2010 FAMILY UPDATE LOCATIONS 2010
City selections are based on past update schedules and demographic mapping of family members’ home locations.

- 2010 Family Updates and Annual Briefings 2010 -
  - January 23, 2010 Orlando, FL - February 20, 2010 Los Angeles, CA - February 23, 2010 Honolulu, HI -
  - March 20, 2010 San Antonio, TX - April 24, 2010 Raleigh, NC - May 22, 2010 Seattle, WA -
    - July 23-25, 2010 Washington, SC (Southeast Asia Annual Conference) -
    - August 26-28, 2010 Washington, DC (Korea-Cold War Annual Conference) -
    - September 25, 2010 Syracuse, NY - October 23, 2010 Omaha, NE -
    - November 20, 2010 San Francisco, CA -

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• REMINDER • REMINDER • REMINDER •
Treasurer’s Corner by Gail Stallone

Happy New Year! Another year has passed and much has been accomplished, yet so very much work needs to be done. Please, send in your membership renewal or this will be your last newsletter. It is because of you, our members, that we can continue our work. Please, take a minute and send your renewal in today.

Thank You!

Korea/Cold War Families of the Missing
P.O. Box 454, Farmingdale, NY 11735

Contact your Congressional Rep 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).

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IN MY OPINION
by IRENE L. MANDRA

Dear Members,

Another year has passed… one more year without answers, only more questions.

One more year, without access to North Korea, only political stonewalling.

One more year, without open discussion between the US and the former Soviet Union, China and Vietnam about POWs.

One more year, that the men who survived may have died, yet no substantive action has been taken to address continued live-sighting reports.

One more year that Congress has done nothing on the issue of Prisoners and Missing, not even allowing an up or down vote on Hearings, yet rushed thousands of pages of pork-barrel laden health care Legislation through 2 bodies, without fully reading or comprehending what they were voting on.

One more year that yet another President has done nothing to reach-out to his global counterparts as a humanitarian issue and bring answers and closure to the families of the men and women who never came home.

So, that leaves us with a new year.

And that means we should seriously evaluate how to go forward in order to insure we get the most out of our appointed and disappointing officials.

America is the greatest nation on the earth.

Nowhere, has there been such remarkable bravery, selflessness, sacrifice and charity - for others. If you do not believe that, then simply look at the endless list of names of combat casualties who died for the freedom of OTHER countries and people. Look at the number of Missing, Prisoner and Presumed Dead from WW I - fighting for the freedom of EUROPE; WW II - fighting for the freedom of EUROPE and the PACIFIC; Korea - fighting for the freedom of SOUTH KOREA; the Cold War - fighting for the freedom of the WORLD; Vietnam - fighting for the freedom of SOUTH VIETNAM; Persian Gulf War - fighting for the freedom of KUWAIT; Persian Gulf II - fighting for the freedom of IRAQ... and let us not forget the numerous other conflicts that cost American men and women their lives and their freedom.

When there is a disaster, be it man-made or an act of nature, we are the first to give… men, materials, money, technology… whatever is needed, we give. When the Christmas Tsunami struck, our own JPAC put all activities on hold while they worked against the clock to help those in desperate need. Around the world, at word of the slightest tragedy, we pour millions of dollars into the area to assist those most in need. We will send our sons and daughters into harm's way to protect complete strangers.

When all hell broke loose in Haiti this month, it is the US men and women in uniform, who are on the scene, making runways out of rubble and directing the flow of millions of tons of aid; our floating hospital city off the coast, unable to dock, yet flying thousands of injured to her sanctuary of healing. The donations of millions of Americans filling the coffers of Aid agencies and organizations to bring hope and healing to this battered island nation.

But, when will it be our turn? When will someone in Congress or the White House say, let’s help these POW-MIA families get some answers? Why is it that our government is so quick to throw all manner of assistance at someone else’s problems, but stands in the way of our need to find answers?

Why is it that Congress will vote on and pass resolutions for some of the most stupid and self-aggrandizing notions, yet, do everything in their power to prevent a simple Yes or No vote on POW-MIA Hearings that have been sought for more than a dozen years.

Why is it that the State Department and this Administration will support former President Clinton’s foray to North Korea for 2 wayward journalists, yet do nothing to allow recovery and excavations with the same nation?

Why is it that we allow China to be our largest creditor and manufacturer, dumping trillions of dollars of trinkets into this Country, yet we do not demand the answers on known POWs and MIAs or the brutal camps the Communist Chinese ran.

In this New Year, when we evaluate what needs to be done and how to do it, we need to remind our government and ELECTED officials that their priorities are askew. The days of favoring foreigners over Americans are over. That protecting the rights of illegals and criminals over the rights of tax-payers and voters is a thing of the past.

