

# COALITION OF FAMILIES OF KOREAN & COLD WAR POW/MIAS



SPECIAL EDITION “We will find our own loved one only by searching for them all.” 2019

## A Special Newsletter Edition The DPAA Family Member Annual Briefing

The Korean and Cold War POW/MIA accounting mission juggles a multitude of issues. Keeping track of them all can be a challenge. Doing something about them even moreso! The talent of a master juggler is handy in keeping them all in the air. A cast of hundreds is needed to move them forward.

DPAA is the master juggler. Nongovernmental organizations, like the *Coalition*, are jugglers in their own right ... in the wings to take on dropped issues or to toss-in issues that aren't being considered. Center stage, however, belongs to DPAA.

Each August, the agency invites family members to gather in DC and learn about issues being juggled. DPAA pays most family members' airfare, but attending is still not possible for everyone. So the *Coalition* has put together this special

newsletter edition to report on the briefing and which issues are being pursued.

As family members, it is easy to have tunnel vision regarding our own loss; seeing the recovery mission as a single storyline, the search for *our* loved

one. DPAA's briefing is where we learn how truly broad the mission is, how the search for one loved one is intertwined with a multitude of issues that involve all the missing men. It is where we learn that the only way to find *our* missing man is by searching for them all.

Please look through the articles ... catch up on the notes ... and become involved where and when you can. The more of us juggling the issues, the sooner we'll learn the answers we've been pursuing far too long. Hopefully we'll see each other in DC next year!

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## President's Corner

### *There Was A Time When ...*

DPAA's Korean/Cold War annual updates are relatively tranquil affairs these days. Issues are generally addressed. Transparency has been consistent. There was a time, however, when family members ap-



*North Korea*

proached these meetings with a *storm the castle* mindset. The two-day updates were adversarial affairs, highlighted by fiery exchanges that brought only empty promises. Critical issues to the mission had to be fought tooth-and-nail to move forward.

Ah, the DPMO days. Back then, the agency was often the problem, as well as the solution. Un-addressed issues were raised year-after-year ... promises to address them went unfulfilled.

Family members less inclined to kick up a ruckus watched and listened to the firebrands challenge the inaction. Their responses ranged from .... *now things get interesting ... you tell 'em to here we go again ... when will this person sit down!* It likely depended on one's interest in the issue, comfort level with confrontation, or how close it was to the lunch break.

Congress eventually stepped in and said *this isn't working!* The Department of Defense was told: *Re do it!* And re do it, they did! Detached agencies were brought together under one umbrella, and surprisingly the attitude changed! A breath of fresh air accompanied the reorganization. The new agency, DPAA, became .... collaborative! A prevailing mindset of *how to do things* replaced *how do we not do things* took over. The change was profound.

This collaborative nature has lasted. There is less need to storm the gates to the castle because the gates

are pretty-much open all the time.

This past meeting, I found a couple of reasons to take the microphone. There were minor issues that needed addressing. One of the exchanges reflects how the agency's response to family concerns has improved dramatically.

Admiral Jon Kreitz was on the panel. In response to another family members question, he had reported the locations in North Korea where the remains of Punch Bowl Unknowns had been found. This was relevant to families whose loved one may have been lost in those areas.

The information was given freely, easily. This was good, in itself. One more step was needed, however. My hand went up, the microphone was brought over, and I stood.

"Is it possible," I asked, "to post those locations on the DPAA website?"

A familiar edginess came over the room. Would the request be deflected ... differed in hopes it would go away? Would the castle gates slam shut?

The Admiral brought his microphone in close.

"Yes. We can do that."

That was it? *Yes, we can do that?*

There was little more for me to do. *Thank you,* I said; handed back the microphone and sat down.

There are times when I miss storming the castle.

