

THE PURPLE HEARTBEAT

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS' NEWSLETTER

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



MOPH graciously recognizes February as **Black History Month**. We take this opportunity to voice our heartfelt appreciation to the many Black Patriots who have worn the uniform of our Armed Forces. Their proud and faithful service to America has helped this nation steadfastly maintain the many freedoms we all enjoy. We thank each of them for their loyal contribution and we thank the family members who valiantly supported their courageous efforts.



THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED EVERY MONTH EXCEPT AUGUST. ALL ADJUTANTS AND COMMANDERS RECEIVE A COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER. ADJUTANTS RECEIVE THE SPECIFIC CHAPTER/DEPARTMENT INFORMATION.

BAND OF BROTHERS LEADER DIES

Dick Winters, immortalized in the *Band of Brothers* book and movie, died January 2, at age 92. He had requested that his death not be announced until after his funeral. 1st Lt Winters and his company parachuted into Normandy on D-Day and the drop was chaotic. He lost his weapon, his commander was killed, and he became separated from the other paratroopers. But he recovered, took command, and led his men in taking out a battery of German gunners that was decimating Allied troops on Utah Beach.



“He was the first one out there, yelling ‘Follow Me!’” one of his staff sergeants remembered. “We knocked out a battery of four guns, 150 millimeters, that was firing on the kids coming on the shore. He got shot in the leg and still kept going. He saved the company a lot of times. I would follow him to hell and back. So would the men from E Company.” In another action, Winters spotted hundreds of Germans about to cross over a dike and become a threat to American forces. Although vastly outnumbered, Winters opened fire. “With 35 men, a platoon of Easy Company routed two German companies of about 300 men,” the book says. “American casualties were one dead, 22 wounded. German casualties were 50 killed, 11 captured, and about 100 wounded.” Winters was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and eventually promoted to Major. In addition to the DSC, he also received a Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. Winters wrote in his 2006 memoir, *Beyond Band of Brothers*: “The cohesion that existed in the company was hardly the result of my leadership. The Company belonged to the men; the officers were merely the caretakers.”

ALSO ENCLOSED:

- ♦ **CHAPTERS:** December 2010 Roster of Monthly Changes
- ♦ **DEPARTMENTS:** December 2010 Membership Status Report & Chapters Roster of Monthly Changes

[Taken from obituaries that ran in the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*,

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“What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in the fight - it's the size of the fight in the dog.” *General Dwight D. Eisenhower*

NATIONAL ADJUTANT'S CALL . . .

Dear Patriots,

- **Resolutions.** January is the month for resolutions – making new ones or renewing old ones that became a bit tarnished. I hope that some of your resolutions for 2011 address increased participation in MOPH activities in your local chapter and attending our National Convention. As for me, I firmly resolve to be as responsive as possible to any Member who contacts me, regardless of status, position or Color of Hat.
- **Begin now.** It's not too early to think about attending the National Convention, the one pivotal event where an individual Patriot can affect MOPH policies. I know the financial climate is still tight, but rest assured that we make every possible effort to get the best possible rate for meals and accommodations.
- **Department Commanders, Don't Forget.** If you haven't submitted dates and locations for your Department Convention, please do so ASAP. I need schedules as early as possible to optimize attendance of National Officers at Department Conventions.
- **Patriot of the Year.** It's also not too early for Chapter Commanders to begin the process of selecting their Chapter Patriot of the Year – the name is due to your Department Commander by April 30th in time for the Department Convention.
- **The War Goes On.** Combat operations in Afghanistan continue to be intense. This means more wounded soldiers and families of those killed in action will need our care and support. We must seek every opportunity to bring your considerable local resources to bear on easing their burdens. Good ideas can flourish at any level of our organization! Send me any suggestions you may have to improve MOPH efforts in this critical area for wider distribution.

