2018 FAMILY UPDATE SCHEDULE*
January 20 San Diego, CA, February 24 Jacksonville, FL, March 24 El Paso, TX
April 21 Rapid City, SD, May 19 Louisville, KY, June 21-24 Washington, D.C.**
August 9-10 Washington, D.C.*** September 8 Philadelphia

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS
It's almost time to renew your membership.
Please take care of it before you get busy with the holidays.
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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.
ANNOUNCEMENT OF LAWSUIT AGAINST U.S. GOVERNMENT TO COMPEL DECLASSIFICATION OF RECORDS FROM KOREAN & COLD WARS REGARDING POW/MIA SERVICE MEMBERS

Families of Those Missing To Demand President Trump/Congressional Leaders to Seek Answers from Moscow/Beijing & Revamp POW/MIA Agency - Arlington, Virginia –

On Wednesday, August 9, 2017, at 2:30 P.M. EDT at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel, Studio D (2nd floor), 2800 Potomac Ave, Arlington, VA 22202, family members representing POW/MIAs from the Korean/Cold Wars and experts on the topic will announce the filing of a lawsuit under the Freedom of Information Act to force multiple federal agencies to release government records kept classified concerning the fate of their loved ones since the 1950s. Additionally, representative of the major family groups will also demand President Trump and Congress to put pressure on Moscow and Beijing to release their records on missing Americans, plus revamp the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, which has been without a director for more than a year.

“We’ve run out of patience and we’re running out of time,” says Bob Moore, whose brother, Capt. Harry Moore was shot down over North Korea in 1951 and evidence shows may have been taken to the Soviet Union with other American aviators, according to now declassified US intelligence records and former Soviet officials. Moore said, “We’re asking our elected representatives to stand up for military families who’ve sacrificed so much for our country.”

“It is astonishing the U.S. government is still keeping information classified on these lost heroes, from intelligence documents withheld as Top Secret just this year to operational files from the 1950s,” said Mark S. Zaid, the Washington, D.C. attorney who is handling the litigation on behalf of the Moore family and others. “We hope this lawsuit will help compel the Trump Administration to finally bring these men home,” said Zaid.

The three major family groups – the Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POW/MIAs, the Korea-Cold War Families of the Missing, Inc., and the National Alliance of Families are in town for an annual briefing with the Pentagon and will join with the Moore family to issue three demands:
• Declassify U.S. files that continue to be held by agencies such as the Department of Defense, U.S. Air Force, National Security Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, Central Intelligence Agency, National Archives & Records Administration and the Department of State;
• Pressure Moscow and Beijing to release their dossiers on U.S. POW/MIAs, including files said by declassified US reports to be in closed Russian KGB and GRU (military intelligence) archives, as well as files that the Pentagon paid China for, but never received, regarding Americans held by the Chinese but never repatriated; and,
• Name a respected leader for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and re-start the now languishing program to follow leads on U.S. prisoners reported held in the former Soviet Union, China and North Korea after the Korean and Cold Wars.

“We want the American government to show the same faith to our missing loved ones that they showed to the U.S. government during their service,” stated Pat Dickinson, whose brother Jack and his fellow crewmen were shot down by the Soviets and possibly captured during the Cold War. She added “There may not be much chance our loved ones are still alive, but there remains hope we can still find out what really happened to them.”

Multiple family members, legal counsel and experts on the POW/MIA history of the era including Mark Sauter and John Zimmerlee (co-authors of American Trophies: How US POWs Were Surrendered to North Korea, China and Russia by Washington’s “Cynical Attitude” (2013)), will announce the lawsuit and be available for questions, as will Norman Kass, who from 1992 – 2010, served as the Staff Director for the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs.
BROTHER MARINUS and the SHIP OF MIRACLES

