



Dallas Military Order News



Volume 32, No. 11

Best Large Chapter in the Nation

May 2024



THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER

John 'Lucky' Luckadoo: Master of the Air



World War II pilot John Luckadoo during basic flight training at Shaw Field in Sumter, SC. (Macmillan)

Born and raised on Missionary Ridge in Chattanooga, TN in 1922, Lucky attended public schools where he participated in the R.O.T.C. while in Chattanooga High School. He later attended the University of Chattanooga and enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps as an Aviation Cadet while in his sophomore year soon after Pearl Harbor.

Graduating from twin-engine flight school in February 1943, along with forty of his classmates he was immediately assigned to the 100th Bomb Group, a B-17 Bomb Group as co-pilots just prior to being sent overseas to England with the 8th Air Force. As one of the early U.S. Bomber Groups in England, and without fighter escort and due to its initial heavy losses, quickly became known as "the Bloody Hundredth". Serving as a Pilot and later as a Squadron Operations Officer, he was one of only 4 of his original classmates to survive 25 combats missions. Earning the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters, the European Victory Medal, two Presidential Unit Citations, he was also awarded the French Legion of Honor for his World War II service.

Having recently celebrated his 102nd birthday, he is the only remaining pilot of the original 100th Bomb Group.

COMMANDER'S REPORT



LT Natan Ton That

It has been almost six months since I stepped up as Commander to fill Past Commander Allen Clark's term. With Commander Clark's guidance and our Chapter's support, we have achieved many accomplishments despite a few health concerns with our staff officers.

We are still the second largest chapter in the country, after Sun City Center, Florida. We have inducted 9 new members and 2 new Patriots. Senior Vice Commander Mark Smits has done an amazing job as Speakers Coordinator. Our speakers and special guests included Marc Liebman, a Subject Matter on the Middle East, Kenneth Austin from the George W. Bush Presidential Center, Major General Viet Xuan Luong, the first American General born in Vietnam, U.S Army Captain Milan Georgia of the famed "Helicopter Gunship Pilot in Vietnam", and Mayor Jim Ross of Arlington.

I am honored and proud to be supported by our previous MOWW officers, the talented staff members and committee members of our chapter who continue to work tirelessly to keep our chapter the Best Large Chapter in the Nation. Lastly, your attendance and participation at our monthly Luncheon Meeting is crucial to our success as a chapter.

LT Natan Ton-That

DALLAS CHAPTER ACTIVITIES



FY2024 - 2025

Nominees for Elected Chapter Officers

Chapter Commander – 2LT Natan Ton-That, USAR (Fmr)

Senior Vice-Commander - CPT Mark Smits, USA (Fmr)

Junior Vice-Commander – CPT James Runzheimer, USA (Fmr)

Adjutant – CW3 Ramon Ramos, USA (Ret)

Treasurer – Capt David Wallace, USAF (Fmr)

Marshall - *HPM Pat Teipel, USA (Fmr)

Surgeon – Dr./ CPT Fred Aurbach, USA (Fmr)

Judge Advocate – MAJ John VanBuskirk, USA (Ret)

Historian – LTC Don Munson, USA (Ret), CDR Emeritus

Chaplain – Dr./CPT James Grogan, USA (Fmr)

Nominating Committee Members:

LTC Ken Boatman, USA (Ret), CDR Emeritus; Capt. Paul Brown, USAF (Fmr), CDR Emeritus; LT Chuck Daniels, USN (Fmr), CDR Emeritus; and LtCol Michael Menefee, USMCR (Ret), Past CDR (Chairman).

www.dallasmoww.org

Dallas County Police Appreciation Council (DCPAC) awards presentation

MOWW Award presentation for the April Officer of the Month, Senior Corporal Robert Laraunce by LT Chuck Daniels USN (Fmr).



National Defense Briefing Series

General T. Michael "Buzz" Moseley (Ret) gave a detailed presentation on the Middle East conflict; many young cadets were also in attendance.



