



2nd Battalion 1st Infantry Chapter, Americal Division Veterans Association (ADVA)



WEBSITE: www.b-2-1-196lib.com

Volume 3

"A Soldier's Footsteps"

February 2013

Commander's Corner: On January 28th, one of our former comrade-in-arms was laid in his final resting place at Arlington National Cemetery. LTC (Ret) Gary Carder was a man greatly admired by all who knew him and he valiantly battled his illness until it finally got the best of him. There were 5 196th LIB veterans on hand to pay final respects to a revered, humble man who so bravely served his country, his family and his friends. It was a cold and rainy day in Arlington, VA which was apropos for the solemn mood we felt in Gary's passing. It was with great reverence, respect, and, in a small way, a feeling of relief of his suffering as everyone gathered at the most famous of all of our veteran's national shrines. Gary is now interred among the past warriors that have served their country so well and selflessly. In attendance, besides Gary's wonderful family and friends, were his former comrades Rich Heroux, Si Nerone, Lee Klein, Julius Deriscavage and myself. It is never a situation any of us look forward to but, it was an honor and privilege to be in attendance. Our best goes out to Gary's family and we want to thank them for their courtesy and acceptance of us throughout the weekend. Gary's ceremony may be viewed on the web at www.mattoxphotography.com/anc using the password gcarder.

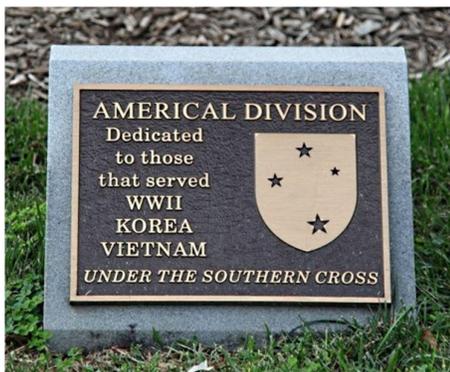
We want to welcome our newest member to the chapter; Frank Freeman (E). As always, we welcome any input you may have for our newsletter. Also, if any member has the inclination to help me get in gear and get some more done on the picture gallery and a new reunion gallery, please contact me. I can provide the basics to adding pictures and commentary using a skeleton web page and will review and publish the page on our site.

Chuck

Keep safe and may the bond of battle never be broken!

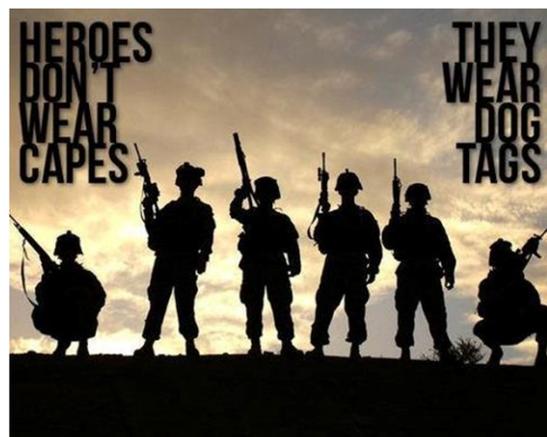
Editors Notes: Newsletters are uploaded to the 2nd Battalion Chapter ADVA Website. If you missed an issue or would like to look at one from the past look on the Website. The Web address is identified in the heading of the N/L. If you have anything relating to this N/L, email or write them to the following addresses; Email: rheroux1@nc.rr.com or Rich Heroux , 2005 Montgomery Road, Franklinton, NC 27525-7300.

Where do you think this picture was taken? Send me your answers.



Secretary/Treasurer Recovery: Don Hicks is recovering from a recent operation. He wants to send out to all a "Great Big Thank You" to all the members that sent him get well messages and phone calls. He really appreciates your thoughts and prayers. He is still having some difficulty focusing on any one thing for any given time. He asked that you demonstrate patience. If you find an error please let him know ASAP so it can be cleaned up. He has had difficulty since the Atlanta reunion. Continue to pray for his complete recovery.

