

# SACO VETERANS

VICE ADMIRAL MILTON E. "MARY" MILES

*Rear Duke & Perpetual Skipper*



MAY  
1992

SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

Issue No. 7

## 50 SACO DELEGATES ATTEND 80th ANNIVERSARY OF REPUBLIC OF CHINA

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LT. GEN. & MRS. YIN TSUNG-WEN

# 1991 Double Tenth

Monday, 7 October 1991, 50 SACO delegates arrived at the Chiang Kai-shek International Airport in Taiwan to begin eight days of unforgettable entertainment as guests of the Military Intelligence Bureau of ROC. Our most gracious host, Lt. Gen. Yin Tsung-wen, Director of the MIB, planned a most exciting itinerary to see that everyone experienced one of the greatest thrills of a lifetime. After a Tuesday morning rest, with the exception of six representatives making VIP calls, the group visited the Taipei World Trade Center which was adjacent to our hotel, the Grand Hyatt, Taipei's newest. The six representatives called on Lt. Gen. Yin at the MIB, Gen. Sung Hsin-lien, Director of the National Security Bureau and Admiral Yeh Chang-tung, COMINCH of the ROC Navy.

Wednesday morning the MIB hosted a tea party at which the delegates met many former Bureau friends who are now retired. In the afternoon the delegation went to the "One Heart and One Mind" celebration, an extraordinary show of talent by the youth of Taiwan. That evening, Gen. Chao Chih-yuan, Vice Chief of the General Staff hosted a banquet.

Thursday, the Double Tenth, Paul Casamajor, the delegation chairman, was asked to represent the delegation to attend H.E. President Lee Teng-hui's foreign visitors reception at the Presidential Building. The entire delegation attended the parade and in the evening went to a reception at the Taipei Guest House hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Friday, the group made a trip to Tzu Hu and Tou Liao to pay homage at the temporary resting places of the late Presidents Chiang Kai-shek and Chiang Ching-kuo. The group then traveled to the "Window on China", a park of miniturized symbols of the cultural heritage of China. The lunch there was hosted by Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Chang Wen-huan, Deputy Director of the MIB. This busy day included a visit to the Veterans Home in Taoyuan ... again, a pleasurable, even

though extremely emotional and moving event. This is, without a doubt, one of the most touching of all scheduled events in Taiwan and once you have lived this experience there is a desire to return should there be opportunities to do so. On our visit here in 1982, Bill Bartee said it for all of us as we returned to our bus: "Don't anyone say a word to me for 15 minutes".

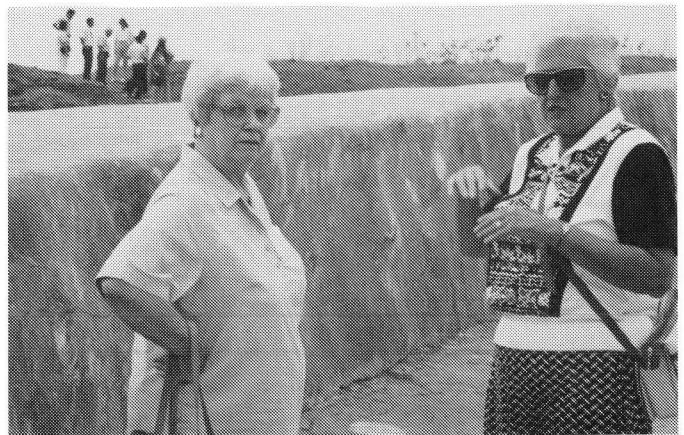
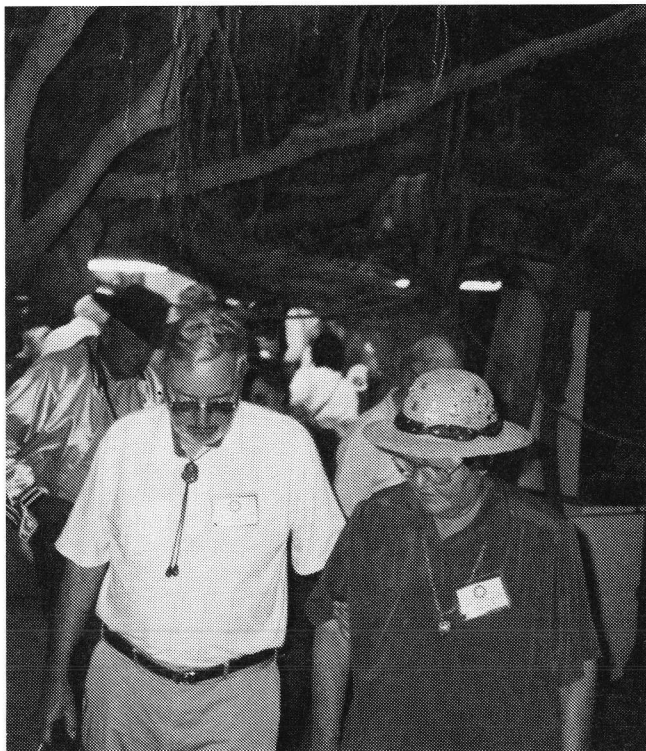
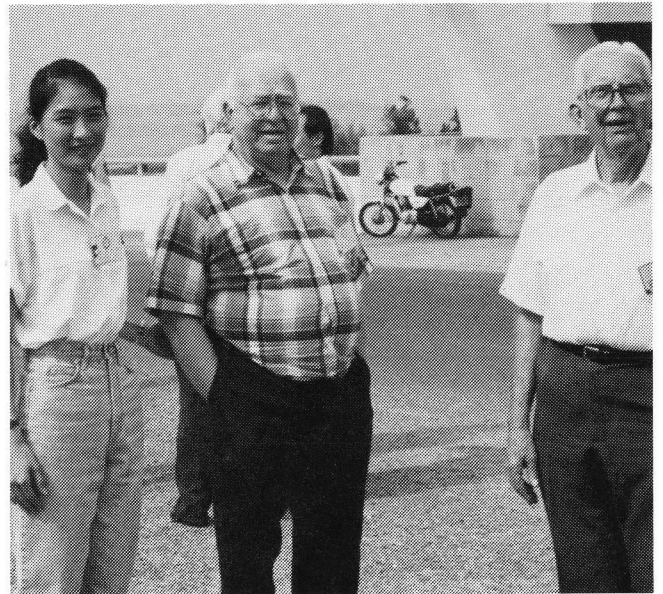