And, most importantly, men and women in uniform are not disposable government issue, but the very thing that makes us truly American… a people willing to sacrifice for someone else, but not willing to be abandoned by a country and a government that has lost its focus and backbone.

May Gold Bless America, her men and women in uniform and the families that wait.

A Happy and Healthy New Year to All.
Major General Stephen D. Tom, USAR  
Chief of Staff, U. S. Pacific Command  


He attended the University of Michigan where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant through the Army Reserve Officer’s Training Corps Program in 1971. He continued his civilian education by entering Boston University School of Law, and graduated with a Juris Doctor degree in 1974.

After completing the U.S Army Field Artillery Officer Basic Course in 1975, Maj. Gen. Tom has served in the following U.S. Army Reserve assignments with IX Corps (Reinf)/9th Army Reserve Command/ 9th Regional Support Command: Military Justice Officer, Document Control Officer, Personnel Actions Officer, Personnel Management Officer, Assistant Adjutant General, Adjutant General, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, Chief of Staff, and Deputy Commander. From April 1992 through July 1995, he commanded the 322d Civil Affairs Brigade at Ft DeRussy, Hawaii. In September 1999, he was assigned to Eighth United States Army, Yongsan, Korea as the Assistant Chief of Staff G5 (Wartime) and served in that capacity until July 2003. He was promoted to Major General in July 2003 and then served as U.S. Army Pacific Deputy Commander for Mobilization and Reserve Affairs from August 2003 to July 2007.

In addition to the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Maj. Gen. Tom is a graduate of the Judge Advocate Officer Basic Course, the Adjutant General Officer’s Advance Course, Command and General Staff College, the Civil Affairs Officer’s Advanced Course, and the Army War College.

His military awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (1 OLC), Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (3 OLC), and Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon.

In his civilian capacity, Maj. Gen. Tom was a private practice attorney and a partner in a law firm, Maj. Gen. Tom was recalled to active duty in January 2006.

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**BOOKS • BOOKS • BOOKS • BOOKS • BOOKS**


The Darkest Summer: Pusan and Inchon 1950: The Battles That Saved South Korea—and the Marines—from Extinction by Bill Sloan (Hardcover - Nov 10, 2009)

Nation Building in South Korea: Koreans, Americans, and the Making of a Democracy by Gregg Brazinsky (Paperback - Sep 17, 2009)

The Cold War: The United States and the Soviet Union, 1917-1991 by Ronald E. Powaski
His Excellency Dmitry Medvedev  
President of the Russian Federation  
23 Ilinka Street  
Moscow, Russia 103132  

February 19, 2009  

Dear Mr. President:  

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Charlotte Busch Mitnik. I am an American citizen and the sister of Major Samuel N. Busch. My brother’s plane was shot down off the coast of Vladivostok, on June 13th 1952. For many years, the fact that the plane was shot down was denied by both the Soviet and the American governments. It was called an “air accident”. But in 1992, during his visit to the United States, President Boris Yeltsin brought with him documents showing that the plane was indeed shot down. He also stated that some American servicemen were taken to the Soviet Union, “and may still be alive.”  

As I have come to learn, the ten crew members of my brother’s crew, including my brother, managed to survive the loss of their aircraft. They were recovered by Soviet sailors. The crew was transferred to officials from the State Security Ministry (MGB) of the USSR. To date my brother’s fate and that of his crew have not been clarified.  

In 1992, “the Cold War Working Group of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIA’s” was founded. It is co-chaired on the American side by Mr. A. Denis Clift, a member of the Commission since its founding in 1992. Mr. Clift also is President of the Joint Military Intelligence College. The position of the Russian co-chair has been vacant since the Russian side was effectively deactivated in June 2004. The Working Group seeks to resolve 10 cases of Cold War-era losses involving American reconnaissance aircraft over or near the borders of the former Soviet Union. These 10 cases represent 77 missing American military servicemen.  

At the Historical Museum of the Russian Pacific Fleet in Vladivostok, members of the Working Group presented documents and a film to representatives of the Pacific Fleet and Soviet/Russian veterans’ groups. These materials shed light on the fates of missing Soviet seamen from the Cold War period. This event attracted significant local, national, and world press coverage. Our side of the Joint Commission is still working on your behalf.
As I stated earlier, the Russian side of the Commission was essentially dissolved in 2004 for reasons unknown to family members. Whatever the reasons for such a decision may have been --, political mistrust of our administration or the Russian side’s belief that the Commissions’ job was completed -- much remains to be done

That was then, this is now. There is a new Administration is Washington, an Administration which is extending an open hand towards co-operation. As I wrote to then President Putin in a letter in 2000, “In times of war, men and women are asked to do things that they might never think of doing in their common everyday life. This may be the case of my brother’s crew and other American servicemen, and the men who captured them. Whatever happened happened. There should be not finger-pointing at this time.”

