

THE SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION
CHAPTER XX
THE KENNETH WORTHLEY MEMORIAL CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The "20/20" Flash

President: Ron Lachelt
Lachelts@gmail.com, 952-882-1249
Webmaster: Doug Brown
bftc@hutchtel.net
Chapter Website: www.sfa20.org

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425 3rd Street West
Winthrop, MN 55396

Treasurer: Matt Mitlyng
Mitlyng@gmail.com, 763-257-9404
Secretary/Editor: Dan Kaiser
kais0063@umn.edu, 507-647-3526
www.facebook.com/sfachapterXX

The Next Chapter Business Meeting:

The next meeting is at 7pm at the

Richfield American Legion, Tues, Mar 6th, 2018

The Richfield American Legion is at 6501 Portland Avenue South. I plan to be there early for dinner, about 6:15. Some folks show up early and socialize until the meeting. Some folks just come to the meeting.

Upcoming Activities:

The Royal Lao Day Celebration, Saturday, March 24th, 2018, 7 pm to Midnight, at the Bloomington Knights of Columbus Hall:

Hello Brothers in Arms,

Attached is an invitation requesting your presence at the Royal Lao Day Celebration. Your attendance will be greatly appreciated by us, the United Royal Lao & Special Guerrilla Units veterans during the Vietnam War.

Respectfully, Khao Insixiengmay

The Flyer is enclosed and if you are receiving this Newsletter, then you are invited.

May: From Bob, The NCOIC of the JROTC at the Washington High Magnet School in St. Paul has sent the cadet's name for the SFA Chapter Award of Excellence Medal. He sounds like a good candidate. I also said that we are going to sponsor him, after he is

18, to a free jump at Baldwin, as we discussed last year.

Monthly Activities: 1st Tuesday of the Month: Chapter XX, SF Association Meeting.

1st Saturday of the Month: **Ranger** Breakfast at the Perkins on Lyndale in Bloomington, at 10 am. An informal gathering and all are invited.

3rd Wednesday of the Month: **Chapter XV, 173rd Airborne Brigade** Association at the Hearthside Pizza, 1640 Rice Street, St. Paul.

3rd Thursday of the Month: **Midwest All Airborne Alliance** at the Richfield American Legion, 6501 Portland Avenue South, Richfield.

If you have a group to add to this list, just let me know, Dan at 507-647-3526.

After Action Reviews: Meeting Minutes:

The February 6th Business Meeting: With only four people showing up for the meeting, we did not try to get any business done, that whole quorum thing, and we called it a night.

Forwarded by SFA National: From: USSOCOM Historian – Rick Green, 6 Feb 2018, Subject: Fulton Skyhook / Surface-to-air recovery system (STARS) historical collection effort.

The Fulton Skyhook was used on various navy, army, air force and contract aircraft from 1958 to 1996 with live pickups

of men being conducted between 1958 and 1982. Unfortunately no accurate list of the live pickups exist. The Fulton Company list from 1958-1966 and the list of C-130 list from 1966-1982 in the book "Praetorian Starship" both had errors or omissions. We've combined the data from those two lists to create the list attached here and have made significant progress updating it.

Gaps do remain, however. If you have any information that will answer the questions in the right hand column of the following list or know of live pickups conducted or men who were picked up that are not on our list, I would appreciate hearing about it.

Classification – the information on this list is unclassified. Any classified or sensitive material obtained during this project will be kept in the SOCOM classified archives.

Thanks,
v/r rick

Richard "Rick" Green, Historian,
USSOCOM History and Research Office,
7701 Tampa Point Boulevard, MacDill AFB,
FL 33621-5323, (813) 826-2284 / DSN 299-
2284 richard.green1@socom.mil

From Ron, Books of Interest: Both by Sebastian Junger.

1. In WAR Sebastian Junger gives breathtaking insight into the truths of war--the fear, the honor, and the trust among men. His on-the-ground account follows a single platoon (173rd Abn) through a 15-month tour of duty in the most dangerous outpost in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley. Through the experiences of these young men at war, he shows what it means to fight, to serve, and to face down mortal danger on a regular basis. He looks at a lot of anthropological and psychological research which explains why many soldiers may come home, but never leave the battlefield.

