



CATHAY DISPATCH

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

MARCH 2021

VOL 12 - 03

HISTORY MATTERS!

By Commander Helen Wong

For those who are old enough to remember Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, this is the 30th anniversary of the military operation to reverse Iraq's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait. In January 1991, members from all five military branches joined a coalition to push out Saddam Hussein's forces from Kuwait. More than 2.2 million U.S. service members served during that era and an estimated 694,550 deployed to the Gulf according to the Veterans Administration (<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/30-years-desert-storm/>).

Back in August 1990, I was in my Army Reserve 347th General Hospital unit during our 2 week of ADT (active duty training) doing DEPMEDS (deployable medical systems) training at Camp Parks, California when the local and national press came out to interview our hospital commander. We were the

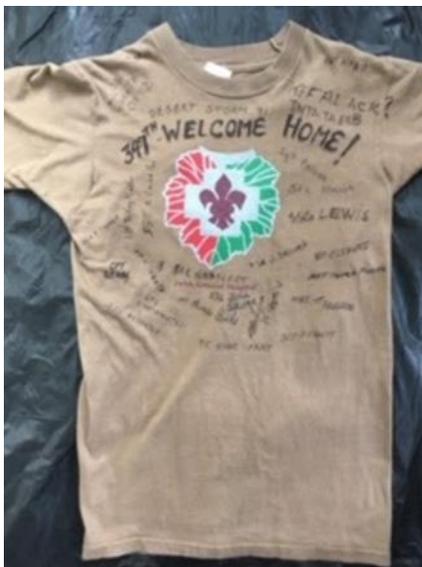
only medical unit in training on the West Coast during this time. He told us not to worry as we weren't going anywhere. Yet our unit wound up on the cover of Newsweek magazine besides being featured in all the local newspapers. He was wrong.

Operation Desert Shield had begun. In December 1990, half of our nursing, all logistics, and transportation personnel were called up and sent to Saudi. On January 16, 1991, Operation Desert Storm was launched when Saddam Hussein refused to follow U.N. Resolution 678 to withdraw his Iraqi forces from Kuwait by the January 15, 1991 deadline.

When the ground war started I knew I was going to be called up, as after all, Reservists train to go to war, and they would need therapists when the casualties started arriving
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August 1990-Maj. Casley & Maj. Wong setting up cots during DEPMEDS training.



March 1991-autographs of 347th members who came back from Saudi to McChord Air Force Base



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FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMANDER HELEN WONG

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back from the theater of war. It was something we always told our enlisted personnel when doing their SQT (Skills Qualification Training) classes during weekend drills.

In the history of the 347th General Hospital which was formed and activated during WWI, they had never been called back to active duty until now. The other 25% of us received a call from our Unit on a Wednesday ("Do you want the good news or bad first? Bad news you're getting called up. Good news is we don't know where you're going. It could be stateside, England, Germany, or Saudi.")

By Saturday we were on the plane to Ft. Sam Houston where we were processed and got our "green cards" for active duty for up to a year. So, most of us were sent all over the country stateside, and I was assigned to Ft. Lewis, WA, Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC) where I had last been on active duty.

When my 347th members returned from Saudi in March, 1991 as the ground war was over and the troops were sent home, I was still on active duty and met my members at McChord Air Force Base next to MAMC. They were very surprised to see me there as they didn't know I had been called to active duty! As I was sent there to backfill the MAMC regular staff, I stayed until July 1991, and the Chief of Occupational Therapy was so grateful for my support, he wrote me up for an Army Commendation medal (which I felt I didn't deserve as I was doing my job as I was suppose to!).

My two children were glad to have me return as back in those days, we didn't have cell phones to stay in touch. Yellow ribbon was tied around the tree up front of the house. Everyone was playing the Lee Greenwood song "God Bless the USA" that became the anthem for Operation Desert Storm though when it came out in 1984, it was only moderately successful.

There are lines that are a specific thank you for those who served "And I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died, who gave that right to me." Duty, country, honor!

Our Adjutant Ernie Stanton also has his experiences he wanted to share with our members when asked about his memories from 30 years ago.

"Yep, just a few weeks ago sometime last month I was running on the air station here & it hit me that it was 30 (!) years ago January that we got activated so here are a few memories of the time:

I was with HQ Btry 1st Bn 14th Marines on Treasure Island in SF. We were essentially the Marine Corps Reserve's "west coast" artillery bn.

When Iraq invaded Kuwait in July, I had just reported to a maintenance management class at Little Creek, VA. A few days later, I remember seeing Marines of the 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade drawing their weapons at the armory, as they were getting ready to board ship and head over.

In January we were activated to backfill Marine artillery units at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

As the Bn Supply Officer, I went advanced party with just a few other Marines. I'll always remember as we processed in at the big gym/fieldhouse mainside, several older retired Marines were also there for in-processing. In anticipation of extremely high casualties, the Marine Corps had activated hundreds of retired SNCO's, mostly to be eventually available for casualty calls throughout the U.S. Thankfully, between the air war and the "100 hours war," those immensely high casualty projections did not pan out.

Our HQ Btry backfilled a 10th Marines unit in Exercise Battle Griffin, held mostly above the Artic circle on the northern



flank of NATO in Norway, and starting, it turned out, just a few days before the "100 hour ground war." As the Bn supply officer, I stayed back at Lejeune to continue to compile equipment for us as it was anticipated that the unit could still possibly end up in the desert, either directly from Norway or after returning stateside. Of course by the time they got back, Kuwait had long been liberated and ground combat had already been ceased. My fellow California Marines were all proud of the Arctic Medals that they earned, but the handful of us who stayed back were even more proud NOT to have earned them.

At that time, nobody serving in the Marine Reserve had ever been part of an unit activation, so Desert Shield/Desert Storm were very important in preparing us for the future: lessons learned from those operations helped the Marine Reserve in effectively and efficiently activating units subsequent to 9/11, and, from that previous experience, almost all Reserve SNCO's understood the commitment readiness required for activation."



Post Adjutant, Ernie Stanton



National Vietnam War Veterans Day is celebrated on March 29th in the US and was recently made a recognized annual holiday in 2017 when it was signed into law by President Trump. March 29th is the day that the last of the troops were withdrawn from Vietnam in 1973.

the sacrifices of Vietnam veterans and their families and is part of a national effort to recognize the men and women who were denied a proper welcome upon returning home more than 40 years ago.

Vietnam Veterans Day commemorates

Vietnam Veterans Day honors U.S. Armed Forces personnel with active



NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY
29 MARCH

I WANT YOU
to **JOIN THE NATION ...**
THANK A VIETNAM VETERAN!

