Hi gang, First of all, I wish every one a very Merry Christmas. I hope you and your families have a wonderful time as we celebrate Jesus' birthday. There is an old saying that goes like this, "don't do as I do but do as I say." Don't eat TOOooooo much..!

I see the Russians are using my name, "Russian Orlan Suit." It has to do with ham radio in a space suit to be floating in space soon. For lots of good photos of the suit and radio equipment in it and to listen to it on your radio, click >> http://www.amsat.org/amsat-ew/articles/BauerSuitsat/index.php

Gary WØTM gave me these URLs providing ways to send cards, letters & packages to our military men and women on active duty. Take time to visit these and see if this is something of interest to you.
http://www.estripes.com/webpages.asp?id=53
http://www.americasupportsyou.mil/americasupportsyou/index.aspx   Merry Christmas to U es URS
Gary..!

I October I asked all the ECs to send the SEC a HF message saying "they were ready." I am sorry to say, only one EC responded and that was Bruce KØBJ our vice-director. How about that! One of my bosses replied to my request...! I did get one more....... {Orlan I sent the test message last month to KØBXF from zone 2F. The message was listed on the Kansas SideBand Net by WØBBO AL in Lindsborg after I originated the message in McPherson and relayed it to AL by 2m. WDØEUF Stan} No other Kansas EC participated in the HF message to the SCM even with extra HF nets being run for the annual "SET." In my 53 years of ham radio, I don't
think I have ever seen volunteers activities so low. I don't think our philosophy of more hams in the ranks mean more active volunteers.

I knew there was another EC that responded to your query.
Stan WD0EUF responded with "I am Ready" 73, Ron kb0dti - SM

NR 101 R HXG WD0EUF 4 MCPHERSON 1030A OCT 16
BOB SUMMERS K0BXF
3045 N 72ND
KCK 66109
913-299-1128
---------------------------------
I AM READY X
---------------------------------
WD0EUF

IN THE MIDWEST DIVISION: Incumbent Director Wade Walstrom, W0EJ, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, topped challenger Harry S. Nordman, AB0SX, 1806 to 364, to gain a third term. CONGRATS...! Veteran Midwest Division Vice Director Bruce Frahm, K0BJ, was unopposed for another term.

Those of you who get involved with various kinds of connecting cables may already know about this site. On the other hand, you may not. http://www.nullmodem.com/
Larry Staples - W0AIB

Are you on the ALERT for emergencies in your SECTION...? You can be by having your computer's HOME page set up on http://www.arrl.org/ The ALERT box will appear on the right of your screen when you go on line, click it and UR there. This is also the page for the latest in ham radio happenings world wide.

Need a Ks ARES map? http://www.cenkares.org or http://www.qsl.net/swkares/section.htm

Don't miss the Kansas Section News "KSN" Click >>>
http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html
73, Orlan w0oyh - UR ed

ARRL KS SECTION MANAGER
SM, Ron Cowan, KB0DTI– SEC/OOC: Robert Summers, K0BXF. ASM: Orlan Cook, W0OYH. SGL: Steve Hamilton, KB0JYL.

Hiawatha ARC operated a Special Event station from the Hiawatha Maple Leaf Festival October 1st. WAØSRR worked 40 meter phone. The club held their picnic in late September with over 30 attending.

Douglas Co. ARC Held their annual Nowhere Special Event Station South of Baldwin. About 20 members and spouses came out for this fun fall event. They had a great time working the radio and participating in activities such as the toilet seat toss and enlarging coins. The picnic part of the day was pretty good too! The Midland Railway operates a museum excursion line from Baldwin to Nowhere and the station is set up right next to the tracks.

Valley Center Hamfest had a great turnout again. The WX was nice and the conversation was relaxed. NØJDW- Jerry came over from Pratt and Don and Sharon dropped down from Salina.
Wichita ARC is getting the club station put back together and antennas up after construction at the Kansas Aviation Museum.

Trojan ARC had their Cream Can Stew Picnic at the beginning of the month.

If you're in Shawnee Co. area and interested in getting a fox hunt going, contact Dan-KBØWOW.

Johnson Co. Hams received a nice write up in The Sun Newspaper. They had a reporter and photographer out at the Fall Expo held at the Marshall Ensor Museum where the Auction and SATERN meeting were being held.