HOMELAND SECURITY UPDATE

By: CPT Allen Clark, Dallas Chapter Asst. Chair, Homeland Security Outreach

The Preamble to our MOWW includes, "To promote...the adoption of a consistent and suitable policy of national security for the United States of America."

Our land had significant infiltration by USSR Communist agents beginning in the 1930s, but a foreign power threat internally to our Homeland Security may never have posed as great a peril as that by Middle Easterners and China today in a myriad of arenas: food supply chains; land purchases near to U.S. strategic bases; cyber warfare; Chinese Military-aged illegal immigrants; and covert facilities housing biological warfare components.

Also, the potential of terrorist activity by the entry of illegals at our southern border has never been higher. On Nov. 15, 2023, the House Homeland Security Committee conducted a hearing and among others also heard from FBI Director Christopher Wray. "In the hearing, members received confirmation of the urgent national security threat posed by the nearly 1.8 million known gotaways and the rising numbers of individuals on the terrorist watchlist apprehended crossing the Southwest border-especially as America's enemies, including Iran-backed Hamas and Hezbollah, have been emboldened to spread their malign influence following the October 7 terrorist attacks on our ally, Israel." The Committee, "...also discussed the urgent need to address the threats to America's critical infrastructure from the Iranian regime and the Chinese Communist Party." There was discussion for legislation to protect high-risk chemical facilities. (<https://homeland.house.gov/2023/11/15>). Recent news reports include information about the thousands of single Chinese males with no family entering our homeland. They apparently are traveling from China to Ecuador or Surinam in South America, neither of which require visas for entry. They then proceed through Colombia to Panama through the Darien Gap, where NGOs supported by the United Nations, assist in their travel to our southern border. It would appear wise for our citizens to be aware of the potential consequences of a division-size number of Chinese males present in our nation.

Also in a Nov. 15, 2023 program by California television station KVPR it was reported, "The House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party issued a report about an illegal biolab that was discovered in Reedley...the lab found inside an old Reedley warehouse where multiple agencies investigated a number of infectious diseases and hazardous chemicals, including COVID-19, malaria, HIV and hepatitis." (<https://www.kvpr.org/local-news/2023-11-15>).

The *Epoch Times* issue of March 13-19/2024 contained an article title "Leaked Hacking Files Spur Concerns of Unprepared US." Retired Army Colonel John Mills was a primary individual interviewed. He previously served as director of cybersecurity policy, strategy, and international affairs at the Department of Defense. There is a criminal hacking group based in China called I-Soon. "The I-Soon leaks surfaced amid a wider flurry of CCP-backed cyber activity, in which the regime successfully infiltrated both U.S. critical infrastructure, and the defense ministry of the Netherlands....malware called Volt Typhoon, which was used to infiltrate U.S. systems and target critical infrastructure, was discovered last year, having been implanted as part of a wider effort to pre-position for a military conflict. The malware also threatened the physical safety of Americans by targeting water, energy, rail, airline and port control." What? Port control? Perhaps questions may begin to be asked is there any connection with the ship destroying the Baltimore Francis Scott Key Bridge after losing power twice?

South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem recently testified to congressional committees about the direct threats to our nation from China's purchases/control of food plants, supply chains, processing operations, fertilizer supplies and land near our strategic airbases. China as a minimum is known to own over 350,000 acres of our nation's land. She pointed out control of a nation's food supplies is critical for its inhabitants. She related a compelling story of a visiting delegation of Chinese intent on collaborating on sharing information. Later she discovered they were all Chinese "spies" and one of their targets was our intellectual property.

