



“For God And Country”
FEBRUARY 2021 POST 3 NEWSLETTER



Meeting Schedule For February 2021 – March 2021

Organization	Location	Time	February	March
Legion Post 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7 PM	02/09/21	03/09/21
Auxiliary Unit 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	7 PM	02/09/21	03/09/21
SAL Squadron 3	Post 3 Office, 123 South 84th	7 PM	02/18/21	03/18/21
ALR Chapter 3	Denton Legion Club	6 PM	02/18/21	03/18/21
40 & 8 Voiture 103	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	7 PM	02/16/21	03/16/21
8 & 40 Salon 832	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	7 PM	02/16/21	03/16/21
Pitch Tournament	Risky's, 4648 Leighton	7 PM	Cancelled	Cancelled
Buddy Check	The Foundry, 211 N 14 th	7 PM	02/22/21	03/22/21
VA Coffeehaus	VA Clinic, 600 South 70 th	11 AM	Cancelled	Cancelled

Commander's Call



Legion Family All.....

There's a lot of reasons to look forward to spring this year: warmer weather, vaccines for COVID-19, getting outside and traveling to places that we have missed during the pandemic are just a few. We need a return to our former lives. In the meantime, we are left with all the commonsense tactics like wearing masks, social distancing and washing our hands a lot. None of these tactics are much fun, but we all have to do our part to keep our communities as safe from COVID as we can.

Speaking of COVID-19, I attended an out of town meeting a week ago and upon returning home heard that several of my friends tested positive for COVID. I immediately got tested (Test Nebraska) and I was positive as well. Mary and I are taking all the precautions and following all the guidelines. So far, no issues, but we miss seeing all our family and friends except online. Thank God for email and Zoom. We will be off quarantine on Jan. 24th if nothing new develops. Please say a prayer for those fighting this battle.

Post 3 continues to work hard to fulfill our responsibilities to veterans, members, and community. Our office volunteers are kept

busy keeping the paperwork flowing, answering members questions and processing applications for membership. By the way, if you have a little spare time on Tuesday and/or Thursday mornings we could use your help. While I'm on the volunteer subject, we need some help on several committees, such as Membership, County Government and Americanism.

Another pressing need is for some Post 3 members to step up and help us fill in the ranks of our Memorial Squad. It's easy to do and very rewarding. You will know that your efforts are appreciated. Contact me or our Post Adjutant Ed Schnabel for more information.

Our next Post meeting (Feb. 9th) is also our District 15 convention and it will be in person (Elks Lodge) and on Zoom. We tried Zoom meeting last month and I believe it worked very well. We had about triple the number of Zoom attendees as we had at the previous attempt and we are getting more proficient at it. Join us on Zoom or in person and help us be a better American Legion Post. Here is the link to the February meeting: <https://bit.ly/2Y0MIYI>.

Zoom meetings keep us all up to date on Post 3 and it's easy to participate and share your views.

As always, please ask a veteran to join Post 3. You'll be glad you did.

Respectfully,

Wade Graft

Post 3 Commander

402-770-9126

wamar4801@gmail.com

Adjutant's Report



Welcome to Winter, AGAIN

The Post 3 office is open on Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 to noon. If you need anything in way of support from me, please text me at 402-480-8542 and I will be glad to help you.

We now have 1222 paid members for 2021. To reach our 2021 goal we need another 205 members to renew.

As I write this message for February, I find that Post 3 and The American Legion as a whole, are all dealing with the same problem, **MEMBERSHIP**. The pandemic has caused a major problem with social distancing and many meeting locations limiting seating or closed totally. The Legion serves not only those dealing with VA issues, but also serves as a place for veterans to meet with their fellow veterans. It may be midsummer before we will be able to return to a more normal form of operation.

Membership: Again, this year, we are dealing with how to get the last 130 or so members who have not yet paid their 2021 to renew. If all 130 or so would pay their 2021 dues, that would still leave Post 3 seventy (75) plus members short of the 2021 goal of 1427. **WHY?** Because we must replace those who have gone on to the Post Everlasting. Currently My Legion.Org lists 59 members or past members who have died since July 1st, 2020.

One of the best ways to encourage renewals is to use Buddy Check. For those who are

willing to help, I have a listing of these members who have not yet paid their 2021 dues. If you would like to help, you could make a few phone calls or send an email to those who we have number or emails for. Give them a call for Buddy Check, just to say HI, ask if they are doing ok and if they need any help from the Legion. Then kindly remind them about renewing their membership with Post 3.

