

Update & Review

COALITION OF FAMILIES OF KOREAN & COLD WAR POW/MIAs
Dedicated to the fullest possible accounting for our missing servicemen

Winter Newsletter 2008



**First Joint Forensic Review (JFR) with
US and South Korean Forensic Teams on site in
South Korea, November of 2007**

Picture courtesy of JPAC

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Robin Piacine, President of COF and Mr. Johnnie Webb, Deputy Commander of Support and External Relations at JPAC.

Greetings to our family members and friends!

With the new year underway, we want to thank all of our members and friends who have continued to support the Coalition of Families, not just financially but with your moral support and kindness. As we look forward to a new year, we renew our commitment to you to assist you in your search for answers.

We are happy to say that we were able to speak to many of you at the annual update and reception in October of 2007. It is always great to see our members and friends face to face and have an opportunity to help. We also were able to make new friends some of which became members on the spot at the Coalition of Families reception held at the Double Tree Hotel on October 19th. Our guest speaker was Mr. Johnnie Webb, Deputy Commander for Support and External Relations of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (full story on page 11).

I again renew my commitment to meet with United States government officials, leaders of veterans organizations, and those representatives from Russia, China, North Korea, South Korea and others who have a role in assisting us with the answers we need about our missing. I will also plan to attend functions which allow me to speak to the issue in 2008 on your behalf.

It is critical that we don't give up but all of us, renew our commitment to our loved ones as we are their voice. We would like to see more of you at the regional and annual updates as it sends a message to the Department

of Defense, and the Defense Prisoner of War Office that they need to be held accountable for our missing.

Another way in which you can renew that commitment is through the paying of your annual dues. We request that all annual dues be mailed in at the beginning of each year. As mentioned above the donations that you send help to cover the costs for the newsletter publication and mailing, office supplies, web page hosting, travel fees, research, etc we need your support. A renewal application (also used for new members) is available on page 13 of this newsletter. **We appreciate your support and cannot represent the work of the coalition of families without you.** Anyone that may find it difficult to pay the membership fees, could be exempt, just drop us a line and let us know.

Other ways to support the Coalition of Families are available through the lapel pin and other items listed on page 13 of the newsletter and at our website at www.coalitionoffamilies.org

Take care,

Robin Piacine, President

Please remember, if you attend any of the following updates request a list of those who attend and forward it to us. This will enable us to help others find answers as well!

Remaining 2008 Family Update Schedule

Location:

Portland, OR -- March 15

Hartford, CT -- April 19

Tulsa, OK -- May 17

Washington, DC* -- June 19-21

Chicago, IL -- July 26

Salt Lake City, UT -- August 23

Washington, DC -- October 16-18**

San Diego, CA -- November 15

North Korea JPAC Operations Update

What I hear most from our families is, "When will get back into North Korea to resume the JPAC operations?" I understand just how you feel, as my uncle died in North Korea and just like so many of you, if there is any way possible, I want his remains brought home. In searching for the answer to this question, I contacted a representative from the US State Department to find out just where things stand as of today.

Christopher R. Hill, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs and former Ambassador to the Republic of South Korea, is involved in the ongoing Six Party Talks. It is my understanding that Ambassador Hill continues to inform the North Korean government of the desire to have our JPAC teams return to resume their work in North Korea. In a press statement from Tom Casey, Deputy Spokesman for the US State Department, "It is unfortunate that North Korea has not yet met its commitments by providing a complete and correct declaration of its nuclear programs..."

Since North Korea has yet to provide a correct and complete declaration of its nuclear program the progression of disablement has been slowed down. It is clearly up to the North Korean government to move past stage two and onto stage three. Some believe like Gary Samore, Vice President, Di



Korean War Memorial
Philadelphia, PA

rector of Studies, and Maurice R. Greenberg Chair, Council on Foreign Relations, (took part in negotiations with North Korea in the 1990s for the Clinton administration), that, "It may be that the North Koreans have decided they are just going to freeze the process and wait until the next U.S. president takes office and then resume the negotiations." The interview of Samore on January 25th (published on www.CFR.org), also describes in detail what was and is expected of the North Korean government regarding compliance.

It seems that the US and North Korea are at a very "critical" stage in the process. While the relationship between the US and North Korea is somewhat improved, there still seems to be a bit of a "thaw" that needs to take place. It seems that the main reason for not re-deploying the JPAC teams into North Korea at this time is that the US State Department does not believe that North Korea currently is conducive of a safe environment, not just for JPAC teams but for any Americans.

The leaders at the Coalition of Families will pursue ideas and strategies in the effort to help push this forward. I am hopeful that future JPAC operations will continue to be a topic discussed with North Korean officials every time there is opportunity. Hopefully, the need to get back into North Korea will have a place of high priority at the negotiation table. Please look for updates regarding this important issue on our website: www.coalitionoffamilies.org and in our next newsletter. *By, Robin Piacine, President*

South Korea JPAC Operations for 2008

JPAC will conduct 4 investigation and recovery operations this year. A well known POW march route will be included in two of the four operations. This area is located near Hoengson, where 60 servicemen have been lost on the POW march near the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) east of Seoul. Another area that will be looked at is near the port town of Chonan (below Incheon) near the west coast of South Korea. This is an underwater air loss case in the mud flats located next to a building harbor. There are also known losses in the Pusan Perimeter area that will be investigated from our lead on the David Halberstam article published in *Parade Magazine* in 2004.

COALITION OF FAMILIES OF KOREAN AND COLD WAR POW/MIA DIRECTORS/VOLUNTEERS

Only the people listed below will be or should be calling you regarding contributions or membership

Robin Piacine	Director, President	717-691-5551	robinpiacine@aol.com
John Zimmerlee	Director, Vice-President		
Donna Knox	Director		
Richard Downes	Director		
Richard Rosell	Chair of Fundraising		
Belinda Eigen	Special Assistant		
Stephanie Simon	Webmaster		

Please Note the New Coalition of Families Phone Number: 717-691-5551

Rear Admiral Donna L. Crisp, U.S. Navy New Commander of Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command



Rear Adm. Donna L. Crisp,
U.S. Navy

Rear Admiral Donna L. Crisp is the new Commander of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command. She assumed this position in January 2008. We wish General Flowers, the outgoing Commander of JPAC, the best with his retirement and thank him for his service.