Mr. President, I ask you, not as the head of the New Russia, but as a person, a man, a father a son, to re-establish the Russian side of the Commission so that my family and the families of others missing from Cold War losses (Russian and American) can finally have closure.

I hope that I have managed to articulate my hope and trust that you will find in your heart, compassion for those family members who have been waiting for answers for nearly sixty years.

With appreciation in advance for all you can do to assist me in this humanitarian endeavor, I am

Sincerely,

Charlotte Busch Mitnik
Sister of: Major Samuel N. Busch  MIA /Sea of Japan 06/13/52
S/Sgt Morris H. Busch  KIA France 08/27/44

The first use of the term Cold War describing the post–World War II geopolitical tensions between the USSR and its Western European Allies is attributed to Bernard Baruch, a US financier and presidential advisor. In South Carolina, on April 16, 1947, he delivered a speech (by journalist Herbert Bayard Swope) saying, “Let us not be deceived: we are today in the midst of a cold war.” Newspaper reporter-columnist Walter Lippmann gave the term wide currency, with the book Cold War (1947).

Previously, during the war, George Orwell used the term Cold War in the essay “You and the Atomic Bomb” published October 19, 1945, in the British newspaper Tribune. Contemplating a world living in the shadow of the threat of nuclear war, he warned of a “peace that is no peace,” which he called a permanent “cold war”, Orwell directly referred to that war as the ideological confrontation between the Soviet Union and the Western powers. Moreover, in The Observer of March 10, 1946, Orwell wrote that “…[a]fter the Moscow conference last December, Russia began to make a ‘cold war’ on Britain and the British Empire.”
Russian Federation
Interagency Commission
on Prisoners of War, Internees and Missing in Action
7-12-2009 No. 328/3573

Dear Mrs. Busch Mitnik,

The Interagency Commission on Prisoners of War, Internees, and Missing in Action (established by Presidential Decree No. 480 of the Russian Federation, dated 30-4-2005) was informed of your request to the President of the Russian Federation to restore the work of the Russian side the US-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIA.

After an exchange of notes on 6 July 2009 regarding the status of the US-Russia-Joint Commission on POW/MIA, a number of positive changes have taken place in the work of the Joint Commission. The issue of reinstating archival searches in the archives of the Ministry of Defense of Russia with the participation of American researchers has been resolved. Nearing completion is the process by which relevant federal authorities are coordinating the selection of candidates for membership on the Russian side of the Joint Commission.

The Interagency Commission shares and supports your desire to preserve and continue the cooperation between our countries and peoples in the interests of determining the fates of American and Russian service members missing in action from wars and armed conflicts. The Commission expresses the hope that, through our joint efforts, we will succeed in obtaining information to clarify the fate of your brother.

Respectfully,

\Signature

A. Kirillin
Deputy Chairman

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CHIT CHAT NEWS February 2010 by Irene L Mandra

Please remember our member Joe McNulty in your prayers as he enters the hospital again for another back surgery.

Please remember our member Sallyann Mandra who is in the hospital.

IF YOU Haven’T RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2010 THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER.
All members need not make out an application when renewing, a check with your name and address is sufficient, we have your original application on file. An application is only necessary when joining the organization.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!
Korea-Cold War Annual Conference & Government Briefings
August 26-28 2010, Washington, DC

Please help us plan - Once again we would like to arrange a dinner for our family members and to break bread with our friends at DPMO, JPAC, US - Russia Joint Commission and the other agencies who do so much.

Please help us by indicating your interest in attending the dinner. Email, US mail and phone calls are welcome. It is important that we hear from our members. Thank you.

S Korea Seeks Humanitarian Project with North
05 January, 2010 - Call to Search for War Dead

