

The Florida Veteran



***Jewish War Veterans of the United States
Department of Florida***

The Voice of the Department of Florida Jewish War
Veterans of the USA • Volume 2022, Issue 3

DEPARTMENT ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022

DELRAY BEACH GOLF CLUB

2200 Highland Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33445

At 9:00 am we will be serving coffee, tea and bagels. At 9:30 am, the comrades and sisters will go into their respective meetings. Following the meetings, at 12:00 pm, we will adjourn to the banquet hall, where we will enjoy a gala luncheon with our esteemed guests.

Directions:

From 

Head WEST on Atlantic Ave., past Congress, approximately 1 mile to South (LEFT TURN) onto Highland Ave. Then, less than 1 mile, follow the sign to the Golf Club on the LEFT.

From 

Head EAST on Atlantic Ave., (about 2 miles past Jog Road) then about 2 additional miles, make a RIGHT TURN onto Highland Ave., Then, follow sign to LEFT TURN to the Golf Club.

9:00 Meeting Instructions via Zoom

To join the online meeting,
click the link below:

<https://zoom.us/j/94617101226?pwd=QnlwTlYzWXhDRVVkclJaYmFrb1dEZz09>

**Online Meeting and Passcode:
Meeting ID: 946 1710 1226
Passcode: 338613**

If you plan on joining by phone (not recommended), you can find a phone number by clicking the link below:

<https://zoom.us/j/94617101226>
**Telephonic Meeting and Passcode:
Meeting ID: 946 1710 1226
Passcode: 338613**

There are also apps you can download for your phone or tablet in the Google Play or Apple App Stores, if you prefer.

JWV FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Commander: Larry Jasper (373)

C: 813-404-5616 • lmjasper@reagan.com

Sr. V. Commander: Harvey Charter (400)

H: 239-561-6535 • hbcharter@aol.com

1st Jr. V. Commander: Steve Jockers (243)

H: 954-383-5317 • stephenjockers@bellsouth.net

2nd Jr. V. Commander: Bernard Nachimson (321)

H: 561-866-2218 • docknock713@yahoo.com

3rd Jr. V. Commander: Richard Berg (265)

C: 908-296-8648 • richaberg@gmail.com

4th Jr. V. Commander: Rabbi Mark Golub (941)

C: 978-273-6152 • maldengolub44@gmail.com

Judge Advocate: PNC David Magidson (243)

C: 305-775-3051 • dlmagid@hotmail.com

Adjutant: Jennifer Brande (243)

C: 201-281-8037 • jennifer.l.brande@gmail.com

Chaplain: Richard Berg (265)

C: 908-296-8648 • richaberg@gmail.com

Quartermaster: Ike Heller (243)

H: 954-435-8087 • ikeheller@gmail.com

Veteran's Service Officer: Gerald Rennert

C: 954-415-4050 • vaclaimspro2@aol.com

Chief of Staff: Michael Corbett (440)

H: 561-742-8016 • oclusmc@hotmail.com

Auxiliary President: Verna Rosenzweig

H: 954-426-1960 • vr5240@yahoo.com



FROM THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Several members of the Department of Florida made the trip to Washington DC in May to visit Capitol Hill. We were able to visit 19 Florida Congressional offices and were able to meet with personnel from most of those offices. The intent was to push for JWV Legislative Priorities for 2022. Our efforts met with a great deal of success. An interesting side note, the halls of the Congressional Office Buildings are usually packed with people. Due to new entry rules, once we were in the buildings, we were able to roam the halls freely and rarely saw anyone else. An unusual feeling.

As most of you know, Herb Rosenbleeth served as JWV's National Executive Director for many years. Herb was our voice on Capitol Hill as well as managing our national staff. Herb recently retired and we honored him at the dinner on May 5th. Earlier that day we will attend the opening of the Vietnam War Exhibit at the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.

I would like to congratulate Harvey Charter of Post 400 who was the first-place winner of the Spring Membership Contest. Congratulations also go to Jules Golombik of Post 631 for being the third-place winner. There were 3 winners and Florida took 2 of them! Great job!

There has been regular meetings of the Constitution and By-Laws re-write committee and the work is nearly completed. You will shortly see the newly revised JWV National Constitution and soon after that the newly revised By-Laws. Please review them carefully and if you have any comments forward them as directed. The documents will be voted on at the National Convention in Savannah. A lot of hard work has gone into this endeavor. The intent was to modernize the documents to be pertinent for how we operate and how we need to operate going forward. This is the first time in decades that a complete re-write has been undertaken.

That brings us to the National Convention. This year is the first time it will be held as a hybrid. That means you can attend in person and also online. See the JWV website, JWV.org to sign up. We will be electing a new National Commander and Vice Commander as well as voting on the all-important Constitution and By-laws. Please try to attend.

If you have not as yet registered for the Department of Florida Convention, please do. We have a distinguished guest

Media Outreach Efforts

Please ask the leader of your local Shul/Temple/Congregation/Synagogue/Chabad/Jewish Community Center (JCC) or your Jewish community partners if they can add the The Jewish Veteran link on their organization website, newsletter, or on their electronic bulletin board.

Click here to access the latest issue of The Jewish Veteran.

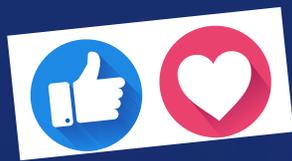
Important Links

(Click on the links below:)



- **The Jewish Veteran, Vol. 76, No. 1— 2022**
- **JWV Online Membership Application**
- **JWV Online Store**
- **Dept of Florida Online Donation Page**
- **Post Management/Forms**

**If you encounter a Veteran
who is struggling,
call the
Veteran Crisis Line
at
1-800-273- 8255
and select option 1**



find us on
facebook

JWV National:

<https://www.facebook.com/JewishWarVeterans>

State of Florida:

<https://www.facebook.com/floridajwv>



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This will be my final President's Message. After five years as your Department President, I am handing over my gavel to AP Ileene Yashpeh. I am sure the Ladies Auxiliary of the Department of Florida will be in good hands.

To my sisters, thank you for all your help and support these past five years. To DC Larry Jasper, thank you for your co-operation and patience. To NC Alan Paley, thanks for everything in all the past years.

It has been a wild ride! Covid slowed things down considerably, but we found ways to get together virtually, thanks to Carole Goldberg.

I'm hoping to see everyone at the Department Convention Sunday, June 26 at the Delray Beach Golf Club. PNP Joanne Blum will be installing the officers of the Department, and also the auxiliaries.

NP Sandra Cantor will be unable to visit, but will address us via a recording. There will be a gala luncheon in honor of our National Commander, our very own Alan Paley. You must be there!

Verna Rosenzweig, President
JWVA Department of Florida

DC's MESSAGE — from page 2

speaker, MG (Ret) James Hartsell, he is currently the Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs. MG Hartsell will join us to update us on what is going on in the state pertaining to veterans benefits and programs as well as answer any questions you may have. I will also have available to you copies of the 2022 Florida Veterans Benefits guide. At the convention we will be electing our officers for the coming year.

Last but certainly not least, the Good Standing Matrix which was sent to all Post Commanders. There are certain reporting requirements, some mandated by law, which we have to comply with every year. Many posts are not in compliance. If you need assistance with these requirements, please contact your Jr. Vice Commander or me.

Hope to see many of you in Delray Beach! Let's have a good showing for our guest speaker.

L'Shalom,
Larry



Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America

Chartered By an Act of Congress

Department of Florida

JWV-FL.Org

Larry Jasper

Department Commander

4469 Keyes Avenue, Spring Hill, FL 34606-1664, lmjasper@reagan.com, 813-404-5616

J.W.V./J.W.V.A. DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA 2021 STATE CONVENTION

Sunday June 26, 2022, 0900

Delray Beach Golf Club, 2200 Highland Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33445

From: Larry Jasper, Department of Florida Commander & Verna Rosenzweig, Florida Auxiliary President

To: All members of the JWV Department of Florida and JWV Florida Auxiliary

We will not have an ad journal for this convention.

Instead, to help offset costs we will conduct a 50-25-25 at the convention.

How this works: 50% will go to the Department; there will be 2 winners picked, each will split the remaining 50%.

You can purchase tickets in advance or at the Convention.

You do not have to be present to win.

There are 2 ways purchase tickets in advance:

1. By using the online payment method at floridajwv.square.site (not .com).
2. By mailing a check to our Quartermaster, Ike Heller, 9620 NW 28th Street, Hollywood, FL 33024-8501 made payable to JWV Dept of Florida.

The cost of the tickets are as follows:

\$5 each ticket

With 5 tickets, you will get an additional **3 free**.

With 10 tickets, you will get an additional **5 free**.

With 15 or more, you will receive an **equal amount free**.

The more tickets you buy, the better your chances to win!

You have to be in it to win it!

Please help support the Department by buying additional tickets.

"The Patriotic Voice of American Jewry – 125 years of Jewish Pride and American Patriotism"

Luncheon Reservation
TO HONOR NATIONAL COMMANDER ALAN PALEY
Sunday, June 26, 2022
Delray Beach Golf Club

Total attendance cost is \$31, including 2 meals
THE PLANNED MEAL PROGRAM INCLUDES

Breakfast - *Coffee, tea, Bagels, Butter and/or Margarine and Cream Cheese*

Lunch - **1. Delray Trio Salad** – Albacore tuna salad, egg salad and homemade chicken salad, placed on a bed of mixed greens with alfalfa sprouts and choice of dressings.

