

Connecticut Chapter 120

Greater Hartford  
Over 38 Years of Service to Veterans

December 2021

Visit Our Website at [www.vva120.org](http://www.vva120.org)

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## Meetings

Chapter 120 membership meeting will be held on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 7:00pm in the Machinists Union Hall, 357 Main St., East Hartford. *State and East Hartford COVID-19 guidelines apply.*

The Board of Directors will meet on Thursday, December 30 at 7:00pm. Call the Chapter office for any changes in schedule. Chapter members are welcomed to attend.

## Notice

If you have moved or changed your address, PLEASE notify us immediately. Call the Chapter Newsletter Editor at (860) 282-7470, or e-mail the Newsletter Editor at [ctchapter120@aol.com](mailto:ctchapter120@aol.com).

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*Vietnam Veterans of America*

**Connecticut Chapter 120**

*The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual*

## Holiday Dinner Dance

**Saturday – December 4, 2021**

**7 – 11:30pm**

**Dinner at 7:45pm**



**Machinists Union Hall**

357 Main Street

East Hartford, CT 06118

Phone: (860) 568-9212

**Music By**

**DJ Jeff Morgan**



**Singles - \$20**

**Couples - \$35**

BYOB/Setups Available – Raffles - Prizes

**Open to the Public**

**Bring Your Family and Friends!**

*Proceeds Benefit Area Veterans and Their Families*

***Please Note: The Machinists Union Hall is a Smoke-Free facility.  
Smoking is allowed outside the building***

***Happy Holidays to All!***

*From The*

***Chapter 120 Officers and Board of Directors***

<b>CHAPTER 120 OFFICE</b>	<b>568-9212</b>
<b>Board of Directors</b>	
Roger Anderson	528-4338
Paul Barry	569-3530
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Leigh Lovering	528-8312
Frank Zizzamia	569-0705
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<b>Vet Centers</b>	
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New Haven (Area Code 203)	932-9899
Norwich (Area Code 860)	887-1755
Danbury (Area Code 203)	790-4000
<b>All Telephone Numbers are Area Code 860 unless otherwise noted</b>	

*Chapter/State News*

*Extracted from Journal Inquirer*

**Veterans Day parade ends with ceremony at Manchester Memorial Hospital**

At least 100 people gathered Thursday outside Manchester Memorial Hospital to celebrate Veterans Day, following a short parade from the American Legion Post 102.



Chapter 120 marches in Manchester Veterans Day parade

Robert Venti, president of the Manchester Veterans Council, welcomed attendees to the ceremony and thanked them for taking time out of their busy schedules to honor veterans.

Eastern Connecticut Health Network CEO Deborah Weymouth reminded visitors that the hospital was built to honor World War I veterans in 1920, and has become a monument to the devotion and bravery of all veterans.

“We thank each and every veteran for their courage and steadfast heroism in serving our country,” Weymouth said.

“We gather annually at this 11th hour, in the 11th month, on the 11th day, to honor and say two words to our veterans that are here today and across our country — thank you,” Mayor Jay Moran said.

“I hope those who have a day off today, or don’t have to go to school, or think there’s a big sale at the mall because of Veterans Day take the time like everyone here to remember what this day is about, to thank those who’ve protected our freedoms over the years,” Moran said.

Sen. Stephen T. Cassano, D-Manchester, remembered how the town used to have a small section of its cemetery reserved for veterans. That section was filled, and now the new section is filling up as well, showing just how many people are lost and families affected.

U.S. Rep. John B. Larson, D-1st District, said the U.S. is the greatest nation in the history of mankind, “largely due to the sacrifice and the effort of the men and women who chose to wear the uniform and serve their country.”

Veterans as a group have “played a significant role in shaping America’s past, present, and undoubtedly our future,” speaker Craig Jordan, veterans’ coordinator for Goodwin College, said.

“Mission after mission after mission, the United States armed forces have stood tall and done everything they’ve been asked to do,” Jordan said.

