



M.O.F.W.

NEWSLETTER

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THE COMMANDER-GENERAL'S MESSAGE

There is an old saying "that time stands still for no man" and sure enough it has not stood still for me as your Commander General. It seems like only yesterday we were attending the 51st Biennial Conference in Rhode Island and here we are only three months away from the 52nd Biennial to be held in Galveston, Texas. Senior Vice Commander General CPT Rich Coutermarsh and the Texas Commandery have been working diligently to host our upcoming Biennial Conference at the Moody Gardens Hotel and Resort in Galveston, Texas. I have seen several photos of the accommodations and the hotel grounds and they look great. The location of our upcoming Biennial looks very promising and should prove to be an asset for a productive meeting.



I urge all Commanderies to send their five delegates to include: Commanders, National delegates, interested companions, and guests to this Biennial Conference so we can appropriately conduct the business of the order. Organizing Secretaries are also urged to attend to gain first hand info on forming Commanderies This Biennial is a very important part of our Military Order of Foreign Wars as we enter our 121st year. We must continue to focus on the future of the Order with recognition of our longevity and history.

I am pleased to report that the members of the National General Staff and the functions that they have undertaken are operating at or near 100 percent. I am specifically referring to those Companions that stepped forward during the last year to take on responsibilities previously conducted by Past Commander General Ron Sommer; Secretary General LTC Dennis Morgan has been working diligently with Commandery officials to update our National Rosters; Webmaster General and now Newsletter Editor MAJ George Miller continues with updates to the Website, getting out the MOFW Newsletter, and reformatting our membership database; Awards Chairman CW5 Dave Hathaway continues the process of tweaking our awards effort, and finally Quartermaster General CW3 Brad Hopkins continues the effort to make quartermaster items readily available through a more efficient process.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the 52nd Biennial Conference in Galveston.

David H. Russell

COL (Ret) USA
Commander General
MOFWUS



CALL TO CONVENTION

BE IT KNOWN THAT ALL COMPANIONS OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES ARE HEREBY CALLED TO ATTEND THE 52nd BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE ORDER IN GALVESTON, TX ON APRIL 30 – MAY 3, 2015.



Join the Texas Commandery for the 52nd Biennial Convention in Galveston, Texas' "Playground of the South." The TX Commandery has gone to great lengths to ensure that you will have a great Convention with a business agenda worthy of your time and energy, a super social calendar where Companions and their guests can spend meaningful time together, and a chance to visit historic Galveston. The TX Commandery has been able to set the cost of attending the 52nd Biennial Convention at a reasonable amount that you will be happy with.

The Headquarters Hotel, the Moody Gardens Hotel Spa & Convention Center, has given us a great nightly rate and the TX Commandery has set a registration fee that everyone can afford. The hotel is located adjacent to downtown Galveston, a few blocks from the City's most exclusive shopping, dining areas and the beach; and conveniently located near the Moody Gardens Aquarium and Rainforest Museum, and historic attractions. All Convention meetings, meals, etc., will be held at the hotel.



The Convention Itinerary

Arrival is Thursday, April 30th - If by airline, you will fly into William P. Hobby Airport in Southeastern Houston and you may rent a car or take a taxi to the Moody Garden Hotel. The distance is 41 miles to the hotel. Hotel parking is complimentary, so please first stop at the hotel, unload your bags and park where directed (valet parking is extra). Register at the MOWF Convention Check-in Table in the hotel lobby from 3 – 6 PM. The Viewfinders Terrace welcome reception with food and music is 6:30 – 8 PM followed by a National Council meeting from 8 - (end) PM in the hotel's Boardroom.

Friday, May 1st – continental breakfast (8 – 9 AM, hotel Ivy Room). While the Delegates attend a morning business meeting (9-11:30 AM, hotel Ivy Room) spouses and guests are free to enjoy the Moody Gardens Spa or other nearby attractions. Delegates, spouses/guests will meet for lunch (11:30 AM - 1:30 PM) in the hotel's Vine Room. Delegates will continue the business/committee meetings from 2 - 5:00 PM. Spouses and guests may take the afternoon for a shopping excursion at the Galveston Strand/Pier 21. Friday evening dinner is on your own at any of Galveston's great restaurants.