SEOUl, January 4 (Reuters): South Korea’s president proposed a humanitarian project with rival North Korea on Monday under which the two states would cooperate in repatriating remains of tens of thousands of soldiers killed during the 1950-53 Korean War. The reclusive North allowed U.S. military teams into the country for several years to search for remains of U.S. soldiers killed during the war in a bit of rare cooperation that went on despite difficult diplomatic times. “South Korea will not forget those who gave their lives on foreign soil,” Lee Myung-bak said in a New Year’s address. He said the recovery project would be an appropriate way to mark the 60th anniversary of the start of the war in which U.S.-led U.N. forces and South Korean troops fought North Korea and China. “This can only come out of trust between the two countries. It is also a problem that will likely be solved with money,” said Kim Yong-hyun, an expert on the North at Dongguk University. There are about 39,000 soldiers from the South killed during the war whose remains are thought to be in North Korea, the Defense Ministry said. The two states have not had a formal joint repatriation project before. Destitute North Korea, angered at Lee’s moves to suspend massive handouts until Pyongyang ends its atomic ambitions, had cut ties with the South Korean leader after he took office about two year ago. Last year, it warmed to Seoul in what analysts saw as an attempt to win aid for its battered economy. The two Koreas position more than 1 million troops near one of the world’s most militarised borders, while the United States keeps about 28,000 soldiers in the South to support its military. Conflict between the two Koreas would inflict severe damage to the two states and devastate the economies of North Asia, which make up one-sixth of the global economy. JPAC, the U.S. unit charged with finding remains of war dead, sent 33 missions to North Korea from 1996 to 2005, leading to the identification of more than 20 sets of remains, U.S. military officials said. The United States in 2005 ended the recovery missions by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command as tensions were rising in nuclear negotiations with North Korea. There are about 8,100 U.S. servicemen not accounted for from the Korean War, JPAC said.

©Morung Express
Is 2010 the Year Recoveries Will Resume in North Korea?  
10 January, 2010

POW/MIA command hoping digs for soldiers’ remains will resume in North Korea
By Jon Rabiroff, Stars and Stripes
Pacific edition, Sunday, January 10, 2010

SEOUL - U.S. military officials hope recent conciliatory gestures from North Korea will eventually open the door to new searches inside the rogue nation for the remains of American soldiers killed during the Korean War.

Lt. Col. Wayne Perry - a spokesman for the Hawaii-based Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command - said members of his organization are keeping an eye on developments on the peninsula with fingers crossed.

“As the organization responsible for the recovery and identification of missing Americans from the Korean War, JPAC would welcome the opportunity to work that mission and return unaccounted-for Americans from the Korean War to their families,” Perry said Friday.

Approximately 8,000 U.S. servicemembers remain missing in action or unaccounted for from the Korean War. The U.S. has been barred since 2005 from searching for remains in North Korea, which has been a source of continuing frustration for officials in the business of bringing closure to the families of those soldiers.

North Korea has made a number of recent declarations suggesting Pyongyang might be open to a new era of cooperation with South Korea, the U.S. and the rest of the world.

For example, a New Year’s Day editorial in the state-run media said, “The Workers’ Party of Korea and the government… will strive to develop relations of good-neighborliness and friendship with other countries and achieve global independence under the unfurled banner of independence, peace and friendship.”

South Korea President Lee Myung-bak, in a New Year’s speech, said he hoped this year to hold talks with North Korean officials about searching for the remains of South Korean soldiers whose remains are buried north of the Demilitarized Zone.

During a dig for the remains of American soldiers at a remote site in South Korea last year, JPAC anthropologist Jay Silverstein said he hoped to someday return to North Korea, where he had been involved in digs before access was denied.

“I am always disappointed when politics interfere with human rights and bringing closure to families whose relatives died in Korea so long ago,” he said.

“I found the North Koreans very pleasant to work with,” Silverstein continued. “My experience was very positive. It gave me a lot of hope for the future… that relations between the North and the South and the West and the rest of Asia will someday be improved.” © 2009 Stars and Stripes

South Korea - Remains Recovery Top Agenda  
08 January, 2010 - Recovery of remains top agenda item

South Korea will push to put recovering the remains of South Korean soldiers killed during the Korean War at the top of the agenda in future inter-Korean military talks, military officials said yesterday.

An official at the Ministry of National Defense said retrieval of the remains should be discussed first and foremost if military officials from the two Koreas sit down for talks. He said the ministry will develop specific plans after consultations with related government agencies.

Defense Minister Kim Tae-young told reporters that a team of ministry officials have been working with Korean War veterans to draw a map showing likely burial spots for South Korean soldiers. The South estimates about 39,000 South Korean soldiers are buried north of the border.

Moon Sang-gyun, head of the North Korean policy at the ministry, added that bringing back the soldiers’ remains is a pledge of President Lee Myung-bak and also a humanitarian project that the nation must assume. Moon added the South will “tie this project to our aid to North Korea.”

But Moon said there’s no immediate plan to suggest military talks with the North, adding, “As far as I understand, our government will pursue such dialogue based on progress on nuclear standoff and on the overall inter-Korean relations.”

