

October 2007

# SACO VETERANS

OF  
THE RICE PADDY NAVY  
CHINA

WHAT

Perpetual Skipper

THE

WELL?

VAdm. Milton E. "Mary" Miles



Sino American Cooperative Organization

Issue No. 33

*Reunion Of June 2007  
With our guest delegation of ROC  
Pictured on this bridge*



*Roseman Bridge  
Built 1883*

*One of the covered bridges in Madison County, Iowa  
Site of the movie "The Bridges of Madison County"  
Starring Meryl Streep & Clint Eastwood*

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# A Famous Lady's Watergate Penthouse

By Andy Leon Harney

She has been called a Dragon Lady, accused of influencing delicate negotiations with South Vietnam in the late 1960s. She is one of Washington's leading hostesses, and her name appears constantly in local society pages. Widow of the late General Claire Chennault, frequent companion of powerful New Deal brain-truster Thomas Corcoran, Anna Chan Chennault clearly enjoys her position as an enigmatic public figure.

When she's in town, she's busy entertaining or being entertained almost every night. The inaugural festivities put Anna Chennault in full gear—hosting a reception for more than 300 new senators, members of Congress, and other rising political stars at the Capitol Hill Club, and presiding at another shindig at the Hay-Adams Hotel for new Cabinet members. Chennault spent the rest of Inauguration Week seeing to the needs of 100 relatives, friends, and clients who were in town for the festivities.

"We're just trying to settle back down to business," says one of her secretaries at her downtown office, TAC International. "There's so much catching up to do with just plain work." In addition to entertaining, Anna Chennault runs a

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**As guests roam through her Watergate apartment, they can see the photographs of Anna Chennault—with Kennedy, Nixon, Ford, Nancy Reagan . . .**

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business that advises US companies interested in exporting goods to Southeast Asia, lectures extensively, and plays a heavy role in Republican politics.

Her most recent foray on behalf of the Republican party was a pre-inauguration trip to the People's Republic of China with Senate Majority Whip Ted Stevens and other ranking members of the GOP. She was invited not only because she had spent untold hours drumming up support for the Reagan-Bush ticket, but also because she was familiar with Asian trade negotiations. And her mother's cousin Lao Chun Jen is a vice chairman of the

*The Washingtonian/March 1981*



PHOTOGRAPHS BY MAHMOUD

**Anna Chennault sits in the living room of her Watergate penthouse apartment, surrounded by fine Oriental art.**

People's Congress.

Chennault has spent years bridging the gap between East and West, first as vice president of the Flying Tiger Line—one of the country's largest international air-freight firms, founded by her late husband and other members of the US Air Force's famous World War II Flying Tiger squad—and later as head of her own firm, TAC International. She spends about half her time in Washington, working in her K Street office or entertaining in her spacious Watergate penthouse apartment, the F Street Club, and various reception halls around town. She spends

the rest of her time traveling and at her home in Taipei.

Chennault is a firm believer in the political process and lately has taken to the lecture stump to speak on the growing influence of Chinese-Americans. Another favorite topic is the need for Asian countries to bear more of the refugee burden. "They have to do their part too—especially places like Japan and Australia," she says.

Born in Peking some 55 years ago, Chennault maintains her Asian connections both through her travels and by hosting a constant stream of visitors from

*Cont'd p. 71*



## SACO OFFICERS 2007-2008

President: Bob Hill  
V. Presidents: 1<sup>st</sup> – George Barrett  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Guy Tressler  
Treasurer: Willie Baker  
Asst. Treas: Sal Ciaccio  
Secretary: Bob Hoe  
Asst. Sec'y: Jim Kelly

Trustees:  
3 years: John Waters  
Guy Purvis  
2 years: Richard Terpstra  
Francis Reynnet  
1 year: Richard Bannier  
Bob Clark  
Jerry Coats

Reunion Chair: Richard Terpstra

Editor, *SACO NEWS* &  
Reunion Coordinator: Richard L. Rutan

Membership Chairman: Paul Casamajor

Legal Counsel – Bill Sager

Website Master(s) – Carolyn Inman Arnold &  
Jodi Petersen

*Editor's note:* Due to insufficient decorum (due to health) in conducting Trustees Meeting for SACO business in last meeting in Des Moines, it was felt at this time of our lives, we should have a "backup" of trustees to hopefully overcome this circumstance in the future. Therefore, because of confusion in interpreting terms of office of trustees and succession as written in the bylaws, it was agreed to increase number of trustees from 5 to 7 and hopefully preclude like-conditions henceforth.

## SACO ANNUAL DUES

Payment is due **January 1** each year for REGULAR and ASSOCIATE and AUXILIARY members as follows:

### Regulars & Associates

Annually: \$25.00      Treas. Willie Baker  
2810 Highlands Blvd.  
Spring Valley, CA  
91977-3441

Ladies Auxiliary:      Laura Sellers  
Annually \$15.00      1291 Eastern Parkway  
Louisville, KY  
40204-2440

### Dear Tigers:

They tell me even real tigers get old so guess we are destined. Anyway it's still fun if we keep trying and let's make sure we do!

**PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES TO HELP**  
**KEEP THE GANG AFLOAT AND**  
**STAYING SHIPMATES & BUDDIES -**  
**STILL IN TOUCH - AS LONG AS**  
**POSSIBLE ???!!!\*\*\* Ed.**

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### SACO NEWS

is a nonprofit periodical published by and for WWII veterans of SACO (Sino-American Cooperative Organization) aka known as *U.S. Naval Group, China* as well as, *The Rice Paddy Navy*. The publication is funded by annual dues of the members and their subsidies.

Please send your comments and newsworthy items (stories of your experiences in SACO along with sharp, clear pictures, if available,) to the editor: (Current address follows)

Richard L. Rutan  
1223 E. Del Mar Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92262-3329  
Phone 760 217-8327



# SACO HISTORY

SACO (pronounced "Socko") stands for Sino-American Cooperative Organization established during WWII with the approval of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. Highly secret, originally known as U.S. Navy Group, it was placed under joint command of General Tai Li, (*Head of BIS - Bureau of Investigation and Statistics, i.e. Intelligence*), as Director of SACO and then Commander (*later to become Vice Admiral*) Milton Edward "Mary" Miles as Deputy Director. The Chinese and American members of SACO joined in combined effort to perform intelligence and guerrilla operations. The group became known by the sobriquet "THE RICE PADDY NAVY." SACO men were and are known as "SACO TIGERS" who served hundreds of miles behind enemy lines in China, establishing vital weather stations to report to the Pacific Fleet, coast-watching to report on enemy shipping, intercepting Japanese code, rescuing downed allied airmen and being involved in numerous other military, medical and humanitarian endeavors. The American personnel numbering approximately 2,500, were volunteers from several branches of service, but for the most part, Navy and Marine men.

Three books: "*The Rice Paddy Navy*," – "*A Different Kind of War*," and "*The Army-Navy Game*," as well as one movie, "*Destination Gobi*" were the revelations of SACO.

*Note of interest: This group probably held the distinction of being the first American Military Group to ever serve under a foreign leader in time of war????!!\*\*\**

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# SACO NEWS

A non-profit periodical published by and for the WW II Veterans of the SINO-AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION (SACO), their families and friends.

aka U.S. Navy Group China and more popularly, The Rice Paddy Navy. The publication is funded by annual dues of the members and their donated subsidies..

The publication is sometimes referred to as 'What The Hell' magazine due to the pennant shown on the cover of every issue, which is symbolic of SACO members. It was a pennant dreamed up by our skipper, which he would fly on his ships as a personal novelty to arouse curiosity in his naval career. It actually depicted 3 question marks, 3 exclamation marks and three stars – a mild form of profanity such as cartoonists would use. To Admiral Miles, it was translated as meaning "What The Hell?" as frequent inquiries through the years as to the pennant would be just "What The Hell Is It ?" "What The Hell does it mean?" and from many encounters came many interesting stories through the years. During WWII as SACO was formed by Miles and the Chinese counterpart Tai Li, it was natural and apropos that "What The Hell" be the symbol or logo of this special group. In addition to being known as "SACO TIGERS," we might well have been "WHAT THE HELLERS!"





From  
The  
Editor's  
Desk

I wanted to draw special reference to the beautiful letter from M. Genou of the ROC-MND (copy in this issue) and respond to accolades bestowed me and, in particular, my late mother, Erma, with this open letter:

I never cease to be amazed that those of you of the current generation are so knowledgeable of days of yore.

"Mama Erma," as she was affectionately known by those in the Bureau in past years, accompanied me on seven trips with SACO veterans and families as guests of your country. Due to her ever-loving personality, at her passing, I titled her "The Sweetheart of SACO" and had those words plus adding her association with SACO inscribed on the bronze plaque on her grave.\*

It touches me deeply that you learned events of the past and so eloquently spoke of yester-years.

Thank you for your very kind letter, which I cherish.

With fondest regards,

*Richard*  
Richard

\* She is buried in the Veterans' Section of Forest Lawn, Hollywood Hills, in Burbank, CA. Visiting her on one of the holidays sometime ago, I found it first amusing and then realized, with warm emotion, that she is honored with the American flag at her site on every National Holiday, presumably due to the SACO inscription on her grave.

She would be so proud, as I am for her, in this special recognition as well as SACO being immortalized!

What the Hell ???!!!\*\*\*

#### DEAR SACO TIGERS

Just checking the Obits shows how our group is quickly diminishing and how fortunate we survivors are to enjoy our family a while longer. To make it possible for us to keep in touch - check your status on dues and help keep our communication with each other alive through SACO NEWS. It gives me a great interest and something to satisfy one of my several avocations unfilled - writing being one. As long as funds (annual dues) are available, I'll try to stick around and keep busy doing a lifelong dream. Ed.



# Mail CALL

To Paul Casamajor....25 April 2007

. . .Could I *not* join SACO as an Associate member but still receive SACO NEWS? I have ready received a copy of SACO NEWS 2007, issue #32. I have great interest in all the SACO pictures and information because my father, Jiru Li, served in SACO in the Second World War from 1944 to 1945. If needed, I will pay annual dues.

Due to political reasons in mainland China, my father, in his lifetime, never discussed the details of the time he spent with SACO. He only emphasized that a SACO's function was the joint co-operation between China and the United States to fight against the Japanese. I only know that he was a translator in SACO. After he graduated from Chungking University, he was sent by the military committee of the national government to SACO, in 1944. His major was electrical engineering.

I would like to verify in which year SACO was dissolved. Was it before the civil war in China (1946-1949) that took place between the Nationalists and the Communists? I only knew what SACO was after I became a Canadian citizen. In China, SACO was believed to be an organization that fought against the Chinese in the civil war. However, by then, I think it was already dissolved.

Thank you very much, I wish you have a very good time at the reunion in 2007. I think, sadly, that there are probably not many veterans remaining.

Sincerely, Dacheng Li

????!!\*\*\*

To Dacheng Li ...4 May 2007

1 Middleton Court  
Markham, Ontario, L3R 3G6

Thank you for your letter of April 25<sup>th</sup> and the check for \$25 for your dues for 2007. I enclose a card indicating the payment and am forwarding your check to our treasurer.

I have no way of knowing where in SACO your father was assigned. It is possible that I may be able to find some of our living members who remember him.

For your other question: When did SACO dissolve? I don't know of an exact date or if there was some administrative process or action that was associated with it. If there was some such action, it occurred between November 15, 1945 and probably before February 1, 1946. I have the pay/location records of SACO. The pay records began July 1, 1943 and ended November 15, 1945. The American organization of SACO was officially known as NAVAL GROUP CHINA. The group was identified in dispatches as NAVGROUCH, a name that causes many people to comment about it the first time they hear it.

We hope you can join us at some future reunion.

Sincerely, Paul Casamajor, Membership Chair.

????!!\*\*\*

To the editor....24 March 2007

Many thanks for your new booklet, (SACO NEWS Feb 2007) very interesting.

Is that Bob Hornberger (p.35), a former supply officer at S. P. (Southern Pacific)?? It sure looks like him. If it is, tell him hello for me. He was a very nice person.

Love, Dorothy (Nicholas) *Footnote next page* - -



*Dorothy was a co-worker in the main office of S.P. in San Francisco. We've kept in touch these many years and I sent her a copy of SACO NEWS (Feb 2007) and she thought she recognized one of S.P.'s former employees. I called Bob Hornberger and confirmed she was right! I had learned of another S.P. retiree in our SACO organization! Talk about a small world! Ed..*

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To the editor...31 May 2007

Ever since Steve and I joined SACO, we enjoyed every moment. We are glad we went to Florida Reunion in 2002. That was our last one because we couldn't travel, just two of us anymore.

Steve's condition is getting worse and I'm hanging in there.

Herewith is a check in the amount of \$200 which just shows our appreciation to SACO.

Yours truly, Steve & Linda Chu

Thanks so much for your generous donation and fond memories. Your contribution will be forwarded to Treasurer Willie Baker. Ed.

???!\*\*\*

To the editor. . . 14 June 2007

This is to advise you of a change of address. To bring you up to date, sold our home of 42 years in Burlington, MA in Dec. '06 and moved temporarily with our daughter in "Amish" country in PA. pending the building of a new home nearby in Mt. Joy, PA. which will house the 4 of us, daughter and husband, my wife (of 48 yrs) June and me.

Our furniture has been in storage since Jan. 1 'til we moved in here in Mt. Joy last Week. This is "Horse and Buggy" country, so quite a culture change for us. Often visited with John Klos who lived nearby 'til he

passed on. We were a 2-man camp in No. China late '45 to early '46.

Heard you were "under the weather" and might have to pass up Des Moines. Hope your health has now improved.

Misplaced Paul's directory so you may want to pass my new address along to him.

Best Regards, Jack Shearer

*Jack, I made Des Moines and many other stops, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin – over three weeks traveling and it was good for me – really enjoyed it. Ed.*

???!\*\*\*

To the editor . . . 7 May 2007

We will not be attending the reunion this year. Both of us always wanted to go to Iowa, but I just don't think Charles is up to it. He is scheduled for follow-up doctor's appointment Monday, so maybe we will get answers then.

Needless to say, we are very disappointed. Hope you are feeling better and will enjoy your trip. I just wrote Fran and Bev – also talked to Lola.

Take care – we will keep you posted.

Love, Laura & Charles (Sellers)

???!\*\*\*

To the editor &. all SACO veterans 29 June 07

We are sorry that we could not be with you at the Des Moines reunion this year. Health has been our downfall.

I had a stroke on Jan 20, '07 and am slowly recovering – doctors say I will be ok in awhile.

June had a recurrence of cancer and needed radiation treatments. This occurred in April and needed 7 weeks of treatments and 4 months recuperation. She is doing better now.

Hope to see you all in the future. Thanks for your good work as editor.

*Cont'd next page*



Regards as always, Bill Edwards and June

???!\*\*\*

To the editor . . . 28 March 2007

Thanks very much for the most recent edition (#32) of the SACO NEWS. How you are able to pack in so much great history is a mystery and I read every word (even as an associate).

But mainly, I want to thank you for doing such a bang-up job year after year in presenting to all of us such a marvelous statement of SACO's history. I hope the Taiwan Military has a medal for your superb efforts.

Please take care, I know your health may not be the best. If you can think of any way I might be of assistance, I'd like to hear it.

Had I been in the WWII service (I was 4-F) - the SACO organization would have been my choice.

Best ever old friend - stay well, Frank Kilmer

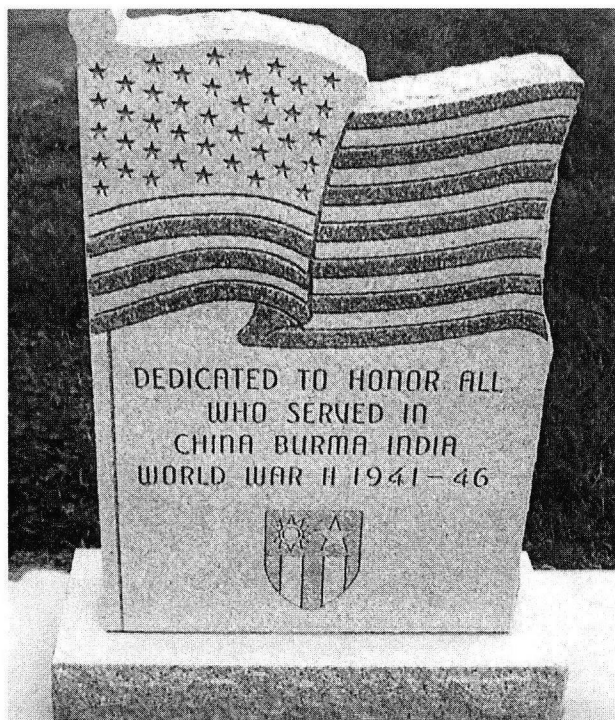
*Frank, if anyone ever knew how to inflate a guy's ego, you're it! What a nice letter and I appreciate it more than you know. As I have said before, for me, it's truly been a "labor of love," (even though at times my patience is challenged by "computer antics" testing my knowledge to overcome unfamiliar situations)*  
Ed.

???!\*\*\*

To the editor . . . 6 September 2006

I enclose photo of the CBI monument recently installed in the Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Augusta, Maine - dedication is set for 9-30-06.

The national CBI dissolved last August and we used the remaining monies in the treasury plus fund drive monies for the \$2,000 needed for the stone. I hope to get something for SACO some day soon.



Since SACO & China were part of the CBI and my late father, Lewis J. Griffin, (Lt.jg) was in Calcutta, India & Kunming & Shanghai, China, I thought the members might like to see this.

John D. Griffin, Attorney at Law

???!\*\*\*

To the editor . . . 5 January 2006

...I've been looking forward to a new issue of SACO NEWS.

I recently removed a patch from Bob's uniform and stored it. Son, Tom, got on the internet and gave me copies of the website by Les Hughes <http://www.insigne.org/SACO-I.htm>. I have two patches of Bob's - the one is a red background with gold embroidery and the other the usual SACO square patch. Bob made a frame for his medals, the what-the-hell pennant, etc. and the patches will be put at the top. He wore khaki uniforms in India. His whites were given to a theatre group in Newark. He and the sons were in several Lions Club sponsored variety shows for several years: think he would have enjoyed



his white uniforms going there.

To add a little more news – my granddaughter’s hubby recently diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease and he, Steve, is such an avid e-Bay ‘seller.’ And I hope you chuckle over my computer illiteracy and spelling). Anyway, his Mom had given him a German Helmet, with no markings on it – it sold for \$1300. I had a German Swastika armband – an old beau gave it to me YEARS AGO. Steve put it on e-Bay; lots of activity until WHAM! IT WAS PULLED!! I’d forgotten the hatred groups. Anyway, Steve & Jenny hope to learn more of the origin/history – German markings inside with our numerical system. E-Bay won’t promote anything associated with violence, I understand.

Life in Ohio continues with blessings. The sons use Dad’s wood-working tools and just finished porch repairs where the old gal backed into them early Nov. Foot slipped from brake to gas – 20’ from back porch to unload fruit baskets for a club meeting that evening! It did a number on the car – thankfully the wooden steps/railing/porch-post were sturdy & a little more ‘forgiving’ than a direct hit on the concrete! They haven’t threatened to take my keys YET!

Lots of GREAT MEMORIES associated with the SACO group friends and the travels.

Thanks for listening, Richard

Mona Miller (widow of Bob)

A BIG P.S: Just picked up more info – regarding 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of U.S.Naval Amphibious Training Base at Ft. Pierce, FL in 1993 – we didn’t go, but a friend in nearby Dresden, OH was an instructor there. Learned the patch mentioned above: “red background with gold embroidery” was emblem of WII Amphibious Force. Soooo, my question is answered.

To Paul Casamajor 4 Oct 2006

With regret, I will discontinue my associate membership in SACO NEWS. . . .

Thank you to all of you SACO members who have given so generously of your time and effort to make SACO NEWS so very successful.

