Scuttlebutt

June, 2024

Branch/Unit 269 Goose Creek South Carolina

Branch President's Corner

Shipmates

Low Country Branch 269 Has completed the annual nomination/election process with primarily the same members who will continue to serve as your officers and board members, We really need shipmates to step up. Fresh ideas always welcome.

The installation of officers will be 7 June at 1800 dinner with Installation to follow. Don't forget low country boil /BBQ Grill drawing 1200 until 1400 on 1 Jun

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and service

Ken Hutchison



National website: Fleet Reserve association.org

http://facebook.com/groups/frabranchandunit269

Southeast region: frasoutheastregion.org

Branch 269 website: fra269gc.org

BRANCH OFFICERS

President – Kenneth Hutchison Vice-President - Donald Barton
Treasurer - PNP Don Mucheck Secretary - John Tharp
Jr. Past President – Harry Nettles

BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PNC Laurie Bailey PRPSE Fred Bolz Tim Bailey
Cindy Bryan Skip Chilton Ron Lamon
Tom Lawson Glenn Little William Maloon
Larry Pepper Bobbi Sutton Ken Wallace

Chaplain- Bobbi Sutton

Legislative Affairs – PRPSE Fred Bolz

Parliamentarian – PNP Don Mucheck Historian - Mike Sparks
By-Laws – PRPSE Fred Bolz Youth Activities –Donald Barton
Master-at-Arms-Glenn Little Ways and Means – Larry Pepper
PRelations – John Tharp Essay Contest – PNC Laurie Bailey
Membership – Cindy Bryan Amer/Pat –PNC Laurie Bailey

WEB Master - PNC Laurie Bailey

LOW COUNTRY HOME, INC.

99 Wisteria Road - (843) 569-2692 Home Chairman – Ken Wallace

Admin Secretary-Bobbi Sutton

Director – Sue Peters

Director - Linda Cox

Director – John Tharp

Director – Marilyn Tharp

Home Manager – PNP Don Mucheck, Larry Pepper and Robert Zauner

Hours of Operation

Mon-Thur 1000-2200 Fri 1000-2400 Sat 1000- 2400 Sun 1000 - 2000

LAFRA UNIT 269

UNIT OFFICERS

President – PRPSE Gail Bolz Treasurer PRPSE Gale Nathan Secretary Yvonne Wallace Vice President – Trish Chilton Jr Past President Anne Barton

Board of Directors

NFS, PNP Pat Suckow Theresa Milligan

Kathy Sorenson Linda Cox Ann Griffith Debbie Breeze

Marilyn Tharp

LAFRA UNIT 269

Appointees & Committee Chairs

Chaplain – Theresa Milligan
Sergeant-at-Arms
Kathy Sorenson
Welfare/Rehab – Trish Chilton
Publicity – Anne Barton
Parliamentarian – Linda Cox
Youth Activities—Anne Barton

Amer/Pat – Ann Griffith
VAVS – Theresa Milligan
Anne Barton
Ship's Store - Trish Chilton
Hospital – Theresa Milligan
Membership – Trish Chilton
Unit Activities -- All Members

Madam President Tidbits

Hi Auxiliary Members,

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to everyone who has a special day!!
At our May meeting we draped our charter for Mary Ann Chinners. RIP!!
On June 7th PNP Pat Suckow will install our new officers.

President will be in Trish Chilton Vice President will be Marilyn Tharp Secretary will be Dee Wallace Treasure will be Gale Nathan Congratulations to you all!!

Upcoming events:

Bunco will be on June 23, all is welcome if you want to come you can contact Gail Bolz phone number is at the end.

Golf Tournament will be June 29th. If you would like to participate call Larry Pepper at the FRA. Due to the installation there will not be a meeting in June. We will have a luncheon though on June 17 at 11:30 at the Cracker Barrel in Summerville Our next meeting will be July 16th at 6:00pm. Come on out and meet our new officers.

In Loyalty, Protection and Service PRPSE Gail Bolz Phone Number is 843-696-5789 Email is 60grandma@live.com

WEEKLY DRAWING AT THE HOME

Names drawn lately: 4-30 – William Linder, not signed; 5/7 – Eugene Lemieux, not signed; 5/14 – Tim Cowan, not signed; 5/25 – Robert Clark, not signed:

You must be a member of the Branch or Unit in good standing and you must be signed in the log. You can sign up until 1800 hours, on the day of the drawing. The drawing is held every Tuesday night at 2030 hours.