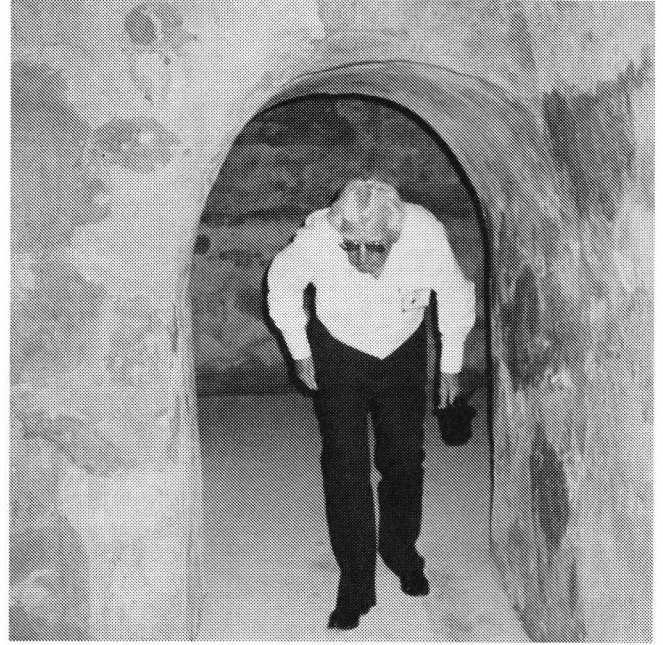
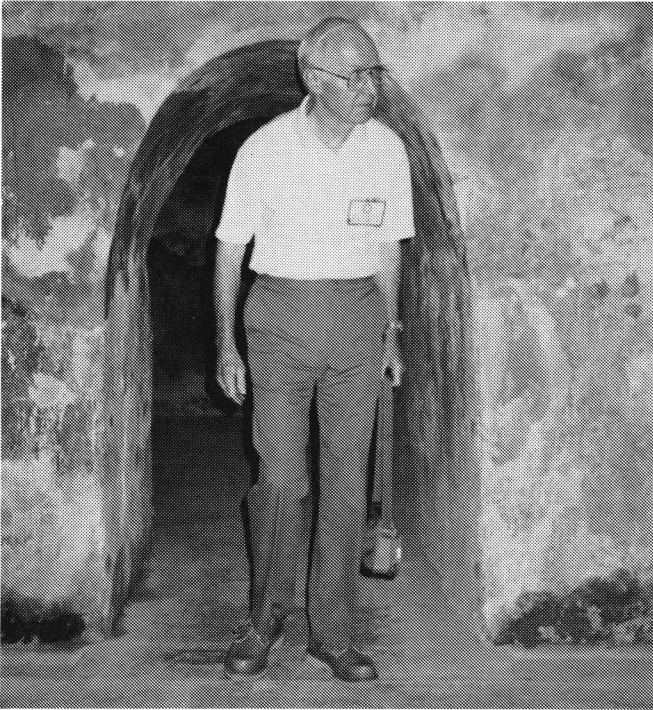
On Saturday, the 12th, the six representatives called on H.E. Premier Hau Pei-tsun of the Executive Yuan and a warm friend of SACO. Other festivities for the entire group included a tour of the Garden of Lin Pen-yuan's family at Panchiao and a visit in the afternoon to the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial and the National Theater and Concert Hall.



at the Jui Fu Hotel hosted by Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Yang Hsueh-yen, Deputy Director of the MIB. (Those who were in the 1989 delegation will remember that Gen. and Mrs. Yang accompanied us on our 3-day tour to Kenting and visits to all five military academies.)

Sunday, 13 October, found the delegation "winging" their way to the Pescadores Islands off the coast of Taiwan. Landing on the island of Makung, the tour included a temple surrounded by a tree-arbor over 300 years old, an old Portuguese fort and an excellent luncheon

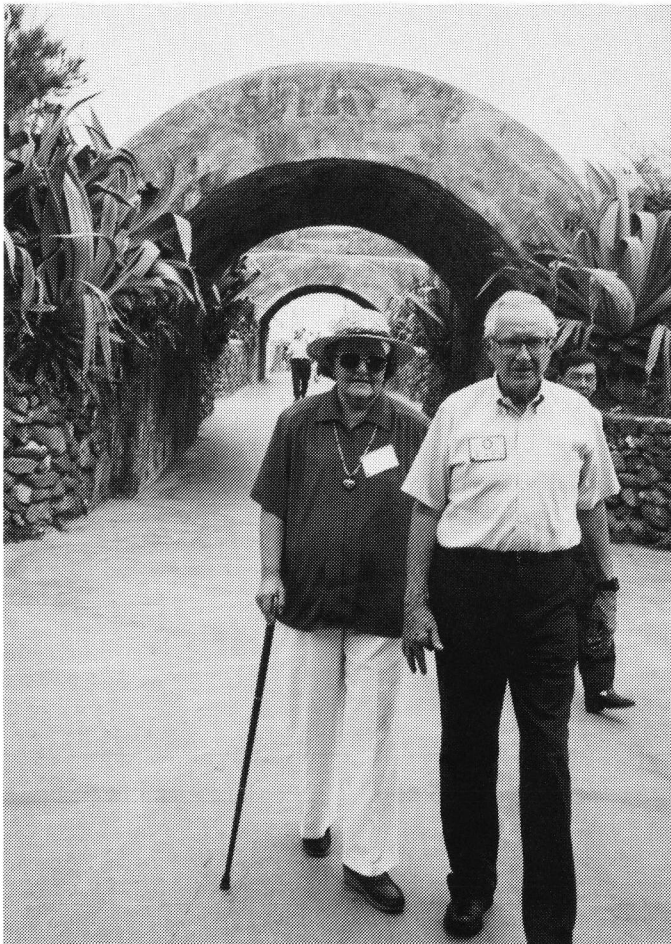


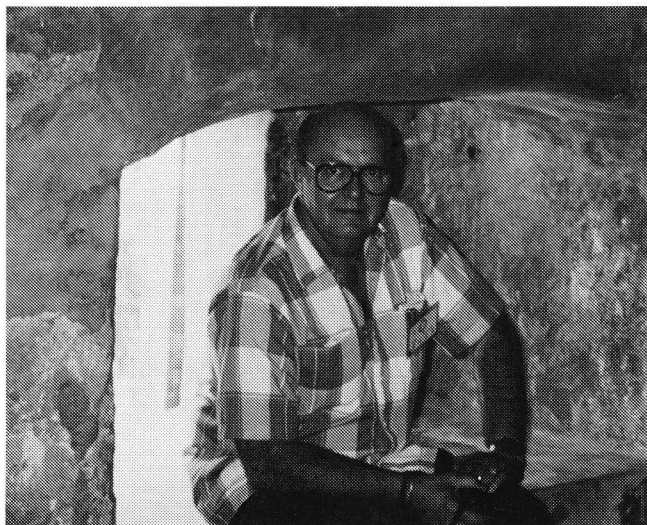


The final day, Monday the 14th, included the National Palace Museum, the Taiwan Handicraft Promotion Center and the farewell dinner banquet hosted by Lt.