Yours in Patriotism,
Jack Leonard

AK-47

Author C.J. Chivers has written a highly interesting book on the AK-47, the Model T of assault rifles, titled *The Gun* (Simon & Schuster, 2010, \$28). Chivers, New York Times Correspondent and a former Marine, writes quite eloquently about the famous weapon. Designed by then 28-years old Senior Sgt. Mikhail Kalashnikov in 1947 (AK stands for Avtor-mat Kalashnikiova - "the automatic by Kalashnikov"), there are as many as 100 million copies in circulation (no one knows the exact figure), the best selling gun of all times.

What made the AK-47 the winner in a global arms race that has been going on for more than 60 years was how it performed in the field. The very fact that its parts were "loose fitting, rather than snug" meant that it was "less likely to jam when dirty, inadequately lubricated or clogged with carbon from heavy firing." "It was so reliable," Chivers writes, that even when it was "soaked in bog water and coated with sand" its Soviet testers "had trouble making it jam."



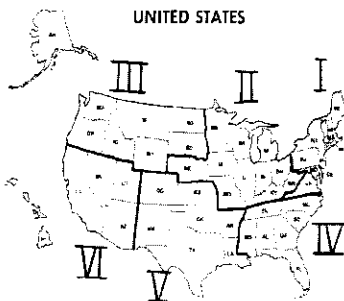
Not only was the AK-47 utterly reliable in the kind of adverse conditions that soldiers encounter in battle, but it was also easy to operate. Its simplicity meant, Chivers writes, that it could be employed by "the small-statured, the mechanically disinclined, the dimwitted and the untrained." And it could "push out blistering fire for the lengths of two or three football fields." Chivers even interviewed the aging Kalashnikov for the book. (Excerpted from book review by Max Boot, New York Times, 10/31/11)

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS AS OF 7/1/2010 - 12/31/2010

TOTAL MEMBERS: 44,124 TOTAL DECEASED: 840 TOTAL NEW ACTIVITY: 1,284

REGIONS

| Reg | Total Mem | AS | LM | *Total New Activity |
|-----|-----------|----|-----|---------------------|
| 2 | 10,472 | 28 | 331 | 359 |
| 4 | 8,350 | 19 | 303 | 322 |
| 1 | 11,024 | 18 | 216 | 234 |
| 5 | 7,075 | 7 | 156 | 163 |
| 6 | 5,063 | 10 | 136 | 146 |
| 3 | 2,020 | 7 | 49 | 56 |
| 7 | 120 | 0 | 4 | 4 |



DEPARTMENTS/STATES CONTINUED

| Reg | Dept | Total Mem | AS | LM | *Total New Activity |
|-----|-------|-----------|----|----|---------------------|
| 6 | HI | 320 | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| 4 | PR | 150 | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| 5 | KS | 351 | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| 2 | IA | 301 | 0 | 7 | 7 |
| 5 | AR | 487 | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| 3 | DK | 131 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 3 | ID | 267 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 3 | WY | 202 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 4 | MS | 583 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 6 | UT | 146 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| 3 | MT | 110 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| 7 | AE | 49 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | RI | 155 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 3 | ND | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 6 | GU | 126 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 7 | AP/XX | 71 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | DE | 211 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

