

赵克志陈敏尔会见大连市党政代表团

【本报综合报道】6月7日，省委书记赵克志、省长陈敏尔在贵阳分别会见大连市党政代表团。赵克志、陈敏尔分别代表省委、省政府对大连市党政代表团一行表示热烈欢迎，并就进一步密切黔大两省市交流合作、推动互利共赢发展提出意见建议。

开放带动 创新驱动

遇万难还须放胆 创佳绩要用智慧

全省水利工程建设探微

【本报综合报道】6月7日，省水利厅召开全省水利工程建设推进会，要求全省水利系统进一步解放思想、迎难而上，以智慧和勇气破解难题，确保全省水利工程建设各项任务圆满完成。

我省强力推动医药产业加快发展

实施“四化”工程 抓好“五个一批”

【本报综合报道】6月7日，省卫生计生委召开全省医药产业推进会，要求全省医药系统进一步解放思想、迎难而上，以智慧和勇气破解难题，确保全省医药产业加快发展。

找准问题 才能做到“三严三实”

省纪委“一讲两议” 开展“学思践悟”专题研讨

【本报综合报道】6月7日，省纪委召开全省“三严三实”专题研讨会，要求全省党员干部进一步解放思想、迎难而上，以智慧和勇气破解难题，确保“三严三实”专题研讨会取得实效。

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我省多项举措狠抓考风考纪

Wonderful! The Last Hero!

By Vicky Long

Guizhou City Newspaper, CHINA (Translated by Daniel Wang)

Secret unveiled from an overseas call: 90-year old Chenghan Wang living in Guiyang was on the “Duck Mission” operated by U.S. office of Strategic Services 70 years ago.

This is a memory that has been sealed for 70 years. It is now unsealed by an old lady living in the United States who has been unremittingly seeking for it.

On this third day of May, Chenghan Wang, an old man living in Guiyang, received an overseas phone call made by Mary Taylor Previte, an 82-year old lady residing in New Jersey. His answers to her 16 questions proved that he is the Eddie Wang, who joined in the “Duck Mission” that liberated Weih sien (now Weifang) Concentration Camp in Shandong Province, China. Chenghan Wang was the Chinese interpreter of the American seven-people rescue team on that mission. Finally, Mary’s 18-year searching reached a successful ending.

Breath-taking News

March 29th, 2015 was a peaceful Sunday. The afternoon sunlight went into Mary Taylor Previte’s house in Haddonfield, New Jersey. Mary, 82 years old, was sitting in front of her computer and ready to check her emails. That’s her daily routine.

“I am the grandson of Eddie Wang (Cheng-Han Wang)”. The subject of this email took Mary’s breath away. She shook her head, calmed herself down, and read the subject line again. Then she carefully opened the email.

A man named Qian Wang sent it to her.

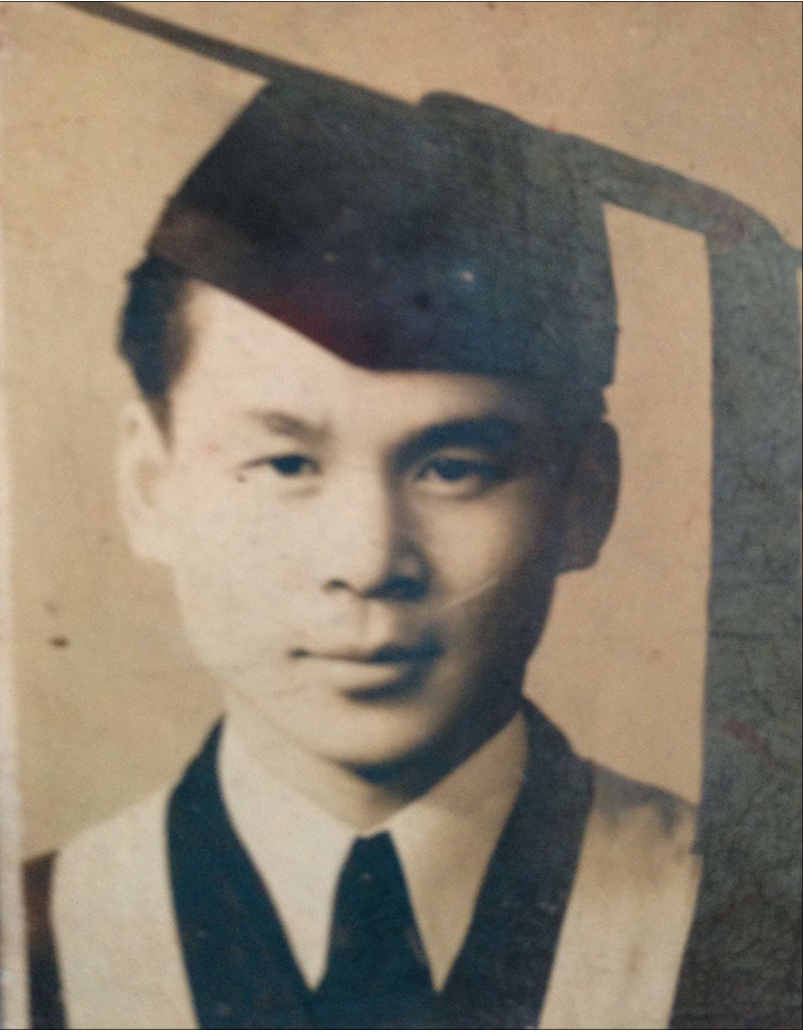
“My name is Qian Wang (Daniel Wang),” the letter said. “I am the grandson of Edward Wang, who was the Chinese interpreter of the rescue team going to the Japanese concentrate camp in Weih sien, China, on August 17, 1945. I am currently living with my wife in Lexington, SC with a temporary VISA.”

