

THE PACIFIC TIMES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS



No One Does More for Veterans
EXCELLENCE in all we DO

Volume XXVI, Number 3

November/December 2022

FREE

VETERANS & PEARL HARBOR DAYS



Veterans Day is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American Veterans of all wars, and Veterans Day 2022 will occur on Friday, November 11.

In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as “the Great War.”

Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became known as Veterans Day. [Veterans Day History](#). [Poster](#)

The National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, also referred to as Pearl Harbor Day is one of the black days in the history of the United States of America. Pearl Harbor is a U.S. naval base near Honolulu, Hawaii, which was surprisingly attacked by the hundreds of Japanese fighter planes. They managed to destroy nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight battleships, and over 300 airplanes. The incident took place on December 7th 1941, and more than 2,400 Americans died in this attack while around 1000 people were wounded. The day after the attack took place, the President of USA, Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan.

On this day, the American flag is to be flown at half-staff until sunset to honor those thousands of people who died as a result of the attack on the U.S. military forces in Hawaii. Though Pearl Harbor Day is not a federal holiday, government offices, schools, and businesses do not remain shut, but some organizations may hold special events in memory of those killed or injured at Pearl Harbor. [81'st Commemoration details](#).



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COMMANDER'S CALL

Comrades,

The Mid Term is upon us, where did the time go to. The Department has done an AMAZING job post covid of taking care of business. Membership is at a crazy high right now. 2 Districts have made 100% already and numerous Post have also hit 100%. Looks like you will be keeping our Quartermaster busy right up to November 30th with those reaching Early Bird. Congratulations to all of you, you put in the work, and you deserve the reward. Like I have been saying all along, this is YOUR year not mine. This is YOUR year to shine and get rewards and awards and hopefully All State and All American. Many Posts are already in the running to reach All State by the first cut off cycle. REMEMBER, you ALL have up to 30 June 2023 to reach the goals asked of you. Again, congrats to those who are already 100% and I look forward to seeing many more soon. Greatest Department in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, WORLDWIDE.

Reminder to all the CofA will be held in Ban Chang Thailand in District 5. I have complete faith they will show us all a great time. We have two socials on Friday. From 1400-1600 ALL are welcome to attend the Grand Social and Auction. From 1600-1800 the DPA social will be held at the hotel and again ALL are welcome. Saturday will cover the DPA business session and Commander's dinner. VFW casual is the attire. VFW/DPA shirts, pants if you want but not a requirement, cargo shorts are all good. This is a time to relax enjoy good food and share stories with comrades. Sunday will be the Grand Scratch held by Big Bug Fred also from District 5 so we should have a good time for all.

CofA business session, there will be a few proposals to be voted on. We will also be voting on the June Convention location, **Bangkok Thailand**, or **Phnom Penh Cambodia**. We have had events in both locations over the years so you can talk to Comrades to find out the do's and don'ts for both locations. Another KEY reminder is VOTING during business session will be held by the Council of Administration members ONLY. So, if you want to support a proposal or the Convention location make sure to talk to your District Commanders ahead of time and let them know. That being said, if you are on the Council, it is your job to VOTE. Voting on items will be throughout your term, either in email form or at an event. So do not blow it off, VOTE!!! Enough said, see you in Ban Chang!!

Yours in Comradeship

Warren 'Max' Maxson
Commander

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of Pacific Areas

EXCELLENCE in all we DO



Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineers

Rapid Engineer Deployable
Heavy Operational Repair
Squadron Engineer squad-

rons are the United States Air Force's heavy-construction units. Their combat engineering capabilities are similar to those of the U.S. Navy Seabees and U.S. Army heavy-construction organizations. They provide a highly mobile civil engineering response force to support contingency and special operations worldwide.



Commander

Warren Maxson



CDR'S CHALLENGE TO ALL POST'S

COMMANDERS CHALLENGE NO. 1



\$100 US Dollars to
the first 3 Post CDRs
to reach 100% before
the Mid Term CofA

Crisp right out of MY pocket

COMMANDERS CHALLENGE NO. 2

**TO ALL 25 POST COMMANDERS
I CHALLENGE YOU TO
RECRUIT/REINSTATE OR SIGN UP
FIVE MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE
MID TERM COFA IN DEC**

*****LEAD FROM THE FRONT COMMANDERS*****

COMMANDERS CHALLENGE NO. 3

**To ALL District Commanders
I challenge you 7 to
Recruit/Reinstate or sign up
FIVE new Life Members**

COMMANDERS CHALLENGE NO. 4

**TO ALL DEPARTMENT COUNCIL/OFFICERS
I CHALLENGE YOU TO
RECRUIT/REINSTATE OR SIGN UP
FIVE NEW LIFE MEMBERS PRIOR TO
THE MID TERM COFA IN DEC**

**REMEMBER THE MISSION IS NOT TO WIN
ALL AMERICAN OR ALL STATE THE MISSION
IS TO KEEP OUR VOICE HEARD IN D.C.
NUMBERS MATTER MORE THEN A HAT**

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Greetings Comrades!

As we continue moving to our Membership Goal of making 100%, I am confident that our Department of Pacific Areas will get it done. Just want to touch a few bits about Communication which is the best solution to any organization's problems to communicate with each other, continue our mission on recruiting new members, reinstating members and let them know we are a family-oriented organization that not only supports our Veterans, Widows and Orphans but our communities as well, we need to continue to work together to make a difference and build membership to include all generation. As we all know our Districts and Posts goals are to be at and above 100% in membership each year to continue to stay strong and keep our voice to help push Legislative Goals set forth by National Headquarters and get the benefits we deserve.

I would like to thank [all](#) the Department Membership, Districts and Posts recruiters for your outstanding worked there and who spend endless hours of their time Recruiting new members. Again, I thank you for your support and looking forward to seeing you all at the Council of Administration (CofA) in Banchang, Thailand. Yours in Comradeship and Service!

Alexander Fores
Senior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas
EXCELLENCE in all we DO



Patriotism is a sense of pride, admiration and love a person has for his or her country. It is not about allegiance to a political party or politician, but to the country as a whole.

There are many examples of behavior that can be motivated by patriotism. It's important to note, though, that not everyone who does these things is motivated by a sense of patriotism.

- serving in your country's Armed Forces
- displaying your country's flag on your home or business
- exercising your right to vote as a citizen of your country
- running for public office to serve your community, state or country
- honoring your country with its national anthem
- working collaboratively with other citizens and leaders for the advancement and betterment of society
- honoring soldiers and for their sacrifice and service
- respecting and honoring those who sacrifice everything in service of the country or its people
- volunteering with veterans' service groups, such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)) to help meet the needs and improve the lives of veterans



Senior Vice Commander

Alex Fores

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades,

I hope you are all well, and if you are not, I pray you are getting better. I know there are many of us out there fighting through one issue or another and I pray that each and every one of you get better and stay healthy.

Well done to everyone getting in their CSR reports. Many of you have worked with me to help shape some of the inputs so they correctly reflect the outstanding activities you conduct and the community they serve. Community service is one of the major programs looked at by our VFW National leaders. Everything we do, from scholarship programs, awards, grants and donations all the way to helping the community maintain a safer and cleaner environment matters. Social media injects using PSAs or other media that helps to inform and educate our community about the VFW and VFW programs is invaluable in raising awareness about the VFW and reaching Veterans you might not know exist in your very neighborhoods.

One area that may not be getting as much love is the Veterans Assistance area. Remember, you have to select Veterans Assistance to get CSR credit for it. Each and every post has a Service Officer and I would be very surprised if they were not assisting Veterans either through referrals to ADSOs or even directly providing them links and references to information they need to understand the claims process and how it works.

Specifically:

Adopt-a-Unit/MAP activities: Do not claim the money allotted by National, but do claim any and all local funds / material donations (fair commercial value).

National Home: Donations of money and/or other items (again, fair commercial value).

Unmet Needs/Relief: Document specific use of the program and/or local relief provided in conjunction with the program.

VFW Mental Wellness: Buddy Checks via phone or visit, AA Meetings and other groups directly supporting Veteran wellness (VFW and non-VFW Veterans alike).

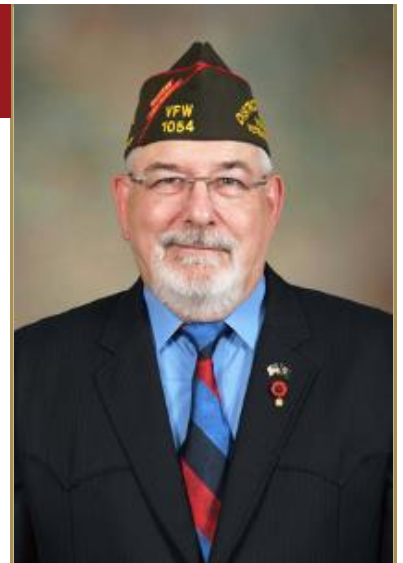
Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship submission: Direct usage of the program and any additional funds donated.

Military & Veterans Support (Women Veterans, Homeless, Iraq/Afghanistan): Monetary and other items donated in support of needy Veterans. Activities such as building / room repairs, ramp building or any other activity that improves the Veterans quality of life.

Claims & Benefits assistance: Discussion and referrals regarding claims and benefits.

Other: Anything not already covered....BUT....be sure it is not a post activity (meeting, committee, or anything else specifically part of post business).

Each and every monthly Post Service Officers report should create a CSR entry for Veterans Assistance. Three SO reports a quarter equals 3 Veterans Assistance CSRs and turns the dashboard green for Veterans Assistance. Bam, Bob's your Uncle.



Junior Vice Commander

Michael Lutman

The "C" in CSR is for community, which means there are usually community members, active duty or Veterans involved in your activity. If it is just a post related task (attending a meeting, executing specific duties, etc.) it is most likely not a Community SERVICE-related task.

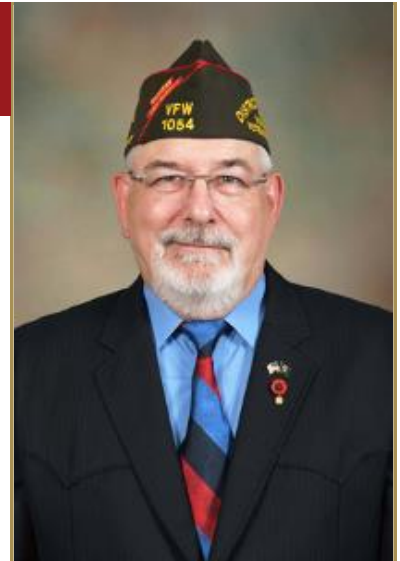
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Quick shout out for the Department Awards program. As we come up to the 4 month mark in the term you are hopefully already starting to fill out at least some of your award inputs. Post of the Year should have at least 4 months of data to work though and there may be several bullets accumulated for other awards.

Thank you again for documenting all your superb efforts in our community. You are truly an inspiring and generous group of Comrades, and I am proud to know you all. God Bless and keep up the great work being excellent in all you do.

YICS and LOTCS,

Mike Lutman
Junior Vice Commander
“EXCELLENCE in all we DO”



Department of Pacific Areas

Junior Vice Commander

Michael Lutman

To See The DCPA's Award Programs, [CLICK HERE](#). Please note, some of these may be out of date do the recent installations of 2022-2023 officers. Check back occasionally or ask the Award Chairman.



In the SPOTLIGHT

In the VFW, we know our veterans are #StillServing and rising to meet the challenges of this uncertain time. We want you to share your stories and maybe even inspire others across our Department to do the same. Click here to tell us your story. pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org



Bangkok Post 9951 actively supports various communities in Bangkok. One of the important venues that the Post supports is the **Place of Grace**, located in Bang Na. Their mission, and mandate, are to create and build better opportunities for the disadvantaged children in the area. They accomplished this with their After School Clubs, Food Bank, Learning Center, Disciple Groups, Youth Groups and English classes. You can check their website at <https://www.placeofgracebkk.com/>.

The donations received by the Post and other Expats help provide quality education and a good location for after school activities. These types of activities are part of the stepping stones for promoting a better life and a prosperous future with a build-in non-profit education system built around international studies, that the parents of the community cannot afford.

