

SACO VETERANS



WHAT THE HELL!

ISSUE NO. 5

FEBRUARY 1991

VICE ADMIRAL MILTON E. "MARY" MILES
Rear Duke & Perpetual Skipper

SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION



FOTO—CHARLES "SEA-GOING" MILES

LILLIAN R. "SLIM" GILROY
1990 Convention Hostess

GULF SHORES WAS POPULAR CHOICE FOR 36th ANNUAL CONVENTION

137 Enjoy Reunion On Alabama's Gulf Coast in September

The 36th annual SACO convention was held September 10-16, 1990 at the Quality Inn Beachside in Gulf Shores, AL. 137 attended the annual affair enjoying a week of leisure and relaxation. Again, many "first-timers" were welcomed to our group and hopefully are now "hooked" and will reappear at future gatherings. At least many expressed their delight in being a part of the reunion and look forward to Nashville in '91 as well as other forthcoming assemblies. This was a longer get-together with a "laid-back" theme. There were a couple of planned tours. Otherwise the time was yours to be spent as you liked - the hospitality room, as usual, a favorite spot for recall and memory sharing.

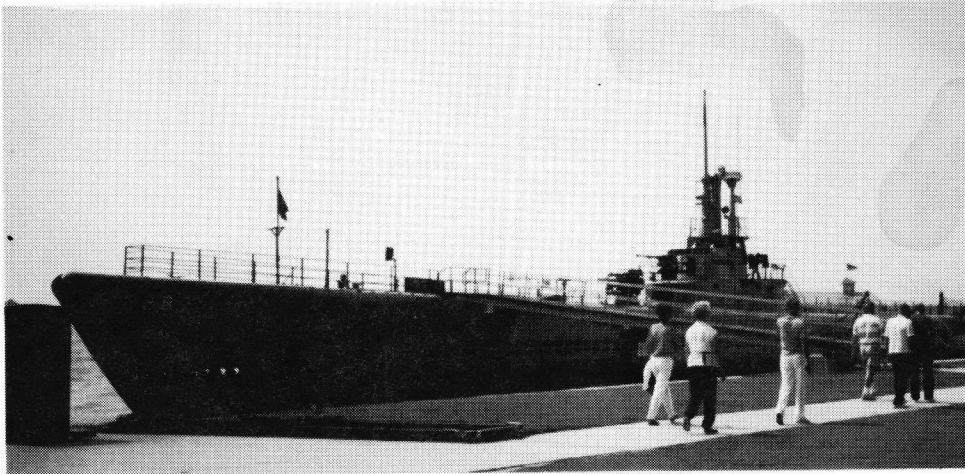
On Tuesday, September 11th, there was a visit to the new Naval Air Museum in Pensacola. Then, Thursday, the group visited the Battleship Alabama and the Bellingrath Gardens. A

enjoyable. Ed and Annabeth Carter - what a wonderful help they were in meeting planes and shuttling people back and forth from Pensacola. And working the registration desk requires

which caused us to cancel at a late date, they wasted no time to volunteer to replace us at Gulf Shores. Even though all of us were volunteers in SACO, seems as if we've never learned to know when we we're well off, huh? Seriously, there was no doubt the offer was sincere and we are deeply grateful for their work and I'm sure Slim was relieved to know that she didn't have to look for last minute replacements. Ed.)

Those attending the Gulf Shores Bash were as follows:

Dayton and Ruby ALVERSON
 Bill BARTEE
 Verne BENEDICT
 Willis and Mildred BLAIR
 Harold BONIN
 Bud and Ellen BOOTH
 Harry BRANDWEIN
 Wade BRIGHTBILL
 Jeff and Heather BRYSON (A)
 Frank and Evelyn BUCKLESS
 Leonard and Mary BURKE
 Ed and Annabeth CARTER



planned outdoor luncheon at the Econo Inn on the causeway was forced indoors because of rain. A cookout at the hotel set for Friday night turned out to be a "cook-in" for the same reason. But nothing can dampen the spirits of this group and the circumstances were accepted in stride. Also, on Friday, the members were treated to a slide show, thanks to Don Eck's son-in-law, new Associate Member Col. Ed Donohue. Ed shared his personal slides taken at the "Chungking Museum" showing the distorted and fabricated "truths" regarding the activities of SACO during WWII. Sincere appreciation is extended to Frank Tao, of the Coordinating Council for North American Affairs for his translation of the subjects displayed in that museum.

diligence and patience that I fear many of us lack. Many thanks to Herb and Kitty Eastman for their dedication in that task. Then, special recognition to Bernie and Hazel Nelson for sending Wisconsin cheese for the Hospitality Room even though they were unable to attend.

Festivities concluded with the Saturday night banquet highlighted by guest speaker Captain James Jones of the Pensacola Naval Air Station and the presentation of medals to those attending the first time.

Deep appreciation to Slim and her staff for a wonderful time - one of the best. Her sisters, Gene Gilroy and Dorothy Knapp, were a great help and SACO is grateful for their contribution to make this convention so



(Last, but certainly not least, Erma and I want to add a personal thanks in addition to all who were in attendance, to Paul and Martha Casamajor for hosting the Hospitality Room. During our crisis

Paul and Martha CASAMAJOR
 Salvatore and Marie CIACCIO
 Gerry and Mary COATS
 Stone and Helena COOPER
 Ralph COX
 Frank and Betty DEVLIN

Carl DIVELBISS
 Ed and Joann DONOHUE (A)
 Buck DORMER
 Herb and Kitty EASTMAN (A)
 Donald and Cecelia ECK
 Alex and Missy EDISS
 Sylvia ERWIN (A)
 Maj. Gen. FAN Chi-yao, (Ret.)
 Doc and Peg FELMLY
 Leonard and Dolores FINTAK
 Joseph and Mrs. FITZGERALD
 Irene GATS (A)
 Slim GILROY
 Gene GILROY
 Dot Gilroy KNAPP
 Ralph and Anna HANKINS
 Buren HANSEN
 George HARABIN
 Wayne and Fanny HATTERMAN
 Ed HAYES
 Vince HEALEY
 Bob and Loia HILL
 Lorne and Pearl HORNING
 Alexander and Jacqueline HUANG
 Lt. Gen. and Mrs. HUANG Shih-chung
 Will JAMES (Ret.)
 Jack and Elizabeth JONES
 Mayhew and Sara JONES (A)
 Larry and Georgia KARAS
 Jim KELLY
 Marlin and Peg LESHER
 W.H. and Helen MASSEY
 James and Jennie McDONOUGH
 Lloyd McMULLAN
 Charles MILES
 Billy MILES
 Robert and Mona MILLER
 Bill and Sissy MILLER
 Ralph and Rosemary MULLEN
 Jim and Jackie MURPHY
 Arthur and Rita OLSEN
 Charles and Marty PARKIN
 Jack and Beverly PETERSEN
 Michael POYDA (A)
 Fred PRATHER
 Robert PRESCOTT
 Guy PURVIS and friend
 Will and Pauline RICE
 Chester and Lillian ROLAK
 Howard SAMUELS
 Joseph and Louise SCARBOROUGH
 Henry and Laura SCURLOCK
 Charles and Laura SELLERS
 James and Marcella SPIGELMIRE
 Nancy TABOR
 Frank and Lilyan TAO (A)
 Will and Honora TOVREA (A)
 Julius and Helen ULANECK
 Louis and Gracie VAUGHN
 John and Frances WATERS

Marshall and Dee WATSON (A)
 Wes and Kathryn WESKAMP
 John WESTPHAL
 Art and Glenna WILDING
 Tony and Evelyn WOGAN

MEDAL AWARDS



Gen. Fan, Gen. Huang, Lorne Horning

MEDAL RECIPIENTS AT GULF SHORES CONVENTION

The SACO Medal only:

Lorne Horning

The SACO Medal and the
China War Memorial Medal:

Donald C. Eck
 Buren Hansen
 Edward L. Hayes
 Robert E. Key
 Jack L. Miller
 Jack M. Petersen
 Fred H. Prather
 Robert B. Prescott
 Julius W. Ulaneck

The China War Memorial
Medal only:

Dayton L. Alverson
 Verne R. Benedict
 Joseph F. Fitzgerald
 Vincent J. Healey
 John L. Jones
 Ralph E. Mullen

Both medals were awarded posthumously to Alfred C. Pratt and mailed to his widow.

