

America's Forgotten Victory!

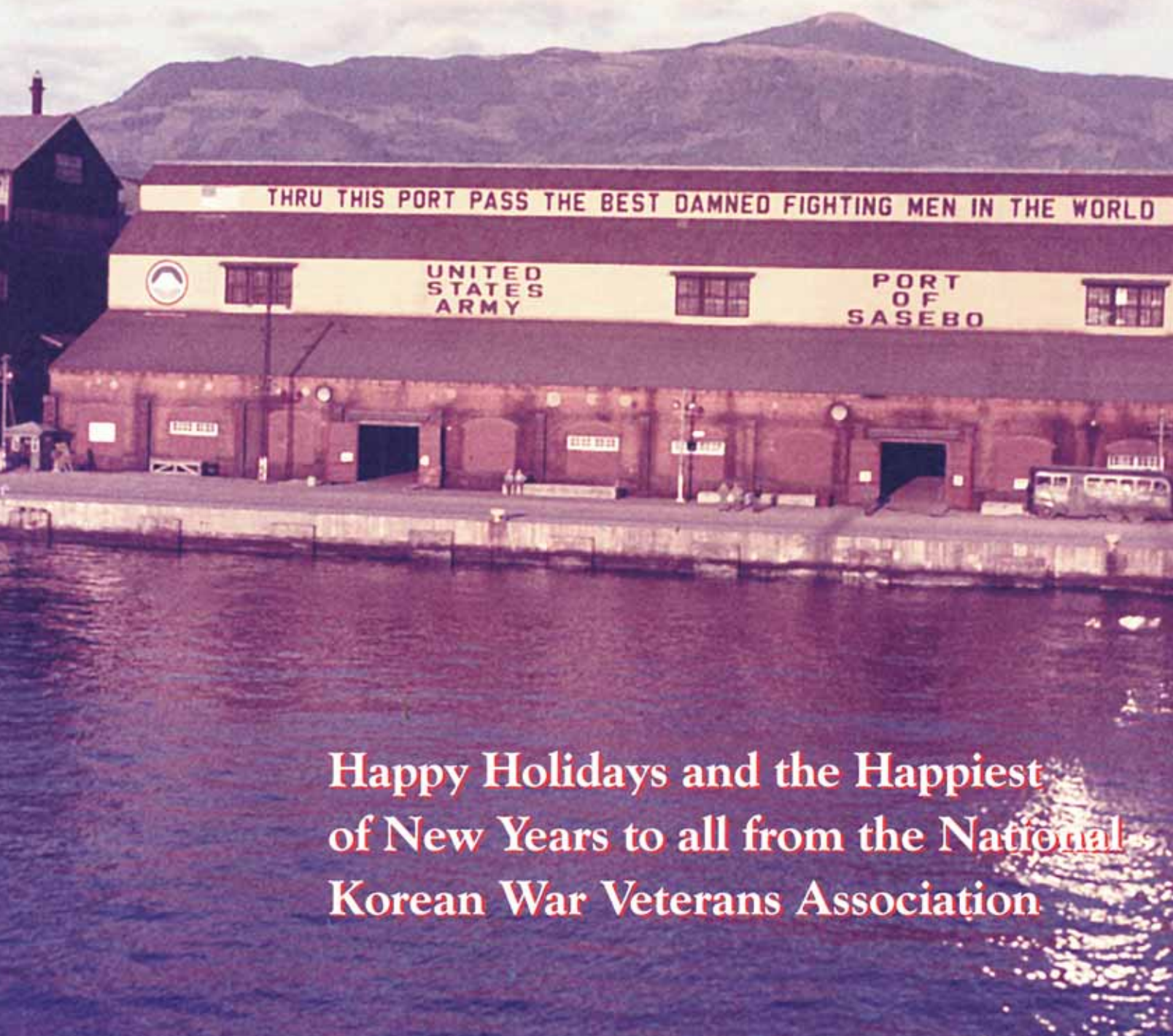
The Graybeards

Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Vol. 16, No. 6

November - December 2002



**Happy Holidays and the Happiest
of New Years to all from the National
Korean War Veterans Association**

The Graybeards

The Magazine for Members, Veterans of the Korean War, and service in Korea. *The Graybeards* is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association, PO Box, 10806, Arlington, VA 22210, (www.kwva.org) and is published six times per year.

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On the cover...

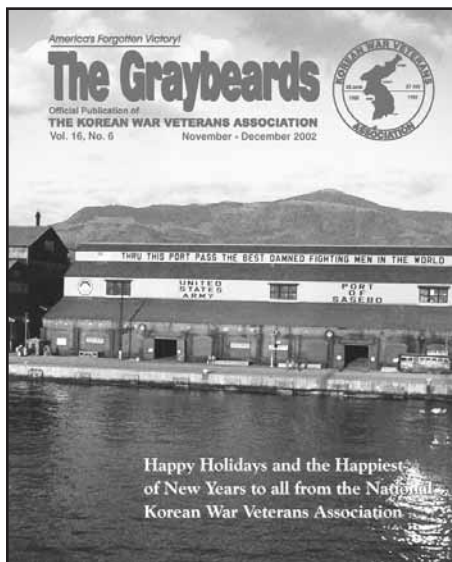


Photo by Glen Ed. White

Coming home from Korea or going on R & R by boat to Sasebo, Japan

Located on the southernmost island of mainland Japan, Sasebo is a community of 250,000 people.

The City of Sasebo, once the base of the Imperial Japanese Navy, is now home to approximately 5,500 U.S. Navy personnel, their families and Department of Defense civilians. Ships and personnel of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force also operate from Sasebo.

Following is a letter, contained in a ditty bag, given me and most others at hospitals. Since I had lost all my toilet articles, the letter and items were very welcomed. -Editor:)

Nippi Motors Co., LTD
Sugita Ord. Shops

Dear all soldiers, fighting in the front far away from the native country.

This is written from, the bottom of our heart in order to encourage you, all American soldiers fighting day and night in Korea.

Soon after the Red aggression troops invaded the line of 38th parallel, declaring war on South Korea, your country pledged the vigorous Korean support for the United Nations and decided to send Holy Armed Forces to Korea in order to stop the "Unprovoked aggression" from the view point to help the peace loving countries in the Far East. We Japanese were moved deeply by this decision.

It is no doubt that the Red be knocked out by your powerful armed forces and peace will be brought up not only in Korea but in whole Asia in the very near future. We feel we cannot assume the attitude of onlookers, when we think of you engaging in the war in a muck of sweat and dust under foreign soil and climate.

We can picture you fighting so bravely under roaring of guns when the sun casts its last beam and sinks slowly behind the war torn hills where no birds sing and no flowers exist.

Considering the standing of Japan, we learn that the only way left for us is to cooperate with you indirectly and not directly. We all employees of Nippi Motors Co., Ltd., which is the contractor for the 8th Army, U.S.A. are performing a big mission of rebuilding arms for the U. S. Army. We, therefore, are the people who have more thanks to you and are those wishing you the best of lucks than any other Japanese people.

Now we are sending a little comfort kit to you soldiers in the front and the honorable wounded lying in the bed in the field hospital.

Please accept our little present. Be glorious, the United Nations Flag!

Sugita Ordnance Shops
All employees, Nippi Mtrs. Co.
No. 3175 Tamioka-cho, Kanazawaku,
Yokohama, Japan

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Happy Holidays



Wishing you...warmth in your home, love in your heart, peace in your soul, and joy in your life — during the holidays, and always.

*The National Officers and Directors of the
Korean War Veterans Association*

President's Message



Harley Coon
President, KWVA

On September 2nd I flew to Arlington, VA for a briefing at the DOD POW/MIA (DPMO) office for our trip to Beijing, China and North Korea.

On September 3rd, General Raymond Davis MOH USMC (Ret.), Ed Magill representing Chosin Few, and Donna Downs Knox representing the Coalition of Families of POW/MIA, and myself representing the KWVA and Ex-Korean Prisoners of War met at the DPMO briefing room. Representing the DPMO was Ashton Anton (leader), Ron Maynard, Dr. Kaye Whitley and Major Peter Chung (Interpreter).

Our mission was to observe the excavating of remains of soldiers either killed in action or still listed as Missing In Action.

Our first stop Beijing, China, we had to get visa's to enter North Korea.

The flying time from Dulles International Airport, with a plane change in Chicago O'hare Airport was approximately 20 hours. We checked in at the Kerry Center Hotel, (a 5 star hotel in Beijing), on Thursday September 5th. We had free time until we boarded a plane to Pyongyang's Sunan International airport. Flying time from Beijing, China to Pyongyang is about 2 hours.

There are only 2 flights a week to Pyongyang. One on Tuesday and one on Saturday. After we cleared customs and security we were introduced to our escorts and bused to the Kobangsang Guest House. We didn't get tied up in traffic jams. The Kobangsang Guest House was a 3 1/2 star hotel.

We had cold showers each morning, the rooms were very large and the bed was like sleeping on a cot in a pup tent. We had 4 escorts with us almost all the time we were in North Korea.

On Sunday Sept 8th we visited the Juche Tower and later the Folklore Museum.

On Monday Sept. 9th We were sched-

uled to visit the East side of the Changjin Reservoir (Chosin Reservoir) the flight was canceled because of bad weather. We boarded a bus with our escorts and drove to the Unsan base camp and observed the process used by the Joint Recovery Team and CILHI.

As we were on the way to Unsan we were on some of the same roads that we marched as Prisoners of War over 50 years ago.

My thoughts was on that night of November 26, 1950 when our company was overrun by the Chinese, when most were killed or captured. I could feel the cold and smell of death all round, It was a feeling that I was reliving a part of my life. It took us 45 days (in 1950) to reach camp # 5. Many men died on that march to the prisoner of war camps.

The emotion flowed. Ipsok, Unsan is the site where Captain Reinald B Desiderio US Army (Easy Company, 27th Rct., 25th Inf. Div.) was awarded the Medal of Honor, Posthumously.

Unsan is where the 1st Cav. Div. was attacked by the Chinese PVA. The Chinese attacked the 2nd Inf. Div. on the 25th of November. That was the beginning of the Gauntlet where the 8th Army had to fight it's way 140 miles south to set up a defense line. The weather was well below zero.

After we left the Base Camp at Unsan we traveled to a site believed to be in the area where Donna Downs Knox's father's plane, a "B-26," crashed. Although his remains were never recovered he was presumed dead.

Our next event was a helicopter ride from Pyongyang's Airport to the east side of the Changjin Reservoir (Chosin Reservoir) (about a 1 1/2 white knuckle ride) this was the battle ground of the U.S. Army's 7th Inf. Div. battleground of November 1950. Ed Magill's unit was engaged in that battle and



At Pyongyang Air Port Donna Downs Knox, President, Coalition of Korea and Cold War Families and Harley Coon, President KWVA National exchange friendship and support in front of painting of Pyongyang City.

was able to fight their way out. The joint recovery team located remains, from the Unsan and Changjin Reservoir, they will be sent to Hawaii for DNA testing.

The North Korean escorts then drove General Davis and the rest of our group to Yudam-ni where General Davis held a plaque dedicated to the United States Marines that gave their all. We then stopped in the area where General Davis led his Marines over the hilly terrain to Hagaru-ri to join other forces. That action was where General Davis was Awarded the Medal of Honor.

As we toured North Korea it seemed that the countryside has not changed much except that the dirt roads were a little wider.

The North Korean escorts led by Col. Pack had a banquet for our group before leaving.

Ashton Anton representing the DPMO Office and Col Pack representing the DPRNK (Democratic Peoples Republic of North Korea) would meet at a later date to determine how many and where there may be more remains to be found.

The DPMO Office is making every effort to have an accounting of our missing in action and any Prisoners of War that may be alive somewhere.

Until next time

Harley

Military Shop - 4 color

Opening Ceremonies

October 6, 2002 (Sunday)

- Welcome to all by President Harley Coon.
- Invocation by National Chaplain Camp Irvin Sharp.
- Pledge of allegiance by 1st Vice President Jack Edwards.
- Sal Amati from Chicago was named as Sgt. Of Arms for the meeting and registering of those present.
- A certificate of appreciation was awarded to former Director Theodore Trousdale for his services to the Korean War Veterans Association.
- Preceding the roll call, action needed to be taken to fill open positions on the Executive Council.

1. *Motion by Director Dorothy Schilling and seconded by Director Larry McKinniss to place Director Kenneth Cook into the position of 2nd V. President to fill out the remaining term of Tom Clawson. Motion passed.*

2. *Motion by Director James F. Jones and seconded by Director Michael Mahoney to place John J. Delap to fill out the remaining term of Jack Edwards. Motion passed.*

Roll Call

Present: Pres. Harley J. Coon, 1st V. Pres. Jack Edwards, 2nd V. Pres. Kenneth Cook; Directors Larry McKinniss, Joseph Pirrello, Don Byers, Jerry Lake, Michael Mahoney, James F. Jones Jr., William MacSwain, Dorothy Schilling, John J. Delap.

Absent: Directors Richard Adams non excused, Warren Weidhahn excused absence
One vacant seat.

Motion by Director Jerry Lake and seconded by Director Larry McKinniss to leave open the one year term that is vacant until July 2003 elections. Motion passed.

Motion by Director Jerry Lake and seconded by 2nd V. Pres. Ken Cook to accept the rules of meeting as stated. Motion passed.

- The following appointments were made:
 - Membership/Chapter Formation: Chairman. Jack Edwards.
 - Resolutions Chairman: Don Byers —

Member Larry McKinniss.

■ ByLaws Chairman: James F. Jones, Jr.—
Members Jack Edwards, William MacSwain.

■ Washington Liaison: Blair Cross; Don Byers.

■ Liaison for Korean War Library and Museum: William MacSwain.

■ Liaison for KWVEGC: Jack Edwards.

■ VA/VS Chairman: Michael Mahoney.

■ Revisit Chairman: Warren Weidhahn.

Motion to accept appointments to positions by Director Jerry Lake and seconded by 2nd V. Pres. Kenneth Cook. Motion passed.

- Secretary report by Secretary Howard W. Camp

Motion to accept report by Director William MacSwain and seconded by Jack Edwards. Motion passed.

- Introductions of Board Members and those in the audience.

- Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Tom Gregory. Total assets on hand including one M1 Rifle and one 45 Pistol \$601,954.45 Budget report given by Treasurer Tom Gregory. (See report in this issue)

Motion to accept both treasury and budget reports by Director Don Byers and seconded by Director James F. Jones Jr. Motion passed.

- Treasurer Tom Gregory explained the process of designating parts of funds to satisfy the IRS. Over Ninety Percent of the funds must be designated for specific uses.

- ByLaw Chairman Director James F. Jones Jr. presented a request to change the ByLaws from individuals voting at meetings to having delegates assume this task. Director Joseph Pirrello had made the recommendation.

Motion by Director Jerry Lake and seconded by Director Dorothy Schilling not to approve the change. Motion passed. 9 yeas 1 abstaining 2 absent.

- ByLaw Chm. Director James F. Jones Jr. presented request to change the dues structure in Article 2, Section 3 Dues. This was referred to the Finance Committee for further study on how this might effect our finances in the future.

Motion by Director Larry McKinniss and

seconded by Jerry Lake to refer proposal to the finance committee for further study. Motion passed.

- Charles Coles the President of KWVEGC spoke on the needs and working of that organization. He has received a total of sixty one applications for scholarships.

- Director Joseph Pirrello spoke on giving monies to chapters (selected by lottery) to provide funding for students writing essays.

Motion by 1st V. Pres. Jack Edwards and seconded by 2nd V. Pres. Kenneth Cook to provide scholarships of \$1000 each to ten students with names provided by the KWVEGC. Motion passed 8 yeas 1 nay.

Motion by Director William MacSwain and seconded by Director Larry McKinniss that the recipient must be related to a KWVA member in good standing. Motion passed. 9 yeas 1 abstaining

- Director William MacSwain spoke on the Korean War Veterans Museum at Tuscola, IL. Probable cost of \$19 million dollars.

Motion by Director William MacSwain and seconded by Jack Delap that the statement quote "The National Executive Council has approved support for the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library, and requests that all Korean War Veterans support the fund raising for construction of the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library," be placed in the Graybeard magazine and on the same page as the Museum report. Motion passed. 6 yeas 3 nays.

- 1st V. Pres. Jack Edwards presented a program on an membership/award system.

Motion by Director Jerry Lake and seconded by Don Byers to award to the top three recruiters that recruits the most new members into the association in the fiscal year of July 1st to June 30th. 1st prize \$1000 dollars, 2nd prize \$500 dollars, 3rd prize \$250 dollars. Motion passed. 8 yeas, 3 nays.

Motion to table offer #2 by Director Dorothy Schilling and seconded by Jerry Lake. Motion passed.

Motion by Director Larry McKinniss and seconded by Director James F. Jones Jr. that Departments that charters new chapters with 100 percent new national members in fiscal, year July 1st to June 30th will be

rewarded \$100 dollars for each new chapter.
Motion passed.

• Meeting was recessed until 8:30 am
October 7, 2002 (Monday)

**Meeting reconvened at 8:33 am CST
October 7th, 2002 (Monday)**

• Director Don Byers the Resolution Chairman reported no new resolutions. Two were tabled as no action was presented to act upon. IE: Florida's request for a rebate and insurance case on Stan Myrda.

Motion by Director Dorothy Schilling and seconded by 2nd V. Pres. Kenneth Cook not to act to accept a program based on electronics communications presented by 1st V. Pres. Jack Edwards. Motion passed. 10 yeas 1 abstaining.

• There were open discussions from the floor by members in the audience.

Motion by Director Jerry Lake and seconded by Director William MacSwain to raise the stipend for the Board meetings from \$600 dollars to \$800 dollars. Motion failed. 8 nays, 2 yeas, 1 abstaining.

• Vince Krepps, Editor *The Graybeards* presented a run down on the working process of putting together the best Veterans Magazine there is. You and I know that it is a thankless job being the editor. As in all things, not all are satisfied.

Motion by 1st V. Pres. Jack Edwards and seconded by Larry McKinniss to hold next Executive Board meeting in Dayton, Ohio at time set by the President. Motion passed.

Motion by Director Dorothy Schilling and seconded by Director Jerry Lake to give a \$500 dollar donation to the individual responsible for maintaining our Web Site. Congratulations to Charlie Dearborn. Motion passed unanimously.

Much thanks to Mr. Hurley and his wonderful workers for all of their time and service to us while in Branson and likewise to Stu Ballou of Missouri and Judy Murphy of Settle Inn. All made our stay complete.

• Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am CST
October 7, 2002.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Howard W. Camp, Secretary

Korean War Veterans Association

Any corrections or changes can be made at our next Board meeting in Dayton, Ohio.

D.C. Affairs

Blair Cross, National Director for D.C. Affairs

Now that the elections are behind us and the course of this nation is shaped for a few years, it is time to get behind our leaders and help lead the way to a better nation for all our veterans. I personally am pleased with the outcome of the elected officials for I am sure each of them will do whatever they can to promote veterans issues.

I am still not pleased that we have not gotten anywhere with the charter issue and even more disgusted that a Korean War era veteran did not take a stand to help out. Well, goodbye Mr. Gekas. We are not sure who will take over as head of the committee, however, we can only hope for the best.

We do have at least one more shot to get the job done, so let me introduce you to Mr. Jim McGrath. Mr. McGrath was made known to us by Ed Buckman as he is the CEO of a Communication Company that is

involved with making documentaries of the Korean War. He interviewed quite a few of our members during the reunion in Washington, D.C. These documentaries are to be shown in Seoul Korea during the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Peace Treaty. As I sit here writing this Mr. McGrath is in Korea filming other interviews with Korean people.

More importantly Mr. McGrath is a close personal friend and speech writer for George Bush, Sr. Mr. McGrath has taken an interest in our problem and wants to help us. I sent him the list of problems and when he returns from Korea he is going to use his influence on Mr. Bush to lobby for us in Washington and Congress.

Yours in Comradeship,

Blair

Korean War Veterans Association — General Membership Meeting

**General membership meeting of the
Korean War Veterans Association convened
at 12:25 CST in Branson Mo.**

• Korean War Veterans Chapter # 135 of Branson, Mo. posted the colors.

• National Chaplain Irvin Sharp led us in the invocation.

• Guest speaker was Retired Major General Nels Running of the Fiftieth Commemoration Committee. He spoke on the subject of programming and possibilities of financial problems for the Fiftieth Commemoration celebration on July 27 2003. He encouraged all and many as possible to attend the ceremonies. This will be our last hurrah as far as the celebrations go.

• Treasurer Tom Gregory gave the treasury report showing a total of \$601,954.45 cash and assets on hand. All bills are paid to date.

• Discussions came from both the audience and Executive Board on various matters.

A motion by Don Friether and seconded by Stu Baliou that the assembly be considered in an informal session and any business be reported to the regular assembly. This is in accordance with Robert's Rules Of Orders Revised Edition, quote "Meetings" pages 228-229. Motion passed

Motion by William MacSwain and seconded by Ray Wells to put ByLaws changes and changes to the number required for a quorum for meetings to be by ballot voting in the election issue of The Graybeards Magazine.

Changes to be considered:

A. Article 3; Section 7, on Standing Committee. Recommendation is that ByLaws committee be added to the "Standing Committees."

B. Article 4 Section 6: Quorum: Which reads: "At a general membership meeting one hundred members in good standing and in attendance shall constitute a quorum. This number and wording be changed to read "At all annual and special meetings seventy five members in good standing and attendance shall constitute a quorum."

Motion Passed.

A motion by Larry McKinniss and seconded by Jim Hall to destroy the election ballots. Motion passed.

• Chaplain Irvin Sharp closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Howard W. Camp, Secretary

Korean War Veterans Association

Pieces of History Ad-- 4 color



Listen Up

Official KWVA Notices and Announcements

Call for elections

The offices of four Directors are up to be filled by means of election.

Call for elections for 2003 – 2006

No later than February 15 of each year when such offices are to be filled, any regular member in good standing of the Korean War Veterans Association Inc. seeking to run for President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, or Director shall make their intentions know to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee in writing using the following format:

Requirements

A. Must present proof of service by submitting a copy of a DD214 or other document notarized as a true copy showing eligible service and a statement releasing such document for verification by the Nominating Committee.

B. Must present a current photograph suitable for publication in the GRAYBEARDS.

C. Must submit a letter with the following:

(1). Their intent to run for an office and the office sought.

(2). A resume of their qualifications for this office stating any experience that will be of benefit to the association.

(3). Their current mailing address, home phone number, and KWVA membership number.

(4). This letter will be limited to approximately one typed page.

D. A statement that they will attend all called meetings of the Executive Council and that they understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for their removal from office.

E. They must sign a statement that their dues are current through the whole of the term of office they are seeking. Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the association.

F. Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested to the Nominating Committee Chair to arrive not later than February 15, 2003.

Application will be addresses to:

Nominating Committee
Attn. Kenneth Cook
1611 North Michigan Ave.
Danville, IL 61834

Check Your Mailing Label

Membership Number First two letters reflect membership type
Membership Dues Expiration Date. The example shows a dues date of January 1st, 2003

*****5 Digit
R012345 *4
JOHN J. JOHN 320
12345 MAIN ST
SMILEY NY 01234-5678

DELIVERY POINT BARCODE

Check your name and address (Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). Notify the Membership Chairman if you find an error. **If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4),** your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

Important: If barcode does not extend across full label, your zip code does not have 9 digits and your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later then the second week of the first month of that issue. Example: Jan-Feb 2003 articles must be received by editor no later then Jan 10. We print on a first-come-first-served basis. We also have a backlog.— Editor.

Book Review



Men in Skirts

By Richard H. Waltner

Introduction

Men in Skirts, in its entirety, is written from some 460 plus letters sent to my fiancé, later my wife. We had agreed to write each other daily, and we faithfully did just that. A good number of those letters, short as they may be, were written by the light of my ever trusty Zippo lighter. I have devoted part of one chapter to our meeting, falling in love, becoming engaged, and sustaining that love through nearly 16 months of separation. My wife is really the heroine of this book for having saved those many, many letters.

I desperately wanted to cry standing in the ambulance surrounded by the bodies of four young men killed just a few days before Christmas of 1953, nearly five months after the cease fire had been in effect. Someone needed to weep. If not for the dead then for the living: the mothers, fathers, wives, sweethearts and children of those men.

Since the incidents described in this book are lifted directly from the pages of those letters, there is no embellishment here. I tell the incident, and relate the experience as it happened. There is no need to embellish since war is indeed hell. Yes, for the doubters, this description even applies to the Korean War, which has been called various names other than war, police action and Korean conflict to name two. Orwellian newspeak? To be sure. And for the likes of me, I do not know what those who use these substitutes are trying to accomplish. Even more difficult to understand is why so often Korea is left out of the picture. David Gergen, in an editorial in the January 310, 2000 issue of *U.S. News and World Report*, writes, "Prosperous times after World War II lifted American spirits, but they were quickly dampened by the Cold War, Vietnam and Watergate." As is so often the case, there is no mention of Korea. I would venture to say that Korea was disillusionment concomitant to the Cold War and a war equally as horrific as

Continued on page 54

THE WINTER WAR IN KOREA

By Warren Southworth

North of Yanggu, Korea

The wheels of the three-quarter ton truck carved two ruts down the snow-covered slope leading to the main supply route. Once the driver was on the road below, he shifted and turned east. Suddenly the skirling sound of a jeep motor rose above the drone of the truck's pistons pumping hard in the freezing weather.

The skirl and the drone of the two vehicles blended as the jeep came up behind the truck. Lieutenant Jeff Rivers looked through the jeep's frosted windshield at the truck's open tailgate clanking on its hinges. In the cold, the noise sounded like a ringing church bell. He lifted his gaze a few inches and cringed when he saw a soldier's bare feet hanging over the back of the speeding truck. The soles were as white as two frozen footprints in the snow. Scared stiff, he tried to look away and couldn't. He had seen wounded at the hospitals in the rear, but this was the first time his eyes witnessed an actual casualty coming off the main line of resistance.

He took several deep breaths. "I hope the truck driver makes it to MASH in time," he said to the jeep driver. "The way he's speeding, the soldier in the back must be badly wounded."

The driver glanced at the mountain to his left and pointed up the slope. "Easy Company over there on that ridge got hit by the Chinese this morning." He looked at the green lieutenant next to him. "Don't worry, Sir, we ain't going there." He drew a circle with his finger. "We're going around the mountain to Able."