U.S. Armed Forces personnel with active duty service between November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location of service.

vietnamwar50th.com




duty service between November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975 regardless of location of service which includes:

- Nine million Americans serving during that time
- 6.4 million Americans living today
- 2.7 million U.S. service members who served in Vietnam
- 58,000 whose names are memorialized on the black granite wall
- 304,000 who were wounded
- 1,253 Missing in Action (MIA) heroes who have not yet returned to American soil
- 2,500 Prisoners of War (POWs)

The commemoration makes no distinction between veterans who served in-country, in-theater, or were stationed elsewhere during those 20 years.

Personally, I now feel a sense of pride on being a veteran unlike the earlier days where one would not speak of it.

Hope to see everyone at our next zoom meeting or if restrictions are lifted, our next in-person meeting at the post and we will have lunch.

Please renew your membership dues for 2021!!!





HONORING OUR VETERANS

As you all know, Jeremy Lum did a superb job helping organize our Post building with fellow Scouts, and even made a before and after video. He received his Eagle Scout Award, as a result of this outstanding work.

Therefore, our Post 384, nominated him to be National "Eagle Scout of the Year." The nomination, with all accompanying paperwork from Jeremy Lum was submitted recently by our Legion Post 384, to our CA Legion Office, to be submitted to the Na-

tional American Legion Office for consideration of Jeremy Lum for this "National American Legion Eagle Scout Award."

This prestigious National award is given to one Eagle Scout by the National American Legion annually, with a \$10,000 Scholarship to the recipient.

We are eagerly awaiting the determination for this past year, and hope Jeremy wins.



Well, this March, and I will 88 years old, and as a Rooster, you have all heard me "Crow" 'a lot. I am including a "Balance Sheet of Life", which was recently sent to me by Legionnaire Past Senior Commander, David Wong. I find it to be very insightful as to the "Balance of Life, and sent it to all my children. I hope you, my Fellow Legionnaires, will enjoy it as well.

BALANCE SHEET OF LIFE

- The most destructive habit Worry
- The greatest joy Giving
- The greatest loss Loss of Self-respect
- The most satisfying work Helping Others
- The ugliest personality trait Selfishness
- The greatest "shot in the arm"..... Encouragement
- The greatest problem to overcome Fear
- The most effective sleeping pill Peace of Mind
- The most crippling failure disease Excuses
- The most powerful force in life Love
- The most dangerous act A Gossip
- The world's most incredible computer The Brain
- The worst thing to be without Hope
- The deadliest weapon The Tongue
- The two most power-filled words "I Can"
- The greatest asset Faith
- The most worthless emotion Self-pity
- he most beautiful attire Smile!
- The most prized possession Integrity
- The most powerful channel of communication Prayer
- The most contagious spirit Enthusiasm

LIFE ends, when you stop DREAMING.
HOPE ends, when you stop BELIEVING.
LOVE ends, when you stop CARING.
So, please share this BALANCE SHEET OF LIFE.
FRIENDSHIP ends when you stop SHARING.



WHAT'S NEW @ THE SFVA

This continues to be a very busy time for us as we see Spring just around the corner.

This week we welcomed our new Secretary, Denis McDonough, and continued our historic efforts to vaccinate as many Veterans and health care workers as possible. We saw the Super Bowl come and go last weekend with another Tom Brady win. Some may have also noticed the flag of the Space Force, the newest branch of the armed forces, in the nation's Color Guard during the pre-game ceremonies.

Here are some excerpts from VA Secretary McDonough's letter to the VA.

As I begin my tenure and join you in caring for our Nation's Veterans, I want to take a moment to reflect on our shared mission and the road ahead. First and foremost, I want to thank you for devoting yourself to this noble work.

The peace and freedom we enjoy as Americans have been secured by the sacrifices of generations of Veterans. Like you, I believe that it is a privilege and an honor for us to serve our Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors as well as they have served us.

Our highest priorities will be our three core responsibilities: providing all our Veterans timely, world-class health care; ensuring that they and their families have access to the benefits they have earned; and honoring our Veterans with a final resting place that is a lasting tribute to their service. Those are our core, non-negotiable duties.

In addition, we will do everything in our power to help our Veterans get through this pandemic; help them build civilian lives through education and jobs worthy of their skills and service; ensure that VA welcomes all Veterans, including women, Veterans of color and LGBTQ Veterans; work to eliminate Veterans' homeless-



ness and reduce suicide; and keep faith with their families and caregivers.

The peace and freedom we enjoy as Americans have been secured by the sacrifices of generations of Veterans. Like you, I believe that it is a privilege and honor for us to serve our Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors as well as they have served us. I also know that we can achieve our mission only by embracing the incredible diversity that defines our Veteran population and all of America, leveraging everyone's talents and passions. At a moment when our country must come together, caring for our Veterans and their families is a mission that unites us all.

VACCINE UPDATE

As far as where we are at with vaccination, I have this to report:

This week, the San Francisco VA Medical Center and our community-based outpatient clinic (CBOC) sites are now offering COVID-19 vaccines to VA-enrolled Veterans 65 years of age and older. We thank you for your patience in this process, as our vaccine operations and carefully thought-out priority tiers have fluctuated based on vaccine availability. We are eager to offer this vaccine to more patients and encourage them to make an appointment as soon as possible if they are eligible.

Over the past few weeks, we quickly and efficiently vaccinated over 3,800 Veterans, including those age 75 years and older, on hemodialysis, living in the Community Living Center, or considered at

highest risk due to severe immunosuppression. We have also stood up several mass vaccination clinics at the San Francisco VA Medical Center (SFVAMC), and rapidly deployed vaccines to our CBOC sites.

If you know Veterans age **65 years or older** who would like to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, please instruct them to call **415-750-2204** to schedule an appointment at the SFVA Vaccine Clinic.

As the process of vaccination moves forward, I did want to take this time to share with you a vaccine story in celebration of Black History Month. Yes, February was chosen to highlight the contributions of African Americans since it was the birth month of both abolitionists Civil Rights Father Frederick Douglass and US President Abraham Lincoln.

Inoculation was introduced to America by a slave named Onesimus, who came from Africa in the late 17th century after he was brought to Boston as a gift to a Minister named Mather. The Smallpox epidemic hit Boston in 1721 and Onesimus told Mather about the centuries old tradition of inoculation practiced in Africa. By extracting the material from an infected person and scratching into the skin of an
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Onesimus (Bostonian), late 1600's -1700's



...Continued from page 5

uninfected person, you could introduce Smallpox to the healthy person making them immune. Initially, 240 people were inoculated and only 2% died compared with the 15% who were not inoculated and contracted Smallpox. This helped set the stage for vaccination and an effective vaccine was developed in 1796. The knowledge Onesimus passed on saved

hundreds of lives and led to the eventual eradication of Smallpox.

This was great news for us then and even now. Maybe we can learn from this and by doing so, we can finally eradicate COVID -19. We are on our way to doing just that. We recently marked the issuance of our One Millionth vaccine dose.

As I'm writing this article and looking out-

side at the wet, gray skies, I can safely say that Spring is not in the air – not yet it isn't. It's not too far away, however. So here's my homage to all that Spring is and brings. Having said that, don't forget to set your clock ahead one hour. It's time to spring ahead and lose that one hour of extra sleep.



