



The Torch

Keeping the Promise

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Newberry Assumes Top Post at DPMO



Bob Newberry responds to questions from the audience at the Korean-Cold War annual government briefing in St. Louis

Mr. Bob Newberry has been appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs and Director of the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office. He is responsible for leading the Department of Defense worldwide commitment to the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing in action from all conflicts. This mission includes the rescue of individuals who fall in harm's way as a result of combat.

He has served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense since 1990. Previously, he was the Chief of Staff for the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asia and Pacific Security Affairs. Additionally, he has served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Combating Terrorism, the Principal Director for Counternarcotics, the Principal

Director for Europe and NATO Policy, and the Principal Director for Territorial Security.

Mr. Newberry also served 26 years in the U.S. Air Force, retiring in the rank of Colonel. During his military career he flew F-4 and A-10 fighter aircraft, and worked in the Operations Directorates of the U.S. European Command and the Joint Staff. He had an exchange tour with the U.S. Marine Corps and attended the U.S. Army's Command and General Staff College. He served three combat tours in Southeast Asia and three tours in Europe.

He has a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Texas A&M University and an M.S. in Political Science from New Mexico State University.

JPAC Change of Command

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Stephen Tom has assumed command of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command from Rear Adm. Donna Crisp. Tom became the fourth flag officer to assume leadership of JPAC during the ceremony officiated by the Commander U.S. Pacific Command, Navy Adm. Robert Willard.

"Today's ceremony represents the continuity of efforts that's unique to America and embraced by all Americans," said Willard. "This command is living proof that a nation will uphold its tradition of leaving no warrior behind or unaccounted-for."

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Maj. Gen. Stephen Tom speaks at the change of command ceremony for the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. Seated is Rear Admiral Donna Crisp. (JPAC photo by Mr. Bill Dasher)

Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office
2600 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-2600



Contact Us

Family members seeking more information about their missing loved ones may call their respective Service Casualty Office:

U.S. Air Force: 1-800-531-5501
U.S. Army: 1-800-892-2490
U.S. Marine Corps: 1-800-847-1597
U.S. Navy: 1-800-443-9298
U.S. Dept. of State: 202-647-5470

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DPMO
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2600 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-2600
Phone: (703) 699-1420

DNA Collections Set Record With Korean War Families

AFDIL's team of DNA specialists reached a major milestone during the Korean War annual government briefings in St. Louis. A record 70 family DNA references were collected by AFDIL.

"Since we began collecting DNA in 2005 at the DPMO updates and annual government briefings, this was the largest number collected at any single event by AFDIL personnel," said James Canik, Deputy Director, AFDIL.

"It shows how valuable these family gatherings have become in our DNA collection effort," he added.

The collection effort by AFDIL and the service casualty offices has reached many of the new families in attendance. In 2009, AFDIL collected 283 samples at the family updates which represented 23% of the 1,236 family references collected during the year.

"Due to the high degree of success of AFDIL's scientific staff in obtaining DNA results from remains," Canik said, "the key now is to get those references from families not previously collected to assist in the comparisons to our missing service members by the Central Identification Laboratory."

As of March, AFDIL had 9,988 DNA references from Korean War family members which represent 71% of the more than 8,000 missing service members.



Colleen Dunn, AFDIL, swabs the mouth of Rick Downes, whose father is MIA from the Korean War. DNA obtained from these swabs is a key element in identifying remains.

New World War II Division Established at DPMO

The 2010 National Defense Authorization Act requires DoD to implement a comprehensive program to account for those missing in past conflicts from World War II through Desert Storm.

Mr. Bob Newberry, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, has established a new division within DPMO to focus efforts on accounting for the more than 70,000 Americans who are missing from WWII.

Mr. Newberry and his senior staff have determined that DPMO needs an integrated, proactive approach for research, analysis and investigation for all WWII personnel accounting. This approach will make use of DPMO's historical research and JCSD collections, and will soon transition to the task of identifying loss locations. The new division will include a combination of 24 skilled personnel from within DPMO and several new hires.

The division chief is Dr. Cynthia Chambers. She will be assisted by branch chiefs Dave Rosenau, Dr. Mark Russell

and Lieutenant Colonel Shawn Walters. Dr. Chambers and her staff are developing not only cases for immediate identification, but for a long-term, sustainable approach by capitalizing on the unique skills of the specialists assigned to the division.

The Research and Archives branch, led by Dave Rosenau, will maintain the case summary briefings, electronically archive case file libraries and conduct long-term research support for the WWII database. The Geographic and Information Systems branch, led by Dr. Mark Russell, will establish the research, geographic and electronic map support for investigations in Europe and Asia and coordinate communications liaison with field investigation and recovery teams. The Investigations and Oral History branch, led by Lt. Col. Shawn Walters, will identify, monitor, engage and document leads from private researchers and investigators; conduct onsite investigations and witness interviews that will lead to recovery and identifications; conduct oral history interviews; and hold conventions for private researchers and investigators.

JPAC cont.

The ceremony marked the end of a 35-year career for Crisp, who received her commission in 1974 after graduating from California State University in 1971.

"The troops and civilians here today represent JPAC's forward-based members, operational teams, the forensic lab, and a family of experts to ensure our heroes from past conflicts are recovered and identified," said Crisp. "As I speak today, teams are hiking through jungles, climbing mountains, sifting through dirt in search of our nation's heroes in Laos, Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, and South Korea."

Under Adm. Crisp's leadership JPAC carried out more than 135 recovery and investigation missions, ultimately identifying approximately 170 missing Americans.

