

LISTEN UP!

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT

#636

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
OF PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

VOLUME XXV, Number 6

JUNE 2012

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Editor: DON H. GEE

MARINES LEAVING OKINAWA, HEADED FOR GUAM

WASHINGTON — About 9,000 U.S. Marines stationed on the Japanese island of Okinawa will be moved to the U.S. territory of Guam and other locations in the Asia-Pacific, including Hawaii, under a U.S.-Japan agreement announced Apr. 26.

The move is part of a broader arrangement designed to tamp down tensions in the U.S.-Japan defense alliance stemming in part from opposition in Okinawa to what many view as a burdensome U.S. military presence.

It also reflects a desire by the Obama administration to spread U.S. forces more widely in the Asia-Pacific region as part of a rebalancing of U.S. defense priorities in the aftermath of a decade

of war in the greater Middle East.

The agreement was outlined in a joint statement issued Apr. 26 by **Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton** and **Defense Secretary Leon Panetta** and their Japanese counterparts.

Citing an "increasingly uncertain security environment" in the Asia-Pacific region, they said their agreement was intended to maintain a robust U.S. military presence to ensure the defense of Japan.

"Japan is not just a close ally, but also a close friend," Panetta said in a separate comment. "And I look forward to deepening that friendship and strengthening our partnership as, together, we address security challenges in the re-

gion."

The joint statement made no mention of a timetable for moving the approximately 9,000 Marines off of Okinawa. It said it would happen "when appropriate facilities are available to receive them" on Guam and elsewhere.

Under the new agreement, about 10,000 Marines will remain on Okinawa, which has been a key element of the U.S. military presence in Asia for decades. The U.S. also has a substantial Air Force presence on Okinawa.

"I think we have made some progress and this plan offers specific and for-

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Alaska Mountain Named to Honor Korean War Vets

JUNEAU, AK--The Alaska Historical Commission on Mar. 29 named a mountain in honor of 3,000 soldiers killed in action in the Korean War Battle of the Chosin Reservoir. Mount Chosin Few, near Cordova, will commemorate veterans of the epic 1950 Korean War battle, including those from Alaska.

"The first question many Americans ask a Korean War veteran is: 'Were you at the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir?' That stands in history as one of the most difficult battles in modern times," said **Lieutenant Governor Mead Treadwell**, who chairs the commission.

"It's unusual for Alaska to name mountains after an event. However, this cold, snowy place can help us remember sacrifices that thousands made in that harsh land. The commission felt we have mountains enough to honor these brave men," Treadwell said.

The Alaska Historical Commission is a forum for citizens' voices in the development of state history policy.

Chosin Few member **Richard Lilly** of Wasilla who, along with fellow Chosin Few member **John Beasley** of Palmer, is heading up the effort to name the peak, said it's not quite a done deal yet. The federal government still has

to sign off on it, a process that can take as long as a year.

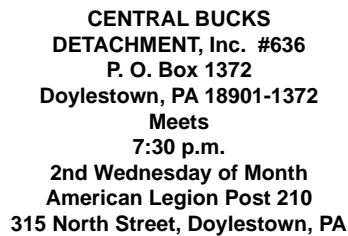
"Hopefully it'll go through. I don't know if this is the hardest part or not," he said. "It's for the guys--not for us, but for those other guys."

After settling on the idea, Beasley and Lilly collected letters of support.

Vic Voltaggio, National Commandant of the Marine Corps League, called it a "fitting tribute to those who never made it back."

Palmer **Mayor DeLena Johnson** said the effort "reminded me how much

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Our Department Ticket sales are winding down for the year, remember we need to have the ticket stubs and money at the June meeting. Also we have our largest fund raiser coming up

Well that's all for now. Hope to see you at St. _____rade.

m/lie

Eventually attaining the rank of Master Sergeant, DeSerio served in the Pacific Theater of World War II and in the Korean War and did two tours of duty in Vietnam. He retired from the

After leaving the service, DeSerio moved to Collingdale and was a maintenance worker at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital in Darby until his retirement in 1988.