For those who still have not paid their 2021 Legion Dues, you should be receiving a third notice in the mail. If you have paid your dues, please just throw the notices away. Dues notices are sent out from the National Headquarters. With the COVID-19 lock down, there are a few renewals that do not reach National in time for them to be processed before they send out the next renewal notice.

If, by chance, you have paid and never received your 2021 membership card, then call the office. There have been a few mailings that have come back because of a bad address or the envelope was eaten by the postal machines to the point that I cannot tell who they were sent to. So do call if you are missing your 2021 membership card.

If you are receiving the monthly newsletter and know a member who does not get it, please drop us a note so we can add them to our email list. If you do not want to receive the newsletter, drop us a note with your phone number and an email address and we would be glad to remove it from our mailings.

Can **SPRING** be far off? Let us hope not. Thanks for your service.

Ed Schnabel

Adjutant



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Lincoln CBOC / VA News

Had our first meeting of the Lincoln Veteran Advisory Group for the new year. The new Lincoln Community-Based Outpatient Clinic is nearing completion, the group overseeing the build will be in Lincoln on Monday, February 1st to begin the process of moving into the new building. The VA now has possession of the building. Now they are working with the different clinics, doing walk throughs, to work out details as to how each clinic will run in their operations.

It will take about 90 days for the clinic staff to outfit the new clinic and move into their new spaces. They are still looking for the new CBOC to be operating by mid- to late-March 2021.

Work on landscaping and lighting around the building and driveway/parking lots is still in progress. The city is still working on 70th street, installing right-turn lanes and new traffic signals at 70th and L street entrance. Snow and cold temps have hampered work for a while.

The VA is still in a lock-down mode, they ask you to not to come to the Clinic unless you have an appointment, and not to come more than 30 minutes before your appointment.

Covid-19 vaccinations are now being given in the Auditorium. If you have not been called, you need to call your primary caregiver and request an appointment. You may enter using the North doors under the Auditorium.

NOTE: To receive a shot from the VA you must be enrolled in the VA Health Care System.

Call 404-828-5257 to check if you are enrolled and enroll if you are not currently enrolled to receive VA Health services.

They request that you use the VA Facebook or the VA web site to request an appointment. The VA will call you back to make the appointment with you. They have brought more staff on hand to handle these COVID-19 vaccination requests.

They are holding special events the weekend of 30-31 January to give 600 shots in Lincoln, Grand Island and Norfolk.

Baby Shower: Volunteer Services will be holding a Baby Shower for our female veterans this spring. They are looking at March 13th for the Omaha VA Hospital, giving out baskets to those who request them. Volunteer Services will get a list of requested items later this spring.

Remember, the VA will only be there for us if we use its services. If we do not use them, the government sees it as a service not needed and will cut funding for the Lincoln CBOC. The government funds each CBOC/hospital based on the number of veterans signed up for services in its service area.

Funding is based on foreseen needs, not current need, thus we need to talk with our fellow veterans to be sure they are enrolled in the VA system.

Again, it is the old story, use them or lose them.

Thanks for your service.

Ed Schnabel

Lincoln Veteran Advisory Group

Lincoln VA American Legion Representative

Post 3 ALR Commander's Remarks



Greetings Fellow Riders and All,

Well, the first month of 2021 is now in the history books. COVID remains a thing. Snow has hit the Lincoln area with a vengeance. And your American Legion Riders are making plans!

Our annual fund-raising activity is a poker run. If you are reading this, and are not a motorcyclist, you might be wondering, "What on God's green Earth is a poker run?" Well, I'll tell you. A poker run is an organized event in which participants, usually using motorcycles (but all types of vehicles are allowed at our poker runs), must visit five to seven checkpoints, drawing a playing card at each one. The object is to have the best poker hand at the end of the run. Having the best hand and winning is purely a matter of chance.

Poker runs usually require a fee to enter and some for each additional hand; in our poker run a small part of the fee goes to funding the prizes, while the rest goes to the event's charity recipient. Prizes, such as money, plaques, or merchandise donated by commercial sponsors of the event, are awarded for the best hand.

Typically, our poker run also awards prizes for second highest hand and lowest hand. We try to choose checkpoints that offer food or entertainment, at additional cost. Each participant is responsible to maintain the integrity of their hand during the run. Hands are usually written down. The only requirement is that riders arrive at the final

checkpoint by the time prizes are awarded, usually near the end of the day, typically at a party with food and refreshments. We have not yet selected our designated charity but rest assured that it will be in support of at least one of the American Legion Pillars.

