

# SACO VETERANS

SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

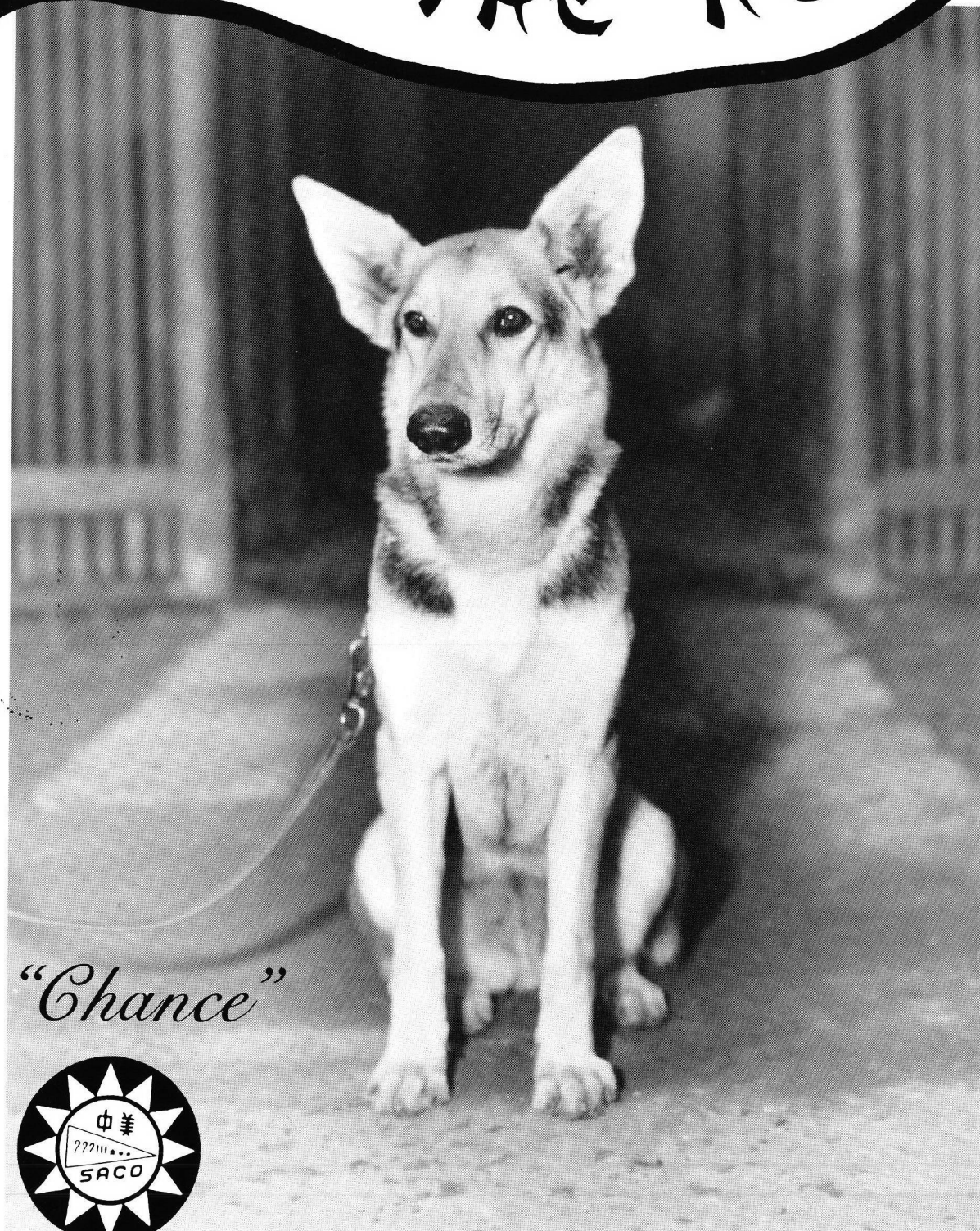
VICE ADMIRAL MILTON E "MARY" MILES

*Rear Duke & Perpetual Skipper*

Issue  
No.10

MARCH  
1994

WHAT THE HELLY?



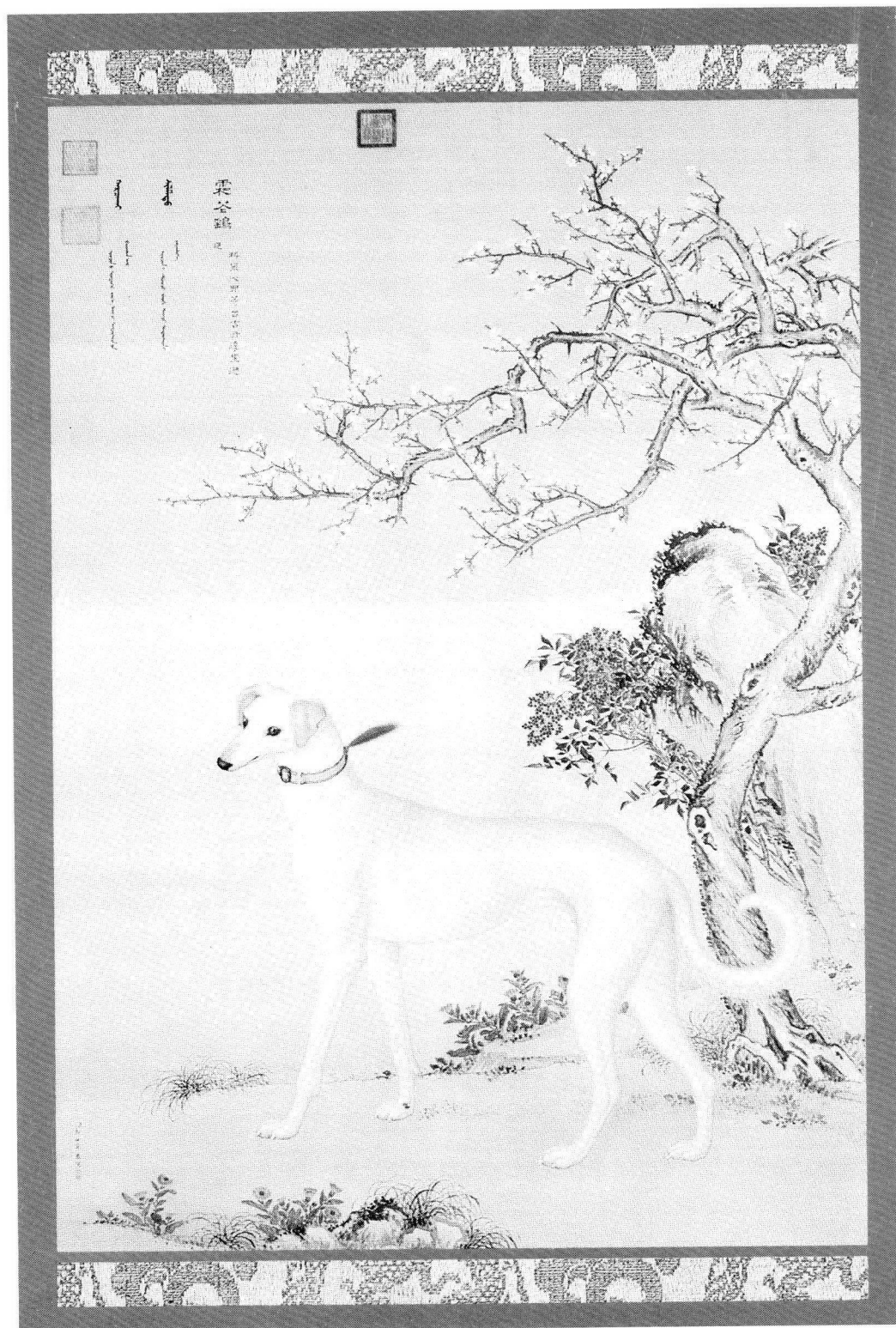
*"Chance"*



YEAR OF THE DOG

SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

*The President of The Republic of China and Mrs. Lee Teng-hui*



*Sincerely Extend to You Greetings of the Season and All Good Wishes*

1994 - THE YEAR OF THE DOG

SACO received this beautiful Chinese  
New Year's card from President Lee Teng-  
hui of the Republic of China.





# SACO

## SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

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

1994 Convention Chairman

### SACO VETERANS CONVENTION

Officers - 1993-94

**President**

Arthur Wilding  
606 Riverwood Drive  
Louisville, KY 40207

**Vice President**

Willie M. Baker  
2810 Highlands Blvd.  
Spring Valley, CA 91977

**Secretary**

Lloyd M. Feinly, MD  
432 Golden Beach Blvd.  
Venice, FL 34285

**Treasurer**

Frank W. Buckless  
4246 Darleigh Road  
Baltimore, MD 21236

**Assistant Secretary**

Lillian Gilroy  
6108 Zeigler Blvd.  
Mobile, AL 36608

**Assistant Treasurer**

Salvatore Ciaccio  
32 Marie Street  
Tewksbury, MA 01876

**Historian**

Mrs. Wilma S. Miles  
4948 Sentinel Dr. Apt. 106  
Bethesda, MD 20816

**Legal Counsel**

Carl W. Divebiss  
1507 East Nicolet Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85020

**Membership Chairman**

Paul Casamajor  
2605 Saklan Indian Dr. #6  
Wainut Creek, CA 94595-3035

**Editor, SACO NEWS**

Richard L. Rutan  
45-480 Desert Fox Dr.  
La Quinta, CA 92253

**Trustees**

Lawrence W. Bartee  
4624 N. Cheyenne Tr.  
Tucson, AZ 85715-9330

Dr. Dayton L. Alverson  
17916 Brittany Dr. SW  
Seattle, WA 98166

Dr. Alexander Ediss  
11871 Arroya Avenue  
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Ralph Mullen  
P. O. Box 3616  
Shawnee, KS 66203

Herman Weskamp  
3034 Larkwood  
West Covina, CA 91791

SUBJECT: Open Letter  
TO: All Officers and Trustees

SACO members are elected to various positions in a democratic process by votes of their peers who attend annual convention business meetings. It's an honor to be so selected, but it doesn't stop there. They are more than "honorary" positions to which we have been duly elected; they are "working" positions and certainly not limited to the annual business meeting. We are obligated to participate in events that present themselves at any time our services are required during the tenure we are to serve.

However, in retrospect (and with no reflection on those who have and continue to be faithfully dedicated), our performance record leaves MORE THAN A LITTLE TO BE DESIRED!

We all have opinions and certainly those holding office should express them when circumstances warrant decisions. We can all write - otherwise, we wouldn't be in SACO. At this time of life, who among us can't spare a few moments? If correspondence is difficult due to the aging process or arthritis, there's the telephone. Beyond that, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? Apathy? Lethargy? Just don't give a damn?