*Rick Downes, President*

*(Lt. Hal Downes, father - MIA 1952)*

*(Go to the Coalition's website for the link to PB Unknowns Remains Locations in Korea)*

### *The Coalition's Board of Directors*

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## The Annual Briefing: An Overview

The government's annual Korean & Cold War family briefing took place August 1-2, at the Capitol View Renaissance Hotel, Arlington, VA (DC). Here's an overview for those who weren't able to attend. Detailed notes follow in the next few pages. (Both days of the briefing can be watched online through DPAA's website: [www.vimeo.com/350953530](http://www.vimeo.com/350953530))

Over 500 family members filled the hotel's conference room. At least a third were there for the first time. The beginning to each day featured family member remembrances: folks taking the microphone and sharing thoughts on their



### Policy Briefing

Bill Richardson, Mark Lambert, Kelly McKeague

missing loved ones. There were updates on policy and identifications. An unexpected announcement was that 25 more men had been

identified from the 55 boxes returned by North Korea last summer. More

details were to be released once all the families had been informed. A policy update followed. Former governor Bill Richardson offered his unique insights on relations with North Korea. The Q&A added follow-up depth. South Korea's MPVA capped Thursday with another touching, entertaining dinner ... highlighted by a mesmerizing sand painting presentation.

Friday began with a second round of family remembrances. A presentation on Korean and Cold War operations followed, including plans for when remains recovery operations are again allowed into North Korea. An update on the Punch Bowl and K55



### Opening Comments

Todd Livick

identifications followed, then a report from South Korea's MAKRI and the Q&A.

The late morning offered something new - a media panel sharing stories and insights that come from years of reporting on POW/MIA issues.

A good crowd returned for final reports in the afternoon. In previous years, many family members left for the day following lunch. It was like an Exodus. The room stayed full this year!

Very little is perfect of course. Improvements can be made. There are

standing issues that DPAA/DPMO has long shied away from. Sightings of American POWs inside North Korea or transferred to the former Soviet

should be presented, even though they are difficult to prove. The issue was not among this year's presentations. Neither were the challenges of investigating air losses inside NK.

Many families new to the mission don't know about issues like these. They were addressed this

year only because experienced family members raised them during the Q&As. The Cold War breakout session appeared to be rushed, with the focus more on ending by a certain time rather than taking time to present the issues thoroughly.

Overall this was a well-organized, informative, even reflective event though. The agency has shown flexibility and willingness to adopt change and pursue new ideas for presentations. It is, of course, always wonderful interacting with other family members.

Notes on all the presentations follow in the next few pages. Hopefully, folks who couldn't make it this year will be able to make the next one. See you there!



### Q & A

Heather Corace

*Notes and Points of Interest*  
*DPAA Annual Korean & Cold War Family Briefing 2019*

(A video covering both days of the briefing can be found on DPAA's website: <https://vimeo.com/dpaa>)  
(Key: K55 - Remains returned last summer; NK - North Korea; JROs - Joint Recovery Operations)

Thursday Morning 8/1/19

Opening Remarks – Todd Livick (Director, Outreach and Communications), Kelly McKeague (Director, DPAA)

DPAA Video – a well done, informative overview of all that goes into the mission

Family Remembrances

Policy Update – Randall Schriver, Asst. Sec. of Def.

\* DOD is waiting for North Korea to agree on another unilateral remains return and/or returning Joint Recovery Operations to NK.

Dept of State Update - Mark Lambert, (Dep. Asst. Sec. of Korean Affairs)

(The presentation is omitted from the website video)

\* Remains recovery negotiations are on a separate track from nuclear talks and sanctions . (See Richardson remarks)

Strategic Update - Kelly McKeague (Director, DPAA)

\* K-55 identifications are taking a while because the remains are highly commingled and degraded DNA

\* DPAA hasn't spoken with the North Korean People's Army since March 2019. A proposal for 2020 recovery operations has been approved by the U.S. State Dept. and DOD

Missed Opportunities and Opportunities Ahead

Bill Richardson (Richardson Center for Global Engagement)

\* In 2007 NK turned over seven sets of U.S. remains to Gov. Richardson. They were all identified.

\* It is good that Pres. Trump has negotiated from the top down with Chairman Kim (DPRK)

\* It is important to include informal negotiations that include nongovernmental organizations. The Richardson Center 2016 mission to Pyongyang that negotiated the return of remains was a private operation using private funds.

(The Coalition was part of this mission.)

\* The Richardson Center meets monthly with the NK U.N. mission in NYC trying to get both sides together. It had planned an informal trip to NK before the February Hanoi Summit. NK accepted but the U.S. imposed a travel ban.

The trip was put on hold depending on how talks went on denuclearization. "When nuclear talks stall, so do remains".  
\* NK wants an active, multi-year recovery effort; NK military likes military-to-military relations; may be a benefit to negotiations that are now being conducted by others in the NK hierarchy who are less interested.