SPRINGTIME IS HERE

Springtime is here dressed in green
Bordered with dandelions, gold and serene
High in the tree top, a red robin sings
Happy for springtime is here

A tall, stately lily nods her white head
To daisy and buttercups asleep in bed
Wake up lazy daisy, the white lily said
Wake up springtime is here

A clump of sweet lilacs dressed in full bloom
Shedding a fragrance of richest perfume
The honeybee hums her own special tune
Happy for springtime is here

The sweet, little violets in their natural hue
Making a carpet covered with dew
For fairies who dance in pale morning light
And happy for springtime is here



WILL O' THE WISP

Little will o' the wisp
From where do you come
Out of the shadows
Or out of the sun
Do you fly over rainbows
On golden wings
Or measure the earth
With a silver string
Tell me so you stop and rest
In your busy wandering quest
Tell me will o' the wisp



PLANT LIFE

You take a tiny seed
Drop it in the ground
Wait around for several days
For something to be found

Then soon, a miracle at last
You see a tiny spear
And hover like a mother hen
To give it love and care



HONORING OUR VETERANS

The now infamous 100-Hours War – On February 28, 2021, we honor and celebrate the 30th anniversary of Operation Desert Storm, which followed in the aftermath of Operation Desert Shield. The ground War ends after 100 hours, thus, it is commonly referred to as the 100-Hours War, to distinguish it more precisely from its cousin, the current Desert Storm still being fought today in Iraq and Afghanistan. It should now be dubbed the 30-Years War on 28 February 2021. The problem with that is there already exists a 30 Years’ War.

Nearly 400 years ago, on May 23, 1618, the Thirty Years’ War started. It was a conflict fought in modern Germany and Central Europe from 1618 to 1648. Estimates of total military and civilian deaths range from 4.5 to 8 million, mostly from disease or starvation. In some areas of Germany, it has been suggested that up to 60% of the population died. Aren’t we supposed to learn from history, in order to prevent it from repeating itself? Yet, here we are thirty

years later in the middle of a fight on terrorism known simply as Desert Storm.

Please join me in honoring our Vietnam War Veterans on March 29, 2021 in celebration



SF Chronicle front pages: Mar. 20, 2003 (2nd Gulf War); Feb. 28, 1991 (First Gulf War); Feb 15, 1968 (Vietnam)

of National Vietnam War Veterans Day. I wanted to give a SHOUT out to our Vietnam Veterans on this auspicious day.

The holiday, officially known as National Vietnam War Veterans Day, was made official by President Trump through the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017” and encourages Americans to display the US flag in honor of Vietnam Veterans.

A similar holiday was previously observed on March 29, 2012, through a proclamation signed by then-President Obama. That year marked the start of a 13-year-long celebration honoring Vietnam War Veterans that runs through Veterans Day 2025.



DID YOU KNOW

NAPA is home to the largest and oldest Veterans Home in the US.

Founded in 1884 after the Civil War, CALVET Yountville is home to the oldest and largest Veterans home in the country.

I bring this up because I was accepted to be a resident there. That was before COVID-19. I was sort of dragging my feet, because of the shared bathroom situation. I would, however, have my own room.

Single rooms became the norm in Yountville following the tragic shooting in March 2018. Three women were dead by the hand of a combat veteran with PTSD. He was in a treatment program ran by Pathways, which leased the space there on campus. March 2021 marks the third anniversary of this tragic event.

CALVET Yountville also leases its 615-acre campus to many entities, which include the swanky Lincoln Theater, the Napa Valley

Museum, an Olympic-sized swimming pool, golf course and the popular Domaine Chandon Winery.

Income generated by leasing the property helps to maintain the cost of running the facility. Veterans are only required to pay 30% of their income. This means everyone pays something different.



Above: Veterans Home of California, Yountville—located in the heart of Napa Valley; Right: the exclusive French Laundry Restaurant sign and dining guests.

Additionally, the 137-year old facility houses a post office, radio station, auto shop and RV park. Unlike most veterans home in the US, married couples can take advantage of this awesome place and live in bungalows. What a beautiful and awesome space to live in. It is after all neighbors to one of the most expensive French restaurants in the bay area – the French Laundry. Bon Appetit!





OPERATION GRATITUDE

Officer Wilem Wong, New York Police Department (NYPD) and a member of the American Legion Lt. Kim Lau Post of New York, was a member of the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) as a Police Officer from 2001 to 2002.

Currently, he is the NYPD lead planner coordinating with Operation Gratitude (a non-profit organization based in Los Angeles, California), to assemble and distribute care pouches to approximately 30,000 NYPD officers.



These care packages are distributed to officers of NYPD of all ranks along with 9-1-1 Dispatchers that will culminate a week or so prior to the 20th anniversary of 9/11/2001.

When he was a SFPD Police Officer assigned to Bayview Station for a brief time, he cherished the learning experience he gained and the friendships he developed. In addition, as an Army veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, he remembered seeing Operation Gratitude's care packages given to troops deployed to those countries.

Here at home, Officer Wong's unit assembled and distributed over 2,700 care pouches to NYPD officers eight weeks ago in one of the patrol boroughs (Patrol Borough Queens North). The unit will follow up with distribution to another patrol borough in February until this effort has reached all eight patrol boroughs prior to the 20th anniversary.

He likes to extend this appreciation that Operation Gratitude has shown to the military, and NYPD to the officers of SFPD, San Francisco Fire

Department, and San Francisco Sheriff Department.

Operation Gratitude's mission is to build bridges and forge strong bonds between civilians and our military, veterans, and first responders through solidarity of service and gratitude. Especially during the pandemic, Operation Gratitude has recognized first responders and health care workers.

An Operation Gratitude's care pouch consists of varying personal care items such as but not limited to the following:

- Handwritten Letter of Appreciation (usually from 8 year old to college age students)
- Handmade Paracord Bracelet
- Starbucks Via Sticks Pikes Place
- 2 oz Hand Sanitizer
- Project Chemistry
- Liquid IV
- Jelly Bean Fun Size
- Dark Chocolate Nuts & Sea Salt Kind Bar, or Kind Bark 3.6 oz Dark Chocolate Almond / Sea Salt
- Hand Warmers (if applicable to the season)
- Udderly Smooth Body Cream 0.17 oz
- O'Keeffe's Lip Repair Stick



Of the above items, the most important of them all are the letters, notes, from the children to express their appreciation of what these special groups of servants of the public have done for our country.



Overall, Operation Gratitude demonstrates the appreciation that the American people have for first responders, military service members, and veterans. The care pouch is a small and simple gesture of appreciation but to the recipients, this gesture of care carries a far greater significance to those who are tasked to be on the front line to defend our citizenry and freedom.

