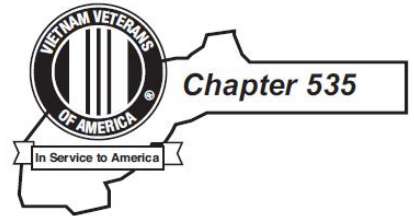




INCOMING

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
CHAPTER 535



Website: www.vva535.org

Volume 29 Issue 11

November 2019

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA CHAPTER 535 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE November 2019

Wow! It is November already. My wife and I went to see the Marine Corps Band at Nevada Union H.S. What a great performance. This band was established by Congress in 1788 and is the oldest continuously active professional musical organization. Musicians are selected at auditions much like those of major symphony orchestras, and they enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps for duty with the band only. Most are graduates of the nation's finest music schools, and more than 60 percent hold advanced degrees in music.

Many thanks to all who participated in the Stand Down, it was a great success. Jose did a magnificent job in organizing our group to be very functional. Bart, Dale, Ray, Mike, Jose, Dave, Keith, Pete, Jose's wife, and Mike Underwood's wife with Patricia Graves also helped serve. (Hope I didn't miss someone) We had a great time of fellowship and no one started a war between the different branches of service. Although it did come close at times! The hamburgers were excellent along with the caramelized onions. We served 200 burgers.

Our raffle is underway for the M-1 replica. Please purchase tickets at our next meeting.

\$20. We are considering including the American Legion, and the VFW, along with the Marine Corps League if we do not get enough participation. Buy a ticket and use the rifle as a Christmas gift.

I have heard from a couple of members regarding our guest speakers. It has been suggested that many of you have some great stories our membership would be interested in hearing. Just let me know and I will make time for you at our meeting.

Victorian Christmas sign-ups will be circulated again at our meeting. Please check your calendars. This is our major fundraiser for the year and we need all to participate. This will be our last time to sign up and we need to finalize the list of volunteers. We will need someone to head up this project. Sunday 12/8 is filled. Wednesday 12/11 we need four more. Sunday 12/15 needs to be filled. Wednesday 12/18 needs 7 more. Sunday 12/22 needs to be filled. Patricia Graves volunteered to make brownies, but we need to verify.

My sincere thanks to Dave Johnson for stepping up to take on the Secretary duties. He volunteered until next election time to fill the void.

Hope you all survived the power outages.

- Keith

VVA Chapter 535 Mission Statement

To foster camaraderie among members and assist those with disabling mental and physical injuries, to promote the welfare of our brethren affected by the war, and to engender public understanding of the sacrifice, patriotism and bravery of those who served, those who gave all, and those left behind.

Attention

If you do not drive and need a ride to a meeting or any VVA-535 function, please contact Bart Ruud or any local VVA -535 member and we will do our best to arrange transportation for you.

Guest Speaker for November 7, 2019

David Woods Bartley will present insight on mental illness and how to create mental wellness.

Tom Woollard works hard to coordinate and arrange for guest speakers. Lend a hand and pass along any ideas you may have for future guest speakers.

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Upcoming Events

CSC meeting - Fresno 10/25 – 10/27/2019
Nov. 1, 2 – Free Veteran Dental Clinic - Auburn
NCCVC Meeting – November 7, 2019
General Meeting – November 7, 2019
Director's Meeting – November 7, 2019
VVA Christmas Dinner – Dec. 5, 2019
Victorian Christmas – Dec. 8,11,15,18, 22, 2019

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FinanceRalph Remick & Dave Johnson
Parade and Honor Guard Dick Corn
Membership AffairsRic Sheridan
Newsletter Interim editor Bart Ruud
Victorian Christmas **Vacant**
Nominations Ralph Remick
Veterans Assistance Keith Grueneberg
NCCVC Dick Corn

Speakers Bureau Tom Woollard
Web Master Ralph Remick
Quartermaster Dick Corn
Facebook Master Mike Laborico
Nevada County Fair Dave Middleton
CA State Council Rep. Mike Underwood

Nevada County Veterans Service Officer

VSO Officer -David West II (530) 265-1446 office
(530) 913-5046 cell
988 McCourtney Road, Grass Valley 95949
ncvso@co.nevada.ca.us
Thursday, 9:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 – 4:00 is a
“Walk-In” day.