Saturday, May 2nd – continental breakfast (8 – 9 AM, hotel Ivy Room). Delegates will continue the business meeting from 9:00 - 11:30 AM in the Ivy Room. Spouses or guests enjoy free time. Delegates, spouses/guests will regroup for lunch in the Vine Room from 11:30 - 1:30 PM. The afternoon will consist of a guided Mansion tour of two of Galveston's historic mansions from 2 - 4:30 PM. Saturday night all are invited to attend the Convention's Reception (in the hotel Pre-function Area, adjacent to the banquet room, 6:30 - 7:30 PM) and the Military Gala Banquet (in Floral Hall A, 7:30 PM - to the end) with military pageantry, music, a great guest speaker and special awards.

Sunday, May 3rd – the Texas Commandery will bid Companions and their families and guests a fond farewell.

Moody Gardens Hotel reservations must be made with the hotel directly by April 9, 2015 to receive the special 52nd Convention rate of \$159.00 (+ taxes) per night. Call 888-388-8484 to get reservation desk and mention "2015 Military Order of Foreign Wars" to receive the group rate. Details about the Moody Gardens Hotel, located on 7 Hope Boulevard, Galveston, TX, are found at www.moodygardenshotel.com.

Registration: The deadline to register your attendance is March 31, 2015. The Registration Form is included in this newsletter.

For further information on the MOWF 52nd Convention, contact the TX Commandery POC, Companion Michael Belcher at 254-541-7841 or mikeandvickib@mac.com or visit the Order's web site (www.mofw.org).

"Galveston, oh Galveston, I still hear your sea winds blowin'....." (Glen Campbell)

Galveston, Texas is our location for the 52nd MOFWUS Biennial Convention! We'd be much obliged if one and all would join us to conduct the important business of our Order, elect national Officers, discuss issues relevant to growing the Order and ensuring its financial stability for the future. In addition, it will be a great venue to socialize, meet old friends and make new ones!

52nd Biennial Moody Gardens Hotel Amenities

Heated outdoor pool plus refreshing indoor pool



Shearn's Fine Dining and Terrace Restaurant feature signature dishes served in a posh setting perfect for mingling with other guests



Spacious rooms with country-style beds, potted plants, and large glass windows



Exhibit space and ballroom in the conference center



The Hummingbird Terrace and Shearn's Lounge create a lively setting for guests and locals to hang out while enjoying some drinks

You and especially your spouse/guest will enjoy the climate and things to see and do in the area. Galveston Island offers everything in a resort destination – beautiful [accommodations](#), [entertainment](#), [shopping](#) and 32 miles of Gulf Coast [beaches](#). Galveston's festivals, special events and attractions are enjoyable for Islanders and tourists alike.

One of Galveston's most popular attractions is Moody Gardens, One Hope Boulevard. Work or play, this tropical destination is ideal for families and groups alike. Water your imagination and travel the oceans of the world at the [Aquarium Pyramid](#). Step into the [Rainforest Pyramid](#) with thousands of tropical plants, exotic fish and birds. Explore the mysteries of science at the [Discovery Pyramid](#)!



REGISTRATION FORM

52nd CONVENTION OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

30 April - 3 May 2015

- 1. MOODY GARDENS HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE NLT: TUESDAY, 9 APRIL 2015**
Return this Registration Form as soon as possible, **BUT NO LATER THAN 31 MARCH 2015**

I have made will make do not require a reservation at the MOFW Convention Hotel

- 2. MY MOFW COMMANDERY IS:** _____

I am registering as a (check one): National Officer National Delegate

Commandery Delegate Past Commander-General Organizing Secretary

An Interested Companion not in Official Capacity

Print Name/Tel#/Email: _____

- 3. DATE & TIME OF ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE:** Arv: _____ Dpt: _____

- 4. PARKING:** Free for attendees of the MOFW Convention. Valet parking is available for \$20 per day.