Rear Adm. Crisp is a native of Bay Shore, N.Y., but was raised in Redlands, Calif. She graduated from California State University at Long

Beach in 1971. From September 2004 to December 2007, she was the Director for Manpower and Personnel, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

Rear Adm. Crisp is a Master Training Specialist and Secretary of Defense Reengineering Excellence award recipient. She has numerous personal decorations which include the Defense Superior Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster (for detailed bio visit our website at www.coalitionoffamilies.org).

We welcome Admiral Crisp aboard and congratulate her on her new assignment! She brings to the table a great deal of proven leadership qualities which are very encouraging to all the families who depend on JPAC to move forward with the research and recovery processes for our missing loved ones. In a recent interview I relayed to her my personal feelings of great respect for the leadership at JPAC and CILHI. I value the ability to work on issues of concern with many of these extremely dedicated, talented, and compassionate people in order to inform our families of the ongoing progress.

Admiral Crisp was so very kind to respond to a few of my questions regarding the future of JPAC. When asked if she has plans for immediate changes to JPAC as it relates to the way in which recovery operations are performed, she informed me that, only those issues that deal with safety and security for the JPAC teams will be reviewed for immediate changes.

We talked about any fundamental priority changes regarding the identification of remains processes as they relate

specifically to the identification of our Korean War missing. "The remains stored at CILHI from the Korean War will be attempted to be identified before those who are buried in the Punchbowl." When speaking with Admiral Crisp, she recognized that there are over 400 remains stored at CILHI and would like to see a more expeditious identification process instituted.

Admiral Crisp has already put into action a way to expand the laboratory and the amount of tables that will be available at CILHI. Civil engineers have been conferred with and changes should be made within the next few months. More tables will allow more identification. Once the accommodations have been put into place, Admiral Crisp will continue to evaluate the new process looking for ways to improve the efficiency of the process.

The identification of Korean War remains in the Punchbowl will be problematic. I asked the "What can you suggest regarding the identification in the



Navy Rear Adm. Donna Crisp, passes unit colors to Army Sgt. Maj. Jackie at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, Jan. 4.

prove the the identification of the remains in continues to atic. When I

Admiral, presents the process

of identification of those remains?" She recognized the frustration that all of us face regarding those remains, and said, "We are hopeful that there will be a breakthrough in the mtDNA process that will allow those remains in the Punchbowl to be identified."

Another frustration to the families is that of gaining access to foreign archives. Last year when I had the opportunity to meet with the Chinese archivists in Washington, DC, they told me it was important to them to assist us in helping to gain information on our lost loved ones. It looks like the talks will move forward relating to this effort by the end of January, beginning of February. It is critical for us to be able to gain access to the Chinese archives and to access the sites where the government knows of US Airmen who have went down.

I want to thank Admiral Crisp for her time in compiling this article. *By Robin Piacine*

Forensic Partnership US and South Korea Teaming Together



Johnie Webb, Deputy Commander of Support and External Relations at JPAC, informed the Coalition of Families of the ongoing work and a rather new initiative. Recently, the US and South Korean forensic staff have formed a partnership called the Joint Forensic Review or JFR.



First JFR with US and South Korean Forensic Teams on site in South Korea, November of 2007.

This partnership will assist both entities in strengthening their ability to become even more successful in the identification process while operating in South Korea.

Currently two anthropologists from South Korea are at CILHI working in the labs and learning new techniques and method in the identification process.

They will remain at CILHI for a total of 60 days. We wish them a productive partnership that will grow more valuable as time goes on. And we also



South Korean Anthropologists, Jungwha Shin and Eun Jin Woo at CILHI Forensic Laboratory.

would like to thank the South Korean Government for allowing this partnership to form.

Pennsylvania Project A Model for the Nation

It has come time to evaluate the success of the Pennsylvania Project; a Model for the Nation, and to look at ways to “tweak” the project to allow it to become a true “model for the nation.” We are in the process of developing a special committee to access the project overall. Once the evaluation is complete, we will be reporting back to the membership and friends regarding recommendations.

“What is the Pennsylvania Project and how does it work?”

The **PA Project, a Model for the Nation**, was officially launched on July 11, 2007, at the Capital, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Additional support of the PA Project includes The Pennsylvania Adjutant Generals Office and DPMO.

You may recall from past articles that this project was initiated in Pennsylvania with the support of both the Pennsylvania State House of Representatives as well as the Pennsylvania State Senate. The Pennsylvania State Veterans County Directors were presented with information regarding those still unaccounted for from the state, and requested to get the provided

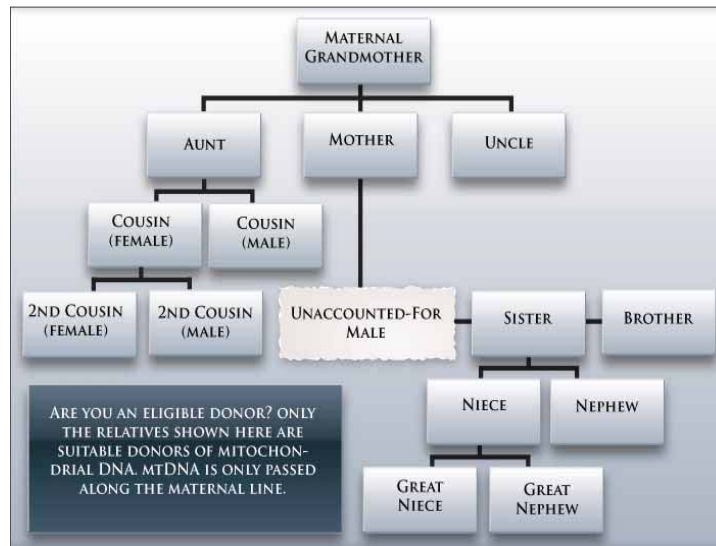
press release out to the media.