Placer County Veterans Service Officer

~~Suzi Vinci~~ 916-780-3290. Position vacant
1000 Sunset Blvd, Suite 115, Rocklin, CA
Monday – Friday, 8:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 5:00
p.m.

Matters of interest as outlined at Board Meeting of September 5, 2019

Thanks are extended to Dale Epps who has coordinated the raffling of a M-1 replica pellet gun. Tickets are \$20 each and will be available at our General Membership Meetings.

The Board voted to contribute \$150 toward the Nevada County Veterans Stand Down.

An announcement was made by Bart Ruud regarding the free dental clinic to be offered in Auburn Nov. 1, 2 at 3113 Professional Drive. Those seeking services should bring a copy of their DD-214 or other military identification.

In the future, VVA-535 will consider a financial contribution toward the opening of a wing at the local Hospitality House that would serve homeless with pets.

The Board approved up to \$500 to finance a hamburger lunch at the Nevada County Stand Down.

The shadow-box in the basement hallway has been completed and with that, determinations need to be made as to what to display in the shadow-box. Mike Hauser, owner of Grass Valley Blueprint, will make a backdrop for the shadow box. Thank you, Mike.

How hard is it truly to become a fighter pilot? What are some good backups? What do they carry? How much is the U.S Military really in need of them? Is it a good idea?

Joe Ritter, Pilot at U.S. Air Force (2008-present)

If you join the Air Force, Navy, or Marines to become a fighter pilot you're likely an idiot. Perhaps a well-intentioned idiot, but still. If you want to fly fighters, the AF, Navy, and Marines all have a path to get there, but you could easily find yourself flying another aircraft type, or not even flying at all and doing some other specialty based on factors outside your control. There are some bespoke approaches to military service that get you the best odds of flying a fighter jet (Air National Guard hires), but even then “shit happens” and you might find yourself doing something else. Ask all the ANG pilots whose units were converted to non flying missions. My point here is you join the military out of a desire to serve. If you're not willing to do the most unglamorous, beat the shit out of you job the military offers, joining because you want to go fast and wear a leather jacket is a fools errand. You're eyes, inner ear, or numerous other faculties can disappoint you very early on in the aviation pipeline, and then you're left with an obligation to spend 4, 6, or 8 years in the military. And there is a lot of need for good officers in all specialties, from the special ops types who shoot guns and jump out of airplanes to the maintenance guys that engage in hand to hand combat with jet engines and sheet metal. If you get to fly, period, you're lucky. It's a special brotherhood and sisterhood that wears wings and the bag, and regardless of what you do being a military aviator is a proud profession.

What the US military is in need of is people who will say “Roger, I’ve got this,” whether “this” is bombing a target, fixing a jet, or building a briefing to convince some asshole in a suit to give us the money we need to fight wars. Flying jets is cool, and if you get to do it in any capacity you’re one of the few. But it also can bring a lot of suck—deployments and TDYs away from family, beating the shit out of your body, and perhaps losing friends. I’ve sweat thru a lot of flight suits and dealt with a lot of aches and pains from knocking around in old jets in hot places. And I missed my best friend’s wedding, where I was the best man, because I was in Afghanistan. My grandfather died when I was on another deployment and I couldn’t be there for my mom. I don’t regret those things, because I’m first and foremost an officer who took an oath, and I believe in serving the United States.

I don’t fly fighters. I joined the Air Force and they put me in the air out of dumb luck. My first trip to the middle east I saw a lot of flag draped coffins getting loaded on aircraft and it became very obvious, very fast, that I was part of something a lot bigger than any desire I had to be some kind of Hollywood character. I decided to do whatever I could to keep dudes alive, dudes who liked football, baseball, shooting guns, drinking beer and all the same shit I liked from ending up in a fucking GI box, be that flying a plane or arguing to the staff in the bowels of the Pentagon.

Cataracts

Source: www.informedhealth.org | October 10, 2019

Risks Increase With Age

A cataract is an eye condition in which the lens of the eye becomes cloudy. This causes vision to worsen, making it especially difficult to see fine details clearly. Some people’s vision is only

slightly affected, whereas others might lose their eyesight very quickly. How it progresses will depend on things like the exact type of cataract. Cataracts mostly affect people over 50. The risk increases with age: About 20 out of 100 people between the ages of 65 and 74 have a cataract. And more than 50 out of 100 people over the age of 74 are affected. They are the main cause of blindness in developing countries. The number of people who go blind from cataracts is considerably lower in industrialized countries due to the availability of effective surgery. Cataract surgery involves removing the cloudy eye lens and replacing it with an artificial lens.