Best wishes to you and all of the SACO Group.

Sincerely, Verna L, Saxby (widow of Donald Saxby)

*Ed. Note: Thanks for your very kind letter, Mrs. Saxby. and all our thanks to you for your past donation to SACO in memory of your late husband, Donald. Our best wishes to you!*

???!\*\*\*

To Bob Hill. . . . .19 March 2007

Please use the enclosed (a donation) for the SACO Fifty Third Reunion June 7-9.

All the best, D.M. (Donald McNeely) (of St. Paul, MN)

*Donald, Thanks from all SACO. Ed.*

???!\*\*\*

To the editor July 2007

. . . . Thank you so much for your phone calls and your magazine SACO. Hope your health improves.

As always, Annabeth Carter (Mrs. Edwin Carter)

???!\*\*\*





MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BUREAU  
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE  
*SHIHLIN, TAIPEI, TAIWAN*  
*REPUBLIC OF CHINA*

July 04, 2007

Mr. Richard Rutan  
SACO NEWS Editor  
45-480 Desert Fox Dr.  
La Quinta, CA 92253-4214  
USA

Dear Mr. Rutan,

My wife and I would like to extend to you our heartfelt appreciation for your warm hospitality and the unique tiepin and money clip with SACO emblems as well as the gorgeous three-color silver necklet you gave us as gifts. We cherish and love them all.

My excitement was beyond description when I finally met you in person in the Des Moines Reunion as I had heard quite a lot about your literary talent before I left for the States. Please accept my respect and admiration for your earnest devotion to the heavy duty as SACO NEWS editor for many years. In addition, I was told that your mother, Mama Erma, was an active member of the SACO Reunion and visited Taiwan with SACO delegation before she passed away. Even though I did not have the chance to meet her in person, I would still like to express my highest respect for her. I sincerely hope that the spirit and tradition of the SACO would be enhanced and carried on forever.

I wish you all the best.

Sincerely yours,

中華民國軍事情報局 歐 降 龍  
副局長陸軍少將

Ou, Chiang-lung

10 MG ROC Army

Deputy Director, MIB, MND



MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BUREAU  
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE  
SHIHLIN, TAIPEI, TAIWAN  
REPUBLIC OF CHINA

July 04, 2007

Mr. & Mrs. Ken & Lillie Brown  
163 Harmony Lane  
Laramie, WY 82070-8603  
USA

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Brown,

It was a great pleasure for me to meet you at the 2007 SACO Reunion.

I was thrilled when you told me that you met my sister more than ten years ago. My sister was so excited and touched to learn that you two still remembered her when I shared the news with all members of my family upon arriving home. In addition to giving her best regards to you, she then vividly described the happy hours you spent together. The Ou family all shared her sweet memories with joy.

I already submitted the clipped article from "*The Des Moines Register*" with Mr. Brown's picture and signature to Director Shen, the head of the MIB. To stress the importance of this article, we will file it carefully in our SACO folder so as to remind our future generations of the steadfast friendship between our two sides and to glorify the honor of the SACO. Thank you for your hearty and consistent support to the ROC. I sincerely hope that we will have a chance to meet again in the future.

I wish you and your family all the best.

Sincerely yours,

中華民國軍事情報局  
副局長陸軍少將

歐降龍

Ou, Chiang-lung

// MG ROC Army

Deputy Director, MIB, MND

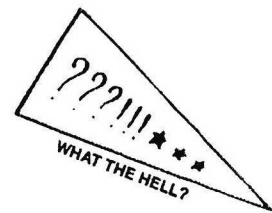




# SACO

SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

U. S. NAVAL GROUP CHINA VETERANS



Vice Admiral Milton E. Miles  
Perpetual Skipper

## MINUTES OF THE SACO TRUSTEES MEETING

June 6, 2007

**Location:** The SACO Trustee's Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn in Des Moines, IA on June 6-9, 2007.

**Time:** The Meeting was held on Wednesday, June 6, at 7:30 PM and adjourned at 9:30 PM.

**Attendees:** \* - absent

Trustees: Richard Terpstra  
Jerry Coats  
Bob Clark\*  
Richard Bannister\*  
Guy Tressler\*

President Jack Miller

Treasurer Willie Baker\*  
Asst, Treas. Sal Ciaccio

Secretary Robert Hoe  
Asst. Sec. Jim Kelly

Comm. Mem. Carolyn Inman Arnold

### **I - Call to Order** - President Jack Miller

II - Secretary's Report - The report of the Trustee's Meeting of September 22, 2006 were presented by the Secretary, Robert Hoe. A few minor corrections were noted and the corrected minutes were approved unanimously.

- b) Officers – Bob Hill will be the candidate for the office of President replacing our out-going President Jack Miller. Bob will present the slate of candidates for the General Meeting.
- c) Membership Report – Paul Casamajor continues to do an outstanding job as the membership Chairman. Since Paul is unable to attend our meetings, he has sent his report(s) via the Secretary, Bob Hoe. Paul's membership report is attached. Paul reports that there are: 333 regular SACO members; 108 total associate members; and 5 "other" members, Honorary, MIB officials, for a total of 446 members.
- d) Necrology – Paul Casamajor's Necrology Report is enclosed. There are ten SACO personnel on the necrology list. Two more names are to be added since Paul published his list: 1) Tex Howell, and, 2) William White.
- e) Associate Members – Paul Casamajor reported a list of six new prospective Associate Members to be considered by the Membership at the General meeting (List enclosed). Richard Terpstra has several more prospective Associate Member names which he will send to Paul Casamajor.
- f) Medal Awards – Paul sent the names of three Medal Award recipients: Buren Hanson; William Wyatt; and, Luhr Jensen. Buren Hanson was unable to attend the meeting because of illness. Luhr Jensen is deceased and his medal was to be received by his daughter, Joan. (A SACO veteran who had not known about our organization, John Warner, who lives in Des Moines, read about our reunion in the newspaper and came to our meeting. John was presented with a SACO Medal by the Taiwanese Major General Ou. Luhr Jensen's Medal will be forwarded to his family)
- g) Future Reunions – It was noted that Richard Rutan was designated as the Reunion Coordinator for SACO. Richard reported that so far he has not been asked for assistance which he would be happy to give. Richard Terpstra is hosting the 2008 reunion in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Richard presented information on some of the events that are being planned. Currently Richard is planning on having the reunion during the latter part of June, 2008.

There was a discussion about future reunions after Grand Rapids. It was suggested that if the Associates were invited in to our organization with full membership rights, we may be able to use their support for future reunions. There were no candidates identified for the future reunions at the Trustees meeting.

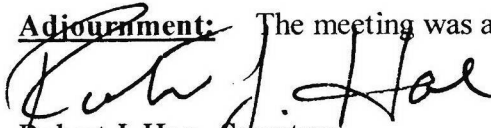
**(This is a very important item and I believe that the Reunion Coordinator, Officers of SACO and the Trustees should work toward identifying potential Reunion Chairpersons as a priority task)**



- h) Other New Business – Carolyn Inman Arnold reported that a SACO website was being developed by herself and Jody Petersen. It will have the name of “SACONAVY.com (or, SACONAVY.org)”. It is planned to have the web-site up and running “very soon”.

(This is a great idea and I for one applaud Carolyn and Jody for their efforts!)

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

  
Robert J. Hoe, Secretary

June 24, 2007

Distirbution:

SACO Officers:

- President – Bob Hill
- Vice Presidents – 1<sup>st</sup> - George Berrett  
2<sup>nd</sup> -Guy Tressler
- Treasurer – Willie Baker
- Assistant Treasurer – Sal Ciaccio
- Secretary – Bob Hoe
- Assistant Secretary – Jim Kelly

Trustees – 3 years- Jack Waters  
Guy Purvis

2 years – Richard Terpstra  
Francis Reynett

1 year - Richard Bannier  
Bob Clark

1 year - Jerry Coats

Reunion Chairman –Richard Terpstra

Editor, SACO News & Reunion Coordinator – Richard Rutan

Membership Chairman – Paul Casamajor

Legal Counsel – Bill Sager

Web Site Master(s) – Carolyn Inman Arnold, Jody Petersen

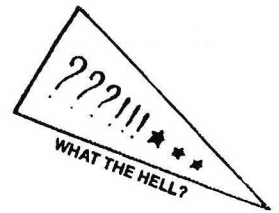


Vice Admiral Milton E. Miles  
Perpetual Skipper

# SACO

SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

U. S. NAVAL GROUP CHINA VETERANS



## SACO General Membership Meeting

June 9, 2007

Airport Holiday Inn

President Jack Miller, Chairman

**Time:** 0900 – Meeting called to Order by Jack Miller.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Necrology:** The list of persons added to our roster of departed comrades was read by Secretary Robert Hoe. The following persons were submitted in the Necrology report by Paul Casamajor:

Dr. Cornelius Tyson  
Howard W. Tucker, Jr.  
Nelson J. Bowman  
Tex Howell\*

Ralph T. Hankins  
Seth I. Morris, Jr.  
John L. Horne

Irvin R. Sheffer  
Warren J. Higby  
William White\*

\* added since list published by P. Casamajor

**Treasurers Report:** Willie Baker presented the Treasurer's report, copy enclosed. The balance in the treasury as of June 1, 2007 is:

**\$ 30,756.14**

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was approved.

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary Bob Hoe presented the Minutes of the General Membership Meeting of September 21, 2006, for approval. A motion to approve the minutes as corrected was passed.



**Report on Trustee's Meeting** - The subjects addressed in the meeting of the Trustees on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007 were presented to the General Meeting:

1 – The list of proposed new Associate Members (prepared by Membership Chairman Paul Casamajor) was presented for approval. The persons presented were:

Catherine Baker – Widow of Dr. David Baker  
Laverne McQuiston – Widow of Melvin McQuiston  
Frances Petri – Widow of Richard Petri  
Lubov M. Tucker – Widow of Howard M. Tucker  
William T. Percy – Cousin of Richard Rutan  
Bacheng Li – Son of SACO Chinese Interpreter Jiru Li

(Richard Terpstra announced that he had an additional nine candidates that he will forward on to Paul Casamajor for registering.)

2 – Report of Committee – Recommendations for Continuation of SACO – Robert Hoe, Carolyn Inman Arnold, Bob Hill. The report on the continuation of SACO was presented by Robert Hoe and the following recommendation made. (This recommendation has been approved by the Trustees for presentation to the General Membership for consideration.)

modify the SACO By-Laws as follows:

“a) ARTICLE II – Members – 3. Voting Rights. Each active regular member and associate member paying dues as herein provided, shall be entitled to vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members. ~~Associate members and H~~onorary members may attend, but may not participate in, ----.”

b) ARTICLE III – Meetings of Members 1. Annual Meeting. An annual meeting of the active regular members and associate members and at which honorary ~~and associate members~~ shall be privileged to attend, shall be held ---- .”

The effect of these changes is that the Associate Members will have the full voting rights as the regular SACO members. The direct participation of the SACO Associates in all of the SACO activities will be welcome and encouraged.

Our SACO counsel, Bill Sager, has offered his opinion that the modification to the By-Laws as recommended will not affect SACO's compliance with the Certificate of Incorporation of the State of New Jersey or SACO's exemption under the IRS Code Section 501(c)(19).

The recommendation was the subject of considerable discussion. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Committee's recommendation. The motion was passed by a majority by hand count. As a result, the By-laws are to be modified to incorporate these

III – Treasurer’s Report - Since the Treasurer, Willie Baker, was ill and did not attend the meeting, the Treasurer’s Report was not given. However the Treasurer’s Report was presented at the General Membership Meeting and a copy of the report is included with these minutes.

IV – Old Business -

- a) The Future of SACO - At our 2006 Reunion, a committee consisting of Carolyn Inman Arnold, Bob Hill and Robert Hoe was appointed by President Richard Rutan to investigate what action should be taken, if any, regarding the future of SACO. The report of the Committee was presented to the Trustees and the recommendations of the report were discussed. (copy enclosed)

After discussions, it was moved, seconded and approved that the Committee recommendation be presented to the Members at the meeting of the General Membership for consideration. The recommendation is that the Associate Members be included in the SACO membership as full voting members. This action requires the modification of the By-Laws as follows:

“ ARTICLE II – Members – 3. Voting Rights. Each active regular member and associate member paying dues as herein provided, shall be entitled to vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members. ~~Associate members and Honorary~~ members may attend, but may not participate in, ----.”

“ ARTICLE III – Meetings of Members 1. Annual Meeting. An annual meeting of the active regular members and associate members and at which honorary and ~~associate~~ members shall be privileged to attend, shall be held ---- .”

We are advise by our legal counsel, Bill Sager, that these changes to the By-Laws do not affect our qualification under the certification of incorporation in the state of New Jersey nor our Tax Exemption Status under Section 501(c)(19) of the Tax Code as “War Veteran’s organizations and auxiliary units (Schedule K, page 12).

- b) Melvin Goguy has produced SACO Emblems for SACO members. They are available at the Hospitality Suite. THANK YOU, MELVIN!

V – New Business –

- a) Trustees – Three trustees are to be elected, two for three year terms and one for the one year term of Jerry Coats. Bob Hill, as nominating chairman will prepare a list of prospective candidates for the General Membership meeting





*(It appears that our election process is flawed. If we elect two trustees each year for a period of three years and a trustee for one year, we will have seven trustees, not five! We can either change the number to seven or drop two of the Trustees. I would recommend that we change the number of Trustees to have a maximum of seven. Then if one or two resign or are incapacitated we will have a sufficient number to conduct business.)*

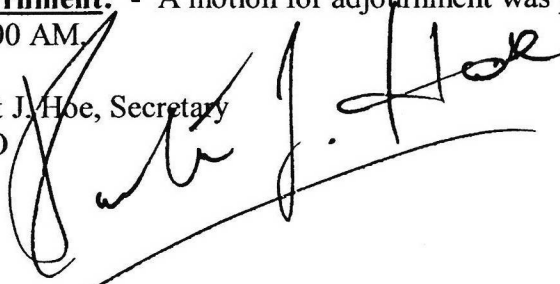
**Future Reunions** – Richard Terpstra is the Reunion Chairman for 2008. Richard presented information on the reunion that will be held June 2008 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Richard described the events that he is planning. (Richard, we are looking forward to another great reunion!)

There has been no Reunion Chairman or site selected for the 2009 Reunion. The subject was brought up for discussion of the possibility of selection of a site and participation by the Associates now that they have full membership status. However the selection of the site for the 2009 reunion was left undecided. (SACO officers and trustees together with the Reunion Coordinator should take some action regarding the selection of the 2009 and future reunion sites. The web site that Carolyn Arnold is installing could be a good tool to use.)

**Other New Business** – Carolyn Inman Arnold and Jody Peterson are developing a SACO web-site which sounds like a great idea. Carolyn reported that they expect to activate the site very soon! It should offer us great possibilities towards getting the SACO story out.

**Adjournment:** - A motion for adjournment was passed and the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Robert J. Hoe, Secretary  
SACO



**WHERE WILL WE BE IN 2009 ???!!\*\***

We have always made a point to plan at least 2 years in advance for reunions. Here we are with nothing in view for 2009. We urgently need Volunteer Hosts before we meet in Battle Creek, MI in June of next year. It was mentioned New England states might be a possibility, but we are open to any offers. Please contact Reunion Coordinator, Richard Rutan 760-217 8327.  
*Ed.*

# The Nimitz News

"We Inspire Our Youth By Honoring  
Our Heroes"

*Newsletter of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation and National Museum of the Pacific War, a  
Property of the Texas Historical Commission* ---- *Fourth Quarter 2006*

## Grand Reopening of the Admiral Nimitz Museum

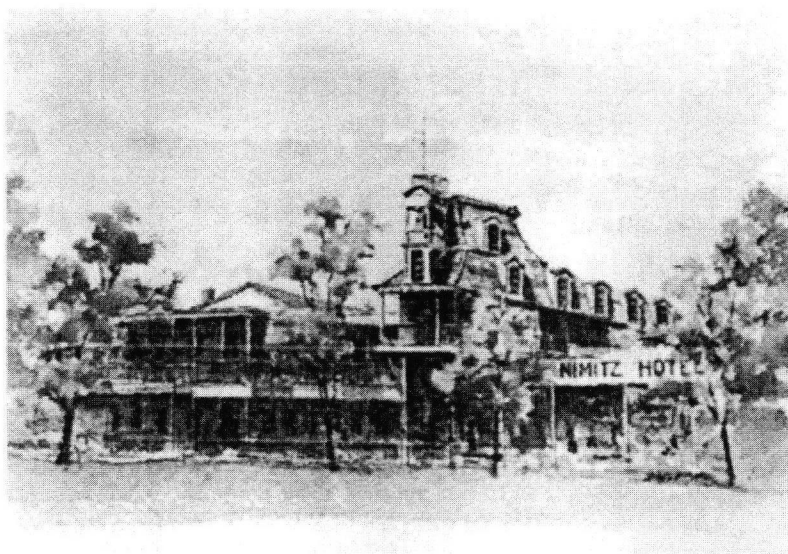
After a three year renovation, the old Nimitz Hotel, known as the Admiral Nimitz Museum, will reopen on the occasion of Fleet Admiral Nimitz's 122<sup>nd</sup> birthday. The Grand Opening Ceremonies and Ribbon Cutting will be held Sunday, 25 February, at 1:30 pm at the Museum's front portico. Among the speakers will be Fredericksburg's own General Michael Hagee, 33<sup>rd</sup> Commandant of the United States Marine Corps. The entire Museum complex will be open to the public that day at no charge, and guests may enjoy birthday cake, coffee and music in the outside courtyard areas from 2 - 5:00pm.

A black-tie event, The Admiral's Ball, is scheduled with draperies and antique chandeliers. It will be available for public rental. The second floor houses the Museum offices and the Cailloux Education Center serving school tours and programs. The third floor will consist of a conference room and small kitchen area.

The three million dollar project began in 2003 as a cooperative venture between Texas Parks and Wildlife and the Admiral Nimitz Foundation. The Museum complex was transferred to the Texas Historical Commission in November 2005, with the site under the management of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation. The project includes landscaping the entire courtyard area, including the legendary "Mrs. Nimitz's Garden," the Memorial Courtyard and a gazebo/social reception area. The architect for the project is Mustard Design, while construction has been headed by Duecker Construction Company, both from Fredericksburg. The Museum exhibits were designed and produced by Southwest Museum Services of Houston, Texas.

for Saturday, 24 February, at 7pm, the evening prior to the public Grand Opening. To request an invitation, which includes the various pricing levels, please call the Admiral Nimitz Foundation offices at (830) 997-8600 or email: [Vaughan@nimitz-museum.org](mailto:Vaughan@nimitz-museum.org).

The all new Museum exhibits and the hotel's fully restored Grand Ballroom, complete with mezzanine and catering facilities, will be open for the public to tour on Sunday following the opening ceremony. The Heritage Exhibit Gallery will chronicle the history of the Nimitz hotel and family in early Fredericksburg. The Nimitz Exhibit Gallery will tell the story of the life and career of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. The historic ballroom has had a major face lift with the ceiling raised to reflect its original 1880s height and will be beautifully appointed



????!!\*\*\*



# *Sergeant Stubby* *A War Dog* *Remembered*

America's first war dog, Stubby, served 18 months 'over there' and participated in seventeen battles on the Western Front. He saved his regiment from surprise mustard gas attacks, located and comforted the wounded, and even once caught a German spy by the seat of his pants. Back home, his exploits were front-page news of every major newspaper.

Stubby was a bull-terrier — broadly speaking, very broadly! No one ever discovered where he hailed from originally. One day he just appeared when a bunch of soldiers were training at Yale Field in New Haven, CT. He trotted in and out among the ranks as they drilled, stopping to make a friend here and there, until pretty soon he was on chummy terms with the whole bunch.

One soldier though, in particular, developed a fondness for the dog, a Corporal Robert Conroy, who when it became time to ship out, hid Stubby on board the troop ship.