Because the supply is exhausted, the China War Memorial Medal is no longer offered.

The SACO Medal is presented to SACO members during a ceremony at the annual convention.

GULF SHORES, AL SEPT. 1990

fotos courtesy

Lorne Horning



Hank/Laura Scurlock



Mrs. Donald Eck, Col. Ed Donohue, Don Eck, Robert Prescott



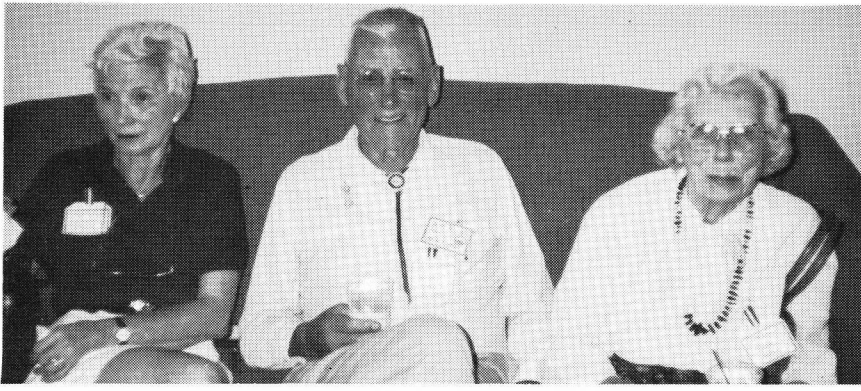
Will Rice, Billy Miles



Alex Huang, Gen./Mrs. Huang, Jacqueline Huang



Herb/Kitty Eastman



Sylvia Erwin, Mayhew/Sara Jones



Martha Casamajor, Marshall Watson



Sissy/Bill Miller



John Westphal, Laura/Charlie Sellers



Honora Tovrea, Jim/Jackie Murphy



Jack/Ann Milier



John Waters, Jack Petersen, Charlie Sellers



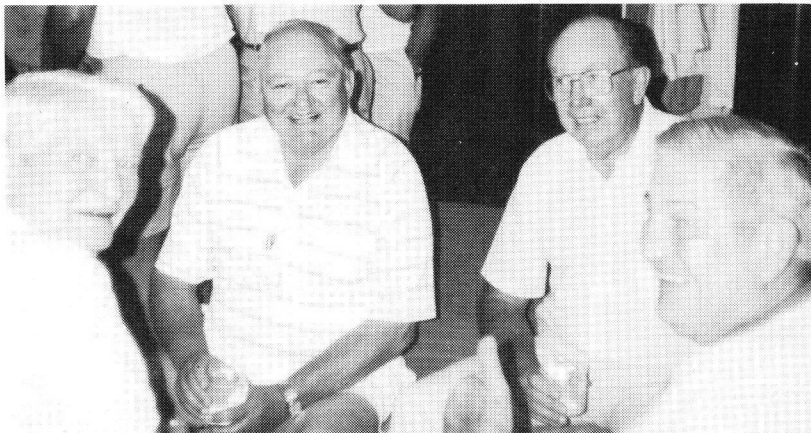
Frank Tao Gene Gilroy



Billy Miles



Martha/Paul Casamajor



Jim McDonough, Wade Brightbill, Leonard Burke.
George Harabin

EVER WONDER HOW THE
MONTHS WERE NAMED?



JANUARY: Comes from the Roman god Janus, who had two faces that looked in opposite directions. One looked back on the past (the old year) and the other looked forward to the future (the new year.)

FEBRUARY: Comes from the Latin word Februarius, meaning to purify. The Romans used to purify themselves in February for the festivities at the start of the new year in March.

MARCH: Honors Mars, the Roman god of war.

APRIL: Named for Aprilus, a Latin word meaning to open, probably because April is the month when most buds begin to open.

MAY: The origin is uncertain. One theory is that it was named after Maia, the Roman goddess of spring and growth.

JUNE: The origin is also unclear. One theory is that it was named after Juno, patron goddess of marriage. This might be the reason why June is a favorite month for weddings.

JULY: Named after Julius Caesar, who lived from 101 to 44 B.C.

AUGUST: Named after Augustus who lived from 63 B.C. to A.D. 14.

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, and DECEMBER: Taken from the Latin words for seven, eight, nine and ten because originally they were the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth months when the calendar started in March.

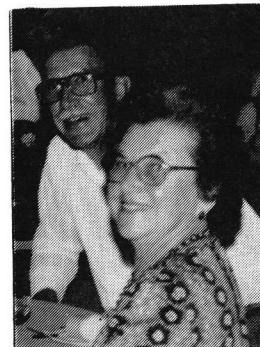
The calendar we use in the Western world is the Gregorian calendar, named after Pope Gregory XIII in 1582.

LETTERS & NOTES

"... Kitty had a knee replacement in January and has been recuperating all year (1990). Had a problem with diabetes and blood pressure while in the hospital after surgery; also a bladder infection - spent 2 weeks in 'rehab' learning to use crutches and a walker, but everything is clearing up and I'm almost back to normal.

"Ken has some 'balance' problems - dropped out of his choral groups - too hard to stand on the risers, etc. Still sings in church choir and walks his dog, bowls and does chores helping me. ...Looking forward to a better 1991."

(Ken & Kitty Sheaffer)



"Please accept my belated but sincere thanks for the copies of the latest SACO NEWS (May, 1990).

"Although I am retired from the active duty, I continue to work with the Bureau as a consultant. Generally speaking, I have a light workload. However, I still have to work hard sometimes. I think this would be good for a retired person.

"... The contents in Issue No. 4 of your publication are all very interesting. Those whose pictures are published are so happy. The newlyweds told me that they will keep their copies* as a special gift from SACO in celebration of their wedding ceremony. You have given such a meaningful gift...."

(Fan Chi-yao, Maj. Gen. ROC Army, Ret.)

* - Approx. 40 copies of Issue No. 4 were sent to Taiwan c/o Gen. Fan for distribution to all whose photos appeared in that issue.



"Thanks for the beautiful letter; have received so many from the outfits that he (Horace Glen Graham) belonged to.

"He hadn't been too well following 22 radium treatments last year...was having trouble walking and in the V.A. hospital about three weeks before passing away.

"...is it at all possible that I could still receive the SACO NEWS? We both enjoyed reading it. (No problem - Ed.)

"...I'm doing O.K.; have gone back to work. Tell all 'Hi' for me. I love you all."

(Luveda Collins Graham)



" Hope this finds you both in good health and have lots of activities as usual. We retired last June and are planning to visit Taiwan and China early next year (1991). In efforts to rent out our house before starting the trip."

(Pat & Sophia Chin)

(Retired Col. Pat Chin has been a dear friend of SACO since the first group went to Taiwan in 1972. He and Sophia have been residing in New York for many years. Ed.)



Letters and Notes:

"... My wife and I went to Taipei in March (1990) and came back to L.A. in June. All our children's families are in the States; it is very convenient for us to visit them and visa versa. That is the reason why we select Vancouver to live instead of Taipei.

"Vancouver is a beautiful city. It is not too cold in winter, but very cool in summer. However, it is not so sunny and lovely as in southern California. We love there very much.