The Post donates over 8000 Baht monthly to support this foundation, along with the private donations from the membership. The total donation ranges from 8,000 to 20,000 Baht monthly. Future donations will include school shoes and other necessities to improve their realization of a better life.



14 Sept. 2022 - Ulysses G. Buzzard VFW Post 12130 comrades from Cebu City, Cebu, Philippines doing another quarterly donation to the Missionaries of the Poor, Little Lambs Center. Pictured are (L-R) Comrade Karen Ballin, Comrade Richard Ballin, Comrade David Auringer, Comrade Jag Montecillo, and Brother Zaldy Amoguis.

Comrade Chaplain Jovan Bueno leading us into prayer for dearly departed comrade and remembering the victims of 21st anniversary of 9/11.



In the SPOTLIGHT

PDC/Charter Member Post 12146 Ken Stein and DPA Chaplain/Charter Member Post 12146 Lou Holub on behalf of Ban Chang-Utapao VFW Post 12146 were busy serving the community on September 11, 2022 (Patriots Day). The Comrades distributed food to 4 families in the Ban Chang area with the assistance of the district representative. Then donated adult diapers for a bed ridden Veteran in one nursing home and one local Thai resident. Veterans will continue to serve.



From left to right: Khun Somchai, Chief of District four Banchang, Past Department CDR and Past Post CDR Ken Stein, Department Chaplain and Past Post CDR Lou Holub and indigent residents of local neighborhood. Dry food products presented to these families.



From left to right: Department Chaplain and Past Post CDR Lou Holub, Past Department CDR and Past Post CDR Ken Stein, and Khun Somchai, Chief of District four Banchang providing two months of adult diapers for a bedridden local resident.



From left to right: Khun Somchai, Chief of District four Banchang, Department Chaplain and Past Post CDR Lou Holub and Past Department CDR and Past Post CDR Ken Stein provide one month supply of adult diapers for an elderly bedridden local resident.



VFW Post 12146 held their monthly general membership meeting on September 10. Following the meeting was a Patriot Day (11 September 2001) ceremony attended by Post members and friends from the local Ban Chang Community to honor the first responders and remember the innocent lives taken that fateful day. We shall never forget and will forever be a stronger Nation for it.

In the SPOTLIGHT



14 September 2022 Camp Hansen

Commanders from VFW Post 9723 and American Legion Post 28 Left to right: VFW CDR Michael Stanley, American Legion: CDR Gerald Linker, Comrades VFW Curtis Kozlesky and AL Alex Kwong. Remaining photos 3D Marine Division Pass and Review! More information [HERE](#).



Attached are photos from the thirteenth POW MIA Walk/Run on AFB Kadena. Members of Post 9723 came out in force to participate in the 24 hour walk/run memorial event despite bad weather conditions. Photos include a group photo while holding the POW/MIA guide on with Kadena Wing Commander General Eaglin. Group photo prior to the event inside Risner gym Kadena. Comrade Kozlesky reading the names of POWs and MIAs. Young Airman displaying the POW MIA guide on.

Your feedback is important to us. Please submit your Letters to the Editor or Suggestions by clicking pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org

In the SPOTLIGHT



Comrade Don Meuret delivered shoes, clothes, food and milk to Ann's Home for Abandoned and Displaced children on Sept. 9, 2022, on behalf of VFW Post 12146 and the Utapao Alumni Association. The members of Ban Chang Utapao VFW Post 12146 Thailand would like to thank the Utapao Alumni Assoc. for their continued support in our Community Service projects.



The Quartermaster who never stops Dan Morgan on behalf of the Post, delivered adult hygiene products, books and more to Post Comrade Chuck Cooksley, a long-term resident at the Baan Raksong Care Home in Chon Buri Thailand. Thank you, QM Dan and our wishes and prayers, for Comrade Cooksley



IPDC Mitchell and his beautiful wife Butch at the USAF 75th Anniversary Celebration at the Elks Club in Makati, Manila Philippines on 18 September 2022.



In the spirit of "continue to serve" and being a good neighbor, on 27 Oct 2022, Post 12146 QM Dan Morgan was able to supply our neighbor Kuhn Uthai with milk supplements for her husband who suffers from long term medical conditions



IPDC Mitchell spoke at PDC Paul Gasperson's Wake/Mass on 7 September 2022.

In the SPOTLIGHT

The DPAA (one of our AAU's) hosted a POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony in Siem Reap Cambodia, on 16 Sept. 2022, what made this special to our Post is 4 members of the DPAA cadre are also members of Post 12146, as well as the DPA Chaplain. The list of VIP's dignitaries and honored guest was extensive and follows below:



Siem Reap Ceremony: Attending by more than 40+. DPAA Hosted POW/MIA Ceremony at the Sofitel - Siem Reap - in attendance were US Ambassador to Cambodia - W. Patrick Murphy (Primary Guest speaker), Deputy Director for Operations, DPAA - Rear Admiral Darius Banaji, Commander Detachment 1 Bangkok - Lt Col Steve Lanuzo (LM Post 12146), VFW Guest Speaker Roy Day (LM Post 11575) and Mrs. Ada Day, Deputy Commander DPAA Detachment 1 Bangkok, - Major Brian Smith (LM Post 12146), DPA Chaplain - Lou Holub (LLGM Post 12146), DPAA IT NCOIC MSgt Ryan Martin, (LM Post 12146), DPAA Casualty Resolution Specialist (Khmer Linguist) - Mr. Vina Chhouk (LM Post 12146), VFW Post 11575 Member - Calvin Molohon (Navy Seamen on USS Harold E. Holt - took part in Koh Toh Rescue Operation of S.S. Mayaguez), US Embassy Cambodia Military and Civilian Staff, and Cambodian Government delegation Members.

The DPAA assigned to the US Embassy Bangkok hosted the POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at the US Embassy compound on 16 Sept. 2022, with 50 plus in attendance covering US Embassy Military, Civilians, and Local National Civilian staff. The following dignitaries and invited guest included: Deputy Chief of Missions - Gwendolyn Cardon and several other Senior Leaders form US Embassy and JUSMAGTHAI, Program Coordinators - DPAA Air Ops & Supply Specialist Thailand - Mr. Howard Holzworth (Post Commander Post 12146) and Air Operations NCOIC TSgt Jason Jones, (LM Post 12146)



Ban Chang Utapao VFW Post 12146 held a POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at the Post Home on the morning of 16 September 2022 with Post Adjutant Kevin Hart as the speaker. The event had 6 members from the Post and community in attendance including Past DPA Commander and Charter Post member Ken Stein, Comrade Doug Cilley (Charter member), Comrade Augie Augustine (Charter member and DPA/Post Webmaster)

In the SPOTLIGHT



Post 12146 co-sponsored a 4-day Ban Chang Youth Soccer Tournament in collaboration with several other local businesses. The tournament was held at the Phala Tessaban Soccer Field 13-16 Oct. 2022 with more than 30 teams participating (boys and girls) from a cross the Chonburi and Rayong Provinces.

The under 16-year-old girls' team "Unlimited FC" (sponsored by VFW Post 12146 since June 2022) finished in First Place overall from the 8 girls teams participating in the tournament. Our Post youth soccer chairman Past Department Commander Ken Stein and Post Commander Howard Holzworth awarded the winners their Tournament Championship Trophy event shirts. The Post also donated more than 40 cases of water for the tournament teams as well as new soccer balls for the under-10 teams. Thank you to the Post members that came out to support the teams during the tournament and the private donations of food and drinks to support the teams.



Your feedback is important to us. Please submit your Letters to the Editor or Suggestions by clicking pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org

In the SPOTLIGHT



VFW Robert W. Zaher Post 2485 Auxiliary was instituted and Officers installed on May 24, 2022 with 17 Chartered members and is currently the only VFW Auxiliary in the Department of Pacific Areas. Pictured R-L: President Irene Shaffer, Jr. Vice President Evangeline Wyffels, Treasurer Lenee Zaher, Chaplain Relyn Travers, Conductress Jenneth Conners, Guard Kristina Fallon, Trustee-2 Vianca Dibble, Trustee-1 Marites Metherell and Secretary Rowena Lancelot.

Below photos are a small example of the many good deeds accomplished by the Post 2485 Auxiliary



June 12-15, 2022, Auxiliary members welcomed attendees to the DPA Convention, hosted by VFW Post 2485 at the Oasis Hotel, Angeles City, Philippines. Seated in the below picture is our honored guest Mrs. Peggy Haake, past National President of the VFW Auxiliary (2019-2020).



August 31, 2022, Post 2485 Officers joined with Auxiliary members presenting new school bags, school supplies, and raincoats to 100 students at Malabnias Integrated School, Angeles City, Pampanga, in support of the Philippines DOE Back to School program.



August 30, 2022, Auxiliary members purchased, assembled and distributed new school bags, school supplies, and raincoats to 250 students at Sapang Uwak Elementary School, Porac, Angeles City, Pampanga, in support of the Philippines Department of Education (DOE) Back to School program.



(Left) July 4, 2022, Post 2485 Auxiliary hosted the Independence Day BBQ celebration attended by over 100 members of our community.

October 9, 2022, Auxiliary members **(Right)** hosted another monthly "Feed the kids" program, this time at Our Lady of Fatima Church, in Hensonville, Angeles City, distributing food, school supplies and other goodies to approximately 180 underprivileged children. VFW DPA District 7 Judge Advocate Michael Applegate was there to lend a helping hand.



In the SPOTLIGHT

In the photo taken on October 2, 2022 during the Auxiliary monthly membership meeting, their ranks have quickly risen to 32 members who faithfully fulfill the VFW Auxiliary's Mission to improve the lives of Veterans, their Families and their Community. If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary, please contact VFW Post 2485 Admin Assistant Cynthia Bernardo via email: vfw2485programs@gmail.com or via cell-phone #: +63-998-910-3345.



On 9/11/2022 at 8:45 am - VFW Robert W. Zaher Post 2485 held a solemn PATRIOT DAY National Day of Service and Remembrance Ceremony in the Post conference room attended by veterans from VFW Post 2485 and American Legion Post 123. We will never forget and humbly commemorate those who lost their lives and give thanks to the brave first responders who put their lives on the line to serve and protect others.

On 9/17/2022 - Post 2485 hosted a POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony at the Cabanatuan American Memorial, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, and provided free transportation and a free lunch for approximately 175 people comprising of veterans, their families, friends, Scouts from BSA Troop 485, and members from both the VFW and American Legion Auxiliary in attendance.



POW / MIA Recognition Day

Cabanatuan American Memorial
Cabanatuan, Nueva Ecija
Saturday, 17 September 2022
10:30 AM

FREE BUS AND FREE LUNCH AFTER CEREMONY
(MUST MAKE RESERVATION)

CONTACT CYNTHIA TO MAKE A RESERVATION
@CALL OR TEXT 0998.910.3345
OR EMAIL HER AT VFW2485PROGRAMS@GMAIL.COM
RESERVATION DEADLINE: WED, 14 SEP. 2022

Sponsored by VFW Post-2485
(Angeles City, Philippines)

Buses will depart Clark Veterans Cemetery (CVC)
at 7:30 AM on 17 September 2022

Questions: **CYNTHIA 0998.910.3345**

DPA ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER

Comrades,

There have been many questions about the number of Buddy Poppy's that are needed for All American status this year. In order to qualify for All American, you will need to purchase 5 Poppy's per your end of last year membership number. The price is \$58 per 500 buddy poppies. Please use the order form found on the Department website. Also ensure you give me an address that will allow you to receive the package. We have already had a few boxes returned this year.

For the Department Council members that will be attending the meeting in December, please purchase your tickets early. This will ensure a lower price of your tickets. Fill out a travel expense form for reimbursement. If you are unsure if your travel is paid, send me an email to clarify. As a reminder, Department will only reimburse for economy fare.

The General Order One and Memorandum One have been revised with current positions and corrections. They can be viewed [here](#). Please note, after clicking the link, if you are not already signed on to the Members Only page, the link will take you to the logon page. Log on with your Members Only Logon and password (Membership Number and Last name capitalized i.e. Smith) and then select General Orders.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the December Council of Administration meeting in Thailand.