This is the year end dinner season. Double check your list and make sure no one is left out. You may also want to see if there is someone that needs a ride, especially since it will be dark when you head home.

RACES Officers, please remember to keep Joseph-WDØDMV updated on your activities.

(Note: I as your Section Manager have not been reporting my zone 4E activities but will now do so. I can't ask you to do something I am not doing.)

Newsletters received: Central KS QSP, Douglas County ARC, Feedback, Transceiver(Kaw Valley) Pilot Knob QRZ, QNU H.A.R.C.(Hiawatha), Trojan.

SEP. Sessions/QNI/QTC/Mgr: KSBN/30/741/69/N0KFS KPN/21/205/5/N0KFS KMWN/30/512/538/WB0YWZ KWN/30/795/538/WB0YWZ CSTN/26/1703/96/AB5PA QKS 41/143/66/NB0Z

Traffic: W0WWR 160 KC0HHO 112 NB0Z 55 N0ENO 14 KC0MRJ 6 KI0BK 11 KB0DTI 13 K0RY 14 W0OYH 13 N0ZIZ 13

Official Bulletin Station: K0RY 12

Have you seen your clubs activities listed in the Section News? Wonder why?

To receive or contribute to Orlan's Kansas Amateur Radio News E-mail News Letter contact Orlan-W0OYH-Editor at orlan@arrl.net

See KSN on ARRL Website for detailed PSHR and more Kansas news: http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=KS

Ron D. Cowan, KB0DTI
ARRL Kansas Section Manager:
kb0dti@arrl.org

ARRL KS SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR
ARES REPORT for October 2005 activity
NET Check-ins Messages
ZONE Sessions QNI QTC
Here is the December RACES Net Report for Thru. Dec. 1st

The following stations checked into the net.

WØPBV Riley
KØFNI Harvey
AAØOM Phillips
WBØQGH Johnson
NØENO Johnson
ABØUY Johnson
KBØDTI Linn/Bourbon
WDØDMV Shawnee NC
8 QNI Ø QTC

Happy Holidays to All Joseph WDØDMV - KS RACES Officer

KANSAS ARES REPORTS

I have been working with the local Fire Dept.s for the up coming Spring 2006 State Fire School to be held here in Topeka. It looks like we will be having an Emergency Communications class in the school. Althouth Public Safety will be the major part, Ham radio is to be the second part about how we as ham's can help in communications during disasters. I have also set it up so Hams can attend several classes being put on. Such as leader ship, ICS class, driving class, opertions at an emergency scene. Hams can choose which they would like to take.

73's Steve WAØVRS EC Alpha 1 <<ARES NETS 2005.doc>>

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ENCLOSED FIND NOV. REPORT 2 CALL OUTS 1 FOR 911 SYSTEM SHAWNEE COUNTY WAS DOWN. 1 FOR STORM SPOTTERS. NO DAMAGE FROM WEATHER AND 911 NO MAJOR PROBLEMS.

STEVE EC ALPHA 1 ARES KANSAS WAØVRS <<ARES NETS 2005.doc>>
NOV. 1 15 QNI 3 QTC
The Capital-Journal

The Shawnee County 911 system was disabled for six hours Tuesday because of a software malfunction at the dispatch center.

Don Brown, spokesman for ATT Kansas, said technicians isolated the problem within the system early Tuesday evening, repaired the damage and gradually increased its function capacity until it was declared restored by 8:22 p.m.

"We had a good news, bad news situation in that the problem was not a cut cable or cut fiber," Brown said. He said technical difficulties, such as Tuesday's troubles, "many times are easier to deal with."

Emergency calls were routed into switchboards at the Topeka Police Department while the system was repaired at the Shawnee County Emergency Communication Center.

"911 is our absolute most important priority, and technicians will stay on it until they get it restored," Brown said late Tuesday.

Brown said the technicians reported between 6 and 7 p.m. that the lines seemed to be holding up to the tests of increasing capacity. He said standard procedure is for technicians to stay one to two hours after repairs are made to ensure everything is working properly.

While 911 dispatch was being conducted from the police department, volunteer radio operators from the Kaw Valley Amateur Radio Club staffed fire stations to take reports from anyone who couldn't get through to 911.