Military Plays Security Support Role for Inauguration: Soldiers from around the nation provided security assistance to the Secret Service, the FBI, the National Park Police and other law enforcement agencies during the 2013 inauguration event here, Jan. 21. While hundreds of thousands of Americans crowd Washington, D.C., city streets this Martin Luther King Day to witness President Barack Obama's second swearing in as president, and then stay on to watch the inaugural parade, thousands of service members will be on the sidelines providing support to the lead federal agencies that have been tasked to provide security for the event. About 6,000 Army and Air National Guard members from 26 U.S. states and territories have come to the nation's capital to lend their support for the inauguration, said Air Force Maj. Shane E. Doucet, a spokesman with the D.C. National Guard Bureau. Doucet said that while some will participate in the ceremonial portion of the events -- they will march in the parade, for instance, to represent the National Guard or their state -- many will actually be on duty pulling security assistance in support of the Washington D.C. Many Guardsmen will first be deputized by the Washington, D.C., police department so they can act in a law enforcement capacity in the nation's capital, and will then be tasked to pull duty at traffic control points, or doing crowd control or guiding foot traffic. Other Guard members will bring their expertise in transportation, communications and medical and logistical support to the mix. While military members will not be the lead on any security details during the inauguration -- the Secret Service is running that effort, Guard members will show they can work as part of a team during the inauguration, and will bring with them the skills that many of them exercise back in their hometowns.



Navy Struggles to Meet Demands: "Not enough people, not enough parts, not enough training, not enough everything." Vice Adm. Thomas Copeman gave a blunt assessment Tuesday of the Navy surface fleet's state of readiness in the face of the indefinite heavy commitment of ships to the Persian Gulf and the new White House strategy calling for emphasis on the Pacific. "I'll tell you we're stretched thin," Copeman said of the 167 surface ships in the 288-ship Navy. "Op tempos have increased, resources have gone down," said Copeman, commander of Naval Surface Forces. And it's only going to get worse in the way of funding, with or without sequestration – the threat of massive defense budget cuts if Congress and the White House fail to reach a deal on debt and deficit reduction by March, Copeman said in a keynote address to the 25th annual conference of the Surface Navy Association in Crystal City, Va. "Despite the fact that we're pretty thinly resourced, we're doing the job" currently, but "resources are going to drop, they're going to drop significantly," Copeman said. The Navy's surface ship problem was illustrated Monday when four destroyers – the USS Higgins, Stockdale, Lawrence and Shoup – from the carrier Nimitz Strike Group left West Coast ports for a Pacific deployment without the Nimitz. The 37-year-old Nimitz was laid up with an "emergent maintenance problem." The Nimitz was to have replaced the carrier Eisenhower in the Persian Gulf in the spring to keep a two-carrier presence there, along with the carrier Stennis, against the Iranian threat. The Eisenhower returned to Norfolk, Va., before Christmas to have its flight deck resurfaced, and now will go back to the Gulf in late spring, leaving the Stennis to provide a one-carrier presence until then. The Stennis itself deployed four months early last August to meet the need for two carriers in the Fifth Fleet, headquartered in Bahrain. As budgets go down, and the missions for Navy ships go up, the problems with maintenance, supply and training will only multiply,

A Dog's Life: Mine Dogs Train to Save Lives: Staff Sgt. Allen, a mine-detection dog, searches a muddy gravel road with his nose low to the ground. "No, seek here!" commands Sgt. Brian Curd, a dog handler with the 49th Engineer Detachment (mine dogs), out of Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Allen's ears perk up as he runs to where his handler is pointing while he continues to search for the "mine" that Curd placed on the side of the road. He stops and alerts, a signal that Allen is trained to present if he finds something. Curd kneels down and inspects the find. The handlers use real explosive material that is commonly found in Afghanistan to train the mine dogs. Allen's nose has scored a direct hit and Curd produces a black rubber ball as a reward. Allen mauls the ball excited that his master is happy with his performance. The mine-detection dogs of the 49th Eng. Det. are trained to detect buried explosive substances, specifically those used in landmines. "My dogs originally came to Afghanistan in 2004, and their original mission was to find the mines on [Bagram Airfield]," said Capt. Jeffrey Vlietstra. The dogs go through a rigorous selection process designed by the Department of Defense at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. After selection, mine-detection dogs and their handlers begin their enlistment together from day one. After a five and a half month training course at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., the team reports to its first duty station. A Soldier will typically become a dog-handler through a three-year reenlistment, said Sgt. Garrett Grenier, also a mine-dog handler with the 49th Eng. Det. Grenier and his dog, Staff Sgt. Drake, share a close bond. "He's my buddy, we take care of each other,"

WWII Airman Recovered: The Defense POW/ Missing Personnel Office announced the identification of remains belonging to Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. William R. Parkinson, of Norfolk, Va. On May 7, 1944, Parkinson was a pilot of a B-24D Liberator that departed New Guinea on a bombing mission. Mechanical troubles delayed the aircraft's departure and it was unable to join the formation after takeoff. Neither the aircraft nor crew were seen again until 1973, when a Papua New Guinea Forest Department official reported a wartime aircraft in the mountains southeast of the city Lae.