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New or Reinstated Members -6Transferred into Low Country Branch 269-0Transferred from Branch 269-0Ready to renew -6Past Due - 15 Suspended members - 10 Transferred to the Staff of the Supreme Commander - 1 Total members: 785

Membership/Retention: Ken Wallace

Total members:

New Join: Jeffrey Bolduc, Ronald Bowsers, David Calderhead,

Roger Fincher, John Murphy, Michael Welch,

Ready to Renew: Darrell Boggs, Terry Corley, Charles Hughes Jr., Timothy Kuehhas, Derrick Milhanovich, Russell Nichols

Past Due: Mike Ciesielko, Anthony Dye, Raymond Lassen, William Mcardle, Earl Milligan, Kenneth Murphy, Michael Paterson, Rocky Puffer, Sheri Ragan, Arthur Robinson, Cubit Robinson, William Roup, Larry Tarzwell, Stephen Woodside,, Melvin Wright

Suspended: Rick Collins, Peter Cosgrove, Edward Feidt, Clint Ferrell, Dennis Green, Charles Harris, Matthew King, John Potter, Waylon Sexton, Jeromy Sherill

Unit Membership and Retention

To be Renewed by May 31: Jayne Campbell

Past Due 60 Days: Marjorie Gittsch

Past Due 90 Days: Lisa Berezny, Michael Berezny, Lynette Gonzalez, Wendell Rourk

Prayers for the family of: SCHM Wade Reid

Bob McNeish – cataract surgery

Rick Wise – Surgery to remove 3 nodules from lung

Tom Lawson is 02 treatment

Fred Woodley had a serious UTI and sepsis

Jerry Stout continues his treatment

Thom Beach has moved back to the Blake at Carnes Crossroads

Branch Chaplain Bobbi Sutton @ 843-879-9473

Unit Chaplain Theresa Milligan @ 843-535-2757

BRANCH TREASURER'S REPORT

 Operations
 \$ 3,710.46

 Savings
 \$ 4,675.29

 Certificate of Deposit
 \$ 11,437.99

 Total
 \$ 19,823.74

Branch 269 Continuous Membership

June, 2024

Richard Hair (58)	David Aldrich (30)	Ken Ealy (23)	MICHAEL MERCER (8)
John Pardo (57)	Edward Astle (28)	Lee Heitner (23)	Eddie Beasley (7)
Ronald Hoadley Jr (49)	Dwight Bain (25)	Brian Sims (23)	FRED SPRAGUE (7)
Roy Knight (49)	Randy Bognar (25)	Don Kopczynski (22)	JOHN THIRY (7)
Franklin Osburn (49)	Gary Gander (25)	Robert Ladue (22)	ROBERT BRINSON (6)
Perry Riley (49)	Steven Gearhart (25)	Patrick Dermody (21)	WILLIAM REED (6)
William Korbisch (48) Ronald Henderson (41)	Douglas Jordan (25)	Terry Gomez (21)	LEE LEPRETRE (5)
Joseph Dick (39)	Robert Sowards (25)	Keith Timmons (20)	WILLIAM RAGAN (5)
Carson Burgess (36)	Roger Adams (24)	William Dunsing (19)	CHARLES HOLLOWOOD (4)
Jerry Frohbieter (36)	Dwaynne Ashline (24)	Bobby Beck (19)	CHARLES WALKER (4)
Lester Callahan (35)	Ludwig Burkle (24)	Mike Sroka (19)	Debra Bortell (3)
Lonnie Donahue(35)	Joseph Giannetto (24)	James Baker (18)	WILLIAM HAYES (3)
Mureen Gonzalez (35)	Dennis Hazel (24)	Steven Edmund Sr (17)	PAUL CLOSE (2)
Michael Hanna (35)	Howard Miles (24)	Larry Knutson (17)	JOSEPH WEBER (2)
James Kint (35)	William Roberts (24)	Julian Lemley (15)	ARTHUR DI FILIPPO (2)
Edward Mulrey (35)	George Roberts Jr. (24)	William Maloon (13)	MATTHEW FRAZIER (1)
Harold Herrington (34) Gareld Landis (34)	Daniel Ryan (24)	Gregg Schneider (12)	JAMES MCCUTCHEON (1)
Martin Tinsley II (34)	Robert Windrow (24)	Elmer Feeser (10)	BENJAMIN MONEY (1)
David Menefee (31)	Dennis Cox (23)	Raymond McKinley III (10)	SCOTT SALISBURY (1)
David Monorce (31)		JEFFREY WILMOTH (10)	TODD WALKER (1)

