

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 1

DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 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.

JANUARY QUARTERLY MEETING HONORS NATIONAL COMMANDER AND NATIONAL AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Alan Paley, JWV National Commander, and Sandra Cantor, JWV Auxiliary National President, will be joining us. There will be a weekend of activities to include a Saturday evening dinner with Commander Paley and President Cantor.

9:30 Meeting Instructions via Zoom

To join the online meeting,
click the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5348041177?pwd=SHRqMU5BRkZkRk9wMFh6ZHhCYkw0UT09>

Online Meeting and Passcode:
Meeting ID: 534 804 1177
Passcode: 1JTpm2

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kd655A9QhX>

Telephonic Meeting and Passcode:
Meeting ID: 534 804 1177
Passcode: 874451

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

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FROM THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

As I write this, we are commemorating the 80th anniversary of the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor. We remember and honor those who gave all during the unprovoked and surprise attack. This event catapulted the United States into World War II, with President Roosevelt asking and receiving a Declaration of War the next day. Three days later, on December 11th, Adolph Hitler made a unilateral decision to declare war on the United States. Later that day the United States declared war on Germany and the Axis Powers. Hitler's apparently offhand, almost without consultation, decision, has been referred to as Hitler's "most puzzling" decision of World War II.

Also of importance, on Veterans' Day, National Commander Alan Paley had the honor to be on the dais along with the President of the United States and the VA Secretary. NC Paley delivered a speech during which he let the world know that this is JWV's 125th Anniversary and that we are the oldest, continuously active, veterans' organization in the United States. NC Paley also led the Pledge of Allegiance and later, with NVC Mellitz, and on behalf of the JWV, laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. His speech is in this newsletter for you to read.

Our next Quarterly Meeting will be on Sunday January 9th at the Delray Beach Golf Club with the National Commander and the National Auxiliary President in attendance. We will attempt to Zoom for those who cannot attend, but please make every effort to join us in person.

We will be hosting Shabbat services at NC Paley's synagogue on Saturday morning January 8th followed by a Department of Florida sponsored Kiddush. Services begin at 9:30 AM and normally last 2 hours. Masks must be worn, and some seats are blocked off to allow for social distancing. All are invited to attend.

The synagogue is located in Tamarac Florida just east of the Sawgrass Expressway (Commercial Boulevard exit). The address is:

Temple Beth Torah Sha'aray Tzedek
5700 NW 94th Avenue
Tamarac, FL 33321

In the State of Florida the number of Covid cases continue to decline, but there is no guarantee the trend will continue, so we all need to continue to exercise good judgement and caution. As of this time we will wear masks at the Quarterly Meeting except when eating. This is for the safety of all.

January 27th – 29th will be the National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting in Orlando. The NEC meets twice a year – at the National Convention and in January. It will be at the Embassy Suites Orlando Airport. You can sign up on the JWV.org website.

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. 75, No. 4— 2021**
- **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

I hope your High Holidays were meaningful. I hope you were able to get together with family and friends for Thanksgiving and Hanukkah this year.

It has been a challenging year and a half. We were not able to visit the VA Hospital to bring cheer to the patients and vets there. Hopefully, next year!

We were able to hold our National Convention in New Orleans, with all the COVID precautions in place. We also held our Department Convention in June at the Delray Beach Golf Club.

Now, we are looking forward to the visit of our National President and National Commander in January. This is especially meaningful because the National Commander is our very own Alan Paley!

Their visit will begin on January 8, with attending Saturday services at NC Alan Paley's Synagogue Saturday night will feature a Dutch Treat Dinner at Ben's Kosher Deli. Sunday morning, we will all meet at the Delray Beach Golf Club at 9:00 AM for breakfast, followed by our JWV/JWVA meetings. At noon, we will have a festive luncheon in the ballroom. We were able to keep the prices at the same as the Convention, and lower than the last NP/NC's visit. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year. See you at the Quarterly Meeting January 9.

Verna Rosenzweig, President
JWVA Department of Florida

DC's MESSAGE — from page 2

You do not have to be a member of the NEC to attend, the meeting is open to any JWV member who wishes to attend.

I wish everyone a safe holiday season and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

L'Shalom,

Larry

Jewish War Veterans of the USA
Department of Florida
Quarterly Meeting Agenda
January 9th, 2022



Opening of Meeting and Welcome:	DC Larry Jasper
Opening Prayer	Chaplain Richard Berg
Introduction of Officers and Guests:	DC Larry Jasper
National President's Address	Sandra Cantor
Roll Call	Jennifer Brande
National Commander's Address	NC Alan Paley
Quartermaster's Report	Ike Heller
Committee Reports:	
National Policy Committee	PNC Ferdie
NEC	PNC Magidson
Trustees	Jules Golumbik
Archives	Debra Stern
Any other committees to report	
Officer Reports:	
Department Commander	Larry Jasper
Sr. Vice Commander	Harvey Charter
1st Jr. Vice Commander	Steve Jockers
2nd Jr. Vice Commander	Bernard Nachimson
3rd Jr. Vice Commander	Richard Berg
4th Jr. Vice Commander	Rabbi Mark Golub
Chief of Staff	PDC Michael Corbett
Veterans Service Officer	Gerald Rennert
Chaplain	Chaplain Richard Berg
11 O'Clock Ceremony:	PNC David Magidson
	Chaplain Richard Berg
Break for Lunch	
Guest Speaker	NED Ken Greenberg
Old and Unfinished Business:	DC Larry Jasper
1. National Consitution and By-Laws	
2. Convention Site Selection	
3. Any other Old and Unfinished Business	
New Business:	DC Larry Jasper
1. NEC 27-29 January, Orlando	
2. Nominations for Department Officers	
3. Next Meeting — April 10, 2022 — Naples or Ft. Myers	
4. Department Convention, June 19, 2022 — Delray Beach Golf Club	
5. 2022 National Membership Contest	
Good and Welfare	
Closing Ceremony	DC Larry Jasper

Agenda is Subject to Change

Veterans Day Remarks by JWV National Commander Alan Paley

11 Nov 2021 | By JWV NC Alan Paley

President Biden, Secretary McDonough, Director Aguilera, distinguished guests, my fellow veterans, ladies, and gentlemen.

On Veterans Day, at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month, we pause for a few brief moments to both honor and pay tribute to the men and women who served in the defense of our country and then returned home.

We owe you our thanks, our respect, and our freedom.

George Washington spoke about the country's obligation to care for its veterans and their families, he said:

“The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any way, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.”

Let us remember, “Treated and appreciated.”

Engraved on the granite wall of the Korean War Memorial a short distance from here is the simple but powerful phrase “Freedom Is Not Free.” The freedoms we enjoy today, were made possible by the more than 19 million living veterans, and countless others who served in the defense of our country.

The symbols of America and freedom are interlocked, and they are present here today. The flags flying, the white grave markers, and All OF US – the veterans and servicemembers who protected our nation.

