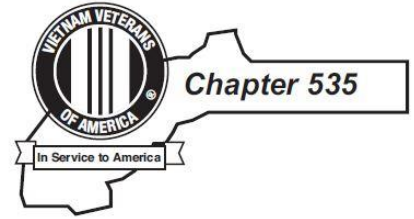




# INCOMING

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA  
**CHAPTER 535**



Website: [www.vva535.org](http://www.vva535.org)

Volume 34 Issue 8

August 2024

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**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA  
CHAPTER 535  
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
July 2024**

Hello VVA 535 members,

**Meeting time is 6:00 p.m. August 1, 2024**

**Agent Orange Awareness Day – 8/10/2024**

The first U.S. combat troops didn't arrive in Vietnam until March 1965, but by then the effort to defoliate the jungle was well under way. Agent Orange was first sprayed in August 1961. President Kennedy had authorized the use of herbicides in December 1961, and the U.S. Air Force began flying Operation Ranch Hand missions the following month.

Operation Ranch Hand (part of a larger program known as Trail Dust) was designed to defoliate areas used by the enemy as cover for ambushes, as well as to destroy enemy subsistence crops. The chemical weapons used were known as "Rainbow Herbicides" — Agent White, Agent Purple, Agent Blue, Agent Pink, Agent Green, and Agent Orange — named for the colored bands painted on their respective storage drums. Between 1962 and 1971, the U.S.

sprayed an estimated 20 million gallons of these herbicides in Vietnam, eastern Laos, and parts of Cambodia, usually from helicopters or low-flying aircraft, but sometimes from backpacks, boats, and trucks.

Agent Orange alone accounted for more than half of the total volume of herbicides deployed. One of its key ingredients, dioxin, is highly toxic even in tiny quantities. Operation Ranch Hand deployed about 375 pounds of dioxin over an area about the size of Massachusetts, contaminating the entire ecosystem and exposing millions of people — on both sides of the conflict — to horrifying long-term effects, including skin diseases and cancers among those exposed, and birth defects in their children.

The ecological, health, and legal issues created by the use of chemical defoliants during the Vietnam War are complex, internationally debated, and continue to the present day. U.S. military personnel who were exposed to Agent Orange while serving in Vietnam have litigated the issue for decades, seeking compensation for medical care resulting from Agent Orange exposure. They have sued both the U.S. government and the corporations who manufactured the chemical compounds.

In 1979, President Jimmy Carter authorized the first Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) study of Agent Orange, to evaluate the effects of the chemical compound on the pilots who sprayed it. The Agent Orange Act was established in 1991. This allows the VA to declare a range of diseases as probable effects of Agent Orange exposure, enabling veterans to pursue services in relation to those diseases.

Bart Ruud, for  
Ray James  
President

### **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.*

**Veterans Crisis Line**  
**DIAL 988 then PRESS 1**  
**Or text 838255**

**(Put these numbers into your phone)**

### **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.

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### **Upcoming Events**

NCCVC Meeting - August 1, 2024  
Bud Anderson Statue Unveiling - August 1, 2024  
at McKnight Crossing Shopping Center 4:00 p.m.  
VVA Chapter 535 Meeting - August 1, 2024  
August 7-11, 2024 - Nevada County Fair  
August 15 - 17, 2024 - Yuba-Sutter Stand Down  
August 20 - 24, 2024 VVA Leadership Conference  
CSC Oct. 3,4,5, 2024 - Visalia, CA

### **Chapter 535 Officers**

President Ray James  
rjames1087@sbcglobal.net  
1-530-273-1087

Vice-President Keith Grueneberg  
Kgberg0178@sbcglobal.net  
1-916-425-1121

Treasurer  
Ralph Remick ..... 530-559-7716

Secretary  
Bart Ruud ..... 530-305-0493  
[bruud45@gmail.com](mailto:bruud45@gmail.com)

### **Directors**

Dale Ferguson ..... 530-272-3300  
Armando Garza ..... 530-906-7188  
Bob Roberts ..... 530-265-0398  
Corbin Smith ..... 916-833-7860

### **Committee Chairs**

Finance ...Ralph Remick & Kent Holley  
Parade and Honor Guard ..... Dick Corn  
Membership Affairs ..... Ric Sheridan  
Newsletter ..... Interim Editor... Bart Ruud

Victorian Christmas ...Cancelled for 2022; 2023  
Nominations ..... Ralph Remick & Dick Corn  
Veterans Assistance ..... Ray James  
NCCVC ..... Dick Corn  
Speakers Bureau .. Enrique Vasquez; Carl  
Cieslikowski  
Web Master ..... Ralph Remick  
Quartermaster ..... Dick Corn  
Facebook Master ..... Mike Laborico ?  
Nevada County Fair ..... Open  
CA State Council Rep... Interim: Bart Ruud

### **Nevada County Veterans Services Officer**

David West II  
Nevada County Veterans Service Officer  
988 McCourtney Road  
Grass Valley, CA 95949  
[David.West@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:David.West@co.nevada.ca.us)  
(530) 265-1446 (Office)  
(530) 913-5046 (Cell phone)  
“Walk-In” opportunities are available M – F.