So, stowaway Stubby sailed for France; after that Cpl. Conroy became his accepted master, even though he was still on chummy terms with everyone else in the outfit, and in the same spirit of camaraderie that had marked his initial overtures at Yale.

It was at Chemin des Dames that Stubby saw his first action, and it was there that the boys discovered he was a war dog par excellence. The boom of artillery fire didn't faze him in the least, and he soon learned to follow the men's example of ducking when the big ones started falling close. Naturally, he didn't know why he was ducking, but it became a great game to see who could hit the dugout first. After a few days, Stubby won every time. He could hear the whine of shells long before the men. It got so they'd watch him!

Then one night, Stubby made doggy history. It was an unusually quiet night in the trenches. Some of the boys were catching cat-naps in muddy dugouts and Stubby was stretched out by Conroy. Suddenly, his big blunt head snapped up and his ears pricked alert. The movement woke Conroy, who looked at the dog sheepishly just in time to see him sniff the air tentatively, utter a low growl, then spring to his feet, and go bounding from the dugout, around a corner out of sight.

A few seconds later, there was a sharp cry of pain and then the sound of a great scuffle outside. Conroy jumped from his bed, grabbed his rifle and went tearing out toward the direction of the noise.

A ludicrous sight met his eyes. Single-pawed, in vigorous offensive from the rear, Stubby had captured a German spy who'd been prowling through the trenches. The man was whirling desperately in an effort to shake off the snarling bundle of canine tooth and muscle that had attached to his differential. But Stubby was there to stay.

It took only a few moments to capture the Hun and disarm him, but it required considerably more time to convince Stubby that his mission had been successfully carried out and that he should now release the beautiful hold he had upon the nice soft German bottom.

By the end of the war, Stubby was known not only to every regiment, division, and army, but to the whole AEF. Honors by the bale were heaped on his muscled shoulders. At Mandres en Bassigny he was introduced to President Woodrow Wilson who "shook hands" with him. Medal and emblemated jackets were bestowed upon him for each deed of valor, plus a wound stripe for his grenade splinter. Not to be left out, the Marines even made him an Honorary Sergeant.

After the Armistice was signed, Stubby returned home with Conroy and his popularity seemed to grow even more. He became a nationally acclaimed hero and eventually was received by Presidents Harding and Coolidge. Even General John "Black Jack" Pershing, who commanded the American Expeditionary Forces

during the war, presented Stubby with a gold medal made by the Humane Society and declared him to be the highest ranking dog to ever serve in the Army.

He was even made an honorary member of the American Red Cross, the American Legion and the YMCA, which issued him a lifetime membership card good for "three bones a day and a place to sleep."

### *Stubby at Georgetown!*



Afterward, Stubby became Georgetown University's mascot. In 1921, Stubby's owner, Robert Conroy, was headed to Georgetown

for law school and took the dog along.

According to 1983 account in Georgetown Magazine, Stubby "served several times as mascot to the football team." Between the halves, Stubby would nudge a football around the field, much to the delight of the crowd.

Old age finally caught up with the small warrior on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1926, as he took ill and died in Conroy's arms.

It's said that Stubby and a few of his friends were instrumental in inspiring the creation of the United States 'K-9 Corps' just in time for WWII.

*(Anyone interested in reading about Military working Dogs, go to [www.uswarriors.org](http://www.uswarriors.org))*

Editor's note:

I want to express grateful acknowledgement to Adjutant Gerry Bright who edits a monthly newsletter for the local Rancho Mirage American Legion Post 301 for this most interesting story from the March 2007 issue.

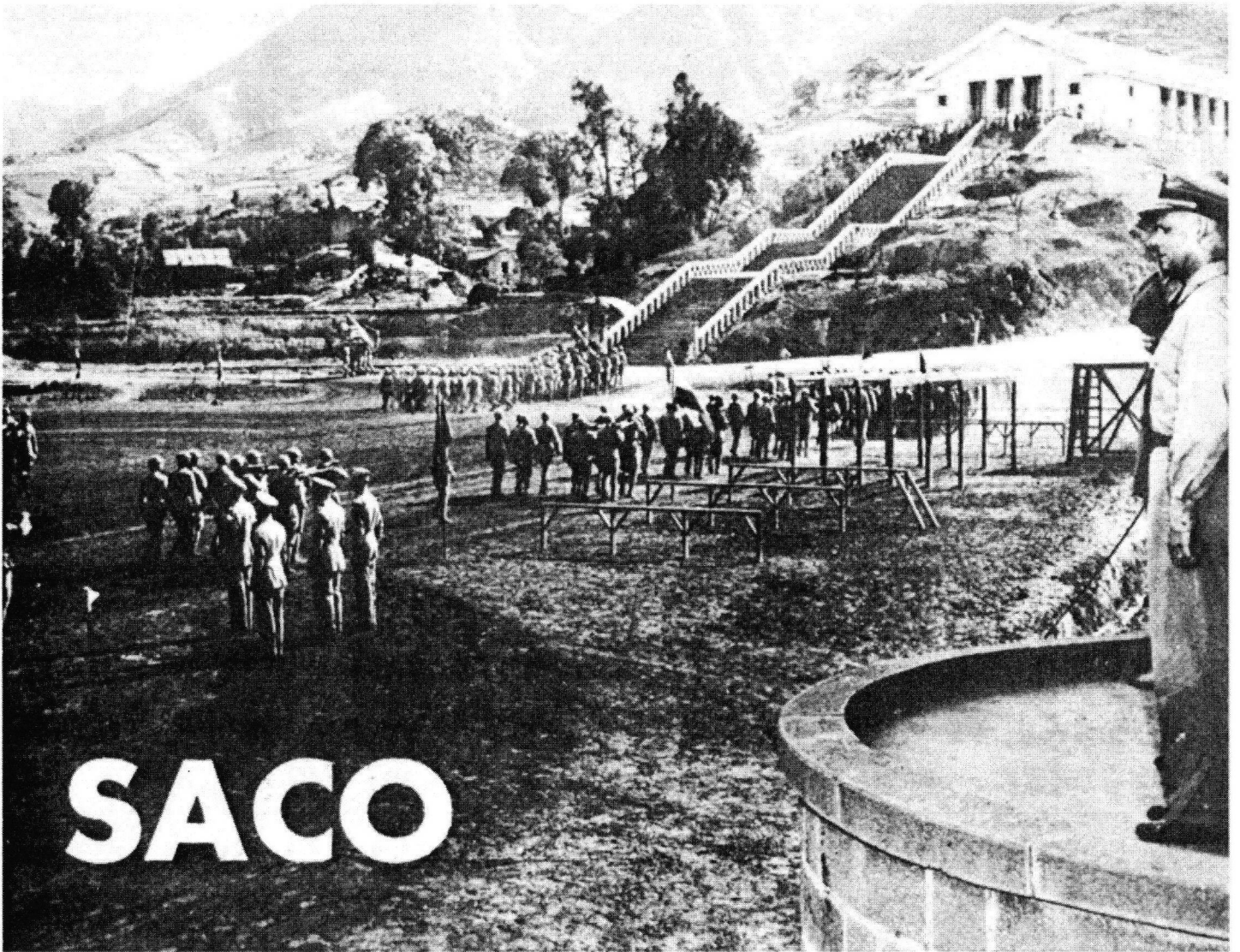
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**The Bill and Shirley Simmons Family at a gathering 12 October 2004**

**Standing L-R: Julia Slater – Lisa Slater – Vaughn Wittman – Barbara Papke Simmons – Bill Simmons – Megan Osborne – Mike Osborne – Erin Osborne – Rhett Hierlmeier – Kendre Wittman Hierlmeier –**

**Seated L-R: Joel Wittman – Nancy Wittman – Shirley Simmons – Phyllis Osborne**



NAVY 'TASK FORCE' secretly trained and equipped Chinese guerrillas for special missions against Japs in China.

*(The following from "ALL HANDS"  
The Bureau of Naval Personnel Information Bulletin dated December 1945.)*

Another "now it can be told" story — of one of the best-kept secrets of the Pacific war — came out last month when it was revealed that a U.S. naval group had had been operating with Chinese guerrillas behind the Jap lines in China. Their combined efforts, the Navy disclosed, had been a factor in the smashing blows of the Pacific Fleet against Jap-held islands, the Jap Navy and, finally, Japan itself.

How Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard men teamed up with Chinese fighters was not a story that could be told

even when V-J Day came because so many of the members were in parts of China still dominated by Japanese troops. Now that the Japs have been rounded up and disarmed, the U.S. Navy and the Chinese Government have felt it safe to lift the curtain on "SACO," the Sino-American Cooperative Organization, which brought essential information to the Allies and death to the Japs.

### **Bold Navy Teams Aid Chinese Guerrillas Conduct Secret War Behind Enemy Lines**

Among other little jobs, SACO (pronounced "Socko") had:

- set up weather, communications and



intelligence stations behind the Jap lines.

- .supplied information from inside China for the prowling U.S. Fleet and for U.S. submarines just off the coast.

- .put the finger on strategic targets for our air forces.

- .provided air-ground communication against advancing Jap troops.

- .aided aerial mining of enemy controlled waters.

- .rescued 76 Allied pilots and air-crewmembers.

- .killed, in one 13-month period, more than 23,000 Japanese.

Secret of SACO's amazing military achievement was the natural friendship between Americans and Chinese and their mutual determination to defeat their common enemy. In fact, SACO became known in military talk as Friendship Project and "Friendship" was the code name that protected its members.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor, the U.S. Navy and the National Military Council of China began laying their foundations for offensive action against Japan. They decided to establish a weather service in strategic locations throughout China including the Jap-held areas, from which the weather comes on its way across China and Japan into the Pacific.

To cooperate with the Americans on this venture, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek assigned his Bureau of Investigation and Statistics of the National Military Council which was to provide forces and facilities needed in China. For the U.S., Admiral King and General Marshall, Navy and Army leaders, assigned Rear Admiral (then Commander) M. E. Miles, USN, who was to work out the arrangements and head the American participation.

With help from the Chinese Government, our fleet was already getting regular weather reports from occupied areas in the Far East by the end of 1942. The success of this opened up some other possibilities, valuable both to us and to the Chinese.

The Navy found that the weather service could be readily expanded to provide coastal intelligence on Jap shipping movements. The Chinese adapted it to increase their sources of general information on Jap operations.

The Chinese provided substantial undercover forces to protect the American observers. The Navy, using Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel also, gave these men training and equipment, and they became the best organized and most effective of all Chinese guerrillas fighting Japs.

Army cooperation, including air transport from India over the 'Hump,' benefited Friendship Project from the start. OSS - Office of Strategic Services - also contributed greatly, especially in assigning particularly well-qualified personnel for the operation and establishing special training courses to augment this normal naval training of candidates for duty with the project.

## U.S - China Teamwork

As this unique Chinese-American project grew and its activities expanded, there developed a need for substantial and dependable logistics support. To arrange for this, the responsible heads, General Tai Li and Admiral Miles, made proposals which were incorporated in a formal agreement signed by Foreign Minister T. V. Soong (now Premier) and the late Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, and approved by the Generalissimo and the late President Roosevelt.

This agreement created SACO and under it, China and the United States operated

what is probably the most closely integrated Allied organization that ever surmounted a language barrier.

Chinese and Americans lived, worked and fought side by side, getting out the information which our ships and subs needed. Individual units set up weather, communications and intelligence stations all the way from the borders in Indochina to the northern reaches of the Gobi desert, with most of the activity concentrated along the China coast behind the north-south Japanese lines.

SACO Americans became adept at Chinese disguises, and, guided by SACO Chinese, slipped safely through enemy lines time and again. *Not one SACO member was ever detected.* \*

Fleet operations in the Western Pacific made the most of China weather reports, especially in planning and executing hazardous carrier strikes despite the treacherous weather conditions prevailing near Formosa and the Jap home islands.

SACO coast-watchers aided the sub campaign against Jap shipping, providing the information which enabled U.S. undersea craft to intercept and destroy

Japan's sea-borne lifeline. They also aided the 14<sup>th</sup> Air Force, reporting not only Japanese shipping, but troop movements, supply concentrations, airfield developments, bridges and other strategic targets which hard-hitting Army flyers promptly attacked.

In addition, all SACO intelligence and weather reports were sent promptly to Chinese and American army headquarters.

## How SACO Socked 'Em

Some examples of how SACO worked in various ways against the enemy:

•During the critical Japanese drive on Kweilin in August 1944, when Maj. Gen Claire L. Chennault's planes were having difficulty locating enemy columns advancing through rugged terrain Northeast of the city, Lt. Stanley E. McCaffrey, USNR, a SACO officer attached to the 14<sup>th</sup> Air Force, joined front-line Chinese forces, established air-ground communications, and stuck to his post only a few hundred yards from the enemy for 19 days despite injury from the constant mortar and artillery fire. A 14<sup>th</sup> AAF



CARE AND FEEDING of Yankee machines, especially the jeep, was popular subject with Chinese guerrillas.



GUERRILLA SCHOOL offered variety of instruction. These SACO students are learning veterinary medicine.



**WEATHER INFORMATION** forwarded by SACO guided fleet and air strikes on Formosa and Jap homeland.



Official U. S. Navy photographs

**DEMOLITION** was a major activity of SACO units. Class above is being taught to pack 'lunch box bomb'.

officer reported, "It was as if our planes were being led by the hand." For his feat of bravery and endurance, which aided the Army flyers in killing 3,000 Japs and knocking out eleven 75-mm guns, Lt. McCaffrey received the Army Bronze Star.

..Sparked by Naval Group China, which provided trained mine-warfare officers, the 14<sup>th</sup> AAF began aerial mining of enemy-controlled waters as early as October 1943. SACO forces furnished Intelligence for Gen. Chennault's Liberators to plant mines along coast shipping routes, in Japanese harbors and on the vital inland water routes of the Yangtze River. Thousands of tons of enemy shipping were sunk, transportation routes were paralyzed and ports were closed for weeks while the frantic Japs tried to clear them of mines.

..As a result of this aerial mining and of the alertness of the many SACO coast-watchers, the Japs shifted their shipping routes further out to sea - where they promptly fell prey to the U.S. submarines

..Chinese guerrillas, trained and armed by the Navy, formed demolition squads that killed Japanese, blew up trains, and destroyed or captured huge quantities of enemy material and equipment.

..Using ambushes and raids on outposts, patrols and garrisons, SACO-trained guerrillas struck at roving Japs out on the search for food in rural areas. By repeatedly wiping out these foraging groups, the guerrillas cut enemy food supplies and made the Japanese afraid to come out from their strongholds except in force. In some areas, this guerrilla pressure was so great that Japanese soldiers were weakened seriously by starvation diets.

..SACO trained sabotage experts did wholesale destruction to barracks, assembly halls, storage dumps and warehouses, anchored Japanese vessels and small craft. One unit of Chinese and Americans early this year attacked a 1,000-ton freighter in Amoy, used delayed



charges to kill or injure all personnel aboard, destroyed the freighter and threw the Amoy area into confusion.

•From 1 June 1944 to 1 July 1945, SACO guerrillas killed 23,540 Japs, wounded 9,166 and captured 291. They destroyed 209 bridges, 84 locomotives, 141 ships and river craft, and 97 depots and warehouses.

### **Killing 3 for 1**

The score wasn't always that lucky. In the early days of the war, Chinese guerrillas were losing in combat approximately three men for every Jap killed. But SACO-trained guerrillas promptly increased the toll of Jap losses, and in 1945 had reversed the ratio. This year they killed more than 2,000 Japs a month at a cost of less than one Chinese for three Japs.

SACO activities have been inspected in recent months by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, U.S. Ambassador Patrick J. Hurley and Lt. Gen. Albert Wedemeyer, the Generalissimo's chief of staff and commander of all U.S. forces in the China Theater.

SACO troops were prominent in the liberation of Foochow and Wenchow, and some SACO units, including several Chinese naval officers, were trained in the U.S. for amphibious work and captured and occupied several of the smaller Jap-held islands along the China coast.

To keep the Japs and their puppets from infiltrating into Free China, SACO Chinese stressed assistance in identification and security. Aided by the FBI and the Federal Bureau of Narcotics, the Navy provided a training unit on this, and Coastguardsmen also taught the Chinese the handling of dogs for sentry duty and patrol work. Improvement in Chinese security was rapid.

The Navy provided medical personnel and supplies not only to care for SACO

Americans, but to overcome critical shortages which had handicapped the Chinese. Small hospital units were set up in some forward areas and saved the lives of many SACO men wounded in combat.

Despite operations in some of the most disease-ridden areas of the world, Navy medical officers by rigorous preventive measures maintained a high standard of health among the personnel of SACO and were able to bring modern medical care to thousands of Chinese allies who had never known it before.

### **Close Escapes**

Working closely with other rescue agencies and loyal Chinese civilians, SACO also aided in the rescue of Allied flyers brought down in Japanese territory. Up to 1 July, these included 30 pilots and 46 air-crewmembers, both American and Chinese, as well as a U. S. war correspondent, Don Bell.

It was Bell, who, reporting on the rescue of his party, wrote, "Imagine our gasps of amazed delight when told that there was a U.S. Naval Station just 80 li (about 27 miles) away. Here we had been shot down less than a mile from a Jap garrison, we had been shelled, we had been chased by motor boats and searched for by Jap planes less than two hours ago - and here was a man telling us that we were within a few hours of safety. We met the Navy within 24 hours. Boatswain's Mate Howard W. Tucker, Jr. of West Annapolis, Md. was out looking for us. When we saw Tucker, swinging along with a tommy-gun over one shoulder and a bag of iron rations over the other - well you can imagine talk about a sailor's welcome, but you haven't seen anything."

But that was typical of SACO - a good outfit to have turn up if you were an American or Chinese and in trouble - a bad outfit to run into unexpectedly if you were a Jap.

Among the close escapes experienced by SACO personnel, you can include those of the American leader, Admiral Miles, who headed all naval activities in China during the war. Admiral Miles had two Asiatic tours of duty, one lasting five years (1922-27) and a second lasting three (1936-39). A close student of affairs in Asia, he studied the Japanese language, used every opportunity for extensive travel over the continent and established many Chinese friendships.

His success with SACO led the Japanese to put a bounty of two million yen on his head, and there were numerous attempts on his life- one would-be assassin delivering leg and shoulder knife wounds. The Japs tried to get him several times during his trips to distant field units, and made several ambushes and special bombing attacks, one so nearly successful that he was again wounded.

Despite these and many other close scrapes, SACO and its work went on, to the profit of the allied cause and the serious crippling of the Japs' aggression schemes. Chinese and Americans, working together, helped turn the Jap dream of empire into a grim No-Prosperity Sphere which was to be the final resting place for countless thousands of Japanese army, navy and merchant marine.

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\* We did have one of our men captured on small Whale Island off East Coast of China and tortured by the Japs - Alfred Parsons of Ooltewah, TN Ed.

*Article submitted by John (Jack) Shearer of 1610 Emerson Dr., Mt. Joy, PA 17552*

**Thank you for a very thorough and most interesting account of the activities of SACO written 62 years ago.- Ed.**

## Speaking of Fish Stories

### Rule Change For Commercial Fishermen

State of Michigan  
General Administration Building  
Department of Fishing  
Olympia, Michigan 89501

U. S. Department of fish and Game

“Coho Salmon Experiment in Lake Michigan”

The “Coho” not being a native of the Lake Michigan waters, has experimented difficulty in surviving. The female, when going up the Lake Michigan feeder streams, has been losing her roe on the rocky bottoms, and when she got far enough upstream in the small pools and inlets, had great difficulty getting back in the mainstream over the sand bars, etc. . . . in fact, as high as 90% were dying in the upper reaches of the Lake Michigan tributaries, which caused a pollution and odor problem.

