

**IPSWICH POST 1093**



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**

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**SEPTEMBER, 2010 POST NEWSLETTER**



January 26, 1943, an infantryman is on guard on Grassy Knoll in Guadalcanal, Soloman Islands. Grassy Knoll was the nickname given to Mt. Austin, which rises 1,300 ft. above Henderson Field. From it Japanese artillery was pounding the valuable landing strips. As the Christmas was like any other day on Guadalcanal. It rained, and the job of ferreting out Japanese and killing them went right on as usual. A skirmish called the Battle of Grassy Knoll was in the seventh day. It, too, was like battles that had gone before and have come after. It was the first offensive for the Army troops, who had relieved the Marines on Guadalcanal. The battle continued through Christmas, on through New Year's Day. On January 2 the Americans made their final push, up a 500 ft. jungle wall. The Japanese did not retreat, and 267 of them were killed where they fought.... The pictures on this website were taken by LIFE Photographer Ralph Morse

## **Former Marine Elected to Head Nation's Largest Organization of Combat Veterans**

### ***Richard L. Eubank is new VFW National Commander***

*KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 26, 2010* – America's largest organization of combat veterans has elected a Vietnam War veteran to head the 1.5 million-member Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Richard L. Eubank, now a resident of Eugene, Ore., was elected VFW National Commander on Aug. 26, 2010, during the VFW's National Convention held Aug. 20-25, in Indianapolis, Ind.



During his acceptance speech Eubank, who served with the U.S. Marine Corps from 1967-1987, pledged his support to help the organization's state and local leaders in fighting for our troops and veterans. "Just let me know how I can use the influence of this position to help you at the local level...any combat unit worth its salt will take their objective and accomplish their mission. I want warriors who are willing to go into battle with me. For those that do not wish to wage war for our veterans, please stand aside and let us pass through," he stated.

## **POST 1093 NEWS**

**Comrades will note that there is little post news in this edition of our newsletter. Vacations, poor health and personal needs have combined to limit the services of our usual sources of current news. In this issue we feature uniforms from the Civil War to Afghanistan. So also does your post need the help of all veterans, old and new, if we are to carry on a proud tradition. Veterans of foreign wars in Ipswich, Post 1093, your post needs YOU.**



## USS COLE - PART ONE



On October 12, 2000, USS *Cole*, under the command of Commander Kirk Lippold, set in to Aden harbor for a routine fuel stop. *Cole* completed mooring at 09:30. Refueling started at 10:30. Around 11:18 local time (08:18 UTC), a small craft approached the port side of the destroyer, and an explosion occurred, putting a 40-by-40-foot gash in the ship's port side according to the memorial plate to those who lost their lives. According to former CIA intelligence officer Robert Finke, the blast appeared to be caused by explosives molded into a shaped charge

against the hull of the boat.<sup>[1]</sup> It was speculated at the time that over 1,000 pounds of explosive were used.<sup>[2]</sup> The blast hit the ship's galley, where crew were lining up for lunch. The crew fought floodg in the engineering spaces and had the damage under control by the evening. Divers inspected the hull and determined the keel was not damaged. Seventeen sailors were killed and thirty-nine others were injured in the blast. The injured sailors were taken to the United States Army's Landstuhl Regional Medical Center near Ramstein, Germany and later, back to the United States. The attack was the deadliest against a U.S. Naval vessel since the Iraqi attack on the USS *Stark* (FFG-31) on May 17, 1987 The asymmetric warfare attack was organized and directed by Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda terrorist organization. In June 2001, an al-Qaeda recruitment video featuring bin Laden boasted about the attack and encouraged similar attacks.

## USS COLE - PART TWO

By [Peter Finn](#) Washington Post Staff Writer, Thursday, August 26, 2010; 8:47 PM - The Obama administration has shelved the planned prosecution of Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, the alleged coordinator of the Oct. 2000 suicide attack on the USS *Cole* in Yemen, according to a court filing. The decision at least temporarily scuttles what was supposed to be the signature trial of a major al-Qaeda figure under a reformed system of military commissions. And it comes practically on the eve of the 10th anniversary of the attack, which killed 17 sailors and wounded dozens when a boat packed with explosives ripped a hole in the side of the warship in the port of Aden.

In a filing this week in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, the Justice Department said that "no charges are either pending or contemplated with respect to al-Nashiri in the near future." The statement, tucked into a motion to dismiss a petition by Nashiri's attorneys, suggests that the prospect of further military trials for detainees held at Guantanamo Bay, [Cuba](#), has all but ground to a halt, much as the administration's plan to try the accused plotters of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in federal court has stalled.

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## TAPS

### IN MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED COMRADES - MAY THEY REST IN PEACE



O God, Father of us all, we offer this final earthly tribute to our beloved comrades who have passed on.

Kenelmn W. Harris

Leon I. Bartnisky, Jr.

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### IF SADDAM HAD STAYED

An opinion piece in the Sept. 2nd Wall Street Journal written by Daniel Henninger contains the following: "We ought to be a lot prouder of our troops coming home from Iraq than we are showing this week. They deserve a monument. That war wasn't just about helping Iraq. It was about us. The march across the nuclear threshold by lunatic regimes is a clear and present danger. The sacrifice made by the United States in Iraq took one of these nuclear-obsessed madmen off the table and gave the world more margin to deal with the threat that remains....."



The **Iraq Campaign Medal** is a military decoration of the United States armed forces which was created by Executive Order 13363 of President George W. Bush on May 28, 2004. The Iraq Campaign Medal may be awarded with the Arrowhead device for qualified soldiers. The **Arrowhead device** is a decoration of the United States Army which is issued as an attachment to certain service medals. The Arrowhead device is awarded to any service member who



participates in an amphibious assault, a combat parachute drop, a helicopter assault landing, or a combat glider attack.

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***War is for the participants a test of character; it makes bad men worse and good men better.***

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain -- who was given the honor of commanding the troops that formally accepted the surrender of the Confederate army on April 12, 1865, brevetted major general, US(March 29, 1865); later served as governor of Maine and president of Bowdoin.



### **Last Full US Combat Brigade Leaves Iraq**

Lt. Col. Richard D. Heyward, left, and Sgt. Nick Wysong, right, keep watch as the Army's 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, the last formal U.S. military combat detachment to leave Iraq, crosses the southern desert lands of Iraq on August 17, 2010. (Carolyn Cole/Los Angeles Times/MCT). President Barack Obama on Tuesday 8/31 formally declared an end to combat operations in the seven-year-old Iraq War and promised to refocus the government from prosecuting wars to rebuilding the U.S. economy.





March 1944: Following in the cover of a tank, American infantrymen secure an area on Bougainville, Solomon Islands after Japanese forces infiltrated their lines during the night. (AP Photo)



U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Sean Ryan, of Littleton, Colo., with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion 5th Marines walks on patrol in Nawa district, Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)