

October 2008

SACO VETERANS

Issue No. 35

OF
THE RICE PADDY NAVY
WORLD WAR II CHINA

WHAT

Perpetual Skipper

THE

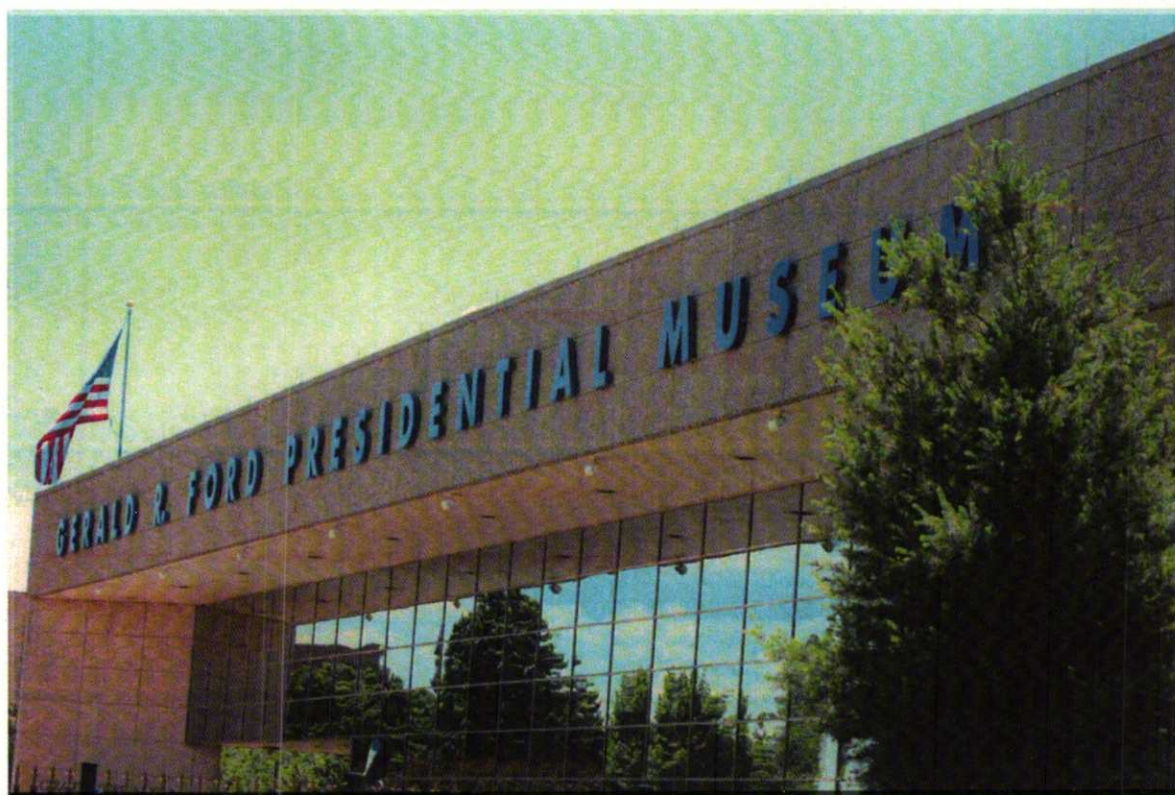
HELL?

VAdm. Milton E. "Mary" Miles



Sino American Cooperative Organization

REVIEW OF GRAND RAPIDS, MI
54TH SACO REUNION JUNE 2008



ONE OF THE TOURS OF GRAND RAPIDS SACO GROUP
BURIAL SITE OF PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

SEE BACK COVER FOR INFO REGARDING 2009 55TH
SACO REUNION
IN MIDLAND, TEXAS

SACO NEWS

SACO MEDALS

MAJ. GEN. LIU PEN-SHAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MIB, MND ROC TAIWAN AWARDS SACO MEDALS AT 54TH ANNUAL REUNION IN GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 21 JUNE 2008



MAJ. GEN. LIU - KEITH ALLEN



MAJ. GEN. LIU - JACK COYLE ACCEPTING POSTHUMOUS AWARD FOR HIS FATHER

SACO HISTORY

SACO (pronounced "Socko") 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 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 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"* starring Richard Widmark were the revelations of SACO.

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

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 3 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 WW II 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!"

???!!!***

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Membership Chairman: Paul Casamajor

Legal Counsel: Bill Sager

Website Founders: Jodi Petersen &
Carolyn Inman Arnold
"SACO Navy.com"

%%%%%%%%%

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

To our photographers,-- Ellen Booth and Carolyn Inman Arnold for being so reliable for pictures at each reunion. Also, I am so grateful to those who have contributed pictures of areas in China and stories of personal experiences with SACO. I do have my moments of frustration when the computer tests my patience and aptitude when it comes to getting myself out of a predicament. I am fortunate to have a very qualified computer whiz in my cousin Jack Parks who comes to my rescue when I am most desperate. *Ed.*

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. Sal Ciaccio
32 Marie St
Tewksbury, MA. 01876-3941
(978) 851-7494

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.*

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

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SUPPORTING SACO IN
ADDITION TO ANNUAL DUES
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TO STAY AFLOAT IN THE
WANING YEARS OF OUR
ORGANIZATION**

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WITH LOVE TO MY SACO FAMILY

My heartfelt thanks to all SACOs for your greeting cards & messages while I was denied being with you in our Grand Rapids Reunion. Your greetings helped to dry a few days of tears while I missed the "show" with my "SACO Family" 

Allen, Keith
Alverson, Lee & Ruby
Arnold, Carolyn Inman
Banner, Mathilda and Richard
Barbieri, Pete & Judy
Bartee, Bill & Skeeter
Booth, Bud & Ellen
Brown, Ken & Lillie
C-Going (Chas. Miles)
Coats, Penny, Jerry & Robert
Coyle, Jack
Esplen, Nancy (dtr of Duke Zucks)
Heimlich, Henry
Herberg, Vern
Hill, Bob & Lola
Huntley, Lilma
Jones, John & Barbara

Keenan, Joe
Kelly, Jim
Maurice, Judy & Dick
Mc Hugh, Elva
Miller, Dan
Miller, Jack
Petersen, Jack
Petersen, Jodi
Petersen, Kayte
Petosky, Zig & Dorothy
Preston, Tory (friend)
Purvis, Guy
Reynnet, Francis & Caroline
Sanders, Pat.
Sellers, Charles & Laura
Tanner, Mary
Tate, Shep & Janet
Terpstra, Dick, Adm. & Sue
Thomas, Bob
Waters, John
Whitlock, Jim
Wyatt, Bill & Mary
Zucks, Dorothy

Swedish Medical Terminology

(Submitted by Paul Casamajor)

Artery — The study of paintings
Barium — What you do when CPR fails
Cesarean Section — A district in Rome
Colic — A sheep dog
Coma — A punctuation mark
Congenital — Friendly
Dilate — To live long
Fester — Quicker
G.I. Series — Baseball games between teams of soldiers
Grippe — A suit case
Hangnail — A coat hook
Medical Staff — A doctor's cane

Morbid — A higher offer
Nitrate — Lower than the day rate
Node — Was aware of
Outpatient — A person who has fainted
Post-operative — A letter carrier
Protein — In favor of young people
Secretion — Hiding anything
Serology — Study of English Knighthood
Tablet — A small table
Tumor — An extra pair
Urine — Opposite of "you're out"
Varicose Veins — Veins which are very close together



2 June 2008

Richard:

Received my copy of SACO NEWS #34 and I thank you.

I was not aware of Arthur Bohus's death - his picture brought back many memories.

We became acquainted in Camp 10, I had transmitter problems. It took us a week to find the offending part. We later joined up in Shanghai and had a great time. (Before my departure to Canton by air from Camp 10, I persuaded the paymaster to convert \$15 to Chinese money; the merchants were glad to see me).

My wife and I visited Marilouise and Art at their home in New Jersey. We lost contact after he entered the Care Center. I hope to be able to reach one of his sons to express our condolence.

I hope 2008 is a good year for you.

Sincerely,

Clair Emerson - 21 B Naugatuck Way
Waterville, OH 43566

4 June 2008

Richard:

Thanks for the May '08 "Saco News" - it came today and reminded me that I hadn't paid the current dues, but I have it ready to mail when I finish this. I read the entire thing before putting it down and have a check ready to mail Sal when I finish this letter to you.

I don't do any traveling nowadays. Don (son) picks up Irene (his wife's mother) and me for church on Sundays. I still drive to the food store when necessary. Still have less than 4,000 miles on the car and we bought it in Feb. '85. So, Len didn't get to drive it much at all.

At least the Dr. has stopped complaining about my weight since I've stayed at 110 for months now. That was my weight when Len and I married in 1947. Meant I've had to get a new wardrobe for a size 10.

... I don't do much now except read, watch TV. Have a habit of falling asleep in the recliner. Guess age does that. I will be 88 in Oct. Have a sister in Albany, GA at 86 and one in Tallahassee, FL who is 84 today.

... I now have 3 great-grandsons and one great-granddaughter

Take care and stay healthy.

An old SACO friend, Dolores (Fintak)

???!!!***

May 2008

Richard:

Thanks for the Mother's Day card I received from you. It was very thoughtful of you to think of me and I appreciate it greatly.

I regret that we are unable to be with you and the SACO members in Michigan in

June. Bill may be scheduled for surgery in early July and we don't feel warranted in doing any traveling.

Love, Elizabeth (Sager)

Richard:

It's always been just great to receive the SACO NEWS as you do such a fine job as it's editor. It's always so informative and an enjoyment to read, but unable to do that now that I am blind with terminal cancer.

I am now trying to get my house in order before it's too late. My wife is unable to now handle daily tasks, without assistance and a friend is doing the writing for me at this time.

Please stop all correspondence to us as well as the SACO NEWS.

Again, many thanks to you and all of those of such a great service organization.

Sincerely,

Walter C. Hamlin

???!!!***

20 Aug 2008

Howdy Richard:

I hope your wounds have healed by now or at least, that they're healing.

Sorry you missed the reunion – all went well. For me, it was good to be able to chat with Pete. It helped to talk with someone who is also learning to cope with the loneliness of widower-hood.

.En route home, we stopped for a few hours with Laura & Charlie (Sellers). Neither are in very good health. I doubt they'll ever attend another reunion. Both their sons offered to drive them, but they refused. Laura hates to ride in a car and Charlie won't fly. But it was good to have a few hours and lunch with them. They're

???!!!***

9 Aug 2008

both in good spirits – just the bodies wearing out.

I hope the next report re you is that you're up and about and enjoying life.

Regards, John (Waters)

Marty & Barb keep busy and cheerful.

???!!!***

30 Dec 2007

Dick:

Many thanks for your fine services as Editor of SACO NEWS! I enjoy every edition.

I am looking forward to the SACO reunion in June in Grand Rapids and I hope you will be there.

Enclosed are checks for my dues and a contribution.

Sincerely, Shep (Tate).

???!!!***





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

May 23, 2008

Mr. Richard Rutan
SACO NEWS Editor
1223 E. Del Mar Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262-3329
USA

Dear Mr. Rutan:

It is the first time for me to read your SACO News after assuming my post as MIB director. I appreciate your efforts in compiling this valuable publication that gives me the opportunity to know more about SACO friends' stories and General Dai Li's commendation document in 1945. It is a pity that I can not make it to this year's Reunion because of busy schedule. I sincerely hope that the occasion goes successfully and wish all the best to SACO friends.

Thanks to you and other members' efforts, SACO preserves precious historical materials of World War II and witnesses the strong friendship between the United States and Republic of China. We are honored to be invited to attend the SACO Reunion and receive warm hospitality every year. I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation for kindly sending us the SACO NEWS and sincerely hope that the friendship between both sides would last forever.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Ko, Kuang-ming

中華民國國防部
軍事情報局 葛 廣 明
局長 空軍中將

Ko, Kuang-Ming
Lt. Gen. ROC Air Force
Director, MIB, MND



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

July 15, 2008

Richard Terpstra
Reunion Chair
SACO

Dear Mr. Terpstra:

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation on behalf of the MIB Director General Ko and all delegates for your thoughtful arrangements in the 2008 SACO reunion. Meeting for the first time, SACO members' passion and hospitality made me feel that I had known you people for long. Moreover, I highly admire the close bond of your family.

Though thousands of miles away from each other, the close partnership from the past has made SACO and MIB a band of brother. Our everlasting brotherhood beyond time, space and race best explains an old saying: a friend in need is a friend indeed. I truly hoped that our friendship could pass down and go on forever by working together.

It is my loss to miss the trip to upper Michigan State due to tight schedule. However, I sincerely wish to repay you with my warmest welcome when you visit this beautiful island someday in the near future.

Best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Benson Liu".

Liu, Pen-Shan
Maj. General, ROCA
Deputy Director

July 16, 2008

Major General LIU Pen-Shan
c/o MIB Ministry of National Defense
Shinlin, Taipei
Taiwan, Republic of China

Dear General LIU Pen-Shan:

I recently had the opportunity to travel to Holland, Michigan and came upon information regarding the Klompen Dancers who performed at the SACO Reunion in June of 2008. This brochure is descriptive of the costumes worn by the dancers and catalogues some of the beautiful tulips grown there. It would be my pleasure to send the tulips of your choosing as a garden gift especially for the lovely Mrs. LIU/Wang Ai-Hua and others of the Taiwanese delegation. Upon reviewing the enclosed pamphlet, please advise me of the tulip colors that you desire.

Again, accept our humble appreciation for your every kindness.

Best Regards,

Richard Terpstra
2008 SACO Reunion Chairman



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

August 6, 2008

Mr. Richard Terpstra
Chairman
2008 SACO Reunion
741 E. Kinney Dr.
Baldwin, MI 49304
USA

Dear Mr. Terpstra:

I would like to extend my congratulations to you for making this year's Reunion such a great success, which would not have been possible without your efforts. My delegation told me that they all had a wonderful time during the Reunion.

