



# ASSIST's Helping Hand Newsletter

Terrorism Survivors Helping Survivors

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 73  
JUL TO SEP  
2024

## Veterans of Foreign Wars 125th Anniversary

By Worley (Lee) Reed

ASSIST is dedicated to helping injured survivors of terrorism with legal, medical and financial assistance based on available organizational funds. ASSIST endeavors to fill the gap between government entitlements and real need.

The American Society for the Support of Injured Survivors of Terrorism, Inc. Newsletter is published quarterly at Lake Wales, FL. The Chief Editor is Bret W Reed, Administrative Officer.

ASSIST is a IRS Approved 501 (c) 3 Public Charity. Contributions and dues are tax deductible as prescribed by law. Please see your tax professional for details.

Please send correspondence to ASSIST, 4371 Dinner Lake Blvd, Lake Wales, Florida 33859-2135

On September 4, 1898, Colonel Teddy Roosevelt addressed his troops: "The world will be kind to you for 10 days. Everything you do will be all right. After that, you will be judged by a stricter code, and if you prove worthless, you will be considered as spoiled by going to war."

James Romanis, a veteran, one of the founders of the VFW, and pharmacy worker in Columbus, Ohio watched the exodus of discharged veterans from his shop window. "For many of them, their worldly goods consisted of their discharge papers and the paltry few pennies of their final pay. Some of them lived in Columbus, and they came to the pharmacy where Romanis worked to buy quinine and other medicines in an effort to cure the recurring

attacks of tropical fever, skin disease, and stomach disorders. Romanis felt a deep compassion for these 'forgotten men' - his comrades who had volunteered and had fought gallantly to win the adulation of a grateful nation, only to come home and find their brave deeds forgotten, their jobs gone, their families suffering from hunger and neglect." VFW Magazine September 2024 The Veterans of Foreign Service (name later changed to Veterans of Foreign Wars) was founded on September 29, 1899 by representatives of the 17th US Infantry, the 1st Colorado, and 28th Volunteer Infantry Regiments in a tailor shop in Columbus, Ohio. They consolidated their three separately



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### ASSIST Board of Directors

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Telephone: (407) 361-0546  
FAX: (863) 949-4645  
[www.assist-survivors.org](http://www.assist-survivors.org)

We are grateful to the US Department of Justice and the National Organization for Victims Assistance (NOVA) for their support and leadership in the area of victims' rights.

## Veterans of Foreign Wars 125th Anniversary

By Worley (Lee) Reed

formed organizations into the Veterans of Foreign Service. If you want to read their whole story, visit <https://vfw125.org>. Why do we need veteran organizations like the VFW? Being a soldier in combat changes a person forever. From my personal experience, one never forgets the first time you hear the bullwhip snap of a bullet pass by your head. If you are made unconscious by an exploding grenade near your head, you hear the buzzing sound like the old test patterns on TV when they went off the air. You wake up to see your blood falling on the ground, and your ear is throbbing. You see your comrade laying on the ground with a big hole through his chest where their heart formerly existed. We said in the infantry, what is being a soldier like? It is being cold, wet and hungry. When you go into military service, you leave your civilian job and family behind you. The VFW helps discharged soldiers to return to normal civilian life. They help soldiers get medical treatment for their physical and mental injuries. When you look at the old, tottering person with a VFW hat on walking about town, remember s/he was once an audaciousness, formidable soldier that fought through Hell for your freedom. Tell me what we should not do for them? ◇

held them for ransom. The competition is intense during the game. What I like most about the games is that at the end of each game, someone says, "Remember we are on the same military team."

Our current election season for President of the United States reminds me of the Army Navy games. Our political parties are sworn enemies during this process. They call each other names and accuse each other of grave atrocities. They spend millions of dollars on TV ads to convince the voters that they are right and the other parties are wrong. The public gets so numb about the continuous attacks, they start to ignore them. Ultimately, the American voter votes for the person and party they believe either will help them the most or hurt them the least. After the election, the most important thing to remember is that we are on the same team—the United States of America. No matter what we think of the opposition, we need each other. We play by the rules—the Constitution.

### The Army Navy Football Game

By Worley (Lee) Reed

Ever since November 29, 1890, the US Military Academy at West Point and the Naval Academy have played a football game for the Commander's Trophy. Navy won the first game 24–0. In last year's game, Army won 17–11. This year the game will occur on December 14th and is already sold out. There is a tremendous rivalry between the two schools. As game time approaches, one can see "Beat Army" posted everywhere on the Annapolis campus while "Beat Navy" is also everywhere at West Point. The rivalry can reach levels bordering on hatred. Schools have stolen each other's mascots and

### Our Motto

By Joyce Reed

Our Motto is to stand up and continue to fight against terrorism. We have brought dignity to those who died and help to the ones who survived. The scars will always remain. You will never forget your friends and colleagues that sacrificed their lives that day. You cannot solve problems by killing, wounding or frightening people into submission. Terrorists need to understand their actions are cowardly acts that Americans will not tolerate. Justice will prevail by free government and not by your weapons of mutual-destruction.