A case in point (and there have been several in the past): In recent months, legal counsel prepared documents requiring much research, not to mention personal time involved, and distributed those papers for review and comment to various members holding positions established to confer on such matters. ONE, repeat, ONE member of the panel responded. Again, as too often in the past, a "no response" is assumed to mean "approval" on the theory that opposition would prompt a reply. THIS SHOULD NOT BE!

WHY do we accept the confidence of the membership if we have no intention of discharging our duties? WHY not decline at the time of nomination? In the interim, perhaps we should (as the navy vernacular aptly commands) "shape up or ship out"...let someone willing to accept responsibility replace us.

Several years ago, Bill Bartee stood on the floor at a business meeting and addressed the importance of accepting official positions in SACO - evidently, few of us took heed.

May I add this was not solicited, nor intended to personally attack any individual. It is entirely my personal observation and it seems there is a need for all of us, as a body, to critique our performance as office holders. Surely, a matter of common courtesy should dictate a response to those who seek our views. Can't we endeavor to significantly improve our performance in the future administration of SACO and let everyone know there is little doubt that the "COOPERATIVE" portion of our organization's title still prevails?

Ed.

1994  
Rapid City, SD

1995  
Seattle, WA



# LETTERS & NOTES

November 8, 1993

Mr. Richard L. Rutan  
45-480 Desert Fox Dr.  
La Quinta, CA 92253  
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Rutan:

Thank you for your letter of congratulations on my recent new assignment as Director General of this Bureau. I appreciate very much the warm sentiments that you and other SACO friends expressed.

The drastic changes in the situation of the post-Cold War epoch pose a great challenge to those who are engaged in security work in adjusting their role accordingly. To meet the new challenge, we must make the best use of the experiences that we have learned from our forerunners, and follow their good examples in striving for peace and justice.

Major General Fan (Ret.) did get me a copy of the 50th Anniversary edition of SACO News. I was interested in reading the Golden Edition of historical significance. I understand you as the editor have contributed so much effort in making possible the publication.

My wife joins me in extending to you and your mother our warmest regards and best wishes for an everlasting SACO friendship.



Sincerely yours,

*Yin Tsung-wen*

Yin Tsung-wen  
General, ROC Army  
Director General  
National Security Bureau  
Republic of China



P. O. BOX 3693  
TAIPEI, TAIWAN  
REPUBLIC OF CHINA

20 November 1993

Mr. Paul Casamajor  
2605 Saklan Indian Dr. #6  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595  
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Casamajor:

Recently I learned from General Fan (Ret.) of the glorious history of SACO during World War II, as I took office of director of liaison affairs which General Fan used to serve.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay my high respects to all the members of SACO for your tremendous contributions to Chinese people as well as the continued support and assistance to the Republic of China. Being a member of this Bureau, I feel very proud of taking the great responsibility of keeping contact with SACO friends. I am confident that my duty will go smoothly and successfully with your consistent support and devotion, and that our long-standing friendships will further develop through close contacts.

I understand that SACO members meet every year in a convention. And SACO members have visited Taiwan several times at the invitation of this Bureau for the past decade. We like to know if the SACO convention of 1994 will be held as usual, where and when it will be held, and who is going to be the host. I would appreciate very much if you can help us check the details.

I hope that I can see you soon and thank you for all the help in person. With my best wishes to you and Mrs. Casamajor.

Sincerely,

*Jeng Lee-kuo*

Jeng Lee-kuo  
Col., ROC Army  
Director, Office of the Director  
Military Intelligence Bureau

2 August 1993

Mr. Richard L. Rutan  
45-480 Desert Fox Dr.  
La Quinta, CA 92253  
U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Rutan:

Thank you very much for sending us a box of copies of the golden edition of SACO News.

This is an important issue. It means so much to all of us. As always, you have done a great job.

The 1993 SACO Convention was indeed a great success. The "kids" and myself are very happy to have taken part in all the activities arranged for the convention. We all had a good time.

Your efforts in writing and editing the convention activities in the golden edition of the SACO News has further enhanced the great success of this year's convention. We feel privileged to have been repeatedly covered in the edition of historical significance.

With deep appreciation and warm regards to you and your mother.



Sincerely,

*Fan Chi-yao*

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



**SHEPHERD TATE**

December 20, 1993

Dear Bill,

Many thanks for the lovely Christmas card and your calling card which is in English and in Chinese! Frankly, I had a little difficulty in interpreting the Chinese.

I am enclosing a check payable to the SACO Foundation in honor of Richard L. Rutan, who by means of the SACO NEWS keeps us so well informed of all the activities of SACO and its members. I particularly enjoy reading about the conventions when I have been unable to attend them. Jan and I have every intention of being present next year.

With kindest personal regards and with best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, I remain

Sincerely yours,

*Shep*  
S. Shepherd Tate



Mr. Bill Bartee  
8219 East 22nd Street  
Tucson, Arizona 85710



Summer 1993

(To Buckless)

I have been reading more and more about Scouts & Raiders & Roger in SACO NEWS. I, too, served in both of these outfits. I joined S&R in summer of 1943; trained at Ft. Pierce and then served in the Mediterranean for about 1 year - Africa, Italy and So. France. Returned to States and retrained at Ft. Pierce as Roger II. Was sent to Calcutta, then Madras, Jorhat and Kunming; having driven over Burma Rd. with 300 trucks, etc. mostly driven by Chinese drivers.

I enjoy the SACO NEWS - keep up the good work.

Yours,

Ralph E. Peden



7 July 1993

(To Buckless)

The enclosed check is to help cover cost of the Golden Edition of SACO NEWS. Just received my copy. It's a "keeper" for sure.

George Banes

30 Sept. 1993

Many thanks for sending me the picture of the presentation of the medals at Louisville.

...My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed the convention and are looking forward to seeing all of you at Mt. Rushmore.

One more comment! You and Mrs. Rutan were great hosts at the hospitality suite and terrific "mixologists."

Best regards,

John A. Smoley



9 July 1993

...I have received several letters praising the July SACO NEWS. My personal thanks for a most well-prepared and interesting newsletter. I know it required lots of time on your part and Paul's. Things like this help to keep SACO alive and vibrant...

Frank (Buckless)



9 July 1993

(To Buckless)

Just received the Golden Edition of SACO NEWS. I must say it was a super issue and the most interesting ever!

Enclosed is a check for my dues and continuing support.

Sincerely,

Len Nole

Ed.Note: Leonard Nole died a little less than a month following this letter on August 4, 1993



Summer 1993

(To Buckless)

A note to say I'm always happy to get the SACO NEWS - the Golden Edition No. 9 is really special. I had the honor of serving for a short time under Phil Bucklew. I do consider that a great honor. Keep the NEWS coming although I don't see very many names of people I remember.

Ray McCartney

5 September 1993

(The following was response to my request for a snapshot to accompany acknowledgment of \$100. donation.):



...I appreciate your offer, but recognition was not my motive for my donation. Over the years I have taken more from SACO than I have given. My contribution has enabled me to contact shipmates I have lost contact with over the years. Primarily, through the SACO NEWS, I have been able to contact many of them.

Louisville was great. Harriet and I plan to make the Black Hills meeting.

Sincerely,

Jake (Dr. Jacob C. Siegrist)



17 August 1993

...Leonard Nole passed away on 4 August 1993. He died of a stroke and cancer complications. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. I attended his funeral.

Len and I were on duty at the Naval Radio Station, Cheltenham, Maryland in 1941-42. I was in Chungking when Len reported there for duty in early 1944.

I have the GOLDEN EDITION of SACO NEWS and I must say it is a wonderful publication. The pictures and articles are excellent. I especially liked the poem "The Golden Years of SACO." My congratulations to all concerned in the publication.

Richard, I along with several SACOs are members of the U.S. Naval Cryptologic Veterans Association (NCVA) and we print a paper called the CRYPTOLOG which is published 4 and usually 6 times a year. I would like to have someone in the SACO organization give us permission in writing so that parts of the GOLDEN EDITION could be published in the CRYPTOLOG. Of particular interest is your poem...perhaps permission to allow our editor to reprint items deemed of

interest to our membership. Proper credit would be given to SACO NEWS and a copy of the CRYPTOLOG would be sent to the SACO NEWS editor.\*

...I talk with Jim Murphy and John Pike two or three times a week via HAM radio.

Sincerely,

Ken Mann

\*-Permission was granted. Ed.



13 August 1993

Want to express my thanks and appreciation for a fine publication on the yearly SACO booklet. You have outdone yourself on this issue and you are to be congratulated for a job well done.



... Three men accompanied me to the San Diego convention in 1992 and at this time, all have passed away. Harry Brandwein, October 1992 - Sam Slosser, April 1993 and Mike Poyda, July 1993.

...Kindly send my love to your dear mother, Erma; it is always wonderful to see you fine people at these reunions.

Cordially,

Harold (Bonin)



26 August 1993

As you know from Paul Casamajor and the July 1993 SACO newsletter, I've written a history of the Scouts & Raiders of WWII, a chapter of which discusses SACO operations and the S&R's role in them.

When the Scout & Raider School at Ft.

Pierce, FL became the Amphibious Scout School in early 1945, the S&R mission was re-oriented to preparing personnel for duty with SACO and graduating classes were designated ROGER 1, 2, etc.

Now the actual ROGER concept originated earlier, circa October 1944, when the first "special" ROGER class trained, arriving in Calcutta circa January 1945.

What I'm driving at is this: For a second edition of the S&R book, I'd like to be able to describe the origin of the ROGER concept.

Captain Saxe P. Gantz, of "Gantz Expedition" fame, tells me that it was jointly devised by Admiral Miles and General Tai Li. Sounds logical, but I've no way of verifying that and research to date hasn't revealed any validating evidence.

So, would you please publish in your next newsletter the following request:

Any SACO veteran knowing the organizational or tactical origins of the ROGER concept which trained personnel at Ft. Pierce for SACO duty beginning October 1944, please contact John B. Dwyer  
430 Westbrook  
Dayton, OH 45415  
(513)890-5654

Thank you, sir, for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Barry (John B. Dwyer)



21 July 1993

Well ! You've done it again ! What can I say !

Every issue of SACO NEWS is better than the issue before. I thought the art work in the Golden Edition (issue No. 9) was quite attractive. I liked the arrangement of the photos of the folks who were at the Louisville Convention. Very effective.

Richard, the Golden Edition issue was superb. You deserve a hearty "WELL DONE!" I pray that you will continue this worthwhile and beneficial work for many years to come.

I noted the article by "Doc" Felmy on the combat ribbon, and his effort to get the Navy combat action ribbon awarded to the SACO Tigers who prove eligible. This is a worthy endeavor, but it raises a question in my mind. Instead of the Combat Action Ribbon (which, as I understand it, would go only to those Tigers who prove eligibility) why not lobby for the Navy Commendation Medal (or



ribbon) which would be awarded to the whole SACO unit? I am not up to date on these matters, but it is my understanding that there is a Navy Commendation Medal (or ribbon) that is available to all hands that served the unit. It is similar to the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon that is awarded to certain units that distinguished themselves in combat (e.g. the First Marine Division and attached units for combat at Guadalcanal). With my limited knowledge of the subject, I believe that a unit citation to SACO is 50 years overdue. What about it, "Doc" Felmy?