"Our best regards, your friends."
(Maria & Joseph Ching)

(Note: Lt. Gen. Ching, before retirement, was the Chief Deputy of the Military Intelligence Bureau in Taipei under Lt. Gen. Chang Shih-chi and was the senior Chinese representative at the Seattle SACO convention in 1984. Ed.)



"... Sorry we missed Gulf Shores. 'Dar' had more surgery, but they finally solved the problem after eight years! He's doing great; gained 28 lbs. since July and his appetite is growing in leaps and bounds. We're really looking forward to this Christmas. Hope to see you at Nashville."

(Darvin & Virginia Anderegg)

"It's so nice to hear from you again, especially so because things worked out so well for Erma. You are very fortunate to have each other in good health for so long.

"For me, each year seems to tumble off the calendar faster than the one before, but I feel lucky not to have any more major problems through my first seventy years.

"My very best wishes to you and Erma.

(Bob Schumacher)

With reference to the group photo on page 16 of issue No. 4 of SACO NEWS (May, 1990): The #8 person's name in the photo is the late Harry W. Hinkle vice R.L. Hitson.

"Harry was my room-mate at the 'White House' and a life-long shipmate and friend. I regret to say both he and his wife Betsy died of cancer several years ago. Harry and I "liberated" SKIPPER, our English Bull mascot, from Lt. Stewart the night before he left for Camp 2. SKIPPER later died from a stomach ailment.

"I regret that I will not be able to attend the Gulf Shores reunion this September (1990). Regards and best wishes to all. Do keep me on the muster roll for future reunions. I will try to attend the next one."

(John M. Quesenberry - Lt. USN Ret.)

By now we hope that all is well there and we are looking forward to seeing you in Tennessee in '91."

(Buck & Ellie Dormer)



Letters and Notes:

"I have issues 3 and 4 of the SACO NEWS and understand that there is no issue #1. Was there an issue #2? If so, would you have a spare copy you could send to me? It would be very much appreciated.

"I would also be more than willing to send a check to help defray some of the expense of getting these issues out. I do enjoy hearing about former shipmates and some of the things they did in China and what they have been doing since."

(George A. Barrett)

(Yes, George, there was an issue #1, published back in the '50s. Issue #2 was published in October, 1988. You were on the mailing list at that time and presumably received one. We'll get you another, by photocopy if we have to. Since you are a good regular dues paying member we don't an extra check. Thanks for your support. Ed.)

"... Received your 'WHAT THE HELL' May 1990 issue #4 and I was determined to write you thereafter to commend you and, of course, I didn't. You are doing a fantastic job...Bill (Dr. William Lawler) would have been doubly pleased to see what you are continuing to do in SACO.

"Last year, on September 3, 1989, I married a retired Marine aviator, Edward Carmichael, and my life has been heaped with all kinds of goodies. He owns a small business designing navigational instruments for the military and government. He puts in 12-hour days, but hope to stop that foolishness next year...

"Thank you for continuing to send your newsletters to me. Right now I shall send Evelyn Buckless a check,*. Or, does marrying preclude, disqualify me? I hadn't thought of that.**"

(Vi Lawler Carmichael)

* Advised Vi that 'Missy' Ediss is now the ladies treasurer.

** Assured her that not only is she welcome in the fold, but perhaps we could enlist her husband as an Associate Member. - Ed.

"Just a note to tell you how much we enjoyed the SACO convention and to let you know how disappointed we were that you and Erma were unable to be there... Since this was my first convention with your group, I didn't know what to expect, but everything was great! Slim and her associates did a wonderful job. ...hopefully we will see you both in Nashville next year ('91).

"We look forward to each issue of the newsletter."

(Laura - Mrs. Charles Sellers)

"...Was unhappy not to have been able to take part in SACO's Gulfside beach party last September. Have, however, high hopes of making the next gathering of the tigers(?). Must add that you people have done a fine job of editing 'WHAT THE HELL' as has also the typesetter Paul Casamajor. ...Do take care, don't overdo and keep the spirits high! Cheers,"

(Tom Reiner)

Cont'd page 22



Day is done ... gone the sun ...
From the lakes, from the hills, from the skies,
All is well ... safely rest,
God is nigh.

It's a bugle call that easily evokes tears on Memorial Day and at other times when Americans formally honor their war dead... mournful notes that cause an upwelling of pride and emotion. The song is taps - and this is the story of how it came to be written.

By William L. Noyer

TAPS

The lonely bugle grieves and we think of Memorial Day, Veterans Day. Tiny American flags on seemingly endless rows of white crosses. Plaintive bugle notes that bring an involuntary lump to the throat.

TAPS

A reverent hush falls over the mourners gathered beside a freshly dug grave. Eyes moisten as an Army officer gently hands an American flag, carefully folded in a triangle, to the widow, then — “on behalf of a grateful nation” — renders a slow, final salute.

TAPS

And, if you have ever served in the Armed Forces, you can no doubt still hear the haunting notes rising to the stars and see the lights flickering out around the camp. An overwhelming sadness wells up as you think of family and loved ones far away.

Yes, of all the military bugle calls, none is more melodic or has such universal appeal as Taps. It is the one call that is used at all U.S. military burial services; it is always sounded, or blown, to mark the end of the “minute of silence” on Veterans Day. “It rolls down the curtains on the soldier’s day, and upon the soldier’s life,” the composer of Taps once said.

However, few of us know about the origin of Taps, or how it came to be one of America’s most inspiring pieces of military music. Strangely enough, the composer was not a musician, had no “formal knowledge of music nor of the technical names of any notes.” He composed Taps simply by ear. His name was Daniel Butterfield, a Union general in the Civil War.

Butterfield’s unit had taken part in a pitched battle at Gaines’ Mill, near Richmond, VA., on June 26, 1862. His men had begun to falter. However, in spite of a serious wound, Butterfield seized the Colors and rallied his men to hold their ground. (He later received the Medal of Honor for his bravery). This action allowed the Army of the

Potomac to withdraw safely to nearby Harrison's Landing.

The Army's morale was low, but sank even lower after President Lincoln arrived at headquarters and announced that "reinforcement was impossible." He advised his commander, Gen. McClellan, "to wait, to rest and to repair." Hopes for an early end to the war were fading.

An atmosphere of seriousness settled over the entire camp; there were no more cries of "On to Richmond!" The younger volunteers were homesick. Even the older men's thoughts turned to the anxious families they had left up north.

Butterfield must have sensed the mood. As night closed down over the Virginia hills, he began to turn over in his mind musical phrases which would express that strange quietude — the hush that hung over the army of tents where thousands of men slept while sentries kept watch. At last he settled upon a combination of sounds that he hoped would bring comfort and peace to the tired and troubled men.

The next morning, July 2, 1862, Butterfield called in his brigade bugler, Oliver W. Norton, and whistled his melody as the surprised bugler listened. After hearing Norton blow the call several times, Butterfield hummed and whistled some changes. Norton, who soon had the call down perfectly, wrote the seven notes on the back of an old envelope and played it near dusk that same evening.

As Norton later wrote, "The music

was beautiful on that still summer night, and was heard beyond the limits of the Butterfield Brigade as it echoed through the valleys. The next morning, buglers from other brigades came to visit and to inquire about the new Taps and learn how to sound it."

The effect was magical. It was soon being used throughout the Army of the Potomac.

A few days later, a soldier in Battery A of the 2nd U.S. Artillery died. Normally, he would have been honored by having his own squad fire three rifle volleys over his grave. However, the Army of the Potomac was surrounded. Fearing that rifle volleys might provoke new fighting by the rebels, Capt. John D. Tidball, the Battery A commander, told the bugler, "Just sound Taps." This was the first use of the call at a military funeral.