The Lake Michigan Department of Fishing decided to cross-breed the “Coho” with the native “Walleye” for two reasons (1) The “Walleye” had the strength and knowledge to get through the Lake Michigan tributaries and (2) was not prone to lose the roe while going upstream. This new species was named “CoWal.” However, in cross-breeding, the fight that the “Coho” was noted for was lost to the more sluggish tendencies of the “Walleye.”

To combat this sluggishness, the experiment went further. They bred the “Co-Wal” with the greatest water fighter in North America, the “Muskie.” This created a hybrid, double cross-breed and introduced a Top American Game Fish. They have named this hybrid the “Co-Wal-Ski” and they now have to teach the dumb *son-of-a bitch* how to swim!

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# SACO RETURNS TO IOWA

1988 was our first reunion in Des Moines, Iowa. In this, our second visit, it was great to be back and be with our Hosts Bob & Lola Hill and their families for the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting the 6<sup>th</sup> thru 9<sup>th</sup> of June, 2007.

Touring began Thursday, the 7<sup>th</sup>. Buses toured City of Des Moines to include the Capitol Grounds with emphasis on the WWII Memorial. Those who wanted, toured the Capitol – a beautiful building!. After leaving, they traveled to the Hometown Kitchen Classics where lunch was served. The food is home grown and home made – *Iowa style*. Hometown Kitchen Classics is located in a renovated corn-crib where the more adventurous could climb to the top and see for miles. After lunch, the group went to the Boone and Valley Scenic Railroad to ride the “Frazier Excursion.” Then they took a drive past former First Lady Mamie Eisenhower’s home in Boone, Iowa concluding the day’s events and returned to the hotel.

Early afternoon on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup>, we left the Airport Holiday Inn accompanied by our guide and took the Storybook Bridge Tour designed to please particular interest of the group. We saw three covered bridges, one in particular featured in the movie “Bridges of Madison County”. Then a drive by John Wayne’s birthplace and a one-room school-house. Our final destination for the day ended at the Madison County Historical Complex for a scrumptious PIG ROAST dinner!

Saturday, June 9, the annual business meeting concluded with no selection for sight for 2009 Reunion. This is urgent due to prep time normally needed reserving hotel and planning and it’s absolutely not good policy to not plan two years in advance or there’s trouble ahead!!!

Saturday evening was the usual no-host bar and banquet. Our host, Bob Hill gave the welcome address and introduced members at the head table followed by members of the U.S. Navy presenting the Colors. Jack Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by vocalist Helen Gavin singing “Navy Blue and Gold” accompanied by organist Alma Angaran. Then all SACOs and guests stood and sang “God Bless America” and Richard Maurice, Jack Miller’s son-in-law, delivered the invocation.

Dinner is served: Choice of Roast Beef or Pecan Chicken, Caesar salad with Parmesan croutons, garlic and paprika dusted mini red potatoes, honey glazed carrots, and apple or Boston cream pie.

President Jack Miller spoke and introduced our guest of honor, speaker Major General Ou of the MIB.

Editor Richard Rutan announced the winner of secret bids on Lola Hill’s beautiful SACO Quilt which she made. The winner, Maj. Gen. Ou announced he was loaning the quilt to SACO with the request that it be displayed at future SACO Reunions as long as they meet. Lola Hill graciously designated the bid of \$5,000 be used for expenses of *SACO NEWS* – Bless you, Lola, for your generosity to all of us through much love and tremendous labor in your masterpiece. Wish all SACO could see it in person!

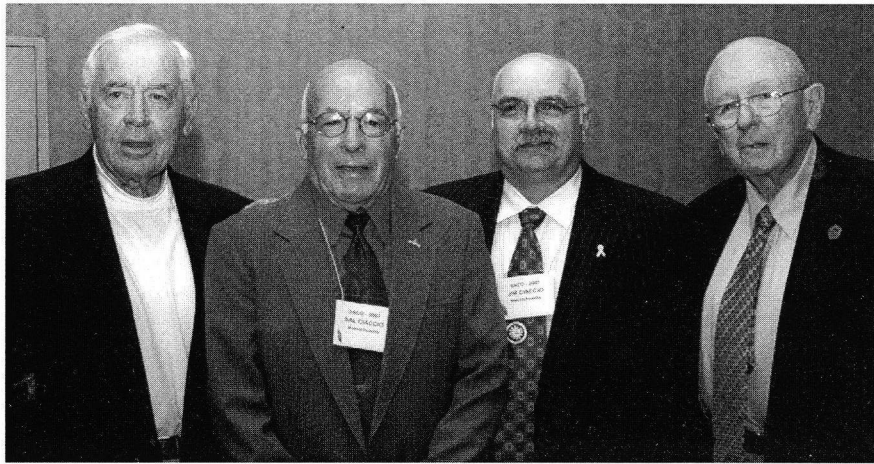
The banquet ended with presenting SACO medals and exchange of gifts with Maj. Gen. & Mrs. Ou, Lt. Col. Laura Lin (dear friend of SACO for several years) and Maj. Bruce Hung.

???!\*\*\*





The Bob & Lola Hill Family



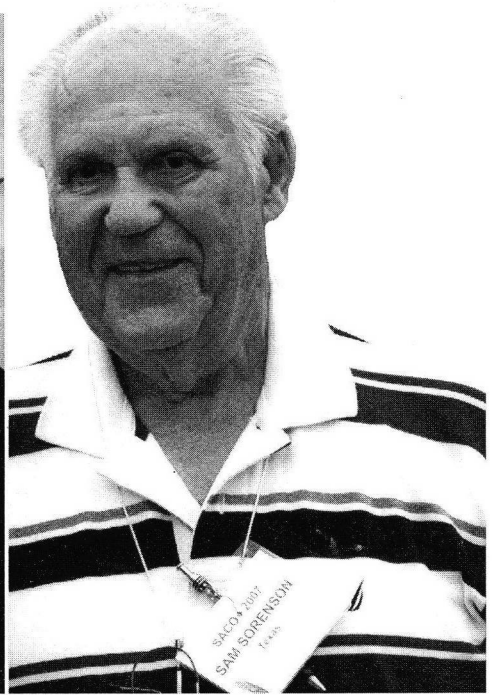
Bob Hoe – Sal Ciaccio – Jim Ciaccio – Jim Whitlock



MGen. and Mrs. Ou with SACO quilt won by their secret bid.



Bob Hoe “twice” L-nephew – R-uncle



Sam Sorenson



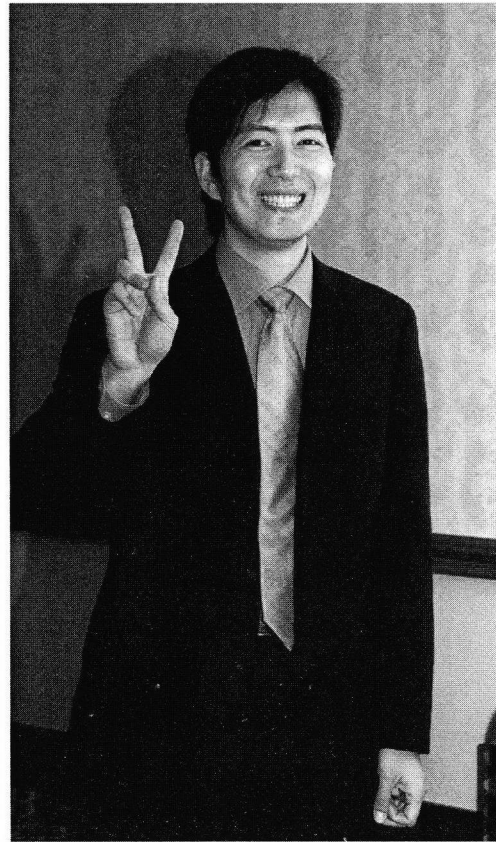
Mr. & Mrs. John Warner

Newly found SACO vet living in Des Moines – he read about Saco Reunion in local paper his first knowledge of our annual get-togethers.





16 of SACO vets  
on tour of  
Des Moines area  
Thursday  
7 June 2007



Maj. Bruce Hung of ROC



L Center: Doug & dad, Vern Herberg  
Bottm L: Jim Kelly & Elva McHugh





Top R-L: Norman Dike - Guy Purvis – Lyndal Dike  
 Middle: Eloise & Alex Carrillo – dtr Monica Carrillo & husband, Johnny Adams  
 Bottom: W. Elsworth “Smitty” Smith & son, Randy Smith – Bob Grace



**Fran Waters**



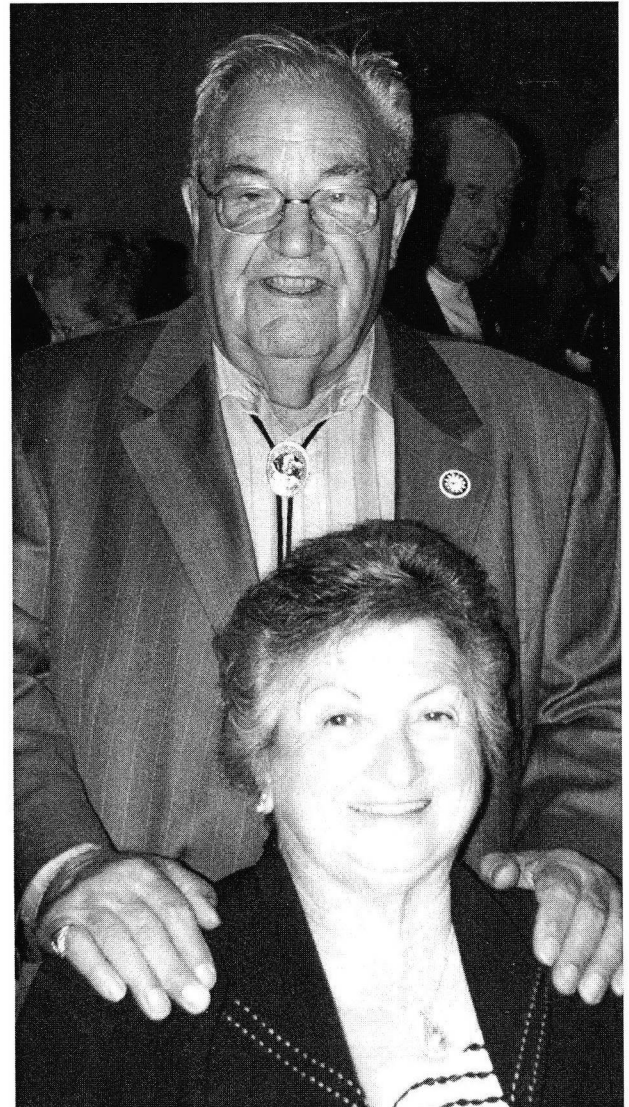
**Willie & Audrey Baker**



**Jack & son, Dan Miller**



**Jeff & mother, Katie Petersen**



**Mel & Helen Goguey**





Jack and Beverly Petersen



Penny and her dad, Jerry Coats



Ken and Lillie Brown



Jack Miller's daughter & son  
Judy Maurice and Dan Miller

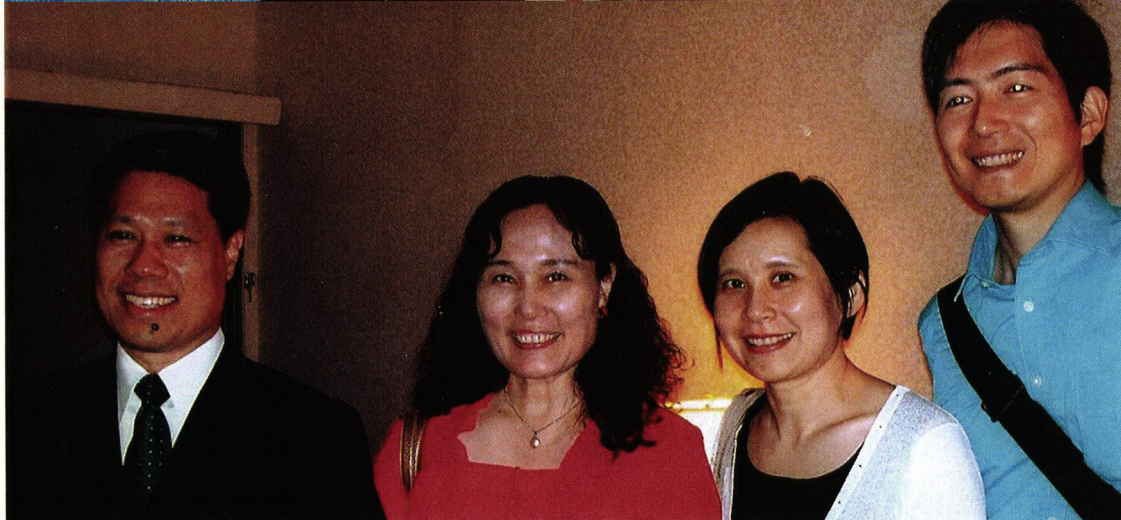


The Waters' Family  
Center John & Fran Waters

Daughters:

L - Marty Tetlow  
R - Barbara Rowe





L-R Top: Jack Miller family; Son, Dan, Jack, Dtrs: Marilyn Westphal Judy Maurice – husband, Richard Maurice & Marilyn’s husband, Bruce Westphal.  
 Middle: The five R.I. men (Radio Intelligence) Richard Rutan, Kenny Brown, John Waters, Jack Petersen & center-front: Jack Miller.  
 Bottom: M.Gen. & Mrs. Ou. Chiang-ling, Lt. Col. Laura Lin & Maj. Bruce Hung



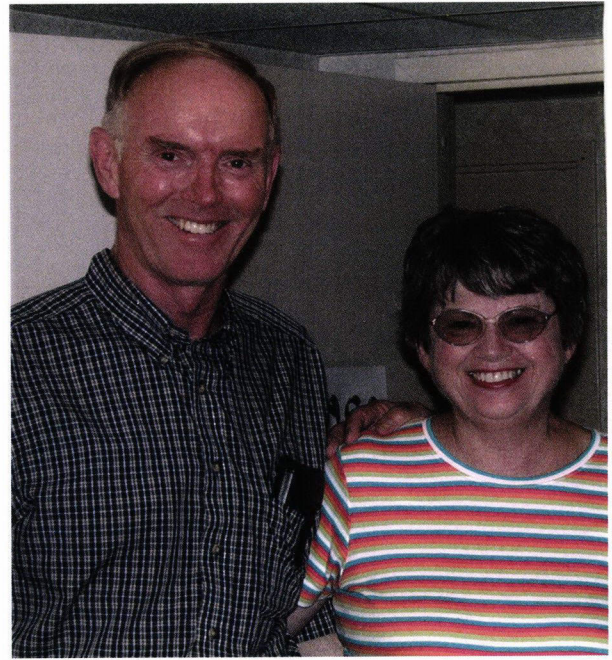


Clockwise from lower R: Bob Thomas – M.Gen. Ou – Marty Tetlow – Alex Carrillo – Dean & Billi Warner - Ruby Alverson- Jack Petersen –Lt.Col. Laura Lin – Dick Terpstra – Lee Alverson





L – Francis & Caroline Reynnet  
R- Kenneth Reynnet



Bill & Marge Percy (cousins of editor)



Standing: – Lucy & George Bishop friends of  
Seated: - Guy Purvis - Pat Sanders





Major Bruce Hung – Lt.Col. Laura Lin - MGen. & Mrs Ou with maker of SACO quilt, Lola Hill



Bud Booth – Bob Hoe – Sal Ciaccio – Enjoying life if it is “cane” age. ???!!!\*\*\*



Top L-R: Mary Tanner - Kayte Petersen – Allen Tanner  
Middle: Richard Maurice & MGen. Ou  
Bottom: Lola Hill – “C-going Miles – Ellen Booth





M.Gen. & Mrs. Ou, Chiang-ling, winners of secret raffle bids for SACO quilt made by Lola Hill



M.Gen. & Mrs. Ou – Lt. Col. Laura Lin and Maj. Bruce Hung

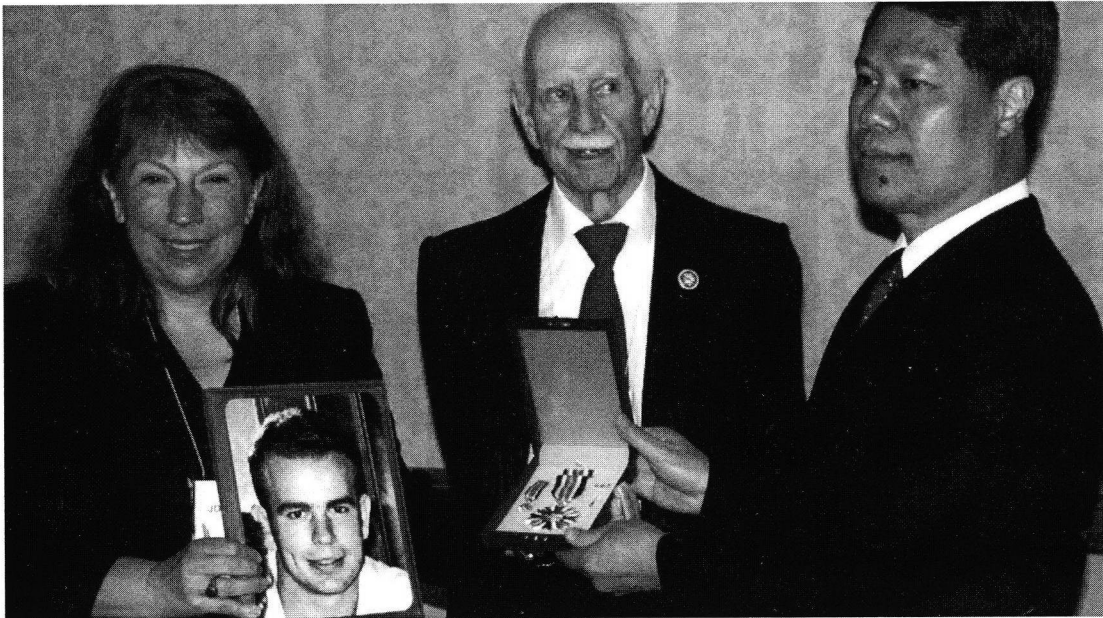


SACO veterans on tour of Des Moines area.



# SACO MEDALS

M.Gen Ou, Chiang-ling, Deputy Director MIB, MND Taiwan  
Awards SACO Medals to Three SACO Veterans at 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
Reunion in Des Moines, Iowa 9 June 2007.



Joan Jensen, holding her father's picture, accepts SACO Medal posthumously awarded her father, Luhr Jensen. Center – Jack Miller, SACO President – R- M.Gen. Ou making presentation.



L-R: John Warner receives SACO Medal, Jack Miller, M.Gen. Ou

SACO Medals...cont'd:



William H. Wyatt (seated) awarded the SACO Medal.  
Standing L-R – Jack Miller – M.Gen. Ou



Maj. Bruce Hung



Jack and Beverly Petersen Family  
L-R: John & Barbara Petersen-Jones, Jack & Bev, Jodi Petersen

# Veterans of secret unit share combat memories



HOLLY MCQUEEN/THE REGISTER

Robert Reiber, left, of West Des Moines, a Pearl Harbor survivor, greets Ken Brown of Laramie, Wyo., as Brown and other World War II veterans and their families gather in Des Moines for the 53rd annual reunion of the Sino American Cooperative Organization. They're arriving at the World War II Memorial.

## Group holds its annual reunion in Des Moines

### Sino American Cooperative Organization

The highly secretive Sino American Cooperative Organization was made up of approximately 2,500 United States military personnel — primarily from the Navy and Marines. Roughly 400 members of the group are still alive.

The SACO veterans and their family members meet at different locations annually to reminisce and preserve the group's legacy.

"To me, it's like getting the family together again," said Dick Rutan of California. "We've formed a bond."

The Americans served alongside Chinese forces between roughly 1943 and 1945 and conducted intelligence and guerrilla operations, rescued downed airmen, established strategic weather stations, and intercepted Japanese codes, among many other dangerous missions.