I was saddened to read that Harry Brandwein passed away. As you mentioned on page 53 of the Golden Edition, Harry missed only two of the last twenty conventions. I don't believe there was a friendlier person in SACO attending reunions than Harry Brandwein. He was a friendly, outgoing, one-man welcome committee and he made everyone - stranger and friend alike - feel very comfortable. I particularly recall our reunions in Taiwan with Harry.

Richard, I'm going to start something new in SACO. I'm suggesting an Editorial Memorial Fund to memorialize our SACO comrades and at the same time, provide a going fund to pay for the publication of SACO NEWS and the terrific first-class postage bill that you have each time you mail an issue. My check \* in memory of Harry Brandwein is enclosed.

Keep up the super work. Elizabeth joins me in conveying our best wishes to you and Erma.

Sincerely,

Bill Sager

\* Forwarded to Treasurer Buckless

Editor's note: I believe you are correct, Bill, in that SACO - as a unit of many diversified special groups - was never awarded a commendation. However, I submit a letter (assuming which was directed to all members of Naval Communication Intelligence) notifying me of the awarding of the Navy Unit Commendation for our NCI group.



In reply address not the signer of this letter, but Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.  
Refer to No.

Pers-68-WEM  
MM/ 827 85 45

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



Richard Lee Ruten, Ex-RM1c, USNR  
Route #2  
Pussieville, Indiana

Dear Mr. Ruten:

The Chief of Naval Personnel takes pleasure in forwarding with his congratulations the following award made to you for meritorious conduct as a member of the Naval service:

Ribbon bar of the Navy Unit Commendation awarded THE UNITED STATES NAVAL COMMUNICATION INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION for service during the period 7 December 1941 to 2 September 1945.

It is directed that, because of the nature of the services performed by this unit, no publicity be given to your receipt of this award.

By direction of Chief of Naval Personnel.

Sincerely yours,

*Joe H. Floyd*  
JOE H. FLOYD  
Lt. Comdr., USNR  
Officer-in-Charge  
Medals & Awards Section  
Enlisted Performance Division

Enclosure: 1

A further Editor's note: It's nice to have Bill's enthusiastic appreciation of SACO NEWS. He, more than anyone else can take credit for its modern beginning. In 1987 he made a number of suggestions which resulted in the members attending the 34th Convention at Des Moines, IA in 1988 to vote to renew publication of SACO NEWS. The last previous issue was published in 1958.



13 July 1993

(To Buckless)

The Golden Edition of SACO NEWS is outstanding. Enclosed is my 1994 dues.

If you guys need any additional contribution for the "Golden Edition," which must have cost a lot of money, please let me know....

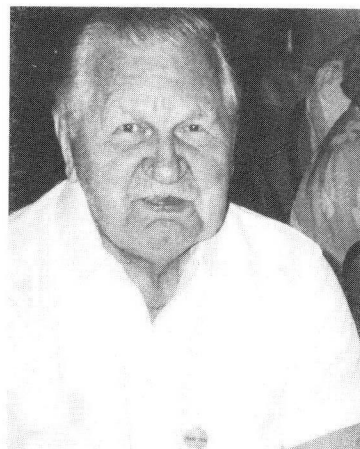
Stanley Klaven



8 July 1993

I received the latest edition of the SACO NEWS and was totally pleased with its contents. You outdid yourself on this one and to get a better one remains to be seen...

All of the pictures were mementos of a great reunion in Louisville. That was a grand time. Accomodations and food and sights, etc. were just great for my health...having gone thru the series of problems I had prior to the meeting. Some



are still with me, but as they say...we shall overcome. We are looking forward to South Dakota...

I have belonged to all the major vet organizations, but never enjoyed any meetings as well as SACO... so all I say is...long live the spirit of SACO!

Julius (Ulaneck)



6 June 1993

(To: Doc Felmly, Paul Casamajor)

Subject: Lloyd T. Cobb, BMC, USN (Ret)  
Former Scouts and Raiders vet.  
Subsequently, US Navy Deep Sea Diver, Underwater Demolition Team and SEAL Instructor at the USN Amphibious Base SEAL Training Hdqtrs., West Coast Veteran of covert operations during Korea and Vietnam.

Prior to 1992 SACO Convention in San Diego, Cobb was contacted personally during routine search and contact of resident SACO personnel...he expressed much interest, but was unable to join our convention. At that time, he donated \$100. to the 1992 convention "to maybe



buy the guys a cup of coffee or something."

Upon completion of that convention, I gave him a SACO license plate. He now has it on his automobile.

Upon notification of the 1993 Louisville convention, he telephoned and wanted to make another \$100. donation (he did). I gave him a SACO cap from our 1992 convention which he was wearing as I left his house.

He appreciates our newsletters very much and wishes to remain informed. He recognizes several names of other SACO members, particularly Guy Purvis and Sal Ciaccio. I thanked him very informally, and would appreciate any more meaningful "Thank You" items in the newsletter.

Jim Murphy (1992 Convention Chairman)



17 July 1993

As Chairman of Naval Intelligence Division 3-1, an "alumni" group from a unit that was disbanded in the early 1970's when the Naval Intelligence was merged with Naval Air Intelligence in the reserves, I was delighted to receive a copy of your July SACO NEWS from one of our members, who apparently has borrowed it from a friend. Since I am obliged to return the copy, I would very much appreciate a copy \* for our group and am enclosing an amount to cover the postage.

You may be interested in the enclosed "What the Hell" pennant history. (Ed. One which has been published many times and I'm sure familiar to our membership.)

Admiral Miles presented the pennant to our Division around 1958 and we have used it as our emblem in various ways ever since.

I am separately sending a membership application to Frank Buckless.

WHAT THE HELL !

Edward Gaskell, Cdr. USNR (Ret.)  
Chairman, Naval Reserve Intelligence  
Division 3-1  
208 Moriches Road  
Saint James, NY 11780

\* copies were sent



21 July 1993

George Harabin called me tonight. He has cancer of the throat and thought you would like to know.

Coming back from Louisville, his voice was raspy and I felt something was



wrong....

Nothing else new here since my last epistle to you, but thought you would like to know about George.

Best wishes,

Ralph Hankins



19 August 1993

(To Frank and Evelyn Buckless)

Thank you for your kind expression of concern. I'm in Mt. Sinai in Manhattan for my second round of chemotherapy. So far, it's going better than the first



one. Lost my hair, but the Dr. said it will come back. I have one more round of chemo in late Sept. and then probably 25 radiation treatments in late Oct. Have spoken to Ralph and Ann (Hankins) and Lenny and Ruth (Burke) a couple of times. In spite of my problem, Lorraine and I have had some enjoyable time at the lake this summer.

Best regards,

George and Lorraine (Harabin)

22 July 1993

May we congratulate you on a wonderful edition of SACO NEWS recently received. Also, sent Herbert G. Palmer's dues to Mr. Buckless for I'm not sure if it was paid for 1993.

We especially enjoyed the SINO-AMERICAN TECHNICAL AGREEMENT. We have sent it to our grandsons for posterity and a great explanation of what their grandfather was doing during WWII.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ruth N. Palmer

PS: Herb is alive and well but for dementia.



9 August 1993

Thank you for your appreciative letter to me and also for sending extra copies of the SACO Anniversary Edition of the SACO NEWS. I was happy to receive a copy for ourselves. Our boys appreciated their copy, too. There are three; all in the same family. I've given one to an interested friend and plan to give one to our local library.

Again, many thanks.

Sincerely,

Ruth Palmer (Mrs. Herbert G. Palmer)



22 July 1993

Congratulations...for the Golden Anniversary issue of the SACO NEWS, EXTREMELY WELL DONE.

I enjoyed every page of the Golden Edition of the SACO NEWS; of course both the front and back covers included. The poem on page 2 touched my heart. The picture section brought me back to the old days.

After I read the documentation of SACO Agreement, I am so happy that I was part of such operation even though it was only a very small part. The recapped 50th Reunion activities were simple but complete. Twenty-six guys receiving the SACO Medal made me feel that we were recognized by the Chinese Government. The seven pages full of composed head shots of SACO veterans and guests with numbered captions was a great idea for the readers to match the names with the faces. Letters & Notes, Paul and Doc's articles, Sick Bay, The Jorhat Crew, Golden



Weddings, Downed Fliers, Ladies Charity and Potpourri are all very interesting and informative, but the Obituaries were very sad stories, indeed. (Was there anything he missed??? Ed.)

...My wife, Linda and I are looking forward for the next reunion in Rapid City, S.D. See you folks there...

Sincerely,

Steve (Chu)

(Ed. Steve was the interpreter at Camp 9. Believe Steve need not feel too modest about his "very small part." We all had very small parts, but, as a team, the part became pretty BIG !)



21 July 1993

We can't begin to tell you how much we have enjoyed the recent SACO NEWS. You certainly should be proud of your work. It is an issue worth treasuring.

The East Coast Gang is attempting to get together... If you are ever in this area, please stop in. We live in the woods. We guarantee privacy, quietness and a few deer, etc. It is wonderful.

Sincerely,

Leonard & Ruth Burke





20 July 1993

Our sincere congratulations on your great efforts in publishing the special SACO NEWS for the 50th Anniversary! It's indeed an extremely impressive and valuable issue!

Best regards,

Jimmy Dunn

(Ed. Jimmy was the interpreter at Thai House in Chungking.)



20 July 1993

A note to congratulate you on the fine job you did on the latest issue of the SACO "BUGLE." It was something!

I sent my copy to Congressman McNulty in hopes of spurring him on with our Combat Action Ribbon campaign; so I hope you find it in your heart to send me another copy. (Ed. Sent several.)

Peg and "Doc" Felmlly



9 August 1993

Enjoyed the latest SACO NEWS. I thought the reprint of the SACO Agreement was interesting.

The Retired Officers Association had a list of members with whom they have lost touch. The list in the July 1993 issue includes Mrs. Irwin F. Beyerly. I don't know if she is still living or in an active SACO member status.

(Membership note: We haven't heard from Mrs. Beyerly since he died in November 1979. They were both on our Taiwan convention in 1979.)

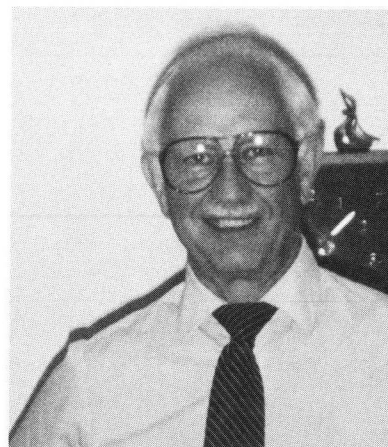
I went to two Navy ship decommissionings this year. The USS Prairie (AD-15) on



26 March; it was a destroyer tender and my first shipboard duty. It had the distinction of being the oldest ship in continuous active duty (53 years). On 10 July, the carrier USS Ranger (CV-61) was decommissioned. I served aboard in 1958 and 1959...