2. Kosher Choice – *Eliminate the chicken salad and double up on the tuna or egg.*

3. Cobb Salad – *Iceberg lettuce with roast turkey, avocado, crumbled bleu cheese shredded cheddar cheese, cherry tomatoes, hardboiled egg. Choice of dressing.*

** All lunch choices are served with fresh rolls and butter. Also Coffee, Decaf, and Iced Tea.*

Dessert - *Lemon Raspberry Mousse Cake or Fruit Cup.*

If not staying for Lunch, there is a charge of \$8.00 for Breakfast.



Cut here -----

Enclose your menu selection and check (\$31.00/pp), made payable to:

Department of Florida, by June 12, 2022

Mail to: Ike Heller, 9620 NW 28th Street, Hollywood, FL 33024-8501

YOUR NAME-----PHONE-----

ADDRESS_____ZIP_____

POST #_____AUX #_____NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING_____

IF MORE THAN ONE PERSON IS ATTENDING, PLEASE INDICATE WHICH PERSON GETS WHICH MEAL (WHOLE NAME PLEASE)

DELRAY TRIO SALAD_____ COBB SALAD_____

KOSHER SALAD WITH DOUBLE EGG SALAD_____

KOSHER SALAD WITH DOUBLE TUNA SALAD_____

CAKE_____ OR FRUIT CUP_____

BREAKFAST ONLY_____(\$8.00)

DIRECTIONS TO DELRAY BEACH GOLF CLUB, 2200 Highland Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33445
195: Exit 52, West on Atlantic Ave., go past Congress Ave., make a left on Homewood and a left on Highland Ave. This will lead into the parking lot.

Turnpike: Exit 81, East on Atlantic Avenue, drive approx. 5 miles, make a right on Homewood, and a left on Highland Ave. This will lead into the parking lot.

Jewish War Veterans of the USA
Department of Florida
76th Annual Convention Agenda
June 26th, 2022



0900	Breakfast	
0930	Official Opening of Department Convention:	DC Larry Jasper
	Opening Prayer	Chaplain Richard Berg
	Introduction of Officers and Guests:	DC Larry Jasper
0945	A. Roll Call of Posts and Members on Conference Call	Adjutant Jennifer Brande
	B. Quartermaster's Report	QM Ike Heller
	C. Committee Reports:	
	National Policy Committee	PNC Ferdie
	NEC	PNC Magidson
	Trustees	Jules Golumbik
	Archives	Debra Stern
	National Stamp Program	National Stamp Chairman Mike Corbett
	D. Officer Reports:	
	Department Commander	Larry Jasper
	Chief of Staff	COS/PDC Mike Corbett
	Senior Vice Commander	Harvey Charter
	1 st Jr. Vice Commander	Steve Jockers
	2 nd Jr. Vice Commander	Bernard Nachimson
	3 rd Jr. Vice Commander	Richard Berg
	4 th Jr. Vice Commander	Rabbi Mark Golub
	E. Briefing on the National Convention	DC Larry Jasper
1015	Presentation by Guest Speaker	MG James (Hammer) Hartsell
1100	Memorial Service	Department Chaplain Richard Berg
1130	Old and Unfinished Business:	DC Larry Jasper
	1. National Consitution and By-Laws	
	2. Convention Site Selection	
	3. Our Community Salutes	
1145	Prep for Lunch	
1200	Lunch begins — Auxiliary Introductions	DP Verna Rosenzweig
1300	National Commander Address	NC Alan Paley
	Greetings from National President	NP Sandra Cantor
	Presentations to NC & NP	DP Verna Rosenzweig & DC Larry Jasper
1330	New Business:	DC Larry Jasper
	1. Nominations for Department Officers	NC Alan Paley
	2. Election of Department Officers	NC Alan Paley
	3. Installation of Department Officers	NC Alan Paley
	4. Closure of Posts	DC Larry Jasper
	5. Merger of Posts	DC Larry Jasper
	6. Closure of Councils	DC Larry Jasper
1400	Good and Welfare	DC Larry Jasper
1425	Next Quarterly Meeting — Sunday, 16 October	Location TBD
1430	Closing Ritual	DC Larry Jasper / Chaplain Richard Berg

Agenda is Subject to Change

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Nominations for New National Commander and National Vice-Commander

Colonel Nelson L. Mellitz, USAF, Ret. Candidate for National Commander

Colonel Nelson L. Mellitz, USAF, Retired, continues an over 80-year family tradition of serving the Jewish War Veteran (JWV) of the United States of America. Nelson and wife Debbie's family have been active members of the JWV since the early 1940's. They both have grandfathers, fathers, aunts, uncles, and cousins that have proudly served in the U.S. military during war and peacetime. Nelson served 32 years in the United States Air Force. He had been assigned to 13 different locations during five major wars and many smaller combat operations. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1970 as an E-1 and was assigned to a Civil Engineering Unit as a Site Development Specialist.

Over the next nine and half years he was promoted to Master Sergeant (E-7). He was awarded a direct commission to 2nd Lieutenant in 1980 and assigned to the Acquisition Career field with a specialty in Government Contracting. Nelson Mellitz was promoted to full Colonel in 1998. During his career he has received more than 25 military awards and decorations, including the U.S. Ambassador to Iraqi Meritorious Citation from the Iraqi Minister of Defense and the U.S. Ambassador to Iraq.

Nelson has held many leadership positions in JWV: National Vice Commander, National Quartermaster, National Chief of Staff; Department of New Jersey Commander, and Post and Council Commander.

Nelson has received numerous JWV awards: National Murray L. Rosen Award; National Edward D. Blatt Award; National Department Commander of the Year; National Judge Lawrence Gubow Memorial Award – Americanism (2); NJ Post Commander of the Year; NJ Person of the Year; NJ Council Commander of the Year; JWV Post 1 - LT COL Epstein Vietnam Veteran Award.



Colonel Mellitz was appointed by the New Jersey Governor to the Governors Veterans Services Council and is currently Vice Chairperson of this Council. Nelson is a Director of the Armed Forces Heritage Museum, and the Interfaith Taskforce for America and Israel (ITAI). He is a member of the Camden County Veterans Advisory Council, Cherry Hill Veterans Advisory Council, and seven Veterans Services Organizations (i.e. VFW, American Legion, MOAA). Colonel Mellitz is currently Land Sea Air Security, LLC (LSA), Vice President of World-Wide Business Operations. LSA is an international company that markets proven Israeli defensive equipment (i.e. drone catcher, electronic sea and land based invisible fencing), and advanced forest fire detection equipment, etc. He has been a university professor and corporate and government executive. Nelson is married to Debbie Markowitz Mellitz from Pittsburgh for 42 years and they are the proud parents of two successful daughters.

Colonel Barry Lischinsky, USA Candidate for National Vice Commander

Colonel Barry Lischinsky began his military career in December 1969, as an enlisted combat field medic. Upon graduation from Massachusetts Military Academy in June 1974, he was appointed as a Second Lieutenant in the Massachusetts Army National Guard, holding both federal and state commissions. In May 2002, he assumed the responsibilities of Commander, 79th Troop Command, Massachusetts Army National Guard. He was responsible for command and control for over 2,000 soldiers assigned to six combat service support career fields. Organizations under his command consisted of Aviation, Finance, Maintenance, Medical, Quartermaster, and Transportation. The colonel relinquished command in July 2004. In November 2004, Colonel Lischinsky retired from the military having completed fourteen years as a traditional Guardsmen and an additional twenty years of active federal service. Colonel Lischinsky's military service spans over a total of thirty-four years of continuous military service.

In September 2007, Colonel Lischinsky served as a Senior Army Instructor, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) in Boston, Massachusetts. Here he would instill in high school students the core values of citizenship, leadership, service to the community, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment. In February 2015, he assumed the duty position of Deputy Superintendent at the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea, Massachusetts. On February 1, 2016, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker appointed Barry as Acting Superintendent of the Home. Barry retired from state service in March 2017.

Since his retirement from both federal and state service, Barry continues to be committed to our military veterans. He has held numerous positions at all levels within the Jewish War Veterans to include



Commander, North Shore Post 220 (2009-2013) and Commander, Department of Massachusetts (2013- 2015). He was appointed National Chief of Staff of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America (2019-2020). In 2020, he was appointed to the Board of Directors for the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, and currently serves as the National Chairman for Membership for the Jewish War Veterans a position that he has held since 2017. Colonel Barry Lischinsky is a life member of both the Jewish War Veterans of the USA and the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.

Executive Director of Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs to Address Department Convention

Retired Marine Corps Major General James S. "Hammer" Hartsell was appointed Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs by Gov. Ron DeSantis and unanimously approved by Florida's three Cabinet Officers.

General Hartsell served in the United States Marine Corps with honor for 37 years of active and reserve duty, beginning as an enlisted Marine in 1981 and completing a distinguished and highly decorated military career as a Major General.

As a Lieutenant Colonel commanding 4th Reconnaissance Battalion in 2001-2003, he was mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 1 and awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. In 2004, he was mobilized again and deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom 2 as 1st Marine Division Senior Liaison to the Marine Expeditionary Force and awarded the Bronze Star and Combat Action Ribbon. As a Colonel he was mobilized once again and deployed to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom as Senior Liaison to NATO Regional Command South and subsequently awarded the Legion of Merit and Combat Action Ribbon.

As a General Officer he served as Commanding General of 4th Marine Division, comprised of 18,000 Sailors and Marines in 37 states and during his command deployed units and teams to five Continents in support of the Global War on Terror. General Hartsell then served as U.S. Pacific Command Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, where he was mobilized as J5 Strategy & Policy Director, and as Chief of Staff, of the 360,000 participant United States Pacific Command, and awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal.