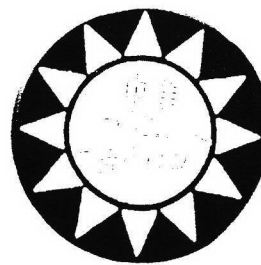
Established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Chinese Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, the group is believed to be the first American military force to have served under joint United States and foreign command in a time of war.

See **VETS**, Page



Children of SACO veterans such as Carolyn Inman-Arnold want to do everything they can to pass on the group's history. Her father, Willard Inman, died in 1997 before she had a chance to talk to him about his service.

"My dad was a spy, and I didn't even know it," she said. "It's an amazing story they have to tell, and nobody knows about it."



## Veterans of secret unit gather in Des Moines for reunion

By **JASON PULLIAM**  
REGISTER STAFF WRITER

**B**ob Hill was in a bad pinch on a fittingly rainy, blustery night in 1944.

He was surrounded by enemy Japanese forces near Amoy Island along coastal China while on watch duty.

Hill and his comrades quietly slipped into a small Chinese fishing boat and drifted out to sea. Cloaked by nightfall, they camouflaged their craft among other fishing vessels as rainfall pounded from above.

It was Hill's closest brush with Japanese forces during his World War II naval service, and "that was close enough," he said.

Sixty-three years later, Hill, now 85, is among 30 World War II veterans from all over the United States who gathered in Des Moines this week for the 53rd annual reunion of the Sino American Cooperative Organization — SACO.

The once intensely secretive group now strives to share as much of its history as possible as its members dwindle in numbers year by year.

"I'm happy to see the group, and I keep thinking I'll be happier to see them next year," said Hill, a retired

businessman from rural Norwalk who served as a naval radio operator.

The hospitality suite at Des Moines' Airport Holiday Inn is the group's base for the weekend, where the veterans share experiences such as Jack Petersen's first airplane ride.

Petersen, from Oshkosh, Wis., couldn't have been more than 19 when he boarded a DC-6 airplane to fly from Calcutta, India, to Chungking, China.

The pilot emerged from the cockpit to show Petersen and the others something on the ground.

"I wondered what was going on," Petersen said. "I thought, 'Who's flying this thing?'"

The pilot had put the plane

on autopilot to point downward to an airfield stocked with Japanese warplanes.

Part of the group's reunion was a Thursday-morning trip to the World War II Memorial at the Iowa State Capitol grounds.

The wind whipped through the passage leading to and from the monuments as 16 veterans and assorted family members and friends laughed and reminisced.

Some shed a few tears.

"We're brothers," said SACO veteran Mel Goguy of Chiloquin, Ore.

He paused, drew in a deep breath and added: "This is where I get emotional. We're just one big family."

Reporter Jason Pulliam can be reached at (515) 284-8214 or [jpulliam@dmreg.com](mailto:jpulliam@dmreg.com)

???!\*\*\*

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## FRIENDSHIP

1. When you are sad – I will help you get drunk and plot against the sorry bastard who made you sad.
2. When you are blue – I will try to dislodge whatever is choking you.
3. When you smile – I will know you finally got laid.
4. When you are scared – I will rag on you about every chance I get.
5. When you are worried – I will tell you horrible stories about how much worse it could be until you quit whining.
6. When you are confused – I will use little words.
7. When you are sick – Stay the hell away from me until you are well again! I don't want whatever you have.
8. When you fall – I will point and laugh at your clumsy ass.
9. This is my oath ...I pledge it to the end! "Why?" you may ask; "Because you are my friend."
10. REMEMBER – Friendship is like peeing your pants, everyone can see it, but only you can feel the true warmth.

In reply address not the signer of this letter but the Bureau of Personnel Navy Department, Washington, D.C.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Refer to No.

Pers-68-  
MM/ 627 85 45

BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL

Washington 25, D.C.

May 1946

Richard Lee Rutan. EX-RM1c, USNR  
Route #2  
Russiaville, Indiana

Dear Mr. Rutan:

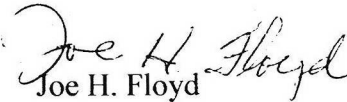
The Chief of Naval Personnel takes pleasure in forwarding with his congratulations the following award made to you for meritorious conduct as a member of the Naval service:

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  
Lt. Comdr., USNR  
Medals & Awards Section  
Enlisted Performance Division

Enclosure: 1

*Editor's note: Do any of you RI men remember getting this? Just recently ran across this in "buried" files.*

*( Copy of original age-yellowed letter)*

NAVY DEPARTMENT

HOLD FOR RELEASE  
PRESS AND RADIO  
UNTIL 8.00 P M /E W T/  
SEPTEMBER 13 1945

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD  
AMERICAN NAVAL GROUP AND CHINESE GUERILLAS  
OBTAINED VALUABLE DATA WHILE OPERATING AMONG JAPANESE FORCES IN CHINA

JAPANESE SURRENDERS IN CHINA TODAY HAD PROGRESSED SO FAR THAT THE U S NAVY AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT FELT SAFE IN LIFTING THE CURTAIN FROM ANOTHER OF THE "BEST KEPT" SECRETS OF THE WAR - A U S NAVAL GROUP WITH MEMBERS SERVING IN SCORES OF CHINESE UNITS ALL OVER CHINA - A UNITED EFFORT THAT HAS PRODUCED A VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE SMASHING BLOWS OF THE PACIFIC FLEET AGAINST JAP-HELD ISLANDS THE JAP NAVY AND FINALLY THE WHOLE OF JAPAN X

SECRECY MEANT LIFE TO THIS ALLIED ORGANIZATION WHILE MANY OF IT UNITS LIVED AND WORKED IN JAP-HELD AREAS. NOW THOSE JAPS ARE DISARMED. NOW FRIENDS AND FAMILIES CAN BE TOLD THEIR MENS PROUD SECRET.

THIS IS THE TALE OF AN AMAZING MILITARY ACHIEVEMENT MADE POSSIBLE ONLY BY THE NATURAL AND BASIC FRIENDSHIP OF AMERICANS AND CHINESE AND BY THEIR UNWAVERING DETERMINATION TO DEFEAT THE COMMON ENEMY. FRIENDSHIP WAS TRULY ITS BASIS- FRIENDSHIP WAS THE SECRET OF ITS POWER AND "FRIENDSHIP" WAS THE CODE NAME THAT PROTECTED ITS MEMBERS.

THE STORY OF FRIENDSHIP PROJECT BEGINS IN THE FIRST FEW WEEKS AFTER PEARL HARBOR WHEN THE NAVY AND THE NATIONAL MILITARY COUNCIL OF CHINA LAYING IMMEDIATE FOUNDATIONS FOR OFFENSIVE ACTION AGAINST JAPAN MOVED TO ESTABLISH A WEATHER SERVICE IN THE JAP-HELD AREAS OUT OF WHICH THE WEATHER COMES ACROSS CHINA AND JAPAN INTO THE PACIFIC.

AFTER PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS THE IMPORTANCE AND POSSIBILITIES OF THE PROJECT WERE RECOGNIZED BY ALL CONCERNED. GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK ASSIGNED THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND STATISTICS OF THE NATIONAL MILITARY COUNCIL TO COOPERATE WITH THE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES AND PROVIDE THE BACKING OF THE FORCES AND FACILITIES WHICH IT OPERATED IN ALL PARTS OF CHINA WHILE FLEET ADMIRAL ERNEST J KING U S N COMMANDER IN CHIEF US FLEET AND CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS AND GENERAL OF THE ARMY GEORGE C MARSHALL CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY SENT REAR ADMIRAL /THEN COMMANDER/ M E MILES U S N TO COMPLETE THE ARRANGEMENTS AND HEAD THE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION.

THUS AIDED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT THE FLEET WAS GETTING REGULAR WEATHER REPORTS FROM MANY OCCUPIED AREAS IN THE FAR EAST BY THE END OF 1942. FURTHER IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THIS WEATHER PROJECT OPENED OTHER IMPORTANT POSSIBILITIES BOTH TO THE UNITED STATES AND TO CHINA.

FOR THE NAVY IT EXPANDED READILY TO PROVIDE COASTAL INTELLIGENCE-



FOR THE CHINESE TO IMPROVE GENERAL INTELLIGENCE. CHINA ASSIGNED SUBSTANTIAL UNDER-COVER FORCES TO PROTECT AMERICAN OBSERVERS. THE NAVY USING MARINE CORPS AND COAST GUARD PERSONNEL ALSO GAVE THESE MEN TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT AND THEY BECAME THE BEST ORGANIZED AND MOST EFFECTIVE OF ALL CHINESE GUERILLAS ENGAGED IN FIGHTING THE JAPS. THE CHINESE REQUESTED FRIENDSHIP TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT FOR ADDITIONAL GUERILLA FORCES. THE UNITED STATES OBLIGED.

COOPERATION IN FRIENDSHIP PROJECT GREW CLOSER AND ITS SCOPE BECAME MORE BROAD. AS EACH GOOD TURN DONE BY ONE SIDE OPENED NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO THE OTHER THIS INFORMAL CHINESE-AMERICAN ORGANIZATION SOON FOUND THE UNITED STATES FLEET AND CHINESE MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS RELYING ON ITS CONTINUED EFFORTS

SOON THE JOINT ACTIVITIES HAD SO EXPANDED AS TO NEED SUBSTANTIAL AND DEPENDABLE LOGISTIC SUPPORT AND THE RESPONSIBLE HEADS OF THE INFORMAL ENTERPRISE GENERAL TAI LI AND REAR ADMIRAL MILES PROPOSED A SOLID BASIS FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATIONS. THEIR PROPOSALS FOUND APPROVAL IN BOTH GOVERNMENTS AND EARLY IN 1943 WERE INCORPORATED IN A FORMAL AGREEMENT WHICH WAS NEGOTIATED BY PREMIER-THEN FOREIGN MINISTER- T V SOONG AND THE LATE SECRETARY OF OF THE NAVY FRANK KNOX AND APPROVED BY THE GENERALISSIMO AND THE LATE PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT.

THIS AGREEMENT CREATED THE SINO-AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION- "SACO" - WHICH EVER SINCE HAS INTEGRATED THE COMMON INTERESTS OF THE CHINESE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND THE U S NAVY IN THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN. GENERAL TAI LI WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR AND REAR ADMIRAL /THEN CAPTAIN/ MILES WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY DIRECTOR.

UNDER THIS AGREEMENT CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES OPERATED WHAT IS PROBABLY THE MOST CLOSELY INTEGRATED ALLIED ORGANIZATION THAT EVER SURMOUNTED A LANGUAGE BARRIER.

CHINESE AND AMERICAN PERSONNEL LIVED WORKED AND FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE KNOWING THAT THEY WERE THE ONLY SOURCE OF ESSENTIAL INTELLIGENCE IN CHINA FOR THE PROWLING U S FLEET AND FOR OUR SUBMARINES JUST OFF THE COAST.

SACO UNITS SET UP WEATHER COMMUNICATIONS AND INTELLIGENCE STATIONS ALL THE WAY FROM THE BORDERS OF INDO-CHINA TO THE NORTHERN REACHES OF THE GOBI DESERT WITH A CONCENTRATION OF ACTIVITY ALONG THE CHINA COAST BEHIND THE NORTHSOUTH JAPANESE LINES.

USUALLY IT WAS POSSIBLE TO ENTER OR DEPART FROM JAPANESE-HELD TERRITORY BY AIR BUT SACO AMERICANS BECAME ADEPT AT CHINESE DISGUISES AND GUIDED BY SACO CHINESE THEY SLIPPED SAFELY THROUGH ENEMY LINES WHENEVER AND WHEREVER THEY CHOSE. THROUGH MONTHS AND YEARS NOT ONE SACO MEMBER WAS DETECTED.

SACO WEATHER OBSERVERS AND OTHER AGENTS EQUIPPED WITH RADIO COMMUNICATED INTELLIGENCE PROMPTLY TO SACO HEADQUARTERS WHERE THE INFORMATION WAS ANALYZED CONDENSED AND FLASHED DIRECTLY

TO PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS AND TO LISTENING AIR SURFACE AND SUBMARINE UNITS AT SEA. FLEET OPERATIONS IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC MADE THE MOST OF CHINA WEATHER REPORTS ESPECIALLY IN PLANNING AND EXECUTING HAZARDOUS CARRIER STRIKES DESPITE THE TREACHEROUS WEATHER CONDITIONS PREVAILING NEAR FORMOSA AND THE JAPANESE HOME ISLANDS.

SACO COAST WATCHERS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN AGAINST JAPANESE SHIPPING PROVIDING THE UNITED STATES UNDERSEA CRAFT WITH EXACT INFORMATION WHICH ENABLED THEM TO INTERCEPT ENEMY SHIPS AND TAKE A HEAVY TOLL OF DESTRUCTION. THEY ALSO SERVED THE 14TH AIR FORCE REPORTING NOT ONLY JAPANESE SHIPPING BUT TROOP MOVEMENTS SUPPLY CONCENTRATIONS AIRFIELD DEVELOPMENTS BRIDGES AND OTHER STRATEGIC TARGETS WHICH THE HARD-HITTING ARMY FLYERS PROMPTLY ATTACKED. IN ADDITION ALL SACO INTELLIGENCE AND WEATHER REPORTS WERE FURNISHED PROMPTLY TO CHINESE AND AMERICAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

DURING THE CRITICAL JAPANESE DRIVE ON KWELLIN IN AUGUST 1944 WHEN MAJOR GENERAL CLAIRE L CHENNAULTS PLANES WERE HAVING DIFFICULTY IN LOCATING ENEMY COLUMNS ADVANCING THROUGH RUGGED TERRAIN NORTH EAST OF THE CITY LIEUTENANT STANLEY E MC CAFFREY USNR OF 1126 SOUTH FRIENDS AVENUE WHITTIER CALIFORNIA A SACO OFFICER ATTACHED TO THE 14TH AIR FORCE JOINED FRONT-LINE CHINESE FORCES ESTABLISHED AIR-GROUND COMMUNICATIONS AND STUCK TO HIS POST ONLY A FEW HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE ENEMY FOR 19 DAYS IN SPITE OF INJURY FROM THE CONSTANT MOTOR AND ARTILLERY FIRE. AN OFFICER OF THE 14TH REPORTED "IT WAS AS IF OUR PLANES WERE BEING LED BY THE HAND". FOR HIS FEAT OF BRAVERY AND ENDURANCE WHICH AIDED THE ARMY FLYERS TO KILL 3000 JAPS AND KNOCK OUT 11 - 75 MILLIMETER GUNS LIEUTENANT MC CAFFREY RECEIVED THE ARMY BRONZE STAR.

SPARKED BY NAVAL GROUP CHINA WHICH PROVIDED TRAINED MINE WARFARE OFFICERS THE 14TH AIR FORCE BEGAN AERIAL MINING OF ENEMY-CONTROLLED WATERS AS EARLY AS OCTOBER 1943. SACO FORCES FURNISHED INTELLIGENCE FOR MAJOR GENERAL CHENNAULTS LIBERATORS TO PLANT MINES ALONG THE COASTAL SHIPPING ROUTES IN JAP-HELD HARBORS AND ON THE VITAL INLAND WATER ROUTES OF THE YANGTZE RIVER. AS THOUSANDS OF TONS OF ENEMY SHIPPING WAS SUNK TRANSPORTATION ROUTES WERE PARALYZED AND PORTS WERE CLOSED FOR WEEKS WHILE FRANTIC JAPS TRIED TO CLEAR THEM OF MINES. A PRINCIPAL ACHIEVEMENT OF THESE MINING OPERATIONS AND OF SACO COAST WATCHERS WAS TO FORCE JAP SHIPPING ROUTES FAR OUT TO SEA- IN DEEP WATER WHERE THEY BECAME PREY TO U S SUBMARINES.

A NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION UNIT PROVIDED BY SACO ASSISTED THE 14TH AIR FORCE IN RECOGNIZING AND DESTROYING JAPANESE VESSELS AND FACILITIES.

SACO PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE 14TH AIR FORCE SYSTEM OF PATROL IN THE CHINA SEA-PHILIPPINES SEA AREA WHICH WAS OF DIRECT OPERATIONAL VALUE TO THE PACIFIC FLEET. IN OCTOBER 1944 IT GAVE THE FIRST INTELLIGENCE OF AN APPROACHING JAPANESE CARRIER TASK FORCE DURING THE CRUCIAL BATTLE FOR LEYTE GULF.

ON THEIR SIDE THE CHINESE PROVIDED GUERILLAS TO PROTECT THE

AMERICAN OBSERVERS. FOR THEIR ROLE THE NAVY TRAINED AND ARMED THESE GUERILLAS WHO LATER USED THEIR NEW WEAPONS AND NEW SKILLS IN MODERN WARFARE AND FORMED DEMOLITION SQUADS TO KILL JAPANESE BLOW UP TRAINS AND DESTROY OR CAPTURE GREAT QUANTITIES OF ENEMY MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT. SOON THEY WANTED AMERICAN OBSERVERS TO ACCOMPANY THEM AND REQUESTED THAT THE AMERICAN INSTRUCTORS WHOM THEY ADMIRERD SO MUCH SHOULD PLAN THEIR OPERATIONS WITH THEM AND ASSIST IN LEADING THEM IN COMBAT. SACO DEMOLITION SQUADS BECAME AN IMPORTANT FORCE IN THE WAR IN CHINA GIVING RELIABLE AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE IN MANY ASSIGNMENTS UNDER THE CAMPAIGN PLANS OF THE GENERALISSIMO AND LIEUTENANT GENERAL ALBERT WEDEMEYER HIS CHIEF OF STAFF AND COMMANDER OF ALL U S FORCES IN THE CHINA THEATER.

IN THE EARLY YEARS OF THE WAR CHINESE GUERILLAS HAD LOST IN COMBAT APPROXIMATELY THREE MEN FOR EVERY JAP KILLED. SACO-TRAINED AND EQUIPPED GUERILLAS PROMPTLY INCREASED THE TOLL OF JAP LOSSES IN CASUALTIES EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND IN 1945 REVERSED THE RATIO AND KILLED MORE THAN 2000 JAPS A MONTH AT A COST OF LESS THAN ONE CHINESE FOR THREE JAPS.

USED CHIEFLY IN AMBUSHES RAIDS ON OUTPOSTS PATROLS AND SMALL GARRISONS THESE TROOPS STRUCK REPEATEDLY AGAINST ROVING JAPS OUT ON SEARCH FOR FOOD IN RURAL AREAS. BY REPEATEDLY WIPING OUT THESE FORAGING GROUPS SACO GUERILLAS CUT ENEMY FOOD SUPPLIES AND MADE THE JAPANESE AFRAID TO VENTURE FROM THEIR STRONGHOLDS EXCEPT IN FORCE. IN SOME AREAS THE GUERILLA PRESSURE WAS SO GREAT THAT JAPANESE SOLDIERS WERE WEAKENED SERIOUSLY BY STARVATION.

DEMOLITION WORK AGAINST HIGHWAYS RAILROADS AND RIVER TRAFFIC WAS EFFECTIVE IN CUTTING ENEMY COMMUNICATION ROUTES. SABOTAGE EXPERTS EMPLOYING EXPLOSIVES DID WHOLESALRE DESTRUCTION TO BARRACKS ASSEMBLY HALLS FACTORIES STORAGE DUMPS AND WAREHOUSES.

RAIDS AGAINST ANCHORED JAPANESE VESSELS AND SMALL CRAFT RESULTED IN THE SINKING OF MANY VESSELS AND CAPTURE OF OTHERS. IN ONE OF MANY SUCH RAIDS A SABOTAGE UNIT OF CHINESE AND AMERICANS ATTACKED A FREIGHTER OF 1000 TONS DOCKED IN AMOY AT NIGHT EARLY THIS YEAR USING DELAYED CHARGES TO KILL OR INJURE ALL PERSONNEL ABOARD DESTROY THE FREIGHTER AND THROW THE AMOY AREA INTO CONFUSION. OTHER SABOTAGE UNITS DEVELOPED SPECIAL TACTICS FOR OPERATIONS AGAINST RIVER AND LAKE CRAFT IN THE YANGTZE RIVER LAKE AREA AND WERE SUCCESSFUL IN ATTACKS ON THIS JAPANESE SUPPLY ROUTE AT MANY POINTS.