### **Placer County Veterans Services Officer**

Richard “Steve” Johnson: 916-780-3290.  
1000 Sunset Blvd., Suite 115, Rocklin, CA  
Mon. – Fri., 8:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. The  
Auburn office, at 11562 B Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603, is open every  
Tuesday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. The Carnelian Bay  
office, at 5252 N Lake Blvd, Carnelian Bay, CA 96140, is now open every  
3rd Monday (excluding Holidays) 9:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.-  
3:00 p.m.

### **County VSO Resource Closet Needs**

Sleeping bags, duffel bags, small lightweight  
tents, socks, briefs, bras, tee shirts (white/olive  
drab), sweatshirts, sweatpants, jeans, shoes,  
boots, hygiene supplies, grocery store gift cards,  
gas cards, blankets.

These kinds of items will become components of  
life packs to assist those in need that are seen by  
staff at VSO David West’s office. Thank you for  
your assistance with this project.

### **Guest Speaker (for August 1, 2024)**

No guest speaker scheduled at this time. Carl C.  
might present a “Second Courage” summary. Or,  
if we can sort it out some technology, we might  
be able to show a 56 minute documentary film

on CD, “Vietnam: The Secret Agent,” a well-  
researched film about the legacy of Agent  
Orange.

### **Matters of Interest as outlined at our meeting of June 6, 2024 (Reposted information)**

A VVA 535 site at the cost of \$455 has been  
reserved paid for the August 7 – 11, 2024  
Nevada County Fair. Staffing the booth is a work  
in progress.

Jacket orders were again discussed. A minimum  
order will be 12 jackets at a cost of \$40 each.  
Additional costs will be incurred for patches and  
embroidery. Dick Corn is coordinating this  
project.

### **Gold Star Children’s Day**

Introduced in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress by Joe Manchin (D-WV),  
member of both the U.S. Senate Armed Services and U.S.  
Veterans’ Affairs Committees, and Roger Wicker (R-MS),  
Ranking Member of the Senate Armed Services  
Committee.

RESOLUTION Designating August 1, 2023, as  
“Gold Star Children’s Day”.

Whereas the recognition of Gold Star Families in  
the United States dates back to World War I,  
when the families of fallen service members  
displayed a service flag with a gold star in the  
window of their homes;

Whereas, in 1936, President Franklin D.  
Roosevelt signed into law legislation declaring  
Gold Star Mother’s Day, a national observance  
honoring the mothers of fallen service members  
annually on the last Sunday of September;

Whereas, since 2010, the Senate has honored  
Gold Star Spouses by resolution annually on  
April 5, recognizing the unique sacrifices made  
by spouses of fallen service members;

Whereas thousands of sons and daughters of military families have lost mothers or fathers who served in the Armed NEW23493 1TJ 2 S.L.C. Forces and also deserve national recognition for the burden and legacy they carry; and

Whereas no date has existed to specifically recognize the children of fallen service members of the United States as part of a national debt of gratitude that the people of the United States owe to the service members who sacrificed all in protecting the freedom of the United States and the people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate— (1) designates August 1, 2023, as “Gold Star Children’s Day”; (2) honors the sacrifices and hardships of the children of fallen service members; and (3) encourages the people of the United States to observe Gold Star Children’s Day in support of children of the fallen men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States.

### **Why Nothing (Even The Air Force) Can Kill The A-10**

The A-10 Thunderbolt II, also known as the "Warthog", is a highly resilient aircraft with numerous features that make it difficult to damage or destroy. Some of these features include:

- Armored skin that can withstand significant damage
- Self-sealing fuel tanks that can prevent damage from spreading
- Intricately designed layout that minimizes the impact of damage
- Redundant systems that can continue to function even if one system fails
- High-strength landing gear that can absorb significant impact
- Use of advanced materials like titanium and Kevlar for added strength and resistance to damage

- Low-altitude flying, which provides better protection against damage
- Advanced sensors and avionics that enable effective threat avoidance
- Additionally, even if the A-10 is damaged in combat, it can still continue flying and complete its mission due to its post-strike survivability.



### **Meal, Ready-to-Bulk? Pentagon urged to add creatine to MREs**

By [Riley Ceder](#) and [Jon Simkins](#). July 11, 2024



Meals, Ready-To-Eat provide sustenance, but they may soon help service members bulk up as well.

A provision included in the House version of the [2025 National Defense Authorization Act](#) is calling for the addition of a popular muscle-building supplement to the military's traditional Meal, Ready-to-Eat rations.