Gen. and Mrs. Yin Tsung-wen, the Director of MIB and our host. It was a special night ... we were most happy to return to the Grand Hotel for our final evening and afford the "newcomers" the thrill of being in that magnificent edifice. Not for the want of sounding ungrateful, for the Grand Hyatt is truly a beautiful and magnificent work of marble architecture, but I'm sure I speak for all, and would be less than honest, if I did not reveal that SACO's heart belongs to the stately old Grand Hotel on the hill overlooking Taipei and we long to return to our "home" everytime we are privileged to join our friends in ROC.





To General and Mrs. Yin Tsung-wen and the staff members of MIB, we extend our most sincere appreciation for another unforgettable and unequalled visit to your country. We wish all of you good health and much happiness and we shall always remember the honors, you as our SACO friends, have bestowed on us. It may be simply put, but our "Thank You" is one that comes of friendship and truly from the hearts of SACO.

-- R.L.Rutan



## NEW ADVENTURE FOR THE RUTANS

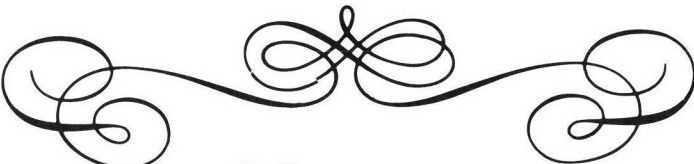
### NEVER TOO OLD TO START LIFE ANEW

Having spent exactly 44 years to the month in the same old nest, these two "old birds" decided to "fly" south and build a new nest (our first new one as our former "hangouts" had been previously occupied). Erma and Richard Rutan have chosen the desert resort community in the Palm Springs area to relocate and make their permanent home. In the interim, as the construction is completed, we are renting a condo in Palm Springs, but by the time this issue goes to press, we will be occupying our new home at:

45-480 Desert Fox Drive  
La Quinta, CA 92253

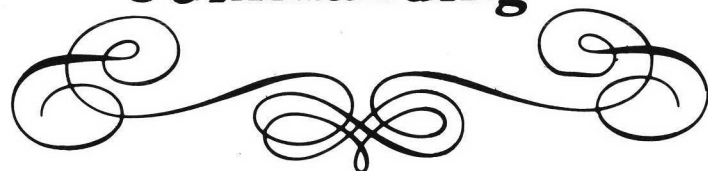
(619)360-3800

La Quinta (pronounced La Keen'ta), although a popular resort known especially for its hotel built in 1926, is currently a small community of less than 12,000 and just celebrated its 10th anniversary of incorporation. It is one of the fastest growing communities in the Coachella Valley and we look forward to enjoying the lifestyle of the desert. We are only three miles off Interstate 10. Come see us whenever you can!

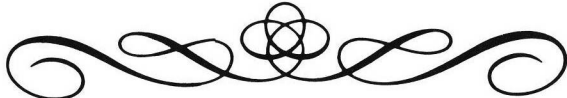
  
**SACO**  
**COMMEMORATED**  
*Through Contribution*  
**To The**  
**ARLEIGH**  
 &  
**ROBERTA BURKE**  
**THEATRE**  
*In Wash., D.C.*

As a result of the endeavors of Bill Bartee, SACO is to be memorialized in the newly constructed Arleigh & Roberta Burke Theatre. Theatre seats were made available to ship, squadron and unit alumni organizations - reunion groups - for a sponsoring contribution of \$1,000. each. Each sponsored seat will bear a brass plate imbedded in its solid wood arm, inscribed with the name of a ship, squadron or unit commemorated. Bartee presented his findings to the SACO Board of Trustees who approved the donation. The metal plate will read:

*U. S. Naval Group China*  
**SACO**  
*V. Adm. M.E. (Mary) Miles,*  
**Commanding**



# Letters To The Editor



6 November 1991

Hope you are over your recent RDC trip.

I was looking at old issues of "WHAT THE HELL" - Issue No. 4, May 1990, Nostalgia pg.16 - in group photo upper left, No.22 was not identified. He is Malcolm "Mal" Edward Barnett from the Great State of Texas. No. 8 is Harry W. Hinkle, CRM ... The group photo was taken late 1943 on the steps of our living quarters. We called it the "White House"; actually it was the "Tai House" named after Gen. Tai Li.

Yours,  
Hank Scurlock



December, 1991

We hope you enjoyed your rest and relaxation in Hawaii. When we returned home, I checked the SACO NEWS and was amazed at how many of the people on the Taiwan trip had also been in Nashville. We obviously had had a mini-Camp 4 reunion there. And also it shows that the SACO NEWS is a valuable publication.

I really enjoyed sitting with you on the flight to Hawaii. You should be the SACO historian - you know so much about the members and have been to so many conventions.

...we look forward to seeing you in San Diego.

Bob and Arline Sizemore



December, 1991

Hope you two are well, just want to let you know how much we enjoyed our trip (Taiwan) and to thank you for all you have done. It is not an easy task to try and please so many people.

See you in San Diego.

Thanks again,  
Marie and Sal (Ciaccio)

December, 1991

It was a pleasure to meet you both and thank you for all your efforts in making the friendly atmosphere at the hospital-ity rooms in San Francisco and Taipei.

Am enclosing a picture taken at the farewell dinner in Taipei which we thought you would like.

We enjoyed the trip immensely and will remember it forever.

...Look forward to seeing you in San Diego.

Fondly,  
Mathilda & Richard Banner



December, 1991

During the past year, the only contact I've had with any of the group is a letter from Johnnie (Westphal) and a very brief visit from Jack Miller (in July). Johnnie said he, too, intended to visit last summer when he was in the general area to celebrate a function with the family; however he didn't make it. I hope that doesn't mean he had any real problem of any sort.

My very best to you and your mom through the coming year and beyond. Don't forget, you have a standing invitation to visit anytime you are in the area.

Bob (Schumacher)



20 September 1991

It was most thoughtful of you to send me the two snapshots of General Fan giving me the SACO medal. It was a fun convention (Nashville '91).

Jan and I look forward to being part of the group going to Taiwan. I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Sincerely yours,  
Shep (S. Shepherd Tate)

16 October 1991

Greetings to you both and I hope you are enjoying good health. I am sorry I have been missing recent conventions, especially your cheerful hospitality.

Presently I am somewhat handicapped with a bad break in my hand. My left arm has been in a full cast now for 5 weeks. It will be reexamined again on October 30th and hopefully, the 3 pins will be taken out. This is the result of an auto accident when I was riding with Vince Danz. You might remember; he accompanied me on one of the Taiwan trips. ... (The vehicle) jumped a curb, glanced off a guy wire, the car flipped and rolled completely over once and landed on its roof. The window glass blew outward and we were able to get out - we are both lucky to be alive. I also had a head laceration that required stitches, a sprained right shoulder and multiple contusions. Vinnie got off with multiple contusions. His car, of course, was totalled. I, as a bachelor, have been having a most difficult time getting along. Thank God for friends!!!