Unit 269 Continuous Membership June, 2024

Patricia Włazlinski (55)	Robin McKeown (10)	Barbara Berger (4)	ALLAN PATTON (3)	
Linda Brinson (55)	Carolyn Rose (10)	Deborah Breeze (4)	JACQUELINE PAXTON (3)	
Beulah Wenzel (45)	Deborah Rullman (10)	Danielle Carroll (4)	Rosie Soderlund (3)	
Cacey Anderson (25)	Karen Hubert (5)	Sandra Peeples (4)	WALTER SPILLER III (3)	
Margie Rothrauff (25)	Janice Highberger (5)	Francis Perillo (4)	COLLEEN MCCAIN (3)	
Deloris Cox (20)	Therese Masterson (5)	Lori Ryan (4)	TAMMY MILLER (3)	
Carnela Day (20)	Rebecca Moseley (5)	Daniel March (4)	GEORGIA CATHEART (3)	
Rosamond Milligan (15)	Jessica Murphy (5)	Arilla Cotton (4)	Presilla Wilbanks (3)	
Marilyn Tharp (15)	Carol Mustain (5)	Robert Kirkley Sr (4)	SHIRLEY TROSPER (2)	
Katherine Sparger (10)	Curtis March (5)	Christopher Gillespie (4)	ALVIN CALES (2)	
Allyson McDermott (10)	Tine Marie Willis (4)	Ann Griffith (3)	JORDAN HIGHBERGER (2)	
Jacqueline Verheyen (10)	Sheila Shea (4)	Lawrence Fowler (3)	SANDRA HOULE (2)	
Cynthia Young (10)	Joseph Holman (4)	Dawna LaTourelle (3)	JAYNE CAMPBELL (2)	
	Gina Horne (4)	Nicole Nettles (3)	BEVERLY SHAFFER (2)	

Unit 269 Continuous Membership (Continued) June. 2024

		, -	
Krystal Shaffer (2)	Brian Adams (2)	Dylan Adams (1)	Melissa Molina-Matrix (1)
Joan Wilson (2)	Ryan Adams (2)	Jacob Becker (1)	Carol Craig (1)
Teresa Hagan (2)	Suzanne Peters (2)	Lynette Gonzalez (1)	Remedios Crawford (1)
Marjorie Gottsch (2)	William Adams (2)	Joseph Taschner (1)	Tiffany Dubose (1)
Wendell Rourk (2)	Tyler Adams (2)	Lorena Claxton (1)	Betrice Murphy (1)
Fredrick Kiley (2)	Lorraine Carver (2)	Sott Sarah (1)	Robert Horne (1)
Roberta Kiley (2)	Faye Graham (1)	Patty Russell (1)	
Virginia Stamey (2)	Judy Higgins (1)	Gary Thomas(1)	

YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN JUNE- 2024

If you are a Branch 269 or Unit 269 member, come on in to the Low Country Home on your birthday for a

FREE BIRTHDAY LUNCH

Roger Fincher (1)	Cacey Anderson (7)	James Hutton (15)	Ralph Bates (26)	
James Gregory (1)	Nicole Nettles (7)	Maryln Mucheck (15)	Roy Kingdom(26)	
Carolyn Rose (1)	Donald Langdon (8)	Albert Horne Jr (16)	Presilla Wilbanks (26)	
Sam Pennington (2)	Terry Corley (10)	Phillip Smith (16)	Dan Heath Jr. (27)	
Ronald Vanco (2)	Ronald Chambers (11)	David Stevens (18)	Charles Humbard (27)	
Nancy Vella (2)	Orro Kaske (11)	Raymond Cotton (19)	Robert Vehorn (27)	
Richard Herndon (3)	Richmond Smith (11)	Kevin Henry (19)	Lowell Mills (28)	
Jahleel Jones-Valentine (3)	Feliz Cabanting (12)	George Johnson (19)	James Nelson (28)	
William Jenkins (3)	Tommy Hellems (12)	Robert Kirtley (19)	Angela Clark (29)	
Willie Thompson Jr. (3)	Donald Moseng (12)	Robert Reynolds (19)	John Flynn (29)	
Jacob Becker (4)	Don Mucheck (12)	James Graham Sr. (20)	Arthur Hance III (29)	
Marvin Brigman (5)	Guy Travaglio (12)	Dana Disinger (22)	Michael Quigley (29)	
Angela Chapman (5)	Edward Peters (14)	Sandra Houle (22)	Charles Rein (29)	
Matthew Douty (5)	Robert Simmang (14)	Allan Patton (22)	Gloria Bolyn (30)	
Judy Duncan (5)	Alfred Bauer (15)	Michael Goad (23)	Arthur Brown (30)	
Larry Tarzwell (6)	Cynthia Hannah (15)	Wendy Holman (26)	John Sloan (30)	
William Teague (6)	Donald Heinle (15)	Ron Morgan (24)		