The House Armed Services Committee called for the Pentagon to add creatine to MREs in a [committee report](#) accompanying the NDAA, sweeping legislation that Congress must pass annually to determine defense spending.

The gains-based recommendation will now await a Senate decision in order to become law.

"A broad body of clinical research has shown that creatine can enhance muscle growth, physical performance, strength training, post-exercise recovery, and injury prevention," the body-broadening recommendation states.

Kyle Turk, director of government affairs for the Natural Products Association, called the supplement's potential inclusion in MREs "tremendous for American service members."

"Creatine is one of the most extensively studied ingredients for safely increasing strength and recovery time," he told Military Times in an email. Turk consulted with the Armed Services Committee to help craft the language for the provision, he said.

Creatine is a naturally occurring compound that can be found in human muscles, as well as the brain, which the body uses for energy, according to The Mayo Clinic. Recent medical science also suggests the supplement allows at least 227 Instagram users per year to modify their handles to respective iterations of "firstname fit."

The Defense Department, meanwhile, has recently introduced other sources of nutrition to yield stronger service members. Performance readiness bars brimming with calcium and vitamin D — good for muscles and bones, OK for taste — are currently distributed throughout

select military populations, according to the [Defense Logistics Agency](#).

The Department of Defense Dietary Supplement Resource website outlined the benefits of creatine, saying it could have a "positive effect on strength, power, sprint performance, and muscle mass in athletes who engage in resistance training."

Despite its soldier-building properties, it may also cause unwanted weight gain in "those focused on endurance training," the website noted.

## Creatine

A submission from the Cleveland Clinic

Creatine supplies energy to your muscles. Many people take creatine supplements to build strength and promote brain health. Creatine supplements are safe for most people to take, but you should first talk to a healthcare provider to ensure they're right for you.

### Overview

#### What is creatine?

Creatine is a natural source of energy that helps your [skeletal muscles](#) flex (contract). It helps create a steady supply of energy in your muscles so they can keep working, especially while you're exercising.

About half of your body's supply of creatine (1 to 2 grams/day, about the size of 1 to 2 jellybeans) comes from your diet, especially protein-rich foods such as:

- Red meat (pork, veal and beef).
- Seafood (fish and shellfish).
- Animal milk (like cow, goat and sheep milk).

Your body produces the other half naturally in your liver, kidneys and pancreas. They deliver about 95% of the creatine to your skeletal muscles to use during physical activity. The rest goes to your heart, brain and other tissues.

Manufacturers also make creatine supplements. Some people take creatine supplements because they work out a lot or don't get enough creatine in their diet. Creatine supplements exist as:

- Powders.
- Tablets.
- Capsules.
- Liquids.
- Energy bars.

### **Is it healthy to take creatine?**

Studies show that it's safe for many people to take creatine supplements. However, there isn't enough evidence to know if it's safe if you:

- Are pregnant or breastfeeding (chestfeeding).
- Have diabetes.
- Have kidney disease.
- Have liver disease.

If you have bipolar disorder, creatine may also increase your risk of mania.

Talk to a healthcare provider before taking creatine to ensure it's safe for you.

### **Does creatine make you gain muscle?**

It depends. Studies show that regularly taking creatine, weightlifting and exercising can help increase muscle growth in people 18 to 30 years old. However, there isn't enough research to say that creatine helps develop muscle growth in people older than 65 or people with diseases that affect their muscles.

### **Why do people take creatine supplements?**

Many amateur and professional athletes take creatine supplements to aid their workout routines and improve their recovery. Creatine creates "quick burst" energy and increased strength, which improves your performance without affecting your ability to exercise for longer periods (aerobic endurance).

Most athletes who take creatine supplements participate in power sports, including:

- Bodybuilding.
- Football.
- Hockey.
- Wrestling.

In addition, studies suggest that creatine supplements may help brain function in people 60 and older. This includes:

- Short-term memory.
- Reasoning.
- Neuroprotection (keeping groups of nerve cells safe from injury or damage).

Researchers are still studying whether creatine supplements may help people with cognitive (mental) conditions, including dementia.

Talk to a healthcare provider before taking creatine supplements, regardless of your level of physical fitness, age or health.

### **Are creatine supplements recommended for athletes?**

Many athletes use creatine supplements. Professional sports organizations, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) all allow athletes to use creatine supplements.

Men and women and people assigned male or female at birth (AMAB or AFAB) report benefits to using creatine. But some studies note that women and people AFAB who take creatine

supplements may not gain as much strength or muscle mass as men and people AMAB.

### **What is the most common type of creatine supplement?**

The most common creatine supplement is creatine monohydrate. It's a dietary supplement that increases muscle performance in short-duration, high-intensity resistance exercises, such as weightlifting, sprinting and bicycling. Other forms of creatine don't appear to have these benefits.