MAY DETACHMENT MEETING



MINUTES

The regular meeting of Central Bucks Detachment #636, Inc., of the Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., was held May 9, 2012, at the Albert E. Atkinson American Legion Post, 315 North St., Doylestown, PA.

There were 20 members present including all officers. Distinguished members in attendance included **Past Commandants Budd Pearce, Don Gee, Don Parzanese Sr.; Department Junior Vice Commandant/Past Detachment Commandant/Marine of the Year Jim Powell; Southeast Division Vice Commandant/Past Detachment Commandant Bill Miller;** and **Past Department of New Jersey/Past National Northeast Division Vice Commandant Ed Hoth.**

The **Minutes** of the March Meeting as published in *Listen Up!* were unanimously approved.

SICK and DISTRESSED: **Marine Mike Waldron** spoke about his wife who passed away recently. **Past Commandant Bill Miller** welcomed back **Marine Ed Jasiewicz** who recovered from a serious injury sustained over a year ago. **Commandant Joe Kier** reported on the passing of Detachment member **Marine Bob Duff**. **Past Commandant Budd Pearce** reported that **Marine Ray Krout** was in Room 115 at the Buckingham Coalescence Home and would welcome visitors.

OFFICER REPORTS

Commandant Joe Kier talked on the Youth and Veterans tickets and reported that **Marine Ken Murray** was looking for help selling the tickets. He has several dates available and would appreciate any help he can get.

*He also reported on his attendance of the District 2 meeting on Apr. 15 at the Zaengle Detachment home.

*He informed the membership that the United Veterans of Doylestown was looking to fill the position of Executive Director to handle the day-to-day operations of the organization. Anyone interested should contact **Public Relations Officer Don Gee, PC**, at 215-822-6898 or e-mail: usmccca@aol.com.

*On May 19 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., he will be attending a Welcome Home Celebration for the County of Bucks active duty military and he will be setting up a table to possibly recruit new members and welcome home the troops. It will take place at the TD Bank Amphitheater in Bensalem and invites any member to also attend.

*He again commented on the no politics policy of the Marine Corps League.

Senior Vice Commandant Jack Gentile reported the Detachment strength at 74 including 28 Life Members, 39 Regular Members, 2 Dual Members, 5 Associate Members, and 1 Honorary Member.

Junior Vice Commandant Vince DeBella had no report.

Judge Advocate Don Parzanese Sr., PC, reported the Detachment has no legal problems.

*He also reported that he just received a request from the IRS to provide the 2010 990N filing proof. He indicated that it had been submitted and will make sure this request will be taken care of.

*He also reported that a change to the Detachment ByLaws had been written and was distributed to all Detachment members as required via the current edition of *Listen Up!* They will be published again in the upcoming issue of *Listen Up!* and will be voted upon at the June Meeting.

Adjutant/Paymaster Jim Powell, PC presented the financial report. It was unanimously accepted.

Sergeant-at-Arms (Acting) Don Gee, PC, reported **Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Sundling, PC** was in Reno, NV, attending a Young Marine Foundation Conference.

Chaplain Don Parzanese Jr. had no report. **Assistant Chaplain Budd Pearce, PC** reported he and several Detachment Members attended the viewing of **Marine Bob Duff**. He also attended the funeral service. The family requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Lehman Memorial United Methodist Church.

Quartermaster Corey Fisher reported sales of \$138.00 since the last meeting.

The Public Relations Officer set May 20 as the deadline for submitting material for the May *Listen Up!*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parade Coordinator Budd Pearce reported that the Detachment Float will be at the Lenape Middle School parking lot on May 28 at 8:15 a.m. for the Memorial Day Parade in Doylestown. Detachment members should be there to help set up the float and at 9 a.m. for the flag raising at the War Memorial Field.

Fund Raising Coordinator Budd Pearce reported that he will be calling the volunteers for the Detachment Memorial Day fund raising to schedule and coordinate times and dates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commandant Kier presented **Marine Mike Waldron** his Department 25-Year Award plaque and a Charter Member acrylic recognition from the Detachment.

NEW BUSINESS

*A motion was made and unanimously approved to nominate our **Detachment Marine of the Year Jim Powell** for Department Marine of the Year.