It is you that we celebrate and honor today.

Our work continues as citizens in supporting America's veterans and servicemembers. JWV and VSO's must continue to fight for adequate funding for VA services and assure that issues facing veterans from all eras remain at the forefront. I call on each of you to take action and make your voice heard on issues we continue to face, including ending homelessness, increasing access to healthcare, delivering mental health care, reducing claims processing times, deploying integrated electronic health records, and addressing toxic exposure concerns in a comprehensive way.

Seated throughout the amphitheater this morning are the leaders of many Veteran's Service Organizations.

Every VSO was created with the purpose to advocate for the unique needs of the Veteran community. VSOs understand and work tirelessly to maintain and improve the benefits we earned. There is strength in numbers, and veterans must continue to be strong advocates and have our voices heard.

When the Jewish War Veterans celebrated its 100th anniversary, our National Commander, Robert Zwieman also addressed this gathering.



JWV National Commander Alan Paley provides remarks during the Veterans Day ceremonies in Washington, DC, at Arlington Memorial Cemetery.

His closing remarks that day are just as powerful today, as they were in 1996.

He said, “Never should our government presume that by setting aside but one day they have met their obligation to the survivors of yesterday's wars and today's or tomorrow's conflicts. We welcome your thoughts that this is not merely a singular day of honor, but indeed a public recognition of obligation to service. And we welcome your concerns that such obligation must be answered with compassion and with resolve.”

I stand before you as a Veteran myself. As we honor, celebrate, and share thanks, we must remain vigilant, and continue to ensure that the freedoms, benefits, and services we enjoy today, remain with us for centuries to come.

May God bless those who have earned the title of veteran, and may God bless the United States of America.

Thank You.



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

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**Let Us All Welcome
National Commander Alan Paley & National President Sandra Cantor
to the Department of Florida**

Fellow Members of the Department of Florida,

We are honored to have JWV National Commander Alan Paley and the Auxiliary National President, Sandra Cantor, make their official visit to a joint meeting of the Department of Florida and the Jewish War Veterans Department of Florida Auxiliary on the weekend of January 8 to 11, 2022.

On Sunday, January 9, 2022, we will hold our Quarterly Department meeting and honor Commander Alan Paley and President Sandra Cantor with a luncheon at the Delray Beach Golf Club, 2200 Highland Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33445.

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

Enclosed you will find a reservation form with choices for your entrée and dessert. The cost is \$29.00 per person, which includes breakfast and lunch. See the form for where to send your response and your check.

**AN ADVANCE RESERVATION IS A MUST!!!
THE CUT OFF DATE IS DECEMBER 30, 2021.**

Please adhere to this request so that we can arrange the seating to the satisfaction of all attending.

I hope to see many of you on January 9th!

**L'Shalom,
Larry Jasper**

Menu selection and directions attached

Luncheon Reservation
VISIT of NATIONAL COMMANDER ALAN PALEY
AND NATIONAL PRESIDENT SANDRA CANTOR
Sunday, January 9, 2022
Delray Beach Golf Club

Total attendance cost is \$29, 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** - Choose 2 tuna salad or 2 egg salad in place of chicken salad.
 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 \$6.00 for Breakfast.



Enclose your menu selection and check (\$29.00/pp), made payable to:
Department of Florida, by December 30, 2021
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 _____ **KOSHER SALAD** _____ **COBB SALAD** _____
CAKE _____ **OR FRUIT CUP** _____
BREAKFAST ONLY _____ (**\$6.00**)

DIRECTIONS TO DELRAY BEACH GOLF CLUB, 2200 Highland Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33445
I95: 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.

Some headlines from around the U. S. and the world on December 8, 1941; but first, a headline from December 7, 1941:

WEATHER The San Diego Union **WIREPHOTO**

ROOSEVELT SENDS NOTE TO MIKADO

U.S. Purging Defense Firms Of Axis Interests

Ambassador Linnell Arrives In Route to Washington

Hundreds Move To Participate In Air Defense Test

Move Hints Dissatisfaction With Tojo Reply on Indo-China

Nipponese Press Attacks U.S. Stalling, Insincerely

125,000 Troops Meeting; Japan Conveys Near Sam

Singapore Ban Set on Sellings

MOSCOW TARGET OF 15 BOMBING

Envoys Pledge Fight to Finish

Labor Disputes At Standstill

Welders Order General Strike

Army, Navy Plans

U-Boat Sinks 5 Ships

Chase Forecast For S. D. Today

Knex Calls for Faster Naval Construction to Meet Threats

The New York Times LATE CITY EDITION

JAPAN WARS ON U. S. AND BRITAIN; MAKES SUDDEN ATTACK ON HAWAII; HEAVY FIGHTING AT SEA REPORTED

CONGRESS DECIDES TOKYO ACTS FIRST

Roosevelt Will Address It Today and Find It Ready to Vote War

Declaration Follows Air and Sea Attacks on U. S. and Britain

CONFERENCE IS HELD TODAY CALLS ENVOYS

Legislative Leaders and Cabinet in Sub White House Talks

After Fighting in Groves Gets Japan's Reply to Note of Nov. 26

GIAM BOMBED; ARMY SHIP IS SUNK

U. S. Fleets Head North From Manila— Battleship Oklahoma Set Afire by Torpedo Planes at Honolulu

104 SOLDIERS KILLED AT FIELD IN HAWAII

President Fears 'Very Heavy Losses' on Oahu— Churchill Notifies Japan That a State of War Exists

PACIFIC OCEAN: THEATRE OF WAR INVOLVING UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES

The Boston Daily Globe EXTRA

JAPAN STRIKES ALL OVER PACIFIC

Bombs Hawaii, Guam, Philippines Takes Heavy Toll— Sea Battle On F. D. Will Address Congress Today

THE OLD AND STRATEGY

Japan assaulted every main United States and British possession in the central and western Pacific and invaded Thailand today (Monday) in a hasty but evidently shrewdly-planned prosecution of a war she began Sunday without warning.

The formal declaration of war against both the United States and Britain came two hours and 55 minutes after Japanese planes opened death and terrific destruction on Honolulu and Pearl Harbor at 7:55 a. m., Hawaiian Time (1:05 p. m., E. S. T.) Sunday.

Congressional Leaders May Address

2 CENTS Chicago Daily Tribune **FINAL**

U. S. AND JAPS AT WAR

BOMB HAWAII, PHILIPPINES, GUAM, SINGAPORE

NIPPON TROOPS LAND IN MALAYA; BATTLE BRITISH

We All Have Only One Task

RAIDERS BLAST HONOLULU, AIR AND NAVY BASES

Hist U.S. Battleship Sunk in Fight.

WAR BULLETINS

Jap Raiders Bomb 2 Isles in Philippines

PRIVATE PLANES IN U. S. GROUNDED

Parliament Concerns Today; Expected to Declare War

Only Air Lines Will Be Permitted to Fly.

