

THE BORDER BULLETIN

El Paso Chapter of Military Officers Association of America

★★★★★ A NATIONALLY RANKED FIVE-STAR CHAPTER ★★★★★

A MOAA affiliate from January 23, 1956 - El Paso Chapter of Military Officers Association of America - Our 57th Year

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THIS FROM HAPPENING**

PAY INCREASES

HEALTHCARE

RETIREMENT

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

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**FEBRUARY
2013**

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El Paso

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I am honored to have been elected your president for the coming year. Together we will face many challenges to our military benefits. I am grateful for the leadership provided by MOAA

National and I plan to work

with them and the local Chapters of our sister organizations (AUSA, NAUS, SMW, etc.) to keep you informed of legislative issues and to solicit your support in contacting our legislators to weigh in on matters affecting our earned benefits.

Last week, the Defense News and Military Times named MOAA Government Relations Director, Col Steve Strobbridge USAF-Ret, one of the 100 most influential people in U.S. Defense. Strobbridge was cited for his work in helping to shape legislation affecting issues of importance for military personnel and their families. It is essential that each of us use our power to contact and influence legislators. This can be done by writing a letter, using MOAA's Call to Action or sending an email to your Senator/Congressman/or the President. In 2012 the efforts of MOAA members set a record generating more than 932,000 emails to Congress through MOAA's website and well over 1.2 million total messages when you include postcards, tear-out letters, and phone calls. I encourage each of you to regularly check the MOAA website or the Military Officer for updates on MOAA's 2012 legislative agenda.

Our Chapter has a long history of being a Five-Star Chapter. However, our membership has been steadily declining. If we are to continue to be a vital force in shaping future national policies regarding military benefits, as well as being a recognized entity in El Paso, it is essential that we have a growing and an engaged membership.

MOAA National is instituting several new programs to increase Chapter membership. I challenge each of you to bring one new potential member to our lunch meetings and to speak with them about the benefits of joining our prestigious organization. If each of us can recruit just one member in 2013, we will go a long way to sustaining our respected Chapter.

Your Board has been diligently working towards creating a Community Outreach Foundation through the creation of a 501c3. We hope to be able to use this new foundation to sponsor charitable events to better the health and welfare of our military community. We are actively seeking Board members for this endeavor. If you are interested in participating in this venture, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to seeing each of you at our February 9th Meeting and Luncheon at the Underwood Golf Complex. We are very excited to have Jackson Polk, the producer and host of The El Paso History Show (formerly the Leon Metz Show), which airs live from 10 am to noon Saturdays on KTSM-AM 690 in El Paso and streams live worldwide on the internet. He will bring some clips of his TV documentaries.

The Board of your MOAA El Paso Chapter is anxious to serve you and our community. I would like to hear from you on how we can improve our Chapter. Please do not hesitate to contact me at lennieenzel@gmail.com or 915.241.0812.

Lennie Enzel
COL, USA, Retired
President

February Lunch Menu

BBQ Brisket
Green Beans Almandine
Potatoes Au Gratin
Tossed Green Salad w/Dressing
Roll & Butter, Water, Coffee, and
Iced Tea

MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAM

**Saturday, February 9th
Underwood Golf Course**

1100 - 1200	SOCIAL HOUR
1200 - 1215	OPENING CEREMONY
1215 - 1230	BOARD UPDATES
1230 - 1315	MEAL SERVICE
1315 - 1345	PROGRAM
1345 - 1355	DOOR PRIZE DRAWING
1355 - 1400	CLOSING
1400	ADJOURNMENT

**Please submit your Brunch
Reservations no later than
Wednesday, 6 February**

Treasurer: MOAA
PO Box 6144
El Paso, TX 79906-0144

All lunch reservations
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\$ 20 Per Person

**REMITTANCE
ENVELOPE ENCLOSED**

Jackson Polk

El Paso native Jackson (Jack) Polk spent 27 years in Washington, D.C., where he was a full-time TV technician and news cameraman. In the 1980s, he formed his own TV production company in Washington, providing satellite news services for many foreign networks covering U.S. news.

Jackson has produced more than 50 historical videos, including more than a dozen about the history and heritage of the El Paso region. Jackson appeared on the History Channel in December 2010 on Brad Meltzer's Decoded as an expert on the US Capitol Cornerstone.

Jackson Polk is also the producer and host of the El Paso History Show (formerly the Leon Metz Show), which airs live from 10 am to noon Saturdays on KTSM-AM 690 in El Paso and now



streams live worldwide on the internet. Jackson has brought some clips of his TV documentaries to show us today. His topic is "How to promote El Paso through our history." To see clips of Jackson's TV programs, go to YouTube.com and search for El Paso History TV

DFAS myPay System

Update 10: New myPay Password Reset Process. Beginning in mid-December, Defense Finance and Accounting Service customers will be able to reset their myPay passwords online by answering a few security questions. Before this new feature, myPay users received new passwords by email or mail. After logging in to their accounts in mid-December, users will be given a list of 17 possible security questions to answer. Users need to answer eight of those 17 questions to set up their

online password reset capability. In the spring of 2013, however, all myPay users, including those who use Army Knowledge Online, the Air Force Portal and smart cards, will be required to answer eight security questions. Until then, those who choose to bypass the questions will not be able to reset their passwords online until they have answered the questions. For more information, contact the DFAS Customer Care Center at 888-332-7411 (Source: Military.com Week of 10 Dec 2012 ++)