David Laird, of the Shawnee County Consolidated Emergency Communication Center, said the 911 system "locked up" in the communications center at about 2:30 p.m., but "a few of the lines remained up and working, so complete service was not lost."

Laird reported that the remaining circuits were switched by SBC/ATT to ring in to the Police Department's switchboard, where all 911 circuits were routed and CECC dispatchers answered phones and entered calls from another area of the LEC.

He said it was all done via computer and the calls were immediately "dispatched to police, sheriff or fire units as necessary."

Here is the ARES Dist 6F report for NOV
Hello Orlan,
As you know the MWEC-ARES group has worked for several years to gain the trust and to show Montgomery County that Amateur Radio was an important tool for them. It finally paid off when the County planned their first real life exercise in the field and on November 17th the MWEC-ARES (H-4) group was invited by the Montgomery County officials to participate in their first lifetime HAZ-MAT exercise that they have done in several years.
The Drill scenario was that an angry farmer had taken revenge on the city council members during their meeting and released a toxic gas inside the Floral Hall at the Walter Johnston Park in Coffeyville. All Agencies responded to the staging area and the Amateur Radio operators established a Emergency(TEST) call on the 443.525 Repeater in the county and moved the net to 145.490. KB0RVO acted as Net Control for ARES and KC0NYK took control for SATURN on HF and VHF to keep track of the weather with the help of Wichita Weather Service through 145.130. KC0QMX drove to the Red Cross Office in Coffeyville and established a contact point for the net control officers and for the Red Cross DAT Members. KC5TES and KC0PLF and KC0VFA were on scene to relay any traffic and also they filmed the event with their video camera. Myself, KC0KIG, as acting EC stayed with the Incident commander, EOC Director and Homeland Security, to remain a contact point for them and I also took the video camera out and covered the event that way. We did get a chance to be interviewed by the newspaper and we will be in the official report that the County will be sending out to the many agencies.
Many thanks to K0LC, KB0WIZ, KC0QMW, K0FAO, KC0VFB for their support in checking into the Net and standing by in case we needed help.
Have a great Day,
Pascal Van Schijndel
MWEC-ARES EC (H-4)
www.mwec-ares.org

Zone C4 September 2005 Monthly Leavenworth Co. ARES Activity Report with 39 ARES members
Net activity: 12 Net sessions -- 54 Check-ins -- 1 message handled.
Comments. Don't forget Goblin Patrol and I still need volunteers for the SET. Please let me know if you are available and want to help. We will support MECC and our neighboring counties with their SET. Chuck would like to have a session during which we practice putting up and taking down the new portable tower. We may also have a chance to use it for communications with the van and generator. Thanks and ...

ARES Net Information: ARES/RACES NET 145.330 (-) N0KOA RPT Thursday 1930 LOCAL
LEAVENWORTH COUNTY ARES NET; 147.000 (+) KS0LV RPT Sunday 1930 LOCAL
Non-ARES Net Information: PKARC NET 147.000 (+) KS0LV RPT Wednesday 1930 LOCAL
W0ROO UHF Net 444.8 (+) Sunday 1915 LOCAL
73s,
Paul Backs, KC0JCQ
Zone C4 E.C., Leavenworth County, Kansas email: paul.e.backs@saic.com; qb223@mindspring.com
Hello Orlan, Ron;

Just a note to say that Joe, N0PME has transferred "ownership" of the Yahoo group he created named the Kansas Amateur Radio Group to myself. The purpose of the group is to be a resource for those Kansas Amateur Radio operators that have internet access and/or email. When Joe first created the group it was the Kansas ten meter group to encourage 10M operation in Kansas, Joe later expanded the focus to all amateur radio related topics and changed the group name to reflect that. I hope the group will become an easy way for Kansas amateurs to discuss amateur radio operating in our state, as well as announcing events. Orlan if you where to subscribe and email the KAR newsletter, the newsletters would be automatically archived.

To subscribe one has to simply send a blank email to karg-subscribe@yahoogroups.com, however I recommend going to http://groups.yahoo.com/group/karg/ create a yahoo ID if one doesn't have one already and join directly at webpage. That insures one can access all the features of the group. Features include a chat function, calendar areas in which to store files and photos, a "links" area, polls, a place to create informative tables. Pretty much a one stop webpage where MEMBERS can CREATE much of the content, if they desire.

