

THE PACIFIC TIMES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS



No one does more for Veterans
EVERY Veteran is a HERO

2021 National Publications Winner
Department Publication Bronze Award.

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November/December 2021

VETERAN & PEARL HARBOR DAYS



Veterans Day 2021 will be on Thursday, November 11th, 2021. As a federal holiday Veterans Day is typically observed on November 11th every year. However, if it occurs on a Sunday then the following Monday is designated as the Federal holiday, and if it occurs on a Saturday then either Saturday or Friday may be designated.

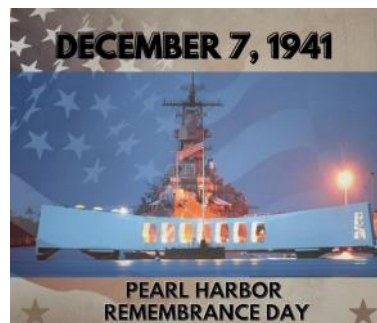
The theme for the 2021 Veterans Day Poster is: **“Honoring All Who Served.”**

Left: U.S. World War I veteran Joseph Ambrose (1896–1988) attends the dedication parade for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in 1982, wearing his original Brodie helmet and doughboy uniform and holding the flag that covered the casket of his son, Clement, who was killed in the Korean War.

[Toby Keith - American Soldier \(Official Music Video\)](#)

Each year on December 7, Pearl Harbor survivors, veterans and visitors from all over the world come together to honor and remember the 2,403 service members and civilians who were killed during the Japanese attack on December 7, 1941. Another 1,178 people were injured. Eight Navy battleships were among the 18 Naval ships either damaged or sunk. On Oahu military bases, 178 aircraft were destroyed.

December 7 was a catalyst that led to a changed world. The 80th Commemoration will tell the story of the multi-pronged attack across the Pacific and in particular the attack on Pearl Harbor. The goal of the commemoration is to ensure that future generations will understand the valor and legacy of those who perished and those who fought throughout the war. The commemoration also highlights the importance of the peace that brought reconciliation, a reconciliation that continues to move forward today in creating a better future for all.



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COMMANDER'S CALL

Fellow Comrades,

I am pleased to report that the Department is in great shape, and it is because of you!!! As I look at all the positive activities you are performing to assist our fellow Comrades, their families, and our communities, I am just in awe of what great events you do on a daily basis. Please keep up the outstanding work!!!

As of 30 October, our department is still leading National in membership with a percentage of 95.65%. Again, to our recruiters, thank you for doing so much to help our department grow! Currently we have three Posts that has reached or exceeded 100%. They are 10217 of Korat TH, 12146 of Ban Chang TH, and 3457 of Saipan MP. We also have 13 Posts who are 15 members or less to join the 100% club. So, let's continue to RECRUIT, RECRUIT, RECRUIT and thank you DPA!!!

With reluctance, I am sorry to announce that based on travel restrictions and/or Quarantines, I made the decision to have our C of A conducted on Zoom. The date of our C of A will be on Saturday, 5 December 2021 at 9:00am Philippine time. DPA Adjutant Watson will be sending out the Zoom link shortly. As I mentioned at the Department Incoming C of A, I planned to be in Barrio Barretto whether or not we have an in-person conference. If you are able to travel to Barrio from within the Philippines or abroad, I encourage you to come down because we can still have some camaraderie which is much needed. If you make it down, I encourage you to bring your laptops to sign into the C of A.

As you know, this term is dedicated to our DPA Vietnam Veterans past and present. I was very pleased with the photos and information provided from our Comrades in our last Pacific Times. I am very humbled to play such a small role with the overwhelming support the dedication piece in our Newsletter has given our Vietnam Veterans!!!

There are a couple of items I would like to discuss with the hopes it will clear up any questions our Comrades may have. The two areas are the Action Corps and Facebook.

Action Corps – Every new member is automatically signed up for the Program. However, what the National Commander in Chief wants for a Post to make All American, they will need to sign up five (5) additional people. They can be family members, friends, co-workers, etc. to meet this requirement. Also, only 1.5% of our total membership contact our Congress members/Senators. In the political environment we find ourselves in we need to keep our voices engaged with Congress now more than ever!!!

Facebook – The National Commander in Chief believes since it is the number one way to get our message out on social media, why not use it? So as part of the All American requirement, a Post will need to have a Facebook page with at least two Administrators. REPEAT two (2) Administrators!!! So, if you only have one at the moment, you need an additional Comrade assigned.

I am hoping this will clear up any questions concerning these two requirements.



Department of Pacific Areas

Commander

Kevin Mitchell



COMMANDER'S CALL

Speaking of Facebook to include our DPA Website and Facebook page, we must do better in communicating!!! As of 30 October, the DPA has 11,595 members. When I looked at our Facebook page, I noticed we have 156 members signed up...out of 11,595? We need a full court press to get the word out to the DPA that we do have a Facebook page and we hope they will sign up for it. How about our DPA website? I do not have a number, but how many Comrades actually go to the website (www.vfwpacific.org). I believe a suggestion could be once a Post signs up a new member, they can be encouraged to sign up for the Facebook page and provided the link for the DPA website. It can also be announced at Post and District Meetings. We must do what we can to get the word out so our DPA is up to speed on what is going on. WE CAN DO IT!!!

I was just looking at the All American Dashboard and I see our Posts are completing some requirements. With a membership goal of 100+1, all of our Posts are within range of competing for that honor. In my view, this term is a great opportunity for Posts to make All American. So if you are a Post who has never made it or have not made it in a long time, you have an outstanding chance this term if your members apply themselves...which I hope you do!!!

Effective 1 November, the new Department Service Officer will be Comrade Christopher Pierce. Comrade John Dibble will now be the Assistant Department Service Officer. The change was made due to Comrade Dibble's health issues; however, I am happy that he wants to stay on to help the DPA.

I will be attending our Western Conference from 3-7 November. It will be my first time so I do not know what to expect. However, it will be nice to see our fellow Department Commanders and the fellowship that comes with it.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone an advance Happy Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holiday season!! Also, as Veterans Day approaches, let's take a moment to remember our great military members past and present on our special day. Please continue the fine work you do in our communities and taking care of our families and each other. May God continue to bless you and yours! DPA...you are the best!!! I love you all!!!

In Comradeship and Service,

Kevin E. Mitchell
Commander
Department of Pacific Areas
EVERY Veteran is a HERO
Remembering our DPA Vietnam Veterans Past and Present



Department of Pacific Areas

Commander

Kevin Mitchell

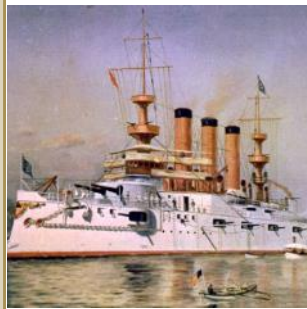


UPCOMING COMMEMORATIVE DATES



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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[Website](#)

[Events and Observances](#)

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



**Congrats to the newlyweds
Commander Kevin and the
Lovely Miss Marie**



On behalf of Banchang Utapao VFW Post 12146, former DPA Commander and VFW Post 12146 Commander Ken Stein presents District 3 Head Person Khun Mam with a 5,000 Thai Baht donation which will assist in providing adequate shelter for an elderly poor local resident.

The second photo is the current shelter showing its condition and need for assistance. Under the tarp are some of the lumber that will be used in constructing the new home.



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

In the SPOTLIGHT

9-11 Event conducted at 18 Wing HQRTS Kadena AB Okinawa on 10 September 2021. VFW Post 9723 / District 1 Comrades in attendance were: District 1 Senior Vice David Boughton, District 1 Junior Vice Larry Wilson, Post Junior Vice Jeff Runfeldt, Post Members CMSGT Wobse, MSGT Houseman, District 1 / Post Commander Curtis Kozlesky.



In the SPOTLIGHT

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, Pattaya, which is a city reliant on tourism, has been hard-hit by the disease and related measures to control its spread. Numerous establishments that employ tens of thousands of people have been closed by government mandate since April 10th. Although some business sectors have been allowed to reopen people are still in need in Pattaya. Post Commander Manny Guarnuccio and VFW Post 9876 started a drive to raise funds for Charity Food Giveaways. Money immediately poured in from Members and friends of the VFW both local and abroad, to help make a difference in the community for those who are most in need. Assisting VFW members in the preparation and distribution of those meals were the VFW Post 9876 Wives Club, Pattaya American Legion Post TH02, Pattaya Sports Club, and Friends of the VFW to include U.S. Embassy Warden Bobby Brooks. Locations of the meal giveaways included Bali Hai Pier in South Pattaya, Lewinski's Golf Club and Restaurant (our Post Home), and host Trattoria Pizzeria Toscana on Beach Road, North Pattaya. A total of 3,200 meals were distributed in September. VFW Post 9876 also made a 30,000 baht donation to Baan Kru Boonchoo Foundation in Sattahip, presented to Foundation President Mrs. Boonchoo Moangmaithong to assist with the care of disabled and special needs children.



In the SPOTLIGHT

Between 10 July 2021 and 21 September 2021, the U.S. Veterans Affairs (VA) Manila launched a campaign to provide free COVID-19 vaccinations to all U.S. military veterans, their spouses, widows, domestic partners and CHAMP-VA beneficiaries. The VA Manila asked for assistance from any Veterans Service Organization to help get as many eligible individuals vaccinated as possible.

Robert W. Zaher Post 2485 in Angeles City, Philippines volunteered to help in this life saving campaign by partnering with the VA Outpatient Clinic Manila to collect the names and contact information of eligible individuals, schedule their vaccine appointments and arrange for group transportation for those needing transportation from Angeles City to the VA Clinic which is 55 miles away in Manila. Please see photos of some of the many who used the group transportation arranged by Post 2485 and the CDC Vaccination Card issued by the VA Manila

VFW Post 2485 assisted a total of 289 Veterans, spouses, widows, domestic partners and CHAMP-VA beneficiaries in getting their COVID-19 vaccine at the VA Outpatient Clinic Manila.

On 21 September at the end of the campaign, Mr. Daniel Gutkoski, the VA Manila Outpatient Clinic Manager sent out an announcement expressing his deepest gratitude to the Veterans Service Groups who have assisted VA Manila in reaching Veterans, provided transportation to the Clinic, supported Veterans with transportation subsidies, and helped VA Manila communicate with Veterans throughout the Philippines. We could not have done so much without everyone working together for the common good.



COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card

Please keep this record card, which includes medical information about the vaccines you have received.
Por favor, guarde esta tarjeta de registro, que incluye información médica sobre las vacunas que ha recibido.