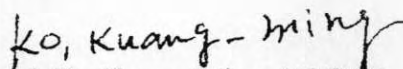
Although not long in office, as a former combat pilot, I am very much aware of and admire SACO men's contribution during the war as to how they teamed up with the US 14th Air force and risked their lives to rescue the allies' pilots shot down by enemy fire. Whether from the perspective of history or personal feelings, SACO's remarkable history deserves to be remembered and cherished by our future generations. Based on the aforementioned reasons and suggestions from my Deputy Director, MG Liu Pen-shan, I wish to collect information from MIB archives and send experts to conduct interviews with SACO members for oral history if possible so as to help the world better understand SACO's legend.

I am aware that many of our SACO friends are dedicated to writing on and preserving SACO's history, therefore it is my humble wish that you as well as Mr.

Rutan and Mr. Casamajor would be kind enough to convey this information to other members and provide us with a list of those who are willing to render help. We will arrange further details of the interviews currently scheduled to take place during next year's Reunion. I am also looking forward to hearing your suggestions concerning this project. May this be another opportunity for us to work side by side and write a new chapter for SACO.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ko, Kuang-Ming". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Lt. General, Ko Kuang-Ming, ROCAF
Director

c.c: Editor, SACO News, Mr. Richard L. Rutan; and Membership Chairman, Paul Casamajor



ADMIRAL NIMITZ FOUNDATION

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Supporting

The National Museum of the Pacific War

Admiral Nimitz Museum

George H. W. Bush Gallery

The Memorial Courtyard

Pacific Combat Zone

Japanese Garden of Peace

Center for Pacific War Studies

July 14, 2008

Mr. Sal Ciaccio, Treasurer
Sino American Cooperative Organization
32 Marie Street
Tewksbury MA 01876

Dear Mr. Ciaccio:

I want you to know how very appreciative the Admiral Nimitz Foundation is for the financial assistance from the SACO veterans' group. We have received your donation in the amount of \$500. I only wish that we could convey the significance of such support in the execution of our mission. We have made great progress in recent years in relaying the history of the Pacific War to the young people who visit the museum and who learn of the sacrifices made to insure the freedom of our citizens.

Your donation will be applied to our Phase III Capital Campaign to expand the National Museum of the Pacific War. SACO's total cash donations to date to the Phase III Campaign are \$1,500. This is in addition to the very generous donation of the 650 books, *The Rice Paddy Navy*, of which approximately half have been sold.

We are now deeply involved in the expansion of the George H.W. Bush Gallery. The architects and exhibit designers are busy in the planning process, and our new museum promises to have an exciting appeal.

Recognition for this donation will appear on the donors' plaque to be displayed in the lobby of the expanded museum. Unless you advise us otherwise, the plaque will be displayed as follows:

Sino American Cooperative Organization

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation thank you very much, indeed, for your donation. And, most importantly, thank you to all the men of SACO for their service to our country.

Sincerely,

C.D. Grojean
Rear Admiral, USN (Ret)
Executive Director

Rob Esterlein
Director of Development

The Admiral Nimitz Foundation has received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service stating that it is a tax exempt organization as described in 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and is not a private foundation according to 509(a). You should consult with your CPA or tax preparer to determine the tax consequences of your donation. Please maintain a copy of this letter for your tax records.

We inspire our youth by honoring our heroes

Thursday, April 06, 2006

5301 S. Garland Way
Littleton, CO 80123-7447

Hi Richard,

Here is the copy of the text dealing with the Chaplains that worked with SACO. It is from a NAVTRA Naval Training correspondence course titled The History of the Chaplin Corps Part 2. *

As I explained, I am still in the Navy Reserves at 55 years young and I was studying this course for extra point credit while on a trip to the Middle East a couple weeks ago. I was really surprised to see the reference to SACO as you just don't see that much about SACO. I hope the article will be of interest to other SACO members.

A bit of a bio on myself-

I am a Loadmaster on the Navy's newest transport, the Boeing C-40 Clipper. I spend about 5-7 days a month with my unit, VR-57 Conquistadors out of Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego California. I have 22 years of service and hope to stay in for a few more years. My rate is Petty Officer First Class ABH1(AW/NAC). I also serve as part of the Funeral Honors team here in Denver and am very happy to be able to provide flag folding and presentation for those who have served before me.

I own my own business, Plane Crazy Enterprises, which sells military insignia, flight jackets and other military memorabilia. Two of my sons have served in the Navy. One as a Photographers Mate (PH) and the other as an Aviation Machinist Mate (AD)

I am very proud of my Dad's service with the Navy and SACO and continue to seek out information on his service and with those that served with him. I would like to believe that he is proud of my Naval service. I ask anyone with information on my Dad to please contact me.

Thanks for your continuing efforts with the SACO news and wish you good health. I hope to meet you in person some day.

Thank You

Editor's note: From time to time items do get buried in the accumulation - I apologize for delays in printing correspondence.

Carl Edmund Altevogt
Son of RM1 Carl Eugene Altevogt

**Chaplains story on pg 26 of issue No.34*



SACO

SINO AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION

U. S. NAVAL GROUP CHINA VETERANS



PREVIEW OF NEXT SACO REUNION 2009 MIDLAND, TEXAS

Vice Admiral Milton E. Miles
Perpetual Skipper

Date: September 10, 2008

Re: SACO 55th Reunion
Midland, Texas

Greetings SACO Members!

On behalf of my father and mother, Bob and Betty Lou Grace, I am proud to invite all SACO Members and Friends to Midland, Texas for the 55th SACO Reunion, to be held September 22nd through 26th, 2009. After attending the last five reunions with my father, we're looking forward to showing all of you a little Texas hospitality. I've got some big boots to fill. These reunions just keep getting better.

The highlight of the week will be on Saturday the 26th, when we will attend the CAF (Commemorative Air Force) Airsho 2009 at Midland International Airport. The Airsho has become one of the best in the country. Hundreds of planes are featured, including still flying versions of WWII era trainers, fighters, bombers and transports, including the venerable C46 Commando and C47 Dakota that flew so many SACO tigers over the hump.

The CAF has reserved a special Chalet for SACO. We'll be comfortably out of the elements, right on the flight line, and will be recognized as honored guests of the Airsho. Plans are still being made, but we're hoping to arrange a private tour of the CAF Airpower Heritage Museum and Nose Art Gallery on Friday the 25th of September. For a look at what you can expect, visit the CAF's website, airsho.org.

Midland is both the geographical and economic center of the Permian Basin oil and gas industry, and we are planning several activities designed to give SACO members an up close look at the energy business, both from a historical perspective and with an eye to the future. On Thursday, September 24th, we'll take a tour of the area surrounding Midland, culminating in a visit to the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum. We'll see an actual drilling rig "making hole", and tour a recently constructed Wind Farm that is harvesting West Texas' wind energy.

Headquarters for the reunion will be the Midland Hilton in downtown Midland. Negotiations are still under way, but so far the best nightly rate I've been able to arrange is \$117 per night. This is rather high compared to past reunions, but hopefully will be offset by reduced costs for the other events of the week.

Finally, although Midland is rather remote, we're pretty centrally located and rather easy to get to. Southwest Airlines is the main provider of service to Midland International, with several daily arrivals from Dallas, Houston, and Austin, Texas, as well as Las Vegas, Nevada and Albuquerque, New Mexico. As of now, we are also served by American Eagle and Continental. Be aware that American services Midland via DFW Airport, while Southwest flies

out of Love Field in Dallas. These airports are some thirty miles apart, and it is not recommended that you try to make a connection from American to Southwest. Those traveling by car will find that Midland is located on Interstate 20, roughly halfway between El Paso and Fort Worth, Texas. I'd be happy to help anyone with their travel plans.

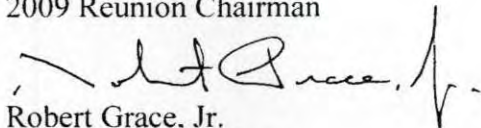
Many SACO members in Grand Rapids asked me about the food out here, and all I can say is ya'll need to come hungry. We're famous for our Bar-B-Q and Mexican Food, and you'll get a chance to sample both. It's also football and dove hunting season in September, and anyone interested in seeing the real Friday Night Lights or bagging some birds won't be disappointed.

The weather in West Texas can be unpredictable, but late September is usually a beautiful time of year. Leaves are changing color (yes we have trees out here) and the air is usually crisp and cool, but not cold. However, they say if you don't like West Texas weather, just wait a minute and it'll change.

Thank you all for your confidence in selecting Midland and the Grace Family as hosts for the 2009 reunion. And a special thanks to Dick Terpstra and Richard Rutan for all their advice, support and patience. With their help, and the enthusiastic support of all our friends in SACO, the 2009 reunion should be one to remember.

Sincerely,

Robert Grace, Jr.
2009 Reunion Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Grace, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert Grace, Jr.
2009 Reunion Chairman

Minutes of Trustees & General Membership Meetings

I - MINUTES OF THE SACO TRUSTEES MEETING

June 21, 2008

Location: The SACO Trustee's Meeting was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, MI on June 21, 2008.

Time: The Meeting was held on Saturday, June 21, at 9:00 AM and adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Attendees:

Trustees: (* absent)

Richard Terpstra
Jerry Coats
Bob Clark*
Richard Bannier
Guy Tressler*
John Waters
Francis Reynnet

President Bob Hill
Treasurer Sal Ciaccio
Asst, Treas. Guy Purvis
Secretary Robert Hoe
Asst. Sec. Jim Kelly

I - Call to Order - President Bob Hill

II - Secretary's Report - The report of the Trustee's Meeting of June 6, 2007 was presented by the Secretary, Robert Hoe. The minutes were approved unanimously.

III - Treasurer's Report - It was noted that the former Treasurer, Willie Baker, was ill and unable to continue as Treasurer. The duties of Treasurer have been assumed by Sal Ciaccio and Guy Purvis has been named Assistant Treasurer by President Bob Hill.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Sal Ciaccio. There is a balance of \$37,290.25 in the SACO account. Sal requested approval to purchase a CD to increase the interest on the account. A motion was made by Guy Purvis and seconded by Francis Reynnet to authorize the purchase of a CD and approved by Trustees. Richard Terpstra reported that he expected the reunion expenses would be approximately \$2,500, which is within the amount expected.

IV - Old Business - 1) A discussion was held regarding the number of Associate members that were being recruited. Richard Terpstra said that there were a number of associates that he had invited to join SACO and there was considerable interest.

It was agreed that we should recommend associate members for active roles in SACO offices.

2) The subject of the number of Trustees that have been selected was brought up. We have ended up with seven Trustees instead of the five, as authorized by the By-laws. It was agreed that we should adjust the number back to the five as authorized. This can be accomplished by the election process.

V - New Business -

a) Trustees - Bob Hill will request nominations from the floor of prospective candidates at the General Membership meeting. There will be openings for two Trustees for three year terms.

b) Officers - Richard Terpstra will be the candidate for the office of President replacing our out-going President Bob Hill. Bob will request nominations for candidates at 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.

d) Necrology - Paul Casamajor's Necrology Report is enclosed. There are thirty-five SACO personnel on the necrology list. The names of our departed comrades will be read by the Secretary

e) Associate Members -The list of thirty-two new prospective Associate Members to be considered by the Membership at the General meeting is enclosed. Richard Terpstra has recruited a number of prospective Associate Members that are included on the list from Paul Casamajor.

f) Medal Awards - Please refer to minutes of General Meeting which follow to avoid repetition of these honors.

g) Future Reunions -Richard Terpstra, the host of the 2008 reunion in Grand Rapids, Michigan, reported on the status of future reunions. He has received statements of interest from several candidates. Bob Grace and his son, Bob Grace, Jr. offered to hold the 2009 reunion in Midland, Texas. Interest for holding other future reunions were offered by Keith Allen and Jack W. Coyle (Raleigh, NC; San Francisco.

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

Robert J. Hoe, Secretary

June 28, 2008

Distribution:

SACO Officers:

President - Bob Hill
Vice Presidents - 1st - George Barrett
 2nd - Guy Tressler
Treasurer - Sal Ciaccio
Assistant Treasurer - Guy Purvis
Secretary - Bob Hoe
Assistant Secretary - Jim Kelly

Trustees:

John Waters
Guy Purvis
Francis Reynnet
Richard Bannier
Bob Clark
Jerry Coats
Richard Terpsra

Editor, SACO News & Reunion Coordinator - Richard Rutan
Membership Chairman - Paul Casamajor
Legal Counsel - Bill Sager

Web Site Master(s) - Carolyn Inman Arnold, Jodi Petersen

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MINUTES OF SACO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

June 21, 2008
Crown Plaza Hotel
President Bob Hill, Chairman

Time: 10:00 AM- Meeting called to Order by President Bob Hill

Pledge of Allegiance:

Necrology: The list of thirty-five persons added to our roster of departed comrades was read by Secretary Robert Hoe. The Necrology report submitted by Paul Casamajor is enclosed.

Treasurers Report: Sal Ciaccio presented the Treasurer's report. The balance in the treasury as of June , 2008 is:

\$ 37,290.25

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

Bill Bartee noted that SACO has been donating annually to the Admiral Nimitz Museum of the Pacific War. (This is the museum in Fredericksburg, Texas that has been supportive of SACO and helps us qualify as a charitable organization). Bill made a motion that our Treasurer be authorized to donate \$500 to the Museum. The motion was seconded and passed. Bill also suggested that the SACO quilt should be considered for donation to the Fredericksburg Museum if ever SACO decides to shut down. A motion was made

to this effect by Guy Purvis, seconded by Sal Ciaccio and approved by the members. (Carolyn Inman Arnold was requested to follow-up on this.)

Secretary's Report: Secretary Bob Hoe presented the Minutes of the General Membership Meeting of June 9, 2007, for approval. A motion to approve the minutes as corrected was passed.

Proposed New Associate Members: A List of proposed new Associate Members (prepared by Membership Chairman Paul Casamajor) was presented for approval. The list consists of thirty-one persons who have applied; paid their dues and been recommended for approval. The list of applicants is attached. A motion was made and passed that the list of Associate members be approved.

Future of SACO - Bill Bartee raised the question of "What happens to SACO?" Bill was unable to attend the SACO reunion in Des Moines, Iowa last year and missed the session where this subject was revisited and the By-laws modified to incorporate the Associate members as full privileged members of SACO. It was pointed out that the Associate members will be asked to assume prominent roles in the continuation of SACO. The increase in the number of Associates signed up this year is very encouraging.