The PA Project works through the information provided in the media. It informs the public about the need to locate a family member that was unaware of the ability to donate the mtDNA reference sample. We have proven success of this from a partnership between Beaver County (PA) Veterans Affairs Director, Bill Muns, the Beaver County times (*reported in our last issue of Update and Review*).

As reported in previous newsletters the PA Project goals include the locating of families not yet identified by the Department of Defense, and to have them donate the Family Reference Sample, as well as encouraging veterans to come forward regarding the circumstances and area in which a comrade was left behind during the war.

It is critical for all families to understand the importance of donating the reference sample. The reference sample is no longer taken by a blood

sample, rather through a swab sample of the mouth...painless and easy! If you have any personal reservations regarding the mtDNA donation, please contact any of the Coalition of Families Board of Directors by calling 717-691-5551 and we will answer any questions you may have regarding this.





Update on the US Russia Joint Commission

By, Robin Piacine

Representatives from the US side of the US Russia Joint Commission (USRJC) as well as leaders from the VFW have recently traveled to Russia to meet with the newly appointed Russian chairmen of the USRJC, General Reznik, Russian lawmakers, and members of Russian veteran's organizations. The meetings took place in November and December of 2007. The trips to Russia show the continued dedication and purpose of our U.S. side of the Commission in restoring as well as building on relationships with our Russian counterparts.

In November, Norman Kass, Senior Director of the U.S. side



COF President, Robin Piacine, Russian Admiral Novyy, COF Board Member, Donna Downes-Knox, JCSD Member, James Connell.

of the Commission was accompanied by Bob Wallace, Executive Director, VFW, and George Lisicki, National Commander to meet and encourage the Russian Veterans Organizational leadership.

The purpose of these meetings was to encourage cooperation of

the Russian veteran organizations with the representatives of the commission in inquiries regarding the accounting of our missing US servicemen. In addition the U.S. representatives met with Russian lawmakers to express the importance of the work in the accounting effort.

General Foglesong, Chairman of the US Side of the Commission traveled to Russia in December of 2007 accompanied by Norman Kass and Mrs. Svetlana Shevchenko to meet with the newly appointed head of the Russian side of the Commission, General Reznik. General Foglesong also met with the Russian Veteran's organizational leadership also delivering a message of encouragement in assisting the Commission with information regarding our missing and unaccounted for U.S. servicemen.

In a recent interview with General Foglesong, I learned that his new counterpart, General Reznik expressed his desire to be helpful in the development of a road map of what needs to be done. He will be receiving a list of the newly appointed commission members for the Russian side as well. General Foglesong related to me that it was a huge disappointment when a scheduled meeting with Russian President Putin was cancelled after arriving in Russia.

The VFW has been actively assisting the USRJC in their ongoing efforts to re-energize the Commission. In an interview, Mr. Wallace, the Executive Director of the National

VFW organization, informed me of the VFW's ongoing assistance (since 1990) and concern with all US servicemen that the Russian government may have information on. Through interpreters, the National VFW leadership has been sharing with the Russian leaders of Veterans organizations as they relate to the USRJC, POW/MIA issues as well as veterans issues.

Mr. Wallace reported that there are two major Veterans organizations in Russia which are the Combat Brothers and the International Warrior organization. Another component of the ongoing dialogue and meetings which occur both in Russia and the United States between the two veteran organizations is to answer questions regarding what our government does for our veterans. The Russian veterans have issues regarding disability compensation, as well as their unaccounted for comrades from most recently, the Afghanistan War.

Mr. Kass informed me that dialogue will again occur after the Russian holidays. At this meeting Mr. Kass said that, "We will continue to pursue the issues at hand through the identification of our counterparts and moving the process

along to re-the "Central Russian Min-at Podolsk." access to the dolsk is critical in order to especially for families. The Commission on who there Russia will be available to meet the signed groups.



Monument in Liepaja, Latvia, honoring the ten U.S. Navy crewmembers of a PB4Y2 'Privateer,' downed by Soviet La-11 fighters on April 8, 1950, over the Baltic Sea.

storing access to Archives of the Ministry of Defense. The reopening of archives at Podolsk for the future gain information the Korean War US side of the is awaiting word counterparts from and when they are

able to next with newly as-technical

Representatives from the Coalition of Families met with Russian Admiral Boris Novyy, (Ret.) and Mr. James Connell a member of the JCSD.

The celebrating of the many holidays over the winter months in Russia results in the closing of Russian government offices. Once the offices are re-opened towards the middle/end of January, the USRJC efforts will again attempt to move forward. Our U.S. side will continue to work behind the scenes during this period of time.

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6... In an interview with Russian Rear Admiral Novyy (ret) in October of 2007 we learned that when he does have access to the archives he is able to request the Russian "finding guides" provided by the staff at the archives in Russia. He then selects those files he wishes to review. Upon receiving the files, he makes the necessary notes and releases them to the US side of the Commission.

As of today, Admiral Novyy is awaiting re-accreditation by the Russian Government in order to move forward in his research at various Russian archives. This has permission has been put on hold until after the Russian holidays, probably sometime after January 31st, 2008. Although Admiral Novyy will need to wait until official word arrives regarding accreditation, he will continue to interview Russian veterans

regarding their knowledge of our missing US servicemen. We are truly grateful to our special friend in Russia.

What apparently remains the question is, "How do we re-energize this commission?" The families who still have unaccounted for from all wars have a stake in this and should take action by calling their congressmen and the Whitehouse requesting that the issue move forward. Although the Russians seem to be ebbing forward, we must wait for the dust to settle in the Russian political realm before the answer is clear. We want to thank General Fogle-song, Norman Kass, James Connell of the USRJC, and Bob Wallace, Ex. Director of the VFW as well as our dear friend, Admiral Novyy for providing this information to you.