The driver's words, meant to comfort, gave Jeff second thoughts about his new assignment. Somehow the term United Nations Peace Action seemed inappropriate

Continued on page 21

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOC., INC. – STATEMENT OF

As of 9 Months Ended September 30, 2002

ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS	
CASH IN BANK-BANK ONE-CKNG	\$ 4,111.20
CASH-BANK ONE-SAVINGS	20,062.81
BANK ONE SVGS-1578460451	<u>589,138.23</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>613,312.24</u>
FIXED ASSETS	
COMMEMORATIVE ASSETS	<u>3,000.00</u>
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	<u>3,000.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 616,312.24</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	
FUND BALANCES	
GENERAL FUND	489,764.67
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND	94,139.60
CURRENT EARNINGS	<u>32,407.97</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u>616,312.24</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 616,312.24</u>

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY - CASH BASIS For the 9 Months Ended September 30, 2002

	3 Mo. Ended Sept. 30, 2002	3 Mo. Ended Sept. 30, 2002	9 Mo. Ended Sept. 30, 2002	9 Mo. Ended Sept. 30, 2002
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
TOTAL INCOME				
MEMBERSHIP	\$33,998.35	\$57,500.00	\$208,554.95	\$172,500.00
DONATIONS - GRAYBEARDS	824.25	5,000.00	7,244.45	15,000.00
REUNION	531.00	7,500.00	531.00	22,500.00
INTEREST	4,317.71	10,000.00	17,474.43	30,000.00
ADVERTISING	<u>685.00</u>	<u>2,500.00</u>	<u>9,215.90</u>	<u>7,500.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	40,356.31	82,500.00	243,020.73	247,500.00
OPERATING EXPENSES				
TELEPHONE	924.32	1,250.00	3,586.73	3,750.00
BY LAW COMMITTEE	0.00	250.00	0.00	750.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	765.94	925.00	4,546.19	2,775.00
INSURANCE	0.00	2,000.00	10,983.00	6,000.00
CHAPLAIN	0.00	125.00	0.00	375.00
FINANCE COMMITTEE	0.00	250.00	0.00	750.00
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	294.27	250.00	1,068.58	750.00
GRAYBEARDS	21,171.37	30,000.00	86,726.54	90,000.00
ACCOUNTING FEES	990.00	1,250.00	2,640.00	3,750.00
LEGAL FEES	4,818.02	500.00	5,160.30	1,500.00
VA/VS REP	0.00	625.00	1,075.00	1,875.00
JUDGE ADVOCATE	0.00	250.00	0.00	750.00
MEETING EXPENSE	11,588.88	6,250.00	23,219.20	18,750.00
REUNION	1,000.00	7,500.00	3,787.00	22,500.00
ELECTION	2,644.08	1,250.00	2,644.08	3,750.00
CONTRACT LABOR	150.00	350.00	150.00	1,050.00
EQUIPMENT	0.00	500.00	0.00	1,500.00
RENT	0.00	375.00	0.00	1,125.00
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	177.34	125.00	618.89	375.00
POSTAGE	198.20	1,250.00	1,454.83	3,750.00
PRESIDENT TRAVEL FUND	5,980.75	1,250.00	9,065.95	3,750.00
CHAPTER EXPENSE	486.31	1,625.00	1,997.18	4,875.00
WASHINGTON DC REP	0.00	500.00	173.77	1,500.00
MEMBERSHIP	3,053.73	6,250.00	21,275.02	18,750.00

ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND FUND BALANCES – CASH BASIS

GOODWILL #1 *	1,355.50	1,355.50	2,140.50	2,140.50
GOODWILL #2 *	10,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
GOODWILL #3 *	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
GOODWILL #4 *	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
GOODWILL #5 *	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
GOODWILL #6 *	0.00	0.00	5,400.00	5,400.00
GOODWILL #7 *	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$66,098.71 \$76,755.50 \$210,612.76 \$225,140.50

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES \$(25,742.40) \$5,744.50 \$32,407.97 \$22,359.50

*GOODWILL #1 FLAG PINS, NAME TAGS, ETC. - #2 US KOREA 2000 FOUNDATION - #3 ARIZONIA MEMORIAL WREATH - #4 MIAMI VALLEY EXPRESS ADVERTISEMENT - #5 JOSEPH HOUSE - #6 MACK CHILDREN - #7 GOLD STAR MOTHER

BUDGET FOR 2003

INCOME:	
MEMBERSHIP	230,000.00
DONATION	10,000.00
INTEREST	23,000.00
ADVERTISING	<u>12,000.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 275,000.00

MAIN OFFICE BEAVERCREEK, OHIO

TELEPHONE	5,000.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	6,000.00
INSURANCE	12,000.00
ACCOUNTING	5,000.00
LEGAL FEES	2,500.00
LABOR	1,500.00
POSTAGE	3,000.00
BANK CHARGES NOVA	500.00
TRAVEL FUND	10,000.00
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	3,500.00
UTILITIES	1,500.00
RENT	<u>1,500.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 52,000.00

BUDGET 2003

JA	1000.00
CHAPLAIN	500.00
GRAYBEARDS	120,000.00
EDITOR	1,000.00
NANCY MONSON (MEMBERSHIP)	25,000.00
WASHINGTON D.C. REP	2,000.00
VSVA REP	2,500.00
CHAPTER FORMATION	5,000.00
FINANCE COMMITTEE	1,000.00
BY LAW COMMITTEE	1,000.00
RESOLUTION COMMITTEE	1,000.00
NOMINATORY ELECTIONS	3,000.00
BOARD MEETINGS	30,000.00
SPECIAL EXPENSES	30,000.00
GOODWILL	
EDUCATION	
GIFTS TO NEEDY VETS	
DONATIONS TO SPECIAL CAUSES	
FLOWERS FOR DECEASED	
MACK	
TOTAL:	223,000.00
HOME OFFICE TOTAL:	<u>52,000.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 275,000.00

KWVA 2003 Fundraiser

The KWVA 2003 Fundraiser has kicked off and members should be receiving the drawing tickets soon.

There will be 9 winners and the prizes will be as follows:

- 1st\$5000.00
- 2ndM-1 Rifle or \$1500.00
- 3rd45 Pistol or \$1,500.00
- 4th.....45 Pistol or \$1500.00
- 5th-9th\$500.00

Everyone will receive 3 books of tickets. The tickets are \$2.00 each or \$10.00 for a book of six.

We urge everyone to purchase as many tickets as possible. The funds will be used to support our 50th commemoration program and celebration in Washington D. C. in 2003as well as for support of the **Graybeards** magazine.

The Graybeards

The Graybeards is the official newsletter of the Korean War Veterans Association Inc. It is scheduled to be published six times per year. Views expressed in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the KWVA Executive Board nor does the KWVA Inc. assume any responsibility for errors of omission or commission.

All articles, reports, and items except those clearly marked Official KWVA Notices and/or Announcements may be edited to conform to space, clarity, and format specifications without permission of the authors. Expressions of opinion as in editorials and letters to the editor if printed, may be edited only with the writer's consent. Material used with permission from other sources will identify and credit that source. The use of copyrighted materials must have the permission of the copyright holder before being used.

Advertisements in this newsletter are not necessary KWVA Inc. associated unless otherwise stated. We do suggest our members support our advertisers through purchases, for the ads support the publication costs. KWVA Inc. and Editor are not responsible for purchases. All claims of dissatisfaction must be made directly to the distributor.

YOUR DUES ARE PROBABLY DUE...

...Here's how to determine!

Please look at the mailing label used to mail this magazine to you. Your dues date appears on label on the right hand side of the second line, just before it says "PKG".

Sample of dues date: "01/01/02"—this means January 1, 2002.

Right above your first name there is a number...

... If the first letter is "R,":

You are a "Regular" member and "Regular" members' dues are \$20.00 annually.

If your dues are due January thru March, your dues are\$20.00

If your dues are due April thru June, your dues are \$15.00

If your dues are due July thru September, your dues are\$10.00

If your dues are due October thru December, your dues are \$5.00

... If the first letter is "P,":

You are a "Prisoner of War" and the subscription fee for a "POW" is \$6.00 annually.

If your subscription expires:

January thru March, your subscription fee is\$6.00

April thru June, your subscription fee is4.50

July thru September, your subscription fee is3.00

October thru December, your subscription fee is1.50

....If the first letter is "A,":

You are an "Associate" member and an "Associate" member's dues are \$12.00 annually.

January thru March\$12.00

April thru June.....\$9.00

July thru September.....\$6.00

October thru December\$3.00

Life Membership:

Life membership for a "Regular" and an "Associate" member is \$150.00—regardless of age. A life-time subscription for POW's is \$50.00—regardless of age.

Special Notice: If your chapter collects your national dues for transmission to national, please send your dues to them. This will assist your chapter in determining which members are in good standing. Send your dues payment to: KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210.

Incidentally, if you move (or just head South for the winter) always notify us of your address change at least three weeks ahead of each move. The post office merely notifies us that you are "AWAY" and we do not receive a forwarding address. You are then "away" on our records until we hear further from you. This costs us 70 cents each. So let us know.

To expedite your mail...

- Vincent Krepps gets everything regarding The Graybeards.
- Nancy Monson and Lynne Eldridge (Membership Office) get

everything regarding dues, address changes, etc. This office also provides new Chapter CID numbers.

- Thomas Gregory gets other financial matters.

Addresses for all of the above are on the inside cover of this magazine. Sending it to the Membership Office only slows your request down as we must then forward it to the appropriate person for handling.

Important Notice to Chapters

Please include your chapter ID (CID) number on all applications and communications. Be sure to use the new membership application with the new (1999) dues amounts. If you don't know your CID number, drop the membership office a note and we'll be happy to provide it to you. Be sure all information is filled out on a new member application—zip code, area code, unit of service, etc.

We have developed special forms which can be of assistance to you in submitting dues payments, reporting address changes, etc. If you would like a set, please drop a note to the Membership Office. It's important not to abbreviate on a membership application—you may know what "P'sville" is, but we don't—we then have to take additional time and look it up by the zip code. Another item sometimes missing is the telephone area code.

We are still in need of information regarding some chapter officers. Be sure that you keep the Membership Office advised when you elect new officers. We are attempting to correct our lists for publication in a future issue of the magazine.

LOOKING FOR COMBAT BUDDIES?



**NOW HAVE
FOUND 15,258
KOREAN WAR
VETERANS.
TO ADD TO
THIS LIST OR
DISCOVER
WHOM I
HAVE FOUND
GIVE A CALL.**

**KOREAN WAR VETERANS WHO WANT TO FIND
BUDDIES NOW MAY DO SO. NO FEES, IF I HAVE
GUYS FROM YOUR UNIT, I PRINT AND MAIL
THEM TO YOU. USUALLY HAVE THEIR NAMES,
ADDRESSES, PHONE#'S AND UNITS SERVED IN.
THIS MAKES MY LIFE ALL WORTHWHILE.
CALL OR MAIL TO: DICK GALLMEYER
PO BOX 8946 VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. 23450-8946
1-800-523-4715 * msg1gal@aol.com
NATIONAL XMAS REUNION 8-11 DEC, 2003**

The *SS Meredith Victory* became one of about 150 ships to participate in the rescue of troops and civilians from Hungnam, but it had the distinction of being the last refugee ship out of the harbor.

Voyage of Mercy

By Bob Lunney Capt. (Ret.)
Merchant Marines

Peering through binoculars from the deck of the small merchant marine freighter, the *SS Meredith Victory*, Staff Officer Bob Lunney observed a mass of North Korean refugees lining the snow-covered docks and beach of Hungnam Harbor. "They were mostly elderly men, women, children and babies," recalls the 73-year-old USAA member. In all, about 98,000 came to the docks - desperately waiting, hoping and praying for their only salvation from a sure death evacuation by sea.

A Naval reservist since World War II, Lunney, then 23, was sailing with the merchant marines to help pay his college expenses when the Korean War broke out in June 1950. Eyeing the refugees on Dec. 22, 1950, Lunney saw that their clothes were dirty, ragged and torn from days of plodding through the frozen countryside to Hungnam, located on the east coast about 138 miles north of the 38th Parallel - the official boundary between North and South Korea. They had been fleeing North Korean troops and the Chinese, who had swarmed into North Korea six weeks before. The Chinese had repeatedly encircled and ambushed the United Nations (U.N.) troops, which had been ordered by Gen. Douglas MacArthur in late October to drive north to the Yalu River, the border between the two countries. After a massive retreat resulting in heavy casualties not only from enemy fire but the fierce cold, most of the U.N. troops had been evacuated through Hungnam when the *Meredith Victory* arrived. Only the Army's 3rd Infantry Division and the ships from the 7th Fleet were holding the enemy troops at bay. The military was preparing to blow up whatever supplies and ammunition could not be loaded.

Amid this confusion, all that was left, besides the few remaining troops, were the refugees. As North Koreans, they

were technically the enemy, but because they were considered to be anti-Communist, these tired, broken civilians, carrying whatever meager belongings they could on their backs, faced certain annihilation by the Chinese and North Korean troops encircling the city.

Back at the ship's railing, the merchant mariners watched as a small boat approached and several U.S. Army colonels came aboard to speak to Capt. Leonard LaRue, the ship's master. Lunney, who was present, along with a few other officers, recalls that the colonels said they could not order the captain to take these refugees aboard, but they asked that he confer with his officers and consider evacuating them. Unfortunately, the vessel's lower hold was filled with 300 tons of aviation fuel in metal drums and the harbor was one of the most heavily mined in Korea.

"Without conferring with anyone, the captain simply said, 'I will agree to take my ship in and take out as many people as I can,'" recalls Lunney. With that, the *Meredith Victory's* new course was set. It became one of about 150 ships to participate in the rescue of troops and civilians from Hungnam, but it had the distinction of being the last refugee ship out of the harbor.

As a freighter, the *Meredith Victory* was a steel "tub" about 450 feet long and 50 feet wide, with five cargo holds, each with three decks. Up to that point, it had been ferrying supplies under Navy orders since the war began, including tanks, trucks, ammunition and troops. The freighter also had been the first supply ship to support the Inchon invasion and had even taken some of the first North Korean prisoners, who approached their ship in a small boat waving a white flag.

The ship's current cargo, however, was meant to supply a Marine airstrip in Yonpo, immediately south of Hungnam. But when the crew had tried to deliver it

through the heavily mined harbor a few days before, the crew was waived off, due to the massive retreat of U.N. troops underway. The ship was ordered to go south to unload the cargo at Pusan, on the southeastern tip of Korea, but was then hastily summoned back to Hungnam to assist with the evacuation before their task was complete. As the ship entered the inner harbor, the minesweepers, upon learning of their cargo, pulled farther and farther away. "They wanted nothing to do with our jet fuel," Lunney says.

Hungnam Harbor

At Hungnam Harbor, the crew prepared to find mooring at the already overcrowded dock. "The port was in chaos. The beach was just a sea of humanity," Lunney recalls. "The Navy pilots were constantly attacking the Chinese with napalm bombs, in support of the 3rd Infantry Division, which was holding the line. I recall this huge glow of fire on the perimeter of the city. Mind you, the 1st Marine Division, the Army's 7th Infantry Division and the Republic of Korea's I Corps had already been evacuated, and all the artillery had been loaded onto the ships. The only heavy fire support we had at that time was from the ships," he explains, noting that the *USS Missouri*, *USS Rochester* and *USS St. Paul* were all shelling the coastline. There was some concern that a stray shell in the form of friendly fire might miss its mark and hit American ships in the harbor.

The port was bustling with many more ships than it was intended to accommodate. The *Meredith Victory* tied up to the *SS Norcuba*, another merchant marine vessel, since there was no room at the dock. "We had the ship turned around facing the sea something you usually don't do and we kept the steam on the engines, ready to leave port at a moment's notice. We had fellows with

Continued on page 52

Korea, The Forgotten War..... remembered

Iowa Remembers



Veterans Mural Wall remembering all wars was visited on March 14, 2002, there were approximately 85 students from a nearby school district. I told them a little about my tour of duty in Korea. I was a member of the 180th Regiment, 45th Division. Another group from another school district visited on May 2, 2002. (Thank you William Scklapkohl for letter and picture.)

Massachusetts Remembers



The Korean War Veterans Memorial located on Castle Island in South Boston, Massachusetts. (Thank you Jack McGee for letter and picture.)

Memorial Photos Needed

If we have not shown your memorial in the last 2 years please send in a photo. Please identify the memorial and all persons in it. Send us the best photo that does your memorial justice. Describe the memorial in detail and give us the location.

I will also send that photo on to our webmaster to place on our KWVA web page. Please do not send photos you want returned and please no newspaper clippings. —Editor

KWVA Members and Friends

Visit the KWVA web site at: [HTTP://www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)



Korean War Memorial located in Taunton, Massachusetts



Dedication of the Korean War Memorial in the Charleston section of Boston, Massachusetts. On July 27, 1993. William "Red" Mason reaching to pull the shroud from statue of the soldier.

MY FRIEND RED

On August 30th, the Korean War Veterans Association lost one of its most dedicated members. William "Red" Mason was killed instantly when he was struck by a vehicle while crossing the street in front of his home. In 1990, having lost a brother in Korea, I became interested in the proposed Massachusetts Korean War Memorial and Red Mason was Chairman of the Memorial Committee. My wife and I met with Red one evening in a coffee shop in his home town of Taunton, MA. We talked long into the night and a valued friendship was born. Red was quite a guy, humble but ded-

icated and persistent. Red had already led a successful drive to place a monument in Taunton center. This memorial which depicts a soldier or corpsman tending to a wounded comrade was dedicated to Korean War Veterans of the Taunton area. To Red however, it was really a memorial to Taunton native, Hospital Corpsman Richard DeWert, who was killed in action April 5th, 1951 and was posthumously awarded the Medal Of Honor. In 1985, Red who had served with the Marines, returned to Korea and visited the site where DeWert was killed. He returned with a stone which he had sliced into four pieces. One piece was affixed to the Taunton Memorial, one he gave to the DeWert family, one is aboard the *USS DeWert* and the final one he later placed at the National Veterans Cemetery in Bourne, MA. In recent years Red, with the consent of the surviving members of the DeWert family, had Richard DeWert's body relocated from an obscure cemetery in another state to the National Cemetery in Bourne. Perhaps my most vivid memory of Red was at the dedication of the magnificent Massachusetts Korean War Memorial in the Charlestown section of Boston on July 27th, 1993. It was a dull overcast day with rain threatening. As Red reached to pull the shroud from the statue of the soldier, the sun broke through the clouds and shown down on them.

A glorious sight. Semper Fi dear friend, I will miss you.
(Thank you Michael P. Keenan for letter and pictures.)

Virginia Remembers

In Arlington Cemetery this new memorial stone for the 5th R.C.T. is located in section 7 near the Tomb of the Unknown.
(Thank you Charlie Marston for letter and picture.)



Tennessee Remembers



Sherm Pratt (right) and Jack Walker in front of the Tennessee Korean War Memorial. Photo was taken while visiting Ray Kalil, a leading supporter of Korean War Veterans in Tennessee on Labor Day 2002. (Than you Ron Freedman for letter and picture.)



Korean War Memorial in Cookeville honoring men killed in WW I, WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Bosnia. Top photo shows monument in front of VFW Building with eternal flame at right of monument.

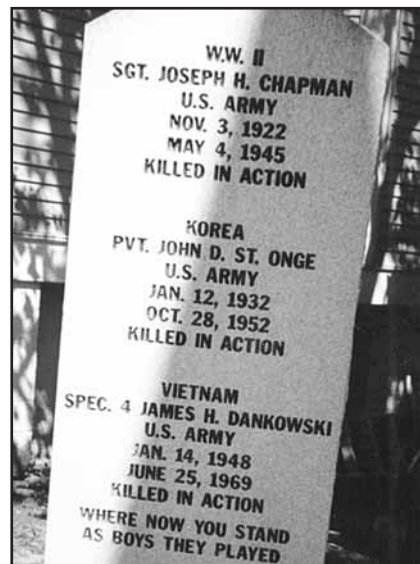
Lower photos show names on memorial located on courthouse Square.
(Thank you Alvin Clouse for letter and pictures.)



Michigan Remembers

The citizens of Mackinac Island, Michigan dedicated a memorial to honor over two hundred young men and women who served their country in all wars on August 8, 2002.

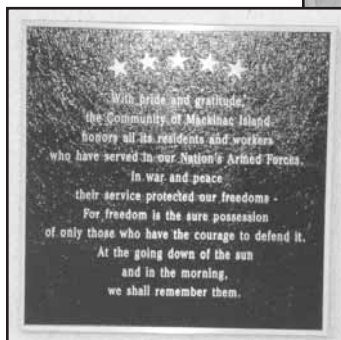
One of the three other monuments is for three young men who made the supreme sacrifice, Sgt. Joseph H. Chapman, WW2; Pvt. John D. St. Onge, Korea ;and Spec 4



James H. Dankowski, Vietnam. The other two monuments are dedicated Silver Star recipients from WW2 Sgt. Charles Cadreau and Private First Class Milton T. St. Onge.



(Thank you Louis Bunker for letter and pictures)



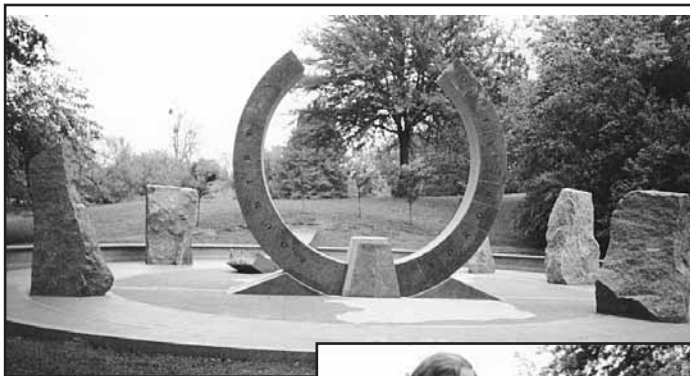
West Virginia Remembers



Attending a reunion of my wife's family in Rainelle, West Virginia during August of this year, I noticed this little park in the corner of town; it is located on Main Street, which is a stretch of highway about a mile and a half long leading into and out of Rainelle. The inscription reads: Ralph Pomeroy Memorial Park, U. S. Medal of Honor Recipient, Korean War.

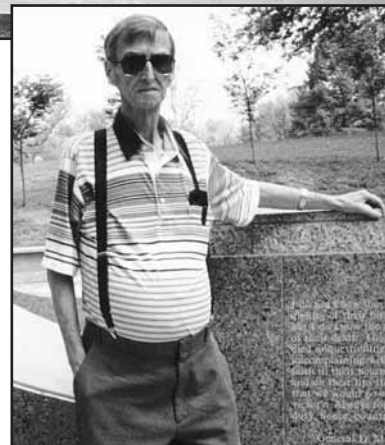
(Thank you James H. Christiansen for letter and picture.)

Florida Remembers



Above, Korean War Monument, Tallahassee, Florida.. At right, Harold R. Priest, USAF, Korean War Veteran instands in front of monument.

(Thank You Hershall E. Lee for letter and pictures.)



The Making of a Memorial

By Joan M. Arcand

It starts with a dream, a memorial to remember the men and women of the Korean War. So many questions to be answered. Where placed, how financed, who will help, and when. Putting these ideas into motion began a few years ago for Chapter 14 members. But what seemed insurmountable to some was a challenge for Clarence Dadswell, President of Chapter 14. He called a meeting of the board and posed the question. Not, "can we do it", but "when can we get started?" The group responded with great enthusiasm

The proposal was brought to a membership meeting and immediately endorsed. Groups were formed taking advantage of past life experiences and the planning began.

The Search Group decided to approach the City of Pinellas Park which had land available in the cityowned Freedom Park. After a presentation to the city Commissioners, Mayor William F. Mischler announced that the proposal was accepted.

Meetings were ongoing with City engineers, park officials and the Chapter's "engineers". At the same time, a fund raising group set up guide lines for soliciting, time tables, volunteers, and the financial goal was set and approved by membership. The Treasurer obtained the County and State documents and the Past President, Sam Farina, was asked to act as the Finance Director of the Project. A bank account and checking system was acquired with a local bank.

We were on our way. We had a place, a financial plan, documents of importance in place and a raft of volunteers eager to get started.

As our committee worked on their specific parts of the project, we also informed our large Korean Community. Reverend Tae Su

Washington Remembers



Above, Ground Breaking Ceremony for Korean War Memorial at Pinellas Park, FL, Memorial, June 25, 2002. At right, proposed monument for memorial.

Cheong of the Korean Presbyterian Church, Eddie Koh, Kimi Springsteen and I. Chang strongly supported the project.

On June 25th, 2002, we broke ground for the Memorial with a marble slab engraved "Future home of the Korean War Memorial." Many of the people who supported and encouraged this Memorial were on hand for the unveiling.

Well, the final stone has been purchased and is ready for the engraver. The paving bricks that will form a walkway are being sold to families and friends honoring a specific veteran. The Memorial debut is being planned as an outstanding celebration timed to commemorate the signing on July 27th of the armistice in Korea fifty years ago.

In one year we have worked together, overcome disappointments, moved on and succeeded. Much like Korea, huh!

Who do we thank? Where do we begin?

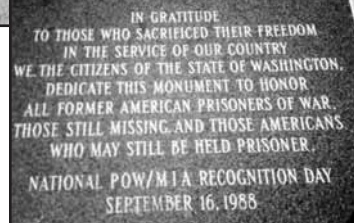
First, and rightly, we thank Clarence Dadswell who said we could do it. We thank members for endless hours of planning, drawing pictures, writing copy and articles, making calls and visits, and "doing what it takes to get the job done". Finally we thank our great community who dug deep to help us leave a lasting memorial to a great bunch of men and women.

God Bless America & Korean War Veterans
(Thank you Joan Arcand for letter and pictures.)



Above, Korean War Veterans Memorial Monument on the State Capitol campus, Olympia, Washington

Below, SVC John V. Sasso, WMass KWVA Chapter, poses at KVV Monument.



POW/MIA Monument on the Capitol campus, Olympia, Washington.

NEW BOOK

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On my recent visit to the State Capital campus, Olympia, WA, I was so impressed, not only with the Korean monument but with the entire campus in front of the Capitol Building. There's monuments honoring all the wars and each is nicely done. The Korean monument reminded me a lot of the National Monument in D.C. The detail of the statues was remarkable. It's truly a site to visit if any Korean vet is in that area. It's a very impressive sight, as are the monuments of all the wars.

A lot of walking though! We walked the path and crossed a foot bridge over the highway to the Korean War Veterans Memorial. It was a most impressive sight as we approached it and the largest in area of all the monuments. The detail in the sculptures would bring a tear to any veteran's eye, as it did mine.

Famous statue of "Iron Mike" at the entrance of Ft. Lewis, Washington

There's several plaques, each explaining various phases of the war and interesting to read. Figures of those killed, wounded and POW / MIA are etched in stone. The serenity surrounding the Memorial, like the war, is most unforgettable. I was told by a security person, that plans for a huge ceremony is in the works for the anniversary date commemorating the end of the war. I hope to attend when I visit family at Fort Lewis.



(Thank you John V. Sasso for letter and pictures.)

New York Remembers

One Memorial stone is for remembrance to all who served during the Korean War. The other two relate to the Marine Corps – one of which singles out the Chosin Reservoir Campaign. These memorials are located at the Gerald B. H. Solomon

Saratoga National Cemetery, Schuylerville, New York. The cemetery is in the vicinity of the Saratoga National Park and the Saratoga Battle Grounds which was an



enormous victory and turning point during the Revolutionary war. The cemetery is about 5 years old and is greatly due to the initiative of U. S. Representative for New York, Gerald Solomon, and thus his name being added in his honor (now deceased). It is a most beautifully created area which will become more attractive through the years when all the landscaping becomes mature.

(Thank You Norman C. Seabridge for letter and pictures.)



Missouri Remembers

A Korean War Memorial dedicated on July 27, 2002, Missouri Veterans Cemetery, Springfield, Missouri. This memorial is dedicated to the brave men and women who fought communism during the Korean War, 1950-1953. Preserved sovereignty for South Korea, and stood firmly for the democracy and ideals of the United States of America. For those of us who survived, we salute our fallen comrades in their brutal war. God Bless You

KWVA Chapter of Springfield, Missouri
(Thank you Carroll A. Garrison for letter and pictures.)



Missouri Chapter 8 Memorial dedicated , 27 July 2002 at the new Missouri State Veterans Cemetery located in Springfield, Missouri



Missouri State Representative Norma Champion presenting Chapter 8 a resolution from the Missouri State House of Representatives to Commander Frank E. Wiles.



Our Chapter 8, 2nd Vice Mr. Claire Eike, the Master of Ceremonies for the Memorial Dedication. He is an also an alumnus of the Chosin Few.



The widow of Col. Lovell Shirley placing flowers and the Rose of Sharon wreath.



Posting the colors by the Springfield Missouri Veterans Memorial team.

Gallegly-championed Korea Defense Service Medal Approved

WASHINGTON, D.C.- The House of Representatives on Tuesday approved a House-Senate compromise National Defense Authorization Act that directs the Department of Defense to issue a Korea Defense Service Medal as championed by Congressman Elton Gallegly (R-Ventura County).

The Senate is expected to approve the compromise bill this week and the President is expected to sign it. Last year, Congress approved language that only asked the DOD to consider a medal. But the DOD has consistently refused to issue the medal, leading Gallegly and his allies in the Senate to push for the stronger language this year.

Gallegly introduced the Korea Defense Service Medal Act last year, which directs the DOD to award a Korea Defense Service Medal to members of the armed forces who served in Korea after July 1954.