Outgoing MOAA President Forrest Smith with BG Mark Stammer, December Luncheon Guest Speaker



El Paso

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2012 EL PASO CHAPTER, MOAA EVENTS SCHEDULE

February 9, 2013	February Member Meeting and Luncheon
February 13-14, 2013	TCC Storming the Hill - Austin, TX
March 16, 2013	MOAA Chapter's Annual "Day at the Races"
April 13, 2013	April Member Meeting and Luncheon
June 8, 2013	June Membership Meeting & Luncheon
June 29 – July 6, 2013	Texas Council of Chapters Cruise to Alaska
August 10, 2013	August Member Meeting and Luncheon
September 27, 2013	2013 Retiree Appreciation Day Reception
September 28, 2013	2013 Retiree Appreciation Day
December 14, 2013	December Membership Meeting & Brunch

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the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers and singing hymns. Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, only 230 survived. Before boarding the Dorchester back in January, Chaplain Poling had asked his father to pray for him, "Not for my safe return, that wouldn't be fair. Just pray that I shall do my duty...never be a coward... and have the strength, courage and understanding of men. Just pray that I shall be adequate."

Although the Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart were later awarded posthumously Congress wished to confer the Medal of Honor but was blocked by the stringent requirements, which required heroism performed under fire. So a posthumous Special Medal for Heroism, The Four Chaplains' Medal, was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President on January 18, 1961. It was never before given and will never to be given again.

-Special thanks to CH (LTC) Joel Harris (USA Ret), the Chaplain at The Citadel, for sending the above and the reminder this morning that today is the anniversary of the heroism and spiritual leadership of Chaplains Goode, Poling, Washington and Fox.

MCRM: The NDAA establishes the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission (MCTMC) to review compensation and retirement benefits. The commission is charged with ensuring the long-term viability of the All-Volunteer Force, enabling a high quality of life for military families, and to modernizing the compensation and retirement systems in a sustainable fashion. The legislation calls for grandfathering current service members and retirees. The Commission will have nine members—the President appoints one member; the Majority Leader of Senate, in consultation with the SASC Chair, appoints two members; the Minority Leader of Senate, in consultation with the Ranking Member of SASC, appoints two; the Speaker of the House, in consultation with the Chair of HASC, appoints two; and the Minority Leader of the House, in consultation with the Ranking member of HASC, appoints two. This process is supposed to occur within 4 months and the eventual reconditions will be submitted to the President within 15 months. Commission members are expected to possess knowledge regarding federal civilian, military and private sector compensation; military family policy development; and implementation and actuarial science. The Secretary of Defense will also make recommendations to Congress in consultations with the Secretaries of Homeland Security, HHS and OMB. The commission will have a budget of \$10,000,000. [Source: AFA Notes | Tom Lasser | 22 Dec 2012 ++]

TRDP Update 12:

In late November a new TRICARE Retiree Dental program (TRDP) was awarded to the current contract holder Delta Dental of California. If no protests were filed by Dec. 17 the new contract would have gone into effect on Jan. 1, 2014. However, a protest has been filed against the award (actually 2 protests but 1 was then withdrawn) so we don't know when the new contract will start. When a protest is filed everything freezes. The new contract has some good changes:

- Annual maximum increased to \$1,300 from \$1,200
 - Lifetime orthodontic maximum increased to \$1,750 from \$1,500
 - Annual Accident coverage maximum increased to \$1,200 from \$1,000
 - Option to substitute a periodontal maintenance (specialized cleaning for one of the two yearly dental cleanings)
 - Most enrollees will see a lower monthly premium
- [Source: NAUS Weekly Update 14 Dec 2012 ++]

Fort Bliss Gate Operating Hours

Alabama Gate, WBAMC, is open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. and is closed weekends and federal holidays.

IBCT North Gate is open Monday - Friday 5am - 0900
Closed on holidays.

Excess Furniture Family and MWR sells excess tables, chairs, bed frames, sofas and more from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Friday at the Property Book Office warehouse in Bldg. 643 on Taylor Road. All items are sold as-is and refunds or exchanges are not permitted. The PBO warehouse accepts cash, Visa or Mastercard only. To learn more, call 568-3779 or 568-4501.

Chaplain's Corner

Peter A. Baktis
Chaplain



The Story of Four Chaplains

It was Feb. 3rd 1943, and the U.S. Army Transport Dorchester was one of three ships in a convoy, moving across the Atlantic from Newfoundland to an American base in Greenland.

A converted luxury liner, the Dorchester was crowded to capacity, carrying 902 servicemen, merchant seamen and civilian workers. It was only 150 miles from its destination when shortly after midnight, an officer aboard the German submarine U2 spotted it. After identifying and targeting the ship, he gave orders to fire. The hit was decisive, striking the ship, far below the water line. The initial blast killed scores of men and seriously wounded many more. Others, stunned by the explosion were groping in the darkness. Panic and chaos quickly set in! Men were screaming, others crying or frantically trying to get lifeboats off the ship.