Los Angeles Times

JAPS OPEN WAR ON U. S. WITH BOMBING OF HAWAII

City Springs to Attention

F.D.R. Will Ask Congress Action Today

Berlin Sky About Aid to Tokyo

Toll Feared High in Attack Against Isles

Fleet Speeds Out to Battle Invader

Japan's Latest War Bulletins



Japanese Newspaper detailing the attack on Pearl Harbor



A US Sailor Showed Japan How to Attack Pearl Harbor

Military.com | By Blake Stilwell

When the first two attacks on Pearl Harbor took place, the Imperial Japanese Navy was taking notes. Japanese spies in Oahu watched as American planes hit the island from over the Koolau Range, and they sent the information back to Japan. Nine years later, the attackers came from Japan, and they dropped real bombs.

In February 1932, the debate over the future of air power in modern combat was still in full swing. Rear Adm. Harry Yarnell was a believer in the power of the airplane, and he set out to prove its value to the Navy.

The Navy had three aircraft carriers at the time, but deemed them to have little strategic value. The battleship was still the primary figure for naval war planning, as naval warfare was considered to be a slugfest at sea, while naval aviation was given more of a patrol and reconnaissance mission.

Yarnell devised a plan that would show what aircraft could do to any naval installation anywhere. When Pearl Harbor began its yearly defense exercise, it was Yarnell and his planes who were the aggressors. He chose a Sunday morning in February to launch his surprise and hit the naval base early in the morning to catch its defenders unprepared.

Sailing with just two carriers and a handful of destroyer escorts, Yarnell's task force approached Oahu in thick fog and in the dead of night. His 152 aircraft launched just before dawn in the morning twilight. When day came, the planes appeared over the base from the Koolau Range, striking aircraft on the ground and bombarding the ships in the harbor.



Captured Japanese photograph taken during the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7 1941. (*National Archives*)

The admiral's plan went off without a hitch or a casualty. The base itself was strewn with dead flares and sacks of flour, the weapon of choice for the attacking aircraft. It was the first time Pearl Harbor had lost this annual war game.



Part of the hull of the capsized USS Oklahoma is seen at right as the battleship USS West Virginia, center, begins to sink after suffering heavy damage, while the USS Maryland, left, is still afloat in Pearl Harbor. (*National Archives*)

It should have been a wakeup call for the Navy -- and Pearl Harbor in particular. Instead the Navy cried foul and declared the exercise illegal, stating that it would have been on alert if the country were actually at war. It also said that a fleet like Yarnell's would have been exposed and damaged or destroyed in case of such an attack.

So it went until 1938, when the annual exercise was held again that year. This time, Adm. Ernest King was in command of the opposing forces. Yarnell was watching King's movements closely this second time around.

King took one aircraft carrier and its escort destroyers on a similar route and time. Just like the first exercise, the attacking aircraft came from the Koolau Range and completely decimated the fleet at Pearl Harbor. And just like the first attack, the Navy claimed the tactic was unfair and vetoed the results. Nothing changed.

Unlike the U.S. Navy, the Imperial Japanese Navy took notice of the first exercise. It watched the 1932 attack and studied it closely. Japanese Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto was also a believer in naval air power and structured the Japanese Navy to focus on aircraft carriers.

When it came time for Japan to attack the United States, it knew that a long-term war with a potential industrial powerhouse was not one it could win. The Japanese hoped that by knocking out the U.S. Pacific Fleet, it could keep the Americans out of the war permanently.

Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, using much the same plans Yarnell used just nine years prior, only he used six aircraft carriers and 353 aircraft, many of which hit the harbor from the Koolau Range. It came as Japan launched simultaneous attacks on the Philippines, Guam, Wake Island, Malaya, Singapore and Hong Kong.

How Japan Used Balloon Bombs to Kill Americans at Home During WWII

1 Dec 2021 | Military.com | By James Barber

In the waning days of World War II, the Japanese devised balloon bombs that could travel more than 5,000 miles via the jet stream to explode on North American soil. One of these bombs killed six Americans in rural Oregon in 1945.

On May 5, 1945, Elsie Mitchell and five children were killed when they discovered a large balloon on the ground near Bly, Oregon. When the kids approached the balloon, the bomb exploded and they were killed instantly. Mitchell was the wife of pastor Archie Mitchell, who was parking the car when the bomb exploded.

The Mitchells were taking local children on a fishing trip. Bomb experts later suggested that one of the kids had likely kicked the bomb and set off the explosion. Elsie was pregnant when she was killed.

Why did this story get lost in the flood of history? You'd think that Americans killed by the Japanese on U.S. soil would be a major story from WWII history, but the incident happened just as news of Adolf Hitler's suicide was breaking in the United States. That was the headline all over the world, and news of the Japanese bombs just couldn't match the news from Germany.

The other part of this story is that the Fu-Go bombs utterly failed to strike terror into the hearts of American citizens, because it was unclear what they were and where they were coming from. Japanese scientists used bleeding-edge research into the jet stream to formulate the bombs, and without an understanding of that science, it was impossible to guess that the balloons had been launched from Japan.

It took American geologists analyzing the balloon's sandbags to determine that the sand had come from the Japanese coastline, and that therefore the balloons had definitely been launched from Japan. No one completely understood what was going on until after it was apparent that Japan would lose the war.

Once American intelligence got an idea of where these balloons came from, they tried to suppress reports of unexploded bombs to deny Japan knowledge of their success in getting their bombs to U.S. soil and avoid causing a panic in civilians about potential danger.

Because Japanese men had already been overwhelmingly pressed into military service as their country struggled to slow Allied advances, the military was forced to recruit schoolchildren to build the balloon bombs. Many students had no real idea what



An unexploded Japanese balloon bomb photographed in Kansas in 1945. (*Wikimedia Commons*)

they were building, and questions were strongly discouraged.

If you live in Oregon, you may know this story. That's where a large percentage of the identified FuGo bombs landed, and there was an exhibit at the Klamath County Museum in 2018. Otherwise, few people outside of the most devoted World War II buffs have even heard about these Japanese attacks.

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USAA Visa Credit Card.**



Go to JWV.org or USAA.com to apply.

101-Year-Old Returns to Pearl Harbor to Remember Those Lost

6 Dec 2021 | Associated Press | By Audrey McAvoy and Gillian Flaccus

HONOLULU — When Japanese bombs began falling on Pearl Harbor, U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class David Russell first sought refuge below deck on the USS Oklahoma.

But a split-second decision on that December morning 80 years ago changed his mind, and likely saved his life.

“They started closing that hatch. And I decided to get out of there,” Russell, now 101, said in a recent interview.

Within 12 minutes his battleship would capsize under a barrage of torpedoes. Altogether 429 sailors and Marines from the Oklahoma would perish — the greatest death toll from any ship that day other than the USS Arizona, which lost 1,177.

Russell plans to return to Pearl Harbor on Tuesday December 7th for a ceremony in remembrance of the more than 2,300 American troops killed in the Dec. 7, 1941, attack that launched the U.S. into World War II.