On February 13, 2021, at the regular monthly membership meeting of American Legion Cathay Post 384, the members authorized representatives of our post to facilitate the implementation of Operation Gratitude here in San Francisco.

The Post members look forward to being of assistance to this special project and will do our best to promote this worthy endeavor. We express our gratitude to Officer Wilem Wong for heading this project.

Link to Operation Gratitude's website for more information on their history and personnel:

<https://www.operationgratitude.com>





ORATORICAL CONTEST 2021

On February 14, 2021, Valentine's Day, Legionnaires and support members of the eighth district embarked on a new adventure. The event didn't have anything to do with Valentine's Day other than the fact that the timing of the event was the same. The event I am referencing was the annual American Legion Eighth District Oratorical contest, due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, the contest was held virtually via Zoom web conference.

By one o'clock in the afternoon, the involved Legionnaires were already busy setting up logistics, the logistics that were tested during prior mock trials by the group. However, as we all knew and anticipated, Murphy's Law would undoubtedly rear its ugly head at the most inopportune time. Those Legionnaires who were tech savvy attempted to cover all potential mishaps with alternative plans. Those of us that lack or were limited with tech knowledge tried to stay out of the way of progress. The technology involved in setting up this contest is far more complicated than a normal Zoom meeting. We had three contestants that required being virtually isolated while being monitored by their Legion escort. The judges also needed to be isolated when they deliberated their results. Observers, parents, teachers, and time keepers were all placed in a separate portal where they could observe the contest. As you can see, this was not an easy task to accomplish, but accomplished it was. Everything seemed to be in persnickety order before the scheduled starting time of 2:00 PM.

As I've indicated above, there were three contestants. Each contestant was given the parameters of his oratorical subject (The Constitution of the United States) weeks prior to the contest so they could prepare an oration that must be between 8 to 10 minutes in length, points would be deducted if the oration fell short of 8 minutes or exceeded 10 minutes. Additionally, five topics, all preselected by the contest committee

from the various amendments, articles, and sections of The Constitution, were provided to the contestants to study and must be prepared to deliver a 3 to 5 minutes speech with only about 15 minutes notice on the actual topic chosen after the completion of the initial oration. Only students who are currently enrolled in high school are eligible to compete.

We had three outstanding young men who participated in this contest. All three attend Lowell High School and are members of the Lowell Nonpartisan Society (a debate club). Our first place finisher was Mr. Yi Yuan (Ben) Chen, a member of the JROTC program. He exhibited excellent poise and demonstrated his high level of knowledge and understanding of the subject matter during his presentation. The second place finisher was Mr. Denton Aingworth, also a member of the JROTC program. I recognized Mr. Aingworth from our previous two contest appearances. He has made consistent and notable improvements each time he competed. The third place finisher was Mr. Michael Broad who composed himself well and was very impressive.

Each contestant was virtually brought into the portal where he delivered his oration. It was gratifying to see these young people showcasing their public speaking talent, knowledge of The Constitution, and most importantly, their interpretation on elements of The Constitution as they brought forth historical facts to bolster their interpretation. Witnessing these young people's appetency to achieve brought back my faith in our youngsters who will be leaders of the future, and guardians of our Constitution.

Comrade Christopher McDonald from Post 1 was the technology guru of the group, and was responsible for setting up the logistics that enabled the contest to be conducted. Henry Rose, Commander of Post 1, Eduardo Ramirez, Commander



of Post 505, and Paul Cox, District 8 Adjutant, were judges of this contest and their perspicacious skills accorded each contestant a fair and impartial assessment. Most importantly, this entire event would not have taken place without the dedicated hard work of Denny Riley, Commander of Post 315. He relentlessly pursued and recruited contestants to participate in this contest and he organized the entire event with alacrity, and saw to it that all necessary tasks were taken care of. Helen Wong, Commander of Post 384, C J Reeves, Sergeant At Arms of Post 384, and Comrade Jason Chittavong assisted with keeping time and escorting the contestants. They contributed to the overall success of the event. On behalf of our district, thank you all for a job well done.

The district awards \$150 to the first place, \$100 to the 2nd place, and \$50 to the 3rd place finishers. The first-place finisher will represent the district at the Area 2 contest which will be held on the 21st of February at 1:00 PM at the Veterans' Building, 930 Ward Street, Martinez. The winner of the Area 2 event will be invited to participate in the American Legion Department of California Oratorical Contest scheduled for Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 1:00 PM at Clovis. Unfortunately, American Legion National Oratorical Committee has announced the cancellation of the 2021 National Oratorical Contest due to the pandemic. Mr. Ben Chen came in third place at the Area 2 contest and received an award of \$300.



UPDATE ON THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL FOR CHINESE AMERICAN WWII VETERANS- NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION

By Commander Helen Wong

Since the beginning of February when the Northern California committee consisting of representatives from the Chinese American Citizens Alliance which is the lead group (CACA's Davace Chin also is the POC), the American Legion (Helen Wong), Veterans of Foreign Wars (Nestor Tom & Ray Wong), Chinese American G.I. Project (Ron Chan & Monty Hom) started meeting with National President Melanie Chan to discuss the logistics to get the Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) to the living Bay Area veterans, it has been a challenge. The group had to determine from the list of 92 living veterans where they were living now, whether they were able to accept the medal in person, whether the next of kin or a contact person was going to be able to film/ record/ photograph him/her accepting it, and most importantly whether the list was still valid as several had passed away since the registration started 4 years ago. Cathay Post had 5 veterans who had not registered so those names needed to

be added on. Two other veterans were dual Legion/VFW members so they will be followed by Nestor Tom. The other situation was whether the medals could be shipped to the West Coast in time to present one to the veteran before he/she died as most are in their mid-90s to over 100 years old. Different parts of the country had already completed their ceremony but then again, they had fewer than 20 at

and develop a survey to answer some of those questions which were sent by email to the contacts who registered the veteran. In less than a week, 49 responses were received and unfortunately, 10 veterans had already passed away. With the pandemic limiting in-person visits with veterans who live in facilities, it has added another barrier but one that can be worked around. About 12 days into February, Lukas Bausler, an USF ROTC Cadet and a Legion Post 911 member from Lancaster, CA called to volunteer on any projects so was offered the opportunity to help with making calls, maybe doing the filming if needed. His team of cadets also agreed to help so the volunteer numbers have gotten larger to accomplish the mission. Currently, if the veteran has passed they go on a different list, and the next of kin will be notified when they will be getting the medal later as the living veterans have priority now. All will be invited to a formal regional ceremony in the future. Stay tuned in to see how the coordination efforts of all the groups are going!