Through the pandemonium, four men spread out among the soldiers, calming the frightened, tending the wounded and guiding the disoriented toward safety. They were four Army chaplains, Lt. George Fox, a Methodist; Lt. Alexander Goode, a Jewish Rabbi; Lt. John Washington, a Roman Catholic Priest; and Lt. Clark Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister. Quickly and quietly the four chaplains worked to bring calm to the men. As soldiers began to

find their way to the deck of the ship, many were still in their underwear, where they were confronted by the cold winds blowing down from the arctic. Petty Officer John J. Mahoney, reeling from the cold, headed back towards his cabin. "Where are you going?" a voice of calm in the sea of distressed asked? "To get my gloves," Mahoney replied. "Here, take these," said Rabbi Goode as he handed a pair of gloves to the young officer. "I can't take those gloves," Mahoney replied. "Never mind," the Rabbi responded. "I have two pairs." It was only long after that Mahoney realized that the chaplain never intended to leave the ship.

Once topside, the chaplains opened a storage locker and began distributing life jackets. It was then that Engineer Grady Clark witnessed an astonishing sight. When there were no more lifejackets in the storage room, the chaplains simultaneously removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men. When giving their life jackets, Rabbi Goode did not call out for a Jew; Father Washington did not call out for a Catholic; nor did Fox or Poling call out for a Protestant. They simply gave their life jackets to the next man in line. One survivor would later call it "It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven."

As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains -- arms linked and braced against

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Input for April 2013 BULLETIN by 3 March 2013

Our Weekend With Celebrities - Part I

By Colonel (R) Robert W. Pitt, USAF

This is not a war story. It is, however, an Air Force story.

During the summer of 1976, I was re-assigned from Fort Bliss, Texas, where I was serving as Assistant U.S. Air Force Representative at the U.S. Army Air Defense School, to Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, to be the Deputy Director of Information, Air Training Command. This was my first assignment as a full colonel.

Shortly after assuming my new position, I was named project officer for an upcoming ABC-TV Wide World of Sports show to be broadcast from Randolph Air Force Base. As many of you remember, Wide World of Sports was a very popular Sunday afternoon program. Our program featured a series of boxing matches staged in one of our hangars. Naturally, my boss, the Director of Information, was extremely eager to have my project come off without any problems. He was, also, a big fan of PERT charts. I can no longer remember what PERT stands for, but it was a very fashionable management tool of the day. As I recall, it worked something like this: Assignment A meets with B at C to form D which goes on to E, etc., etc., etc. Well, not understanding exactly what I was doing with PERT, I had charts strung out all over the walls of my office. I think my boss was very impressed. I thought it was overkill.

In addition to arranging the facilities for the show and coordinating with ABC-TV personnel, I was responsible for greeting and hosting a number of well-known celebrities. The first of these with whom I had contact was HOWARD COSELL, a very popular sports announcer of the day. I first contacted Mr. Cosell by telephone to invite him to have breakfast with my commanding general, Lieutenant General John Roberts, at the general's quarters the morning of the

show. Mr. Cosell replied, "Yes, sir, Colonel, I would be delighted to have breakfast with your general—and, of course, you'll be there for breakfast."

"No, sir," I answered. "It will be just the two of you."

"Well, I'm sorry you won't be there, but Okay, tell your general I'll be there."

Mr. Cosell was extremely polite and courteous to me and the other Air Force

personnel with whom he worked. He was, also, most considerate of his wife.

A day or two before the show, the ABC-TV director and his staff arrived to get the lay of the land. I escorted them to the hangar and showed them the boxing ring, grandstands and other facilities for the show. The director noticed that we had portable latrines installed outside the hangar with the logo "ABC Porta-John." He asked if they could be moved because they were in the line of some of his shots and he didn't want ABC-TV associated with "outhouses." I reported that it would be no trouble to move them. He then pulled an envelope from his coat pocket, made a couple of quick notes and said, "I'm ready." I thought of his two quick notes on the back of an envelope and my months and months and yards and yards of PERT charts – so much for PERT charts.

The Friday afternoon before the show, DON KING, the well-known fight promoter, and his entourage arrived at the San Antonio Airport. I was there in my Class –A uniform to meet them and escort them to their motel. Among Mr. King's group was a young man who served as Mr. King's chief assistant and photographer. When I introduced myself to Mr. King – who is a very large man – he put his arm around my shoulder, gave me a bear hug and yelled to his assistant/

photographer, "Hey, get a shot of my bro and me."

Another member of Mr. King's staff was an attractive and energetic young Italian girl from New York City who served as Mr. King's public relations director. I'll say a little more about her shortly.

That evening Lieutenant General John Roberts, Commander, Air Training Command, hosted a formal reception at the Randolph Air Force Base Officers' Club for all involved in the show. In the receiving line were General and Mrs. Roberts, my wife, Julie, and me and General Roberts' young aide, Major Thompson and his wife. I was very happy to be along side Major Thompson as his father, Lieutenant Colonel "Tex" Thompson and I had flown combat missions together in Vietnam. Shortly before taking my position in the receiving line, I had pointed out General Roberts to Don King's young assistant/photographer. A little later, when Mr. King was making his way through the receiving line, his assistant pointed at General Roberts and yelled out, "Hey, Don, here da head dude!" Well, that didn't bother most of us, but General Roberts, who was by nature very serious and reserved, turned a bright red.