Best regards,

Willard Inman



18 September 1993

...We are happy here in the Fox Valley. We are in a condo and it cramps my style. There is aluminum siding and I can't get a signal out from my ham radio. They won't let me string antennae on the outside. I have a 1-car garage and not enough room for tools and a workshop. They won't let me keep a boat here, so it is on a farm 25 miles from here.

I have not been fishing.

I have not been boating.

Otherwise I'm happy!

...Petersen (Jack) and I will get together soon. Bill Edwards lives 25 miles from here...

Jack (Miller)

3 June 1993

SACO '93 50th Anniversary Reunion is history now, and for us, memorable. I think we can be pardoned if we feel it was somewhat successful. It was the biggest ever -- 231 registered, 256 at the banquet -- and one of the best. If one can judge by the letters we've received, most everyone else thought so, too. We've received more than 30 cards, plus flowers and phone calls; all voicing approval. It was hard work, but it was worth it.



...Speaking of hard work, we can't begin to thank you both for running the hospitality room. Your devotion to that aspect of the reunions certainly takes a load off the chairperson's shoulders, and makes for a smooth operation. It helps when you have good assistance, but it's your talents that gets the job done. We appreciate both of you, and are deeply grateful.

...Don't know if we've told you what a great job you're doing editing the News. We're telling you now. It's great. Well done.

Art & Glenna (Wilding)



29 September 1993

...Special words of appreciation for the Golden Edition of the SACO NEWS. It was certainly evidence of a superb effort on your part to provide a wonderful memoir for all of SACO and their families.

...I should mention seeing Frank and Eunice Gleason in your gallery and Frank getting his medal. This must have been his first SACO reunion. He was part of my "Notre Dame Backfield" back in late '42 - early '43 in OSS. We recruited four gloriously imaginative, energetic, innovative Engineer Lieutenants ... they were Karwaski, Gleason, Lazarsky and Parkin. Then I saw all the words of the SACO-OSS Navy paper as written in the original Sino-American Technical Cooperative Agree-

ment for the first time with the big-bosses' signatures. I had the chore of writing the first draft for Captain Metzell (in "Mary's" home office in D.C. - Room 2732 Navy Dept.) and Navy Chief of Intelligence's approval. The paper, known as FE-3, followed FE-1 which had to do with Detachment 101 and FE-2 which concerned the Thai Mission... It was agonizing to await the approval and I had never seen what the lawyers of OSS did to my 1-1/2 page document which the Admiral "Boss Man" of ONI thought was "just fine." So - you can imagine my delight with your whole issue.

(Ed. \* - Was it Admiral Zacharias?)

...Your section in the NEWS called NOSTALGIA - your old photos also triggered important moments when I saw Capt. Tayloe. I guess I was one of his first patients back in 1943 when my boss from Gen. "Wild Bill" Donovan's staff, Cdr. Dave Halliwell visited Happy Valley from D.C. and failed to recognize my 115 lbs. and I called him back to my "litter," when he was poking around other beds of mosquito "bars." I'd been on a training trip with some of the Thais and couldn't shake a lot of the unusual symptoms. Back at hdqtrs - in my daze, eventually Capt. Tayloe looked me over right after he got in and diagnosed me as having malaria and amoebic dysentery.... (I'd been exposed to both - but if you remember, in the early days there was suspicion that the coolies that hung around the camp - Happy Valley area - to do the heavy chores, had, sometimes at night, removed the caps of our canteens that we were cooling the boiled water by suspending into a rice paddy. Out of curiosity as to what we were drinking - they'd taste or drink it and then splash paddy water back in to "cover the crime.")



Anyway, Doc Tayloe is supposed to have told the Skipper and Cdr. Holliwell that it looked like I'd waited too long, but if they got me out of there heading for Walter Reed, I might make it. God love them all - they did and I did.

Your picture (in the Golden Edition) was the first time I'd seen the gent (Doc Tayloe) since he stuffed me full of

medicine - made sure I had more in my musette bag and someone on the crew of the airplane would help me take more. And off we went from the river runway I was told.

I'd better close this up - one recollection brings up another just waiting to be told, doesn't it?...

Fond regards,

Frank Devlin



11 July 1993

Thanks for another great production of the July "SACO NEWS." Each issue seems to be better than the last.

Those of us who were unable to attend the Louisville reunion really appreciate receiving this issue so soon. It is hard to believe that you were able to put this issue out in such a short time, particularly with all the identity photos.



Jean and I are hoping to attend next year's Rapid City get-together. It's an ideal location with great scenery. We were there a few years ago and lost an hour getting out of the campground at Custer State Park because the buffalo herd were doing their breakfast grazing across the exit road!

Jean and I send our best to you and Erma.

Thanks again for a job well-done.

Norm and Jean (Nelson)

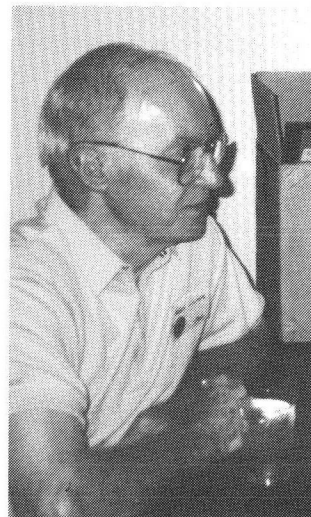


21 October 1993  
(To Ken & Helen Rhicard)

A few days ago I was shopping in a

nearby general store and I found a man walking around with a national Chinese flag emblem on his jacket. When I caught up with him, I asked him where he had been in China.

Well, it turned out he was a hump pilot and had spent time in China. He had several more emblems on his jacket; one a hump pilot's insignia. When I told him that I was with Naval Group China and had been in the camp on the edge of the Gobi, he said that he had been the pilot who picked up and flew the saddles into China for our camp. He said that had not quite understood why we wanted saddles...that they were Army saddles from WWI and that they came from Kansas.



He was originally from Detroit, but was now living in Perrysburg - a city four miles from our place.

...Arlene continues to improve from her triple-by-pass...I managed to fall while painting at our daughter's home. Fell flat with a paint brush in my hand; full weight on my hand...Nothing was broken, but it is still tender. When you can't use your right thumb, you are in trouble...

Bob Sizemore

(Ed. Hey Bob, maybe you can recruit that hump pilot as an Associate Member.)



18 October 1993

Thank you very much for copies of the SACO NEWS that you so kindly sent me. I had no idea that the SACO Veterans have had such an active organization. I am very impressed with the content and quality of the SACO NEWS and congratulate you for your efforts as Editor, particularly the "50 Years Golden Edition."

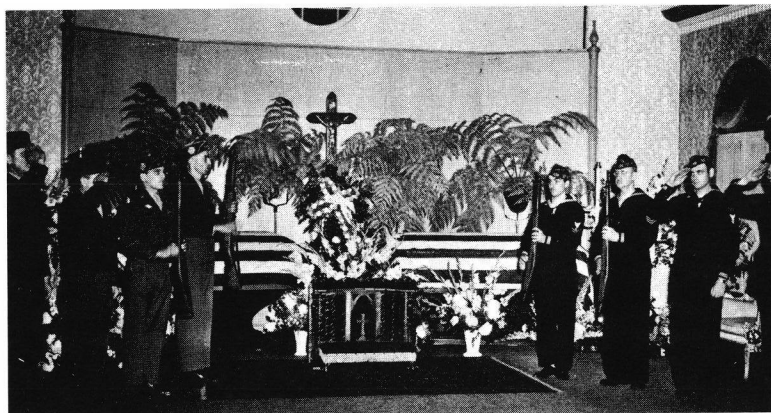
Barry Dwyer, who, as you know, is the author of "Scouts and Raiders - The Navy's First Special Warfare Commandos,"





# NOSTALGIA

St. Paul, Minnesota probably June 1947 ??



GUARD OF HONOR - DUDLEY POST NO. 1139

PAUL J. DUDLEY POST MEMBERS, COMRADES, HALVORSON, SNOW, STAFFORD, FULLER, BLANCHETTE, ROBBINS, SHERLOCK AND LANIGAN, SERVING AS AN HONOR GUARD AT THE WAKE OF LYLE JENSEN AND ROBERT LYNCH, TWO BOYHOOD FRIENDS WHO ENTERED SERVICE TOGETHER AND MET DEATH TOGETHER, WHILE SERVING IN THE FAR EAST. THE GUARD OF HONOR STOOD DUTY FROM 4 P.M. UNTIL 10 P.M., JUNE 9TH AT WILWERSCHIED MORTUARY.



American & Chinese SACO members dancing after dinner 25 December 1945



Gen. Tai Li & OSS Maj. Hoffman  
\_\_\_\_\_ Christmas Eve 1943



World War II created friendships, then abruptly and often tragically ended them. It is for that reason the 50th SACO Anniversary marked a very special occasion for Sal Ciaccio.

Ciaccio, SACO Asst. Treasurer (pictured front left) hasn't had contact with his six friends since he left Foochow where they were stationed in WWII. The last the men saw of him, Ciaccio was gravely ill and taken by plane to Shanghai where he made full recovery.

"Some of them thought I was dead!" Ciaccio said, recalling that he never saw his friends again after he left the hospital.

L-R (together after almost 50 years of separation, at the SACO Golden Anniversary Convention in Louisville, May 1993 are: Ciaccio, Guy Tressler, Leon "Duke" Zucks, W.C. Williamson, James F. Whitlock, Richard Terpstra and R. F. Webber.