**Birthday Wishes**

Birthday wishes go to our members born in December. May you have many more!

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Donna S. Anderson</i>   | <i>Craig Jordan</i>      |
| <i>George R. Koehler</i>   | <i>Robert A. Lathrop</i> |
| <i>Edward D. Lee</i>       | <i>Leigh Lovering</i>    |
| <i>Jeffrey Rohan</i>       | <i>Claude D. Roy</i>     |
| <i>Mitchell A. Slowick</i> | <i>L. David Waggoner</i> |
| <i>Brian Wall</i>          |                          |



Visiting young veterans today, Jordan said he is amazed by their strength, going on multiple tours, and dealing with the separation from their families, and other issues when they return.

“It’s a reminder on Veterans Day that each and every day of the year as we move forward, that we continue to work and continue to think of them, and to assist them along the way in their journey,” Jordan said.

*From Hartford Courant*

## **Goodwin University opens OASIS center for student veterans**



Goodwin University, the unique and fast-growing East Hartford school known for its innovative approach

and non-traditional student body, on Wednesday Nov. 10 opened a new on-campus resource center dedicated to serving student veterans.

The Veterans OASIS, short for Operation Academic Support for Incoming Service, is modeled after a resource center concept first conceived by women’s groups that has become a mainstay at colleges and universities across the country.

University officials, and former student veterans, said the center would empower former and active military personnel to study, relax and build community while accessing the necessary resources needed for academic success.

“It is thrilling for us at the university to, in some small way, give some recognition to those among us who allow us to do what we do every day,” Mark Scheinberg, the university’s president, said at Wednesday’s ribbon-cutting ceremony. U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal and Congressman John Larson also attended the opening.

Inside the intimate space, which is a former classroom, desks with computers are set up for students to study or complete classwork. A handful of comfortable lounge chairs are set up in one corner.

Along one wall is a large American flag, encased in glass. Elsewhere, several military honors and decorum populate shelves and wall space.

Goodwin University has about 80 veterans in its student body. Until now, they haven’t had a space to call their own on Goodwin’s growing campus.

The location is ideal, too: The new Veterans OASIS is in the heart and soul of Goodwin’s administrative center and across from the student affairs building.

“The support systems that we have here are tremendous, and it goes hand-in-hand with our daily operations,” said Craig Jordan, the university’s veterans’ coordinator. “This is going to be a godsend.”

University officials said the inauguration of the Veterans OASIS is thanks in large part by a philanthropic gift by Ellen and Ethan Foxman, two community members, who enabled the university to fund the center’s programming and staffing. The center is open 25 hours per week and can be accessed during off hours as needed.

Both the Foxmans’ fathers, Robert Flescher and David Foxman, served in the military, with David Foxman serving in World War II. Speaking at the ceremony, Ethan Foxman said the center serves to honor their memory.

“I hope you and your colleagues, and everyone else who has served our country, can enjoy the OASIS,” Ethan Foxman said.

James Murphy, a Navy veteran who graduated from Goodwin in 2019, remembers hearing talk of a student veterans’ center in planning at his orientation. But as the years went by, nothing came of it, even after an advocacy project he completed in 2016 highlighting the need for such a center.

“A lot of veterans have trouble transitioning back into the civilian world,” said Murphy, who is now pursuing a master’s degree in clinical social work at Walden University. A lot of student veterans don’t have a place to share their experiences, he said, and tend to sit in the back of classes.

“This gives us a spot, sort of a safe space,” Murphy said. “In here, we can be comfortable.”

## **Jack McManus to Serve as National President of Vietnam Veterans of America: Linda Schwartz Elected Treasurer**

Jack McManus was elected to serve as National President of Vietnam Veterans of America on November 6 at the organization’s 20th National Convention in Greensboro, North Carolina. He was first elected VVA national treasurer in 1995 and was re-elected to the position in 1997 and 2019. Jack previously served as the VVA Michigan State Council President for six and a half years from 1989 to 1996, overseeing the largest state program in VVA. In 1997, he was awarded VVA’s highest honor, the VVA Commendation Medal, for his extraordinary service to the organization, to all veterans, and to the community at large. He has also been recognized by the VVA New York State Council with its Commendation Medal.