Congressional Medal of Honor for Chinese American WWII Veterans obverse, and reverse sides

each site. Because California had the most Chinese Americans who entered service from the state, there were more registered here so it became a race of time before it was too late to give it in person. Ron Chan got the green light to go ahead

SFVA FORT 'MILEYSTONES'

By Sergeant at Arms CJ Reeves

- ◆ Huge milestone is one year of COVID-19 screening to the day
- ◆ Only 2 COVID-19 Inpatients
- ◆ ER treats 1,092 patients in the single month of JAN 2021
- ◆ Vaccinated 3,232 employees
- ◆ Vaccinated 6,215 veterans
- ◆ Distributed 600 RED goody bags to patients to celebrate National Salute Week
- ◆ Distributed 600 RED masks to employees for Spirit Day during National Salute Week





ABOUT BROOKE AND HER CAUSE



Cathay Post member Brooke Dawson

By Commander Helen Wong

Brooke Dawson has been a member of Cathay Post for about 5 years, and though has not been able to attend meetings, as on the weekends when she was healthy, she was helping her elderly parents in Chico. Commander Wong has known her personally through her other veterans' service organization when she was a VSO.

Brooke is a U.S. Navy veteran, who proudly served for 17 years. After service, she became a veterans' service representative, assisting hundreds of veterans to get VA benefits in their time of need. Now, in Brooke's time of need, the Veterans Administration is unable to provide her with the health care or funding she needs to fight her cancer.

During Brooke's active duty years, the service men and women with whom she served became her second family. She enjoyed the responsibilities and challenges of serving our country—Personnel, Training, Legal Liaison, Military Entrance Processing, Headquarters Administration, Family Support Services, Accommodations Management, Quality Management, Desert Shield/Storm (Gulf War I) deployment support, and UN Mil-

itary Observer in Africa. It was her honor to serve.

Yet on August 24, 2020, without forewarning, Brooke was diagnosed with an advanced case of fast-growing cancer with metastases. When Brooke got this news, she had been working as a veterans service representative for six years, advocating for service-connected and non-service-connected disabled veterans—including the homeless—and their surviving spouses and families, to help them receive all the benefits they had earned: educating them about their eligibility, gather evidence, interpret the law, file claims and appeals, or take advantage of state and county resources, changing lives. Work that Brooke loves!

Her oncologist indicated that her case required extensive chemotherapy and major surgery. If she did nothing, she could perish within a year. If she followed standard care, as offered through the VA, she would have less than a 40% chance of survival. Through independent research, she discovered that if she followed a different, cutting edge and customized approach, she would have close to a 70% chance of full remission.

The challenge she faces is time and funding. It's a race. The tumor growth is

so fast that it leaves only a short window in which to receive treatment to reverse it. The customized treatments are the most effective, yet out-of-pocket and therefore extremely costly. The condition and demands of treatment interfere with her ability to support herself and to serve fellow veterans.

It is her prayer and aspiration to reach more veterans and continue to offer them greater access to benefits. She is an invaluable resource for our veterans and will continue to be — if we can help her in time. A GoFundMe campaign has been organized to help her raise the funds she needs in her fight -- and she's a fighter -- so that she too can have the chance she has given so many other veterans.

Please follow this link (<https://gofund.me/784a3c99>) to the GoFundMe campaign organized by friends to help Brooke survive, regain good health, and continue to serve her fellow veterans and change their lives. Thank you for any donation you can make to Brooke's campaign, and may you have long life, happiness, and good health today and always!



ROGER'S THEORY OF LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE

Unless one does not believe that reports from our astronomers that the universe is really vast, we are told that as far as our telescopes can see, there are millions of stars that are ringed with millions of planets. Our solar system consists of our Sun and more than a dozen planets. In our solar system, at least one planet (Earth), is known to currently support life. It is most conceivable that other solar systems have planets like our Earth and like on Earth, single cell life, over millennia, evolved into multi-cell life and continuing change developed into primitive land creatures. After more millennia, the land creatures evolved into human like, bipeds stage.

In the biped stage, creatures developed tools to facilitate building things, including sharp tools that could be used to kill for food and then later used kill other bipeds. During these stages, a few creatures fought and killed other creatures for food or superiority.

Unfortunately as the biped developed, it developed more powerful tools (weapons) to dominate other bipeds, and that's how "wars" was invented.



In this critical stage of development, the development of creatures stagnated as constant conflict eventually destroyed the species.

However, in a few instances, the bipeds learned to bury the hatchet and practiced cooperation. This enabled the species to enter a more advanced stage of life. Having reached this very advanced stage successful-

ly, these creatures were able to develop science to a higher level, which then allow this group of bipeds to build vehicles for interstellar exploration. At this very advanced stage, when traveling through different parts of the universe, they noticed that in other solar systems, most biped species never developed passed the conflict stage and in their self destruction, never reached higher levels of development.

Traversing the universe, some of these advanced beings have approached Earth. Before landing to meet and greet Earthlings, their advanced computers, analyzing the communications and digital media of earthlings, observed that Earthlings had not made great progress, domination and conquest were the still the order of the day, and thus, the path to total self destruction was a just a matter of time. The visitors never landed and proceeded to explore other parts of the Universe.

COVID INEQUALITY

In a world of income equality, the wealthy suffer differently...

On 31 Jan 2021, only a few people in our world is imperfect. Even as most of us are masking up, keeping social distance and thoroughly washing our hands, some people have a slightly different experience. In most cases, they too are following the CDC guidelines, but the very wealthy's experience and degree of exposure during this pandemic is quite different. This is their situation.

Let's start with living compartments. If you live in a mansion, you automatically have more space (and more rooms to avoid others), so social distancing is achieved with little effort or stress. For the wealthy boat people, - a private yacht with just your family members keeps your family out of harm's way and you don't invite outsiders to your yacht, unless they have been inoculated and tested.

Traveling out of the neighborhood? Private jets offer even more 'safe distancing,' and keep out the riff-raff.

Your children can have hi-tech rooms de-

signed for them with wired h-tech desks, hi-tech lighting and plenty of electrical outlets. Special chairs designed to provide excellent back support and large tv screen to receive their lessons from professional education sources.

Household help does not have to be cancelled as their cleaning, cooking, and other food preparation chores at a different part of the house and the help never gets close to any family member. When the food is ready, the delicacies are brought out to the dining area, and dinner gong announces that food is ready, Come and get it. After everyone is finished eating, the family leaves to another room/location and the help returns to clean the area and remove the dishes for the dish washer.

Would be great and OK, if we were all wealthy.

Read more about this topic, see INEQUALITY at this link: <https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>

SURPRISE

Pandemic pounding job market, Re-Enlistments surge.

With the descent of the economy, and traditional job opportunities fading, the U.S. Army does not have a manpower problem. The fact is, re-enlistment rate has increased from 83% to 92%.

And this is not just an American experience, globally with economies (and jobs decimated, the military is one savior for people in the military. It is true in Europe (UK), in Asia (South Korea), in the West (Canada) and Australia. In Israel, while the numbers have not gone up, the troops are extending their tours.

Not everyone joining the military needs to be a warrior. The demand for cooks is up. All troops need to eat. Some things never change - no matter whose army.