The two Koreas had agreed to cooperate on recovery of the remains during their defense ministerial talks in November 2007. However, the inter-Korean relations have since soured and put the project on hold. In his New Year’s address Monday, President Lee Myung-bak said he would give a push to the stalled project. He said it would be a meaningful event in 2010, the 60th anniversary of the Korean War.

Separately, Larry Greer, spokesman for the Defense POW and Missing Personnel Office at Pentagon, said the United States also hopes to retrieve remains of American soldiers killed in action during the Korean War.

“It is our goal to discuss this matter with the DPRK [North Korea] whenever conditions are satisfactory for such negotiation in 2010,” Greer told Radio Free Asia. He added no timetable has been set for talks with North Korea on the issue.

According to Greer, remains of 124 American soldiers who fought in the Korean War have been recovered since 1982, but over 8,000 soldiers are still missing. From 1996 to 2005, the U.S. government sent a delegation to recover the remains on 33 occasions. Washington has since halted trips amid security concerns in the North. // By Yoo Jee-ho, Kim Min-seok / JoongAng Ilbo

Spyflights of the Cold War (Paperback) by Paul Lashmar  
255 pp. Sutton Publishing

The author’s research has uncovered top secret missions flown by US Air Force and Royal Air Force crews, deep into the Soviet Union. He has interviewed USAF and RAF participants, and the Red Air Force pilots that tried, sometimes successfully, to shoot them down. He has also discovered an alarming 1950s USAF plan to use these spy flights to provoke a nuclear Preventative War with the Soviets. New evidence, both documentary and interview, from the former Soviet Union reveals the full extent of political tension created by the spy plane war. From 1950 over 40 western aircraft were shot down and hundreds of air force officers died or remain missing. The book documents the hunt today for these Cold War MIAs (missing in action).

Must Read :: CIA FOIA - China Collection
SELECTED NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES ON CHINA, 1948-1976
This collection of over seventy National Intelligence Estimates on China is the most extensive single selection of intelligence analyses the United States Government ever has released.
Hawaii lab works to solve MIA mysteries - New facility helps identify remains of U.S. soldiers killed during Korean War

By William Cole - The Honolulu Advertiser

PEARL HARBOR - The mottled brown skull and other remains - a lower jaw with eight teeth and a pair of fillings, seven right side ribs, part of a pelvis and some arm and leg bones - showed evidence of dirt and looked like they were buried at one time.

It's up to forensic anthropologists like Gregory Berg to build from the ground up the U.S. service member who died in North Korea more than half a century ago.

There are plenty of challenges to doing so faced by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, but there's been a big advance relating to Korean War fallen, and a new Pentagon impetus to speed up all identifications.

In September, the Hawai’i-based accounting command, charged with investigating, recovering and identifying missing U.S. war dead, opened a new lab at Pearl Harbor devoted to identifying Korean War remains. About 8,100 Americans remain missing from the Korean War.

The new lab is expected to help speed up the analysis of 208 boxes of remains - representing 300 to 400 U.S. servicemen - that North Korea turned over to the U.S. from 1990 to 1994 and are known as "K-208."

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2010, meanwhile, said the Pentagon shall provide the funds to "increase significantly" the accounting of missing U.S. personnel so that by 2015, at least 200 identifications - more than double the current total - are made annually.

The accounting command is primarily based at Hickam Air Force Base. The new lab in Building 220 at Pearl Harbor provides space for about 25 sets of remains, Berg said.

"This is a big bonus space for us. Absolutely," Berg said. "It certainly allows us to do the work that we need to do to keep these cases moving forward."

Lab space to lay out remains has been growing overall at the accounting command.

The approximately 22-table lab space at Hickam doubled last year with a $680,000 addition, and tripled with the opening of the second lab in Building 220, renovated for $1.2 million.

There are plans to replace much of the Hickam lab at a cost of about $100 million.

The lab at Pearl Harbor allows the K-208 remains to be laid out and stay out for sorting and analysis - instead of being packed back up at the old lab when a higher priority came along, solving puzzle

"So what this space is allowing us to do is finally get large portions of the (K-208) collection laid out all at the same time," Berg said, "and then go through systematically and try to sort the individuals based on their morphological and metric characteristics - their size and their shape."

Berg said the North Koreans probably excavated a lot of the remains from cemeteries, battlefields or even foxholes following the 1950-53 war.

"But then they got mixed," he said of the remains. They took the bones and said, 'Wow, we've got a big mess here. Well, OK, this bone looks like that bone, this is about the same size as that one. And they built skeletons.' " CONTINUE
There are about 25 forensic anthropologists, three odontologists and nine individuals who specialize in aircraft crash debris and other equipment, officials said.