Originally from New York City, Jack joined the Air Force in 1965, where he served until 1969. Between 1967 and 1968, he was assigned to Operation Ranch Hand in Vietnam. Jack received his B.A. in Business Management from New York University in 1973. He resides in North Carolina, with his wife Jackie. He is a recipient of numerous business and community awards. Jack is deeply committed to achieving justice and receiving answers for veterans and their families whose health has been impacted by their exposure to toxic substances during their military service.

Thomas Burke of New Philadelphia, Ohio, was re-elected to serve as Vice President; Bill Meeks, Jr., of The Woodlands, Texas, was re-elected as Secretary; and Linda Schwartz of Pawcatuck, Connecticut, was elected as VVA's Treasurer.

In addition, 19 National Board of Directors were elected: Ten At Large and nine Regional. The At-Large directors are Dottie Barickman (NE); Charlie Hobbs (TN); Gumersindo Gomez (MA); Dennis Howland (UT); Felix Peterson (OK); Richard Lindbeck (WI); Dan Stenvold (ND); Kerwin Stone (TX); Charlie Montgomery (VA); and Sandie Wilson (MI).

The nine regional directors elected to serve a 2021-2023 term are: Region 1, Skip Hochreich (MA); Region 2, Ted Wilkinson (NY); Region 3, Rossie Nance (NC); Region 4, Spence Davis (GA); Region 5, John Riling (MI); Region 6, John Margowski (WI); Region 7, Dennis Andras (LA); Region 8, Francisco Ivarra (WA); and Region 9, Dick Southern (CA).

**POW/MIA News**



**Capt Lance Peter Sijan**

*13 April 1942 – 22 January 1968*

On the night of 09 Nov 1967, then LtCol John Armstrong, commander of the 480th Tactical Fighter Squadron based at Da Nang, South Vietnam, and Weapons System Officer Capt Lance P. Sijan were tasked with a bombing mission in the Ho Chi Minh Trail area

of Laos. The target was Ban Loboy Ford, and a second F-4C was along as wingman.

Shortly before 9 PM, Armstrong rolled in on the target and released his ordnance. Almost immediately, the aircraft was engulfed in a ball of fire and entered a banking climb to about 10,000 feet before rolling into a near vertical plunge into the jungle below. Neither the Forward Air Controller nor Armstrong's wingman saw parachutes, but initiated Search and Rescue (SAR) at once.

The SAR forces established contact with Sijan, who was badly hurt during his ejection and landing, but were unable to pick him up. SAR efforts continued the next day, but were called off when no further radio contact could be established with Sijan. No contact was made at any time with LtCol John Armstrong. Both men were placed in MIA status.

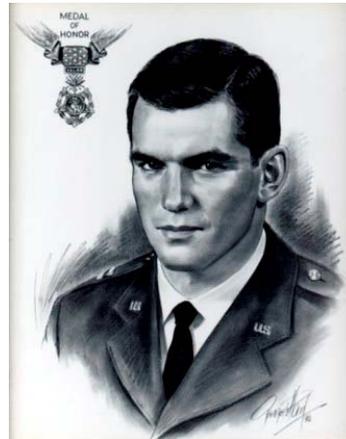
Although wounded and without food, water, or even his survival kit, Sijan managed to evade the Pathet Lao and North Vietnamese forces for 46 days before being captured on Christmas Day 1967. By that time, he was emaciated and in extremely poor shape. Never the less, he managed to cold-cock his guard and escape, but was recaptured within hours. He was transported to a holding compound in Vinh, North Vietnam, where he was put into the care of other American POWs.

Sijan spent the next three months in an interrogation camp where he endured severe torture and constant beatings from his

guards for his relentless efforts to escape. Other American prisoners heard the screams from the F-4 fighter pilot who the Vietnamese were attempting to make an example out of. Sijan never caved in. He refused to provide information that may have been harmful to the United States. The love Sijan had for his country and freedom drove him to stay true to the Code of Conduct.