Other New Business - 1) It was reported that our invaluable Editor of the SACO NEWS, Richard Rutan, suffered a very bad accident on June 9th when the handicap vehicle (a 3-wheel electric shopping cart) that he was driving was struck by a vehicle in a parking lot near his home in Palm Springs. Richard suffered compound fractures of both bones of the lower left leg as well as other injuries. (We all pray for Richard and hope for a speedy recovery!!)

2) Carolyn Inman Arnold reported on the Web-site that she and Jodi Peterson have installed. The website is "SACONAVY.com" and it should be a great place for gathering and presenting the SACO story for future historians! The Chinese offer a dedicated support for SACO and have indicated their interest and support for its continuance.

Future Reunions:

1) Bob Grace and Bob Grace, Jr. have offered to host the 2009 reunion in Midland, Texas. Bob Jr. gave a presentation describing their plan for holding the reunion in late September, 2009. He noted that they would try to arrange the dates to coincide with the Air Show which is a major event held annually in Midland. The September date would be after the summer season when Midland experiences very hot weather.

2) Keith Allen and Jack Coyle have also expressed interest in hosting future reunions (San Francisco; Raleigh, NC)

3) Bill Bartee made a motion that the offer by Bob Grace & Bob Grace, Jr. be accepted by the SACO membership. The motion was seconded and passed. Carolyn Arnold was requested to follow-up with the Reunion Coordinator, Richard Rutan.

Medal Awards - There are four Chinese Medals to be presented by the Taiwanese. One medal has been forwarded to Johnny Lough who unfortunately passed on very recently. He had been looking forward to receiving his medal at our banquet but became ill and passed on just before the medal was delivered to his home. Johnny is the twin brother of Keith Allen who will receive his medal at the SACO Banquet: The three remaining medals to be

awarded at the banquet are:

Keith E. Allen- Coxswain -Chungking; Shanghai

Meryl D. Erickson - Radioman First Class - Calcutta; Chungking; Shanghai

Jack W. Coyle - Son of Jack T. Coyle (1997) - Radioman First Class

Election of Officers and Trustees -

Bob Hill opened the meeting for nominations for the several officers and trustees. He announced that Richard Terpstra would succeed him as president as was customary for the current Reunion Chairman:

President - Richard Terpstra

Jodi Peterson was nominated as Vice President by Bill Bartee and seconded by Guy Purvis. Jodi agreed to accept the position of Vice President. There were no additional nominations and Jodi was elected by voice vote. (Congratulations! Jodi is the first Associate elected to an office in SACO!)

Vice President - Jodi Peterson

Secretary Bob Hoe had announced that he would not be a candidate for reelection as Secretary. Carolyn Inman Arnold was nominated by Richard Terpstra. Jim Kelly, Assistant Secretary, stated that he would choose not to continue as either Secretary or Assistant Secretary. Guy Purvis called for Carolyn's election and Carolyn was elected by voice vote as SACO Secretary. Bill Bartee nominated Jack Coyle as Assistant Secretary. Jack was elected by voice vote as Assistant Secretary, SACO.

Secretary - Carolyn Inman Arnold (second Associate elected to office)
Assistant Secretary - Jack Coyle (third Associate elected to office)

It was noted that Sal Ciaccio had recently assumed the position of Treasurer (from Assistant Treasurer) when Willie Baker had to resign. At the same time, Guy Purvis agreed to accept the position of Assistant Treasurer. Both Sal and Guy have agreed to continue their posts. There were no additional nominations from the floor so Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer are:

Treasurer - Sal Ciaccio
Assistant Treasurer - Guy Purvis

Five Trustees were nominated for the two three-year Trustee terms. Nominations were:

Richard Terpstra, son of Richard I. Terstra, Doug Herberg, Charles Miles, Richard Maurice and Keith Allen, Voting for the two Trustees was by ballot. The Trustees elected were:

Three Year Terms - Doug Herburg, Richard Maurice (4th & 6th Associates elected to office)

The current Trustees and their remaining terms:

Two Year Terms: John Waters - Guy Purvis (remaining)

One Year Term: Francis Reynnet (remaining)

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

Robert J. Hoe, Secretary SACO

Editor's note: I think I can speak for all - how we appreciate the aid and assistance of family associates in furthering our endeavors. Thank you for sharing our past.

THE NEXT TIME YOU COMPLAIN ABOUT MODERN CONVENIENCES CONSIDER TIMES IN THE 16TH CENTURY

Most people got married in June because they took their bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a tub of hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men; then the women and finally the children. Last all of the babies. By then, the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

Houses had thatched roofs- thick straw - piled high, with no wood underneath, it was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence..

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying, "Dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entryway. Hence, the saying a "thresh-hold"

A Different Lone Journey to the Unknown In A Different Kind of War

By: Richard L. Rutan

Preface

The city of Kweilin, popularly known at the time, as the Paris of China, whose people were so generous and kind to SACO, was home to about 18 of us in mid 1944. On the outskirts was headquarters for the 68th Composite Wing of the 14th U. S. Air Force with whom we in SACO's RI (Radio Intelligence) worked. We intercepted Japanese code- notified the Air Force of location of Japanese ships, which they would send out planes to bomb. Brigadier General 'Casey' Vincent, who was in charge, had visited us in the radio shack. He became the youngest Brigadier General ever at age 29 while we were in Kweilin.. We also met David Lee (better known as "TEX") Hill who was on Gen. Vincent's staff. Tex was a "Flying ACE", credited with shooting down more than 12 enemy aircraft as member of the Flying Tigers of the American Volunteer Group (AVG) which disbanded in mid 1942. Many Tigers became U. S. Air Force members during WWII. "Tex" Hill died Oct. 11 last year.



RM 1/c Richard L. Rutan – age 20

It was, without the slightest doubt, the turning point of my life – from adolescence to adulthood in a moment without warning????!!*** Why me?yet, why not me? 'Why,' did I ask myself, 'am I chosen for assignment for a journey to the unknown from about 18 of us RI men on duty in Kweilin? Was my performance at intercepting enemy code unsatisfactory? Was this an opportune moment to *deport* me and test my ability to be of further help to my SACO Family; i.e. *WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?*'

This was my immediate reaction when in late May or early June of 1944, Lt.jg Harned P. Hoose, our officer-in-charge, approached me one late afternoon informing me that arrangements were made for me to fly out from Kweilin at daybreak the next morning to Luliang, site of a new B-29 base still under



Lt.jg Harned P. Hoose (age 25?)

construction. To this date, I have been unable to locate my destination on any globe, world map, etc. I can only estimate if you were to draw a line northwest from Kweilin to Chungking and a line from Kunming east – Luliang would be in the vicinity where the lines intersected. This was an area chosen as a potential evacuation destination for our group should the Japanese advance upon Kweilin become imminent.

I had little time to get myself in order for departure on short notice. I had limited clean clothing to pack when my great pals, Bob Lynch and Lyle Jansen saved the day by each loaning me a set of khakis – not being aware that I was never to see them again.

It was a sad day when I left, departing from my 'family' in Kweilin. I boarded the C-47 plane, alone with the pilot and load of radio equipment. To say that I was concerned about my flight when meeting the pilot during flight would be an under-statement. I doubt if he was even two years older than me and that alone, not giving me cause for concern, he stated our destination was blanketed with fog and I might have to consider parachuting. Not aware of his sense of humor in his assessment of my apparent trepidation of destination, I quizzically inquired, 'What is your destination? Where will you be going?' 'Kunming,' he replied. 'So am I!' I responded with assertion as his response of laughter assured me that he had accomplished his aspiration . . . to spark the candle of fear in me.

Understanding our plane may have been the first to land as the airfield was not yet in operation, a crowd of Air Force men were assembled as I deplaned wearing my blue jacket with US NAVY emblazoned on it, I was met with "What the hell is the Navy doing here?"

My orders, upon arrival at Luliang, were to report to the Major in charge of the B-29 base, explaining briefly, my needs – a private area that I had exclusive rights to and that I was restricted from offering further details as to my activities.

To say that I was apprehensive in my approach to a commissioned officer and I did so without fear would be to put it mildly. I was astounded by the reception considering the limited information I had offered and soon came to the conclusion that my secret mission was authorized by higher authority prior to my arrival, thus explaining lack of interrogation as to my presence.

My request for privacy was honored beyond expectation when I was assigned quarters in a newly constructed building on the base and exclusive admission rights.

Now, my greatest challenge was to be met. Me, setup a radio station? All the equipment that had accompanied me on my flight was delivered to my quarters and required my personal assembly without help. I can't put into words my fear of lack of qualifications to accomplish what lay before me. What if I failed to establish a receiving station...I couldn't violate the oath of secrecy and seek help.

To this date, I can't recall how I consummated the assembly; my knowledge being somewhat limited to knowing where the electric plug-in was. Perhaps the radio theory education I had from the University of Wisconsin stuck with me, but that with prayers and God's help – I became proud beyond description in receiving my first intercept of Japanese code, thereby establishing mission accomplished!

I intercepted code almost daily and reported to Lt. Hoose as to good reception at that location. Most of my time was free otherwise and I spent much time with my new friends of the Air Force – particularly helping the young doctor in the dispensary.

The mascot of the base was a Chinese boy about the age of four. The story as I recall was the boy was orphaned by both parents being killed and just how he came to the base, I'm not sure – but he was there and "adopted" by all the men of the Air force. He was gifted with a personality unmatched by anyone his age and loved by everyone. I can't recall the nickname the men gave him, but he never

knew a stranger. He was cared for, fed and clothed by the men and loved taking showers. He developed a growth on the foreskin of his penis and the base doctor felt it was necessary to circumcise the little guy. The base was so knew and lacking of supplies that what local anesthetics were available were, as I understood, not the strength they would like. I was asked to hold the little guy's shoulders firmly as they proceeded with the surgery. I can't tell you how heart-rendering it was for me as the poor fellow endured the pain. For a few days, he would sadly say "Chi-ba (his pee-pee) bu-hao! Chi-ba bu-hao!" (Pee-pee no good!) But in a short time, he greeted you, smiling broadly, "Chi-ba ding-hao!" (very good) and we were all "Ding hao!" One man of the Air Force seemed to be chief-in-command when it came to the camp mascot and as I understood, was making preparations to adopt the lovable Chinese boy when he completed his tour in China. I only hope it worked out. Such a wonderful gang of guys I was fortunate to be with and I regret having no contact with any of them today.

About 30 days after my arrival, Bob Ervin arrived by train with a load of equipment in case of future evacuation to this point from Kweilin. (At least I was spared a few weeks without one of his outbursts of an aria from a would-be star of the opera.). In a very short time, Ervin and I were ordered to return to Kweilin. Bob Lynch and Lyle Jansen were killed and replacements as code interceptors



Lyle Jansen

Bob Lynch

were needed without delay. We traveled by a 6x6 stake-truck over several hundred miles through dirt mountain roads to Kunming. Talk about long hours on a bumpy ride!

Arriving at personnel headquarters in Kunming we were presented with a telegram stating both our names and rank, that we were to report to headquarters in Kweilin without delay with top priority. The telegram was signed Admiral Chester Nimitz and Admiral Wm. Halsey. I regret to this day, that I condescended to Ervin's request to take the telegram. In later years, several attempts in writing to Ervin for a copy of the telegram went unanswered and some time after his death, contacting his wife failed to produce anything as she never knew about the telegram. I can only blame myself for giving in to others' desires before satisfying my own! What a historical document I could have had!

Anyway, to continue my story, you should have heard the egregious remarks, certainly unbecoming two high-ranking officers who were bumped off the plane by, of all people, enlisted men, Ervin and I, who were ordered to Kweilin.

Soon after returning to Kweilin, Lt. Hoose took me on a tour of the newly constructed compound to house SACO personnel! Seems the 14th Air Force took exception to feeding and housing us, so the State Department allotted \$30,000 for our own headquarters. It's hard for me to describe - it was so unbelievably nice! Bear in mind that was a tremendous amount of money in those days when a dollar was still a dollar and went even further with Chinese labor. Built as a quadrangle surrounding a huge courtyard with a water fountain (copied after Lt. Hoose's parents' home in Peiping years before). A sturdy flagpole was installed so the What The Hell flag could be raised beneath the American flag when Admiral Miles visited. The exterior walk around the quadrangle and surrounding the courtyard was covered by the extended roof which covered the quadrangular living

quarters. In other words, you could walk around the courtyard sheltered in rainy weather. Our rooms were to be shared by two. There was a huge living room with immense fireplace and mantle filled with precious artifacts from the generous, loving populous of the city of Kweilin. As I recall, there were three fireplaces throughout the structure with exquisite vases, a recreation room and mess hall. Absolute splendor, never to be enjoyed, as a few days later it was destroyed before the arrival of the Japanese invasion forces which drove us out and we all were flown to Kunming. I have tried to find someone who had pictures of our home-to-be. Perhaps Lt. Hoose, but he met an untimely death in a mainland China auto accident on a visit after the war.

Prior to his death, I located Lt. Hoose after moving to California in the late 1940s. He was a member of a law firm in Beverly Hills and invited me to have lunch with him and his partner at their private club. Sharing martinis at the bar, I queried him as to choosing me for the foregoing adventure and he assured me, "Because you impressed me as being one of the more mature of your group." I felt he was sincere and I could put aside any doubts about my prior performance record. As I have stated before, he was the most unforgettable person I ever knew and it is regrettable that he doesn't share our lives today as well as Lynch & Jansen.

. When anyone asked Lt. Hoose - "How ya doin?" his 'trademark' reply never failed -

St. Paul, Minnesota probably June 1947 ??



GUARD OF HONOR - DUDLEY POST NO. 1139



Kweilin Air Force Base



Rugged terrain surrounding Kweilin Air Strip



loud and clear - "Damn fine! - Good as Hell!" and so it was.....for all of us who served under him as our Officer-in-Charge - always "Damn fine! - Good as Hell!"