\* Allow informal operations by nongovernmental organizations, like the Richardson Center, that will be paid for with private funds. The U.S. government can then say it isn't doing it ... it's Richardson.

\* Opportunities that lay ahead:

\* Need official designation from the President that remains recovery is a humanitarian operation separate from denuclearization

\* Congress needs to then pass legislation that allows more flexibility in order to pursue these efforts – i.e. exceptions from sanctions

\* Reduce restrictions (i.e. travel) that will allow formal and informal efforts to advance the mission

Thursday Afternoon

DPAA Laboratory Update - Dr. John Byrd (Hawaii Laboratory Director)

\* They have made the 500th Korean War MIA identification, and are on track to set a record for number of KW ids made in a year;

Isotope Testing - Lesley Chesson (Isotope Analyst)

\* This new tool for identification uses diet registered in the hair, teeth, fingernails, and bone of a person to sort remains.

\* Good for commingled remains

\* K55 boxes: 21% of samples came from eastern diet; 63% western diet

DNA Progress - Dr. Tim McMahon (Director, DNA Operations)

\* The DNA lab is a separate DOD agency under AFMES; has partnered with DPAA/DPMO to identify remains since 1992

\* Nuclear DNA degradation is a big issue

\* A lot more DNA info – see the DPAA video

(“Notes” continues on the next page)

(“Notes” Continued)

- \* Using a licked envelope from a missing loved one for DNA works 1% of time (other people have touched it). Teeth and baby hair (mitochondrial DNA only; nuclear DNA testing requires the hair root) are better .
- \* Will the Korean War unknown remains in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (Arlington cemetery) be exhumed?
  - \* Dr. Byrd - They are not included in the current disinterment plan. The lab is working through the 7 phases of Punch Bowl disinterments first then they may take a look at those remains. The permissions for that would be a long process. From a forensic standpoint, there's no reason not to give it a look. It's a ways out.
- \* K 55 - Where did the remains come from in N. Korea?
  - \* The boxes came in groups with village names attached. Most were from the East Chosin area. Every village name can be associated with a battle that took place. The second largest group were from villages in the Unsan/ Kujang area.
- \* How small of a bone can be tested for DNA – i.e. someone hit by a mortar or large shell?
  - \* The tip of a finger and smaller
- \* If bones don't yield DNA initially, they are saved and reviewed later as new technologies come-into-play.

Q&A

(A lot of DNA questions – see the DPAA video for them)

Friday Morning 8/2/19

Invocation - Charles McDaniel, Jr (Chaplain, family member; Charles father was the first to be identified from the K55 boxes)

Family Member Remembrances (Day 2)

Included a touching share by a family who learned the past week that their dad had been identified and was coming home.

Korean and Cold War Operations and Initiatives - Rear Admiral Jon Kreitz (Deputy Director, DPAA)

- \* Cold War - 21 of 126 MIAs are accounted for. "We've got work to do."
- \* China – DPAA is still asking People Liberation Army to do archival research on MIA cases;
  - \* Trying to get a U.S. research investigation team into the People's Liberation Army (PLA) archives (Beijing) to work jointly on specific cases:
    - \* A Jan 1953 dual aircraft over-water loss off Guandong, China;
    - \* A Tibetan border loss in 1949.
  - \* China is the only country with unaccounted U.S. losses from WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the Cold War.
- \* Russia – A U.S./Russia joint investigation team travelled to a Hospital 404 site to search for reported burials from a possible Cold war loss (Nov 6, 1951, P2V aircraft); anomalies were found. They are hoping to return in Sept. to excavate remains to see if they are Americans.

- \* DPAA is working with an underwater film production company trying to locate a PB4Y Cold War case
- \* Korean War Accounting - 505 of 8,156 missing Americans have been accounted for. 7,648 are still MIA

Punch Bowl Unknowns / Disinterments

(652 remains will be spread over 7 phases)