The following evening, late, near midnight, Julie and I were at the airport to pick up JOE LOUIS and his wife. Don King's public relations director, the young Italian girl from New York City and her Air Force driver, a 20-year old two-striper were also there to greet Mr. and Mrs. Joe Louis. I was very excited thinking of meeting Joe Louis. He had been a great hero of mine since I was a young boy and he was heavyweight champion of the world. I can still remember listening to his fights on radio (I know some of you remember radio) and following his career as an

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Membership Meeting & Lunch Golden Tee Underwood Golf Course Building 3193, 3200 Coe Ave, Fort Bliss, TX 79916

Date: Saturday, 9 February 2013

Time: 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Guest Speaker: Mr. Jackson Polk
El Paso Historian

Menu:

BBQ Brisket
Green Beans Almandine
Potatoes Au Gratin
Tossed Green Salad w/Dressing
Roll & Butter, Water, Coffee, and Iced Tea



Dress: Casual

Brunch Treasurer: treasurer@elpasomoaa.org

Membership or email queries: membership@elpasomoaa.org

Mail To: El Paso Chapter MOAA, Attn.: Treasurer, PO Box 6144, Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144

Please fill in this acceptance slip and return to the Treasurer by Wednesday, 6 February 2013 with a check for \$20 per person, the cost of the lunch. **Late Reservations**, call Bob Pitt, 915-533-5111 or Bill Moore, 915-842-9650, by Noon, Thursday, February 7, and pay at the door.

Brunch will be on Saturday 9 February 2013 at 11:00 a.m.

Please print guest names clearly to ensure the correct spelling on the seating plan

I will ☐/ ☐ will not attend the lunch and there will be _____ attendees in my party.

My check for \$ ____ (\$20.00 per person) made payable to the "El Paso Chapter" is enclosed.

Name of Member: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Name(s) of Guests:

Save Our Benefit

Commissary and exchange benefits continue to be the target for budget cutters. Repeated attacks on the military resale benefit threaten to eliminate the taxpayer subsidy for commissaries, consolidate the commissary and exchange systems, and raise prices. Some members of Congress propose giving active duty service members a \$400 cash allowance in lieu of the benefit - retirees, Medal of Honor winners, and survivors would get nothing. This would impact adversely on the millions of service members and their families who rely on commissaries and exchanges to stretch their household budgets. Under the present system the average military family of four can save \$7,000 a year. In remote and overseas locations, it is often the only affordable shopping opportunity available. In metropolitan areas, where prices are consistently higher, commissaries and exchanges help keep prices affordable. For some junior enlisted military families and fixed income retirees, savings are the difference between making ends meet and filing for public assistance.

The commissary and exchange benefit continues to rank as one of the most important benefits for military families and is stronger today than ever. While the cost of other federal defense programs have doubled or even tripled in the past five years, the cost of commissary programs have remained constant and are a bargain for the taxpayer. However, if the taxpayer subsidy for commissaries and exchanges is eliminated, to compensate for the loss of funding, commissaries and exchanges would have to raise prices and cut services which could lead to a collapse of the military resale system. Military families and the Nation cannot afford for this to happen. The military resale system is too important of a benefit to lose. Last year it saved military families \$5.6 billion and contributed billions of dollars to the military communities they support. The military resale system also employs 100,000 working Americans, is the largest employer of military families in the world and the leading employer of veterans in the Nation.

In MAR 2012 a coalition of military families, advocacy groups and American industry called Save Our Benefit formed to preserve shopping privileges on military bases. They applied for and were approved as a non-profit organization under the name "The Coalition to Save our Military Shopping Benefits". Their mission is to preserve

and strengthen a 150-year-old benefit that provides thousands of dollars in annual savings on household necessities, billions of dollars in added employment income for military families and underwrites other billions of dollars in vital on-base community programs and facilities. Their purpose is to provide advocacy and support for military resale programs, which contribute more than a trillion dollars to our economy. Several misguided proposals put forth during the budget debate have called for radical restructuring and diminishment of these benefits under the false notion of saving taxpayer dollars. The Coalition aims to ensure that nothing happens to destroy these benefits and to educate key policy makers about the consequences of moving forward with these proposals.

Touting the significant household savings that commissaries and exchanges bring to military families, the Coalition aims to take a series of measures to insulate from budget reductions what is considered the most efficient and effective benefit provided to military people. For example, over the past five years, costs of commissary programs have remained constant, while the cost of most other Defense programs has doubled and tripled. In order to boost these savings even further, the Coalition aims to ensure that all eligible patrons know they can save 20 to 50 percent by using their benefit. As sales increase and a broader shopping base establishes, prices will be continually driven down, giving military patrons an even greater incentive to utilize their local commissaries and exchanges.

The Coalition brings together military members, partner associations, business and community leaders, and the public to support the continued funding and operation of military commissaries and exchanges. They provide information on the operation of the resale system, improve business conditions, and serve as a focal point to address the mounting threats against this critical military benefit. You can join the Coalition at <http://saveourbenefit.org/register.html> to receive the latest news, alerts, best deals, promotional events and take action on timely issues that impact the availability of this benefit for all those who are serving our nation. There are no fees or obligations associated with joining. [Source: <http://saveourbenefit.org> Dec 2012 ++]

Snuffy Sense Congress Medical 2013

Congress Recognizes Quality Health Care Is Earned Benefit

Major Edwin S. Stone, III, USA, Retired, Legislative Director, El Paso Chapter 1/6/2013

Snuffy Smith is happy to report and is grateful to Congress for recognizing that service and sacrifice gives him access to quality health care as an earned benefit in retirement. This is a major! Look up on thomas.gov.

H.R.4310

National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Enrolled Bill [Final as Passed Both House and Senate] - ENR)

Sec. 707. Sense of Congress on health care for retired members of the uniformed services.

