



## In This Issue of Saving Military History One Soldier at a Time

All of us would like to wish that you and your families are healthy and safe during these challenging times.

There are always challenges in life and we at the Sons of Liberty Museum and Army Air Corps Library and Museum continue to honor those that answered the call to serve and made sacrifices for others.

While we are not out in the public, we continue to work on items in the collection for preservation and display. We continue in our mission of saving military history one soldier at a time.

We get a variety of inquiries not just about individuals but of uniforms and equipment. So this month we would like to highlight a couple. The Combat Infantry Badge and Bullion Thread Custom Patches.



With that, enjoy this issue of our newsletter.

Please connect with us on Social Media

You can help us get the word out about our organizations. Please tell all your friends and like and follow our Facebook pages.

[Army Air Corps on Facebook](#)

[Sons of Liberty on Facebook](#)

Remember those that made the #ultimatesacrifice #sonsofliberty. Please like and share all of our daily posts on social media. Thank you !

Join us on this journey.

In Their Memory,  
Robert Coalter, Jason Weigler  
Executive Directors

"Saving Military History One Soldier At A Time"<sup>SM</sup>  
"Saving History One Soldier At A Time"<sup>SM</sup>

## Events

Unfortunately because of the coronavirus all events are cancelled or postponed until further notice. However, we continue to receive donations and work on collection-artifact preservation plus web projects.

We look forward to the day when we can get out in the community again.



## Sons of Liberty Museum

The Sons of Liberty has hundreds of uniforms and thousands of other artifacts in our collection from the U.S. Civil War to Present day. Our web presence numbers in excess of 200,000 pages and we continue to accept new material for education programs, and research. Our collection includes memorabilia from the front line soldier to the rear echelon clerk. Drivers, infantrymen, pilots, tankers, seaman, medical, artillery, armorers, engineers, quartermasters and much more. All MOS are welcome from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. We are Saving Military History One Soldier At A Time. We are honoring the service of the Citizen Soldier.

#sonsofliberty

### Combat Infantry Badge

This month we want to highlight an Army award the Combat Infantry Badge. These photos show various types ranging from pin back to clutch-back variations. Also are 2nd award CIB's those that have a single star above the wreath. Then there are the rare 3rd CIB awards with the 2 stars. We are fortunate to have in our collection the uniforms of soldiers that have been awarded the 3rd CIB.

The Combat Infantry Badge (CIB) was established by the War Department on 27 October 1943. Lieutenant General Lesley J. McNair, then the Army Ground Forces commanding general, was instrumental in its creation. He originally recommended that it be called the "fighter badge." The CIB was designed to enhance morale and the prestige of the "Queen of Battle." Then Secretary of War Henry Stinson said, "It is high time we recognize in a personal way the skill and heroism of the American infantry." Originally, the Regimental Commander was the lowest level at which the CIB could be approved and its award was retroactive to 7 December 1941. There was a separate provision for badge holders to receive a \$10 per month pay stipend, which was rescinded in 1948. From the beginning, Army leaders have taken care to retain the badge for the unique purpose for which it was established and to prevent the adoption of any other badge which would lower its prestige. At the close of World War II, our largest war in which the armor and artillery played key roles in the ground campaigns, a review was conducted of the CIB criteria with consideration being given to creating either additional badges or authorizing the badge to cavalry and armor units. The review noted that any change in policy would detract from the prestige of the badge.

The definition of requirement to be "engaged in active ground combat" has generated much dialog over the years as to the original intent of the CIB. The 1943 War Department Circular required infantrymen to demonstrate "satisfactory performance of duty in action against the enemy." The operative words "in action" connoted actual combat. A War Department determination in October 1944 specified that "action against the enemy" for purposes of award of the CIB was to be interpreted as "ground combat against enemy ground forces."

## [Read more and see more pictures of the CIB](#)

Every artifact has a story to tell. What's yours?

**Volunteers**



We need volunteers to transcribe award and roster documents. You will place the material into a spreadsheet where it will be added to our database and website. We welcome new dedicated volunteers to work from home and help us with this project!

### Interesting Links & Resources

Visit Our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/sonsoflibertymuseum>

Videos on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI4v-g0C-QvQSVHv6h3EdeA>

Researching History: <https://www.sonsoflibertymuseum.org/military-history-records.cfm>

Honor Roll: <https://www.sonsoflibertymuseum.org/honor.cfm>

### Donations

We welcome donations of papers, books, photos, gear, uniforms, jackets, medals, ribbons, weapons, equipment, scrapbooks, biographies, diaries and more. Please [Contact Us](#)

Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Cold War, Gulf War and current conflict donations accepted. From small to large multi-item donations, they all tell a story.

We need you ! We need your help to further our mission of preserving and bringing this history to you and your families. We are similar to all non-profits, we always need capital! As a 501(c)(3) non-profit your qualifying donations are tax deductible.



Get Donation Information: [Artifacts](#) [Monetary](#)



## Army Air Corps Museum

The Air Corps Museum online presence encompasses over 225,000 web pages with thousands of photos and other materials. Our artifact collection contains hundreds of uniforms, albums, logs, medals and more from the Army Air Service, Army Air Forces and U.S. Air Force.

World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Cold War, Gulf War and current conflict donations welcome!

This month's highlight and history we would like to talk about custom uniforms. This applies to all branches of service during all time periods.