- 5. COST:** Full registration fee of \$272 per Delegate includes Reception, Fri & Sat breakfasts/lunches, Sat Banquet and Sat. tour. (Attending spouses/guests/Companions may choose to attend any events below)

Thurs Reception at \$30 per person X # of person(s) in your party _____ for a total of \$ _____

Fri & Sat all day package (includes breakfast, lunch, morning & afternoon snacks at \$75 each day p.p. (\$75) X # of person(s) _____ for a total of \$ _____

Sat evening Reception and Banquet at \$70 p.p. X # of person(s) _____ for a total of \$ _____

Sat afternoon guided Tour of Historic Galveston Mansions visit (for Delegates, spouses/guests) at \$22 p.p. X # of person(s) _____ for total of \$ _____

Banquet Meal: Filet Mignon w/Béarnaise sauce; Grilled Shrimp; Chef's choice of vegetable and starch; Bread, Butter, Coffee, Ice Tea and New York Cheese Cake w/Berries. (#of _____)

A vegetarian option is available with the same sides as above. (#of _____)

NAME OF GUEST(s): _____

Enclosed is my check/money order for **grand total** of \$ _____ made payable to "MOFW"
(Mail to: Lt Col Joseph Crews, 4200 Oldfield Road, Arlington, TX 76016)

- 6. COMMENTS?:** _____

VETERANS DAY AT ARLINGTON



Commander-General Emeritus Wulf Lindenau and Junior-Vice Commander-General AMB Chuck Trombetta placing a wreath at the grave-site of General the 2014 Annual Black Jack Pershing during Veterans Day Service.

On 11 November 2014 - Veterans Day - the Military Order of Foreign Wars again participated with numerous other Veteran organizations including The Military Order of World Wars (MOWW-the organizer of the Memorial Service) and the Army Navy Union, the American Legion, National Society of Pershing Rifles, and other veteran representatives, in laying a wreath at the grave site of General of the Armies, John J. "Blackjack" Pershing.

The well attended annual event at Arlington National Cemetery included a musical prelude by The United States Army Band "Pershing's Own", the MDW Armed Forces Color Guard, short speeches by the Commander-in-Chief of the MOWW, the Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, the CG of MDW, and wreaths laid by senior military officers of World War One Allies from the embassies of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Russia, and others.

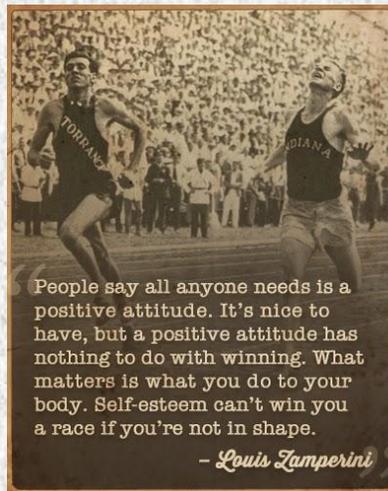
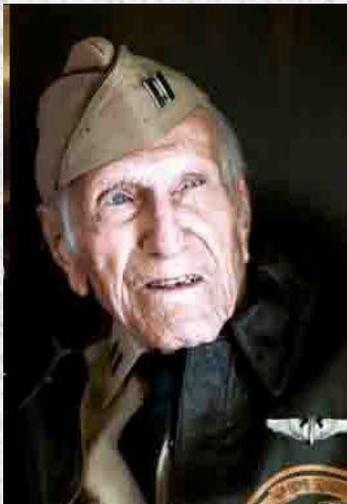
Attendees never know what the weather will offer, and sometimes rain and cold weather detract from the significance of this noteworthy event...but not this time! The weather could not have been better and enabled a most memorable occasion! Further, a welcome by-product of the event was that the MOWW was indeed fortunate to be able to add yet another distinguished member to our roles: Major General Jeffrey S. Buchanan, Commanding General of the Joint Force Headquarters - National Capital Region & U.S. Army Military District of Washington.

This annual event is one all veterans should make every effort to attend, and members of the Military Order of Foreign Wars are urged to do so - this is truly a well-orchestrated and worthy tribute to a great American and unique military leader.

The Greatest Generation - As Is

The unbroken spirit and unyielding determination of the greatest generation continues to inspire to this day.