Read more about this topic, see ARMY at this link: <https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>



SOLAR WINDS UPDATE

Suspected Russian Hacking more severe than initially assessed.

On Tuesday, February 23, 2021 senior technology executives advised the Senate that the suspected Russian cyber attack, called the Solar Winds cyber attack, was "likely wider, more complex and harder to trace than had previously known." Solar Winds is the data security company that distributes a software system called Orion that is used to manage computer networks, and Orion is used throughout our government and many American enterprises, including major corporations including Microsoft, Intel and Cisco.

At least nine (9) federal agencies and 100 private companies were penetrated, and more victims are being surfaced. Banks have been silent about the intrusion, but

the computer networks of banks also need network management software, so it is very likely that our banks and financial institutions have also been violated and valuable financial information stolen. If true, everyone who has money in banks and financial institutions should be concerned. To date, use of the pilfered data for negative reasons has not been detected.



Intelligence Committee Chairman Mark Warner warned that these successful hacks

are a national security matter, as gaining access to this vast amount of government and commercial data, is extremely dangerous in the control of any entity wanting to harm any major corporation or America.

It was suggested by several senators that a national data breach law. Private sectors were strongly encouraged to share more cyber threat information with the government. This Solar Wind Incident will be followed in future Cathay Dispatches.

Read more about this topic, see S-WINDS linked here:

<https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>



KNOW THE SIGNS OF A CRISIS: Recognizing red flags and knowing when to get help can make a difference in a veteran's life. Read more at: <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/education/signs-of-crisis>

If you feel you are in a crisis, whether or not you are thinking about killing yourself, please call. The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text. People have called for help with substance abuse, economic worries, relationship and family problems, sexual orientation, illness, getting over abuse, depression, mental and physical illness, and even loneliness.

CALL: Veterans and their loved ones can call **(800) 273-8255** and Press 1 to speak with a caring and qualified responder.

TEXT: Veterans and loved ones can also send a text message to **838255** to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, or call your local 24-hour mental health crisis line.

Veteran Combat Call Center - Combat vets and families can call any time 24/7/365: **1 (800) 927-8387** to speak with other combat vets and families about any issues from military experience to readjusting to civilian life.

CHAT ONLINE: Veterans Chat 24/7/365 Confidential Support is just a Click Away. If you're a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, responders at the Veterans Crisis Line online chat offer help that can make a difference. Caring, qualified VA professionals are standing by to provide free and confidential support: <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/chat>



ARE WE PREPARING FOR A WAR WITH CHINA?

This is a very sensitive, but very critical issue, but I will limit this discussion to several basic issues. This is the opinion of a veteran with 32 years of military experience, been a China specialist since 1972, and served during five conflicts.

First, regarding conflict and war. War is bad and really bad for the loser. Few people know that in many U.S. -China war games practiced in the Pentagon, we usually lose. China is on the other side of the world, and it is very expensive and complicated to fight a major competitor from a long distance.

Second, war is very costly, not only in the loss of precious lives (for both sides), but war is very costly and requires a huge amount of resources. In a war with a major, 4 million sq mi) challenger like China, the cost of a war will be exorbitant (at least billion\$, likely trillion\$) and countless lives lost. The Vietnam War (only 128,000 sq miles), was unsuccessfully expensive, \$1 trillion in 2021 dollars, and 58,000 lives.

Third, since victory is not guaranteed, a decision to go to war, must also address a bigger question, what if we lose?

...Continued: CHINA on pg. 15

IS IT TRUE THAT TARIFFS ON CHINESE GOODS BENEFIT AMERICANS?

This is a myth that adds to our anger of China and Chinese goods.

For many years, through multiple Administrations, the American public has been led to believe that trade tariffs benefit America, first, in taxes collected from foreign governments (including China), and second, that jobs would return to America. and our national security would be improved. We all wish that it is/was true.

These myths have been expounded by many officials, including presidents, but are not true. Neither China, nor other foreign governments, sends money to the US Treasury based on our foreign trade tariffs.

Here is what is really happening. The tariffs levied on imported Chinese (and other foreign goods), are first paid by our businesses that import all



foreign goods that are levied tariffs. This added expense, recovered by businesses with mark ups on these same goods purchased by Americans. Thus the American customers really are paying taxes for goods our government levies tariffs. The manufacturing jobs transferred to China are rarely returned, Unacknowledged, are millions of jobs are created to transport (port workers, truck drivers), process the millions of tons of merchandise (thousands of ...Continued: TARIFFS on pg. 15

RUSSIA: POOR VLADIMIR

Vladimir Putin appears to be having serious problems. In October, it was reported that Covid infections had reached 1.4 million cases and growing by 15,000 a day. The death toll was officially 24,000, but likely downplayed.

While Putin has weakened NATO, Moscow has not benefited in any measurable metric. American sanctions are still a major obstacle to Putin's economic progress. His oligarchs



are economically punished by our economic sanctions. His highest priority is to convince the White House to reduce these constraints as our sanctions is a major Putin headache. American sanctions are believed to have diminished the Russian GDP by 6% since the 2014 annexation of Crimea from ...Continued: RUSSIA on pg. 15

NO NUKE THREAT, BUT NORTH KOREAN THREAT IS NOW DIGITAL

N. Korean hacking with cryptocurrency attacks

Following up on our reporting on North Koreans activities and problems. These days without a nuclear capability, probably a severe Covid problem, and admitted major economic failure, the North Koreans are waging an inexpensive campaign to fill their national treasury by hacking - a low cost, low risk effort.

"Between 2018 and 2020, the alleged hackers built at least nine cryptocurrency applications that purported to be trading software or digital wallets, all of which actually were malicious applications, prosecutors said."

These applications successfully entered a New York financial institution, stealing passwords and extorted accounts of \$11.8 million in cryptocurrency. However, the FBI did stop one operation and froze \$1.8 million cryptocurrency transaction in Los Angeles. The North Korean suspects have been identified and warrants issued, but their arrests are unlikely.

In one successfully effort, federal prosecutors froze and seized 280 cryptocurrency accounts used by North Korean operatives who had already taken more than a quarter billion dollars from global cryptocurrency companies.

These North Korean operations continue and even have joint Canadian operations that have even stolen from \$26 million from ATMs in India.

The FBI is very busy countering hackers from several foreign organizations affiliated with foreign intelligence organizations.

Our coverage of North Korean activities continues in future newsletters.

Read more about this topic, see N. KOREA at this link: <https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>



CHINA, continued from pg. 14

Certainly, unless our military superiority virtually guarantees victory, war should definitely be avoided. Losing a war with anyone is unacceptable. If we lose, will we become the United States of China?

Why do some people want to go to war with China?

The China hawks, concerned that China will continue to build their military until they are stronger than us, logically argue that we must militarily take on China while we believe we are much stronger. These hawks assume that with our powerful nuclear back up and our powerful Navy fleet (with a dozen aircraft carriers and 50 nuclear submarines) and strategic Air Force with long range bombers and long range missiles, that China is no match (at this time). The Hawks believe we must take action soon, while we believe we are stronger. While China may not be as powerful as America, it is not a powerless nation that will be easily bullied.