Osorio, the accounting command spokesman, said those staff totals will more than double in coming years.

There also remain about 78,000 missing Americans from World War II, with about 35,000 deemed “recoverable,” and about 1,750 missing from the Vietnam War.

The identification rate needs to be increased, Charles Ray, deputy assistant defense secretary for POW/missing personnel affairs, said at an April 2 congressional hearing.

“Given the circumstances of the conflicts, the Vietnam War sites are deteriorating at a remarkably accelerating rate,” Ray said. “World War II, those family members that we are aware of are getting no younger day by day. And so we owe it to them as well as to honoring those who have sacrificed for the country to do all that we can do to increase the pace.”

**INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE ANALYSES**

IDA Paper P-4478

**Assessment of DoD’s Central Identification Lab and the Feasibility of Increasing Identification Rates**

June 2009 - 104 Pages - Available for PDF download at:

http://www.aiipowmia.com/inter2010/in020110labstidy.html

And in-depth study on increasing identification rates, staffing and personnel, expansion of facilities, funding, DNA, Korean War cases, and new methods of identification.

“Summary : The Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) tasked the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) to review the current structure, resources, assets, and physical location of the Central Identification Laboratory (CIL) at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC).

DPMO requested an independent assessment of viable alternatives for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the CIL’s operations. Specifically, IDA was tasked to examine the actions needed to increase the number of identifications to 180 per year by 2014.

Responsibility for various parts of the accounting mission is shared among DPMO, U.S. Pacific Command (notably, JPAC), the Service Casualty Offices (SCOs), the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL), and the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory (LSEL). This study finds that each of these organizations has an important role to play in the accounting mission. It is JPAC, however, and above all its laboratory—the CIL—which spearheads the identification process. Since 2004, the community has averaged 72 completed identifications each year which will serve as the baseline for the remainder of this report.1 This study considered the role and history of the organizations involved in the accounting mission, documented the current identification process, highlighted concerns with current identification activities, and provided perspectives on the opportunities available to improve processes and otherwise expand the pace of annual identifications.

This report divides its findings and associated recommendations into three main areas. The first group identifies possible improvements in efficiency and effectiveness within existing (or currently planned) resources. The second relates to a pragmatic near- term initiative for expanding CIL identification activities by resolving a targeted set of pending cases already in the CIL accessions. The third addresses the relationship between the long-term priorities of the identification mission and the types and scale of capabilities that would be necessary to achieve the annual identification rate of 180 per year.”

**Among the topics covered:**

- Recommendation 1: Improve the Communication of Expectations and the Status of Pending Cases.
- Recommendation 5: Provide Ample Examination Table Space in the New CIL Facilities.
- Recommendation 6: Create a Human Capital Strategy and Plan for the CIL Scientific Staff.
- Recommendation 7: Improve Management to Reduce the Stress of Deployment Schedules.
- Recommendation 8: Rebalance the Personnel Mix at the CIL to Make More Productive Use of Scientific Talent.
- Recommendation 9: Delegate Authority for Preparing Identification Memos.
- Recommendation 10: Develop and Assess a Plan for a Near-Term Initiative Focused on Pending Korean War Cases.
- Recommendation 11: Create a Long-Term Mission Execution Plan.
Some Things Never Change - Commentary by Andi Wolos

Remembering :: Paul V. Coates - POW-MIA Stories
28 December 2009
In 1959 when it was virtually unheard of to counter USG claims, and considered unpatriotic to do so publicly, a columnist named Paul V. Coates (March 10, 1921 - November 16, 1968) used his popular daily column at The Daily Mirror (Los Angeles, California) to bring attention to the plight of America’s Korean War Missing.

Coates was a controversial man and colorful writer. In addition to his must-read column, he hosted a gossipy television program called 'Confidential File.'

Reading his stories now brings back memories of the great radio broadcasts with staccato headlines and bullet points... one can almost hear the typewriter clacking in the background.

Fifty years ago this month these articles appeared and they are as relevant today as they were when penned.

“Paul V. Coates - Confidential File, Dec. 18, 1959
Dec. 18, 1959, Mirror
Captain Is Dedicated to Prisoners’ Return

Capt. Eugene R. Guild, U.S. Army (ret.), has a few close friends in his home town of Glenwood Springs, Colo.

Townfolk shy away from him. He’s a distinguished looking man, clean in habits and speech, but his neighbors would feel a little more at ease if he’d pack up and settle somewhere else.

The conservative element is afraid that the 82-year-old retired Army combat officer is going to give their town a bad name. That he enjoys an occasional day running river rapids in a tiny rubber life craft doesn’t particularly offend them. That’s a harmless little idiosyncrasy.