Korean War MIA's Identified



The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced that remains of the following U.S. servicemen, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and returned to their families for burial with full military honors. (These accounts have been excerpted from DPMO press releases.)

Sgt. Agostino Di Rienzo, U.S. Army, of East Boston, Mass.



On November 1st of 1950 the 3rd Battalion of the 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division was defending an area near Unsan, North Korea known as "Camel's Head" when Chinese Communist Forces clashed with the 1st Cavalry Division's lines. Di Rienzo and others of the 3rd Battalion, more than 350 servicemen, became unaccounted for from this battle. It was during a 2002 operation led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) that a site was located south of Unsan that human remains were found. Used in the identification of Sgt. Agostino Di Rienzo was circumstantial evidence, mitochondrial DNA, and dental comparisons.

Pfc. Donald M. Walker, U.S. Marine Corps, of Springfield, KY



Pfc. Walker had been assigned to the Service Company, 1st Service Battalion of the 1st Marine Division near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea. On the 27th of November in 1950, his position was attacked by three Communist Chinese divisions. U. S. forces had to fight while withdrawing to the south and Walker died on Dec 7th, of 1950 near Koto-Ri. Fellow Marines buried him in a United Nations Military Cemetery in Hungnam. At the time of burial they took fingerprints. This led to the verification of his identify and the site. Remains from this area were repatriated In 1954, but due to discrepancies Walkers remains were buried with the "unknowns" in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii along with 415 others. It was through a re-evaluation of his remains exhumed from the Punchbowl in 2007, as well as dental records that finally led to a positive identification.

Cpl. Robert S. Ferrell, U.S. Army, of Dallas, Texas



Cpl. Ferrell was assigned to Battery A 503rd Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. On February 12, 1951, his Battalion came under heavy attack by the Chinese Communist Forces, and were forced to withdraw south. Captured near Hoengson, South Korea, he later died at the Suan Mining POW camp Located about 40 miles southeast of Pyongyang, North Korea. Cpl. Ferrell's remains and forensic evidence such as cold-weather clothing and uniform buttons were included in the 1991 repatriation from North Korea. Mitochondrial DNA and dental comparisons were also used to identify Cpl. Ferrell's remains.

1st Lt. Dixie S. Parker, U.S. Army, of Green Pond, Alabama



1st Lt. Parker was assigned to Battery B, 8th Field Artillery Battalion, 25th Infantry Division overlooking the Kuryong River located at P'yongan-Pukto Province, North Korea. 1st Lt. Parker was killed while serving as a forward artillery observer in his foxhole. Through an excavation in 2000 by JPAC and the DPRK*, the team recovered human remains and other evidence including Parker's identification tags and first lieutenant rank insignia.

NMCP – National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl Cemetery, **JPAC** - Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, **DPRK** - Democratic People's Republic of Korea. For additional information, visit the DPMO website at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> or call (703) 699-1169.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES



Two pieces of legislation that all of you need to be aware of and need to respond to are legislation that includes the Cold War Medal Act, S.1097, and US House Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs, HR 111.

The Cold War Medal Act 2007 – S.1097

**A Medal for Cold War Veterans
By, Jerald Terwilliger, Cold War Veteran**

At the present time there is a bill in the Senate Armed Service Committee, Bill S.1097 The Cold War Medal Act 2007. This bill would authorize the Department of Defense to issue a Cold War Medal to everyone who served honorably during the Cold War from Sept. 1945 to Dec. 1991.

During this time period millions of servicemen and servicewomen stood armed and ready at all times to stop the advance of Communist aggression and the spread of Communism. Our planes were shot down by Communist aircraft and anti-aircraft weapons. Our ships were attacked... our ground forces were shot at. Often the families never knew the true story of what happened to their loved ones.

Due to the secret nature of these missions, fatalities and injured were often listed as "training accidents", "equipment malfunction", the truth still lies hidden in the shadows and veil of secrecy.

Our brothers and sisters in arms spent long, arduous times in places far from home. In the air in SAC planes, ships and submarines on and under the sea, the Fulda Gap, and other countries, silos, all armed with nuclear weapons; just waiting for and praying that the first weapon was never fired.

Yet, many of these brave men and women received no medal or award to show for their proud service to our country. They were not in the right place, or the time period did not allow them to receive the National Defense Service Medal, and since some served only 2 or 3 years did not qualify for a Good Conduct Medal.

It is time, indeed past time for these men and women to be remembered, recognized, and to be awarded this one small honor. Congress has the power to right this wrong.

DOD has objected to this medal as a cost issue, and "duplication of awards." The American Cold War Veterans dispute these claims as being unreasonable.

We urge everyone to contact their state senator, ask them to be a cosponsor for bill S.1097 The Cold War Medal Act 2007. Please be sure to include the title of the bill in your message. Also ask that each senator vote for passage of the bill when it reaches the Senate Floor. Next ask your senator and representative if this bill fails this year, that a provision be included in the 2009 National Defense Authorization Act. You can find the American Cold War Veterans web site at:

www.AmericanColdWarVets.org

H.R. 111 Establishing a Select Committee on POW and MIA Affairs

Introduced by US Representative Peter King, H.R. 111 remains in the rules committee with 26 sponsors as we go to print. We are asking that H.R. 111 be forwarded to the Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi for a vote. When interviewing staff at Representative King's office, it seems that this resolution remains in the Rules Committee headed by NY Representative Louise Slaughter. A letter of request was forwarded to her by Coalition of Families President, Robin Piacine requesting immediate action on this resolution.



According to the language set forth in H.R. 111,

"The select committee shall conduct a full investigation of all unresolved matters relating to any United States personnel unaccounted for from the Vietnam era, the Korean conflict, World War II, Cold War Missions, or Gulf War, including MIA's and POW's." HR 111 is important because there is much unfinished work that needs to be completed in the search of our missing, not just from the Korean and Cold War, but all wars.