Unbroken. The remarkable life story of Lou Zamperini, delinquent, Olympic athlete, bomber pilot, castaway, POW, PTSD sufferer, and born-again Christian has been portrayed in the just released movie "Unbroken." His indomitable spirit made him a champion, and allowed him to survive the devastation of seven weeks lost at sea and the depredations of two years in a Japanese prison camp



Unyielding. Elinor Otto, 95, is one of the original "Rosie the Riveters" who answered the nation's call for women factory workers during World War II. She retired November 2014 after working 50 years at the Boeing plant. She said the "Rosie the Riveter" image wasn't something she and her co-workers thought about much at the time, but it has stuck. "We never thought about it in those days - this Rosie thing came up much later - but we just knew, like I said, we knew this war had to be won and we had to help because the men were gone," she said. "Not until years later did we think we did anything special." The iconic image from propaganda posters urging women to work is still one of the most recognized symbols of female empowerment today.



"I thought, well, I'm going to do men's work. I thought that a long time ago, so I'm not going to try to look like a man," Otto said. It's her larger-than-life attitude colleagues said they will miss most. "She's an inspiration to keep people moving forward," said Sal Gutierrez, a Boeing senior manager of production.

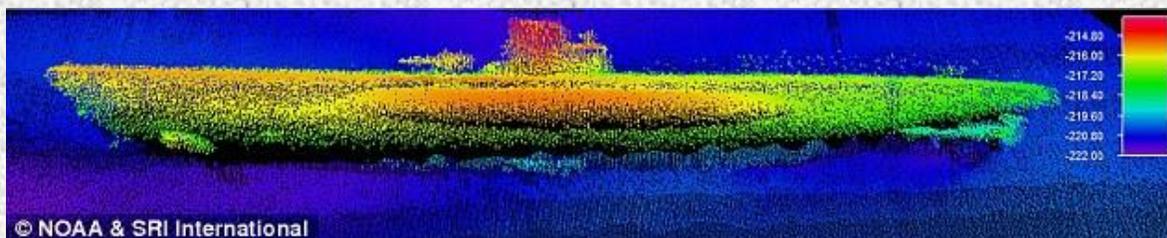
Through her unyielding determination and devotion to her work ethic Elinor has become the icon that Rosie the Riveter was.

The Greatest Generation (Continued)

Unstoppable. The courage of Merchant Mariners to man nearly unarmed ships on the gamble that they could sail through the Wolfpack and across the Atlantic to bring their vital cargo to port was unstoppable. Despite relentless pursuit and severe losses they returned time after time to crew the ships. In October 2014 a team of researchers led by [NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries](#) discovered two significant vessels from World War II's Battle of the Atlantic. The German U-boat 576 and the freighter *Bluefields* were found approximately 30 miles off the coast of North Carolina. Lost for more than 70 years, the discovery of the two vessels, in an area known as the Graveyard of the Atlantic, is a rare window into a historic military battle and the underwater battlefield landscape of WWII.

"This is not just the discovery of a single shipwreck," said Joe Hoyt, a NOAA sanctuary scientist and chief scientist for the expedition. "We have discovered an important battle site that is part of the Battle of the Atlantic. These two ships rest only a few hundred yards apart and together help us interpret and share their forgotten stories."

On July 15, 1942, Convoy KS-520, a group of 19 merchant ships escorted by the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard, was en route to Key West, Florida, from Norfolk, Virginia, to deliver cargo to aid the war effort when it was attacked off Cape Hatteras. The U-576 sank the Nicaraguan flagged freighter *Bluefields* and severely damaged two other ships. In response, U.S. Navy Kingfisher aircraft, which provided the convoy's air cover, bombed U-576 while the merchant ship *Unicoi* attacked it with its deck gun. *Bluefields* and U-576 were lost within minutes and now rest on the seabed less than 240 yards apart.



Undaunted. The Civil Air Patrol was started early in WWII, a week before Pearl Harbor. Through the efforts of this volunteer group they were flying coastal patrols within three months using commercial aircraft. With their proven effectiveness in finding U-boats, the Air Corps, allowed them to carry bombs and depth charges on their patrol sorties. By the time that mission ended in August 1943, CAP's coastal patrols had flown 86,685 missions totaling 244,600 hours and more than 24 million miles. Seventy four planes were lost and 26 members were killed. And they were credited with sinking two U-boats.