That night, September 12th, I had brought along my SACO Bulletin #6 for Vinnie to take home and read. I was also wearing my red SACO cap. Neither was retrieved from the wreckage when it was towed away. I am hoping you have an extra copy of the SACO Bulletin you could send me, or put me in touch with a member, or officer, who might have extra copies. Your Bulletins have been great and I would like to keep a complete file. As editor, you are better than "Ting Hao!"

I've been in touch with Benny Tedesco and we both plan to attend San Diego convention. I doubt that Harry Romanki will be able to attend - but he is a survivor.

I hope you can read my scribbling - the paper keeps sliding around - I can't keep it stable with my bum left hand.

Sincerely,  
John Klos



(Letter to Frank Buckless)

3 September 1991

My sincere thanks to the SACO organization for remembering me and sending me copies of your interesting newsletter.

It's been many years since Chungking and Kunming; the names and pictures are helping to bridge the past.

Enclosed are my dues for membership. Warmest regards to all.

Len (Leonard J. Nole - W40TN  
4901 Chowan Ave. Alexandria, VA 22312)

24 December 1991

On page 13 of issue #6 you have pictured Ray King of Scouts and Raiders.

I, too, was a Navy Scout and Raider. Do you have an address for Ray King? Also, do you have a list of others in the Scouts and Raiders with their home addresses?

Thanks so much,  
Dick Thompson  
Rt. 3, Box 167  
North Platte, NE 69101

Ray King  
P.O. Box 223  
Piney Flats, TN 37686

(Editor's note: We've never kept track of S&Rs as a group. The record indicates that they were not among the "Yangtze Raiders" (Unit 13). S&Rs are not identified in Miles' "A Different Kind of War" nor Stratton's "SACO - The Rice Paddy Navy". But we know they are around (and maybe taking over). Guy Purvis is our current Vice President, Sal Ciaccio is our Assistant Treasurer, Willie Baker has held many offices and is helping out with our 1992 San Diego convention.

If all SACO Scouts & Raiders came aboard as a group on February 21, 1945 as we believe they did, we have a way of tracking down all known members on our active mailing list. Anyone out there interested enough in a list to write us a postcard?)



(To Dr. Lloyd M. "Doc" Felmy)

9 January 1992

Thank you for your nice letter in appreciation of the participation in celebrating the 80th National Day of the Republic of China. I am pleased to know that you enjoyed all the activities arranged for the SACO delegation.

SACO members dedicated so much to the joint tasks of defeating our common enemy during World War II. All Chinese admire SACO members so much for the many heroic deeds.

I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to invite you to Taiwan to see what the Republic of China has accomplished in recent years. Also, I would like to express my sincere thanks for your unremitting efforts in support of the Republic of China.

With my deep appreciation for everlasting SACO friendship!

Sincerely,  
Yin Tsung-wen, Lt. General, ROC Army,  
Director (Military Intelligence Bureau).

(Letter to Ken & Helen Rhicard)

3 January 1992

Thank you very much for sending a copy of SACO NEWS No. 6 (Sept. 1991), which we received yesterday, the second day of 1991.

Happy New Year to you!

We also thank you for your Christmas card.

The enclosed report on SACO trip to Taiwan for the celebration of Double Tenth, 1991, the birthday of the Republic of China is indeed inspiring.

We visited Taiwan six years ago. There has been a lot of change since our trip to ROC where we stayed a week.

Last early October when Robert Sizemore was on his way to Taipei via San Francisco, I could not go to SF meeting him and other members of the SACO group for I have arthritis on hands and feet.

The 28 page issue (No.6) shows so many old, yet happy faces.

Two copies of letters to Ken and Helen also revealed interesting materials for reading with remembrance.

Thank you for your thoughtful delivery of such information. We live here in a small town where there are 60,000 residents, much quieter than in San Francisco. We had lived in S.F. for more than ten years.

We wish this reply would find you both in good health in 1992.

Best Regards,  
Pete & Doris (Yin Poon - "Peter Pan" -  
Camp 4 interpreter)

15246 Upton Ave.  
San Leandro, CA 94578



Autumn 1991

We really had a great time (in Taiwan) and I'd like to express my gratitude and thanks to everyone who made this trip possible.

First, our Chinese hosts who were so friendly, kind, generous in thought, word and deed ... Surely, this is a deep reflection of their feeling to us for the contribution we made during WWII and the current on-going relationship we have with them in SACO which has been nurtured during the past 46 years.

My feelings for our Chinese friends has always been one of strong support and admiration for their tenacity in purpose when things were going badly for them in

1943 - but, also, for the essentially democratic view of life and worth of fellow human beings.

Secondly, to Paul & Martha Casamajor for the dedication and hours contributed to the organization of this trip. Paul's ability to speak spontaneously, in response to our hosts' gestures of love and concern, will always be remembered by Adriana and myself.

Thirdly, to Richard and Erma Rutan for their genial hosting of the hospitality room and their gentle ministering to the anxieties of members of the group and their good and cheerful demeanor.

Thanks to you all!  
Jack & Adriana Bouma



30 September 1991

You've done it again! SACO VETERANS Issue No. 6 is superb! It's the kind of stuff that will keep our people in there paying their dues. When I looked at all those pictures, I felt like I'd been right there at the Nashville Convention (except that I missed out on the Jack Daniels). Needless to say, keep up the good journalistic efforts.

I suppose that by this time the lucky SACO people who are going to Taiwan for the Double Ten are packed and ready. I wish very much that Elizabeth and I could join them, but it is out of the question for us this year.

Sincerely,  
Bill Sager



12 December 1991

Sure was nice of you to send the extra copies of SACO NEWS to me. (Extra copies were requested.) Thanks again. I hear from some of the guys that attended the Nashville bash and they had one of the best times yet. As you suggested that I keep at some of the other fellows, I will certainly do so. I am working on Valliere, Bisceglia, Lutnick, Olson, Keil, as the five of us at Nashville are all tuned up for San Diego. Helen isn't in the best of health ... but is looking forward to San Diego. I keep in touch with Stone Cooper and Helena since Nashville; they did one nice job.

Thanks again. Best regards,  
Ken & Helen (Rhicard)



December 1991

I want you to know how much I appreciated your calls after Marlin's passing. It is still very hard for me to accept, but am going on day-by-day. Went to my daughter's in Texas for Thanksgiving and going to our son's in D.C. for Christmas. They have been so good to me and I am so grateful.

Going to try to come to San Diego in June. Will be good to see everyone...

Love,  
Peg Leshner



(Letter to Frank Buckless)

Enclosed is my check for my 1992 dues. Don't know if I will make it to San Diego. I am having trouble walking. This has been bothering me for the past nine months.

Hope this finds you O.K.

Take care,  
Harry (Romanki)



Autumn 1991

A knockout number of "SACO Veterans". I've combed it for pictures of those on Taiwan trip because I'm so lacking in name and face recognition. (Billy, I feel we are all arriving at that stage in life...Ed.)

The two of you are a SACO Treasure.

Fondly,  
Billy Miles



18 December 1991

Hope all goes well with you both health-wise. We have had a bad year, but hope '92 will improve.