- \* Phase 1 ended April 2019. 63 remains were disinterred; 4 have been identified.
  - \* Phase 2 began following Memoria Day
- \* The disinterments are done twice a month, usually in the early mornings on Sunday and Monday; accommodate cemetery scheduled events.
  - \* 56 more disinterments than were planned have been permitted this year by the cemetery, which should continue into next year, allowing for 150-180 disinterments for 2020.
  - \* The DNA lab's capacity to process samples is another consideration
- \* Disinterments are grouped into phases by loss circumstances in order to get the most identified, the fastest: Factors include:
  - \* Geographical locations of where the remains were originally recovered from (including temporary cemeteries)
  - \* The circumstances of loss (according to X-files and historical accounts)
  - \* The least difficult to id will be first; the most difficult last)
    - \* Remains with the most information
  - \* Unresolved casualties from the beginning of the war will be among the first
  - \* Phases 1-4 deal with prioritize casualties from July - September 1950
  - \* Phase 5 - will be the most difficult cases and include remains uncovered from Seoul area (other nationalities will be involved);
  - \* Phases 6 & 7 - include remains recovered from the DMZ, where artillery losses often fragmented remains
- \* Early ids will narrow the field, helping to id the more difficult cases

South Korea

- \* A recovery operation is scheduled for the spring, 2020 .

North Korea

- \* Approval for full operations beginning spring 2020 will need to come by the end of November 2019;
  - \* A full mission includes 3 joint recovery operations (spring, summer, fall; need to avoid summer monsoons), operating out of 2 basecamps (East Chosin and Unsan)

(“Notes” continues on the next page)

*("Notes" Continued)*

\* There are logistics to complete before actual disinterments begin: equipment brought in, base camps built, etc.

\* To do any of the 3 recoveries in 2020, approval must be received by April 2020.

*Korean War Identification Project Update* /DPAA lab Hawaii - Dr. Veronica Keyes

\* There are 9 fulltime analysts

\* 368 ids have been made of all Korean War recoveries and returns from 1993-October 2018

(not including Punch Bowl unknowns or other identifications, which add up to 500)

\* K55 remains come from two of the same areas as K208 remains (1992-1994) and JROs (1996-2005) - the East Chosin reservoir and the Unsan/Kunuri region. JROs also include the Suan POW camps.

\* Remains of up to 250 people are represented in the 55 boxes of remains. 170 are believed to be Americans. 80 are likely not U.S. personnel (isotope analysis made the eliminations)

\* They are commingled; some partial remains match those associated with previous identifications;

\* 20 boxes are from the Unsan/Kujank area; 35 boxes are from the East Chosin (Army);

*MAKRI/South Korea Update* - HEO WookGU - Director

\* The director expressed gratitude and appreciation for America's sacrifice and intervention that has made S. Korea what it is today. He reported on the Arrowhead/DMZ excavations and recovery operation that is running from April - October. This involves demining where UN forces fought. The project was to be a joint operation with NK (who would be working north of the demarcation line. but nothing's been heard from NK. SK will be expanding its demining operations.

*O & A*

\* A discussion of locations where Punch Bowl Unknowns were found in North Korea included a Coalition request to have the locations made available on the DPAA website..

*Media Panel Discussion* - Dave Martin /CBS, Luis Martinez / ABC, Jay Price / NPR, Leo Shane /Military Times

\* The experienced reporters shared their perspectives and experiences covering the mission; how they learn and then educate others about the Korean War, and the need to keep recovery issues separate from diplomatic issues. They depend on the families to share personal stories.

*O & A*

\* How do family members get their stories out? The Coalition was suggested as an vehicle. It was also suggested that personal stories be submitted to local media outlets. "This is not just a national story. It is a local one too."

*Friday Afternoon*

*U.S./Russia Joint Commission Update* - Col Brian Pearl (Mediterranean Regional Director)

\* The U.S. side has a full complement of Commissioners: Sen. Lankford (OK), Rep. Panetta (CA), Rep. Wenstrup (OH), Dep. Sec of State -Eur Robinson have been added. \* Korean and Cold War technical talks (conflict specific) will meet in Russia this November 2019.

\* The 23rd Plenum (all conflicts meeting) has been delayed until May 2020, so Russia can write a new decree.

\* Research continues in the archives of Russia's 64th Fighter Aviation Corps

*Cold War*

\* 147 initial MIAs - 21 have been identified.

\* Vladivostok - The dig is returning to Hospital 404's cemetery in Sept 2019 (pending permitting from local Russian authorities). This is in follow-up to a report of Americans being held there dating back to an eyewitness account. It is possibly correlated to a November 6, 1951, P2V aircraft "incident".

\* DPAA is partnering with a Swedish film company to continue searching for a PB4Y shot down April 8, 1950.

\* DPAA has requested info on two air loss cases in China.