Veteran, Last Name **You** First Name **S.** MI

1-7-76 Date of birth

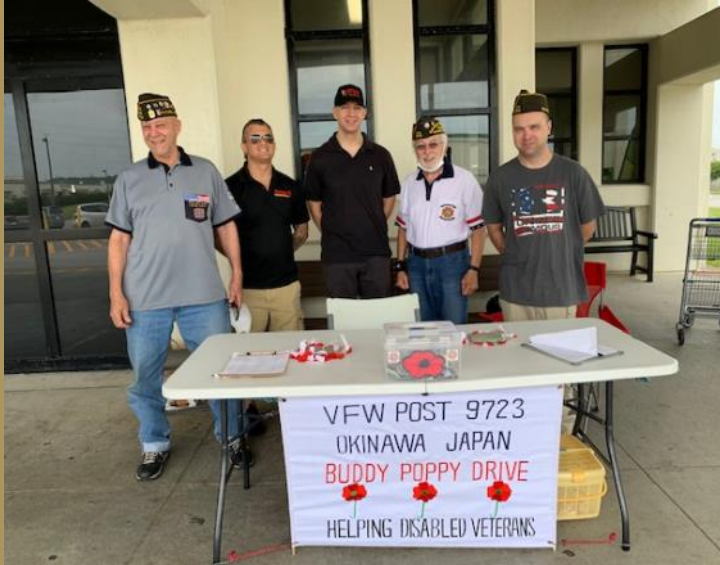
Patient number (medical record or IIS record number)

Vaccine	Product Name/Manufacturer Lot Number	Date	Healthcare Professional or Clinic Site
1 st Dose COVID-19	Janssen / Johnson & Johnson Lot#: 201A21A Exp: 8/7/2021	7/17/21	Manila VA Male
2 nd Dose COVID-19		mm / dd / yy	
Other		mm / dd / yy	
Other		mm / dd / yy	



In the SPOTLIGHT

Remarkable display of support from 18 Comrades members of VFW Post 9723 Okinawa Japan providing Tremendous Volunteer assistance for a very successful Buddy Poppy Events conducted on 23/24 Oct 2021 Camp Foster Commissary. Comrades include: Marty Roberts, Justin Greene, David Boughton, Larry Wilson, John Bowers, Derek Boyd, Adrien Romero, Jeff Barnes, Pete Gruner, Jeremy Brada, George Cabrera, Michael Stanley, Brian Jones, Tracy Bender, Donovan LeBloch, Tom Quinn, Jeff Runfeldt, Curtis Kozlesky.



In the SPOTLIGHT



Commander Curtis Kozlesky presented DPAC 2020-2021 Outstanding Membership_Chairman Plaque to Comrade David Boughton Post 9723 Okinawa Japan during October 27 Members Meeting

Commander Curtis Kozlesky on behalf of Post #9723 Comrades accepted 2020-2021 Plaque from DPAC for Outstanding Post LCPL Frank C . Allen Memorial Post #9723 Okinawa Japan during 27 October 2021 members meeting



Post 9723 Commander Okinawa Japan presented DPAC 2020-2021 Outstanding Adjutant Plaque to Comrade Jeremy Brada during 27 October 2021 members meeting

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades,

By the time this edition goes to print, I will have posted on Facebook your All American Met and UNMet stats probably 3 or 4 times. So PLEASE do your Posts and Districts a favor and get on to the Department Facebook page. If you see something on one of the stats I post, that has something wrong, email me ASAP so we can get it fixed. On top of all your stats we post news and updates from National, the DPA Commander, the DPA QM. This is all valuable information and you seeing it on FB is usually faster than in your INBOX. If your Post or District has just held and event, get the pics out there for all to see. Sometimes it will give another Post or District and Idea that they can also do in their areas. This does not mean stop using email as your official communications it is just the fastest way to get everyone informed.

The December CofA will be held in Subic Bay, Philippines. As we all know most of the Department will have to attend via ZOOM. Since I will not be able to see last year's awards winners face to face, I will be mailing out to the local Commanders to get them to their winners. Let's all keep our fingers crossed for a June 2022 face to face.

We are early in the year but as always you are all working hard and the Commander appreciates it.

Warren "Max" Maxson
Senior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas
EVERY Veteran is a HERO

MOH OF THE VIETNAM WAR



Senior Vice Commander

Warren "Max" Maxson



**ALLSTATE
STATUS
Posts &
Districts**

VIETNAM WAR STORIES

Bob Hope loved entertaining the troops. As early as 1962, Hope requested to tour Vietnam and was given the green light by President Johnson after the Gulf of Tonkin Incident in 1964. Hope and his crew headed to Vietnam in mid-December, stayed to entertain the troops through Christmas, and then headed back home. His USO tours continued through the entire war. He was a hero's hero. Rest in peace Bob. <https://www.vvmf.org/topics/Bob-Hope/>



JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Greetings Comrades,

I just got back from our Junior Vice Commander's Training Conference in Kansas City, Missouri and I had the great opportunity to learn a lot of vital information that are essential to perform my duties and help on our mission in the VFW. I had the chance to meet with our VFW National Junior Vice Commander In Chief Duane Sarmiento and the rest of JVCs in the whole 52 states to include the Pacific Areas and Europe. We were trained and given a lot of materials regarding various VFW Programs and met up with VFW National Directors and learned firsthand on how each Program works and how to get the various Resources to get the Mission done. One of the important subjects that we have discussed is the Community Service Program and the VFW National Dashboard.

Community Service and Program reporting is vital to being able to show what our VFW members are doing in their communities and to recognize those members at our Department Convention and National Programs. It can also be complex because of the different reporting requirements between our organizations. The goal of online reporting is to make it easier to understand what can be reported and to simplify the reporting process with paper and online reporting options.

The VFW reporting year now ends on **31 March 2022** and all reports must be received at Department no later than **8 April 2022**

Program and Community Service Reporting is designed for "activity" based reporting which is reporting a given "activity" such as a poppy drive that you held for your Post or Auxiliary that applies to programs, service to veterans, their families, and our communities. The activities listed in the forms are those defined by VFW Programs and include all required details. For example, the number of poppies and handouts distributed in a poppy drive. See below for the different categories that we as a VFW Organization need to report:

Americanism and Citizenship Education

Activities that can be reported by the VFW or Auxiliary under this category relate to the promotion, participation and education of patriotism and celebration of patriotic holidays including:

- Public patriotic holiday programs
- US flag programs, flag etiquette, flag retirements
- Patriotic education, Veterans in the Classroom
- Business recognition
- Blue Star, Gold Star recognition

Buddy Poppy

Activities that can be reported by the VFW or Auxiliary under this category relate to the promotion and distribution of Buddy Poppies, including:

- Buddy Poppy program promotion, both within the Post or Auxiliary and in the community
- Buddy Poppy drives



Junior Vice Commander

Alex Fores



Click on the icon above to go to our new **Training and Tutorial** page under **Resources** on the DPA Website

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Community Activities, Community Outreach

Activities that can be reported by the VFW or Auxiliary under this category relate to aiding and volunteering as an organization to the benefit of our communities and are not directly related to other VFW or VFW Auxiliary programs, including:

- Helping the elderly and special needs populations
- Blood drives
- Hunger, Homelessness projects for the general population

Note: This category is for projects and activities that **are not** affiliated with VFW or VFW Auxiliary programs and do not directly benefit the Post of Auxiliary. For example, activities such as performing repairs or maintenance to the Post home, preparing, or serving a meal for a Post or Auxiliary fundraiser, or participating in a Buddy Poppy distribution cannot be reported under this section. Also, projects that are specifically for Veterans such as stand downs should be reported under Veterans and Military Family support. Also, Auxiliary members may be able to report activities for organizations outside of their own provided that the project was approved by the Auxiliary and recorded in the meeting minutes prior to the project.

Hospital

Activities that can be reported under this category relate to volunteering, sponsoring, and providing services and aid to both VA and non-VA facilities in support of the veterans that facilities service, including:

- Aid to VA and Non-VA facilities
- Donations of items or services
- Hospital visits and sponsoring hospital events or activities
- Volunteering in any medical facility, recruiting volunteers
- Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) program

Legislative

Activities that can be reported under this category relate to improving the lives of veterans, service members and their families through advocacy, including:

- Promotion of VFW Priority Goals
- Participation in election activities
- Attending legislative events such as town halls

National Home

Activities that can be reported under this category relate to the support of the VFW National Home for Children, including:

- Promotion of the National Home and the National Home Hotline
- Fundraising and donations to the National Home

Scholarships

Activities that can be reported under this category relate to the support of VFW and Auxiliary scholarships and Teacher award including:

- Promotion of scholarships programs
- Assisting with program preparation such as coordinating resources and judges
- Hosting awards ceremonies



Junior Vice Commander

Alex Fores



Click on the icon above to go to our new **Training and Tutorial** page under **Resources** on the DPA Website

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Veterans and Military Family Support

Activities that can be reported under this category relate to supporting Veterans and Military and their families including:

- Fundraising for National Veterans Service (NVS), VFW Unmet needs, Help a Hero, etc.
- Promotion of suicide prevention and mental health awareness
- Homeless Veteran events or projects
- Direct aid to Veterans, Active Duty and their families
- Other - such as participation in veteran funerals, honor guards, etc.

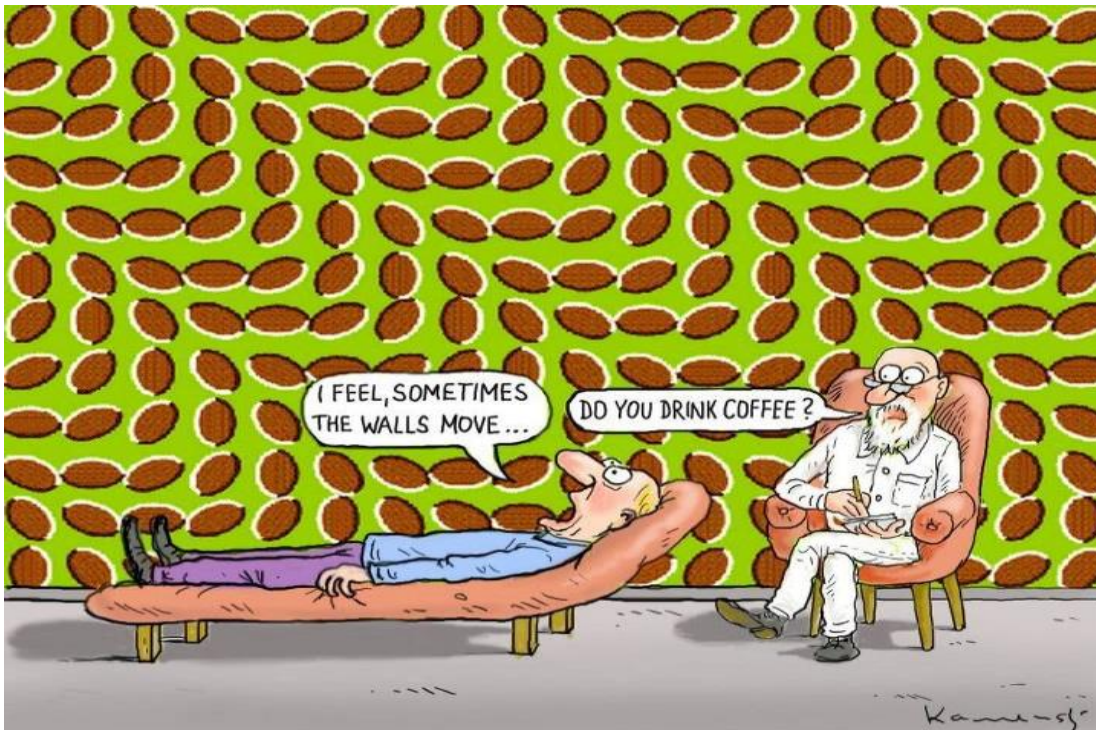
Youth Activities

Activities that can be reported under this category relate to sponsoring and working with youth groups including:

- Supporting Scouting and ROTC programs
- VFW, Auxiliary activities with youth groups
- Promotion, participation in Illustrating America, Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue programs
- Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans citations and Patriotic Youth Awards presentations

I do hope this gives you a better view on what to report on your Community Service Reports and in closing, as we come to celebrate the Holiday Seasons, I wish each and everyone a Safe, a Joyful and a Happy Holidays. Yours In Comradeship and Service!