Korean War 60th Anniversary: Planning continues to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the armistice signing that brought a tentative end to the Korean War, a brutal three-year conflict that resulted in almost 1,000 U.S. combat deaths and 3,000 woundings per month. The event will be held July 27, 2013, in Washington, D.C., according to the Defense Department's Korean War Commemoration Committee, and all Korean War veterans and their families and descendants are invited to help remember the sacrifice of all who served. The DOD committee is authorized to accept donations—all tax-deductible—to help offset the cost of the commemoration.



MoH Recipient: 'We Weren't Going to be Beat': The North Dakota oil-field worker who will become the nation's newest Medal of Honor recipient next month in Washington said quietly that it's not about him. "For me, this isn't for me, it's for all the great things the platoon and the troops did that day," retired Staff Sgt. Clint Romesha said at a news conference Wednesday in Minot. He served 12 years in the Army, including two deployments to Iraq and one to Afghanistan. Staff Sgt. Clinton L. Romesha's actions taken to repel an Oct. 3, 2009, attack by some 300 fighters against Combat Outpost Keating in eastern Afghanistan. Eight American soldiers were killed and two dozen others were wounded in the early morning, four-sided attack. Romesha, 31, was a section leader in B Troop, 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division. It was his heroism and gallantry during a 13-hour firefight in 2009 in northeast Afghanistan that led President Barack Obama to call him over Thanksgiving and tell him he had earned the nation's highest military honor. "I was a little star-struck," he said. "I can't remember the exact phrases.... He congratulated me and I thanked him." Romesha (ROE-muh-shay), 31, grew up in Lake City, Calif., a town of 100. He, his wife, Tammy, and their three children moved to Minot after he retired from the Army in 2011. He will receive the Medal of Honor from the president Feb. 11 in the White House. Romesha is only the fourth living soldier to receive the medal for duty in Iraq and Afghanistan; seven of the medals have been awarded posthumously.

Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five Years, will this matter?'

Soldiers' Mental Health Expert Takes Own Life:

Peter Linnerooth was skilled at staving off suicide among his fellow soldiers. But ultimately he couldn't do the same for himself. The former Minnesota State University psychology instructor and Army psychologist took a gun and ended his life Jan. 2 in his Mankato apartment. He was 42. In a tragically ironic way, his death served to corroborate his personal mission: Getting the word out that too many in the military were suffering mightily from combat stress, not enough was being done to help them, and the caseloads for military mental-health specialists were overwhelming. "The Army has been criminally negligent," he told Time magazine in 2010. Linnerooth himself struggled with post-traumatic stress disorder, wrought by duty in Iraq several years ago that profoundly unsettled him. MSU colleague Jeff Buchanan said the change in Linnerooth was readily apparent upon his return from Iraq -- one facet of his personality in particular. "Pete was quite sure of himself before, but he was much more critical of himself afterward." Dan Houlihan, Linnerooth's graduate studies adviser at MSU, said paranoia gripped Linnerooth during his PTSD bouts, and he'd sit in his office compulsively running papers through a shredder. "He got to where he didn't trust anybody," Houlihan said. "Man, what a waste. It's a huge shame." Linnerooth was born in Minneapolis and graduated from a Rochester high school in 1988. He was an assistant professor at MSU in 2008 and 2009 before going to California, then Nevada, to work with returning soldiers, especially those with PTSD, at Veterans Administration medical centers. Army medic Jedidiah Myers dubbed Linnerooth a "wizard" in reference to the lives he saved with his counseling.