On Jan. 22, 1968, Sijan finally succumbed to his injuries as a prisoner of war in Hanoi. His mental determination and physical stamina so impressed his fellow POWs that, upon their return, Sijan was nominated for and received the Medal of Honor.

**Medal of Honor Citation**



While on a flight over North Vietnam, Capt. Sijan ejected from his disabled aircraft and successfully evaded capture for more than six weeks. During this time, he was seriously injured and suffered from shock and extreme weight loss due to lack of food. After being captured by North Vietnamese soldiers, Capt. Sijan was taken to a holding point for subsequent transfer to a prisoner-of-war camp. In his emaciated and

crippled condition, he overpowered one of his guards and crawled into the jungle, only to be recaptured after several hours. He was then transferred to another prison camp where he was kept in solitary confinement and interrogated at length. During interrogation, he was severely tortured; however, he did not divulge any information to his captors. Capt. Sijan lapsed into delirium and was placed in the care of another prisoner. During his intermittent periods of consciousness until his death, he never complained of his physical condition and, on several occasions, spoke of future escape attempts. Capt. Sijan's extraordinary heroism and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty at the cost of his life are in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Air Force and reflect great credit upon himself and the U.S. Armed Forces.



## On The Hill



## Chairman Takano Responds to Troubling Department of Defense Inspector General Report on Suicide Prevention

On November 12, 2021, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman Mark Takano (D-Calif.) released the following statement in response to the new report from the Department of Defense (DoD) Office of Inspector General entitled, "Evaluation of the Department of Defense's Implementation of Suicide Prevention Resources for Transitioning Uniformed Service Members."

"I am disappointed to learn that pursuant to an Executive Order issued in 2018, DoD did not screen transitioning service members for suicide risks as it is required to—this is how veterans fall through the cracks," said Chairman Takano. "It's VA's job to care for veterans once they leave service, but given this report, I'm concerned that DoD is not setting VA up for success, especially when it comes to mental health care. I'm encouraged that DoD under the current administration agrees with the IG recommendations, but there is more work to be done, and I stand ready to help. Through my EVEST Act, we can address these issues head on by automatically enrolling all eligible veterans into VA healthcare services—the "warm handoff" that the IG identified as sadly lacking. DoD could also begin providing a mandatory mental health component of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) to further ease this transition, and I have legislation ready to mandate that. By working together, DoD, VA, and Congress can help meet many of the Biden-Harris Administration's priorities to combat veteran suicide and ease the stressful transition period."

### DODIG Finding

The DoD did not screen for suicide risk or provide uninterrupted mental health care to transitioning Service members as required by Federal and DoD guidance. Specifically, we determined that the DoD did not establish and implement oversight of Mental Health Assessment (MHA) and suicide risk screening processes for transitioning Service members. We further determined that DoDI 6490.10 lacks a clear definition of a warm handoff, provider training protocols, standardized documentation methods, and oversight procedures to ensure compliance. The overall DoD approaches and services for arranging continuity of mental health care are not resulting in uninterrupted care for all Service members.

The DoD did not establish and implement oversight of MHA and suicide risk screening processes because the Defense Health Agency (DHA) and Military Services did not include a mental health assessment and suicide risk screening as part of the

Separation History and Physical Exam (SHPE), which is the only medical exam required to be administered to the transitioning Service member population. Additionally, the DoD and Military Services relied on expired policy to govern suicide risk screening and referral processes.

The DoD did not implement a warm handoff approach, as required by DoDI 6490.10, to create continuous mental health care during the transition from the Military Health System (MHS) to the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) because DoD policy is reliant on Service members and automatic systems to initiate a transition of mental health care from the MHS to the VHA. Failure to identify suicide risk and arrange for uninterrupted mental health care in transitioning Service members may result in a lack of mental health care for transitioning Service members and jeopardize patient safety.