About 30 survivors and 100 other veterans from the war are expected to observe a moment of silence at 7:55 a.m., the minute the attack began.

Survivors, now in their late 90s or older, stayed home last year due to the coronavirus pandemic and watched a livestream of the event instead.

Russell is traveling to Hawaii with the Best Defense Foundation, a nonprofit founded by former NFL Linebacker Donnie Edwards that helps World War II veterans revisit their old battlefields.

He recalls heading topside when the attack started because he was trained to load anti-aircraft guns and figured he could help if any other loader got hurt.

But Japanese torpedo planes dropped a series of underwater missiles that pummeled the Oklahoma before he could get there. Within 12 minutes, the hulking battleship capsized.

“Those darn torpedoes, they just kept hitting us and kept hitting us. I thought they’d never stop,” Russell said. “That ship was dancing around.”

Russell clambered over and around toppled lockers while the battleship slowly rolled over.

“You had to walk sort of sideways,” he said.

Once he got to the main deck, he crawled over the ship’s side and eyed the USS Maryland moored next door. He didn’t want to swim because leaked oil was burning in the water below. Jumping, he caught a rope hanging from the Maryland and escaped to that battleship without injury.

Pearl Harbor survivor and World War II Navy veteran David Russell, 101, reads a birthday card while talking about his time aboard the USS Oklahoma and his life after the war on Monday, Nov. 22, 2021, in Albany, Ore. (AP Photo/Nathan Howard)



He then helped pass ammunition to the Maryland’s anti-aircraft guns.

After the battle, Russell and two others went to Ford Island, next to where the battleships were moored, in search of a bathroom. A dispensary and enlisted quarters there had turned into a triage center and place of refuge for hundreds of wounded, and they found horribly burned sailors lining the walls. Many would die in the hours and days ahead.

“Most of them wanted a cigarette, and I didn’t smoke at that time but I, uh, I got a pack of cigarettes and some matches, and I lit their cigarettes for them,” Russell said. “You feel for those guys, but I couldn’t do anything. Just light a cigarette for ’em and let ’em puff the cigarettes.”

Russell still thinks about how lucky he was. He ponders why he decided to go topside on the Oklahoma, knowing most of the men who stayed behind likely were unable to get out after the hatch closed.

In the first two days after the bombing, a civilian crew from the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard rescued 32 men trapped inside the Oklahoma by cutting holes in its hull. But many others perished. Most of those who died were buried in anonymous Honolulu graves marked as “unknowns” because their remains were too degraded to be identified by the time they were removed from the ship between 1942 and 1944.

In 2015, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency exhumed 388 sets of these remains in hopes of identifying them with the help of DNA technology and dental records. They succeeded with 361.

See **Remembering the Lost**— continued on page 13

Remebering the Lost — continued from page 12

Russell's brother-in-law was among them. Fireman 1st Class Walter "Boone" Rogers was in the fireroom, which got hit by torpedoes, Russell said. The military identified his remains in 2017, and he's since been reburied at Arlington National Cemetery.

Russell remained in the Navy until retiring in 1960. He worked at Air Force bases for the next two decades and retired for good in 1980.

His wife, Violet, passed away 22 years ago, and he now lives alone in Albany, Oregon. He drives himself to the grocery store and the local American Legion post in a black Ford Explorer while listening to polka music at top volume. When he's not hanging out with other veterans at the legion, he reads military history and watches TV. He keeps a stack of 500-piece puzzles to keep his mind sharp.

For decades, Russell didn't share much about his experiences in World War II because no one seemed to care. But the images from Pearl Harbor still haunt him, especially at night.

"When I was in the VA hospital there in San Francisco, they said, 'We want you to talk about World War II.' And I said, I told them, I said, 'When we talk about it, people don't believe us. They just walk away.' So now people want to know more about it so we're trying to talk about it. We're trying to talk about it, and we're just telling them what we saw," he said. "You can't forget it."

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

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.

Congress Drops Effort to Add Women to the Draft

7 Dec 2021 | Military.com | By Rebecca Kheel

Women will not have to sign up for a potential draft any time soon after an effort to add them to the Selective Service System was dropped from a sweeping defense bill.

A congressional aide confirmed to Military.com that a provision that would have required women to register for the draft will not be in the compromise version of the National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, that is expected to be released later Tuesday.

The outcome, which was first reported by Politico, comes as a surprise since the provision was included in both the House and Senate versions of the NDAA and had bipartisan support.

The United States has not instituted a draft since the Vietnam War, and military officials repeatedly have said they have no intention of moving away from an all-volunteer force.

But men ages 18 through 25 still must register with what's officially called the Selective Service System or face consequences such as losing access to federal financial aid for college.

Momentum has been growing to make women register since 2015, when all combat jobs were opened to them, rendering moot the previous rationale for excluding them from the draft.

In July, the Senate Armed Services Committee voted 21-5 to add women to the draft registration system, with seven Republicans among the "yes" votes. The House Armed Services Committee approved the change in September in a 35-24 vote, with four Republicans supporting it.

The committee approval came after a congressionally mandated commission last year recommended draft registration be expanded to include women, calling it a "necessary and fair step."

But a small, vocal group of conservatives was adamantly opposed to making women register and threatened to vote against the NDAA as a whole if the final bill included the provision to, in its words, "draft our daughters."



U.S. Marines with Platoon 3241, Lima Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, execute the "Eyes Right" drill movement during the Lima Company graduation ceremony aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, May 6, 2021. (Alina Thackray/U.S. Marine Corps)

Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., who led the charge against the provision in the Senate, responded to reports that it is being removed from the compromise NDAA by saying he "certainly hope[s] that is the case."

"If it is not, then I will keep fighting for a vote on the Senate floor to strip this wrong and misguided provision out of the final bill," he added in a statement.

Earlier this year, the Supreme Court declined to take up a case challenging the constitutionality of the all-male draft, citing the expectation that Congress soon would act on the issue. But three justices indicated the court could be open to revisiting the issue if Congress failed to act.

"It remains to be seen, of course, whether Congress will end gender-based registration under the Military Selective Service Act. But at least for now, the Court's long-standing deference to Congress on matters of national defense and military affairs cautions against granting review while Congress actively weighs the issue," Justice Sonia Sotomayor, who was joined by Justices Stephen Breyer and Brett Kavanaugh, wrote in a June statement.

Next JWV Department of Florida Meeting



Some common questions about the attack on Pearl Harbor and the answers:

Why is it important to remember Pearl Harbor Day?

The attack also destroyed 188 U.S. aircraft and sank or damaged 19 Navy ships. Now, 76 years later, the significance of Pearl Harbor stays with us as Americans remember that this attack launched the United States into World War II. We should also remember this date as a symbol of American grit and resilience.

Do the Japanese celebrate Pearl Harbor Day?

Tomorrow is the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Japanese people don't "celebrate" the date any more than Americans celebrate the dates that the US attacked Hiroshima or Nagasaki.