"For reasons only understandable to Department of Defense bureaucrats, the department refuses to recognize the dangerous mission our military men and women face on the Korean Peninsula," Gallegly said. "Even as North Korea continues unprovoked attacks on its South Korean neighbors and admittedly pursues weapons of mass

destruction, the DOD continues to insist the mission is not dangerous enough to warrant a service medal.

"As we continue to fight terrorism around the world-and recognizing that North Korea continues to be identified as a sponsor of terrorism-it is important to recognize the servicemen and women who have served and fought on the Korean Peninsula over the past 48 years," Gallegly said. "I am grateful to my colleagues in the House and Senate for recognizing that the DOD will not correct this oversight unless Congress specifically directs them to."

More than 40,000 members of the United States armed forces have served on the Korean Peninsula each year since July 1953. Since then, an estimated 1,200 servicemen and women have died as a direct result of their Korean service.

Service medals are given to U.S. military personnel who serve in military operations or campaigns. For example, those who served in Berlin during the Cold War were awarded a service medal. Since the Korean armistice was signed, there have been more than 40,000 breaches of the cease-fire, making it among the more dangerous places to serve.

"A Silent Prayer" Thank You Veterans - The All Veterans Recognition, Ceremonial, and Holiday flag.

The flag's title, symbol and theme honor all American veterans who have or were willing to sacrifice life, limb, personal comfort and privilege to defend America ,against all enemies foreign and domestic. This includes veterans

from the Revolutionary War, through the centuries, to recognition of our present day Armed Forces personnel (America's future veterans) that have fanned out around the world to wipe-out terrorism, in America's first

declared 21st century war.

This flag is flown under the American flag especially on Veterans holidays ie. Veterans Day, Memorial Day, the Fourth of July and/or any other occasion which celebrates this country's recognition and appreciation of its veterans.

Please note that the "Silent Prayer" flag will at all times be at a third place designation, when shared on a flagpole with the American flag and followed by the POW/MIA flag. However, backyard flagpoles and flagpoles not authorizing mandatory secondary flags may fly the "Silent Prayer" veterans flag legally, proudly and appropriately where one chooses, under the American flag or solitarily.

The praying infantryman appears in silhouette, representing no particular race, doctrine, gender, or denomination. However the silhouette soldier depicts the spiritual sensibilities of America's veterans. "A Silent Prayer" is not a war flag, campaign flag or national policy flag (i.e. POW/MIA flag). It is an all encompassing thankful, prayerful , salute to all who have served honorably in America's armed forces, and is to be especially displayed on veterans holidays or other marked occasions for veterans. The soldier's gear includes E-tool, pack, canteen, helmet and uniform which were common in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. The M16 rifle was first used in Vietnam. Also the same M16 and improved versions saw action in global hotspots, such as Grenada, Panama, Somalia, Operation

Desert Storm, Bosnia and Kosovo. Through the ending decades of the 20th century and into a new 21st century war an ever-present M16 will be used by America's Defender/ Warriors against terrorism on a global scale, backed by our nation's overwhelming approval, solidarity and prayers.

The colors of the flag represent the following: Red for courage, service and sacrifice; Gold for patriotism and death in action; White for hope and light ; Black for anonymity and mourning. The five stars represent the five branches of the Armed Forces -Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard. Each star is also symbolic of ten states, and the arc of 5 stars stands for the union of states,which comprise the United States of America. The phrase "Thank You Veterans" is a waving tribute and salute from a grateful American public, that expresses our appreciation for our veterans of all wars (Hot and Cold). Finally, the artistic globe signifies the international service of our veterans.

The "A Silent Prayer" Thank You Veterans Holiday flag is an idea whose time has come. Especially, on Veterans Day, Memorial Day, The 4th of July, ect, Let us exercise our freedom and say "A Silent Prayer", ie, Thank You God, Thank You Veterans.

As designer of "A Silent Prayer" it is my hope that one day across America a hale, hearty and snappy "A Silent Prayer" - Thank You Veterans holiday flag will be

Continued on page 64





Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

KOREAN WAR/COLD
WAR DOCUMENT FAMILY
RESEARCH

September 24, 2002

Remains of U.S. Servicemen Recovered in North Korea

Remains believed to be those of eight American soldiers missing in action from the Korean War were repatriated in formal ceremonies today in Korea.

The remains were flown on a U.S. Air Force aircraft from Pyongyang, North Korea, under escort of a uniformed U.S. honor guard to Yokota Air Base, Japan, where a U.N. Command repatriation ceremony was held.

A joint team operating near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea recovered five sets of remains believed to be those of U.S. Army soldiers from the 7th Infantry Division who fought against Chinese forces November-December 1950.

Additionally, a second team recovered three sets of remains in the area along the Kuryong River near the junction of Unsan and Kujang counties, about 60 miles north of Pyongyang. The area was the site of battles between communist forces and the U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry and 25th Infantry Divisions in November 1950.

Approximately 1,000 Americans are estimated to have been lost in battles of the Chosin campaign.

The 28-person U.S. contingent was composed primarily of specialists from the Army's Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii.

The Defense Department's Prisoner of War and Missing Personnel Office negotiated terms with the North Koreans in June, which led to the scheduling of three operations this year. This repatriation marks the end of the second of this year's three operations. The remaining operation is set for Sept. 28-Oct. 29.

Twenty-four individual joint operations have been conducted since 1996 in North Korea, during which 167 sets of remains believed to be those of U.S. soldiers have been recovered.

Thirteen have been positively identified and returned to their families for bur-

ial with military honors.

Of the 88,000 U.S. service members missing in action from all conflicts, more than 8,100 are from the Korean War.

September 26, 2002

Korean War Vets and Family Member Return from North Korea

A delegation of three veterans and a family member of an MIA returned last week from North Korea where they observed the recovery of the remains of American soldiers missing from the Korean War.

According to Jerry D. Jennings, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, "The purpose of this visit was to allow the team to see firsthand the ongoing operations and report their observations to veterans and family groups in the U.S. These are among our primary constituents."

During the six-day visit, the group visited the west-side of the Chosin Reservoir. This was the first time any Americans have been allowed into this area since the end of the Korean War. Retired Marine Corps General Ray Davis walked the same areas where fierce battles were fought between American and Chinese forces Nov.-Dec. 1950. General Davis was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroic action on this battlefield.

They also observed the joint remains recovery operation on the east-side of the reservoir, where American and North Korean specialists continue their work.

Another location they visited is in Unsan County, approximately 60 miles north of Pyongyang, where a team from the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii (CILHI) has found remains. This is the site of battles between American and Chinese forces Nov.-Dec. 1950. American remains have been located in this area on several occasions since the operations began in 1996.

These joint remains recovery operations have been carried out annually since 1996, following negotiations led by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office. Each operation lasts approximately 30 days, and the third one for 2002 will end on Oct. 29.

October 28, 2002

Remains of U.S. Servicemen Recovered in North Korea

Remains believed to be those of 11 American soldiers missing in action from the Korean War will be repatriated Tuesday in North Korea.

The remains will be flown aboard a U.S. Air Force aircraft from Pyongyang, North Korea, under escort of a uniformed U.S. honor guard, to Yokota Air Base, Japan, where a formal U.N. Command repatriation ceremony will be held.

A joint team operating near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea recovered remains believed to be those of U.S. Army soldiers from the 7th Infantry Division who fought against Chinese forces November-December 1950. The recovery teams were composed primarily of specialists from the Army's Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii (CILHI).

A second CILHI team recovered remains in Unsan county, about 60 miles north of Pyongyang. The area was the site of battles between Communist forces and the U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry and 25th Infantry Divisions in November 1950. Approximately 1,000 Americans are estimated to have been lost in battles of the Chosin campaign.

The Defense Department's Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office negotiated terms with the North Koreans in June, which led to the scheduling of three operations this year. This repatriation marks the last of this year's operations.

Twenty-five individual joint operations have been conducted since 1996 in North Korea, during which remains believed to be those of at least 178 U.S. soldiers have been recovered.

Thirteen have been positively identified and returned to their families for burial with military honors.

October 7, 2002

U.S.-North Korea Conclude POW/MIA Talks

Talks between the U.S. and North Korea on issues related to accounting for MIA American soldiers ended yesterday in Bangkok.

Led by Jerry D. Jennings, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, the one-day session laid out the U.S. vision for improving U.S. remains recovery operations inside North Korea, as well as facilitating live sighting investigations.

Mr. Jennings, addressing Colonel General Li Chon Bok of the Korean People's Army, said "...our meeting gives each of us our first opportunity to provide an overarching vision for the direction in which we need to take the accounting issue in the future."

Jennings also spoke of past technical agreements, the result of which led to the recovery of the remains of more than 170 American soldiers over seven years. But he emphasized that progress is needed from the North Korean side to establish a mechanism for resolving reports of the possibility of Americans living or being held in North Korea.

He specifically called for access to American defectors living in North Korea, in an effort to shed some light on such reports.

Preserving the safety and security of Americans participating in recovery operations in North Korea is paramount, he added, and that safeguards at the sites must preserve their scientific integrity. He proposed that remains recovery operations be expanded in frequency, beyond the locations where they have been conducted in the past.

He called for follow-up technical negotiations to be held in December in Bangkok. The North Koreans agreed to continue a dialogue.

2003 Family Update Schedule

Jan 18.....	San Francisco, CA
Feb 22	Birmingham, AL
Mar 22 -	Houston, TX
Apr 26	Detroit, MI
Jun 18-21	Washington, DC*
July 25-26	Washington, DC**
Aug 23	Seattle, WA
Sept 20	St. Louis, MO
Oct 18	Jacksonville, FL
Nov 22	Phoenix, AZ

*Annual Southeast Asia Government Briefing

**Annual Korea/Cold War Government Briefing

WINTER WAR from page 10

for where he was going and what he would be doing. The name was too euphemistic. He stared once more at the bare feet of the soldier in the back of the truck.

"THE GOOKS THINK UP ALL SORTS OF WAYS TO GET YOU KILLED," HE SAID. "NONE OF 'EM ARE VERY PRETTY."

"I thought the wounded were taken out by helicopter," he said to the tow-headed boy behind the wheel.

"The landing pad's down the road," the boy answered. "The chopper's probably already there waiting to take the wounded soldier in that truck back to MASH." His breath vaporized in the mountain air. "Five minutes after the pilot takes off, those bare feet sticking over the tailgate will be hanging over an operating table in a hospital equal to anything they got in the States."

Jeff leaned closer to the frosted windshield to escape the wind blowing in his face. "Christ," he said, rubbing his gloved hands. "The weather gets cold up here."

The driver sensed the anxiety that made his passenger change the subject. Quickly he followed suit. "Where you coming from, Lieutenant?" "I was stationed back in Pusan." "Rear echelon?"

Self-consciously Jeff snapped back, "That's right."

The road ahead looked like a piece of ribbon candy. "Hold on, Lieutenant," the driver yelled above the noise of the wind.

Each time the vehicle hit a bump, Jeff grabbed the handbar on the dash. In front of him, the jagged iron shaft sticking up from the jeep's hood rose and fell like the bill of a sawfish in a stormy sea. He knew the purpose of the bar was to break wires Communist guerrillas strung across the road. He swallowed hard at the thought of decapitation.

The driver glanced toward his passenger. "The Gooks think up all sorts of ways to get you killed," he said. "None of 'em are very pretty."

Jeff looked once more at the jagged iron shaft. In the soldiers presence, he tried to hide his fear with a casual comment. "I guess it pays to keep your head on your shoulders."

"And your feet off the ground," the boy added, nodding toward the heavy metal plate

welded to the floor under the lieutenant's boots. "That's the side of the road the guerrillas place the mines on," he explained. "That way they get the officers."

Jeff stomped his boot on the metal plate to test the thickness. One inch of solid steel.

The driver slowed down when they came to another washboard section in the road. He nursed the jeep over the bumps as if it were he, not the truck driver in front of them, who had the wounded soldier on board. Jeff stared at the speedometer on the dash. Twenty-five miles per hour. Nervously, he tapped his wristwatch for the driver to hit the accelerator. The growling motor jerked the vehicle ahead.

Above the noise of the wind, the young soldier shouted, "What made you move up to the MLR, Sir? We've been getting our butts kicked."

Jeff's gaze locked once more on the wounded soldier. At any moment, he expected to see him slide from the back of the truck. The image reminded him of a cement plunging into the water in a burial at sea. "What made me move up to the main line of resistance?" he repeated, adjusting the hood of his parka to cover his face. "Command transferred me."

"Oh!" The driver's voice reflected disappointment. "I thought maybe you went AWOL or something, Sir. Over here, if an enlisted man in the rear goes AWOL, it's a one-way ticket to the front lines."

Jeff grimaced. "Yesterday the officer in the battery forward observer team was reported missing in action. I volunteered to replace him."

"Gung-ho, eh, Lieutenant?"

(The above is a short prologue of the war in Korea. Warren hopes to write a book called "Shoemakers and Soldiers." His hope as a combat veteran of the Korean War is to make the public more aware of the hardships endured by those that fought in a forgotten war. He is looking for a publisher. Warren we will do a book review for you in the Graybeards. Just send me the book. Editor.)

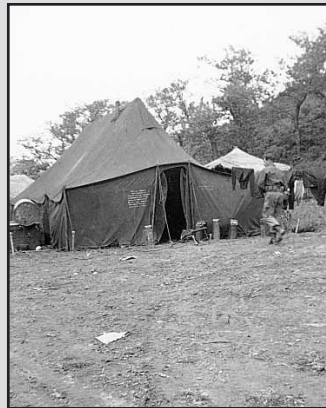
Images of Korea



George and Al Innes – I went to school at Fort Monmouth with him.



R. J. Hoffman, I was at basic training with him in Fort Knox, Ky.



My home away from home – Korea 1951



What's left of a tank, Youngwol, Korea



Parker and Stella at Youngwol



George Dewart and PFC M. Birkner



Stella



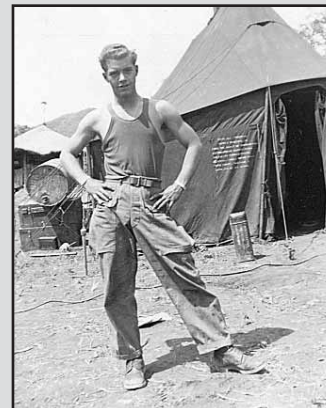
Shoeley at Checkon



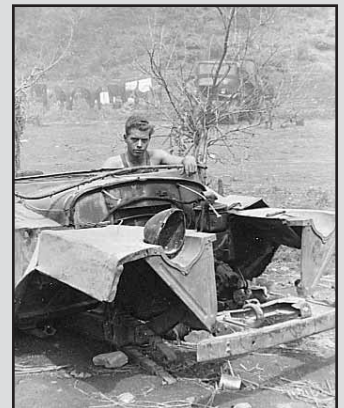
Luckey



K. Maki



George DeWart , Korea 1951



George Dewart, What's left of a jeep



Youngwol, Korea



Fire House, Parker at Youngwol



M. Birkner and Al Innes

**Photos by
Mr. George Derwart
3000 Tampico Dr.
Orlando, FL 32812**

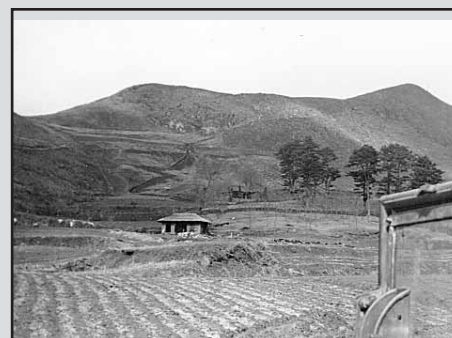
(Thank you George Derwart for photos)



Korean Temple Youngwol



My truck after paint job. I did "Queen of Sheba"



A hill we had our station on at Youngwol



Center, Sgt. J. Priddy



Sloehy and Peters



G. Peters on top of tank



Rear, M. Stella, Front, G. Peters and Right, Parker



Stella, George and Peters



Front, Sgt. J. Priddy, third from left is M. Birkner

- "Thanks for telling it like it was."

Bob Jones Camps 5,3

- The best on Korean POWs I have read yet.

AM Norris Camps 5,3

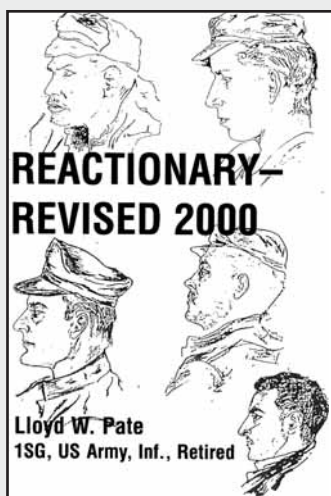
- It was as though Bill was talking me through it.

Lois Carter, wife of Gale, "Bill", Carter, deceased ex-pow

- Tells it like it was and doesn't hold back.

Willie Ruff ex-pow

For an autographed copy send \$15.00, includes postage, to: **Lloyd W. Pate, 5720 Broad Oak Dr., Grovetown, GA 30813**



Action Book

A Platoon Sergeant's Diary

During the Korean War (Sept. 1950-Sept. 1951), by B.R. Spiroff, 1stSgt-E8, USA (Ret). A realistic and detailed account of an infantry platoon's front line action.

Send \$10.95 plus \$1.50 (s&h) to:

B.R. Spiroff
524 Old Annapolis Rd.
Severna Park, MD 21146
(410) 647-4503

Images of Korea



K-8 Kunsan, Korea, Gunners of Barracks 3, 8th Bomb Squadron. Front Row: B. Gebheart, D. Judd, D. Hanson. Middle Row: F. Robinson, H. Damski, J. Smith, R. Mills, J. Hiller. Back Row: K. Lindsey, J. Pesta, G. Cleary



8th Bomb Sq. Orderly Room complex - 1953



Lower turret gun maintenance could be done in the shade by A/2c John Smith and A/2c Jim Lamson,



Like any good soldier, the Airman gunners spend a great deal of time maintaining their two 50 caliber turrets – we can't stop to repair them in fight. A/2c Henry Damski at upper turret of B-26.



Jim Lamson entering the top hatch of the gunner's compartment of a B-26.



Because we flew mostly night missions I had plenty of time to paint the nose art on our aircraft – Jim Lamson



This B-26 hit a cable stretched across a valley by the North Koreans to bring down our low flying planes, but he made it back to K-8.



This B-26 crashed on takeoff and broke in half at the gunner's compartment.



Jim Lamson – Gunner just waiting for takeoff time, Kunsan, Korea 195

**Photos by J. Q. Lamson, 520 S. Main Street
Plainwell, Mi. 49080**

(Thank you James Lamson for photos)

Notice to Veterans and Members,

Please do not send me any more poems or photos from the past. I have enough for the next two plus years for *The Graybeards*. Color photos from Korea are rare, so I wish to get them. I do need good color photos for the front cover. (vertical – 8 1/2 x 11). Since our banner (logo and header) is at top, please send photos with little detail in upper area. –Editor.

Arden Rowley's memories:

I well remember the night of 30 Nov. 1950. I was a member of Company A, of the 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion. The engineer battalion was part of 2nd Infantry Division and the UN forces that pushed the North Korean Army back near the Yalu River in North Korea. It was the fall of 1950 that the Chinese Communist Army entered the war with vast numbers of troops and began an offensive which pushed UN forces back south from the Yalu.

Orders were given by the Eight Army Commander for the 2nd Division to fight a rearguard action to enable the other divisions of the Eight Army to break contact with the Chinese Communist Forces (CCF) by withdrawing south of the Chongchon River. On 30 Nov the one major unit that still was in contact with the CCF in the Chongchon valley area was the 2nd Infantry Division. Extreme enemy pressure eventually forced the 2nd Division to conduct a retrograde movement southward, the 2nd Engineers (serial #7) were assigned a position just in front of the 23rd Infantry Regt. (serial #8), and became the next to the last unit in the withdrawal order.

By 29 Nov the CCF had established a fireblock in a mountain pass south of Kunu-Ri and established firing positions on the mountain ridges along a six mile stretch north of the fireblock. When it came time for the 2nd Div. to carry out its retrograde movement it had to run a gauntlet of heavy enemy fire along the withdrawal route.

Late afternoon of 30 Nov the 23rd Infantry Regt. suddenly left its position at the rear of the division and moved west to Anju then south along a costal route. When the 23rd Infantry Regiment pulled out posthaste on the Anju road about four miles northwest of them, the 2nd Engineers were the northernmost 2nd Division troops still in position. They were also now wide open to attack from all CCF now pouring south across the Chongchon River.

The division directed the 2nd Engineer Battalion, to fight as the division's rear guard to delay the enemy while the division regrouped to the

Burning of the Colors

By Arden A. Rowley and Al Zacherle

south.

From 25-30 Nov the 2nd Engineers had fought tenaciously alongside infantry troops. Now, on 30 Nov they were alone. Lt Col Zacherle, 2nd Engineer commander, organized the defense and the battalion fought valiantly against overwhelming numbers of Chinese troops. Despite many casualties, they successfully defended the division's rear in the retrograde.

By the evening of 30 Nov 1950 the engineers were severely depleted and separated from the rest of the division and capture was eminent. Zacherle ordered all usable equipment destroyed so it would not fall into enemy hands. As night fell he personally ordered the burning of the battalion colors to prevent its capture and possible display as a war trophy by the Chinese Communists. Later that night, the battalion was overrun. Lt. Col. Zacherle, Major Fiy(Bn Exec.), most of his staff and over 500 soldiers of all the companies of the battalion were either killed or captured.



Rowley at Camp Casey in Nov. 2000

Over a six day period the 2nd Engineer Battalion shrunk from 977 men to less than 300. Despite the great losses the 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion was rebuilt and continued to be a fighting force throughout the balance of the Korean War,

Lt. Col. Zacherle and the 330 officers and men captured with him were held by the Chinese Communists as POWs for 33 months. There were 117 who survived the brutal captivity and returned home at the end of hostilities in August and September of 1953.

For several years now, at dusk, on a chilly evening of 30 Nov, the 2nd Engineer Battalion stands at attention in their compound known as Camp Castle. In the presence of the battalion and distinguished guests the battalion commander tells of the events of November 1950 and orders the executive officer to burn their colors held in reverence by the Battalion Command Sgt. Major. The purpose of this annual ceremony is to commemorate the actions taken by the 2nd Engineer Battalion in the fall of 1950 and to honor those who were wounded, killed or captured at that time.

The events of 30 Nov 1950 are etched indelibly in my memory. As one of the 117 survivors of the Communist POW camps, I take special interest in the fact that the 2nd Engineer Battalion is still part of the vanguard of freedom on the Korean Peninsula today. I, along with 14 other 2nd Engineer- Battalion Korean War veterans traveled to Korea on 25 Nov 2000. We attended that memorable ceremony on 30 Nov 2000. It was a very moving and emotional experience. We had the opportunity to rub shoulders with the officers and men of the battalion for 10 days. It was an experience that we will not soon forget.

Al Zacherle memories:

The 30th of November 1950, in Korea, was a bitter cold day and we were covered with the thunder of Division Artillery firing round after round. It sounded as though we were directly under the end of the barrels of their guns.

Near noon, Chief of Staff Epply called to inquire of our situation and to

Continued on page 56

Letters



Remembering a Hero

Memorial Day has more meaning to me because of this story.

I served with the 23rd RCT, 2nd Inf. Div. during the Korean War. The unit I joined had gone to Korea in August 1950. They had been as far north as Kunu-ri before being driven south by the Chinese. In December 1950, I became a replacement for someone who was killed or wounded. In the early days of the war that was the only way out of Korea. Members of the squad I became a part of told me something they had seen near Kunu ri

They said they came across a dead American soldier. He had been wounded and was frozen in the snow. They said he had died with a frozen tear on his cheek. I have often thought of this scene and the American soldier. The question that always comes to mind is, "What were his thoughts as he lay dying?" Were his thoughts the cause of the tear. Was he having a conversation with God? Was he thinking about his girl friend back home? Were his thoughts of his mother or a baby born since he left the states. Was it the pain and cold that caused the tear to slip down his cheek? I have always thought of this soldier as a hero. He died alone on a hill so far away from home. As he lay dying no loved one held his hand or said, "I love you." His cries of "medic" went unanswered. He did not have a nurse in a clean crisp uniform wrap a blanket around him and tuck it in gently for warmth and comfort. No medical aid was given.

He fought his last skirmish alone in this strange land. When I honor Memorial Day or Veterans Day, I am honoring a dead American soldier on a Korean hill, a soldier with a frozen tear on his cheek. Dan Fearn, Vicksburg

We need volunteers

Volunteers Sought for the Battleship New Jersey The Battleship New Jersey Memorial and Museum on the waterfront in Camden, New Jersey, is now open for tours and public events. But there is still plenty of work to be done to get additional areas of the Battleship open to the public and to maintain sections of the ship that are already open. If you would like to volunteer some of your time scraping and painting and doing other chores, your help is vitally needed. In addition to maintenance work, volunteers are needed to lead tours of the ship, to educate the public, to chaperone student encampment, and to host social events. Anyone eighteen years of age or older who is interested in volunteering onboard the Battleship New Jersey should contact Dan Farrell at (856) 966-1652 x 224 or toll free at 1-866-877-6262 x 224 or online at <d.farrell@battleshipnewjersey.org>. Battleship New Jersey, 62 Battleship Place, Camden, New Jersey.

A forgotten hero remembered

My wife's brother Thaddeus R. Sarwinski was one of the first casualties of the Korean War. When his brother George brought the body home from Korea, the



Korean War Memorial in Pittsburgh with Sarwinski's name added to end.

local TV station carried the funeral on TV because he was the first veteran killed in Korea to be returned home to Pittsburgh, PA for burial. Approximately fifty years later, Ted's nephew was visiting the Korean War Memorial in Pittsburgh when he noticed Ted's name was omitted from the memorial.

Upon returning home he asked his Mom about it. She contacted Mr. Edward Stevens, President of the Korean War Veterans Western Pennsylvania who had Ted's name added to the memorial. The enclosed photos were taken at the ceremonies on July 27, 2002, the 49th Anniversary of the end of the Korean War. Ted's sister, Frances Hughes was invited to participate in placing the wreath on the memorial in Pittsburgh.

(Thank you Joseph L. Krakovsky for photos and letter: I will attempt to print a small portion of the photocopy sent. Photocopies do not reproduce at a quality level acceptable for Graybeards.)

Thaddeus is a true hero and we thank your family for remembering him—Editor.)

Remembering our KIA's and MIA's

For several years our chapter of the KWVA has been gathering information about the casualties from the counties in our region. One of the results has been to provide photos and data on these men to the American Battle Monuments Commission and the Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC. More important, however, have been the interactions with family members. We provide them with Certificates from the Memorial's "Honor Roll" as well as national and state medals. Their responses have been uniformly warm and very appreciative that their relative's sacrifices are still remembered. The research wouldn't have been possible without the assistance of many librarians, town clerks, church and cemetery workers, school and veterans agency personnel, village and city historians throughout our dozen or so counties. These local sources provided contacts that otherwise were irreplaceable.

However, our major objective in this letter is to call attention to some special people. Our own Ken Page of Troy, N. Y. Since his passing last February his invaluable computer skills have been sorely missed. His contacts opened avenues to so many others. Robert B. Rupert of Lexington, KY. What began for him as research into his own regiment, the 8th. Cavalry, expanded to casualties from all units. He responded to a request in a previous Graybeards, and in

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spite of poor health, pursued identifications we needed down to company levels. Martin J. O'Brien of Augusta, ME for his work on non-battle casualties of the Korean War. His 180 page "booklet" is the premier, if not the only, source on the topic. Charles E. Casey of Sun City, AZ for his efforts in producing two editions of his book In Memory on KIA and MIA data. Hal and Ted Barker of Dallas, TX whose non-profit "Korean War Project" web site has been most heavily used by our computer gurus. All of the above men have spent many hours and incurred personal expense in mailings and phone costs. Their availability and willingness to help in projects like ours have been most beneficial. We hope that you will publish this letter to give them a bit of recognition they so well deserve.