SACO GUERILLAS FROM JUNE 1 1944 TO JULY 1 1945 KILLED 23540 JAPS WOUNDED 9166 AND CAPTURED 291. THEY DESTROYED 209 BRIDGES 84 LOCOMOTIVES 141 SHIPS AND RIVER CRAFT AND 97 DEPOTS AND WAREHOUSES.

SACO ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN INSPECTED IN RECENT MONTHS BY GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR PATRICK J HURLEY AND LIEUTENANT GENERAL WEDEMEYER AND RECEIVED HIGH PRAISE FROM EACH.

MAINTAINING CONSTANT PRESSURE AGAINST JAP GARRISONS ALONG THE CHINA COAST SACO TROOPS WERE PROMINENT IN THE LIBERATION OF FOOCHEW AND



WENCHOW. SOME SACO UNITS INCLUDING SEVERAL CHINESE NAVAL OFFICERS WERE TRAINED IN THE UNITED STATES FOR AMPHIBIOUS WORK. THESE UNITS CAPTURED AND OCCUPIED SEVERAL OF THE SMALLER JAP-HELD ISLANDS ALONG THE CHINA COAST.

RECOGNIZING THE SPECIAL DIFFICULTIES IN KEEPING JAPS AND PUPPETS FROM INFILTRATING INTO FREE CHINA SACO CHINESE STRESSED ASSISTANCE IN IDENTIFICATION AND SECURITY. AIDED BY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF NARCOTICS THE NAVY PROVIDED A TRAINING UNIT MANNED BY OFFICERS AND MEN WITH EXPERIENCE IN THE VARIOUS TECHNICAL PHASES OF UNITED STATES LAW ENFORCEMENT. IMPROVEMENT IN CHINESE SECURITY WAS RAPID. SACO S AMAZINGLY LIGHT LOSSES WHILE WORKING IN JAP-HELD TERRITORY AND THE VERY FACT THAT THIS STORY IS A DISCLOSURE TODAY BOTH TESTIFY TO THE VALUE OF THIS EFFORT.

THE NAVY PROVIDED SACO WITH MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND SUPPLIES NOT ONLY TO CARE FOR SACO AMERICANS BUT TO OVERCOME CRITICAL SHORTAGES WHICH HAD HANDICAPPED THE CHINESE. SMALL HOSPITAL UNITS SET UP IN SOME FORWARD AREAS SAVED THE LIVES OF MANY SACO MEN WOUNDED IN COMBAT.

DESPITE OPERATIONS IN SOME OF THE MOST DISEASE-RIDDEN AREAS OF THE WORLD. NAVY MEDICAL OFFICERS BY RIGOROUS PREVENTIVE MEASURES MAINTAINED A HIGH STANDARD OF HEALTH AMONG THE PERSONNEL OF SACO AND WERE ABLE TO BRING MODERN MEDICAL CARE TO THOUSANDS OF CHINESE ALLIES WHO HAD NEVER KNOWN IT BEFORE.

WORKING CLOSELY WITH OTHER RESCUE AGENCIES AND LOYAL CHINESE CIVILIANS SACO AIDED IN THE RESCUE OF MANY ALLIED FLIERS BROUGHT DOWN IN JAPANESE TERRITORY. UP TO JULY 1 THESE INCLUDED 30 PILOTS AND 46 AIRCREWERS BOTH AMERICAN AND CHINESE AND DON BELL A UNITED STATES CIVILIAN WAR CORRESPONDENT.

IN A REPORT ON THE RESCUE OF HIS PARTY BELL WROTE "IMAGINE OUR GASPS OF AMAZED DELIGHT WHEN TOLD THAT THERE WAS A U S NAVAL STATION JUST ABOUT 80 LI /ABOUT 27 MILES/ AWAY. HERE WE HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN LESS THAN A MILE FROM A JAP GARRISON WE HAD BEEN SHELLED WE HAD BEEN CHASED BY MOTOR BOATS AND SEARCHED FOR BY JAP PLANES LESS THAN TWO HOURS AGO- AND HERE WAS A MAN TELLING US THAT WE WERE WITHIN A FEW HOURS OF SAFETY. WE MET THE NAVY WITHIN 24 HOURS. BOATSWAINS MATE HOWARD W TUCKER JR OF RANDALL STREET WEST ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND WAS OUT LOOKING FOR US. WHEN WE SAW TUCKER SWINGING ALONG WITH A TOMMY-GUN OVER ONE SHOULDER AND A BAG OF IRON RATIONS OVER THE OTHER- WELL YOU CAN TALK ABOUT A SAILORS WELCOME BUT YOU HAVENT SEEN ANYTHING.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
PRESS AND RADIO

SEPTEMBER 10 1943

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESS

IN THE PRESS RELEASE ENTITLED "AMERICAN NAVAL GROUP AND CHINESE

GUERRILLAS OBTAINED VALUABLE DATA WHILE OPERATING AMONG JAPANESE FORCES IN CHINA "INSERT AFTER" .....THE JAPS" IN LINE SIX PARAGRAPH SEVEN PAGE ONE THE FOLLOWING

"ARMY COOPERATION INCLUDING AIR TRANSPORT FROM INDIA OVER THE "HUMP" BENEFITTED FRIENDSHIP FROM THE START. THE OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES ALSO CONTRIBUTED GREATLY IN MANY WAYS NOTABLY IN THE ASSIGNMENT OF PARTICULARLY WELL QUALIFIED PERSONNEL AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL COURSES WHICH AUGMENTED THE NORMAL NAVAL TRAINING OF CANDIDATES FOR DUTY WITH THE PROJECT".

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## *Talk About A Communalized Vacation Camp???!\*\*\**

*A very proper lady began planning a week's camping vacation for her and her Baptist Church group. She wrote to a campground for reservations. She wanted to make sure that the campground was fully equipped and modern, but couldn't bring herself to write the word "toilet" in her letter. So she decided on the old-fashioned term "Bathroom Commode." Once written down, she was not comfortable. Finally, she decided on the abbreviation "B.C." and wrote, "does your campground have its own "B.C.?"*

*When the campground owner received the letter, he couldn't figure out what she meant by "B.C." He showed it to several of the campers, one of whom suggested the lady was obviously referring to a Baptist Church since there was a letterhead on the paper, which referred to a Baptist Church. So he sent this reply:*

*Dear Madam:*

*The B.C. is located nine miles from the campground in a beautiful grove of trees. I admit it is quite a distance if you are in the habit of going regularly. No doubt you will be pleased to know that it will seat 350 people at one time and it is open Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday of each week. Some folks like to take their lunch and make a day of it. The acoustics are very good, so everyone can hear even the quietest passages. It may interest you to know that my daughter met her husband there. We are having a fund-raiser to purchase new seats as the old ones have holes in them. Unfortunately, my wife is ill and has not been able to attend regularly. It's been a good six months since she last went. It pains her very much not to be able to go more often. As we grow older, it seems to be more of an effort, especially in cold weather. Perhaps I could accompany you the first time you go, sit with you and introduce you to all the other folks who will be there. I look forward to your visit. We offer a very friendly campground.*

# THE TWINS OF SACO



Keith E. Allen

Johnny G. Lough

*One of the most interesting stories to ever emerge from present day SACO just unfolded as I was about to go to press with this issue.*

*Twin Keith heard about our SACO Vets group from the son of Lt. Cdr. Clifford, SACO officer who died in 1988. That put the twins onto C-Going Miles who referred them to Membership Chairman Paul Casamajor. Paul sent a letter to Treas. Baker and me & then sent letters from both twins. I called and talked to both. They seemed overjoyed to find SACO again. Here's their brief autobiographies.*

*Ed.*

From e-mail rec'd 8-31-07:

Richard: It sure was great to spend a little time with you on the phone the other night. It brings back memories of many years ago.

My twin brother and I could probably write a book about ourselves, but I'm sure that is not what you need to know about us and frankly, probably no one really cares.

Briefly, Johnny and I were born in New Martinsville, WVA, December 28, 1926. To the best of my knowledge our birth parents moved back to Parsons, WVA. We were the last of seven kids, 5 boys & 2 girls, Johnny and I being the youngest of the litter. *(All five of us boys were in the Navy during WWII).*

According to my foster parents, we were separated at around 21 months old. My foster

parents finally moved to Franklin, WVA. Johnny will have to bring you up-to-date about his early years.

I met Johnny at a basketball tournament at age 13. We communicated with each other from time to time during our high school years and decided to join the Navy after graduation. Since we had different last names, it was easier to stay together. At the end of boot-camp, we were going to be separated, so we decided to volunteer for this special duty, not knowing where we were going. If my memory serves me correctly, there were about 50 volunteering for this project; only 13 of us passed the test and we were on our way to India after about a week of training at the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Naval Training Station in Washington, D. C.

We were in Calcutta for several weeks before I received orders to fly over the "Hump." From



Kunming, I was assigned, along with another Navy man and about 13 or 14 Chinese SACO soldiers, and spent about the next ten days traveling by truck and on foot for a mission that apparently was successful. I do remember that I told the other sailor that I wondered what happened to the Chinese. He said, "Just look back about 100 yards and you will see them." I guess they were protecting our butts!

I ended up in Happy Valley (*Chungking area*) and was about ready to be assigned to another group and Johnny came to headquarters. I believe it was a Lt. Don Miller then assigned both Johnny and me to Admiral "Mary" Miles' villa and we spent the rest of our stay working for the boss.


After the war ended, we were to catch a ship home to be discharged from Shanghai. Missed the ship so we went out for a Navy vs Army football game and we both made the team, A Mr. Phil Bucklew, who I believe was in charge of the shore-patrol, was the Navy coach. He told Johnny and me, if we played football for several months in China, he would give us both football scholarships to Xavier University in Ohio. (*He was going to coach at Xavier after his discharge*). Johnny was assigned as billeting personnel at the Cathay Hotel and I was assigned to the Palace Hotel as billeting personnel (Tough Duty!)

Johnny elected to enter the Maryland State Police program instead of going to Xavier. I also had a scholarship offer to West Virginia University in Morgantown, so I attended that school and was graduated with a BA degree in business management.

Richard, if the Japs would have known we were there\*, they would have got the Hell out of China fast. It is my pleasure to have met you over the phone. Hope to see you in person someday.

Keith

*\*Afraid they knew we were there – quite a bounty posted for the capture of SACOs – but we lucked out except for Al Parsons – featured in SACO NEWS issue #16 April 1998. Ed.*

(from Twin #2) – 

Richard, the information furnished you by my twin is 98% correct. He neglected to tell you that I am the youngest by 5 minutes. The Loughs also adopted my youngest sister about four weeks before getting me. Keith was already gone to the Allens. Probably the most important item he left out of his report is = *I am better looking than him, but not much because we are mirror twins.*

I was raised in a very small community of St. George, which is about 6 miles from Parsons, WVA. I was graduated from Parsons High School in 1944 and later that year, Keith and I enlisted in the Navy. I joined so that I would not have to walk a lot. Boy, was I surprised! The hikes in Calcutta, India were a test of our mental condition.

Keith flew over the "Hump" several weeks before me. The night I flew over, the pilot was Chinese (no co-pilot). On board the aircraft was a British nurse, a Chinese Commissioned Officer and a Chinese soldier who was being taken back to China to be executed for some reason. We landed at Kunming where I was assigned to a unit, and while on my only mission contracted amoebic dysentery from some bad rice.

After returning from our mission I was admitted to Sick Bay. While there an Ensign Miller walked by and asked, "Keith, what are you doing here?" (Miller had just left Keith in "Happy Valley" a few hours earlier) I answered, "Keith is my brother." I then found out that Keith was in "Happy Valley" and Miller arranged for me to be transferred there.

It was an honor to be a member of SACO and to have the privilege to be assigned with Keith to Admiral Miles' Villa. What a great Commander he was! Keith and I had numerous conversations with him, I will never forget the night he left for Shanghai.

The one thing I was never able to understand was that on the football team mentioned by Keith – during the season, I scored 5 touchdowns and he was selected to the All-Star team and I wasn't.

I had a great career with the Maryland State Police. I entered the MSP in 1951 and retired in 1984. The last 3 years with MSP, I held the rank of Lt. Colonel and was in command of the entire field force. After retirement, I was appointed by the Governor of Maryland to the Cecil County Board of Education for a period of ten years.

Presently, I am an agent for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Cecil County. I have approximately 325 Middle and High School students in my program. It is a great experience. My late wife died in 1997; we have three grown children. I remarried in 1999 and have a very lovely wife, Loteze. Enough about me.

Regards, Johnny Lough

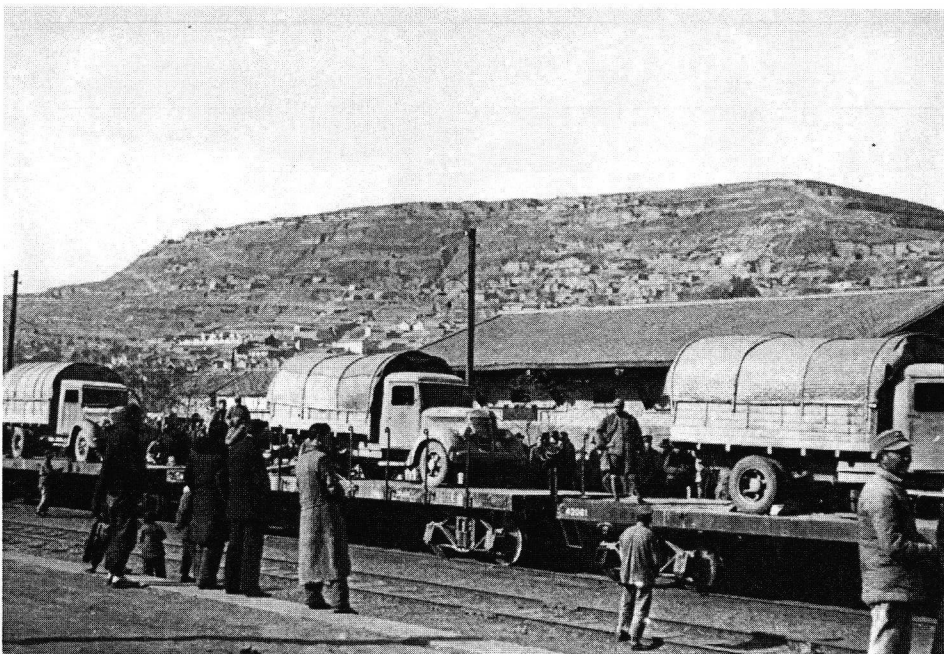
???!\*\*\*

## Pictures Loaned the Editor by Robert Viau of Glendale, CA,

a Friend and Aficionado of WWII SACO & collector of items relating to  
the group.

Admiral Miles & Gen. Tai Li  
breakfasting with Camp 4 men  
22 February 1945 – temperature  
was 18 below zero.

This was most remote of all  
SACO Camps - about 25 miles  
From the semi-arid levels of In-  
ner Mongolia at no great dis-  
tance from the Outer Mongolia  
border and the southern edge  
of the Gobi Desert. Adm. Miles  
wrote "it was 9 months before  
we could send them their first  
mail and their first shipment of  
supplies."



Trucks on train in Paochi,  
China railroad station en  
route to Shenpa



Above:

Cdr. (MC ) Robert H. "Doc" Goodwin with Mu Lan, a Chinese nurse in army uniform (WAC) Camp 4 Inner Mongolia 1944

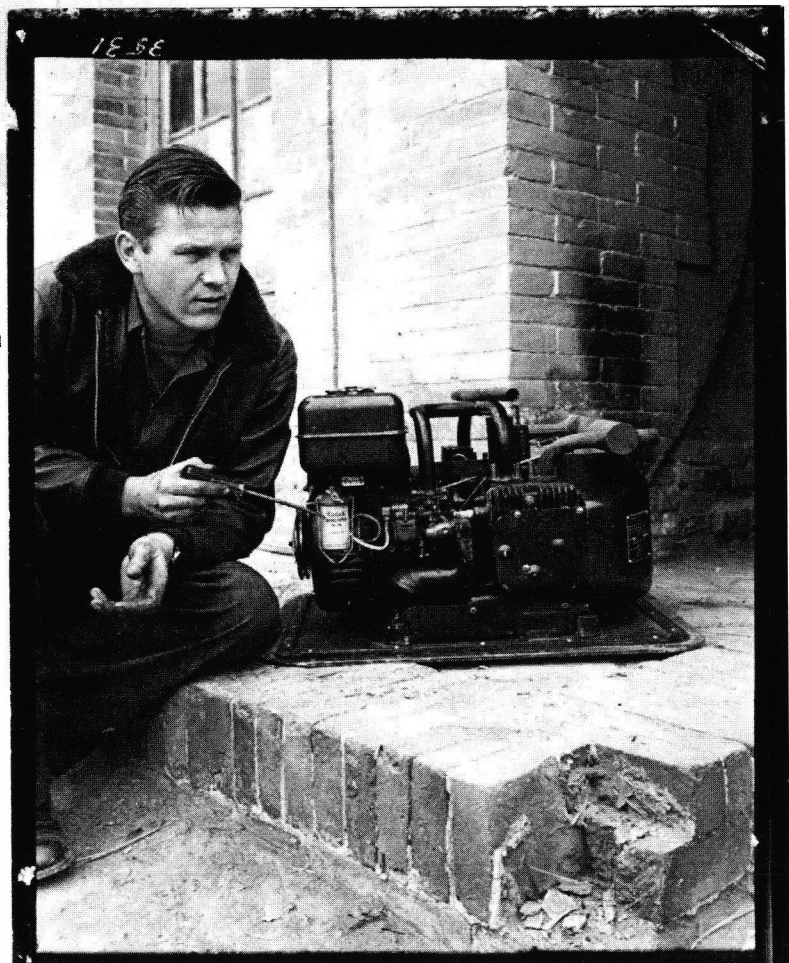
*Editor's Note:*

*Robert Viau is an avid collector of items relating to SACO – if you have any items that you are willing to part with (he particularly is interested in a navy jacket) or whatever you might have, contact him at 2725 Verdugo Rd., Glendale, CA. 91208 (818) 272 5443*



Below:

Dan Collins, GM 2/c, demonstrating how photo developer can be made sediment bulb on radio engine. Camp 4 – Inner Mongolia 1944.





Dear Richard,

I hope I'm not too late in submitting a photo for consideration for a future SACO NEWS edition. It was taken in Appleton, WI at the ceremony dinner (Sept 20-23, 2006).

All the best – Debbie (Chung) - (Never too late – some of my articles are *antiques* as I purge my files. Ed)



L-R: Bob Hornberger, daughter, Jan, Graeme Jack and wife, Debbie Chung



Still a beautiful lady, Pauline Rice as *Great-Grandmother to eleven.*



*Fran  
Waters*

## **Fran Waters Retires From Reunion Registration Desk**

Fran Waters, at our last reunion in Des Moines, Iowa in June said she would decline further duties in charge of the registration desk at future SACO Reunions. Fran has been in ill health for some time and feels 10 years at the job was enough.

We can't do what we used to, but the responsibilities attached to such a job as you and Laura Sellers have done these past years aren't exactly easy-going. Collecting dues, handing out goody bags that have been labeled with names, meal tickets for banquet, tickets for tours, etc. and trying to see that everyone is happy can be trying.