Alexander B. Fores
Junior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas
EVERY Veteran is a HERO



Department of Pacific Areas

Junior Vice Commander

Alex Fores



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2021-22 Dedicated to our DPA



Vietnam Veterans Past and Present

For most Americans who read this they will only see the numbers that the Vietnam War created. To those of us who survived the war, and to the families of those who did not, we see the faces, we feel the pain that these numbers created. We are, until we too pass away, haunted with these numbers, because they were our brothers, friends, fathers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters. There are no noble wars, just noble warriors. Less we forget those who fought in Vietnam. A little history most people will never know.

There are 58,267 names now listed on that polished black wall, including those added in 2010.

The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it is 65 years since the first casualty.

The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, MA. Listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on Sept. 7, 1965.

There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.

39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger.
8,283 were just 19 years old. The largest age group, 33,103 were 18 years old. 12 soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old. 5 soldiers on the Wall were 16 years old. 1 soldier, PFC Dan Bullock, was 15 years old.

997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam and 1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam.

31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.

54 soldiers attended Thomas Edison High School in Philadelphia. I wonder why so many from one school.

8 Women are on the Wall, nurses killed while nursing the wounded.

244 soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War, 153 of them are on the Wall.

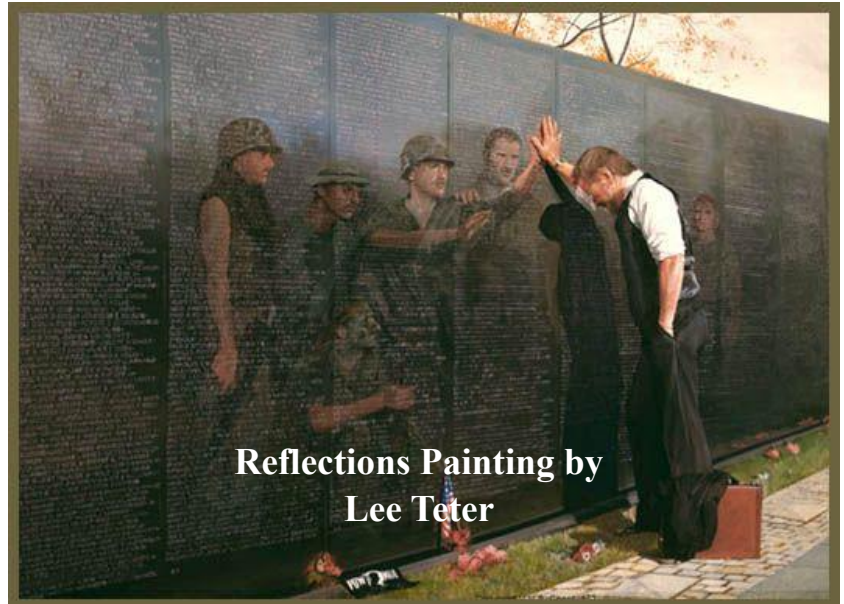
Beallsville, OH, with a population of 475, lost 6 of their sons.

West Virginia had the highest casualty rate per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.

The most casualty deaths for a single day was on January 31, 1968 ~ 245 deaths.

The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 - 2,415 casualties were incurred.

Submitted by Carl Manchester, Post 12074, Chiang Mai, Thailand



Reflections Painting by
Lee Teter

Update: The last battle of the Vietnam War was actually fought in Cambodia on the Island of Koh Tang 12-15 May 1975 during the Mayaguez Incident. The last 41 names on the wall are from this battle. (Unless casualties from earlier battles died of their wounds from 12-15 MAY). Of the last two lines of names, Loney, Hall, Hargrove, Marshal and Rumbaugh remains are all still unaccounted for from this battle. The last Casualty on the wall is Air Force 2nd Lt. Richard Van De Geer of Cleveland, Ohio who was killed on 15 May 1975 when his helicopter was shot down just off the Coast of Koh Tang Island. His remains were identified in 1995 and buried at Arlington National Cemetery in 2000.

[Further Reading Here.](#)

[Vietnam Virtual Wall Link](#)

Update submitted by Michael Stelzig CDR Post 12074.

This is info I got from my Stoney Beach officer when I was the Defense Attaché in Cambodia 2016-19, Mike Stelzig.

2021-22 Dedicated to our DPA



Vietnam Veterans Past and Present



After the POW/MIA Day Ceremony, DPA CDR Mitchell proudly presented his Commander's Coin to Comrade John "Spike" Nasmyth, Jr., a Vietnam Veteran who was held as a prisoner of war for over 6 years. Robert W. Zaher Post 2485 Commander Eric Zariello looks on.



DPA CDR Mitchell proudly presented DPA ADSO John Dibble with his Commander's Coin for his service in Vietnam.



Group Photo of POST #9723 Okinawa Japan Comrades receiving Awesome Vietnam Coins provided by DPAC Commander Kevin Mitchell. Left to right: Larry Wilson, Carl Chisler, John Bowers, David Boughton, Willie T. Brandon, George Cabrera, James Terry, Ed Otto, Curtis Kozlesky

2021-22 Dedicated to our DPA



Vietnam Veterans Past and Present

**VIETNAM
VETERAN**

THESE OLD MEN...

By Pat Ewing

Now we stand behind old mens faces,
Speak of forgotten times and places
So bent are those who wouldn't break,
Who did fearsome things with lives at stake.
Their shadows sharp and darker then,
Now fading away are these old men,
But no one can steal the legends bold,
Not thieves nor liars nor growing old.
To never weave excuses that some men must,
But to stand with men who earned our trust,
And speak of what we did back then,
Before we became, these old men.



REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

First Sgt. Pascal Cleatus Poolaw Sr. served this country through three wars and gave up his life in Vietnam.

Poolaw has been called America's most decorated American Indian Soldier with 42 medals and citations. Among his medals are four Silver Stars and five Bronze Stars. He also earned three Purple Hearts, one for each of the wars in which he fought - World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

The fourth Silver Star was awarded posthumously after Poolaw died during action in Vietnam. On Nov. 7, 1967, Poolaw's unit, Company C, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, was part of a search and destroy mission near the village of Loc Ninh.

The unit was attacked by numerically superior Viet Cong force. Under a hail of fire, Poolaw raced to the lead squad, exposed all the way, and deployed the squad there to lay down a base of fire, the citation read. This action saved countless lives, but Poolaw wasn't finished.

Poolaw continued moving among the troops, making sure they were positioned properly pulling casualties back to the lines despite being wounded himself. He was mortally wounded as he pulled another casualty back to the lines.

His devotion to his Soldiers was exceeded only by the love of his Family. Poolaw served in Vietnam trying to spare his son the horrors of war.

When his son, Lindy, received orders for Vietnam, Poolaw volunteered for the combat zone with the hope of serving there in place of his son. Regulations prohibit two members of the same Family from serving in combat at the same time without their consent.

Another of Poolaw's sons had already been in Vietnam, which added to his wanting to spare Lindy. His son, Pascal Cleatus Poolaw Jr., a Spc. 4, had been wounded in Vietnam in February 1967. The younger Poolaw was hit by a mine and received metal fragments in the legs. His right leg had to be amputated below the knee.

When the senior Poolaw finally reached the port of departure on the West Coast, he discovered Lindy had left for Vietnam the day before. He decided to follow his son.

Having the father and son of the Family serving in combat at the same time was nothing new to Poolaw. He had served in World War II with his dad, Ralph Poolaw Sr., and his two brothers.

Poolaw served almost four months in Vietnam before the fatal combat operation. In a letter he wrote just before his death, Poolaw said he rated his job as being more important than his life.

In her eulogy at Poolaw's funeral at the Fort Sill Post Cemetery, his wife, Irene, echoed those sentiments. "He has followed the trail of the great chiefs," she said. "His people hold him in honor and highest esteem. He has given his life for the people and the country he loved so much."



DPA ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER

Comrades,

Most of you may have already heard, the Mid Term Council of Administration will be held via ZOOM. I will send the link out to all Commanders and Adjutants using the vfwpacific email address. If you do not have access to this email address please get with the Department webmaster.

Now that the All-State dashboard is up and running when your quarterly audit is received, it will be updated on the website. If it is yellow, that means I have emailed you back to ask questions regarding the audit. All Post quarterly audits are due by the end of November. District audits are due by the end of December. When sending the audit in, please ensure that the trustee's and Commander have signed the form.

I have had a few emails about the donations for NVMS, PP, VOD and teachers program. First let me say, Please do not, I repeat do not transfer the money to the Department account. The only way to get credit for these programs is to use this link

<https://heroes.vfw.org/page/22950/donate/1>.

When ordering Buddy Poppy's, please go to the forms page on the Department website and download the Buddy Poppy order form.

[DPA Buddy Poppy Form from Website](#)

This form is to help me ensure that I have the correct mailing address for them to be shipped to. The price has not changed. It is still \$58 per 500.

I want to wish everyone a very Happy Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. Looking forward to see each of you as soon as we can have an in-person meeting.

Yours in Comradeship,
Shawn Watson
Adjutant/Quartermaster

Picture of the Beatles
before they got really big.



Department of Pacific Areas

Adjutant / Quartermaster

Shawn Watson

MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

On this day in 1967, a Navy chaplain makes the ultimate sacrifice as he ministers to his Marines during the Vietnam War. [Father Vincent Capodanno](#) would receive a Medal of Honor for his selfless actions on this day so long ago. Father Capodanno has since been declared a “Servant of God” by the Catholic Church, and he is now being considered for sainthood. Capodanno was no ordinary military chaplain! In fact, he was affectionately dubbed “The Grunt Padre” by his men because of his insistence upon sharing their burdens and duties—however dangerous they might be. “He was not a religious leader who did his job and then returned to the comfort of his own circle,” Capodanno’s biographer writes. “He lived as a Grunt Marine. Wherever they went, he went. Whatever burdens they had to carry, he shared the load. No problem was too large or too small to take to Father Vincent—he was available to them day and night.” That approach would cost Capodanno his life during Operation Swift, a Vietnam War operation during the fall of 1967.

On September 4, a portion of Capodanno’s battalion was ambushed. The conflict turned into an all-out battle. As a chaplain, Capodanno could easily have remained at the company command post. All things considered, it was a much safer place to be! But it also went against the grain for Capodanno to stay in a place of relative safety when his men were suffering. He wanted to be with them. He “ran through an open area raked with fire, directly to the beleaguered platoon,” his [Medal citation reports](#). “Disregarding the intense enemy small-arms, automatic-weapons, and mortar fire, he moved about the battlefield administering last rites to the dying and giving medical aid to the wounded.” During the course of his ministrations, Capodanno was seriously wounded in his arms and legs. His right hand was partially severed. And yet he continued on.

