

Silver Star. Unfortunately no document has been found to back up their claim, but this in no way decreases the gravity of this oversight.

To date, the Department of the Navy has refused to upgrade the medal status of those involved, though the case is still under review. I thank Mr. Emory for bringing this important act of bravery and incredible oversight to our attention.

I ask that the article be printed into the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Watertown Daily Times, Apr. 4, 1999]

# WWII SEAPLANE CREW STILL BATTLING WITH NAVY RED TAPE OVER MEDALS

(By Alan Emory)

WASHINGTON—One of the most daring exploits of World War II took place in the water off Kobe, Japan, on July 24, 1945.

The war itself ended about a month later.

For the pilot, copilot and crew of the huge Patrol Bomber Martin (PBM) seaplane that plucked a U.S. airman out of the water as Japanese boats headed for him, however, a post-war battle with Navy bureaucracy is still going on, nearly 54 years later.

The men, now all in their 70s, were promised certain medals—a Navy Cross for pilot Robert H. Macgill of Miami, Fla., and Silver Stars for the others. All agree the pilot regularly receives the highest honor because he makes the key decisions.

When medals were awarded however, Mr. Macgill received a Silver Star and the others Air Medals, which are given to any service personnel performing five flights in a combat area.

Though disappointed, the fliers accepted their downgraded decorations without complaint, but a Korean War fighter pilot heard about the situation and launched an appeal to the Navy Department with the help of the PBM copilot, David C. Quinn.

The Navy rejected the appeal, saying the deadline for such awards had expired. Last year, however, the "Mariner/Marlin Association Newsletter" reported that a 1997 law had waived the time limitation, and many war heroes had medal eligibility restored.

The Navy stood its ground, however, so Mr. Quinn, a North Salem, N.Y., lawyer and husband of syndicated columnist Jane Bryant Quinn, took his case to Rep. Sue W. Kelly, R-Katonah, and Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan D-N.Y. The evidence was reviewed, and they agreed the higher-level medals should be awarded.

Their case took on added political clout when one of the crewmen, Jerrold A. Watson, now a peach grower in Monetta, S.C., turned out to be a constituent of both Chairman Floyd Spence, R-S.C., of the House Armed Services Committee, and Sen. J. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., former chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Sen. Moynihan called the rescue of the downed Corsair fighter pilot, Ensign Edwin A. Heck, 22, of Barrackville, W.Va., "an act of bravery deserving of high recognition."

Rep. Kelly said the "extraordinary rescue," in the water off Japan's fourth largest city, merited "something more than an Air Medal."

She rejected the finding by Karen S. Heath, principal deputy to the Navy's chief of manpower and reserve affairs, that the awards were appropriate, countering that they resulted from "errors in Navy records."

Last September, then-Navy Secretary John H. Dalton told Sen. Moynihan that upgrading the Quinn medal was "not warranted," and the Air Medal was "appropriate

and consistent" with those awarded at the time.

The Navy argued steadily that there was no documentary proof that a Navy Cross for Mr. Macgill and Silver Stars for his crew had actually been recommended, although all involved signed affidavits that they had been promised those medals.

A declassified Navy memorandum six months after the rescue shows that Mr. Macgill had been recommended for a Navy Cross, though it does not affirm the oral recommendation for the Silver Stars for Mr. Quinn and the others.

Mr. Quinn says that, instead of a trio of "antique, disjointed medal-beggars," they were bolstered by the discovery that Mr. Macgill was alive in Miami.

His address was found by a computer search, with a phone number that gave only a recorded response, but he received a forwarded letter and, last Oct. 30, phoned Mr. Quinn and confirmed the original medal recommendations.

The PBM seaplane, known in Navy slang as a Dumbo because of its size, was part of a rescue squadron stationed at Okinawa on the seaplane tender *Pine Island*. Their mission was to rescue airmen shot down while raiding Japanese installations.

Their aircraft was enormous, with a wingspread equal to the height of a 12-story building, and was very slow.

On July 24, 1945, Mr. Heck was shot down and floated in a life jacket for about five hours in Kobe harbor. A radio call asked, "Is there a Dumbo in the area?" and the Macgill crew answered affirmatively. Sixteen Corsair fighters formed an escort and strafed Japanese boats trying to reach Mr. Heck.

The PBM flew over the docks of Kobe at an altitude of about 400 feet, with people standing there watching, according to the Nov. 16, 1998, deposition of Mr. Macgill. The fighter escort, getting low on fuel, had to leave.

A Japanese fighter made a run at the PBM, and shore batteries opened antiaircraft fire, but, Mr. Macgill says, it was "amazing" that they were not shot down. More than 14 hours after they had left Okinawa, they returned, hugging the Japanese coast, with the rescued fighter pilot.

The official Navy report said, "The Dumbo, sweating out the remaining fuel, returned to Okinawa at 300 feet altitude and approximately 10 miles offshore."

Mr. Macgill, quoting Navy officers there, said they believed it was "impossible" to achieve an air-sea rescue on Japan's mainland.