The Korean War began on 25 June 1950 and that July thirty five crew and twelve officers were flown to Norfolk, VA to take the S.S. Meredith Victory out of the laid up fleet in the James River. The Meredith Victory, a merchant ship operated by Moore-McCormack Lines, had been chartered to the Military Sea Transportation Service. She was placed under the command of Captain Leonard P. LaRue, then 37 years old. During the War the ship operated under military orders and many times it was part of a Navy Task Force. Sailing from Norfolk on 28 July and after an expedited passage through the Panama Canal it completed loading a military cargo in Oakland, CA for delivery to Yokohama, Japan. Significantly, before departing Captain LaRue stopped at Old St. Mary’s Church in San Francisco to say a prayer for the ship and the men. After discharging in Yokohama the ship was combat loaded with tanks, ammunition and personnel and sailed in a 22 ship convoy for the Inchon Landing on 15 September 1950. After a brief enemy air attack all units and equipment were safely landed and the Meredith Victory returned to Yokohama with 13 North Korean prisoners who had surrendered to the ship at Inchon. After several shuttle trips between Japan and Korea Captain LaRue received emergency orders to take the Meredith Victory to the port of Hungnam, North Korea. This was during the Chosin Reservoir Campaign. The port, on the east coast of Korea, is about 300 miles south of the Russian naval base at Vladivostok. This was in December 1950 and the port was surrounded by approximately 100,000 Chinese communist troops and approaches to the port by sea were through a heavily laid minefield. The main line of the port’s defense was a perimeter 5,000 yards from the center of the port with an outpost extending 1,000 yards beyond. The Command Post was located in a cave along the beach. In the face of overwhelming enemy forces General MacArthur had issued orders to evacuate all military forces to Pusan and other ports in the south.
Many thousands of North Korean refugees were pressing toward the waterfront at Hungnam, their last avenue of escape from the threat of annihilation by communist forces. Soon after arrival at Hungnam Army representatives boarded the ship, one of the last in the harbor, and advised that the final perimeter at the port was rapidly closing with the enemy attacking from one quarter to a half mile from the beach. In view of these exigencies they refrained from issuing an order but requested Captain LaRue if he would volunteer to evacuate the remaining refugees massed on the beach. He was asked to confer with his officers but without consultation he promptly agreed to take out as many as he was able. On the evening of 22 December 1950, nested next to a Liberty ship loading military cargo, Captain LaRue ordered the embarking of the Korean refugees.

**Bob Lunney, Staff Officer, SS Meredith Victory**

Most of the military had been pulled out and parts of the city were aflame from enemy gunfire. While loading the refugees Navy Underwater Demolition Teams were placing explosives throughout the port and the pier adjacent to the ship. At all times the ship had the protective fire overhead from the 7th Fleet. The constant naval air and gunfire support allowed the ship to embark 14,000 refugees, including 17 wounded. Among the refugees were the parents and older sister of Moon Jae-in, President of Korea. The refugees were loaded like cargo as Captain LaRue ordered them placed in the ship’s five holds and on the open deck. The refugees brought some earthly possessions with them – children carried children – mothers were breast feeding babies with another child on their back. That winter was bitter cold and the holds were not heated nor were they lighted. The ship had no interpreter nor was there any food or water for the refugees. The ship departed Hungnam on the afternoon of 23 December, the last ship to leave with refugees, and soon after departure the entire port was blown up. The ship arrived in Pusan on Christmas Eve 1950 and because Pusan was so overcrowded with UN forces and refugees the ship on Christmas Day was ordered to Geoje, an island about 50 miles southwest of Pusan, where on 26 December all refugees were safely disembarked plus 5 babies born enroute from Hungnam. An historical humanitarian feat occurred that Christmas 1950 when a total of about 98,000 refugees were saved from North Korea.
Never in recorded history have combatants rescued so many civilians from enemy territory in the midst of battle.

The Korean Presidential Unit Citation awarded to Captain LaRue and to the ship states that the ship’s rescue was a, “true example of Christian faith in action.” By special act of the U.S. Congress Captain LaRue and the ship were decorated with the Gallant Ship award for their, “courage, resourcefulness, sound seamanship and teamwork.” The Guinness Book of World Records has certified that the Meredith Victory, “had performed the greatest rescue operation ever by a single ship.” However the heroic virtue of Captain LaRue can best be recognized in his own words, “I think often of that voyage. I think of how such a small vessel was able to hold so many persons and surmount endless perils without harm to a soul. And as I think, the clear unmistakable message comes to me that on that Christmastide, in the bleak and bitter waters off the shores of Korea, God’s own hand was at the helm of my ship.”