DEPARTMENTS/STATES

| Reg | Dept | Total Mem | AS | LM | *Total New Activity |
|-----|------|-----------|----|-----|---------------------|
| 4 | NC | 1540 | 2 | 141 | 143 |
| 5 | TX | 3712 | 4 | 82 | 86 |
| 6 | CA | 3179 | 4 | 78 | 82 |
| 2 | MN | 1273 | 12 | 62 | 74 |
| 4 | FL | 2831 | 9 | 62 | 71 |
| 2 | OH | 1639 | 0 | 60 | 60 |
| 2 | MI | 2206 | 3 | 55 | 58 |
| 2 | IL | 1033 | 5 | 47 | 52 |
| 1 | NY | 1941 | 2 | 49 | 51 |
| 1 | PA | 2621 | 8 | 43 | 51 |
| 4 | GA | 1004 | 4 | 34 | 38 |
| 1 | VA | 1210 | 4 | 33 | 37 |
| 1 | NJ | 2352 | 3 | 32 | 35 |
| 6 | AZ | 1010 | 4 | 31 | 35 |
| 2 | WV | 710 | 0 | 26 | 26 |
| 4 | SC | 861 | 3 | 23 | 26 |
| 2 | MO | 807 | 1 | 23 | 24 |
| 2 | IN | 670 | 4 | 17 | 21 |
| 1 | CT | 826 | 0 | 19 | 19 |
| 4 | TN | 713 | 0 | 17 | 17 |
| 5 | CO | 560 | 0 | 17 | 17 |
| 1 | MA | 540 | 1 | 15 | 16 |
| 5 | NM | 606 | 0 | 16 | 16 |
| 2 | WI | 916 | 0 | 15 | 15 |
| 5 | OK | 670 | 0 | 15 | 15 |
| 3 | WA | 628 | 1 | 13 | 14 |
| 5 | LA | 689 | 0 | 14 | 14 |
| 6 | NV | 282 | 1 | 13 | 14 |
| 4 | AL | 668 | 0 | 13 | 13 |
| 1 | MD | 532 | 0 | 12 | 12 |
| 1 | NN | 636 | 0 | 12 | 12 |
| 2 | KY | 558 | 2 | 10 | 12 |
| 3 | OR | 418 | 3 | 8 | 11 |
| 2 | NE | 359 | 1 | 9 | 10 |
| 3 | AK | 263 | 3 | 6 | 9 |

TOP CHAPTERS - NEW ACTIVITY

| Reg | Dept | Chapter | Total Mem | AS | LM | *Total New Activity |
|-----|------|---------|-----------|----|-----|---------------------|
| 4 | NC | 0642 | 404 | 0 | 102 | 102 |
| 4 | NC | 2226 | 195 | 1 | 15 | 16 |
| 1 | NY | 0417 | 252 | 2 | 13 | 15 |
| 2 | MN | 0005 | 173 | 0 | 14 | 14 |
| 2 | MN | 0987 | 180 | 4 | 9 | 13 |
| 5 | TX | 1836 | 703 | 0 | 13 | 13 |
| 4 | GA | 0492 | 129 | 1 | 11 | 12 |
| 1 | PA | 0170 | 292 | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| 2 | IL | 0144 | 81 | 1 | 10 | 11 |
| 2 | IL | 0323 | 77 | 2 | 9 | 11 |
| 2 | MI | 0180 | 104 | 1 | 10 | 11 |
| 3 | WA | 0407 | 283 | 1 | 10 | 11 |
| 5 | TX | 0393 | 216 | 0 | 11 | 11 |
| 5 | TX | 1919 | 590 | 4 | 7 | 11 |

TOP CHAPTERS - MEMBERS STRENGTH

| Reg | Dept | Chapter | Total Mem | ChapterName & Location |
|-----|------|---------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 5 | TX | 1836 | 703 | ALAMO - SAN ANTONIO, TX |
| 5 | TX | 1919 | 590 | TEXAS CAPITAL - AUSTIN, TX |
| 4 | NC | 642 | 376 | BEIRUT MEM - JACKSONVILLE, NC |
| 4 | FL | 717 | 376 | WEST PALM BEACH - WPB FL |
| 1 | VA | 353 | 365 | GREATER WASHINGTON - WASH. DC |

TOP DEPTS - MEMBERS STRENGTH

| Reg | Dept | Total Mem |
|-----|------|-----------|
| 5 | TX | 3712 |
| 6 | CA | 3179 |
| 4 | FL | 2831 |
| 1 | PA | 2621 |
| 1 | NJ | 2352 |

| Reg | Dept | Total Mem |
|-----|------|-----------|
| 2 | MI | 2206 |
| 1 | NY | 1941 |
| 2 | OH | 1639 |
| 4 | NC | 1540 |
| 2 | MN | 1273 |

TOTAL MEMBERS COUNT IS THE TOTAL COUNT OF ANNUAL, LIFE AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WITHOUT DECEASED MEMBERS.

