

America's Forgotten Victory!

# The Graybeards

Official Publication of

**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

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순국선열 호국전물 군경 위령

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장한뜻  
이새겨  
귀한  
나라  
생명  
사랑



# 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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# Remembering our Korean War Chaplains

Part IV (Continued from May-June *Graybeards*)

## The United States Army Chaplaincy 1950-1953

### Serving in a Stalemate

By late June 1951, a Soviet-proposed Cease Fire brought a lull to the fighting and the first negotiations between the sides. Unfortunately, the time was primarily spent strengthening positions along the line that snaked roughly along the Imjin River on the west to a point about 40 miles above the parallel on the east. The U.N. particularly fortified its hold near the "Iron Triangle" (Chorwon — Kumhwa — P'yonggang) on the central front. Clashes between the sides broke out regularly even while the talks were being held.

Chaplain John A. DeVeaux, Sr., African Methodist, was conducting services for the war dead one day at an Inch'on cemetery during the July-August lull. A South Korean, pointing to the stars above some of the graves, remarked "I had no idea that you Americans have lost so many generals." "Those aren't generals," replied DeVeaux. "They're soldiers of the Jewish faith — men of all ranks who died for the cause. The Star of David is the symbol of their religion, as the cross is of the Christian faith."

During the previous months, many U.S. troops had picked up orphan boys who lost their parents in the War. The homeless children were fed and clothed by the soldiers and referred to as their "mascots." In August, the 1st Cavalry Division Commander, who was concerned about the welfare of these youngsters, asked Chaplain Prudell to see to it that they were properly cared for. Prudell organized "Operation Mascot" by which 43 boys were given medical examinations, fed, and

transported to various orphanages. Unfortunately, two of the little fellows "escaped" and hiked their way — over 100 miles — back to the only home they knew. Once more they had to be transported back to the orphanages for which the 1st Cavalry soldiers alone had contributed more than \$1,600.00.

Chief of Chaplains Roy Parker, who visited the battle-torn country in August, quoted a letter from a Korea-based chaplain in a report to the Secretary of the Army near the end of the month. "We are all praying that an armistice can be negotiated here," wrote the chaplain, but added his discouragement over the Communists' use of the talks for propaganda purposes. "We can ill afford to lose the caliber of men we have lost here," he continued. "Perhaps this is not quite properly expressed as any price which assures freedom is worthwhile. But at the same time, it hurts to lose such good men"

As the negotiations deteriorated into little more than formal name calling and completely broke off near the end of August, the fighting rose again to full crescendo. Names like "The Punch Bowl," "Bloody Ridge," and "Heartbreak Ridge" became common as the news media tried to describe the coveted, rugged terrain commanding the area for which thousands of men gave their lives. Chaplain Parker quoted the 7th Infantry Division Chaplain in his September report to the Secretary of the Army:

We are still engaged against an implacable and staunch foe, but if morale ever won a war our men will win this conflict. We are in excellent shape and the new chaplains . . . have already demonstrated eagerness, cooperation, zeal for the welfare of the men, and a fine cooperative religious interest in everything, notwithstanding the rigors and lack of amenities.

At about the same time the OCCH received a narrative from Korea entitled, "Diary Notes From the Chaplain," written by Chaplain Wendell F. Byrd, Church of God, 13th Combat Engineer Battalion. Among the pages were comments of thank-

**FRONT COVER: Dabudong War Memorial (Bowling Alley Battle) near Waegwon — 10 miles NW of Taegu. Altar is for Bhuddist Thanksgiving Ceremony for Good Harvest. Photo by Dan Harrington**

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# President's Message



Harley Coon  
President, KWVA

By the time you read this the elections will be over. I want to congratulate the winners and to those that didn't get elected "There's always next year".

If I am not elected I will always cherish the honor I have had in representing the Korean War Veterans, Prisoners of War and families of the Missing in Action.

These past six (6) years are the best years that the KWVA will ever have. My record speaks for itself.

The KWVA is at an all time high.

1. Respect in Washington D. C.
2. Funds
3. Graybeards
4. Membership
5. Chapters
6. Departments

As General McArthur once said. "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away."

*Harley J. Coon Past President  
Korean War Veterans Association, Inc*

## Prisoners of War Convention

**Hotel:** OHANA Islander Waikiki

**Dates:** April 4-10, 2005. Rooms: 10

**Rate:** Run of House \$99: Same rate 1-2 utilizing existing bedding. Additional 3rd and 4th persons are \$20. Maximum occupancy is 4 people.

...

**Hotel:** OHANA Maile Sky Court

**Dates:** April 4-10, 2005. Rooms: 10

**Rate:** Standard \$70: Same rate 1-2 utilizing existing bedding. Additional 3rd person is \$20. Maximum occupancy is 3 people.

Kitchenette \$80: Same rate 1-2 utilizing existing bedding. Maximum occupancy is 2 people.