While serving as Mobilization Assistant to the Commander U.S. Pacific Command, he concurrently served in a senior Department of Defense role as Director of the Department of Defense Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies working under authority and direction of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and personally engaged senior level U.S. and Foreign Military and Civilian government delegations throughout the Indo-Pacific theater of operations.

Concurrent with his Reserve military career, General Hartsell completed a successful 22-year civilian career



Major General James S. "Hammer" Hartsell (Retired)

in the Healthcare Industry where he provided leadership in Marketing, Product Management, U.S. and Global Business Development, and Hospital Administration.

A very accomplished Marksman throughout his entire career, he earned his nickname "Hammer" as a young Captain while shooting on the Marine Corps Pistol Team. General Hartsell was the first Marine Distinguished Shooter to achieve General Officer rank in more than 60 years.

Upon retirement from the Marine Corps in 2018, he moved back to his home state of Florida and joined the Pasco Sheriff's Office where he launched the Future Operations Division. In 2019 he was called to join the leadership team of Florida's 1,500-member constitutionally chartered State Veterans' Affairs department where he continues to lead with passion and purpose in support of Florida's 1.5 Million Veterans and their Families.

Nominations for Department of Florida 2022-2023



The following nominations for Officers are presented:

Department Commander	Larry Jasper (Post 373)
Senior Vice Commander	Harvey Charter (Post 400)
1st Junior Vice Commander	Stephen Jockers (Post)
2nd Junior Vice Commander	Bernard Nachimson (Post 321)
3rd Junior Vice Commander	Richard Berg (Post 265)
4th Junior Vice Commander	Rabbi Mark Golub (Post 941)
Judge Advocate	David Magidson (Post 243)
One Year Trustee	Joshua Ochs (Post 243)
Two Year Trustee	Jack Tare (Post 502)
Three Year Trustee	Jerome Blum (Post 639)
National Executive Committee	Jules Golombik (Post 631)
	Jerome Blum (Post 639)
	Richard Rosenzweig (Post 265)
	Jack Tare (Post 502)
Policy Committee	David Magidson (Post 243)
	Ainslee Ferdie (Post 243)

The following nominations for Officers are made by appointment:

Adjutant	Steven Falkowitz (Post 373)
Chaplain	Richard Berg (Post 265)
Quartermaster	Ike Heller (Post 243)
Chief of Staff	Jennifer Brande (Post 243)

Reports

Department of Florida Commander's Report for June 2022

1. I have conducted monthly meetings with my post virtually and in person.
2. I have represented the Department of Florida at the bi-monthly meetings of the Florida Veterans Council.
3. I am part of the committee working on re-writing the National Constitution and By-Laws. We meet every 2 weeks and sometimes weekly.
4. I participated as part of the JWV Coordinating Committee, having monthly virtual meetings.
5. In early May I led a JWV Department of Florida delegation to Capitol Hill in Washington DC to meet with Florida Legislators concerning JWV Legislative Priorities and other issues important to Florida.
6. I participated in meetings of the Board of Directors of the National Museum of American Jewish Military History and am on the exhibits committee. The Vietnam exhibit opened May 5th.
7. I attended several meetings for the Our Community Salutes (OCS) program to honor new enlistees in the armed forces.
8. On May 23rd I represented JWV at the OCS ceremony in Orlando. Over 140 enlistees were honored.
9. On May 24th I and members of my Tampa Post went to 5 cemeteries to set flags for Memorial Day.
10. On May 29th and 30th my post engaged in Poppy sales and raised

over \$5,000. Those funds will be used to support the hospitalized veterans at the James A. Haley VA Hospital in Tampa.

11. I am working with the Miami Marlins to hold a Jewish Community Celebration on Sunday August 14th. Game will be against the Atlanta Braves; game time will be 1:10pm. More details to come.

12. I am working with the Convention Committee to finalize plans for the National Convention in August and for the next NEC in January of 2023 in D.C.

13. My proposal to allow posts and departments to submit proposals to host future National Conventions has been approved by the NEC and the proposal requirements have been distributed.

14. During the past quarter we continued to hold a Monthly Department Commander's Committee under the leadership of NVC Mellitz. The purpose of this committee is to share concerns, issues, and solutions. I have been responsible for setting the agenda and Zoom meeting.

15. One June 22nd I will attend the Post 914 meeting in Venice.

16. Following the Department of Florida convention I will help inventory the department's storage locker to determine what we need to keep and see if we can reduce the space requirements to save on the cost.

17. Please assist in getting the rosters updated and accurate.

Respectfully Submitted,
Larry Jasper

Attention ORLANDO area eligible veterans:

Past Department Commander, Mike Corbett, now resides in that area and will be working on establishing one or more new Posts there.

If you are a former member whose dues have lapsed or, have never been a member of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA, please contact Mike to either join or reinstate. And, if you are a LIFE member without a Post, this is your opportunity to help us bring the dynamic capabilities of the JWV to your community.

Send an e-mail to Mike, today and let him know you're ready to build that new Post, at:

ocusmc@hotmail.com

ALSO:

The JWV National Recreation & Rehabilitation Stamp Program needs used or new US and foreign stamps for hospitalized veterans to get much needed manual dexterity therapy. E-mail our National Program Chair, PDC Mike Corbett to get the address to send your stamps.

**Department of Florida 1st Jr. Vice
Commander's Report for June 2022**

**Department of Florida Stamp Program
Report for June 2022**

1. Distributed numerous e-mails to all posts, on various subjects, what national JWV offers on their web site and their post responsibilities.
 - a. Distributed numerous e-mails to all posts, urging them to hold monthly meetings.
 - b. E-Mail to posts on Memorial Day.
2. Various communications with National on members that needed help with membership issues.
3. Assist the Quartermaster in the preparation of 4th Qtr. financial reports for the Department
4. The Department will file their annual reports at the end of June.

Respectively submitted,
Steve Jockers
1st Jr Vice Commander

We continue to receive stamps for Priority Mail boxes to be sent to VA Hospitals. However, and particularly since the onset of the COVID pandemic, physical therapy and recreation departments have requested we not send stamps at this time. Consequently, I am recommending an official hiatus to our program until such time as is determined by the pertinent VA departments to again receive and utilize the stamps.

M. Corbett, PDC
Chair

**Department of Florida Trustee Report
for June 2022**

Trustees: Michael Corbet
Jules Golombik
Richard Rosenzweig

Trustee functions were not required during this last quarter.
Respectfully submitted,
Jules Golombik for the Trustees

Post	Dept.	Finance Board Report Submitted	990-IRS Receipt Submitted	Warrant Submitted	Liability Insurance Submitted	Fidelity Bond Submitted	Good Standing
172	FL						
199	FL						
202	FL			X			
243	FL				X	X	
246	FL						
265	FL				X	X	
300	FL				X	X	
321	FL				X	X	
338	FL			X	X	X	
352	FL				X	X	
373	FL	X	X	X	X	X	X
400	FL			X	X	X	
404	FL						
409	FL				X	X	
440	FL				X	X	
459	FL						
475	FL						
501	FL						
502	FL						
505	FL						
506	FL						
549	FL						
552	FL						
606	FL		X		X	X	
613	FL						
631	FL	X	X		X	X	
639	FL	X	X	X	X	X	X
684	FL						
698	FL						
705	FL						
819	FL		X		X	X	
941	FL	X	X	X	X	X	X
999	FL						

Annual Post/Department Requirements

Post Elections: Between January and April each year.

Department Elections: Held at Department Convention, warrant to National Attn: Harrison Heller following Department Convention.

Post Installations: Within 60 days of election; send Warrant to National Attn: Harrison Heller, due by end of **June**.

Financial Board Report: Sent to posts by end of February and returned to National Attn: Harrison Heller no later than **May 1st**.

990N: Sent to IRS with copy to National Attn: Harrison Heller by **May 1st** along with the Financial Board Report.

Fidelity Bond: Bill is sent by National to Post in December and payment is due by **February**. Send to National Attn: Christy Turner.

Liability Insurance: Can be purchased through National or separately and proof of insurance should be sent at the same time as the Financial Board Report by **May 1st** to National Attn: Christy Turner.

Dues update: is sent to posts and departments between April and June and needs to be returned before **July 1st** when dues are set for the year. Send to national Attn: Harrison Heller.

Membership Updates: Should be sent as they occur to the National Membership Department, Department Adjutant, and Department Commander and should include address, phone, and email updates; deaths; transfers; and post contact information.

Delegate form for National Convention: Sent to each post between May and June and needs to be returned to National Membership Department at least 15 days prior to the National Convention. Each post gets 1 delegate for every 10 members who are current on their dues status. Copy should be sent to Department Commander and Adjutant.

Report of Convention Form: Department submit to National Attn: Harrison Heller not later than 15 days prior to convention.



VA Now Has One Centralized Phone Number for all Customer Service

The agency currently has several dozen customer service lines, each set to address a different issue. That has now changed with the addition of the new single access telephone contact point that VA officials say will alleviate confusion and make it easier for veterans, families, caregivers, and survivors to reach a live agent that can provide assistance.

The new number is

800-MyVA411

(800-698-2411)

and provides a single access point to all VA contact centers. The number is available anytime 24/7/365. The other numbers are not going away. That means if you can't remember or lose the new number, the line you've been using for years to contact your desired division will still work.