### **Procedure Details**

#### **What happens when you start taking creatine?**

Most creatine goes to your skeletal muscles, which convert creatine into a compound of creatine and phosphoric acid (phosphocreatine or creatine phosphate). Phosphocreatine then helps create adenosine triphosphate (ATP). ATP is a source of energy that your cells use when you exercise. So, creatine helps maintain a continuous energy supply to your muscles during intense lifting or exercise.

In addition to providing more energy and helping to increase muscle growth, creatine helps:

- **Speed up muscle recovery.** When you exercise, you create micro-tears in your muscle fibers. As you recover, the micro-tears in your muscle fibers heal, and your muscles get stronger. Creatine helps activate satellite cells in your muscles, which help the micro-tears heal.
- **Increase anabolic hormones.** Anabolic hormones contribute to growth and tissue repair. They include insulin, human growth hormone (hGH), estrogen and testosterone.
- **Boost water content in muscle cells.** Better cell hydration may increase

muscle growth and reduce dehydration and muscle cramps.

Creatine can also increase the amount of phosphocreatine in your brain, which may help with your memory.

#### **Should I take creatine every day?**

Your body is unique, and how much creatine you take and how often you take it depends on many factors. Before you take creatine, talk to a healthcare provider. They can help determine if it's safe for you to take creatine, as well as the appropriate dosage.

#### **What happens when you stop taking creatine?**

When you stop taking creatine, your creatine levels will gradually drop over the next few weeks. Your body will still make creatine naturally, but you may have side effects as you adjust to lower creatine levels. These side effects may include:

- Fatigue.
- Loss of muscle mass.
- Weight loss.
- A short-term decrease in natural creatine production.

You should be able to maintain any added strength through regular exercise, but you likely won't see continued improvement.

### **Risks / Benefits**

#### **What are the pros of taking creatine?**

For people who work out regularly, studies show that taking creatine supplements may:

- Improve their exercise performance.
- Help their recovery after intense exercise.
- Increase their muscle mass.

- Prevent severe muscle injuries or reduce the severity of muscle injuries.
- Help athletes tolerate more intense activity.
- Reduce dehydration and cramping.
- Minimize muscle tightness, including muscle strains and pulls.

If you're a vegetarian or vegan, you may see more significant muscle gains by taking creatine supplements because you don't get creatine through animal-based sources. However, building up creatine levels in your muscles may take longer.

In addition to its athletic benefits, creatine supplements may benefit people who have:

- Neurodegenerative diseases, such as muscular dystrophy, Parkinson's disease and Huntington's disease.
- Diabetes.
- Osteoarthritis.
- Fibromyalgia.
- Conditions that affect creatine metabolism.
- Conditions that affect how creatine transports through your body.
- Insufficient blood flow to your heart muscle (myocardial ischemia).

### **How much bigger does creatine make you?**

It depends on your exercise routine. But some studies show that people who take creatine supplements may gain an extra two to four pounds of muscle mass during four to 12 weeks of regular exercise than people who don't take creatine.

### **Are creatine gains permanent?**

If you continue to take creatine, exercise and eat the best foods to fuel your workout, you should be able to maintain the strength you gain from taking creatine.

### **What are the negative effects of creatine?**

Creatine is a relatively safe supplement. However, side effects may include:

- Weight gain because of water retention.
- Dizziness.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Diarrhea.
- Excessive sweating (hyperhidrosis).

If you develop any of these side effects after taking creatine, divide the amount you take each day into smaller doses. Take these smaller doses throughout the day instead of all at once.

### **When To Call the Doctor**

#### **When should I call a healthcare provider?**

Talk to a healthcare provider before you take creatine. They'll likely conduct a physical examination and ask questions, including:

- Do you currently have any conditions, including diabetes, kidney disease or liver disease?
- Are you taking any medications, vitamins or other supplements?
- Why do you want to take creatine?
- What are your goals?
- Are you pregnant or planning to get pregnant?
- Are you currently breastfeeding (chestfeeding)?

They'll recommend the best creatine supplement and dosage for you.

It's also a good idea to talk to a healthcare provider if you have side effects after taking creatine.

#### **A note from Cleveland Clinic**

Creatine is a compound that your body naturally makes, and you also get it from protein-rich foods. It supplies energy to your muscles and may also promote brain health. Many people take creatine supplements to increase strength,



improve performance and help keep their minds sharp. There's a lot of research on creatine, and creatine supplements are safe for most people to take. However, creatine use may cause side effects. If you're thinking of taking creatine, talk to a healthcare provider. They'll help you understand if creatine is right for you.

### **Chinese military's rifle-toting robot dogs raise concerns in Congress**

By Leo Shane III. Army Times. June 19, 2024



This screengrab from a video released by the Chinese-backed CCTV shows a robot dog firing a rifle during military exercises in Cambodia.