### Veterans Affairs News



## VA pilots evaluation model to determine potential exposure to environmental hazards while serving

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced Nov. 11 it is piloting a comprehensive military exposure model to consider possible relationships of in-service environmental hazards to medical conditions.

The goal of this new model is to lower the burden of proof for Veterans impacted by exposures and speed up the delivery of health care and benefits they need.

The new model will continue to leverage scientific findings from the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine available and relevant scientific research data, surveillance of Veterans' health outcomes, and adding the review of VA claims data and military environmental research for trends and identify new concerns. At the direction of the president, the first conditions this pilot will actively consider are rare respiratory cancers and constrictive bronchiolitis. Consistent with the demands, VA anticipates answers on these conditions by mid-2022.

"We are seeking more information from Veterans, more evidence from more sources, and looking to take every avenue possible to determine where a potential presumptive illness based on military service location may exist in a more expedient and holistic manner," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "We want all Veterans who may have been impacted to file a claim even if it was previously denied."

The presumptive decision model pilot will run from Nov. 15 to April 1, 2022. VA will look to use the results of the pilot to formalize the model after April 1, 2022. Over the last six months, VA has extended benefits and services to Veterans impacted by military exposures due to Agent Orange and particulate matter.

If a Veteran has a condition they believe is attributed to an event during military service, they are highly encouraged to file a claim. More information about VA benefits and eligibility, or how to file a claim may be found on VA’s website at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or calling toll-free at 800-827-1000.

### **VA updates disability rating schedules for genitourinary and cardiovascular systems**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced its update to the genitourinary and cardiovascular regulations in the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities at Title 38 Code of Federal Regulations.

The changes were made to ensure that these portions of the rating schedule contain current medical terminology and provide detailed and updated criteria for the evaluations related to genitourinary and cardiovascular disabilities.

VA renamed conditions, removed obsolete language, clarified ambiguities and added conditions with appropriate diagnostic codes not previously identified in the VASRD. While finalizing the rulemaking, VA received, considered and responded to comments from the National Organization of Veterans’ Advocates Inc., American Association of Nurse Practitioners, Paralyzed Veterans of America and Veterans.

“These changes are important to the claims processing procedures and are based on scientific and medical information that is vital in making consistent claims decisions for our Veterans,” said Acting Under Secretary for Benefits Thomas Murphy. “Claims related to genitourinary and cardiovascular conditions that were pending on Nov. 14, 2021, will be considered under both the old and new rating criteria, and whichever criteria is more favorable to the Veteran will be applied.”

The complete list of updates to the VASRD for the genitourinary and cardiovascular systems is now available online. For Veterans already receiving evaluations for the genitourinary and cardiovascular conditions impacted by this change, VA will not reduce the evaluation simply based on the rating schedule change. A reduction in evaluation will only occur if there is improvement in a disability sufficient to warrant a reduction under the former criteria.

VA has issued several VASRD updates since September 2017, including updates for dental and oral conditions, conditions related to the endocrine system, gynecological conditions and disorders of the breast, diseases of the eye, infectious diseases, conditions of the hemic and lymphatic systems, skin conditions, and musculoskeletal and muscle injuries.

Visit VA benefits (<https://benefits.va.gov/benefits/>) for more information.

*From Vietnam Magazine*

### **Max Cleland, Vietnam Veteran and Former Senator, Dies At 79**



“Max” Cleland

Joseph Maxwell “Max” Cleland, 79, former senator and leader of the Veterans Administration, died on Nov. 9, 2021 of congestive heart failure. Cleland, born in Georgia on Aug. 24, 1942, was a high school basketball athlete and earned a bachelor’s degree in history at Stetson University in Florida in 1964 while in the ROTC program.