Vet Awarded \$3.7M Over Poor PTSD Treatment:

A federal judge today awarded \$3.7 million to a Marine Corps veteran who sued the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs over poor treatment of his post-traumatic stress disorder at a Plains Township medical center. Senior U.S. District Judge James M. Munley made the ruling in favor of Stanley Laskowski III, 34, of Carbondale, and his wife, Marisol, following a civil non-jury trial before the judge in September. In his suit against veteran affairs filed in 2010, Laskowski claimed clinicians at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Plains Township did not properly treat his PTSD, prescribed him the wrong medications and did not immediately offer him psychotherapy. The young Marine Corps sergeant testified at the trial, telling of the violence he experienced during the United States war to liberate Iraq from Saddam Hussein. Because of the local center's poor treatment of his PTSD, his psychological condition deteriorated. Laskowski was represented by Scranton attorneys Daniel T. Brier and John B. Dempsey.

Stolen Valor Act /Other Bills Introduced:

The Stolen Valor Act, legislation that would make it a crime to knowingly benefit from lying about receiving a military valor medal, was introduced this week by Congressman Joe Heck (R-NV). The VFW has been very vocal and intimately involved in the stolen valor debate. The bill, **H.R. 253**, currently has 63 original cosponsors and was referred for consideration to the House Judiciary Committee, the same panel that approved Heck's bill last year. Violators would face a fine and up to one year imprisonment.

The only time the world beats a path to your door is when you're in the bathroom.

Military Leaders Warn Congress of 'Hollow Force':

The nation's top military leaders warned Congress in unusually stark terms that its failure to pass a 2013 defense budget - coupled with the threat of automatic budget cuts - has pushed the Pentagon to the brink of a crisis. They wrote in a joint letter to congressional leaders that the readiness of U.S. armed forces is at a "tipping point." The military leaders said that troops in combat and those who are being treated for wounds will get the funds needed. But the rest of the force will be severely compromised if the Pentagon has to continue operating on last year's budget. "We are on the brink of creating a hollow force," said the letter signed by the chiefs of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and National Guard, as well as the chairman and vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The Pentagon is facing two major money problems. First is the threat of drastic additional budget cuts if Congress and the Obama administration are unable to agree on debt-reduction measures by March. The second is Congress' failure thus far to pass a 2013 budget; that has left the Pentagon on a spending path based on its previous budget.

Military Budget Reduction Planning:

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta told reporters recently that, "the most immediate threat to our ability to achieve our mission is fiscal uncertainty: not knowing what our budget will be; not knowing if our budget will be drastically cut; and not knowing whether the strategy that we put in place can survive." DOD is moving ahead with its budget reduction planning, primarily because of the inability of Congress to pass a defense bill or deal with the looming threat of sequestration, which could add an additional half-trillion in defense cuts on top of the \$487 billion reduction already agreed to over the next 10 years. The budget reduction planning would reduce training for units not imminently deploying to Afghanistan and disrupt research and weapons modernization programs, among many other cuts. Federal civilian defense employees would also be hit with unpaid furloughs.

Tuskegee Airmen Honored Guests at Inaugural:

They sat in wheelchairs honored guests at President Barack Obama's second inaugural, attended to almost minute-by-minute by active duty members of the military. For these Tuskegee Airmen, members of the famed all-black unit of World War II and several years beyond, the tables surely turned. From the terrace of the Capitol, they watched an African-American president being sworn in for his second term. And they were cared for reverently by many whites in uniform, who more than six decades ago would have had no contact with these two dozen veterans now sitting with green Army blankets across their laps. Several of them said they were at Obama's first inaugural but were just as excited to attend his second. The tables certainly were turned for Homer Hogues, 85, who marched with his segregated unit in President Harry Truman's inaugural parade in 1949. The black troops were quartered in a hangar with little heat, while the white military marchers were in a barracks. "We couldn't do a lot of protesting at the time," said Hogues, a Dallas resident who was a mechanic with his unit working on P-47 Thunderbolt fighters. What would he have told Truman, the president who integrated the armed forces? "I would have asked him, 'Why did he put us in those hangars,'" said Hogues. As a civilian, Hogues tried to get a job as an airline mechanic but was told he only could work cleaning planes. He went to work instead in the metalworking industry. He looked forward to seeing Obama again at the Commander In Chief's inaugural ball.