Branch Officers have been elected. The installation for the 2024-2025 officers will be Friday, June 7.

Dinner will be served at 1800 with the installation at 1900.



Unit and Branch members that placed flags on Veteran's graves at Plantation Memorial Garden Cemetery. Home Committee Input

Cash Audit as of 10 May 2024 as follows: Savings account \$26,435.07; Checkbook balance \$13,210.31; Credit Card account \$19,865.48; there is \$441.00 in pending deposits. Total cash on-hand \$70,451.06.

Financial Audit for the month of April 2024 unavailable.

Building and Grounds/Special Events Manager's report:

Members of the Low Country Boil had to be rescheduled to 01 June due to conflict of scheduling.

There will be an indoor picnic at the Home on 27 May after the Memorial Day Remembrance ceremony.

S/M Pepper has ordered bricks he had been working on last month; working on another purchase and another resource just recommended to him by Steve Koch.

Next Golf tournament will be 29 June 2024 followed by meal and awards at the Branch Home.

The A/C unit in the Kitchen needs to be replaced; first quote discussed is \$10K (Home Committee made a motion of NTE \$10K; seconded and agreed). Awaiting formal quote from Contractor. Need to ask Branch to allot NTE \$10K if formal quote available at Branch Meeting.

S/M Mucheck reported liquor liability insurance has been paid but warns us that next bill will likely be very expensive; standby to cringe.

Work on indoor sprucing effort to paint the banquet room, bathrooms, and entrance foyer in preparation for FRA Convention this September is being delayed until we are sure everything can be accommodated including replacement of the kitchen A/C unit (however, we approved expenses for the FRA Convention sprucing, so we need to get that effort started asap).

Membership and Security: S/M John Tharp reported six new members, nine losses. Six pills for new Branch members were added to the barrel.

Laurie, Ken, and Dee are not available to handout drinks/snacks at the VA next month. Cindy will do it but we ask for volunteers(s) to assist her on the 2^{nd} Wednesday of June.

Our next Home Committee meeting will be at 1300 on 17 June 2024.

One final reminder, if you bring a Non-Member to Home, please remember to sign them into the Guest Log.

Ken Wallace, Home Committee Chairman

Below are pictures from the Branch/Unit Memorial Day Service:

Wreath laying by Branch, Unit, and VFW 10256, Vietnam Veterans and Marine Corps League











VFW 10256 Memorial Day service with wreath laying:















Mark your calendar, watch for details, watch for additions

Friday nights – 1930 hrs – Scotch Doubles, 8-ball Tournament

June, 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
Free Pool	3	4	5	6 SubVet Eboard meeting	7 Officer Installation 1800- Dinner 1900 - Installation	8 DAV Meeting 1000
9 Free Pool	10	11	12 LCCC 1900	13 Subvet Mtg	14 FLAG DAY	15
16 Free Pool	Home Committee 1300	18	NO UNIT MEETING	NO BRANCH MEETNG	MOAA 1100	22
23/30 FREE POOL	24 VVA MTG	Sojourners 1900	26	27 MCL Mtg	28	Golf Tournament





From left, Mark Milley, retired general and former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, NATO supreme allied commander in Europe Gen. Christopher Cavoli and Susan Eisenhower help unveil a statue of Dwight D. Eisenhower in Sainte-Mère-Église, France, Monday, June 3, 2024.

U.S. soldiers attend a ceremony in Sainte-Mère-Église, France, to honor Dwight D. Eisenhower on Monday, June 3, 2024. A paratrooper mannequin hangs from the church behind them to honor the paratroopers who helped liberate the town in 1944 under Eisenhower's leadership.