TAPS



DEPARTMENT MEMBERS:

Post 202:

Dr. Martin Cohn, Senior Vice Commander

Post 352:

Mark Kirschner — 7 March 2022

Joseph Coop — 7 April 2022

Post 373:

Boris Stern — 20 August 2021

Post 400:

Dr. Sanford Cohen — 24 January 2022

Paul Tenenbaum — 4 June 2022

Post 631:

Marvin Revich

Post 639:

Herbert Zeichick — 16 April 2022

Post 941:

Howard Yegelwell — 02 February 2022

AUXILIARY MEMBERS:

Post 265:

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זכרונם לברכה



May their memory be for a blessing

Report: Iran Turns Off 2 of UN Nuclear Watchdog's Cameras

8 Jun 2022 | Associated Press | By Amir Vahdat and Jon Gambrell

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran turned off two surveillance cameras of the United Nations' nuclear watchdog that monitored one of its atomic sites, state television reported Wednesday.

The report did not identify the site, but it appeared to be a new pressure technique by Tehran as Western nations seek to censure Iran at a meeting this week of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The Iranian state television report described the two cameras as monitoring "OLEM enrichment levels and flowmeters." That appeared to refer to the IAEA's Online Enrichment Monitors, which watch the enrichment of uranium gas through piping at enrichment facilities.

Iran currently is enriching at both its Fordo and Natanz underground nuclear sites.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran has so far had extensive cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency," state TV said in its report. "Unfortunately, the agency, without considering this cooperation ... not only did not appreciate this cooperation, but also considered it as a duty of Iran."

Tehran said its civilian nuclear arm, the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, monitored the shutdown of the cameras. It said 80% of the existing cameras are IAEA "safeguard" cameras and they will continue to operate as before.

Iran and world powers agreed in 2015 to the nuclear deal, which saw Tehran drastically limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. In 2018, then-President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew America from the accord, raising tensions across the wider Middle East and sparking a series of attacks and incidents.

The Vienna-based IAEA declined to immediately comment.

Iran already has been holding footage from IAEA surveillance cameras since February 2021 as a pressure tactic to restore the atomic accord.

Iran and world powers agreed in 2015 to the nuclear deal, which saw Tehran drastically limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. In 2018, then-President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew America from the accord, raising tensions across the wider Middle East and sparking a series of attacks and incidents.

Talks in Vienna over Iran's tattered nuclear deal have been stalled since April. Since the deal's collapse, Iran runs advanced centrifuges and has a rapidly growing stockpile of enriched uranium. Nonproliferation experts warn Iran has enriched



An inspector of the International Atomic Energy Agency sets up surveillance equipment at the Uranium Conversion Facility of Iran, just outside the city of Isfahan, Iran, Aug. 8, 2005. Iran turned off two surveillance cameras of the United Nations' nuclear watchdog that monitored one of its atomic sites, state television reported Wednesday, June 8, 2022. The report did not identify the site. (AP Photo/Mehdi Ghasemi, ISNA)

enough up to 60% purity — a short technical step from weapons-grade levels of 90% — to make one nuclear weapon if it chooses.

Iran insists its program is for peaceful purposes, though United Nations experts and Western intelligence agencies say Iran had an organized military nuclear program through 2003.

Building a nuclear bomb would still take Iran more time if it pursued a weapon, analysts say, though they warn Tehran's advances make the program more dangerous. Israel has threatened in the past it will carry out a preemptive strike to stop Iran — and already is suspected in a series of recent killings targeting Iranian officials.



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UN: Taliban Faces Threat from Islamic State, New Resistance

3 Jun 2022 | Associated Press | By Edith M. Lederer

UNITED NATIONS — Afghanistan's Taliban rulers are maintaining close ties with al-Qaida as they consolidate control over the country, and their main military threat is coming from the Islamic State extremist group and guerrilla-style attacks by former Afghan government security personnel, U.N. experts said in a new report.

The experts said in the report to the U.N. Security Council that with the onset of better weather, fighting may escalate as both Islamic State and resistance forces undertake operations against Taliban forces.

But neither IS nor al-Qaida “is believed to be capable of mounting international attacks before 2023 at the earliest, regardless of their intent or of whether the Taliban acts to restrain them,” the panel of experts said.

Nonetheless, it said the presence of IS, al-Qaida, and “many other terrorist groups and fighters on Afghan soil” is raising concerns in neighboring countries and the wider international community.

Since their takeover of Afghanistan last Aug. 15 as U.S. and NATO forces were in the final stages of their chaotic withdrawal from the country after 20 years, the Taliban “have favored loyalty and seniority over competence, and their decision-making has been opaque and inconsistent,” the experts said.

In the report obtained Thursday, the panel monitoring sanctions against the Taliban said its leaders have appointed 41 men on the U.N. sanctions blacklist to the Cabinet and senior positions, and they have favored the country's dominant Pashtun ethnic group, alienating minority communities including ethnic Tajiks and Uzbeks.

The Taliban's primary concern has been to consolidate control “while seeking international recognition, to re-engage with the international financial system and to receive aid in order to deal with the growing economic and humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan,” the experts said.

“Since taking power, however, there have been many factors creating internal tensions within the movement, leading to perceptions that the Taliban's governance has been chaotic, disjointed and prone to reversing policies and going back on promises,” they said.

As the Taliban struggle to transition from an insurgency to a governing body, they have been divided between pragmatists and hardliners who have gained the upper hand and want to turn the clock back to the group's harsh rule from 1996 until December 2001, when they were ousted from power by U.S. forces following the 9/11 attacks on the United States.

To date, their efforts to win recognition and aid from Western



Afghan militiamen join Afghan defense and security forces during a gathering in Kabul, Afghanistan, on June 23, 2021. A new report says decisions by Presidents Donald Trump and Joe Biden to pull all U.S. troops out of Afghanistan were the key factors in the collapse of that nation's military, leading to the Taliban takeover last year. *(AP Photo/Rabmat Gul)*

nations have floundered, largely because they have not formed a more representative government and have restricted the rights of girls to education beyond elementary school, and of women to work and travel without a male relative's oversight.

“The central dilemma is how a movement with an inflexible ideology can engage with a society that has evolved during the past 20 years,” the experts said. “Further stresses revolve around power, resources, and regional and ethnic divisions.”

Despite these serious issues, the panel said the Taliban “appear confident in their ability to control the country and ‘wait out’ the international community to obtain eventual recognition of their government.”

“They assess that, even if they make no significant concessions, the international community will ultimately recognize them as the government of Afghanistan, especially in the absence of a government in exile or significant internal resistance,” the experts said.

So far, not a single country has officially recognized the Taliban, and there is growing international anger at its treatment of girls and women and its failure to keep its promise of forming an inclusive government. There are also concerns about the Taliban's inability to keep its promise not to allow terrorist groups to operate in Afghanistan.

The panel said the Haqqani Network, a militant Islamist group with close ties to the Taliban, moved quickly after their takeover to gain control of key portfolios and ministries including interior, intelligence, passports and migration. It now “largely controls security in Afghanistan, including the security of the capital,

War Crimes Meeting Held at Hague over Russia-Ukraine War

31 May 2022 | Associated Press | By Mike Corder

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Representatives of a group of nations working together to investigate war crimes in Russia's invasion of Ukraine are meeting in The Hague amid ongoing calls for those responsible for atrocities to be brought to justice.

Tuesday's coordination meeting at the European Union's judicial cooperation agency, Eurojust, of members of a Joint Investigation Team and International Criminal Court Prosecutor Karim Khan comes as Russian forces continue to pound Ukrainian towns.

Moscow's invasion of Ukraine has been widely condemned as an illegal act of aggression. Russian forces have been accused of killing civilians in the Kyiv suburb of Bucha and of repeated attacks on civilian infrastructure including hospitals and a theater in the besieged city of Mariupol that was being used as a shelter by hundreds of civilians. An investigation by The Associated Press found evidence that the March 16 bombing killed close to 600 people inside and outside the building.

Since Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24, the AP and PBS series Frontline have verified 273 potential war crimes.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has denounced killings of civilians as "genocide" and "war crimes," while U.S. President Joe Biden has called Russian President Vladimir Putin "a war criminal" who should be brought to trial.

The joint investigation team, made up of Ukraine, Lithuania and Poland, that is meeting Tuesday in The Hague was established in late March, a few weeks after the ICC opened an investigation in Ukraine, after dozens of the court's member states threw their weight behind an inquiry. Khan has visited Ukraine, including Bucha, and has a team of investigators in the country gathering evidence.

Ukraine's prosecutor general, Iryna Venediktova, will be among those at the meeting. Her office has already opened more than 8,000 criminal investigations related to the war and identified over 500 suspects, including Russian ministers, military commanders and propagandists.



Karim Ahmed Khan, International Criminal Court chief prosecutor, speaks during a news conference at the Ministry of Justice in the Khartoum, Sudan, Aug. 12, 2021. (AP Photo/Marwan Ali)

Last week, in the first case of its kind linked to the war, a Ukrainian court sentenced a captured Russian soldier to the maximum penalty of life in prison for killing a civilian. On Tuesday, a court in Ukraine convicted two Russian soldiers of war crimes for the shelling of civilian buildings and sentenced both to 11 1/2 years in prison.

Russia staunchly denies its troops are responsible for atrocities. The Defense Ministry said earlier this month that "not a single civilian has faced any violent action by the Russian military."

Analysts warn that the process of meting out justice will be long and complex as investigators piece together forensic and other evidence and seek to establish who ordered or knew about atrocities and failed to act to prevent or punish them.

The meeting in The Hague isn't the only place accountability is being sought.

Prosecutors in Poland, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, France, Slovakia, Sweden, Norway and Switzerland have opened investigations of their own. And there have been growing calls to set up a special tribunal to try Russia for the crime of aggression in Ukraine. The ICC can't prosecute the crime of aggression because neither Russia nor Ukraine are members of the court.