Shawn Watson
Adjutant/Quartermaster
EXCELLENCE in all we DO



My son regaled me with stories about how they do things in the modern Air Force. Being an old Air Force man myself, I scoffed at their complicated methods. "That's not the way we did it when I was in the service," I said. "Yeah," he shot back. "But when you were in, there were only two pilots, Wilbur and Orville"



Department of Pacific Areas

Adjutant / Quartermaster

Shawn Watson



PACT ACT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they’ve earned and deserve.

The Act **(1)** expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era, and **(2)** expands eligibility for benefits for Veterans exposed to toxic substances.

What new or expanded presumptions will the Act create and when will they be in effect?

VETERANS AND SURVIVORS CAN FILE CLAIMS FOR ALL CONDITIONS OUTLINED IN THE PACT ACT IMMEDIATELY.

For Gulf War and post 9-11 Veterans, that includes:

Brain cancer, Glioblastoma, Respiratory (*breathing-related*) cancer of any type, Gastrointestinal cancer of any type, Head cancer of any type, Lymphoma of any type, Lymphatic cancer of any type, Neck cancer, Pancreatic cancer, Reproductive cancer of any type, Kidney cancer, Melanoma, Asthma (*diagnosed after service*), Chronic rhinitis, Chronic sinusitis, Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis,

Emphysema, Granulomatous disease, Interstitial lung disease (*ILD*), Pleuritis, Pulmonary fibrosis, Sarcoidosis, Chronic bronchitis, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (*COPD*).

For Vietnam Veterans and other Veterans exposed to tactical herbicides, that includes two Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (*MGUS*), High blood pressure (*hypertension*).

How can Veterans apply for VA health care?

Apply **online** at [VA.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction](https://www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction).

Call our toll-free hotline at 877-222-8387, M-F, 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET.

Mail a completed, signed Application for Health Benefits (VA Form 10-10EZ).

Bring a completed, signed VA Form 10-10EZ with you to your [nearest medical center or clinic](#) or get help through your [state's Department of Veterans Affairs Service Officer](#).

Get help filing your claim by working with an [accredited representative](#).

What are the PACT Act key components?



The Act **expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic-exposures** and Veterans of the Vietnam era, Gulf War era, and Post-9/11 era.



VA **will improve the decision-making process** for determining what medical conditions will be considered for presumptive status.



Every enrolled Veteran will **receive an initial toxic exposure screening** and a follow-up screening every five years. Veterans who are not enrolled, but who are eligible to enroll, will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.



VA health care staff and claims processors will receive **toxic exposure-related education and training**.



The Act requires **research studies** on mortality of Veterans who served in Southwest Asia during the Gulf War, Post-9/11 Veteran health trends, and Veteran cancer rates.



The Act will help VA **build a stronger, more skilled workforce** to meet the growing demand for benefits and services.



The Act authorizes **31 new medical facilities** across the country, providing greater access to VA health care.

How can a Veteran file a claim?



Veterans who would like to file a claim must complete [VA Form 21-526EZ](#) to apply for benefits and submit any supportive evidence.



To learn about standard VA disability claims, supplemental claims, secondary claims, and more visit: [VA.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/when-to-file](https://www.va.gov/disability/how-to-file-claim/when-to-file).

If a Veteran was previously denied a claim, what can they do?

VA will contact Veterans when a presumption of service connection is established or changed. However, **Veterans previously denied a toxic-exposure related claim** are encouraged to file a supplemental claim. Once a supplemental claim is received, VA will review the claim under the new law.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Learn more and sign up at [VA.gov/PACT](https://www.va.gov/PACT)
Download the [VA Health and Benefits App](#)
Call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)
Find a VA at [VA.gov/find-locations/](https://www.va.gov/find-locations/)

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Greetings Comrades

Every Post and District now required to have Bylaws: Per the change to our National Bylaws Sec. 202 and 402 every post and district is now required to have bylaws. Currently there are two (2) districts and 10 posts in the Department of Pacific Areas that do not have approved bylaws. If you fit in this category here is a link to the bylaws templates.

<https://www.vfw.org/my-vfw/vfw-training-and-support/bylaws-training-forms-and-templates>

VFW Meeting Protocol

“When a meeting is called to order by the CHAIR, AN AGENDA, OR ORDER OF BUSINESS, is offered for approval, or should be offered. Once the agenda is approved, the meeting is technically limited to the points included. We usually take care of other matters and “beefs” under the “GOOD OF THE VFW”. If no agenda is offered, ask for it. If certain points you are interested in do not appear to be included, rise and either inquire about them or MOVE to add them to the agenda. “

Excerpt From: VFW 2022-2023, Commander Guide, Parliamentary Procedures

VFW Manual of Procedure Sec. 1003 and 1004 outlines the Order of Business for Districts and Posts respectively.

As you can see the traditional order of business for a post and the district are different. *Examples: The post order of business includes Recitation of the purposes of the VFW, reading of membership applications, and remembrance of our National Home for Children while they are not included in the Order of Business for a District meeting.* Since the order of business is outlined in the VFW manual of Procedures it, by itself would not require approval. The meeting agenda on the other hand would. Agenda items are typically items that would be discussed or addressed under unfinished business or new business. Agenda items are typically sent out to the membership and governing body in advance of the meeting so everyone is aware of and prepared to discuss them.

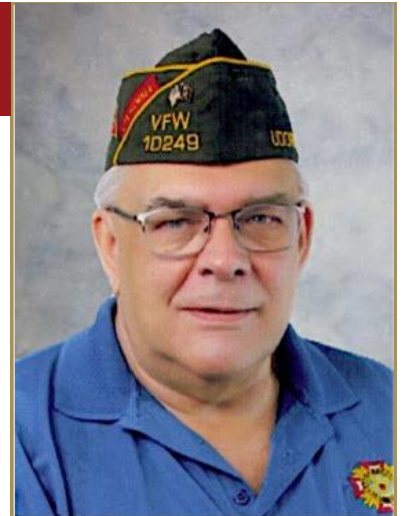
There are two (2) additional points that should also be addressed. Opening in due form, and closing in due form. Opening in due form is comprised of the following:

- Call to Order
- Membership verification
- Salute to the Colors
- Opening Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America
- Recognitions and/or Introduction of distinguished guests and visitors

The applicable Order of Business (1003 or 1004), would then be adhered to. Closing in due form for all VFW regular meetings and conventions is comprised of the following:

- Retire the colors
- Closing Prayer
- Next meeting Announcement

Delbert “Bert” Marohl
Judge Advocate



Judge Advocate

Delbert "Bert" Marohl

PODIUM EDITION

2023

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES



CONGRESSIONAL CHARTER
BYLAWS
MANUAL OF PROCEDURE
RITUAL

As amended July 19, 2022
Effective August 20, 2022

RULES OF ORDER FOR THE DPA MID TERM

Composition:

The Council of Administration shall consist of the Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Adjutant, Quartermaster, Judge Advocate, Chief-of-Staff, Inspector, Chaplain, Surgeon, Immediate Past Department Commander, and all District Commanders. In the absence of a District Commander, the District Senior vice Commander, or in their absence, the District Junior Vice Commander, may serve as a member of the Council.

Motion - Procedural Guidelines:

1. Once the Presiding Officer has acknowledged a motion and it has been seconded it may now be open for discussion.
2. Any member, when duly recognized by the Presiding Officer may speak on the motion for clarity, either for or against.
3. Every member is automatically entitled to speak once on a debatable motion before the body unless the body, by a 2/3 vote, has ordered the discussion closed. After discussion has been voted closed, no one can debate a motion—except by unanimous consent.
4. A member is also automatically entitled to speak a second time on the same question the same day, unless other members who have not yet spoken on the question actually rise to claim the floor to speak. If no one rises, he may speak a second time.
5. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question, nor longer than 10 minutes the first time and no more than 5 minutes the second time.
6. No one may automatically speak a third or further time if anyone in the assembly objects.
7. Only Council members are allowed to vote on any motion before the body.
8. Prior to any voting the Department Quartermaster will determine the voting strength based on the number present and voting.
9. Each member of the Council will only be entitled to one (1) vote.
10. All voting will be done by Roll Call Vote.

Electronic Attendance:

Pursuant to VFW By-Laws, Section 503, this meeting will also allow for virtual attendance using the Zoom Meeting Platform.

1. Each member is responsible for his or her connection to the meeting; no action shall be invalidated on the grounds that the loss of, or poor quality of, a member's individual connection prevented participation in the meeting.
2. To ensure all features are available to the user, each member is responsible for upgrading their zoom app to the latest version.

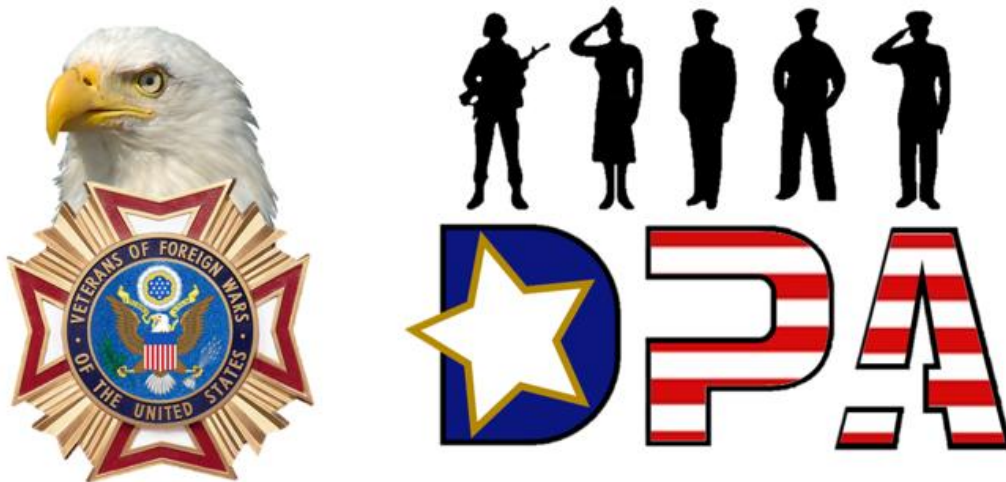
Meeting Guidelines:

1. Department Adjutant will be the meeting host and is responsible for sending the meeting invitation and the meeting link to all council members and invited guests.
2. The Department Adjutant will also serve as the moderator and control the meeting per direction of the Department Commander.
3. Invited guests, (Non-members of the Department of Pacific, if any) will be pre-approved by the Department Commander.

RULES OF ORDER FOR THE DPA MID TERM

4. Required reports will be submitted electronically to the Department Adjutant and included as an attachment to the minutes.
5. When addressing the assembly, members should be in camera view while speaking.
6. Members joining us via ZOOM shall have their cameras on when speaking and their mic's muted when not addressing the assembly.

Service Officer Desk 9 December 2022 DPA Mid-Term



The Assistant Department Service Officer (ADSO), **Al Fitchett** and Post 12146 Service Officer, **Dave Spurling** will be available at the C-of-A Department Mid-Term to assist veterans with any questions they might have about their claims.

Recommend you bring along a flash drive so you can keep a copy for your records.

Times and location will be available at the registration desk.

IMMEDIATE PAST DPA COMMANDER

Greetings Comrades,

I am sorry to report that PDC Paul Gasperson who served from 2000-01 passed away on September 10th in Angeles City, Philippines. Paul was a very good man and was a member of the VFW for over 40 years. He leaves his wife Hannah and son Johnathan. Our best wishes go out to the Gasperson family and friends.

Overall, the DPA is in fantastic shape for another All-American term. Posts are coming along well in the required Programs and membership is currently over 97%. We have seven Posts who has reached 100% or more in membership and others closing in as of this writing.

If you have not sign up for the DPA website or the DPA Facebook page, I encourage you to do so. Both have information to keep you informed on what is going on in both the DPA and at National.