We have selected May 22nd for our poker run, so add that to your calendar now. The route is under development but will begin with registration at Frontier Harley-Davidson on West O Street from 10am until noon and will end at the Denton Legion Club in Denton, Nebraska. We anticipate the route will cover 150-200 miles.

I personally invite all Legionnaires, whether on (or in) two, three, four (or more) wheels, to join us for some fun and camaraderie, while raising money to support the aims of The American Legion.

We successfully held our January meeting, including a great meal, both in-person at the Denton Legion Club and via Zoom, with 17 members present and an additional three via Zoom. We anticipate having both in-person and Zoom meetings for the foreseeable future.

Here's hoping for some good riding weather, sooner rather than later!

**Until next time,
Ride (or Drive) Safe!**

**Bruce Gubser
Chapter 3 ALR Commander**

Message From The Chaplain



Edmund Burke, an 18th century American conservative essayist, once penned: “for evil to triumph good men must do nothing.”

Is that really true? I mean: if humans are so good, then how do they fall victim to evil’s allure? If humans are bent to do Godly things, then why does evil triumph over virtue?

I know, I know: why pester you with church questions when you went to church this past weekend, or attended a Bible study this week? Maybe...because...Satan KNOWS that you sort of become off guard with everyday events in a way that takes you out of the loop of spiritual awareness (Matthew 26:41).

If you want to do your victory lap—or your happy dance—you might need to take a hold of Paul’s exhortations about exactly how to be a warrior for Jesus and triumph over Satan and his horde (Ephesians 6:10-18). Evil is bad. No doubt about it. But in order to defeat evil, as that Ephesians passages dictates, you must not only know

God intimately, but accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, and profess your walk of faith at home, at work, in school, and at play.

How much longer are you, a disciple of Christ, willing to sit alongside the road of life while others do evangelism and preach the Gospel in your stead? What’s wrong with YOU being the arbiter of God’s love and fellowship among His greatest creation, humankind? Why can not God, your and my Heavenly Father, depend on YOU & me to do the work we’ve been called to do, particularly when we accepted Jesus’ incarnation, birth, life, death, and resurrection as told in Romans 10:9,10?

Batter up my fellow *Nebraska Legionnaires*. It’s time to lock-n-load so we may rock-n-roll on being the virtuous people in the heart of America we are. God expects it of us believers. Let’s give God our best while He continually provides and counsels us to do are best, without fear and trepidation (2 Timothy 1:7).

**Rev. Dr. William Jackson
ALP 3 Chaplain**

Post 3 Honor Guard



In January, the Post 3 Honor Guard rendered Honors at 11 Legion funerals and was asked to assist at 8 VFW funerals. They did not participate in any other community events.

JANUARY 2021 TAPS



LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	BRANCH	WAR ERA	YEARS
BAX	DONOVAN	USAF	KOREA	54
BETTENHAUSEN	DALE	ARMY	WWII	1
COOK	JAMES	ARMY	VIETNAM	37
GAST	ROLLAND	ARMY	KOREA	59
MCKITTERICK	ROBERT	USAF	VIETNAM	38
POLICKY	JOHN	NAVY	VIETNAM	51
THARNISH	ELMER	USAF	KOREA	60

Minutes Of Post 3 Meeting, 01/12/2021

The regular meeting of American Legion Post 3 was held at the Lincoln Elks Lodge #80 and also on ZOOM on January 12, 2021

Commander Wade Graft opened the January 12, 2021 meeting of American Legion Post 3 at 7:00 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 with 13 Legionnaires present. An additional 7 members joined on ZOOM during the course of the meeting.

William Jackson offered prayer.

The minutes of the December meeting were read and apparently accepted without objection.

Ed Schnabel gave the finance report for the month ending December 31, 2020, showing a balance on hand of \$41,820.14. The report was accepted and filed for review.

Ed Schnabel also reported that Post 3 membership stood at 1,196.

New Member Len Ostrowsky introduced himself and spoke briefly.

Veterans of the various war eras were asked to "wave" and be recognized.

Commander Graft announced that there are still some opening and committee chairs that need to be filled. Americanism. Law & Order. County Government. Children & Youth. Hospital Visitation.

Membership Chairman Jackson made some comments about making videos of Post 3 activities. He also went on to say that he thought the Salvation Army bell-ringing day went fairly well. He commented that it has long been a tradition that members of Post 3 ring bells on one day every season.

Gerry Wolf reported for the Memorial Squad. He indicated that the number of services

and events attended in 2020 was significantly reduced because of the pandemic.