Taps followed Butterfield to his new commands: To Fort Monroe (the first military post to hear its mournful wail), to the Army of Northern Virginia, to the Army of Cumberland, to the Armies of the West (Chattanooga), to Gettysburg, and finally to Sherman's March to the Sea. It has been said that the Confederates also adopted Taps, using it at the burial of Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson in 1863.

Taps was officially adopted by the Army in 1874. By 1900 all U.S. military services were using Taps and France even adopted the American call during WWI.

At the end of World War I, Gen. John J. Pershing called in Hartley B.

Edwards, an American soldier, to sound the final Taps.

"It was eleven o'clock in the morning," Edwards later recalled. "I stalled a minute, and then I played it, still not knowing why. Then some Frenchmen came rushing in saying 'Finis la guerre' and I understood the armistice had been signed."

Edward's bugle, which may have cost the government \$5 in 1918 when he took it to war, is now in the Smithsonian Institution.

As for Butterfield, he was severely wounded at Gettysburg by the heavy cannonade that preceded Pickett's Charge, but he did not retire from active field service until he fell a victim to fever during Sherman's March to the Sea.

After his distinguished military career, Butterfield resigned from the Army in 1870 to serve in the Treasury Department under President Grant. Butterfield later became a prominent banker, shipper, real estate operator and merchant. When old age forced him to seek a less active life, he retired to "Cragside," his country home at Cold Spring, N.Y., overlooking the Hudson River. In the evening, he could hear the West Point bugler just across the river sound Taps.

Butterfield died in 1901 and was buried in the cemetery of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point with full military honors . . . and to that saddest song of all, his beloved Taps.

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A SACO PRAYER

As we reminisce our wartime events of yesteryear, we in SACO unite to ask God's protection & guidance of our men & women in the Persian Gulf War. May victory & home soon be a reality!

TAPS

AND

FAREWELL



WILLIAM SANFORD LASOR

Oct. 25, 1911 to Jan. 11, 1991

WILLIAM SANFORD LaSOR was born October 25, 1911 in Philadelphia, PA. Ordained in the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., he pastored a number of churches before serving as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Prior to coming to the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA, he served as Chairman of the Department and Professor of Religion at Lafayette College, Easton, PA.

Dr. LaSor served the Fuller Seminary as Professor of the Old Testament from 1949-1977; as Senior Professor Emeritus of the Old Testament for the past decade.

He held six earned degrees including a Ph.D. from Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Learning and a Th.D. from University of Southern California.

A prolific writer, LaSor authored 17 books, including works on the Dead Sea Scrolls, biblical personalities and handbooks of New Testament Greek and biblical Hebrew. LaSor, a world-renowned

Semiticist, had a working knowledge of 20 languages and was a world traveler.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Vaughn "Betsy" of Altadena, CA; sons, William, Jr. of Corona del Mar, CA, Fred of Nairobi, Kenya; daughters Elizabeth Ann Kirkpatrick of Ashland, OR and Susan Marie Whyte of Encinitas, CA; 11 grandchildren and one great grandson.

Memorial services were held at the Pasadena Presbyterian Church in Pasadena, CA Wednesday, January 23, 1991. SACO members Ben Ritter of Fallbrook, CA and Erma and Richard Rutan of Sun Valley, CA were in attendance. A reception followed at nearby Fuller Seminary.

(Note: With the passing of "Bill" LaSor, SACO has lost both of its "permanently appointed" chaplains within the last two years. Bill was preceded in death by "Father Phil" Shannon in April, 1989. We were privileged to have our chaplains conduct services at past conventions. Ed.)



IRENE FLEMING

Wife of Andy Fleming died peacefully in her sleep December 11, 1990.



ALBERT W. LEWIS
CDR. USN (RET.)

4 Nov. 1913 - 10 Oct. 1990

U.S. Navy 1931 - 1957 and survived by wife, Emily of Citrus Heights, CA.



MARLIN E. LESHER

25 Oct. 1923 - 19 Oct. 1990

Marlin suffered a massive heart attack while attending the SACO convention at Gulf Shores, AL in September and was hospitalized in Pensacola, FL for two weeks before returning to his home. He passed away at his home in Elkhart, IN. He is survived by his wife, Peg, son, Jim, of Springfield, VA and daughter, Karen Fox, of Greenville, TX.



CHARLES L. "MOE" COX

19 Jan. 1918 - 4 Dec. 1990

U.S. Navy 1942 - 1962

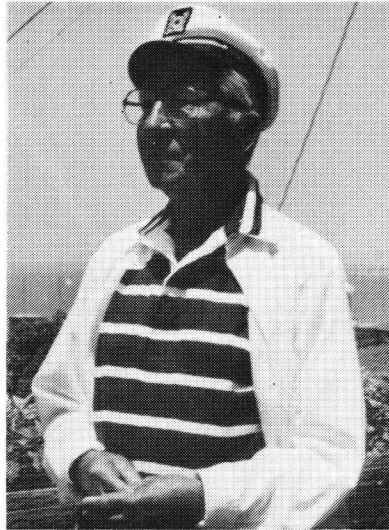
Survivors include wife, Ruth of Bowie, MD; sons Chuck of Centerville, VA, Jim and John of Harold's Harbor, Crownsville, MD and Paul, hospitalized for five years as a result of an automobile accident and in a state that Ruth prefers to call a "twilight zone."



THOMAS LEE TABOR

Lt. Commander USN (Ret.) died at age 70 November 21, 1990 in Miami, FL. Born in Raleigh, WV, he had been a resident of North Palm Beach for 16 years, coming from Falls Church, VA. He entered the service in September 1939 and retired in September 1964, later serving as a Communications Engineer with the Marines from 1966 to 1974. He served two years in China during WWII; was a member of American Legion No. 268 and VFW both of Rivera Beach as well as a member of SACO and Retired Officers Association. Survivors include wife, Nancy; son, Thomas L. Tabor, Jr. of Annandale, VA; one brother, William

Howard Tabor of California and one sister, Rosemary Fitzgerald of Raleigh, ND. Full Military Graveside Service was conducted at 3 PM, Friday, November 30, 1990 at Arlington National Cemetery.



VICTOR GOORCHENKO

Private services were held for Victor A. Goorchenko of Redondo Beach, CA, a resident and eye surgeon in the South Bay area of Los Angeles for over 40 years.

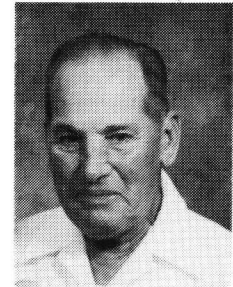
Born May 5, 1908 in Harbin, China, he died June 8, 1990 in Redondo Beach.

Dr. Goorchenko served as a medical officer with the British Army and for the U.S. Naval Forces (SACO - Camp #1) and the United Nations Relief Association while in China.

He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus, Lions Club and Sertoma International and had been on the medical staffs of Little Company of Mary, Torrance Memorial Medical Center and San Pedro Peninsula Hospital. He performed volunteer work with a variety of local organizations and schools and for the Red Cross in Mexican villages.

Dr. Goorchenko was also a founding member and supporter of St. Andrews Byzantine Catholic Church in El Segundo, St. Lawrence Martyr Roman Catholic parish in Redondo Beach and Bishop Montgomery High School in Torrance.

He is survived by his wife, Olga, a daughter, Vera Goorchenko-Skinner of Montara, CA; two sons, Gene of Vista and Tony of Torrance; a sister, Dr. Zinaida Niknafs of Washington, D.C.; and five grandchildren.



HORACE GLEN GRAHAM

Born September 12, 1918; passed away August 20, 1990, age 71. Graveside service and burial was in Graham Presbyterian Cemetery in North Vernon, IN. He had been a Navy Aerial Photographer's Mate 22 years, retiring in 1963. He is survived by wife LuVeda; mother Ivan Detamore Graham; brother John A. Graham; sisters Georgiana Howalk and Dorris Wilson.