If you want to know who represents you in the U.S. House of Representatives, call: 202-224-3121 or 202-225-3121. To view or download a copy of HR 111 and to keep updated, please visit our web site at www.coalitionoffamilies.org and *please remember, when you become an advocate for your missing love one you begin to make a difference for them as well as others who have someone missing.*

Getting all the Answers

By John Zimmerlee

When the Senate had a special hearing in 1993 (Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs), we thought we were about to get answers to 40 year old questions about our missing men from the Korean War. The Senate reviewed classified documents and agreed that there was overwhelming preponderance of evidence that more documents probably exist and could lead to the demise of 8,177 missing men.

A new department was formed and their mission was "The Fullest Possible Accounting of Our Missing Servicemen." To a surviving family member, nothing could have been better news. It was called the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO).

Soon thereafter, DPMO expanded its commitment to assist in the current wars and even the World Trade Center attack. It was CILHI, (now JAPAC), that began reporting on their remains recovery and identification of remains.

As a family member, I have requested help over the years and became angry. Some of you have heard me stand up at Family Updates and demand help. I've written FOIA requests, formal letters to congressmen, classification review requests, etc. There is a specification on how DPMO is to handle information on our missing loved ones. It's called Instruction 2310.5. Google it and read it!

According to Instruction 2310.5, you can send a copy of this document along with your request. If any information surfaces that suggest your missing-in-action serviceman may have been captured, they way I interpret this document, he is entitled to an attorney, research must be done, a special committee must be formed, his status must be changed, and you must be informed of all information obtained. The good news is that I have uncovered information on more than 457 cases, and I'm willing to share it. In February of 2007, I attended the Family Update in Tampa, and turned over information on 457 men.

I also carried a copy on Instruction 2310.5 and a formal letter to Charles Ray, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for DPMO. During a Q&A, I stood up and asked what DPMO would do with new information on a number of cases. Their response was that there is no new information that they have not already conveyed to the families. Everything they have has been forwarded to the casualty offices and sent to the families.

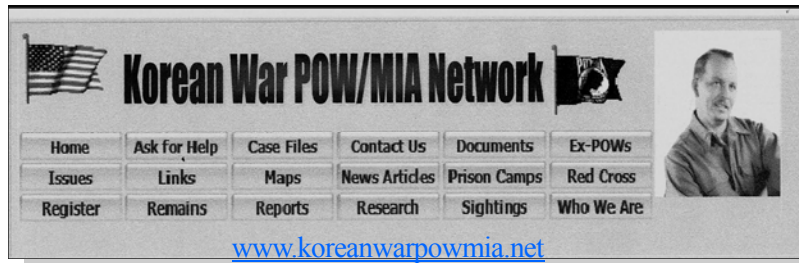
I presented my huge ring binder complete with notations of live sighting and witnesses of death along marches and in prison camps, complete with the names of those who were there and lived to tell about it. It's compelling and complete. Most of it came from thousands of hours

of (1.9.3) a person who is unaccounted for from the Korean War conflict. The info must be credible, identified after 18 Nov 1997 in records of the United States, and relevant to an unaccounted-for person classified as missing-in-action and whose capture was possible. It does not state that the person must be suspected to be alive today or when the information was discovered. It just needs to contribute to resolving his fate. **We will continue to pursue this issue and attempt to gain information on these 457 cases.**

My purpose is to get answers for families. Visit: www.koreanwarpowmia.net to get valued new info on your missing loved-ones, also take a look at 'Sightings.' You might find your man in one of the interro-

gation reports of the enemy. Take a look at the debriefings from returning ex-POWs where hundreds of men are mentioned.

Below are areas that you need to check for regarding the scrub sheet; a 1-2 page summary received at



of research at the National Archives at College Park Maryland. Some of it came from my review of 73,000 individual records compiled in 1996. It complies completely with the requirements of 2310.5.

Months passed, then a letter of July 19, 2007 arrived but without the response I had hoped for. The information that Ambassador Ray spoke of in the letter did not coincide with what some families have been receiving in their loved ones files.

Ambassador Ray states that his analysts have reviewed my information and determined that none of it suggests that any of these servicemen survived beyond the date when the services declared them dead. "Therefore, the information would not result in a change in the status of, or significantly contribute to resolving the fate of, these service members. As such, no board action is warranted."

Instruction 2310.5 implements **Section 1509** which spells out procedures for (1.9.1) the review of new information that may change the status of (1.9.2) or, significantly contribute to resolving the fate

an update:

- In the first paragraph does it mention your serviceman being on the missing-in-action captivity report? If so, does it explain why?
- Does it include a summary of the debriefing reports?
- Did anyone advise you to request the debriefing reports?
- Did anyone advise you to request the field search case file?

The most valuable piece of information I found on my father's case surfaced while I was helping another family member on her case.

Review all of your documents thoroughly. Do any of them mention another missing man? You may have a valuable missing piece of a huge puzzle shared by 8100 other families. Send me what you have. I will make sure other families get it. Call me at 770-565-4420 or email me at jpz@bellsouth.net and I will tell you who else went missing from the same unit on the same day. **Together, we can ... and will get answers!**

The National Update – 2007

By Rick Downes

The national D.C. update took place this past October. For those of you who have never attended one of these meetings (national or regional), the experience is a wide-angle glimpse into the issue of America's missing serviceman and how the government is managing the accounting effort. There is also, of course, the opportunity to learn what is being done to locate our own missing fathers, uncles, husbands, brothers, grandfathers.

The *Coalition's* board thought it would be interesting to share our insights into this year's experience. We are, of course, family members as well as directors, so we wear two hats at these meetings. We monitor the government's policy and look for ways to improve the accounting effort, as well as seek new avenues in the search for our own missing loved ones.

