

Letters to the Editor

From Hammond Salley
Chapter 78 Member

Subject: Ernie Pyle Picture

Editors Note: Ham is referring to an image as it appeared in the May 2025 Sentinel print edition. Visit <https://www.specialforces78.com/ernie-pyle-the-soldiers-journalist/> to view the article posted on our website. If you prefer to view the pdf version of the print edition visit <https://www.specialforces78.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/0525-Sentinel-News.pdf>.

The article on Ernie Pyle has a picture of (May 2025 Sentinel, page 18) of sign depicting where he was killed on Ie Shima, a small island off of Okinawa. FYI, I've attached a picture of the new memorial I took in 1953 as part of a Boy Scout trip landing craft trip to Ie Shima in 1953. ♦



From: Gregg Walker
Chapter 78 Member

Editors Note: Our longtime contributor to the Sentinel, Greg Walker, shares some news. Greg, in a longer email, attributes some of the credit to the Sentinel staff for publishing his article, which he says was of help in the process.

Justice at last

To the Editor:

Earlier this week a jury in El Salvador, after 11 hours of deliberation, found three senior Salvadoran officers guilty of the planned 1982 assassination of four Dutch journalists in El Salvador. The news made national and international headlines. The ethical and moral courage of the victims' families, the investigators in Holland and at ICE, the judge and jury in El Salvador, and the Salvadoran journalists who daily risked harassment, imprisonment, voluntary exile, and ridicule by their own government cannot be praised enough.

"A five-member jury sentenced the defendants, now in their 80s or 90s, to 15 years in prison after an 11-hour session on the first day of the trial," attorney Pedro Cruz said outside the courthouse. "In a crime that shocked the world, Koos Koster, Jan Kuiper, Hans ter Laag, and Joop Willemsen were killed while filming a television documentary."

(<https://www.dutchnews.nl/2025/06/killers-of-dutch-journalists-in-el-salvador-convicted-at-last/>)

(<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/04/world/americas/el-salvador-kills-dutch-journalists-1982.html>)

And to you both, as well, regarding publication of my story on the Dutch murders—each helped bring Justice that much closer—<https://www.specialforces78.com/in-cold-blood-an-alleged-salvadoran-war-crime-flouts-his-u-s-citizenship-to-avoid-justice/> ♦

From Jodi Burns, CEO, Special Forces Charitable Trust
Subject: An Important Update



We're proud to announce that we are beginning to operate under a new name—Special Forces Trust. We're dropping the word "Charitable" as we step into a new era of strength, clarity, and momentum. You'll begin to see our new name, logo (displayed above) and visual identity reflected across our materials immediately.

We're also unveiling our new motto:

"Trust the Trust: Built by Brotherhood, Powered by Purpose."

It's a bold reflection of who we are—and who we serve.

This change doesn't alter our mission or our status as a nonprofit organization. It simply makes our message stronger and our presence clearer. Everything we do is still focused on standing beside Green Berets and their families with trust, purpose, and unwavering commitment.

Thanks to your generosity, we're off to a powerful start this year. We've already expanded support services under our Beyond the Battlefield program, grown our network of collaborators, and increased both awareness and access for the communities we serve. Your role in this progress cannot be overstated.

As we take this next step, we want you to know how deeply we value your partnership. You're not just part of our donor community—you are part of the legacy that allows us to grow, adapt, and serve more powerfully. We could not be more grateful.

We'll be reaching out with more soon, but in the meantime, thank you for trusting the Trust.

sffrust.org