2. In TRIBE-On Homecoming and Belonging, Junger further explores the topics of WAR, and gives more updated information about how the returning veterans feel alienated and although they admit that

the war was hell, they are driven to return to it's adrenaline high and brotherhood.

Both of the books are available in the library and on Amazon. I hope that these may be helpful. Ron.

Doug Bekke replied to the email: Sebastian Junger is a wonderful and insightful author. Overtime I have heard him speak or read his works I agree with him 100%.

From The Chapter 29 Newsletter:

Green Beret in 2018 Winter Olympics Nate Weber, currently on a 10th Group team at Fort Carson, competed in the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeong Chang as a bobsledder. Nate grew up in Thornton, Colorado, in the Denver area, and was an all state wrestler.

SF brothers who have deployed with Nate say that he would train on deployments as best he could, in Niger, Cameroon and Afghanistan, by doing sprints and lifting whatever weights he could find, and often by pushing vehicles, which was often met with amusement by indigenous troops, and teammates.

Nate, 31 years, was a pusher in a 4-man bobsledding team. Nate and his team competed on 24 and 25 February. They ranked 20th in the final overall results.

"Cheers" to 10th SFG for giving Nate the time off to prepare for and travel to Pyeong Chang to compete and represent both the United States and Special Forces. And "Cheers and DOL" to Nate.



Forwarded by Dave Nordan, From the Army Times: WASHINGTON — One of Congress' top defense policy voices said he is open to discussion about [increasing available fitness](#)

[waivers](#) for some new enlistees in light of the [dwindling number of eligible recruits](#).

“Should we make it easier for someone who has, for example, expertise in computers to serve in the military even though they can’t meet all the physical requirements?” House Armed Services Committee Chairman Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, said during a media roundtable on Wednesday.

“Maybe there needs to be limited exceptions for these high demand areas. All of these are good discussions to have.”

The comments came as Thornberry’s committee is starting its annual work on the defense authorization bill, a massive budget policy measure that sets a host of authorities and priorities for the following fiscal year.

Earlier this month, researchers at [The Heritage Foundation](#) reported that more than 70 percent of 17- to 24-year-olds in America today are ineligible to join the military under current Pentagon requirements. About half of that group did not meet physical fitness or health requirements for service.

Thornberry said the statistics “are not a commentary on just the military. It’s a commentary on what is happening in society.”

The Army Times is available at <https://www.armytimes.com/>

And From Bob: This Day in All American History: 4 January 1944.

The 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment was detached from the 82d Airborne Division, pulled from combat and moved to Poxouli, near Naples, Italy, to prepare for Operation Shingle, the invasion of Anzio. The Devils in Baggy Pants had been fighting as “leg” infantry in Italy prior to this day. Anzio would be a defining moment in Division history.

Operation Shingle was developed by British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in December 1943, as he lay in the hospital recovering from pneumonia. Churchill was to land a large force at Anzio, bypassing German forces in central Italy, and take Rome, the strategic objective of the current Battle of Rome. He felt this would strike a

decisive blow in the Italian campaign. The assault would begin 22 January.

Operation Shingle originally called for the 504th to make an airborne assault near Aprilia, eight miles north of Anzio, and capture a key road junction. However, the Allied leaders were scared off by the high volume of Paratroopers killed during the Sicily airborne assault. At the last moment the regiment was assigned to assault by sea. Don F. Pratt Museum

From the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs: The 2018 Veterans Day on the Hill is March 12, 2018 and will take place at 10 a.m. on March 12 in the Rotunda of the Minnesota State Capitol.

“Regional Rooms” will be available for use by Veterans/supporters following the rally in the rotunda. The idea behind these rooms is to offer attendees a place to congregate, invite their lawmakers to visit and discuss Veterans issues specific to their region, as well as statewide.

Lawmakers will receive information about these rooms. However, it is highly recommended that anyone who will be attending also reach out to personally invite their members to drop-in. The rooms will be available from 11:00 to 1:30.

Not sure how to contact your lawmaker? Or, unsure who represents you at the state level? [Check the online legislative map](#).