Becoming a captain in the U.S. Army, he was awarded the Silver Star on April 4, 1968 for exposing himself to rocket fire while assisting the wounded near Khe Sanh. Only four days later, Cleland suffered devastating personal injuries in what he later called “a freak accident of war”—stepping off a helicopter, he reached to pick up a stray hand grenade he believed he had dropped. Although he did not know it at the time, the grenade belonged to a young enlisted soldier who had lengthened the pin with the result that the pin fell out.

Cleland lost both legs and his right arm to the explosion, spending five hours in emergency surgery and receiving more than 40 pints of blood. He underwent eight months of rehabilitation, and throughout his life it took him more than 90 minutes to dress himself each morning. Cleland decided to run for politics after being stuck in his parents’ house thinking, “Well, no job. No future. No girlfriend. No car. No apartment. No money. This is a great time to run for the state Senate,” he said in a 2002 interview for the Veterans History Project.

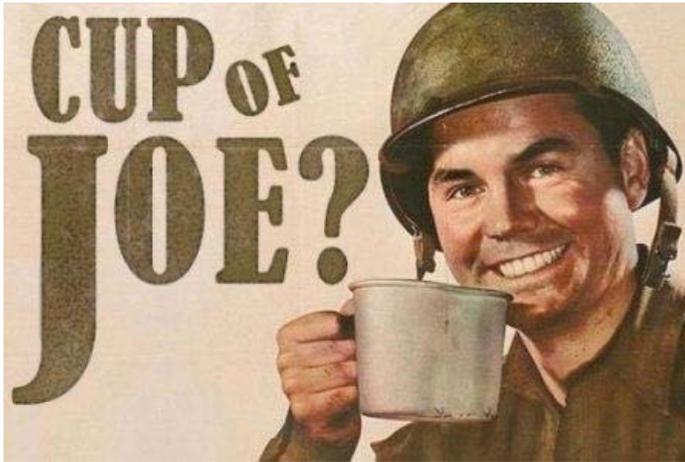
Cleland, a moderate Democrat, became the youngest state senator in Georgia history at age 28 and was appointed director of the VA by President Jimmy Carter in 1977. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1996 but lost his reelection bid in 2002. For many years, Cleland struggled with blaming himself for his injuries before a U.S. Marine who witnessed the explosion shared details about what happened.

Cleland was a strong advocate for survivors of post-traumatic stress disorder, which the VA began to recognize as a legitimate condition under his leadership. Cleland authored a 1980 memoir, “Strong at the Broken Places.” He never married and had no immediate surviving family. V



*From Connecting Vets*

## **A cup of 'Joe,' please: The U.S. military's love affair with coffee**



Many people reach for a hot cup of coffee in the morning to help jumpstart their day. In fact, according to [coffeeresearch.org](http://coffeeresearch.org) Americans on average tend to consume about 3 cups of coffee each day.

“Coffee and the military go together like the commissary and patron savings,” said Marine Sgt. Maj. Michael R. Saucedo, senior enlisted advisor to the DeCA director.

The military’s love affair with coffee dates back to the Revolutionary War.

Before the war, coffee was the first choice of beverage for George Washington and his wife, Martha, and he became an importer of coffee. In 1770 Washington received 200 pounds of coffee beans at his home. Martha Washington considered herself a coffee aficionado and established her own set of guidelines for the perfect roast.

By the time the Civil War broke out, coffee was a very popular beverage in the U.S. and it was extremely popular among the soldiers on both sides. Coffee prices escalated as supplies dwindled. For example, according to [civilwartalk.com](http://civilwartalk.com), the price per pound in 1861 was \$3; in 1862, \$1.50 to \$4; in 1863, \$5 to \$30; and in 1864, \$12 to \$60. By 1863, the Union Army had an abundance of coffee beans, with Union soldiers receiving 36 pounds of coffee each year in their rations.

When the coffee rations began to run short for the Confederates, they found ways to make coffee substitutes using such things as acorns, chicory, dandelion root and beans. Needless to say, it wasn’t anything like real coffee. (To see an entertaining video related to the history of coffee, [click here](#).)