Hundreds Rally in Support of 2nd Amendment: Waving signs and cheering loudly, hundreds of Second Amendment supporters gathered on the south lawn of the Alabama Capitol on Saturday to voice their opinions about gun control. Several speakers addressed the audience, explaining how proposed gun control legislation would restrict their rights. A recurring message of the day was that responsible gun owners should be left alone. "The current administration wants to control every aspect of our lives," Agriculture Commissioner John McMillan said to the crowd. "We need to use our state motto -- 'dare to defend our rights.'" Rallies at statehouses nationwide were organized by Eric Reed, an airline captain from the Houston area who in November started a group called "More Gun Control (equals) More Crime." Its Facebook page has been "liked" by more than 17,000 people, according to the Associated Press. The rallies were held days after President Barack Obama unveiled a sweeping package of federal gun-control proposals. As word of the "Guns Across America" effort spread across social media, Bianca and Stephen Burton of Birmingham decided to organize an event in Alabama. "We are overwhelmed with all the support," Bianca Burton said. "These are just genuine, good Alabama people who love their country." She said although the event was about supporting the Second Amendment, it also was an opportunity to counter misinformation on a national level. "The general consensus from most of the people out here is that it's a conspiracy to eliminate firearms because the coverage is one-sided," Sanders said. "We just want to get the facts out there." Michael Hart, who hosts a radio talk show out of Birmingham, served as emcee for the event, introducing each speaker while captivating the crowd. Those that oppose us are louder with their opinions, and they're entitled to them.

The Riderless Horse: One of the oldest and most evocative of military traditions is that of the riderless, caparisoned horse. The horse is the caisson wearing saddle with the boots reversed in rumps. This indicates prior will never ride. Tradition allows a soned horse to follow the casket at any Army Corps commissary officer in the rank above. Presidents nation, as Com-Chief, are accorded honor. Over the years millions have witnessed caissons bearing the flag draped caskets of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Herbert Hoover, Douglas MacArthur, John F. Kennedy, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Lyndon B. Johnson.. In each ceremony the caisson was followed by the caparisoned horse involved in the internment of each Unknown Soldier as well.



At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in 'pints' and who was drinking in 'quarts,' hence the phrase 'minding your 'P's and Q's'.

Veterans' Concerns Over The Affordable Care Act: I am covered by Tricare for Life after 30 years in the Coast Guard. What is going to happen to all of us retired folks under Obama care? Will we still have Tricare for Life, or will there be changes?

Many aspects of the Affordable Care Act, sometimes known as Obama care, have already taken effect. Under that new law, Medicare beneficiaries are still guaranteed their existing Medicare-covered benefits and can still choose their own doctors. The Affordable Care Act has zero impact on the Tricare portion of Tricare for Life, for the simple reason that Tricare is governed under a completely separate law. The Pentagon last year proposed to implement a modest annual enrollment fee for Tricare for Life beneficiaries of \$200 a year, but Congress rejected that proposal and does not seem inclined to revisit that issue. So the basic answer to your question: No one has a crystal ball into the infinite future, but at this point there is no evidence to indicate that there will be any reduction. Tags: [health care reform](#), [Tricare For Life](#)



Black Jack: The Caisson Platoon has been the home of the Army's oldest and most famous horse – "Black Jack," foaled January 19, 1947, and coming to Ft. Myer from Fort Reno, Oklahoma, on November 22nd, 1952. "Black Jack" had the honor of being named after general of the Armies John J. "Black Jack" Pershing. "Black Jack" was the last of the Quartermaster – issue horses branded with the Armies U.S. brand (on the left shoulder) and his Army serial number 2V56 (on the left side of his neck). "Black Jack" had taken part not only in funerals of Presidents John F. Kennedy, Herbert Hoover, Lyndon B. Johnson, and General Douglas MacArthur. but literally thousands of others in Arlington Cemetery during his 24 years of service with the Old Guard. "Black Jack" ended his dedicated, dignified military career on February 6, 1976, and is buried on the parade ground of Fort Myer's Summerall Field.

Free Tax Return Preparation for You by Volunteers: The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program offer free tax help for taxpayers who qualify. The VITA Program generally offers free tax help to people who make \$51,000 or less and need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals in local communities. They can inform taxpayers about special tax credits for which they may qualify such as Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, and Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled. VITA sites are located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls, and other convenient locations. [Find a VITA Site Near You:](#) There are thousands of VITA sites located across the country. You may find a site near you between January and April using the [VITA Locator Tool](#) or call 1-800-906-9887.