Hotel tax is 11.416%

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mahalo, Jaimee Heu  
Sales Account Assistant  
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Toll Free Fax 1-800-663-5779  
E-mail [jaimee.heu@outrigger.com](mailto:jaimee.heu@outrigger.com)



**KWVA Honors WWII Veterans** (left to right) Ray Unger (President EX-POW Korea) Jack Edwards 1st V. President KWVA (Not a EX-POW), Harley J. Coon President KWVA, Bill Allen & Don Denny all EX-POWS Korea.

## A Kentucky Son Remembered

# Kentucky Honors Korean War Vets

■ **Kentucky Memorial Assures Korean War Casualties shall not be forgotten.**

Robert and Marjorie Guthrie, formerly from Tennessee, married and had five boys and one girl. They lived in Lauderdale County Alabama for many years. Their oldest son, Robert H. Guthrie first enlisted in the Army National Guard and was sent to Korea. Robert had leadership ability, and he advanced rapidly to Sergeant First Class in an anti-aircraft artillery unit. He was serving his country in Korea on March 28, 1952 when he was killed by the, communist/socialist, North Korean Army.

Robert H. Guthrie who was only 22 years old was full of pride for the military and the USA. Robert along with all other Korean War Casualties and veterans were not recognized as serving in a war. During the Korean War, June 25, 1950 through July 27, 1953, it has been reported that there were approximately 54,246 killed. This certainly has the characteristic results similar to a war, which our government now recognizes it as such. They have issued directives that all documented references to Korean Conflict or police action in Korea be replaced with "Korean War".

We have all suffered a great loss because Robert H. Guthrie was not able to continue his contributions to life in the USA. Robert along with other Korean War Casualties shall not be forgotten. Our nation is now behind an effort to educate the citizens about the war and to help them remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

One major effort toward remembering those Korean War casualties was initiated by Robert's brother, Lowell and his wife Carolyn Guthrie, Dr. Gary A. Ransdell, President of, Western Kentucky University, and Trace Die Cast Inc. of Bowling Green

Continued on page 14

Military Shop - 4 color



# Listen Up

**KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOC., INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND FUND BALANCES CASH BASIS**  
**March 31, 2004**

**ASSETS**

**CURRENT ASSETS**

CASH IN BANKBANK ONECKNG	\$ 4,410.50
CASHBANK ONESAVINGS	125,014.12
SMITH BARNEY CITIGROUP	<u>461,683.87</u>

**TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS** 591,108.49

**FIXED ASSETS**

COMMEMORATIVE ASSETS	<u>3,000.00</u>
----------------------	-----------------

**TOTAL FIXED ASSETS** 3,000.00

**TOTAL ASSETS** **\$ 594,108.49**

**LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES**

**FUND BALANCES**

GENERAL FUND	467,188.76
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND	94,139.60
CURRENT EARNINGS	<u>32,780.13</u>

**TOTAL FUND BALANCES** 594,108.49

**TOTAL LIABILITIES**

**AND FUND BALANCES** **\$ 594,108.49**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY - CASH BASIS**

**For the 3 Months and 3 Months Ended March 31, 2004**

3 Months	3 Months Ended
March 31, 2004	March 31, 2004

**INCOME**

MEMBERSHIP	\$ 87,809.25	\$ 87,809.25
DONATIONS - GRAYBEARDS	2,000.27	2,000.27
INTEREST	759.72	759.72
ADVERTISING-GRAYBEARDS	1,336.70	1,336.70
DIVIDENDS	<u>7,049.26</u>	<u>7,049.26</u>

**TOTAL INCOME** **98,955.20** **98,955.20**

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

TELEPHONE	257.50	257.50
OFFICE SUPPLIES	776.89	776.89
INSURANCE	14,617.00	14,617.00
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	156.95	156.95
GRAYBEARDS	27,515.78	27,515.78
ACCOUNTING FEES	370.00	370.00
MEETING EXPENSE	13,338.92	13,338.92
CONTRACT LABOR	600.00	600.00
RENT	900.00	900.00
DEPRECIATION	213.58	213.58
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	400.07	400.07
POSTAGE	3,085.98	3,085.98
CHAPTER EXPENSE	2,874.53	2,874.53
MEMBERSHIP	113.53	113.53
GOODWILL-WREATH	100.00	100.00

LOSS ON DISPOSAL OF ASSET 854.34 854.34

**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** 66,175.07 66,175.07

**REVENUE OVER**

**(UNDER) EXPENSES** **\$ 32,780.13** **\$ 32,780.13**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY- CASH BASIS**