But they are bothered by his “rabble-rousing,” his continuing fight with the U.S. government over its unwillingness to admit the possibility that more than 3,000 U.S. servicemen may today be prisoners of the Red Chinese. And its timid refusal to take positive, strong action.

Yesterday, I reported how the government recognized, with some reluctance, that Communist China could be holding as many as 450 U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines from since the days of the Korean war.

Capt. Guild sets the figure at 3,141. This he arrived at by taking the number of servicemen (4,735) still unaccounted for after the war and subtracting the number of remains which the Chinese finally were pressured into returning to U.S. authorities (1,550), plus 44 others who were later established as dead.

The Chinese claim they have no more bodies. They refuse to admit knowledge of ever having held any of the missing men in question.

“The U.S. government is still asking the Chinese about the fate of the 450 whom they’ve established were at one time or another in the hands of the Reds,” the captain told me yesterday. “Over the years I’ve compiled evidence as strong, or stronger, on dozens of the others.”

The captain, in a voice disarmingly soft, continued:

“But instead of adding to their list as more information comes to light, the government is backing down, soft-pedaling the issue.”

Paul V. Coates - Confidential File, Dec. 17, 1959
Dec. 17, 1959, Mirror
We Have Living Dead Living in Red China

Historically, war is a cold fact of life. And one of its most terrifying aspects is that some men conscripted by their nations to fight are swallowed up and lost in its grisly shuffle. They’re not among the known dead. They’re not among the known living.

They’re just gone.

After the war in Korea, The U.S. counted its casualties. Among them were 5,866 missing. Slowly, since then, it has whittled the number down.

There were 715 who were later located in prison camps and returned. An additional 1,550 bodies, less than half of them identifiable, were sent back to us by the Chinese. Others, evidence definitely indicated, had died either in action or prison camps. Still others were eventually written off by the U.S. government as “presumed dead.”

And it’s the last group which has kept the United States talking out of both sides of its mouth ever since.

The government finds it morally and diplomatically embarrassing -- in view of what little is being done -- to admit that more than 3,000 of the missing members of our Armed Forces might today be captives or slaves in Red China.

So it states to the kin of those still unaccounted for that it has no reason to believe they’re alive.

Dec. 17, 1959, Nixon - Then it complies its own list of 450 missing where there is evidence that the men were taken alive by the Chinese and demands information from the Reds as to their whereabouts, or fate.

U.S. Department of Defense and State Department negotiators are still meeting with Communist representatives at Panmunjom and Geneva. They’re still going through the inane formality of questioning an accounting.

The formality’s inane because the Chinese don’t answer polite requests. They don’t speak that language.

Among the cases which the Chinese repeatedly deny knowledge of:

Dec. 17, 1959, Men -
An Air Force major, shot down on Sept. 9, 1950. The U.S. has proof that he was taken prisoner and held, at one time, in a jail in Pyongyang. Later, the agency “Soviet Picture” released a photograph of him stating that he had been taken prisoner.

-An Army captain whose plane was shot down in October, 1952. Statements from other prisoners of war established that he, too, was captured. He lost one leg when shot down and had his other leg amputated in a Communist hospital a month later.

-An Army private taken prisoner in August, 1950. Several months later, a Communist radio station broadcast a message from him to his mother.

Across the bargaining tables, the Reds denied all knowledge of ever having held these and hundreds of other men with similar documented stories.

They still do today, with the exception of the double-amputee captain. After months of denying his capture, they changed their story to say that yes, they had him and amputated both his legs but he escaped. The double-amputee got out of his hospital bed and escaped.

At a 1957 hearing of the Committee of Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, strong evidence was brought out that the Chinese Reds had held, and possibly are still holding, the 450 on the government list. CONTINUED
Rep. Clement J. Zablocki (D-Wis.) charged that the U.S. was taking the easy way out by ignoring the possibility that the Chinese were still holding some of these men. He pointed out that the Chinese have denied holding other prisoners, only to release them when certain pressures were applied, or when they felt it would be to their political advantage.

Rendezvous With Oblivion

"How can the United States sit still while 450 Americans are imprisoned behind the Bamboo Curtain?" Zablocki demanded in a floor speech after the hearings. "We can't forget our fighting men or consign them to oblivion…"

"It would almost appear as if the administration was more anxious to keep news of Communist foul deeds away from the world than to broadcast the fate of these men as a somber warning…"

Tomorrow I'll talk to a retired Army man who charges that the number of "GI slaves" the Communists may be holding today is 3,141, not 450.”

So, there you have it - 50 years ago, almost to the day, we have Americans vocally challenging the government over other Missing and Prisoner Americans from the Korean War.