The Personal Search: How to do a One-On-One meeting:

All updates (whether they be regional or the national) offer family members an opportunity to sit down with government officials to discuss their loved one's case. These meetings generally consist of a brief talk with a representative from the casualty office followed by a session in front of a laptop computer to view the contents of our loved one's file. Sometimes there is new information. Unless there is something remarkable, however, it is up to families to get more. Here are a few tips...

* ***Be the advocate.*** Take charge of your loved one's case. The government's resources are generally tied up in the big picture. However, the experts are always interested in specific leads. It is our responsibility to supervise this direction.

* ***Get to know the experts.*** Attend updates whenever possible. DPMO's experts travel to each of them and give presentations in their area of expertise. The rest of the time, they are waiting in the back of the room or outside in the lobby. They are very accessible, interested in the issue, and more than happy to discuss your concerns.

Note: Civilian experts are the most knowledgeable. Military personnel rotate out of their positions on a regular basis. By the time they are well versed, they are gone. Some of the civilian experts have been involved since *DPMO* began.

Many families contact the *Coalition's* John Zimmerlee. John has done extensive research in the National Archives, built a vast database on the missing men, and has helped many families learn aspects of their loved one's case that they weren't able to learn elsewhere. When John attends a meet

ing, some family members ask him to join them in their *one-on-ones*. John's contact information is located on page 3. He can help you devise a plan to pursue when you go to your meeting.

Educating Others on the Accounting Effort

On one level, the MIA issue is a complex intertwining of national and international politics. At its roots however, it is still a humane attempt to find closure for families of loved ones. That's the way I look at it anyway. DPMO representatives are generally caring people, many of whom have been negotiating these waters for years. Some consistent prodding is required, of course. Over the years, however, the families have had extensive input on how things are done. This year, the *Coalition* pursued new and old issues.

Circumstantial Evidence/

Personal Effects of the Missing

Over the years, government policy has been designed to withhold information and personal effects of the missing men until conclusive identification has been made. The surface argument has been that they want to protect the families from getting hopes up. Well, this has been a thorn in the side of families all along. We are adults who have lived with this issue most

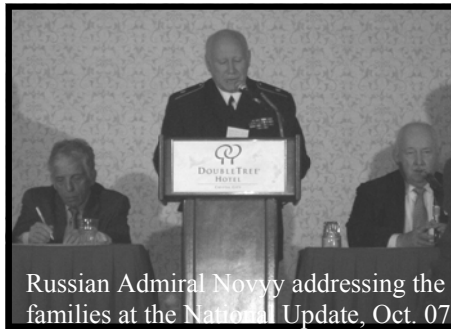
of our lives. We don't want protection. We want information. This difference in values dates back to the release of *PMKOR*.

When pressed, the government has often come around. *PMKOR* was released sooner than planned because the families campaigned to have it done. At this year's update, we pushed for the release of personal effects of missing men (i.e. - dog tags and other identification) returned by N. Korea and the Chinese over the years but not associated with any remains. The fact that the N. Koreans and Chinese were in possession of these effects is information the families of these men should have.

This year, the government agreed to the change and will establish uniform policy to see that these effects are returned to the families through the casualty offices. The *Coalition* is pushing to have viable circumstantial evidence treated the same way.

John Zimmerlee sat down with a number of officials (more than he expected, actually) to have information released to families that he uncovers researching the archives. John passes his findings along to families whenever possible and submits all of it to *DPMO*.

John met with *DPMO* officials to be sure the information he releases to them is included in the files of family members that he cannot reach, and it was agreed that the government would do so.



Russian Admiral Novy addressing the families at the National Update, Oct. 07.

Coalition of Families Reception at the Double Tree Hotel, Pentagon

By Richard Downes,
Edited by Robin Piacine

The *Coalition* held a reception for family members attending the update on Friday, October 19th at the Double Tree Hotel, Pentagon. Folks stopped by for refreshments and to hear our speaker, *JPAC's*, Johnnie Webb, to have one-on-ones with John Zimmerlee, to obtain helpful information on POW/MIA scholarships, the PA Project, to obtain other helpful information and of course to win *fabulous* door prizes.

Johnnie Webb, Deputy Commander of Support and External Relations for JPAC, has been deeply involved in the *MIA* issue for years. Mr. Webb is also a Vietnam Veteran and as an Army Officer, has led teams into sites all around the world to investigate leads and to recover remains. He is also responsible for leading discussions regarding repatriations with countries such as North Korea, China, Burma.

He oversees remains recovery teams around the world and identification efforts at *CILHI's* laboratories in Hawaii. Johnnie presented an in depth glimpse into the hardships the recovery teams encounter and their dedication to bring remains of the missing home. When you read of these returns, please overlay your own perceptions of harsh terrain, inclement weather, and homesickness that these wonderful men and women endure.

At the reception, Mr. Webb told all of us about the passion of those who are members of the investigation and recovery teams and the environment in which they must work in. He also answered questions from the audience. We truly appreciate Mr. Webb taking the time to meet with us and helping to educate us on what it is like for those who on the joint command operations teams around the world.

John Zimmerlee was available to assist families in information regarding their missing loved ones, and provided questions that may be helpful to ask when they meet with their casualty officers. John also offered to go along with some of the families during their one on one with the casualty officers meetings.

We appreciated his insight into the process from those who do the tedious and exhausting work to bring our men home. They will always have our utmost respect and gratitude.

The *Coalition's* President Robin Piacine finished the reception by moderating a heartfelt, sometimes tearful exchange between family members relating the stories of their missing loved ones and the efforts to learn their fates.

We have wanted the government to feature this sort of interaction between family members at all the updates. It is a release to share our journeys with one another and learn that we are not alone in the quest. **There were family members there that shared the same MIA date. This is critical point in fact...you need to network to find the answers and connect with others who have someone missing around the same time.**

The one story that was riveting, was that of Mr. Vincent Krepps, a Coalition member. Mr. Krepps shared his story of his brother, Richard, who remains missing from the



Korean War and the tribute that he wrote about him in his book, "And One Came Home." We would invite you to go to page 14 to read more about this as well as a book written about the Sunchon tunnel massacre told by the survivors. Check out our website

for more information on how to order these books.