In May of this year Congress approved the award of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Civil Air Patrol for its wartime service. "The Civil Air Patrol's valiant efforts in defending our coastline, providing combat services and flying dangerous humanitarian missions in America during WWII embodies the American spirit of volunteerism. These brave men and women were an integral part in defending not only our homeland but also our principles of freedom and liberty."

COMMANDERY NEWS

* **Georgia.** The Georgia Commandery membership meeting was held on 11 October. The theme was a commemoration of the service and sacrifice of the veterans of the Vietnam War. It was to be a cook out, but due to inclement weather the festivities were moved indoors. Our Commandery was recognized as an official partner of DOD's Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration. As partner we were given a flag and certificate signed by the Sec Def and the CJCS. Charter member Jim Ory, who because of personal issues was not able to participate until recently, was presented his certificate of membership. Jim sponsors the AJROTC program at Grady HS, Atlanta. Good food and fellowship followed and all had a pleasant time. Especially the spouses enjoyed reminiscing about being part of the service family

Commander Mike Bunting presents CPT Jim Ory, USMC his Commandery Certificate of Membership.



Vietnam Veteran Wulf Lindenau receives the Certificate of Partnership on behalf of all Commandery Vietnam Veterans in front of the Commemorative Flag and the Georgia Commandery Flag.

* **Hawaii.** Companion COL, Ret., William "Bill" Hollingsworth joined G5 Plans, 3rd Army, USARCENT, at Shaw AFB on 27 October 2014.

Companion, LTC Mark Takai was sworn-in Jan 16th as Hawaii's newest Congressman at the Honolulu Federal Court House by the Honorable Susan Oki Mollway, Chief United States District Judge. Companion Tulak and Commandery Supporter Paul L'Ecuyer attended.



Photo: Chief Judge Susan Oki Mollway administered the Oath of Office to Congressman Mark Takai of Hawaii on January 16, 2015 while his family and former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi look on.

Commandery News (Continued)

* **Indiana.** The Commandery has presented four educational programs for the 2014 year. Each educational program was advertised at our VA Hospital by poster. Light lunch of pizza or sandwiches was an added attraction. All programs were well received. We also adopted a work project under the direction of COL. Michael Hoyt. A Civil War monument in honor of Camp Robinson was found in disrepair and the weeds grown over it. Our group undertook to repair and clean up the site.

We are quite pleased to have enough members to be a CHARTER Commandery. Elections are being held for officers for this next year. Jamia Jasper Jacobsen, Organizing IN Commander. The charter has been issued.

* **Rhode Island.** The Rhode Island Commandery will be dedicating its Memorial in the RI Veterans Cemetery in late May. The exact date will be published on our website at, www.rimofw.org. We have collected \$13,000 of our \$15,000 goal. If any Companions would like to donate; please send your contribution to: LTC (USA, Ret) James Kenney at 26 Mohawk Drive, Coventry, RI 02916: Make check to: RI Commandery and notate, Memorial Fund.

* **New York.** The 2014 Annual meeting of the New York Commandery was held on September 10, 2014 at the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Coast Guard and Airman's Club in Manhattan.

During the business portion of the meeting the nominating committee of National Delegate Owen Smith and Treasurer John Straton submitted the following names for the next term William J. McShane, Commander, Harvey Bagg, Vice Commander, John Straton, Treasurer, Owen Smith, National Delegate and Paul Schneider. The slate was unanimously approved by acclamation.

The featured speakers at this event were Detective Sergeant Lonergan of the New York City Police Department's Real Time Crime Center and Mr. Donald MacIver former Green Beret Medic (Vietnam) who enlightened the Commandery on his present duties as Official Archivist of the New York Commandery.

Detective Lonergan, a Marine veteran, explained the functioning of the Real Time Crime Center which relies on cutting edge technology infrastructure to provide field officers and detective instant information to help identify criminal patterns and prevent emerging crime.

