VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA
NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION'S WEEKLY REPORT

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STAFF ACTIVITY

- NS Staff participated in Congressional testimony training provided by the Government Affairs Institute of Georgetown University

- NS Staff attended the *"U.S. Policy Towards North Korea"* webinar hosted by the Center for Strategy and International Studies. The focus of the discussion was the *2024 Threat Assessment* report that North Korea poses by advancing its weapons of mass destruction (WMD.) The webinar can be viewed here.

- NS Staff completed a review of H.R. 7298, known *as "The Courage Act,"* which proposes to permit undocumented immigrants to enlist in the Armed Forces.

- NS Staff completed a review of H.R. 6355, known as "Never Forgotten Korean War POW Act" which proposes to amend the Combat Duty Pay Act of 1952. The amendment allows living Korean War POWs to receive combat pay backpay for the entirety of their time spent in captivity. Currently, the Combat Pay Act of 1952 restricts Korean War POW combat pay at four months.

- NS Staff began planning for the Division's participation in the Memorial Day observance to be held at Arlington National Cemetery.

- NS Staff began contacting guest speakers that the Commission would like to participate in the 105th National Convention in New Orleans, LA.

- NS Staff began reviewing resolutions with legislative intent during for this renewal year.

- NS Staff attended a staff resolution training Session put on by the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division.

- NS Staff began onboarding the new program coordinator staff member.

- NS Staff completed and submitted the 2024 advanced report for publication.

- NS Staff began planning for the National Commander's trip to Europe during June, 2024.

- NS Staff met with the Department of Texas to discuss upcoming travel to the border.

- NS Director interviewed potential interns for the summer session, 2024.

- NS Staff met with the Department of Indiana to discuss issues involving Reserve component operational and wartime benefits related matters.

- NS Staff met with the Department of Puerto Rico to discuss an issue involving Fort Buchanan.

POW/MIA

April 3, 2024

- Airman Accounted for from WWII (Seiferheld, F.)
- Soldier Accounted for from Korean War (Yde, E.)

DPAA has identified/repatriated 45 service members this year.

PROGRAMS (The American Legion Military Surplus Equipment)

- Processed request: Ammo – 2480; Rifles – 15; Clips – 0; Static Displays – 0
- Participants: Posts – 6; Departments – 5

The American Legion JROTC/ROTC Program

- Military Excellence – 6
- Scholastic Excellence – 2
- Departments – 2

TIP OF THE WEEK

The Senate Armed Services Committee will hold a hearing on **Tuesday April 9th at 9:30 a.m. ET** on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of Defense and future Years Defense Program. The hearing will be immediately followed by a closed-door session.