



IN MY OPINION
by IRENE L. MANDRA

Dear Members,

I attended a meeting at DPMO Headquarters on March 10, 2010. There were approximately forty people in the room. Heads of family and veterans organizations were present, besides

DPMO representatives, and the new person who is in charge of JAPAC, Major General Stephen D. Tom. I was delighted that he was in the room.

I brought to everyone's attention the fact that there are approximately 500 remains from the Korea War that are lying on shelves at JPAC, without identification. There is another approximately close to 900 remains at the Punch Bowl from the Korea War without identification.

I am not mistaken when I said that no other war has this many remains still not identified. Am I wrong when I make the statement that Korea War has truly been the forgotten war even by JPAC?

Take heart a new person is in command, he has a splendid record and I believe that he will do our Fathers, our brothers and our uncle's justice at long last. Welcome Major General Stephen Tom, we truly look forward to seeing a change in JPAC.

Personnel problems have been one of the greatest problems at JPAC; consequently that is the reason why for the last five years I have asked for an identification laboratory on the mainland for Korea remains. It's an excellent idea which many people agree to the necessity.

Let's make it a reality and not just a hope. I have a lot of faith in our new DASD, Mr. Robert Newberry; if it can be done I am sure he will do it. We are truly behind this idea and Mr. Newberry. In August when many of the families are in Washington, let us remind the representatives, of PACOM and JPAC and DPMO, we need and want an ID lab for Korea in the continental United States.

Our membership cannot continue to wait, the tragedy that is unfolding is that many are passing away without the answers and closure they so desperately need and desire. We want a green light on this project, and let's make hast, we truly don't have the time to wait on an excellent solution to a problem that has plagued us all.

Admiral Robert Willard, USN is the new commander of PACOM: October 19, 2009

We welcome Admiral Willard who relieved Admiral Timothy Keating as the new commander of the US Pacific Command. It is my sincere hope that under Admiral Willard command JPAC will be all important bureau and perhaps the personnel problem at JPAC will be seriously look at and fixed.

Please remember in your prayers, our members who are not well at the present time.

Joe McNulty

Vinnie Russo

Please also remember in your prayers our friends and members who have passed away.

Dudley O Conner, 12/28/09

Ernestine Conner wrote me to let our organization know that her husband Dudley, a long time member, passed away in December and her son passed away a month before his Father.

Ellen Blissenbach passed away 3/15/10.

Her Son Charles Wirth was kind enough to write me of his Mother's passing.

Ora Francis Belcher has also passed on.

He was the Father of Danny 'Greasy Belcher, (activist, Director of Task Force Omega of KY.)

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