Symptoms

Vision loss due to cataracts is usually very gradual. That is the only symptom: Cataracts aren't painful and don't cause burning or any similar symptoms. People’s vision becomes increasingly blurred and cloudy, as if they are looking through fog. Contrasts and colors become less clear as time goes on. Some people become very sensitive to the glare of the sun or other bright lights. Driving becomes more difficult, particularly at night. Poor vision increases the risk of falling and hurting yourself. Spatial vision is affected as well. Cataracts may have surprising effects too: Sometimes people who wear glasses can suddenly see better without them. This is because the refractive power of their eye changes, affecting their ability to focus on objects at different distances. Improved vision without glasses doesn't last long, though.

Causes and risk factors

About 90% of people who have a cataract have what is called a "senile" (age-

related) cataract. Here, the gradual clouding of the lens is caused by aging. Normally, the lens focuses the light onto the retina (the back of the eye) to create sharp images. This makes it possible to see objects clearly, both close and far away. Cataracts affect this ability. Some people are born with a higher risk of developing cataracts. It is very rare to have cataracts from birth on. A baby might be born with cataracts if the mother gets measles or rubella (German measles) during the pregnancy.

Some evidence suggests that radiation (such as UV light or x-rays) and smoking also increase the risk. Cataracts are more common in people who have diabetes too. In developing countries they are often caused by malnutrition and poor living conditions, and many people already have cataracts earlier in life. Cataracts can also develop following an inflammation or injury to the eye. Other things that can lead to cataracts include eye surgery and long-term use of certain medications (such as steroids).

Outlook

Cataracts cause your vision to gradually worsen. At first you become more short-sighted. As mentioned above, people who used to be far-sighted might then find that they can see better without glasses for a short while. But their vision will gradually become more cloudy and blurred. If left untreated, cataracts can lead to blindness, although this doesn't always happen. Both eyes are usually affected. The condition might progress more quickly in one eye than in the other, though. Its natural course can vary quite a bit from person to person. It can lead to quite sudden vision loss in some people, but hardly affect vision in others.

The type and progression of symptoms depends on various things, including what area of the lens becomes cloudy. There are three main types of cataracts:

- • **Cortical** cataracts: Apart from causing blurred vision, this type of cataract leads to problems with glare in particular, for instance when driving at night.
- • **Posterior subcapsular** cataracts: This type of cataract is more common in younger people and progresses relatively quickly.
- • **Nuclear** cataracts: These cataracts affect your ability to see things in the distance more than your ability to see nearby objects. Vision is sometimes affected only a little, and the condition develops relatively slowly.

Diagnosis

There are many reasons why your vision may get worse over time. Because of this, other possible causes need to be ruled out before cataracts can be diagnosed. Your eye doctor (ophthalmologist) will first ask you about your symptoms and your general medical history. You will have a few eye tests done to find out how much your eyesight is affected and what might be causing the symptoms.

The lens of the eye is examined using a slit lamp (a microscope with a light). The doctor looks at the eye through the microscope with the help of a line – or slit – of light that shines onto your eye. This makes it possible to take a close look at the lens and the

parts of the eye behind the lens. This examination is not painful.

In order to look at the back of the eye, doctors usually use medication to dilate (widen) your pupils. The pupils stay dilated for a few hours. During this time it is difficult to focus properly and you will be more sensitive to light and glare. For this reason, you shouldn't drive a car for the next 4 to 5 hours. This effect can last longer in some people. If you're not sure whether your eyes have returned to normal, it's better not to drive.

Prevention

There are no known scientific studies showing that particular preventive measures lower the risk of developing cataracts. It is thought that smoking increases the risk and that quitting smoking could therefore lower the risk. Stopping smoking has a lot of health benefits anyway. People who are exposed to a lot of UV light can protect their eyes from the sun, for instance by wearing sunglasses. Some steroid medications can increase the risk of developing cataracts. It might be possible to switch to a different medication. Dietary supplements are often claimed to be able to prevent eye diseases, but studies have shown that they can't prevent cataracts.