NOVA's 50th Annual Training Event will be July 29 – August 1, 2024 in Washington, DC. We hope to see you there for our Golden Anniversary!

See <https://www.trynova.org/> for more information

# The Good Life Section



## ASSIST

### Memorabilia

The ASSIST memorabilia below are available from ASSIST, 4371 Dinner Lake Blvd, Lake Wales, Florida 33859. Please add \$4.50 to your total order for shipping and handling. All profits from the sales of items goes to support terrorism survivors.



ASSIST Coin (front and back) \$10.00

ASSIST Lapel Pin \$4.00



ASSIST Hat Adjustable \$10.00



ASSIST T-Shirt \$10.00 L and XL Based on Availability of Size

## ASSIST Calendar

Jul 4—Independence Day

Jul 13—nine U.S. soldiers and at least 15 NATO troops die when Taliban militants boldly attack an American base in Kumar Province, which borders Pakistan 2008

Aug 7—East African Embassy Bombings 1998

Aug 18-19—15 suicide bombers attack US troops in Afghanistan 2008

Sep 2—Labor Day

Sep 11—9/11 2001

Sep 11—Benghazi, Libya: militants armed with anti-aircraft weapons and rocket-propelled grenades fire upon the American consulate, killing U.S. ambassador to Libya Christopher Stevens and three other embassy officials. 2012

Sep 13—Attack on US Embassy, Damascus, Syria by

4 gunmen stopped by DSS and local guards 2006

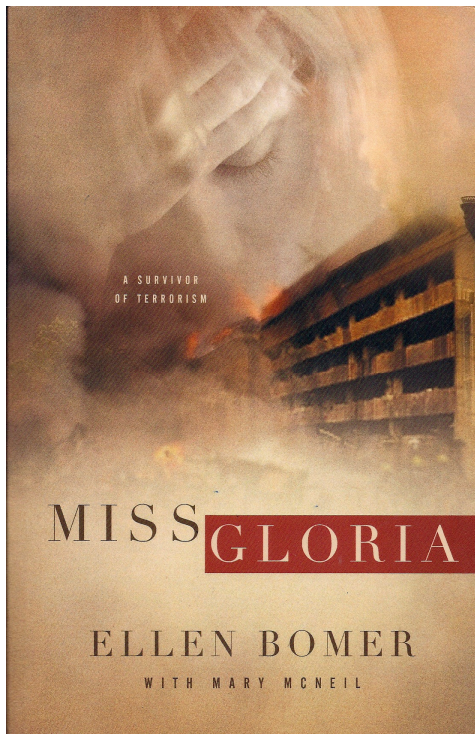
Sep 16—Bombing in New York City by suspected Communists 1920

Sep 16—Yemen: a car bomb and a rocket strike the U.S. embassy in Yemen as staff arrived to work, killing 16 people, including 4 civilians. 2008

Sep 20—Beirut US Embassy Annex Bombing 1984

Sep 22—Fall Starts (autumnal equinox)

Note: If we inadvertently omit an important date, please contact us and we will correct it.



Miss Gloria details the struggles and triumphs of a wonderful lady blinded by the Al Qaeda attack on the United States Embassy, Nairobi, Kenya on August 7, 1998. We highly recommend this book as a must-read.