***NEW ACTIVITY IS THE TOTAL COUNT OF NEW MEMBERS, AND MEMBERS WHO CONVERTED FROM ANNUAL TO LIFE MEMBERSHIP.**



**MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART
 79TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
 9-13 AUGUST 2011
 CONVENTION BOOK ADVERTISING
 (VETERANS & SUPPORTERS)**

*Proudly hosted by the Department of Minnesota
 Held at Crown Plaza - Saint Paul Riverfront Hotel
 11 East Kellogg Boulevard
 Saint Paul, MN 55101*

DEADLINE: May 31, 2011

Make checks payable to: National Convention, Department of Minnesota
 Mail checks to: Military Order of the Purple Heart (Attn: Bob Connor)
 20 West 12th Street
 Room 134
 Saint Paul, MN 55155

| <u>LOCATION</u> | <u>RATE</u> | <u>SIZES</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Full Page..... | \$300..... | 8.5 x11 |
| Half Page..... | \$150...7.625 x 4.875 | |
| Quarter Page..... | \$75.....3.685 x 4.875 | |
| Eighth Page..... | \$50...3.685 x 2.3125 | |
| Sixteenth Page..... | \$25...3.685 x1.03125 | |

AD SPECS:

Color or Black/White
 PDF, Illustrator or EPS File
 Journal Book size 8x11

AD CONTACT INFORMATION

Visit Saint Paul
 Pat Laurel
 175 W. Kellogg Boulevard
 Suite 502
 Saint Paul, MN 55102
 Email: pl Laurel@visitsaintpaul.com
 Phone: 800-627-6101 x 4921

ADVERTISER CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Organization or Supporter: _____
 Address: _____

 Name of Contact (if Org) _____
 Phone Numbers: Home _____ Cell _____
 Email: _____

YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!

Advertising in the Convention Book provides a significant means for offsetting expenses for the Convention. We request that Chapters, Departments, and individual members participate wherever possible.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART 79TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

LAMOPH 78TH

9-13 August 2011

Crowne Plaza Saint Paul Riverfront
11 Kellogg Boulevard, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

Rate: \$129 plus tax

Phone 651-292-1900 Fax: 651-605-6966

Reservations: 1-800-227-6963. Ask for Military Order of the Purple Heart or
Please reference Group Code Z15

Deadline for reservations: Friday, 8 July 2011

No reservations at this rate will be taken after the deadline

Convention Chairman: Bob Connor

Office: 651-227-4456 Email: bconnor@mtn.org

WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS (WASPs)

In the early 1940s, the US Army Air Force faced a dilemma. Thousands of new airplanes were coming off assembly lines and needed to be delivered to military bases nationwide, yet most of America's pilots were overseas fighting the war. To deal with the backlog, the government launched an experimental program to train women pilots to fly military aircraft.

From 1942 to 1944, more than 1,000 women were trained to ferry aircraft, test planes, instruct male pilots, and tow targets for anti-aircraft practice. The women came from all socioeconomic backgrounds: teachers, nurses, secretaries, factory workers, waitresses, students, housewives, debutantes, actresses, even a Ziegfeld chorus girl. "We thought we'd died and gone to heaven, one WASP remembered. "We would have done it for free. It was hot, we were tired, we were sticky half the time, but we were having a ball because we had those airplanes and we all loved to fly."



More than 25,000 women applied; to qualify for the program each applicant needed 200 hours of certified flight time (later downscaled to 35 hours) and be of "good morale character." The 1,830 women who were accepted received training at Avenger Field in Sweetwater, TX - the first, and only, all female Air

Base in history. Only about 50 percent made it to graduation, but they moved on to ferry aircraft from factories and airfields to military bases nationwide.

WASPs were used to ease fears concerning planes with bad reputations. The B-29, for example, was thought to be a dangerous plane after word got around about engine fires during testing. Two WASPs were chosen to market the plane from base to base. They showed the men that the four-engine bomber was safe - safe enough for a woman to fly.