Capodanno was at the side of Sergeant Lawrence Peters when Peters passed away. The Sergeant had acted so heroically during the battle that he would receive his own Medal of Honor! Peters did not have to die alone because of Capodanno. Another Marine, Corporal Ray Harton, was wounded that day. Father Capodanno found him as he lay bleeding there on the battlefield. “As I closed my eyes, someone touched me,” Harton later reported. “When I opened my eyes, he looked directly at me. It was Father Capodanno. Everything got still: no noise, no firing, no screaming. A peace came over me that is unexplainable to this day. In a quiet, calm voice, he cupped the back of my head and said, ‘Stay quiet Marine. You will be okay. Someone will be here to help you soon. God is with us all this day.’”

The end came when Capodanno noticed a corpsman struggling with a wound to his leg. An enemy machine gun was still trained on the young man. “Fr. C. ran out to him and positioned himself between the injured boy and the automatic weapon,” Lieutenant Joseph E. Pilon later related. “Suddenly, the weapon opened up again and this time riddled Fr. C. from the back of his head to the base of his spine—and with his third Purple Heart of the day—Fr. C. went Home.” When Father Capodanno’s body was recovered, it had 27 bullet wounds in it.



History posts are copyright © 2013-2021 by Tara Ross. I appreciate it when you use the share feature instead of cutting/pasting. [#TDIH](#) [#OTD](#) [#AmericanHistory](#) [#USHistory](#) [#liberty](#) [#freedom](#) [#ShareTheHistory](#)



IMMEDIATE PAST DPA COMMANDER

Hello Comrades,

As we head into the halfway point of our term, now would be a good time to examine your goals and make adjustments as necessary.

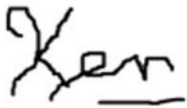
Each year the new National VFW Commander brings some changes to the organization, this year is no different. Please remember, although he has made some program changes, they are all eminently doable. Adding a post Facebook page if you don't have one is not difficult, increasing your community service projects by 10% is a good thing and should be easily attained, same with adding five new action corps sign-ups, not terribly difficult. The final new requirement for this term is to partner with two different organizations in two different community projects.

While we may not have the same number of companies or organizations as posts in the U.S., we can partner with the local American Legion, or other veteran service organization as well as with local charities and restaurants that support our posts. This new requirement can be accomplished with a little bit of creativity and a strong desire to be a high performing post.

So, let's support our outstanding Department Commander Kevin and his great **"Every Veteran is a Hero"** team and make this term's changes in the All American program a reality.

Best wishes for the holiday season. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a healthy and happy new year to all.

Yours in comradeship and service to veterans,



Kenneth A. Stein
IPDC

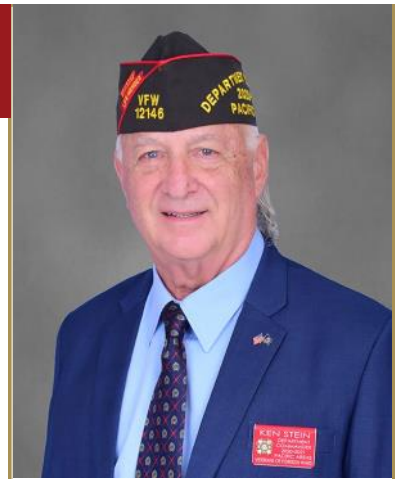
EVERY Veteran is a HERO

"Remembering our great Vietnam Veterans Past and Present"

**"I'm here for the books and the
booze!!!"**

"Sir, this IS a library."

***whispers . . . "I'm here for the
books and the booze."**



Department of Pacific Areas

Immediate Past DPA CDR

Ken Stein



VIETNAM WAR STORIES

This image is of Lt. Rick Rescorla, an Army infantry officer who was photographed as he fixed his bayonet in the Ia Drang Valley in 1965. The image graced the cover of the first edition of the book, *We Were Soldiers Once and Young*, written by Lt. Gen. Hal Moore and Joe Galloway.

Rescorla would earn a Silver Star and Purple Heart and other awards, surviving the famously fierce battle. During battles, he was known for singing battle hymns which helped calm those around him. He went on to serve in the Army Reserve until his retirement as a colonel in the 1990s.

On Sept. 11, 2001, Rescorla was a director of security in the south tower of the World Trade Center. After the aircraft hit, Rescorla went up into the towers to help people evacuate. Evacuees who were helped by Rescorla said that through the smoke they could hear a man singing so they followed the sound which led them to Rescorla. He directed them to safety, down and out of the building.

He is credited with saving more than 2,700 lives. He was last seen climbing higher into the towers with his security team to help those that were trapped in the higher floors who still needed help. His body was never found. He was [StillServing](#) back then!

[#patriotsday](#) [#patriotday](#) [#military](#) [#veterans](#) [#veteran](#) [#army](#) [#vietnamwar](#) [#vietnamveteran](#) [#vietnamveterans](#)



Vietnam War Stories: Memorial Day 2021:
Harold James Warmsley of Texas

Today we honor Specialist Four Harold James Warmsley, of Dallas Texas, who served with the 4th Infantry Division, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, C Company. Harold was fatally wounded on May 27, 1969 at Vic Kontum River at LZ Nicole in the Kontum province of South Vietnam. He was 24 years old.

A recipient of the Purple Heart and Bronze Star Medal, SP4 Warmsley is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington DC on Panel 23, Line 4. He lies in rest at the Union Cemetery in Mansfield Louisiana. Lest We Forget.

[#VietnamWarStories](#) [#MemorialDay2021](#) [#vietnamveteran](#) [#vietnamveteransmemorial](#) [#memorialday](#) [#VietnamWar](#) [#vietnamvet](#) [#lestweforget](#) [#vietnammemorial](#) [#Salute](#) [#remember](#) [#neverforget](#) [#honorthe fallen](#)

Original description and photo sourced by [honorstates.org](#), [ancestry.com](#) and [vvmf.org](#)



CHIEF OF STAFF

Comrades,

A quick look at MEMSTATS for October 16, 2021, shows that 23 of our 25 Posts are over 90% in membership. Of those 23, thirteen are over 95%! And two Posts have already achieved 100% in membership – Korat and Ban Chang. The Department of Pacific Areas started the new VFW year (July 1) as the top Department in the Nation, and 3 ½ months later, we are still number 1 in the Nation for membership.

As I'm sure you know, this doesn't happen by accident. It takes dedicated members who want to see our organization grow to ask other qualified veterans to join our ranks. We currently have 53 members who have recruited at least 1 new member this year. Notably, John Bowers from Post 9723 has recruited 15 new members; Joe Perkins from 8180 has 7; SVC "Max", also from 8180 has recruited 5; and Alex Roesse from Post 12130 has recruited 5.

I am positive that our Life Member Incentive Program will keep us at the top spot if we take advantage of it. Even younger veterans will be tempted to join for Life if they are given a \$100 discount. And it only costs your Post \$20 once you recruit 5 new Life members. 10 LM's for the larger Posts.

With COVID restrictions loosening up in many countries, and the holiday season right around the corner, opportunities for recruiting should be plentiful in the next few months. Wouldn't it be great if the current number of 53 recruiters doubled before Christmas! If you are already a recruiter, teach another comrade how to do it and what it takes to convince a vet to join the VFW.

I believe that next year we are going to see some major changes to the National Membership Program. Recruiters will receive National recognition like we've never seen before. Instead of just Commanders and Quartermasters receiving membership recognition, recruiters will also receive awards like Henry rifles and "All-American Recruiter" caps.

So, let's get started now and build up our recruiter numbers by training fellow comrades who just need a little help from a seasoned recruited to become a super-recruiter in their own right. Together, we can do it!

Yours in Comradeship,
Pete Callaghan, CoS, NCM



Chief of Staff

Peter Callaghan



POW MEMORIAL AT THE BRIDGE

On SEP 14 1997, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Pacific Areas District Five dedicated a memorial to the US POWs who worked and died on the Thai-Burma Railway during World War II.

It was the culmination of years of work and dedication by a handful of VFW members, led by District CDR Leon “Dick” Vileo with major contributions by Bob White, Jim Picha and Pete Evers

It took great dedication and persistence to obtain permission from the Thai Railway Authority to place the monument and memorial plaque beside the rails at the now famous Bridge over the River Kwai.

On that day, a large ceremony was held with many dignitaries present included US Ambassador William Itoh (who gave the dedication speech). The ceremony was also attended by military members from other embassies, members of the VFW (including Pacific Areas VFW CDR Michael Jugan) and both a USMC (US Embassy) and VFW color guard. Our Thai hosts were represented by the Governor of the Province and others.

On the plaque as it sits today beside the tracks near the infamous Bridge, the number of US POWs who died while working the Thai-Burma Railway was mis-stated. This was through no fault nor lack of attention to detail of the men who dedicated their time to this effort. The number of 356 was a commonly held belief at that time. In fact, a plaque at Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery in Thanbyuzayat Burma makes the same statement. Pursuant to this fact, it seems fitting that we attempt to update this data with a new memorial.

The Dept. of Pacific Areas, District Five, and the eight posts wish to thank that small group who worked tirelessly to ensure that the small contingent of US POWs was remembered. This act of remembrance of those Veterans clearly shows that “Every Veteran is a Hero”. Beginning about 2015, a multi-year journey was begun following the mandate in the Congressional Charter of the VFW to “perpetuate the memory and history of our dead” and remember those POWs. We have been following their journey and the location of resting places of our “Fallen Comrades” and documenting their history.

It is highly unlikely that we could ever get permission to place a second memorial near the Bridge. Nor would it seem fitting to do so. There is no reason to diminish the effort of our 1990’s predecessors.

Over time and with help from a grant from VFW National HQ, there are two goals for a second remembrance of those brave men. Those are: 1) to document the saga of these POWs as it had never been told before; 2) to display that information at various sites in Kanchanaburi that would allow visitors to access more of their story. In fact, that format was the impetus behind the website that resulted in the website: www.uspowtbr.com

In the near future, we hope to be obtain permission to place 4 plaques in the Kanchanaburi area. These plaques would contain the following statements:

*Dedicated to the 131 members of US Military POWs who **died** while laboring as POWs on the Thai-Burma Railway. (65 Army; 62 Navy & 4 Marines)*

*Dedicated to the US Military POWs of the 2 Bn 131 FA and the USS HOUSTON who **died elsewhere**; (21 Army; 9 Navy; 1 USMC; including 19 lost at sea)*

*Dedicated to the 551 members of US Military who **survived** the ordeal of laboring on the Thai-Burma Railway. (309 Army; 211 NAVY & 23 Marines). Also included are 7 members of the US Merchant Marine and 3 US civilians.*

*Dedicated to the 666 members of the TXNG, the USS HOUSTON and the SS Sawolka who **died prior** to becoming POWs. (3 Army; 606 Navy; 41 Marines & 16 Merchant Mariners)*

It is our sincere hope that we can bring this project to fruition presented by integrating with the plans by the Thai government to enhance the tourist experience in Kanchanaburi to include such an expanded memorial.



JUDGE ADVOCATE

I was recently asked what was needed for a post to change its name. It requires more than just changing the name on the door or your post website. To make it official this is what's required.

Manual of Procedures **Sec. 208 - Change of Name**

A Post may, after at least thirty (30) days written notice to the Department Commander and members of the Post, change its name upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at a regular or special meeting. Upon recommendation of the Department Commander, an amended Charter will be issued by the Commander-in-Chief. No change may be effective until an amended Charter is issued.