I would like to thank our National Commander in Chief Tim Borland through our Department Commander Maxson for the high honor of my selection as the **VFW National Deputy Chief of Staff for the 2022-23 Term.**

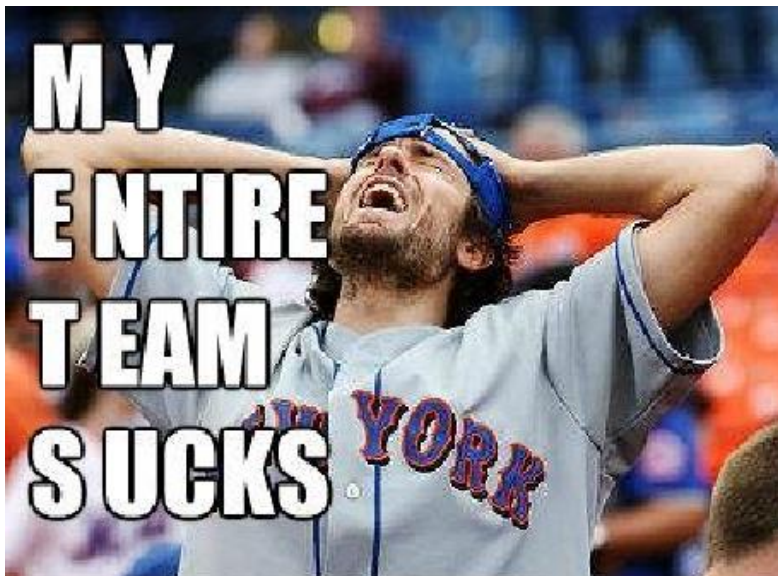
Remember to sign up for the upcoming C of A that will be held in Banchang, Thailand from December 9-11. Hope to see you there!!

In closing, I hope you and yours are happy, safe, and healthy. Please continue to check on each other and I appreciate all you do in assisting fellow Comrades and our communities. I hope you did not scare off the children on October 31st...HA!!

Veterans Day will be upon us, and it should be a day of celebration for those who currently wear our great military uniforms and for those who did so honorably. I would also like to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

All the very best!!!

Kevin E. Mitchell
Immediate Past Department Commander
Department of Pacific Areas
EXCELLENCE in all we DO



Department of Pacific Areas

Immediate Past DPA Cdr

Kevin Mitchell



COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION (C of A)

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION 09 – 11 DECEMBER 2022 Banchang Palace Hotel (BC Palace), Banchang Thailand

DPA Officers, Council Members, Committee Chairmen, Comrades, and friends. Thank you for the strong response and early registration for this year's Mid-Year COFA. Final details are being coordinated with final registration set to close out 20 November 2022. We have updated relevant Information via the DPA website and FB pages. Thank you all for your questions, suggestions, and positive feedback, it is always appreciated.

We do recognize the Hotel and Agoda reservation links have not worked ideally but believe we have sorted ways to overcome these short falls. There are plenty of rooms, lunch & Commanders Dinner meal tickets available, the more the merrier.

This is the 2nd and final Pacific Times update. I will summarize the event in the January 2023 issue.

As previous stated, **book your room directly with the Hotel using the link provided here:** rsvn@bcphotel.com **or at the DPA website** registration form: <https://booking.allhandsmarketing.com/booking>

Note: all rooms are located on floors 4 to 7, and the meetings and Commander's Dinner will be located on the 8th floor. All are serviced by two elevators,

The Commander's Dinner will consist of an international Buffet with Thai flavors. The Saturday lunch buffet will be located in the Hotel Lobby restaurant. The Buffet lunch is \$20, The Commander's dinner is \$30 per person.

The hospitality events will be on Friday and Saturday evenings pool side between 16:00 and 18:00. We [request](#) a donation of \$20. per person.

The Cooties Social is planned for Friday between 14:00 and 16:30 at Finnegans Irish Pub and restaurant located in the Sintavee Park housing area, about a ten minute drive from the hotel. The MOC are requesting a donation of \$10. The Sunday scratch will begin at 09:00 on the 8th floor smaller meeting room at the Hotel.

Airport transfers are being booked / reserved directly with Delta Gulf **when you register on the DPA website** you will see the following email address to be used for booking your airport transfers. (dggs@deltagolftbu.com).

Local van service will be provided to & from local venues by Friend of Post "Delta Gulf" and local Thai taxis (song tow) which is basically a pickup truck with covered bench seats in the bed.

Thailand has a transport app called "Bolt" for door-to-door pick & drop reasonably priced reaching as far as Pattaya Beach – Rayong city shopping malls etc. Bolt drivers take cash, an exchange service will be available at hotel.

Room booking includes breakfast buffet, Internet access and swimming pool. Rooms are equipped with tea/ coffee making facilities and TV.

Hospitality donations, tickets, and Shirt sales are included on the DPA Registration form available on the DPA WEBSITE. As is the norm you will pay for the above when checking in with the CofA committee in the hotel lobby. Rooms will be paid direct to the hotel and Transport will be paid direct to the transport company.

Golfing is available and can be coordinated with the Hotel.

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION (C of A)

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION 09 – 11 DECEMBER 2022 Banchang Palace Hotel (BC Palace), Banchang Thailand

Date time	Agenda & Remarks
Wed-Thurs	07 & 08 Dec Early Check In, Post members meet greet & assist as required
	<i>For Early Arrivals Golfing or other activities can be arranged, added cost</i>
Friday	09 Dec Mid Year Opens
07:00 to 10:00	American Breakfast Lobby restaurant (included with room)
08.00 -10:00	Register for Meeting Ground level Lobby
08:00 to 12:00	DPA / Business, Committee meeting, VoD/PP /Teach, Public Service Awards Selection etc. Lobby Restaurant Meeting room
12.00 p.m.	Lunch Buffet (Thai Style) Hotel restaurant
14:00 to 16:30	Cooties Social "Finigans"
16:00	Hospitality Pool side
16:00	Transport every hour travel to Post Home Banchang, Beaver bar, ONE, MS Sports etc. (Finnigan's - PHALLA Rib will provide separate transport)
Saturday	10 Dec COFA
7:00	American Breakfast Lobby restaurant (included with room)
08.00 to 09:00	Register for Meeting 8th floor lobby
09:00 to 12:00	Opening Ceremonies, Business Session 8th Floor big meeting room
12:00	Lunch Buffet (Western style) Hotel Restaurant
13:30	Business Session cont.; 8th Floor big meeting room
16:00 to 18:00	Pool side Hospitality
16:00 to 19:00	RPC staff prepares for Dinner at 8th Floor big meeting room
19:00 to 22:00	CMDR Dinner at 8th Floor big meeting room
16:00	Transport every hour travel to BC street Beaver, ONE, MC Sports etc.
Sunday	11 Dec Grand
7:00	American Breakfast Lobby restaurant (included with room)
09:00 to 12:00	Grand Scratch 8th floor Small meeting room
12:00	Check out
13:00	For stragglers transport will be available to Post Home Banchang, Beaver, One MC Sports etc.
ALL CHANGES MUST BE MADE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT	

Lou Holub
DPA Mid-Term CofA Chairman
cofamidyear@vfw-pacific.org



CHIEF of STAFF

From the desk of the Chief-of-Staff, DPC Rick Farris,

To see membership climbing is absolutely terrific!! I don't recall seeing Districts hitting 100% before CofA like this year. It is a testament to the hard work being put in by the Posts. I would also like to commend our own, Larry Lyons, for all of the work he puts in towards recruiting efforts. He has been doing this tirelessly for as long as I can remember, and it just shows how much he cares about our Department.

A special shout out to my own Post. This is our 75th Anniversary year, the oldest in the Department. I am extremely proud to call myself a member of John C. Parker memorial, Post 1054, Yokosuka, Japan.

By now, Posts should be preparing to grade all of the PP and VOD entries. Be sure to look at them closely, that they meet all of the requirements, prior to entry to the District and Department. It would be a crying shame to send one to National that failed in some area.

I am so excited about this December's trip to Ban Chang, and our Council of Administration. It has been far too long since I have seen everyone. My CofA in Phnom Penh was the last face to face in 2019. I fully expect the gang in Ban Chang is excited to be holding it, and should put on one heck of a meeting.

CDR Maxson and crew have worked hard for our Department. Please give them all the support you can muster. They deserve to once again hit the A/A mark

See you all in December.

Rick Farris
DPA Chief of Staff, 2022-23
PDC 2019-2020



Chief of Staff

Rick Farris



OPERATION CLEAN WATER IN THE PHILIPPINES

On August 24, 2022, a formal ribbon cutting ceremony and dedication of four (4) new water wells was held in Barangay Amsic, an impoverished neighborhood in Angeles City, Pampanga, Philippines, where hundreds of Filipino families live in squatter homes with no source of running water. VFW Robert W. Zaher Post 2485 donated \$5,000 USD to fund the construction of the 4 water wells.

The project named "Operation Clean Water in the Philippines" originated as a "Messengers of Peace" Summit Project led by Jordan Diliberto, age 20, an Eagle Scout and member of Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Venturing Crew 315 from New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A. The Summit Award is the highest award in the BSA Venturing program.

Jordan worked closely with his Summit Project Coaches Bryan Hammer, BSA Troop 485 - Troop Committee Chairman and Edgar LaBenne, the Junior Vice Commander of VFW Post 2485 which is the Chartered Organization of BSA Troop 485. Together they raised the necessary funds to plan, execute and complete this very worthwhile Summit Community Service project, which culminated in the completion of four fresh water wells to provide potable water to approximately 800 families in the squatter settlement. Please see attached photos.

At the ribbon cutting ceremony, Amsic Barangay Captain Ronnie Rogando accepted the water wells on behalf of the residents, from Venturer Summit Project leader Jordan Diliberto, VFW Post 2485 Commander James Collins, Junior Vice Commander Edgar LaBenne and Summit Coach Bryan Hammer.

Jordan presented the BSA "Messengers of Peace" green & white neckerchiefs to those in attendance to include other Scouts, youths and to the people who helped him complete his Summit Project.

Messengers of Peace is a flagship initiative of World Scouting which inspires Scouts around the world to take action in their communities by contributing to peace and sustainable development. Since 2010, Messengers of Peace has involved nearly all 172 National Scout Organizations and inspired more than 16 million projects and actions totaling over 2.3 billion hours of community service contributed towards Sustainable Development Goals.

Depicted in photo L-R: Post 2485 CDR James Collins, Summit Project lead Jordan Diliberto, Brgy. Capt. Ronnie Rogando, Post 2485 JVC Edgar LaBenne and BSA Troop 485 Committee Chairman Bryan Hammer.



CERTIFIED NATIONAL RECRUITER

Good Morning Pacific,

Looking at Membership right now today is 13 October, DPA stands at 97.54% leading National amongst all Departments. With that we have 5 posts that have already achieved 100% and they are Post 9876 in Pattaya, Post 12146 in Ban Chang, Post 12163 in Perth Australia, Post 124 in Baguio and Post 2485 in Angeles City. There are also 11 Post needing less then 10 members to be 100%.

So how did we get here? We only got here because of our 58 Recruiters, so first I want to say Thank you to all of you for it takes a Team Pacific to make this happen. Our Top Five Recruiters are our own Department Commander Max with 10 recruits, Joe Bozsoki from Post 8180 with 14 recruits, Dan Delaney also from 8180 with 16, a little change up with Cliff Wilsey from Post 2485 with 21 and some guy named Larry with 58 also from Post 8180. Again, thanks to all the recruiters!

Also, this month every Life Member and Installment Life Member paid in full by 31 October their Post will receive \$50.00 each from National! Not a bad deal at all!

Hope to see as many of you as possible at the CofA and hopefully passing out a lot of Recruiting Awards which you have till 30 November to get them in for the Early Bird Special!

Its time to change hats now and let me talk to you about Life Legacy which coincides with our Life Membership Program. Every Post loves September for that is when National sends out payments to the Post for the Life Membership Rebate. This is true especially to our Post that have a large Life Membership population in their Post. I can't remember actually how much each LM get but it ranges basically from \$3.00 to \$5.00 and that coincides with the market when that member went life.

But we all know we will eventually die and the Life Membership rebate that the post would get on your behalf goes away when you die. But, you know what, in the Life Legacy Program that \$6.00, \$12.00 or \$18.00 continues to be given to your Post and Department FOREVER!