*A motion was made and approved for the Detachment to join the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce.

*A motion was made and unanimously approved to donate \$100 in memory of **Marine Bob Duff** to the Lehman Memorial United Methodist Church.

*An audit committee was appointed by Commandant Kier to audit the Detachment financial records before the June Meeting. **Marines Mike Mattie** and **Bill McBride** volunteered to do the audit.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE

*Past Commandant Pearce reminded the membership that we will be gathering to recognize **Marine Bill Jerrom** on his 90th birthday on May 20 at 12:30 p.m. at the Pine Run Retirement Home.

*On Sat., May 26, the dedication of 30 Warrington resident veterans will be added to the Warrington Veteran Memorial.

*Detachment member **Marine Jim McComb** will be speaking about his book *More Than Names on a Wall* at the Doylestown Library on May 16 at 7 p.m.

*St. Mary's Manor Continued Care is honoring all soldiers, past and present on Wednesday, May 23 at 11 a.m.. They are requesting our attendance. The Manor is located in Lansdale, PA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judge Advocate Parzanese announced his brother **Marine Tony Parzanese** and dual member of our Detachment was elected Department of Nevada Junior Vice Commandant.

Chaplain Parzanese informed the Pistol/Rifle team members that Fort Indiantown Gap has finally got their Base PA system working.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 13.

GOODIES FOR THE TROOPS

Peggy Sundling, who continues to send "Goodies to the Troops," has provided a sampling of items which are needed for the shipments. She cautions, "NO CHOCOLATE!" Items include Moist Wipes--with or without aloe (some people are allergic); Beef Jerky/Slim Jims--very popular; Hard Candy--no lollipops; Lotions and Moisturizers; Lip Balm; Chewing Gum; Crackers/Snacks/Granola Bars--in individual packages for easy toting; Fruit Snacks/Raisins--in individual packages; Writing Tablets/Envelopes/Pens; Crossword Puzzles; Magazines--military, automotive, hunting, etc. (used, are fine); Drink Mixes--individual envelopes.

Thanks, Marines, for your continued support!



CHARTER MEMBER--Marine Mike Waldron (left) receives his Charter Member award from Commandant Joe Kier during the May Meeting. He was also presented a Department 25-Year plaque.

OKINAWA *from Page 1*

ward-looking action," said Japan's Foreign Minister Koichiro Gamba, who added that Japan wanted to "reduce the burden on Okinawa."

Japan, including Okinawa, is a linchpin of U.S. strategy for deterring aggression in the region and for reinforcing the Korean peninsula in the event North Korea attacked South Korea.

The Obama administration believes the new agreement with Japan will make the alliance more sustainable, while also giving the Marines more regional flexibility.

Between 4,700 and 5,000 Marines will relocate from Okinawa to Guam, according to a U.S. defense official who briefed reporters on some of the details

before the agreement was official announced in Tokyo and Washington.

The remainder of the 9,000 who are to relocate from Okinawa will move to Hawaii or be part of a rotational presence in Australia and elsewhere in the region, the official said. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was previewing the official announcement.

The official would not say how many would be moved to Hawaii. Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie said he expects around 2,700 Marines will be shifted there.

Of the \$8.6 billion estimated cost of relocating Marines to Guam, Japan agreed to pay \$3.1 billion, the official said. The total cost includes an unspecified amount for possible construction

of new training ranges in the Northern Mariana Islands that could be used jointly by U.S. and Japanese forces, he said.

The agreement also calls for a phased return to Japanese control of certain parcels of land on Okinawa now used by the American military.

The shift of Marines from Okinawa to Guam has been in limbo for years because it was linked to the closure and replacement of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. Okinawans fiercely oppose Futenma and believe the base should simply be closed and moved overseas or elsewhere in Japan. The U.S., however, has insisted that Japan find a Futenma replacement on Okinawa.