What is the most recognized war memorial at Pearl Harbor?



The USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor

Clearly, the most famous war memorial in Hawaii is the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor. The Memorial straddles the sunken hull of the battleship USS Arizona and

commemorates December 7, 1941, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

How many Pearl Harbor survivors are left?

No more than 75 survivors are thought to be alive, said Kathleen Farley, the California chapter president with Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors.

Are there any famous quotes about the attack?

There was one particularly famous quote from Pearl Harbor. President Roosevelt said, "Yesterday, December 7, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy — the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan."



Is the USS Arizona still leaking oil?

Fuel continues to leak from USS Arizona's wreckage.

However, despite the raging fire and ravages of time, some 500,000 gallons are still slowly seeping out of the ship's

submerged wreckage: Nearly 70 years after its demise, Arizona continues to spill up to 9 quarts of oil into the harbor each day.

Are bodies still in USS Arizona?

After the attack, the ship was left resting on the bottom with the deck just awash. In the days and weeks following, efforts were made

to recover the bodies of the crew and the ship's records. Eventually, further recovery of bodies became fruitless and the bodies of at least 900 crewmen remained in the ship.

Why didn't they bring up the USS Arizona?

The USS Arizona is the resting place to hundreds of sailors. The Navy decided to leave them and the ship there after an inspection a few months after the attack. It was determined that there was so much damage that the ship was a total loss and could not be salvaged.

What happened to USS Arizona guns?

A test firing took place four days before the surrender of Japan. Today both sites are abandoned; the guns were removed and cut up for scrap shortly after the war ended. Despite the work done to remove all useful materials from the ARIZONA, it was apparent the ship itself was lost.

What ships are still at the bottom of Pearl Harbor?

The wrecks of only two vessels remain in the harbor — the Arizona and USS Utah — so survivors of those ships are the only ones who have the option to be laid to rest this way. Most of the ships hit that day were repaired and put back into service or scrapped.

Who was responsible for Pearl Harbor?

Isoroku Yamamoto, Japan's mastermind of the Pearl Harbor attack, was born on April 4, 1884. He was perhaps Japan's greatest strategist and the officer who would contrive the surprise air attack on U.S. naval forces at Pearl Harbor.

What did the Japanese say after they bombed Pearl Harbor?

Japanese Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, who planned the attack on Pearl Harbor would reportedly write in his diary, "I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve."



What does Tora Tora Tora mean?

Tora tora tora is simply the word "Tiger" repeated three times for radio clarity, the meaning of which was a pre-established code to announce that surprise was achieved. Nothing more, nothing less.

Who shouted Tora Tora Tora?

Captain Mitsuo Fuchida. He led the pilots, spotted land, and assumed their attack positions around 7:30 a.m. Twenty-three minutes later, with his bomber perched above the unsuspecting American ships moored in pairs along Pearl Harbor's "Battleship Row," Fuchida broke radio silence to shout, "Tora! Tora! Tora!"

Who Said Jews Don't Serve? Tell that to SFC Celiz's wife and daughter

Valor remembered: three U.S. Soldiers to receive military's top honor

10 Dec 2021 | Army News Service | By Joseph Lacdan and Devon Suits

WASHINGTON — The President of the United States will present Medals of Honor to two Soldiers who gave their lives for their comrades and another who fearlessly defended a forward-operating base during actions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sgt. 1st Class Alwyn Cashe will receive the award for rescuing teammates from a burning vehicle while ignoring his own injuries in October 2005 near Samarra, Iraq.

Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Celiz will receive the medal for using his body to shield his team and an injured ally from enemy gunfire in the Paktia Province, Afghanistan, in July 2018.

Master Sgt. Earl Plumlee will receive the military's highest honor for engaging invading insurgents at a U.S. base near Ghazni, Afghanistan, in August 2013.

Celiz

Celiz had been nearing the end of his fifth deployment when tragedy struck during a mission in the Paktia Province of Afghanistan.

A well-respected Army Ranger, Celiz earned the admiration of his peers with his selfless attitude. Celiz bonded with his fellow Soldiers both on duty and during family dinners and trips into the wilderness. He also mentored and challenged fellow Soldiers to become better at their duties.

“He didn't feel like he could do his job without his Soldiers ready and able by his side,” said his widow, Katie. “He always pushed them and he wanted them to push him. He couldn't be a better person if they didn't challenge him.”

Then on July 12, Celiz led a special-purpose unit comprised of allies and members of the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, to clear an area of enemy forces. As the team's mission neared completion, a large contingent of enemy forces unleashed a wave of bullets toward the unit.

The onslaught injured a partnered force member. Celiz, knowing the danger before him, exposed himself to enemy fire as he secured a heavy weapon system, enabling his unit time to reach cover.

As the unit's leader, Celiz decided to use his body to shield his team as they carried the wounded member to a medical evacuation helicopter.

Even as the enemy machine-gun fire continued to rain upon him, he stood between the medical aircraft and never wavered,

even as the onslaught injured him.

In a final, selfless act, he motioned the helicopter to leave rather than attempt to rescue him.

Shortly after, a medical team treated and evacuated Celiz to the nearest medical treatment facility where he died of his wounds.

Celiz's actions that July day left a lasting impact on friends and family.

The impact of his mentorship became more apparent at Celiz's funeral, when hundreds of his former teammates, Soldiers and friends filled the synagogue Congregation Mickve Israel in Savannah, Georgia. Celiz had found the Jewish faith later in life and it invigorated him, his wife, Katie, said.

Katie also said that friends and family remembered Celiz for his embrace of others.

“He was always very accepting of everybody,” she said. “In high school, he was friends with everybody; he didn't discriminate because of your race, creed or who you were. As long as you were a good person, that was all he cared about.”

Celiz is survived by Katie and their daughter.

Questions — continued from page 15

Did Churchill know Japan was going to bomb Pearl Harbour?

One of the enduring myths about Signals Intelligence in the Second World War is that Britain's Prime Minister Winston Churchill knew from intercepted messages that the Japanese were going to attack Pearl Harbor in December 1941 but kept the fact secret to bring the USA into the war on the Allied side.

Who owned Pearl Harbor?

The United States

One of the most famous naval bases in the world, Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu, Hawaii has been the home port of the US Pacific Fleet since World War II. The harbor was acquired by the United States through the Reciprocity Treaty of 1875.