In 1954 Captain LaRue left the sea and joined the Order of Saint Benedict as a monk at St. Paul’s Abbey, Newton, NJ where he took the name Brother Marinus, in honor of Mary, Mother of God. In October 2000 plans were made to close the Abbey because only a handful of monks were remaining. However the leadership of the Benedictine Congregation to which St. Paul’s Abbey belonged contacted Waegwan Abbey in Korea to help restore St. Paul’s. On 12 October 2001 Waegwan agreed to help. Two days later Brother Marinus died at the age of 87. Two months later the Korean monks arrived and quickly set about restoring St. Paul’s. It seemed a providential return of a humanitarian favor performed a half century earlier. Indeed a tale of salvation of how Korean monks returned a favor and saved a monastery. By divine providence Brother Marinus worked two rescues the rescue of 14,000 Korean refugees and by his prayers helped rescue St. Paul’s Abbey.

Recently The Apostleship of the Sea has begun the process of introducing the cause of Brother Marinus to the Congregation of Saints. In addition to his Korean War service Brother Marinus was a WWII merchant marine veteran. His life demonstrated his courage, humility, his love of his fellow man and his holiness. As Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop of Paterson, has written, in part, “I do not think it is a coincidence that Captain LaRue saved 14,000 Korean refugees and decades later Brother Marinus’s Abbey is saved from closing by the arrival of Korean monks. This cannot be considered just a coincidence but the work of Our Lord.”
We wish to thank Arlene Cohen for her many years as our editor. She did an excellent job on our newsletters. We will truly miss her.

**NEWS**

Our new Deputy Director for Operations, Rear Admiral Jon Kreitz, has arrived. He will report in to our facility in Hawaii over the next couple of weeks to replace BG Mark Spindler who is retiring.

**US Russian Commission News**

General Foglesong and COL Forbes, travel to Moscow September 14, for a meeting with Russian Chairman General Colonel Valery Vostrotin, in preparation for the plenum.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This email is to inform you of the current state of our humanitarian mission and staffing at our detachment in Moscow.

Last month, Russian President Vladimir Putin directed a cap on the United States Mission in Russia at 455 personnel, resulting in a cut of 755 employees at the U.S. Embassy and consulates in Russia. As a result of this drawdown, yesterday unfortunately we lost all 4 of our Joint Commission Support Division (JCSD) personnel operating within the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

Several weeks ago, in anticipation that our Moscow Office might lose its footprint in the U.S. Embassy, we began coordinating with both the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and our Russian Side Commission counterparts to establish a contract to hire experienced Russian researchers to sustain our archival research. We are moving forward with this initiative.

Here in the U.S. we will retain a full complement of JCSD staff at our Agency headquarters and will continue our support to the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POWs and MIAs.

Even in light of this huge setback, both sides of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POWs and MIAs remain committed to supporting technical talks and annual Plenum sessions. Most importantly, we will remain committed to this effort for the families and we will continue to push for answers.

We will keep you abreast of any further developments.

Sincerely,

“Fulfilling Our Nation’s Promise”

Mrs. Fern Sumpter Winbush, Acting Director, DPAA

2300 Defense Pentagon

Washington, D.C. 20301-2300

(703) 699-1101

fern.o.sumpterwinbush.civ@mail.mil

www.dpaa.mil
RECENT RECOVERIES

Cpl. Ernest L.R. Heilman U.S. Army Battery B, 15th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division South Korea 8/11/2017

Master Sgt. Finley J. Davis U.S. Army Company D, 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division North Korea 8/11/2017

Pfc. James P. Shaw U.S. Army Company G, 2nd Battalion 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division North Korea 8/10/2017

Pfc. Walter W. Green U.S. Army Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division North Korea 8/10/2017

Sgt. Philip J. Iyotte U.S. Army Company E, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division 8/8/2017

Cpl. Roy J. Hopper U.S. Army Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment 8/7/2017


Sgt. 1st Class Max E. Harris, 21, of Monticello, Indiana, Harris was a member of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division.