It was announced that Voiture 103 was planning to meet next Tuesday at 7:00, but there would be no meal.

Bruce Gubser reported on the birthday card project for the senior living facilities. He said there were now 7 facilities in Lincoln participating with about 220 veterans affected.

Ed Schnabel reported briefly on Boys State, Girls State, and the Jr. Law Cadet program.

Steve Bartos tagged on to Ed's remarks about Boys State and reported that he had started the process of contacting the schools and former donors and would be following up with them. He explained that since we have so many schools, the selection process for us is much different than the way most small town posts do it.

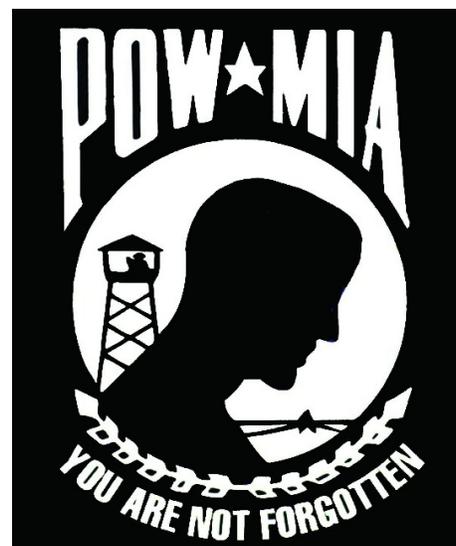
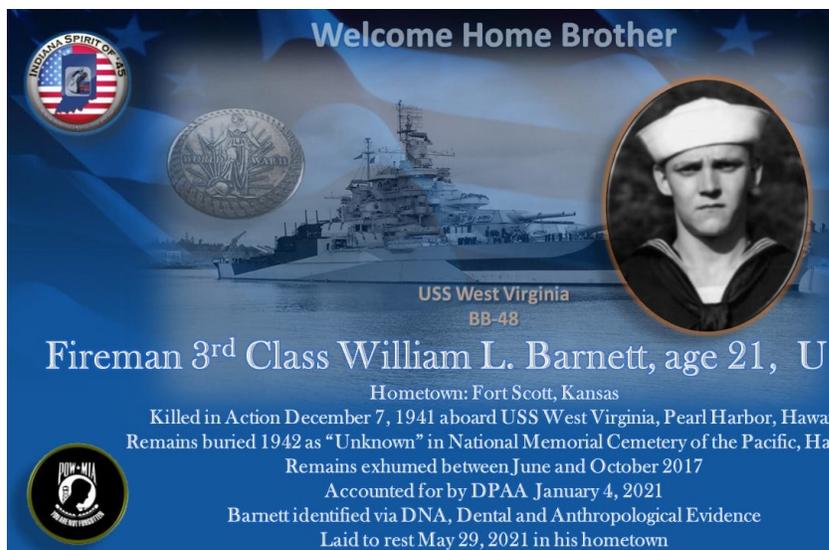
Bartos also made comments about membership. He reported that nationally, American Legion membership is down about 50,000 members from where it was one year ago. He said that we just must find a way to recruit some new members. He reported that Post 3 had just recently sent out about 70 letters to members of Post 500 asking them to renew their 2021 dues and transfer to Post 3 at the same time.

Wes Newton reported on POW / MIA issues. He indicated that the remains of 8 veterans had been identified in December.

Rev. Jackson read TAPS, and the meeting was closed in proper form at 7:40 PM.

Steve Bartos
Recorder

Sailor Returned Home After 80 Years



Our first POW/MIA Recovery of 2021 has been reported.

Today we WELCOME HOME a Brother killed aboard the USS West Virginia during the attack on Pearl Harbor, 7 Dec 1941, whose remains have now been accounted for by DPAA. He will be returning home to his family for burial, with full military honors, on May, 29, 2021. Rest Easy Brother, You may now stand down as we have taken the watch.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that Navy Fireman 3rd Class William L. Barnett, 21, of Fort Scott, Kansas, killed during World War II, has been accounted for.

On Dec. 7, 1941, Barnett was assigned to the battleship USS West Virginia, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft. The USS West Virginia sustained multiple torpedo hits, but timely counter-flooding measures taken by the crew prevented it from capsizing, and it came to rest on the shallow harbor floor. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 106 crewmen, including Barnett.

During efforts to salvage the USS West Virginia, Navy personnel recovered the remains of the deceased crewmen, representing at least 66 individuals. Those who could not be identified, including Barnett, were interred as unknowns at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu. From June through October 2017, DPAA, in cooperation with cemetery officials, disinterred 35 caskets, reported to be associated with the USS West Virginia from the Punchbowl and transferred the remains to the DPAA laboratory.