Congress is worried that robot dogs with machine guns will be bounding onto the battlefield in the near future.

During last week's debate over the annual defense authorization bill, House lawmakers inserted language in the massive military policy measure to require a new assessment from the Defense Department on "the threat of rifle-toting robot dogs used by China" in potential future conflicts.

The issue has gained public attention in recent weeks after Chinese military officials showed off armed robotic quadrupeds during recent military drills with Cambodia.

In a video released by state-run CCTV on May 25, a 110-pound dog-like robot is shown carrying and firing an automatic rifle. A spokesman for the Chinese military said the robot, which can perform many tasks autonomously, could "serve as a new member in our urban combat operations."

### **RELATED**



### **Marines test robotic mule that could carry weapons, sensors**

The program seeks to take the load off of dismounted troops.

By Todd South. Army Times

Drone warfare is not new to the U.S. or foreign militaries, and the American military for years has experimented with robot dogs for use in reconnaissance and unit support roles.

But the idea of a robot version of man's best friend shooting at American soldiers was enough to prompt House members to demand that the secretary of defense investigate "the threat such use poses to the national security of the United States."

The amendment was adopted without objection from any members of the chamber. But it will have to survive negotiations with senators on

the broader defense measure in coming months before it can become law.

The Senate is expected to hold floor debate and make possible amendments to its draft of the legislation in the next few weeks.

### **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, Mike Laborico and Dave Johnson. (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](mailto:bruud45@gmail.com) or hand deliver to Bart.

### **VVA 535 Member Biographies**

**Do you know \_\_\_\_\_**

*Now, our readership and Brotherhood knows \_\_\_\_\_ better than we might ever have known this man, this leader.*

*Who will be next to share*

**C-5 and the Antonov 125 are monsters of the air. How does the Airbus 380 compare to those? Is there an upper end of the scale that is prohibitive?**

The Lockheed C-5 Galaxy and the Antonov An-225 Mriya are indeed titans of the skies, each designed to carry massive payloads over long distances. The Airbus A380, while primarily a passenger aircraft, also stands as a giant in aviation, but with a different focus and set of capabilities.



The C-5 Galaxy, a military transport aircraft, is renowned for its ability to carry oversized cargo. With a wingspan of 222 feet and a length of 247 feet, it can transport up to 270,000 pounds of cargo, making it a critical asset for the U.S. Air Force. The Antonov An-225, on the other hand, was designed to transport the Soviet space shuttle and other oversized loads. It holds the record for the heaviest airlifted payload and has a wingspan of 290 feet, making it the largest aircraft ever built.



The Airbus A380, the world's largest passenger airliner, was designed to maximize passenger capacity and comfort. With a wingspan of 262 feet and a length of 238 feet, it can carry up to 853 passengers in an all-economy configuration. While it doesn't match the cargo capacity of the C-5 or An-225, the A380 excels in transporting large numbers of passengers efficiently over long distances.



When comparing these aircraft, it's essential to consider their intended roles. The C-5 and An-225 are optimized for cargo transport, with

features like large cargo bays and robust landing gear to handle heavy loads. The A380, however, focuses on passenger comfort and efficiency, with advanced aerodynamics and fuel-efficient engines.



As for the upper limits of aircraft size, there are practical and economic considerations. Structurally, larger aircraft face challenges related to weight and material strength. As size increases, the weight grows exponentially, while the structural components must be robust enough to handle the stresses of flight. Also, larger aircraft require specialized infrastructure, such as extended runways and larger hangars, which can be costly to build and maintain.

Economically, the viability of super-large aircraft depends on demand. The A380, for example, faced challenges due to changing market dynamics, with airlines favoring smaller, more flexible aircraft that can operate on a wider range of routes. This shift led to the end of A380 production in 2021.

### The 1970 Draft Lottery

During the Vietnam War, young men gathered in college dorms and friends' homes to listen to live TV and radio broadcasts of the U.S. Selective Service System drawing lottery numbers to determine who would and would not be drafted. The 2010 issue of *Vietnam* magazine revisits those days in the article, "[Live from Washington, It's Lottery Night 1969!!](#)"

366 blue plastic capsules contained the birthdays that would be chosen in the first Vietnam draft lottery drawing on December 1, 1969. The first birth date drawn that night, assigned the lowest number, "001," was September 14.

## HOW WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

Find your birthday in the chart below to see what order you would have been called to service. Or: Check out our [Today in History](#) page for an interactive version of the chart!