Ft. Bragg May Stop Using Goats for Trauma Training: On average, soldiers on Fort Bragg slaughter 300 goats a month for medical trauma training meant to help save lives in battle. Animal activists say the animals are shot, stabbed, bludgeoned and blown up to simulate the types of injuries soldiers face. For three decades, the activists have tried to end the practice. Their efforts appear to have finally paid off. The 2013 National Defense Authorization Act, signed into law this month, requires the Department of Defense to provide Congress with a strategy and detailed timeline by March for the replacement of animals for medical training. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, which applauds the move, said Fort Bragg training accounts for about a third of the animal deaths caused by the military each year. Government documents show that officials at Fort Bragg's Army Special Operations Command solicited up to 3,600 goats for use in training last year. The documents show that the command planned to use about 300 goats a month. Officials with the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School and Army Special Operations Command confirmed that they use animals for training but said they could not comment further.

Army Corporal Receives Awards After 70 Years: RALEIGH, N.C. -- When Army Cpl. George Hemphill returned to North Carolina from fighting in World War II, he tried to put the horrors of life as an infantryman behind him by not talking about what he had seen. That included not asking about the Purple Heart he had received and mailed home for safe-keeping. So imagine his confusion when he learned that a Florida man

chased 2000 at store in line of one it to its owner. man in had his and



had purchased his medal in an antique South Carolina store with the hope of returning it to him in a ceremony to honor his service. "I'm just flabbergasted," said Hemphill, 90, of Union Mills. "I don't know what to think. They're just going out of their way to give it back to me. I'm just grateful to them for all the work they're doing. And the expense, it's just something. I don't know how to describe it." Hemphill will get his Purple Heart in a ceremony Sunday afternoon at the Rutherfordton Community Center. Capt. Zachariah Fike of Burlington, Vt., who runs the nonprofit Purple Hearts Re-united, will present the award to Hemphill, along with a Bronze Star that Hemphill never knew the military had granted him.

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In-State Rates for Nonresident Vets Proposed: House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Jeff Miller (R-FL) and Ranking Member Mike Michaud (D-ME) introduced bipartisan legislation this week that would require schools to give in-state tuition rates to out-of-state veterans attending their schools on the GI Bill. H.R. 357 has the full support of the VFW and several other veterans' organizations. VFW Executive Director Bob Wallace said, "the VFW is proud that Chairman Miller and Ranking Member Michaud have taken a bold stance to ensure student-veterans attending public schools receive a reasonably-priced education at the public school of their choice, as we intended when the Post-9/11 GI Bill was passed."

Senate Introduces Vets Employment Bill: The Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) introduced VFW-supported legislation to extend and improve upon veterans' employment benefits included in the 2011 [VOW to Hire Heroes Act](#). The comprehensive employment package, [Putting Our Veterans Back to Work Act of 2013](#), or S.6, includes a key provision to extend the highly popular Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP), which offers one year of additional GI Bill-style education benefits to unemployed veterans between the ages of 35-60. VRAP is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2014. The VFW was a champion of the [VOW to Hire Heroes Act](#) in 2011, and has worked to ensure that veterans who wish to enroll in VRAP can succeed. The VFW also pushed for many of the additional reforms, which garnered bipartisan support in both the House and Senate, during the last Congress.

Women in Combat Ban Reversed: Secretary of Defense and Joint Chiefs Chairman reversed a longstanding policy that barred women from serving in frontline units and holding combat arms Military Occupational Specialties. According to DOD, the policy change could potentially open up 53,000 unit positions and 184,000 MOS positions to women by the January 2016 implementation date. The military services will be required to set the MOS standards and some specialties could still remain closed to women, but SECDEF must approve all exceptions. A determination whether women should be required to register with the Selective Service System will also be made. According to VFW National Commander John Hamilton, "there is no question that women have served, and will continue to serve, our nation in uniform with great valor and sacrifice. We fully recognize that not everyone volunteers for the combat arms career fields, but the VFW wishes all who apply much success in meeting the arduous physical and demanding performance standards."

Free Tax Return Preparation for You by Volunteers: Tax Counseling for the Elderly, TCE, program offers free tax help for all with priority assistance for older people, specializing in questions about pensions and retirement issues unique to seniors. IRS-certified volunteers who provide tax counseling are often retired individuals associated with non-profit organizations that receive grants from the IRS. TCE sites are operated by the AARP Foundation's Tax Aide Program. To locate the nearest TCE site or AARP Tax-Aide site between January and April use the [AARP Site Locator Tool](#) or call 888-227-7669.