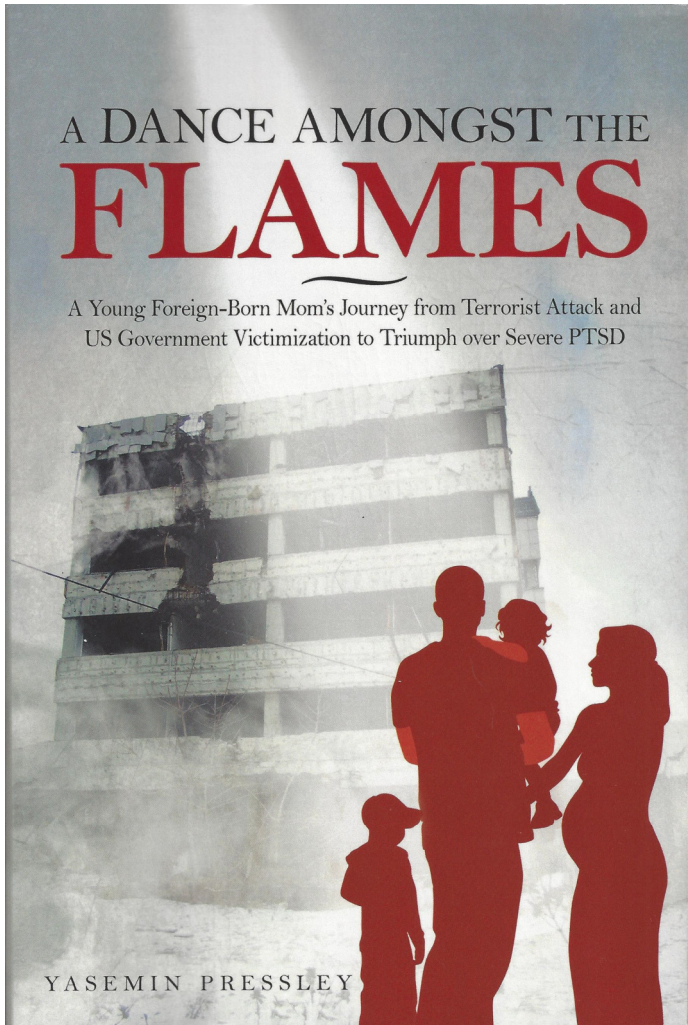
The book is available from the publisher: Redemption Press, 1730 Railroad St, Enumclaw, WA 98022 [www.redemption-press.com](http://www.redemption-press.com) as well as on Amazon Dot Com. [http://www.amazon.com/Miss-Gloria-Terrorism-Ellen-Bomer/dp/1414113668/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1431978093&sr=8-3&keywords=Miss+Gloria](http://www.amazon.com/Miss-Gloria-Terrorism-Ellen-Bomer/dp/1414113668/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1431978093&sr=8-3&keywords=Miss+Gloria)



If you are seeking someone to help you manage your terrorism compensation or other funds, UBS has helped us find creative and safe investments. Our contact is Ms. Holiday Hayes, telephone: (202) 585-5372.

This is an unpaid endorsement by the ASSIST Staff, and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ASSIST Board or ASSIST membership.

ASSIST has a new website: <http://www.assist-survivors.org> .



BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR

Ten percent of the proceeds from this book go directly to organizations that honor the injured American military women and men, from their darkest days to every step of their recovery. We need to do all we can to protect their family union and the future of their children.

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Yasemin, a young Muslim Turkish girl, falls in love with a handsome American named Frank in Ankara, Turkey. After they marry and have two children, Yasemin joins her husband working at the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya.

She can sense that her lifelong dreams are finally within reach. But external forces were set in motion to derail her plans - terrorists bombed the American Embassy in Nairobi on August 7th, 1998, while she and her husband are inside.

Frank is critically injured and flown to Germany for hospitalization. Yasemin follows with her family, physically unharmed but severely suffering from the effects of PTSD. It is then that she is confirmed pregnant with their third child, with Frank on death's doorsteps.

What follows is a tale of grief and struggle, but also of tremendous joy. From her diagnosis and struggle with PTSD treatments to Frank's physical therapy and abandonment by the State Department, Yasemin's story winds between betrayal and renewal as she searches for meaning in her new circumstances, and ultimately turns to God.

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Yasemin was born in Ankara, Turkey, where she spent her formative years with her family and met her husband, Frank. She has a degree in urban planning. Yasemin volunteers as a leader in a Christian organization, which leads women from all backgrounds to God. Yasemin and Frank have three children together and reside in the southern United States.

ISBN 978-0-578-58151-4  
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*A Dance Amongst the Flames* is a highly recommended new book about the unique experiences of a terrorism survivor. The book is available at your local bookstore or through Amazon® at [https://www.amazon.com/Dance-Amongst-Flames-Foreign-Born-Victimization/dp/0578581515/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=20YC01N2RX455&keywords=a+dance+amongst+the+flames+by+yasemin+pressley&qid=1576686264&prefix=A+Dance+Am%2Caps%2C160&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Dance-Amongst-Flames-Foreign-Born-Victimization/dp/0578581515/ref=sr_1_1?crid=20YC01N2RX455&keywords=a+dance+amongst+the+flames+by+yasemin+pressley&qid=1576686264&prefix=A+Dance+Am%2Caps%2C160&sr=8-1) . A preview of the book can be found on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikt9Hk01818> .

The American Society for the  
Support of Injured Survivors of  
Terrorism, Inc.  
4371 Dinner Lake Blvd  
Lake Wales, FL 33859-2135

Phone: 407-361-0546  
Fax: 863-949-4645  
E-mail: [wreed3@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:wreed3@tampabay.rr.com)  
<http://www.assist-survivors.org>

Terrorism Survivors Helping Survivors



**WE ARE ON THE WEB!**

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