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

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 2008 SACO REUNION

Thanks to our Host Dick Terpstra and his family, the Crowne Plaza Hotel was **SACO HOME** June 18 to 21 as the 54th annual reunion of **SACO VETS** was celebrated in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Wednesday, the 18th was basically registration and free time.

Thursday, the 19th, was a tour of two fabulous museums beginning with the Van Andel Public Museum. There was a carousel ride on a restored 1928 carousel. Then exploration of exhibits and history of the city before gathering for lunch. Later, the group crossed the street to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum to learn about the life of Grand Rapids favorite son, President Ford and take a step backward to his presidency and the years surrounding it - attend a White House State Dinner and step inside the Oval Office.

Friday, June 20th was to visit the 125-acre Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, the state's largest attraction. Following lunch was a tram ride through the grounds of several breathtaking gardens and sculptures.

Saturday morning, June 21, was business meetings for regular and Auxiliary Members..

The evening banquet provided these delicious menu options: Prime Rib – Vermont Chicken – Crusted Michigan Whitefish or Stuffed Portabella Mushrooms (Vegetarian option). Entertainment included the Holland, Michigan based Klompen Dancers with their Dutch-style wooden shoe dancing, a true treat. Featured speakers were our host's son, Adm. Richard Terpstra and Maj. Gen. Liu, Pen-shan of the MIB. There were raffle prizes following dinner including artwork by Michigan's celebrated artist, Paul Collins, blankets and wine!

Following dinner was an exchange of gifts and presentation of the SACO Medal.

The following pages are photos of SACOs attending this year's activities in Grand Rapids and those being awarding the SACO Medals.

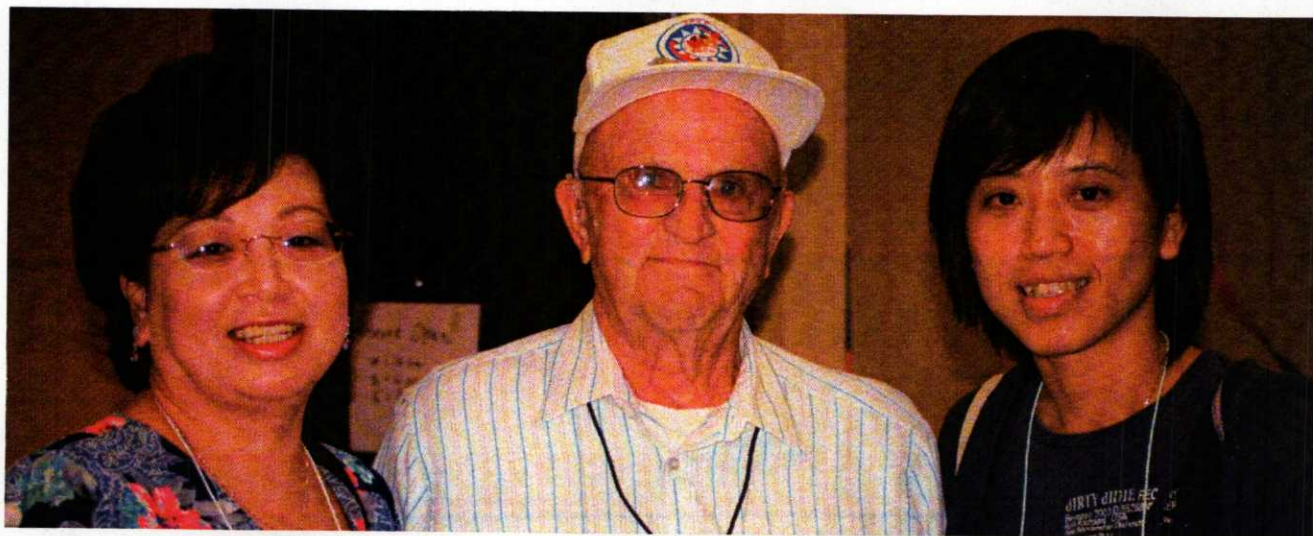
Apparently the turnout of attendees at this reunion was one of the larger in recent events and a good time enjoyed by all as SACOs are known for their fun.

Let's look forward to the next SACO Family extravaganza (at least as far as extravaganzas can take us at our age ???!!***) Sorry my untimely accident caused me to cancel this one, but it was a big lift (and believe me, I was down) to hear from so many of you during the event and following days. Thanks for your love and concern. *rlr, Ed.*

