

During this process I learned that mitochondrial (mtDNA) is passed on through your mother's side of the family. This means if you were to put my mother's DNA and my DNA side by-side they would look exactly the same. I also learned that nuclear DNA comes from both parents and it is the DNA that is unique to you unless you have a twin.

Marc Keirstead, AFMES DoD DNA Registry quality control analyst, said there are differences between mtDNA and nuclear DNA. Nuclear is inherited from both the mother and the father and is unique to an individual whereas mtDNA is maternal and is common amongst anyone following the maternal line.

"As a result, nuclear DNA will provide you with more discriminatory power, but only if it is available," said Keirstead. "In situations where remains are older or severely degraded, that may not be the case. Within a cell, you will only have two copies of nuclear DNA where you would have more than 1000 copies of mtDNA, making it an excellent tool and resource in identifying these types of remains based on the sheer number alone."

Jennie McMahon, AFMES DoD DNA Registry supervisory DNA analyst, said she thinks the whole DNA process is amazing because each year new advances are made allowing them to piece together more DNA puzzles using smaller portions of samples and ultimately identify more missing service members.

"I'm very proud to be associated with the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory mission," said McMahon. "I have been part of the past accounting section for 18 years and still get excited each time a sample gets reported out. I know that our work with DNA brings that individual one step closer to being identified and the family one step closer to having closure. We want each family to know their loved one has been found and will be returned home."

To read the full article, visit

<https://www.dvidshub.net/image/3085749/scienceancestry-and-identity-learned-followingmy-dna>

Personnel Accounting Progress - Cold War

From DPAA website – There has been no update since February 2, 2015

126 American service members are unaccounted for from 14 Cold War missions.

Cold War incidents took place near North Korea, the East China Sea, the Straits of Formosa, the People's Republic of China, North Vietnam, and over or near the Soviet Union.

Incident details in chronological order:

April 8, 1950, a U.S. Navy PB4Y2 Privateer aircraft flying out of Wiesbaden, Germany, was shot down by Soviet fighters over the Baltic Sea. The entire crew of 10 remains unaccounted for.

Nov. 6, 1951, a U.S. Navy P2V Neptune aircraft was shot down over the Sea of Japan. The entire crew of 10 remains unaccounted for.

June 13, 1952, a U.S. Air Force RB-29 aircraft stationed at Yokota Air Base, Japan, was shot down over the Sea of Japan. The entire crew of 12 remains unaccounted for.

Oct. 7, 1952, a U.S. Air Force RB-29 aircraft stationed at Yokota Air Base, Japan was shot down north of Hokkaido Island, Japan. Of the eight crewmen on board, seven remain unaccounted for.

Nov. 28, 1952, a civilian C-47 aircraft flying over China was shot down, and one American civilian remains unaccounted for.

Jan. 18, 1953, a U.S. Navy P2V aircraft with 13 crewmen aboard was shot down by the Chinese, in the Formosa Straits. Six crew members remain unaccounted for.

July 29, 1953, a U.S. Air Force RB-50 aircraft stationed at Yokota Air Base, Japan, was shot down over the Sea of Japan. Of the 17 crew members on board, 14 remain unaccounted for.

May 6, 1954, a C-119 aircraft flying over Northern Vietnam was shot down. One of the two Americans onboard remains unaccounted for.

April 17, 1955, a U.S. Air Force RB-47 aircraft based at Eielson Air Base, Alaska, was shot down near the southern point of Kamchatka, Russia. The entire crew of three remains unaccounted for.

Aug. 22, 1956, a U.S. Navy P4M aircraft was shot down off the coast of China. Of the 16 crew members on board, 12 remain unaccounted for.

Sept. 10, 1956, a U.S. Air Force RB-50 aircraft based at Yokota Air Base, Japan, with a crew of 16, was lost in Typhoon Emma over the Sea of Japan. The entire crew remains unaccounted for.

July 1, 1960, a U.S. Air Force RB-47 aircraft stationed at RAF Brize Norton, England, was shot down over the Barents Sea. Of the six crew members on board, three remain unaccounted for.

Dec. 14, 1965, a U.S. Air Force RB-57 aircraft was lost over the Black Sea, flying out of Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. The entire crew of two remains unaccounted for.

April 15, 1969, a U.S. Navy EC-121 aircraft was shot down by North Korean fighters. Of the 31 men on board, 29 remain unaccounted for.

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
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Family Members and Friends may join/subscribe any time.

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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: _____

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