Maybe it seems a small acknowledgement, but for missions accomplished – the Navy offers a “Well done!” and that you deserve from all of us. *Ed.*

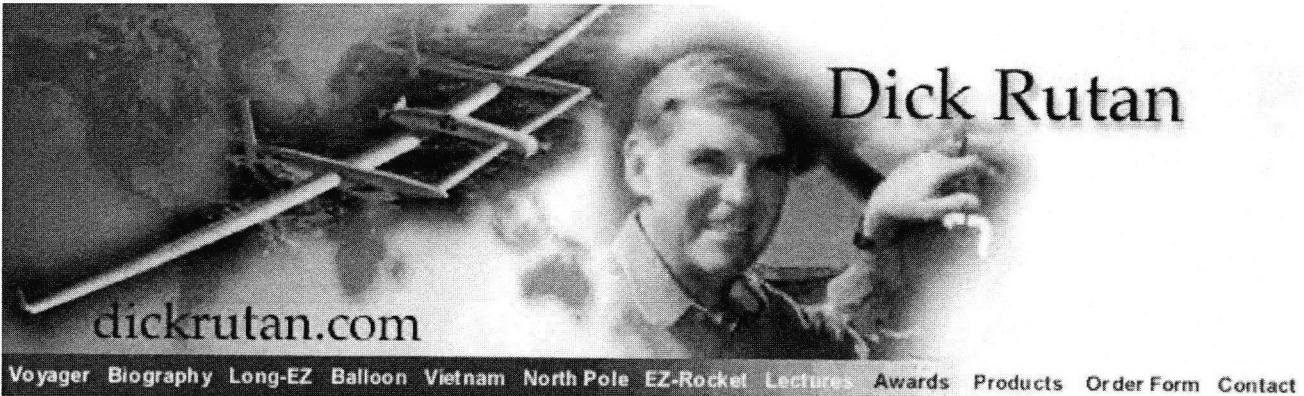
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## **Richard Rutan Meets Richard Rutan**



I have had correspondence over a period of several years with Kelly Hall, Dick's secretary, and his father who has researched Rutan genealogy. I have received, at times, mail meant for the pilot – one even invited me to be guest speaker at a banquet to be held in New England – lacking qualifications (and superior age) to perform as an imposter, I declined by forwarding the invitation to the intended recipient.

Last October I was privileged to be invited with a guest to attend a celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Voyager Non-Stop Flight Around The World. Jack Parks, my cousin and



“current landlord,” was thrilled with a “Let’s go!” And go we did!! – an unforgettable afternoon and evening to remember! It was exciting to meet in person, for the first time, Dick and Dad Rutan and Kelly, all gifted with delightfully pleasant personalities.

The guests were asked to gather outdoors to watch the model of The Voyager take off and fly over the airfield for about 20 minutes – quite a feat to watch right overhead!

Following a delicious buffet dinner in the restaurant at the Mojave airport, Dick and his brother, Burt, entertained us on stage with lots of stories of their ventures along with guests who had shared in their unique endeavors. Their comedic delivery was, for the most part, “off the cuff” and gave all of us lots of laughter. Thanks for including us in commemoration of such a historic flight.

*R. Rutan, Ed.*

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Voyager’s flight, the 1<sup>st</sup> ever non-stop, un-refueled flight around the world, took place between Dec. 14 & Dec. 23, 1986 & placed Mojave proudly on the map and Dick Rutan in history books.

The milestone flight took 9 days – 3 minutes – 44 seconds.

The flight was 26,366 statute miles; more than double the previous record set by B52 bomber in 1962.

Structural weight of Voyager only 939 pounds.

At takeoff, full of fuel, pilots & supplies gross weight was 9,694.5 lbs.

Average altitude flown was 11,000 feet.

The Voyager took off and landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

There were two crew members aboard – Dick and Jeana Yeager.

Dick’s brother, Burt Rutan, who is a world renown airplane designer, designed The Voyager.

The Voyager was built in Mojave, CA. It took 5 years to build & test before taking off on its remarkable record-setting flight.

99 ground volunteers took part in the flight with weather, communications, fabrications, office staff, gift shop staff & more.

Primarily individual contributions & a few product equipment sponsors financed the Voyager. The project received no government sponsorship.

4 days after landing, President Ronald Reagan presented the Voyager crew and its designer, Burt Rutan, with The Presidential Citizenship Medal awarded only 16 times previously in history.

The Voyager aircraft is on permanent display at Smithsonian Institution’s National Air & Space Museum in Wash., D.C.

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# DOWN SACO'S Memory Lane

(In the winter of 1957 Adm. Miles wrote in *SACO NEWS*):

Dear SACO Members:

This is just about my final action on active duty in the Navy. Having accumulated enough "points" to get out of the Navy, according to the doctors, I will be retired about the first of January. Please save my new address as a place where you can reach me after the New Year: Milton E. Miles, 6404 Shadow Road, Kenwood, Chevy Chase, (15) MD. Tel: Oliver 2-1262 (*remember when we had those numbers preceded by 2 letters?*)

The years have been extremely good to me. With the exception of a few reverses and humps, this career has been more satisfying than any I could have wished had I been planning every last detail myself. The most gratifying part has been working together with such fine people as those in SACO, Americans and Chinese. From my viewpoint, our work in China, although sometimes very frustrating and not understood by our friends in the Army, State Department, OSS, or frequently by the Navy, was the greatest and the most unusual experiences that I have ever had in these 40 years of Navy life.

I have begun to realize the importance of writing down some of the things that happened in China through my eyesight and of my personal memory of what went on. Together, with my wife, Billy, who has lived with SACO since 1942, we are putting things down in black and white as rapidly as possible. I hope that this will take the form of some magazine articles and end up as a book. It will cover some of the things that have never been printed and probably should never be printed. It is not meant to duplicate anything previously compiled, such as Roy Stratton's excellent volume, or to be a dry chronological history. I will eventually write the official history of Naval Group China for the office of Naval History. It will be a dry, chronological account and collect

dust on the shelves. Right now, I am searching for some of the off-the-path, small episodes that happened to you, episodes that were interesting and should be recounted. If anyone has any of these little untold yarns, I would be pleased to get them in ordinary longhand or otherwise. They might lighten up the published story.

For those of you who have read Roy Stratton's book "The Rice Paddy Navy," I urge you to go back and read the foreword that I wrote in it.

The last reunion, which was the second one that I attended was very interesting to me. I will come back to the next one to be held sometime in the late summer in 1958 in New York. We hope to have it bigger and better; and with the experience of our organization officers in arranging such a Gombei party, we should have a humdinger.

I hope that we can get more people off the missing list and get their current addresses. Please help me in your various travels around the country, your writings to friends, and in every way you can in locating their present addresses, and then drop me a card.

With every best wish for a happy holiday season for you and your family from the Miles family.

*Mary Miles*  
M. E. Miles Rear Duke.

## AIN'T TIMES A-CHANGIN'?

A copy of an old SACO Reunion announcement I have had these many years re a reunion held in Washington, D. C. Aug. 2, 3, 4, 1963 had the following prices:

Registration: \$15.00 each – this takes care of the cocktail parties, snacks, banquet, dancing.

Hotel Rates (Marriott Key Bridge Hotel): \$15 single - \$17-18 double occupancy - \$18-20 two double beds.

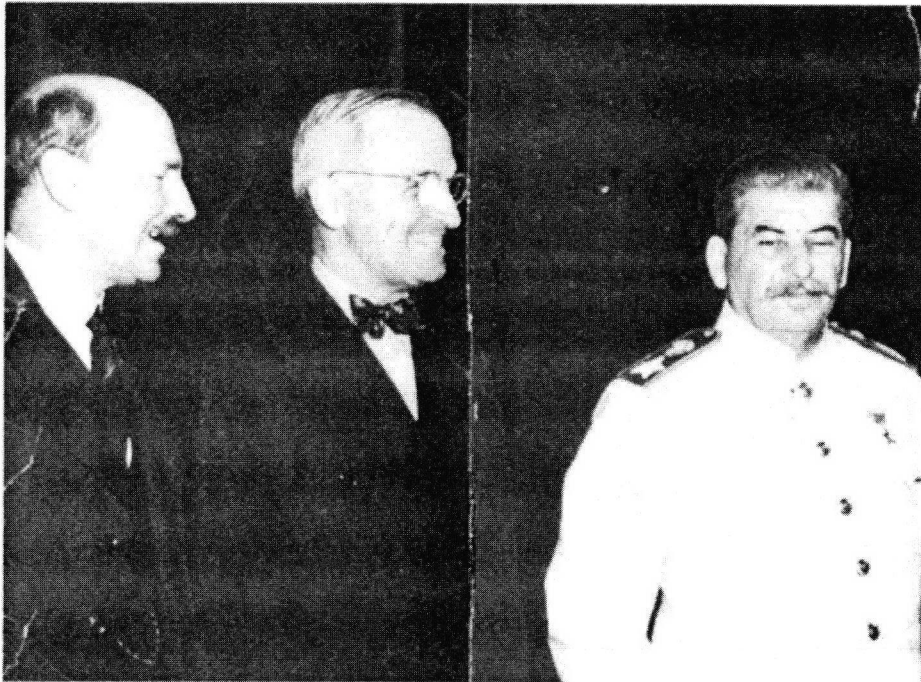
Saco Dues: \$5.00

**Talk about penalties for the aging process!!!**

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# World War II Ends

(From "ALL HANDS" - The Bureau of Naval Personnel Information Bulletin)  
December 1945



NEW "Big 3," Attlee, Truman and Stalin, held conference at Potsdam; plans were drawn to govern Germany, ultimatum was sent to Japan.

## UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

WITH THE SAME resolution the Allies had shown in the prosecution of the war, they remained united in their demands for unconditional surrender. Wasted were the diplomatic plots of Japan and Germany to split the United Nations and win compromise peace. We had learned well the lesson of World War I, when we agreed to end hostilities without invasion; when that error of judgment helped lose for us, the victors, the fruits of our triumph. This time we rejected to the end everything short of unconditional surrender.

One tragic note marred the end of the war. President Roosevelt, whose vision and leadership were beacons along the course of American foreign policy, died before either of our two most powerful enemies crumpled in complete defeat. The man who fervently believed in preparedness on sea and land, died 12 Apr 1945, less than a month before Germany surrendered.

The nation was still in mourning for its President when stiff-spined

Junkers entered a French schoolhouse at Rheims on 7 May to sign unconditional surrender papers for the Third Reich that Hitler had vowed would alter the history of the world for 1,000 years. This time Germany would not be able to say her armies had not been beaten in the field.

Less than four months later, with her navy destroyed, her cities blasted, her armies scattered, Japan gave up. Aboard the battleship *Missouri*, on 1 September, the Jap representatives accepted the unconditional surrender terms drawn up by the "Big Three" at Potsdam in late July.

Thus ended the greatest, most devastating, widespread, miserable and costly war in all history. One could only begin to measure its price by these figures for America's part alone: more than 250,000 killed, 650,000 wounded, \$287,181,000,000 in money.

Peace had returned to the world and ahead lay the uncharted future through which, this time, peace had to stick. *That* was the lesson.

## Big Dates of The War

|               |                                                                                       |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|               | <b>1939</b>                                                                           |
| 1 September   | Poland invaded                                                                        |
| 3 September   | Great Britain, France declare war on Germany                                          |
| 4 November    | U. S. repeals arms embargo                                                            |
|               | <b>1940</b>                                                                           |
| 9 April       | Germany invades Denmark, Norway                                                       |
| 10 May        | Germans invade Luxembourg, Holland, Belgium; Churchill becomes British Prime Minister |
| 10 June       | Italy declares war on France, Great Britain                                           |
| 22 June       | France signs armistice with Germany, Italy                                            |
| 8 August      | London "blitz" begins                                                                 |
|               | <b>1941</b>                                                                           |
| 11 March      | Lend-Lease begins                                                                     |
| 6 April       | Germans invade Yugoslavia, Greece                                                     |
| 22 June       | Germans invade Russia                                                                 |
| 14 August     | Atlantic Charter announced after Roosevelt, Churchill confer                          |
| 7 December    | Japs attack Pearl Harbor                                                              |
| 8 December    | U. S., Great Britain declare war on Japan                                             |
| 11 December   | Germany, Italy declare war on U. S.                                                   |
| 13 December   | Japs take Guam                                                                        |
| 24 December   | Japs capture Wake                                                                     |
| 25 December   | Japs take Hong Kong                                                                   |
|               | <b>1942</b>                                                                           |
| 24 January    | Battle of Makassar Strait                                                             |
| 15 February   | Singapore surrendered to Japs                                                         |
| 27 February   | Java Sea action                                                                       |
| 18 April      | Doolittle raiders from <i>Hornet</i> hit Tokyo                                        |
| 6 May         | Corregidor falls                                                                      |
| 7-8 May       | Battle of Coral Sea                                                                   |
| 3-6 June      | Battle of Midway                                                                      |
| 12 June       | Japs on Kiska, Attu                                                                   |
| 7 August      | U. S. Marines land on Guadalcanal                                                     |
| 9 August      | Battle of Savo Island                                                                 |
| 23-25 August  | Battle of Eastern Solomons                                                            |
| 11-12 October | Battle of Cape Esperance                                                              |
| 26 October    | Battle of Santa Cruz Islands                                                          |

8 November North Africa invaded.  
 13-15 November Battle of Guadalcanal  
 30 November Battle of Tassafaronga  
  
**1943**  
 14 January Roosevelt - Churchill  
 Casablanca Conference  
 13 May Final surrender of  
 Axis forces in Africa  
 6 July First battle of Kula  
 Gulf  
 9 July Invasion of Sicily  
 13 July Second battle of Kula  
 Gulf  
 6 August Battle of Vella Gulf  
 15 August Kiska recaptured  
 3 September Italy invaded  
 8 September Italy surrenders  
 21 November Tarawa invaded  
  
**1944**  
 31 January Kwajalein invaded  
 17-18 February First raid on Truk  
 6 June Normandy invaded  
 15 June Saipan invaded  
 19-20 June Battle of Philippinesea  
 20 July Plot to assassinate  
 Hitler fails  
 21 July Guam retaken  
 15 August Invasion of southern  
 France  
 20 October Invasion of Leyte  
 23-26 October Battle for Leyte Gulf  
  
**1945**  
 19 February Iwo Jima invaded  
 1 April Okinawa invaded  
 12 April Pres. Roosevelt dies  
 2 May Berlin falls  
 7 May Germany surrenders  
 8 May Surrender ratified  
 3 July American troops enter  
 Berlin  
 17 July Potsdam Conference  
 opens  
 24-23 July Remains of Jap Fleet  
 annihilated  
 6 August First atomic bomb  
 levels Hiroshima  
 8 August Russia declares war  
 on Japan  
  
 14 August President Truman an-  
 nounces Jap accept-  
 ance of Allied surren-  
 der terms  
 2 September Unconditional surren-  
 der papers signed  
 5 September American troops in  
 Tokyo



**PEACE**, long the dream of nations, became a reality as Shigemitsu signed unconditional surrender aboard the Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PHOTOS

FROM ALL OF US IN SACO. WE THANK YOU BOTH - ELLEN BOOTH AND CAROLYN INMAN-ARNOLD - FOR YOUR WORK AS PHOTOGRAPHERS FOR OUR PUBLICATION OF SACO NEWS. ED.





his mother learned that he might receive a free education at then newly founded Rice Institute. He entered Rice at the age of 16 switching to architecture from engineering when he learned there was no space in that program. SI was graduated in 1935 and maintained a lifelong dedication to his alma mater, serving as a member of the Board of Governors. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 1981 and received the Gold Medal Award from the Rice Alumni in 1991.

In 1938 he founded his own firm with Talbott Wilson and continued practicing architecture in Houston under various successor firms until his retirement in 1984. His firm, alone or often in association with others, helped shape the city and was responsible for such major buildings as the Astrodome, First City National Bank, The Houston Public Library Downtown, The Houston Country Club, One and Two Shell Plaza, Pennzoil Place, The Wortham Theater, Glassel School of Art, First City Tower, Williams Tower, and numerous other building projects.

During WWII, he served in the U. S. Navy from 1942 to 1946, initially in bomb disposal and later serving in Intelligence in SACO (Sino-American Cooperative Organization) behind the Japanese lines and as aide to Admiral Milton E. Miles. He was awarded the Order of Cloud and Banner by the Republic of China and the Legion of Merit by the United States Government, retiring as Commander, USNR.

In December 1945 he married his life-long love Suzanne Kibler of Columbus, Ohio and returned to Houston to raise a family of five children.

An energetic advocate of art and design and a great facilitator in this community, he was impatient with the status quo and helped, assisted, or served many worthy civic and charitable

projects. He was a founding member of the Municipal Art Society, was the President of the Board of the American Institute of Architects, Houston, and twice President of the Board of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. He also served on the Boards of the Contemporary Arts Museum, The Boy Scouts, The Red Cross, The United Way, and The Houston Chamber of Commerce, among others.

Down-to-earth, with a wry sense of humor, SI was a man of many friends and of a few, but inevitably well-chosen words. A great salesman, a go-getter, helpful and modest; he was awarded many honors, among them Fellow of the AIA; The Llewellen Pitts Award from the Association of General Contractors and the Rice Design Alliance Award For Design Excellence.

He was an elder of the Central Presbyterian Church and a long time member of the First Presbyterian Church of Houston. In addition to many dear friends. SI is survived by his wife of 60 years, Susie Morris; son M. Peter Morris and wife Fan; daughter Maria M. Barlow and husband Witt; son David K. Morris and wife Anne Lewis; daughter Laura M. Walls and husband Rob; son John H. Morris and wife Suzannah and fourteen grandchildren and one great-grandson.

*Editor's note: "C-Going" Miles (youngest son of Adm. Miles) states, "Dad was best man at the wedding of SI and Susie Dec. 29, 1945. Susie told me that Dad also took on the duty of 'Father of the Bride.' She said, "Mary was his (her father's) alter ego, doing everything with his usual aplomb."*

????!!\*\*\*

Obits cont'd next pg.

## William D. Howard



William D. Howard of Boothbay Harbor, ME. died Sunday, July 15 at Maine Medical Center in Portland, ME with his daughter by his side.

Born in Amarillo, TX August 23, 1924, the son of Warren and Celestine Dodson Howard.

Howard grew up and attended local schools in Rutherford, NJ., and was graduated from St. Mary's High School in Rutherford. He attended Harvard University Pre-Med and St. Peter's College before entering the U.S. Navy.

One of his proudest accomplishments was being asked to a try-out with the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team

During WW II in 1943, he joined the Navy – completing a 20-year career and working his way to the rank of Commander. During this time, he served in Shanghai, where he met his wife, Lilly, in 1945. He also served in Korea. Most of his Navy life was spent aboard ships in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Fleets as electronics engineer and intelligence officer. (In the very early years of his Naval career he was with SACO – a top- secret Naval group operating in mainland China as *Sino-American Cooperative-Organization*).

After retiring from Naval service in 1963, he became a Naval architect and the family moved to Boothbay Harbor where he and his wife started the Howard Marine Electronic business in 1968, which they operated until he

retired in 1993. For nine years, he cared for his wife and on her passing in 2001, he moved to Wilton to be closer to his daughter and in 2004, returned to Boothbay Harbor.

Mr. Howard enjoyed watching old movies, building model airplanes and watching sports on TV. He was self-taught in computer technology, building many computers for friends and family and is well remembered for his St. Bernard dogs.

He was a member of the Charles E. Sherman American Legion Post and VFW.

Predeceased by his wife, Lilly, and grandson, Shane Joseph Kelley, his survivors include daughter, Billie D. Howard-Goldsmith and her husband, Gordon of Wilton; brother Warren D. Howard and wife Rita of New Mexico; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

*Editor's note: Thanks to Sylvia Erwin who contacted Bill's daughter, Billie, for the Eulogy.*

## Howard W. Tucker, Jr.

Of Melbourne, Fl. 84, died Thursday, Oct. 26, 2006 at home.

Born in Annapolis, Md. he moved to Florida in 1984.