Thank you and 73 Doug, N0LKK

HAM LICENSING CLASSES:
The Johnson County Radio Amateur's Club will be sponsoring a four week Technician Grade Amateur Radio class beginning on Tuesday, January 3 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. The classes will be held each Tuesday evening at the Merriam Fire Department training room (9000 W. 62nd Terrace, Merriam, KS). Upon successful completion, participants should be prepared to pass the Technician Class FCC test for Amateur Radio Operators. The content covers basic electrical theory, principals, FCC regulations and RF environmental safety. Morse Code is NOT a requirement for a FCC Technician Class license. The $25 fee (approximate) includes the manual and a year's membership in the Johnson County Radio Amateur Club. Class size will be limited and it is suggested you RSVP by December 16.

Amateur radio operations have been in the spotlight with the recent natural disasters in the Gulf area and becoming more integrated with City and County government emergency plans as an effective emergency communications method. Where the content of the class is of a general nature, these classes are specifically designated for CERT Team members, Emergency Management personnel, and First Responders.

To sign up for the class, or obtain additional information, please email dennis@tsanet.org with the subject line "HAM Class".

Additional information can be obtained by contacting.

Dennis Smeltzer email: dennis@tsanet.org

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Santa Fe' Trail Amateur Radio Club Licensing Class:
Starting January 7th, 2006 every Saturday 9:00 - Noon
Location: Johnson County District 1 Fire Station 490 New Century Parkway New Century Airport, Kansas (East of Gardner, KS. and north of Sprint's North Supply Building )

This will provide the instruction necessary to obtain a Technician or General class amateur radio license.

Cost is $5.00 to register and $15.00 to $45.00 for books/materials.

4-SALE 4-SALE 4-SALE 4-SALE
Norman Rose has a 40-50 ft tower and antenna that can be viewed at the web site below.
http://www.cybernetrealty.to/antennae.htm

It is in great shape and is FREE, but the buyer must remove the tower and antenna. It is set in concrete, but the concrete doe NOT have to be removed.

This will have to be coordinated with KC Power & Light, to drop the power line to the house before the antenna is removed. (There is no cost for the KC Power & Light service).

The antennae and tower is located at 7133 Cedar in Prairie Village. Norman will assist as best he can.
Contact him at: norman@thehormoneshop.com

SILENT KEYS:
WØKZN - Jack George Botteron Jr., Lake Quivira (KC)
NØMFT - Don Johnson, Topeka
WØRZK - Joe Aubert, Topeka
KB0MU - David F. Lauer, Seneca

HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST - HAMFEST
21 Jan 2006 4 Feb 2006
Missouri Valley & Ray-Clay ARCs Mine Creek ARC
Ramada Inn Community Bldg.
4016 Frederick Blvd. Broadway Street
St. Joseph, MO LaCygne, KS
Talk-In: 146.85 (PL 100) & 444.925 (PL 100) Talkin 147.885/147.285
Contact: Roy Burtnett, KA0SIU Contact: Ron Cowan, KB0DTI
PO BOX 195 PO Box 36LaCygne, KS 66040
Oregon, MO 64473-0195 Phone: 913-757-4455
Email: rfbkdb4@ccp.com Email: kb0dti@arrl.net

ARRL KS STATE CONVENTION
Orlan: Thanks for all your help in advertising. Thanks for all you attended and supported the ARRL Kansas State Convention in 2005.

We will be doing it again the third Sunday in August 2006.

73-Don-KA0EIC

HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA
"People are like tea bags" -- "you have to put them in hot water before you know how strong they are."
**Harold WSGZI**

This is a ch__ch, what is missing?

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER ASKED, "NOW, JOHNNY, TELL ME, DO YOU SAY PRAYERS BEFORE EATING?" "NO SIR," HE REPLIED, "WE DON'T HAVE TO. MY MOM IS A GOOD COOK!" TU Jim WØEB

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign... "Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do Not step in exhaust." Don in SD

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

*Good to hear from you once again looks like your headed for 100 before you kick out on us just keep up the faith He will be with you regardless. God bless.*

Pat & Sally Thanks folks..!

Please add me to your mailing list. Thanks. John Bennett - Lansing, KS NO CALL (yet-but working on it). Welcome to KAR John.

