



Voiture 1379 Communiqué for April 2013

One important reason that our lawmakers need to avoid sequestration,” said James E. Koutz, national commander of The American Legion. “We are committed to the completion of a full accounting of all American POW/MIA’s and this action could seriously impede progress.” If automatic budget cuts take effect on March 1, many federal employees will have to take two furlough days per two-week pay period. DoD’s recovery operations last a minimum of 30 days, and federal workers can’t deploy while on furlough. “So unless we can get an exception to that policy, and let those civilian scientists and others deploy, and then take a string of consecutive days when they get back, unfortunately, we may not be able to do any recovery operations and will be able to do only limited investigation operations,” Webb said.

In October 2011, the U.S. and North Korean government arranged to conduct searches for remains in 2012. DoD bought 30 brand-new SUVs, trucks, generators and other equipment for the joint endeavor. The first shipment went north, which included all the rice and gasoline supplies. At that point, Pyongyang decided that joint humanitarian operations were inappropriate, given the fact that U.S. forces were conducting war games in South Korea. That along with North Korea’s recent missile tests, canceled the project; all the equipment remains in storage in South Korea. DoD reports that it is putting more emphasis on recovering remains from World War II, working harder to identify sites and determine whether recovery teams should go in. “Burma is a breakthrough,” Webb said, and his office is “getting cooperation from that government, and we should be doing operations in the near future.” Webb said that 1,653 Americans are still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War. About 180 sites have been identified and “all that work needs to be done. We need to get teams out and excavate those sites and recover those Americans, and we need to continue to investigate – those witnesses are dying every day

It is once again time to start filling out all of the reports on all Voiture activities so start making lists of everything you do for the 40et8 and the American Legion. We can find somewhere to list that information in one of the many reports. These reports include things like mileage, time, and monies spent doing these activities so start making your lists. We cannot include promenades’ but we can count the meals before as social events so everyone has some type of activity to report. So please start keeping a list of all Veteran/40et8 activities along with monies spent and miles driven. This will go a long way towards filling these reports out in the future. You can also use some of this information as a deduction on your income taxes.

This months Promenade will be on April 24th at Post 61 Claycomo, MO with dinner and Promenade at Post 61 starting at 18:00 HRS.

Thank you for your service to Our Great Nation, your service to the American Legion, and the 40et8 through Voiture 1379. If we all work together we can and do make a difference.

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