We miss you and our friends at SACO, especially the Chinese who come each time.

Best wishes,  
Bill&Shirley Simmons

21 September 1991

First off, thank for returning the "snap" of the White House (Chungking) - I had not missed it, of course. I sure would love to see the area again although my memory of the building, its area and the mountains remain vivid.

I, too, had contact from Scurlock; a rare letter complete with "un-business" card! We had a great time in Taiwan ('89) and I regret being unable to repeat. He also sent snaps which included Billy Hall whom I feel I would have recognized at once. Ken Brown was a surprise. Unless my memory is more leaky than I think, my last recollection of him was that he was loading a 6x6 with radio gear, a generator, some batteries...and heading for the hills outside of Shanghai.

My old "roomie," John Waters and his secretary Fran keep in close contact as does Sellers and Jack Petersen. They ALL seem to include San Diego in their future.

My health problems appear to be resolved; my initial scare and concern proved benign. Three units of blood in this area means I am now partially Latino. Two weeks after prostate surgery, I had a second tumor removed from the bottom of my left foot and come Monday, the stitches from that surgery will be removed. These two events, plus the need to be with my sister Wanda who had a breast and 23 lymph nodes removed (all malignant) the day the Nashville event took place, prevented my attendance. I can now drive again and, come Monday, will be able to walk again.

Three years ago, I became an Honest-to-God Texan and I want to report that just becoming a Texan doesn't afford you any of the appealing side effects such as "Things are BIGGER in Texas." After I was given my driver's license and tax number, I rushed home to check---nothing is different!!! And with three units of whole Hispanic blood, I assumed at least I would develop easier my lust for the Spanish language. That, too, is a failure; Lily, my black Labrador, still knows more English than I know Spanish! Marie and I are planning on San Diego; this will be her first such adventure.

Life in "Magic Valley," for me, remains exciting. I am very active with my tutoring role; I tutor 3rd and 4th graders, kids of migrant parents, to develop their reading skills and in some small way, make an effort to turn the course of their lives around. I also tutor adults toward the G.E.D. Last year, I was selected "Tutor of the Year" for the school district which had over 700 tutors---I'm very proud of that, and for people like us, tutoring is very, very rewarding. I highly recommend it to all who wish to justify the space they take up on Earth.

...See you in San Diego next June ...  
Adios,  
Johnnie (Westphal)

*Double 10th  
Celebrants*



KENNY & LILLIE BROWN



LT. GEN. YIN PRESENTS SACO MEDAL TO  
RICHARD BANNIER



BETTY, ERMA, MRS. YIN



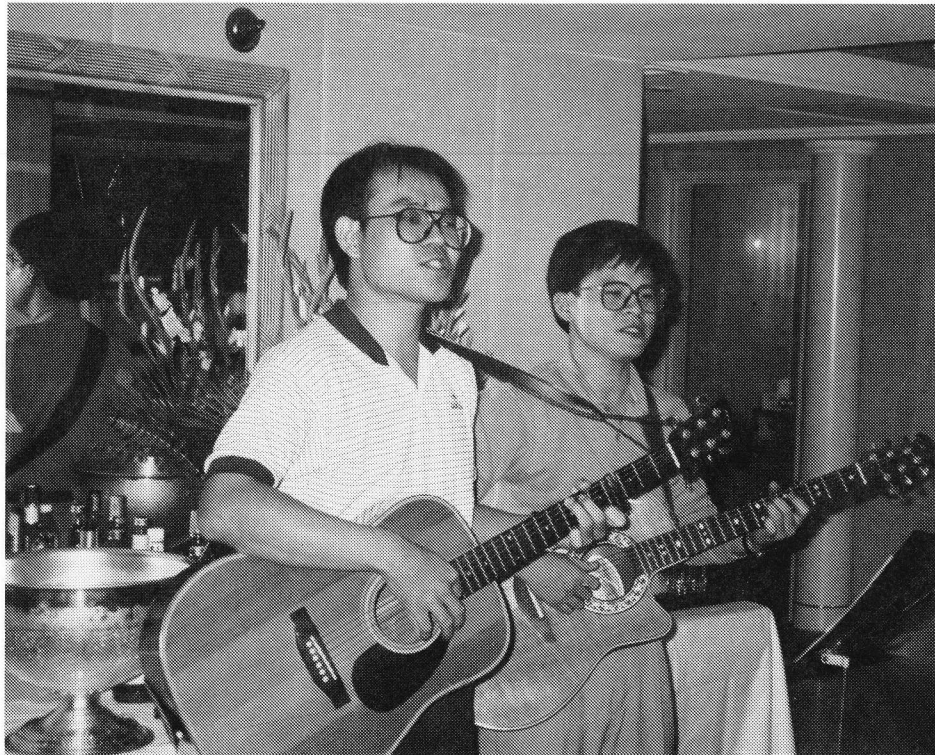
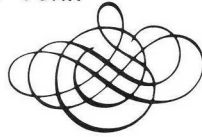
LILLIAN ROLAK, HELEN & JULIUS ULANECK