*Family Website / Korean & Cold War Profiles* - Cheryl Holm (Senior Outreach & Communication)

\* The family page and case profiles are on DPAA's site

\* Photos are needed of more than 5400 KW MIAs

\* There is a page for operational summaries of battles from the POW/MIA perspective

*Final O&A*

\* A family member requested that Russia turnover reports on U.S. crash sites in NK that the Soviet Union investigated, along with maps that have the Russian names for Korean towns/villages.

\* What's being done to access air losses scattered across NK? Plans that for possible field operations in 2020 include investigative teams that will search out new sites. NK has never approved air loss search teams. First, build trust then broaden access beyond approved sites.

\* DPAA is meeting with Chinese archivists in November. \* Two family members noted that during WWII the U.S. fought with/and supported Russia (Soviet Union) and China. Some acknowledgement of those partnerships should be part of the considerations in our requests for support in learning what happened to our MIAs.

\* Dir. McKeague asked both family members to write letters that he will take to negotiations with Russia and China.

\* Still having trouble getting info from China on Korean War POW/MIA camps

\* A family member asked how letters can be written to N. Korea. Suggestions included the NK UN mission in NY and contacting third party nations, like Sweden.

*Whew!*

## Cold War

(1946-1991)

*Thirty-nine U.S. military and "civilian" aircraft were either shot down or crashed on the periphery of communist countries while flying operational missions during the Cold War. 126 Americans remain unaccounted for from these losses. The U.S./Russia Joint Commission pursues individual cases, but the Cold War's inherent nature of secrecy is difficult to pierce. A DPAA fact sheet can be found at this link: <https://www.dpaa.mil/Resources/Fact-Sheets/Article-View/Article/569612/personnel-accounting-progress-cold-war/>*

### *DPAA Annual Briefing - Cold War Breakout Session.*

*(Notes from Brian Hanson)*

The Cold War breakout, while informative, seemed rushed in their presentations and appeared to be focused on meeting a time deadline. It was scheduled prior to a noon lunch break and the entire session was hurried.

Brian Pearl, from USRJC European Division for DPAA, notes that "the next tech talks to coordinate priority cases will take place November in Moscow. The Plenum meetings, which make the executive level decisions of the way forward, are delayed until May, 2020, because all Russian commissioners have not been seated at this time."

Kelly McKeague: "Russia and China are still reticent on the Korean and Cold Wars. We still have archivists in Russia and are very close to agreements to visit archives of the Chinese Liberation Army. We continue to meet and talk weekly with both Moscow and Beijing".

David Hatch, a National Security Agency (NSA) historian, spoke about the history of intelligence gathering, the role of the NSA in the Cold War, what NSA does and does not do, and Peacetime Aerial Reconnaissance Programs (PARPRO). NSA responds to those who need intel to do their jobs, notably the CIA and FBI.

Many NSA intercept sites in the Korean War were on the front lines. Later, constant vigilance was needed, so aerial reconnaissance became the most productive method of intelligence gathering. NSA developed sophisticated collection techniques including satellites.

One member asked why, if NSA intelligence gathering was so good, the U.S. did not detect the massive movement of the Chinese into South Korea in late 1950. Mr. Hatch answered: "The NSA did detect the movement but Gen. MacArthur and Gen. Willoughby ignored it."

A question was asked to clarify the intent of the McCain Bill. It was noted that McCain only sought to protect family info from going public. The bill is not designed to totally redact documents provided per FOIA but only methods, sources, treatment, location and condition of POWs. The CIA, State Dept. and other agencies took it upon themselves to choose what additional items should be redacted.

Pearl and McKeague spoke of the trip to Vladivostok in September to possibly disinter remains near Hospital 4 for further identification. The area was long rumored to have medically treated several POW's.

While questions were taken many more were left on the table as attendees and presenters appeared more interested in the lunch hour. I would suggest scheduling the breakout for the end of Day I, coinciding with the presentation on DNA and lab identifications procedures, as many attendees have heard this several times. Take the time to address the Cold War breakout on that day.

Bottom-line, the format needs more detail, more time and more focus on areas we are looking at this year and possible work in the future.

*Brian Hanson*

*Warren Sanderson, Uncle , MIA 1953*

*Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Dinner*

Dorothy Antonelli

On Thursday, August 1, 2019, the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs graciously hosted a dinner at the Renaissance Arlington View Hotel in Washington, DC. Ironically, the date of this event was the one-year anniversary of the 55 caskets of remains that came home from North Korea to American soil.