GREAT REUNION OF GRAND RAPIDS JUNE 2008

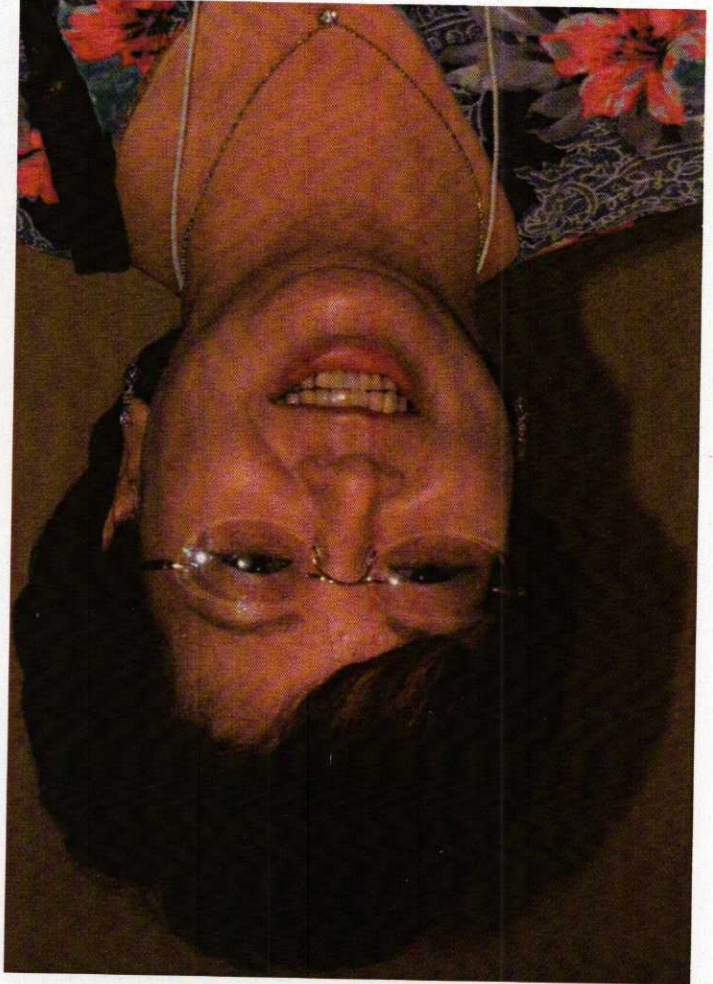


HOLLAND, MICHIGAN KLOMPKIN DANCERS WITH DUTCH STYLE WOODEN SHOES
ENTERTAINING AT SAGO BANQUET



MRS. LIU - BOB HILL - MAJ. ANGIE CHIANG

MRS. LIU WANG AI-HUA



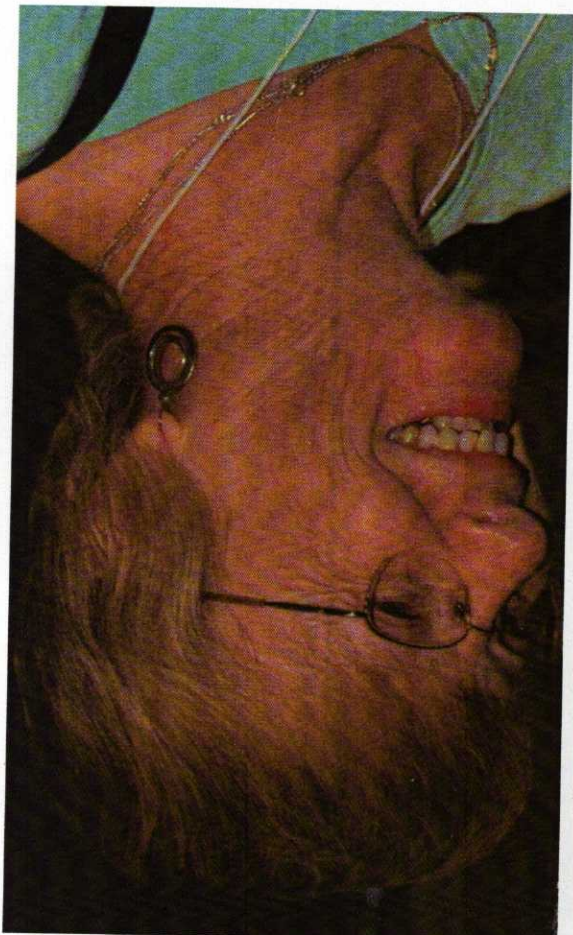
PAT SANDERS - GUY PURVIS



CAROLYN INMAN-ARNOLD

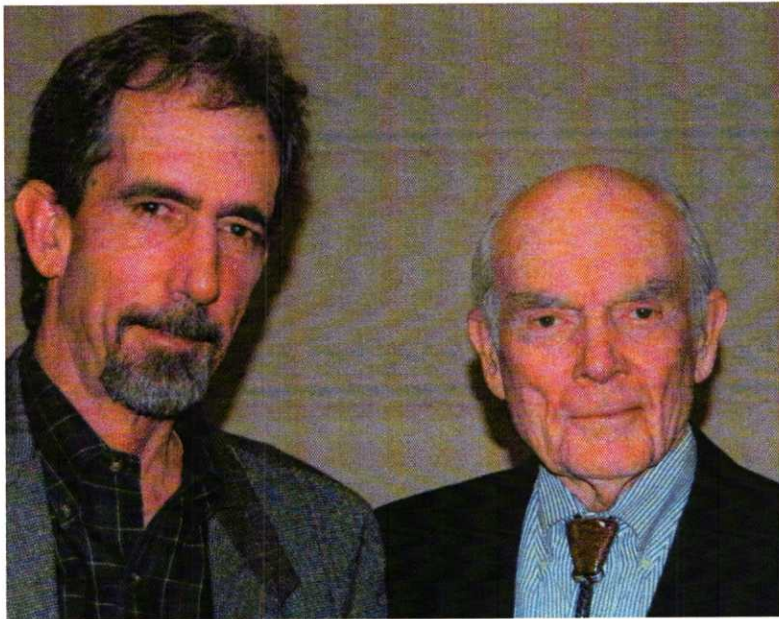


ELLEN BOOTH

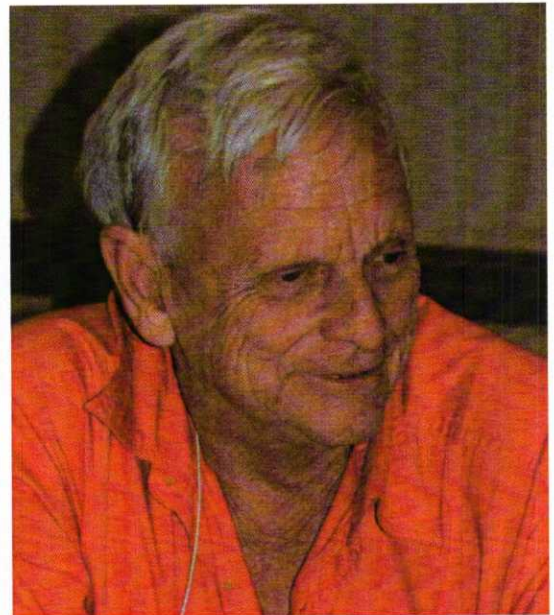




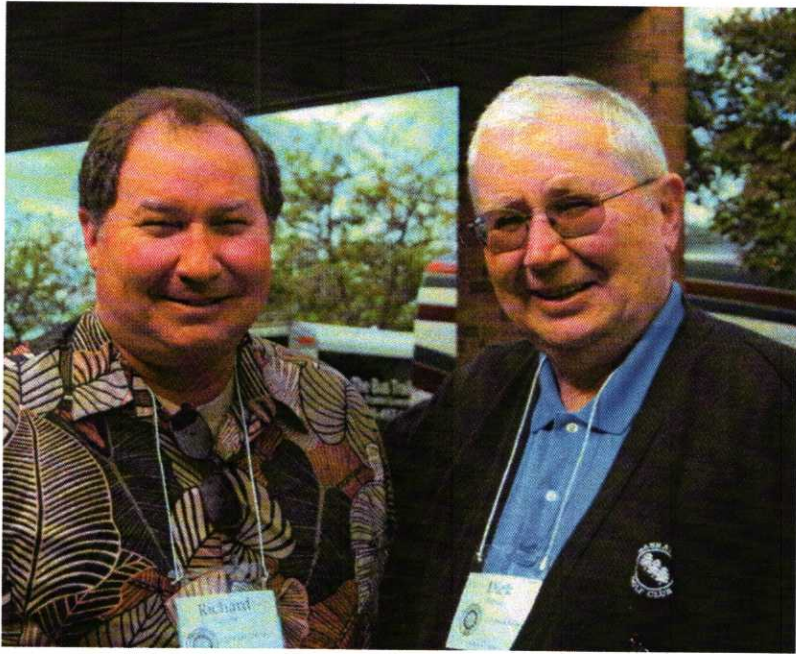
**MAJ. GEN. AND MRS. LIU PEN-SHAN
IN FRONT OF SACO QUILT MADE BY LOLA HILL**



ROBERT, JR AND ROBERT SR. GRACE



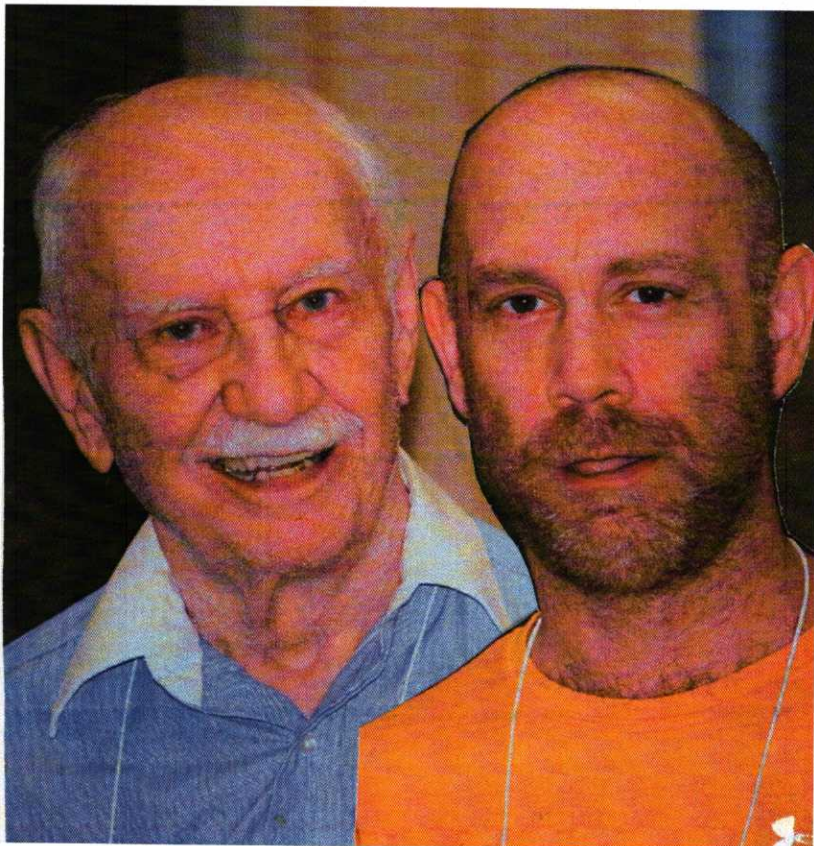
CHARLES (C-GOING) MILES



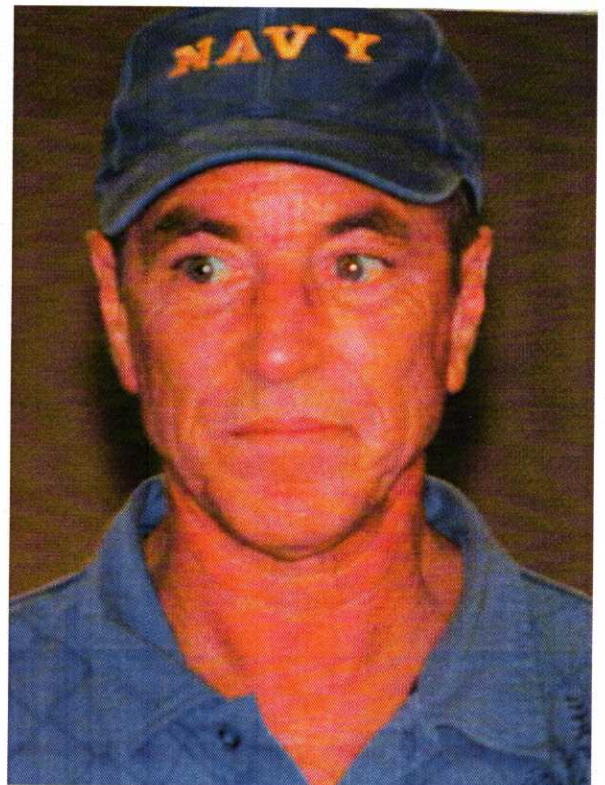
ADM. RICHARD TERPSTRA - DAD, DICK TERPSTRA



BETTY CLARK

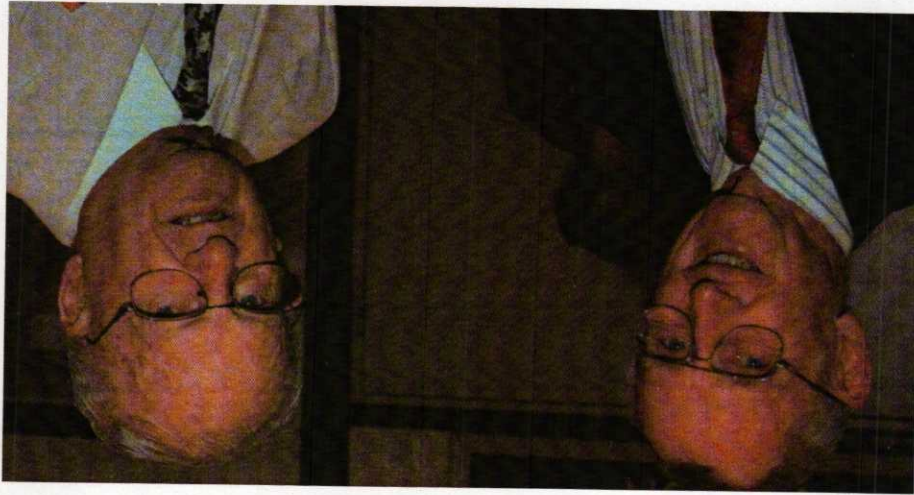


JACK AND SON, DAN MILLER

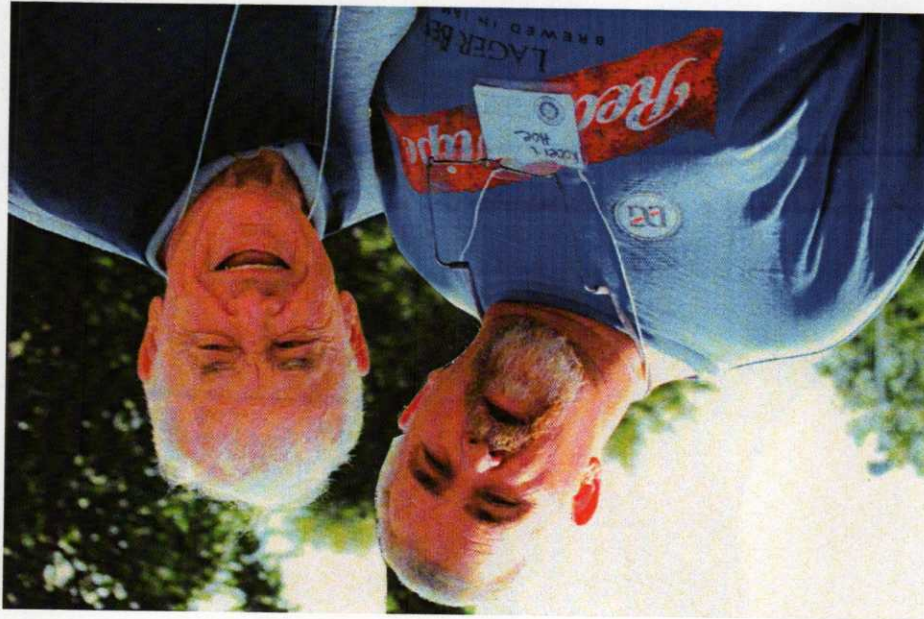


BOB HILL, JR.

JOHN WATERS - JACK PETERSEN

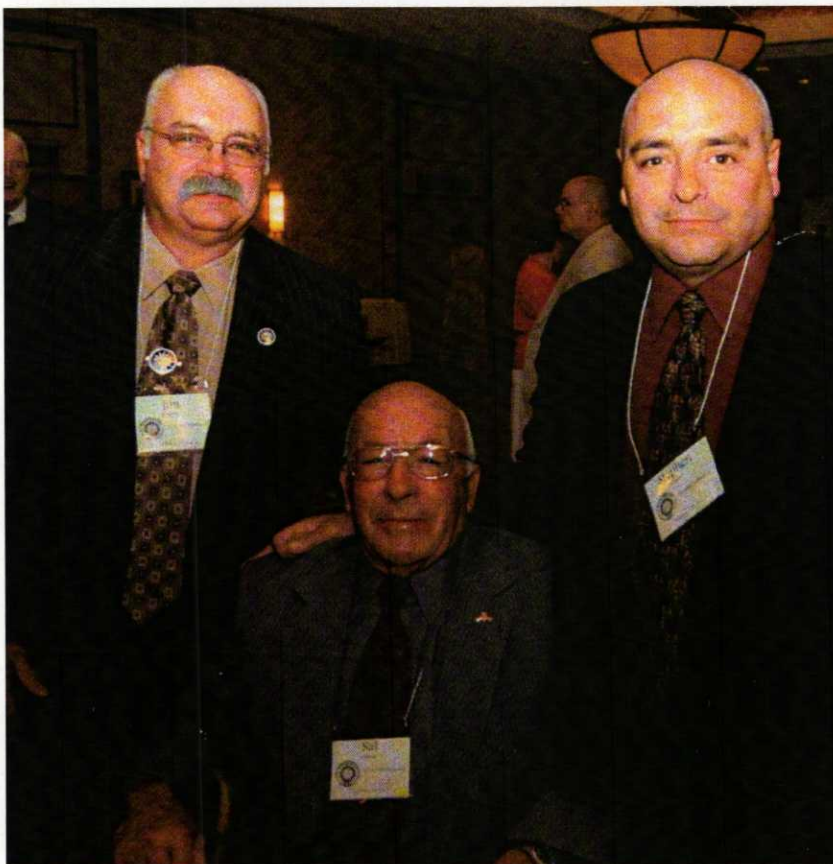


ROBERT HILL (NEPHEW) AND ROBERT HILL

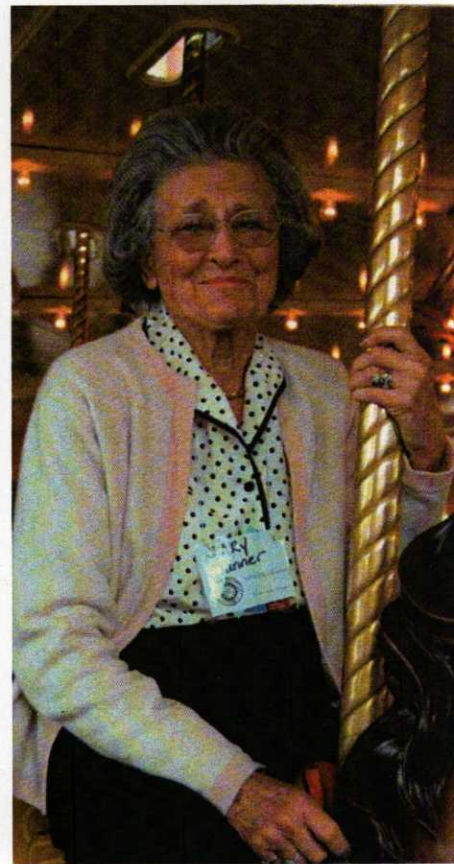


JIM KELLY - LOLA HILL





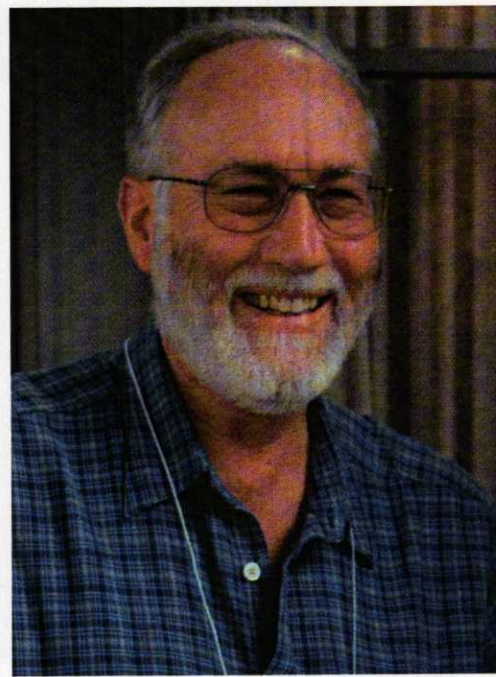
JAMES CIACCIO - SAL CIACCIO - STEPHEN CIACCIO



MARY TANNER



ELVA MC HUGH AND JIM KELLY



RICHARD MAURICE



FRONT CENTER AND CLOCKWISE:

BOB HILL - RUBY ALVERSON - LILLIE BROWN - SKEETER BARTEE - JACK PETERSEN
 JUDITH BARBIERI - BILL BARTEE - BUD BOOTH - (CENTER): KEN BROWN



JACK PETERSEN - KEN AND LILLIE BROWN - JOHN WATERS
JACK AND DAN MILLER BOBBY GRACE - ?