Deaths reported since

last issue of SACO NEWS

- Cox, Charles L. 1990
- RM1/c- Chungking/Kweilin/Liuchow/Kunn
- Dahn, Paul A. 1990
- Lt.(jg)- Calcutta/Hsifeng/Changsha
- Goorchenko, Dr. Victor 1990
- Russian Dr.- Camp 1
- Graham, Horace G. 1990
- PhoM1c- Camp 3/Unit 3
- Hinkle, Harry W. ????
- CRM- Chungking/Calcutta
- LaSor, William S. 1990
- Lt.(jg)- Chungking/Camp 4
- Leshner, Harlin E. 1990
- SC1c- Chungking
- Lewis, USN (Ret), Albert W. 1990
- Lt.(jg)- Kienyang/Meih sien/Kunming
- Paulsen, Clarke A. '75?
- SK3c- Calcutta
- Pratt, Alfred C. 1990
- SK1c- Jorhat/Calcutta/Shanghai
- Tabor, Thomas L. 1990
- CRM- Chungking/Kunming

Meet The TUMBLE T BAR T Family

(The following article appeared in the April, 1990 issue of ANGUS TOPICS, Vol. 36, No. 3.)

When Ted and Windy Bartee moved to South Carolina they knew they wanted to raise their boys in a rural atmosphere. It took a little time to find their farm and settle in their new farm house.

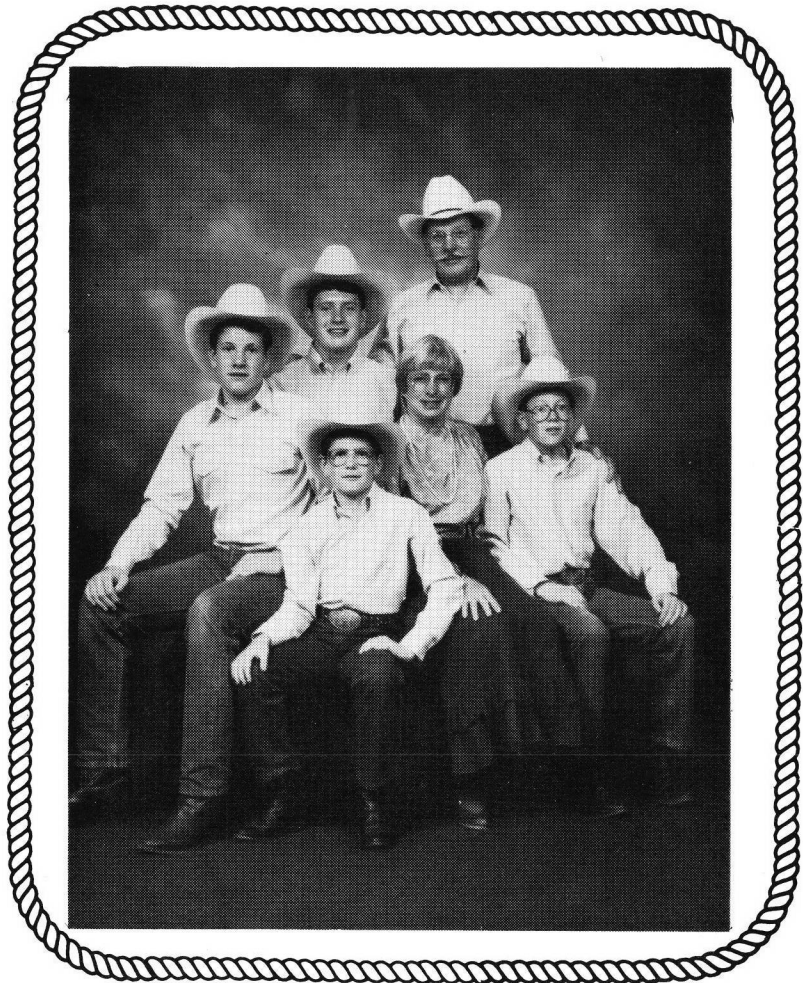
Now, they are raising boys and Angus cows side by side. Both boys and cattle are thriving. It has been a good combination.

Ted works as a commodity broker at Harris-Crane in Charlotte. All the boys and Windy pitch in to do chores so the boys have time to compete in school athletics.

Bill Bartee, the oldest son, is a sophomore at Birmingham Southern in Birmingham, Ala. He is a business major. Brandon Bartee is a senior at Clover High School and has followed his brother Bill's example as the student body president. He has played both football and soccer. Next year he will attend the Citadel in Charleston, S.C.

Bailey, the Bartee best known for his gift of gab, competes in cross country, basketball, and soccer as a sophomore at Clover H.S. Clay, the youngest Bartee at 12, enjoys football, basketball and soccer. He also plays saxophone in the band.

Scouts have been very much a part of their lives. All the boys started as Cub Scouts with Windy as the Den Mother. Bill has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Brandon is working on his Eagle Award, hoping to finish this summer.



Brandon is also working toward his pilots license.

We better mention the oldest Bartee, too. Zetta Bartee, 92 years young, answers the phone and keeps a hot meal on the table when everyone else is at the barn. She lives in Clover when they can get her away from her home in Holt, Mo.

Windy credits Ted as "the brains behind the cattle operation." He has selected the brood herd to produce offspring which give milk, grow fast and calve easily.

The boys are responsible for the AI operation. The AI bull battery has included R&J Extra, Power Play, Pine Drive Big Sky and Hoss.

They haven't achieved that "grand champion" yet, but they are hoping someday. . .

As advisors to the S.C. Junior Angus, Ted and Windy fill their summer with Angus shows and kids. The juniors have their state show, then travel to the Eastern Regional and National Shows.

In 1988 the group worked hard to host the Eastern Regional in Columbia, S.C.

The juniors travel to the distant shows in a caravan of trailers and cars. Juniors, and heifers, who need a ride can catch one on the caravan. The club members share meals and accommodations at the motel. These experiences help knit them together as a group.

The Bartee boys have been passing the state junior secretary-treasurer duty down the family. Bailey now holds the honor. That also means he gets to haul the Junior Angus items around to sell at shows and field days, in addition to getting meals and rooms planned and paid for on the caravan trips.

"You should see the ordeal of checking the juniors in and out of hotels with their new computer systems," Windy said. "What a nightmare! Computers aren't so smart."

Ted is on the Advisory Committee for the Vocational Department at Clover High School. He is the past president of

WEDDING

CARMICHAEL - LAWLOR



September 3, 1989

Ed and Vi Carmichael

(See Letters and Notes p. 9)

Lt. Gen. Yin Heads M. I. B.

Due to irregular schedules and infrequent publication of SACO NEWS to date, we are, at times, delinquent in the "current news category." In light of this fact, it is hoped that deferment is understood in announcing the appointment of Lt. Gen. Yin Tsung-wen as the present Director of the Military Intelligence Bureau, ROC, succeeding retired Lt. Gen. Huang Shih-chung. Past SACO President Will H. Rice extended congratulations to Gen. Yin soon after he assumed this position. As we announce your appointment to the general membership through this newsletter, Gen. Yin, in replication of President Rice, we continue to wish you well. May you enjoy happiness and self-satisfaction as you execute the duties and responsibilities of your post.



Camp 4 Reunion In Hartford, CT 4 April 1990



Quoting Kenneth O. Rhicard: "We had a ball and the stories..you can imagine! Charlie Keil and wife came from Delray Beach, FL, "Red" McGrail from Ft. Lauderdale, FL, O.J. Olson and wife from Olympia, WA, Mike Conway, Chicago, Bob Sizemore and wife, Toledo, OH, Bill Lutnick, Fallbrook, CA, Bud Harmon, Rockville, MD and the rest of us from the Northeast. Some of us hope to make Mobile and hope to see you there (no one made it). Imagine! It is over 45 years since some of us have seen each other...pretty good record???"