Sincerely, Richard Corbeil, Art Lajeunesse and Robert Hall, Jr.
(We would also like to thank the DPMO staff, CILHI staff, those doing the recoveries, Donna Downes Knox of Coalition of Families of Korean and Cold War POW/MIAs and members, last but not least Charles Dearborn, Webmaster of the KWVA National web site <www.kwva.org> for their efforts to remember our lost loved ones and veterans of the Korean War. The work of remembering is being done by over 200 KWVA Chapters and their members, South Korea and all 50 States with their memorials and events. We also give credit to KWVA National and our magazine "The Graybeards." Editor.)

Return to the Korean War Zone refreshes memories, hope

No American had been back to the west side of the Chosin Reservoir for almost 52 years, when U.S. Marines trapped by a larger Communist Chinese force during the Korean War fought their way out through a frozen landscape.

The Marines returned to Chosin last month in the person of retired Gen. Raymond G. Davis, one of the most legendary figures of a proud and difficult time in Marine Corps history.

Davis, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during the fighting in late November and early December 1950, was part of a delegation including several veterans and family members of MIAs who visited North Korea for six days last month.



Gen. Davis with plaque honoring his Marines at the Chosin Reservoir.

"It brought back so many memories," Davis, 87, said in a recent interview. "I saw two or three places where I remember the loss of

so many young Marines I was close to."

The visit was arranged by Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) in Arlington County, which led negotiations that since 1996 have allowed U.S. teams working with the North Koreans to conduct recovery operations searching for the remains of missing U.S. servicemen.

"The purpose of this visit was to allow the team to see firsthand

the ongoing operations and report their observations to veterans and family groups in the U.S.," said Jerry D. Jennings, deputy assistant secretary of defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs. "These are among our primary constituents."

The delegation included retired Army Col. Edward Magill, who fought at Chosin; Harley J. Coon, president of the Korean War Veterans Association; and Donna Downes Knox of Roanoke, from the Coalition of Families of Korean and Cold War POWs/MIAs. Knox's father, Lt. Harold Downes, was shot down in a B-26 over North Korea and never found.

On Sept. 12, the delegation flew by helicopter from the North Korean capital, Pyongyang, to the eastern side of the Chosin Reservoir.

It was on the eastern side that Task Force Faith, consisting of 2,500 poorly trained and ill-equipped Army soldiers, held off a fierce Chinese onslaught for several days before being overrun. About 1,500 American soldiers were slaughtered, taken prisoner or left to die in the cold.

A joint U.S. and North Korean operation for the recovery of remains is underway on the east side of Chosin. A team of 28 Americans, supported by the North Korean People's Army, began looking for remains in the area last year.

"It's hard to believe, after 50 years, there's a chance for them to be returned to their families," Davis said. "It was very, very emotional."

While at Chosin, North Korean officials accompanying the delegation agreed to drive the U.S. delegation to the western side of the reservoir, where no Americans had previously been allowed to visit. It was on the western side of Chosin where the 1st Marine Division conducted its famed breakout, fighting its way to the sea.

Davis, then the commander of the 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, led his men through snow and ice and a large Chinese force to relieve a trapped company of Marines.

Driving to the site more than a half-century later, Davis found that the 12-foot-wide road on which he had led his force had been substantially widened.

Even more disorienting was the balmy weather and the blooming landscape.

"It was hard to recognize anything, because when we were there, there was snow and no foliage, and now there was foliage everywhere," Davis said.

But when he spotted the distinctive shape of Mount Toktong, the ridge where his Marines rescued the trapped company, Davis knew exactly where he was.

Davis brought along a plaque that commemorated the sacrifices of the 1st Marine Division. "General Davis wanted to honor them by taking that plaque to the very battlefields where they fought," said Larry Greer, a spokesman for DPMO.

Davis was also able to shed some light on the possible whereabouts of one of the officers in his battalion, 1st Lt. Frank Mitchell, who was lost during the fighting. The remains of Mitchell, who was subsequently awarded the Medal of Honor, were never found. "General Davis was able to point out on a map the location where the lieutenant had been fighting," said Ashton Ormes, a senior researcher from DPMO who accompanied the delegation.

The three veterans kept their emotions in check during the visit, Ormes said but it was a moving event nonetheless.

"All three are stoic type of men," Ormes said. "They wouldn't have survived what they went through if they weren't. But some of the things they said made me think they were remembering lost friends.

(The above was printed in Military Matters and sent to me by Lt. Col. Richard Dean II. Many thanks.—Editor.)

A thank you to 11th Evac. Hosp. Due to a reunion notice

Dear Korean War Brother Elliott. (Edward)

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to you and all the medical staff of the 11th, Evacuation Hospital at Wonju, South Korea.

Around the 2nd week of January, 1952, I was taken by litter jeep to a M.A.S.H. unit, spent one night there, then by airplane, I think it had two motors, to Wonju and to your 11th Evacuation Hospital. I had surgery there and was there for two weeks. I had great care there. Then I went by Hospital Train to the Swedish Hospital in Pusan. I was there about 45 days.

My left knee had torn ligaments and cartilage etc. damage. I've wore a brace on that knee ever since.

This was not a million dollar wound and I did not get a medical discharge. I stayed in the Army until my discharge in October 1952. I was U.S.

Later I joined the National Guard in March 1953, and was the 1st. Sgt. of a Infantry Headquarters Co. for almost three years.

Again I send my thanks to you and all the Medical staff of the 11th. Evacuation Hospital, at Wonju.

I saw your Reunion add in the Graybeards.

Yours in Patriotism;

C. A. (Bud) Collette, Former M/Sgt. & 1st. Sgt., Infantry U. S. Army. Korea June 1951 to late April 1952.

Annyong Hasimnika

This Korean greeting is being sent with sincere good wishes that you have gotten through the past difficult weeks safely and with love and spirit intact.

Appropriate somewhat because of the war in which our country is now engaged our Christmas message this year is really a story. It is about an old soldier who returned home from Korea 50 years ago after being recalled to serve in a war now known as "The Forgotten War" except it has not been forgotten by the men and women who fought there, nor has it been forgotten by the people of South Korea, for that reason, the Korean War Veterans of South Korea have been inviting veterans to "Revisit Korea" as their guests. This old soldier asked his girlfriend if she wanted to vacation in Korea in November. "NO WAY" the girlfriend said. He asked again weeks later. "ABSOLUTELY NOT" she clearly stated. Why would she want to travel 18 hours by air to see battlefields that held no meaning for her. She was adamant. NO! One day, when the soldier was away the phone rang. An Asian sounding voice said, "This is Tom from the Koran Travel Agency In Chicago, everything is set, are you ready for your trip to Korea?"

So the soldier and his reluctant girlfriend flew to Seoul, Korea on November 11 and returned after nine meaningful, never-to-be forgotten days. The battlefields have been replaced with trees and

monuments to those who served there and Seoul has become a huge modern city populated by kind and very grateful FREE people. "Thank you" were words often heard by the veterans and the VIP treatment received proved these were more than mere words. Honor Guards saluted the veterans. Bands played. Wreaths were laid. A trip to the DMZ brought home clearly that there is conflict still unresolved, however.

Most outstanding was a special banquet held for the returning veterans. In addition to the excellent food and entertainment, each veteran received a beautifully designed "Ambassador of Peace" medal which was placed around his neck by a retired Korean general or admiral and his spouse.

What the girlfriend gained most from this unusual vacation was the knowledge that men who serve in war together, even a forgotten war, hold a special niche in their hearts for that part of their life. As they gathered together and shook hands, 50 years slipped away, unnoticed. To paraphrase General Douglas McArthur, "Old soldiers never die, they just reminisce."

May God bless you, your families, and especially all of our new and old soldiers.

An Old Soldier and his Girlfriend.

Hyperglycemic or 22 Candy Bars

Korea Nov, 1950! South of Phyngng-yang waiting for the Chinese to attack after going over the Yalu River. We expect them to attack on one of the U.S. holidays. Thanksgiving passed, Christmas passed no attacks. Finally on New Years Day they hit after many sleepless nights. It was so sudden I found myself alone, too tired to head south directly I walked on the road. After about an hour I realized that I was walking north when I saw two Chinese coming towards me. Being a combat medic and not carrying a weapon I decided to keep on walking thinking that if I ran into the brush they would kill me. They passed on without saying a word, I assumed they thought I was surrendering. After they passed I ran into the brush, thinking as tired as I was I had no choice but to head south over the hills. I climbed over at least three 2,500 to 3,000 foot hills. After the 3rd hill at the foot I was at a dry rice paddy. Across the way on the other side I saw 2 1/2 ton trucks which I recognized as GI. Even though I was fatigued my pace picked up. When I reached the other side of the rice paddy I found out it was a quartermaster outfit bugging out, I realized that I was quite a way behind the front lines.

I reported in and said that I was really hungry. A sergeant said hop in the back of that truck, it's the candy ration one and I pigged out on twenty-two (22) candy bars. I was so hungry I don't remember what they were. I think they may have been Baby Ruth's. I was the combat medic of Baker Company 1st Battalion 19th Regiment 24th Division. When I got back to battalion HQ I was resigned as the medic of Charlie Co. I rode back south of the 38th parallel hanging on a tank going over 20 ton 10 ft bridges on a 30 ton tank. We finally dug in somewhere south of Seoul for about three weeks I inspected about, it seemed, about ten thousand pair of feet. GI's were adverse to properly take care of their feet. During this time were able to shower and get a change of fatigues.

On Feb. 9 my old Co. Baker were ordered to relieve a ROK Co. on a certain hill. They proceeded up the hill but they came under

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tremendous small arm fire. It was determined later that the ROK Co. had moved out without telling anyone.

The news came that Baker Co. had been wiped out. For some reason I began to feel apprehensive, the closest to fear I ever felt. My Co., Charlie was ordered to take the hill. (A personal note, The reason I became a medic was because of my conflict of whether I could kill another human being. I was never a declared conscientious objector, but in effect I was one, that day I resolved that conflict I would kill to protect my patient. I still did not know at that time whether I would kill to protect myself. The situation never arose at that time but at this writing I probably would have.) As our Co. (Charlie) continued up the hill, I tagging behind a GI who was hit in a open area with no cover I had to force myself to attend to his wound knowing full well that I might be shot also. I left him for the litter bearers and continued up the hill. As we reached the top I took care of another wounded GI.

When I finished dressing his wound I stood up when I took a bullet in my left leg, it severed the tendon a thru and thru wound. I was fortunate that the wound sealed itself. I dressed the wound and started to climb down the hill. The battle was over we secured the hill but at a terrible cost. I found out later about 75 men from Baker Co. were killed or wounded. This was a new experience for me, I had received what was called a glory wound with no nerve involvement. I realized also that I subconsciously controlled my pain. I made it to the bottom of the hill and rode sitting up to battalion aid station, as I got proportionally further away from the front lines my pain returned. When I got to the collecting station the pain

was so bad I had to lie down on a litter.

(The above was an event experienced by Bill Morris??? Sent in by Robert D. Rutter. I guess the moral of this story is to eat a lot of candy bars. Better yet, we thank all our medics for their valor. Editor.)

To the Heroes of the Korean War

Dear Mr. Editor, of the Graybeards; My name is Daniel Arellano, and I am an ex-pow of the Chinese Communist, I was wounded and captured at the Chosin reservoir, while our Army units, or what was left of them, were fighting to control the Chosin road leading back to the 1st Marine Division's defensive perimeter, for our Army trucks, loaded with wounded Warriors.

To make a long story short, none of the ferrying trucks made it back to the Marines' defensive perimeter. The Chinese Communist, after denying us Army Warriors, any kind of rest, for the past, 108 hours, were finally victorious, but we Army Warriors, accomplished our mission, of dying for Time.

The Forces, South of our 7th Division positions, were able to set up their own defensive positions, construct a landing strip for planes to land on, and fly out a vast number of wounded Warriors. The rest of the Chosin reservoir battle, is well known history.

My Post-Warfare, with the VA, is another story. Years went by, before I found myself in need, mental and physical aid. I went to the Los Angeles VA hospital where I received all the aid, that I needed, but it took me, from 1983 to 1995 to accomplish my goal, of receiving 100% disability compensation, for my duty served in Korea.

I'm sending you one of the poems, that I wrote for my mental therapist, not realizing, that they would go to bat, for my case. This poem, is just one, of many, that I typed in order to keep myself sane. Thank you for your time, and may I hear from you. Just a note, from one of Colonel Faith's extrooper's.

Sons' Of Valor

The Chosin reservoir massacre, of Colonel McLean and Colonel Faith's 7th Division's rear-guard Battalions, which took place in North Korea, in the late days of November, and into the early days of freezing December of 1950, proved to be the real awaking of Democratic minds, to the Diabolical and Tyrannical maneuvers, of Communist aggression.

The suffering of a foreign Winter's atmosphere, the brave deeds, of courageous Troopers, that led to their demise, was the duty of yester-years' warrior-sons from America. The 1st Marine Division, and the 7th Army Division, were General McArthur's shock-troopers, of the newly created 10th Corp, and their first mission, was the landing and taking of Inchon harbor. The 10th Corp's main objective, was to cut the North Korean's supply-lines heading South towards the port-city of Pusan. The U.N.'s Army last line of defense, before being pushed into the sea, by the North Korean Communist Forces. Karl Marx's ideology, of a ruling Communist government, had to be stopped.

The past history, of the Korean War, must not be left untold. The three years, of deadly conflict between the Forces of Democratic values, such as Freedoms, Liberties, and Justice, for all. While, the Forces of Communism, protect the Dictatorship values of the State, and not of the people, must be repeated again



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and again. The young lives, lost without hesitation, was a huge donation, made by America's People, for a race of people, they didn't even know. Yes, Freedom must exist, for all people of our World, but some must die, to make it so...

Freedoms, Liberties, and Justice for all, only exist in a nation of equality, for One and All. Yes, other Doctrines, have attempted to defeat Democratic Ideologies, but who, can stop the blowing Winds, the falling Rains, the tides of the ever moving Seas'. Yes, such are the habits of Freedom, Liberty, and Justice. People, who live free, and with the Liberty, to think and do, as they choose, just love the Justice, of their endeavors, without the fear of being incarcerated, or put to death.

Now, a word, or deed, like Justice, must be given to the warrior-sons of yesteryear, who stood-p to be counted, for the Cause and Glory of Democracy. Those same warrior-sons of yesteryear, Went, Did, and Gave, and today, decades later. Those warrior-sons of then ask, for a little bit of Justice, for their unselfish sacrifice, and not a denial, because of some rhetoric political bill whose claim is to save the American tax-payers, another money cost. But why, must the Brave, who stood-up to be counted, be the sacrificial Lambs, of American politics again? The heroic warrior-sons of yester-year, never thought to ration their Democratic Valor...

America's Democracy, is the main tower of strength, the unsinkable battleship, the golden fleece of the poor and only, because of yester-year's warrior-sons, who stood, toe to toe, against the enemies of Democracy, and won the three human rights, of all people. Yes, Freedom, Liberty, and Justice, would truly be missed by all people who were born Free...

The warrior-sons of yester-year, did without more, then just their Mothers and Fathers. They donated their young Lives and Blood, and their love for Democracy earned them a Purple Heart. A higher medal award, in my personal opinion, for the continual survival, of Freedom, Liberty, and Justice, has yet to be minted. Now, will, or would, the people, who owe their three Freedoms of Life, to the warrior-sons of yester-year, turn their backs on them, in their hours of need? I, as a warrior-son, of yester-year, think not...

(Thank you Daniel, you said it all. Thank you for your valor and welcome home. Editor.)

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The requests for extra *The Graybeards* to support printing of same was such a success, we will offer extra copies for every issue on a first-come first-serve basis. For future issues, if you wish to make sure your orders are filled, I must have advanced payment.

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Chapter Affairs

Maryland Chapter #33



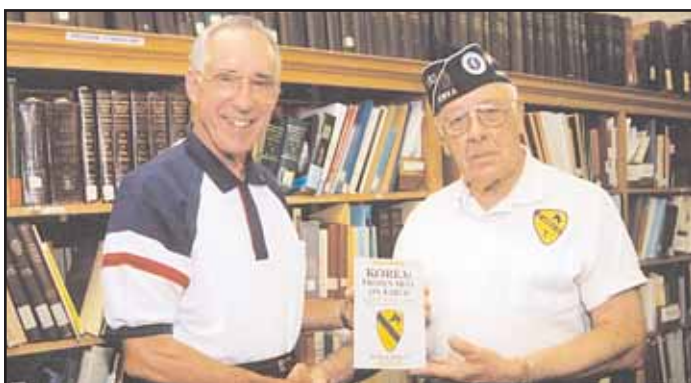
Boris R. Spiroff presenting a copy of his book to Mr. Tim Mathison, President of Anne Arundel County Historical Society.

Central Florida Chapter #153



Members of the Chapter Color Guard were honored to lead the parade in Lake Helen.

Capital Chapter #100 of Washington, D.C.



Members laying our annual wreath during Memorial Day ceremony on behalf of KWVA at our memorial on the mall. Left to right: Jack Murray, Commander; Bill Hayes, Ira Jett, Dr. Jim Hooper, Lt. Col. Sherm Pratt and Harry Clark.

Charles L. Gilliland Chapter #22 of Arkansas



Installation of new officers on August 3, 2002. From left to right, Ray Miller, historian; Doug Van DeMark, entertainment; Alex Oliz, vice commander; Jessie Milford, secretary; Joe O'Halloran, commander; Edward Pierce, service officer; and Charles Thom, Chaplain.

Big Island Chapter #231 of Hawaii

LTC (ret) Montague has distinguished himself greatly during his active duty and community service accomplishments. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame under the category of Distinguished Military Service. His military contribution brings great credit upon the US Army, Field Artillery OCS, himself, and this great United States. He is a highly decorated soldier that started his military life as a recruit and retired as a LTC. He is a life member of the Korean War Veterans Association and Vice President of KWV, Chapter 231 in Hilo, Hawaii.



Chapter #3 of Indiana



Newly elected state officers of the Indiana KWVA for 2002-2003. From left right Tom Koval, Treasurer; Art Flotow, 1st Vice-President; Frank Littleton, President; Peter Chang, 2nd Vice-President and Betty Baker, Secretary.

Frederick Chapter #142 of Maryland



New officers and members of the Frederick Chapter.

Central Massachusetts Chapter #36



Central Massachusetts Chapter Commander Ken Swiftt addresses a large audience of Korean War veterans at the September 23, 2002, Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Korean War Veterans Memorial to be built in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Northwest Ohio Chapter #131



Ralph Diefenbach of Northwest Chapter #131 had to wait 50 years before he received his Purple Heart with the help of KWV Joel Davis. In a ceremony at a recent Chapter meeting he was presented his Purple Heart by Major General Ronald Bowman. Shown in photo Ralph Diefenbach, Joel Davis and Major General Ronald Bowman.

George Washington Chapter #118 of Washington, D.C



This chapter met on 28 September 2002 at the Andrews Air Force Base Officers' Club which is located in Camp Springs, Maryland. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the upcoming 2003 celebration of the 50th anniversary of the 1953 cessation of hostilities in Korea.

Pictured from left to right are Reginald Grier, Lawrence Smith and Roscoe Swann. The other chapter members are: Theodore Adams, Harold Aldridge, Isiah Barnwell, Leroy Bell, Spencer Bracy, Frank Cohn, George Dumas, Richard Fazakerley, Henry Francis, George Hampton, Lehmon Howell, Benjamin Lemlich, Clarence Miller, George Miedling, Grace Mueller and Earl Peterson. The chapter was established on 15 May 1995.

KWVA Chapter #68 of North Dakota



Above is a photo submitted by Roger Smith, president of North Dakota Korean Veterans Association Chapter 1, showing the dedication of a F-86 Sabre Jet at the Jamestown, North Dakota Airport in memory of the airmen and all others that served in the Korean War 1950-1953.

During the recent North Dakota Korean Veterans reunion in Jamestown, North Dakota, North Dakota Veterans Association, Chapter 1 and VFW Post 760 were joint sponsors dedicating a F-86 Sabre Jet and plaque at the Jamestown North Dakota Airport in memory of the airmen and all others that served in the Korean War 1950-1953. The dedication was an activity commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War.

Rogue Valley Chapter # 257 of Oregon



Rogue Valley Chapter # 257 members and Marine Corps Color Guard at the Medford City Hall for the Korean War Medal ceremony.



Korean Memorial signs were dedicated in the Medford Veterans Memorial Park by Rogue Valley Chapter # 257 members and Korean Consul General. Named from the left: Mel Wingler, Don Elliott, Harry Dietrick, George Keena, Robert Williams, Moon Boun-roc, Korean Consul General, Allen Forrette, Sam MaCualey, Ariz Torres, and Herbert Robb.

The chapter was the lead agency for conducting combined ceremonies for the Korean War Service medal and the dedication of a Korean War Veterans memorial on June 20. The ceremonies were held in the Medford, Oregon. Thirty three veterans and three widows of veterans received the Korean Service Medal from Moon Byoung-roc, Korean Consul General from Seattle. The ceremony was held in the Medford city hall council chambers. More than one hundred sixty persons attended. Three television channels and three news papers covered the event.

Later in a separate ceremony two Korean Memorial signs were dedicated in the Medford Veterans Memorial Park by the Korean Consul General and local elected officials. The Marine Corps Color Guard and the Young Marine color guard lead the officials and guest to the memorial site locations. The Oregon Air National Guard provided two F-115s for a fly over. The Southern Oregon Korean Society attended to show their respect for the veterans and provided refreshments for the event.

Visit the
Korean War Veterans Association Website:
www.KWVA.org

Sussex County Chapter of Delaware



Chapter members gather around an "Old Friend..". Front Row: Tom Woods, Ray Musciano, Ruley Banks, Walt Koopman, Bill Couch, Bob Frame, Carmen Placibo; Rear: Bob Lewis, Mike Mihalo, Russ Cunningham, Ed Henriksen, Bill Noll, Charlie Farrell, Frank Emmi, Jim Baker, Ed Johnson, Bill Schultz, and Bill Clungeon.



With 50th Commemoration Display in background are : L-R, Roger Reeves, Walt Koopman,, Marge LaFond, Russ Cunningham, Ruley Banks, Ray Musciano.

Central Indiana Chapter



Central Indiana Chapter Korean War Veteran Officers. Front Row from left to right Don Ellwood, Everett McFarland and Don Hall. Back Row from left: Tine Martin, Ernie Condra, Don Duncan, Amos Board and Don Seib.

History of the Central Indiana Chapter

In June 2001, a chapter organizer of the National Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), a Mr. Sam Naomi, contact-

ed several members of the KWVA who are living in the general area of Indianapolis to ask if they would be interested in forming a new chapter that would be called the Central Indiana Chapter. The people San Naomi called were Don Ellwood, Don Duncan, Charles Layton ,Everett McFarland and Robert Sanders.

With the group's effort, telephone calls were made to Korean War veterans who were members of the national association and who lived in Indianapolis and the surrounding area to ask if they would like to start a new chapter. With 45 or more saying they would, our first meeting was held on August 27, 2001, at the American Legion Post #470 at 7:00pm. At the meeting, the chapter's first elected officers were voted in: Don Ellwood as 1st Vice President; Charles Layton as 2nd Vice President, Everett McFarland as Secretary-Treasurer. Other members were appointed as follows: Don Seib as Judge Advocate; Dan Hall as Historian; Tine Martin as Sgt.-at-Arms; Ernie Condra as MIA\POW Chairman; and Amos Board as Chapman. Since our chapter had enough members, a request was made to the National KWVA to issue a charter. It was granted a month later.

Suncoast Chapter 014 of Florida

Congregation Donates to Korean War Memorial

Reverend Tae Su Choeng, Pastor of the Korean Presbyterian Church of Pinellas Park presents a contribution to Clarence Dadswell, President of the Korean War Veterans Association, Chapter 14 to assist in the building of the Korean War Memorial at Freedom Park in the City of Pinellas Park.

This donation represents a considerable donation from the members of the Korean Presbyterian Church. Hey also expressed their appreciation for the veterans who helped defend and liberate South Korea from Communist North Korea\Chinese invaders in 1950-1953.

The Korean War Memorial will be dedicated on July 27, 2003, 50 years after the truce ending the fighting in Korea. Commemorative bricks are available for a nominal fee. For more information, call Clarence Dadswell at 522-6496 or Sam Farina at 535-7884.



Clarence Dadswell, President Chapter #14 with Rev. Tae Su Cheong

Green County Chapter #125 of Ohio

The Greene County Chapter was formed on January 25th 1996 and received charter # 125 from then State President Harley Coon on February 29th 1996. In November of 1996 we started our Tell America Program. The first school was seventy five miles from Xenia. Two members from the chapter made twelve forty- five minute presentations to three hundred and sixty students.



Since that time our program has progressed to seventeen different school districts. In the six years we have had the program we have made two hundred and thirty- eight presentations to eleven thousand two hundred and ninety six students and faculty. We also made presentations to five K W VA chapters to help them get their programs started. We also speak to service clubs, churches and senior centers. We have traveled over three thousand miles to make the public aware of the Korean War. At each school we also do flag etiquette and give each student a three by five flag. We have ten members who take part in the Tell America Program. As you can see ,we are proud of our Tell America Program.

We also do other functions: Parades-35, Honor Guards-21, Casket Guards-6, Color Guards-14, Flag Dedications-5. We also serve meals at the Dayton V.A. Hospital Campus and volunteer at the hospital. We had a thirty-five mile section of US Route 35 across Greene County named Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway. We also have our monthly meetings and coffees.

THE KOREAN WAR EDUCATOR

You are invited to visit our website at:

www.koreanwar-educator.org

Detailed accounts of the Korean War

Korean War-related links

Marty O'Brien's entire casualty book

POW/MIA & casualty information

Oral history project

Veterans' memoirs

KW vet reunion details

Editorials/PSAs

Reference materials

Locate a buddy

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Much, much more!

Lynnita Sommer Brown, Text Editor

Julian Blagg, USMC veteran, Webmaster

KWV Commemorat

DoD, VA Pay Tribute to Korean War



Lt. Dobbs marker located in Korean War POW/MIA section of National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, Hawaii. Jeanne Dobbs father.



Dr. Leo Mackey, Deputy Secretary of Veteran Affairs, addresses Korean War Veterans and family members at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu on September 20.

Thirty-one years ago Jeanne Dobbs made her first visit to the Punchbowl in Honolulu when a friend asked her to go to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

"I stood at the bottom of the memorial and read the stone," said Dobbs, daughter of Korean War veteran 1st Lt. Gilbert Dobbs. "Then I read the names of the people and I kept going up the steps and up near the top on the right side there he was. Having just got here and after a few months later to be standing before my father ... it makes me wonder what brought me here."

Friday she returned to the Punchbowl Cemetery as one of more than 20 Korean War surviving families from Hawaii that

the Department of Defense honored on POW-MIA Day. The ceremony on Sept. 20 was one of many the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee has hosted during the commemoration period, but the first with a special tribute to surviving families.

Dobbs, who was born in Germany, was raised in New York, her father's home state. She was a year old when Lieutenant Dobbs, an Air Force pilot with the 8th Bomber Sq., was listed as Missing in Action in North Korea in 1951; but, she felt close to her father long before the ceremony.

"My mother kept him alive a long time," she said. "He was around the house. She had pic-

tures of him everywhere and she talked about him a lot."

With his name inscribed on the Courts of the Missing, the ceremony reaffirmed the feeling Dobbs had of her father all along.

"I guess you could say I didn't know him, but I am certainly proud of him," Dobbs said, who came to the Aloha State in 1971 from New York. Then 22 years old, she traveled 6,000 miles to teach school kids and has made Hawaii her home ever since. "For the country to do this for him in his memory, I am very proud of that."

Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. Leo Mackay Jr., praised the veterans and families for their service and

sacrifice. "They fought not for the glory of war, but for the prize of freedom," Mackay said.

"Today in this place we rededicated ourselves to obtain a full accounting of our missing brothers in arms."

"Let me personally say to you — the families of the missing — that as role models of dignity and purpose in the face of great adversity, you have proven yourselves of great credit."

More than 800 unknown service members are interred in the U section of the cemetery. More than 8,100 service members are listed as missing in action from the Korean War.