AMERICA WAS FOUNDED BY TOUGH HELL-RAISERS.

Rugged citizens who evaded taxes, spoke strongly against tyranny, grew tobacco, brewed beer and spirits, and smuggled weapons. And it will be saved only by those same types of citizens.

AMERICAN VALOR :

BENGHAZI : The stunning part of this story is that Tyrone Woods and Glen Doherty killed 60 of the attacking force. Once the compound was overrun, the attackers were incensed to discover that just two men had inflicted so much death and destruction. Just think how much could have been accomplished if they had the support of their Commander-in-Chief. The news has been full of the attacks on our embassies throughout the Muslim world, and in particular, the deaths of Ambassador Chris Stevens and three others in Benghazi, Libya . However, apart from the shameful amount of disinformation willingly distributed by the Main Stream Media and the current administration, there's a little known story of incredible bravery, heroics, and courage that should be the top story of every news agency across the fruited plain.

So what actually happened at the U.S. embassy in Libya? We are learning more about this every day. Ambassador Stevens and Foreign Service officer Sean Smith, along with administrative staff, were working out of temporary quarters due to the fact that in the spring of 2011 during the so-called Arab Spring, the United States cut ties with then president Moammar Gadhafi. Our embassy was looted and ransacked, causing it to be unusable. It is still in a state of disrepair. Security for embassies and their personnel is to be provided by the host nation. Since Libya has gone through a civil war of sorts in the past 18 months, the current government is very unstable, and therefore, unreliable. A well-organized attack by radical Muslims was planned specifically targeting the temporary U.S. embassy building. The Libyan security force that was in place to protect our people deserted their post, or joined the attacking force. Either way, our people were in a real fix. And it should be noted that Ambassador Stevens had mentioned on more than one occasion to Secretary of State, "Hillary Clinton", that he was quite concerned for his personal safety and the welfare of his people. It is thought that Ambassador Stevens was on a Sh__ list.

A short distance from the American compound, two Americans were sleeping. They were in Libya as independent contractors working an assignment totally unrelated to our embassy. They also happened to be former Navy SEALs. When they heard the noise coming from the attack on our embassy, as you would expect from highly trained warriors, they ran to the fight. Apparently, they had no weapons, but seeing the Libyan guards dropping their guns in their haste in fleeing the scene, Tyrone Woods and Glen Doherty snatched up several of these discarded weapons and prepared to defend the American compound. Not knowing exactly what was taking place, the two SEALs set up a defensive perimeter. Unfortunately Ambassador Stevens was already gravely injured, and Foreign Service officer, Sean Smith, was dead. However, due to their quick action and suppressive fire, twenty administrative personnel in the embassy were able to escape to safety. Eventually, these two courageous men were overwhelmed by the sheer numbers brought against them, an enemy force numbering between 100 to 200 attackers which came in two waves. But the stunning part of the story is that Tyrone Woods and Glen Doherty killed 60 of the attacking force. Once the compound was overrun, the attackers were incensed to discover that just two men had inflicted so much death and destruction. As it became apparent to these selfless heroes, they were definitely going to lose their lives unless some reinforcements showed up in a hurry. As we know now, that was not to be. I'm fairly certain they knew they were going to die in this gun fight, but not before they took a whole lot of bad guys with them!

The Code; United States Navy SEAL:

- ***Loyalty to Country, Team and Teammate***
- ***Serve with Honor and Integrity On and Off the Battlefield***
- ***Ready to Lead, Ready to Follow, Never Quit***
- ***Take responsibility for your actions and the actions of your teammates***
- ***Excel as Warriors through Discipline and Innovation***
- ***Train for War, Fight to Win, Defeat our Nation's Enemies***
- ***Earn your Trident everyday***

Thank you, Tyrone and Glen. To the very last breath, you both lived up to the SEAL Code. You served all of us well. You were courageous in the face of certain death.

And Tyrone, even though you never got to hold your newborn son, he will grow up knowing the character and quality of his father, a man among men who sacrificed himself defending others. God bless America !

Dr. Charles R. Roots; Senior Pastor Former Staff Sergeant,
USMC Captain, U. S. Navy Chaplain Corps (Ret)

This should be read by all Americans.

THEY GAVE ALL THEY HAD TO GIVE.