This discussion does not involve a nuclear war. China, a few years ago, according to the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, had around 300 nuclear weapons. Our inventory of around 4,000 nukes gives us nuclear superiority, so we can really destroy China, if we choose. In retaliation, if 10% (30) of her weapons struck America, life would change forever. No na-

tion is prepared to survive a nuclear winter, so we must not open the nuclear "genie," or risk the human race.

This is the problem. The Chinese are an economic and political opponent/challenger, but they are not challenging our military. Former Presidents, Whitehouse National Security Officers, Senior State Department officers,



national China scholars, and senior military officers have public endorsed a statement that China is now our enemy. Today, this is the reality: all major nations are focused on defeating Covid, an unrelenting kill-

er, which mutates as long as it survives. It will not die soon. No major nation has resources to spare for warfare. The most important mission for all major nations is to gain control of Covid, to save lives, and avoid devastation to our economies. In America, we are a nation that is politically polarized, and too many of our fellow Americans are domestic terrorists. This requires domestic focus of our national and state military resources.

Recognizing the challenges facing our nation, this is the wrong time to talk about conflict with anyone, especially a major nation like China?

Read more about this topic, see CHINA at this link: <https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>

TARIFFS, continued from pg. 14

workers have jobs to handle and process the huge amount of products imported from China). We must also realize that many products, including cars, have components that are totally, or partially, made in China. There are many invisible jobs involved.

Major companies, think of Costco, Walmart, would dramatically downsize, if goods, partially, or totally made in China, were no longer available.

Many major businesses have been silent, as our senior federal officials have declared China as a major threat to America, and some have even declared China as an existential threat to America.

On February 18, 2021, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, warned that a cold war with China would have "serious consequences for U.S. businesses." The Chamber estimates that the cost just to our airline industry would be as much as \$51 billion annually, and around 200,000 airline jobs would be lost.

Regarding the semi-conductor industry, there is forecasted that the lost of semi-conductor business of at least \$83 billion, and also the loss of 124,000 jobs.

Regarding our threats to decouple with China, the Chamber warns that "If not staged properly, could have very damaging impacts for U.S. businesses."

Many people have not realized, but in the past few decades, the world has been very interconnected and globalized, and no country can be totally independent and self sufficient, unless it spends a lot of money, effort, and time to restructure a nation. It is doubtful that any nation can become totally independent. To become totally independent, would require to have access to vast amounts of natural resources and a large, healthy labor force and an educated work force that has jobs. That nation would also need to be wealthy and not burdened with a significant amount of national debt.

Read more about this topic, see TARIFFS at this link: <https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>

RUSSIA, continued from pg. 14

Ukraine. The ruble has lost 20% of it value in 2020. Heavily dependent on the price of oil and gas, plunging oil prices and the

price war with Saudi Arabia has severely damaged the Russian economy.

Earlier in June 2020, Russian changed its constitution to allow Putin to rule for two more 10 year terms, and allows the Russian dictator more room to be more autocratic

and diminish the limited democracy in Russia.

In 2020 Russian interference with American election process was not as effective as in 2016. Always pragmatic, Putin has communicated with President Joe Biden and intimated his support to re-start the START talks. He referred to this resumption of negotiations to be "a very serious element of our potential collaboration in the future."



THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY

Facial Recognition technology does not care whether you are pretty, or pretty ugly, a clear image of your countenance is all that is required

It's 2021 fans, and now there are millions of cameras everywhere, usually for public security reasons. Additionally, many homes are now protected by camera, inside and outside homes. If you are not used to it yet, get use to it. Because of modern hi-res camera technology, our human faces are recorded constantly and almost everywhere. With the capability to capture facial images, facial recognition is a standard practice for private and government data base files. Is this good or bad?

When we can visually capture crimes in progress and there is good video, criminals cannot deny that they were not present at the crime scene. The actual criminal act is often captured. Hooray, life is tougher now, for many criminals, especially those not wearing face masks.

On January 6, 2021, when extremists/insurrectionists invaded our National Capital building, multiple cameras captured the

faces of hundreds of participants, and now we know who many of the perpetrators are,



and they are being prosecuted. Without a lot of videos covering many parts of the invasion of our capital, many suspects would never have identified or caught.

Thus, when facial recognition is used to catch criminals and insurgents, it serves a very good public purpose which no one denies. But having images of virtually everybody does introduce opportunities for abuse.

But like a lot of new technology, facial recognition can be used for good purposes, or be used for negative purposes.

Now, for anyone who has the new iPhone 12, or Samsom 21, face recognition replaces passwords, which is very handy, also security is better as duplicating ugly faces is very hard to do. Facial recognition at ATMs would be great too. The crooks will have to be a lot smarter to fake out facial recognition.

Interested in what China has done with facial recognition?

In China, facial recognition is used for many purposes, including the control of ethnic minorities (the Uighurs), deterring crime (recording and identifying criminals in action) and also shaming citizens who behave outside of normal standards - even some fairly innocuous behavior. The citizens photo

...Continued: RECOGNITION on pg. 17

HOW SOON WILL THE FIGHTER PILOT GO AWAY?

"The Fighter Jet Era Has Passed, Elon Musk to the USAF: Autonomous drones are the future," Rachel S Cohen, Air Force Magazine

In February 2020, at the AFA's annual Warfare Symposium, Elon Musk declared: "That the fighter jet era has passed."

What? No more fighter pilots in our Air Force? What's going to happen to our Air Force when we no longer have our combat flying heroes?

His statement was heard by our Air Force Chief of Staff, General David Goldfein, and caused a "rumble" among the audience dominated by Air Force officers and staff. Automating the role of a human pilot is a threat to the traditional Air Force as we know it.

Musk believes that drone technology has/

will develop to the point, that unmanned jets armed with missiles will dominate future military air combat. Maybe not today, but in a few years, manned jet fighters will not be able to compete against the smaller, more maneuverable and much less costly manned jet fighters. Maneuverability can be more important factor than speed in close combat. (We learned this in Vietnam!)

Costs will drive final decisions

Just comparing cost, an F-16 costs around \$35 million, the new F-35 costs around \$100 million. These types of complicated systems cost billions to develop and also require a decade of more expensive R&D, during which many test pilots are lost. The design



and construction of modern jet fighters also includes the very high cost of developing and testing the life support, ejection system, and other systems needed to support the human

...Continued: PILOT on pg. 17



...PILOT, continued from pg. 16

pilot. All these other human support systems also must be tested. In a modern jet fighter more than 50% of the space is needed for the pilot and his support systems.

The cost of an advanced combat drone is not clear at this time. But it is fair to assume that it will cost a lot less than our most modern fighter jets which includes a lot of systems and equipment to support the pilot. Depending on the amount of electronics needed, reconnaissance drones typically cost less than a million dollars.