To identify Barnett's remains, scientists from DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used Y-chromosome DNA (Y-STR) analysis. Barnett's name is recorded on the Walls of the Missing at the Punchbowl, along with the others who are missing from WWII. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Barnett will be buried May 29, 2021 in his hometown.

Source:

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)

Pappy Boyington Receives the Medal of Honor



January 3rd, 1944 - WWII Marine Corps Fighter ACE Gregory "Pappy" Boyington was shot down over the South Pacific Island of Rabaul.

Pappy was a colorful character who's love of drinking, gambling, fighting and insubordination would make any "Terminal Lance" proud!

Boyington resigned his commission in the Marines to join the American Volunteer Group based out of Burma prior to America's involvement in WWII. Pappy became a leader with the Flying Tigers who were known for their distinguished shark teeth paint scheme on their P-40 Warhawks.

After gaining valuable combat experience, Pappy returned to the Marine Corps as a Major and became a leader with VMF-214 otherwise known as the Black Sheep Squadron. Prior to his ill fated flight, Pappy downed a total of 26 enemy aircraft flying in his F4U Corsair. Pappy tied an American record for most downed aircraft set by Captain Eddie Rickenbacker during WWI. Although Boyington's over all kills were higher, the aircraft that he downed during his time with the Flying Tigers is viewed as service outside of

the U.S military so they weren't counted in his official records.

Presumed KIA, Pappy was mourned and celebrated as a hero back in the U.S. where he was posthumously awarded both the Medal of Honor and the Navy Cross for heroism.

In actuality, Pappy was badly wounded but managed to bail out and parachute into the ocean. He survived being strafed by enemy fighters while he was in the water and then survived being picked up by a Japanese sub that was sunk 13 days later. As a POW, Pappy endured being tortured over a 20 month period before the war's end.

Upon his return, Pappy was awarded the Medal of Honor (in person) by President Truman at the White House. He retired a Colonel and was celebrated across the country in a series of ticker tape parades. The first of which was in New York City.

He passed away on January 11th 1988 after losing his battle with cancer. He is buried in Arlington Cemetery.

Semper Fidelis

Noriega - Old Partner, New Enemy



Historically, the US had a turbulent and colorful relationship with Noriega. He had been a longtime CIA associate but was also known for drug trafficking.

After the **Iran-Contra operation** was exposed, Noriega's utility to the US diminished.

As relations between the two countries deteriorated, Noriega went on the offensive, arresting Kurt Muse — a **CIA operative** who owned a publishing company in Panama — on espionage charges and threatening to execute him.

Noriega kept Muse in the **squalid and overcrowded** Modelo Prison. The prison was in downtown Panama City, close to the Comandancia, which was Panama's Pentagon, and within sight of US Southern Command headquarters.

To make matters worse, Noriega told Muse that he would be killed on the spot if there was a rescue attempt. To back up his threat, the Panamanian strongman ordered a guard be outside Muse's cell at all times,

tasked with killing the American in the event of a rescue operation.

On December 16, Panamanian troops **attacked** a civilian vehicle carrying four American officers going out for dinner, killing one and wounding another. Operation Acid Gambit was a go.

The intelligence for the operation wasn't the best, and the Delta planners had to rely on the reports of an American doctor who had been tending to Muse. From him, they learned where Muse was located and the general layout of the building.

The final plan was to land on the roof, breach the rooftop door, and descend two floors to reach Muse's cell. The assault force would then fly away on the Little Birds with their precious cargo.

Delta Force's 2 Troop, A Squadron, was given the task of rescuing Muse. Four MH-6 Little Bird helicopters from the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, **known as "the Night Stalkers,"** would land 23 Delta operators on the prison's roof.

(Noriega – Continued)

Lt. Col. Eldon Bargewell, a **legendary commando** and A Squadron's commanding officer, was the operation's overall commander.

In the months prior to the mission, the Delta operators practiced the mission multiple times. The assault force pre-staged at Howard Air Force base in Panama, which was only a short flight from the prison.

The operation would kick off 15 minutes prior to the main invasion to ensure surprise..

As the assault force approached Modelo Prison, two AC-130 Spectre gunships and several AH-6 Little Birds, which were the attack version of the MH-6, began pounding the Comandancia to draw attention away from the inbound rescuers.

The four MH-6 Little Birds put the assault force on top of the prison, but almost immediately Panamanians came streaming out of adjacent buildings and began shooting at them.