Look at the spreadsheet on the following page. This what the Post and Departments have tallied up to get so far next September. This year Department received \$5,874.00. Post 2485 received almost half of that. Past Department Commander Bob Zaher the original Life Legacy Chairman and Cliff Wilsey of Post 2485 were very instrumental pushing their Post Members for this and that is currently the results that they will get plus more every single year forever. Just think what could your Post do with \$2K every year. So, in closing I ask you where do you see your Post in 5 or 10 Years?

Yours Always in Comradeship

Larry Lyons
Certified National Recruiter
Life Legacy Chairman
Past Department Commander 08/09
Department of Pacific Areas









National Certified Recruiter

Laurence L. Lyons
VFW National Membership Program



LIFE LEGACY CHAIRMAN

DPA Life Legacy by Post as of 13 October 2022

Post							Total Dollars Annually
9723	4	\$24.00	1	\$12.00	7	\$126.00	\$162.00
1054	6	\$36.00	2	\$24.00	7	\$126.00	\$186.00
9555	4	\$24.00	-	-	2	\$36.00	\$60.00
9612	1	\$6.00	1	\$12.00	6	\$108.00	\$126.00
8180	10	\$60.00	1	\$12.00	11	\$198.00	\$270.00
9985	6	\$36.00	-	-	1	\$18.00	\$54.00
10033	6	\$36.00	1	\$12.00	4	\$72.00	\$120.00
10223	5	\$30.00	2	\$24.00	7	\$126.00	\$180.00
9957	4	\$24.00	-	-	3	\$54.00	\$78.00
9876	7	\$42.00	-	-	4	\$72.00	\$114.00
9951	5	\$30.00	2	\$24.00	2	\$36.00	\$90.00
10217	8	\$48.00	-	-	5	\$90.00	\$138.00
10249	2	\$12.00	2	\$24.00	5	\$90.00	\$126.00
11575	5	\$30.00	1	\$12.00	2	\$36.00	\$78.00
12074	7	\$42.00	-	-	6	\$58.00	\$100.00
12146	9	\$54.00	2	\$24.00	15	\$270.00	\$348.00
12163	2	\$12.00	-	-	-	-	\$12.00
1509	3	\$18.00	1	\$12.00	2	\$36.00	\$66.00
2917	5	\$30.00	1	\$12.00	8	\$144.00	\$186.00
3457	3	\$18.00	-	-	6	\$108.00	\$126.00
124	10	\$60.00	2	\$24.00	2	\$36.00	\$120.00
2485	15	\$90.00	3	\$36.00	144	\$2,592.00	\$2,718.00
9892	2	\$12.00	1	\$12.00	4	\$72.00	\$96.00
11447	6	\$36.00	2	\$24.00	8	\$144.00	\$204.00
12130	3	\$18.00	1	\$12.00	5	\$90.00	\$120.00
15055	-	-	-	-	2	\$48.00	\$48.00
DPA							\$5,916.00



Department of Pacific Areas

National Certified Recruiter

Laurence L. Lyons

VFW National Membership Program



EVERY VETERAN COUNTS



FALLEN PDPA CDR PAUL TERRY GASPERSON



It is with great sadness that we announce past Department of Pacific Areas (PDPA) Commander Paul Terry Gasperson passed away on 4 September 2022 at Medical City Clark. PDPA CDR Gasperson served as DPA Commander from 2000 to 2001. He was a Vietnam Veteran, Life member of the Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent 15, past Post 2485 Quartermaster and Gold Legacy Life Member of VFW Robert W. Zaher Post 2485.

PDPA CDR Gasperson is one of the original Founders of Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Troop 485, which was Chartered by VFW Post 2485 in 2013. He served as an inspirational Adult Scout Leader, very dedicated and active in the Scouting program, where he guided 20 young men, including his son Jonathan Gasperson to attain the pinnacle rank of Eagle Scout. He has trained and assisted over 70 youths in the BSA program to attain their Catholic religious emblems and other BSA Merit badges and medals in the Scouting program.

A beloved and devoted family man, valued friend and inspirational leader who had a contagious smile and was known as the wise old man. Paul will be sorely missed. He is survived by his wife Hannah and son Jonathan, who thanked everyone for their prayers, thoughtfulness and support.

PDPA CDR Gasperson was laid to rest at Clark Veterans Cemetery on 9 September 2022 with over 100 persons in attendance to pay their respects and witness the rendering of full military honors, which included a rifle team from the Philippine Air Force, Clark Air Base rendering a 3 round volley salute. Watch the video on our Post 2485 Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/VFW2485/videos/3262967567254172>

Let us bow our heads in prayer to All Mighty God. Remember our fallen comrades and pray for those still missing in action. Pray for them and their families that they may be reunited. Amen



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER / TAPS REPORT

Comrades I pray you and yours are well, in good spirits able to continue our most important advocacy work, advancing towards achieving Post / District goals for AS-AA. Continue to take care of Veterans, their families our Active-duty service members and the less fortunate in our communities. This past two month I was able to travel to Siem Reap Cambodia to attend the Bangkok based DPAA Det 1 annual POW/MIA ceremony, members from VFW D5 were in attendance including our own Mayaguez / Kho Tung survivor. Guest speaker was Phnom Penh Mayaguez memorial Post Member Roy D. who provided heartfelt speech. The service included US Ambassadors thank you to the Kingdom of Cambodia for continued cooperation, the setting of the POW/MIA table and prayers shared by all. The DPAA is performing Gods work, we pray DPAA continue to bring our fallen home!

I was able to represent VFW during the local Royal British Legion Prayer Services for recently deceased Her Majesty the Queen of England, the prayers & bagpipes sounded elegantly in her Honor of her Life, may the Queen rest in peace. Our hearts & prayers go out to our Pacific areas and stateside Comrades families and friends devastated by annual monsoon and hurricanes, regardless how prepared communities may be, the destruction is frightening to experience and watch, may the Lord keep us safe!

Let us remember the following Comrades who passed away since our previous report:

TAPS REPORT					
Date of Report: 01 October 2022					
Post	Name	Date of Death	Post	Name	Date of Death
2485	Endem M Manabat	01-Aug-22	2485	A D Davis Jr	13-Aug-22
2485	Apolonio S. Mediano,	01-Aug-22	2485	Donnie R McDaniel	15-Aug-22
2485	Williams S. Staslevich,	01-Aug-22	2485	James P Morden	22-Aug-22
2485	Lyle E. Tupper,	01-Aug-22	2485	Paul T. Gasperson	04-Sep-22
2485	Albert L Hopkins Jr	01-Aug-22	2485	Billy N Fitzcharles	05-Sep-22
2485	Matthew J. Pavlicko	08-Aug-22	2485	Dale K Vicory	10-Sep-22
2485	Joe R Beltrano	08-Aug-22	2485	Leonard F Leake	21-Sep-22
12146	Matt Rauen	20-Jul-22	9723	Robert J Links (Pappy)	10-Sep-22
12146	David A Shaw	14-Aug-22	8180	David L Beil	04-Sep-22
12130	Paul A Noecker	31-Aug-22	3457	Michael O'Kelley	09-Aug-22
12130	Marshal D Mingus	14-Sep-22			

Entries listed by Post in sequence notification received

As comrade after comrade departs we march on with our ranks grown thinner. Help us to be faithful unto Thee and to one another. Look in mercy on the surviving spouses and children of our departed comrades, we beseech Thee, and with Thine own tenderness console and comfort those who are bereaved.” Amen.

Yours in Comradeship

Louis S. Holub
Chaplain DPA



Department of Pacific Areas

Chaplain

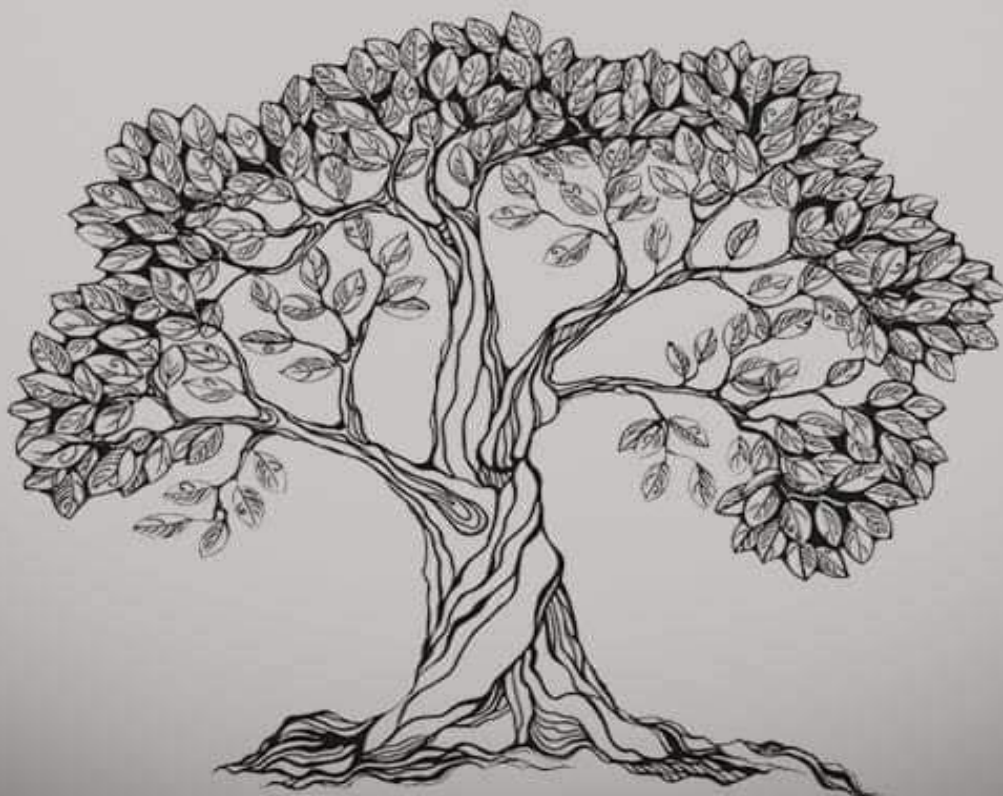
Lou Holub

Continue to Email TAPS reports to:
chapdpa@vfwpacific.org,
Don't forget Buddy checks / God's work!



One

One tree can give life to a forest,
One smile can start a friendship,
One hand can uplift a soul,
One idea can shape the future,
One candle can wipe out darkness,
One laugh can conquer gloom,
One ray of hope can lift your spirits,
One touch can show that you care,
One life can make a difference,
Be that 'one' today.



CareJoy-

DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR

Hello Comrades,

On 1 October we began the 2022-2023 inspection program. A few of our Posts and Districts have already been inspected. We will update the dashboard once we receive a copy of the inspection form from either the District Commander or the District Inspector.

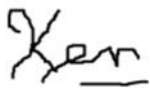
Please remember, the purpose of the DPA Inspection program is to provide assistance and an assessment to our Posts and Districts. It should be used as a learning tool and a confirmation that the required programs, rituals, and documentation are performed correctly.

There is a new inspection form for both posts and districts. [Click this link](#) or go to the DPA website under Programs > Inspections. Below Inspection Procedures, after Command Max's signature, is a link for the current post and district inspection forms with instructions. Please ensure you use the current form.

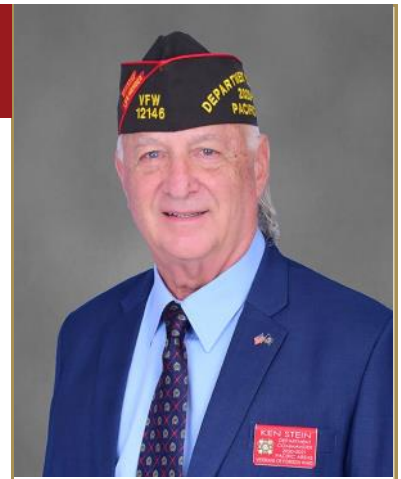
The dashboard reflects the latest information we have as of the date of this Pacific Times article. If you find a discrepancy between your records and those reflected on the dashboard, check with your District Inspector or District Commander.