In 1944, the European war drew to a close and male pilots began returning from combat. The WASPs were no longer needed and on December 20, 1944, the women pilots packed their bags and went home. It would be more than thirty years before women would fly again for the US military.

BRITISH HUMOR



Commenting on a complaint from a Mr. Arthur Purdey about a large gas bill, a spokesman for North West Gas said, "We agree it was rather high for the time of year. It's possible Mr. Purdey has been charged for the gas used up during the explosion that destroyed his house." *The Daily Telegraph*

UPCOMING MOPH EVENTS

JANUARY 2011

- 17 MARTIN LUTHER KING HOLIDAY OBSERVED, HQ CLOSED
- 27 INVESTMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

FEBRUARY 2011

- 1 MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR MAR/APR ISSUE
- 15 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE
- 21 PRESIDENTS' DAY OBSERVED, HQ CLOSED
- 22 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

MARCH 2011

- 12 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING, ST. LOUIS MO
- 25 LEADERSHIP EXECUTIVE MEETING, ARLINGTON VA
- 26 NFC MID-YEAR MEETING, ARLINGTON VA
- 27-31 ANNUAL NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING, ORLANDO FL

APRIL 2011

- 1 MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR MAY/JUNE ISSUE
- 1 END OF SERVICE TRAINING
- 20 INVESTMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

MAY 2011

- (TBA) DEPARTMENT CONVENTIONS
- 11-13 MOPHSF MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW, MYRTLE BEACH, SC
- 30 MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED—HQ CLOSED

JUNE 2011

- (TBA) DEPARTMENT CONVENTIONS
- 1 MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR JULY/AUGUST ISSUE

JULY 2011

- 09 NFC FY 2012 BUDGET MEETING, ARLINGTON, VA
- 09 INVESTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

AUGUST 2011

- 1 MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER ISSUE
- 7 PURPLE HEART DAY
- 9-13 NATIONAL CONVENTION, ST PAUL MN

SEPTEMBER 2011

- 9 NURSES MEMORIAL & RECEPTION, ARLINGTON NATL CEMETERY
- 9-10 NATIONAL COMMANDER'S LEADERSHIP, ALEXANDRIA, VA

OCTOBER 2011

- 01 MAGAZINE DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ISSUE
- 19 INVESTMENT COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

NOVEMBER 2011

- 11 VETERANS DAY - HQ CLOSED

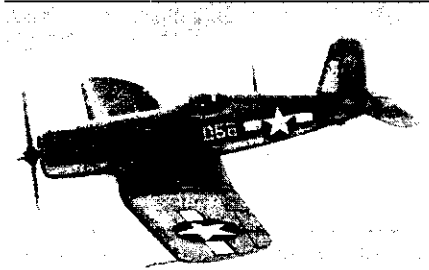
2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION, SCOTTSDALE AZ..... AUGUST 7-11, 2012
 2013 NATIONAL CONVENTION, ROGERS, AR..... AUGUST 6-10, 2013

COMBAT-WOUNDED VETERANS HELPING VETERANS

5413-B BACKLICK ROAD
 SPRINGFIELD, VA 22151

Phone: 703-642-5360
 Fax: 703-642-2054
 E-mail: info@purpleheart.org

WAR BIRDS



The Chance Vought F4U Corsair saw service in WW II and Korea and was used by both Marine and Navy squadrons. It had unique inverted gull wings to permit folding, reducing space requirements in carrier hangers. In honor of its ground support role, it was also nicknamed the "Sweetheart of the Marianas" and "Angel of Okinawa." **Corsairs** were flown by the famous "Black Sheep Squadron" (VMF 214) led by Marine Ace Major Pappy Boyington. Over 12,000 F4Us were produced between 1940 and 1953, making it the longest production run of any piston engine fighter in US history. Japanese pilots regarded it as the most formidable American fighter of WW II and called it "Whistling Death."

"Pay well, command well, hang well." Sir Ralph Hopton: *Maxims for the Management of an Army*, 1643