A Post shall not change its name to the name of a living person, other than a living Medal of Honor recipient, only after written consent from the recipient has been received, nor adopt a name already adopted by another Post in good standing in the department.

The Application is available in the VFW Training & Support under the Forms Tab.

VFW Podium Edition

The VFW Podium Edition is normally out by now. However, the VFW Store still shows that it will be available soon. I checked on my order and they informed me it would be @ the end of October. It's item # 04108 and every post should have a copy.

Guide to Disciplinary Action

This year National has come out with a *Guide to Disciplinary Action*. You can find it in the Document Repository at <https://oms.vfw.org/documents.aspx>

Robert's Rule of Order

Q: When does Robert's Rule of Order come into play?

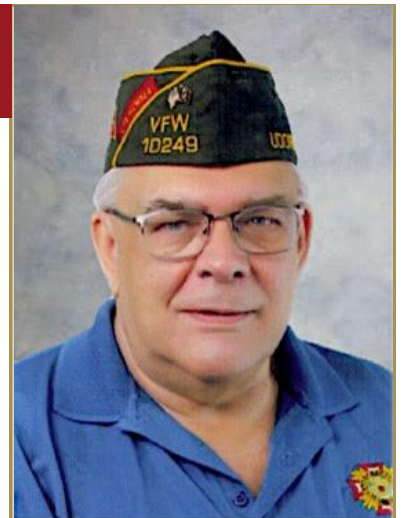
A: Only when procedures are not outline or provided for in the VFW Bylaws or Manual of Procedures.

Mid Term C-of-A

Curse of the COVID Pandemic continues to deter us from once again meeting in person for the Mid-Term. A virtual meeting has been scheduled for the 4th of December using the ZOOM Meeting App. The Rules of Order are posted below for your review.

As this year comes to a close, I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy Holiday Season. **Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year!**

YIC
Bert Marohl
DPA JA



Judge Advocate

Delbert "Bert" Marohl

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

Rules of Order for the Mid-Term 4 Dec 2021 Meeting

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.

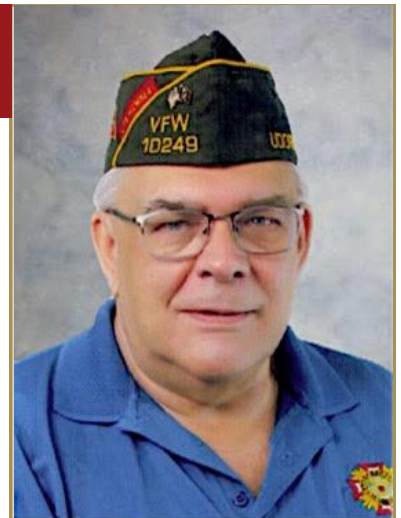
Meeting Attendance:

Pursuant to VFW By-Laws, Section 503, this meeting will be conducted 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.
4. Required reports will be submitted electronically to the Department Adjutant and included as an attachment to the minutes.
5. Important documents may be displayed to those in attendance using the share screen feature.
6. The meeting will be recorded and kept on file for future reference.
7. When addressing the assembly, members shall be in camera view while speaking.
8. Members shall mute themselves when not addressing the assembly.
9. For those rituals that call members to attention, you will remain seated at attention.
10. Caps will be removed during all prayers.
11. The meeting host to disconnect or mute a member's connection if it is causing undue interference.



Department of Pacific Areas

Judge Advocate

Delbert "Bert" Marohl

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION

Motion - Procedural Guidelines:

Once the Presiding Officer has acknowledged a motion and it has been seconded it may now be open for discussion.

Any member, when duly recognized by the Presiding Officer may speak on the motion for clarity, either for or against.

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.

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.

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.

No one may automatically speak a third or further time if anyone in the assembly objects.

Only Council members are allowed to vote on any motion before the body.

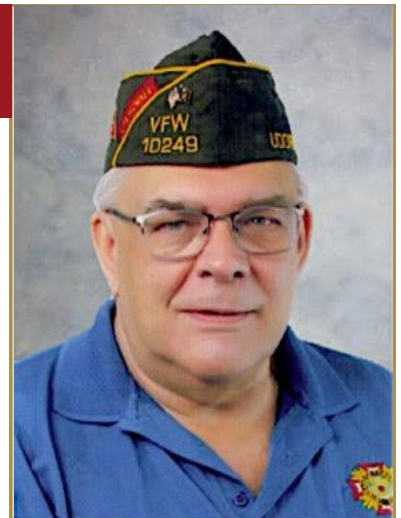
Prior to any voting the Department Quartermaster will determine the voting strength based on the number of delegates present and voting.

Each member of the Council will only be entitled to one (1) vote.

Unless there is a motion and approval for a Roll Call Vote, all voting will be done by using the ZOOM voting feature.

YIC

Bert Marohl
DPA Chief of Staff
National Council Member



Judge Advocate

Delbert "Bert" Marohl

STORY TIME: THERE IS A MESSAGE HERE

"An old man meets a young man who asks: "Do you remember me?"

And the old man says no. Then the young man tells him he was his student, And the teacher asks: "What do you do, what do you do in life?"

The young man answers:

"Well, I became a teacher."

"Ah, how good, like me?" Asks the old man.

"Well, yes. In fact, I became a teacher because you inspired me to be like you."

The old man, curious, asks the young man at what time he decided to become a teacher. And the young man tells him the following story: "One day, a friend of mine, also a student, came in with a nice new watch, and I decided I wanted it. I stole it, I took it out of his pocket.

Shortly after, my friend noticed his watch was missing and immediately complained to our teacher, who was you.

Then you addressed the class saying, 'This student's watch was stolen during classes today. Whoever stole it, please return it.' I didn't give it back because I didn't want to.

You closed the door and told us all to stand up and form a circle. You were going to search our pockets one by one until the watch was found.

However, you told us to close our eyes, because you would only look for his watch if we all had our eyes closed.

We did as instructed.

You went from pocket to pocket, and when you went through my pocket, you found the watch and took it. You kept searching everyone's pockets, and when you were done you said 'open your eyes. We have the watch.'

You didn't tell on me and you never mentioned the episode. You never said who stole the watch either. That day you saved my dignity forever. It was the most shameful day of my life.

But this is also the day I decided not to become a thief, a bad person, etc. You never said anything, nor did you even scold me or take me aside to give me a moral lesson.

I received your message clearly.

Thanks to you, I understood what a real educator needs to do. Do you remember this episode, professor?

The old professor answered, "Yes, I remember the situation with the stolen watch, which I was looking for in everyone's pocket. I didn't remember you because I also closed my eyes while looking."

This is the essence of teaching: If to correct you must humiliate; you don't know how to teach."



DPA SURGEON

Comrades,

We are still facing troubling times in the COVID-19 pandemic. However, traveling during the pandemic still has many challenges due to quarantine mandates, wearing masks and social distancing. Recently, booster shots were made available for the community. Some locations are not open to booster shots, but we are doing our part to protect ourselves and the community.

Besides the continuous coverage of COVID-19, flu season is upon us. We encourage you to talk to your provider about getting the flu shot.

Check out these websites for more information

CDC: COVID-19 Information

[cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/about-covid-19.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/about-covid-19.html)

CDC: COVID-19 Variants

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/variants.html>

WHO: World Health Organization

<https://www.who.int/en/activities/tracking-SARS-CoV-2-variants/>

Stay safe.

Yours In Comradeship,
Mariano Fajardo



Surgeon

Mariano Fajardo

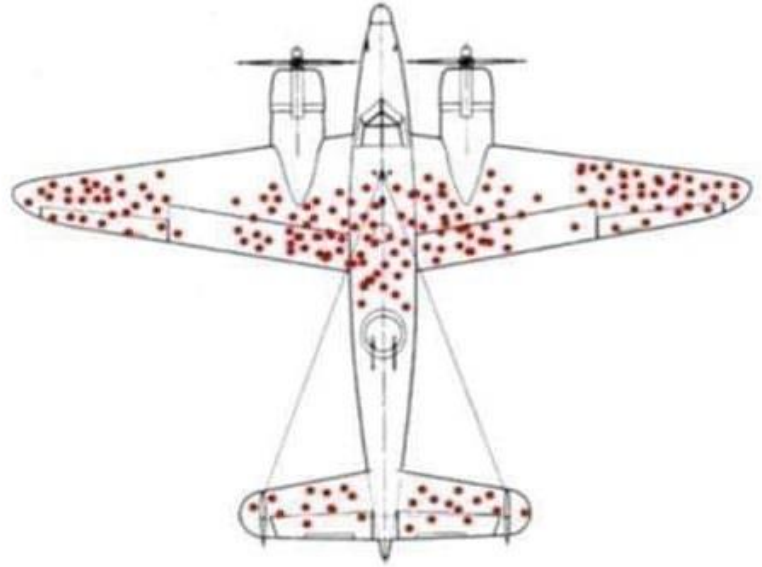


A wise doctor once wrote...

*When the world
gets all mixed
up; stay -*

THE LEGEND OF ABRAHAM WALD

The year is 1943. American bombers are suffering badly from German air defense. The military decides it needs some advice on how to cut losses, so they consult the wizards in the Statistical Research Group at Columbia University to see what their best options might be. One possibility is to use more armor on planes, but armor weighs a lot, and adding too much would lower performance considerably. So the Air Force brass ask the SRG, how much armor should we use for optimal results, and where should we put it?



The SRG was one of several collaborating groups of scientists formed soon after America joined the war. The story of its beginning, in the summer of 1942, is told well in [W. Allen Wallis' autobiographical memoir](#). The SRG was staffed by a distinguished lot, including many of the most prominent statisticians of the post-war world, the economists Milton Friedman and George Stigler--who were later to receive Nobel Prizes in economics--and the mathematician Abraham Wald. Norbert Wiener was at one time a consultant to the group. Recruitment to the SRG was by an "old-boy" network (to use a phrase also applicable to that other successful war-time operation across the ocean at Bletchley Park), but it prided itself on what we would call diversity.

Wald was born in the former Austrian-Hungarian empire in 1902, in the city now called [Cluj](#). It advertises itself as the unofficial capital of Transylvania, which is now a part of Romania but inhabited in the past largely by Hungarians, and Hungarian was Wald's mother tongue. He started his professional life in Vienna as a pure mathematician, but became interested in the mathematics of statistics in the mid-thirties. As a Jew, he was deprived of his academic position in Austria, and like others in his situation was lucky to be able to move to the United States. At the time the SRG was founded, he was on the faculty of Columbia University, which is where the SRG was located, and he was one of its first members. By all accounts, he was impressively bright--"smartest man in the room," says one recent book (but keep in mind, most of the time there were many smart men in the room).

The problem of armoring planes is assigned to Wald. Along with the assignment, he is given a fair amount of statistical data regarding aircraft damage, for example the location of damage from hits by enemy aircraft. It happens that most of the damage is located on the fuselage and very little in the area around motors, and the military is expecting to add armor to the fuselage, where the density of hits is highest. "Not so fast," said Wald. "What you should really do is add armor around the motors! What you are forgetting is that the aircraft that are most damaged don't return. You don't see them. Hits by German shells are presumably distributed somewhat randomly. The number of damaged motors you are seeing is far less than randomness would produce, and that indicates that it is the motors that are the weak point." The advice is taken, and in fact Wald's techniques for interpreting aircraft damage statistics continue through two later conflicts.