1970 RANDOM SELECTION SEQUENCE, BY MONTH AND DAY

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
1	305	086	108	032	330	249	093	111	225	359	019	129
2	159	144	029	271	298	228	350	045	161	125	034	328
3	251	297	267	083	040	301	115	261	049	244	348	157
4	215	210	275	081	276	020	279	145	232	202	266	165
5	101	214	293	269	364	028	188	054	082	024	310	056
6	224	347	139	293	155	110	327	114	006	087	076	010
7	306	091	122	147	035	085	050	168	008	234	051	012
8	199	181	213	312	321	366	013	048	184	283	097	105
9	194	338	317	219	197	335	277	106	263	342	080	043
10	325	216	323	218	065	206	284	021	071	220	282	041
11	329	150	136	014	037	134	248	324	158	237	046	039
12	221	068	300	346	133	272	015	142	242	072	066	314
13	318	152	259	124	295	069	042	307	175	138	126	163
14	238	004	354	231	178	356	331	198	001	294	127	026
15	017	089	169	273	130	180	322	102	113	171	131	320
16	121	212	166	148	055	274	120	044	207	254	107	096
17	235	189	033	260	112	073	098	154	255	288	143	304
18	140	292	332	090	278	341	190	141	246	005	146	128
19	058	025	200	336	075	104	227	311	177	241	203	240
20	280	302	239	345	183	360	187	344	063	192	185	135
21	186	363	334	062	250	060	027	291	204	243	156	070
22	337	290	265	316	326	247	153	339	160	117	009	053
23	118	057	256	252	319	109	172	116	119	201	182	162
24	059	236	258	002	031	358	023	036	195	196	230	095
25	052	179	343	351	361	137	067	286	149	176	132	084
26	092	365	170	340	357	022	303	245	018	007	309	173
27	355	205	268	074	296	064	289	352	233	264	047	078
28	077	299	223	262	308	222	088	167	257	094	281	123
29	349	285	362	191	226	353	270	061	151	229	099	016
30	164	---	217	208	103	209	287	333	315	038	174	003
31	211	---	030	---	313	---	193	011	---	079	---	100

- **Al Gore:** 030, March 31, 1948
- **Bill Clinton:** 311, August 19, 1946
- **George W. Bush:** 327, July 6, 1946
- Billy Crystal: 354, March 14, 1947
- **David Letterman:** 346, April 12, 1947
- Tom Daschle: 043, December 9, 1947
- Howard Dean: 143, December 17, 1948
- **Tom DeLay:** 312, April 8, 1947
- **Jay Leno:** 223, April 28, 1950
- Rudy Giuliani: 308, May 28, 1944
- **Stephen King:** 204, September 21, 1947
- **Donald Trump:** 356, June 14, 1946
- OJ Simpson: 277, July 9, 1947
- Bill Murray: 204, September 21, 1950

\*Some in this list, who were already serving and whose draft status had been resolved, were not affected by the draft lottery. Otherwise, every male aged 19 to 26 had a stake in the 1970 draft lottery, as it determined the order in which men with birth dates between 1944 and 1950 were called to report for induction in 1970. Some on the above list were already serving, received student or medical deferments, volunteered for other service, or for various other reasons were not drafted in 1970.

## HOW DID PROMINENT FIGURES DO?

- **Oliver Stone:** 113, September 15, 1946
- **Pat Sajak:** 007, October 26, 1946
- **Bruce Springsteen:** 119, September 23, 1949
- Sylvester Stallone: 327, July 6, 1946
- Samuel Alito: 032, April 1, 1950
- Clarence Thomas: 109, June 23, 1948
- **Dan Quayle:** 210, February 4, 1947



Marines man a gun emplacement captured from the Japanese during the early stages of the battle for Guadalcanal. (U.S. Marine Corps/National Archives)

## What If the U.S. Had Invaded a Japanese Home Island?

A “divine wind” that saved Japan from the humiliation of unconditional surrender would in fact have been an ill wind that brought only calamity.

By Mark Grimsley 3/8/2018

In mid-1941, Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto, commander in chief of the Imperial Japanese Navy, predicted that if war broke out with the United States, “I shall run wild considerably for the first six months or a year but I have utterly no confidence for the second and third years.” He knew it wouldn’t be enough to seize the American possessions of Guam, the Philippines, and Hawaii, or even a main land city like San Francisco. “To make victory certain,” he warned, “we would have to march into Washington and dictate the terms of peace in the White House.”

These comments are quoted in nearly all histories of the Pacific war because they encapsulate the unlikelihood of any plausible scenario in which Japan could prevail against the military and economic might of the United States—or undercut American will sufficiently to achieve a negotiated peace settlement. The difficulty of imagining a Japanese victory extends even to *Rising Sun Victorious: The Alternate History of How the Japanese Won the Pacific War*, a volume of essays edited by Peter G. Tsouras.