Standing L-R: Bud Harmon, Red McGrail, Mike Conway, Vic Biceglia, O.J. Olson, Bob Sizemore.
Seated: Ken Rhicard, Jack Shearer, Charlie Keil, Bill Lutnick

CALCUTTA TODAY

CALCUTTA TESTS SURVIVAL SKILLS OF ITS RESIDENTS

(The following article, written by ARTHUR
MAX of Associated Press, was sent by Jack
Petersen):

CALCUTTA, INDIA - It's already hot and steamy at 6 a.m. as Calcutta goes through its morning rituals.

Joggers trot past the marble Victoria Monument and the members-only Mohammadan Sports Club. The trimmed grass of the nearby Calcutta Race Course is wet from the overnight monsoon rains.



King George V Monument, Calcutta

Sheltered under the Hooghly River bridge a mile away, women cook a meager breakfast over a fire of dried cow dung for a gaggle of children, some naked, some in rags.

Hundreds of people bathe in the sluggish brown water of the Hooghly River. Devout Hindus, blessed by a nearby naked priest, stand waist-deep in the river dipping copper bowls of spices and flower petals into the water. Later their women will return to the river steps with the laundry to slap the clothes clean on the stone.

Fifty yards upriver, near the flower market where servants of the rich buy garlands of fresh marigolds and hibiscus, street dwellers defecate into the water. But the river is holy, an arm of the Mother Ganges and, therefore, cannot be unclean.

Across the river, in a sprawling conglomerate of slums called Howrah City, children splash under the hand pumps which supply water for drinking and washing.

In an hour the roads will be choked with traffic, and the air will begin to thicken with the blue haze of exhaust fumes.

For a few Calcutta residents, today may be a relaxed day at the club. For millions of others, the day will bring another test of survival.

Everyone in the city will go without city-supplied electricity for at least two hours. The hit-and-miss telephones will create hours of frustration. Roads, pitted and impassable after a heavy monsoon, will trap tens of thousands of cars like flies in a spider web.

Calcutta is 300 years old this year (1990). Job Charnock, an agent of the East India Company, founded the trading post on the Hooghly on August 24, 1690, near the village of Kalikata, named for Kali, the feared goddess of power and destruction.

It was, until 1912, the capital of British India, the second city of the British Empire after London, a city that pandered to the pleasures of the great men of the Anglo-Saxon world.

Today, Calcutta is in decay. Its Gothic Victorian-age buildings are crumbling and blackened with grime and mold. Shanties sprout like weeds in the sidewalk cracks.

Even Calcutta's stately clubs look shabby. Walls are peeling at the Saturday Club, where wealthy Indians sip gin and tonic on the veranda overlooking grass tennis courts. The once-white uniforms of the bearers, as the waiters are called, are stained and gray with age.

Decades of migration from impoverished villages and from neighboring Bangladesh have swollen Calcutta's population to 12 million.

City services are collapsing, concedes Hassin Abdul Habib, the speaker of the West Bengal state legislature.

"The roads are mind-boggling. Communications are horrible. You can phone London directly, but you can't phone your next-door neighbor," he says.

"Calcutta," he adds, "is coming to a boiling point."

ALIVE WITH CULTURE

At the same time, Calcutta throbs with life. It is the home of a vibrant Bengal culture, poetry and experimental theater.

"Bengalis are not business people," says Ajay Chatterjee of the Calcutta Municipal Development Authority. "They love literature, songs, drama. They are not pragmatic or practical."

Calcutta fostered all three of India's Nobel Prize laureates: poet Rabindranath Tagore in 1913, physic researcher Chandrasekhara V. Raman in 1930, and Mother Teresa, a naturalized Indian citizen who won the 1979 Peace Prize for her work with the destitute.

Perhaps only Calcutta, with its appalling poverty and capacity for survival, could have given rise to the phenomenon of Mother Teresa.



A "WICKED PLACE"

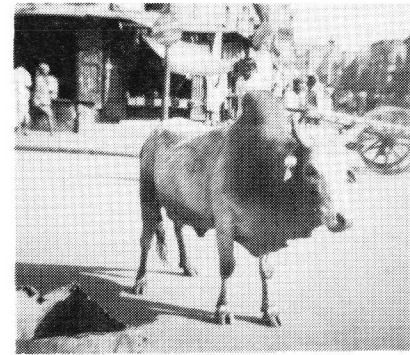
Calcutta, built on mosquito-infested delta land 80 miles above the Bay of Bengal, suffers temperatures above 100 degrees day after day in summer. The drenching rains of the monsoon season, from July to September, bring only humidity, no relief.

British author Geoffrey Moorhouse called it an act of lunacy to build a city here. "Everything in Nature was against it." Robert Clive, who turned the East India Company into an empire for England in the 1750s, called Calcutta "the most wicked place in the Universe." Mark Twain, who visited in 1896, said the weather was "enough to make a brass doorknob mushy."

Calcutta's reputation also is stained by corruption and unending political intrigue. That, too, is nothing new.

With all its faults, most Calcuttans are intensely loyal.

"We know all about our problems, but love Calcutta," said Yvonne de Silva, who runs a private bus service. "It bugs me that people come to Calcutta and take pictures of our garbage and our streets. Why don't they take pictures of their own garbage?"



Thousands of people live from the refuse which the city can't collect fast enough. Some sift through it for peelings or chicken skins for soup, competing with crows, cattle and pariah dogs. Ragpickers search it for anything to sell.

Authorities long ago gave up the idea of tearing down the slums and focused instead on alleviating the misery, a formidable job considering that about 300,000 people have no home other than the pavement.

Calcutta used to have 1,000 deaths a year from cholera, but the disease was brought under control by water filtering and installing 20,000 public hand pumps in the slums.

Calcutta has always been the refuge for the poor and displaced of Eastern India. Waves of immigrants came with every ethnic upheaval, famine or war.

The population more than doubled from 4.4 million in 1950 to 9.2 million in 1975.

A HOST OF PROBLEMS

While the city grew, its resources shrank. Silt in the Hooghly virtually killed the port, which just 40 years ago received nearly half of India's imports. (Yours truly boarded the USS Gen. Hase here for the trip home. Ed.) Recession, labor strife and political terrorism in the 1960s persuaded many businesses to leave. Fifty years after the government shifted to New Delhi, the economic center of India has gravitated to Bombay.

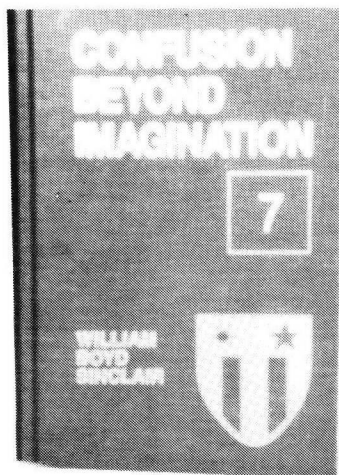
The Communists, who have run the city for 13 years, blame the policies of a succession of federal leaders in New Delhi for giving the state less than what they say is its share of national funds.

But an outsider walking through even the deepest slums of Howrah senses no anger, nor danger.

"Life is hard here. These people have nothing to look forward to," said Bettina Borgmann, a German doctor who volunteered to spend her summer vacation in a slum clinic.

"But the people surprise me. Most seem quite happy. They are content with what they have. Just look at the children playing outside with whatever they can find. I have never felt uncomfortable here."