Automating the role of a human pilot is a threat to the Air Force as we know it. In fact, once the number of Air Force pilots are drastically reduced, the entire culture of the Air Force will change dramatically. Maintenance personnel staffing will be drastically reduced. Today, much of our maintenance staffing are needed to maintain the life support systems needed for pilots. Once the need for most pilots goes away, the maintenance effort and staffing will shrink.

There also good reasons to presuppose that the crews needed to support our big jet tankers and jet transports will also eventually be dramatically reduced. Automating the advanced jet fighters like our F-22s and F-35s is much more complicated than maintaining the physically pilotless drones.

However, for the immediate future, the Air Force will still rely and depend on our well trained pilots. There will most likely be a lengthy transition phase where we will only partially automate our flying crews. Drones are already being used to reconnoiter and distract enemy radars.

But in the future world of drones, there will be new jobs for the specialists who will be needed to fly and maneuver our drones, often at great distances from their combat zones, and a good size technical staff to keep the drones maintained and flying. Drone operators controlling our fighters and bombers from long distances will be needed. There will be more technical skills required. These skillful technicians are already short staff. There is a lot of stress for drone operators who must review bomb damage videos and view the casualties caused by offensive drones.

Our electronic warfare staffs will need to be very competent to counter the drone capabilities of our opponents. The efficacy of our electronic combat capabilities will be crucial to our offensive effectiveness and our defensive effectiveness. Automatic systems will need more sophisticated electronic command and control, and our dominance in electronic warfare will be absolutely crucial for future air combat success. Every nation's offensive drones will be smaller, faster and maneuverable. Defense of advanced offensive drones will require more advance technology.

Today, the senior positions of the Air Force Command staff is comprised of Air Force pilots who may not be interested in automating our aircraft too quickly, but depending on the capabilities of our enemies, the increased pace of automating our air borne weapons could overcome their objections.

Elon Musk is right that pilots are going to be history, but may be not immediately. His forecast is not imminent, but the automation process is active and moving forward daily.

Both China and Russia have been developing their own drone systems, for defensive and offensive weapons, and their capabilities are challenging us to be more innovative and effective. America has no choice but to invest and encourage our innovators to proceed and develop the most advanced drone technology. The software development challenges may be more demanding than new hardware requirements.

Ironically, the entrance of offensive drone technology helps us solve a current, major Air Force problem. We currently short about 2,100 pilots based on current staffing requirements. Drone technology will reduce our need to maintain an inventory of 21,000 pilots to meet near term manning requirements.

Financially, the cost of maintaining and training combat pilots, and everything needed to support these personnel goes away, as does the high cost to develop future manned jet fighters when drone development goes to the next stage. Great job opportunity for anyone capable of developing advanced drone technology, especially electronics.

Read more about this topic, see *PILOT* linked here: <https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>



...RECOGNITION, continued from pg. 17

graphed behaving badly are publicly shamed for low standards of behavior. China uses shame to control public human behavior. Cameras have deterred citizens from spitting and urinating in public places. Foreigners who visited China before Mao died and visit today report that China is now a very clean country.

Now that Chinese facial recognition databases are very robust, personal safety and security for her citizens is a positive feature of modern Chinese society. Add in strict gun controls, and many visitors to China are very impressed that there is a lot less crime, and streets are safe in China, even at night. Most Chinese do not object to the invasion of their privacy as they are willing to give up some of their civil rights to live in an environment almost free of crime.

China also uses this technology to track foreigners. Passport images are used to open files on foreign officials so that their movements (and contacts) can be monitored. Intelligence officers under official cover operating in China will need to leave the embassy in disguise, or hidden in the back seat, or the trunk of a vehicle, to evade surveillance by Chinese security. Many activities will take place stealthily at night and in sanitized areas (rooms), perhaps out of city limits away from millions of cameras.

Read more about this topic, see *RECOGNITION* linked here: <https://www.sfcathaypost384.org/rc.html>





WHAT HAS OUR SERGEANT @ ARMS BEEN UP TO THIS PAST MONTH?

TOP ROW: CJ in a golf cart, CJ and Ray Wong pose for a photo op, CJ with a cart full from the Food Pantry; **MIDDLE ROW:** CJ Hi-Five on Salute to Veteran Patients Week! Valentine's Day at the VA; **BOTTOM ROW:** SGT@ARMS CJ getting into the Valentine's Day spirit, CJ's fork-attack, CJ showing off that cool dragon logo, CJ celebrating National Salute to Veteran Patients Week at the ER!



SOLUTIONS TO FEBRUARY'S PUZZLES

Did you solve everything?

CRYPTOGRAM SOLUTION

"The soldier is the Army. No Army is better than its soldiers. The soldier is also a citizen. In Fact, the highest obligation and privilege of citizenship is that of bearing arms for one's country."

- George S. Patton Jr.

T H E S O L D I E R I S T H E A R M Y . N O A R M Y I S
 Q W P E G S J H P A H E Q W P U A I Y N G U A I Y H E
 B E T T E R T H A N I T S S O L D I E R S . T H E S O L D I E R
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 - G E O R G E S . P A T T O N J R .
 K P G A K P E O U Q Q G N C A

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
U	Z	T	J	P	R	K	W	H	/	/	S	I	N	G	O	/	A	E	Q	B	M	/	/	Y	L

JUMBLE SOLUTION

Here are the unscrambled words - Did you get all of them correct?

TEISUJC
J U S T I C E

BERAV
B R A V E

FMLAIY
F A M I L Y

MORFEED
F R E E D O M

NIFERDS
F R I E N D S

INIGGV
G I V I N G

ORCYLCEOTM
M O T O R C Y C L E

THE A M E R I C A N L E G I O N





MARCH 2021



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH	1 	2 ALWMC MEETING 3:00 PM DIST 8 MEETING 4:00 PM	3 NAVY RESERVE BIRTHDAY	4 HUG A GI DAY	5 MARDI GRAS SEABEE BIRTHDAY	6
7 	8	9	10	11 	12 	13 POST MEETING 11:00 AM REMINDER: 1ST ROUND OFFICER NOMINATIONS [2ND ROUND & ELECTIONS IN APRIL] K9 VETERANS DAY
14 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS @ 02:00 [TURN CLOCKS FWD 1 HR]			17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18 	19 	
21 ROSIE THE RIVETER DAY			24	25 MEDAL OF HONOR DAY	26 	27 PASSOVER BEGINS
28 	29 NATIONAL VIETNAM VETERANS DAY	30	31 	CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: https://www.sfcathaypost384.org		



FUN FACT:

March 13, 1942: On this date, the US Army started using a different kind of soldier: dogs. This was called the War Dog Program, or K-9 Corps. In the fall of that same year, the Quartermaster Corps of the U.S. Army began training dogs for the NAVY, MARINES, and Coast Guard.