Capt. I. F. Beyerly



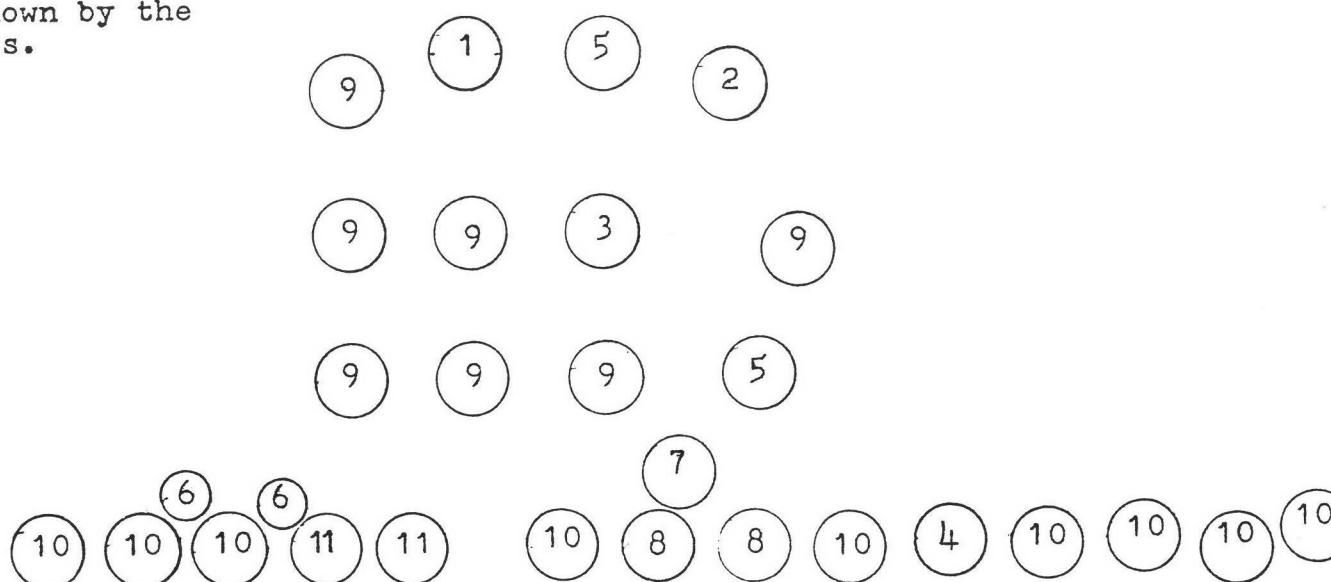
Stephen Chu, Camp 9 interpreter, 1944





Photo submitted by John Willig

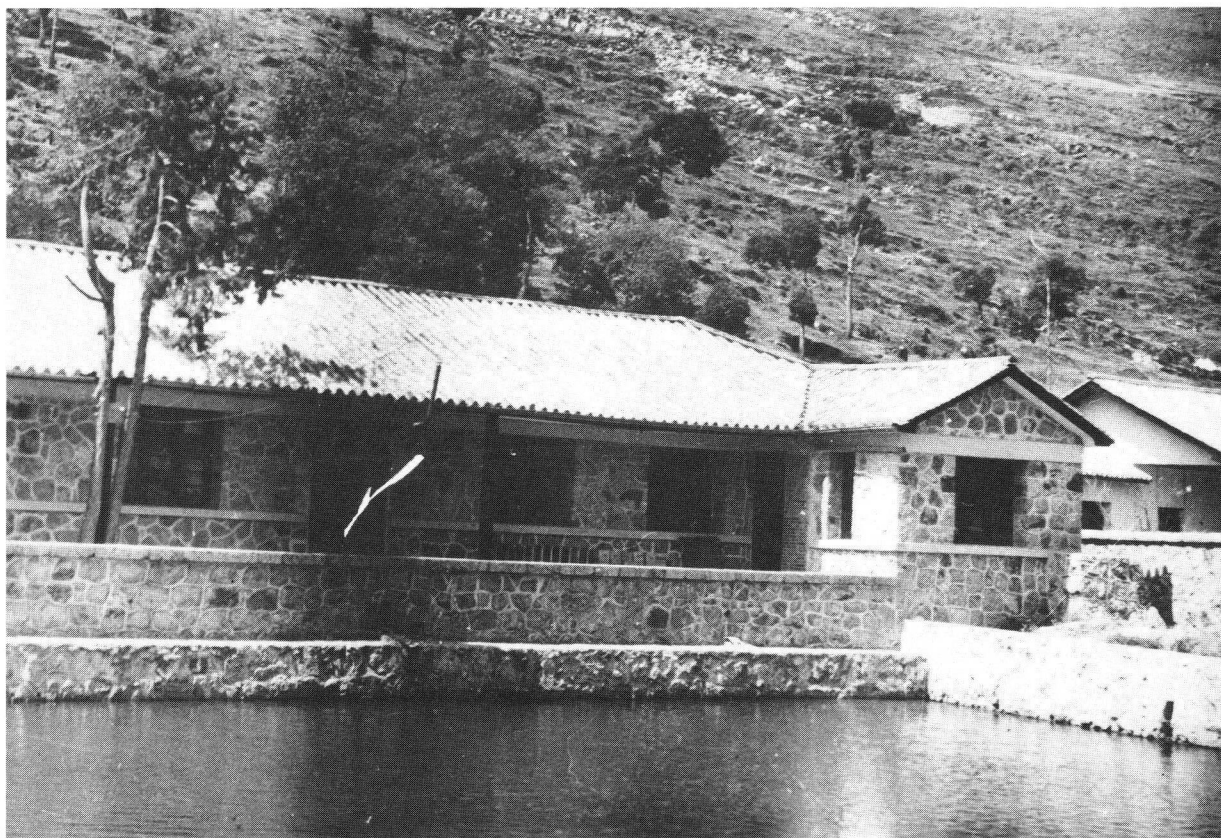
Breakdown by the numbers.



1. John Willig, Radioman
2. Edward Delaney, Radioman
3. Albert Miller, Meteorologist
4. Lt. Carl Divelbiss
5. Two members captured by Japanese.
6. Army Officers?
7. Father Donovan, Catholic Priest
8. Bride & Groom

9. Unidentified Saco members
10. Family & Friends
11. Catholic Nuns





FRUCHI compound South of Kunming.  
(FLEET RADIO UNIT CHINA)



FRUCHI Compound entrance (L) and Chow Hall (R)

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY WAYNE MCCLOW

# Obituaries



## Marie P. Ediss, 70, Russian princess



OCT 20, 1993

The Poutiatines are an old and venerable Russian family, and their nobility would never be contested, said Deacon Vincent Peterson of the Holy Virgin Mary Russian Orthodox Church in Los Angeles.

in the United States.

Her religious devotion was evident even as she lay in a coma after her third stroke.

"She had been without water or food for two weeks and she would still bless herself," her husband said. "The doctor said it was reflexes, but I knew there was something going on in her mind."

She also is survived by her sons Gregory, of Garden Grove, Theodore, of Santa Ana, Stephan, of Irvine, Alexander, of Palm Springs, and Thomas, of Carson City; brother Dimitry Poutiatine of Canada; 16 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**OBITUARY:** Russians bowed and kissed her hand, but she didn't like the fuss. 'She was just a mom,' her daughter says.

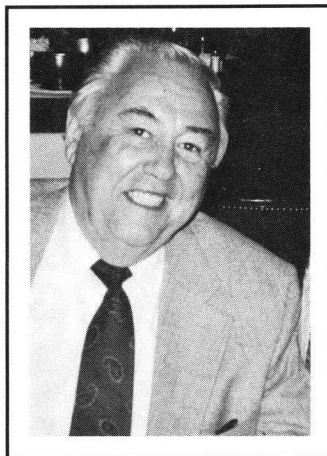
By **BRADY MACDONALD**  
The Orange County Register

Funeral services for Marie "Missy" Poutiatine Ediss, 70, a Santa Ana homemaker and Russian princess, will be held at 7 p.m. today at St. Luke's Orthodox Church, Garden Grove. She died Wednesday in Carson City, Nev., while visiting her son John.

Mrs. Ediss, born of nobility, never got caught up in the trappings of royalty.

Like many American mothers of seven, the daughter of one of Russia's pre-eminent aristocratic families changed diapers, cooked dinners, taught table manners, folded laundry, and even drove her sons to Little League practice in the family station wagon.

"Although she came from a privileged background, she never took it for granted," said her only daughter, Joan Loos. "She was nothing out of the ordinary, she was just a mom."

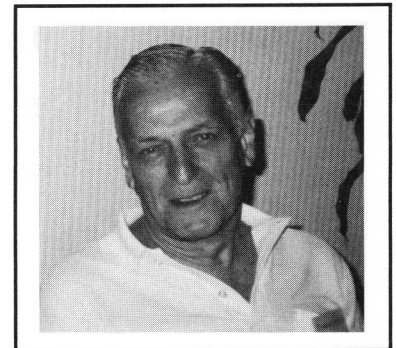


"Old-time Russians who met her would bow down and kiss her hand," said her husband, Dr. Alexander Ediss. "But I don't think Missy ever thought much about being a princess. She never liked the fuss."

Her grandfather, the last minister of protocol for the last czar of Russia, Nicolas II, fled with his family to France in the early 1920s. Mrs. Ediss was born in a suburb of Paris in 1922. At 20, she immigrated to the United States.

Four decades after her grandfather fled the Russian Revolution, the devoutly religious princess and her husband helped found St. Luke's in Garden Grove, a multinational Orthodox church that ranks as the largest

## MICHAEL POYDA



July 15, 1993

Michael, Associate member of SACO and close friend of the late Harry Brandwein, died following a long bout with lung cancer. Working in close proximity, Michael and Harry were daily "lunch pals." Michael was a frequent attendee of recent conventions.



# J. Marshall Watson



Mr. Watson, founder of Watson Woodwind Co. in Elkhart, died at 7:15 p.m. Sunday (July 11, 1993) in Elkhart General Hospital shortly after admittance. He was born July 26, 1928, in Macomb, Ill. He married Dolores "Dee" Janeczek on July 18, 1953, in Chicago. She survives with two daughters, Sandy Watson and Mrs. Rick (Linda) Choler, both of Elkhart; two sons, Craig of Indianapolis and Ron of St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles; three grandsons; and one sister, Mrs. Lewis (Carol) Brubaker of Bonita Springs, Fla. One brother is deceased.

Mr. Watson began his career in the music industry prior to moving to Elkhart in 1959. He founded the woodwind company in 1969 and retired in 1990. His daughter, Sandy Watson, is operator of the company.

He was a member of the Elkhart Jazz Assemblage, the Tyrian Masonic Lodge 718, Moose Lodge and

Four Lakes Country Club. He was a life member of the Scottish Rite, Valley of South Bend and of the Elks Lodge 425, where he was named Elk of the Year in 1965. He was a former member of the Elkhart Chamber of Commerce and the Elkhart Municipal Band. He had served on the Elkhart School Board from 1970 to 1978 which included a term as vice president and was a member of the Elkhart Central Christian Church, where he is an elder, former deacon and member of the choir. He was a past president and a Melvin Jones Fellow of the Elkhart Lions Club and a graduate of Macomb High School in Illinois. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. After his military service he graduated from Western Illinois University.

Memorials may be given to the Central Christian Church or the Indiana Lions Eye Bank.



## Raymond F. Williams railroad retiree, veteran umpire

**SOUTH PORTLAND** — Raymond F. Williams, 71, of Larchwood Road, a longtime railroad employee and baseball-softball umpire who served in a special unit in China during World War II, died unexpectedly Monday at a Portland hospital.

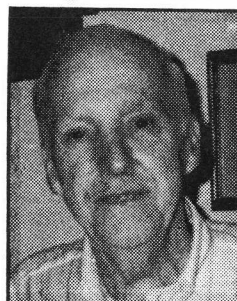
Mr. Williams worked 32 years for the New Haven Railroad Co., which later became Penn Central, and retired in 1976. As a traffic representative, he solicited freight for the line and traveled throughout Maine, New Hampshire and parts of Vermont.