GEN. & MRS. CHAD CHIH-YUAN



CRYSTA YOU



HANK LIU & FRIEND ENTERTAIN  
IN THE HOSPITALITY ROOM



TOM MCCAWLEY, BILL WHITE, PAUL CASAMAJOR



MARY HELEN & BURNELL REBERT, LAURA SELLERS, CATHERINE O'CONNOR, ERMA RUTAN, GEORGE O'CONNOR



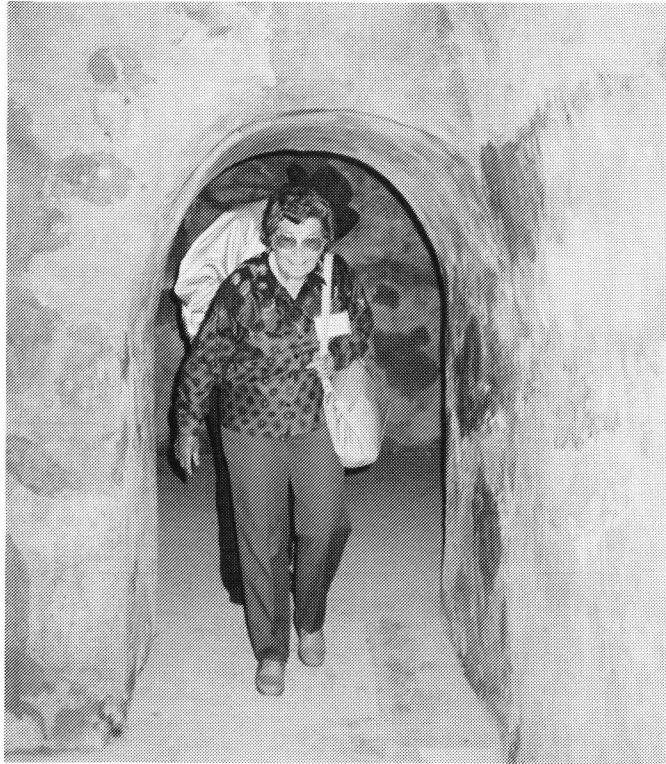
RICHARD & MATHILDA BANNIER



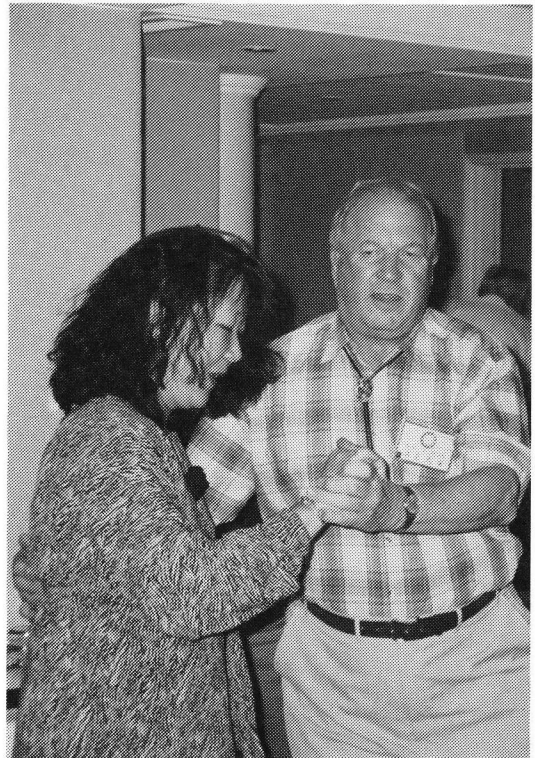
DR. DAVID CHANG, WILSON CHU, BILLIE MILES



CONCETTA & WADE BRIGHTBILL



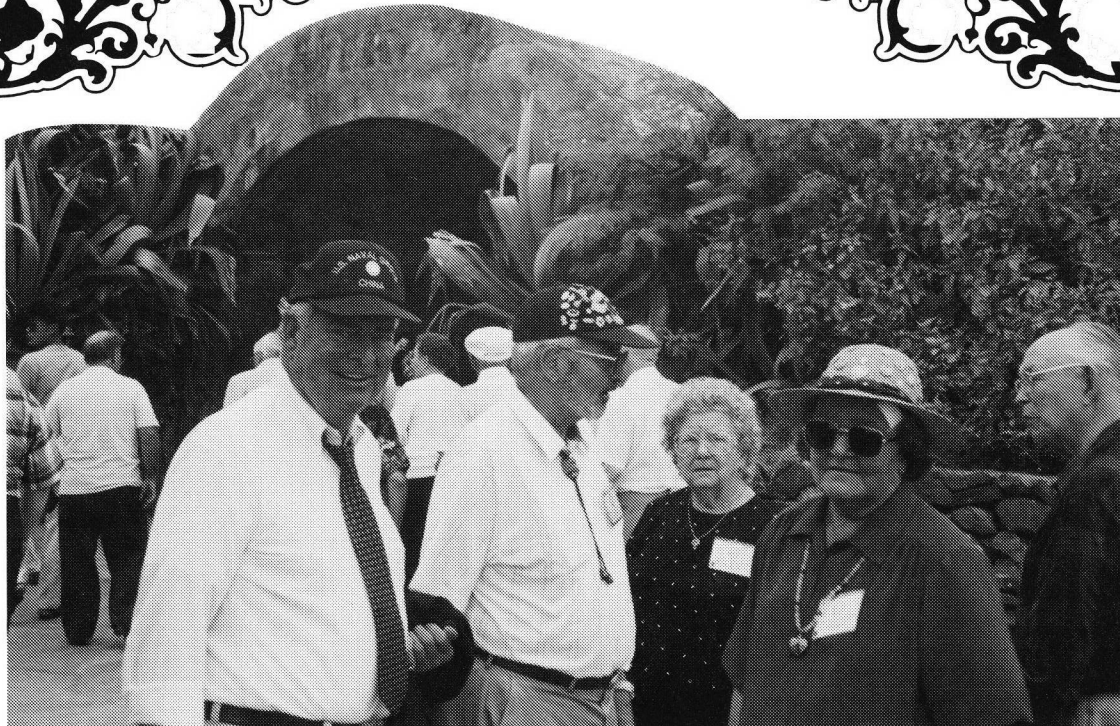
LILLIE BROWN



TRACY CHOU & GEORGE AUMAN TRY A DANCE



LAURA & CHARLIE SELLERS TRY A LITTLE SHOPPING ON MAKUNG ISLAND IN THE PESCADORES AS JOHN SHEARER OVERSEES.



"DOC" FELMLY, PAUL CASAMAJOR, ERMA RUTAN  
MARTHA CASAMAJOR, JOHN BOUMA



MAJ.GEN. & MRS. DENNIS LEE



LT.GEN. & MRS. HUANG SHIH-CHUNG



KENNETH BROWN, GEORGE O'CONNOR

December 1991

Will got a good report at his checkup in November. I had two knee replacements August 6th. It was a horrible operation, but it is behind me and I am walking well without my crutches and with very little pain. I'll be kicking up my heels and dancing around in no time. ..We think of you often and missed seeing you in Tennessee.

With love,  
Pauline & Will (Rice)



October 1991

Just the other day I received the SACO NEWS, a masterful job - again I say. How do you find the time?

...I'm looking forward to San Diego. Goodness knows what will happen between now and June '92.

God bless you both. Ellie joins me in hoping that all's well there.

73/88 - 30m Buck (Robert L. Dormer)



December 1991

...Stone has been home since the latter part of September and is making progress slowly. He is able to walk around the house without his walker, but must use it if we leave the house. The incision from the perforated diverticulum has not completely healed and he has a colostomy. However, we are thankful for the progress made. He hopes to be strong enough to make the trip to San Diego and we'll try if he is able. So far, the cancer of the liver seems to be stable, due, I guess, to the 3 shots of Somatostatin I give him each day.

We're looking forward to having the girls and their families for the holidays.

Best wishes,  
Helena (Cooper)



9 September 1991

What a super-super newsletter or should I

say magazine! And what a job Helena Cooper did after Stone's illness.

One misses so much by not attending conventions...

We missed Nashville because we were booked for England. In March, Jean came down with shingles which developed into post-herpetic neuralgia which six months later is still with her. It is in her facial nerves which of course affects her eyes, nose, cheeks, etc. A low pain constantly exists and a slight air movement, inside or out, triggers a severe pain which lasts for hours and sometimes days.

At any rate, thanks for a great job on the newsletter and we miss you all. We were planning on San Diego, but June - we may be in England.

Greetings to you and our very best to Erma!

Jean & Norm (Norman J. Nelson)



## Congratulations

### Adm. Liu!



In early December, 1991 we learned that SACO's good friend, Admiral Liu Ho-Chien, had been promoted to Chief of the General Staff of the ROC military organization. This is a four star position.