The Delta Force rescue element headed to the rooftop door while the security element provided cover fire, with snipers taking out guards on the nearby towers and assaulters with machine guns laying waste in the courtyard.

The breachers had prepared a powerful charge for the rooftop door, expecting it to be heavily fortified. But it proved to be an ordinary door, and the blast from the charge shook the whole building.

As the rescue team entered the prison, they encountered some resistance, killing two guards and cuffing another who was unarmed and offered no resistance, displaying the target discretion that Delta is known for even in the most chaotic situations.

At the cell, "the guys had to blow Kurt's door with another charge," a Delta veteran told Insider. "They told him to hide in his little bathroom area so he wouldn't be blown to pieces by the flying door."

Meanwhile, an operator who had roped down from the roof was hanging outside Muse's cell window to ensure that the guard who was supposed to kill Muse was neutralized, but that precaution ended up not being necessary.

Once inside the cell, the Delta operators gave Muse a helmet, body armor, and goggles for protection before heading back to the MH-6s.

Only six minutes had passed between when the Delta operators landed on the roof and the moment they called in the orbiting helicopters for extract — "six minutes that lasted an eternity," **wrote** Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the time.

An MH-6 Little Bird took off with Muse from the roof but immediately dropped straight to the ground because of the weight. The Night Stalker pilots managed to level the bird and "drive" down a street before landing in a graveyard.

(Noriega – Continued)

As the battered MH-6 tried to take off again, it came under withering enemy fire. One operator was hit in the chest and fell out of the chopper 20 feet to the ground, as did another one who tried to grab him.

The Little Bird crashed-landed, wounding the other two operators. One of them, Sgt. 1st Class James Sudderth, lost several toes when the chopper's skids trapped his foot, but Sudderth was able to lift the machine enough so he could escape.

The Night Stalker pilots and Muse, however, were unharmed.

The wounded operators set up a hasty defensive position in a nearby building and used an infrared strobe light to signal their location to aircraft overhead. A few minutes later, armored personnel carriers, carrying Delta operators and medics from the main invasion force, rescued them.

All the operators managed to recover from the crash and [deploy again](#).

"Despite his wounds, 'Conan' continued to serve in the Unit, even graduating from the Combat Diver school, hands down one of toughest special operations courses in the Army," a Delta operator who served with Sudderth told Insider, using Sudderth's nickname.

Nearby, one AH-6 was shot down around the Comandancia, but the Night Stalker pilots flying it managed to escape to safety.

Delta had participated in the failed rescue of Americans held hostage in Iran in 1980, which led to changes to the special-operations command structure and the creation of the Night Stalkers.

With Muse's successful rescue almost 10 years later, the ghosts of [Desert One](#) were laid to rest.

Stavros Atlamazoglou is a defense journalist specializing in special operations, a Hellenic Army veteran (National Service with the 575th Marine Battalion and Army HQ), and a Johns Hopkins University graduate.

Nebraska's Last Pearl Harbor Survivor Dies



Edward Guthrie was born during the flu pandemic of 1918, died during the COVID-19 pandemic and lived 102 years in between. His death Thursday, January 7, 2021, marked the end of an era.

The Omaha man was the state's last known eyewitness to the Dec. 7, 1941, raid of Pearl Harbor.

In 2016, he shared his memories of the attack that killed more than 2,400 Americans and brought the U.S. into World War II.

Guthrie, a 23-year-old electrician's mate 2nd class, was reading a comic book on the deck of the USS Whitney when the bombing began. He watched in disbelief as a Japanese pilot in a red scarf passed close enough to wave at him. "There were torpedo bombers coming down the chute right alongside of us, skimming over the water. They all wore those red scarves," Guthrie said at a fundraiser for junior ROTC cadets planning a trip to Pearl Harbor. "I could see this pilot, and he waved at me, and I waved back. My shipmates said, 'What did you do that for?' I said, 'As long as (the pilot) was waving, he wasn't bombing.'"

Guthrie's ship was a repair vessel berthed next to a line of destroyers and was not damaged in the attack. But he vividly recalled spending the next three days pulling bodies from the oil-soaked waters of the harbor. "All those white sailor suits and that black oil ... they didn't mix very well," he said. "It's something you don't forget."

In those days after the attack, Guthrie found an oily \$5 bill floating in the water. He picked up the bill and kept it in his wallet for 45 years before having it laminated and putting it with other mementos. In 2016,

Guthrie, wife Janet and several family members attended the annual memorial ceremony in Hawaii. "All the grandkids wanted me to go," he said at the time. "This will probably be the last time." Guthrie was a war hero, said daughter Peggy Murphy. "He was also a hero to our family," she said. "If anybody needed anything he was there — always."