For further questions feel free to email me at inspdpa@vfw-pacific.org

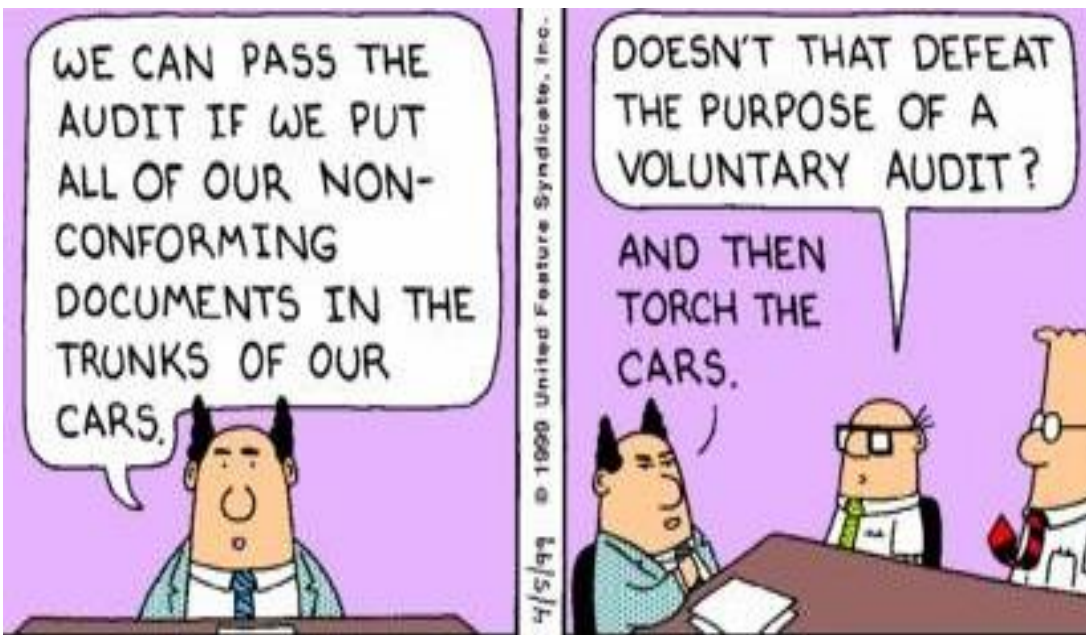
Yours in comradeship and service to veterans,



Kenneth A. Stein
Inspector
Department of Pacific Areas
EXCELLENCE in all we DO



Ken Stein



THE PACT ACT FACT SHEET

- The Pact Act added more than 20 new presumptive conditions with 2 (Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) and Hypertension) being designed for Vietnam veterans and others exposed to tactical herbicides.
- Please be advised that there is an offset of VA disability benefits with any settlement Regarding the Camp LeJeune Provision Section 804. Veterans are encouraged NOT to sign any contracts to participate in lawsuits until VA clarifies how the settlements will affect service-connected benefits and care. VA regulations on this are expected in the coming months
- Veterans are encouraged to file for service connection for the new presumptive conditions outlined in PACT ACT **NOW** as VA is accepting claims for these conditions. VA Will not start processing these claims until January 2023.
- If a veteran applies for one of the Presumptive conditions at any time in the next year and VA grants service connection, they may assign the effective date of the claim to August 10, 2022 the date the law went into effect.
- If there is a current claim pending for a PACT Act presumptive, no action is required. VA “Should” consider the new presumptives as a pathway. Please be sure to track PACT Act Claims to ensure that they are being rated in accordance with the new law.
- If previously denied service connection for one of the new presumptive conditions, you will need to submit BOTH a 21-0995 and a 21-4138 which states the appeal is due to the PACT Act Presumptive.
- Prior to submitting a claim for DIC, first Verify the veteran’s cause of death is due to the presumptive condition and that support medical documentation (Death Certificate) is available. Additionally Direct and Secondary Service-connection can be considered to qualify for DIC/accrued benefits
- The veteran need not have filled for the condition in the past. Entitle to benefits can be established for survivors after veteran’s death and is considered as if the veteran had service-connection
- The application process has not changed to submit a DIC claim and applicable retroactive payments may be authorized for PACT Act related DIC claims. These payments can be paid dating back to the date of the veteran’s death



DEPARTMENT SURGEON

Greetings Comrades,

As we all prepare for the upcoming holidays, let's do so in a responsive manner to ensure the good health and well-being of our members and families.

As COVID has become a distant/fading memory for most of us. Let us not forget to protect ourselves from the annual flu which can have compounding effects on our health as we grow older. One way to shorten or prevent the effects of the annual flu is to get vaccinated.

When considering vaccination. One thing we need to be aware of is that vaccines are developed for the regional strain that they are given. What does that mean? It means that if you receive a vaccination in the US, that it may not provide you with the protection required for our regions in Southeast Asia.

To help aid you in your decision as to get vaccinated or not. The following is some information on the pros and cons of the flu vaccine.

Flu season happens every year. It starts in the fall and continues into the spring. Although most people with influenza will recover without additional medical issues, influenza can cause serious illness and death, particularly among older adults, very young children, pregnant women, and those with certain chronic medical conditions.

The best way to prevent influenza is to get a flu vaccine every year. The influenza virus is constantly changing. Each year, scientists work together to identify the virus strains that they believe will cause the most illness, and a new vaccine is made based on their recommendations.

- It is recommended that everyone over the age of 6 months receive an annual influenza vaccine.
- Children between 6 months and 8 years of age may need two doses of flu vaccine to be fully protected from flu. Discuss this with your child's healthcare provider.
- Children younger than 6 months of age are at higher risk of serious flu complications but are too young to get a flu vaccine. Because of this, safeguarding them from flu is especially important. If you live with or care for an infant younger than 6 months of age, you and others in your family should get vaccinated to help protect them from the flu.
- The best time to get the flu vaccine is before flu starts circulating in your community in September or October. However, later vaccination can still be beneficial.

Pros and Cons of the flu shot

The flu can cause serious illness, hospitalization, and death in high risk individuals. High risk groups include:

- older adults
- young children
- pregnant women
- people with certain underlying health conditions, such as HIV, asthma, and diabetes



Surgeon

Jack Farrell



DEPARTMENT SURGEON

Flu vaccinations are vital for anyone at risk of severe complications. Other benefits of flu shots include:

- reducing the severity of symptoms in those who do get the flu, potentially preventing the symptoms from disrupting daily life
- lowering the risk of passing the flu onto high risk individuals
- reducing the risk of death in people with hypertension
- preventing tens of thousands of trips to the doctors each year

The CDC estimate that flu vaccinations between 2017 and 2018 prevented:

- 6.16 million illnesses
- 3.18 million medical visits
- 90,904 hospitalizations
- 5,747 deaths

Flu shots also allow the development of community immunity. If enough people get the vaccine, the flu is unable to spread rapidly through communities. As a result, people in high risk groups are less likely to get the flu. Flu shots are, therefore, important for protecting others from severe illnesses.

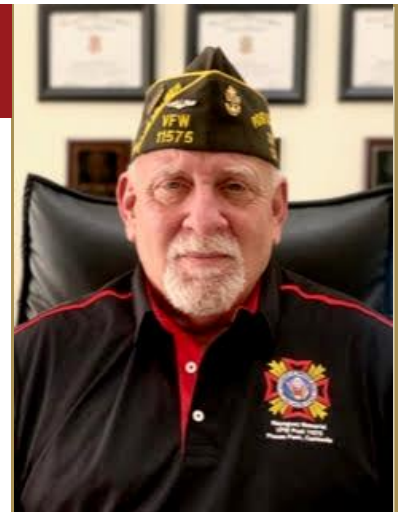
Some possible downsides to flu shots include:

- only about 40–60% of flu shots are effective in preventing the flu each year
- they can take up to 2 weeks to start working
- sometimes, they cause mild side effects, such as pain, redness, and swelling at the injection site
- some people may experience low grade fever, headaches, and muscle aches after the shot, but these should only last 1–2 days
- in very rare cases, Guillain-Barré syndrome can develop following a flu shot

A common worry is that the flu shot can cause a person to get the flu. However, as the vaccine contains either the inactivated virus or only part of the virus, this is not possible. Click the CDC logo below for more information.

From my family to yours. I wish each of you a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.
Yours in Service to Veterans

Jack Farrell
Pacific Areas Surgeon



Surgeon

Jack Farrell



Use it or Lose it

Unused money devalues

Unused talent diminishes

Unused potential decays

Unused machinery disintegrates

Unused time dies

Unused knowledge becomes a burden

What isn't used is abused. The tragedy of life isn't the ultimate death, but the resources that die within you when you are still alive.

Use it, or you will lose it.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Comrades of the Pacific,

After selling 28 ads this past year for the convention book, I got with Max and offered to take on the Convention Book Chairman position. In the past I considered selling ads as part of the Convention Site responsibilities for the businesses in the area of the convention site have a better opportunity to get more out of advertising in it then other Districts in the Pacific Areas. I was wrong thinking that way.

I learned several things this year with these ads. The proprietors of these businesses really want to see some revenue from these ads. So how can we help with this?

1. Every post will receive 5 copies of the book to include those registered with the convention.
2. VFW Posts with Military Hospitals, Clinics nearby can receive more so they can put these books in their waiting rooms for customers to review. Taking a book home and throwing it on a shelf is not getting any revenue for the businesses. These posts need to contact me so I know how many books to print out. VFW Post's with MPS addresses will be easy to send them to you, definitely cheaper. Others we will make it happen.
3. Every Business that purchases a full-page ad will receive a book.
4. Starting this year, we will no longer call it a convention book, we will call it a *Year in Review*, however it will be put out at our annual convention.
5. The main thing that will change will be toward posts. The charge for the Post's will be \$300.00 for this, they will get 3 full color pages, let's say, the first page with the new elected Post Officers and the other two pages can be used for pictures with captions figuring 8 pictures per page, If the post needs more pages then each additional page would only cost \$100.00. If they wish and do not want 3 pages than one page as the norm would cost \$200.00.
 - a. District ads to remain at \$200.00 unless they ap and would want 3 pages then that prices would be the same as the Post \$300.00. All pages will be in color print no black and white pages besides letters of intent, VIP inputs and Commanders inputs etc.
 - b. Letters of intent \$100.00 * Full page ad \$200.00 for businesses. Those that have a full page their business card will be published free of charge * ½ Page \$100.00 * Regular Business cards \$20.00 * Booster ads \$3.00 per * Back Cover \$400.00 * Inside Back cover and hard stock inserts \$300.00 * Inserts will be limited to 4 inserts only i.e. 8 pages
 - c. Rebates for full and half pages start after the first \$600.00 of ads are received. 50% will be given after that. There is no rebate for Business cards. Each Booster ad the Post or Pup Tent will receive 50 cents per line!
6. I am looking at this as a way to show off your post, we do a lot of great things out there and we need to capture this. This book also would be ideal to have on your recruiting table showing off what we do.
7. Each post should have a *Year in Review* salesperson, that person would be my POC to coordinate with.
8. Last year alone Post 8180 received over \$2,000.00 in rebates. In the past the highest rebate received was to Post 2917 i.e., Brian Merenda, which was over \$6,000.00 and the convention site was in Thailand. Thus, all Posts have the opportunity to make money for their Post and at the same time make money for the Department which this is their only fund raiser.



What hurt us last convention book was continuity, not have a convention book for several years and with Bob Zaher passing we lost a lot of his expertise. By us all working together we can make this *Year in Review* profitable again for the post's selling ads and the Department.

YEAR IN REVIEW

To get the ball rolling bring your Business Cards and Booster line ads to the CofA along with the money, not going pass them on to your District Commander to give to me. Special price for the Business cards for the CofA will be \$10 and \$2.00 per line for the booster ads.

One final note it was voted on and approved at the Convention that we WILL NOT publish any business that sells the service of filing for VA claims. Our Service Officer does that for free with the VFW for our Veterans!

Yours Always in Comradeship,

Larry Lyons
Year in Review Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



No one does more for Veterans



2022 DPA a Year in Review 2023



VFW/MOC welcomes you to Cambodia

57th Department of Pacific Convention & 54th MOC Grand Scratch

2022 DPA a Year in Review 2023



VFW/MOC welcomes you to Thailand

57th Department of Pacific Convention & 54th MOC Grand Scratch

Year in Review cover decision will be made during the upcoming Council of Administration in Ban Chang Rayong THAILAND in December 2022

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER (DSO)

Just another list

As the year ends we often have lists of things we need to do.