Judging by its title, one would suppose that the 10 contributors to *Rising Sun Victorious* offer 10 distinct avenues to Japanese victory. But six postulate merely operational, not strategic, success. Japanese triumphs in the battles of the Coral Sea, Midway, and Guadalcanal, for example, provide only temporary respites before American shipyards and aircraft factories produce new armadas with which to resume the contest. And of course, nothing the Japanese could have done would have had any effect on the development of the atomic bomb. (One

contributor notes that even if the United States had lacked bases from which B-29s could carry the bomb to Japan, it still could have relied upon a crash program to produce the [Northrop XB-35 Flying Wing](#), a heavy bomber with a range of over 8,000 miles.)

The four alternate histories that do lead to victory actually yield only compromise settlements with the United States. Of these, perhaps the most intriguing is the volume’s final essay—“Victory Rides the Divine Wind: The Kamikaze and the Invasion of Kyushu,” by D. M. Giangreco, a former editor at *Military Review* who has written extensively on American plans to invade Japan—in which a military disaster has forced the United States to conclude an armistice with Japan. What had gone so terribly wrong?

In Giangreco’s account, the abortive military coup by aggrieved Japanese staff officers on August 15, 1945, succeeds, and—despite the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as two other nuclear attacks on unnamed cities—the Japanese military fights on. The Americans have little choice but to continue with Operation Olympic, their plan for the invasion of Kyushu, the southern most of the Japanese home islands. The invasion, scheduled for November 1, 1945, is postponed until December 10 after a major typhoon ravages the American fleet in October. (A typhoon packing 140 mph winds actually did occur, on October 9, 1945.) The typhoon strongly echoes the famous storms—“divine winds”—that swept away two Mongol invasion fleets in 1274 and again in 1281, and creates a propaganda coup for the Japanese militarists that further cements their authority.

When the 2,800-vessel American invasion fleet finally appears off the coast of Kyushu, it is beset by another typhoon of sorts. This one is composed of more than 12,000 Japanese Special Attack Corps aircraft, manned by pilots with instructions to ram their bomb-laden planes directly into American vessels: the notorious

kamikaze, or “divine wind,” craft, a reference to the infamous typhoons of centuries before.

Historically, the first kamikaze attacks took place on October 25, 1944, as part of the Japanese defense of Leyte Island in the Philippines. During the Battle of Okinawa in April 1945, waves of over 2,000 kamikaze aircraft attacked the American fleet, sinking 34 Allied ships and damaging 288 others. Despite such losses, however, American naval planners believed that they had created effective countermeasures against suicide attacks, most notably through the use of destroyer picket screens that provided early warning of incoming kamikaze formations.

In Giangreco’s scenario, however, the kamikazes attacking at Kyushu, able to take off from airfields close to the fleet and emerge at low altitude with minimal warning time, prove devastatingly effective. And the scale of the attacks is far greater than American planners anticipated. Some 12,000 kamikaze aircraft are involved, overwhelming the defenders and sinking dozens of transport ships with a loss, in Giangreco’s scenario, of 29,000 Americans, most of them ground troops. The aerial attacks are supplemented by suicide strikes from fast, explosive-laden motorboats that ram American vessels.

These attacks disrupt the intricately planned amphibious assaults. Without proper resupply and reinforcements, the progress of the American divisions that do get ashore is badly delayed. As a result, in two weeks American casualties exceed 170,000 dead, wounded, and missing. An additional 40,000 casualties arise as a result of radiation sickness, an unintended consequence of the atomic bombs used to destroy Japanese units en route from northern Kyushu to the invasion sites on the southern part of the island.

Nor do American problems end there. As Giangreco notes, the invasion of Kyushu was

intended as a preliminary to Operation Coronet, an even larger invasion of Tokyo’s Kanto Plain on the island of Honshu, scheduled for March 1, 1946. But the six week delay in launching the Kyushu invasion would place Coronet directly in Japan’s annual monsoon season; that, coupled with American reversals at Kyushu, would have jeopardized construction of the 11 airfields needed to support the Honshu invasion.

Moreover, the radiation casualties sustained on Kyushu would have forced a halt to plans for the use of tactical nuclear strikes—one bomb for each American corps sector—directly on the Coronet invasion beaches to eliminate the defenders. Operation Coronet, therefore, becomes impracticable.

Giangreco bases his account on the historical fact that the Japanese had managed to pack Kyushu with 12,735 kamikaze air craft: more than twice the number American intelligence had anticipated. He also points out that amphibious invasions were complex, carefully choreographed affairs in which the substantial loss of transport and support ships would have created massive disruptions ashore. For example, the supply of whole blood and blood plasma for the Kyushu invasion was to have been concentrated on just five LST(H) vessels, one for each of the invasion beaches. The loss of any of these (in Giangreco’s account, two are sunk) would have resulted in the deaths of hundreds of American wounded who might otherwise have survived.

And as for the use of atomic bombs, Gen. George C. Marshall had advocated their use in support of the Kyushu invasion and the invasion of the Kanto Plain. Since American physicists badly underestimated the extent of radiation sickness caused by atomic explosions, it is likely that as many as 40,000 American troops might have fallen ill from bombs intended to destroy Japanese reinforcements.