At a 1943 conference, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill reaffirmed plans for a cross-channel assault into occupied France that was code-named Overlord. When the two leaders told Soviet leader Joseph Stalin that the invasion would be possible within a year, Stalin insisted that a leader of the operation be named, according to the National Archives. Eisenhower was assigned to the position in December 1943. After months of preparation, which included a buildup of troops on the coast of southern England, Eisenhower ordered Operation Overlord to proceed on June 6. He met with troops just before they set off to participate in the assault, including soldiers assigned to the Army's 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, who were expected to suffer significant casualties.

Eisenhower's great-granddaughter, Caroline de Carvalho, praised Sainte-Mère-Église at Monday's event. "You are a testament to all of us of the importance of preserving our memory of the Allied victory," de Carvalho said. "May all of us gathered here today continue to serve as a bridge by learning from and retelling this story for generations to come." The statue unveiling was one of numerous events happening in Normandy this week to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day. Retired Gen. John Nicholson, former commander of U.S. Forces in Afghanistan, and retired Gen. Mark Milley, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, were also in attendance. "(Eisenhower) fought this battle in order to create a better peace," Milley said. "And his message to all of us today resonates as it did in 1944, and that message is two words: never again."





'It's personal': The Virginia town of Bedford still remembers 20 men lost on D-Day

BEDFORD, Va. — Liz Beverly often heard stories about how her grandfather would stand on the town's courthouse steps every day hoping to run into a veteran of World War II to ask him if he could explain how her uncle Taylor Fellers died. Capt. Fellers was killed June 6, 1944, four days shy of his 30th birthday. Beverly said her family has never found out exactly how he died. What they learned from World War II veteran Jimmy Green is Fellers was on the landing craft that Green was operating on D-Day. Green told them that he remembers Fellers being the first person to step foot on Omaha Beach during the invasion of Normandy, France. "We assumed he was shot immediately," she said. When the United States entered World War II, the population of Bedford was about 3,200 — a small farming community in Virginia with the Blue Ridge Mountains to the north. It is sandwiched between Lynchburg to the east and Roanoke to the west. The town was home to a National Guard unit — Company A of the 116th Infantry Regiment of the 29th Division. The Virginia National Guard had been deputized by President Franklin D. Roosevelt into the regular Army on Feb. 3, 1941 — 10 months before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, which pulled the U.S. into World War II. Basic training followed for the company before sailing out of New York harbor in September 1942 for 20 months of training for the Europe campaign.

Thirty-eight men from the community were members of Company A. The unit took part in the landing at Omaha Beach on June 6 at about 6:30 a.m., and 19 of them died that day. Another soldier from Bedford in Company F — Pfc. Benjamin Hubbard — also died on D-Day. A 20th member of Company A died later during the Normandy campaign.

The 20 soldiers from the town and county of Bedford suffered the nation's highest known per capita D-Day loss, according to the National D-Day Memorial. Known as the "Bedford Boys," the community still feels the loss 80 years later. Sheila Fizer Maxfield Sweet doesn't remember much about her brother Charles Fizer before he left to fight in World War II. She said the only thing she can recall from photos is her brother holding her in her father's car when she was only about 2½ years old. Sweet was one of seven children in her family, and her brother was the second oldest. In those years, Bedford was still struggling through the Great Depression. It was a large family in a poor community, so her brother was compelled to join the National Guard in about 1940, Sweet said. From the stories that she was told, men who joined the Guard received \$1. "I think those boys did it to get a little money because times were hard, and I think maybe they wanted something to do. They probably hadn't picked up a gun or rifle until they joined the

Guard," Sweet said. "When they were called into the Army, they probably didn't know what they would be facing."