Treatment

Some people can compensate for the vision loss – temporarily or even in the

longer term – by wearing glasses or contact lenses. There are no medications for the treatment of cataracts. The only effective treatment is surgery. Cataract surgery involves removing the cloudy lens and replacing it with a new, artificial lens. The lens capsule (an elastic membrane surrounding the lens of the eye) is left in the eye during surgery. Only the inner core and the outer cortex of the lens are broken up into small pieces using ultrasound. The pieces are then sucked out of the eye through a small cut. Once the lens has been removed, an artificial lens is implanted into the lens capsule. This procedure, called phacoemulsification, is the standard technique in Germany and some other countries. Sometimes laser surgery is offered as well.

Whether and when surgery would be a good idea greatly depends on how much the vision loss is affecting someone's life. Another factor to consider is the presence of other (eye) conditions that could affect the outcome of cataract surgery.

C-130 Hercules -U.S. Air Force's Work Horse

<https://www.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/1555054/c-130-hercules> | October 2019

The C-130 Hercules primarily performs the tactical portion of the airlift mission. The aircraft is capable of operating from rough, dirt strips and is the prime transport for airdropping troops and equipment into hostile areas. Basic and specialized versions of the aircraft airframe perform a diverse number of roles, including airlift support, Antarctic ice resupply, aeromedical missions, weather reconnaissance, aerial spray missions, firefighting duties for the U.S. Forest Service and natural disaster relief missions. Using its aft loading ramp and door,

the C-130 can accommodate a wide variety of oversized cargo, including everything from utility helicopters and six-wheeled armored vehicles to standard palletized cargo and military personnel. In an aerial delivery role, it can airdrop loads up to 42,000 pounds or use its high-flotation landing gear to land and deliver cargo on rough, dirt strips.

In production since 1954, over 2,400 of the over 40 different variations have been delivered across more than 60 nations. The initial production design was labeled the C-130A. It was submitted in 1951 and not a whole lot about the bones of the aircraft has changed since then. It uses a unique fold-down ramp in its rear that allows vehicles to be driven into the cargo bay. One variation, the AC-130J long-endurance, heavy duty air-to-ground combat plane, has a 105 mm Howitzer housed inside its cargo area. The basic C-130, aft of the cockpit and before the ramp, is the length of a railroad boxcar. Inside 92 troops can be accommodated. At max capacity, it has a range of about 2,000 miles.

A special variation of the C-130, the EC-130E Commando Solo Hercules, transmitted radio and TV broadcasts several hours a night over Iraq. This was a part of psychological warfare campaigns prior to the 1991 Persian Gulf War. In 1971, a ski-equipped LC-130 crashed in Antarctica on takeoff. It was buried in an icy valley for 17 years before the Navy decided to pull it out and repair the damage. It later was put back into service. In April 1975, while evacuating Tan Son Nhut Air Base during the final days of the Vietnam war, a C-130 actually lifted 20,000 pounds above its listed maximum payload capacity. That 20,000 pound excess was 452 humans – 360 more people than the C-130 is designed to carry. That C-130 was the last plane not destroyed at the airfield, and it was leaving for good in the midst of heavy enemy fire. The United States Air Force, as well as those in Italy, Canada, Norway and Denmark are

under contract for more than 300 new C-130Js. We can expect to see them in service for many years to come.

Vinh Son Orphanage website:

<https://www.friendsofvso.org>

Writing Your Story for INCOMING

(Ongoing repeat solicitation)

Ideas for your story:

- Think about what you appreciated about the Vietnam experience. There is surely a means to segue into that with very little reflection on the negative aspects of war.
- What did you appreciate about the Vietnamese people during your deployment?
- Can you steer away from the bad stuff and reflect on the best experience you had in the Nam?
- Surely you had a close buddy and you supported each other. Maybe there is a story in that.
- What really got you through the day-to-day anxieties and fears? There might be a positive recollection in that regard.
- How did your experience instill in you a sense of patriotism that you possibly express every day of your life.

So far we have heard from Ruud, Epps, Chaix, Hamer, Chuck Holmes, current Marine LCpl. Jesse Hernandez, Kent Hawley, and Mike Laborico. (Thank you!)

No writer needs to dwell on the negatives of war. Each of us who was there lived the negatives, and all of us are better people for having served, especially when we look at how we matured as a result of our experiences. Each of us has derived a sense of being and an energy that is different from

what it might have been had we not been sent across the pond.

Do share with us, in your own words, something of that chapter of your life. And, thank you for your service.

Forward your story to Bart Ruud at bruud45@gmail.com or hand deliver to Bart.