A U.S. Navy WWII veteran serving in SACO (Sino-American Cooperative organization) aka "The Rice Paddy Navy," he retired after 30 years with A&P Grocery Store as a night manager.

Howard was an avid golfer and past member of Jacksonville Beach Golf Course, and Eisenhower Golf Course, Annapolis.

He is survived by his wife, Lubov Tucker, from Shanghai, China. They were married October 21, 1946.

Also surviving are a niece and 2 nephews.

*Editor's note: In a brief message with her dues to Willie Baker, Treas., Lubov Tucker wrote, "As long as I am alive, I want to continue to support SACO."*



## Edwin Mozart Carter



**Ed and Annabeth Carter**

Following a brief illness, Ed Carter died on December 22, 2006. This day was the Carters' 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. He was born Aug. 29, 1915 in Loganville, GA, the son of the late Samuel Jackson Carter and the late Lillie Davis Carter, and preceded in death by his only sibling, Blanton Carter.

He enlisted in the U. S. Navy in 1936 and served aboard the USS Cincinnati, the USS Healey and the USS Leyte. During WWII he was stationed in China with SACO (Sino-American Cooperative Organization) a top-secret naval group fighting with the Chinese against the invasion of the Japanese.

Following his 20-year career in the Navy, he worked in Jacksonville, FL and then as a construction inspector at NAS Pensacola.

He and Annabeth were active participants in WBCCI (Air-Stream Club), made numerous trips around the U.S. and also traveled to Canada, Mexico, Taiwan and Africa. He was a longtime member of Trinity Presbyterian Church where served as deacon. Ed was a member of several community groups including Habitat for Humanity, East Hill Masonic Lodge and The Scottish Rite. During his retirement he enjoyed visiting with his shipmates at reunions of SACO and USS Cincinnati.

In addition to his wife Annabeth Dickerson Carter, he is survived by his daughter, Patricia Dice (Joseph), Charlottesville, VA and sons, Samuel Carter (Nancy) Atlanta, GA and James Carter (Diana), Pensacola. Survivors also include seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

*Editor's note: Annabeth writes she is moving to assisted-living - her new address:*

*Wesley Haven Villa  
111 E. Wright St.  
Pensacola, FL 32501*

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## Ralph Thomas Hankins



*Editor's note: Ralph's obit appeared in Feb 07 issue, in which I overlooked the picture I had of him, but did not have this letter written to Reunion Chairman Jack Miller at that time:*

Oct 29, 2006

Dear Mr. Miller:

I am writing this letter for my brother

Ralph Thomas Hankins who served with SACO, U.S. Navy in Calcutta, India. Ralph is 11 years older than me. Regretfully, I must advise you that on September 29, 2006 Ralph died at age 86. Ralph has been in declining health for the past several years suffering from dementia, heart problems and general physical weakness. His short term memory was quite poor and he could not think clearly enough to write, but he could still remember a lot about the past, especially SACO and the time he spent in the Navy during WWII. He appreciated hearing from old friends and especially SACO magazine, which I read to him in his final years.

. . . Please remember Ralph to all his SACO buddies.

Sincerely, Bill Hankins

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### **Jonathan D. Schaffer**

age 81, of Endicott, NY, died June 11, 2007 at Lourdes Hospital, surrounded by his loving family. He was predeceased by his parents, John H. and Ella M. Schaffer; and his brothers, Henry and Clyde R. Schaffer. Jonathan is survived by his wife of over 60 years, Etta Schaffer; three daughters and spouses: Kathleen and William Hanzalik of Greene, NY, Marilyn and Glenn Hanson of Winter Haven, FL, Diane and Michael Clarke, Boiceville, NY; two sons, Jonathan D. Schaffer, Jr. and wife, Andrea of Maine, NY and Dean Schaffer of Endicott, NY; and two sisters: Violetta Kenhart and Genevieve Casselbury both of Binghamton, NY; eleven grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and numerous step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Jonathan was a veteran of WWII assigned to US Naval Group China (later known as SACO – Sino-American Cooperative Organization) under the leadership of Director

Gen. Tai Li and Deputy Director Adm. Milton E. Miles. Jonathan was a member of “Scouts & Raiders”(predecessor of the US Navy SEALS) when he joined SACO performing various clandestine intelligence operations in China.

He was an employee of the Maine-Endwell School district retiring after 30 years service. Prior to being debilitated by congestive heart failure, Jonathan was well-known for his love of gardening and his generosity with the fruits of his labors. He appreciated all aspects of the outdoors and particularly enjoyed any opportunity he had to go boating, fishing or hunting.

*(Thanks to Jonathan's wife, Etta, for this obituary-Ed)*

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### **William F. White**



William White, 88, of Claysville, died Saturday, May 26, 2007, in Washington Hospital. He was born April 5, 1919, in Claysville, PA, a son of Samuel D. and Louisa Ramage White.

Mr. White was a member of the United Methodist Church and had recently been attending the First Baptist Church, Claysville.

cont'd

Wm. White. . .

He was a graduate of Claysville High School and attended Swarthmore, Ohio Wesleyan and Bethany Colleges.

Bill was a U. S. Navy veteran of World War II – serving from 1943-1945. He was very proud of his membership as a “SACO Tiger,” a sobriquet for members of Sino-American Cooperative Organization – formerly known as U.S. Navy Group China, a top-secret group of all volunteers. He very much enjoyed returning to annual SACO reunions throughout the U.S.

Bill was a member of American Legion James R. Hunt Post 639, Claysville, VFW Post 927, Washington, BPOE Lodge 776, Washington, Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 22, Washington, and the Western Pennsylvania and Cornerstone and Geological Societies.

Until his retirement, he was owner/operator of S. White’s Sons Monuments, based in Claysville, with several locations in the area.

Bill enjoyed traveling, particularly to his family cabin in Deep Creek, MD, genealogy research and watching high school, college and professional football games.



In 1951, in Claysville, Bill married Mary Madeline Morris Fankhauser (pictured above), who died March 13, 2003.

Bill was previously married to Jane Gatewood White, who survives.

Also surviving are three sons: William Gatewood (Betty Jo) White of Cincinnati, OH, George Wesley (Debra) White, of Portland, OR & Samuel Daugherty White II of New Martinsville, WV, four grandchildren, William A. (Elizabeth) White, Emily (David) Maruna, Andrew (Lesley) White, and Sarah Beth White, and numerous friends.

American Legion Post of Claysville did military honors at graveside in Claysville Cemetery, Saturday, June 2.

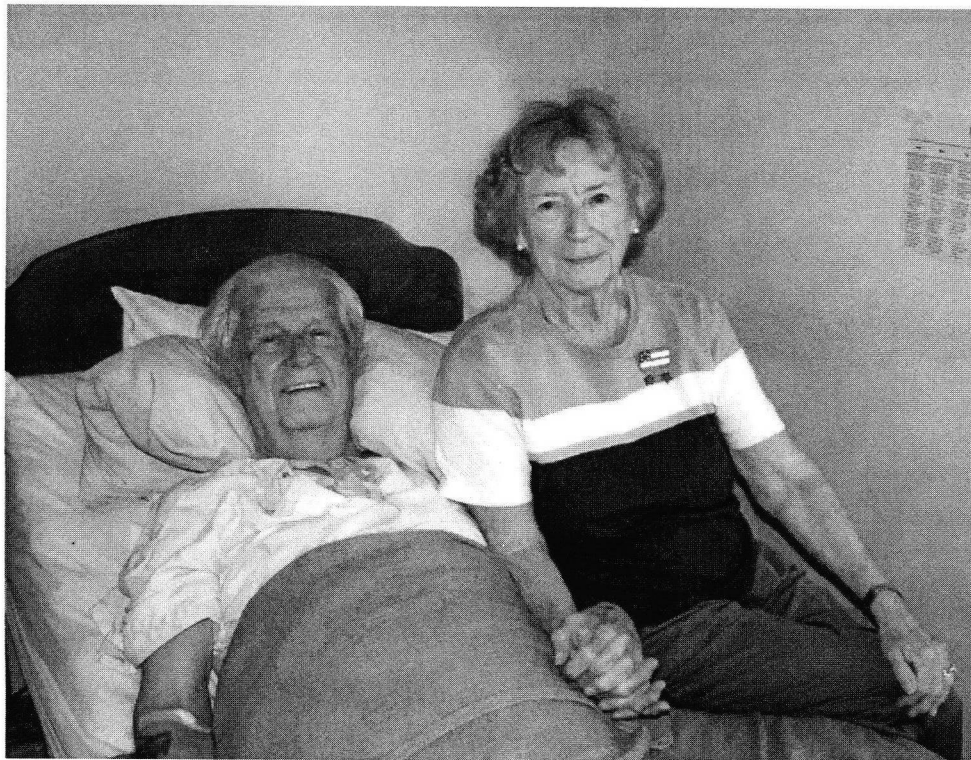
*Editor's note: This section of the magazine is always a "tear-jerker" for yours truly. What a kind friend was Bill. We are fortunate to have funds to support SACO NEWS (at least to the present) but he often offered- "If you need help with the publication, let me know." And what a great party gal was Mary – she could tell a story that could make a sailor blush. I loved them both as I know you all did. Sadly, I learned that Bill had made arrangements to be with us last June in Des Moines.*

### List of Departed SACOs Since Last Issue (including obits in current issue):

- Dale M. Arnold 2003  
Y1/c -Camp 1/Kunming/Chungking
- John W. Blake 2005  
CY -Chungking/Camp2
- Nelson J. Bowman 2007  
GM1/c -Chungking/Camp 3/Chenping/Calcutta
- Edwin M. Carter 2007  
CY -Kunming/Chungking/Shanghai
- E Lee Comer, Jr.  
RM1/c -Chungking/Camp 2/Yangtze Unit
- Evan C. Dabson 2006  
GM1/c -Calcutta/Kunming/Foochow
- Dale E. Gourley 2005  
BM2/c -Camp 7/Shanghai
- Warren J. Higby 2006  
CPHM -Chungking
- John L. Horne 2007  
CSP -Kunming/Chungking/Changting/Shanghai
- Bronson C. "Tex" Howell, Jr. 2007  
GM2/c -Calcutta/Kunming/Foochow
- Theodore C. McDonald 2006  
CRM -Calcutta/Kunming/Kienyang/Camps 1&7/Shanghai

Cont'd





Bronson and wife, Phyllis

### Bronson C. "Tex" Howell, Jr.

Winter Haven – Bronson C. Howell, Jr., 83, died Wednesday May 16, 2007 at Dove Health Center in Lake Wales, Fl., of heart failure.

Born May 4, 1924 in Woodsville, Texas. His father's name was Bronson C. Howell, Sr. and his mother Anna Belle Dean – Howell.

He was a Navy veteran of WWII. One of the first Navy Seals in U.S. Scout & Raiders Unit and later assigned to SACO (Sino-American Cooperative Organization) a top secret group operating in China assisting their people to fight the Japanese invasion of China.

Bronson was a Master Mason in Good

Standing Post Meches #1163.

He had a degree as Accountant, and he worked as Industrial Engineer for the Arial Space-Rockwell International.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary Jeanes Howell. He is survived by his second wife, Phyllis Turner Howell of Winter Haven, Fl.; step-son Michael Turner, Gaihersburg, Md.; daughter Diana Gallaher, Hobe Sound, Fl.; step-daughter Susan Turner Catrillo, Longwood, Fl.; brother Jack Howell, Beaumont, Tx; 2 grand-children and 2 great grand-children.

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#### Departed cont'd:

Charles L. Miller 2006  
Ens. -Calcutta/Kunming/Shanghai

Seth I. Morris, Jr. 2006  
Lt. -Chungking/Kienyang/Camps 1,2,6/Wash.D.C./Shanghai

Robert Preston Phipps 2006  
Lt(jg) -Kunming/Chungking/Shanghai

Robert H. Richardson 2003  
SI/c -Calcutta

Jonathan Schaffer 2007  
GMS/c -Camps 7 & 6/Changchow/Chienow/Shanghai

Irvin H. Sheffer 2006  
MoMM1/c -Calcutta/Jorhat/Kunming/Chungking

Howard W. Tucker, Jr. 2006  
BM1/c -Camp 7/Changchow/Shanghai

Cornelius J. Tyson, Jr. 2006  
Lt -Calcutta/Kunming/Shanghai

William F. White 2007  
SK1/c -Jorhat/Calcutta

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# The Two Assassinations Of Abraham Lincoln

BY JIM WOODARD

*I'm the resident storyteller at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. One of my stories at the last Presidents Day event really fascinated the audience. It was a true Abraham Lincoln story that most people have never heard or read. At first, you'll think my historical accuracy is way off base, but stay with me:*



Abraham Lincoln farmed a large land parcel in Kentucky. For four years, he worked hard to make a living on the farm, clearing land and planting and cultivating crops. However, he had a problem with local Indians, who didn't like Lincoln farming land they considered to be within their territory.

On several occasions, Indian braves stopped by to express their indignation about Lincoln's activities and told him to move out. He refused and instead continued to expand his farm.

One day, a rather large group of Indian braves came to Lincoln's cabin, kidnapped him and took him to the tribe's village. There, they forced Lincoln to "run the gauntlet," meaning he had to run between two long rows of braves while they struck him with sticks and branches. It was their way of punishing and humiliating him for not bowing to their demands.

That experience caused Lincoln to reflect. Perhaps he was intruding on their territorial rights. After all, the Indians were there first. Also, Lincoln feared what the Indians might do next. He packed his belongings and moved out.

About a year later, Lincoln reconsidered his move. He reasoned that he had just as much right to work the land as did the Indians. Sure, they were first to occupy the land, but they didn't own it. This began to eat at him until he finally decided to move back to his farm.

After returning, he worked the land even harder. The Indians again expressed their displeasure with him, but he was determined to continue his work.

One bright, sunny day, Lincoln was cutting down trees to expand his planting area. He heard a noise that sounded like someone stepping on dried leaves or twigs. He looked around but saw nothing. He concluded it was a squirrel and returned to clearing the land.

Unfortunately, the noise was no squirrel. An Indian brave, sent by his tribe to kill Abraham Lincoln, stepped out from behind a tree. With a rifle recently stolen from a white man, he aimed at Lincoln's back and fired.

Lincoln slumped to the ground, gasping for air with a bullet embedded in his chest. He looked up in time to see the Indian brave running away through the trees. Then, glancing toward an open area about 50 feet away, Lincoln spotted his 6-year-old son, Thomas. Little Thomas had seen everything. Then Abraham Lincoln died.

Years later, when Thomas was 28, he married Nancy Hanks and had a son of his own. He named him after his father, Abraham. It was this Abraham Lincoln who became the 16th president of the United States.

President Lincoln wrote about his grandfather Abraham on several occasions. He had served as a captain in the Revolutionary War, then emigrated from Virginia to Kentucky with his wife and five children in 1781 to establish a farm.

Several interesting similarities exist between the two Abraham Lincolns, grandfather and grandson. Both married women named Mary. Both had sons named Thomas. And both were shot from behind. ☺

*Jim Woodard of Ventura, Calif., is a storyteller and writer.  
[www.jimwoodard.net](http://www.jimwoodard.net) or [storyjim@aol.com](mailto:storyjim@aol.com)*







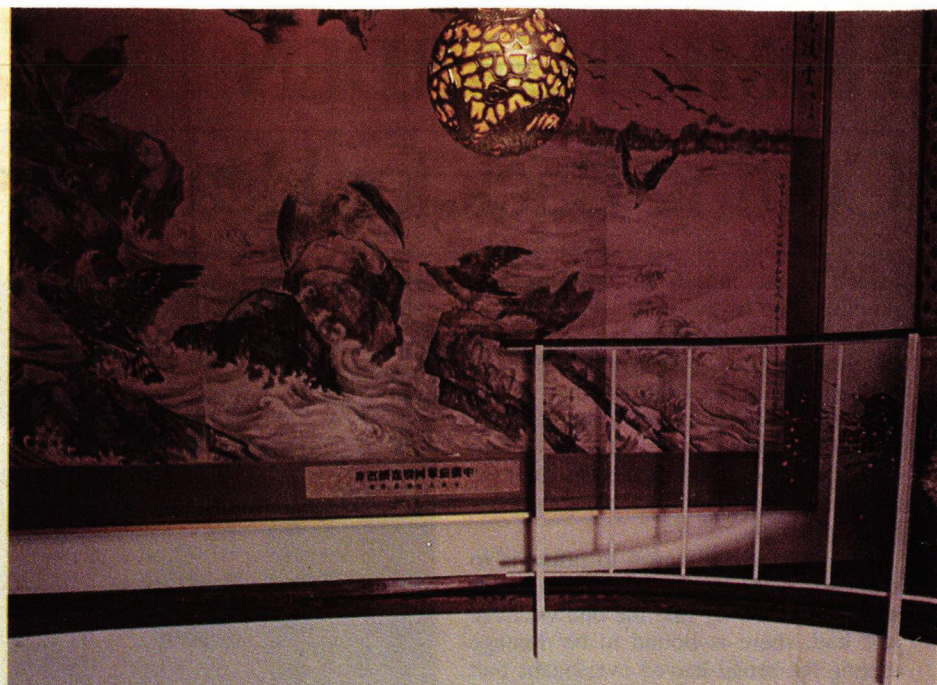
An antique Chinese cloisonné vase rests in a corner in front of a portrait of a younger Anna Chennault, in the early 1960s.



The Danish modern dining table is set with a classic Chinese lazy Susan and colorful Chinese plates and bowls. "Yes," says Chennault, "I do supply forks for those who need them." She has entertained as many as 250 guests at a time in her spacious apartment.

abroad. Her Watergate apartment is filled with personal mementos, furniture, and objets d'art that are best described as "pan-Asian"—Chinese rugs, Japanese dolls, Filipino flowers, and elegant antiques from her grandfather's home in Hong Kong.

When entertaining at home, Chennault tries to avoid mixing personal and business contacts. She generally invites about a dozen guests for a Chinese dinner, and she hires a Chinese cook and other helpers for formal meals. She is not fussy about inviting odd or even numbers—"If I think someone is inter-



The entryway is highlighted by a spiral staircase leading to a terrace room and roof garden, landscaped with potted evergreens.



esting, I don't care if they come with someone or by themselves," she says. And, unless everyone knows one another, she asks all guests to introduce themselves at her dining-room table.

Chennault enjoys entertaining at home. "I think there's an advantage in being a woman. I can have clients or people connected with the business come from out of town, and as a woman I know how to entertain them. When people come from abroad, they don't want to be taken to a restaurant—they want to be taken home."

While Chennault is whipping up some

quick Chinese dishes, her guests can enjoy the view from a spacious roof garden and terrace room atop a dramatic spiral staircase. The two bedrooms can be closed off, and guests can roam freely in a combination living and dining room as well as upstairs and outside. And as they roam they can see the numerous photographs of Anna Chan Chennault—with the late General, with Asian heads of state, with John F. Kennedy, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, and, most recently, Nancy Reagan. The photographs speak for themselves—this is a woman who likes being a part of history. □

March 1981/The Washingtonian





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*Rooms \$82.00 plus tax*

Grand Rapids is a big city with small town values – with streets that are safe & clean & residents friendly & helpful. In the heart of town, the Gerald Ford Museum pays tribute to the life & times of our 38<sup>th</sup> president, a long time Grand Rapids resident, President Ford's final rest-spot is on the museum grounds.

In downtown Grand Rapids, you'll find nearly 60 restaurant choices. Take a 10-minute stroll "up the hill" to the historic district. Its 1,300 lovely preserved homes date from 1848 and represent more than 60 architectural styles.

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longest, winds through downtown, right in front of the Ford Museum. Here, anglers cast their lines for salmon, trout & steelhead as business people traverse the bridges overhead.

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*(Grand Rapids Convention and Visitors Bureau)*

*Be prepared for a really great time – I keep in touch and can assure you things are pointing to unforgettable moments for SACO Ed.*