The Internet loves this tale. I am sure most of you have seen this on Facebook. Try a search for "Abraham Wald aircraft" to see what Google has to show you, and you will find dramatic headlines:

Abraham Wald and the Missing Bullet Holes
Seeing is Disbelieving
How A Story From World War II Shapes Facebook Today
The hole story: What you don't see will kill you

[Here is the full story](#)



NATIONAL HOME CHAIRMAN

Comrades, I received an update on the Eligibility for the National Home. There are three lanes of eligibility through which a family can apply to live at the National Home. Eligibility stems from the child or children in the family. They are:

- A veteran family (at least one parent that has served and been honorably discharged).
- An active duty military family (a parent is currently serving in the armed forces or reserves).
- A family that is related to a VFW or Auxiliary member (this include step-parents/grandparents).

This third lane is the most wide-reaching, as many people living in the United States have a parent or grandparent who has served. Sometimes, the child's parent or grandparent is not a VFW or Auxiliary member, but are eligible to become one. If they become a member, then the family is eligible to apply to live at the National Home.

The first step to living at the National Home is always through our Helpline at **800.313.4200**. Helpline staff will help callers to determine eligibility.

National Home Donation Report

This report is as it was received from the Districts and Posts and verified by Nation Home monthly report as of **29 September 2021**. 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.

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		
District 2	Yes	\$50.00		11575	Yes	\$50.00
1054				12074		
9555				12146		
9612	Yes	\$50.00		12163		
District 3	Yes	\$50.00		District 6		
8180				1509		
9985				2917	Yes	\$50.00
10033				3457		
10223				District 7		
12147		Pacific House		124	Yes	\$50.00
District 4				2485		
9957				9892		
District 5				11447		
9876	Yes	\$300.00		12130		
9951	Yes	\$50.00				
Post 12147 Project Pacific House				Yokosuka Scouts via Post 1054		
Dist/Post Total	\$850.00	Special Projects		\$0.00	Grand Total	\$850.00
Not Confirmed				Working on		

Yours in Comradeship,
 Randell E. Himes
nhcdpa@vfw-pacific.org
rehimes@gmail.com



National Home Chairman

Randell Himes

Please report to me any and all donations that you make so I can record and track them. Email the completed form 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

DR. JORDAN PETERSON'S 42 RULES FOR LIFE



Tell the truth... or at least don't lie
Do not do things that you hate
Act so that you can tell the truth about how you act
Pursue what is meaningful, not what is expedient
If you have to choose, be the one who does things, instead of the one who is seen to do things
Pay attention
Assume that the person you are listening to might know something you need to know
Listen to them hard enough so that they will share it with you
Plan and work diligently to maintain the romance in your relationships
Be careful who you share good news with
Be careful who you share bad news with
Make at least one thing better every single place you go
Imagine who you could be, and then aim single-mindedly at that
Do not allow yourself to become arrogant or resentful
Try to make one room in your house as beautiful as possible

Compare yourself to who you were yesterday, not to who someone else is today
Work as hard as you possibly can on at least one thing and see what happens
If old memories still make you cry, write them down carefully and completely
Maintain your connections with people
Do not carelessly denigrate social institutions or artistic achievement
Treat yourself as if you were someone that you are responsible for helping
Ask someone to do you a small favor, so that he or she can ask you to do one in the future
Make friends with people who want the best for you
Do not try to rescue someone who does not want to be rescued
And be very careful about rescuing someone who does
Nothing well done is insignificant
Set your house in perfect order before you criticize the world
Dress like the person you want to be
Be precise in your speech
Stand up straight with your shoulders back
Don't avoid something frightening if it stands in your way – and don't do unnecessarily dangerous things
Do not let your children do anything that makes you dislike them
Do not transform your wife into a maid
Do not hide unwanted things in the fog
Notice that opportunity lurks where responsibility has been abdicated
Read something written by someone great
Pet a cat when you encounter one on the street
Do not bother children when they are skateboarding
Don't let bullies get away with it
Write a letter to the government if you see something that needs fixing – and propose a solution
Remember that what you do not yet know is more important than what you already know
Be grateful in spite of your suffering

WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAMS

In honor of the USMC's 246 birthday on 10 November, I will provide tribute to some Marines who have made an impact. There are many instances in our culture of keeping females out of danger. Call it a masculine need to protect or a basic instinct for continuing the species. With the additional threat of road side bombs and suicide bombers to daily overseas locations, the need for everyone to be engaged in the combat mission is necessary. The cultural need for local women to be able to interface with American forces made the role of combat trained females even more important.



Lance Corporal Holly A. Charette served during Operation Iraqi Freedom delivering mail to her fellow troops. She was assigned to work in the field at an entry control point in Fallujah, Iraq by searching Iraqi women and girls who entered the city. On June 23, 2005 Charette's convoy was attacked killing many of the occupants including Charette.



U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Stephanie Robertson, a member of the female engagement team, monitors security during an engagement mission in Marjah, Afghanistan, Aug. 18, 2010. Robertson is assigned to 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 7.



April 2020, Capt. Emily Naslund, 27, led one of the first groups of female Marines sent to provide a different face to the Afghan people. All 39 volunteered, were provided extensive training at Camp Pendleton CA, and we're expected to gain Intel, establish positive relationships, and determine needs for the villages in an effort to bring modern health care and basic technology to rural villages.



Department of Pacific Areas
Women Veterans Programs

Lauren Wanzer

WOMEN IN THE MILITARY - A PROUD HERITAGE



WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAM

WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAMS



Department of Pacific Areas
Women Veterans Programs

Lauren Wanzer

Of the 13 to fall at the Kabul Airport 26 August 2021 with the withdrawal of American civilians and Military Members were two female Marines who were responsible for the safe evacuation of approximately 30,000 people. Sgt. Johnny Rosario and Sgt. Nicole Gee gave their life for their country that day.



Chief drill instructor SSGT Amber Staroscik hands recruits their Eagle, globe, and Anchor emblem following the completion of the 54 hour long Crucible training held in Camp Pendleton, CA. 22 April 2021 Lima company (MCRD) became the first USMC Integrated group to be allowed to complete the combat training as part of boot camp.

[Visit the VFW.org Women Veterans Website](https://www.vfw.org)



THE LIGHTER SIDE

Folding Chair In Church Basement Fantasizes About Getting Smashed Over Wrestler's Back

DALLAS, TX—Hoping to eventually escape the dreary and mundane utility space, a local folding chair in the basement of Antioch Church reportedly fantasized Tuesday about getting smashed over a professional wrestler's back. "Someday I'll get out of this damn basement and finally make the big time, being swung at an unsuspecting wrestler or referee as the packed arena cheers," said the wistful steel chair, bemoaning how it had wasted its prime years supporting the asses of teenagers, AA attendees, and elderly bingo players when it should have been inflicting pain on an ornery heel. "There's got to be more to life than youth group bible study sessions and Knights of Columbus meetings such as absolutely pummeling a WWE superstar to change the outcome of a title match. I never get to knock out anyone down here. I'm gonna make it to WrestleMania if it's the last thing I do, just you wait." At press time, the folding chair was well on its way to achieving its goal after getting sold at a church fundraiser.



INVESTIGATING A FARMER FOR LABOR INFRACTIONS



A man owned a small ranch near Sheridan, Wyoming. The Wyoming Labor Department got a tip that he was not paying proper wages to his help and sent an investigator out to interview him.

"I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them," demanded the investigator.

"Well," replied the rancher, "there's my ranch hand who's been with me for 3 years. I pay him \$1200 a week plus free room and board."

"The cook has been here for 18 months, and I pay her \$1000 per week plus free room and board."

"Then there's the half-wit. He works about 18 hours every day, with no days off, and does about 90% of all the work around here. He makes about \$10 per week and pays his own room and board."

"But I buy him a bottle of bourbon every Saturday night, and he also sleeps with my wife occasionally."

"That's the guy I want to talk to... the half-wit," says the investigator.

"You're talking to him," replied the rancher.

DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR

Comrades,

The Department of Pacific Areas started the district and post inspections on October 1, 2021. I'm hoping all inspections can be completed before the Council of Administration (CofA) which takes place in December 2021.

All completed inspections will be posted in the Department Dashboard.

[Click here to go to the dashboard](#)

If you have completed your Post or District inspection and it is not reflected on the dashboard, please let me know immediately.

As of this date, 15 October 2021 the following Posts and District have forward their completed inspections to me and will be posted on the dashboard within the next 24 to 48 hours.

District 1

Post 9723, 10217, 10249

Yours in Comradship and Service,

Robert Mo Moses,
Inspector,
Department of Pacific Areas

FAMOUS TOPICS IN ART HISTORY:



**HERCULES ATTEMPTING TO
GIVE HIS CAT A PILL**



Department Inspector

Robert "Mo" Moses



A REMEMBRANCE DAY POEM

“One Thousand Men Are Walking”

One thousand men are walking
Walking side by side
Singing songs from home
The spirit as their guide
they walk toward the light milord
they walk towards the sun
they smoke and laugh and smile together
no foes to outrun
these men live on forever
in the hearts of those they saved
a nation truly grateful
for the path of peace they paved
they march as friends and comrades
but they do not march for war
step closer to salvation
a tranquil steady corps
the meadows lit with golden beams
a beacon for the brave
the emerald grass untrampled
a reward for what they gave
they dream of those they left behind
and know they dream of them
forever in those poppy fields
there walks one thousand men

As Read by Author

VOP/PP/TA CHAIRMAN

Comrades,

I hope all that could receive VoD, PP, and TA submissions could, and by now, you should be voting for whom you think will be a National winner. If you did not have submissions, you would have submitted the donations to be eligible for AA and AS.

Next, the Districts will work together and vote on who they think is best overall. The ultimate goal is to have the best of the best going to Department so that it is hard for us to choose. Afterward, we will hopefully determine the best submission and get a National winner from the Pacific.

I hope that you could provide feedback to submitters so that minor errors such as too many words or an auditory essay that was a bit too long/short could be corrected for a larger pool of essays. **Please do not forget that our priority is to increase the number of students participating rather than eliminating them.**

District Deadline to Department: November the 21st

District Level Judging:

For Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy essays, please have judging completed and winners forwarded to Department by November the 21st. Each District can forward one (1) of each essay to Department. Scan and send your winning Patriot's Pen essay entry form along with the essay. Scan and send your winning Voice of Democracy auditory essay entry form along with a copy of the audio file and the student's head & shoulders photo. I will count what is in my inbox on November the 22nd as the final number to report to the Department. Please maintain all original files until National voting is over. Email address to send to is vodppd-pa@vfwpacific.org

Along with the essays, have any Teachers Award winners forwarded to Department by November the 21st; again, I will count what is in my inbox on the morning of November the 22nd. Each District can send one (1) entry to Department for each grade level; K-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Scan and email me your winning Teachers Award entry form, essay, resume, teacher's head & shoulders photo, and other supporting documentation for each grade level submitted. Again, please maintain all original files until National voting is over. Email address to send to is vodppd-pa@vfwpacific.org.