**JWV Department of Florida
Quarterly Meeting
Location TBD**



How Military Medicine Is Preparing for the Next Conflict

8 Jun 2022 | By: Janet A. Aker, Military Health Systems Communications

During the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, military medical teams were well positioned on the battlefield to support the “golden hour” response – the ability to get wounded warfighters off the battlefield and delivered to the care of a full-scale military hospital within about an hour.

And that was a realistic goal given that the U.S. military had total air superiority and maintained top-tier trauma centers in-country. Wounded troops were rarely very far from the life-saving care they needed.

But the next conflict might be very different.

As the Pentagon prepares today’s force for a “near-peer” fight against a large military adversary, the Military Health System is challenged to provide life-saving support for large-scale and dispersed operations. That’s especially true for the medics supporting troops on the front lines.

Imagine a wounded Marine stranded on a remote Pacific island. The highest level of care available might be an independent duty corpsman. Evacuation to a higher level of care might take several days. For military medics, this scenario requires a new kind of training, new equipment, and a new approach to casualty care.

“We’re worried about future casualties because those distances [to hospitals] are so great,” said Air Force Col. Stacy Shackelford, chief of the Joint Trauma System (JTS) Joint Trauma System website, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

In the future, a lack of U.S. air superiority and vast distances could prohibit quick evacuations.

Those conditions likely mean that the “golden hour” handoff to a surgical team will not be possible, Shackelford warned.

The golden hour is the critical time window for trauma patients to receive a series of life-saving interventions – starting at the point of injury and transitioning to handoff to a surgical team. Moving patients quickly through that process is essential to saving lives and improving outcomes.

If wounded warriors are unable to get that care within the golden hour window of time, service medics, Special Operations medics, and independent duty corpsmen will “need a lot of skills, such as in administering pain medications, long-term pain control, airway management, and nursing skills like changing dressings, even things like rolling the patient,” Shackelford said.

A near-peer conflict in the Pacific could leave injured warfighters



Army medics assigned to the South Carolina Army National Guard, conduct combat medical training during a sensory deprivation exercise at McCrady Training Center, Eastover, South Carolina Aug. 16, 2018. The medics are finishing a 12-day sustainment course so they remain proficient in their skills providing care to a casualty from the point of injury to the evacuation site in a combat area. (*Sgt. Jorge Intriago, South Carolina National Guard*)

near front lines for days. “Africa would be the same type of issue when we would have overland transport versus water evacuation,” Shackelford said.

“All of those situations make us think that we may need to hold patients at lower levels of care, where you’re going to have medics taking care of patients for days, including patients that need surgery. Not being able to get to a surgeon means having to stabilize those patients for longer periods of time at lower levels of care,” she explained.

The mission of JTS, part of Defense Health Agency, is to improve outcomes for combat casualties from the strategic level down to the scene of conflict through evidence-driven performance improvement. Under the DHA, the JTS also has expanded the data capture and collection capabilities of its DOD Trauma Registry Registries page on the JTS website with the addition of special injury registries.

Preparing for the Next Fight

Medics’ training is changing dramatically in advance of possible future near-peer conflicts.

To meet this challenge, medics’ skills are being upgraded from the very start of their training, and the entire DHA is developing or reworking tactics and stratagems to reflect the new reality.

“We expect that with large-scale combat operations, every echelon of medical care will need to be better prepared to treat large

numbers of casualties with limited resources,” said Army Col. Johnny Paul, who is the department chair for the Army Combat Medic Specialist Training Program Combat Medic Specialist Training Program page on the METC website at the San Antonio Medical Education and Training Campus Medical Education and Training Campus website located at Fort Sam Houston.

For example, Paul said, you may get whole blood transfusions through donations to the Armed Services Blood Program or from “walking blood banks,” i.e., combat buddies who can donate fresh blood via direct transfusion.

Medics are now receiving newer, advanced training, instilling in them potential life-saving skills and methods. Paul said that includes:

- Use of whole blood
- Operating a walking blood bank
- Telemedicine
- Bladder catheterization
- Ventilator management
- Airway management
- Prolonged casualty monitoring to include nutrition and nursing care

Army Medic Training

To address these needs, the Combat Medic Specialist Training Program (CMSTP) has developed an Introduction to Delayed Evacuation Care component to its capstone 72-hour combat field training exercise.

The goal is to expose the Army’s point-of-care medical personnel – the “68 Whiskey” Combat Medic Specialists – to the principles of prolonged field care. The 68W are assigned to the Army Medical Center of Excellence at Joint Base-San Antonio.

The first class of 275 medics who took the prolonged care course graduated in August 2021, and its medics are trained to transfuse blood on the frontlines. That is a skill that medics have traditionally learned only later in their careers.

Paul said the addition of prolonged casualty care training puts a different focus on the advanced knowledge and skill sets students will need to learn in class. That’s a big change from previous combat medic courses, which focused on the treatment of casualties at the point of injury, with the assumption that a patient would soon be evacuated.

A new training program for all medics, known as Tactical Combat

Casualty Care (TCCC), became operational on Dec. 15, 2021. The curriculum includes training for Care Under Fire, Tactical Field Care, and Tactical Evacuation Care.

TCCC guidelines are the blueprint for combat care at the frontlines for all branches of service. They are updated continually with best clinical practices.

The courses for prolonged casualty care include airway management, acute traumatic wound care, analgesia and sedation management, burn wounds, and crush injuries.

Some of the TCCC curriculum is given to first responders in all services in case there is no medic or corpsmen immediately available.

“This additional training will result in a higher level EMT [Emergency Medical Technician] certification for graduates,” Paul said. That “will directly translate to more advanced medical credentials for combat medics.”

Currently, medics are on a national certification registry at the Basic EMT level. The new curriculum will upgrade that certification to Advanced EMT. “These certifications are nationally recognized,” Paul noted.

Battlefield Medicine

The Navy and Marine Corps are also preparing corpsmen for prolonged casualty care and for crisis situations that might require healthy Marines to donate blood on the battlefield to help treat injuries.

On the battlefield, Combat Life Saver-trained Marines are an essential asset in stopping preventable deaths before a corpsman is available.

However, the skills learned in CLS aren’t only relevant to the battlefield. The principles of CLS can be applied across a range of medical emergencies, Marine Corps officials said. Clearing an airway, mitigating blood loss, and splinting a potentially fatal bone fracture are some of the skills taught during CLS.

Lt. Gen. Robert Miller, Air Force Surgeon General, testified before the Senate on the future of Air Force medicine where he emphasized the importance of preparing today for tomorrow’s battlespace.

“Future conflicts may see medics needing to hold and treat patients in deployed settings for longer periods than in the past,” said Miller. “We are actively evaluating how our teams can remain agile and leverage technology to provide Trusted Care...anytime, anywhere.”

**Next
National Convention
in Savannah, GA**



Estimated Cost of Toxic Exposure Bill More Than One-Quarter Trillion Dollars But Bipartisan Backing Holds

7 Jun 2022 | Military.com | By Rebecca Kheel

A sweeping Senate compromise bill to grant benefits to millions of veterans exposed to toxins during their military service could cost \$278.5 billion over a decade, according to a new estimate from the Congressional Budget Office.

The estimate tallies both guaranteed spending built into government financial systems and discretionary spending that would need to be approved each year by Congress in order to fulfill new promises to veterans contained in the bill. The Senate is expected to approve the historic bill later this week.

At a news conference Tuesday morning, senators in both parties called on their colleagues to brush aside any cost concerns and pass the Senate bill, a bipartisan compromise negotiated by the leaders of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

Under what's being called the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act, 23 diseases would be designated as presumed to be linked to burn pits and other airborne hazards, unlocking benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for former service members who have struggled with those ailments for years.

The bill is named in honor of a veteran who died of lung cancer after being exposed to burn pits in Iraq. Robinson's 8-year-old daughter, Brielle, asked senators during Tuesday's press conference to "fight for the heroes who fought for our country and pass my dad's bill." She had to be lifted up to the microphone by her grandmother so the audience could see her over the lectern and hear her plea.

An estimated 3.5 million veterans have been exposed to burn pits -- massive fires used in war zones to incinerate trash ranging from plastic bottles to computers to Humvees that emanated hazardous particles in their billowing soot -- along with other airborne hazards while serving. Right now, many veterans have to prove to the VA that their disease is linked to their time in uniform, a difficult task amid scant Defense Department records, allowing the VA to deny most claims under arguments that there is not enough evidence linking the diseases to military service.

The compromise bill would, in addition to creating a presumed connection to military service for the 23 specific diseases the PACT Act covers, create a framework for connecting future ailments to toxic exposure. It would also broaden coverage for Vietnam-era veterans exposed to Agent Orange by adding Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Guam, American Samoa and Johnston Atoll to the list of places where veterans were exposed to chemical defoliant and so are eligible for benefits.



A U.S. Army soldier uses a bulldozer to maneuver refuse into the burn pit at Logistics Support Area Anaconda in Balad, Iraq, in September 2004. (U.S. Army photo)

According to the CBO, the Senate bill would increase mandatory spending, funding that doesn't require annual approval from Congress, by \$667 billion over 10 years, far higher than the House bill's \$208 billion increase over the same time period.

But the CBO also estimated the Senate bill could decrease discretionary spending by \$388.5 billion over 10 years, in large part by reclassifying some discretionary spending as mandatory by creating a new "Cost of War Toxic Exposure Fund" to pay for some of the costs in the bill. By comparison, the House bill would increase discretionary spending by \$114.2 billion over a decade.

One of the key factors driving the overall \$43.2 billion difference between the Senate and House bills is that the Senate would take longer to phase in some benefits and presumptive illnesses, pushing some costs to outside the 10-year window covered in the CBO's estimate.