"I distinctly recall," he said, that Squadron Commanding Officer Lt. Cmdr. William Bonvillian and Capt. William L. Erdmann, Greenburg, Ind., the officer in charge of rescue missions, had both said they were urging the Navy Cross for Mr. Macgill and Silver Stars for the others.

"My original memory was correct," he said, and the confusion over his own medal was never carried over to the "unquestioned recommendation" that the others in the crew receive Silver Stars.

Mr. Quinn maintains that an official Navy account, marked "Secret," disputes the finding that his rescue occurred "seven miles southwest of Kobe" and therefore, should be lumped in with other missions.

A Smithsonian Institution Press book about the exploits of 28 World War II combat pilots in their own words includes the Quinn story because of the uniqueness of air-sea rescues and the high-risk Kobe flight.

One war correspondent wrote that it was "perhaps the most daring and the most spectacular of all Pacific air-sea rescues," the first into the Inland Sea, with the downed pilot within the sight of people walking the streets of Kobe.

Judi Briner of St. Louis, daughter of PBM crewman Robert Briner, who has terminal cancer, told Mr. Quinn she would like to see Rep. Ike Shelton, D-Mo., an influential member of the House Armed Services Committee, brought into the case.

Ironically, Mr. Quinn found out that another St. Louis resident, whose plea for a Bronze Star for his great-uncle had been ignored for more than a year, received the medal two weeks after Rep. Jim Talent, R-Mo., got in touch with the Army. It came along with a letter entitled, "Expedite/Congressional Interest."

The Navy's Awards Branch has never challenged the description of the PBM crew's combat bravery. Instead, Mr. Quinn asserts, its accounts of the medal dispute are "diametrically opposed" and, he feels, are "tainted and (should be) disallowed."

A former assistant state attorney general, he says he flew Navy planes for 26 years, four in World War II, and he holds a Vietnam War Campaign Medal. He says, "I do not easily throw in towels."

Richard Danzig, the new Navy secretary, who is scheduled to address the National Press Club on Tuesday, told Sen. Moynihan Jan. 28 that the Navy Awards Branch was reviewing the documents.

At a March 11 Capitol Hill meeting with key lawmakers and their aides, Ms. Heath said the Navy had, since the 50th anniversary of World War II, been "inundated with requests" for a new look at the war's awards, and Jeane Kirk, her aide, insisted the Quinn situation was "not all that unique."

Congressional staffers raised the possibility of a "bureaucratic snafu" leading to the medal downgrades. They stressed that the PBM mission was "different," but the Navy could not explain why it had not been treated that way.

The congressional pressure, however, did have an impact.

The Navy officials promised to "reboard," or review, the case with a panel of four "senior captains."

Secretary Danzig had promised a "careful study."

Rep. John M. McHugh, R-Pierrepont Manor, the senior New Yorker on the House Armed Services Committee, feels that if the issue were brought before the full New York congressional delegation and, possibly, the committee, it would receive a sympathetic hearing. ●

## TRIBUTE TO GENERAL CHARLES C. KRULAK

● Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I'd like to pay a special tribute today to General Charles C. Krulak, the 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps, soon to relinquish command of our nation's Corps of Marines after almost forty years in uniform. With receipt of his final orders, directing him to stand down and retire from active duty, an evolutionary change will occur—marking the first time in 70 years that a Krulak will be absent from the rolls of the United States Marine Corps. His father, Lieutenant General Brute Krulak, served as the Commanding General, Fleet Marine Forces Pacific.

From the blood stained rice fields of Vietnam, where General Krulak commanded Marines during two tours of duty, to the wind swept sands of Kuwait where General Krulak lead his men to victory, this Marine has distinguished himself time and time again.

For his devoted service to our country and for the brave Marines he led, General Krulak was awarded the Silver Star Medal; Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" and two gold stars; Purple Heart with gold star; Combat Action Ribbon; and the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

While General Krulak's inspirational leadership has always characterized his military service, it is his tenure as the 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps that will resonate long and far into the next millennium, ensuring the Marine Corps remains the world's premier crisis response force—the Nation's 911 force. A professional force that is committed, capable, and reliable to meet any challenge, under any circumstance, anytime and anyplace in the world.

General Krulak had the wisdom and foresight to field an agile and adaptable force—a Corps of Marines who could prevail against the multifaceted threats which would challenge our Nation's security and its interests. General Krulak understood the importance of developing new concepts and techniques that would ensure decisive victory in the "savage wars of peace." He forged his Corps of Marines through unrelenting sacrifice, initiative, and courage.

His many initiatives as Commandant include, the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory, the DoD lead in nonlethal weapons technology and the Chemical Biological Incident Response Force. He created and implemented the "Transformation Process" of making Marines—a holistic approach to recruiting and developing young men and women to ensure they have the skills and basic character needed to effectively meet the asymmetric 21st century threat.

Today, the Corps is meeting its recruiting requirements, forty-eight months consecutively and achieved its retention goals—a testimony to the wisdom and foresight of General Krulak.