Reports

Department of Florida Commander's Report for January 2022

1. During Veterans' Day weekend and the following weekend I was invited to speak at 4 Synagogues and had an opportunity to speak about JWV. My post gained 3 new members as a result.
2. I have conducted monthly meetings with my post virtually and in person.
3. I have represented the Department of Florida at the bi-monthly meetings of the Florida Veterans Council. We went to Tallahassee to meet with state legislators on November 16th and 17th to discuss Florida veteran related legislation issues. The Capitol is now open to the public.
4. I participated in Marketing Committee virtual meetings every 2 weeks.
5. I participated in Gulf War Committee virtual meetings every month.
6. I participated with the National Constitution and By-Laws rewrite committee every 2 weeks.
7. I participated as part of the JWV Coordinating Committee, virtual meeting.
8. 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 will be opening soon.
9. I have worked with several posts to set up virtual meetings.
10. On December 2nd my post presented the colors at the Tampa Bay Lightning (Hockey) game at Amalie Arena in Tampa during the annual Jewish Heritage Night.
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 NEC this January as well as plan for the next NEC in January of 2023 in D.C. We are also finalizing plans for the 2 upcoming National Conventions, in Savannah and Jacksonville.
13. My proposal to allow posts and departments to submit proposals to host future National Conventions has been approved and the proposal requirements are being finalized; will be presented at this NEC meeting.
14. During the past quarter we continued to hold a Department Commander's Committee under the leadership of NVC Mellitz. The purpose of this committee is to share concerns, issues, and solutions.
15. I have been working on a continuous basis to update our membership roster. I want to get a current list of email addresses for our members. We only have about 50% of our members with a listed email address. I have requested that all posts send

me updated lists, but to date, I have only had responses from a few posts. This means that only half of our members are receiving mailings directly. Post Commanders are responsible for getting copies of the Quarterly Newsletter and other pertinent information to those members without listed email addresses. I understand that some of our older members may not use email, but I do not believe that is half of our membership. I need the help of all our Staff and Commanders in getting this information.

16. The above also pertains to phone numbers. According to national, nearly half our members do not have a phone number listed. I find it hard to believe than any of our members do not have phones. Please help by sending me this information. Look at your Post rosters and see what is missing.

17. During the past quarter we continued to hold a Department Commander's Committee under the leadership of NVC Mellitz. The purpose of this committee is to share concerns, issues, and solutions.

18. I am concerned about how many members have not renewed their annual membership. I am urging all Post Commanders to reach out to their members to do a checkup and at the same time update their roster and encourage members to renew. If anyone has financial difficulty paying dues due to the pandemic (or any other valid reason), we will assist them. Commanders need to reach out and let me know of anyone needing assistance.

Report from 1st Jr Vice Commander

For the period: October-December, 2021

1. Distributed numerous e-mails to all post, urging them to hold monthly meetings, file necessary reports with national and reminding them of their post responsibilities to their member and to National JWV.
2. Various correspondence with Department Commander relating to future of the Department and the responsibilities of Officers serving their post. This information is found in the (<https://www.jwv.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Manual-of-Ceremonies-Jan-2020.pdf>)
 - a. Our officers need more training on how to run their meetings and the responsibilities and duties of the officers they appoint. We need to attract more members and keep the ones we have by running good meetings that with keep the interest of the members.
3. Assist the Quartermaster in the preparation of 2nd Qtr. financial reports for Department Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Jockers

1st Jr Vice Commander

Quartermaster's Report

Cash Flow-Operating			
July through November 2021			
	Jul - Sep 21	Oct - Nov 21	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
3120-Per Capita	97.00	0.00	97.00
3613 Dade County Council	203.03	0.00	203.03
Total Income	300.03	0.00	300.03
Expense			
7125-Convention Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00
7140-Donations	500.00	0.00	500.00
7190-Insurance	0.00	32.00	32.00
7450-Office & Miscellaneous	34.06	0.00	34.06
7555-Stamp Program	722.80	0.00	722.80
Total Expense	1,256.86	32.00	1,288.86
Net Ordinary Income	-956.83	-32.00	-988.83
Net Income	-956.83	-32.00	-988.83
Opening Bank Balance October 31, 2021	\$19,727.41		
Closing Bank Balance November 30, 2021	\$ 19,727.41		

Cash Flow Convention			
July through November 2021			
	Jul - Sep 21	Oct - Nov 21	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Expense			
7125-Convention Expense	949.76	0.00	949.76
Total Expense	949.76	0.00	949.76
Net Ordinary Income	-949.76	0.00	-949.76
Net Income	-949.76	0.00	-949.76
Opening Bank Balance October 31, 2021	\$ 6,857.51		
Closing Bank Balance November 30, 2021	\$ 6,857.51		

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.

Edward Shames, Last ‘Band of Brothers’ Officer, Dies at 99

5 Dec 2021 | Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Edward Shames, a World War II veteran who was the last surviving officer of “Easy Company,” which inspired the HBO miniseries and book “Band of Brothers,” has died. He was 99.

An obituary posted by the Holomon-Brown Funeral Home & Crematory said Shames, of Norfolk, Virginia, died peacefully at his home on Friday.

Shames was involved in some of the most important battles of World War II. During the war, he was a member of the renowned Easy Company, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division.

“He made his first combat jump into Normandy on D-Day as part of Operation Overlord. He volunteered for Operation Pegasus and then fought with Easy Company in Operation Market Garden and the Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne,” according to the obituary.

Shames was the first member of the 101st to enter Dachau concentration camp, just days after its liberation.

“When Germany surrendered, Ed and his men

of Easy Company entered Hitler’s Eagle’s Nest where Ed managed to acquire a few bottles of cognac, a label indicating they were ‘for the Fuhrer’s use only.’ Later, he would use the cognac to toast his oldest son’s Bar Mitzvah,” the obituary said.

After the war, Shames worked for the National Security Agency as an expert on Middle East affairs. He also served in the U.S. Army Reserve Division and later retired as a colonel.

Easy Company was the subject of Stephen Ambrose’s 1992 book, “Band of Brothers,” upon which the HBO miniseries was based. The 2001 miniseries, created by Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg, followed Easy Company from its training in Georgia in 1942 all the way to the war’s end in 1945. Shames was portrayed by British actor Joseph May.

Shames is survived by his sons Douglas and Steven, four grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Norfolk, Virginia, on Sunday morning, the funeral home said.



Edward Shames, center, hugs Ed McClung, center left, both members of the World War II Army Company E of the 506th Regiment of the 101st Airborne, with veterans Jack Foley, left, Joe Lesniewski, right, and Shifty Powers, far right, at the Library of Congress in Washington, on July 16, 2003. Shames, who was the last surviving officer of “Easy Company,” which inspired the HBO miniseries and book “Band of Brothers,” has died at age 99. An obituary posted by the Holomon-Brown Funeral Home & Crematory said Shames, of Norfolk, Va., died peacefully at his home on Friday, Dec. 3, 2021. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

Next National Executive Committee Meeting in Orlando



Deal to End Korean War ‘Coming to a Finish,’ Official Says

22 Nov 2021 | Stars and Stripes | By David Choi

SEOUL, South Korea -- Discussions over an end-of-war declaration with North Korea will soon come to a close, a South Korean government official said.

The country’s Ministry of Unification chief, Lee In-young, made the remarks during an academic conference at Hankyong University of Foreign Studies’ campus in Seoul on Friday.

The Unification Minister said Seoul and Washington, D.C., “have been holding deep discussions very seriously” regarding a declaration to formally end the war, adding that it “is coming to a finish to some degree.”