For the duration of the war, Guthrie was reassigned to the USS Banner, and his ship headed for the Asiatic Pacific. In 1946, he witnessed atomic bomb tests in the South Pacific. Then he returned to Omaha, began a 34-year career with the Omaha Public Power District and met Janet. Together, they raised three kids.

Guthrie was always there to coach his children's sports teams. He also helped with Boy Scouts and took his children ice skating, sledding, camping and traveling. Janet and Ed were married for 72 years until Janet died of cancer in August. Murphy said her mom's death was very difficult on her dad. "When she passed away, he really missed her a lot, and he didn't want to be alone," she said. "I think it brought him peace in the end knowing he would be with her."

Her dad was healthy up to his last 28 hours, Murphy said. A private family service was held January 14, 2021.

LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR, 01/12/21

Army CIB Awarded To 98 Year-Old Bataan Survivor



Daniel Crowley poses in his uniform in this undated photo taken before he shipped out for the Philippines in 1940.

Almost eight decades after mounting the doomed defense of the Philippines against the Japanese invasion that began December 1941, Daniel Crowley, 98, was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge during a ceremony Monday, January 4, 2021, in Connecticut.

Crowley, who subsequently suffered years of brutal slave labor as a prisoner of war in the Philippines and Japan before his release at war's end in August 1945, also received the Prisoner of War Medal and a long-belated formal promotion to the rank of sergeant.

The Combat Infantryman Badge is awarded by the Army to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below who fought in active ground combat.

Crowley had long been irked by the U.S. Army's refusal to award the badge to provisional soldiers who fought on the Bataan Peninsula — a force that was vastly outnumbered and ill-equipped to repel the massive Japanese invasion.

Crowley was a member of the Provisional Army Air Corps Infantry Regiment while defending Bataan.

Maj. Gen. Edward King Jr. surrendered those troops on April 9, 1942, but Crowley and other soldiers and sailors refused to yield, swimming instead the treacherous three miles to Corregidor Island, where American and Philippine fighters of the 4th Marines Regimental Reserve fought until surrendering on May 6, 1942.

“It bothered me that I never got the badge that I should have had because it signified you were shooting back at the bastard who was trying to kill you,” Crowley told Stars and Stripes during a phone interview after the ceremony.

“You had a choice: You could shoot back at him — or her — or you could turn and hope you’d outrun the bullet,” Crowley said with a laugh.

As Allied forces moved closer to reclaiming the Philippines, Crowley and hundreds of other POWs were crammed aboard the infamous “hell ships” and transported to Japan.

There Crowley was forced to work in two separate copper mines, the last one 2,000 feet below the surface.

Investigation found that Crowley had been promoted to sergeant in October 1945, but he was never notified. He was honorably discharged in April 1946.

“I had no knowledge of it whatsoever,” Crowley said Monday.

Asked whether he thought it was strange to be informed of it 75 years after the fact, Crowley quipped, “Nothing is too strange in the Army.”

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Twitter: [@WyattWOlson](https://twitter.com/WyattWOlson)

Section "8", Or Mentally Unfit For Military Service



His tired face haggard and unshaven, and showing traces of the horror he has seen, Pfc Thomas W. Gilmore of Macon, Georgia, Company A, 121st Infantry Regiment, 8th Infantry Division poses for a picture during a lull in the fighting in the Hürtgenwald (Hurtgen Forest) on December 7, 1944.

Gilmore is holding a rather 'muddy' M1A1 Bazooka Anti-Tank Rocket Launcher.

The number of combat fatigue cases in American fighting units in World War II was staggering. More than 504,000 troops were lost due to “psychiatric collapse,” an early term for reaching the breaking point. That was the equivalent of nearly 50 infantry divisions lost to the war effort.

Far more men were rendered unfit for combat in World War II than in any previous war, primarily because the battles were longer and more sustained.

Some 40 percent of all the medical discharges in World War II were for psychiatric reasons, the so-called “Section 8s.” In one survey of combat veterans in the European Theater of Operations, fully 65 percent admitted to having at least one episode during combat in which they felt incapacitated and unable to perform because of extreme fear.

One out of every four casualties in World War II was attributed to combat fatigue, with more cases reported in the South Pacific than in Europe. On Okinawa alone, 26,000 psychiatric casualties were documented. Overall, 1,393,000 soldiers, sailors, and airmen were treated for combat fatigue in World War II.