The longer phase-in shaved off \$51 billion from the price tag, according to staffers for Moran. Some money was also saved by expanding options for veterans to seek care at non-VA facilities, the staffers said.

Meanwhile, the Senate bill would also authorize the VA to lease 31 new medical centers across the country. That added back in \$11.3 billion to cost, according to the staffers.

The Senate took an initial procedural vote on the bill Tuesday, advancing it 86-12. The upper chamber is expected to pass the bill before the end of the week, after which the House will need to vote on it before it can be signed into law.

Veteran Status to Be Considered in Deportations Under New ICE Directive

8 Jun 2022 | Military.com | By Konstantin Toropin

The Department of Homeland Security announced a new policy that aims to ensure that its Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) division actually follows its promise to consider military service when deciding to deport retired service members, a press release announced Tuesday.

“Prior to the implementation of this directive, ICE has long recognized U.S. military service as a mitigating factor that is highly relevant in making case-by-case enforcement decisions,” the department said in its announcement.

Despite that claim, there are numerous examples in recent years where the policy seems to have not been followed or not made a difference, leading to the deportation of veterans -- including those who served in combat.

A 2019 Government Accountability Office report found that “ICE did not consistently follow its policies involving veterans who were placed in removal proceedings from fiscal years 2013 through 2018.” The report also faulted the agency for not having a policy to identify and document all military veterans it comes across and noted that “in cases when agents and officers do learn they have encountered a veteran, ICE does not maintain complete electronic data.”

The watchdog report found that, between 2013 and 2018, 250 noncitizen veterans were placed in removal proceedings; 92 ended up being deported.

The problem is so prevalent that a support house -- the Deported Veterans Support House -- popped up in Tijuana, Mexico, to give deported veterans a place to land, regroup and access resources. It is run by Hector Barajas, a veteran of the 82nd Airborne who was deported in 2004.

For example, NPR profiled Miguel Pérez Jr., a Mexican immigrant who grew up in Chicago and served two tours in Afghanistan with the Army. He returned with PTSD and turned to drugs to help him cope, which in turn led to a drug conviction and seven years in prison.

Despite his service and struggles with mental health, Perez was deported in 2018 and lived near Tijuana until he was pardoned by Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker in 2019 and got his citizenship.

Now, the new policy states that “a noncitizen’s U.S. military service, or the active duty U.S. military service of a noncitizen’s immediate family member(s), is a significant mitigating factor that must be considered when deciding whether to take civil immigration enforcement action.”

The policy also notes that agents should not start deportation



U.S. flags are presented during a naturalization ceremony hosted at the Camp Foster Community Center on Camp Foster, Okinawa, Japan, Feb. 18, 2022. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Jonathan Beauchamp)

proceedings against people whose military service has made them eligible for citizenship.

“ICE values the incredible contributions of noncitizens who have served in the U.S. military,” ICE’s Acting Director, Tae Johnson, said in the statement.

The announcement highlighted the fact that the new policy will create “training, tracking, and reporting requirements for program offices” and requires that ICE develop a system to collect and maintain data on noncitizen veterans it encounters.

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The Pentagon Is Still Trying to Identify Dozens of Airmen Who Didn't Make It Home From Raid on 'Hitler's Gas Station'

7 Jun 2022 | Business Insider | By Katie Sanders and Mara Storey



Three B-24 Liberator bombers, assigned to the 98th Bomb Group, fly a low-level bombing mission over the oil refineries around Ploesti, Romania, Aug. 1, 1943. (*US Army Air Force*)

On August 1, 1943, U.S. Army Air Force B-24 Liberators took off from bases in Libya for an audacious raid on one of the Nazi military's most valuable resources.

Operation Tidal Wave was meant to destroy Nazi-controlled oil fields and refineries at Ploiesti, north of Bucharest, Romania. The campaign was unprecedented in scale, with 1,725 airmen taking off in 177 bombers.

The attack on Ploiesti, a sweeping, low-level bombing raid, took a heavy toll on the U.S. airmen involved: 225 of them were killed, earning the day the grim nickname Black Sunday.

Many of those fallen airmen were not immediately recovered or identified.

Three-quarters of a century later, the U.S. Department of Defense's POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) has been using archival research and modern forensics — including DNA analysis from exhumed skeletal remains — to account for airmen still missing from the 1943 mission.

The "Ploiesti Unknowns Project," which began in 2017, has so far identified remains of 19 Tidal Wave airmen and notified their descendants.

In the last three months alone, the Pentagon has announced the identification of five Ploiesti airmen: Sgt. Elvin L. Phillips, 23; 1st Lt. Louis V. Girard, 20; Lt. Col. Addison E Baker, 36; 2nd Lt. David M. Lewis, 20; and Staff Sgt. William O. Wood, 25.

The oil fields and refineries spread across the 18-square-mile complex produced one-third of the Reich's oil, which powered everything from cars and tanks to planes and warships.

Allied leaders who had agreed on the next phase of the war at the Casablanca Conference in January 1943 believed that obliterating "Hitler's gas station" would be critical to slowing the movement of Axis troops and supplies. They also knew such a mission would be costly.

Training for Operation Tidal Wave took place in Libya, where airmen from five different bomb groups lived mainly in tents in the sweltering desert around Benghazi.

Crews simulated bombing runs on a life-size replica of the refinery complex. Models of their assigned targets were built with wood and canvas. The airmen learned how to make use of the B-24's relatively long range and heavy payloads for the 2,000-mile flight to Romania and back.

Despite the preparation, a variety of conditions made an already treacherous mission even more dangerous.

The airmen would be tight on fuel, flying lower and longer than usual, and dealing with maintenance issues caused by the harsh desert conditions, like sand clogging their engines.

The commander of the 44th Bomb Group warned his airmen that only half of them were likely to survive. Radio operator Norm Kiefer remembers a briefing officer saying, "the target was so important that if we lost all of the attacking force but destroyed the refineries, it would be worth it."

The message to airmen was that this single raid could shorten the war by as much as six months.

Early on August 1, crews began taking off from Libya, flying in formation across the Mediterranean toward their targets. Waves of B-24s followed each other, keeping radio silence to evade German radar.



A B-24 over a burning oil refinery in Ploiesti, August 1, 1943. (*U.S. Army photo*)

Yet little went as planned on the path to Ploiesti. Navigation issues led entire squadrons off course. Meanwhile, the Germans knew more about the raid, and were better prepared for it, than the Allies anticipated.

The airmen encountered heavy German resistance, including barrage balloons. The Germans also set smoke pots ablaze in the bombers' path to obscure targets and blind Allied pilots.

Billowing clouds of black smoke limited visibility and interfered with navigation as the B-24s descended to drop their bombs. They flew so low — just 50 feet off the ground — that gunners on the bombers had to aim up at anti-aircraft guns on the roofs of buildings.

Other disguised defenses — anti-aircraft guns hidden among train tracks, oil tanks, and surrounding fields — greeted the vulnerable bombers as they streaked toward their targets.

Operation Tidal Wave proved that the USAAF could carry out large-scale offensive bombing raids, but the feat came at a high price.

The raid knocked about 46% of Ploesti's annual production offline, but the Germans had the refineries up and running at full capacity within three months. The U.S. Army Air Forces never tried another low-level raid against the Germans.

More than 50 of the 177 bombers involved did not return. German soldiers in the region captured 32 airmen alive and collected the remains of some who had been killed. Crashed bombers and bodies left a horrifying scene around Ploiesti.

Because the bombers flew in waves and had separate targets, and because in many cases they missed their targets or purposely veered off-course after being hit, Allied forces struggled to recover the scattered, often badly burned bodies.

"They crashed all over the place," said Christine Cohn, the lead DPAA historian on the Ploiesti Unknowns Project. "There was a lot of scatter ... some bailed, but most were killed as they were flying so low."

Still, Romanian citizens worked to locate fallen airmen after the raid, burying them in the Civilian and Military Cemetery in Ploiesti and in 10 smaller cemeteries in nearby villages.

After the war, the American Graves Registration Command attempted to recover fallen Americans from across the European Theater. There was a joint effort to exhume remains of U.S. airmen in and around Ploiesti. German POWs were sometimes tasked with excavating the graves. The conditions of the remains and their burials made identification harder. Evidence of each soldier's identity — things like dog tags — was often missing.

Excavated remains were sent to France and Belgium for bone analysis to help determine height, weight, and age. Scientists studied what was left of the airmen's mouths using fillings, cavities, and missing teeth to help with identification.

In the early 1950s, the U.S. government suspended its Return of the Dead program, pausing active searches to recover World War II remains. Some 80 U.S. airmen killed over Ploiesti remained

unidentified. Many of their exhumed remains were stored in Belgium, where they were essentially untouched for nearly 50 years.

A 21st-century change in government policy opened the door to using forensics to identify soldiers' bodies. That led the DPAA to launch the latest effort to exhume and identify the remains of Tidal Wave airmen in graves marked as "unknown."

Cohn commended Romanian civilians for burying the fallen airmen during the war but said the way bodies were buried — sometimes with multiple bodies in one casket — complicates the identification process.

Cohn has spent the last several years doing in-depth research to build cases that the Department of Defense should approve the disinterment of specific remains by demonstrating that a successful identification is likely.

She studies the raid and peruses photos of remains, aerial imagery, maps and airmen's files, using evidence and a lot of Excel spreadsheets to narrow down who each "unknown" airman could be.

When disinterment is approved, the skeletal remains are sent to anthropologists at a DPAA lab in Nebraska, where they examine the bones and try to match them to a specific file.