CAROLYN NMAN-ARNOLD LT. COL. PHILIP MO



BOB THOMAS



JANET AND S. SHEPHERD TATE

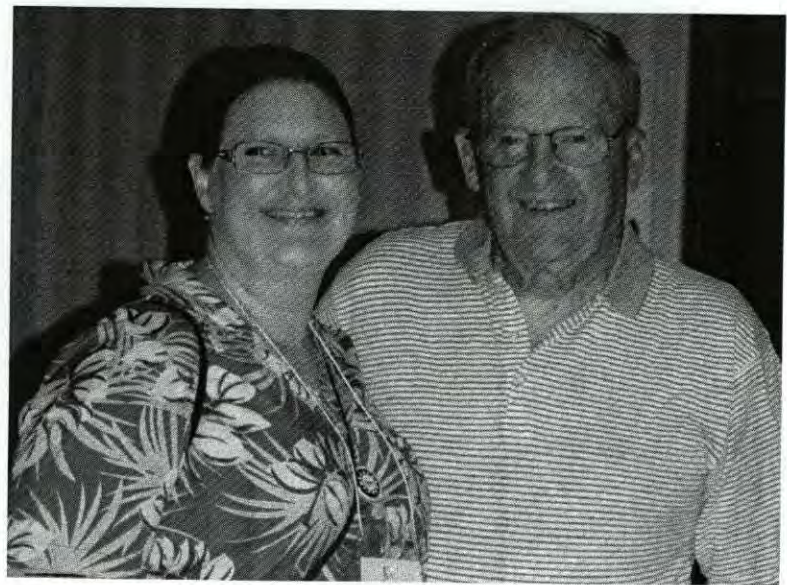


MATHILDA AND RICHARD BANNER

BOB HOE



COL. TUAN CHIA-CHI



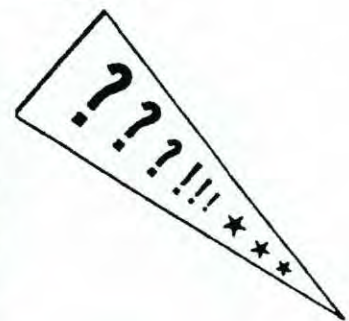
JODI PETERSEN AND FATHER JACK PETERSEN



ROGER
AND
EILEEN
HERBERG



JACK COYLE





ROBERT COATS



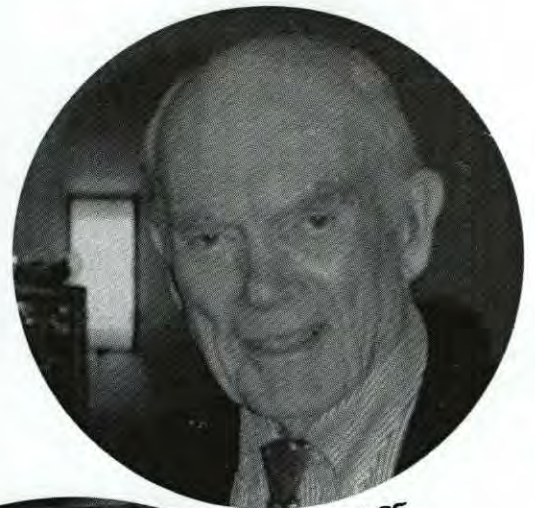
**KENNETH REYNNET AND DAIRUS REYNNET
(BROTHER AND SON OF FRANCIS REYNNET)**



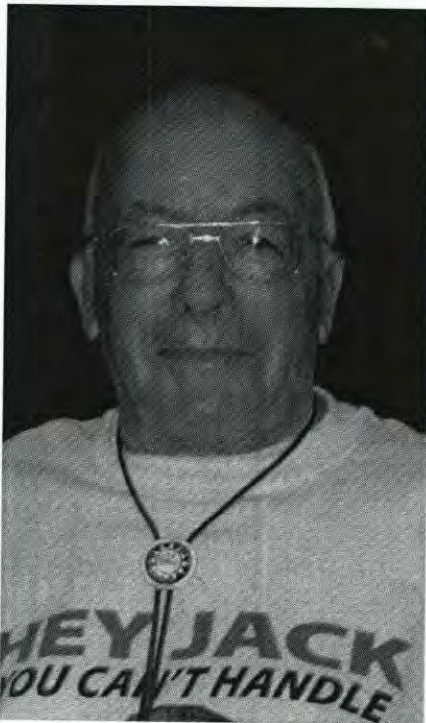
**ADM, RICHARD TERPSTRA - VANJA AND LEE TERPSTRA
(SONS AND DAUGHTER-IN-LAW OF REUNION CHAIRMAN DICK TERPSTRA)**



WILLIAM H. AND MARY WYATT



BOB GRACE



**SACO TREASURER
SAL CACCIO**



**LYN
DIKE**



VERN AND SON, DOUG HERBERG ➔



ROLL CALL OF ATTENDEES AT S4TH SACO REUNION

I HAVE MADE A
CONCERTED EFFORT TO
LIST EVERYONE IN
ATTENDANCE AT THE
S4TH SACO REUNION IN
GRAND RAPIDS IN JUNE
2008 FROM THE
PAPERS FORWARDED
TO ME. I TRUST THE
LIST WILL NOT
OVERLOOK ANYONE.

ED.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS FROM THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BUREAU OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

MAJ. GEN. LIU PEN-SHAN
MRS. LIU WANG AI-HUA
COL. TUAN CHIA-CHI
LT. COL PHILIP MO
MAJ. ANGIE CHIANG

REGULAR MEMBERS, ASSOCIATES, AND FRIENDS

ALEXANDER, PATRICIA
ALLEN, KEITH E.
ALLEN, KEITH E., II
ALLEN, SUE ANN
ALLEN, MARY JO
BANNIER, RICHARD
BANNIER, MATHILDA
BARBIERI, PETER
BARBIERI, JUDITH
BARTEE, BILL
BARTEE, SKEETER
BLUMENSTEIN, RICHARD
BOOTH, BOB
BOOTH, ELLEN
BRADSHAW, CONRAD

BRADSHAW, MOLLY
BRITTEN, FRAN
BROWN, KEN
BROWN, LILLIE
CIACCIO, SAL
CIACCIO, STEPHEN
CIACCIO, JIM
CLARK, BETTY J
CLARK, ELIZABETH JO
CLARK, JODY
COATS, JERRY
COATS, PENNY
COATS, ROBERT
COYLE, JACK
COYLE, DAN
DIKE, NORMAN
DIKE, LYN
DEWEY, DUANE
DEWEY, BERTHA
ESPLEN, NANCY
ESPLEN, BOB
FORSLUND, BLAKE
FORSLUND, JOAN
GE BRAAD, GERALD
GE BRAAD, LOUISE
GOGUEY, MEL
GOGUEY, HELEN
GOGUEY, JERRY
GRABENSTEIN, JOY
HATFIELD, DREW
HEIMLICH, HENRY
HEMMKE, HELEN
HERBERG, VERN
HERBERG, DOUG
HERBERG, ROGER
HERBERG, EILEEN
HILL, BOB
HILL, LOLA
HILL, BOB JR
HOE, ROBERT
HOE, SUE TAO
HUNTLEY, LILMA J.
JONES, JOHN
JONES, BARBARA
KEENAN, JOSEPH
KELLY, DENNIS
KELLY, JIM
KIMBER, ALLISON
LEACH, KATIE
LEWAKOWSKI, ADAM
LEWAKOWSKI, BEVERLY
MARSHALL, MARLYS
MAURICE, RICHARD
MAURICE, JUDY
MC HUGH, ELVA
MILES, CHARLES
MILLER, JACK

MILLER, DAN
MYERS, ROBERT
MYERS, SHEILA
NESTOR, CARL
NESTOR, MIMI
NICHOLS, DARLENE
PETERSEN, JACK
PETERSEN, JODI
PETERSEN, KATHRYN
PETERSEN, JEFF
POPPEL, ANN
POPPEL, EARL
PETOSKY, SIGMUND
PETOSKY, DOROTHY
REED, BILL
REED, MILD
REYNNET, FRANCIS
REYNNET, CAROLINE
REYNNET, DAIRUS
REYNNET, ANGELA
ROWE, BARBARA
ROWLAND, EVELYN
RYAN, DICK
RYAN, JULIE
SCHOOP, JACK
SHOOP, DARLA
TARBELL, K. KENNETH
TARBELL, JUDY
TATE, S. SHEPHERD
TATE, JANET
TERPSTRA, DICK
TERPSTRA, ADM. RICHARD
TERPSTRA, SUE
TERPSTRA, BLAKE
TERPSTRA, KAREN
TERPSTRA, LEE
TERPSTRA, VANJA
TETLOW, MARTY
THOMAS, ROBERT
VOGT, JAMES
VOGT, MARCIA
VELTHOUSE, ROBERT
WATERS, JOHN
WHITLOCK, JAMES
WIGHTMAN, IAN
WYATT, BILL
WYATT, PAM
WYATT, MARY
WYATT, WM. H.
YOUNG, DICK
YOUNG, BARBARA
ZUCKS, DOROTHY

???!!!***

???!!! ★★

saconavy.com

is now available



Thanks to deep dedication of two daughters of SACO men – Jodi Petersen (daughter of Jack Petersen) and Carolyn Inman Arnold (daughter of the late Willard D. Inman) we are now recognized in the annals of history . . .

Carolyn writes: "It is with much pride our 'premier' showing of saconavy.com is now available. Timing is everything . This is an outstanding achievement that will continue to live throughout history. It will outlive our fathers, it will outlive us. In itself, this is history in the making. Had we continued the 'Friendship Project' so many years ago, perhaps there would be less disturbance in this world. Had the political administrations that followed learned from the experience of our own, rather than sweeping truth under the rug of inter-politics, perhaps this world would have been a safer place.

"Thank you so much for your hard work. This could very well be the beginning - a transformation created by the SACO Second Generation (offspring of the 'Greatest Generation.')

"Expect more pictures – many of Chiang Kai-shek, Tai Li, The Dalai Lama and of course, 'Mary' Miles. . .the man who made it possible to come together as one.

"Clear skies and smooth sailing to all that contribute to this noble project."

Carolyn Inman Arnold



Jodi Petersen



Carolyn Inman Arnold



REFLECTIONS OF YESTERYEAR

An insight into the extended recovery days of
Richard L. Rutan, Editor, *SACO NEWS*

"The woods are lovely - dark & deep, but I have promises to keep and many miles to go before I sleep".... (I hope!!!)

a good many of you are aware circumstances on June 9 this year erased my plans to join the gang in Grand Rapids, MI for our 54th Annual SACO Reunion.

Exactly one week before my reservation to fly to Michigan, I was in the parking lot of a supermarket here in Palm Springs in my 3-wheel electric scooter when struck by a pickup truck with a driver seemingly oblivious that I was a direct target. I was on my way to mail a package to the hotel in preparation for my arrival in Michigan. 5 passersby came to my rescue, lifted me off the scalding pavement and sat me on the package I was to mail. It was not until then that I saw two compound fractured bones of my lower left leg. Evidently shock kept me conscious.

The ensuing recovery was ongoing days and weeks - a total of over 2 months of hospitalization, rehab, emergency room, etc. involving medication allergies and seemingly endless days of anticipation for release to return home.

In the interim, one has a tendency to review life heretofore, at least I did - revisiting the events that brought one to this state of handicap and wondering if life had left anything undone - so to speak.

I remember as a youngster, my desire to be liked by everyone. That was a dream I was to find with age, never to fulfill as we

can't please everyone - some times not even ourselves.

Life was a puzzle - at about 2 years of age, I was raised by my aunt & uncle who were "Mom" and "Pop" and their three kids, yet I had a "Daddy" who traveled from Indiana to West Virginia about every two weeks. "Daddy" brought his girlfriend to visit me in West Virginia. It was love at first sight for the two of us. They soon married and I started a new life with Erma and Dad in Indiana.

Erma was my life - I loved and respected her as the only mother I ever knew. We shared a great life of happiness for many years even after Dad was gone.

In adolescence I had many dreams of avocations - owning a supper club, drama, music, singing, writing, etc. The nearest to fruition was being selected to edit an in-house magazine for Southern Pacific Transportation Company during my last ten years of employment and later given the opportunity, which I like most of all, editing a magazine for WWII Navy Veterans of SACO. Thus, my writing ambitions were realized as part of my future desires.

Day after day in recovery seemed to be total recall of life heretofore. What movies left engraved messages? What songs composed unforgettable memories? What words of prose were an inspiration to live by - Who were idols of inspiration?

As for movies - I never forget "King's Row" with Robert Cummings and Ronald Reagan and the lovable Maria

Ospaneskaya (sp?) as the grandmother who cautioned her grandson, Cummings, "As you grow older, learn to like people the way you find them and not the way others do." It instantly became indelibly engraved as a lifetime creed in my making future friends.

Songs - "I Understand" - "Deep Purple" "Stardust" - "Somewhere Over The Rainbow" "All The Way" - "This is All I ask, This is all I Need" - "From here to Eternity" - "For The Good Times" "When I Fall in Love" - "The Nearness of You" - "Fools Rush In" - "This love of Mine" a few that come to mind and not to forget a classic George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" - my entrance theme as I frequently visited the water front dive - The Garden of Allah on 1st Ave in Seattle. during the time of Naval schooling on Bainbridge island in 1943. I requested "Rhapsody in Blue" of the organist so often - he would play it as I entered on my return visits.

Also "You'll Never Know" lyrics come to mind ...

"you'll never know just how much I miss you - you'll never know just how much I care. And if I tried I still couldn't hide my love for you!" . . . this song I recorded in Chicago and sent my mother when I got out of boot camp at Great lakes in early 1943 and how applicable it is at this time as I reminisce the 65 years of my SACO family as I'm denied being with that family I so dearly love.

INVICTUS (As I learned it)
(William Ernest Henley)

Out of the night that covers me
Black as the pit from pole to pole
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fatal clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud
Under the bludgeoning chance of fate
My head is bloody but unbowed.

It matters not how straight the gate
How charged with punishment the scroll
I am the master of my fate
I am the captain of my soul.

The foregoing has stayed with me from the early years - what influence it has had on me I can't truthfully impart, but it frequented my thoughts many times along life's way. It's definitely a challenge for hopes and goals from day to day.

As for personalities, Judy Garland ranked high with people I admired and was fortunate to have several occasions to see her performances at the Greek Theatre in Los Angeles and Las Vegas shows. Tony martin was a favorite of Erma and me. I was thrilled to see Dorothy Lamour in the lobby of The Hotel Frances in Kokomo, Indiana. And yes, it was a thrill in later years to be with others invited to a "high tea" with Madame Chiang Kai-shek in Taiwan.

Yes, these are some of the wanderings of my mind as I passed hours of life's recall in the hospital just waiting for the life I once knew to be lived again

You know, many of us didn't accomplish what we could've or should've in life but as Shakespeare put it in being yourself;

"This above all, to thine own self be true
and it shall follow as night the day - thou
canst then be false to any man."