It is the sense of Congress that--

(1) members of the uniformed services and their families endure unique and extraordinary demands and make extraordinary sacrifices over the course of 20 to 30 years of service in protecting freedom for all Americans, as do those who have been medically retired due to the hardships of military service; and

(2) access to quality health care services is an earned benefit during retirement in acknowledgment of their contributions of service and sacrifice.



Arlene R. Smith

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DFAS Announces Retiree and Annuitant Paydays for 2013

The below chart is a list of all 2013 Retiree
and Annuitant paydays:

Retiree and Annuitant Paydates for 2013

Month of :	Direct Deposit Date:
January 2013	Friday, February 1, 2013
February 2013	Friday, March 1, 2013
March 2013	Monday, April 1, 2013
April 2013	Wednesday, May 1, 2013
May 2013	Monday, May 31, 2013
June 2013	Monday, July 1, 2013
July 2013	Thursday, August 1, 2013
August 2013	Friday, August 30, 2013
September 2013	Tuesday, October 1, 2013
October 2013	Friday, November 1, 2013
November 2013	Friday, November 29, 2013
December 2013	Tuesday, December 31, 2013

~ TAPS ~

Lieutenant Colonel Conrad Martinez, Jr., United States Air Force, Retired, passed away on January 2, 2013. He was born on April 14, 1928 in Los Angeles, CA to the late Conrad Sr. and Candelaria (Rodriguez) Martinez. Conrad attended Mt. Carmel High School and graduated in 1946. He served in the Naval Air Reserve as a Flight Engineer from 1947-1952. Conrad served in the United States Air Force from 1952-1956. After being commissioned & awarded his wings, he was stationed at Luke AFB, Shaw AFB and Misawa Air Force Base in Japan.

In January of 1957 he married his sweetheart Cilda J. LaRosa. Conrad graduated from St. Louis University in 1960 and worked as an Aerospace Engineer at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base from 1960-1993. He served in Illinois and Ohio Air Guard from 1957 until his retirement as a Lieutenant Colonel of the United States Air Force in 1981.

Conrad flew many types of aircraft including T-6G, T-28, T-33, F-84F, RF-8F, F-84, F-100, RB-57A and logged as much as 3, 800 hours of military flying time. He earned the Combat Readiness Medal, National Defense Service medal, Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Force Outstanding Civilian Service Award.

Conrad is a life member of Order of the Deadalians, associate fellow of AIAA, and a member of the American Rocket Society, Air Force Association, and National Management Association.

Preceded in death by his sister, Rosemary McCall. Conrad is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Cilda; sons, David C. Martinez and Mark A. Martinez, both of Washington Township; brother, Manuel Martinez; and several nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the staff at Liberty Retirement Community and Hospice of Dayton for all their care and compassion.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Flight-9 Order of Daedalians Scholarship Fund, Box 33564, Building 16, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433.

Lieutenant Colonel Lucille (Lucy) A. McCabe,

Lieutenant Colonel Lucille (Lucy) A. McCabe, United States Army, Retired, passed away on December 24, 2012, at her home. She was a resident of El Paso since 1967. She retired from White Sands Missile Range after 25 years of service in the US Army Nurse Corps where she was Chief Nurse at McAfee Army Hospital. She was an eminently decorated officer having received numerous awards and decorations. Lucy was a member of the Military Order of World Wars, the Army Nurse Corps Association, American Legion Post #58, and the Military Officers Association of America.

Surviving are her sister Ruth A Barrett, her nephew William J. Barrett, Jr., her niece Pamela B. Giannone and her husband Thomas and her great-nieces Marisa, Sarah, and Monica. A visitation will be held 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, 2013 with a Vigil Service at 4 p.m. at the Martin Funeral Home-West. Funeral Mass: 9:30 a.m. Monday January 7, 2013, at Queen of Peace Catholic Church. Interment will follow at Ft. Bliss National Cemetery.





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Vet Pro Bono Assistance Update 02:

There are numerous organizations which provide medical and social services for Veterans, and there are guides for these organizations and services, but there has been no comprehensive system to provide free legal services to Veterans until now. The VALOR Guide in six volumes gathers together in a single reference all known providers of free legal services for California Veterans in order to provide vets assistance with the legal services which they need and have earned through their military service to this country. The volumes cover Northern California, Central California, Los Angeles County, Orange County, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, and San Diego and Imperial Counties. The guide addresses that need by bringing together a network of law firms, clinics and other providers who are dedicated to providing free legal services for Veterans. Not every legal clinic or military legal assistance office can handle every type of legal problem, but by working together, they can provide the right service in the right location. The VALOR Guide is designed to make finding the right legal provider quick and easy. Legal providers are listed in the guide by practice area, by location, and alphabetically.

- If you know the particular type of legal advice you require, you can use the 'Index of Legal Providers by Practice Area' to find a legal provider with expertise in handling your particular problem.

- If you would prefer to find all the legal providers in a particular location, you can use the guide's 'Index of Legal Providers by Location', which arranges legal providers conveniently according to their location within your geographic area.

- If you know the name of the provider and want more information about that provider, the guide's 'Alphabetical Index of Legal Providers' contains an alphabetical list of legal service providers your geographic area including important details regarding their hours of operation, types of services provided, and any applicable restrictions or limitations on those services.