“Oh my God! Message from South Carolina.” Mary couldn’t help sighing.

“My grandfather is still alive, 90 years old now, living in China,” Qian Wang continued. “He is very healthy!” Qian said in his letter that his grandfather told him the story of Weih sien, but he had almost forgotten his promise to his grandfather: to find the other members of the rescue team.

Qian is a photographer. He wrote: “I was reading a story about an American military photographer who served in Flying Tigers during WWII. And I remembered my promise. My grandfather helped me. He gave me a name, Stanley Staiger. I googled it, and I found a webpage. I confirmed with my grandfather about the time, place, and all the seven peoples’ names. I can’t describe how excited I am now! My hands are trembling! I enclosed two of my grandfather’s pictures taken on his 90-year-old birthday a few weeks ago. I don’t know if you can receive this email, or still remember how he looked like. Please let me know if you are still trying to find him. I look forward to hearing from you!”

Mary immediately replied: “The Japanese had interned five of us Taylors in Weih sien.” She then started to tell how she had been looking for Chenghan Wang for 18 years.



Since then, the email communication with Qian has brought Mary's memories back to China, back to Weihsien Concentration Camp that she could never forget.

Rumbling Coming From Above

Time: August 17th, 1945

Location: Weihsien (now Weifang), Shandong province

As a 12 years old girl, Mary kept a dream that superheroes dropped from sky and saved her and her families from the devils' hands.

Both of Mary's parents were missionaries. She lived with them in Shandong. After Japanese captured Jiaodong Peninsula, Mary was imprisoned in Weihsien Concentration Camp together with her grandfather, and her sister and two brothers. Living in an inhumane condition, she had kept thinking of heroes saving their lives someday.

That day, a faint sound coming from the sky. Soon, a B-24 bomber appeared and flew very low, circling the camp. "We could see the star on the side of the plane so we knew they were Americans." On May 15th, 2015, the article *Seven Decades Later, Previte Connects with Liberator* published by an American newspaper *The Retrospect* described how Mary felt at that moment. That day, a rescue team with the code name "Duck mission" parachuted from a B-24 bomber to liberate the imprisoned prisoners in Weihsien Concentration Camp.

"One by one, a team of six Americans and one Chinese interpreter, descended from the sky waiting for their parachutes to open. Each was very aware that communications may not have reached all Japanese war supporters and that there may be sharp shooters taking aim at the floating ducks. When the men landed, prisoners from the camp ran out the front gate to meet them." Mary said, "We had so many questions and we wanted to touch them."

"They were strong and healthy. These men risked their lives for us, we were total strangers to them but they came to free us," she said, holding back her tears. "All of the kids in the camp followed the soldiers around with admiration. They brought chewing gum, candy and other treats that no one had seen for years. They taught the kids songs, including 'You are my sunshine' and played softball with them while they waited for supplies and departure arrangements for the 1,500-plus prisoners. The kids wanted to know everything about the flying heroes who were gods in their eyes."

When Mary and her siblings were liberated, their parents were still working in China. The four Taylor children departed Weihsien on the second plane and were reunited with their parents and their new younger sibling. The excitement of leaving did not allow young

Mary to properly thank her heroes, and that became the reason why she started her long hero-finding journey after 52 years.

The 18 Years of Finding

In 1997, Mary was an Assemblywoman in Southern New Jersey. She was asked by her colleagues to present a proclamation to a China Burma India veteran's group in Mt. Laurel. After reading the proclamation, Mary asked if anyone in the audience knew her heroes from her childhood who

liberated the concentration camp. Mary recited each of their names, Major Stanley Staiger, Jimmy Moore, Jim Hannon, Sgt. Tad Nagaki, Sgt. Peter Orlich, Ramond Hanchulak and Eddie Wang, a Chinese interpreter.

"That question started a firestorm of interest," said Mary. "One man in the group was an intelligence officer and was able to provide phone numbers and locations for anyone living in the United States with the same name as the six Americans."