Mr. MacIver pointed out that too often the historical documents and artifacts are lost to future generations for lack of organization and that in this age of technology the maintaining of the Order's history on computer media will allow researchers and future generations to follow the intricacies of who, what, when where and how the organization was formed and flourished in times of great movement in our country and its actions during the World Wars and the Great Depression. To illustrate the value of this enterprise he mentioned the following discoveries: Leather-bound journals containing the minutes and business RECORDS of the MOWF from its inception in 1894 through the 1920's written in beautiful script handwriting.

A 44-star United States flag dating to, the year of the order's founding. (WYOMING was the 44th state.) Original dies for the manufacture of the order's badges. A detailed account of the inception of the MacArthur award, plus photographs and programs from the event presenting the first award to General of the Army Douglas MacArthur. Subsequent awards were presented to former president Herbert Hoover and later dignitaries.



From a Recon Marine in Afghanistan



***A very interesting read, a Marine's View of what is really going on. This young man is articulate and has a flare for colorful language, and descriptive prose.....Scorpions, Chiggers & Sand Fleas/great letter, a must read of a very interesting article. Date unknown**

It's freezing here. I'm sitting on hard cold dirt between rocks and shrubs at the base of the Hindu Kush Mountains, along the Dar'yo'i Pamir River, watching a hole that leads to a tunnel that leads to a cave. Stake out, my friend, and no pizza delivery for thousands of miles.

I also glance at the area around my ass every ten to fifteen seconds to avoid another scorpion sting. I've actually given up battling the chiggers and sand fleas, but the scorpions give a jolt like a cattle prod. Hurts like a bastard. The antidote tastes like transmission fluid, but God bless the Marine Corps for the five vials of it in my pack.

The one truth the Taliban cannot escape is that, believe it or not, they are human beings, which means they have to eat food and drink water. That requires couriers and that's where an old bounty hunter like me comes in handy. I track the couriers, locate the tunnel entrances and storage facilities, type the info into the handheld, and shoot the coordinates up to the satellite link that tells the air commanders where to drop the hardware. We bash some heads for a while, and then I track and record the new movement. It's all about intelligence. We haven't even brought in the snipers yet.

These scurrying rats have no idea what they're in for. We are but days away from cutting off supply lines and allowing the eradication to begin. But you know me; I'm a romantic. I've said it before and I'll say it again: This country blows, man. It's not even a country.

There are no roads, there's no infrastructure, there's no government. This is an inhospitable, rock pit shit hole ruled by eleventh century warring tribes. There are no jobs here like we know jobs. Afghanistan offers two ways for a man to support his family, join the opium trade or join the army. That's it.

Those are your options. Oh, I forgot, you can also live in a refugee camp and eat plum-sweetened, crushed beetle paste and squirt mud like a goose with stomach flu, if that's your idea of a party. But the smell alone of those 'tent cities of the walking dead' is enough to hurl you into the poppy fields to cheerfully scrape bulbs for eighteen hours a day.

I've been living with these Tajiks and Uzbeks, and Turkmen and even a couple of Pashtu's, for over a month-and-a-half now, and this much I can say for sure: These guys, are Huns....actual, living Huns. They LIVE to fight. It's what they do. It's ALL they do. They have no respect for anything, not for their families, nor for each other, nor for themselves.

They claw at one another as a way of life. They play polo with dead calves and force their five-year-old sons into human cockfights to defend the family honor. Huns, roaming packs of savage, heartless beasts who feed on each other's barbarism. Cavemen with AK-47's.

Then again, maybe I'm just cranky young bastard. I'm freezing my ass off on this stupid hill because my lap warmer is running out of juice, and I can't recharge it until the sun comes up in a few hours.

Oh yeah! You like to write letters, right? Do me a favor, Bizarre. Write a letter to CNN and tell Wolf and Anderson and that awful, sneering, pompous Aaron Brown to stop calling the Taliban 'smart.' They are not Smart. I suggest CNN Invest in a dictionary because the word they are looking for is 'cunning.' The Taliban are cunning, like jackals and hyenas and wolverines. They are sneaky and ruthless, and when confronted, cowardly. They are hateful, malevolent parasites who create nothing and destroy everything else.