Tech. Sgt. Michael Dorsey
DoD 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee

ive Partner Events

ar Veterans at Punchbowl in Hawaii



Band played patriotic songs during the event.



Posting the Colors.



Row of veteran's salute.



Jeanne Dobbs (center), daughter of Air Force pilot 1st Lt. Gilbert Dobbs, listens to the keynote address of Dr. Leo Mackay, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.



Head stone remembering those POW/MIA's that gave their lives in wars in the Pacific.



Laying of the wreaths.



Republic of Korea Wreath.



All wreaths.



Retiring of The Colors.



Lt. Col. Ward salutes the Colors.

5th RCT Tree Dedication stone honoring 50th Anniversary of the cemetery.



Sussex County Chapter 1 of Delaware

On July 4, 2002, our Chapter participated in the 35h Annual 4th of July parade in Bethany Beach, Delaware. Approximately 10,000 people lined the streets. Our entry consisted of six KWVA Veterans shown informally before the parade, in three vehicles.

The 2002 Chapter Officers President: Russell Cunningham, Vice Pres: Nick Tosques; Treasurer: Roger Reeves, Secretary/Public Affairs: Charlie Farrell, Programs Chair: Walt Koopman and Event Coordinator: George Goss.



Shown in Annual 4th of July parade in Bethany Beach, Delaware are Banks, Cunningham, Dantine; Koopman, Baker, and Goss.

KWVA Chapter #121 of Cincinnati, Ohio



Our Chapter picnic attended by National President Harley Coon and Secretary Howard Camp and their wives Sylvia Coon and Phyllis Camp.



The Greatest group of ladies in the world – Wives of Korean War Veterans



Left to right Harry Falck Chapter member and ex-pow, Blue Ash Ohio Mayor Rick Bryan, Harley and Sylvia Coon. The Mayor came down to our picnic to welcome us to their park.

KWVA Chapter 11 of Northwest Alabama



Again this year our Chapter earned first place at North Alabama Fair. Booth was manned by Chapter members who recruited KWVA membership and handed out commemoration pins and brochures. Top, Bill Gober designed and set up booth complete with mannequins depicting four services in Korean War era uniforms. Below, KWVA Booth pictured left to right Bob Norris, Carmel Olive, Bill Gober, Bill Gotcher, Ralph Dula, and Olon Patterson.

Union County Chapter #53 of New Jersey

Our chapter is committed to volunteer work at the New Jersey Home for Disabled Veterans. We have been doing this volunteer work since 1989, with dinners, monthly bingo parties, and a special Christmas Party. New Jersey law requires all not for profit corporations to submit an end of year report to show how much money was received in donations during the year and also requires a report to show that 60% of all donations received, goes back into the programs listed in the association's articles of incorporation.



Chapter members pose in front of the bingo board at the Menlo Park Veterans Home.



Annual Awards Dinner for volunteer service at the New Jersey Home for Disabled Veterans. Members shown are Dermott O'Grady, John Stonaker, Carl Livecchia, Ken Murray and Richie Alexander.



Chapter President Richie Alexander greets disabled veterans at a chapter sponsored spaghetti dinner April 14, 2002.

KWVA Chapter 86 of Nashville, Tennessee



Our Chapter set up a KWVA display at the Tennessee State Fair. We had a good turn out and many people came to us and shook our hands and thanked us for our service to our Country. Table Display (top) and Half Track Display (below) at State Fair, Sept. 2002

Western Ohio Chapter #108

The Chapter memorial sign committee acted upon the second phase of this effort (after the state memorial signs were erected) and approached the Piqua, Ohio "city fathers and others" to request a similar memorial sign be erected at both the East and West Route 36 entrance to the city. With-in three weeks the city public works department had made and erected these eye-catching memorial signs with our requested Western Ohio Chapter identification! Note: After the 123rd General Assembly passed Sub. H.B. 287 (06-02-99) designating the "Korean War Veterans' Memorial Highway" signs for our area there was a two-year-plus lapse of action time. We enlisted the help of Mr. Harley Coon, President of National KWVA and a member of this chapter, to direct a letter to Ohio Governor Bob Taft for support and to have these signs erected during the USA Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War.

The Rose of Sharon fund drive was initiated the first and second weekend in May this year. Many volunteer veteran and associate members were in position and attend to the "A-Frame" board-display of picture activities and answer questions in regard to the Korean War and other activities of this chapter. We had representation in three area counties; Miami, Shelby and Darke.

Continued on page 42

50th Anniversary of the Korean War: Official Licensed Gifts



A. Official 50th Anniversary Custom Framed War Memorial: The cherrywood shadow box includes a vivid portrait of the Memorial, each side of the Official 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin, & interpretive text. Available in Spring Scene **\$179.00 ea.**

B. Limited Edition Pen Box: To commemorate the signing of the Armistice, the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Committee has authorized the production of a limited edition replica of the Parker Pen used by General Clark to end the fighting in Korea. Each fountain pen is individually numbered, engraved with General Clark's signature, and decorated with the official seal of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War.

Only 2,003 of the Korean War Commemorative Pens will be produced. Each will be enclosed in a handsome cherrywood box. The Official 50th Anniversary of the

Korean War Commemorative Coin, in antique brass with brilliant color, will be embedded in the lid of the box, which bears the immortal phrase, "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE". **\$99.00 ea.**

C. Official 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coin: Anniversary seal in brilliant color set in antique brass. Hand-sculpted and die-struck, the coin is preserved in a custom card package with interpretive text. **\$14.95 ea.**

D. Limited Edition Fine Silver Commemorative Coin: Struck in .999 pure fine silver, each coin is preserved in a custom card package with interpretive text. **\$39.95 ea.**

E. Official 50th Anniversary Leather Coaster/Paperweight: 50th Anniversary seal is presented in die-struck antique brass and recessed in rich burgundy leather. **\$12.95 ea.**

F. Official 50th Anniversary Commemorative Medallion: 3" medallion in antique brass with 50th Anniversary seal in color on 1 side and a marvelously hand-sculptured depiction of an American soldier on reverse. **\$24.99 ea.**

G. Official 50th Anniversary Lapel Pin: Gold-plated lapel pin bearing the 50th Anniversary color seal of the Korean War. **\$7.99 ea.**

H. Official 50th Anniversary Key Fob: Die-struck antique brass with 50th Anniversary set in color and attached to a key ring by a brown leather fob. **\$9.50 ea.**

I. Official 50th Anniversary Commemorative Medallion Gift Set: In custom, hand-crafted and flock-lined cherrywood keepsake box. Gift box included. **\$99.00 ea.**

To order please call, write, fax or visit our website.

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Korean War Veterans Certificate

The beautiful, full color 11" x 17" certificate pictured on the right is now available. It is produced on parchment-like stock.

A special certificate is available to family members of those who made the Supreme Sacrifice in the Korean War or who died of wounds received. The individual request should have the date of death and place and be certified by the requester.

Veterans who want to have a certificate made up for the spouse or descendant of a fallen buddy and can certify to the event, may do so. Multiple copies of the same certificate can be ordered if you have a number of children/grandchildren. You may order certificates to give to members of your unit or provide them with an order form.



Please be sure all information is printed clearly or typed and include your serial number and unit designation while in Korea. In some instances, it may be necessary to abbreviate. Begin your unit designation with the smallest designation and list to the largest.

The certificate will be shipped rolled in a protective mailing tube and total cost is \$20.00 paid in advance. This beautiful certificate can be framed in a 16" x 20" frame with appropriate matting, mounted on a 12" x 18" placard or a walnut plaque.

Certificate Order Form

☐ I certify that I served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces in combat/support of the Korean War: 6/25/50- 7/27/53.

☐ I certify that I served honorably in the U.S. Armed Forces in Korea (9/3/45 to present - if not during above period.)

I served in: ☐ Army ☐ Air Force ☐ Navy ☐ Marines ☐ Coast Guard ☐ Other

I would like the following information on the certificate:

Rank (Optional) _____ First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____ Serial Number _____

Spell out full unit starting with the smallest group (i.e., Company, Battalion and/or Regiment, Division)

☐ Killed in action: Date & Place _____ ☐ Died of Wounds Received: Date & Place _____

Mailing Information:

Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Street Address _____ Apt No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 Code _____

Signature and date _____

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Send cash or make checks/ money orders in the amount of \$20.00 for each certificate payable to N. C. Monson. Mail to: N. C. Monson, 5911 North 2nd Street, Arlington, VA 22203.

Left to right: Ken Williamson, President; Gene Bowser, PR; T. Dale Snyder, Treasurer; Don Meek, Chapter Photographer. The sign is located East of Lena, Champaign and Miami Counties boundary (West bound traffic) US Route 36. A second sign is located South of Bradford Miami and Darke counties boundary US Route 36. A third sign is located East of Ohio - Indiana State Line (East bound traffic) US Route 36.

The pre-arranged sites were at US Post Office, Wal-Mart, Kroger, K-Mart, Marsh Supermarket, Chmiel's Market and a fifth-third Bank Branch. These public donations encourage this chapter to offer scholarships and purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and everyday supplies when our members travel to the Dayton VA Medical Center the first Tuesday of each month. Four \$500.00 dollar scholarships were available this year.

The recipients have been selected by our independent selection committee and announced at the June 6th meeting. A resident of the Piqua Senior Apartments (the old high school revamped) contacted the Miami County Veterans' Service Officer, Mr. Herb Gragg, to request a complete assembly of the United States Flag to display in the front lobby. Mr. Gragg called me with the request. I presented it at a meeting and there was a majority vote to make the purchase. This U.S. Flag was presented Memorial Day. Many forms have arrived requesting this Western Ohio Chapter's participation in area parades. This is the first year for this membership to participate in the Memorial Day Parade in Springfield, OH. Other members participated in area hometown parades. Members were in the Troy, OH Strawberry Festival Parade, June 1st.

Other scheduled parades were in Fort Recovery, OH June, 6th. and Fort Loramie Parade, July 4th. This membership participated in seven additional parades.

Gen Walton H. Walker Chapter #215 of Texas

On October 19, The North Texas Korean Veterans were honored by the Ft. Worth North Side High School. The honorees were invited to attend a football game, with half time ceremonies celebrating the 50th Commemoration of the Korean War. The joint H. S. Bands and the JROTC units, escorted 73 veterans as they entered the stadium and presented the colors of all branches of the service. Major General Kathryn Frost (USA) introduced

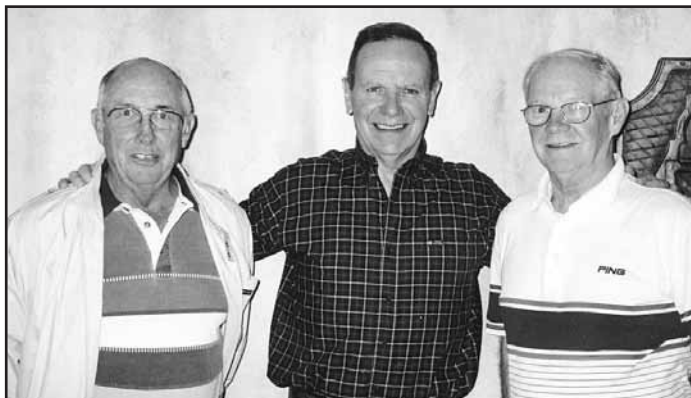


Dignitaries seated left to right in front row, Kyong-Suk Lee, Chi Bum Hoon, Korean Deputy Consul General Gun-tai Lee, M. Gen. Kathryn Frost, M. Gen Nels Running (Ret) at Podium. Seventy-two Korean veterans in line to receive medals and certificates from D. Rumsfeld.



Korean Veterans and families at football game in Fort Worth N. Side High School. Veterans were honored in half-time ceremonies.

Keynote speaker and presenter Major General Nets Running (USAF ret). Gen. Running and Korean Deputy Consul General Gun-tai Lee, presented Korean Service Medals and Certificates of Appreciation from DOD Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. All personally signed. Also in attendance were members of the Korean Community and Gen. Walker Chapter associate, Kyong-suk Lee, who sang America the Beautiful. MAG-41 was to have a flyover of FA-18s with the missing man formation; however developing weather deterioration prevented this portion of the event. In all it was an enormous and beautiful program, with the JROTC Cadets, and the North Side High School Faculty in full support. The General Walker Chapter has also participated with the School and has held four classes, reaching 160 students and faculty. Our Education committee is in full swing and the future with the schools looks great. To what more, can we aspire? If you really want to feel great— go to the schools! In comradeship, Dick Predmore, President General Walton Walker Chapter.



From left, Bill MacSwain, M. General Running (Ret), and Dick Predmore.

Manasota Chapter # 199 of Florida

Recent POW-MIA ceremonies in Bradenton, FL, were conducted by our chapter. Featured speaker was Ed. Barnshaw, Florida State Commander of the Disabled Veterans. He is pictured, on left, with Richard Caverly who was a Chinese prisoner for 33 months in North. Korea. Caverly served in the 2nd Inf. Div., 38th Inf. Reg't.



The new meeting site for our chapter is now at the Kirby Stewart American Legion Post in Bradenton, FL. Welcoming Korean War veterans is the post's past commander (Photo #2) Jim Munson (right), shaking hands with our president Bill Field. Also, shown are Bill Gilkerson, George Staudt and Paul Delgado.

Reno Chapter # 198 of Nevada

On June 15, 2002, Korean-Americans hosted a reception for Korean War Veterans Society (Chapter 198) and their spouses. It was held at Youngnak Presbyterian Church of Reno, Sparks, NV. It was a "magnificent" affair beyond the expectations of the veterans.

The organizing committee consisted of Rev. James Cho - president, Dr. Seung Park - first vice-president, and Mrs. Chang Park - second vice-president. The reception was in three parts: Ceremony, Luncheon and Entertainment. Invocation and Benediction was made by Rev. Cho. Welcome Address by Dr. Park. The Response to the Address was made by SGT Bob Holtzer USMC (retired), a chosen reservoir survivor.

Both anthems of America and South Korea, including Taps, was an important part of the program. Mr. Mark Lord was the trumpet performer.



Korean War Veterans, chapter 198 of Northern Nevada, Reno, Nevada.



Organizing committee reception for Chapter 198, Left to right Mrs. Seung Park, Rev. James Oho and Dr. Seung Park.

The generation of South Koreans deeply appreciate what America, including the United Nations Forces, did to prevent the communist forces of North Korea and China from occupying the area below the 38th parallel.

Each veteran received a nicely inscribed thermos-cup as a gift to remember the event.

Mahoning Valley Chapter #137 of Ohio

Lakeview High Remembers!

On Thursday, September 26th Lakeview High School in Cortland, Ohio held a program remembering "The Korean War Veterans Association" Chapter #137 of the Mahoning Valley. Robert Brothers of Chapter 137's speech was called "Korean Revisited."

Taking part in today's program are: KWVA Chapter #137 of the Mahoning Valley, American Legion Post #540 of Cortland and VFW Post #7614 of Johnston. The Korean War Veterans of Chapter #137



Chapter #137 members (l-r) Rocky Anobile, Richard Koker, Bob Brothers, Harry Ponkivar, and Allan Jenkins.

Continued on page 45

Korean War Medallion

Shown actual size, complete with neck ribbon, and case. The reverse side is suitable for personal engraving. Can be used in essay and AUX programs, scouting, R.O.T.C., etc... Personalized medallions are a lasting tribute from your chapter to any worthy recipient. Make checks or money orders payable to:

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Ad Courtesy of PC Production, Tampa, FL

Continued from page 43



The Forgotten Remembered. Pictured are some of the 24 Korean Veterans attending Lakeview High School Program. L-R are 1st row: John Cooper, Bud Baxter, John Klamut and Leo Taillon. 2nd row: Joann Onstott, Chuck Stepan, George Confoey and Fred Freisen. 3rd row: Ray Reber and Chaplain Walton Tully.



The stacked rifles with helmet at right, are in remembrance of those killed in action.



The three students holding the Korean 50th Anniversary Flag are (L-R) Jennifer Sanders, Cassie Bradway and Michael Shane of Lakeview High School. Their grandfathers are all Korean War Veterans.

present the 50th Anniversary of the KW Flag to 3 students of Lakeview High School. Their grandfathers were Korean Veterans, the students are as follows 1-r: Cassie Bradway, Jennifer Sanders and Michael Shane.

Also present were: Fireman Captain David Ray from Cortland, Bezetta Captain Tom Rink and Firefighter Mike Mannella. Policemen David Morris from Cortland and Bazetta acting Police Chief Charles Sayers. Hand signing for the hearing impaired was KWVA's Richard Koker. The Color Guard was in charge of Roger Gardner, American Legion Post #540 and member of KWVA #137.



Standing behind their rifles l-r are John Pariza, John Cooper, Harry Ponkivar, Allan Jenkins, Don Brown, and Rocky Anobile.



Pictured is Dr. Charles Sung from Korea who spoke and thanked the Americans who freed them. With him in the photo is (l-r), his daughter Stephanie, his son Jonathon, Joann Onstott, himself, and his wife Heather.



"Korean Hospitality" On Friday, September 13 th, Dr. and Mrs. Charles Sung of Hubbard, Ohio entertained at a Dinner Party which included 2 members of the Korean War Veterans Association Chapter #137 of Youngstown, Ohio. Pictured Left to Right: Dr. Charles Sung, Joann Onstott; Mrs. Heather Sung and John Pariza of Chapter #137. Dr. Sung's home-town in Korea is Sang Ju. Mrs. Sung is from Seoul. Korean and American food was served. A great time was had by all.



Chapter Honor Guard (l r): Milton Delauder, Herb Lucy, Bud Allgren, Bud Baxter, Bob Brothers, Rocky Anobile, Steve Firment, Roger Gardner, and Joe Palov for Taps.

Memorial Site Dedication - Our Chapter dedicated land for their Korean War Veterans Memorial in Austintown Ohio. Speakers were: Chapter 137 President-Zeno

Foley, Past President-Dean McClain, Past President-Robert Bakalik and a member of Chapter 137 Mahoning County Sheriff Randall Wellington. Our own Honor Guard gave the 21 gun salute. Refreshments were served.

Speaking, below, is Chapter President Zeno Foley, to his right is Richard Koker doing hand signing for the hearing impaired. Behind them is left to right Harry Ponkvar, William Roessler, John Cooper, and Don Brown of the Color Guard.

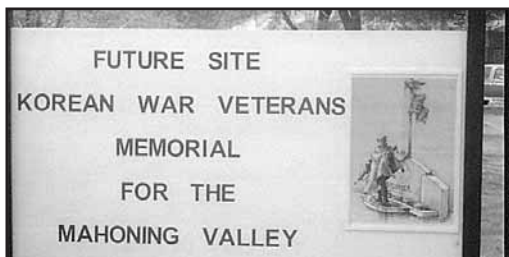


Exhibit for membership drive at a Kroger Store, left to right, Jack Armacost, Dick Wengert, W. B. Stiles, Bob Rupert.



A Fish Fry for the patients from Veteran Affairs Hospital Ctr. Wilmore, Ky.

Kansas City Chapter #2



Memorial Day 2002.Liberty Memorial, Korean Vet in wheel chair Jack Calgare



Central Kentucky Chapter #219

Our Chapter has had excellent cooperation especially from the Kroger Stores in our area in setting up our exhibit both inside and outside.



New Membership Drive Exhibit



Members paying respect to Vietnam veterans at their memorial on Memorial Day 2002.



Korean Veterans Honor Guard at Liberty Memorial (WWI Memorial)

KWVA Missouri Chapter #6



Bob Peitz and Homer Scott taking donations for "Rose of Sharon"



Washington State Park Memorial to Korean War, Washington County, MO.



Curtis J. Farley, Jr., taken at the 38th Parallel near Ola mines in Washington County Missouri.

Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards*

Many members have responded to the suggestion to temporarily help underwrite the cost of publication of *The Graybeards* by making voluntary contributions. This issue is still being printed considering cost restraints and due to change of printer and mailer we have been able to continue to reduce the cost per issue and also try to upgrade your newsletter.

Your heartening response has made this step possible. Hopefully we will be able to restore our newsletter to a higher quality with other desired changes in subsequent issues. Members please continue to respond by sending your contribution to Editor KWVA, or Treasurer KWVA marked: **Support of Graybeards**. Every donation will be recognized in the magazine. Those that do not respond for any reason are still valued members, for your dues also contribute to the printing of our newsletter.

Names listed came from those wishing to support KWVA by donations for: *The Graybeards*, "Looking For," "Reunions," and "In Memory of." At the time of publication the following names of donors and "Memorials" have been reported to *The Graybeards* and are listed as follows:

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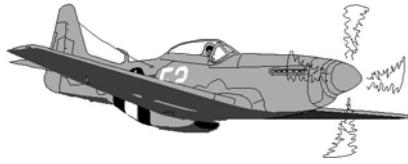
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White, G.
Wolff, P.
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Organizations:

Central Long Island Chapter
Dept. of Ohio
Maryland Chapter
Nassau County Chap #1
Taejon Chapter of N. J.
Western NY Chapter
In Memory of:
40th I.D. 160th Regt. F Co.
(By C. Ben Bowen)
Thomas J. Hurley USN
(By Virginia M. Hurley)
Cecile Smith, Army Nurse
(By Lena M. Tague)

BIRTHDAY BASH



Quad 50's and Ken Carlson September, 1950

The North Koreans chose a bad-weather day, September 1, 1950, to launch their expected "victory" offensive ... the extra lunge which they thought would drive our United Nations forces completely off of the Korean peninsula. The weather stayed poor ... low clouds and rain all along the front lines, for three days, and only a few isolated flights could sneak across the Sea of Japan from Ashiya, to the Pohang-Kiggye area near the East coast.

On Sept 4th, I flew a two and one-half hour mission from our remote base at Ashiya, Japan, to Hyopchon, near Seoul. I was amazed that we could almost navigate to Seoul by following the line of burned-out tanks, trucks and artillery pieces; it was even more accurate for navigating than the outdated maps of the roads and railroads. It was a good mission; lots of targets... a startling contrast to the unseen enemy of the previous week.

I saw a truck race into a tunnel near Tandong, a few miles west of Seoul, and was able to skip my Napalm bombs up against the tunnel entrance. I knew I'd destroyed the truck, and perhaps a few troops nearby... I learned to my surprise, a few weeks later when our forces took the area, that the tunnel contained, in addition to the truck: ten 76mm cannon, eight 120mm howitzers, five other trucks, four small jeep-like vehicles, and twenty or

more soldiers ... all destroyed by my 15 minute attack on the 4th.

September 6th, 1950, was a busy, busy day; when I flew three missions to celebrate my 27th birthday.

To give an idea how a day in a combat Fighter outfit ran during those early days of the Korean war, I tried to describe it from one pilot's personal viewpoint ... from the time I awoke at 04:20 AM until the end of the day...

I dressed quickly, 'just slipping my grubby flying suit over my underwear, which I'd slept in, then up to the Mess Hall for a breakfast of fried eggs and bacon, and a pint of reconstituted milk, the only kind available. Then, at 5:15 I went to the day's mission briefing ... four ships to contact the controller nearing Pusan, for the first targets.'

We were to land at Taegu after our first mission and work out of there for the rest of the day, then return to Ashiya after the last flight. Take-off was to be at 0615 (it didn't get light until about 0645).

After a short Operations briefing to my flight, where I told them specifics about power settings I'd use as Leader, we started getting into our flight gear about 0600. That included: pistol and belt (we'd be spending some time on the ground at Taegu, and the enemy troops were just a few miles north of the base), escape vest, Mae West (inflatable life vest), one-man

life raft, a seat cushion, oxygen mask, gloves and a stack of aerial maps about an inch thick ... since we don't know in advance what area we'd be working after take off, we had to carry detailed maps of the entire country, plus one more covering the Japanese island of Kyushu.

We were strapped into our cockpits and started engines at 0610 AM, taxied out and stopped at the end of the runway for the armament crew to plug in the wires on our rockets, and check the fuses of our Napalm (fire bombs). After those were all checked, we ran up the engines and checked the magnetos and instruments. With all the checks 'OK,' we pulled out onto the runway, lined up, turned on my landing light and poured on the coal.

With a full load of fuel and armament, we took off one at a time on those bumpy runways, rather than taking off in formation; that way, an engine failure wouldn't cause an explosive accident for the wingman.

When my wheels broke ground in the darkness, I raised my landing gear, throttled back to climb-power settings, and climbed straight ahead at 190 mph for 30 seconds, then started a gentle climbing turn to the left for 180 degrees of turn. By the time I passed the field at 2000 feet, the rest of the flight was easing into formation on my left wing, and I set course for Pusan ... still in a gentle climbing turn.

About two miles offshore my No. 4 man had an airspeed indicator, vacuum system failure and decided that he had better "abort" the mission. We made a 360 degree climbing turn while he dropped his bombs harmlessly into the Sea of Japan and returned to Ashiya for landing. The extra weight, about 1700 pounds, of the Napalm tanks, plus the hazardous possibility of having them accidentally drop off onto the runway, made it necessary that we throw them away, rather than try to land with the bombs.

After one orbit (circle), we continued on course, while I flew "on instruments" in the dark, with the other two ships flying formation on my navigation lights. When we reached 5000 feet and leveled off; streaks of light were beginning to splash across the eastern sky behind us, and I could see the horizon well enough to fly visually. When I crossed the northern tip of Tsushima Island I called the Controller by

Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War

by

Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman,

Lt Col, USAF, Ret

radio, told him how many ships I had, and the armament we had on board. He directed us to the Masan area and contact the local control ship for targets. At 0645 we passed over Pusan and flew southwest along the lower Nakdong River.

When directly north of Masan, I called the ground controller, gave him the details of our armament load; he told us to contact a certain T-6 'Mosquito' air controller in the vicinity of Yongsan. After some trouble making radio contact, we got together with the spotter ship over the town of Yongsan, and he directed us northwest to where the Hwang-gang River empties into the Nakdong.

On the southeast bank of the river, in a couple of small villages there were supposed to be some camouflaged vehicles and supplies. I told the rest of the flight to remain at 5000 feet while I went down for a closer look at the target.

Making my first pass on the deck, down river from the east... out of the sun, at about 350 mph I followed the river around the bend, looking into the villages on the left bank, but didn't see anything of interest at that time, so I pulled up in the other direction.

The T-6 spotter called and asked us to put a few rounds of machine gun fire into a certain square-looking haystack. When I did, the tracer ricochets went all over the place... that meant that there was something very hard inside of the hay. I pulled up to the east, set the switches for my napalm bombs, and came down out of the sun again. I released my bombs at about 50 feet altitude, and the napalm splattered all over the haystack. Later, after some of the hay had burned away, we found a truck burning inside.

There were several more suspicious-looking stacks in the little village close by, so the rest of the flight dropped their bombs on them. One started a good oil fire ... more fuel supplies knocked out. We worked over that bend in the river, hitting any and all haystacks in the area with rockets and machine guns. Several of them burned... they were not ordinary haystacks.

Before all of our ammo was expended ... we always save some in reserve, in case we run into an enemy fighter on the way home... we headed northeast to Taegu

landing about 0900 AM.

Intelligence interrogation, then down to the mess tent for a cup of coffee and a couple of doughnuts. About 1030 we strolled leisurely back to the Ops tent, found an unoccupied medical litter... no GI cots available, and took a little nap until 1130, when our ships were supposed to be rearmed and refueled. This next time we were loaded with rockets and 500 pound demolition bombs.

The three of us took off again at noon, climbed over the hills north of Taegu, where we contacted our ground controller. He sent us to Yongchon, on the railroad about 15 miles northeast of Taegu. There, about a mile south of the town, were a number of enemy troops pinning our GIs down in a valley. Our men were in valleys on each side of a ridge, and couldn't put up artillery fire for fear of hitting our people just a short distance on the other side of the crest. The low ridge was only about 350 feet high, a mile long and about 1/4 mile wide. That was just our 'meat', giving us the opportunity to show our Infantry what a couple of good F-51 pilots could do for them.

There was a cluster of huts at the southern tip of the ridge; they were to be our first target. With the flight "in-trail" behind me, we climbed to 7000 feet, and came straight down on the village, strafing as we dove. I released both bombs at about 2000 feet, and pulled out at 1000 feet doing about 450 mph. Both bombs were direct hits on the little village, and between the three ships, we blew the little community right off of the hill.