What is important about families getting together? One of the things we hear the most is that you need or want to be able to talk about your loss, and see if someone else may have some information on your lost loved one. Please find the time to attend any and every update you can.

There is a lot to be learned, and the more attention the issue receives from the families, the more attention the issue is given by the government. Please add your voice whenever possible. We have to believe that our loved ones are listening as well.

An Update *One-On-One*

What One Family is Doing

By Rick Downes

Attending a regional or national government update is invariably an eye-opening experience of some kind. There's plenty of information to absorb, experts to meet, and lots of sharing to do with other family members. It's all helpful. The ultimate goal, of course, is to make it *useful*. For family members who are new to the quest, or those who have been frustrated with their own meetings, I thought it might be interesting to read about my own family's recent one-on-one in D.C.

My family is always pushing new angles on our father's case. His B-26 went down over N. Korea in the early part of 1952. A Chinese radio broadcast made a few months later mentioned his name, rank, and position on the plane. Our plan is to have the Chinese look into their archives for the source of that information. We hope to encourage their efforts by making the search as specific as possible.

We know the general area that the plane went down. We entered the D.C. meeting with the idea of learning which Chinese military unit was serving in the area then found our father, made that report, and where the record ultimately landed.

We sat down with several government experts, some of whom we've gotten to know quite well over the years, and learned the structure of the Chinese military command operating in N. Korea during the war, what kind of unit would have been stationed in the rear guard area, and the realities of record keeping in the field by the Chinese army at the time. It was all very interesting.

Putting our heads together, we designed a two-pronged plan to learn the Chinese brigade and corps units that would have been stationed in the crash site area. *DPMO* representatives will be handling the diplomacy angle. My family will approach the Chinese as a personal, humanitarian mission. By pushing the envelope in two directions, we may just get somewhere. With this information in hand, we can later approach the Chinese with a request to search specific records for specific information.

The idea is to be the advocate for the missing. Otherwise, we are just sitting at home hoping others will do so for us. The updates offer an opportunity to engage experts who are willing to help. In addition, by pushing the envelope in just one case, we are expanding the effort for others.

So push ... nicely, of course ... and don't give up. Contemplate all angles of your missing guy's case then present goals for the experts to pursue. They do listen. There are avenues they can take. It is up to us to provide a map.

Sightings without Names – The Generic File

By Rick Downes



Since the earliest days of the war, there have been sightings of American serviceman held captive in N. Korea, Russia and China. These reports have continued right up to the present, including debriefings of recent N. Korean defectors and escaped S. Korean POWs. The sightings are generic in scope ... single American here, group of Americans there. The government traditionally classifies this kind of circumstantial sighting.

The families learned of these *cables* and campaigned to have a file released that listed the reports with a brief synopsis of the sightings and a document record number. The government agreed and these records have been available on the *DMPO* website under *Generic File*.

Recently, we learned that as files were declassified and sent to the National Archives, the records were removed from the website without any reference to the status of the sightings. The question became, were these sightings explained, discredited, or simply released without being resolved?

The *Coalition* brought this up and requested that the *DPMO* website page be expanded to include the final disposition and location of these documents. The government agreed to add information that tracks these cables as they are declassified. It is important to keep track of these sightings in case new information comes to light.

Coalition of Families Lapel Pin

Order your **Coalition of Families Lapel Pin** today !! When you wear your pin, it is a reminder to others that we still need to bring our loved ones home and there is still much work to do in order for that to happen. **Now you can choose between silver on blue or gold on black. Please indicate which you would like.**

For each pin ordered please send \$7.00 to cover postage and handling to:

**Coalition of Families of Korean and Cold War POW/MIAs
PO Box 295
New Kingstown, PA 17072**

**Check the COF Website for Coalition of Families
articles for sale such as tote bags, hats, blankets and shirts
at: www.coalitionoffamilies.org and log onto:
<http://www.fund-gear.com>**



Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POW/MIAs National Membership Application

☐ **New**



☐ **Renewal**

☐ Contributors, those who are not related to the missing, and would like to receive the newsletter, can do so for a \$20.00 annual contribution.

Name: _____ Date of Application: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship to missing service member: _____

Service members full name: _____ Service # _____

Branch of Service/Unit or Group: _____

Date & Area of Loss: _____

Please make checks payable to: Coalition of Families and send to:

Coalition of Families

Attn: Treasurer

PO Box 295

New Kingstown, PA 17072



DONATIONS

We want to thank all of the organizations and individuals for their generous donations to the Coalition of Families. Your kindness will help us to continue providing the Coalition of Families membership and friends with the publication of the newsletter and continue our work in search for the answers.

As you may image, costs for travel and lodging while meeting with officials can become costly, covering costs for travel to such places as the College Park Archives is also an expense, as well as the cost of publishing the newsletter and getting it mailed out. Without your kind donations and renewals, we just couldn't do it, so thanks and God bless you!

Robin Piacine, President



SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 16-17-18, 2008
DEFENSE PRISONER OF WAR
MISSING PERSONNEL OFFICE
ANNUAL KOREAN & COLD WAR
FAMILY UPDATE
Double Tree Hotel, Washington, DC

PLEASE JOIN US AGAIN! This year we are in the process of planning a larger get together with speakers on the issue. Details to follow in our next newsletter and on the Coalition of Families website, so check us out at: www.coalitionoffamilies.org!



Book Reviews

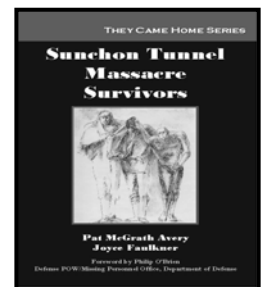
The 2007 publication of *One Came Home*, is a personal reflection and journey of a surviving twin brother of the Korean War. It is a story of memorializing the brother who never returned, Richard Krepps, as told by his brother

Vincent who served with him in the 2nd ID Division. The binding love and memories they shared and the continued dedication to Richard, by his brother Vincent comes through loud and clear in this account.