Make sure that you don't have loose ends going into the next year.

Unfortunately some of our friends leave their loved ones in a bind because the Veteran did not take care of his FINAL business before he took his final breath.

Update your FMP list of service connected disabilities.

FMP will pay your final hospital bill if you die of a service connected cause. Of course that means that your Agent Orange Ischemic heart that just was approved must be on the FMP list and everyone is aware of it. After the fact there may not be enough magicians' to make it happen and a grieving widow will probably have no idea what to do.

Apply for Pact Act items that apply to you. The initial Pact Act list is out. If you meet the time and place requirements and have one or more of the listed disabilities you should have applied already. If you apply and then die from it there are some very real possibilities for reimbursement of expenses for your spouse. If you have done nothing, nothing will happen.

Create a will and final disposition document. Married or not you are leaving a bunch of stuff. Do you have a document that says what will happen to it? Pitch it out the apartment door? Who gets it? How will it get there? What are the laws where you live? What about the very used and now useless body? Do you want it buried – where. Cremated? What's the disposition of the ashes? Some laws say your body is now hazardous waste. If there is no disposition and no one to notify and no one seems to care then the city or country will dictate everything. Some will cremate you and pitch your ashes in the dump. Some will bury them unmarked. Do you care?

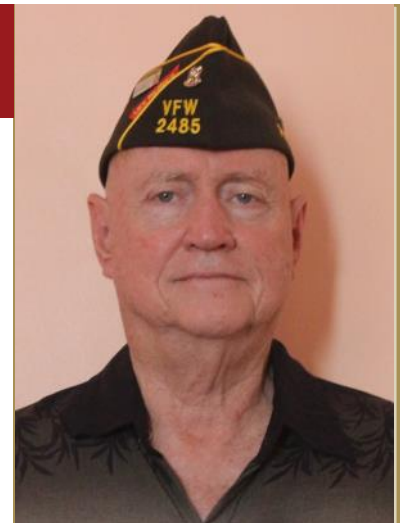
If you have a spouse and they may get a final settlement the Treasury department is moving toward a "no check" world. Your spouse can't use your old B of A or Navy Fed account and Uncle Sam will not deposit into a foreign currency account. What about DIC? Does your spouse have a dollar account in a local bank? Many foreign banks have agreement with a US bank and treasury checks can be deposited in that bank and end up in her local dollar account. You may not want a local account but she has no choice. Does she have a TIN? Does she need a TIN?

If you have questions ask your post service officer. If you don't have one call one of the ADSO's, or email me and I we will go from there.

Happy Halloween, Happy Veterans day, Happy Thanksgiving, and Merry Christmas.

Yours in Comradeship

John Dibble
DSO Department of Pacific Areas



DSO Pacific Areas

John Dibble



VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

PACT Act
Information

Click on the above icons for more info

THE LIGHTER SIDE



An old man accidentally crashed his car into a very expensive automobile.

The owner of the expensive automobile jumps out and confronts the old man and says "Give me \$10,000 cash or I will beat you to a pulp!"

The old man replies, "Woah, wait buddy, I don't have that much money but let me call my son, he trains dolphins."

The old man dials his son and as he is about to speak, the owner of the expensive car yanks the phone out of his hand and says "So you train dolphins, well your old man just hit and damaged my car, you bring me \$10,000 or I'm gonna beat the heck outta him!"

The son answers "Okay, give me 15 minutes and I'll be there."

In exactly 15 minutes the son pulls up in a Jeep, Ten men jump out and beat the hell out of the expensive car owner.

Meanwhile the son walks over to his father and says "Dad, I train Navy Seals not Dolphins"



VMS/MAP CHAIRMAN

I would like to touch on two Veterans and Military Assistance Programs that our Posts with the Department of Pacific Areas are supporting.

First is Adopt-a-Unit: VFW Posts work with unit commanders and senior enlisted personnel to develop supportive relationships with units before, during and after deployments. The VFW offers a vast network of free resources and a variety of direct support for military members and their families.

Banchang Utapao Post 12146 hosted an Adopt-a-Unit event with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, Detachment One, in Thailand. Fourteen Military and Family members were present at this event.

Adopting-a-Unit is easy, and all done online. Please take the time to view the [Adopt-a-Unit Application](#) and [Adopt-a-Unit Report](#).

Second is Military Assistance Program (MAP): MAP provides financial assistance to VFW Posts/Depts. and Auxiliaries who sponsor events with their local military community. These funds are meant to build relationships and provide information on VFW programs and services.

Mayaguez Memorial Post 11575 received \$400.00 to host a MAP event for the U.S. Embassy Cambodia Security Detachment Veterans Appreciation.

Banchang Utapao Post 12146 received \$1,000.00 to host a MAP event for the USS Higgins Destroyer Squadron 15/7th Fleet.

Banchang Utapao Post 12146 also received \$200.00 to host a MAP event for the DPAA-JFA 22-5LA Deployment Dinner.

COL Lewis L. Millett Hill 180 Memorial Post 8180 Received \$2,000.00 to host a MAP event at the Dragon Hill Lodge's Octoberfest. I had the privilege to attend this event with our Certified National Recruiter Larry Lyons. We were able to give 400 \$5.00 coupons to discount the German Food Buffet for Active-Duty members and their dependents during this 3-day event. We also had an information table set up and were able to sign up 34 new members into the VFW. But the most rewarding part from this event, was seeing the gratitude for what the VFW does in supporting service members and their families and the ability to tell them "THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE".

Requesting MAP funds is easy and all done online. Please take the time to view the [MAP Grant Procedures](#), [MAP Grant Application](#), and [MAP Grant Report](#).

THESE VETERANS AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE TO ALL POSTS TO THANK OUR ACTIVE-DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS FOR WHAT THEY DO DAY-IN AND DAY-OUT, PROTECTING OUR GREAT NATION.

Don Kelley

mapdpa@vfwpacific.org

Veterans & Military Support (VMS) Chairman

Military Assistance Program (MAP) Chairman



Department of Pacific Areas

VMS/MAP Chairman

Donald Kelley

**VETERANS
& MILITARY
SUPPORT**



MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

Ed Freeman was born on November 20, 1927, in Neely, Mississippi. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy on September 11, 1945, and served aboard the fleet oiler USS Cacapon (AO-52) until his honorable discharge on November 13, 1946. Sgt Freeman next enlisted in the U.S. Army on September 13, 1948, and served as an engineer with Company B, 11th Engineer Battalion in Korea from December 1952 to January 1954. During this time he received a battlefield commission to 2d Lt on April 27, 1953. His next assignment was as a Platoon Leader, Motor Officer, and then as a Company Commander with the 78th Engineer Battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia, from January 1954 to September 1955, followed by fixed-wing flight training, earning his Army Aviator Wings at Fort Rucker, Alabama, in May 1956. Lt Freeman next served as a fixed-wing aviator with the 521st Engineer Company at Sharpe General Depot, California, from July 1956 to December 1957, and then as a pilot with the U.S. Army Element to Military Assistance Advisory Group Iran and the U.S. Army Engineer Gulf District in Iran from February 1958 to January 1959. Cpt Freeman next attended rotary-wing flight training at Fort Rucker from March to May 1959, and he then stayed on at the school as a Flight Commander from May 1959 to February 1961. His next assignment was as a helicopter pilot with the 937th Engineer Company at Fort Clayton, Panama Canal Zone, from March 1961 to February 1964, followed by service as an Aviation Advisor to the Idaho Army National Guard in Boise, Idaho, from April 1964 to July 1965. Cpt Freeman served as a UH-1 Iroquois pilot with Company A, 229th Aviation Battalion of the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Benning from July to August 1965, and then deployed with his unit to South Vietnam from August 1965 to June 1966. Maj Freeman's final assignment was as an instructor pilot and Flight Safety Officer with the U.S. Army Primary Helicopter School at Fort Wolters, Texas, from August 1966 until his retirement from the Army on September 1, 1967. Ed Freeman died on August 20, 2008, and was buried at Idaho State Veterans Cemetery in Boise, Idaho. Maj Freeman was awarded the Medal of Honor by President George W. Bush on July 16, 2001, for action during the Battle of Ia Drang on November 14, 1965.



His Medal of Honor Citation reads:

Captain Ed W. Freeman, United States Army, distinguished himself by numerous acts of conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary intrepidity on 14 November 1965 while serving with Company A, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). As a flight leader and second in command of a 16-helicopter lift unit, he supported a heavily engaged American infantry battalion at Landing Zone X-Ray in the Ia Drang Valley, Republic of Vietnam. The unit was almost out of ammunition after taking some of the heaviest casualties of the war, fighting off a relentless attack from a highly motivated, heavily armed enemy force. When the infantry commander closed the helicopter landing zone due to intense direct enemy fire, Captain Freeman risked his own life by flying his unarmed helicopter through a gauntlet of enemy fire time after time, delivering critically needed ammunition, water and medical supplies to the besieged battalion. His flights had a direct impact on the battle's outcome by providing the engaged units with timely supplies of ammunition critical to their survival, without which they would almost surely have gone down, with much greater loss of life. After medical evacuation helicopters refused to fly into the area due to intense enemy fire, Captain Freeman flew 14 separate rescue missions, providing life-saving evacuation of an estimated 30 seriously wounded soldiers -- some of whom would not have survived had he not acted. All flights were made into a small emergency landing zone within 100 to 200 meters of the defensive perimeter where heavily committed units were perilously holding off the attacking elements. Captain Freeman's selfless acts of great valor, extraordinary perseverance and intrepidity were far above and beyond the call of duty or mission and set a superb example of leadership and courage for all of his peers. Captain Freeman's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

NATIONAL HOME CHAIRMAN

Comrades, we are just a little over 2 months until the CofA over in Thailand.

Currently, we are way behind the curve with the Donations to the National Home. As everyone knows if your District or Post are trying to make ALL State this donation is required. Below in the list if it is GREEN, they have been updated on the DPA Dashboard.

National Home Donation Report as of 28 Sept 2022

District / Post	Reported	District / Post Donated	District / Post	Reported	District / Post Donated
District 1	Yes	\$50.00	10217	Yes	\$50.00
9723	Yes	\$50.00	10249	Yes	\$50.00
District 2	Yes / No	\$0.00	11575	Yes / No	\$0.00
1054	Yes / No	\$0.00	12074	Yes	\$100.00
9555	Yes / No	\$0.00	12146	Yes	\$75.00
9612	Yes	\$200.00	12163	Yes / No	\$0.00
District 3	Yes / No	\$0.00	District 6	Yes / No	\$0.00
8180	Yes	\$100.00	1509	Yes / No	\$0.00
9985	Yes / No	\$0.00	2917	Yes / No	\$0.00
10033	Yes / No	\$0.00	3457	Yes / No	\$0.00
10223	Yes / No	\$0.00	District 7	Yes / No	\$0.00
12147	Yes / No	\$0.00	124	Yes	\$50.00
District 4	Yes / No	\$0.00	2485	Yes / No	\$0.00
9957	Yes / No	\$0.00	9892	Yes / No	\$0.00
District 5	Yes / No	\$0.00	11447	Yes	\$50.00
9876	Yes	\$300.00	12130	Yes	\$50.00
9951	Yes	\$100.00			
Dist/Post	Total	\$1,225.00	Grand	Total	\$1,225.00
Not Confirmed			Working on		

If any District or Post is having problems, please let me know so I can contact the National Home and try to get it resolved.

Randell E. Himes
nhcdpa@vfw-pacific.org
rehimes@gmail.com

OUR COMMUNITY

Families find a healing calm in a tranquil, rural, small-town community. Tree-lined streets connect 42 single-family homes with facilities like our gym, library, computer and science labs, daycare center, playgrounds, fishing pond, hiking trails and more.

[Our Features and Links to our National Homes](#)



National Home Chairman

Randell Himes

Please report any and all donations that you make to the National Home to me so they can be recorded and tracked. Email them to:

nhcdpa@vfw-pacific.org

The VFW National Home for Children serves as a living memorial to America's Veterans by helping our nation's veteran and military families during difficult times.