The lab team, led by DPAA scientist Megan Ingvaldstad, works with a U.S. Army genealogist to contact descendants believed to be related to specific missing airmen, sharing details and requesting DNA samples to compare to the skeletal remains.

The recent announcement of the identification of Lt. Col. Addison Baker was the 17th time the Unknowns Project team matched unidentified remains to an unaccounted-for Tidal Wave airman since the project began.

Baker, a 36-year-old pilot from Chicago, was commander of the 93rd Bombardment Group. As he approached his target over Ploesti, his B-24 was hit by an anti-aircraft shell and caught fire.

Instead of attempting an emergency landing, Baker continued leading his formation toward the target. After his crew unleashed their bombs, Baker veered away from the formation to avoid a collision and tried to climb high enough for his crew to bail. Despite the effort, all 10 crew members were killed. Baker received a posthumous Medal of Honor for his actions.

In April, Baker's nephews — who knew their uncle before he went to war and provided DNA to confirm the identification of his remains — joined other family members and Army representatives to celebrate the news that Baker had been accounted for after 78 years.

Beyond the historical significance of the Unknowns Project, Cohn sees her team's efforts as one important way to honor the ultimate sacrifice made by those airmen.

"It is very significant for me to be able to give closure to the families of the missing," Cohn said. "It's our responsibility to go out and find them and bring them home."

How 'Frenchie' Louisiana Cajuns Became Critical to Defeating Nazi Germany

Military.com | By Blake Stilwell

At the turn of the 20th century, Louisiana's Cajun people were still growing up speaking their own form of the French language. Today, this history and culture is widely celebrated, but at the time, it was considered a low-class, "back country language," according to author and podcaster Jason Theriot.

Teachers discouraged the language in schools through harsh punishments, causing many young Cajuns to grow up feeling ashamed of their backgrounds. That all changed when the United States called on its French-speaking Louisianans to help win World War II.

The people we know as Cajun came to Louisiana after being expelled from their original home on Canada's east coast, today's provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. They were also present in what is today the U.S. state of Maine. When the Seven Years' War broke out between France and Britain, it spilled over into North America in 1754 as the French and Indian War.

Believing the French-speaking natives of the area would aid French military operations, Canada's governor forcibly transported them to other colonies or to England and France. Many of French-speaking Canada's former residents made their way to Louisiana, then controlled by Spain. Like many forced migrations, it killed thousands through hunger and disease.

Those who arrived in Spanish Louisiana would remain, even after the United States took control of the territory. They retained their unique language and culture and are today recognized as a national ethnic group, but the celebration of their identity is a relatively recent development.

When formal schools became compulsory in Louisiana after 1910, Cajun children found themselves being punished for speaking their native language at school, despite the fact that many had never known English before. They found their language and culture suppressed -- until World War II broke out in Europe.



Robert LeBlanc, seen here accepting an award for his lifetime of service, was also presented with the Congressional Gold Medal for his service during WWII, where he volunteered for the Office of Strategic Services in 1943. (*Louisiana National Guard*)



Louisiana's French-speaking Cajun soldiers during World War II.

Acadiana Advocate that Cajuns were being shipped out to regular infantry units and suddenly finding themselves transferred to becoming translators, intelligence officers and liaisons to French resistance cells.

"Twenty-year-old GIs are writing back to their families and friends back home saying, 'Hey, you won't believe, but that language I was told was not useful, that French language that was beat down when I was a kid, has become invaluable. And you wouldn't believe all the wonderful things that have happened to me since I've gotten here,'" said Theriot.

Since completing his master's thesis on the same subject in 2007, Theriot has been working to expand the body of knowledge on this little corner of history to include three books, another in progress and the podcast "Frenchie."

He's interviewed more than 100 Louisiana Cajun veterans in his work, and is constantly looking for more, either in-person or through videos and letters submitted by family members. The podcast, named "Frenchie" after the nickname given to many Cajun troops by their fellow GIs, finds Theriot interviewing some of these veterans in their different roles.

He has also covered the foundations of the "Cajun National Guard," the 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment, the 31st "Dixie" Division, which was the largest French-speaking American infantry unit in World War II. The first episode is a series of interviews with Bob LeBlanc, who landed at Normandy with Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army and was a liaison officer to the Office of Strategic Services (OSS).

Theriot's goal has been to reveal the invaluable contributions made to the war effort from a small subset of Americans, using the thing for which they were once persecuted: their language. Their service restored their cultural pride and has since led to the national embrace of their history and heritage.

The armed forces and American intelligence services suddenly needed French speakers like they never had before. Theriot told the

'We're Fed Up With It': Survivors of the USS Liberty Look for Answers 55 Years Later

8 Jun 2022 | Military.com | By Drew F. Lawrence

The survivors of the attack on the USS Liberty -- an event that happened 55 years ago -- snapped salutes as the president of the USS Liberty Veterans Association, Larry L. Bowen, began a remembrance ceremony Wednesday. "Heroism was the order of the day, and every man who could help, stepped up to help," said Bowen.

The attack, which left 34 Americans dead and 174 others injured -- two-thirds of the crew in total, according to a press release organized by the Liberty Veterans Association -- has been veiled in controversy since it happened, with survivors, and even some former senior intelligence officials, pointing to a deliberate bombardment by Israel and a subsequent U.S. dismissal of the event to pardon its ally.

The story of the USS Liberty has teetered on the border of erasure and notoriety for decades. The ship had one of the most highly decorated naval crews in U.S. history, earning one Medal of Honor for the ship's commander, Capt. William L. McGonagle, and hundreds of other commendations from the attack. Yet even after the mid-2000s, when the National Security Agency declassified bits and pieces of the event, some of which contradicted previous official accounts of the attack, the ship's history is still inconvenient for the U.S. government, according to the ship's survivors.

Joe Meadors, a Liberty survivor and Navy signalman, was barely in his twenties during the attack. Now, in his 70s, he says he remembers that afternoon clearly.

"I was up on the signal bridges," he said. "Watching the first attacking aircraft and their wings light up with machine guns, side by side. I'll never forget." He remembers the reconnaissance flights earlier in the morning and says that a "spy" on board told him "not to worry about it," the Israelis were reporting that they had identified the ship as American.

"Some of them were low enough that we could wave to the pilots, and then the deck plating would rattle," he said. "Parents deserve to know the truth, Americans deserve to know the truth about what happened," said Meadors. "We're fed up with it."

The Attack

In the early hours of June 8, 1967, an Israeli aircraft took off on a routine reconnaissance patrol over the Mediterranean, according to a review of the incident conducted by the Israeli Defense Forces. The plane identified a ship 70 miles west of Gaza, but could not determine its country of origin. Somewhere ashore, an Israeli intelligence officer marked the ship's location with a red flag on a map board, indicating it could not be identified clearly.



A supporter dons a USS Liberty memorial shirt as surviving crew members place roses on the ship's memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, Section 34 on June 8, 2022. (*Military.com photo by Drew F. Lawrence*)

As unknown aircraft circled, the Liberty sat exposed in the open sea. The ship contacted command, relaying that the crew intended to destroy sensitive documents aboard to prevent their capture.

Eighteen minutes after the Liberty was first seen, the Israeli aircraft identified it as a U.S. Navy ship, yet the marker remained red on the board of Israel's Central Coastal Command until 9 a.m. when it was switched to green, indicating the ship was indeed "neutral." But as Syrians battered Israel's front lines and Egyptian submarines prowled the sea, the green marker, according to the Israelis, became an afterthought.

By the evening of June 8, the Liberty -- which was armed with only a handful of .50-caliber machine guns -- was nearly sunk. A barrage of torpedoes slammed into the ship's hull as Israeli aircraft dropped napalm and strafed her deck repeatedly. The attack lasted two hours, according to Bowen.

Dozens of Americans were dead, and the questions of why and how hung over the survivors, and public and defense officials in the wake of the attack and the brief war.

Barely 20 days later, the Navy said it had an answer to what had happened or, rather, a partial one: The Liberty was doing its duty, the attack was unprovoked, Israel had "ample time" to identify the ship, but the U.S. could not identify the reason for the attack, according to a 1967 Department of Defense press release. The U.S. government has never publicly blamed Israel for anything other than an accident.

The Liberty's survivors say that Israel had to have known that the vessel was American -- flying an American flag -- and the attack was made without warning or justification.

In 2005, the USS Liberty Veterans Association submitted a report to the DoD asking for a formal investigation, unsatisfied by the

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A World War II Soldier Received the Medal of Honor After Cutting Off His Own Leg

Military.com | By Blake Stilwell

Receiving the Medal of Honor requires the recipient to commit to an action that risks their life “above and beyond the call of duty.” This means no one involved would blame the person for not performing the action.

Sometimes, this means taking on an enemy while outnumbered; sometimes, it means rescuing a battle buddy from certain death. For U.S. Army Staff Sgt. George Hall, it meant both -- only, the person he rescued was himself, and he had to cut off his own leg to do it.

George John Hall was a native of Massachusetts who joined the Army long before the United States entered World War II. He first served in the National Guard in his home state while still a teenager, but he was discharged in 1940 and entered the active-duty Army.

The first part of his Army career was spent training in Panama and then later Fort Hamilton, which is today the only active-duty military installation in the New York City Metro area. Though the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor took Americans overseas by the hundreds of thousands, Hall managed to stay stateside until 1944, in time to take part in the Battle of Anzio on the Italian Peninsula.

The fighting in Italy had the effect of relieving some of the pressure on the Soviet Union in the east, tying up Axis defenders who might be used against the coming invasion of Normandy and causing the overthrow of Italian dictator Benito Mussolini.