Pfc. Fizer, 22, was killed in action on July 11, 1944, near Saint-Lô, France. Through the years, Bedford residents have changed on how they talk about the soldiers and D-Day. For the families, it was easier not to talk about it. David Stevens' twin uncles, Ray and Roy Stevens, were technical sergeants who served in Company A. Ray died at 24 in the war, but Roy made it home and lived to be 87. Roy would talk about his war experiences through the years but initially his main thought was, "Why did I make it home?" David Stevens recounted. Sweet said her mother didn't talk about her brother dying. Sweet learned more information later based on tidbits her mother told Sweet's son. John Boggess lost his uncles Staff Sgt. Raymond and Pvt. Bedford Hoback on D-Day. He said one of the biggest things that parents wanted to know was whether their sons had suffered. From the medical records, Boggess' family now knows Bedford was shot in the face. Based on another soldier's account, what they believe happened to Raymond was a mortar fell at his feet and killed him instantly. "Had my grandparents known that then, it would have brought them some comfort that it was immediate," Boggess said. Since 2001, Bedford has been the home to the National D-Day Memorial to honor more than 2,500 Americans and 1,900 Allied forces who were killed on the beaches of Normandy during the invasion of Nazi-occupied France. There are statues honoring Allied commanders and statues depicting what American forces did that day. "The Homage" statue has an area to itself in Bedford. It was unveiled for the 70th anniversary in 2014 honoring the 20 Bedford Boys who died on D-Day. The statue also honors other soldiers from Bedford who were wounded, killed in action later and those who served in the Normandy campaign. A section of the memorial depicts various actions of service members storming the beach or scaling a cliff. At the memorial, "Death on Shore," shows a fallen soldier on the beach with a Bible beside him. This is intended to depict the story of Raymond Hoback. Raymond Hoback was 24 years old when he was killed, and his brother Bedford was 30. Boggess said Bedford always got into tussles, including in the Army. He originally joined in the 1930s and reenlisted when Raymond joined the National Guard. "[Bedford's] rank changed a few times over his time with the Army. He was not a rule follower," Boggess said. "[Raymond] was quiet and studious as far as I could tell." Bedford Hoback is buried in Normandy, but Raymond's body was never recovered. Several weeks after the brothers were killed, the parents received a package in the mail that contained Raymond's Bible found on Omaha beach. Raymond's sister, Lucille Hoback Boggess, donated the Bible to the memorial last November.



The Navy unveiled a new policy Monday that will allow commanding officers to recommend certain sailors advance to E-5 and E-6 in order to fill empty billets — provided they agree to stay in the sea service.

The effort, known as Command Advance to Position, or CA2P, is the latest initiative from the service to bolster <u>billet-based advancement</u> in exchange for the opportunity to promote.

Now, eligible sailors can fill <u>either vacant billets</u> or ones that will become open in the next 18 months — so long as they agree to reenlist and fulfill the tour requirements for the billet, according to a new <u>naval administrative message</u>, or <u>NAVADMIN</u>.

The policy, which took effect Saturday, is different from the service's Meritorious Advancement Program, which allows sailors to promote without agreeing to additional time in service. Eventually, CA2P will replace the MAP system, the Navy said.

Under the new policy, commanding officers may recommend a sailor for CA2P by submitting a Manning Realignment Request in MyNavy Assignment, for those more than 12 months out from their projected rotation date.

If a sailor is less than 12 months away from their projected rotation date, commands may recommend the sailor for CA2P via an email request to the appropriate placement management coordinator.

Those eligible to promote to E-5 must have two years of cumulative sea duty, and have passed the most recent Navy-wide Advancement Exam as they await advancement. Those who have previously undergone the CA2P process to advance to E-5 must agree to an additional two years of service on top of the current tour length to promote to E-6.

"Sailors who are assigned to overseas tours will need to meet DoD requirements to be eligible for either the overseas tour extension incentives program or the consecutive overseas tour program," the NAVADMIN said.

Sailors serving in submarine or surface nuclear ratings are not eligible for CA2P, according to the NAVADMIN.



A bag of trash carried by a North Korean balloon is pictured in Seoul, South Korea, June, 1, 2024.

Possible North Korean balloon debris falls near elementary school on Osan Air Base

SEOUL, South Korea — Debris discovered Sunday near a school on Osan Air Base may have come from one of about 720 balloons North Korea floated across the border over the weekend. The debris found near Osan Elementary School was cleaned up after an explosive ordnance team set up a cordon, principal Allyse Struhs said in a 6:15 p.m. email to parents and guardians. "Please be assured that we anticipate no threats or school delays to our students on Monday," she wrote.