Yours in comradeship and service,

David Gley

Voice of Democracy / Patriot's Pen /
Teacher's Award Chairman DPA

vodppdpa@vfwpacific.org

Phone: +82-10-2724-7176

**WHEN COMFORTING A
GRAMMAR NAZI**

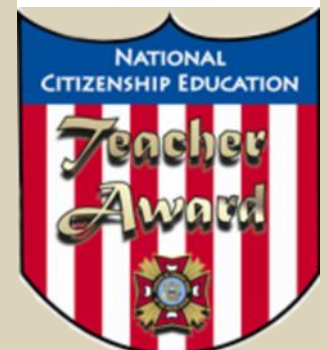


**I ALWAYS SAY SOFTLY,
"THERE, THEIR, THEY'RE"**



VOD/PP/TA Chairman

David Gley



LIFE'S LESSONS

The first police officer reaches under the one-ton bale of hay and attempts to lift it off of me. Of course, it doesn't budge. He grabs his flashlight and shines it under the hay into my face. I blink. He yells over his shoulder to his partner, "He's alive! He's alive! Help me move the hay."

Even working together two officers can't move it – not a fraction of an inch. A thousand pounds each? Of course, they can't move it.

"Cut the strings," I whisper. My voice is weak. They can't hear me.

I am not going to last much longer. If they just cut the strings, the bale will break apart, and they can drag me out of here.

"Lift, Joe, lift!"

"Just cut the strings," I mumble, "Please cut the strings."

"C'mon harder."

"It's too heavy! We can't lift it. We gotta go for help! Hang on, we'll be right back!"

I am alone again in the growing darkness. Wonderful painless, peaceful, irresistible sleep beckons. I struggle to remain conscious. One. Two. Three. Four... Where are they? How long does it take for police, fire, ambulance, to arrive? Where is the Coast Guard? Where are the Marines? Where is that one old farmer with enough common sense to just cut the strings?

The desert air grows chilly as the sky darkens. I grow weaker. Dizziness overcomes me and I begin to drift off into that gray space somewhere between the living and the dead.

Help finally arrives. One of the police officers bends down so I can see his face. "Hold on! A fire engine is here. There are six men aboard."

I do the math. Two big, strong cops and six burly firemen must move a ton of dead weight off me. That's two hundred forty five pounds each. No way can they possibly do that – but somehow, miraculously, they do. A couple of neighbors who have arrived at the scene stand by to catch me. They lower my limp body to the ground where I lie in a broken heap.

Why didn't they cut the strings? They could have saved a long, tortured hour.

How heavy is hay? A piece of hay is about the weight of a feather. How many pieces of hay does it take to make two thousand pounds? Lots. That package of sixteen bazillion individual pieces of hay wrapped in a gigantic bundle is a crushing weight. But separated, it would have been nothing. I feel bad saying this, because it makes me sound ungrateful – and I am very grateful to the guys who saved my life that night – but there is a point to be made here, isn't there?

Is it too big?

Is it overwhelming?

Cut the strings – just cut the strings!

Are you buried under crushing burdens? Projects that are too huge? Schedules that are too complicated? Maybe you are trying to do too much at once – trying to do everything instead of doing something.

Cut the strings and cut yourself free. Do one thing at a time – and get it Done.



DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER (DSO)

Why are you waiting? Time Fly's

Once or twice a week I get someone in the office that says, "I want to file a claim" or "the VA denied my claim" and I find out they are a Vietnam vet or a Gulf War vet and have legitimate issues but never filed. When I ask why – "I didn't think I would get it" or "I just didn't get around to it" or "I was always drunk". From 6 months before discharge until today, NOW is the time to file.

Even if it has been 30 or 50 years contact your Post Service Officer or one of our excellent ADSO's and start your claim. If you are already service connected, has the condition become worse? As we age things that were OK become really 'not OK'. You can also do it yourself on VA.GOV.

For those of us in the Pacific (and Europe) it's also the shock of leaving CONUS and finding out the VA will only reimburse you for "service connected" Doctor and hospital bills (and related drugs), and only through FMP – and not retroactive. If you go to the doctor today and apply for FMP tomorrow – no reimbursement. If you have new S/C disabilities since you filed with FMP you must send them the upgraded list of disabilities. Nine times out of ten, they won't look it up.

If you have not applied for FMP (Foreign Medical Program) do so NOW –

[*FMP Registration Form \(VA Form 10-7959f-1\)*](#)

The other time sensitive thing is caring for your loved ones.

I recently married my girlfriend – I told a few people and one of my friends told me another friend (he did not name) said "why did he do that". In my case it is because I love her and want her to be OK after I depart the earthly bounds. It is also because I want the kids to be something other than a "trike driver" or a "girlfriend". If you are service connected the kids might get a good education, and go to the University. If the stars align and you die from a service-connected condition your wife or husband may get Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) .

So why does time matter?

First, there is no applying for service connection AFTER the veteran Dies. Even if he did apply and get awarded before he died, time is critical. I can't count the number of times I have seen "GI Joe died last week after a brief illness".

You may be eligible for DIC benefits if you are a surviving spouse who:

- Married a Service member who died on active duty, active duty for training or inactive duty training, OR
- Married the deceased Veteran before Jan. 1, 1957, OR
- Married a Veteran who died from a service-connected injury or disease, as long as the marriage began within 15 years of discharge, OR
- Married the deceased Veteran for at least one year, OR
- Had a child with the Veteran and cohabitated with the Veteran until their death.



Department Service Officer (DSO)

John Dibble

DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER (DSO)

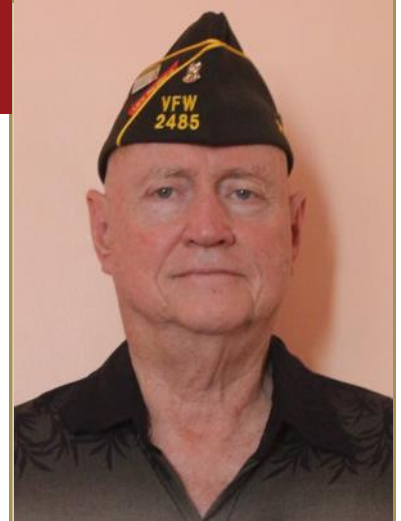
There are things that matter more than what is on the retched news. If you die service connected, even if everything is smooth it will be at least 4 months before the first check arrives. How will the rent, utilities, food and everything be paid for if all your assets are locked in a US savings account. What are your monthly bills times 4 and is it accessible to your surviving spouse? Some banks lock up the deceased funds until probate is finished, often even a joint account. Often a year or more, depending on the country you are in. Check with your bank. So, 4 months minimum expenses in a coffee can, a safe, an account in their name only. Don't be the one whose survivor is dragging the furniture into the street to pay the rent (I have seen this!). I too often hear "I don't care what happens after I die". None of my business, but that seems really sad, particularly if you just assume the VFW will take care of them. Neither the VFW or the VA is going to pay their rent or feed them.

Yours in comradeship,

John Dibble

dsodpa@vfw-pacific.org

EVERY Veteran is a HERO



Department Service Officer (DSO)

John Dibble

8 Pieces of Wisdom that can Change Your Life

1. **Words are powerful, use them wisely.**
2. **People come and go, but the right ones stay.**
3. **You are doing enough even if it doesn't feel like it.**
4. **Failure is when you don't try.**
5. **Random acts of kindness make everyone feel better.**
6. **Live for today, not for tomorrow.**
7. **Never look back, there is nothing there for you.**
8. **Overthinking kills happiness.**

A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

On 31 July 1854, the man who was the probable inspiration for Uncle Sam passes away during a cholera epidemic. Did you know that there was likely a real person behind the Uncle Sam character that you are used to seeing?

Samuel Wilson was born on September 13, 1766, in Massachusetts. Legend has it that, when he was only 15 years old, he tried to join the Continental Army. He was not assigned to fighting duties (probably because of his age); instead, he would have served as a “service boy,” possibly guarding cattle and providing the troops with meat. The story of his Revolutionary War service is appealing, but it hasn’t been proven.

After the Revolution, Wilson and his brother moved to Troy, New York. Before too long, they’d begun a meatpacking business that became quite successful. Eventually, they had relatives and other community members working for them. Wilson was well-loved! He gained the nickname, “Uncle Sam,” even among those who were not related to him. This nickname became more nationally prominent during the War of 1812.

At the time, Wilson’s company was helping to provide meat to soldiers. When the barrels and crates of food arrived for the Army, they were stamped with the initials “E.A.-U.S.” The initials “E.A.” were a reference to a government contractor, Elbert Anderson. The “U.S.” meant that the crates were the property of the U.S. government. But the letters soon took on a new meaning.

As the story goes, a visitor saw barrels of meat being unloaded and did not know what the “U.S.” stood for. He asked a worker, and the worker jokingly responded: “Uncle Sam.” He meant his boss, but the joke soon spread. “Uncle Sam” was feeding the army!

Actually, the joke REALLY spread. As early as 1813, a newspaper article would reference Uncle Sam as a substitute for the United States. By the 1830s, Uncle Sam was being drawn in newspaper cartoons. After the Civil War, cartoonist Thomas Nast gave Uncle Sam his final makeover. Uncle Sam was drawn to look a bit more like Abraham Lincoln: He was thin and had a goatee!

Was he intentionally drawn to look like Lincoln? Nash never explained himself, but some have argued that Uncle Sam’s image was instead based on a popular circus clown from the era: Dan Rice. Either way, the image stuck, and this idea of Uncle Sam was used extensively in recruiting posters during the World Wars.

Not everyone has bought into the idea that Samuel Wilson inspired the Uncle Sam character. However, on September 15, 1961, Congress decided that he did. A resolution was approved “saluting Uncle Sam Wilson of Troy, New York, as the progenitor of America's National symbol of Uncle Sam.”

Gentle reminder: History posts are copyright © 2013-2021 by Tara Ross. I appreciate it when you use the share feature instead of cutting/pasting.

[#TDIH](#) [#OTD](#) [#AmericanHistory](#) [#USHistory](#) [#liberty](#) [#freedom](#) [#ShareTheHistory](#)



AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY CHAIR

Once again, the holidays are upon us. As such, there are many reasons to show our Americanism and Loyalty to our great nation,

November is Veterans & Military Families Month. Veterans & Military Families Month was established in 1996 by the Armed Services YMCA, with the U.S. Government recognizing the occasion every year since. Each November, the President signs a proclamation declaring November National Veterans & Military Families Month, and with hundreds of thousands of service members deployed overseas, recognizing the daily sacrifices made by active duty, Guard, and Reserve military families has never been more important.