Upcoming Luncheon Meetings

- ❖ **June 4** – Installation (no speakers)
- ❖ **July 2** – Celebration of Freedom; Speakers: multiple first-generation Americans)
- ❖ **August 6** – Janine Turner
- ❖ **September 3** – Congressman Keith Self

DALLAS CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

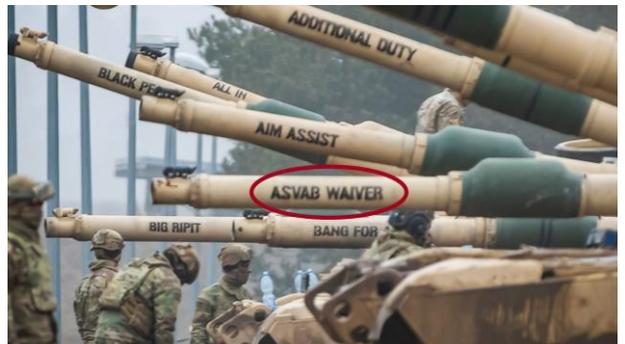


The secret to Birthdays is to pick one you like and stick to it!" ...Snoopy

- | | |
|--------|------------------------|
| 1 May | LTC Guillermo Cisneros |
| 1 May | Col Robert Lanham |
| 1 May | HPM Sharon Sexton |
| 2 May | LT Jack Coleman |
| 3 May | MR Christopher Adams |
| 3 May | MR Eric Bradford |
| 4 May | LTC Gilbert Collins |
| 4 May | LT Charles Daniels |
| 8 May | Capt Thomas Jones |
| 10 May | Lt Col Paul Pfrommer |
| 10 May | HPM Donna Starnes |
| 11 May | Lt Col Donald Saddler |
| 12 May | HPM Hal Moore III |
| 14 May | HPM Terry Brown |
| 14 May | HPM Ryan Moss |
| 14 May | Lt Col Don Payne |
| 14 May | LTC James Sammons |
| 17 May | LTG Ricardo Sanchez |
| 18 May | COL Pete Malik |
| 19 May | HPM James Applewhite |
| 19 May | LTC Robert Brown |
| 19 May | LCDR Howard Custer |
| 19 May | LT James Gooch |
| 20 May | Lt Col Phelicia Geary |
| 20 May | Col Christopher Kulas |
| 21 May | HPM Robert Epstein |
| 26 May | LTC John Byrns |
| 27 May | LtCol Norm van Gilmore |
| 29 May | HPM Diane Johnson |
| 30 May | COL Emmett Dubose |

LIGHTEN UP

Millennials finally buying a house



NO MATTER YOUR BRANCH



EVERYONE LOVES JETS

NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT

NEW CHINESE THREATS TO US NATIONAL SECURITY

By LtCol Michael W. Menefee, USMCR (Ret)

Many US business leaders, intelligence officers, and diplomats are aware that the Chinese use coercive methods to conduct commerce. They are conscious of Chinese military belligerence especially in the Indo-Pacific and is a significant military threat. Most leaders are knowledgeable that China is the largest air (CO₂) and ocean polluter (plastics and solid waste) and has a terrible record of human rights abuses.

The Communist Chinese Party (CCP) is also threatening the US in ways most Americans are unaware. China operates a spy base in Cuba and has police stations in the US. They operated an illegal bioagent lab in California where they were developing malaria, rubella, hepatitis, herpes, coronavirus, and HIV. The CCP influences American youth by promoting violence and division with Hollywood films, TikTok, cheap cell phones, and uses social media propaganda to undermine American values, culture, and education. It operates Confucius Institutes at multiple universities to increase its influence. China has hacked US infrastructure and communications networks using malware. It continues to steal health data, genetic data, agricultural seeds, engineering plans, and scientific data from companies and universities.

Over 41,000 Chinese military age men have illegally invaded the US across the southern border in FY24, with help from the Mexican crime cartels. All Chinese citizens coming across the US border must have CCP permission and passports to leave China. While the Chinese are invading the US southern border, they have also bought land near US military bases. In 2021, the Department of Agriculture stated that China owned approximately 384,000 acres of US farmland. There is a growing concern in the IC among analysts and others that much of this land is near US military bases - Malmstrom AFB in Montana, Grand Forks AFB in North Dakota, F.E. Warren AFB in Wyoming, and Laughlin AFB in Texas. Malmstrom AFB is one of three AFBs that maintains and operates Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles. It reports to the 20th Air Force located at F.E. Warren AFB. Grand Forks AFB is an Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance base, and Laughlin is the largest USAF pilot training base.