Tom graduated from the University of Michigan and was commissioned through the Army ROTC program in 1971. He continued his civilian education at the Boston University School of Law and graduated with a Juris Doctor degree in 1974.

"To all of the family advocacy groups and individuals concerned with the accounting of our POWs and MIAs, thank you for coming today; I look forward to meeting you and learning about your respective organizations," said Tom.

Serving in the Army Reserves for more than 35 years, Tom was recalled to active duty in Jan. 2006 and has since served in Hawaii at the PACOM. He was a private practice attorney and a partner in a law firm prior to his activation.



(l-r) Melinda Cooke, DPMO; Recovery Team Chief Capt. Tracy Gilmore; Mr. Newberry; JPAC Recovery Team Anthropologist Ms. Kelly Esh; and JPAC Detachment 2 Commander, Lt. Col. Todd Emoto.

Mr. Bob Newberry (center) surveys an excavation site in northern Lao Cai Province, Vietnam, near the Chinese border. JPAC and Vietnamese counterparts were excavating the crash site of a USAF F-105D lost in 1966. The aircraft was part of a four-ship flight on an armed reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam.

Recent Identifications

Since Nov 2009, the following service members have been accounted for:

WWI

1st Sgt George H. Humphrey, USMC

WWII

1st Lt. Robert M. Anderson, USAAF

1st Lt. Joseph J. Auld, USAAF

Pvt. Robert L. Crane, USAAF

Pfc. Richard M. Dawson, USAAF

Staff Sgt. Edwin Elliot, USAAF

Pvt. Fred G. Fagan, USAAF

Staff Sgt. John J. Farrell, Jr., USA

TSgt. Clarence E. Frantz, USAAF

Staff Sgt. Ivan O. Kirkpatrick, USAAF

PO3 Gerald G. Lehman, USN

Cpl. Richard H. Loring, USAAF

TSgt. Walter A. McClellan, USAAF

Capt. Joseph M. Olbinski, USAAF

PO2 William L. Russell, USNR

PO1 Charles H. Swanson, USN

Korea

Pfc. Stanley P. Arendt, USA

Pfc. Roger L. Denny, USA

Pfc. Green Finley, Jr., USA

Master Sgt. Roy E. Head, USA

Cpl. Don M. LaForest, USA

Ens. Robert W. Langwell, USN

Sfc. John G. Linkowski, USA

Pfc. Herbert King, USA

Sfc. Silas W. Wilson, USA

Vietnam

Sgt. Melvin C. Dye, USA

Staff Sgt. Calvin C. Glover, USAF

Sfc. Douglas J. Glover, USA

Maj. Russell C. Goodman, USAF

Staff Sgt. Robert S. Griffith, USA

Pfc. Elton L. Perrine, USA

Did you know...??

DPMO has sent 1,813 written responses to families, Congress and the general public in the past two years and has declassified more than 1,037,659 pages of documents since 1992 for public review in the Library of Congress.

DPMO Developing Information Sharing Practices

President Obama's Open Government directive requires government agencies to adjust internal policies and develop technologies so information is more accessible and transparent. For the POW/MIA accounting community, the ability to share information within and between agencies is critical for recovering missing personnel in current conflicts and accounting for those still missing from past wars.

To meet these emerging requirements and to take full advantage of evolving technologies, DPMO is working to develop a system of networks to ensure all information is freely accessible throughout the agencies involved in the search for missing persons.

Standardized and transparent information management practices are expected to ensure accessibility to information across the continuum from personnel recovery in current conflicts to post-conflict personnel accounting. These efforts will aid the community as it works to meet the new requirements mandating a single case file for individuals missing from past conflicts and the Congressionally-mandated goal of 200 identifications annually by 2015.

Improved information management procedures and technologies are necessary components in an overall strategy to increase efficiency and effectiveness throughout government agencies in response to Presidential and Congressional directives and operational requirements.

Long-Range Initiatives Underway

By Bob Newberry

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs



I continue to look for ways to move the accounting community forward as we explore the most effective way to increase capacity, level of effort and the recovery and identification of our MIAs. We must move forward as quickly as feasible and ensure our capacity is used fairly to address the MIAs from all wars.

The accounting community is currently reviewing options and possible recommendations on how to best respond to recent legislation to increase the number of identifications. But recent helicopter restrictions in Vietnam and Laos and the resource impact that will occur should we resume operations in North Korea, demonstrate how fragile our current capacity is.

One of the near-term initiatives I directed to move forward is the establishment of a substantial World War II Division in the Research and Analysis Directorate in DPMO. Another important initiative in the development stage is enhancing the systems approach and necessary policy to ensure full information accessibility throughout the accounting community. A third initiative is to explore proactive ways to obtain even greater use and leverage from private groups to assist in MIA personnel accounting. A fourth initiative is to make greater use of DPMO's staff capacity to increase field investigations, to include augmenting JPAC when requested.

These changes and proposals will not necessarily come easy. The acceptance and implementation of change is often difficult. I hope that the accounting community and the families will support and assist us in looking for innovative ways we can quickly enhance our capacity and effectiveness.

Family Update Schedule

The 2010 family updates and annual government briefing schedule is posted online. (<http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/>)

The remaining dates and locations are:

May 22—Seattle, Wash.

July 22-25—Southeast Asia annual government briefing and National League of Families annual meeting, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 26-28—Korea/Cold War annual govt. briefing, Washington, D.C.

Sept. 25—Syracuse, N.Y.

Oct. 23—Omaha, Neb.

Nov. 20—San Francisco, Calif.