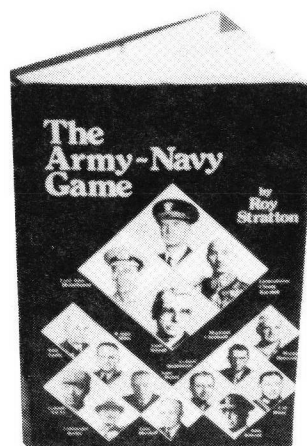
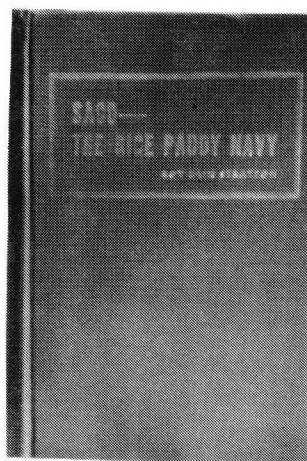
SACO HISTORY



About the book - "...Probably the least known of the hush-hush organizations in CBI was the Sino-American Co-operative Organization, which came to be called the 'Rice Paddy Navy' since most of its personnel were Navy men. It was, in effect, directed by both China and the United States. Its first purpose was to gather intelligence for a Navy landing on the China coast and furnish weather reports from Asia to the Pacific fleet. It engaged in other intelligence activities and guerrilla tactics. The American Navy men, with a few from the other services, were led by Vice Adm. Milton E. Miles, one of the war's most unique officers. You will admire him as he earns his command's way through a maze of long responsibility and short supply."

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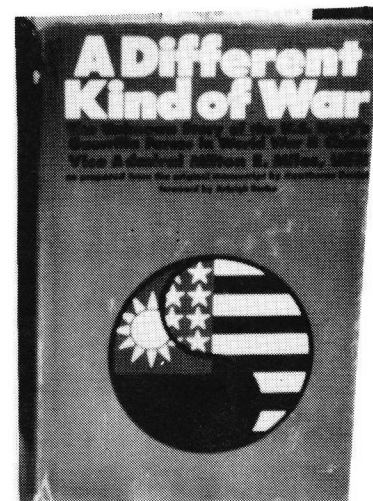


Through the kindness and generosity of SACO members William James and Roger Rockwell, two copies of Roy Stratton's book SACO - THE RICE PADDY NAVY are now available for loan.

Also available for loan, thanks to the kindness of Norman Nelson, is a copy of Stratton's other book THE ARMY-NAVY GAME.

These books are available from:

Paul Casamajor
 2605 Saklan Indian Dr. #6
 Walnut Creek, CA 94595



This account of the activities of SACO in WWII by our skipper, Vice Admiral Milton E. "Mary" Miles, is available again. Billy Miles has advised that the cost of printing had gone up so her last order was higher and in view of the postage rate increasing, the book is now \$13.00 including the cost of mailing. Please send check to:

Mrs. Wilma S. Miles
 4948 Sentinal Dr. #106
 Bethesda, MD 20818



"Cyprus, you all right? What happened?" questioned the neighboring farmer as he rushed up to the chicken house upon hearing an explosion.

"I woke up to the chickens raisin' hell. Figurin' sumpin' wrong, I jumped outa bed in my long-johns and grabbed my shotgun. It wasn't bad 'nuff I damn near broke my toe on the foot of the bed and saw stars when I banged hell outa my head on the bureau reachin' in the drawer for the flashlight; but I rushed out and quietly opened the hen-house door. When I leaned over to see what was in there, the 'trap door' on my drawers opened and my dog, Rover, who had followed me, stuck his cold nose against my butt, my gun went off and I lost all my layin' hens!"

SACO ACCUSED OF ATROCITIES AS REDS PURSUE CAMPAIGN OF LIES TO YOUTH OF CHINA

The following news article appeared in the Rocky Mountain News on Saturday, Dec. 1, 1990 and was sent along by Charles Miles (Mary's son):

EXHIBIT HINTS U.S. SANCTIONED TORTURE

MUSEUM DISPLAY SHOWS AMERICAN G.I.s WATCHING POLICE IN THE 1940s.

BEIJING - Thousands of Beijing school-children are being taken to a museum exhibit that depicts U.S. soldiers watching as Nationalist Chinese police torture Communist prisoners in the 1940s.

Officials connected with the exhibit acknowledge there is no evidence Americans had anything to do with mistreatment of prisoners by the Nationalists Chinese, who were U.S. allies in World War II.

But that is never made clear in the popular "Exhibit of Historical Facts About the Concentration Camp at the Place of Chinese-U.S. Cooperation," which actually tells the story of two prisons in China's wartime capital of Chungking.

From the exhibit name to the photographs and statues depicting Americans training Nationalist Chinese police, the implication is that Americans were responsible for the torture and deaths of hundreds of Chinese Communists at the hands of Nationalists during the 1930s and 1940s.

"The Nationalists were manipulated by the Americans," said Yuan Shigui of the Capital Museum, where the exhibit is being shown for nearly six weeks. It has been shown in 18 Chinese cities in the past two years.

The exhibit seems out of step with the current warming trend in U.S.-Chinese relations. The friction triggered by China's June 1989 army attack on pro-democracy demonstrators has eased, and most U.S. sanctions against China have crumbled.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen was in Washington yesterday for the first official high-level Chinese visit since Beijing's crackdown.

Still the official Chinese media continue to level frequent criticism at the U.S. political and social system and the U.S. government-run radio station, Voice of America.

The Communist Party newspaper PEOPLE'S DAILY frequently carries editorials warning against "hostile forces in the West" who seek to convert socialist countries to capitalism. Other recent articles have derided U.S. democracy as a illusion perpetrated by the rich upon the working class.

The exhibit says that U.S. Naval Intelligence officers and Nationalist secret police set up a Chinese-U.S. Special Technology Cooperation Institute in 1943 to share war intelligence and train Nationalist police."

Charles' comment: "You scoundrels!"

POTPOURRI



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SACO NEWS

SACO NEWS is published by World War II veterans of the SINO - AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION (SACO) aka U.S. NAVAL GROUP CHINA

Send your comments and newsworthy contributions for future issues to the Editor. Photos and stories are welcome.

EDITOR

Richard L. Rutan
11125 Allegheny Street
Sun Valley, CA 91352

(818) 767-6940

TYPESETTING
by
Paul Casamajor



CRS*

Just a line to say I am living,
That I'm not among the dead.
'Though I'm getting more forgetful
And more mixed up in my head.
Sometimes I cannot remember,
When I stand at the foot of the stair,
If I must have gone down for something,
Or I've just come down from there.
As I gaze into the fridge so often,
My poor mind is filled with doubt:
Have I come to put food away
Or come to take it out?

When darkness falls in the evening,
With my nightcap on my head;
I don't know if I'm retiring
Or just getting out of bed.
So if it's my turn to write you,
There's no need to be sore;
I may think I'd written last week
And don't want to be a bore.

Just remember that I love you
And I wish that you were here;
But now it's nearly mailtime;
I must say, "Goodby, my dear!"
As I stand beside the mailbox
With a face so very red...
Instead of mailing you my letter,
I have opened it instead!

* (The dreaded disease that strikes us all.. "Can't remember s---!")

SPECIAL NOTE OF GRATITUDE TO SPECIAL PEOPLE

To all our SACO friends, we extend heartfelt appreciation for all your kindnesses, prayers, cards phone calls, flowers and all expressions of concern during Erma's illness. The long scroll on which so many of you attending the convention in Gulf Shores wrote notes of love and encouragement was of special significance - a wonderful surprise and gave a lift that you'll never know. What a nice and thoughtful thing to do! We always knew that ours was a good group... now we love you even more!

Erma and Richard Rutan

(The scroll remained on display - completely unrolled - until Christmas and was read and re-read daily.)

Osgood on Poetic License:

CBS newsman Charles Osgood whose trademarks include his bow tie and rhyming radio reports, says poetry does not come easily under deadline pressure.

One device for making a news story written in New York remain fresh when it is aired three hours later on the West Coast is "anticipatory verse," Osgood told a luncheon for affiliate KIRO on Thursday in Seattle.