Lee said an end-of-war declaration “is a reasonable approach” to the ongoing impasse on the Korean Peninsula.

“South Korea, North Korea and the U.S. can form trust amongst one another after putting down their antagonism and confrontations without any drastic situational changes,” he said.

Lee also qualified his remarks by addressing the uncertainty surrounding North Korea reciprocating a potential end-of-war declaration.

“It is yet not transparent whether North Korea would respond to some degree in its relations with South Korea and the U.S. in the future,” he said. “But North Korea seems to be trying to come out with its response strategies, while seeing follow-up responses with South Korea and the U.S.”

Diplomats from the U.S. and South Korea have been holding

talks in recent weeks to officially end the 1950-53 Korean War. The war ended with the signing of an armistice agreement that stopped the immediate conflict without the long-term resolution of a peace treaty. The armistice was intended to be a temporary agreement.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in, whose term ends next year, broached the topic during a speech before the U.N. General

Assembly in September. He called for the signatories to “come together and declare that the war on the Korean Peninsula is over.”

“When the parties involved in the Korean War stand together and proclaim an end to the war, I believe we can make irreversible progress in denuclearization and usher in an era of complete peace,” Moon said in reference to the U.S., North Korea and China.

Former officials who oversaw the U.S.’s role in South Korea have viewed the possibility of an end-of-war declaration

with caution. Defense experts have widely called into question whether Pyongyang would change the course of its weapons program and open up to the international community following such a declaration.

Former U.S. Ambassador to South Korea Harry Harris, during a discussion panel in New York on Wednesday, reiterated that the U.S. “must not relax sanctions or reduce joint military exercises just to get North Korea to come to the negotiating table.”

“Our treaty obligations to defend South Korea will still be extant,” Harris said. “And North Korea’s missile, nuclear and conventional capabilities will still be extant.”



With her brother on her back, a Korean girl tiredly trudges by a stalled M-26 tank in Haengju, Korea, June 9, 1951. (U.S. Army photo)

Putin Warns West: Moscow Has ‘Red Line’ About Ukraine, NATO

30 Nov 2021 | Associated Press | By Vladimir Isachenkov

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday sternly warned NATO against deploying its troops and weapons to Ukraine, saying it represents a red line for Russia and would trigger a strong response.

Commenting on Western concerns about Russia’s alleged intention to invade Ukraine, he said that Moscow is equally worried about NATO drills near its borders.

Speaking to participants of an online investment forum, the Russian president said that NATO’s eastward expansion has threatened Moscow’s core security interests. He expressed concern that NATO could eventually use the Ukrainian territory to deploy missiles capable of reaching Russia’s command centers in just five minutes.

“The emergence of such threats represents a ‘red line’ for us,” Putin said. “I hope that common sense and responsibility for their own countries and the global community will eventually prevail.”

He added that Moscow has been forced to counter the growing threats by developing new hypersonic weapons. “What should we do?” Putin said. “We would need to develop something similar to target those who threaten us. And we can do that even now.”

He said a new hypersonic missile that is set to enter service with the Russian navy early next year would be capable of reaching targets in comparable time. “It would also need just

five minutes to reach those who issue orders,” Putin said.

The Zircon hypersonic cruise missile, capable of flying at nine times the speed of sound to a range of 1,000 kilometers (620 miles), has undergone a series of tests, most recently Monday.

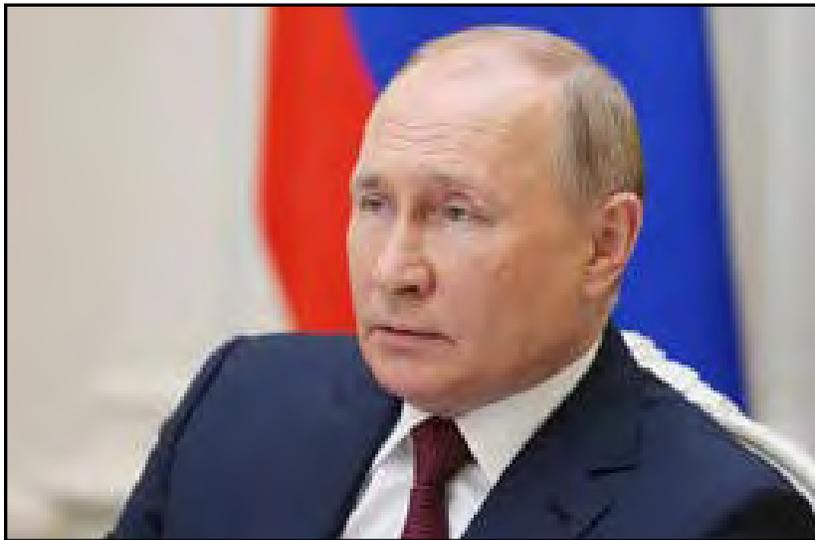
Ukrainian and Western officials have expressed worries this month that a Russian military buildup near Ukraine could signal plans by Moscow to invade its ex-Soviet neighbor. NATO foreign ministers warned Russia on Tuesday that any attempt to further destabilize Ukraine would be a costly mistake.

The Kremlin has insisted it has no such intention and has accused Ukraine and its Western backers of making the claims to cover up their own allegedly aggressive designs.

Russia annexed Ukraine’s Crimean Peninsula in 2014 after the country’s Kremlin-friendly president was driven from power by mass protests and also threw its weight behind a separatist insurgency that broke out in Ukraine’s east.

Earlier this year, a spike in cease-fire violations in the east and a Russian troop concentration near Ukraine fueled war fears, but tensions abated when Moscow pulled back the bulk of its forces after maneuvers in April.

Putin argued that to avoid tensions, Russia and the West should negotiate agreements that would take the parties’ security interests into account. The Russian leader noted that Russia has been strongly worried about NATO’s drills near its borders, pointing at a recent exercise that involved U.S. strategic bombers.



Russian President Vladimir Putin attends a video call of the VTB Capital “Russia Calling!” Investment Forum in Moscow, Russia, Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2021. (Mikhail Metzel, Sputnik, Kremlin Pool Photo via AP)

Recruiting New Members and Patrons Is Everyone's Job!

Why you should join JWV

1. We support American military service and the contribution of Jews in the US Armed Forces.
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3. We strengthen the network of American Jewish servicemembers and build community.