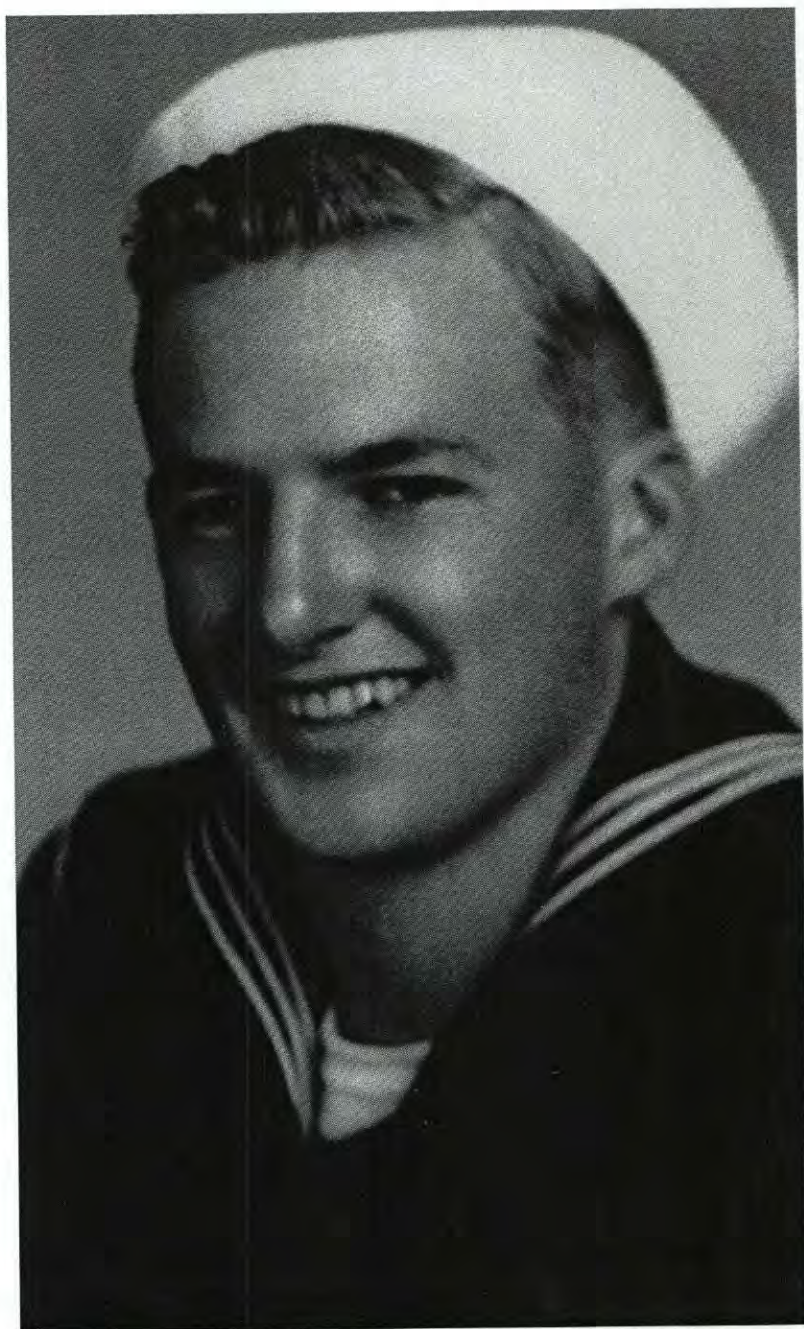
We may not have accomplished all we had planned as our future, but I think the last line from "Nature Boy" is the summation of all life's endeavors. . .

"The greatest thing you'll ever learn
Is just to love and be loved in return."

rlr

THE LIFE OF SAGO OVER 60 YEARS AGO

(THE WAY WE WERE)



JACK PETERSEN



JACK LAMKE



JOHNNY REISING



SEPTEMBER 1945 THE WAR JUST OVER. THESE RADIO INTELLIGENCE MEN ARE EN ROUTE FROM TOUR IN CHINA TO WASHINGTON D.C. FOR DE-BRIEFING. AWAITING RAIL TRANSPORTATION IN LOS ANGELES L-R: DALE LINDSTROM, JOHN WATERS, JACK PETERSEN, LLOYD ACKER AND ROLAND SKILES SHARE A COCKTAIL BREAK AT PUB NEAR L.A. UNION PASSENGER TERMINAL.



JIM MILLER - JOHNNY REISING



BILL (BEEP) MILLER

SACO LIVES ON WITH DISCOVERY OF DESCENDANT OF GEN. TAI LI OF GENERATIONS PAST

(Carolyn Inman Arnold sends copy of this the letter she received from Jason Tai who states he is the great-grandson of Gen. Tai Li)

“Carolyn and all of the SACO members.

“Thanks for your email. With a few generations removed from my paternal great-grandfather and having been born in the U.S., my knowledge of my great-grandfather – beyond that of my father’s immediate family and my paternal grandmother (Tai Li’s daughter-in-law) – is pretty sketchy apart from the limited times our family and friends would raise it with me. Part of this exercise for me is to learn more about my family history and to piece together bits and pieces from here and there. I have a number of interesting tidbits, but nothing comprehensive. From what little I know, after the Communist Party took control of the mainland in ’49, my father’s family were captured and were in some sort of house arrest. As background, my father, Yee Koun Tai, is the son of Tai Li’s oldest (and only?) son who was killed by the Communists as I understand it. My paternal grandmother and my father and youngest brother escaped and fled to Taiwan via Hong Kong with the help of the ROC government some time in the 1950s and settled right outside of Taipei in an area called Yungho. Another brother and sister were not able to escape and to my knowledge live in the PRC today. There are pictures in our family albums with Admiral Miles and what I would gather other members with General Tai Li and his extended family when he visited his hometown of Jiangshan (sp?) in Chekiang Province. At the ROC’s Military Intelligence Bureau in Taiwan, they still hold annual ceremonies to honor Gen. Tai Li on the day he died on the airplane crash on 3/17.(1946).

“I certainly would hope to meet with you sometime. In reality, the honor would be all mine as you are the ones who have had the leadership and initiative to keep this organization running. There’s no doubt that this is a chapter of history that is not well documented in the mainstream, so your efforts are to be commended. I hope to make it to one of your reunions, too. I live and work in the Washington, DC area, so if anyone should happen to be around and might have an interest in meeting, please do reach out as I would appreciate learning more about your activities. Please feel free to drop me a line at your leisure. And please let me know if there’s anything I can do to be helpful to your efforts.”

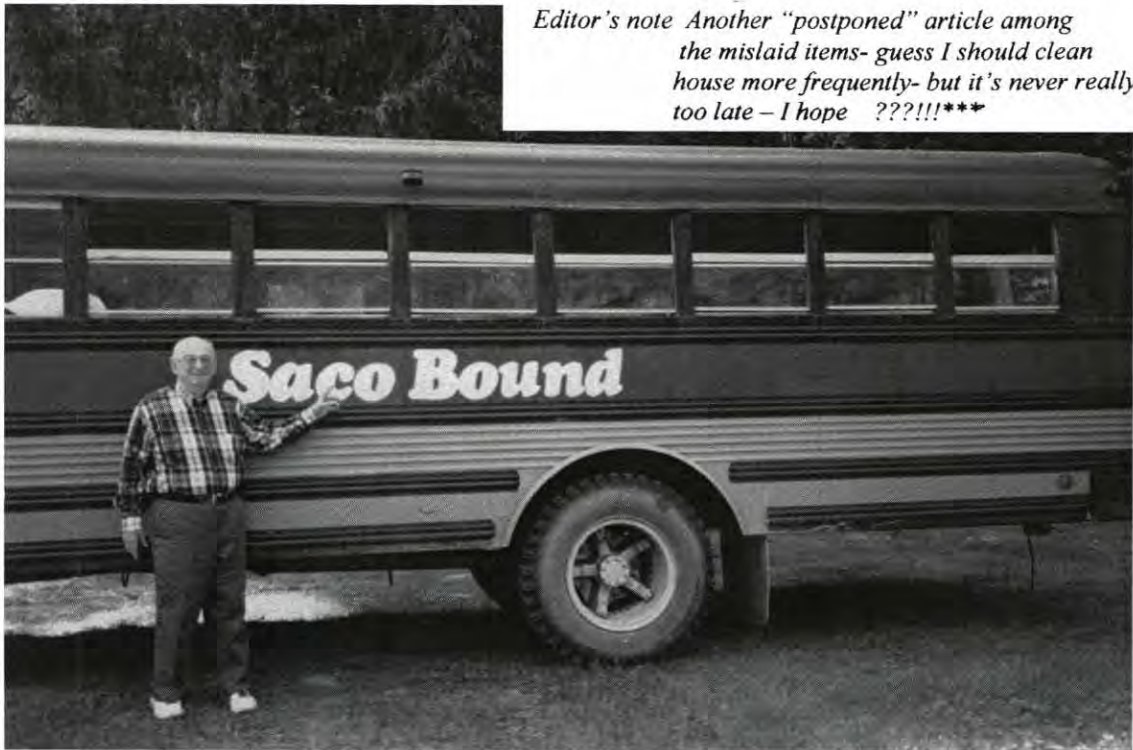
Cheers,

Jason Tai

jasontail@yahoo.com

???!!!***

*Editor's note Another "postponed" article among the mislaid items- guess I should clean house more frequently- but it's never really too late - I hope ???!!****



Dear Mr. Rutan,

September 2, 2003

I was a member of SACO. I served as an Ensign stationed in Happy Valley and later in Kunming. After the hostilities were over, I went to Shanghai where I served as a communications officer as part of the regular naval unit.

I learned of the alumni organization only recently and I was surprised because I was quoted in Roy Stratton's book, "The Rice Paddy Navy". Incidentally, I paid my dues for 2002 but I don't recall whether I am up to date.

In reading the March issue of SACO News, I learned of Eddy Liou's death. I had no idea that he was a colonel in the Chinese army. It might be of interest to your readers to learn of one incident that involved him that I was personally aware of. A message came in to headquarters which I decoded. It came from Admiral Miles who I believe was then a Captain. I will not reveal the name of the person to whom it was addressed, but after an expletive, Captain Miles said, "Eddy (meaning Eddy Liou) and I are surrounded by Japs and you're bothering me with chicken shit!" I placed it in an envelope, making sure that it was sealed, and after saluting the senior officer, I handed it to him, saluted him again, and left. For the balance of my stay at Happy Valley, I had difficulty facing him because he and I both knew what was in the message.

I am enclosing a picture taken last summer at a place in New Hampshire where my wife and I go almost every year. It's near the Saco River and there is a fishing camp there. The sign on the camp bus says "Saco Bound". I thought your readers might find that amusing.

EDWARD M. CRAMER
254 Chestnut Street
Englewood, New Jersey
07631

Very truly yours,

EC/adh

THE NATIONAL NAVY UDT-SEAL MUSEUM

“Birthplace of the Navy Frogman”

NSW Heritage > Navy SEAL History WWII=Korea=Vietnam

(The following excerpt from SEAL Museum coverage on the internet was sent by Hugh E. Reams, former Navy Ensign who retired from law practice in 1995)

Today's Naval Special Warfare operators can trace their origin to the Scouts and Raiders, Naval Combat Demolition Units, Office of Strategic Services Operational Swimmers, Underwater Demolition Teams, and Motor Boat Squadrons of WWII. While none of those early organizations have survived to present, their pioneering efforts in unconventional warfare are mirrored in the missions and professionalism of the present Naval Special Warfare warriors.

To meet the need for a beach reconnaissance force, selected Army and Navy personnel assembled at Amphibious Training Base, Little Creek, VA on 15 August 1942 to begin Amphibious Scouts and Raiders (joint) training. The Scouts and Raiders mission was to identify and reconnoiter the objective beach, maintain a position on the designated beach prior to a landing and guide the assault waves to the landing beach.

A second group of Scouts and Raiders, code-named Special Service Unit 1, was established on July 7, 1943, as a Joint and combined operations force. The first mission, in September 1943, was at Finschafen on New Guinea. Later ops were at Gasmata, Arawe, Cape Gloucester, and the East and South Coast of New Britain, all without any loss of personnel. Conflicts arose over operational matters, and all non-Navy personnel were reassigned. The unit, renamed 7th Amphibious Scouts, received a new mission, to go ashore with the assault boats, buoy channels, erect markers for the incoming craft, handle casualties, take offshore soundings, blow up beach obstacles and maintain voice communications in the Pacific for the duration of the conflict, participating in more than 40 landings.

The third Scout and Raiders organization operated in China. Scouts and Raiders were deployed to fight with the Sino-American Cooperative Organization to help bolster the work of SACO. Admiral Ernest J. King, Chief of Naval Operations, ordered that 120 officers and 900 men be trained for “Amphibious Roger” at the Scout and Ranger school at Ft. Pierce, FL. They formed the core of what was envisioned as a “guerrilla amphibious organization of Americans and Chinese operating from, coastal waters, lakes and rivers employing small steamers and sampans.” While most Amphibious Roger forces remained at Camp Knox in Calcutta, three of the groups saw active service. They conducted a survey of the Upper Yangtze River in the Spring of 1945 and, disguised as coolies, conducted a detailed three-month survey of the Chinese Coast from Shanghai to Kitchioh Wan, near Hong Kong. . . .

???!!!***

INTRODUCTION TO THE MEYNIER GROUP

Note: Recent correspondence from Paul Casamajor reveals he asked Robert Larson quite some time ago, to tell of his experience with the aborted French attempt to take back (or infiltrate) Indo China (now Vietnam) by way of SACO. As I have experienced, these incidents have a way of becoming lost for a period of time. Nevertheless, here is the reply from Larson dated August 4, 2005:

"I suppose a true narrator could make more of my experiences with SACO, but it really does not compare with the experience of others.

"As you say, I reported to Happy Valley as Supply and Disbursing Officer on June 21, 1943 and was barely getting settled in my new job when an interesting French group appeared on the scene.

"I had quite a background in French including 4 years of primate lessons in my high school years, an undergraduate major in French in college and the award of an exchange scholarship to France in 1939.

"I had worked summers previously in Kodak and was truly excited when they offered me a summer job in their Paris factory for the summer.

"Unfortunately, the war broke out before I was able to go to the University of Bordeaux and I was told in emphatic terms to go back to the states where I did graduate work the following year in Spanish and economics, always planning for foreign service.

"I was offered and accepted a job in Puerto Rico, where I eventually received a reserve commission in the Navy and was ordered to active duty on 10/1/41.

"This is a very long way of explaining my eventual introduction to the Meynier Group. In Puerto Rico, after a few months at 10th Naval District Headquarters, I was ordered to Supply Corps School at Harvard, after which I was ordered to report to the Chief of Naval Operations on 4/9/43 and from there to the U. S. Naval Observer in Chungking on 6/1/43.

"Eventually, I was excited by my exposure to the Meyniers. Upon arrival of this interesting French group, I was not hesitant at all to impose my French on them!

