

February 26, 2007

Ms. Paula Kerger
PBS President and Chief Executive Officer
PBS Office of the Corporate Secretary
2100 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202-3785

Dear Ms. Kerger:

I normally do not participate in letter writing activities regarding subjects that hurt or offend me I usually turn the other cheek. But recently the subject of Ken Burns has brought my anger to the position where I had no choice but to write a letter regarding my family of proud Mexican-Americans who for three generations have participated in world conflicts where our nation has sent us.

My father Henry H. Gutierrez now deceased was a veteran of World War II, who on July, 1944 landed on Utah Beach as part of the 5th Armored Division he would fight all the way to Germany, along the way receiving a Purple Heart for wounds received in combat. My father was decorated with Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge and other decorations. He came home raised a family and never discussed his experience with his sons.

Louis, who was my father's brother was a veteran of World War II, serving the entire war on a hospital ship on Atlantic side. He came home raised a family and never discussed his experience with his children. He is deceased.

Nicholas, who was my father's brother was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Pacific, and was part of the infantry that landed in Korea and would remain in that country while it transitioned from the Japanese occupation. He came home raised a family and never discussed his experience with his children. He is deceased.

Jose Lopez, my father's Brother-in-Law was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Pacific. He came home raised a family and never discussed his experience with his children. Currently resides in California

George son of Henry H. Gutierrez, was drafted into the U. S. Army on December 1968, and would serve 14 months as a member of 4th Infantry Division in Viet Nam. George returned from Nam with injuries and medical problems, currently resides in California and is retired on disability. (Second Generation)

Frank son of Henry H. Gutierrez, was drafted into the U. S. Army on May 1969, and would serve 13 months as a Member of 8th Army, Korean Support Command in the Republic of South Korea. Frank is currently employed with a public utility. (Second Generation)

Danny son of Henry H. Gutierrez, was drafted, but decided to join the U. S. Navy in 1970, served four years on the East Coast. He returned home. Now deceased. (Second Generation)

Ric Nathan Gutierrez, son of Frank H. Gutierrez, Grandson of Henry H. Gutierrez, joined the U. S. Air Force in 1998 and served eight months in Bosnia, during that conflict, returned home and is still serving in the U. S. Air Force and currently awaiting orders for Iraq. (Third Generation)

On my mother side during World War II, her two brothers were drafted.

Manuel, brother of my Mother was drafted during World War II, and would serve in North Africa, Sicily and Italy with 5th Army. He came home, raised a family and never discussed his experiences in the war. Now deceased.

Robert, brother of my Mother was drafted during World War II, would serve in England assigned to a hospital. He came home, raised a family and never discussed his experiences in the war. Now deceased.

Severa H. Gutierrez my Mother was employed as Cold Ribit Specialist assembling P-38 aircraft at the Goodyear Assembly Plant in Litchfield Park, Arizona from 1943 to 1945.

Fred Duran, my Mother's Brother-In-Law who was drafted into the U. S. Army and would serve as a Medic in Burma-India-China front. He came home, raised a family and never discussed his experiences. Now deceased.

As you can see Ms. Kerger, World War II had a **Significant** impact on the Gutierrez and Hernandez families, and someone like Ken Burns who is obviously angloized single dimensioned individual has lost credibility among us viewers, and sadly will impact the Public Broadcasting Service, who I have been a faithful viewer and subscriber. I am extremely proud of my heritage and my family, and thou it is a cliché if my country should call on me again, I will gladly report once more.

Sincerely,

FRANK H. GUTIERREZ
U. S. Army 1969 – 1970

Letter mailed from the Imperial Valley
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