*Great newsletter, Orlan! "Which brings me to this question:" I wonder what would happen if we had a real emergency? Wonder what June would do? And, I applaud your stressing the importance of HF.*

Larry WØAIB June would do just fine, it is the volunteers she is dependent on, would there be enough?

*Greeting Oh Mighty One, glad to hear you sight is restored. My news is not so good here concerning our hobby. I think the Phillips County Amateur Radio club is about history in all but name. Our President KØBHN got transferred and his replacement has never called a meeting. Also our Secretary has never reissued our ARES cards. So, We have NO registered ARES members here in the county. I think I am the only Active HAM left in the County. Still, If the EC did ever give me that proverbial message to get back to wherever, It would get sent!!!!!! In reference to the machine "Electric Apple Juice" could not talk about, I was using the same machine in the late 70's. Need to get Tom's Email address. TTFN*

Bill AA0OM

*Thanks Orlan, Hey Tom, from one RM to another, Howdy. Been a while since I chatted with you on HF. Always enjoy reading your stuff in KAR. The articles concerning the Navy are always fun. Brings back lots of memories. All told, I gave Uncle Sam almost 23 years of my life. 12 active and 11 reserve. Some of that was National Guard time but I retired as RM1(SS) in 1989 from the Naval Reserve in Hutchinson Ks. Got to be a drag driving 180 miles one way once a month. I enlisted in the Navy in April 1968 (after 2 years in National Guard). Got out in 70, went back in 71 and got back out of active in 80. Been on LST's, DLG's and SSBN's for duty. Also did time on Guam and Mare Island. Still know the code but don't use it unless I have too. (Taught Navy Code School for a couple of months while awaiting orders). At one time was able to copy about 35 wpm. Not much new from NW Kansas for now. More Later.*

Bill AA0OM

*Greetings, I came across this address on the ARRL website. Would like to request a copy of the newsletter. Thanks. Do you need a mailing address or an email one? Any charge? Appreciate it.*

Thomas Cowin KA0PAW Welcome abpard Tom..!

*Orlan, How are you doing? I hope you are doing OK this week. God is good. His lovingkindness is everlasting. I stand in awe of who He is.*

Larry Amen to that Larry.
Orlan, Hope all is well with you and you are getting back to par. I was involved with the MECC exercise on 5 November from the KS Army MARS side as well as the amateur side and participated in the Kansas Amateur Radio Homeland Security Council on 17 November. John Halladay...KA0JMO TU Jim for sharing your activities. Keep up the FB job.

This is Estelle Howell, wife of Ken AB7MS and my call is N7KAT and I am a member of KNRC in Concordia. Even though I do not get on the radio too much I do enjoy reading about other people and clubs. Hope this clears up who you are talking to. After Ken passed away I continued to use Ken’s e-mail address as ehowell was already in use. Of course I had to go to another supplier which I chose cebridge as it was local and I could get someone to come to hook my computer up as I am new at this. Thanks for doing the letter.
73, Estelle Welcome aboard Estelle..!

Weather Bulletin: Here in the Northern Plains we just recovered from an early historic, may I even say a "Weather Event" of "Biblical Proportions" with a terrible blizzard that dumped up to 24 inches of snow with 50 mph winds that created a white-out beyond hurricane proportions, that broke trees in half, stranded hundreds of motorists in near lethal snow banks, closed all roads, isolated scores of communities and cut power to tens of thousands of people.
EVERYONE IN NORTH DAKOTA IS FINE. Don

Hello Mates, Just got off the phone with Jerry in Miami. He was out of electricity for 17 days, his PC shot craps and wont be fixed for at least another month. Just about got cleaned up from the last storm and another is slated for Monday. He says to tell you all that he is getting along and as soon as he gets going he will write you all.
Don in ND Close the door Don, 10" of that white stuff arrived here yesterday.

Yes Orlan, I will be glad to give you the information you requested. The name here is Jack and the call is W0VRU. Thank you for your interest.
Sincerely, Jack -- w0vru Welcome to the KAR newsletter Jack.