SACOs first got to know Admiral Liu when he came to San Diego to our convention in 1980. This was not his first trip as he had trained there in his earlier years. Admiral Liu is a warm and friendly gentleman and speaks excellent English. He is an outstanding host and, while COMINCH of the ROC Navy, has entertained a number of SACO delegations. He enjoys "toasting to the new dish" and always has delicious ice cream for dessert.

Admiral and Mrs. Liu are two of the most charming Chinese people that SACOs have had the privilege to know.

We wish them every success!!

# GENEROUS TOKEN OF APPRECIATION HONORS PAUL CASAMAJOR

(Following letter was received by  
L.W. "Bill" Bartee, SACO Trustee.)

December 20, 1991

Dear Bill:

It was a genuine pleasure to be with you on the SACO trip to Taiwan, and I appreciate so much your Christmas card and the snapshots which you sent us.

Paul Casamajor did an outstanding job in arranging the trip for us, and I am enclosing a check payable to SACO Foundation in his honor.

With kindest personal regards, in which Jan joins me, I remain

Sincerely,  
Shep  
(S. Shepherd Tate)

(Letter from Bartee to Tate)

January 2, 1992

Re: SACO Contribution

Dear Shep:

On behalf of the officers and trustees, I would like to thank you profusely for your testimonial and generous acknowledgement of the wonderful job Paul Casamajor did on our recent visit to Taiwan.

Paul's professionalism, effectiveness and efficiency were evident, not only prior to, but, throughout the trip. We are indeed fortunate to have someone who will accept such responsibility and I fear many of our members accept such effort as mundane and forget to provide the thanks and gratitude that are due. Your letter really brings it out for all to see.

Again, our thanks for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,  
Bill Bartee

(Letter from Bartee to Buckless)



January 2, 1992

Re: Contribution to SACO

Dear Frank:

The attached check is forwarded to you for deposit in the SACO Treasury.

Since this is the first time I have received something like this, I have informed the officers and trustees of this action and recommended we acknowledge Paul and Shep in the Newsletter in order that the entire membership will be cognizant of a most extraordinary testimonial.

Hope this finds you and yours in good health and spirits and ready for San Diego.

Best regards,  
Bill Bartee  
Encl: A contribution of \$100. sent "in honor of Paul Casamajor".

(The following - in part - quotes Bartee's Memo to all Officer & Trustees)

January 2, 1992

..... It goes without saying that Paul and Martha Casamajor faced a monumental task in putting together our trip. The time and work involved is incomprehensible to me. The end result was very smooth, professional and is appreciated dearly. In the absence of a way to show our real appreciation, it might be appropriate at this juncture to publish Shep's letter in the next issue of SACO NEWS as a small token of thanks to both Paul & Shep and to insure the entire membership is aware of the fact .....

Sincerely,  
Bill Bartee

A Note from the Typesetter:

The above words are appreciated. If I read them too many times, I'll need a bigger sized hat. Seriously, I can say that all the effort is really a lot of fun and SACOs are a great bunch to be with.



# **Dr. Roger L. Grief Former Camp 10 M.D. Honored By John Hopkins Univ.**

Roger L. Grief, M.D. was among the 1941 graduates of the Johns Hopkins Medical School who were recently honored on their 50th anniversary. A special supplement to the Hopkins Medical News contained information on Dr. Grief's career as a successful medical practitioner.

Dr. Grief served in the Naval Reserve during WWII as a Lieutenant in the Medical Corps. His service included a tour of duty with SACO Unit Ten as its medical officer. Following SACO duty, Dr. Grief served on the destroyer U.S.S. Waller, and subsequently completed his naval tour of duty in 1946 at the U.S. Naval Medical Research Institute at Bethesda, MD. After serving as assistant physician at Rockefeller Institute Hospital in New York City from 1947 to 1953, Dr. Grief joined Cornell University Medical Hospital where he eventually became chairman of the physiology department. He retired from the chairmanship of the department in 1982 and was named emeritus professor of physiology.

Dr. Grief is remembered in SACO Unit Ten as the innovator of the gentian violet system of recognition or identification. As written up in Roy Stratton's "SACO - The Rice Paddy Navy" in the chapter on Unit Ten, when the time came for the Chinese battalions to draw weapons and equipment some system of identification had to be devised to insure that only the qualified Chinese troops drew them. The Americans at Camp Ten were stymied until Doc Grief came forth with the idea of painting a number on the back of each Chinese guerrilla qualified to draw a weapon with gentian violet from the sick bay. A day or so before the issuance of weapons and equipment, each qualified guerrilla got a gentian violet number painted on his back. When the men came through the line to draw weapons they were checked by the Americans for their gentian violet number.

Dr. Grief has continued to maintain his contacts with the Nationalist Chinese. In 1983 he was Visiting Professor of Physiology at the National Taiwan University and the National Defense Medical College at Taipei.

He and his wife, Alice, continue to live in New York City.

(This article submitted by Bill Sager, former C.O. of Unit Ten.)

## *How Old Do You Feel?*

July 4, 1993 will be the Golden Anniversary of SACO. This date in 1943 was the formal signing of the SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION agreement by General Tai Li and Captain (at that time) Milton E. "Mary" Miles following the agreement's approval by Presidents Chiang Kai-shek and Franklin D. Roosevelt. This document not only endured WWII, but has served to cement a unique friendship between our Chinese comrades and all American members of SACO for over 50 years. It has been truly an unequalled historic bond between peoples of two nations who found friendship despite contrasts in culture. May this fond relationship continue as long as there is even one SACO survivor.

## *Bakers of Spring Valley, CA. Celebrate 25 Yrs. In Business*

Willie and Audrey Baker had a double reason to celebrate on November 22, 1991. They observed 25 years with the Folex Company and his 69th birthday.

Ranging in age from 17 to 70, 150 people attended the party in the La Mesa American Legion Hall, including Diana Jacob, contender for county supervisor; Eldon Horton from Supervisor George Bailey's office; Chief Dan Reed from the San Miguel Fire Protection District; Al Mooney, Mr. Spring Valley; Rosemarie Chabot, president of the Spring Valley Chamber of Commerce; Brad Mills, president of the Casa de Oro Business Association; Chris Heiserman and his wife Sonya (he's chairman of the Spring Valley Incorporation Coalition).

The Baker children - Randy, Steve and Redarle Baker, Vicki Poirer and Karol Jostmeyer from this area and Patty Lash from Oregon - plus some of the grandchildren were present. The children presented the Bakers with gifts.

Bill Walsh received a gold watch for 25 years as a company distributor. Willie gave Audrey diamond earrings for her part in building the company.