"He liked being outside," said his wife, Marjorie Phillips Williams, "getting around and meeting lots of people. He was the friendly type."

Mr. Williams served in China with the Sino-American Cooperative Organization Unit

(SACO), a special guerrilla unit attached to the Navy. He took special services training and worked with Chinese guerrillas in the hills of China.

Years ago, he received a letter from Washington asking him to meet with military leaders to discuss the formation of a new unit. Later he thought it might have been from the Army, which was organizing the Green Berets, but he was never sure, his wife said. "He didn't hear from them again."



**Raymond Williams**

After retiring from the railroad, Mr. Williams worked for the Maine Turnpike Authority for five years.

He most recently worked three days a week at Shoppers Hardware in the Mill Creek Shopping Center, a position he held for the past 10 years.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., a son of Frank F. and Jane Antle Williams, he graduated from Manual High School there and attended Gray's Business College, Portland.

He was a former member of the Lions Club, a charter member and past president of the Maine Traffic Club and a member of the Western Maine Board of Baseball Umpires. He was a communicant of Holy Cross Church and enjoyed fishing.

Surviving are his wife of 46 years of South Portland; three daughters, Carol Taylor of Windham, Kathy Ryan of Scarborough and Lisa Lagios of South Portland; a son, John R. of South Portland; a sister, Dorothy Montone of Coconut Grove, Fla.; and nine grandchildren.

### PASSAGES

Each day the Press Herald selects one obituary and seeks to learn more about the life of a person who has lived and worked in Southern Maine. We look for a person who has made a mark on the community or the person's family and circle of friends in small but lasting ways.



DEATHS REPORTED SINCE  
LAST ISSUE OF SACO NEWS

Beck, Herbert W. 1992  
Lt.- Chungking

Boyette, Jr., Dr. Curtiss G.  
Lt.(jg)- Calcutta

Crocker, Lloyd R. 1994  
Ens.- Kunming/Shanghai

Henderson, David E. 1993  
Lt.Cdr.- Kweiyang

Holland, Way 1993  
GySgt- Camp 1

Karl, Roger F. ??  
BM1/c- Calcutta/Unit 5/Shanghai

Mattmiller, John N. 1966  
Ens.- Unit 6/Changchow

McCawley, Thomas G. 1993  
AerM1/c- Chungking

Nole, Leonard J. 1993  
CRM- Chungking/Kunming/14thAF

Owens, William P. 1985  
Lt.(jg)CG- Calcutta

Pitcher, Duane N. 1993  
MoMM2/c- Kunming/Shanghai

Seidenberger, Thomas L. 1991  
SK2/c- Calcutta/Kunming

Spring, Frank E. 1993  
SP3/c- Chungking/Shanghai

Williams, Raymond F. 1993  
SK2/c- Kunming/14thAF

Wood, Joseph E. 1994  
Lt- Camp 7



EXTRA COPIES OF GOLDEN EDITION  
OF SACO NEWS AVAILABLE

ONE COPY - FIRST CLASS MAIL IS  
\$1.90.

TWO TO FOUR COPIES BY PRIORITY  
MAIL IS \$2.90.

SEND YOUR REQUEST TO THE EDITOR

6.8 worth  
of all  
shock up

SACO VICTIMS OF NORTHRIDGE  
(LOS ANGELES) EARTHQUAKE

(This is part of the  
information I obtained in  
talking to these two men  
Wednesday, 26 January 1994  
- Ed.)

Howard Samuels, Northridge  
resident:

Three property-line  
walls flattened. Extensive  
breakage throughout the  
house. Lifetime of collect-  
ibles destroyed. Nine days  
after the quake, he was  
just getting a "path"  
cleared so they could get  
around the rooms. Many  
days they didn't dare walk  
without shoes because of  
broken glass. Howard said  
outside a slight scratch,  
he was not injured. Two  
sons living with him were  
in Las Vegas where they  
felt the quake and had  
difficulty trying to reach  
their father by phone.  
There were three windows  
broken out and a sliding  
glass door. They had no  
heat for five nights and  
Howard said it was cold.  
He is awaiting inspection  
as to structural damage if  
any.

Stephen Chu, Chatsworth  
resident:

Property-line wall  
flattened...much breakage  
throughout the house and  
kitchen area hit extremely  
hard. The car was damaged  
by falling objects in the  
garage. There are cracks  
in the interior walls and,  
as of this conversation,  
they still had to boil  
drinking water.

(Reminiscent of our days  
in China, huh?)

recently wrote to me asking about about my participation in the Navy Scouts and Raiders in WWII...Barry told me about the SACO Veterans organization... As you know I then contacted Paul Casamajor about joining the SACO Veterans and he asked you to send me the copies of SACO NEWS which you so kindly sent to me. My regret is that I didn't find out about the SACO Veterans organization sooner!

I was sorry to hear about the death of Phil Bucklew...I was privileged to have served with Phil in Unit 6 in Fukien province. When the war ended, I played on the Navy team which played an Army-Navy game in Shanghai at the end of 1945. Phil Bucklew helped in organizing and coaching the Navy team. Phil told us that he was returning to coach Xavier University and asked several of us who still had eligibility remaining if we would transfer to Xavier. Although I didn't accept his invitation, I have often wondered what would have happened if I had transferred to Xavier with Phil Bucklew.

I was a member of the Roger 1 group that participated in Navy Scouts and Raiders and Underwater Demolition training at Ft. Pierce, FL during the fall of 1944 and was assigned to SACO in early 1945...Unit 6 in Fukien province, which at that time, was under the command of Lt.Cdr. Robert "Buck" Halperin...

Again, I thank you for sending me the issues of the SACO NEWS. I really appreciate them. I am planning to attend the next National Convention in Rapid City, South Dakota. I hope to see you there.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Hoe

(Ed. Bob was so pleased to have been "found" by SACO, he sent Treasurer Buckless \$100.)



12 July 1993

(To Paul & Martha Casamajor)

There is no way we can relay how much we've enjoyed this issue of the SACO NEWS! It has to be the best one yet. Enjoyed all the bits of history published etc. The group has been fortunate and 'held together' due to the tremendous efforts of those in charge. SACO has enriched our lives and left many pleasant memories. With all the planning made for each gathering, it makes for a great time and perfect vacations.

THANKS AGAIN and we hope to see you again next spring in Rapid City.

Sincerely,

Mona & Bob (Miller)



7 July 1993

Received the SACO magazine in yesterday's mail and want to tell you how impressive we think it is - wonderfully interesting and can see the hours and effort that went into it. Congratulations - it is superb - you should get a commendation.\*

Fran and John Waters

(\* The many kind words from so many like you are commendations within themselves.)



20 July 1993

(To Buckless)

Mrs. Harvey and I had a great time at the convention (our first!) and especially enjoyed seeing three Jorhat buddies - Conrad Bradshaw, Joe Pohorsky and Bill White - for the first time since 1945 !...

Very best regards,

Jack (Harvey)



27 September 1993

Well, I finally got a copy of the picture that I referred to in my letter to Carl Dibelbiss. Unfortunately, at the time, I did not write down the names of those in the picture, so I'm relying strictly on memory and after 48 years, you know what that is.

(In the letter to Dibelbiss mentioned above, Willig wrote):

"When our unit was formed, early in 1945 (Jan. or Feb.) in Mei-hsien, Kwantung Province, I am almost certain that the officer in charge was Lt.

Divelbiss...The picture I made reference to...was taken on the steps behind the Catholic convent in Mei-hsien. By way of explanation, as I understood it then, SACO had struck a deal with the local Catholic diocese, headed by Bishop Ford and the Parish Priest, Father Jack Donovan, to house and feed the SACO unit. On this particular day, it just happened that Father Donovan had conducted a wedding ceremony and the participants wanted pictures taken for posterity. The picture consists of 13 SACO members (including Lt. Divelbiss), the married couple, relatives and friends, Father Donovan, two Catholic nuns and two army officers who just happened to be passing through. (See NOSTALGIA for picture).

"Again, relying on memory, I always thought our unit in Mei-hsien (Kaying), China was identified as Unit 13. However, when talking to a member in Louisville, he said it couldn't have been because he was with Unit 13 and they were located in the Gobi Desert. And so it goes. If you can find out the correct unit number, please let me know..."

Best regards,

John R. Willig



23 December 1993

Thank you for your thoughtful Xmas card. I'm enclosing an article that I hope you can fit into SACO NEWS. (See POTPOURRI Ed.)

I had a surprise visit from Hal Bonin who was on his way through to Florida. We were able to meet for a sandwich and coffee. He was driving an RV. I have designed a SACO plaque for Charlie Parkin and have turned the design over to him; although I understand he may not be able to attend the reunion at Rapid City. In that case he will ask me to present it to the board there.

...My best wishes to you both. Give Erma a hug and a kiss for me.

In SACO friendship,

Andy (Fleming)



22 September 1993

I am enclosing the obituary for one of our shipmates on the off-chance that you have not already been notified.

Although we were not close friends, I did know Ray (Raymond F. Williams) and he quite likely would have been a more active member of SACO had he not been so busy in community affairs.

It is sad to see our numbers reduced one by one each year.

The work you do on the SACO NEWS is outstanding and deeply appreciated at this end. I am acutely aware of the labor and enterprise such as this entails.

My best wishes and thanks,

Bill Howard, Commander USN (Ret.)



(To Billy Miles)

30 October 1993

I saw your address in the Golden Edition of the SACO NEWS. I thought it would be nice to touch base with you since my husband, Robert "Pat" Ryan, was in China with your husband, "Mary," in 1942 and 1943. I also knew Adm. Miles as I was a secretary in the Interior Control Board at the Navy Dept. during WWII. In fact, that is where I met my husband before he left for China with Major Masters and Way Holland. We have been married for almost 50 years and we have had a wonderful marriage which produced 5 children and 17 grandchildren - and more on the drawing board.

We just heard from Anne Holland that Way died the end of August 1993...

We still keep in touch with Buck Dormer who was our best man.

I pray you are well and enjoying God's richest blessings.

Lovingly,

Rosemary and Pat (Ryan)



14 August 1993

We recently came across the enclosed photos (see Nostalgia section this issue).

...I arrived in China from India with a group of radiomen in September, 1944, I believe. We lived in a hotel in Kunming and traveled to the compound daily to erect radio antennas. A CRM, who we called "Pappy" was in charge of this project and also the installation of the transmitters. I believe the compound opened for "business" in Oct. or Nov. 1944.\*

...Just got my membership card from Frank Buckless and he reminded me of the 1994 reunion. If my health permits, I plan to attend. Was borned and raised in western Iowa so could also visit there.