Hi Orlan, The name is Don Danielson, Belleville, KS and I'm his 1/2 but I'm not a Ham. His call is WBOICU and he isn't on the air much. I am the computer "operator" but he used to use it some. We have been long time friends of Wendell since we bought a International CB radio from him many long years ago. We do listen in the mornings to the chat from Wendell and that gang, and enjoy their conversations. Maybe someday Don will talk but he isn't a real talker so maybe he will be some day !!! Thanks for the message and maybe we will see you at the meeting sometime.
Don & Lenora ("Lee") Danielson

Hi again Orlan, I printed your message and showed it to Don and we haven't been able to come up with your last name !! Don graduated in 1955 so didn't attend High School till after you graduated, but your brother-in-law Wayne was in his class and he does remember your wife and remembers the two cafe's you mentioned. We work with the Historical Society here so are always interested in County history. It IS a small world !!!!
Don & Lee WBOICU It is good to have U on the KAR mailing. It has been several years sense I was in my home town.
Welcome to N0STV-JIM Bell Concordia new KAR member. Wen, WØTQ sent me UR address.

Hi Orlan, A belated Happy Birthday to you, it was great to hear about your laser work. That drivers license site is fun, the picture looked remarkable! I like the Burstein-Applebee stories. I still remember searching through their catalogs for just the right parts. Another frequency measuring test was just run from W1AW, I hope some from Kansas were able to participate. Those Katrina pictures from Tom were really something.
Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours.
73, Chuck KØBOG ARRL HQ staffer. SK WØKL from Ottawa use to win those.
For interfacing ANY TNC(or computer) to ANY Radio, I find the following site useful...
http://www.packetradio.com/wiring.htm

Just click on the ADD TO CART button for the radio interface you want, and it will show you the wiring diagram for free, so you can make your own if you like.

73 de KC0BS TU for the info.

Hi Gang, I have for sale the following gear:
Kenwood TS830S in 10/10 shape. Honest 100 watt output, full range 1.6 to 30 mhz. All knobs, etc. original. Original manual as well.
Electro Voice Mic [bullet head/stand mic type] wired for the Kenwood 830S. Also in very good condition.
Autotuner AT11 in excellent shape.
Would like to sell as a package for $500.00 but might consider separation.
Contact me at kc0nyk@arrl.net
Bret, could you list this on the club webpage for me as well.
Thanks jim

Tom's Key Strokes:
Okay, here's the TRUTH about the so-called "no call" cellphone list.
Tom

Please check out the following links:
If you ever have any doubt about anything you receive in your email, always check out snopes.com first.OM'S.

Originally delivered in a church in 2003, I felt the value still remained to send it out, once again. On the 11th, (and on EVERY day), touch the hand of an old vet', and say quietly "Welcome Home".

Veteran's Day

T. C. Dailey – USN

11 a.m. came on the 11th of November, 1918… It was a Monday… but a Monday like no other in 4 long years. The men in the trenches were frightened by the silence… no cannon, no sniper fire, no more the deadly rattle of the machine guns, raking the trench tops, no more the “whiz bang” of artillery.
Older grey-haired men had sat down at a long table… it was to be the Armistice… not calling it a win or loss. They would sign the leather-bound books containing the articles of surrender at Compiégne. Surrender for the German, Austrian, & Turkish nations… victory (a strange word) for the Allied armies… France, Belgium, England, the United States of America. The guns fell silent on the Western Front. What a horrendous cost to all… hundreds of thousands of young men… women, too; all ground up in the mud of Chateau Thierry, Belleau Wood, St. Mihiel, The Somme, and the Meuse Argonne. The veterans spoke of the ground being “spongy” to walk upon… it was not uncommon for the trench-dwellers to hang their coats on the skeletal arms of corpses, sticking out from the sides of the trenches. The called it The War to end all Wars… but it was not to be, of course. Twenty-three years later, after the Nazis overran Poland and the low countries; been
handed Czechoslovakia on a platter by the British; France having been taken, the Japanese launched an attack from 4 aircraft carriers, North & East of the Hawaiian Islands… over a thousand of my Sailor brothers still sleep in the USS ARIZONA… oil seeps from her bunkers… I’ve reached down from a boat and pulled up an oily finger – the blood of a battleship… with the blood of my Father’s and Uncle’s buddies… it still talks to us.