Military MREs

A Day's Worth of MREs in One Ration

Army Times | Todd South | October 8, 2019

Right now, a squad sent out on a seven-day mission would have next to no way to feed themselves without resupply unless they were able to load up more than 30 pounds of food per soldier into their rucks. But that's exactly what the Army and Marine Corps may ask of its dismounted squads on the near-term future battlefield, especially as multi-domain operations become a reality. To help troops stay fed without breaking their backs, the scientists, developers and soldiers at the Combat Feeding Directorate with the Combat Capabilities Development Command Solder Center are closing in on a goal to cut down a seven-day load of MREs from 32 pounds to 10 pounds. And they're not doing that by dropping peanut butter or jalapeno cheese packs, either.

The Close Combat Assault Ration could provide enough food in one ration to equal an entire day's worth of MREs.

Small units may have to be basically self-sustaining for a seven-day period, and the directorate looked at that possibility, Stephen Moody, director of the combat

feeding program, told Military Times. That prompted new efforts to continue to shrink down the ration. Their plans call for the directorate to deliver specifications by fiscal year 2022, and depending on higher echelon decisions, the new rations could field in the same year, Moody said. New technological processes are giving these researchers ways to do microscopic work to make food retain its nutrition and flavor while continuing to shrink in both weight and volume.

One such process is vacuum microwave drying. It uniformly removes water with both vacuum and microwave techniques, similar to freeze drying without the cold, and then physically compressing the food that remains somewhat moist. That's one way they've created a lemon cheesecake bar that looks, smells and tastes like actual cheesecake, just a bit crunchier. Another process is called sonic agglomeration technology. It uses vibration to instantly compress food without fillers or binders, reducing the same meal by 50 to 70 percent of its original size with the same ingredients and nutrition. Some of the work bore fruit a decade ago, when the directorate put out the First Strike Ration, which put all of the calories and nutrients of three MREs into one MRE-sized package. Or, as Chief Warrant Officer 3 Alma Mendoza said, it means the same calories per day with much less capacity.

Logistically, the soldiers will carry all of their food. "That would fill an entire ruck for seven days," she said. That puts the seven-day supply down from 32 pounds to 18 pounds. But that's still enough rations to fill an entire ruck with nothing but food. And most First Strike Rations were optimized for a three-day mission

set, Moody said. As they've applied the science and technology, they're also pulling in the human factor. Researchers have visited Fort Carson, Colorado; Fort Bragg, North Carolina and the Marine Corps' Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. That's to see what the troops want. Turns out, they want protein. To feed that need, the Army's Research Institute of Environmental Medicine looks to find both the best nutrition practices for performance, recovery and sustainment, and what the troops will actually eat. And the food has to match the shelf life that will fit the Department of Defense logistical supply chain. Oh, and any new ration configuration must fit certain weight and volume parameters so that it can also be delivered in resupply, be that a UH-60 Black Hawk dumping cases off the side or an autonomous drone lifting off with a day's worth of squad rations.

Some of that nutritional science research has produced performance bars with added calcium and protein, especially aimed at helping new recruits unaccustomed to the rigors of basic training that can cause stress fractures. Moody said that their research has shown a two- to three-week period before the bars show a measurable improvement in those nutrients. The performance research also comes with guidelines that go beyond simple eating when hungry and repeating. What soldiers should eat and drink:

- • USARIEM advocates for soldiers to eat ration items at regular intervals, every four to six hours they're awake. They should eat 0.7 grams of protein a day for every pound of body weight and take in up to 200 mg of caffeine,

redosing every three to four hours, but not to exceed 800 mg.

- • Troops should eat one to four hours before a field operation begins and dose caffeine 30 to 60 minutes before an activity.
- • During the field op they should snack each hour if possible and drink one half to one quart of fluid each hour.
- • After the operation, troops should have a combination of 80 to 120g of carbohydrates and 15 to 25g of protein after heavy activity and hydrate to relieve thirst.

At the same, the directorate is also looking closely at food safety. And not just keeping long shelf life and decontaminated food supply, though that's important. They didn't disclose details but they are exploring bacteriophages that could be used to wash local produce to prevent E. coli, salmonella or other pathogens from getting to troops. That would open up more food options for expeditionary units. They're also looking at paper-based biosensors, a "dipstick tech" way of detecting contamination. For the first time in a long time, those involved in food are thinking about how soldiers will eat in a contaminated environment. For a long time, Moody said, the thinking was that troops would simply discard food in a chemical or biologically contaminated environment and eat when they got out of the area and got clean. But now, doctrine is calling for troops enabled to fight through living in such contaminated areas

for days at a time. Which means they'll have to eat.