Wish the quality of the enclosed pictures was better, but, after all, they are almost 50 years old.

Very truly yours,

Wayne McClow

\* - This was the start of FRUCHI - Fleet Radio Unit China. Ed.



9 July 1993

Well, I don't really believe it, but you have outdone yourself on the latest issue of the SACO NEWS. Your professionalism shows through from the slick cover on to the last page.

While I realize that mere words cannot do justice to your dedication and effort on the SACO NEWS, I do believe you should be immensely proud of being the catalyst that has sparked many of our lost sheep to come into the fold and pay their dues.

I would also be remiss if I didn't



mention the thought, time and effort that your so-called typesetter has put in the project. Please accept my undying thanks and gratitude for taking on and producing such a professional publication. While I had the pleasure of seeing some of your work you provided for the railroad, I personally believe this has become your best yet, but knowing you - there is still more to come.

Again, thanks to you and Paul for a most superb job.

With warm regards to you and Erma, I remain

Bill Bartee

(What a beautiful tribute, Bill! Paul and I, too, are at a loss to thank you for your letter, but we do from the bottom of our hearts. Ed.)



12 July 1993

Thank you very much for sending me the Golden Edition of the SACO NEWS and for the wonderful presentation of my appeal for information about my aircrew's rescue near Shao-wu in March 1945. I was away on vacation when the SACO NEWS arrived, but what a pleasant surprise when I was able to see it! I found the whole issue to be of the greatest interest.

I seem to have come up against a blank wall and have been somewhat discouraged lately. I wrote to A.C. Lillig, S.I. Morris and D. Leberman. Messrs. Lillig and Leberman responded nicely, but couldn't provide information about the rescue of our crew. So far Mr. Morris hasn't replied to my inquiry.

Interestingly, I received a letter on July 10th from Mr. W. Roger Simpson who read my appeal in the SACO NEWS. He had been a U.S. Naval officer stationed with SACO at Kienyang in 1944/45 and knew all five officers mentioned in my appeal. The only airmen which were rescued by SACO personnel at Kienyang in that time period were from a crashed B-24 near Shanghai, and a 14th Air Force fighter pilot (South China). He recalls that there were some Navy and/or Marine personnel at Kienow. He promised to examine some records and letters which he brought back when he returned to the States for any reference to Kienow.

All-in-all, my correspondence with SACO personnel has been very pleasant and interesting, if not fruitful. I am most grateful to everyone who has replied to my letters. I am most grateful to "Doc" Felmlly who started me off in the right direction, and to you, Richard, for providing me with the addresses of Leberman, Lillig and Morris as well as publishing the tremendous article in SACO NEWS.

Also, I want to thank you for

returning the photographs which I previously sent you and for the very nice hand-written note, all of which I received today.

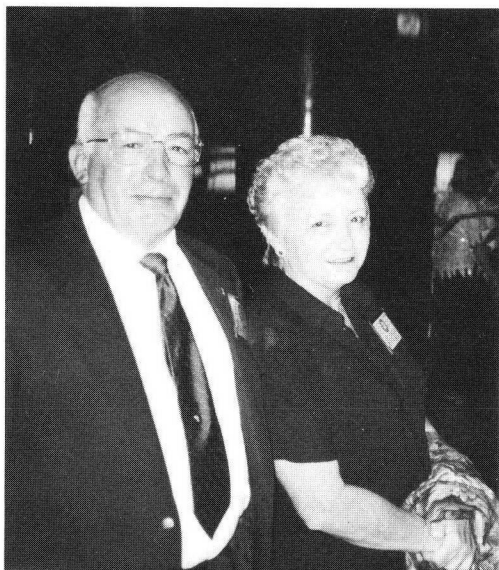
Thank you again for all of your efforts to help me - I am very appreciative. All of you in SACO are the greatest!

I wish you the utmost in health and happiness. I shall never forget your kindnesses.

With best regards,

Jim Powell

(Ed. Maybe we should invite Jim to be an Associate Member. He's qualified more than most and I suspect he has some interesting stories to tell.)



8 July 1993

Just a short note to let you know how much we enjoyed the 50th SACO NEWS; it was super. Very informative and newsy. You and Paul must have put a lot of time and effort into it; it really shows.

Will see you in Rapid City; pray we all stay healthy.

Marie & Sal (Ciaccio)

PS: We're going to Italy in October.



20 July 1993

Thanks so much for your letter of 10 July and the return of the photos. You outdid yourself with the Golden Edition of SACO NEWS; it is really excellent.

The two-page layout on THE JORHAT CREW was much more than I expected, and of course, I am very pleased with the way it turned out. I hope the readers will find it of interest. I was amazed at the quality of the photos. I am sorry to note that I made at least one mistake in identifications in the group picture; I completely left out Dallas Kinney who is in the middle row between Bill White and Alex Rogers.

...I enclose my check for \$50. \* to help in a small way the cost of this great issue of SACO NEWS. You are doing a fine job and I know it is appreciated by all hands.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Jack (Harvey)

\* Check forwarded to Frank Buckless, Treas.



16 July 1993  
(To Buckless)

The enclosed \$100 is for "past dues."

I want you to know how much we appreciate receiving the SACO NEWS.

We are looking forward to the '94 convention.

Charlie O'Brien



9 July 1993

I thoroughly enjoyed your fiftieth anniversary edition of SACO NEWS. Congratulations on a job well done. I arrived in Happy Valley on August 11, 1943 and, after traveling a great deal in China, left on February 12, 1944. I had been stationed in India before that and went into Burma after the China experience. I was a Special Naval Observer looking for new Japanese ordinance. I was trained in bomb disposal work and, therefore, was trying to find what new fuses the Japanese were testing on the Chinese.

...I enclose a copy of a Letter of Authority given me by Major General Stratemeyer, who was the Air Commander in the CBI Theater at the time. I thought this might be of interest. I also enclose a copy of my Secret Orders from Commodore Miles, which certainly are unique in so far as my experience with the Navy is concerned. His Letter of Authority is also attached to his Orders.

My whole year and a half in the CBI Theater was tremendously interesting and

I will never forget it.

I was in China this past October and nothing seemed the same. The old airport at Chungking, which was a sandy island in the middle of the Yangtze River, is now completely abandoned and serves as an anchor for the two sides of the river. There is no reason to use the two hundred and eighty three steps from street level down to the Yangtze River that were referred to in Paul Casamajor's interesting story on page 45 of the last SACO NEWS. It was interesting to note that he didn't forget those steps either. I can't believe anyone could possibly do so, particularly if you were carrying heavy loads as I was...

Sincerely yours,

John I Hartman, Jr.

OFFICE OF THE U. S. NAVAL OBSERVER

EN3-11(CHG)/P16-4/00  
118336

AMERICAN EMBASSY  
CHUNGKING, CHINA

(10/wd)

~~SECRET~~

October 19, 1943.

**SECRET**

From: The U.S. Naval Observer.  
To: Lieutenant (jg) J. I. HARTMAN, D-V(G), U.S. Naval Reserve.

Subject: ORDERS.

1. Upon receipt of these orders and when directed by proper authority, on or about October 19, 1943, you will take charge of the below named man, proceed by truck transportation which will be furnished you to Kweiyang:

BLAKE, J.W., Y.l.c., V-6, U.S. Naval Reserve.

Upon arrival at Kweiyang you will also direct PHILLIPS, T.G., Jr., Ph.M.2c., U.S.N.R., who is now at that station, to proceed with you in the truck. Any additional space available in the truck should be filled up with supplies for forward camps. The truck will probably disembark it stores and personnel at the rail head at King Chen Kiang. The route from there on will be via the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad to Kweilin, thence by the Hunan-Kwangsi railroad to Hengyang. Upon arrival at Hengyang you should contact Mr. Lo, Room 104, International Hotel, and ask him to get in touch with Lieutenant Stewart, Nanyo Training Camp. In case Mr. Lo is not available you should inquire at the U.S. Army Airport. The supplies for Camp No. 2 which you are taking with you on the truck will be off loaded at Hengyang for further transportation to Camp No. 2. As conditions permit proceed from Hengyang via the Canton Hankow railroad to Shaokwan where the terminus exists for the truck transportation system to Major Master's Camp. General Tai's instructions are that you should go to Chinese guerrilla headquarters in the Kwangch area. To accomplish this will be considerably easier said than done. Report to Colonel Williams, who is now at Hweichow, for further information on this subject. In case Colonel Williams is absent, report to Major Parkin at the training headquarters.

2. It is believed that a Chinese will accompany you throughout the trip, only there maybe stages where there will be no one available. Phillips should join Lieutenant Colgrove, U.S.N.R., wherever he maybe. At present he is in Shunan.

3. Maintain daily radio contact with headquarters camp.

*M. E. Miles*  
M. E. MILES.

HEADQUARTERS  
EASTERN AIR COMMAND  
SOUTH EAST ASIA

Rishra (Howrah)  
10 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Letter of Authority.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

1. This letter will introduce

Lt. T.L. Boardman, USNR  
Lt. J.I. Hartman, Jr., USNR  
Lt. (jg) J. McN. Sittersen, USNR  
Lt. (jg) S.C. Smith, USNR

2. These officers, of Headquarters, Army Air Forces, India-Eurma Sector, have been assigned the duty of analyzing American bomb functioning in areas reoccupied by Allied troops. This work is necessary in order to supply information requested by the Commanding General, AAF, Washington, D.C. It should also yield much data of value to tactical commanders in this theater.

3. All Air Force units of this command are requested to give fullest cooperation to the above officers in the fulfillment of their mission. Operational records should be made available for inspection.

4. It will be appreciated if local Ground Force commanders in forward areas give such assistance as they are able. When in areas under the Ground Force commander's control these officers will be subject to existing orders and restrictions prescribed by him. These officers are highly trained in characteristics of allied and enemy bombs, fuzes, and similar equipment. They will be glad to furnish whatever special information of this nature may be of interest to such commanders.

*George E. Stratemeyer*  
GEORGE E. STRATEMEYER,  
Major General, U.S.A.,  
Air Commander.

OFFICE OF THE U. S. NAVAL OBSERVER  
AMERICAN EMBASSY  
CHUNGKING, CHINA

(10/wd)

October 19, 1943.

MEMORANDUM TO COMMANDING OFFICERS OF U.S. ARMY AIR STATIONS AND  
OTHER U.S. ARMY ACTIVITIES.

The bearer of this memorandum is Lieutenant (jg) J. I. HARTMAN, D-V(G), U.S. Naval Reserve, who is proceeding on business connected with the Office of the U.S. Naval Observer, Chungking, China. Although his main business is in connection with enemy weapons, he is concurrently interested in other activities which are known to the headquarters of the 14th U.S.A.A.F., and which will probably be of considerable assistance to the air force.