After years of going through the list of names and numbers, Mary was successful in her quest to thank her American heroes. Four of the six were still living and she was able to thank each in person. For the heroes who had passed away before Mary located them, she shared her story of gratitude with the widows of the remaining two Americans.

One widow had a piece of the actual parachute used during Duck Mission. On it was an image of the B-24 bomber and the names of each man who parachuted to

the camp. That piece of parachute was photographed and included in a book about memories of Weihsien. The original is at the Smithsonian.

That piece of parachute included the name of Eddie Wang, the Chinese interpreter on the liberation mission. "Finding Eddie Wang in a country with over a billion people is next to impossible," said Mary. "Until one day in 2015, almost 70 years after being liberated from Weihsien, I received an email from a man claiming to be the grandson of Eddie Wang."

Daniel Wang, who is currently living in South Carolina with his wife, was busy fulfilling a promise to his 90-year old grandfather Chenghan "Eddie" Wang, who asked Daniel to locate his six comrades from World War II. During Daniel's Internet research, he found many entries on a Weihsien community website and the name of Mary Previte who often asked for information about Eddie Wang. Daniel reached out to the woman seeking information about his grandfather.

"Imagine the surprise to read an email from Daniel Wang, who



lives in South Carolina,” said Mary. After all of these years, Mary had to be certain she was communicating with the correct Wang. “I asked so many questions, and Daniel was able to confirm the answers through his grandfather, who is still living in the Guizhou Province in China at the age of 90 – unbelievable!” she said.

16 Questions to Help Identify

Mary wanted to make certain Eddie was well enough to answer her questions without too much stress. She has friends who are Chinese Americans who happily agreed to sit in on the conference call for Mary to speak to Eddie and help with any language barriers.

On Sunday, May 3, Mary spoke to her seventh hero. “We spoke for over an hour,” said Mary. “I cannot believe I found Eddie Wang and he is healthy and living in China. Daniel even sent pictures from Eddie’s 90th birthday to me.”

Both Eddie and Daniel Wang were surprised to learn that a 12-year old girl in the camp was stilling looking for every single man in the rescue team. “It must be something so important to her life,” said the younger Wang. “I knew my grandfather was in the World War II, but I didn’t know many details until I began to contact Mary, as she asked my grandfather a lot of questions through me.”

Reunion in Weifang in This August

With the 70th reunion of Weihsien taking place in August, Mary was asked to write the preface for a book about the concentration camp that will be published and distributed in China. With many of the remaining internees unable to make the trip to China for a reunion, books and websites help the group remain connected.

The 90-year old Chenghan Wang has been invited to attend the anniversary. We learned that he should be able to go to Shandong as he has good health conditions. However, he is 90 years old after all. How to keep him safe during his trip?

Will Mary be able to come, too? How about her health conditions that have to be considered in such a long trip? We still have these questions concerning if they would be able to reunite in Weifang.

At 9:30 a.m on May 26, 2015, we came to Chenghan Wang’s home in Guiyang. His son Jiayang Wang had been waiting for us downstairs. We asked Jiayang Wang what his father was doing. “Using the internet.” His short response surprised us. Generally, a man 90 years old would spend most, if not all, of his time sitting rest and doing nothing else at home. Internet is something in the world of young people, not of a 90-years old senior. With surprises and confusions in our mind, we walked in the house of this legendary old man, and ready to listen to his unforgettable experiences.

Exchange the Pen for the Sword

An old man appeared in front of us when we came in. He is not tall, but no one will deny that he is hale and hearty.



Though he is already 90 years old, Chenghan Wang is very healthy. He has good ears and eyes, and speaks clearly. Our interview was therefore very easy to proceed. When he talked about his stories, we were all surprised that he could still remember so many details. It must be an unforgettable experience in his life.

Chenghan Wang was born in Hankou. He came to work for Guiyang (should be Guizhou. Daniel.) Metallurgical Engineering Design Institute in 1965 and retired from there.

In 1943, 18-year old Chenghan Wang was admitted into the Physics Department of Sichuan University. In the fall of the next year, he determined to join the army after he listened to Yuxiang Feng’s mobilizing speech at the university. He quitted his study and joined the Youth Troop of National Revolutionary Army in Luzhou, with another 20-plus students from Sichuan University and over 100 students from other universities. They formed the 203 Searching Company. Chenghan Wang was very disappointed with the everyday drilling which repeated for half a month. He said, “I was there to learn how to fight with the Japanese soldiers. Why so much drilling? Why not teach us how to fight a real war? I decided to quit.”