We then circled the ridge and set up a 'traffic pattern' while we worked over the hill with our rockets and machine guns. Our shell casings were literally dropping into the backs of friendly trucks on every strafing pass and, since we had the enemy completely pinned down, our Army troops were standing up and waving at us every time we flew over their positions.

When my ammo was almost gone, and I had only one gun still firing, I found a truck hidden in an orchard. With but one gun firing, instead of the usual six, it seemed like I was shooting with a water pistol, but in three passes I finally got it burning.

When we left the area we could see our

troops climbing to take the battered ridge... a good feeling.

We were on the ground at Taegu again at 1330 and I found one bullet hole in the left wingtip of my airplane. Again we were interrogated at Intelligence, then went down to the Mess tent for a bite of lunch. When we wandered back to Operations about an hour later, I found an empty litter and a Time magazine, and relaxed for a bit. 'What a soft life', I thought; I sure envied the pilots without ground jobs, 'nothing to do but fly missions all day long!'

At 1600 hours Harry Dugan woke us and told me that he had a 'juicy target' for us... three enemy tanks rolling toward Taegu. One of them was reported to be already damaged, but the other two were still running, and a flight of F-80 jets had them pinned down with machine gun fire in a valley alongside the railroad tracks, twenty miles northeast of our base. This time two of us carried napalm fire bombs, and one had a pair of 500 pounders, plus rockets and machine guns. We took off at 1630 and went directly to Kunwi, where we contacted the aerial controller, who pointed out the tanks. There they were... no camouflage, right out in the open ... lined up about 100 feet apart, right next to a steep hill.

We made our first pass from the west, out of the sun, in case there was enemy ground fire; my napalm landed short, in a rice paddy, and only a small bit splashed up onto the end tank. It didn't create much of a fire.

Our number 2 man came in from the north and got a good hit on the middle tank, destroying it with his blazing napalm. No. 3 climbed to higher altitude and rolled over to dive bomb the same tank that I'd worked over. He got a near-miss on the railroad, but didn't do any damage to the tank. I made a couple of rocket runs and had two direct hits on the tracks of 'my' tank; that put it out of commission. We then worked over the surrounding area, looking for other traces of the enemy, and strafing any suspicious-looking haystacks.

At about 1715 I called the flight together and we headed back across the water toward Ashiya, arriving on the ground at 1830. That time I had to write my own interrogation report, then went back to the

BOQ about 1930, where I showered, shaved and put on a clean uniform before going up to the Officer's Club about 2030 for a delightful dinner and a couple of nice after-dinner drinks.

About 2230 (1030 pm), feeling a little weary, I went down and hit the sack ... to end my most unusual birthday anniversary. It was an exciting and very successful day. I had flown six hours of combat time on three missions ... a couple of weeks previously we were flying that long on just one mission; and we had done a helluva lot of damage to the enemy. I didn't see one shot fired back at me, although obviously there must have been a little bit on the second mission, judging from the hole in my left wing.

But for me the whole day was a welcome variation from my usual daily mixture of paperwork and mission flying routine ... I thoroughly enjoyed my 'birthday bash'!

We moved our base back to Korea on 8 September... this time to the newly-refurbished base at Pusan (K-9). Back into tents with dirt floors again!

On September 10th, a mission from our new base at Pusan (K-9), to Kunsan, near Seoul, took me just 2+45 hours, and made it possible for me to carry bombs and rockets again, instead of just the long-range fuel tanks I'd have had to carry if we'd been still flying out of Ashiya.

Hard rains throughout South Korea on September 11th, kept our sortie rate to the lowest of the war, at a most critical time. The Red troops were by then within ten miles of our base at Taegu, and were bringing up artillery to begin the shelling of the airstrip. On the following day, the 12th, they were within 8 miles of the base, at Tabudong, but, fortunately, the weather ceilings lifted just enough to enable a maximum flying effort by our crews.

Five "waves" of attacking Red troops battered our frontline at Yongsan, but each was thrown back by our GIs ... aided by our incessant close air support pressure. Despite the rain and low, scuddy clouds over the battle area, our 12th Squadron pilots got thru to the targets while all other fighter and bomber units were grounded by the weather. At that point we were very thankful that we had moved our home base from Ashiya to Pusan just the previous

week!

I spent the following day pounding the typewriter and assisting in the steady stream of pilot interrogations; now that we were separated from our cohorts in the 67th fighter squadron, we had to go back to handling all of our own intelligence interrogations and related paperwork. It made my ground job tougher than ever, not only because of the accelerated sortie rate, but because our fellow pilots were accumulating Air Medals, Purple Hearts, Bronze Stars, Distinguished Flying Crosses, Legions of Merit and Silver Stars at a fantastic rate. My typing skills improved by leaps and bounds on an old L.C. Smith... in those 'olden days', before electric typewriters.

The Reds were making a desperate attempt to break through our lines on three or four different fronts; they were pounding in the south, in their 'end-run' around Masan; they were still trying to cross the Nakdong near Waegwan, still beating on the central area north and east of Taegu ... and they were racing, almost unimpeded, down the mountain road along the far east coast near Pohang-dong. Our pilots were based closest to the east coast, so many of our strikes went to that area.

I flew my next mission on the 14th of September, with a 'distinguished' wing man ... Major Ken Carlson.

I'd first met Ken at Roswell, New Mexico in 1948, when he was the Commander of the 60th Fighter Squadron, 33rd Group. He'd come over to Japan on the USS Boxer in July 1950, and had been temporarily detained in Tokyo because they wanted him to work in FEAF Headquarters... an assignment of which he wanted no part.

He was adamant in his desire to get into one of the Korean operational combat squadrons. He had flown combat in Europe during World War II and reportedly, had several victories to his credit, and a whole chest-full of high-powered medals.

Because of our brief acquaintance at Roswell, he asked to fly with me during his 'combat check-out' at Taegu, and he soon learned that I was 'hard' to fly formation on, because I was continually jinxing the plane around the sky, to keep gunners from taking accurate aim on their target. He liked that '...you pickup fewer bullet

holes that way'!

On the 14th we were set up in a four-ship flight, with Bill Slater leading, Bill Bridges on his wing, I was Element Lead and Ken Carlson brought up the rear on my wing. We each carried two napalm tanks, rockets and machine guns, and were in the Pohang-dong area within twenty minutes after take-off from our base at Pusan.

We contacted the local T-6 spotter ship, which told us he had pinpointed the location of a gun position which had shot the tail off of another control ship just thirty minutes before. He wanted us to go in and knock him out before the guy created some really serious problems for someone.

There is little in life that makes you feel more insecure than to know you're going to have to attack a known flak position ... knowing that the gunners can see you, but you don't know for sure where they are. It always gives the flak gunner the first shot, and you're not much of a threat to him until after he starts firing at you ... at which time you hope you can see his muzzle blast and return his fire, quickly and accurately... or else.

The Mosquito spotter ship pilot fired a smoke flare into a creek bed between a group of low, bare ridges, then told us the guns were in a certain clump of bushes on a ridge two hundred yards east of the smoke flare.

Bill Slater dove in first, dropping his Napalm bombs east of the smoke flare. They landed fifty feet short of the intended ridge. Bill Bridges went in next, from a different direction, and dropped his bombs nearby... close to where we thought another set of machine guns were located. Carlson and I circled at about 3000 feet over the area, just out of the gunner's effective range, looking for muzzle flashes. We couldn't see any until Bridges had finished his attack, and started climbing, when we could see the flashes coming out of a clump of trees about 75 yards behind where the bombs had been hitting.

During the time Ken and I had been circling, I was planning my line of attack to place my ship within the enemy's line of sight for the briefest possible time. So, when Bridges pulled off, I knew just which way I was heading. I signaled Ken, by hand, to 'firewall' his throttle, then dove onto the deck just behind a low ridge south

of the target. We followed a little ravine which ran toward the north, then popped up over a little covering ridge just in front of the tree clump. With Carlson following just a few hundred feet behind and to my side, I fired steadily at the trees with my machine guns as soon as we cleared the first ridge, then dropped my two Napalm bombs so they'd splash forward into the suspected clump. I got a beautiful hit, with the fan of flaming jelly bouncing and spreading out to penetrate deep into the trees. Ken Carlson dropped his bombs right next to mine, and they too penetrated deep into the forest.

We immediately hit the deck again, and I started kicking rudders to skid the airplane from side to side, turned north at the first little valley and continued to jinx' around for a couple of miles before pulling up into a steep, full-throttle climb, leveling off, finally, at about 2500 feet.

Carlson had seen another gun position firing at me, off to the side of where he had dropped his bombs, and, before he could turn out of the way, his airplane was hit in the engine by a 20mm shell. He immediately pulled up and headed toward the nearby airstrip at Pohang... now deserted and in the middle of 'no-man's-land'. We weren't sure whether we or the North Koreans owned the real estate by that time, but Ken had to find a level spot to put it down, and quick, for his engine had started to flame.

He managed to spike it onto the ground ... downwind, and get it stopped at the far end of the runway.

As he opened his canopy he heard the sharp "twang, twang" of rifle fire, which told him he we didn't really own the airfield. He jumped out and ran for a nearby drainage ditch, while we circled overhead, looking and ready to strafe any troops

which didn't look friendly. A group of five Koreans in civilian attire moved toward him, and Ken wondered how far his seven rounds of .45 pistol fire would go towards stopping them ... but they stopped, and tried to signal that they were friends. About that time the Mosquito control ship came over to tell us the field had not yet been taken by the Reds. But Ken didn't know that; and he didn't move from his huddled position in the drainage ditch ... until the T-6 spotter landed and taxied over to where he was hiding.

There wasn't room in the control ship to pick him up, but he was assured that there would be a helicopter along very shortly. We continued to fly top-cover until the chopper had safely picked him up and he was on his way back to Pusan.

Ken Carlson had just survived his fourth knock-down. He had been shot down three times in Europe, and now once more during his first week of combat in Korea. Ken blamed himself for getting hit; 'said that he was too intent on taking accurate aim on the target and wasn't 'jinxing' his airplane around like I was. The gunfire that he heard on the ground was a lone sniper in the hills north of the Pohang airfield perimeter.

Major Ken Carlson was a Regular Air Force officer, professional Air Force. He was an example of the dilemma that the Air Force began to encounter in the years immediately following World War II ... namely: the best, most successful combat pilots oft-times did not fit the "Jack Armstrong, All-American Boy" image that the peacetime Air Force wanted to present to the American public. Many, like Carlson, received rapid promotions while they were quite young, and were at their efficient best while winning victories and successfully killing the enemy. But, with

Victory and peacetime, these brave killers were then suddenly expected to keep all of their uniform pockets buttoned, hair properly combed, shoes shined and teeth brushed and sparkling... fitting into the imaginary mold devised by some unseen "they", who contributed little more to the war effort than the reams and reams of restrictive regulations.

Many fine pilot officers couldn't... or wouldn't, bend to the false image demanded by that peacetime mold. Ken Carlson was one of these. He had been "passed over" for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel for a second time and, with the current rules, that meant that his Regular Air Force Commission would be revoked, and he must be separated from the service... at a time when his highly-developed skills as an experienced combat fighter pilot were sorely needed in Korea... combat victories and a multitude of awards and decorations notwithstanding!

Ken was transferred to Tokyo in November, 1950, where I ran into him, briefly, in the University Club. We had a farewell drink together... but he had no good news to pass on to me. He was later transferred back to the 'States, but I was never able to learn the final outcome of his hearings. I had always hoped he was ultimately able to 'beat the system' ... he was a helluva good fighter pilot, and we needed a lot more of his ilk.

It's really too bad that we can't put our highly-skilled, professional 'killers', our top notch fighter pilots, in a state of suspended animation during peacetime, so they would not embarrass the Air Force bureaucrats with their drinking and their youthful, carefree hi- jinks. Then, when the wars come, we could pull them off the shelf, dust them off, shoot them with a hypodermic of some sort, and send them off to risk their necks for us while mercilessly attacking the enemy!

We needed more combat fighter pilots like Ken Carlson, and fewer of the Tokyo-based desk jockeys!

Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman, Lt Col, USAF, Ret
"...one of those OLD, Bold Fighter Pilots.."
(Col. Biteman passed away on September 29 2002. I will honor him and his unit by printing all of his stories. Editor.)

Next Issue: **Major Ken Carlson**
 Downed by flak trap, up or out for promotion.

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axes standing by to cut the ropes real quick in case the enemy broke through the line and we had to get out of there in a hurry,” says USAA member Merl Smith, a licensed junior engineer and Navy reservist, who was serving aboard the *Meredith Victory*.

The Army Corps of Engineers built a wooden causeway from the beach across the Norcuba’s deck to the *Meredith Victory* so the refugees could board. Lunney’s biggest concern was keeping the refugees moving. “To me, the Korean people seemed very stoic and very brave. There was no disorder to speak of in these lines coming aboard.”

The evacuees were loaded like cargo, suspended down into the holds on wooden pallets. They stood shoulder to shoulder, mixed in with the fuel drums on the lowest level. As each 10-foot tall compartment was filled, the deck boards were put in place. “There was a ventilation system, but it was for freight, not people. I’m sure they would have liked to have more air,” recalls Smith.

Once the endless line of refugees had crammed into the lower holds, they spilled out onto the main deck “There they had plenty of air, but they were exposed to the freezing cold,” Smith recalls. Twenty-six hours later, at shortly past 11 a.m. on Dec. 23, the ship was full. Amazingly, the *Meredith Victory*, with accommodations for only 12 passengers, held 14,000 refugees.

As the freighter set sail, followed shortly after by the last troop ships, the waterfront area exploded in a fiery thunder, as the last of the munitions were destroyed.

The captain’s view

In an article for “This Week” magazine, dated Dec. 11, 1960, the now-deceased Capt. LaRue stated, “I cannot possibly describe the nightmarish quality of that journey. We had no food and almost no water for the refugees they ate only what they could bring aboard. There were no extra blankets, no clothing to warm them. Yet they behaved well.” There was no doctor or medical supplies and no interpreter.

LaRue said, “With this cargo of souls,

we steamed out to the open sea toward Pusan on the southeast Korean coast, about 450 sea miles, or about 28 hours’ journey. Ahead lay these formidable risks: We were facing waters mined by the enemy with a vessel that had no means of detecting them or destroying them. We knew that Communist submarines, operating in the vicinity, could easily spot us and sink us with a torpedo. We realized only too well that in the No. 2 lower hold was 300 tons of highly flammable jet fuel. A spark could turn the ship into a funeral pyre. We had no escort vessels and no way to protect ourselves against air raids. Yet nothing touched us during that incredible voyage toward Pusan.”

Lunney recalls an especially harrowing incident along the way. “I recall being asked by the captain to go down below because a number of the passengers were building fires atop the fuel drums to keep warm and to heat food. It was with great trepidation that I went below in an attempt to get the refugees to put the fires out without startling them.” After waving his arms, saying the universal word “No!” and simulating an explosion with his voice and hands, the staff officer was able to convey the severity of the situation and the refugees put out their fires.

A near-riot

Smith remembers the hardships the evacuees faced. After coming off watch in the engine room, he went to his quarters. “I heard this tapping on the porthole. I looked over and could see the people with their cups. They just kept knocking, hoping I would give them some water. So I made the mistake of opening the porthole. I thought I’d start filling up a couple of cups to help a few of them. Then so many arms came through the porthole that I realized I was creating a real problem.” Crewmen had to disperse the crowd so he could close the porthole. “From then on, I put on what they call the deadlight, a metal covering for the window,” Smith explains.

Otherwise, the refugees were remarkably resilient. Lunney says that the first night a baby boy was born. Although Lunney was present to render aid, it

quickly became apparent that the Korean women were quite adept at handling the situation. Four more babies were born on the voyage and all survived.

Christmas Eve

When the ship finally arrived at Pusan on Christmas Eve, the crew was astounded to learn that they could unload only a few of the passengers because the city was overrun with evacuees and the retreating military. “It was such a tumble of chaos,” Lunney describes. Only a few refugees who had come aboard wounded, plus a few people identified as Communist sympathizers, were allowed off the ship. “I thought maybe some of the refugees would start jumping overboard, but they didn’t,” Smith recalls.

In order to calm the refugees, LaRue convinced authorities to send some South Korean military police and interpreters onboard for the remaining journey to Koje-Do island, about 50 miles to the southwest. “They also delivered some food to the ship in 25 to 30-gallon G.I. cans,” Lunney says. “But it was only enough for a few people on deck. It was nothing compared to what they needed,” Smith explains.”

The ship steamed toward Koje-Do and arrived later that day Christmas Eve, but it lingered overnight on the open sea while the logistical problems of unloading the passengers were discussed. The Koje-do harbor was overcrowded and there were no docks or facilities to guide the freighter to the beach. Several Landing Ship Tanks (LSTs) — Navy vessels used to land tanks on a beach would be necessary to get the civilians from ship to shore.

Land at last

On Christmas Day, 1950, which also happened to be Smith’s 23rd birthday, the crew unloaded its human cargo. To do so required an LST to pull alongside the *Meredith Victory* where the two ships were lashed together. A winch-and-pallet mechanism was again used to lower the refugees, 16 at a time, into the LSTs. “The risk of death or serious injury was great,” said LaRue. “The vessels pitched perilously in the swelling sea all through the unloading, the hulls banging and sep-

arating. The lines might part; somebody could be crushed between the two ships." Yet no one was. As they left, the Koreans gave a half-bow, Lunney says. "There was no overwhelming joy on their faces, because they had only begun their journey to freedom."

Looking back

While the 47 men of the unarmed merchant marine vessel, the SS *Meredith Victory*, never fired a single shot or stood in the frozen trenches during the darkest battles of the Korean War, Lunney believes their efforts contributed greatly to the war effort. "I think what we did was a great humanitarian effort, which may be the quintessential element of what war is all about, because war isn't necessarily about killing people and gaining real estate. I think it's about the preservation of a people." The merchant mariner went on to practice law while continuing a nearly 43-year career in the Naval Reserve. He retired from the Navy as a captain in 1987, but continues to practice law in White Plains, N.Y. He was asked by the U.S. Department of Defense in 1997 and 1998 to observe

joint recovery operations and confer with the North Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding prisoners of war and American servicemen missing in action.

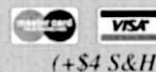
Smith sailed on the *Meredith Victory* as a Naval reservist after graduating from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. He later served on active duty and in the Navy Reserves for several years before leaving the military as a lieutenant for a career as a marketing manager. Now 74 and living in Valatie, N.Y., Smith says, "I really felt I did my part in saving 14,000 people. I can still see their faces, especially the kids. That touches me more than anything, the little kids. I can see them running along, holding on to their parents and they haven't any idea what's going on."

(This story was sent to me by Mr. Lunney a few years ago. Sorry it took so long in printing. I met Mr. Lunney on that trip to North Korea in 1998. As you can see by his story he honors those he served with and all who served. I was honored to spend about a week with him back in October 1998. He is also a true hero. I am sure those refugees will agree also.—Editor.)



WEEKEND WARRIORS by Paul L. Cooper. Churchill called them "twice a citizen" — the military Reservists. This account of their contribution in the Korean War is written from a citizen/sailor viewpoint as part of the Reserve fighter squadron VF-871 aboard the USS *Princeton* **\$23.95 pb**

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Vietnam. How dare anyone omit it by deeming it to be unimportant? On the other hand, other than those involved in one way or another, perhaps few in the United States really cared that much. I want to remind the reader that this "forgotten war" claimed the lives of approximately 54,000 American men and wounded at least another 100,000. How dare anyone refer to it as anything other than what it was, war, war with all its accompanying pain and death and loss, bewilderment and confusion and any other emotions that are appropriate.

I trust that the older reader will become aware again and the younger reader, perhaps for the first time, that there was an awful war involving American boys sandwiched between World War II and the Vietnam war, and it took place in what was then an unknown country to most Americans and that country was Korea.

The title, *Men in Skirts*, may seem rather odd. It is a title that I picked when I first thought about writing a book on my Korean experiences some 47 years ago, many years before the rebirth of the women's movement of the late 60s and early 70s. It should be remembered that in the period leading up to the 70s, except for the years of World War II, women were believed to be less intelligent than men, incapable of abstract thought, unable to handle responsibility and independence, not allowed to take responsibility for their private lives and more able to follow than to lead. This is precisely the view the Army held of the enlistee and the draftee. It was and still is my unwavering perspective that we were viewed as not being very intelligent, unable to handle responsibility of any kind and, of course, unable to take responsibility for our private lives. In fact, there was no such thing as a private life. To be sure, we were much better suited to follow than to lead. In short, we were men in skirts. Of course, as with the view of women, this view was totally erroneous. One had to constantly fight this image, this mind set if one were not to succumb to it.

About the Author

After finishing his time in the Army, the author enrolled in the University of South Dakota where he received both his

bachelors and masters degrees. Following graduation he taught for eight years at a small church related college in South Dakota. He then accepted a position in sociology at Montana State University, Billings. Concomitant to his move to Montana he enrolled in the University of Utah where he received his Ph.D., also in sociology. Upon his return to the University at Billings, he focused his studies and research efforts on the newly emerging field of human sexuality developing and teaching a variety of courses. After 39 years Dr. Waltner retired from active college teaching. He and his wife Bonnie have two sons and live near Park City, Montana.

(From what I read Richard served with the 45th Inf. Div., 120th Medical Bn. He went to Korea March 12, 1953 and left in June 1954. About 200 pages of great stories full of emotion. I see a price of \$12.95. Contact iUniverse.Com. Inc., 5220 S. 16th, Ste 200, Lincoln, NE 68512 or www.iuniverse.com for purchase. I looked thru stacks of paper I found no letter from Richard H. Waltner or who sent me this book.)



A Foxhole View

Edited By Louis Baldovi

Preface

On The North Lawn Of The State Capital In Honolulu, beneath a canopy of native Hawaiian trees there is a wall 5 feet high. The wall is made of polished black granite and has many pedestals bearing the name of a Hawaii soldier killed in the Korean War. The wall is about 80 feet in length, and honors 456 of Hawaii's men who died in the Korean War. The Vietnam Wall is there also. On July 24, 1994, fortytwo years after the Korean War cease fire took place, the State of Hawaii dedicated this monument to honor all its gallant sons.

In comparison to the overall population of the United States, Hawaii suffered three times as many wounded and three and a half times the total number of casualties. Of the sixteen nations, excluding the United States, that sent ground combat units to Korea, only Turkey and the United Kingdom had more men killed in

action than Hawaii.

In spite of the sacrifices by Hawaii soldiers, little had been told about them following the war and, at the same time, very little was heard from its veterans. Perhaps people were just tired of hearing about wars. For whatever reasons, Korea became known as the "Forgotten War."

However, even with their newly found identity, very little has been written about Hawaii's Korean War veterans. This was the primary reason for my interviewing and compiling the experiences of the Korean War Veterans of Hawaii.

A Foxhole View is powerful and moving oral history of the Korean War. Here are highly personal accounts of the war from the rank and file of the infantry told in the distinctive voices of Hawaii's soldiers.

About the editor

Louis Baldovi served as a rifleman with the U.S. Army's 45th Infantry Division during the Korean War. After his reenlistment in 1953, he was assigned to the Hawaiian Infantry Training Center at Schofield Barracks as an instructor and drill sergeant. He later served as a schoolteacher and principal for twentyseven years. Baldovi lives in Honolulu, Hawaii. *(A book of 307 plus pages with many photos and great stories for those that served in this unit and the Korean War. For Book cost and information contact Louis Baldovi, 46-150 Nona Loop, Kaneohe, HI 96744-4016 or University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, Hawaii 968221888 (www.uhpress.hawaii.edu) or your local book store. I am sure they can obtain book and cost. A must read book.)*



Fletcher Destroyer Bluejacket

By Robert L. Johnson

Introduction (Edited for space)

I was a member of the recommissioned U.S.S. *McGowan's* second crew which served in Korea, and participated in the Around the World Cruise in 1952-53. We then served with the NATO fleet on Operation Mariner in the North Atlantic, continuing on NATO operations in the Mediterranean, England, Western and Northern Europe in 1953-54.

I look at my three and a half years of service aboard the McGowan, starting in July, 1951, as one of the definitive periods of my life. For years after I left the Navy, I dreamed of being back aboard ship with the crew with which I had served. I couldn't get the ship or my life aboard her out of my system. I couldn't leave her behind. That's how much I loved the McGowan.

Many of the guys who went aboard to recommission the *U.S.S. McGowan* for the Korean War (Conflict, Police Action), were young men who had enlisted from Southern Illinois, Southern Missouri, and the St. Louis area. Most were right out of high school.

About The Author

Robert Johnson was born and raised in Carbondale, Illinois, home of Southern Illinois University.

In 1951, tired of school and looking for adventure, he joined the Navy. After Boot training in San Diego, he was assigned to the *USS McGowan*, newly recommissioned for the Korean War. After serving in Korean waters, on Destroyer Squadron 20's Around the World Cruise, and NATO maneuvers in the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean, he was discharged and returned home to Carbondale. There he completed an MA in history at Southern Illinois University.

For 30 years he taught history at the high schools in Granite City, Illinois, near St. Louis, Missouri. Retiring in 1988, he has spent his time writing and fishing.

The Korean War History (Edited for space)

Second Crew-Cruise to the Far East and Korea 1952-1953

In January, 1952, while *McGowan* was being extensively overhauled in Boston Naval Shipyard, I finally convinced our executive officer that I was fit for doing something other than mess cooking, swabbing the deck, and being "Captains-of-the-head," so he offered me a Class A school. He said I could have radar, sonar, or radioman's school. At last I was going to be given a chance to get ahead in the Navy! Which one to choose? I didn't think I wanted to take down Morse Code all day, and I wasn't sure I wanted to spend endless hours in CIC with the top brass, so

I opted for sonar. All I really knew about sonar was that "Ping Jockeys" were supposed to locate submarines. So he shipped me off to Key West, Florida, for six months as a Sonarman striker. Good duty! Still, my mother was a little disappointed that I was no longer a "captain." (Captains-of-the-head cleaned toilets.)

October 12, 1952
(Edited for space)

On October 12, 1952, the *McGowan* weighed anchor on the morning after arriving in Sasebo, Japan, to sail for the war zone in Korean waters. She sailed north through the Korea Strait into the Sea of Japan. A General Quarters drill began almost immediately so the crews maiming the fiveinch guns could conduct firing practice. By the following morning we had crossed the 38th Parallel and had joined Task Force 77, which normally operated in the area slightly to the S/E of Wonsan, North Korea.

This was our first time ever with a large task force, and it looked like something out of World War II spread out as it was to the horizon in three directions. The coast of Korea could be seen to the west, about two miles distant. The entire task force consisted of the battleship, *Missouri*; carriers *Essex*, *Bon Homme Richard*, *Kearsarge*, and *Oriskany*; cruisers, *Juneau*, *Helena*, *Toledo*, *Los Angeles*; and 32 destroyers.

(A special book about a dedicated sailor and his ship that fought a great battle with many of us during the Korean War. A 207 page book with many great stories.

This book "Fletcher Destroyer Bluejacket" can be purchased online on the 1st Books Library.com website for \$16.50 for the 6 x 9 Dust Jacket Hardcover, and for \$10.50 for the 6 x 9 Trade Paperback. In a couple of months the book can be ordered through Borders, Barnes and Noble, and Amazon.com, but it will be more expensive from those book-sellers.

You can contact Robert Johnson at # 1 Frontenac Lane, Granite City, Ill. 62040. Tel: 618- 8774531. A great Naval Story for those of us that do not know the history of our Navy in the Korean War.)



MEMOIR

By Don Davison

Second Introduction, May 1998

Don Davison died on May 19, 1998, and as he said in his introduction, he did not wish his personal narrative to be offered for publication. However, many of his friends have already heard these stories, and because they and we will always want to remember him, we have privately printed a few copies of this memoir for them to keep and read.