When reading *One Came Home*, you will gain a deep appreciation of the many years that the author has dedicated in his search for a resolution regarding his brother's demise. Mr. Krepps has documented his search through numerous photographs, locations of where some of the POW/MIA accounts lie, physical descriptions of the POW camps, battles, and much more. I recommend this book for all who want to gain insight into the Korean War and especially the 2nd ID.

If you are interested in ordering an autographed copy of *One Came Home*, you can contact Vince at: Vincent Krepps, 24 Goucher Woods Ct, Towson, MD 21286-5655, or by phone at: 410-828-8978 or by email at: yak1950@starpower.net, (When writing, please include a check for \$25.00 which includes shipping and handling). Please inform Vince that you learned about this book through the Coalition of Families!!!

Another book that we would like to report on is the *Sunchon Tunnel Massacre Survivors* by Pat McGrath Avery and Joyce Faulkner published in the fall of 2007. I was asked to review the book and if possible, make a comment to be used on the inside cover. . .



"This book details the human suffering both mentally and physically that most of us wish not to hear...but need to in order to understand those heroes among us who are so many times silent about their experiences. Through accounts such as this, you will not be forgotten. For the families that still await word regarding the fate of our lost loved ones, this chronicle hopefully will educate and generate renewed interest in the POW/MIA efforts. Thank you to the authors Pat McGrath Avery and Joyce Faulkner and to the men who were brave enough to tell their stories."

To order *Sunchon Tunnel Massacre Survivors* book contact: Pat McGrath Avery, 18942 State Hwy 13, Suite F, Box #107, Branson West, MO 65737, or by email at : patavery@gmail.com, Publisher: Red Engine Press.

**To Casualty (Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force) Office, DPMO, NPRC, NARA, JPAC:
Request for Information - Please forward the documents within your control**

Please register or continue to recognize me as a family member for the (described below) Serviceman, missing from the Korean War/Cold War, as I am his _____ (relationship, i.e., surviving spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, sister, brother, etc.)

Serviceman's Full Name _____

Service # _____ Branch of Service _____ Dates of Service _____ to _____

Birth Date _____ Race _____ Height _____ Weight _____ Hair Color _____ Eye Color _____

Unit _____ Incident Date _____ Incident Area _____

This is a **FOIA request** for all records and documents pertaining to the above. This includes, but is not limited to, the list below, any suspected relationship to existing remains, unit daily records on about the incident date, intelligence records, prison camp lists, the 944 and Johnson lists, propaganda, photographs, and any other documents where his name appears or circumstances may suggest that a document could pertain to the above.

"Key" documents that are especially important are as follows: (no need to send those that I already have)

**Need Already
Have**

- _____ _____ Casualty Data Card - front & back
- _____ _____ Casualty Report
- _____ _____ Case Status Card - front & back
- _____ _____ Debriefs from returning POWs mentioning subject's name (NARA)
- _____ _____ Field Search Case
- _____ _____ Summary (Scrub) Sheet
- _____ _____ Names of other men who went missing on the same day from the same unit.
- _____ _____ Documents that may indicate further information on these other men.
- _____ _____ Joint POW/MIA Account Command holdings (JPAC)
- _____ _____ Reports from CIA & NSA (including subject's name or possibility of a match)
- _____ _____ 293 Deceased File (JPAC)
- _____ _____ Personnel Records and Morning Reports (NPRC)
- _____ _____ Entries in C.A.R.I.S. by possibility or name (JPAC)

As I understand that some documents often have information that may be of value to more than one serviceman's family, (in accordance with McCain Bill) this letter also "expressly consents to the disclosure of the record or other information" (where his name or description appears) with the Coalition of Families, John Zimmerlee and other missing servicemen's family members and to send copies of documents to them.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

email (very important) _____

Date _____

Signature (after copying) _____



ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

USAF Missing Persons Branch 550 C Street West, Suite 15 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4716 800-531-5501	U.S. Army - AHRC-PER 200 Stovall St Alexandria, VA 22332-0482 800-892-2490	Defense POW/ Missing Personnel Robert Goeke 2400 Defense Pentagon Washington DC 20301-2400 703-699-1100
Navy - POW/MIA Section (PERS 624) 5720 Integrity Drive Millington, TN 38055-6210 800-443-9298	HQ U. S. Marine Corps - MRC 3280 Russell Road Quantico, VA 22134-5103 800-847-1597	Coalition of Families John Zimmerlee Vice-President Information Manager 3342 Brickey Ln Marietta GA 30068-3844 770-565-4420
Attn: Public Affairs Office Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command 310 Worcester Ave. Bldg 45 Hickam AFB, HI 96853-5530 808-448-1934	National Archives II (NARA) 8601 Adelphi Rd College Park, MD 20740-6001 301-837-3510	Military Personnel Records Nat'l Personnel Records Center 9700 Page Ave St Louis MO 63132-5100 314-801-0800
Department of Defense Robert Gates Secretary of Defense 1000 Defense Pentagon Washington, DC 20301-1000 Web Site: www.defenselink.mil Phone: (703) 692-7100 Fax: (703) 697-8339	To identify those who represents YOU call: U. S. Main switchboard at 202-224-3121 or 202-225-3121	Department of State Condoleezza Rice Secretary of State 2201 C St., N.W. Washington, DC 20520 Web Site: www.state.gov Phone: (202) 647-4000 Fax: (202) 647-2283

Help! We're learning something new about our missing men every day, but we're having trouble finding the family members. Please email your current email address, postal address, phone number and related serviceman's name to johnzimmerlee@bellsouth.net

To receive Update and Review newsletter by email ONLY, please go to www.coalitionoffamilies.org website, and email Robin Piacine at: president@coalitionoffamilies.org In the RE: section of the email please type: Newsletter by email.



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