To view the 2012-2012 Central California Edition of the guide refer to the attachment (PDF Only) to this Bulletin titled, "The Valor Guide". For inquiries regarding this VALOR Guide, including corrections and requests for copies, please contact: Adam Siegler, Greenberg Traurig, LLP, 1840 Century Park East, Suite 1900, Los Angeles, CA 90067-2121 Tel: 310.586.6536, Cell: 310.777.1111, Email: sieglera@gtlaw.com [Source: Veterans Advocate Msg. | Carl Young | 26 Dec 2012 ++]

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The "The 1st Armored Division - El Paso Chapter, MOAA #2" was established on 7 February 2011. The 1st Armored Division - El Paso Chapter, MOAA #2 Scholarship is a part of "the MOAA Scholarship Fund; and thus, it is a nonprofit, charitable organization, incorporated in Virginia and declared tax-exempt by the Internal Revenue Service under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Its tax identification number is 54-1659039." Please draw your check payable to "MOAA Scholarship Fund," and mark the memo line with "1st Armored Division/TX05 - 501(c)(3)."

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Personal Affairs**Jose Luis Hernandez**
Personal Affairs Chairman**Are you Ready to Fly Space-A****1 - Travel Eligibility**

Are you authorized to travel using Space-A? Click here to determine your travel eligibility (<http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/spaceatracategories.asp>) and which Space-A Category you will travel under. Unaccompanied Dependent Travelers click here (<http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/unaccompanieddependenttravelpolicy.asp>) for further information.

2 - Locations

Where do you want to depart from, and where do you want to go? What common destinations are offered at your nearest AMC Passenger Terminal? Click here to find out (<http://www.amc.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-110126-037.swf>)!

3 - Document Check

Do you have all your travel documentation (e.g., leave paperwork, valid Uniformed Services ID, visa, passport)? Click here to learn about travel document requirements (<http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/travelguidance.asp>).

4 - Registration

You have many choices to register for Space-A travel: In-person, remotely by fax, postal mail or e-mail. You can register in-person at the AMC Passenger Terminal by speaking directly with a passenger service agent. Other options are to fax or mail your request to the passenger terminal, or use the Web-based sign-up on the AMC Travel web site. AMC Passenger Terminals will accept email sign-ups from other than the AMC Web Site; however, AMC is not responsible for lost, delayed or incorrect information on sign-ups from those sites. Customers who have issues with sign-ups from other than AMC sites must contact that site for resolution or sign up at the time you present yourself at the terminal. We recommend that you keep a copy of the sent email for your records.

5 - Flight Schedules

For specific travel information, please contact your nearest AMC Passenger Terminal. Click here for location information links (<http://www.amc.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-120918-162.pdf>).

6 - Checking in

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171K May Soon Lose TRICARE Prime

Defense officials are expected to announce that military retirees and their dependents that live more than 40 miles from a military treatment facility or BRAC (base closure) site will lose access to TRICARE Prime as early as next April. This move could force as many as 171,000 retirees to shift to TRICARE Standard, which would mean an increase in out-of-pocket costs--especially those with special needs dependents or other chronic health issues. The first round of Prime service changes is "tentatively" planned to go into effect in the West region on April 1. The North and South regions will see the plan implemented by October 1, 2013.

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El Paso



Legislative

Edwin (Ed) S. Stone, III
Legislative Chairman

THERE WENT SANTA CLAUS!

THE REPORT ON THE AFFAIRS OF SNUFFY: Some Joy and A BIG Lump of Coal!

Major Edwin S. Stone, III, USA, Retired, Legislative Director, 01-01-2013

Follow on Twitter: Edwin Stone @oldsoldier1942



Snuffy Smith's Naughty or Nice Report (one should view the online version and use the active Universal Resource Locator links to view the references...in the April Issue, will give the readers a report on things in The State of Texas): Snuffy's Guesses were written 10-18-2012; and, here's where he thinks we are. Active Duty 1.7% pay raise becomes law. The greatest disappointment was in the SBP/DIC Offset Repeal...needed 60 votes to make it into the Senate Version of the NDAA as an amendment and the Two From Texas with less than a stellar performance for surviving military spouses either voted Nay or were recorded as Non-voting so with 58 it failed lacking two votes: [Snuffy Disappointed by Texas Vote in SBP/DIC Offset Repeal](#).

Here goes:

SNUFFY Stone's GUESSES,

SNUFFY SMITH'S WISH LIST*

NAUGHTY OR NICE?

HOPES?