In case Lieutenant Hartman requests transmission of telegrams or mail, it is requested that he be accorded such facilities as you may have available. Mail should be addressed to the U.S. Naval Observer, A.P.O. 879 or to the Assistant U.S. Naval Observer, Headquarters, 14th Air Force, A.P.O. 627. Telegrams should be sent to the Assistant U.S. Naval Observer, Headquarters, 14th Air Force. The Assistant U.S. Naval Observer is in constant communication with me.

Respectfully,

*M. E. Miles*  
M. E. MILES,  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
U.S. Naval Observer.







# POTPOURRI



## SACO MOVIES

The VHS tapes (2 cassettes and about 5 hours worth) of Adm. Miles' films narrated by him, very casually, at the 1956 SACO Reunion, are still available at our cost -- \$30.00 postpaid to paid-up SACO members. \$50.00 to all others. Send money to Treasurer Frank Buckless 4246 Darleigh Road, Baltimore, MD 21236-2413. Allow 2 to 3 weeks for delivery.

## SACO BOOKS

As noted in the last several issues of SACO NEWS, we have a small lending library of SACO related books. Specifically:

SACO - THE RICE PADDY NAVY  
and  
THE ARMY-NAVY GAME  
both by  
Roy Olin Stratton

A DIFFERENT KIND OF WAR  
by  
Vice Adm. M.E. Miles, USN

THE EXPENDABLES  
by  
Ted Wildman

Each of these may be borrowed (for about a month) for the cost of postage. Send your requests to:  
Paul Casamajor, Membership Chairman  
2605 Saklan Indian Dr. #6  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-3035

A DIFFERENT KIND OF WAR is still available for purchase from:  
Mrs. Wilma S. Miles  
4948 Sentinel Dr. #106  
Bethesda, MD 20818

for \$13. postpaid

Wildman's THE EXPENDABLES is also available for purchase for \$10. (\$7. goes to Ted's widow). This is available from Casamajor (see address above).

## WANTED

We have two requests (one each) to purchase copies of Stratton's books which are long out of print. If anyone is willing to sell their copy of SACO - THE RICE PADDY NAVY or THE ARMY-NAVY GAME, please contact "Loan Librarian" Casamajor who will tell you who the buyers are and you can negotiate your own deal.

## REVISITING THE REVISITED SCOUTS & RAIDERS

by  
Paul Casamajor, Membership

In issue No. 8 of SACO NEWS on page 25 we noted that the SACO records show that 80 officers and 236 enlisted men "came aboard" SACO in Calcutta on February 20-21, 1945. We've since found out that most (if not all) of these men were members of one of the "Roger" groups - Roger Special, Roger One, Roger Two and Roger Three.

No wonder the Japs quit shortly thereafter !!

At that time we only knew the whereabouts of 9 of the officers and 50 of the enlisted men and they were identified in issue #8.

Then we found out that this gang has a historian and their Ft. Pierce, FL museum has a curator. The historian is John Barry Dwyer 430 Westbrook, Dayton, OH 45415. He wrote the book "SCOUTS & RAIDERS" which we discussed in SACO NEWS issue #9. He is now actively researching a follow-up book.

The curator at Ft. Pierce is Jim Barnes who lives across the Florida peninsula at 3216 Yale St. N. St. Petersburg, FL 33713. Jim has been an Associate member of SACO for some time.

Since issue #9 was published, we have sent Dwyer and Barnes the full list of the 80 officers and the 236 enlisted men who "came aboard" those February days in 1945. Since the S. & R.s have their own "alumni" group(s), Dwyer and Barnes have identified several men who are not aware of the SACO activities. We are trying to contact all of them so that we might see some of them at Rapid City in May.

In November 1993, the S. & R.s had a muster at Ft. Pierce and quite a number of SACOs made the scene - Andy Fleming, Guy Purvis, Sal Ciaccio, Ray King, Guy Maddox, Gene Peden, Wiley Williamson and Doug Ray among others.

Is there an S. & R. out there who would like to be Assistant Membership Chairman for Scouts and Raiders? He could also help sift the fact from fiction from their stories.

## PLAQUE FOR ROGER UNITS

This is an appeal to all SACO members who took Scouts & Raiders training at Ft. Pierce, FL. There were 5 ROGER groups trained. They were designated as Special

ROGER, then ROGER 1 through 4. It is my understanding that ROGER 4 never left the states as the war ended as they completed training. There is a UDT/SEAL museum in Ft. Pierce that contains bronze plaques that contain the names of many of the men who trained as S. & R.'s and UDT teams. I believe that S. & R.'s have 3 plaques and the UDT teams have 8 or 10.

I have been asked by Jim Barnes, the historian of S. & R.'s and also a member of the Board of Trustees of the museum to see if there is any interest in getting a ROGER plaque placed in the museum. As the museum is a tribute to those men who trained in Ft. Pierce, it seems only appropriate that the ROGER units have a place there. At present, there is no mention of the ROGER units in the museum. In November 1992, I attended a muster at the museum; through the efforts of Jim Barnes, my name was placed on the latest S. & R. plaque. I feel as though the ROGER units deserve their own place among the S. & R.'s and UDTs. This could be realized if there is enough interest on your part.

Please contact me if you feel this idea is worth pursuing.

Andrew M. Fleming  
3908 Teakwood Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23227



Officers - 1993-94

**President**

Arthur Wilding  
606 Riverwood Drive  
Louisville, KY 40207

**Vice President**

Willie M. Baker  
2810 Highlands Blvd.  
Spring Valley, CA 91977

**Secretary**

Lloyd M. Felmy, MD  
432 Golden Beach Blvd.  
Venice, FL 34285

**Treasurer**

Frank W. Buckless  
4246 Darleigh Road  
Baltimore, MD 21236

**Assistant Secretary**

Lillian Gilroy  
6108 Zeigler Blvd.  
Mobile, AL 36608

**Assistant Treasurer**

Salvatore Ciaccio  
32 Marie Street  
Tewksbury, MA 01876

**Historian**

Mrs. Wilma S. Miles  
4948 Sentinel Dr. Apt. 106  
Bethesda, MD 20816

**Legal Counsel**

Carl W. Divilbiss  
1507 East Nicolet Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85020

**Membership Chairman**

Paul Casamajor  
2605 Saklan Indian Dr. #6  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-3035

**Editor, SACO NEWS**

Richard L. Rutan  
45-480 Desert Fox Dr.  
La Quinta, CA 92253

**Trustees**

Lawrence W. Bartee  
4624 N. Cheyenne Tr.  
Tucson, AZ 85715-9330

Dr. Dayton L. Alverson  
17916 Brittany Dr. SW  
Seattle, WA 98166

Dr. Alexander Ediss  
11871 Arroya Avenue  
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Ralph Mullen  
P. O. Box 3616  
Shawnee, KS 66203

Herman Weskamp  
3034 Larkwood  
West Covina, CA 91791

## 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  
45-480 Desert Fox Drive  
La Quinta, CA 92253-4214

Phone: (619)360-3800

**TYPESETTING**

by  
Paul Casamajor

COVER:

"CHANCE" was one of the trained sentry dogs at Camp 9 shown posing in front of the kennel 1 December 1944. The name of each occupant was displayed above the kennel doors. The nameplates were made by Stephen Chu, Camp 9 interpreter, who sent us the photo of "CHANCE." It is most fitting to give the smart-looking animal "star" billing in this the Chinese "Year Of The Dog."

### SACO NEWS BENEFACTORS

It is a privilege to recognize the following donors to the SACO treasury for their generous support of SACO NEWS and the organization. We are truly honored and sincerely grateful for your contributions.

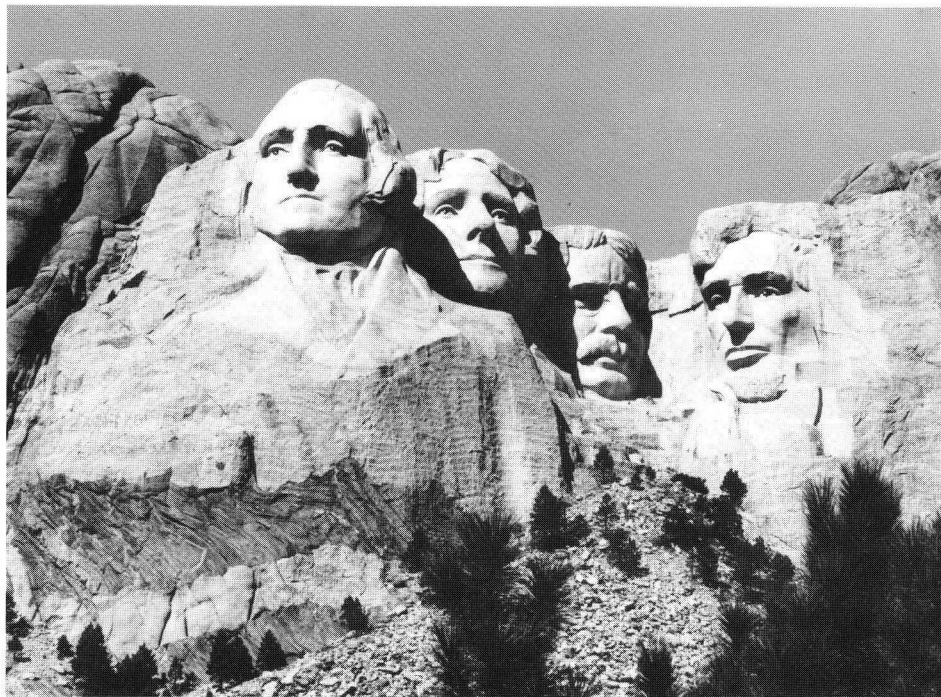
GEORGE BANES.....	\$100.00
LLOYD COBB (2-time donor)...	100.00 ea.
WILLIAM ERNEST.....	100.00
JACK HARVEY.....	50.00
ROBERT HOE.....	100.00
DONALD MC NEELY.....	100.00
CHARLES O'BRIEN.....	100.00
JACOB SIEGRIST.....	100.00
SHEPHERD TATE (3-time donor)	100.00 ea.

Gentlemen, we thank you so much!

1994  
NATIONAL  
CONVENTION  
MAY 25-29

1994 Convention Chairman

David J. Clarke  
1410 Davenport St.  
Sturgis, SD 57785-1927



RAPID CITY

SO. DAKOTA

*We need the  
support of all  
TIGERS*

**SACO DUES**

Annual dues for Regular  
and Associate Members:

\$20.00

Send dues to:

Frank W. Buckless  
4246 Darleigh Road  
Baltimore, MD 21236



Annual dues for Ladies  
Auxiliary:

\$10.00

Send dues to:

Ellen Booth  
7471 Thunderbird Rd.  
Liverpool, NY 13088

SACO NEWS

Richard L. Rutan, Editor  
45-480 Desert Fox Drive  
La Quinta, CA 92253-4214  
Phone (619) 360-3800



**FIRST CLASS**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mr. Kenneth U. Brown  
2674 W. Nelson St.  
Laramie, WY 82070-6659