A key contributor to the Marine Corps family and a person General Krulak owes much success to is his wife, Zandi Krulak. She gave dignity and grace to the maturation of the Marine Corps family.

In closing I want to recognize General Krulak for his uncompromising integrity to always do the right thing, for the Nation and his beloved Corps. The Marine Corps is a better institution today than it was four years ago, thanks to the sacrifice and devotion to duty by General Krulak. He has made a significant and lasting contribution to the Corps and to this Nation's security. Through his stewardship there is a renewed sense of esprit de corps.

I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, to wish General Krulak, his wife Zandi and their two sons, David and Todd, fair winds and following seas as he steps down as the 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps. General Krulak's distinguished and faithful service to our country is greatly appre-

ciated. He will be sorely missed, but surely not forgotten. Once a Marine, Always a Marine. *Semper Fi.*●

#### TRIBUTE TO EVE LUBALIN

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, as you know, this will be my last term in the Senate. My 17 years here have been exciting and challenging. And I'd like to think my work here has made a real difference in giving Americans a healthier, safer country.

But I have not done it alone. I had a lot of help from a very dedicated staff. And one staffer in particular deserves special recognition for her outstanding leadership and her commitment to the causes that have defined my career in the Senate.

That staffer is Eve Lubalin, my chief of staff, who recently announced her retirement after 17 years with my office.

Eve joined my staff as legislative director in 1983, when I was just getting to know my way around the Senate. From the start, she impressed me with her intelligence, her vision and her wit. She never lost sight of the goals that I set, and she never failed to deliver 100 percent of her talent and her energy to accomplish those goals.

In 1986, I promoted her to chief of staff. She has been our team leader ever since. And somehow, even with all the hours she has put in on the job, and there were countless hours, she has managed to maintain a full healthy relationship with her husband, Jim, and their daughter, Kendra. And I know she looks forward to spending more time with them during the years ahead.

Eve's high standards made her a star in the academic world even before she came to work for me. In 1966, she graduated summa cum laude from Syracuse University. From there, she went on to obtain a master's degree from the University of Virginia and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Johns Hopkins. She later worked in several key staff positions for Senator Birch Bayh from Indiana. After her tenure in Senator Bayh's office, she also worked as an advocate for the city of New York on legislative issues.

When she arrived in my office, Eve made my priorities her priorities. And we scored some significant victories together. The laws I authored raising the national drinking age to 21, banning smoking on domestic airplane flights, cleaning up the environment—these were battles we fought together. I could not have asked for a more loyal comrade-in-arms than Eve Lubalin.

Mr. President, I hope my colleagues will join me in wishing Eve the very best as she moves on from the Senate. And I want Eve to always remember how much I and everyone connected with my office appreciates her contributions. She is a model public servant, a spectacular leader and person. I wish her a happy and rewarding retirement.●

#### NATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH WEEK

● Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as we honor our fathers, grandfathers and husbands this Fathers' Day, it is important to recognize the crisis that is taking place with regard to men's health. As highlighted by National Men's Health Week, which ends on Fathers' Day, this crisis in the health and well-being of American men is ongoing, increasing, and predominantly silent.

National Men's Health Week, which was established in 1994 under the leadership of former Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, has helped shed light on some of the primary factors that have led to this steady deterioration: lack of awareness, inadequate health education, and culturally-induced behavior patterns at work and at home.

Many have rightly argued, that one main cause is the cultural message that men should not react to pain. Men continue to fear the risk of appearing unmanly, or merely mortal, if they change their behavior or their environment. Unfortunately that includes visits to the doctor. On average, women on average make 6.5 visits per year while men average 4.9.

This lack of attention to health is perhaps best demonstrated by male mortality figures. In 1920, the life expectancy of men and women was roughly the same. Since that time, however, the life expectancy of men has steadily dropped when compared to women. In 1990, life expectancy for women was 78.8 years but only 71.8 years for men. Today, the life expectancy of men is a full 10 percent below that of women.

Another indicator: men have a higher death rate for every one of the top 10 leading causes of death. Men are twice as likely to die of heart disease, the nation's leading killer. In fact, one in every five men will suffer a heart attack before age 65.

Male specific cancers, testicular and prostate, and other non-gender specific cancers have also reached epidemic proportions among men. One in six will develop prostate cancer at some point in his life, and African-American men are especially at risk, with a death rate that is twice the rate of white men.

Death by suicide and violence is another predominantly male phenomenon. Men are the victims of approximately three out of four homicides, and account for approximately four out of every five deaths by suicide. Workplace accidents are also a major killer. Ninety-eight percent of all employees in the 10 most dangerous jobs are men, and 94 percent of all those who die in the workplace are men.

As demonstrated by the events this week on Capitol Hill—like the health screenings for prostate and colorectal cancer hosted by the Men's Health Network—National Men's Health Week has done much to end the silence surrounding the real state of health of American men. But much more needs to be done. This Fathers' Day let us all do everything we can to silence as well the cultural mind set that has claimed