Further details were not available, but the incident is under investigation, Capt. Michelle Chang, a spokeswoman for Osan's 51st Fighter Wing, told Stars and Stripes by phone. Hundreds of balloons carrying trash from North Korea have been discovered in several South Korean provinces since late Saturday, prompting Seoul to issue a second mass-alert warning in a week. The South's government sent the latest alert to cellphones around 9 p.m. Saturday, warning people to watch out for falling objects. Those who see a balloon were advised to avoid contact with the object and report it to police or the nearest military unit. Some balloons were discovered around 8 p.m. Saturday, the South's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a news release the next morning. Tethered to the balloons were bags of scrap paper, cigarette butts and other household trash. The South Korean military and local police have been dispatched to collect the balloons; no harmful substances were immediately detected in the bags, the Joint Chiefs said. The government issued a similar alert Tuesday after 260 balloons were discovered floating throughout South Korea. Some carried manure, according to the South Korean military.



The Navy destroyer Gravely launches Tomahawk missiles on Jan. 12, 2024, toward Iran-backed Houthi rebel positions in Yemen.

All the Houthi-US Navy incidents in the Middle East (that we know of)

Editor's note: This report was updated on June 5, 2024, at 6:20 a.m. Eastern Time.

Below is a running list of every instance where a U.S. Navy ship or jet has shot down a Houthi attack, and every instance where the United States and its allies have hit back at Houthi sites in Yemen, since October.

The list is based on incidents publicly confirmed and announced by U.S. Central Command, or CENTCOM, as well as reporting by Military Times and The Associated Press.

U.S. destroyers are confirmed to have participated in at least the following number of incidents, according to CENTCOM:

JUNE 2024

June 4, 2024: The Houthis <u>launched</u> two anti-ship ballistic missiles from Yemen into the Red Sea. There were no injuries or damages reported by U.S., coalition or commercial ships.

June 2, 2024: U.S. forces destroyed an aerial drone over the southern Red Sea.

June 1, 2024: U.S. forces <u>destroyed</u> an aerial drone in the southern Red Sea and observed two others crash into the Red Sea.

U.S. forces also engaged two anti-ship ballistic missiles in the southern Red Sea that CENTCOM said were fired in the direction of the Navy destroyer Gravely.

May 31, 2024: The Houthis <u>launched</u> an aerial drone that crashed into the Red Sea. Later, U.S. forces destroyed one aerial drone over the Gulf of Aden and three others over the Red Sea. The Houthis also launched two anti-ship ballistic missiles from Yemen into the Gulf of Aden. There were no injuries or damage reported by U.S., coalition or commercial ships.

May 30, 2024: U.S. and U.K. forces <u>struck</u> 13 Houthi targets in Yemen. According to U.S. officials, American and British fighter jets and U.S. ships hit a wide range of underground

facilities, missile launchers, command and control sites, a Houthi vessel and other facilities, <u>The Associated Press reported</u>.

U.S. forces also destroyed eight aerial drones in Yemen and over the Red Sea.

May 29, 2024: U.S. forces destroyed two aerial drones over the Red Sea launched from Yemen.

May 28, 2024: The Houthis <u>launched</u> five anti-ship ballistic missiles from Yemen into the Red Sea. M/V Laax, a Greek bulk carrier, was struck by three of the missiles, but continued its voyage. There were no injuries reported by U.S., coalition or merchant vessels.

U.S. forces also destroyed five aerial drones over the Red Sea that were launched from Yemen.

Additionally, U.S. forces <u>destroyed</u> two missile launchers in Yemen before the Houthis later launched two anti-ship ballistic missiles from Yemen into the Red Sea.

May 27, 2024: U.S. forces <u>destroyed</u> an aerial drone over the Red Sea that was launched from Yemen.



A former Navy chief convicted of attempted espionage last month was sentenced to 18 years in a military prison Wednesday, officials confirmed.

Former Chief Fire Controlman (Aegis) Bryce Steven Pedicini was <u>found guilty last month of</u> <u>attempted espionage</u>, failure to obey a lawful order, and attempted violation of a lawful general order charge specifications, following a weeklong, judge-only general court-martial, the Navy said.

In addition to prison time, Pedicini, formerly assigned to the Japan-based destroyer Higgins, was also given a dishonorable discharge and reduction in rank to E-1, according to the Navy.

Dating back to November 2022, Pedicini shared national defense and classified information with a representative from a foreign government that he had reason to believe could be damaging to the U.S. and beneficial to the foreign nation, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service said in a statement at the time of Pedicini's conviction.

He shared this information "under the guise" of writing research papers, NCIS said. The agency did not say which foreign government received these documents from Pedicini.