

# **Wars Are Not Won Hunkered Down in a Foxhole!**

**By Gerald Cumby**

***“You'll never get the Purple Heart hiding in a foxhole! Follow me!”***<sup>#1</sup> was a quote by Marine Captain Henry Jim Crowe, a commander of a regimental weapons company during the land battle on Guadalcanal in World War II. Japanese fighters had pinned down a Marine advance with machine guns blazing from a position overlooking the company huddled in foxholes. With Captain Crowe leading the soldiers, they left their foxholes knowing some may die when leaving their defensive position. Even with the odds against them, they charged the guns behind Crowe and took out the enemy position. Some of the soldiers in the battles were injured, some died, some came home to a heroes' welcome...a hug from their family...and a purple heart to put in their drawer at home. The word for the day was, **“You can't win a war huddled down in a foxhole.”**

The COVID-19 outbreak (pandemic) has been a tough one to fight. As President Trump stated, “It is an invisible enemy...a war like no other.” As of this morning, over 81,000 U.S. citizens have died of this invisible enemy. Worldwide there have been over 290,000 deaths from this dreaded disease. Worldwide panic has been seen in practically every country of the world. The experts of disease control and other learned people who have studied epidemics/pandemics in the past have suggested for all people other than essential workers to “stay in place”, which means to stay home until the worst days have passed. Most of the world have been doing just that; staying home. The word is “stay hunkered down” until there are some answers given. Although there has been a leveling off of daily contractions of the disease and deaths, many have decided to remain at home and not let other distractions cause them to get out of their homes to go to work or go to the stores to purchase necessities and other products. The decision to not work and not go

back to some resemblance of “normality” in their lives is getting to be a problem for our country and world.

I did not serve in the military; however, I have the utmost respect for and give due credit for all have served our country as they have fought wars and given their lives in order that others might be saved and free of tyrants and dictators. I will be the first to agree that I really don't have the right to give objective opinions when it comes to giving worthy advice during war time. I have listened to my brothers and brothers-in-law who have served in the military. I am delighted to hear of their allegiance to our country and to see their respect for those in authority. It is an honor to be able to praise them for serving courageously and admirably. In listening to them and watching films of war tactics (defensive and offensive), I notice that one of the first things a commander, sergeant, or a leader of a company of men (especially Army and Marines) in battle is for them to have their troops dig a foxhole. Some foxholes are dug for only one person while others are dug for two or more troops (buddies). These foxholes are made to protect individuals from incoming mortar and rockets as well as bullets from the enemy. When there is a barrage of enemy fire coming into the camp, the foxhole is a place to be for some protection. In all instances, however, I have never seen a commander/leader of the troops tell the troops they must remain in the foxhole for the remainder of the battle. There comes a time when some or all of the troops must attack from their foxhole to engage the enemy... All the time knowing that there probably will be casualties when they move from the foxhole.

We are in that time frame where we must move out of our foxhole (homes) and go back to work and engage the enemy when the enemy is trying to kill us with the disease or with apathy and/or panic. We must fight for our freedom and fight for our existence. That is the way it has been in previous wars and that is the way we fight against the invisible enemy. New weapons to fight against the enemy (therapeutics and vaccines) are being processed as expediently as

possible. In the meantime, we must do our part and engage the enemy that is trying to take our homes, our jobs, and our families.

It is time to move on. Let's do it with applicable weapons and never give in to the enemy. Our first weapon is to not fear the future. Jesus put it like this,

*“Therefore I tell you, do not **worry** about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by **worrying** add a single hour to your life? Matthew 6:25-27... “Therefore do not **worry** about tomorrow, for tomorrow will **worry** about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” Matthew 6:34*

*Of course, we need to be practical and street-wise...following common sense practices. We can't, however, let this enemy win this battle, much less this war. We must go to work, get back to our class rooms, back to our stores where we will purchase what is needed. Someone has said, “It will never be the same. What we are seeing now (hunkered down in our homes) is the new norm.” That is a cop-out if there ever was a cop-out. We are to be brave and courageous. Our part is to go after the enemy with both barrels a blazing. One barrel (our attitudes of quelling our fears of the unknown) and the other barrel using our many experts in the field for coming up with the remedies to thwart this disease...this invisible enemy. We can do it and we will do it!*

*To put the icing on the cake (so to speak), we need to pray for courage and a willing heart from ourselves and our leaders. God never did break the enemy's spirit without God-fearing people doing their part. Although God can do anything, at any time, and has every resource to do it, He wants and desires our actions to be in every plan of His to thwart the enemy. **All of us know as a Christian, we win in the end!** Satan is trying his best to put fear into us...but we know the outcome of his actions. He will be cast into the lake of fire with*

*death and his angels. Keep in mind, we are HIS (The Lord's)...and HE is our refuge.*

*“Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our **refuge.**” Psalm 62:8*

Gerald Cumby, May, 2020

*Quote: # 1, Articles- 11 of the craziest lines ever spoken in battle, Logan Nye, April 05, 2017*