# Taps

EARL A. CARBO

September 13, 1991

(The following note is from Mrs. Carbo)

My dear Richard:

This is just a brief note to inform you of the death of SACD member Earl A. Carbo September 13, 1991. Earl had been seriously ill for many years and unable to attend reunions, but he read with great interest every SACD Newsletter. His children and their friends had been told many stories of his time spent with SACD and at his wake, some of them commented on this. The legacy of SACD will certainly live on in their memories and mine.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Barbara Carbo



PAUL A. WEST

January 2, 1991

(Letter from Mrs. West)

30 September 1991

My husband, Paul A. West, Jr., chief petty officer with the Yangtze River Unit (Camp 13), a very isolated group that went to Hankow to clear out all Southwest China Navy and Marine personnel, passed away January 2, 1991. He was 82.

We attended one of the SACD conventions here in San Francisco ('73), but none since.

I know if he were here today, he would have liked to attend your coming celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Republic of China, the Double Tenth (in Taiwan Oct.'91). It is quite a coincidence that as I was cleaning out the garage today, I found a metal cabinet, tucked away in the back of a drawer, a large packet of letters from my husband during his active duty in SACD. The letter I happened to read was dated October 9, 1945. In the letter he mentioned that "tomorrow is a big holiday for China, the 10th day of the 10th month." (He compares it with our 4th of July.)

I was delighted to find the letters; I just had a roll of 35mm film developed ... though 50 years old, the pictures are extremely interesting though not real

sharp. A Lt.Col.Terry Carlson (a Vietnam Vet), had corresponded with Paul, asking if he had any mementos, medals, flags, uniforms, maps, etc. Paul sent him what he could find, but he couldn't find the silk flags of China and Japan, nor the silk map marked with the route they took.

Paul and I planned to write a book together on his experiences, but didn't make it ...

In this October 9, 1945 letter, Paul mentions that the Army had just started a shuttle service to Shanghai and "scuttlebutt has it, for the time being, no further Navy personnel will be handled. If it's true, am sure it is only temporary. Other scuttlebutt is the Arizona has a two-day job to do here and then we can start to be moved; also the Queen Mary is in Shanghai and will be used as transportation to the States. It's all scuttlebutt, darling, and there will be lots more!"

What a wonderful day it was when the right scuttlebutt was for real!

Sincerely,  
Marilyn C. West



CLAYTON R. MISHLER

February 1, 1992

Clayton R. Mishler, 83, died suddenly in Austin, Texas on Saturday, February 1, 1992.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Audrey, one son, Craig W. Mishler of Anchorage, Alaska; daughter-in-law, Barbara; and granddaughter, Susan. Also surviving is one brother, Edward, and his wife Marcia of Edmore, Michigan and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Mishler was born February 17, 1908 in Johnstown, PA. He was employed for 32 years as Medical Administrator of the U.S. Veterans' Hospital, the Detroit District office, the area office in Minneapolis, MN and the Central office in Washington, D.C. He retired to Austin, TX in 1970.

In World War II, he served in the U.S. Navy Intelligence in China for two years during 1944-46 and was awarded the Bronze Star. He also received several medals from the Chinese government. Mr. Mishler has written a book on his experiences,

"Sampan Sailor," which is at the publisher's.

(Editor's Note: When Mish's book is published, we will announce details here in SACD NEWS.)

After retirement, he and his wife traveled extensively throughout the world, especially the Far East, where they were entertained several times by the Chinese Military Government of Taiwan. For the past four years they have lived at Westminister Manor.

A Memorial Service was held at the First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Dr., Wednesday, February 5th at 2:00 PM.

Family burial services were held at Ft. Sam Houston Cemetary.

(Carl Divelbiss writes Mrs. Mishler)

...He was a member of my group at Chang Chow, China, along with Bob Hill, Bill Killion, Bill Glass and Harold Bonin, and several others. Mish, as most of us called him, was a good man, well liked; we will all miss him.

Although I am sure it was a traumatic shock to you, I am sure, as you reflect, you have to be consoled by the fact that his death came suddenly, and he did not have to endure a lot of suffering. I lost my wife almost two years ago, after a long illness and much suffering.

You have my heartfelt sympathy.

Sincerely,  
Carl W. Divelbiss



RALPH JOSEPH COX

February 1, 1992

Ralph Cox died February 1, 1992 in Milwaukie, OR. Funeral services were held Tuesday, February 4, 1992 at the Sunset Chapel in the Portland Memorial Funeral Home with Rev. Leo Kaufmann, SJ, of St. John the Baptist Church officiating. Private interment followed in the Willamette National Cemetery.

(The following note was sent to Bernard and Hazel Nelson.)

This memento (the funeral service program) says it all. My dear Ralph died of lung cancer Feb. 1. He lived only five weeks after diagnosis. I shall miss him very much. His navy buddies were some of the most treasured people in his life. Bernie was a special person to him.

Sincerely,  
Doris (Cox)

(Ed. note: Ralph Cox chaired the SACD convention in Portland, Or. in 1977.)

## MALIGNANT BRAIN TUMOR CLAIMS LIFE OF DAUGHTER OF GERALD & MARY COATS

THOMASVILLE, NC. - Lynette Warren, 40, died Friday, November 29, 1991 in Brightmoor Nursing Center in Salisbury after being in declining health for 1 1/2 years.

Lynette was born July 24, 1951 in Queens County, New York, daughter of Gerald F. and Mary Frances Murphy Coats. She had lived in Davidson County for 1 1/2 years. She was formerly employed as a chef for the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Laguna Niguel, CA until ill health lead to her decision to join her parents and sister in Thomasville. Lynette is survived by her parents and a sister, Penny Coats.

Her father, Jerry, served as a Chief Pharmacist Mate with SACO from December, 1943 to May, 1945 in Calcutta, Kunming, and Units 5 and 10.



## DEATHS REPORTED SINCE LAST ISSUE

Lewis E. Boner 1990  
CSP -Calcutta/Chungking  
Barry D. Cameron 1991  
AerM2c -Chungking  
Earl A. Carbo 1991  
PhM1/c -Calcutta/Pact Doc/Shanghai  
Ralph J. Cox 1992  
RM1/c -Calcutta/Chungking/Changchow/Shangha  
Roy E. Mathews 1991  
CPHM -Calcutta/Unit 2/Changsha  
Clayton R. Mishler 1992  
SK1/c -Camp 3/Sian/Unit 6/Changchou  
Percy A. Wasson 1991  
CQM -Chungking/Camp 3/Unit 3  
Paul A. West, Jr. 1991  
SK1/c -Calcutta/Yangtze/Hankow



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If you enjoy getting the SACO NEWS, perhaps you might consider helping with the expense of mailing over 800 issues of each publication by sending dues to the organization. We realize this may be a hardship for some of you and we have no intention of cutting you off the mailing list. BUT, if you can . . . it would help defray the considerable cost of printing and mailing.

Approximately 25 percent of our mailing list are regular dues payers and they are carrying the full load. Our conventions are self supporting and our major expense is this publication. SACO does have a special kind of history and each of you are a part of it.

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