As been their custom, the branches of service set specifications for the clothing for the servicemen and women. These range from combat attire to formal wear. However, it has been a practice of many to have custom uniforms made. Sometimes it was not the cloth itself but the ribbons, patches and other awards that were created outside of regulations. Some are deemed theater made. Others are very custom made by the wearer themselves. One practice for patches was the construction made using a metal thread

known as bullion-thread. This was a common practice and regulation found on general-flag officers on most all of their uniforms however those of lower ranks started doing this as a source of pride. One might describe them as dapper, dashing, natty, spiffy, sharp and so on.

There were custom tailors who would make the uniform for those in England, Japan, Korea and even stateside where they may have added special lining. One practice started in ww2.was the taking of the standard 4 pocket blouse and cutting it down to a 2-pocket. For the US GI, these became known as the IKE jacket, popularized by General Eisenhower. The Marines followed the lead of General Vandegrift. The back story is that these were modeled after the British battlejacket. Ike thought they were sharp and thus began an American trend.

The example above is an English made bullion 8th Air Force patch. Below 12th Air Force. Even fancy stitching would be employed on the patch.

#kia #ultimatesacrifice #sonsofliberty

### Volunteers

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### Interesting Links & Resources

We are on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ArmyAirCorps/>

Trace a Family Members Military Service: <https://www.armyaircorpsmuseum.org/veteran-research.cfm>

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/aircorpsmuseum/>

Honor Roll: [https://www.armyaircorpsmuseum.org/honor\\_roll.cfm](https://www.armyaircorpsmuseum.org/honor_roll.cfm)

YouTube Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqW3Z1UnB6leZH5g4XiPniQ>

### Donations

We welcome donations of papers, books, photos, gear, uniforms, jackets, medals, ribbons, weapons, equipment, scrapbooks, biographies, diaries, letters and more. Please [Contact Us](#)

You can make monetary donations through the following links. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit your qualifying donations are tax deductible.



Get Donation Information: [Artifacts Monetary](#)



### **MIAs - Missing in Action**

We have information on over 90,000 MIAs. This includes most all the World War II MIAs and some from World War I, Korea, Vietnam and the Cold War.

With our strategic partners, the MIA Recovery Network, we want to tell the last chapter in the life of these Citizen Soldiers.

We would also like your help in telling the first chapters of the lives of those still Missing in Action. Do you have service photos of a family member that is or was MIA? News articles? Service related material?

Material on Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines MIAs:  
<https://www.sonsoflibertymuseum.org/missing-in-action/>

Air Corps:  
<https://www.armyaircorpsmuseum.org/missing-in-action/>



### **X-Files - Buried Unknowns**

There are many citizen soldiers whose body was recovered, but they are unidentified. There are thousands of these unknowns buried in American Battle Monument Cemeteries around the world. They are also known as X-Files.

Material on Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines X-Files can be found:

<https://www.sonsoflibertymuseum.org/buried-unknowns/>

<https://www.armyaircorpsmuseum.org/buried-unknowns/>



### **Awards, Rosters Unit Documents**

We need you ! A continued big thanks to our fantastic army of volunteers. We have much more so if you can type and have a



### **Attention Website Owners & Veteran Associations**

Many WWII veterans organizations have shut. Many these organizations had developed some type of website, some with



couple hours each week we can use you !

Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force

We have received material on many units and are hoping to compile much more.

Unit Citations, Awards, Transfers, Rosters

Many groups received unit citations during their particular conflict. The paperwork, in triplicate, would include a roster of all assigned and attached personnel. We are seeking and requesting copies of those roster documents. Please search your papers, talk to your association and help us out with this information and get them to us pronto!

enormous amounts of data and history. Sadly, many had/have not made provisions for their website to be continued and thus when the bill stops being paid, the website disappears and all the work and information is lost. We want to help and we need you to help us. If you know of a disbanding group, please have them get in contact with us; we would like to bring their website and information under our wing. If they want to continue to maintain it we can give them access to continue that as well. One of our top goals for this and every year is to preserve this history not lose it!

Not a WW2 unit? That's ok. We are also interested in your history and want to help preserve it. Korea, Vietnam and all other conflicts.

If your organization has physical materials such as uniforms, patches, photos and other memorabilia do you have plans for them when you cease operations? We would be honored to be the custodian of your group's history.

## Preserve This History, Honor the Service, Provide Education For Future Generations.



Make a \$ Donation to the Army  
Air Corps Library and Museum

Thank You For Your Support !



Make a \$ Donation To the Sons  
of Liberty Museum

Thank You For Your Support !

# Contact

## **Sons of Liberty Museum**

[www.SonsOfLibertyMuseum.org](http://www.SonsOfLibertyMuseum.org)  
history@sonsoflibertymuseum.org

## **Army Air Corps Library and Museum**

[www.ArmyAirCorpsMuseum.org](http://www.ArmyAirCorpsMuseum.org)  
history@armyaircorpsmuseum.org

Directors' Line: 214.957.1393

## **We Need Your Permission**

If you wish to continue to receive our newsletters, do nothing; however, please help spread the word and share and like this with your friends and family and on social media. You can help us to preserve this history.

If you DO NOT wish to continue to receive our newsletters, please use the 'Unsubscribe' links at the top or bottom of this newsletter. Thanks!