Nonetheless, in Giangreco's account the nuclear attacks succeed in bringing the Japanese to the conference table. Willing to endure the loss of cities, they cannot bring themselves to see their army—unable to put up an “honorably fight”—vaporized by a rain of atomic bombs. The Americans have second thoughts of their own when it becomes clear that American casualties in a continued invasion would exceed the number of troops available to replace them. The Allies and Japan therefore agree upon a compromise peace settlement. Giangreco is not specific about the details, but it would surely have involved an unequivocal guarantee that the Japanese emperor would remain in power and, most likely, mean no military occupation of the Japanese home islands.

It seems odd to include this scenario in a book ostensibly about Japanese victory, for the sequel to such a settlement would have been unmitigated disaster for the Japanese. In reality, the emperor remained on the throne anyway, and only American occupation saved Japan from famine, restored its shattered economy, and created a new political order that made the Land of the Rising Sun a land of peace and prosperity in the decades that followed. A “divine wind” that saved Japan from the humiliation of unconditional surrender would in fact have been an ill wind that brought only calamity.

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Originally published in the March 2009 issue  
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**Application for Membership**  
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P.O. Box 37, Grass Valley, CA 95945

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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 2022



# July

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Canada Day	2	3	4 Independence Day  NCCVC VVA-535 Board & General Meeting <b>CANCELED</b>	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

# August

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 NCCVC VVA-535 Board & General Meeting  Gold Star Children's Day  Bud Anderson Statue Unveiling	2 Gulf of Tonkin Incident  (1964)	3
4 234 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Coast Guard Birthday	5	6	7	8	9	10 Agent Orange Awareness Day
11	12	13	14	15 Yuba Sutter Stand Down	16 Yuba Sutter Stand Down	17 Yuba Sutter Stand Down
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

# September

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5 NCCVC VVA-535 Board & General Meeting	6	7
8	9	10	11 Patriot Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 77 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Air Force Birthday	19	20 National POW/MIA Recognition Day	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Gold Star Mothers and Family Day	30					

# October

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 NCCVC VVA-535 Board & General Meeting	2 Rosh Hashana begins	3	4 Rosh Hashana ends	5
6	7	8	9	10 Mental Health Day	11 Yom Kippur begins	12 Yom Kippur ends
13 249 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Navy Birthday	14 Indigenous People Day  Columbus Day	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 National Day of the Deployed
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween		



## OFFICIAL UNVEILING CEREMONY

Join us in celebrating the Re-Imagination of  
McKnight Crossing Shopping Center in Grass Valley!

### DAY 1 • 8/1/21

**7 – 10am**  
Coffee with Cops

**11am – 1pm**  
Hotdogs with Sheriffs

**4 – 5pm**  
Dedication Ceremony

Bud Anderson Statue Unveiling  
Who is Bud Anderson and Family Remarks

**5 – 6pm**  
Festivities

### DAY 2 • 8/2/21

**10 – 11am**  
Patriot's Point  
Dedication Ceremony

**11am – 1pm**  
Festivities



### Festivities:

Enjoy live music, delicious food, exciting games,  
and fantastic prizes.



# Yuba-Sutter Stand Down 2024 Veteran's Resource Fair

This annual event plays a critical role in helping veterans, active duty personnel, & their families obtain necessary goods and service



## August 15, 16, 17

Opening Ceremonies Fri. 1200 Noon

Gates Open/Close

Thurs. & Fri. 0900 - 1600

Saturday 0900 - 1500

No Overnights

## Registration

You may register by going online to [www.YubaSutterVeteransStandDown.org](http://www.YubaSutterVeteransStandDown.org) or at VA Clinic, 425 Plumas St, Yuba City, Yuba-Sutter Veterans Stand Down, 604 D. St Marysville 530-749-1036

*Proof you are a Veteran is needed:  
DD-214, VA Medical Card or Veteran's ID  
Only certified service dogs are allowed.*

## Services Include

- ❖ Food
  - Daily Snacks
  - Breakfast & Lunch
- ❖ Military Clothing Supply
  - Fri., 1pm & Sat.
- ❖ Vision & Dental Services
  - Fri. & Sat.
- ❖ Hearing Services
  - Thurs. & Fri.
- ❖ Education Advice
- ❖ Social Security
- ❖ Veteran's Benefits
  - VA Claim Officers
  - Veterans Services Officers
  - Vet Center Van
  - VA Clinic
  - Cal Vet Services
- ❖ Veterans Service Organizations
- ❖ Employment/Public Assistance
- ❖ Drug, Alcohol, & Mental Health Counseling
- ❖ DMV Services
- ❖ Women's health & Service Area

United Way 



Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds | 422 Franklin Avenue, Yuba City, CA