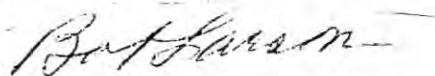
"On 10/11/43, I was ordered to additional duty with them, and on 12/31/43, I was detached from duty as Supply & Disbursing Officer and became full-time liaison with the Meynier Group. This was quite interesting with duty in Nanking and Chungking with some contact with Indo China, but little success – largely because of OSS and the Gaullist French. I was ordered back to Washington on 10/20/44 after accompanying the Commander Meyneir and his wife (an Indo-Chinese – or Annamite Princess) to Algiers. That was the end of what could have been an interesting story, but which does have some interesting memories for me.

"I have tried unsuccessfully for years to obtain more information about the Meyniers, but have learned they have died.

"As a final note, I definitely should have mentioned that Meynier was previously a Submarine Commander in the French Navy and commanded the first French submarine to sink a German submarine during the war.

"Hope this is what you wanted – seems a little 'rambling' to me, but here it is. Thanks for the job you are doing. It keeps old memories alive."

Sincerely, Bob Larsen



PS: For more info on the Meynier Story - refer to Pg 183-192 A Different Kind of War

This visit to Camp One was recalled by John Horton in SACO NEWS No11 Oct. 1994

CAMP ONE VETS REVISIT WWII QUARTERS

BY JIM RAINY 6301 FLAMINGO DR. APOLLO BEACH, FL APRIL 18, 2008

Preface: It is going to be difficult for me to maintain the attitude of being a "non" joiner now that I am on record as a four-year paid up member of SACO. However, I am really not a joiner, not only of SACO, but of all veterans' and, most other organizations. I do admire those of you who put in the effort, and make groups like SACO successful, long lasting and a pleasure to members.

The trip to China in 1986 had been arranged through a Chinese travel agency with an office in New York. There were seven former Camp One veterans, and in order to get a favorable price, family members and friends were included.

We met in San Francisco and flew to Shanghai. We spent some time there and went by train to Hangchow on the famous East Lake – the vacation spot for the affluent in the Ming Dynasty and before. After a day or two here, we went by bus to Hweichow, which is about "shur wu li" – about 5 miles from Camp One site. We spent the night in a hotel in Hweichow and most of us walked to Camp One the next day. There were no tall buildings or many changes in the area, but the fields where we had trained LPA (Loyal Patriotic Army) were full of crops. The little town which had been practically a part of Camp One had a little more than doubled. The little temple in which some of us had lived was in the process of being restored.



Seven veterans of SACO Camp One return to WWII home in China.

L-R: Judge Close-Jake Seigrist-Doctor Tucker- John Horton-Earle Dane-Jim Rainey

Of course, everyone in town who could walk came out to see us, and wherever we went, we had a crowd. A very old lady who had been some sort of an employee when we were there remembered some of us, which produced much hugging and weeping. It was an emotional occasion. Not a dry eye in the house. (me too.)

We spent another night in Hweichow and visited another nearby town and then went to the Yellow Mountains (Huang Shan, I think). This is a beautiful, breathtaking group of mountains, which would surely delight a geologist or anyone who is fascinated with the wonders of the earth..

The rest of our tour was just the regular China tour..We traveled by train, car, plane and bus from the Camp One area to Beijing, stopping from time to time to view some places of interest. We spent some time in the Beijing area; went to the Great Wall and then to Xian where we spent a good bit of time viewing the unbelievable army of clay soldiers.

We finally ended up in Shanghai and from There, flew back home. In early March, Flip Dane (Earle's wife) phoned me stating Earle had just died. He would have been 90 in April.

One more thing I must say is that although I have maintained that I have never been a joiner, I do adhere to the well known expression

"There are no ex-Marines."

My best regards,

Jim Rainey, USMC



Alice & Jim Rainey at a viewing spot in front of strange peaks of Yellow Mountains



ALL SACO TIGERS - URGENTLY NEED YOUR HELP

THROUGH MANY PAST YEARS, I'VE BEEN FORTUNATE TO BUILD AN IRREPLACEABLE LIBRARY OF SACO STORIES, PICTURES, AND ALL SORTS OF EXPERIENCES OF YOU GUYS IN SACO DUE TO YOUR COOPERATION. SUDDENLY, I FIND MYSELF SHOCKED IN THE REALIZATION THAT MY BOOK SHELVES ARE ALMOST EMPTY! WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE OTHER THAN REPORTING CURRENT EVENTS OF OUR GROUP? CAN YOU RECALL ANY EVENTS OF CHINA YOU CAN RELATE - A HUMOROUS OCCASION, A PICTURE WHEN YOU WERE A YOUNG SACO? PLEASE TRY TO HELP RECALL THE PAST DAYS OF SACO. I REALLY AM NOT READY TO RETIRE SACO NEWS OR MYSELF. RLR



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

TAPS



DEAN WARNER

Pictured with Billi.
Dean died Aug. 11, 2008
following long illness.
Private service.



STEPHEN CHU

Pictured with wife Linda.
Stephen died June 30, 2008
following long bout with
Alzheimer's
Private service

JOHNNY G. LOUGH



Sheriff Barry Janney speaks at service for Johnny Lough

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Johnny G. Lough of Bel Air, Md. formerly of Rising Sun, died Friday, April 26, 2008 at Upper Chesapeake Hospital, Bel Air. He was 81.

Mr. Lough was born December 28, 1926 in West Virginia. He was adopted by the late Leason and Dora Lough of St. George, W.Va.

Mr. Lough was graduated from Parsons High School in 1944 and completed basic training for the U. S. Navy in January 19, 1945 at Bainbridge Naval Training Center.

He was part of a Special forces group called Sino American Cooperative Organization (SACO) which was stationed in China during WW II.

In June of this year he and his twin brother Keith Allen, were to receive an award from the Republic of China (Taiwan) at a SACO reunion in Grand Rapids, Michigan. (Johnny was sent the medal at the time of his death and Keith was presented his at the reunion.)

Mr. Lough was a member of the Maryland State Police Force from 1951 to 1984 retiring as a Lt. Colonel who was in charge of field operations. He helped open the John F. Kennedy Highway

Barracks and was one of the first polygraph examiners in Maryland.

He received a Governor's Commendation for Bravery. He attended Harvard for a course in Homicide Investigation and Northwestern University for courses in police work.

He was instrumental in starting sobriety checkpoints in Maryland.

After retiring from MSP, he joined the Cecil County Sheriff's Department until 1993.

Mr. Lough was a member of Jones United Methodist Church, Methodist Men, American Legion Post 194, Masonic Order Harmony Lodge #53 for over 50 years, Order of the Eastern Star and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

He started the Northern Maryland Chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

After retirement he attended Cecil Community College and received an AA degree in law enforcement.

Mr. Lough was a former member and president of the Cecil County Board of Education, former chairman of Cecil Community College Margin of Excellence, Capital Campaign.

He was also a former Rising Sun Little League baseball and softball coach, former president of Rising Sun Little league, former football coach at West Nottingham Academy, former president of the Rising Sun Touchdown Club and a former member of the Northern Chesapeake Hospice.

He received a Governor's Citation from William Donald Shafer in 1991 for his many years of service to Cecil County's young people.

Mr. Lough is survived by his wife of eight years, Loteze Kadlee Lough, two daughters, Sharon J. Robertson and her husband, Bert, of Queenstown, and Karen Gough and her husband, Rick of Conowingo, and John Lough and his wife, Barbara Jodlbauer Lough of Rising Sun, stepdaughter, Dawn Noyes and her husband, Chris of Forest Hill – nine grand-children and many nieces and nephews

He was preceded in death by his first wife, June Thompson Lough, who died in 1997 after 50 years of marriage, a grandson, Brian Robertson, sisters Ellowene Shaban, and Wanda Hardy and brothers James and William Plumb.



Remembrances of Johnny:

Lough was there for Christine Killough when her daughter, Jacki, was killed in a school bus accident. Lough drove the family to the hospital in Baltimore.

"No matter what happened, he was there with support. After Jacki died, he took (young daughter) Morgan under his wing," said Killough. "There have been so many lives that he touched in an amazing and miraculous way. He will be missed. There are so many things where he changed my life forever."

Cpl. Julie Burton-Widdoes was one of the players on Lough's handpicked fast-pitch softball team. She was also tapped to be pallbearer at Lough's funeral.

"He was always the guy who would challenge you to do what you could to be your best. He would make you do things in sports and in life to be successful," said Burton-Widdoes.

She also said that as a child, Lough visited her family while bringing gifts to those in need.

"He was a completely honest man. And he always gave 100 percent to whatever he set his mind to. He set a good example," she said.

Former Sheriff Rodney Kennedy tapped Lough to serve as his chief deputy in the early 1990s. The men had been friends since the early 1960s.

"I thought Johnny was a wonderful person. He thought a lot of his community. He dedicated his life in making the community a better place. I'm gonna miss him," said Kennedy.

"I loved him." That's how Sgt. Russell summarized his relationship with Lough. Lough played a key role in Russell's life. Russell's father, Jim, who was also a state trooper, died in 1983.

"I credit him (Lough) with getting me on the job. He was always calling and checking up on me and my family after my dad died," said Russell. "I'll miss talking sports with him and seeing how much he cared for the troopers."

Maryland State Police Captain Laura Lu Herman was considered a member of the Lough family.

"He was my surrogate father. I met him not long after my father passed," said Captain Herman.

She said that Lough was a fixture at Rising Star High School ball games. She and other members of the Tiger teams moved on to play for Lough's fast pitched team.

"He played a vital role in my life," she said.

He also served as Herman's sponsor when she signed on to be a state trooper.

Herman spent every night for the past month at Lough's side, holding his hand and watching ball games on television each night as Lough went to sleep.

"I was really considered a blood daughter to him. We had a very special relationship. Those of us who followed in his footsteps in the department learned from his example: It was his ethics, his beliefs. It was making the right decisions for the right reasons," she said. He was a wonderful person, he was always objective, supportive, and fair. He was a dedicated, devoted Christian."

Rev. Jim Jones stated, "We need to celebrate his life and the life he instilled in so many of us. Johnny Lough was an icon. An icon is a sacred holy man," said Rev. James.. "He did things at his age that wore me out just hearing him tell about it."

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Joseph O. Bradley

(pictured with wife Harriet)

Joseph O. Bradley, 84, of San Diego died Sept 21,(2004). He was born in Flatwoods, KY., and was a mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service. He was also retired from the Navy. He was a member of Sino-American Cooperative Organization in China during WWII. Survivors include wife, Harriett, daughter, Elizabeth MacMillian of Souder, MO., son, David Bradley of San Diego, brother, Harold Bradley of Cincinnati, and two grandchildren.

Note from daughter Elizabeth: "I deeply apologize for such a lapse in time in informing all you SACO guys about this, but much of my father's mail was delayed forwarding to me here in Missouri and I recently got the mailing about the annual SACO reunion. It was my duty to tell you all.

"My father had deep fondness for all his fellow SACO members and the reunion was always the highlight of his year. He so looked forward to it. He always wore his SACO ball cap whenever he went out (except church) and although he never spoke much about his time with SACO, I knew it was a major part of his life and he was proud to have served. My dad was an amazing guy and I so miss him. I just regret never asking him more about SACO. I'm finding out so much about it since his passing and I'm just astounded,,,and it makes me even more proud of my old man.

"I would love to attend a reunion, but this year is out of the question, unfortunately. I will be sending a donation in my father's memory to you all.

"God bless you guys and your service and sacrifice to this nation"

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WILLIAM P. KOLLER

William P. Koller, 88, who was known for the kindness and compassion to families who came to his funeral home in Roxborough, PA. died July 21 of complications from Alzheimer's disease at Normandy Farms in Blue Bell, where he had been a resident for about two years



**William P.
Koller**

Mr. Koller, who grew up in Manayunk and graduated from St. Joseph's Prep in 1938, started the Koller Funeral Home with his wife, Peggy, in 1946, after returning from three years service as a pharmacist's mate in the Navy. He was a member of a top secret

group in China known as SACO-Sino-American Cooperative Organization in WWII.

Together, Mr. Koller and his wife, who celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary in May, worked tirelessly to serve neighborhood families, building the business into a local landmark. Mr. Koller remained active in the business until he developed Alzheimer's and moved to Blue Bell. His son, William P., Jr. and his daughter Betty Koller Flam now run the funeral home.

Mr. Koller was active with Holy Family Roman Catholic Church and later Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church, and was a member of the Knights of Columbus Cor Mariae Council 4100.

In addition to his wife, son and daughter, Mr Koller is survived by sons James, Michael and Stephen, daughters Mary Therese Ferro, Marguerite Keller Stokes, Anne Palopoli, Jeanne Quinn, Helene Harchut and Christine Kohler; 55 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

Paul Casamajor reports the following deaths since our last publication #34 in May 2008 as of Sept 1, 2008

Joseph D. Bradley 2004
CTM -Chungking/Camps 2 & 1/Kunming

Stephen S. Chu 2008
Interpreter -Chungking

Earle B. Dane, Jr. 2008
Capt. MC -Camps 1 & 6

Robert Elton Hill 1977
S2/c -Kunming

Norman Gerald Hilliker 1978
PhM2/c -Yangtze Unit/Shanghai

William P. Koller 2008
PhM1/c -Chungking/Camp 2/Kushui/Catheys Gp/Kwang Yuan Chin

Johnny G. Lough 2008
Cox -Chungking/Shanghai

Burton W. McCabe
BM1/c -Camp 7/Foochow

Roland D. Stover 2008
CPHM -Calcutta/Chungking

Dean R. Warner 2008
RM1/c -Calcutta/Kunming/Changchow/Chienou

Lewis A. Wightman
RT2/c -Kunming/Chungking/Camp 4/Sian



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**MIDLAND, TEXAS CHOSEN FOR SITE OF 55TH ANNUAL
SACO REUNION ON SEPTEMBER 23 THRU 26, 2009**

**IN HONOR OF HIS FATHER AND MOTHER, BOB AND BETTY
LOU GRACE, SACO ASSOCIATE BOBBY GRACE HAS
ENTHUSIASTICALLY ACCEPTED HOSTING SACO IN 2009**



DOWNTOWN MIDLAND, TEXAS

**NOTE: PLEASE REFER TO BOBBY GRACE'S LETTER (PAGE 16) THIS ISSUE
OUTLINING PLANS TO DATE. Further details forthcoming from him next
spring as well as update in spring issue of SACO NEWS**