He gave this example:

"There once was a pretty young lass
Who hailed from the Bay State of Mass.
And on a fine and sunny day
She stepped into the bay
In water right up to her knees."

Osgood explained: "It doesn't rhyme now, but it will when the tide comes in."

- Daily News (San Fernando Valley)Wire Services



EARL COLGROVE RECALLS DR. VICTOR A. GOORCHENKO

I first met Dr. Victor Goorchenko in 1943 while in the U.S. Navy SACU unit at Camp One near Chung Shuen where we were training young Chinese to sabotage the Japanese forces along the coast; thus keeping those troops from being added to the ones heading for the South Pacific.

In scouting the nearby area, we found this "White Russian" doctor (soon to be affectionately known as Dr. "Goo") who had been treating the local Chinese as best he could with the limited equipment at his disposal. He volunteered to help treat our Chinese youths that had joined our training program because of the atrocities of the Japs.



When our radioman, Randolph, had an attack of appendicitis, he offered to operate and, as we had no doctor in our group, we readily accepted. Despite the inexperience of our men who assisted in the surgery in the makeshift quarters of an old Chinese temple...boiling water in an old ammunition tin and the necessity of using a handheld flashlight; he completed the operation and saved our man's life. His scalpel was of Japanese origin made about the turn of the century, the doctor revealed, and he said he sharpened it as best he could.



We had just a small amount of chloroform and ether and they were dispensed alternately and judiciously. Fortunately, it worked! Randolph was anything but pleased with his bedpan which was a modification of an ammunition can.

In a short time we were forced downriver by the Japs and had to put the patient aboard a sampan. On the way, we ran aground and all but the patient had to jump in and free the sampan. We stayed at a village about 30 kilometers from Camp One and the people there were very good to us. A month or less and we were back at our original camp and Randolph was well on the road to recovery.

I recall having broken my leg and again, Dr. "Goo" was there. He went to a nearby mountain and excavated an element that was a substitute for plaster of Paris in making a cast. However, it did not set up properly and Dr. "Goo" said the other side of the mountain held some of nature's product of finer quality. The "finer quality" worked too well and the circulation was cut off to my foot. The cast was removed and a local village carpenter, with the supervision of the doctor, constructed a wooden cast.

Dr. Goorchenko was a true friend of all and we were so fortunate and grateful to have him in such a remote area.



both the S.C. Angus Association and the York Cattlemen's Association. Ted is an active partner in the Adopt-A-School program in the school district.

He has been recognized as an Honorary State Farmer by the S.C. FFA as well as the Clover chapter. Ted also teaches Sunday School at the Methodist Church in his spare time. He is a Mason and a Shriner.

Ted is a self taught authority on the Civil War and World War II, says Windy. This interest was sparked by his grandfather telling him about his great-grandfather coming home from the Civil War and Ted's brother telling his experiences in China during WWII.

Four sons should keep that history alive for a long time.

"...We boarded the 'SS Victoria' for a Caribbean cruise in March. Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Granada, Martinique, Curacao and Caracas. South America were the interesting ports of call...

"In June, Bernie had surgery on his foot that slowed the 'ol'boy' down for several months. The doctor ...told him that he should be able to do the things he was accustomed to doing with the exception of 'running.' His feeling regarding that activity is, 'If I have to run, I'm not going to go!' Everything has progressed well and his mobility is back to normal.

"Wisconsin summers are very enjoyable and we spent many afternoons on board our pontoon on Lake Altoona. It's a 10-minute ride from our home to the dock.

"Hazel keeps busy...with bowling, golfing and maintains her interest in shopping. Bernie goes at a little slower pace--fishing and golfing.

"We still enjoy traveling. We have a cruise scheduled for March ('91) in the Caribbean..."

(Bernie & Hazel Nelson)

GOOD NEWS BAD NEWS DEPT.

First the BAD: On the weekend before Christmas a big "blob" of Arctic air moved over California. Usually our very coldest weather is about 25 degrees F. This one went down to below 15 degrees. Crop and physical damage has been estimated in excess of \$700 million in California. (After our 1906 and 1989 earthquakes it was labeled the third largest natural disaster in history.)

We had a 1/2" water pipe in our attic which broke and ran for two days before the neighbors saw water running out over the foundation (we were in Hawaii hopefully for Christmas and New Years). We arrived home Christmas morning and the damage now being repaired will come to about \$50,000.

And the GOOD: All SACD records and data bases and the computer were not affected.

(Martha and Paul Casamajor)

Letters and Notes:

"Heartiest congratulations on a superb issue of SACO NEWS. This is the kind of news and issue that will keep the SACO Tigers around for a bit paying their dues! (It was your suggestion, Bill, that we get out a newsletter. Thank you! -Ed.)

"Several years ago (maybe longer) I was interviewed for the Marine Corps Oral History Program regarding SACO and the role of the Marine Corps. It seems that the only (other) Marine that had been interviewed, who touched on SACO, was Bob Barrow who served in SACO Unit Five as a lieutenant and who subsequently became Commandant of the Marine Corps around 1980 or thereabouts. The copy of the enclosed letter is from Al Gray, the present Commandant. (See letter below.)

"...The other bit of news not worth noting is that I am recovering from bypass surgery that took place in mid-April. I am mending nicely and have resumed work on a 3/4 schedule. (May 1990).

"Keep it up with the SACO NEWS. It does a great job in maintaining the members' interest in the organization."

(Bill Sager)

Gen. Gray's letter to Bill Sager:

"Dear Major Sager:

"I am pleased to send you this copy of the transcript of the interview you provided for the Marine Corps Oral History Program.

"We are honored to have these reminiscences of a highly respected Marine. The document is a valuable contribution to the record of our Corps and another example of your dedicated efforts in its behalf.

"Copies of this transcript will be placed in the Oral History Collection at the Marine Corps Historical Center and in the Breckinridge Library at Quantico for use by the students there.

"I thank you for this contribution to the Corps. Warm regards."

Sincerely,
Al Gray (signed)

A.M. Gray
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps

"Being a long-time student of "Mary" Miles, SACO, The Rice Paddy Navy, et, al - your history has special meaning! Thanks again!

(Al)

Bill Sager's contribution to the Marine Corps Historical Program was recognized in the Spring 1990 issue of FORTITUDE, Bulletin of the Marine Corps Historical Program, Historical Bulletin XIX, Number 4. The article, written by Benis M. Frank, Head, Oral History Section, is quoted in part:

"...A New Transcript in the collection is the issue-oriented interview with Maj. William H. Sager, USMCR (Ret.), who entered the Corps in 1939 as a member of the Eastern Platoon Leaders' Class at Quantico. Upon completion of the 2nd Reserve Officers' School at Philadelphia, he joined the 1st Marine Division at New River and went to war with it, participating in the Guadalcanal operation. After being invalided home with a bad case of malaria in 1944, Maj. Sager volunteered for duty with the United States Naval Group China, also known as SACO (Sino American Cooperative Organization) or "Rice Paddy Navy." This was a clandestine organization comprised of volunteers from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard engaged in a number of covert activities, including radioing reports of weather conditions in inland China since western Pacific weather was formed over Asia. SACO personnel also trained Chinese guerillas, acted as coast watchers, and collected detailed intelligence on possible landing beaches along the China coast. Maj. Sager tells of his trip to Chungking via Cairo, Karachi, New Delhi and Calcutta, and his assignment as commander of the American officers who trained Chinese troops at a place inland designated Camp 10. Maj. Sager also tells about some of the legendary personalities in SACO - Commodore Milton E. "Mary" Miles, American head of SACO, and the mysterious Tai Li, Chiang Kai-shek's intelligence chief."



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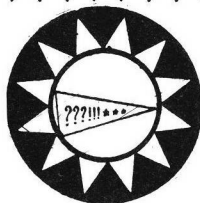
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