

Association For Intelligence Officers

The Tom Smith New Mexico Chapter

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President

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OCTOBER MEETING – Wed Oct 10, 2012

WHERE: "The Egg & I" at 6909 Menaul Blvd NE (just East of Louisiana)

Sign in and order lunch at 1100 Hrs - Call to Order NLT 1145 Hrs - Adjourn at 1300

SPEAKER: Mr. William "Bill" Overmier, WWII Veteran

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

First order of business is to give a big "thanks" to Roger Knight for his presentation at our September meeting. Roger's self-effacing accounts of some of his Army experiences—especially in Vietnam—were compelling, to say the least, and a great reminder of the value of dedicated and experienced leadership to our armed forces. From that personal introduction, Roger went on to provide insights into the New Mexico Veterans' Memorial, of whose Board of Governors he is Chairman. Personally, that was an eye-opener for me, as I'm sure it was to anyone not fully familiar with this exceptional monument to our veterans. Roger's passion for this memorial was inspiring and, on behalf of the Chapter, I'd like to extend our sincere thanks to him for sharing that with us.

- ✍ I would also like to acknowledge Roger's suggestion that we, as a Chapter, might want to volunteer some time to assist with the NM Veterans' Memorial operations. I support that idea as worthy for our group, and ask for feedback from the members to see if we want to pursue this.

OUR OCTOBER SPEAKER

Bill Overmier, who attended the September meeting, revealed a history that every member of our Chapter is surely interested in. Bill was an unwilling participant in one of the darker chapters of WWII. I don't want to give away much of the story, but as Bill put it, he "had a car, needed gas, and needed money," so he joined the NM National Guard while a student at UNM. Fast forward to the retreat from the Philippines to Corregidor, where he was captured by the Japanese and spent 3 years as a POW! As you can tell, there's a lot more to this tale, and I believe we will all look forward to hearing it from Bill at the meeting. Thanks to Ron Panebouef for getting Bill to agree to speak to us.

CURRENT ISSUES

As you are all aware, things have gotten even more interesting—both nationally and internationally—since our last meeting. Because I am way late in getting this newsletter together, I'm going to omit the usual litany of woes from this issue. I will, however, follow up later with an "It seems to me" issue on current events.

I will close with an apology to Al Baye, whose constant dedication to getting hard copies of these newsletters out to those who do not have internet access will once again be frustrated by my poor time management...sorry, Al!

I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete Bostwick
Chapter President