Bus Information: There will be park and ride available in the Metro and from greater MN. Free Metro Area Park and Ride will start at Osseo American Legion, Bloomington VFW, Anoka American Legion, and the Roseville VFW.

For questions about busing, please contact Trent Dilks at the DAV of MN (651) 788-3186 or email trent@davmn.org.

More information on the event is at <http://mn.gov/mdva/news/events/index.jsp?id=1066-326946>

And: MN Veteran Outdoor Programs. MN Veteran Outdoor Programs will be hosting the following events for Veterans:

Disabled Veterans Turkey Hunt (applications due March 23.) More information at <https://mn.gov/mdva/news/events/?id=1066-328222>

Ely Fishing Trip (applications due April 13) with more information at <https://mn.gov/mdva/news/events/?id=1066-328227>

and Disabled Veterans Deer Hunt (applications due Aug. 17) with more information at <https://mn.gov/mdva/news/events/?id=1066-328233>

And: Historic Fort Snelling - Free Tours for Veterans, May 19, 2018. Special opportunity for Veterans' groups! Bring your group to Historic Fort Snelling for a free 45-minute, step-on bus tour highlighting many of the important military events that took place there. The tour will be followed by refreshments and conversation about the upcoming revitalization of this important historic site in 2020. Tours will begin at 10 am, and will run throughout the day.

To reserve a time slot for your group, or to learn about opportunities to support the Historic Fort Snelling Revitalization Project, please contact Caitlin McGowan at caitlin.mcgowan@mnhs.org. More information is at <http://mn.gov/mdva/news/events/index.jsp?id=1066-326198>

The Dr. Harold C. Duetsch World War II History Round Table is committed to preserving the factual history of World War II. With the input of historians, first-hand accounts from individuals, and [travel](#) we seek to promote the study of this influential era. Check out their website at: <http://www.mn-ww2roundtable.org/>

The Harold C Deutsch World War Two Round Table is the oldest and largest ongoing WWII lecture series in the United States and it is now in its 30th year presenting programs. The program starts at 7:00 pm on the second Thursday of every month from September through May in the [History Center](#) at Historic Fort Snelling, unless otherwise noted in the [Schedule](#). Seating is limited and it is recommended that you arrive by 6:30.

A \$5.00 [donation](#) is requested to help defray costs. Students and Vets are admitted free.

February 8, 2018 The Berlin Airlift – First Allied Victory of the Cold War (noting 70th Anniversary.) Roger G. Miller, Author of *To Save A City*, and Veterans of the mighty endeavor will tell of Stalin's attempt to starve out a City devastated by War and struggling to rebuild and establish a new future

March 8, 2018 American Airpower in WWII. Conrad C. Crane, Author of *American Airpower Strategy In WWII*, and Veterans that participated in the Air Operations will describe the Strategy and individual experiences that contributed to a Victory in WWII

March 22, 2018 Architecture of the Nazis. Ray and Josephine Cowdery, Authors of *Reich Chancellory*, will show their collection of Period pictures of the monumental Architecture of the Nazis Regime to impress their Power, and current photos of what remains

April 12, 2018 The Greatest Field Commander – Lucian Truscott. Harvey Ferguson, Author of *The Last Cavalryman*, and Veterans that served in his Commands will reveal the experiences of what happened in Italy and France by a Commander who has been rated as the Greatest Field Commander of WWII

May 10, 2018 To Save the Victory After Defeat. Benn Steil, Author of *The Marshall Plan*, and Veterans of the Occupation, will highlight the great success that sealed the Victory in Europe and led to the State of Peace that resulted in the establishment of NATO and European Union.

As always: on the next DROP Input: If you have pictures or news for Chapter section of The Drop, please email the info and/or pictures to Ron Lachelt at Lachelts@gmail.com.

The Chapter Facebook page: is located at www.facebook.com/sfachapterXX

While Jim H. set up the Facebook account, Matt has been added as an administrator. I hope this means something to you. I presume: if you spot a problem or have a suggestion, then you can contact either guy. Of course, I am only presuming.

Okay, now, I am going back to the Twentieth Century.