When Union soldiers moved out after a skirmish in the Northern Neck of Virginia the Confederates scoured the campsites for leftover coffee beans on the ground. It didn’t matter that dirt and debris coated the dropped beans, they were too valuable to leave behind. Some Union and Confederate troops met up and traded coffee beans for tobacco.

In Petersburg, Virginia, James Hall, a soldier in the 31st Virginia Infantry, wrote in his diary that they had maintained a truce with a Yankee unit for a few minutes and traded tobacco for coffee beans before they resumed firing upon one another.

The first time instant coffee was mass-produced was in 1910 by George Constant Louis Washington, and by World War I instant coffee was giving the American troops a much-needed boost in the trenches. The Department of Defense was purchasing as much as 37,000 pounds of instant coffee each day for the troops.

During World War I, Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels prohibited alcohol on all naval vessels and the strongest drink permissible on the ships was coffee. The disgruntled sailors weren’t too happy about their alcohol being eliminated and began referring to their coffee as a “cup of Joe.” To this day the term “cup of Joe” continues to mean a cup of coffee.

Nescafé was the first national brand of instant coffee released by the Nestlé Corporation on April 1, 1938, becoming an American staple during World War II. When the war started, Nescafé was producing small, lightweight packages of instant coffee that were inserted in individual Army ration kits and ensured the troops would enjoy a cup of steaming coffee wherever they went.

U.S. troops in World War II found the Italian espresso roast coffee too strong and watered the coffee down, creating the Café Americano. The same small rations of instant coffee continued to be inserted into ration kits throughout the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The G.I.s during the Vietnam War made coffee using C-4 explosives as a heat source. Red Cross canteens served hot coffee to troops throughout both World Wars, the Korean War and Vietnam War.

Today, U.S. service members continue to love their coffee, and some military retirees have started their own coffee companies including Lock ‘N Load Java; Veteran Coffee Roasters; Black Rifle Coffee Company; and Ranger Coffee.

Commissary customers can also stock up on their daily brew – be it national coffee brands or the Defense Commissary Agency’s own private label coffee through its Freedom’s Choice brand – and save money in the process.

### **Receive “The Connection” by E-Mail**

The monthly Chapter 120 newsletter, *The Connection*, is available by e-mail. Currently, 100 members receive the newsletter by e-mail, saving the Chapter over \$1,600 in printing and postal fees annually. The newsletter is available in Adobe format (.pdf), attached to your e-mail. If you wish to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please e-mail the newsletter editor at [ctchapter120@aol.com](mailto:ctchapter120@aol.com)

## Helping Hands for Our Fellow Veterans



### ***Won't You Please Give a Helping Hand to a Brother or Sister Veteran?***

Several veterans have contacted Chapter 120 asking for help in paying the most basic of needs for themselves and their families. These veterans are those who do not qualify for regular federal, state or local assistance – they fall into that financial category where they make too much to qualify for assistance, but not enough to afford basic needs for their families, like food, fuel for heat, or clothing for their children.

Chapter 120 has decided to ask you – our members – to lend a helping hand to your fellow veterans and their families. Won't you please consider donating for this worthy cause? Even a small amount of \$5 can make a difference – or more if you can afford to help a fellow veteran and his or her family.

Please send your generous gift, made out to Connecticut Chapter 120, to:

Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.  
Connecticut Chapter 120  
Attention: Helping Hands for Veterans  
P.O. Box 4136  
Hartford, CT 06145

Chapter 120 has established a separate line item in the budget to collect donations to assist these fellow veterans and their families in need. *And don't forget, your donations are tax deductible.*

## Newsletter articles/ stories/photos

Any articles, stories and/or photos submitted for the newsletter must be received by the "cut off" date for any given month. Photos must be accompanied by text which describes the event, names, dates and any other pertinent facts so our readers understand the story behind the photo(s). The newsletter editor will announce the "cut off" dates at each Chapter meeting. The "cut off" date for our January 2022 newsletter is 17 December 2021. Due to space availability, the editor reserves the right to include or not include photos for a given month.

### ***This newsletter printed by***



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