Hiroshima A-Bomb

Transcript of Truman's 6 AUG 1945 Announcement of its Use

UVA Miller Center | Presentational Speeches |
October 8, 2019

Sixteen hours ago an American airplane dropped one bomb on Hiroshima, an important Japanese Army base. That bomb had more power than 20,000 tons of T.N.T. It had more than two thousand times the blast power of the British "Grand Slam" which is the largest bomb ever yet used in the history of warfare. The Japanese began the war from the air at Pearl Harbor. They have been repaid many fold. And the end is not yet. With this bomb we have now added a new and revolutionary increase in destruction to supplement the growing power of our armed forces. In their present form these bombs are now in production and even more powerful forms are in development.

It is an atomic bomb. It is a harnessing of the basic power of the universe. The force from which the sun draws its power has been loosed against those who brought war to the Far East. Before 1939, it was the accepted belief of scientists that it was theoretically possible to release atomic energy. But no one knew any practical method of doing it. By 1942, however, we knew that the Germans were working feverishly to find a way to add atomic energy to the other engines of war with which they hoped to enslave the world. But they failed. We may be grateful to Providence that the Germans got the V-1's and V-2's late and in limited quantities and even more grateful that they did not get the atomic bomb at all.

The battle of the laboratories held fateful risks for us as well as the battles of the air, land and

sea, and we have now won the battle of the laboratories as we have won the other battles. Beginning in 1940, before Pearl Harbor, scientific knowledge useful in war was pooled between the United States and Great Britain, and many priceless helps to our victories have come from that arrangement. Under that general policy the research on the atomic bomb was begun. With American and British scientists working together we entered the race of discovery against the Germans. The United States had available the large number of scientists of distinction in the many needed areas of knowledge. It had the tremendous industrial and financial resources necessary for the project and they could be devoted to it without undue impairment of other vital war work.

In the United States the laboratory work and the production plants, on which a substantial start had already been made, would be out of reach of enemy bombing, while at that time Britain was exposed to constant air attack and was still threatened with the possibility of invasion. For these reasons Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt agreed that it was wise to carry on the project here. We now have two great plants and many lesser works devoted to the production of atomic power. Employment during peak construction numbered 125,000 and over 65,000 individuals are even now engaged in operating the plants. Many have worked there for two and a half years. Few know what they have been producing. They see great quantities of material going in and they see nothing coming out of these plants, for the physical size of the explosive charge is exceedingly small. We have spent two billion dollars on the greatest scientific gamble in history-and won.

But the greatest marvel is not the size of the enterprise, its secrecy, nor its cost, but the achievement of scientific brains in putting together infinitely complex pieces of knowledge

held by many men in different fields of science into a workable plan. And hardly less marvelous has been the capacity of industry to design, and of labor to operate, the machines and methods to do things never done before so that the brain child of many minds came forth in physical shape and performed as it was supposed to do. Both science and industry worked under the direction of the United States Army, which achieved a unique success in managing so diverse a problem in the advancement of knowledge in an amazingly short time. It is doubtful if such another combination could be got together in the world. What has been done is the greatest achievement of organized science in history. It was done under high pressure and without failure.

We are now prepared to obliterate more rapidly and completely every productive enterprise the Japanese have above ground in any city. We shall destroy their docks, their factories, and their communications. Let there be no mistake; we shall completely destroy Japan's power to make war. It was to spare the Japanese people from utter destruction that the ultimatum of July 26 was issued at Potsdam. Their leaders promptly rejected that ultimatum. If they do not now accept our terms they may expect a rain of ruin from the air, the like of which has never been seen on this earth. Behind this air attack will follow sea and land forces in such numbers and power as they have not yet seen and with the fighting skill of which they are already well aware.

The Secretary of War, who has kept in personal touch with all phases of the project, will immediately make public a statement giving further details. His statement will give facts concerning the sites at Oak Ridge near Knoxville, Tennessee, and at Richland near Pasco, Washington, and an installation near Santa Fe, New Mexico. Although the workers at the sites have been making materials to be used in producing the greatest destructive force in

history they have not themselves been in danger beyond that of many other occupations, for the utmost care has been taken of their safety.