<p>Amendments to 2013 Defense Authorization:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. **SBP/DIC Offset Repeal 2. Concurrent Receipt Offset Repeal 3. Tricare Acknowledge for Service 4. Stolen Valor <p>*MOAA source for all with fact sheets: 2012 Congressional Recess: Time to Make the Rounds! Also: Visit Your Legislators in Oct : MOAA</p> <p>**SNUFFY Stone is of the opinion that there is no higher obligation than to take care of our surviving spouses ahead of all else!</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Failed by two votes to make the amendment process in Senate NDAA... Senator Cornyn Votes Nay, Hutchison Present but recorded Non-voting...BIG LUMP OF COAL....Snuffy Disappointed by Texas Vote in SBP/DIC Offset Repeal 2. Full concurrent receipt failed but Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) computation glitch repair DID pass. 3. Did make it...sustained Senate version: side by side matrix 4. Unsure of outcome at this point. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. **One great hope is that surviving spouses get relief through repeal of SBP/DIC Offset...this one survives the budget reconciliation process. 2. Snuffy Stone is a Chapter 61 retiree and subject to Concurrent Receipt Offset; and, holds out little hope that this one will make it through the reconciliation process. 3. Tricare acknowledgement by reason of service will not make it. 4. Stolen Valor will make it in some form.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catastrophic Sequestration Cuts* <p>*Visit Your Legislators in Oct : MOAA</p> <p>Fact Sheet on the Sequestration Threat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unresolved 12-21-2012 as President heads for Hawaii. • POTUS returned and as of 12-30-2012 still not resolved. • Another problem, Debt Ceiling 	<p>Some sanity is restored and catastrophe is avoided?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent Unfair Military Pharmacy Copay Hikes • Go with House Version <p>Fact Sheet on House vs. Senate TRICARE Rx Copay Plans</p>	<p>HUGE ACHIEVEMENT...House version becomes law: side by side matrix</p> <p>http://www.moaa.org/Main_Menu/Take_Action/Legislative_Update/2012_Legislative_Updates/December_19_2012_Special_Update.html</p>	<p>House version survives?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent 27% Cut in Medicare/TRICARE Payments <p>Fact Sheet on Medicare/TRICARE Payment Cut</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HANG FIRE! PROBLEM STILL LOITERING OUT THERE UNRESOLVED READY TO COOK-OFF!!! 	<p>Congress kicks the can down the road and does not cut Medicare/TRICARE in the near term?</p>

Follow the Military Officers Association of America's lead in these matters when contacting your congressional members...go to elpasomoaa.org December 2012 pdf version to view links.

Either Enlisted or Civilian and you care about military personnel issues, join Voices for America's Troops, <http://www.voicesfortroops.org/> and know that you get the same top-drawer advocacy that MOAA provides to all who serve. Check: [MOAA Named "Top Lobbyist" - Voices for America's Troops](#). You will receive the same Legislative Update and Alerts with proposed messages in response to current military personnel affairs.

Officers, Commissioned and Warrant, MOAA needs you, too:

<http://www.moaa.org/Join/>

While you are at it, join The El Paso Chapter: elpasomoaa.org In both cases, make a commitment and take the paid membership route!

Cont'd from page 8

aircrew member in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. In my opinion, Joe Louis was and always will be the greatest heavyweight champion of all time.

While we were waiting for Mr. and Mrs. Louis, Julie Spotted a girl running back and forth in the airport. She seemed to have a familiar face. Lo – and – behold, it was BILLIE JEAN KING. When Billie Jean stopped jogging, Julie struck up a conversation with her and learned that she was in San Antonio for a tennis tournament. Julie asked how she did and Billie Jean replied, “Okay, I won.” Although not part of our program, Billie Jean must be included in Our Weekend With Celebrities.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Louis arrived near midnight. Julie and I introduced ourselves. From newsreels of my youth, I remembered Joe Louis as a tall, well-built young man. I was somewhat saddened to meet an elderly, slightly stooped man of about my height, five foot, ten inches. Unhappily, by this time, Mr. Louis was in poor health and nearing the end. He had been working as a greeter in a Las Vegas casino, which, in my opinion, was quite a letdown for such a great man. However, Mr. Louis was a true gentleman and told Julie and me how nice it was to meet us. Mr. Louis, who was also extremely cordial, echoed the sentiment.

After gathering their luggage, Julie and I drove Mr. and Mrs. Louis to their motel. Don King's public relations director and her young driver followed in an Air Force vehicle. Upon arriving at the motel, I took Mr. and Mrs. Louis' bags out of the trunk of my car. I began to carry them to their room when Mr. Louis, at his advanced age, politely told me, “No, sir, colonel, I'll carry my own bags.” I thought to myself that this man is a true champion.

Julie and I and the other two escorts saw that Mr. and Mrs. Louis were settled in their room and began to bid them goodnight when Mrs. Louis generously asked, “Won't you all sit down and watch a little TV?”

I could see that the two of them were dead on their feet and it was now well after midnight, so I replied, “Thank you very much, Mrs. Louis, but it's late and we must be up early for our big day tomorrow.”

Leaving Mr. and Mrs. Louis, Julie and I were thinking that now we could finally get some rest. Our young airman, who had recently become a father, was also anxious to get home to his wife and child. Our fourth member, the public relations director, chimed in with something to the effect that this had been a hell of a tough day. Julie, the young driver and I nodded in concurrence when she added that we had better proceed to the bar and have some drinks. The young airman's chin dropped to the floor. “Okay,” I said, “but we'll have just one.”

I drove across the parking lot to the motel nightclub and parked directly in front of the door believing that we'd be inside only a few minutes. Upon entering the club – the young airman and I were wearing our Class-A uniforms – the manager greeted us warmly. I told him that we'd like to go to the bar since we were there for only one round. He very politely asked if we would do him a favor.

“Of course,” I replied. “Would you please sit with GORDON MCCRAE?” he requested.

“We would be delighted to sit with Gordon McCrae,” I happily answered.

The manager introduced us to Gordon and asked if it would be all right for us to sit with him. Gordon quickly answered affirmatively and enthusiastically welcomed us to his table. Gordon was still as handsome as he was 30 years earlier when he

began his reign as the good-looking, young singing star of Hollywood's biggest musical comedies. He had, however, put on quite a bit of weight since those days. I think Gordon was happy to have us sit with him because he would serve as a relief from the young blonde he had next to him at the table.