Navy Hospital Corpsman 1st Class William G. Payne, 7th Marine Regiment,

Leroy W. Bryant, captured during the Korean War, has now been Company C, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, 9/28/2017

Marine Corps Reserve Sgt. Johnson McAfee, Jr., of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force accounted for 10/5/2017

Corporal Daniel Francis Kelly member of C Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division Missing in Action on Nov. 26, 1950 Accounted for 9/28/2017
Army Sgt. 1st Class Eugene J. Colley, 48, of Edenton, North Carolina, Company C, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division missing 12/2/1950 accounted for on 9/8/2017


Army Sgt. 1st Class Elmore B. Goodwin member of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division missing 11/27/1950 Accounted for on 9/14/2017

Army Pfc. James J. Leonard member of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. missing July 25, 1950 Accounted for 9/14/2017


Army Sgt. Thomas E. Zimmer member of Battery A, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, 7th Infantry Division declared him deceased as of 12/31/1953 accounted for on 12/18/2016


Army Sgt. Kermit J. Lejeune member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division missing in action on Nov. 28, 1950 Accounted for 11/10/2017
Army Pfc. Felipe A. Champion, who died in captivity during the Korean War, has now been accounted for.

On Feb. 12, 1951, Champion was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, when he was reported missing in action following a battle with the Chinese People’s Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in an area known as the Central Corridor, South Korea. After CPVF units withdrew north beyond Hongch’on in early March, American units began moving forward and found war dead, however Champion’s remains could not be identified.

Champion’s name is recorded on the Walls of the Missing at an American Battle Monuments Commission site along with the others who are missing from the Korean War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

For more information about DPAA, visit www.dpaa.mil, find us on social media at www.facebook.com/dodpaa, or call 703-699-1420.

Biography of Captain Harry Cecil Moore
Born February 11, 1924 Elm Grove, West Virginia
Missing in action June 1, 1951 in Korea
Captain Moore was the pilot of an F-51D Mustang fighter with the 67th Fighter bomber Squadron, 18th fighter Bomber group. He was shot down and MIA while participating in aerial support off the coast of North Korea near Dangdon, China. He was presumed dead on December 31 1953.

Harry enlisted in the Army Air Corps in June of 1942 and graduated as a fighter pilot and received his commission as a First Lieutenant. He was sent to the China, Burma theatre and flew P-40 fighters. In 1944 his plane was shot down and he bailed out and ran into the mountains. He eluded the Japanese search parties and walked for 51 days finally reuniting with his group and continued fighting.

After the war he returned home and subsequently reenlisted. He married his childhood sweetheart Lois Gehringer at Hamilton Field, Ca. in 1948. Lois and Harry went to Clark Field in the Philippines where Lt. Moore flew F-51 fighters.
When the Korean War started in 1950 Harry was sent to Japan and flew sorties in South Korea strafing and bombing the North Korean Army. When airfields were available in South Korea his squadron was moved to Korea. Harry and Lois were soon blessed with a daughter Jana. When Jana was 2 weeks old Lois was notified that he had been killed. Fortunately 2 weeks later after spending 2 weeks grieving and uncertain of their future, the Air Force notified Lois that they had made a mistake, Lt. Moore was not killed, he had not flown that day.

Lt. Moore was promoted to Captain and continued flying missions, sometimes several each day. Once he had completed his tour it was extended as pilots were badly needed. On his second mission Captain Moore was shot down over the Yellow Sea near Dangdon, China. He was listed as MIA and one year later was declared KIA.

Lois was left in the Philippines with daughter Jana. She decided to return to West Virginia. After returning home, Lois went back to her former job as a secretary. Life in West Virginia was not satisfying and Lois, her brother Jack and Jana moved to Los Angeles to start a new experience. Some 4 years after Captain Moore was presumed killed, Lois married Captain Moore’s younger brother Robert. Lois, Robert and Jana moved to Hayward, CA. and, along with other daughter Nancy, established a successful business inventing, manufacturing and marketing medical equipment.

Then a sudden turn of events, Lois was notified by the Air Force in 2002 that documents had been found in the Russian archives indicating that Captain Moore was probably not killed but was captured and sent to Russia as a prisoner. So began an exhausting search for answers as to what happened. They even produced a documentary telling the story of Captain Moore and their lives.* After years working with the DPMO and DPAA the Moores felt that they would never get answers from the US or Russian governments. In April of 2017 they hired a legal firm in Washington D.C. which specializes in suing the US agencies. In a proposed suit they are demanding release of classified information which has been held for over 60 years and will file on behalf of all families who have loved ones unaccounted for.

* The documentary is titled “Keeping the Promise Alive” and is available on You Tube.
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, 10th Floor 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20552-1707
Phone: (202) 485-6106

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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:

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