The stories go on and on - Mothers, told their sons were dead after the requisite 366 day period of being unaccounted-for, did their own research, wrote letters, tracked down former POWs and unit members... Returned veterans, knowing the stories of men alive yet not returned to be true, took on the officials and challenged the 'official' stories.

If anyone says that there was no POW-MIA issue before Vietnam, then they need to read a little history. And in so doing they will learn that, sadly, history has repeated itself from WW I to WW II to Korea to the Cold War to Vietnam to the Persian Gulf.

Korea & China Discuss POWs - By Yang Jung A

Discussion of POWs and Abductees with Chinese VP

In meetings in Seoul on Thursday, Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping spoke candidly about taking a humanitarian approach to Korean War POW and abduction issues. Vice President Xi explained in his meeting with South Korean Prime Minister Chung Un Chan, "China is solving these problems from a humanitarian perspective according to domestic and international laws." In advance of Xi's remarks, Prime Minister Chung asked him, "Since POWs' and abductees' families are originally South Korean people; I hope that China is taking into consideration confirming where they are from and their repatriation to South Korea.

"Vice President Xi replied, "I will pay particular attention to what the Prime Minister expressed."

Although the Chinese government has generally cooperated tacitly with sending POWs, abductees and their families to South Korea, one POW, Chung, has been in Chinese police detention for the last four months. With respect to the North Korean nuclear issue, Prime Minister Chung agreed "that China has made an effort to denuclearize North Korea and resume the Six-Party Talks," but asked the Chinese to take a more active role as the chair country in order to convene the Six-Party Talks quickly, upon the opportunity presented by recent U.S.-North Korea dialogue. Vice President Xi expressed his agreement with the need to resume the Six-Party Talks in order to bring about North Korea's denuclearization, and said China would make an effort together with the other countries involved.

*IN THE NEWS* • IN THE NEWS • IN THE NEWS • IN THE NEWS •

November 7th, 2009: 2 Soldiers serving in Afghanistan go missing during a routine re-supply mission. The remains of both Sgt. Brandon T. Islip, 23, and Sgt. Benjamin W. Sherman, were recovered by the end of the month.

December 1st, 2009: The mystery of Commander Michael Scott Speicher, lost during the first Persian Gulf War, continues to haunt America. The head of POW/MIA Analysis at the DIA gives an exclusive interview that leaves more questions unanswered.

December 9th, 2009: Family finally proves that Navy misidentified aviator lost during battle of Peleliu in 1944. Arthur C. Miller Sr. has finally been identified. Misidentified as Wesley Stuart, the Stuart family broke faith with the Navy and paid $4,000.00 out of pocket for DNA tests on remains they were told was Stuart, and another $4,000.00 for an attorney to sue the Navy. The Navy was forced to act, and the remains, now certified as those of Miller, were returned to the proper family with honors.

December 24th, 2009: Home for Christmas. Master Sgt. Silas Wilson has come home. Captured in Usang Province in 1950 and held as a POW, Wilson was later executed and thrown into a ditch to die. Surviving POWs told the story of how he lived for a while and died in the ditch next to them. His remains were finally recovered in 2004 and an identification made in 2009. He will return home December 23rd.

December 25th, 2009: Afghanistan - new video showing POW Bowe Bergdahl, captured June 30th in Paktika Province, is shown. The video, although pure propaganda, shows the young infantryman is alive and clearly in captivity.

December 26th, 2009: Remains of MIAs from the Vietnam War were repatriated and returned to the US for identification. Four missing servicemembers will be accounted-for with this repatriation.

December 28th, 2009: North Korea acknowledges public executions. North Korean delegates appeared before the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva for the country's Universal Periodic Review (UPR). While officials denied allegations of human rights violations such as the use of torture and widespread malnutrition within its borders, they did acknowledge occurrences of public execution.

January 1st, 2010: Papua New Guinea search pilot crashes - survivors. Richard Leahy flew the dangerous swaths of mountains while he pursued information about the wrecks of WWII planes - mostly Australian and American - and worked with the US Army Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii on location and recovery. Hundreds of WWII planes were lost in the jungles of PNG, and Leahy, now 68, kept watch, wherever he flew, in an on-going attempt to find and identify the crash sites. 6 passengers perished in the wreck.

January 2010: Father Emil Kapaun, the POW Priest. While the Vatican takes up the cause of Father Kapaun's Beatification leading to Sainthood, the House Armed Services Committee may take up the request of awarding Kapaun the Medal of Honor. US Army leaders have endorsed the commendation.
Families United in a Search for Truth, Dignity, Acknowledgment and Closure

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