Visit their website [here](#)



VFW
 NATIONAL HOME
 FOR CHILDREN



FACT SHEET

As the nation's oldest major war veterans' organization, the VFW has an impeccable and longstanding record of service and stewardship. More than 4.4 million patriotic Americans, both members and non-members, entrust the VFW with financial contributions and dedicate millions of volunteer hours.



YOUR DONATION OF

\$20

ENSURES THE VFW CAN

Educate a separating service member about his or her well-earned VA benefits through a private benefits counseling session with a VFW Service Officer.

Provide training to 4 VFW Service Officers on signs of emotional suffering so they can better direct veterans to programs and services.

Help cover rent, utilities or groceries for a military family struggling with the hardships of war.

Deliver 4 morale-boosting "welcome home" celebrations for service members who have returned from combat.

2,000+

Number of VA-accredited VFW representatives across America and abroad, helping veterans fight for the VA benefits they have earned.

\$10.65 million

Amount of scholarships awarded to more than 2,372 veterans and service members through VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" since January 2014.

\$10 billion

The total annual amount the VFW helped veterans recoup in VA disability compensation and pension benefits.

66

Number of VFW-SVA Fellows (student veterans) who have traveled to Washington, D.C., to advocate for veterans' rights.

25

Number of times the VFW has testified before Congress in the last 12 months alone. The VFW has been instrumental in virtually every major legislative victory for veterans in the 20th and 21st centuries.

\$3.2 million

Amount of scholarships, monetary awards and other incentives the VFW distributes annually to middle and high school students through two major patriotic essay competitions.

\$12.5 million+

Value of financial assistance awarded to military families since 2004 to help cover basic needs in times of crisis. 44% of the funds covered basic housing needs.

2.4 million+

Number of service members and their family members hosted at VFW Military Assistance Program (MAP) events since 2005.

Updated June 2022

Learn more about the VFW's Programs and services at vfw.org



MORE FACTS ABOUT THE VFW



The VFW by the numbers

1.5 million

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

5,883

Number of VFW Posts worldwide.



Cutting red tape

100,000

Approximate number of veterans the VFW assisted in submitting new VA claims in fiscal year 2021.

Nearly 12,000

Number of VA claims filed by the VFW's Pre-Discharge offices in fiscal year 2021 resulting in more than \$152 million in disability compensation.

20+

Number of VFW Pre-Discharge offices across the nation, including the military district of Washington, D.C., area.



Helping struggling military families

11,139

Number of grants provided to military families facing financial hardship through *VFW Unmet Needs* since 2004.

\$5,567,730

Amount of grants provided through *VFW Unmet Needs* covering housing for struggling military families since 2004.

3,823

Number of military families who received assistance with housing needs since 2004.



Improving life in America

4.8 million

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

\$44.8 million

Amount donated annually to local community service projects by VFW members.



1899

Year the VFW started to fight for veterans, service members and their families.



Honoring the fallen

3.3 million

Number of VFW "Buddy"® Poppies distributed by the VFW last year.

\$334,500

Amount raised through the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy program for needy veterans last year.



Inspiring patriotism in young people

25,000+

Number of high school students who competed in the 2021–22 VFW Voice of Democracy competition.

72,000+

Number of students who competed in the 2021–22 VFW Patriot's Pen competition.

Updated June 2022



JOIN THE VFW

Learn more about the VFW's Programs and services at vfw.org



@vfwfans



@vfwhq

VOP/PP/TA CHAIRMAN

Comrades,

It is October and the deadline is coming quick; keep hitting up those contacts and keep them motivated to finish their essays and get them turned in. Keep talking to the schools so they are tracking the date as well.

I am still in need of the youth programs chair names for Districts 5, 6, and 7; please get them to me as soon as possible.

All-State: Posts must participate in VoD and PP by submitting at least one entry do their respective District Chairmen or make a \$75 donation to VMS programs. Districts must participate in VoD and PP by submitting at least one entry do their respective District Chairmen or make a \$100 donation to VMS programs. Please send the donation receipts to the me.

All-American: Posts and Districts need to meet the All-State criteria as well as participate in the Teachers Award. Posts should enter one entry per category or can make a \$75 donation to VMS programs and Districts can make a \$100 donation to VMS programs in lieu of entry. Please send the donation receipts to the DPA Chairman. Department must submit one entry for all three programs to qualify.

This year's topics are: VoD – *“Why is the Veteran Important”* and PP – *“My Pledge to our Veterans”*. Please get these out to schools, homeschools, and youth centers so that children can start working on them now. I also want to encourage you to work with the schools more to try and get them more involved with the program. One way is to get some teachers to help with the voting as it suggests in the VoD/PP Chairman's guide.

Deadlines: **31 October to the Post and 21 November to me from the Districts.** This gives three weeks for Post and District level. If there is any doubt if a submission may not be valid, please get with me ASAP so we can check and give a youth plenty of time to fix it before it is too late. The last thing I want to do is invalidate an entry.

Please go to the DPA page, the documents are at the bottom of the page. <https://vfwpacific.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=120296>; let Augie and I know if you have any issues with it. I look forward to seeing you all in Thailand this December.



David Gley
VoD, PP, TA Chairman
vodppdpa@vfwpacific.org
Phone: +82-10-2724-7176

When I was a boy, my dad gave me money to go downtown and pay the electric bill. Instead, I bought raffle tickets for a chance to win a new truck. Told my dad when I got home and he beat my ass. But the next morning, there in the driveway, sat a brand new truck. We all held each other and cried, especially me because it was the truck from the electric company there to turn off the lights. ...Dad beat my ass again.



VOD/PP/TA Chairman

David Gley



VETERANS DAY POSTER 2022

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

November 11, 2022

VETERANS DAY

DUTY • HONOR • COUNTRY



[Download Poster Here](#)



AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY CHAIR

Excerpt from the 2020 Presidential Proclamation:

“During National Veterans and Military Families Month, we celebrate the loved ones of our country’s men and women in uniform and recognize the sacrifices they have made in support of our Nation’s

History of the Marine Corps Birthday

On Nov. 10th, 1775 the Continental Congress passed a resolution creating two battalions of Marines. According to [the resolution](#), the Continental Marine Corps sought men who were “good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve to advantage by sea.” Hundreds of men answered the call and mustered under the first Commandant, Samuel Nicholas. His first enlisted men found their way to [Tun Tavern](#) in Philadelphia and the Marine Corps was born.

The Second Birth of The Marine Corps

Congress disbanded the Marine Corps after the War for Independence. According to the U.S. Marine Corps official website: “Throughout the American Revolution, the Marines served with distinction aboard the Continental vessels, but with the ending of that conflict, the entire Naval Service was so neglected through lack of appropriations and necessary legislation that by 1785 it actually ceased to exist.”

A naval Quasi-War with France prompted [an act of congress](#) on July 11, 1798 that reestablished the Marine Corps. The military branch formed from this act continues to exist today, continuing to distinguish itself as one of the finest fighting forces in human history.

Veterans Day 2022 Friday 11 Nov 2022

As a federal holiday, Veterans Day is typically observed on Nov. 11 every year. However, if it occurs on a Sunday then the federal government designates the following Monday as the Federal holiday. If Nov. 11 falls on a Saturday then the government may designate either Saturday or Friday. When the observed Federal holiday and Nov. 11 dates are different, Veterans Day activities may take place on both days. Many activities are often scheduled the weekend leading up to Veterans Day even during years when both dates match.

Veterans have many milestones to back on. Last year (2020) marked the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII, the 70th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War, and the 30th anniversary of both the end of the Panama Invasion and the beginning of Desert Shield.

Remembrance Day 2022 Friday, Nov. 11, 2022.

Remembrance Day, also known as Armistice Day or Poppy Day, is technically meant to honor the end of World War One, which occurred at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. But Remembrance Day has long been a time to pay respect to the fallen from all wars.

Traditions used to observe Remembrance Day include the wearing of poppies, and a two-minute silence at 11 AM on the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Although [Veterans Day](#) is observed in the U.S. on Nov. 11, Remembrance Day functions elsewhere in the world more closely related to [Memorial Day](#) in May.



Americanism/Loyalty Day Chair

Rhett Webber

AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY CHAIR

Thanksgiving 2022 November 24, 2022

Military personnel serving around the world will give thanks in many ways. Thanksgiving Military Traditions!

Major holidays such as Thanksgiving often present a challenge for military personnel who can be stationed far from home and their families on the holidays. For many people in the military community, they will celebrate Thanksgiving in a different manner every year, depending on leave status, and current operations.

Traditionally, senior leaders serve dinner to junior personnel on Thanksgiving, when possible. Newly enlisted service-members may be away from home for the first time. Meanwhile, some military spouses and their children will celebrate Thanksgiving stateside, while a loved one is deployed.

Pearl Harbor Wednesday 07 Dec 2022

Just before 8am on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes carried out a devastating attack on the Pearl Harbor American Naval base in Honolulu, Hawaii, on the island of Oahu. The Japanese aircrews managed to achieve complete surprise and for two hours, Japanese fighter, bomber and torpedo planes carried out a shocking assault on the naval base.

How is Pearl Harbor Day Observed?

The White House and all United States government buildings fly the **American flag** at half-mast as should all homes and private buildings to honor those who died in the attack at Pearl Harbor.

Pearl Harbor survivors, associations and the military community typically commemorate the day with memorial services, wreath laying ceremonies and the retelling of the days' events. Many schools and museums have activities to educate students and the public on the historical importance of Pearl Harbor.

Wreaths Across America:

ARLINGTON, VA – Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) and Wreaths Across America (WAA), along with our partners the U.S. Army Military District of Washington (MDW) and the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment, "The Old Guard" (TOG), will safely lay and recover approximately 267,000 wreaths to honor our nation's heroes and their family members this December.

We developed this plan to balance our security posture and health and safety requirements with the desire to allow limited in-person participation. Therefore, family pass holders of those interred at ANC and Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery (SAHNC) will be able to lay wreaths in person at designated times. Members of the general public can take part in this year's National Wreath Day in a virtual setting.

Rhett Webber
Americanism/Loyalty Day Chairman



Americanism/Loyalty Day Chair

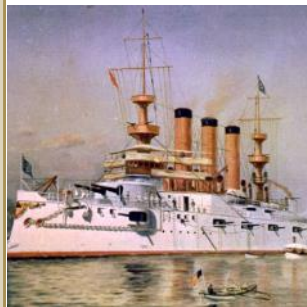
Rhett Webber

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIVE DATES



27 January 1973 signing of the Paris Peace Accords effectively removed the U.S. from the conflict in Vietnam. However, the agreement's provisions were routinely flouted by both the North Vietnamese and the South Vietnamese government, eliciting no response from the United States, and ultimately resulting in the communists enlarging the area under their control by the end of 1973. North Vietnamese military forces gradually built up their military

infrastructure in the areas they controlled and two years later were in a position to launch the successful offensive that ended South Vietnam's status as an independent country. Fighting began almost immediately after the agreement was signed, due to a series of mutual retaliations, and by March 1973, full-fledged war had resumed.



15 February 1898 U.S.S. *Maine* was a [United States Navy](#) ship that sank in [Havana Harbor](#) in February 1898, contributing to the outbreak of the [Spanish–American War](#) in April. American newspapers, engaging in [yellow journalism](#) to boost circulation, claimed that the [Spanish](#) were responsible for the ship's destruction. The phrase, "Remember the *Maine*! To hell with Spain!" became a rallying cry for action. Although the *Maine* explosion was not

a direct cause, it served as a catalyst that accelerated the events leading up to the war.



28 February 1991 The Liberation of Kuwait was a U.S.-led military operation to retake Kuwait from Iraq after the [massive air campaign](#), between 24–28 February 1991. U.S. troops and the Coalition entered to find the Iraqis surrendering en masse; however, pockets of resistance existed, particularly at [Kuwait International Airport](#) where Iraqi troops, seemingly unaware that a retreat order had been issued to them, continued to fight, resulting in a fierce battle

over the airport itself. The majority of the fighting took place in Iraq, rather than Kuwait.^[2] The operation is part of what is commonly known as the [Gulf War](#).



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