JWV Membership provides:



- **Comradery** – connecting members and patrons through local Posts across the USA, in Israel and online
- **Network** to share and record the story of American Jewish military service; explore the greatest accomplishment of JWV, **The National Museum of American Jewish Military History**, in Washington, DC, to view the story!
- **Advocacy** for veteran rights and benefits, civil rights, and Jewish issues at all levels of government, including local veteran coalitions, state legislatures, and US Congress. JWV's National Executive Director is President of The Military Coalition, a collaborative lobbying group of 32 VSOs
- **Access to National Service Officers** that help you navigate the Department of Veterans Affairs, access your veteran benefits and assist in benefit disputes
- **The Jewish Veteran**, our national publication reporting on Jewish and veterans' issues
- **Financial services** through our long-standing partner USAA

JWV Services and Programs include:

- **A network of volunteers** – JWV volunteered 33,000 hours in over 80 VA facilities in 2016!
- Annual **Mission to Israel**
- Special **attention to active duty Jewish service persons** including donations of Jewish Bibles, ritual needs and foodstuffs to members of the Armed Forces
- **Education grants** for active duty and veterans, as well as qualifying descendants of JWV members
- **Fight for earned recognition**, awards, and medals for deserving service persons, including posthumous recognition
- Sponsorship of **Boy Scout Troops and Girl Scout Troops**; recognition of Eagle Scouts and Gold Award winners
- Graduation gifts and **recognition for military cadets**



To join, email membership@jwv.org or call (202) 265-6280!

To fill out an online application for membership, click here.

To fill out an paper application for patron status, click here.

HISTORICAL EVENTS CALENDAR

January 1: 1776 - George Washington unveiled the Grand Union Flag, the first national flag in America.

1863 - The Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln freed the slaves in the states rebelling against the Union.

1892 - Ellis Island in New York Harbor opened. Over 20 million new arrivals to America were processed until its closing in 1954.

1901 - The Commonwealth of Australia was founded.

1959 - Fidel Castro seized power in Cuba

1979 - China and the U.S. established diplomatic relations, 30 years after the foundation of the People's Republic.

1993 - Czechoslovakia broke into separate Czech and Slovak republics.

1999 - Eleven European nations began using a new single European currency, the Euro

January 2: 1942 - During World War II in the Pacific, the Japanese captured the Philippines capital of Manila

January 3: 1790 - President George Washington delivered the first State of the Union address.

January 8: 1798 - The 11th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, preventing lawsuits against a state by anyone from another state or foreign nation.

January 10: 1776 - Common Sense, a fifty-page pamphlet by Thomas Paine, was published.

1920 - The League of Nations officially came into existence

1984 - The U.S. and Vatican established full diplomatic relations after a break of 116 years.

January 12: 1991 - Congress authorized the use military force against Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait.

January 15: 1973 - Golda Meir became the first Israeli Prime Minister to visit the Pope.

January 16: 1991 - The air war against Iraq began as operation Desert Shield became Desert Storm.

January 19: 1966 - Indira Gandhi was elected prime minister of India

1983 - Former Gestapo official Klaus Barbie, known as the "Butcher of Lyon," was arrested in Bolivia, South America.

January 21: 1924 - Soviet Russian leader Vladimir Lenin died of a brain hemorrhage.

1954 - The USS Nautilus, the world's first nuclear powered submarine, was launched at Groton, Connecticut.

1976 - The Concorde supersonic jet began passenger service.

January 22: 1973 - Abortion became legal in the U.S. as the Supreme Court decided in the case of Roe vs. Wade.

January 23: 1968 - The American ship USS Pueblo was seized by North Koreans in the Sea of Japan.

January 24: 1848 - The California gold rush began.

1972 - Japanese soldier Shoichi Yokoi was discovered on Guam after he had spent 28 years hiding out in the jungle not knowing World War II had long since ended.

January 27: 1945 - The Russian Army liberated Auschwitz death camp.

1967 - Three American astronauts were killed as a fire erupted inside Apollo 1 during a launch simulation test at Cape Kennedy, Florida.

1973 - U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War ended as North Vietnamese and American representatives signed an agreement in Paris.

January 28: 1915 - The U.S. Coast Guard was created by an Act of Congress.

1986 - The U.S. Space Shuttle Challenger exploded 74 seconds into its flight.

January 29: 1919 - The 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (Prohibition Amendment) was ratified.

January 30: 1968 - Tet Offensive began in Vietnam as North Vietnamese troops attacked 36 provincial capitals and 5 major cities in South Vietnam.

February 1: 2003 - Space Shuttle Columbia broke apart in flight over west Texas, killing all seven crew members.

February 3: 1870 - The 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, guaranteeing the right of citizens to vote, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

1943 - An extraordinary act of heroism in the icy waters off Greenland after the U.S. transport ship Dorchester was hit by a German torpedo and began to sink rapidly. There were not enough life jackets and four U.S. Army chaplains on board removed theirs, handed them to frightened young soldiers, and chose to go down with the ship while praying.

February 9: 1943 - U.S. troops captured Guadalcanal after six months of battle; 9,000 Japanese and 2,000 Americans killed.

February 14: 1849 - Photographer Mathew Brady took the first photograph of a U.S. President in office, James Polk.

February 15: 1898 - In Havana, the U.S. Battleship Maine was blown up while at anchor and quickly sank with 260 crew members lost. The incident resulted in a declaration of war against Spain on April 25, 1898; "Remember the Maine!"

February 17: 1989 - Soviet Russia completed its military withdrawal from Afghanistan after nine years of unsuccessful involvement.

1869 - The Suez Canal was formally opened after more than 10 years of construction.

February 19: 1942 - Internment of Japanese Americans began.

February 20: 1962 - Astronaut John Glenn became the first American launched into orbit.

February 23: 1991 - In Desert Storm, the Allied ground offensive began

February 26: 1848 - The Communist Manifesto pamphlet was published by two young socialists, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. It advocated the abolition of all private property and a system in which workers own all means of production, land, factories, and machinery.

February 27: 1991 - In Desert Storm, the 100-hour ground war ended as Allied troops entered Kuwait.

February 28: 1994 - NATO conducted its first combat action in its 45-year history as four Bosnian Serb jets were shot down by American fighters in a no-fly zone.

March 1: 1781 - Formal ratification of the Articles of Confederation was announced by Congress.

March 4: 1789 - The first meeting of the new Congress under the new U.S. Constitution took place in New York City.

March 5: 1770 - The Boston Massacre: a group of rowdy Americans harassed British soldiers who then opened fire .

March 6: 1836 - Fort Alamo fell to Mexican troops led by General Santa Anna.

March 10: 1862 - The first issue of U.S. government paper money occurred.

March 11: 1918 - The 'Spanish' influenza first reached America as 107 soldiers become sick at Fort Riley, Kansas. One quarter of the U.S. population eventually became ill from the deadly virus, resulting in 500,000 deaths. The death toll worldwide approached 22 million by the end of 1920.

March 13: 1943 - A plot to kill Hitler by German army officers failed as a bomb planted aboard his plane failed to explode due to a faulty detonator.

March 16: 1968 - During the Vietnam War, the My Lai Massacre occurred.

March 20: 1995 - A nerve gas attack occurred on the Tokyo subway system during rush hour

March 23: 1775 - Patrick Henry ignited the American Revolution with a speech at the Virginia convention in Richmond, stating, "I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!"

March 26: 1979 - The Camp David Accord ended 30 years of warfare between Israel and Egypt.