Anzio was part of the Allies’ effort to break a stalemate on the peninsula. Allied forces first landed in Italy in September 1943 and fought at a steady pace toward Rome. The Allies were stymied by the tough German defenses at Monte Cassino, the westernmost part of the Gustav Line.

To break the stalemate, British and American troops landed at Anzio, behind the Gustav Line, on Jan. 22, 1944. At the same time, Americans under Gen. Mark Clark attempted a breakout of Cassino to add pressure on the Germans -- except the invasion of Anzio almost failed. Within three days, the Allies were surrounded by 40,000 German troops.

The bloody Battle of Anzio lasted for five months. Hall was by then a staff sergeant in the 34th Infantry Division. His division had landed at Salerno and fought the Germans to the Gustav Line. After fighting near Monte Cassino, he and the 34th landed at Anzio, only to be surrounded.

On May 23, 1944, the division launched an offensive to break out of the encirclement, crush the Germans and race on to Rome. Hall was leading Bravo Company across open terrain when the



Army Staff Sgt. George John Hall. (*National Archives*)

unit suddenly found itself pinned down by enemy machine-gun fire and snipers.

Hall, in the front of the unit and knowing they wouldn’t last long under this kind of fire, volunteered to take out all three machine gunners. He crawled along for 60 yards, with the furrows of a farmer’s plowed field as his only cover. Despite the steady enemy machine gun, he was able to toss four grenades into the nest and take it out.

Two of the Germans inside the machine gun nest were dead. Four were alive but stunned. Hall took them prisoner and ordered them to crawl back to the Allied lines. The Germans complied. Hall had used all of his grenades assaulting the machine gun, but luckily found a stash of German “potato masher”-style grenades in the nest.

Every time the next machine gun nest fired a burst at him, Hall chucked a few grenades at it. The Germans would throw some of them back, but eventually, Hall threw more than they could handle. With five dead and five more prisoners heading back to the Allied lines, Hall began the low crawl to the third nest.

As he moved, the third Nazi gun nest fired at him frantically in an attempt to stop his rampage. That’s when enemy artillery began raining down on Hall as he crawled through the field. One of the incoming shells tore his right leg to shreds and injured his left foot. His right leg was held on by just two tendons.

Knowing he could no longer move to kill the third enemy gun, Hall turned around to crawl the 75 yards back to his original spot in the field, but the pain was overwhelming. He was too far away for a medic to hear his cries for help, and the enemy was still firing at him. He lay there and considered what to do.

He decided the leg would have to go before the enemy came out and finished him off entirely. Hall cut off his leg to relieve some

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Kabul,” the experts said.

“The Haqqani Network is still regarded as having the closest links to al-Qaida,” the panel said, and the relationship between the Taliban and al-Qaida also remains close. The experts pointed to the reported presence of al-Qaida’s “core leadership” in eastern Afghanistan including its leader Ayman al-Zawahri.

To counter the Islamic State, the report quoted an unidentified country as saying the Taliban have created three battalions of special forces called “red units.”

The emergence of the National Resistance Front and Afghanistan Freedom Front comprising former Afghan security personnel “has led the Taliban to adopt aggressive measures against populations suspected of supporting anti-Taliban operations,” the panel said.

In April, it said National Resistance Front forces stepped up operations in Badakhshan, Baghlan, Jowzjan, Kunduz, Panjshir, Takhar and Samangan provinces.

The Afghan Freedom Front, which only emerged recently, “has also claimed several attacks on Taliban bases in Badakhshan, Kandahar, Parwan and Samangan,” the experts said.

“Taliban forces may be hard pressed to counter several insurgencies simultaneously,” they said.

Important Resources to Support Our Nation's Heroes

(Click on any of the links below or head to www.jwv-fl.org and click on the link at the top of the page.)

Courtesy of: Ryan MacKenzie from Thankyouveteran.com

Matching Career Options with Personality Types

Veterans Employment Assistance

Career Advice for Veterans: Interviewing Tips

What is a VA Home Loan?

Mortgage Assistance Programs for Veterans

Moving Companies with Military Discounts

At-Home Services That Can Help Senior Veterans

Veterans' Health Care: Costs & Co-Payments

Military & Veterans Mental Health Issues

Counseling, Crisis Help, & Suicide Prevention for Our Military Community

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Navy’s 1967 inquiry. The report, summarized by the survivors, in part said that their radios were jammed, preventing distress frequencies from reaching superiors; the Israeli aircraft attacking the Liberty were unmarked; and the planes deliberately strafed their life rafts, anticipating that the sailors would abandon ship.

“We the surviving crew members will not let the cover up continue as long as we live,” said Bowen.

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of the pain involved, allowing him to continue crawling to safety. He eventually made it, and Army medics treated him and sent him to a field hospital. Hall’s only complaint was that he didn’t get the third enemy position.

Hall would survive the war and head home, returning to his onetime home in New York City. He would have to return to Massachusetts on April 6, 1945, however, to be presented with the Medal of Honor for his actions that cleared the way for his unit to move forward at Anzio.

Unfortunately, complications from wounds that sent him home from Italy and for which he received the Medal of Honor ended Hall’s life in 1946, at just 26 years old.



Joseph had just passed his driving test, so he asked his father, if they could discuss the use of the car.

His father replied "Joseph, I'll make a deal with you. You bring your school grades up, study your Bible a little, get your hair cut and we'll talk about it."

After about a month Joseph came back and again asked his father if they could discuss use of the car. His father replied, "Joseph, I've been real proud of you. You have raised your school grades, you've studied your Bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut!"

Joseph waited a moment and replied, "You know Dad, I've been thinking about that. You know, Samson had long hair, Abraham had long hair, Noah had long hair, and even Moses had long hair..."

To which the father replied, "Yes, and they walked everywhere they went!"

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- Sponsorship of **Boy Scout Troops and Girl Scout Troops**; recognition of Eagle Scouts and Gold Award winners
- Graduation gifts and **recognition for military cadets**



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HISTORICAL EVENTS CALENDAR

JUNE

17, 1972: 5 people arrested for what would be known as Watergate

18, 1812: Declaration of war against Great Britain. War lasted 2 years

18, 1815: Waterloo in Central Belgium. France matched 72,000 troops against 113,000 British, Dutch, Belgian, & Prussian. Ended 23 years of war between France and other powers in Europe.

20, 1782: Congress added the Great Seal of the USA

22, 1941: 3.2 million Germans attacked Russia.

24, 1948: Russian blockade of Berlin.

25, 1876: Little Bighorn – Custer had 250 soldiers against 2,000 – 4,000 Sioux. 1 Scout and 1 horse survived.

25, 1950: Korean war began.

28, 2014: Archduke Ferdinand and wife assassinated in Sarajevo starting World War I.

28, 1919: Treaty of Versailles ending WWI.

30, 1997: Hong Kong reverts to Chinese rule.

JULY

1, 1862: Abe Lincoln signed first income tax bill.

2, 1788: Congress announced Constitution ratified.

2, 1881: President Garfield shot and mortally wounded in a railway station in DC. Still a dangerous place....

3, 1976: Israeli raid at Entebbe rescued 103 hostages. 3 hostages, 7 hijackers, and 20 Ugandan soldiers killed.

4, 1776: Declaration of Independence approved by Continental Congress.

10, 1943: Invasion of Italy began at Sicily.

16, 1945: Fat Boy detonated in New Mexico desert; mushroom cloud rose 41,000 feet.

20, 1969: First steps on moon by Neil Armstrong.

22, 1934: John Dillinger shot and killed. He was the first person labeled by FBI as "Public Enemy Number 1".

26, 1953: Castro overthrows Batista to eliminate dictatorship.

30, 1975: Teamsters Union leader Jimmy Hoffa disappears.

31, 1776: Francis Salvador – first Jew to die in the American Revolution.

AUGUST

1, 1944: Warsaw uprising began; 40,000 Polish Patriots. Nazis sent 8 divisions. 2 months later it ended.

2, 1990: Iraq invaded Kuwait.

3, 1492: Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain.

6, 1945: Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

9, 1945: 2nd bomb intended for Kokura dropped on Nagasaki. Bad weather over Kokura.

13, 1961: Berlin wall erected.

14, 1945: VJ Day. Delegate of Emperor Hirohito accepted surrender terms. Formal surrender on USS Missouri on September 2, 1945 in Tokyo Bay.

24, 79 AD: Mt. Vesuvius, in Southern Italy, erupts and destroyed Pompeii, Stabiae, & Herculaneum.

SEPTEMBER

1, 1939: Germany invades Poland to begin WWII.

3, 1783: Treaty of Paris ends American Revolution.

5-6, 1972: 11 members of Israeli Olympic Team murdered in Munich by PLO. Israel bombed Palestinian positions in Lebanon and Syria 2 days later.

11, 2001: Approximately 3,000 Americans murdered in terror attacks.

15, 1916: Tanks used for first time in battle of Somme.

15, 1935: Nazis enact Nuremberg laws depriving Jews of citizenship.

18, 1947: US Air Force established as a separate service.

22, 1776: Nathan Hale executed by British without a trial. "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country"

24, 1980: Iran Iraq war begins; lasts 10 years. No winner.

29, 1789: US Army created with 1,000 men and officers.

30, 1949: Berlin airlift ends. 277,254 flights with over 2 million tons of supplies.

OCTOBER

1, 1979: Panama Canal Zone turned over to Panama after 70 years of American control.

3, 1863: Lincoln issues proclamation designating last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

3, 1990: East and West Germany unified after 45 years.

6, 1973: Yom Kippur war began with attacks by Egypt and Syria.

6, 1981: Anwar Sadat assassinated for signing a peace agreement with Israel.