Approximately 500 family members attended the dinner in honor and remembrance of their missing loved ones. Vice Minister Lee Byoung Goo attended the dinner on behalf of the Korean government. In his comments he expressed deep appreciation and respect for the noble contributions and sacrifices of the U. S. Korean War veterans.

Vice Minister Lee presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal to surviving family members of those veterans who remain unaccounted for. This is a commemorative medal that expresses appreciation from the South Korean government to American service men and women who served in the Korean War.



As the lights dimmed, a silent tribute to the fallen was observed. We bowed our heads and prayed, then each guest lit a candle in remembrance of their beloved hero. We understood the emptiness in each other's hearts.

One of the memorable highlights of the evening



featured video clips of the May 2019 Revisit Korea program. Included were cameo appearances of the twenty-one fallen American heroes who were honored in a tribute ceremony held at the War Memorial in Korea. Other clips included a wreath laying and incense offering ceremony, the MAKRI briefing, and a visit to the former battleground known as Arrowhead Hill where participants got a rare look at a Korean War remains recovery site in the Demilitarized Zone. Propose a Toast – as we raised our glasses, toasts were proposed to our individual military branches of service, followed by great cheers and applause.

As a final tribute, a beautiful and touching sand art story of the Korean War was presented. It depicted what the presence and ultimate sacrifices our American soldiers made has meant to the citizens of South Korea. Generations have expressed their appreciation.



“We cherish the freedom that we enjoy, thanks to the sacrifices of your loved ones. You Are Our True Heroes.”

*Dorothy Antonelli - Gold Star Niece*  
Sgt. Peter Patete, Uncle, MIA North Korea 11/26/50

**Be Involved!**

As the voice of our missing loved one, speaking up on their behalf is what will make things happen! It can be difficult for some people to do this; but it will make a difference .... a phone call to a U.S. Senator's local office, contacting a local newspaper or television station .... sharing our stories, letting folks know about the issues.

Our loved one's return depends on each of us, all of us ... working alone and together to bring him .... them all home. We are their voices! Please speak up!

Contact the *Coalition* for ways to reach the media. The following websites provide contact info for the local and DC offices of your Senate and House representatives:

[www.senate.gov/senators/contact/](http://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/)

[www.house.gov/representatives/find/](http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/)

(Find the Representative for your district at: [http://clerk.house.gov/member\\_info/mcapdir.aspx](http://clerk.house.gov/member_info/mcapdir.aspx))

Be Involved!



***Our Collective Voice***  
***Coalition News***

There was a time when evenings at the annual briefings were free time for family members to gather. The times they are a'changin. Another briefing passed without a *Coalition* event. Evenings are hopping these days. There's a military Tattoo Wednesday evening, and of course the MPVA dinner is now on Thursday nights. Only later in the evening is there free time to visit casually. And that's good too.

**\* Congress**

The *Coalition* takes a couple of days before the annual briefing for meetings on Capitol Hill. Congress is often out of session. Legislative aides have time to discuss issues at length. We were able to schedule meetings on both sides of Congress. The agenda covered two issues— document declassification and the backlog of Punch Bowl remains waiting for DNA testing.



*Declassification / BOHHA*

As many family members know, documents of all sorts from the Korean and Cold War eras remain classified by agencies throughout the government. Some documents are inconsequential but others are not - POW debriefings, intel reports, and other information that may shed light on anyone's missing loved one.

The *Coalition* is working with Congressional offices on the *Bring Our Heroes Home Act (BOHHA)*, legislation to declassify these documents. The offices of Senator Shaheen (NH) and Senator Crapo (ID) are leading the way. We met with them for a finalization of the bill that will hopefully be introduced in the coming weeks!

*Backlog of Punch Bowl Remains*

The other issue we are pursuing will provide funding for instruments that will allow the DNA lab to process more *next generation sequencing* samples. Korean War *Unknowns* being disinterred from Hawaii's Punch Bowl cemetery were treated with a formaldehyde solution following the war that now interferes with DNA extraction. Special NGS instruments are needed to process mitochondrial DNA. There is a growing backlog of remains waiting their turn. More are on the way! The DNA lab needs funding for more instruments in order to keep up.