The names of Guadalcanal, New Georgia, Bougainville, Tarawa, Saipan, Guam, Iwo Jima, and Chi-chi Jima, where former President George Busch Sr. escaped the Japanese after being shot down, and was rescued quite by chance; Wake Island, where I’ve walked the shores and heard the voices of Marines, long dead. The Philippines and Okinawa, where some of the most savage kamikaze attacks came, while all along our Grandfathers, Fathers, Uncles, Brothers, and Cousins were freezing in Bastogne, and dying at Salerno & Monte Casino. The hundreds at Omaha and Utah beach who never even reached the sand…

They crawled through jungles and frozen woods, across trackless skies filled with death – over 300,000 airmen… pilots and aircrew… perished in the sky, and fell in fiery hell, to the ground and sea below. On ships and submarines, waiting for the depth-charges that would crush the hull of their fragile craft… they left naught but oil on the surface. Others captured and held as prisoner… marched… starved… beaten… and killed… they lie unmarked… but not un-remembered.

Then came Korea… 60 below zero with Marines dying in that horrible freezing cold. My Uncles told me of asking a Marine Gunny Sergeant “Whadd’ya gonna’ do with all those railroad ties?” The Gunny’ replied “Son, those ain’t railroad ties, they’re frozen dead Marines!” … and the POW’s we never got back – shipped to Russia.

…and closer to my heart, there are places called Saigon, Da Nang, Phu Bai, Khe Sanh, Ben Cat, My Tho, Nha Trang, the Ah Shau Valley, & the Perfume, Bassac, & Mekong rivers, and countless lesser-known places in a far off jungle land called Viet Nam, where my friends, my high school classmates, Sunday School chums, and troop-mates from Boy Scouts fell and bled, and cried out for their Mothers… they trembled and shook with the blood of their young lives, blanketing the ground. Those who come to me in my sleep; sometimes while just driving down the road, and sometimes in a quiet moment of sitting in the woods… listening to nothing. They remain young – they’re always 19 or 20, while I get greyer and my bones ache more… the guilt fills me that I am here, speaking of them, while their earthly shells rest in dark, cold ground… but I know by faith alone, that they are at the right hand of The Lord… I have to believe that – my faith is of no value without that belief… and that I too, shall sit with them one day.

Now, we’ve had three “modern” desert wars… those men and women are no different than our forefathers were… they were and are young lions; full of hope, knowing that they are doing the job that they were sent to do… and believe in. They suffer with unknown ailments, their bodies as old men, although the counting of their birthdays show fewer. We have the purest motives, but we pay the price of freedom still. A burden carried by many. From Valley Forge, to Verdun, from Normandy to Pusan, From Khe Sanh to Mogadishu, from Kuwait to Baghdad, and the many, many other places where young Americans have put on a uniform, we must remember the price of freedom. War is not glorious, it is hardly noble, it is death and pain, hardship & hunger, and suffering beyond the imagination. We had not known a foreign invader since the War of 1812.

Now we are faced with a cowardly enemy… one who claims the teachings of Islam, but true Islam embraces peaceful pursuits as the purest of goals. It does not advocate the bombings, or destruction which others embrace. So, perhaps our greatest weapon is STILL
our greatest weapon. We must have faith… Faith provided to us by those who went before… Yes, they are the grey old men who put on tight, faded uniforms, their medals tarnished perhaps, and their step a bit slower. They are the ones who stand with trembling salutes, as the Flag of our Country passes… tears streaming down their wrinkle! led cheeks like a flood, when the name of a buddy, passed on, is mentioned. Who is a Veteran? Look around you… we are the ones who are… the ones who were… and the ones who are to be. We are still young inside… the memories just make us look older.

_When you go home…_

_Tell them of us, and say –_

For your tomorrow…
Some gave their today
T. C. Dailey, USN
Denver, CO

Go here to read about the upcoming space event, for ham radio (and others, too). It'll be a "simplex repeater", inside a russian space suit (no Russian inside)... operating on 145.990 mHz. Read more


Tom Dailey
WØEAJ

Subject: FW: I CAN READ

Can you raed tihis? Olny speical plepoe can.
i cdnuolt blveie taht I cluod aulaclty uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in waht oerdr the ltteres in a wrod are, the olny iproamatnt ihng is taht the frsit and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it whotuit a pboerlm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt! if you can raed tihis rpsoet it.

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WØEAJ

A blast from the past... how poignant, considering what was to come, later that coming year.

http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~postr/bapix/HaliCmas.htm Thank you Tom for all the key strokes...! Orlan
Tom

----------------------------------------------------END--------------------------------------------------