But this is not the original version. Many names and personal items have been omitted. (As Don said, that's nobody's business.) Moreover, in the section relating to the Korean War, every single person's name has been changed. Because some of these stories are not Don's alone; personal relationships described here are long past; and any 50yearold animosities are best forgotten. Moreover, Don felt that the young men who served in Korea, some of whom died, all too unwillingly, in the service of their country, deserved every consideration that could be offered to them. And I agree.

So read on. Enjoy Don's newspaper stories and his war stories. And remember him as a gallant, funny, and charming gentleman a man of perfect integrity and good will, a creative, bright, divergent thinker. And a hellofa good writer!

Excerpt

About 3 a.m. I was dozing in the CP when I heard shots very close. Then lights went up into the night sky and fell to earth not the parachute flares we used, that would hang in the air to illuminate the night these were Chinese signal flares. A bugle sounded what had to be an attack call. I had never heard such a thing, and since it was Chinese, maybe no other American soldier had heard it until then. Imagine, charging to the sound of a bugle!

I left the CP and ran up the hill as fast as I could. Men were shooting all around me. The noise was deafening, gunshots and the peculiar cuspexplosion sound of Chinese grenades and the sharper crack of our own. People were yelling, and the night was bright with flares and tracer bullets streaming red lines in the sky. Heavy firing sounded from King Company on my right flank. I was so pumped up with

adrenaline that I think I must have been able to see in the dark. My teeth were chattering with cold, but I don't remember being afraid there wasn't time for it. No time really to think at all. Men were running everywhere, and to my horror, some of them weren't my men. They were Chinese. We were already overrun . . . Why weren't my machine gunners firing?

I ran back down the thirty or so yards to my CP and got on the phone, and I didn't even have a chance to whistle before somebody from battalion was already on the line asking what was going on. I told him what he must have already known we had been hit and it looked like we were on the verge of being overrun. Whoever it was on the phone said to hold the position and asked if it sounded as though King Company was in it, and I said I was sure it was.

"About how many are there, d'you think?" he asked.

"I don't know," I said. "I'll go count'em!"

Just then a hand grenade was rolled into my foxhole under the pup tent and I dove out through the other side.

(Somewhere in my stack of files I have communication on who sent this book and why. It is just time consuming trying to find it. I already spent 2 hours looking. I will print the letter that came with the book. The letter says:

"Hi, here's the Memoir we have corresponded about. Sorry for the delay in getting it off to you.

Cordially

Ana, 1881 Sun Gazer Drive Viera, FL.
Tel: 321-433-1597 "

I do not have the zip Code. I suggest anyone interested in getting this book check with your local book store first then call Ana. 189 pages of great memories from 1928 and 24 years after including his Korean War Days.

As stated Don died in 1998 but his last words in this book were "perhaps someday I'll tell you about the rest ... the things I've had that I never thought would be mine. My wonderful marriage to Kathy, great children, satisfying work."

Thank you Ana we are proud to read his first 24 years and I hope others will get the book and do the same.)

BURNING from page 25

advise that Division Headquarters was near departure time to move south. I told him we were fully occupied with using magnesium grenades to render tracks and engines or heavy equipment and other vehicles completely useless. Also, gasoline was used to flood tires and other inflammable items on vehicles and all supplies and set them on fire.

He was also advised that the Battalion colors in their specially made wooden box had been set out ready to be drenched with gasoline. Chief of Staff Epply wondered if the situation was really that desperate. He was told that from our position there was no doubt. He wished us luck and signed off.

The colors, box and all, were drenched with gasoline. A last look at the colors with the unbelievable number of battle streamers was imprinted on our minds. Setting the fire produced a bright blaze that denied the enemy of a trophy they surely would have greatly prized.

(Thank you Arden for story and photo. Sorry we could not print all but what we did print hopefully honors all of your unit that bravely defended the retreat of our troops from the central front. Having lost a loved one at Kunu-Ri with the 2nd

I. D. and belonging to the same unit during that period of time I know about the valor and the loss of many of our buddies. -Editor.)



If you have the similar paintings to above, collected in Korea in 50s and 60s, and other Korean paintings, please contact Woo Park.
e-mail : whizcorp@korea.com
tel : +82 11 710 6240
fax : +82 2 738 4188
mail : KPO Box 3, Seoul, Korea

GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later than the second week of the first month of that issue.

Jan-Feb 2003Jan 10

May-June 2003May 9

Mar-Apr 2003Mar 14

Jul-Aug 2003July 11

Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased _____

Date of death _____

Department/Chapter _____

Home of record _____

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

Other _____

Primary Unit of service during Korean War

Submitted by _____

Relationship to deceased _____

Send to: Membership, P.O. Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210

Korean Battlefield Tours - 2003

Spring 2003 Special Commemoration Schedule

In 2003 - last year of the 2000 - 2003 50th Anniversary Commemoration - there will be several major Korea-Based Commemorations:

US Forces, Korea (USFK): "Veterans Appreciation Day"

April 23 - 30, 2003

Sponsored by the Central Florida Veterans Association, this tour attends the last USFK "Veterans Appreciation Day" Commemoration, held at Knight Field on Yongsan Army Post. All participants are welcome on this tour, which will continue on to tour Northern battlefields in the Chorwon and Kumwha Valleys, and in the Punchbowl.

40th Infantry Division: Chorwon, Kumwha, Kapyong, Heartbreak

May 16 - 24, 2003

Veterans of the US 40th Infantry Division have not yet had the opportunity to return to Korea as a group. Organized and led by author Frank Pruitt ("Reminiscence of a Forgotten War - Korean War Service with the 40th Division") this tour will visit 40ID battlesites in the Chorwon and Kumwha Valleys and the Punchbowl, and Kenneth Kaiser High School in Kapyong, built by the Division in 1952. By special permission of the ROK Army, this tour will also visit ROKA positions on Heartbreak Ridge - off limits since the end of the War.

US Naval Forces, Korea (USNFK): "Sea Power Commemoration"

May 25 - June 3, 2003

USNFK "Sea Power" is the only Naval Commemoration in 2000 - 2003. This Tour will attend the "Sea Power" Event at Pusan, including International Ship Visits, and visit the ROK Naval Academy at Chinhae. The tour will also cover major Naval sites of interest, including the Pohang and Incheon amphibious landing sites, and cover the ground battles of the first 90 days, which led up to the Incheon operation.

Mt. Do Sol Battle Festival: The Punchbowl and Heartbreak Ridge

June 17 - 25, 2003

In July of 1950, the Korean Marine Regiment fought a two-week battle at Do Sol San (Hill 1148) in the Punchbowl - a formative battle of the KMC. The battle is commemorated by the "Do Sol San Battle Festival", a week-long folk festival held in the Punchbowl every year. Our participants will attend the Festival as honored guests, and tour Punchbowl battlesites. By special permission, this program will also visit ROK Army positions on Heartbreak Ridge - off-limits since the end of the War. All participants are welcome on this tour, which will be of special interest to all Punchbowl Vets, as well as 2nd, 40th and 45th Division Vets who fought on Heartbreak Ridge.

50th Anniversary of the Korean Armistice

July 24 - August 2, 2003

July 27, 2003 - the 50th Anniversary of the Korean Armistice. This day will mark the end of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration, and large public ceremonies have been planned by the ROK Government and US Forces Korea. This tour will attend these ceremonies, and continue on to tour Northern battlefields in the Chorwon and Kumwha Valleys, and in the Punchbowl.

Fall 2003 Divisional Association Tour Programs

1st Cavalry / 24th Infantry Division Associations - Joint Tour September 24 - 30, 2003

Society of the 3rd Infantry Division October 3 - 10, 2003

7th Division Association October 15 - 23, 2003

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Looking for...



Tell us about your plans

There are many fine veterans organizations that are working on reunions and group trips to attend the commemoration events that will be held in Korea. Though we cannot organize reunions or group trips ourselves, we can help spread the word about your plans. Please let us know the “who, what, when, where” on your reunion or group trip and we can list the basics on our web site. Please provide a point of contact for the event, so that other veterans know who to contact. If your veterans group has a section on a web site involving a reunion or group trip, you can provide that information also. Since we are a government agency, we cannot recommend any commercial agencies, so we cannot list “Mary’s Military Tours of Korea, Incorporated,” etc. Please email the information to: <kw50ann@usfk.korea.army.mil.> Our regular mailing address is: 50th AKWC, PSC 303 Box 90, APO AP 96204.



I am Shorty Estabrook, Founder of the Tiger Survivors, a group of former POWs in Korea. I was with B/19/24 from June 1948 until 16 July 1950 when I was captured. I saw freedom on 29 August 1953. Anyone who was with the 21st Inf. Regt., 24th Div. and who was awarded the **Army Occupation Medal, Japan**, are requested to send a copy of your orders to Shorty Estabrook, 23816 Matador Way, Murrieta California 92562. The Next of Kin of Ralph McKinley, K/21/24 who was in Japan and then went to Korea and was captured and died as a Prisoner of War has requested his medals but Department of the Army said he was not authorized the Occupation medal. In fact the letter says that the 21st Regt., 24th Div. was never authorized that medal. This is not true as you know but now we have to build a case so this family can get the long overdue medal.



I am writing a book about the battle of **Triangle Hill (Operation Showdown)** and the U. S. soldiers engaged in that and related battles along the MLR in Korea during 1952 and 1953. My father, now deceased, was in the 31st Regt. and fought and was wounded in the battle. I have been working on the book for the past 18 months. In addition to extensive documentary research in the US and Korea, I have been interviewing veterans of the battle and those who were in the service during that period. To date, I have interviewed or corresponded with over 100 veterans of the battle. The battle was fought by elements of the 7th US Inf. Div. and the 5th USAF. I encourage any veterans who have knowledge of this battle and the other hill battles during Oct.-Nov., 1952 to contact Kevin Quinn, 310 Sportsmans Hall Rd., Queenstown, MD 21658. Work: (410) 267-8811, Fax (410) 267-8235, Mobile (410) 456-2376 or email <kquinn@wyeriver.net>.



In the past few years our unit, **GHQ 1st Raider Company**, has been somewhat successful in locating its former members. However, there are still a few that seem to elude us. Following is a list of those for whom we are searching. Hopefully, they are members of the KWVA and read The Graybeards, or perhaps some of our readers might recognize their names and can assist us in contacting our former comrades. Contact: J.E. “Buck” Ballow, 83

Roundtable Road, Springfield, IL 62704, or e-mail: <bballow@motion.net>.

Ayers, Maurice L, E., IL; Bach, Robert, WI; Boyer, Charles T., PA; Cook, Chester L.; Cooper, Donald G., CA; Coppage, John E., CA; Cramer, James E., OH; Davidson, Robert W., NJ; Davis, Elroy C., OK; Elliott, King, MS; Garcia, Ricardo E., CA; Garcia, Valentine H., CO; Gatley, John W.; Harlow, Jackie M., TX; Hart, James J., , PA; Kingery, John R., CA; Leach, William D., CA; Lloyd, Jack D., OH; Maples, Wilbert T., CA; Moffett, Donald W., MO; Monahan, John R., PA; Morgan, John R., Jr., CA; Munoz, John E., CO; Norton, Jimmie, TX; Nunn, Tames R., CO; Olson, James C., VA; O’neal, Harold J., IN; Pankow, George F., IL; Pastula, Joseph, PA; Patton, Cletis M., WA; Phillips, Charles L., DC; Posvic, Lyle J., OK; Rainey, John H., CA; Rodgers, Curtis, IN; Schwartz, John E., PA; Scott, Charles A., OR; Shields, Francis E., MO; Short, Eugene L., AR; Simpson, Robert A., MO; Speaks, Eugene, OH; Stocker, Raymond A., OH; Tabler, Robert K., PA; Torres, Andrew, CA; Weimer George D., OH; West, Richard L., Jr., MA; Whateley, Baron V. C., DC; Williams, Archie H., NC.

(Buck, this will be the last time we will do a looking for as large as this. 40 plus names is just too many. In future we will do a general looking for by unit and maybe a few names. KWVA National and I hope you will find these men. Due to size of this “looking for,” I will print in the next issue the photo and other text from your Feb 1, 2002 letter—Editor.)



Ex LTjg US Navy, 3 tours Korea aboard a destroyer, early 1950’s seeking additional information on death of boyhood chum (named our 1st son after him) and best friend, **George Scott** USA that after days on the bomb line was accidentally shot in a barracks May 1952 and died days later in a Japan hospital. Contact Don Harrington, 19 Woodcrest Way, Oxford, OH 45056. Tel: 513-524-7424 or e-mail at <ltjgnavy@aol.com>.



Trying to locate anyone who served with or knew Sgt **James W. Stephens** who in Howe Co. 3rd Bn., 7th Marines in Korea in 1952. Sgt James a squad leader was killed in action on Oct 6, 1952. He was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross for his actions in saving the lives of his wounded fellow Marines. I am Paul Finley and my address is 2056 US 70 East Lot 17 Fafford, AZ 85546. Tel: 9284289243. E-mail <PDDDan141@aol.com>.



My father passed away recently and going through his items I found a pin that has “*victoria cum honos*” on it. He served in the Korean war and wanted to know anything about this pin. Contact Joel Liebman, 23 North Lane Hadley MA. 01035 or e-mail at <joel@jlfurniture.com>.



My father Yong Soo Hou, a ROK. is a Korean War Veteran is looking for a British KVA friend, named **Peter Chadwick**. They both served in the Rear HQ of First British Commonwealth Div. some time 1952-53. He lost contact with Mr. Chadwick since mid 1960s. At the time, Mr. Chadwick mentioned about emigrating from UK to USA, Canada, Australia, or New Zealand. Contact me

at email <hou@cfc.dnd.ca> in Canada or <songisinhou@aol.com>.

★

Looking for Korean Vet **John Paterson**. I know very little about John Paterson. The only information I am sure is that he stopped in France before he went to Korea because he is my Dad. That was in 1950. I am also looking for units that went to France before Korea. Contact Johnny Deslandes at e-mail <jdl@mail.pf>.

★

I am inquiring about the records on **Veo Jessie** who was in the Korean War. He was reported as MIA during the year of 1950. Mr. Jessie needs retrieval of his records due to the fact he has been denied benefits that is due to him. Contact Veo Jessie 972251710.

★

I served with 10th Field Artillery of 3rd Div. from Oct. '52 to May of '53. James Foote of New York City and I volunteered to serve on liaison team with Belgium Infantry. We went up together and served together for about two months, as I recall now. I had appendicitis and never returned to Korea from Japan. I had 32 points so shipped for States. Since I left on a stretcher, I never got home with personal effects. Contact D. W. Coulter PO Box 264 Humboldt, AZ. 86329 or e-mail at <bbsdwc@cableone.net>.

★

I am trying to find out information on my father, **Hallet Samuel "Bunk" Pease**. He served in Korea, and was a member of the "Red Devil" company. I'm not sure of the exact dates of service but he was discharged in 1955 in San Diego, Ca. We have little information of his service years, I was born 1-1-59 and my father died June 27, 1959. We have some photos of guys in his unit in barracks and on R&R in Japan. Contact George W. Pease, III at e-mail <gpease@mindspring.com>

★

Five Brooklynites met aboard the ship before the *Princeton* left the states for Korea in 1950 became very good friends who spent



The boys of 1950-51. L to R: John Trombino, became a Bank Exec. Arnie Wolfson became a CPA, Pete Chiasera, became a High School Prin., Jim Clekis, became an Electrician then a Private-eye, Paul Johansen, became an Exec with the Shell Oil Co

many liberties together, and whose family got to know each other. Two of us are Italians, one is a Greek, one is a Swede and the last a Jew. If you didn't have the money or a clean uniform, that didn't stop you from going on the beach, as we were all brothers with one pocket. And now we are looking for one of our brothers, **Paul Johansen** who left Brooklyn after discharge in 1952. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Paul please get in touch with Arnold Wolfson, 717A Delair Road, Monroe Township, New Jersey 08831 or e-mail <alwolfson@aol.com>. We would like

him to join in a reunion sometime soon.

★

I am looking for **Robert "Bob" Chapman** that served in Camp Cook in California 1952 with the 44th Illinois National Guard Heavy Motor Co. The platoon Sgt, name Reebe. We received orders for Korea along with three other men. I believe he was from a city in Washington State. Contact Jim Adkins, 515 Washington Street, Apt 7, Vancouver, WA 98660. Tel: 360-993-0514.

★

My name is Stewart B. Koppel. I am looking for information on anyone who served in the 540th or 715th Transportation Truck Co's in 1952. Last year I was lucky I did hear from Dominick Miliano. I can be reached at <winebuf@aol.com>.

★


I am attempting to locate **Paul L. Jensen**, my former Plt. Sgt. when I served in the Army's 3rd Medical Bn. in Korea in 1953. Sgt. Jensen was from Tennessee. His last known address was Nevada, Iowa. Contact Herman F. LeBlers, 9451 W. Coronado Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70815. Tel: 205-924-1441.

★

Looking for anyone that knew my husband **Sfc. Joseph August Blissenbach**, 2nd Inf. Div., 38th Field Artillery, Service Battery. He was captured at Kunu-Ri, North Korea on 30 November 1950. Declared to have died at Pukchin - Tarigol on February 28, 1951. Contact Ellen Marie Blissenbach, 7525 Tree Lane #221-H, Madison, WI 53717-2063. Tel/Fax: 608-827-9658 or e-mail at <eblissenbach@aol.com>.

(When submitting copy to Graybeards, please take the time to type, print or write clearly. Also add a land address, e-mail address or telephone number.—Editor)

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64th Tank Bn Reunion



We had our 50th reunion – first time in 50 years. We all meet at Fort Knox, Kentucky 9/13/02. We all had a good time. We are going back next year. Shown back row L-R, Leon Dave, Jerry Spring, Laverne Wilson, Richard Herold. Front row L-R, Bill Pierson,, Clyde Rankie, George Roach We have 4 more names to contact now. LaVerne Wilson, 4625 Edgar Road,, Six Lakes, Mi. 48886, Phone 989-365-3345. (Thank you Laverne Wilson for letter and picture)

45th Infantry Division



On September 9th we hosted a group of 15 Korean War Veterans from all over the U.S. They were from the 445th Infantry Division and were having their reunion here in Fort Wayne. Jim Martino from California worked with me from their end and I worked on this end and we had the most wonderful time. To meet and be with other veterans and their spouses from so far away was truly a unique experience for all of us. We met at our beautiful memorial in the afternoon and then all had dinner that evening. (Thank you Mary Anna Roemke for letter and picture.)

Submissions to The Graybeards

Readers are welcome to submit letters, poems, articles, notes and stories to *The Graybeards*. Submissions are selected for publication on the basis of suitability, length, and timeliness. Opinions and comments published are the sole responsibility of the author. Official opinions of the Korean War Veterans Association appear under "Official Announcements."

2nd Chem. Mortar, 461st Inf., Heavy Mortar Bn



We held our reunion in New London, Connecticut September 26 through September 29. Attendees shown in photo.

7th Cavalry



Because of illness to some Tennessee couples, we have had mini-reunions in Tennessee, starting in 1997. The most recent one in Nashville, Oct 1-4. We made plans for same dates again next year. Someone said "hey, we aren't getting any younger, lets meet twice a year!" Sure enough we are meeting in Townsend, Tn., at the foothills of the Great Smoky Mts. the last week in March 2003.

Photo of men: L-R, Mike Miller, Guy Dukes, Leroy Rogers, Floyd Hardison, back row, Robert Walsh, Robert Thayer (Nancy Munson's letter opener cut paper, cannot list all names), John Eldon. These are 7th Cavalry troopers getting back together, after so many years. See photo of wives, after all these years, they share the same bond. (Thank you Leroy Rogers for letter and pictures. Next time, please send pictures to Editor not Nancy Munson)

61st ART 1st Cavalry



Prof Wijo Kang, Ph.D. — one of the guest speakers. He served with the 7th Division in Korea.

Mr. Wheatley hosted our reunion held at Best Western Motel in Pueblo, West Colorado September 2000.

On right, some of the veterans of 61st ART-1st Cav.



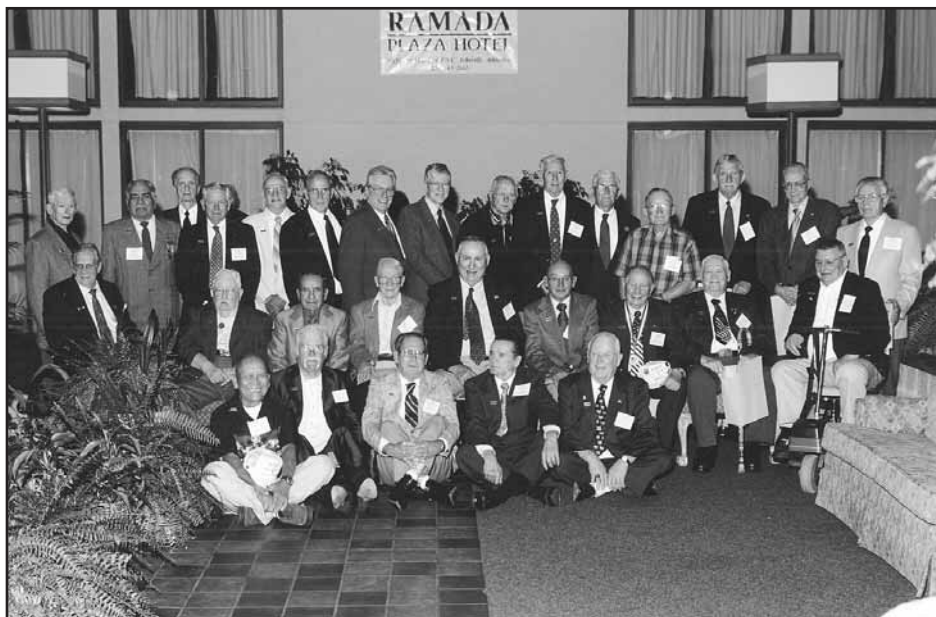
(Thank you Andy Maffucci for letter and pictures)

The Pueblo West High School R.O.T.C. Color Guard presenting the colors



92nd A.F.A.

On Oct. 13-15 the 92nd A.F.A. held its reunion at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Asheville, N.C. This was the largest reunion to date - 107 men signed up. There were probably 225 counting spouses, family members, guests and guest speaker. The guests were 2 paratroopers who just completed their schooling. The banquet was on the 15th. General Kimmitt from Fort Bragg was the main speaker. After his speech the names of the 32 men receiving the Presidential Unit Citation were called up individually. General Kimmitt pinned the P.U.C. on each man himself.



A Battery — John Blumberg (50-51), James Chatham 50-52), Ben Chism (50-51), Walter Duncan (5051), Price Eversole (5051) He wasn't feeling well His wife Jo accepted the PUC, Kenneth Knowles (5051), Thomas Murphy (5051) His first reunion. He's also joining the Chosin Few, Mark Pardoe (5051).

B Battery — William Brock (5051), John Gerstenschiager (5051), Lewis McKenna (5051), James Smith (4951) He was also awarded a lifetime membership he's 89.

C Battery — Felix Gallegos (5051), Clyde Heckert (5152), Al Ihan (5051), Robert Querry (5051), William Spainhoward (5051), Joel Turner (5051).

HQ Battery — Bill Barnett (5051) Samuel Beeler (5051) Ralph Harrison (5051) Charles Helmbold (5051) Mike J uhn (5051) John Weidenhammer (5051) Marlin Wolf (5051)

SVC Battery — Herbert Day (5051) William Gerovasil (4950), John Jay (4950), Damon Nute (4951), William Rosen (5952), Estaban Soto (5051), Winfred Ward (5051).

(Thank you Dick Lemmon for letters and pictures. May print P.V.C. Citation in later issue if I have space. Congratulations to all. —Editor.)

Keystone Uniform Cap

(215) 922-5493
FAX (215)922-5161

Division: M.H. Grossman
Manufacturers of Quality Uniform Headwear
801 North Front Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123

<i>Name:</i>				
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<i>Phone #</i>			Cap Size:	
Item:	Description:	Units	Price Ea.	Extension
Ft. Knox Cap:	Navy Blue Overseas Cap with a Square Cover at the Top. Cap has white trim and white letters, KWVA on the Flap, and Embroidered 2" patch sewn on the left side.		\$16.95	
Standard Cap:	Navy Blue Overseas with a Slightly Curved Cover at the Top. Everything else is the same as above.		\$17.95	
Additional Letters			\$.45	
Zippered Bag			\$ 2.25	
All items ship via U.P.S.	Shipping & Handling for 1 item	N/A	\$ 4.95	\$ 4.95
	Additional S & H charge per item		\$.50	
		Total Order Including S&H <i>All Orders are Paid in Advance with check or money order.</i>		
Embroidery Left side of Cap		Embroidery Right Side of Cap		

Membership Application

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210 (Telephone: 703-522-9629)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Assigned Membership Number: _____

K.W.V.A. Regular Annual Dues - \$20.00 • Associate Membership - \$12.00 • Life Membership - \$150

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal Member #

☐ POW \$6.00 Yearly & *The Graybeards*
\$60.00 Life Member & *The Graybeards*

Please Check One:

☐ POW

☐ REGULAR MEMBER

☐ LIFE MEMBER

☐ ASSOCIATE MEMBER

(Please Print)

Name _____ Birth date _____ Phone _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

-All new members. please provide the following information-

Unit(s) to which Assigned

Division _____

Regiment _____

Battalion _____

Company _____

Other _____

Branch of Service

☐ Army Other

☐ Air Force

☐ Navy

☐ Marines

☐ Coast Guard

Dates of service within/without Korea
were: *(See criteria below)*

From _____

To _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA

Mail to: Korean War Veterans Association Inc., PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210 (Telephone: 703-522-9629)

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD

Expiration Date _____ Your Signature _____

Name of Chapter (if applicable) _____

CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Section 1. Qualification of Members. Membership in this association shall consist of honorary members, regular members, and associate members.

A. **Honorary Members.** Any person of good character may be elected as an honorary member by the vote of the Executive Council.

B. **Regular Members.**

1. **Service in United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, said service being within Korea (September 3, 1945-June 25, 1950), within and without Korea (June 25, 1950-January 31, 1955), or who, as a member of the armed forces of the United States as defined by U.S.C. Title 10, served honorably in Korea from February 1, 1955 shall be eligible for membership. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability, so long as the individual meets the service requirements.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service in Korea during the Korean war era shall be eligible for life membership.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward shall be eligible for life membership.
4. **United Nations Command and Korean Army.** Any person who served honorably in the armed forces of the United Nations command or in the Republic of Korea armed forces during the Korean War era and thereafter shall be eligible to membership. 90% of members must be United States Veterans, 10% can be others
5. **Gold Star Mothers.** Any woman whose son was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership,
6. **Gold Star Wives.** Any woman whose husband was killed in action or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War shall be eligible for life membership.

WEB PAGE WWW.KWVA.ORG

ANNOUNCEMENTS from page 19

owned and flown by all who love God, country, our wonderful veterans, and our present day Armed Forces people (our future veterans).

To order flag, pin, patch or decal, contact Brian M. Stanley, PMB 142, 38 Broadway, Everett, Ma. 02149-2419.

Telephone 1-781-321-9170, Fax 1-781-338-9773. Web-site www.silentprayerflag.com or Virginia Moran Hurley, President, Gold Star Wives of America, Inc., Greater Boston Chapter, 5 Ellsworth Park, Cambridge, Ma. 02139. Ph: 617-497-8741.

Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul

After the attack on America and during our country's current state of war, there is no better time to turn to those who have experienced such troubled times for comfort and guidance. Now the legacies and stories of veterans are living on in the New York Times best-seller, *Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul*, a select collection of inspiring and gripping stories of heroism, bravery, comradery, laughter and patriotism.

Tales of Gettysburg, Iwo Jima, Anzio, Guadalcanal, Omaha

Beach, the Chosin Reservoir and Hamburger Hill are places woven into our national psyche because we all know someone who selflessly served their country in far-away places like these, defending the freedom we all share. *Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul* celebrates these extraordinary men and women who changed the course of history.