That issue remains unresolved.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES/REVISIONS/AMENDMENTS

1. Delete TRUSTEES from Article Two "TRUSTEES/ELECTED OFFICERS"
 - a. Delete SECTION 200--COMPOSITION.
 - b. Renumber succeeding paragraphs
2. Correct (new) paragraph 201(a)(4)(d) from Public Affairs to Public Relations
3. Delete (new) paragraph 201((d)(2)
4. Article Three
 - a. Paragraph 300 (c) to Public Relations Officer and Press Officer to Media Information Officer
5. Administrative Procedures
 - Insert "religious beliefs" in Section 103 (b) after "nationality"

MOUNTAIN *from Page 1*

we owe the soldiers who have given their lives to serve and protect us."

LtCol. Jack Nolan, USMC (Ret), President of The Chosin Few, Inc., said a peak named for the battle "would endure forever" and he could "think of no more significant means of honoring our current survivors and memorializing our beloved brothers."

U. S. Senator Lisa Murkowski's letter of support says "it is certainly fitting that the survivors of the campaign be honored in a public way while many of them are still alive."

The name change also won approval from the Mat-Su Borough Assembly,

which passed a resolution **Borough Mayor Larry DeVilbiss** penned in support.

Beasley noted that the mountain, 28 miles from Cordova, is inhospitable, with snow and severe weather.

"The environment is very similar to the Chosin Reservoir," Beasley said.

The battle occurred in November and December of 1950 when 18,000 Americans and Allied forces--mostly U.S. Marines--were sent into the mountains to march on North Korea.

A Chinese force four to five times the size of the allied forces surprised and surrounded them. The Marines lost 3,000 men fighting to break the encirclement. Fully 17 warriors were

awarded the Medal of Honor, the military's highest honor, for their bravery in the battle.

"The Chinese had orders to eliminate us," Beasley told the assembly. "We blocked their path to South Korea and the retaking of Seoul."

He said that the allies stopped the communists, inflicting 25,000 casualties, and made it back to the sea.

Sixty years later, the ranks of the survivors are dwindling. The Chosin Few Inc. has in its bylaws a requirement that members were present at the battle.

"A few more years and we're going to close up shop," Beasley said.

But a mountain bearing the name of the battle, he said, will live on.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**MEMORIAL DAY
FUND RAISER
24-27 MAY**

**MEMORIAL DAY
PARADE
28 MAY**

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
13 JUNE**

**FLAG DAY
14 JUNE**

**FATHER'S DAY
17 JUNE**

**FIRST DAY OF
SUMMER
20 JUNE**

**DEPARTMENT
CONVENTION
27-30 JUNE**

**TRI-MUNICIPAL
INDEPENDENCE
DAY PARADE
4 JULY**

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
11 JULY**

**DETACHMENT
MEETING
8 AUGUST**

**LABOR DAY
3 SEPTEMBER**

Quartermaster Store

DETACHMENT STRIP



\$5.00

USMC SATIN JACKET

\$55.00

LIFE MEMBER BLAZER CREST



\$25.00

COVER



\$22.00

DETACHMENT T-SHIRT



\$15.00

MCL PATCH



\$3.50

ANNIVERSARY PATCH



\$5.00

To order any of these items or any other Marine Corps League items or Marine Corps items and have them ready for pick-up at the next Detachment Meeting, contact

Quartermaster COREY FISHER

at

ph: 215-822-6898

e-mail: cbquartermaster@aol.com

CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, Inc.
P. O. Box 1372
Doylestown, PA 18901-1372

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"

Application for Membership
Marine Corps League

(Date)

Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Date of Enlistment/Commissioning _____

Date of Discharge/Separation/Retirement _____ SSN _____

Type of Application -- New () Renewal () Associate () Phone (____) _____

E-mail: _____

I hereby apply for membership in the **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT**, Marine Corps League, and enclose **\$35.00** for one year's membership (which includes subscription to **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MAGAZINE**).

I hereby certify I have served as a U.S. Marine for more than 90 days, the character of my service has been honorable and, if discharged, I am in receipt of an Honorable Discharge. By signature on this application, I hereby agree to provide proof of Honorable Discharge/service upon request.

(Sponsor - where applicable)

(Applicant's Signature)



Remit this form with check or money order (made payable to **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, MCL**)
to: **CENTRAL BUCKS DETACHMENT, P. O. Box 1372, Doylestown, PA 18901-1372**