The following are just a few ways to increase awareness, and provide support:

- Donate a Thanksgiving gift to junior-enlisted members and their families through the [USO-Metro's Turkeys for Troops!](#)
- Create a Spouse or Service Member [Care Package](#) with items that would help either ease stress during a deployment.
- [Adopt-a-Soldier for the Holidays](#)
- Create a spouse care package for them to enjoy and help reduce stress during training, deployment, and [PCS moves](#) and relocations.
- Thank an Active-Duty Member, Veteran, Military Spouse, or Military Child for their service.
- Visit war memorials with your family to teach your children the value of service.
- Fly the [U.S. Flag](#).
- Adopt a military family for the holidays by sponsoring a Food Basket or Toys for junior enlisted military families through the ASYMCA's Operation Holiday Joy.
- Contact your nearest military base [Morale, Welfare, And Recreation \(MWR\)](#) office to see what events or activities might be planned on-post honoring families including special events, contests, or discounts for local businesses or attractions. Sometimes just showing up for an event or ceremony creates a stronger bond in the community.
- Volunteer at a local chapter of a Veterans Service Organization (VSO) such as the Red Cross, AmVets, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), American Legion, etc.
- Donate professional services to military communities. Are you a professional counselor, psychologist, social worker, therapist, child care professional, or community organizer? Private and chartered organizations serving military families may need your expertise to make an impact in military communities whether active duty, Guard, Reserve, retirees, etc.
- Contact your nearest chapter of the [Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society](#), [Air Force Aid Society](#), [Army Emergency Relief](#), or [Coast Guard Mutual Assistance](#), to volunteer or participate in scheduled events to support their efforts. The winter months are prime fundraising and support time for these societies as they gear up to assist military families over the holiday season. The annual Toys For Tots drives and similar efforts held by these agencies are always in need of volunteer help.



Americanism/Loyalty Day Chair

John "Jack" Farrell

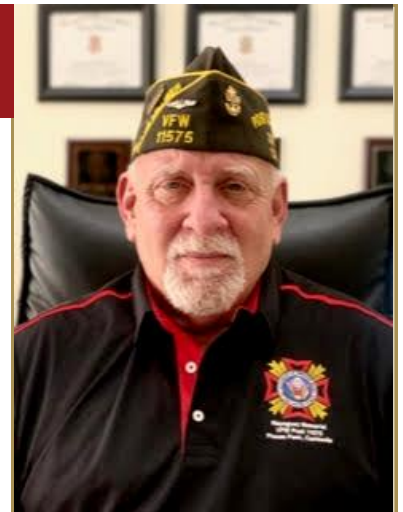
AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY CHAIR

- Visit a veteran receiving care in a VA hospital or nursing home.
- Offer a military neighbor a bit of respite with volunteer childcare to get errands accomplished or to even enjoy a few hours to recharge.
- See someone in uniform? Thank them for their service or surprise them with a free coffee, dessert or drink if they are in line behind you.
- Make a donation or volunteer with a military appreciation day event.

Veterans Day 11 November

Veterans Day is observed every year on November 11th. Veterans Day evolved from Armistice Day, which was proclaimed in 1919 by President Woodrow Wilson. Armistice is when warring parties agree to stop fighting; Armistice Day recognizes the end of World War One when hostilities ceased on November 11th at 11 A.M, 1918 (11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month).

Veterans contribute to American society in many ways; not just during their time in active duty. Throughout our history, military service members have put on their uniforms to protect the values and liberties that this nation was built on. But that doesn't stop once the uniform comes off and their time in active duty has ended. Veterans take the lessons they have learned and the experiences they've gained and continue their service to our nation by strengthening our communities. They become our nation's leaders, scientists, entrepreneurs. Veterans are the most active volunteers working to improve communities across our country. Service goes beyond the uniform. This Veteran's Day, we honor the men and women who have worn their uniform who continue to serve our country.



Americanism/Loyalty Day Chair

John "Jack" Farrell

AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY CHAIR

December

Pearl Harbor Day 7 December

Just before 8am on the morning of December 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.

Pearl Harbor Facts

The base was attacked in two waves by a total of 353 Japanese fighters, bombers and torpedo planes.

- There were 165 U.S. Naval ships involved. 20 were damaged. 12 of those were back in service in less than 1 year.
- All 8 U.S. Navy battleships were damaged; 4 were “lost in action.”
- All but one battleship were raised and 6 were returned to service and fought in the war.
- No Aircraft Carriers were in port at the time of the attack.
- Japan also launched attacks on U.S. troops in Wake Island, Guam, Malaya, Thailand and Midway that same day. Wake Island, Guam, Malaya, and Thailand would all eventually fall to the Japanese.
- Pearl Harbor Casualties:
 - 2,008 naval officers killed; 710 wounded
 - 218 Army personnel killed; 364 wounded
 - 109 Marines killed, 69 wounded
 - 68 civilians killed, 35 wounded
 - A total of 2,402 Americans were killed, 1,178 wounded

Military Branch Birthdays for November and December



10 November 1775



13 December 1636



20 December 2019

I wish each of you a happy and joyous holiday season. Stay safe out there!

Jack Farrell
Americanism/Loyalty Day Chairman



Americanism/Loyalty Day Chair

John "Jack" Farrell

VMS CHAIRMAN

The VFW offers a wide range of assistance programs aimed at helping service members and veterans of every generation. As a veteran, you understand better than most what struggles and hurdles today's service members and veterans face. Here are some of the assistance programs offered by the VFW:

Student Veteran includes the **Fry Scholarship** - Qualifying children of service members who die in the line of duty after September 10, 2001 are eligible for the Post-911/GI Bill, **Rural Benefit** - Certain veterans who relocate from highly rural areas to attend college may be eligible for a one-time \$500 payment to help defer costs associated with relocation, **Yellow Ribbon** -

Allows approved institutions of higher learning in the US and the VA to partially or fully fund tuition and expenses that exceed the GI Bill limits and **Scholarships** - Several national scholarships may be available to help defray some out-of-pocket costs for higher education.

VFW's "**Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship**" provides service members and veterans with the financial assistance they need to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. It's just another way for us to say "thank you" to those who fought for our freedoms.

Unmet Needs provides grants (not loans) and referrals to other organizations to active-duty service members, veterans and their immediate families to assist with basic life needs.

Military Assistance Program (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.

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

Student Veterans of America (SVA) provides 10 exemplary VFW members who are student veterans the opportunity to make their voices heard on Capitol Hill and in their community.

Don't think of your donation as just an All-American/ALL-State requirement, but as a means in keeping these programs alive at helping service members and veterans of every generation.

Need to make your Post or District Veterans & Military Support Program donation? Donations made toward VMS to fulfill the 2020-2021 All-American/All-State requirement will only be accepted through the following links [VMS-Donate Today](#) or [VFW Programs Donation Form](#). Do not donate through the Department or by any other means.

Please email me a copy of all MAP functions, Adopt-a-Unit and VMS donations at don.kelley@gmail.com.

Don Kelley
Veterans & Military Support (VMS) Chairman



Department of Pacific Areas

VMS Chairman

Don Kelley



MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

VA Claims & Separation Benefits

Financial Grants

Student Veteran Support

Mental Wellness

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER / TAPS REPORT

Let us remember the following comrades who passed away that were not reported prior to 30 Jun 21.

Post	Comrade	Date of Death
Post 1054	Castro, Mike	20-Sep-21
Post 2485	Flaherty, John F. Jr.	15-Jun-21
	Ritzen, Jacob	24-May-21
	Cayton, Donald E.	05-Aug-21
	Harris, Carl A.	13-Jul-21
	Earley, Larry T.	09-Aug-21
	Phillip, Adam B.	01-Aug-21
	Pasilan, Miguel V.	22-Aug-21
	Loyd, John R.	Dec-20
	Rasmussen, Waleigh C.	13-Jun-21
	Harrison, Harry C.	24-Sep-21
	Gray, Robert W.	30-Sep-21
	Murphy, Leo	27-Sep-21
	Vincent, Russel C.	
	Mundy, Edward	
Post 2917	Millard, James H. Jr	11-Jun-21
Post 9555	Gaunce, Humphrey	14-Oct-21
Post 9612	Gance, Gill	14-Oct-21
Post 9723	Truesdell, Paul E.	21-Sep-21
Post 9876	Kraft, Paul M.	28-Jul-21
Post 10249	Turner, Earl D.	01-Aug-21
	Cox, Stanley Ray	06-Sep-21
Post 12146	Landis, David	14-Aug-21
Post 12074	Nix, Ernest	06-Aug-21
	Mayo, George	
Post 12130	Kelley, Paul F.	06-Aug-21

Ronald J. Davis
 Chaplain DPA
chapdpa@vfwpacific.org or to davisronald738@gmail.com.



Chaplain

Ron Davis

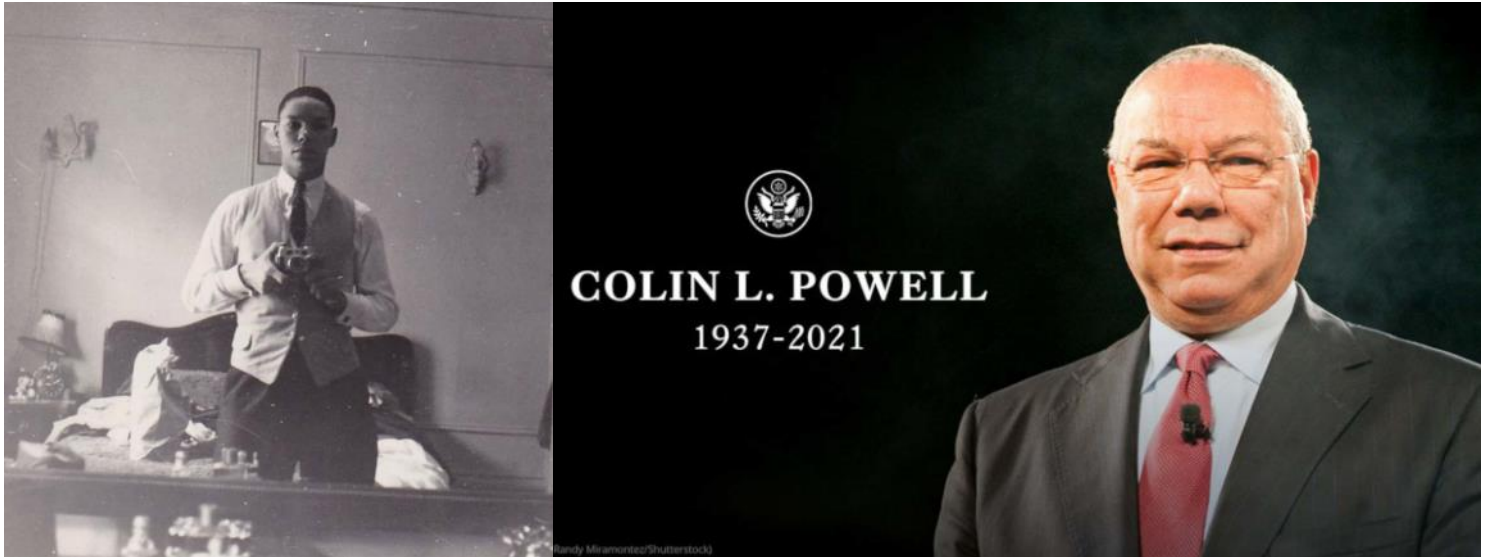


Let us bow our heads in prayer to All Mighty God. Remember our fallen comrades and pray for those still missing in action. Pray for them and their families that they may be reunited. Amen



REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

General Colin Powell posted this a few years back joking he'd been taking selfies 60 years longer than the rest of us. He often spoke of 13 Rules of Leadership. Here they are for you to ponder:



It ain't as bad as you think. It will look better in the morning.

Get mad, then get over it.

Avoid having your ego so close to your position that when your position falls, your ego goes with it.

It can be done.

Be careful what you choose.

Don't let adverse facts stand in the way of a good decision.

You can't make someone else's choices.

Check small things.

Share credit.

Remain calm. Be kind.

Have a vision.

Don't take counsel of your fears or naysayers.

Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier.

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