You will be overcome with emotion from these powerful true stories of veterans and their families, many of whom are sharing their experiences for the

Order personalized autographed copies of *Chicken Soup for the Veteran's Soul* For every book you purchase 10% will be donated to The Korean War Veterans Assn. or its Chapters

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first time. Whether they were Prisoners of War, Congressional Medal of Honor recipients, USO volunteers, loved ones who waited at home, or GIs who battled daily in the trenches, they all put their dreams on hold, held fast to their faith and overcame their fears in the name of freedom.

Whether you are a veteran yourself, are related to one or

simply enjoy the rights that they fought so hard to defend, this remarkable book will leave you with a heightened admiration for our nation's best. For more info call: 888-387-6373, fax: 641-472-0719, e-mail: remember@vetstories.com Write: Veterans Stories, Inc., PO Box 1537, Fairfield, IA 52556.

Reunion Calendar

March 2003

USS Georgetown (AGTR-2) and USS Oxford (AGTR-1) March 15-22 aboard *MS Zuiderdam* in the Caribbean. Contact George A. Cassidy, 37 Noyes Ave., Stonington, CT 06378. Tel: 860-535-1171 or E-mail: George@mail.mysticalcruises.com. Website: www.ussgeorgetown.com or www.ussoxford.com

April 2003

40th Inf. Div., 160th Inf. Regt., 2nd Bn., G Co. (1950-53) Cal., Japan, Korea. April 14-16 in Laughlin, Nevada. Contact: Bob Kuenzli. Tel: 503-364-5035 or Email: rwkuenzli@aol.com.

1st Battalion, 7th Marines (Korea 1950-1953), April 22-27 at Hilton Head, South Carolina. Contact Ed Orford. Tel: 843-525-0955

76th Engr. Const. Bn. April 24-27 at Drawbridge Inn, Ft. Thomas KY. Contact Roy F. Miller 6115 Roe Cincinnati, Ohio 45227. Tel: 523-272-3451. E-mail roy4d@fuse.net.

May 2003

USS Kenneth Whitting (AV 14) May 5-9 in Portland, Oregon. Contact: Al Moreno, 15311 Birch Street, Long Beach, WA 98631. Tel: 360-642-3247 or e-mail alrom@pacifier.com.

73rd Tank Battalion, May 8-11 at Independence, Missouri. Contact Curtis Banker, 44 Westcott Road, Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-1940. Phone or Fax 518-643-2302 or E Mail: dmbankercurtis@northnet.org.

5th Regimental Combat Team Association May 14-17 at the Radisson Hotel Jacksonville, FL. Room Rate \$85.00 per night including tax. Contact Bill Kane, Reunion Chairman, 1591 Birmingham, Avenue, Holly Hill, FL 32117. Tel: 407-275-7450.

June 2003

AP TRANSPORT GROUP- USS Generals Mitchell-AP114; Randall-AP115 Gordon-AP117; Richardson-AP118; Weigel-AP119; Hodges-AP144; Breckinridge-AP176 and Admirals Benson-AP120; Capps-AP121; Eberle-AP123; Hughes-AP124 and Mayo-AP125. June 5-8 in Palm Springs, CA. Contact Chuck Ulrich, 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040. Tel: 516-747-7426.

The USS Buck (DD-761) June 5-8 at the Omni Tucson National Golf Resort and Spa in Tucson, AZ. Contact John Connolly for further information. Tel: 501-922-3969 or e-mail: joncon@a-cox-internet.com or mailing address at; 7 Tenerife Way, Hot Springs Village, AR. 71909

September 2003

45th Inf. Div. Assn., (Thunderbirds), Sept. 18-20, in Oklahoma City, OR. Contact Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street Oklahoma City, OR 73111. Tel: 210-681-9134. Fax: 210-543-7313

October 2003

USS Saratoga CV3/CVA/CV60 .Ships Company/Air Wings/All Officers USMC/TAD/ Magic Carpet, October in Dearborn, MI. Contact John D. Brandman. Tel: 1-877-360-7272. E-Mail cva360@aol.com Web pages www.uss-saratoga.com or www.usssaratoga.org

(In reading other magazines I see that they charge for reunion notices. I hesitate to ask a member or a supporting organization of KWVA National to pay for reunion notices. Since we are in need of support at this time, I think it is appropriate to ask you to send a minimum donation of \$1.00 for each reunion notice. Again, this request is not mandatory. Please send notices directly to editor, make checks payable to KWVA National. Typed lower case reunions only requested. Editor)

Korean War Veterans Memorial—The Video



Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War — 2000–2003



Lead Scout

Every day, as many as ten thousand people flock to the KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL in Washington, D.C. to see this long-awaited national tribute to our Korean War veterans. The Memorial honors America's sons and daughters who were wounded and missing in action or captured and those who gave their lives protecting freedom in a land far away.



Now, with this one-of-a-kind, commemorative Video you will visit this awesome Memorial again and again in your own home. You will marvel at the magnificent steel sculptures and the monumental wall of 2400 images. And so that you never forget, casualties are imprinted over a background of combat artists' battle scenes from the Navy Art Gallery.

Hundreds of close-up and wide angle photo-video scenes record the breathtaking artistry of this extraordinary Memorial and bring back memories of the war years.

From the Architect's opening remarks to the segment about the Korean War Honor Roll, the Video leaves an incredibly unforgettable impression on those who watch it and hear its inspiring music and stories.

Three years in the making, this *ten-part* Video memento is dedicated to all Korean War veterans.

©1999 Richard Alden Huebner
©1995 KWVM Productions, Inc.



THE VIDEO

This video treasure comes with an attractive box, a six-page brochure, a guide to the memorial statues and mural wall, and an itemized program of the video segments, the veterans' accounts and the music.

TO ORDER THE VIDEO

1) Please print or type your full name and your complete return mailing address on a stamped #10 size envelope; 2) Place this envelope inside another envelope; and 3) Mail it to: RAH Publications & Video Productions, KWVM Video Request, 23871 Meadowlark Street, Oak Park, Michigan 48237-2266. (Do *not* send payment with request.)

After the videos are made, invoices will be sent to all those whose requests are on file. After the deadline for receipt of payments has passed, the videos will be shipped in the same sequence in which the payments were received.

For USA orders, the cost of the video is \$39.95 each plus \$5 shipping and handling.

THE MUSIC

Scenes of the Memorial are enhanced throughout the Video by the thrilling, high fidelity, stereo music of *nine* highly acclaimed U.S. Armed Forces bands and choruses.

VETERANS' ACCOUNTS

Veterans' memories include: "Busting through at Kunu-ri Pass," "Lost behind enemy lines," "What it's like to lose close friends," "Johnson's POW List," and many others

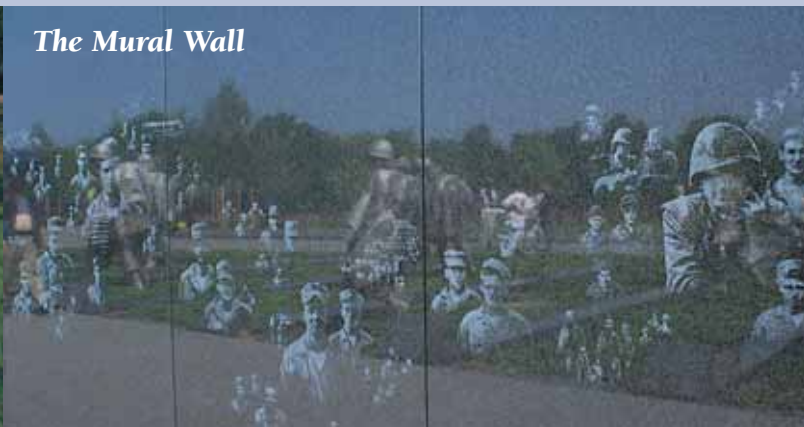


U.S. Army Chorus



The Advance Party

The Mural Wall



A 96th Night Before Christmas in Korea

(or A Korean Christmas Carol – Version One)

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the bunker,
Was the odor of fuel oil, it got “stunker and stunker”.

The wet boots were hung by the oil stove with care,
In hopes that Santa would issue us a new pair.

The weary G.I.'s were sacked out in their “beds”,
And visions of Sugarbabes danced in their heads.

Then around midnight the bunker phone rang,
And off in the distance we heard a big bang.

I rushed for my steel pot and put on a warm boot,
Told the rest of my buddies, we gotta go shoot.

Outside we could hear our Chief, Sgt. Jackson,
Getting the orders from Fire Direction.

Come Arny, come Ralphy, come Andy and Sal,
Up Gene, up Art, up Joe and Littell.

Get on that Howitzer and put in a charge five,
Get all those Chinks, til there's none left alive.

Then Sgt. Jackson jumped in his jeep,

He had his points, been there 52 weeks.

But we all heard him say in a voice loud and gay,
Merry Christmas to all, may you live through your stay!

Written for the 96th by Arny Anderson

(Names are from “B” Battery, but reflective of all firing batteries and
artillery battalions).

A Korean Christmas Carol

(Version Two)

'Twas the night before Christmas,
and all through the tent was the odor of fuel oil
(The stove pipe was bent).

The Shoe Paks were hung by the oil stove with care;
In hopes that they'd issue each man a new pair.

The weary GIs were sacked out in their beds,
and visions of sugar babes danced though their heads.

When up on the line there rose such a clatter
(A Chinese machine gun had started to chatter.)

I rushed to my rifle and threw back the bolt;
The rest of the tent mates awoke with a jolt.

Outside we could hear our platoon Sergeant Kelly,
a hard little man with a little pot belly.

“Come Yancey, come Clencey, come Conners, and Warson,
up Miller, up Shiller, up Baker, and Dodson.”

We tumbled outside in a swirl of confusion,
so cold that each man could have used a transfusion.

“Get up on that hill-top and silence that red,
and don't come back till you're sure that he's dead.”

Then, putting his thumb up the front of his nose,
Sergeant Kelly took leave of us shivering Joes.

But we all heard him say in voice soft and light:

“Merry Christmas to all – may you live through the night.”

Sent in by William H. Minter, 519 N. 80 West, Lindon, Utah
84042 Tel: 801-785-0450

MIA Remembrance

SURVIVORS ARE WE

Pray, for the thousands of MIA's, not set free. Stuck in camps, working
the mines inside the bowels of the earth, in foreign lands so far from
home. All praying for a way out of the living hell, hope and believing is
no more, dying one day at a time, is their future. Buried in other
unknown lands, known only to God, where they may be.

SURVIVORS ARE WE

Fortitude with courage, is the unknown man, when danger is near, he
takes a stand. Stay down my friend, I'll take this hill, keep your head
down, please be still. Given a chance to stay alive, but saving his buddy
is no surprise. His friend is married, and has a child, just giving him a
chance to see her smile.

SURVIVORS ARE WE

Memories never fade, we know too well, living with war, is a living hell.
Loyal is our faith, to those living in the shadow of evil, days are long,
nights never come without a prayer.

We wonder why wars never end, they must be stopped before they
begin.

SURVIVORS ARE WE

Look around, look and see, where are the neighbors, cousins, uncles
and friends who use to be? Gone are the souls, gone with the wind that
blows across the skies. Only the loved ones, now ask why?

SURVIVORS ARE WE

Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and the Fourth of July, we all need to say
“Thank you “ with a tear in the eye. An everyday prayer, with hope on
the lips, will keep thoughts fresh if the memory slips. Everyone, who
cares when the flag is near, should salute it proudly, before it disappears.
Together, let's remember, with love and compassion all those heroes that
never came back. Keep their names and memories all in tack.

“ WE ARE THE SURVIVORS WHO ARE FREE “

Written by Ernest A. Maynard - WWII & Korean Wars

KP CHRISTMAS

'Twas the Night Before
Christmas
and all through the Shack,
wasn't a G.I. a steering,
We were all in our Sack's.
When out in the Isle,
there arose such a Clatter

We jumped from our Bunk's
to see what was the Matter
Twas the Jolly First Sergeant,
who shouted with Glee.
Merry Christmas to You-All,
You-all are on K. P.
Author Unknown.

*This poem was mailed to me, by my Dad in 1950, while I
was serving in Korea. —Mel D Cook, 7th Inf. 3rd Div.*

Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library



KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

P.O. Box 16, Tuscola, IL 61953

Ph: (217) 253-5813 ❖ Fax: (217) 253-9421 ❖

E-mail: kwmuseum@theforgottenvictory.org

Web-Site: www.theforgottenvictory.org

Progress Report: Nov. - Dec. 2002

We Need New Members

There are approximately 4,000,000 Korean War Veterans living today and more veterans who have preserved the armistice.

1,000,000 veterans are needed as members of the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library to fund

this project and establish an endowment fund to perpetuate for the next 100 years. This can be accomplished if 1,000,000 veterans buy a \$25 Individual or Spouse membership each for 2 years.

The six states with the most Korean War Era veterans are California (431,000); Florida (294,000); Texas (243,000); New York (220,000); Pennsylvania (201,000) and Illinois

(154,000) as of mid year 2000. The total is 1,543,000. This is the group that could be the one to help us fund the project.

Our goal is to provide an educational research center that will give the American public a clearer understanding and appreciation of the lessons learned, history and legacy of the Korean War.

We must preserve our rightful place in history. **You can help** by becoming a **member** today. Your membership will show that you do not want the Korean War to become a **forgotten war**.

Join Now!

WE NEED NEW MEMBERS



I WANT YOU

KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM & LIBRARY

Tuscola, Illinois

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Please add my name to your membership roll:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for indicated membership category:

Mail to: Membership, P.O. Box 16, Tuscola, IL 61953. (Tel: 217-253-5813)

- ☐ Individual veteran or spouse - \$25/1 year
- ☐ General public (individual) - \$35/1 year
- ☐ Life Member (one person only) - \$1,000
- ☐ Veteran family Membership - \$30/1 year
- ☐ General public (family) - \$40 - 1 year

HQ & HQ Detachment, 23rd QM Group Meet

Korean War veterans from the Hq. & Hq. Detachment, 23d Quartermaster Group recently held a reunion in Myrtle Beach, S. C. 20 veterans from 15 states made the reunion. Another reunion will be held during October 2003. For additional information call Bernard "Bones" Rabunsky at 910-395-2952 or e-mail at BPOPS@AOL.com.

Shown in photo from left to right starting in the bottom row: Bill Wallace, Bill Melnick, Don Reid, Bob Balach, Fred Yunginger, Bill Bynum, Charles Wattenberger, Bishop Lyons, Ross Richardson, Chris Lockard, Jim Beason, James Vaughan, Jimmy Low, Bernard Rabunsky, Dean Robertson, Don Hayes, Bill Baker, Fred Rinner, Shug Wagner, Louis Rodriguez (Thank you Bernard Rabunsky for letter and picture)





Korean War Veterans Tour Programs

are offered by;

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| • California Pacific Tours | 650-615-4750 |
| • Olympus Travel | 213-487-0947 |
| • Travel Plex | 800-422-9596 |
| • Korea Task Force 2000 | 636-458-4168 |
| • Walkerhill Worldwide Travel | 800-448-4296 |

The Organizing Committee for
Visit Korea Year
Tel. 011-822-319-8006



KOREA NATIONAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION
(800)TOUR-KOR(EA)
<http://www.tour2korea.com>





United States of America Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War

Purpose

- Identify, thank and honor the veterans of the Korean War, their families, especially those that lost loved ones.
- Recognize and remember the Prisoners of War (POW) and Missing in Action (MIA).— POWs: 7,140; Returned to Military Control: 4,418; Died in Captivity: 2,701; Refused to return: 21)
- Recognize the contributions of women and minorities to their Nation during the Korean War.
- Provide the American public with a clearer understanding and appreciation of the lessons, history, and legacy of the Korean War and the military's contributions to the Nation in maintaining world peace and freedom through preparedness and engagement.
- Remember United Nations forces engaged in preserving the peace, freedom and prosperity of the Republic of Korea and strengthen the bonds of friendship and relationships throughout the world focusing on the 22 countries that fought as Allies.

Commemorative Partner Program

- States, Military and civilian communities, and civic and patriotic organizations will be requested to become Commemorative Partners to assist a Grateful Nation in thanking and honoring veterans in their home towns (to include hospitals, retirement centers, nursing homes, etc.), and supporting schools in teaching the history of this era.

For ordering Program Details Contact: Department of Defense,
50th Anniversary of the Korean War, Commemoration Committee,
1213 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Suite 702, Arlington, VA 22202-4303
Tel: 703-697-4664 — Fax: 703-697-3145)

Web Site: **KOREA50.MIL**

Proposed Entitlements

- A certificate signed by the Secretary of Defense designating your state,



county, town, organization or group as an official "Korean War Commemorative Partner."

- An official 50th Anniversary of the Korean War commemorative flag and leader lapel pin.
- Informational and educational materials pertaining to the Korean War, including maps, posters, fact sheets and a historical chronology.
- Authorization to use the 50th Anniversary logo on your letterhead, magazines, newsletters, and for other purposes.
- The "Korean War Dispatch," a quarterly newsletter and a source of official information on Korean War Commemorative events.

Find a supporter or one that shows interest – then order.
(For Republic of Korea War Service medal call 1-866-229-7074)



Proposed Commemorations of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War

1950 — 1953

2000 — 2003



Planned Events 2003

Date	Event	Location	Lead
9 April, 2003	Nat'l Former POW/MIA Recognition Ceremony	Andersonville, Georgia	The Korean Veterans Assn , Allan Murray kvaainc@optusnet.com.au Contance Burns, 202-685-2470 US Congress Military District Washington (MDW)
25 April, 2003	ANZAC Day	Melbourne, Victoria, St. Kilda Rd	
16 - 19 April, 2003	African Americans in the Korean War Conf.	Morgan State University	
25 May, 2003	National Memorial Day Concert	U.S. Capitol (West Lawn), Wash., DC	Commander, US Naval Forces Korea, 50years@cnfk.navy.mil Sharon E. Corum, 1-888-295-7212,
26 May, 2003	Memorial Day Breakfast and Wreath Laying	White House, Arlington National Cemetery and Korean War Memorial, Wash., DC	
30 May, 2003	Korean War Sea Services Commemoration	Pusan, Korea	
6 - 7 June, 2003	50th Anniversary Commemoration Weekend The Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library	KWVNM & Library, Factory Stores Mall, C500 Blvd, Tuscola , IL	The Korean Veterans Church, Assn of Australia, Allan Murray, kvaainc@optusnet.com.au National Commemoration Committee 50th Commemoration Committee (DoD) State of Hawaii Eighth US Army (EUSA) 50th Commemoration Committee 50th Commemoration Committee
22 June, 2003	Korean War Veterans Remembrance Day	Korean Uniting Community Melbourne, Australia	
30 June, 2003	MiG Alley Commemoration	National: Washington, DC Osan Air Force Base, Korea	
27 July, 2003	Korean War Armistice Day Commemoration	Korean War Memorial, Washington, DC	50th Commemoration Committee (DoD) State of Hawaii Eighth US Army (EUSA) 50th Commemoration Committee 50th Commemoration Committee
27 July, 2003	Korean War Veterans Parade	Location: Honolulu, Hawaii	
1 October, 2003	Mutual Defense Treaty	Seoul, Korea	
11 November, 2003	Official Closing of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration	Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC	
11 November, 2003	Korean War Veterans Welcome Home Parade	New York City, NY	

(To be updated each issue as required)

Taps



All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace. (Deaths which occurred over 6 months ago are not listed.)

California

★ George Barbani

Indiana

★ Alvin E. Waldbeser

Kansas

★ John R. "Jack" Williams

Massachusetts

★ Wilbur C. Guenette

★ William F. Mason, Jr.

★ Walter A. Moos

★ Albert R. Prior

★ Joseph R. Rousseau

★ Donald Wright

Michigan

★ Mary T. Burley

★ Eugene D. Thompson

Nebraska

★ Richard M. Adler

Ohio

★ Walter F. Goetting

★ Frank Radwan

Oklahoma

★ Joseph C. Cox

★ Charles (Sgt. Striker) Keith

Texas

★ Wilbur Webster

Virginia

★ William H. Cullen

West Virginia

★ Joseph A. McAboy

Unknown State *

★ James Hems

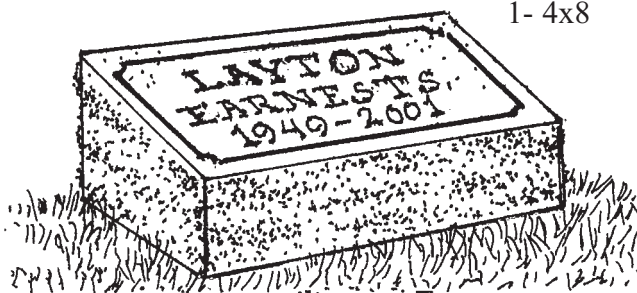
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* Please give State name on forms. Envelope is often separated -Editor.

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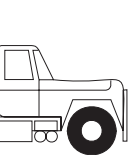
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The USPS will not forward Standard mail (3rd class) so please be sure and notify *The Graybeards* of your new address so that you will get your next issue. Contact the KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210, Attn: Membership Chairman or call Nancy Monson at (703) 522-9629.

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Only 1 each available in back issues, current (2002) and last issue can be ordered in multiple quantities.

These issues are limited so get your order in early. \$1 per copy plus \$3.85 postage Make your check to KWVA National and state in message or note on check "For Back Issues." I suggest minimum orders of 7 issues. Mix your issues as you want. Send your orders to Editor. See address on page 2. Response has been very good for back-issue orders and has necessitated revising this message. Please check above listing for availability before ordering.

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Only 1 each available in back issues; however, current issues (2002) can be ordered in multiple quantities.

I will take orders for special functions on the July-Aug 2002 issue for 50 copies at \$33 because of over printing.

Contact editor at 410-828-8978 for large orders and special prices.

Vince Krepps, Editor

The first Raider Company

The First Raider Co. formed shortly after the outbreak of the Korean war in June 1950. This Company made the diversionary raid on the Korean coast in the area of Kunsan

Cover of a book entitled *At War In Korea* by George Forty. Shown are 3 NCO's, a LT., and 2 Korean Interpreters. The 3 NCO's in the picture, Cecil Kimrey, Jamie Lee and Jack Harper were original members of The First Raider Co. formed shortly after the outbreak of the Korean war in June 1950. This Company made the diversionary raid on the Korean coast in the area of Kunsan +\~100 miles south of Inchon a couple nights prior to the Inchon invasion in rubber boats from the British vessel Whitesand Bay.

The purpose of the raid was to deceive the North Koreans in believing the invasion would be away from Inchon thus drawing troops away from the actual landing site..

The picture was taken on the return of the last patrol by the Raider Co. 7 miles behind enemy lines in the last days of March 1951. The purpose of the raid was to determine what Chinese or N Korean unit was facing the Americans in that area.

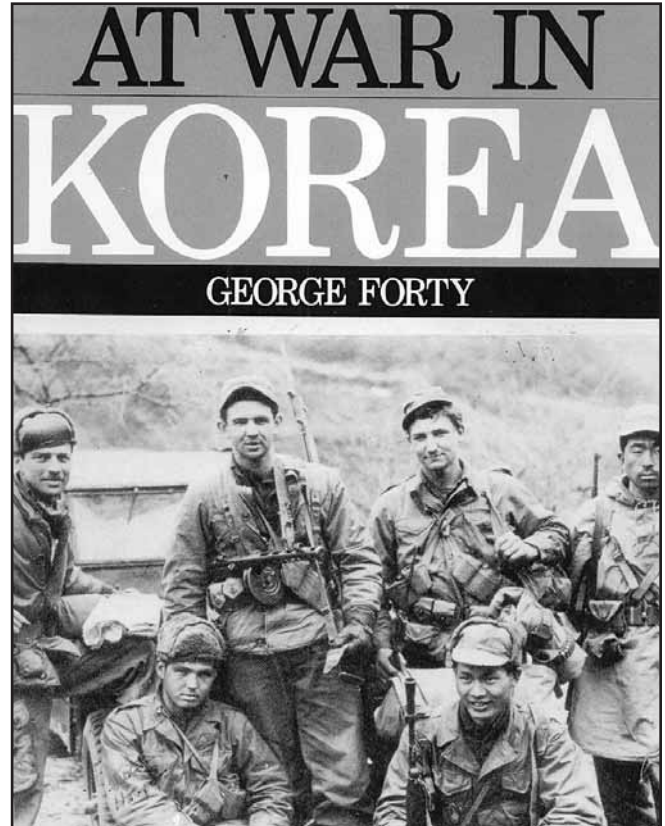
While observing the N. Koreans mining the road from a hill under a

bright moonlight a N. Korean patrol stumbled on the Raider patrol calling out the N. Korean pass word. Getting no reply from the Americans who were resting right below the crest of the ridge, the N. Korean officer reached for his Burp gun slung on his shoulder but never quite made it. Note the hole in the Burp gun strap (taken from the officer) that Jamie Lee has slung over his shoulder.

After the brief fire-light was over the American patrol (with the Burp gun and shoulder patch from the officer to identify the unit) hightailed it towards friendly lines and with the help of friendly artillery made a safe return.

Jack Harper (kneeling) died of pneumonia in 1996 and is buried across Toledo Bend lake from Many, Louisiana in Harper Cemetery.

Mr. Kimrey (a retired paint store owner) still lives in Efland, N. C. and Mr. Lee (an active Judge) lives in



Members of the First Raider Company appeared on the cover of the book *At War in Korea*.

Bennetsville, S. C.

Other interesting facts about the GHQ First Raider Co. are: 1) Arguably the first unit to reach the Yalu river in Nov 1951. 2) Arguably the first unit to run into the Chinese in Nov 1951. 3) The only unit reported to be in combat zone from the day it arrived in Korea until the day it left Korea in Apr 1951.

Martin Lee Broussard is trying to locate Patrick C. Sharpe who served in GHQ First Raider Co. in Korea in 1950-51. Call 337-394-4994 or write to 409 Cora St., St Martinville, La. 70582.

(Thank you M. Lee Broussard for letter and photos.)



A picture of a mini reunion of 1st Raider Co. members at my boy-hood home in Loreauville, La. in early 2002. Pictured from left to right are: Jamie Lee, Lee Broussard, and Cecil Kimrey (of course Jamie and Cecil were on the cover of the book).

Notice:

When calling an officer or the editor and you are leaving a message on an answering machine, speak slowly and leave your name and phone number twice. We are having problems responding because of not hearing your phone number clearly.

Korea 50 Years Ago

Basic training and 12 weeks of schooling at Ft. Eustis, VA., the Transportation Center of the Army. Arrived in Pusan March 1952. Rode the Red-Ball Express to Seoul, and the 3rd T.M.R.S., then back to Pusan and the 765th T.R.S.B. Left Korea June 1953. At that time the trains were being made ready for the prisoner exchange.

Later they were used for R&R. If anyone remembers me or would like to correspond I would like to hear from you.

Contact James L. Palsgrove, 641 Carriage Dr., Troy, OH 45373, 937-335-2859 email: <jandspals@juno.com>



Cpl. Elmer Wilke on left and Cpl. James Palsgrove



765th TRSB hospital train heading south.



Picking up wounded and sick at Chorwon near the front.



765th TRSB train with sand car, steam engine and guard car.



Veterans rotating home from the front gate of the 765th.



765th TRSB Backshop in Pusan, South Korea. Some of the wood looks like repair for tracks.

Railroads efforts in the Korean War.

Our Shop Bn. was located in Pusan where there was a Backshop. A & B Cos. worked along with the Koreans to maintain freight cars and the steam and diesel engines.

724th T.R.O.B. (Operating) Bn. was located on a hill next to our Backshop. They ran the diesel engines and the freight trains to carry supplies that came in by ship to various points.

I was in Co. C, which did maintenance on hospital cars at the Backshop. The trains were stored at Pier #1. I don't remember how many trains we had, maybe four. They consisted of six cars that had 36 beds each, and a kitchen car in the middle. They were pulled by steam engines to provide steam for heat and to keep the water from freezing during the cold winters. I was later assigned to ride trains to the front lines to pick up the wounded and the sick. We would then drop them off at area hospitals on the return to Pusan. The trains were staggered at different locations and rotated to the front depending on the fighting at the time. We were on the trains to make emergency repairs to get the trains to and from the front.

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