As I sat down, I mentioned to him that we hadn't been together for nearly 30 years. Gordon looked at me in puzzlement.

“Gordon,” I asked, “do you remember back in 1950 when you made The West Point Story and you had a big parade down State Street in Chicago with a company of cadets from a local military academy with uniforms like West Point uniforms?” He nodded affirmatively. “Well, I was one of those cadets,” I proudly exclaimed.

“And do you remember the radio interview (I still know some of you remember radio) you gave inside the lobby of the Oriental Theatre with four cadets behind you?” Gordon again nodded yes. “Well, I was one of those cadets,” I even more proudly exclaimed.

To be Continued...

113 Congress Military Vets Update 01

When members of the House and Senate filed past the casket of Daniel Inouye as he lied in state in the Capitol Rotunda on 20 DEC, they were mourning more than the death of a dear friend and historic colleague. They also were grieving the passing of an era in which veterans of World War II dominated American politics. In 1963, when Inouye joined the Senate, more than half of his colleagues shared an important bond with him: The distinguishing fact of their lives had been their service in that war. But, with Inouye's passing this week at age 88, that era quietly comes close to its final moment. Inouye's death and the retirement of his Hawaii colleague, Sen. Daniel Akaka, means the Congress that takes office in January will have only three World War II veterans—one in the Senate and two in the House. The lone survivors are Democratic Sen. Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey, who turns 89 next month; Republican Rep. Ralph Hall, 89, of Texas; and 86-year-old Democratic Rep. John Dingell of Michigan. Lautenberg served in the Army Signal Corps from 1942 to 1946. Hall flew planes off aircraft carriers from 1942 to 1945. Dingell joined the Army when he turned 18 in 1944 and was in the invasion force poised to attack Japan when the war ended.

It would be difficult to overstate the influence of World War II veterans on governance through most of Inouye's remarkable 53-year Capitol Hill career, during which Hawaiians elected him twice to the House and nine times to the Senate. Numbers compiled for National Journal Daily by the National World War II Museum in New Orleans show that 697 veterans of the war were elected to Congress. Some, including Inouye and former Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas, continued to wield power even half a century after the end of the war. But, for most, their greatest decades of influence were the 1960s and 1970s. The Senate that Inouye entered when he moved over from the House was very much a veterans' chamber. He was but one of 69 veterans in that Senate, according to the Senate Historian's Office. A National Journal Daily analysis found that Inouye served with 25 senators who had fought decades earlier in World War I—and even with one, Arizona's Carl Hayden, whose service began eight years before America entered that war. Another 39, including Inouye, had fought in World War II.

Ten years later, by 1972, the number of World War I veterans in the Senate had dropped to eight, while the ranks of World War II vets had grown to 55. That war had an even stronger grip on Washington's politics than had the Civil War in the previous century. Every presidential election from 1952 to 1996 featured a World War II veteran heading one of the two tickets—from Dwight Eisenhower to Dole, over 12 elections. Eight presidents, from Eisenhower to George H.W. Bush, were in uniform during the war. (Jimmy Carter's was that of a midshipman at the Naval Academy.)

Few, of course, were as decorated for valor or left as much on the battlefield as Inouye did. As a member of an

Army regiment of Japanese-Americans, he led a singular charge on three machine-gun nests in Italy in 1945, was struck repeatedly by enemy bullets, and lost his right arm to a hand grenade. For his bravery, he was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the Distinguished Service Cross, which was later upgraded to the Medal of Honor. But Inouye rarely talked about his war service or record.

In that, he was typical of most of his fellows. Almost to a man, they believed that those days in combat put an emphasis on teamwork, not the individual. It was a philosophy that served Congress well for decades, but one much less apparent on today's Capitol Hill. With the presence of veterans shrinking, even the highly respected Inouye, the second longest serving senator in history, was in danger of being viewed as an anachronism in an increasingly partisan chamber.

The Senate that opens in JAN will have the fewest veterans since the Senate Historian started tracking them in the 79th Congress, 1945-47. The number of veterans in the body peaked at 81 in 1977 and never fell below 50 until 1997. But as the veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam age and retire, the decline has been rapid. The 113th Senate will include a record-low 18 veterans. Veterans' shrinking influence was also evident in the 2012 presidential race. The Barack Obama-Joe Biden and Mitt Romney-Paul Ryan tickets included no veterans, the first time that has happened since 1932. Critics have also suggested that the vanishing number of veterans in politics has affected the way members approach issues and their willingness to work with others. Certainly, the mind-set is different from that of earlier generations, in which military service was either expected or—because of the draft—feared. No American born after 1952 has ever been subject to a military draft, and 30 of the 80 male members of the incoming Senate were born in 1953 or later. Combined with the 20 women in the Senate, that means fully half of the senators never had to worry about being drafted and were never exposed to the lessons of military cohesion, teamwork, and selflessness championed by Inouye, Dole, and other vets. They are lessons that might be recalled as Inouye lied in the Rotunda, resting upon the catafalque first constructed in 1865 for Abraham Lincoln. Inouye is the 31st person to be granted that honor, but only the seventh to be honored solely for his Senate service. [Source: National Journal | George E. Condon | 20 Dec 2012 ++]



Inouye as a Lieutenant
in the U.S. Army

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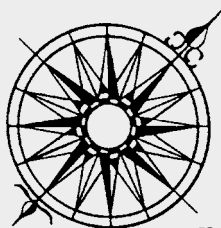
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