The *Coalition* met with the following Senate and House offices to get things started:

Senate

- |                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Sen. Shaheen (N.H.)        | Sen. Brown (OH)   |
| Sen. Crapo (ID)            | Sen. Fischer (NE) |
| Sen. Baldwin (Wis.)        | Sen. Warren (MA)  |
| Sen. Susan Collins (Maine) |                   |

House

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Rep. Pappas (NH) | Rep. Ro Khanna (CA) |
|------------------|---------------------|

The response has been encouraging!

**\* *Memberships***

The *Coalition* relies on family memberships and broader donations to pursue the issues that one day will lead to answers we all seek. We need your support! An application and renewal form are on page 11 of this newsletter. Memberships can also go through the website: [coalitionoffamilies.org](http://coalitionoffamilies.org).

The *Support Us* button will take to there!



**DOG TAGS**

by

John Zimmerlee

No, these were not for your dog! In most wars, we lost more men on the battlefield than came home alive, and we had no way to identify the bodies, so identification tags were finally invented soon after the deadly civil war. Eventually they were made of stainless steel and two were worn around the neck on a steel chain. Unless the head was blown off, most remains still had the identification tags, nicknamed dog tags, around their neck and were instantly identifiable even if the flesh had deteriorated and years had passed.

Yet, by the time of the Korean War, forensic specialists still wanted some physical evidence like dental oddities confirmed by dental records. That was logical for those from Chicago and New York but not so well for farm boys from Mississippi who had no idea what a dentist was.

The following remains were shipped in 1954 to our lab from North Korea with dog tags of the names listed below yet the family members were never told, because our government did not have confirming dental history or the teeth were missing.

- |       |                 |       |                     |
|-------|-----------------|-------|---------------------|
| 6369  | Howard Morgan   | 6366  | John Shay           |
| 14863 | Earl Wallace    | 6302  | Leo Bernal          |
| 5044  | Paul Lucik      | 2023  | I Lindley Littleton |
| 14848 | Joseph Teeters  | 16208 | Oliver Fields       |
| 6377  | Carlos Bidopia  | 1034  | Virgle Evans        |
| 5644  | William G White |       |                     |

Wouldn't it have made sense to contact the families at that time for other notable uniqueness like previous bone injuries?

The William White case is notable because a body was supposedly identified as William during the war and sent home to his family. So the question arises, "Did our government send home the correct remains?" or is this one similar to dozens of other remains in Hawaii conflicting with ones previously sent home to families? Will our government reach out to the families of those who were sent the wrong bodies? . . . or will they continue to cover up the truth . . . as they have done for 66 years?



I have details and/or helpful information on most all men still missing from the Korean War. Please contact me at [john.zimmerlee@gmail](mailto:john.zimmerlee@gmail.com)

Together we can .... and will get answers!

*(Capt. John Zimmerlee, Jr. - MIA)*

*(For more of John's research visit John's blog at: [www.coalitionoffamilies.org/john-zimmerlee---blog](http://www.coalitionoffamilies.org/john-zimmerlee---blog))*

**American Trophies**

*By John Zimmerlee and Mark Sauter*

Soldier's sent into battle face dire realities. One of these possibilities shouldn't be the uncertainty that, like disappearing into a Stephen King fog, they will simply never be heard from again. American Trophies tells the personal stories of men who went into battle, were captured by the enemy, were known to be alive then were never heard from again.

*American Trophies* brings these men to life, presents a strong case for finally learning what happened to them, and ideally bring closure to families who still search for answers to their loved one's fate.

*(This E-book can be purchased at: [www.kpows.com](http://www.kpows.com))*

**Membership!**

The *Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POW/MIAs* is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, dedicated to accounting for the thousands of American servicemen who are still missing from the Korean and Cold Wars. Their stories should be told, their remains brought home, identified, and closure found for their families.



The *Coalition* relies on memberships and broader donations to pursue the issues that one day will lead to answers to what happened to these missing fathers, husbands, brothers, uncles ... and now grandfathers.

**We need your support!**

Together, we can learn what happened to these missing American servicemen, who not only sacrificed their lives in service to their country but left behind loved ones still hoping to learn their fate.

**Thank you!**

*Coalition of Families of Korean and Cold War POW/MIAs*  
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(Associate Membership / Non family member – please check here: )

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Service member's full name: \_\_\_\_\_ Service # \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service/Unit or Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Date & Area of Loss: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Donation - \$25. Please make checks payable to: Coalition of Families.

Send to:

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