Gilmore survived WW2 and returned to the US where he passed in 2007 at the age of 88.

Photo: U.S. Army Signal Corps

[Lawrence Wiseman](#)
[8th Infantry Division Veterans](#)

THE PRICE OF FREEDOM

American Revolution

(1775-1783)

4,435 Casualties

War of 1812

(1812-1815)

2,260 Casualties

World War I

(1917-1918)

116,516 Casualties

World War II

(1941-1945)

405,399 Casualties

Korean War

(1950-1953)

36,574 Casualties

Vietnam War

(1964-1975)

58,220 Casualties

Desert Shield/Desert Storm

(1990-1991)

383 Casualties

Enduring Freedom/Iraqi Freedom

(Oct 2001-)

6,775 Casualties

THE AMERICAN SOLDIER

THEN & NOW



1968 (ENLISTED)

- 22 years old
- 79% high school graduates
- < 1% female
- 21% minority
- 60% draftees
- 36% married
- SGT base pay = \$279/mo*
- SGLI coverage = \$10,000*
- 35 lbs of equipment (\$1,856)*
- Individual replacements
- 62% survival rate if wounded



2017 (ENLISTED)

- 28 years old
- > 99% high school graduates
- 13.2% female
- 40% minority
- 100% volunteers
- 54% married
- SGT base pay = \$2,431/mo
- SGLI coverage = \$400,000
- 75+ lbs of equipment (\$19,454)
- Unit rotations
- 88% survival rate if wounded



* Not adjusted for inflation.

Old Charley



Charley, a new retiree-greeter at Wal-Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10, 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, really tidy, clean-shaven, sharp-minded and a real credit to the company and obviously demonstrating their "Older Person Friendly" policies.

One day the boss called him into the office for a talk. "Charley, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a bang-up job when you finally get here, but your being late so often is quite bothersome."

"Yes sir, I know, and I am working on it."

"Well good, you are a team player. That's what I like to hear."

"Yes sir, I understand your concern and I'll try harder."

Seeming puzzled, the manager went on to comment, "It's odd though you're coming in late. I know you're retired from the Armed Forces. What did they say to you there if you showed up in the morning so late and so often?"

The old man looked down at the floor, then smiled. He chuckled quietly, then said with a grin,

"They usually saluted and said,

"Good morning General, can I get your coffee sir?"



"Who started th' rumor that I wuz playin' poker wid a beautiful nurse?"

**MY TIME IN UNIFORM
IS OVER**



**BUT MY WATCH NEVER ENDS
VETERAN**

AWO

Become a Member of The American Legion

Do you want to help your community and fellow Veterans by becoming a member of the American Legion? Would you want to help recruit a new member? If you can certify that you served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and were honorably discharged or are currently serving honorably, you are eligible. Complete the application below and send it with a check in the amount of \$46.00 to:

American Legion Post 3
123 South 84th Street, Suite L
Lincoln, Ne 68510

The American Legion Membership Application

(Name) (Date of Birth)

(Mailing Address) (Phone Number)

(City) (State) (Zip) (Post #)

(E-mail) Male Female (Gender) (Dues)

I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.
Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below

<input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army
<input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy
<input type="checkbox"/> Panama	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force
<input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines
<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard
<input type="checkbox"/> Korea	<input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (WWII only)
<input type="checkbox"/> WWII	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts	



30-009 _____
Signature of applicant Date Name of recruiter

To renew or transfer to Post 3, you only need to sign below and mail this and a check for \$46 made out to "American Legion Post 3" to the address listed above. If you have already renewed for 2021, and want to transfer to Post 3, only sign below and return the bottom portion to us.

YES! Please transfer my membership to Lincoln American Legion Post 3

Signature

Membership Number



**American Legion Post 3
123 South 84th St. Suite L
Lincoln, NE 68510
(402) 466-3958**

Post3legionlincoln@gmail.com

<https://lincolnpost3.org>

2020 - 2021 Post 3 Officers

Commander - Wade Graft – Cell: 402-770-9126

First Vice Commander – Gerry Wolf – Cell: 402-417-8230

Second Vice Commander – Bruce Gubser – Cell: 402-470-1700

Adjutant – Ed Schnabel – Cell: 402-480-8542

Chaplain – William Jackson – Cell: 402-613-9774

Post Service Officer – Ed Schnabel – Cell 402-480-8542

**Please submit any announcements or items for the monthly newsletter to the Adjutant for approval.
All requests must be received one week before the 1st of the month.**