The fact that we can release atomic energy ushers in a new era in man's understanding of nature's forces. Atomic energy may in the future supplement the power that now comes from coal, oil, and falling water, but at present it cannot be produced on a basis to compete with them commercially. Before that comes there must be a long period of intensive research. It has never been the habit of the scientists of this country or the policy of this Government to withhold from the world scientific knowledge. Normally, therefore, everything about the work with atomic energy would be made public. But under present circumstances it is not intended to divulge the technical processes of production or all the military applications, pending further examination of possible methods of protecting us and the rest of the world from the danger of sudden destruction.

I shall recommend that the Congress of the United States consider promptly the establishment of an appropriate commission to control the production and use of atomic power within the United States. I shall give further consideration and make further recommendations to the Congress as to how atomic power can become a powerful and forceful influence towards the maintenance of world peace.

Victorian Christmas Planning

Our preplanning for development of an operational strategy for our 2019 Victorian Christmas fundraiser is a matter of interest. We will need a Project Chair, and we will need to configure an operations schedule for the five-day run, beginning December 8, 2019. Equally important, we need to sort out how we will produce our hundreds of chocolate brownies that the consuming public

looks for on an annual basis. For years, we have been blessed to have the baking needs met by Patricia (and Harold) Graves. Patricia stepped up again in 2018, along with Jose Gonzales, but in fairness, we need to think outside the box and develop an alternative plan. Patricia should not be our fall back alternative. Your input is sought on this matter, as is your commitment to lend a hand with the project.

Brainstorming VVA-535 Social Activities (Repeat Query)

Mike Underwood has asked questions of interest:

- How many among us own or sometimes rent RVs?
- Is there interest in a weekend get-away RV/tent campout?
- How many like to shoot at gun ranges? Is there interest in scheduling a shoot?
- Is there interest in informal activities such as a come-as-you-will breakfast gathering, or even an informal dinner gathering wherein general camaraderie among members and significant others could be enjoyed.

VVA-535 Fundraiser 0.177 Caliber Air Rifle

This is a photo showing a display of the air rifle to be offered by VVA-535 for members only. Tickets, at \$20 each, will be available at the October VVA-535 meeting. One hundred tickets will be available.



Application For Membership
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC., CHAPTER 535

P.O. Box 37, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Membership is open to U.S. armed forces veterans who served on active duty (for other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961, and May 7, 1975, or in **any duty location** between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

Email Address: _____ Gender: _____

(Optional) Chapter Number: _____ Sponsor: _____

_____ I am already a VVA member and I want to become a Life Member. My VVA Number is _____.

Membership: Individual Life Membership: \$50. (Effective Oct. 20, 2018)

ATTENTION New members: You must submit a copy of your DD-214 form along with this application and dues payment.

Payment Method: ___ Check ___ Money Order ___ Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover)

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Return your completed application, payment and a copy of your DD-214 to:

Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., Chapter 535
P.O. Box 37
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Revised: January 2019

October

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 VVA General Meeting & Board Meeting	4	5
6	7 Operation Enduring Freedom began 2001	8	9 Yom Kippur Invasion of N. Korea 1950	10	11 Marine Corps Band	12 Bombing of USS Cole 2000
13 Navy Birthday 1775	14 Columbus Day	15	16	17	18 Nevada County Stand Down	19 Nevada County Stand Down
20	21	22	23	24 United Nations Day	25 CSC - Fresno	26 CSC - Fresno
27 CSC - Fresno Navy Day	28	29	30	31 Halloween		2

November

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 All Saints Day Free Dental Clinic - Auburn	2 Free Dental Clinic - Auburn
3 Daylight Savings Time ends	4	5 Election Day	6	7 VVA General Meeting & Board Meeting	8	9
10 Marine Corps Birthday	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30

December

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 VVA Christmas Dinner	6	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (1941)
8 Victorian Christmas	9	10	11 Victorian Christmas	12	13	14
15 Bill of Rights Day Victorian Christmas	16 Battle of the Bulge began (1944)	17	18 Victorian Christmas	19	20 Operation Just Cause (1989)	21 <i>First Day of Winter</i>
22 Victorian Christmas	23 Hanukkah	24 Christmas Eve U.S. began strikes on Laos (1964)	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve Official end of WW II (1946)				

January

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day	2 VVA-535	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	14	15	16	17 Operation Desert Storm began (1991)	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord (1973)	28	29	30	31	