At that time, he happened to know that the telecommunication unit in the army set up a training class and was recruiting new students. Students were required to return to the troops after they finish the training program, but Chenghan Wang did not care much about it. He saw a chance to learn new skills and signed up for the training. Over 20 days later, the training program seemed still helpless to Chenghan Wang. The war became quite urgent and to meet the increasing need for translators, the Foreign Affairs Bureau (FAB) of the Nationalist Party opened an

interpretation class. A lot of people went to sign up for the admission test. Chenghan Wang, however, knowing that many of those people were church school graduates with excellent English skills, he did not have the self-confidence to compete with them at the beginning, as his English was only high school level. Nevertheless, seeing that many people were admitted, he decided to give it a try. He recalled that the test was a speaking test. He was asked questions like where and why he learned English. He was pretty satisfied with his own answers, because when he found the examiner was speaking too fast, he told him to “take it easy”.

He obtained the admission easily, as the interpretation class was badly in need of students. So did the telecommunication class. They did not permit students to leave, and claimed that once they found anyone who left, they were going to catch them and send them back. Therefore, Chenghan Wang discussed with the interpre-



tation class recruiting staff, and came up with an idea: change his name to Zuoying Wang. He also got an English name: Edward Wang.

On April 25, 1945, Chenghan Wang graduated from the interpretation class. In May, he was sent into the interpreter pool in Kunming, waiting to be recruited by any unit in the army. In the end, he was recruited by the U.S. Office of Strategic Services (OSS). There were four groups in OSS. Chenghan Wang was initially sent to Special Operations (SO) group. He met with other 6 members and they were sent to the Front Line Command Post in Zhijiang, Hunan province. Their mission was to contact the Chinese guerrilla forces in Hengshan and to attack enemies from behind. They, however, did not expect that Hengshan was seized by Japanese soon after they arrived. Without a war to fight, Chenghan Wang was sent to Kaiyuan in Yunnan province, and learned how to parachute and to use small arms. The parachuting training was a ground simulation only. They never learned in a real jump. Believing it was such an unreliable training, Chenghan Wang questioned his trainer if he could learn parachuting by jumping from a real plane and from the sky. "You'll be fine," said the trainer, "you are not a big guy." This careless attitude made him feel scared. His life could be endangered in a real jump. He never knew that a real jump was actually coming for him. After the training in Kaiyuan, Chenghan Wang went back to Kunming. During that time, Japanese surrendered, and therefore Chenghan Wang would not be assigned any new guerrilla mission. He was distributed to Special Intelligence (SI) group.

The Rescue Mission

On August 15, 1945, the emperor of Japan declared surrender.

However, many Japanese troops denied to accept defeat, and they probably planned to retaliate upon foreigners imprisoned in the

dizzy, almost unconscious. Fortunately, their parachutes could open automatically, and therefore he survived. They landed in a Gaoliang field near the camp. Internees excitedly ran out of the camp to meet them, put the parachuters on their shoulders, and escorted them back to the camp. He said some internees carried knives ready for possible riots if the Japanese soldiers took any action. The good news was that they turned a blind eye to what happened.

The Duck Mission team stayed in the camp for more than a month, during which they got more men and supplies to help them. Life in the camp was not bad.

When talking about Mary, Chenghan Wang said he was much moved that Mary was probably the only one who remembered his name Eddie. He still remembers that 12-year old lovely girl with her loose hair. They became close friends quickly. They played softball together and went to the church together. He remembered that it was Mary who stopped him smoking in the church as he had no idea of religion.

The Last Hero

After getting in touch with Chenghan Wang, Mary's daughter told her mother with great joy: "Wonderful! The last hero!"

In 1997, Mary started to find the seven members of the Duck Mission team. She successfully found 4 of them and 2 of their widows, and kept in touch since then. Chenghan Wang was the only one she had not been tracked. Mary told the *Retrospect* that finding someone named Wang in China is as difficult as finding someone named Smith in the United States. That's next to impossible.

After receiving Qian Wang's email, Mary listed several questions for Chenghan Wang in order to make sure he was the real Eddie she had been looking for. Chenghan Wang smiled, "she asked me what we did in the camp, how we went out, and many other details. I answered every one of them. We talked with each other on the phone for an hour. I was really very excited then. I had never imaged that I could still contact that young girl after 70 years."

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concentration camp. On August 16, the SI group was sent to Xi An, but they had no idea about their mission. It was not until the morning of August 17 when the group arrived at the airport that the group leader announced a letter from Albert Wedemeyer, the commander of U.S. army in China. The letter said their mission was to rescue the foreigners imprisoned in Weihsien Concentration Camp. Chenghan Wang said that there were several Japanese concentration camps in China, and different SI members were sent to liberate them. Every SI group had a bird name as their code name. Theirs was called the "Duck Mission". They arrived in Weihsien at about 09:30 in the morning.

Chenghan Wang continued with a smile that he was the fifth parachuter. He was in fact very worried and did not dare to jump, because he never did before. The man behind him pushed him and he finally jumped out the plane. The sudden strong air flow made him