China uses Mexican international crime cartels to transport drugs into the US. The CCP controls the fentanyl drug trade, by producing the precursors (basic chemicals) to make fentanyl and counterfeits in both the US and Mexico. China money launders the drug cartel financial transactions and helps them distribute drugs in the US. They also control the communications networks used by the cartels to operate without detection in the US. The CBP seized 2,800 pounds of fentanyl in 2019; 4,800 in 2020; and 11,200 in 2021. Fentanyl killed 112,000+ Americans in 2023, more than all US forces killed in Vietnam.

China expert, Michael Pillsbury, believes the Chinese have deeply penetrated multiple areas of the US economy and are engaged in an asymmetrical war with the US, and China has no incentive to stop weakening its principal enemy. FBI Director Wray says the CCP is the defining threat to our generation. It has conducted a hacking campaign known as Volt Typhoon. China has gained access to multiple US pipelines, telecommunication systems, water utilities, and other critical areas. In Peter Schweizer's book, Blood Money, he discusses why powerful business leaders and politicians have ignored the China threat. A US reply should have an economic, political, and military response to these assaults. The future of the US may depend upon its reaction, as China undermines US values, cultural norms, as they seek to destroy Christianity, the Constitution, and eventually takeover the US through internal destabilization.

Information for this article was gathered from Open Sources – books, media, published articles, charts, and the general knowledge of the author. There is no classified information in this article, no known quotations from any sources, websites, or graphs, and this article does not have footnotes or endnotes due to its brevity. Any views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or positions of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) or the Dallas Chapter of MOWW.

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Companions:

As the Senior Vice Commander and the ROTC Coordinator, I have a couple of important updates for you this month. Both items could involve an action on your part so please read on.

First, we will be recreating the immigrant program that Allen Clark organized last July. If you will recall, Allen asked several first and second-generation Americans to share their story with the Chapter. If you were like me, you would be inspired by these stories. Clearly, America is still the greatest country in the world, and it is rewarding to hear stories about how new Americans are thriving since their arrival on our shores. Allen is hard at work to identify a new series of speakers for this program. However, if you have knowledge of a candidate that you think would be willing to share their story with the chapter, please reach out to Allen or myself.

Second, we are about to enter the two months when our local JROTC programs will be recognizing their student leaders with our MOWW JROTC awards. I have already mailed the awards to the respective school districts. If you would like to volunteer to participate in any of these ceremonies, please contact me and we can make arrangements for you to attend on or more of the ceremonies.

I will also be sending a schedule out on Constant Contact after Tuesday's luncheon in May.

Mark Smits

In Memoriam:

First Lieutenant Donald Lewis Crusius

Commander Natan Ton-that, Past Commander Paul Brown, Past Commander Don Munson and BG Mike Wallace attended the Memorial Service at Grace Bible Church and Funeral of Perpetual Memorial Companion, Don Crusius on Friday, April 12, 2024.

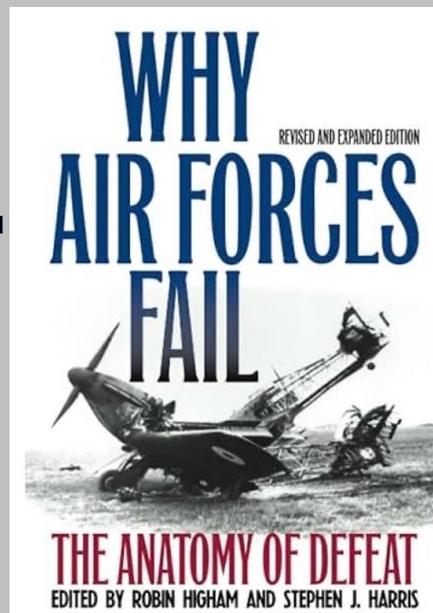


Pictured (left to right): Don Munson, Natan Ton-that and Paul Brown.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Military History
Book Club
June 13th, 2024



Moderated
by Marc
Liebman,
historian,
novelist,
Naval
Aviator
and CAPT
(USN ret.)

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