From a Recon Marine in Afghanistan (Continued)

Smart! Bullshit! Yeah, they're real smart, they've spent their entire lives reading only one book (and not a very good one, as books go) and consider hygiene and indoor plumbing to be products of the devil. They're still figuring out how to work a Bic lighter. Talking to a Taliban warrior about improving his quality of life is like trying to teach an ape how to hold a pen, eventually he just gets frustrated and sticks you in the eye with it.

OK, enough. Snuffle will be up soon, so I have to get back to my hole. Covering my tracks in the snow takes a lot of practice, but I'm good at it Please, I tell you and my fellow Americans to turn off the TV sets and move on with your lives. The story line you are getting from CNN and other news agencies is utter bullshit and designed not to deliver truth but rather to keep you glued to the screen.

We've got this one under control. The worst thing you guys can do right now is sit around analyzing what we're doing over here, because you have no idea what we're doing, and really, you don't want to know. We are your military, and we are only doing what you sent us here to do.

Semper Fi.

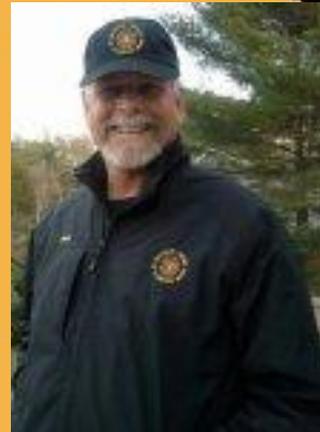
"Freedom is not free, but the U.S. Marine Corps will pay most of your share".

THE QUARtermaster STORE
NOW OPEN -24/7 On-Line



Polo Shirt,Black, w/Embroidered Insignia (Gold Lettering) and Name on shirt.....\$37.00
Specify: Sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL

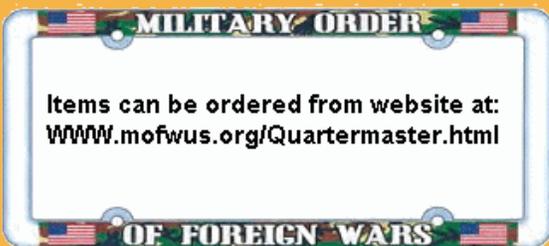
Cap, Adjustable, Black, Insignia w/Gold Lettering)...\$16.00



Jacket, Lined, Black w/Name in Gold Lettering (no US flag).....\$85.00
w/optional US Flag on right shoulder.....\$95.00
Specify: Sizes S, M, L, XL

Both styles have MOFW Insignia over left breast. Jacket, Lined, Black w/Name in Gold Lettering (no US flag).....\$85.00
w/optional US Flag on right shoulder.....\$95.00
Specify: Sizes S, M, L, XL

Both styles have MOFW Insignia over left breast



Insignia of the Order

In the past there may have been some confusion as to the wearing of the Insignia of the Order. Please read the information from our Constitution below. According to it, all Companions may wear the Insignia (hereditary and otherwise) with Veteran Companions and Companions who are/were Commandery or National Officers being permitted to wear the Insignia with the neck ribbon.

"ARTICLE XIII: Insignia of the Order and Award Medals of the Order

The insignia of the Order shall be pendant from a ribbon by a gold ring, and wreath of chased gold, and shall be:

Obverse: A red enameled star of eight points, each star-point edged and divided by a line of gold; and between each two star-points, rays of burnished gold, joined, and ending in a point; and in the center of an eagle raised and chased gold with extended wings.

Reverse: Stars and rays the same. In the center within a circular band of blue enamel, edged with gold, and bearing in gold the motto: Deus et Libertas, an anchor and cross swords upon a field of red.

The insignia shall be worn by the Companions of the Order on all occasions when they assemble as such, for any stated purpose or celebration, and may be worn on any occasion of ceremony. It shall be worn conspicuously on the left breast; but Veteran Companions or Companions who are or have been officers may wear it suspended around the neck."

Insignia



Veterans/Officer Insignia



If you do not have, please go to the MOFW website (mofwus.org) and order from the Quartermaster-General, particularly if you will be attending the Biennial in May.