**For the 3 Months Ended March 31, 2004**

3 months Ended	3 months Ended
March 31, 2004	March 31, 2004
Actual	Budget

**INCOME**

MEMBERSHIP	87,809.25	62,500.00
DONATIONS - GRAYBEARDS	2,000.27	3,750.00
INTEREST	759.72	5,000.00
ADVERTISING - GRAYBEARDS	1,336.70	2,500.00
DIVIDENS	<u>7,049.26</u>	<u>0.00</u>

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$ 98,955.20** **\$ 73,750.00**

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

ADVERTISING	0.00	1,250.00
TELEPHONE	257.50	1,250.00
BY-LAW COMMITTEE	0.00	62.50
OFFICE SUPPLIES	776.89	1,000.00
INSURANCE	14,617.00	3,750.00
CHAPLAIN	0.00	50.00
FINANCE COMMITTEE	0.00	50.00
REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	156.95	625.00
GRAYBEARDS	27,515.78	32,500.00
ACCOUNTING FEES	370.00	1,250.00
LEGAL FEES	0.00	125.00
VA/VS REP.	0.00	625.00
JUDGE ADVOCATE	0.00	125.00
MEETING EXPENSE	13,338.92	7,500.00
NOMINATORY ELECTIONS	0.00	750.00
CONTRACT LABOR	600.00	375.00
RENT	900.00	2,250.00
EDITOR	0.00	125.00
RESOLUTION COMMITTEE	0.00	62.50
1ST VICE PRESIDENT TRAVEL FUND	0.00	1,250.00
DEPRECIATION	213.58	0.00
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	400.07	125.00
POSTAGE	3,085.98	500.00
PRESIDENT TRAVEL FUND	0.00	2,500.00
SPECIAL DONATION	0.00	6,250.00
CHAPTER EXPENSE	2,874.53	1,750.00
WASHINGTON DC REP.	0.00	75.00
MEMBERSHIP	113.53	7,500.00
GOODWILL WREATH	100.00	0.00
LOSS ON DISPOSAL OF ASSET	<u>854.34</u>	<u>0.00</u>

**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** **\$66,175.07** **73,675.00**

**REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES** **\$32,780.13** **\$75.00**



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4486 Indian Ripple Road, Dayton, Ohio 45440-3203  
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MEMBERS AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Executive Council

Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. (a non-profit organization) as of December 31, 2003, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. as of December 31, 2003 and the changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America.

May 10, 2004

/s/ Hammerman, Graft, Hughes & Co.  
 Dayton, Ohio



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.

**Election 2004 Results**

**President**

**Lou Dechert**

♦♦♦

**1st Vice President**

**Dick Adams**

♦♦♦

**2nd Vice President**

**Byron Dickerson**

♦♦♦

**Directors 2004-2007**

**Lee Dauster**  
**Dean McClain**  
**Bob Morga**  
**Harley J. Coon**

**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.

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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.





# Editor's Pen

Vincent A. Krepps (Korea, 2nd I.D. 1950-1951)

My devotion and efforts to provide you, the membership and readers a magazine that remembers the Korean War, those that fought in that war, including those that still defend the freedoms enjoyed today in Korea and most of all to those that paid the supreme sacrifice. Below was my statement made in 1997. No one had a complaint then.

## Rules to follow:

*I will avoid letters that are negative toward our association and the veterans that fought in the Korean War. Thanks for caring.*

Vince Krepps

I am in my 6th year, so I guess you agreed with the above rule. It is very hard to say goodbye to something or someone you love. I have been honored to tell the history of the Korean War with your stories and even some of mine. I have done my best to print most but I know some have been omitted due to length, unreadable, newspaper stories and a host of other reasons. The photos and other sections printed or not printed follows the same guidelines explained above.

I am very proud of your events and efforts to Tell America in your home states provided to me by thousands of photos and text. Your Memorials in your states makes all Korean War Veterans proud and all are beautiful. No Service Medal will ever be above the deeds you have all done to remember the fallen or those that served. Many times in reading your letters, stories and the Taps list has required me to get very emotional but it was more important to get your messages out to others. Lastly I thank each of you for the support you have given me over the years and in some way I hope you know my heart has a place for all of you.

After this issue (July-August 2004) most everything that I have done over the past 6 years plus hopefully will be the same.

The commitments I have made to advanced copies orders and advertisers will be filled. The new editor and publisher has also agreed to keep this promise. I do not know the commitments beyond expired contracts as of this date. You must read the Sept-Oct issue for additional commitments by the new editor. Please do not mail or e-mail any more articles, advertisements or photos to me. What is left over will be mailed to the new editor. The address of the editor is:

Arthur G. Sharp  
152 Sky View Dr.  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067  
Tel: (860) 563-6149 email:  
Sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net

Thanks for being such great members and veterans. Thank you for the donations over the years. They are still needed will be turned over to the Treasurer. I am sure the new team will keep The Graybeards at a high quality. My last honor is to my twin brother Richard who is still in North Korea at the POW Camp where he died.

His memory has also given me the strength to spend long hours telling America about all our deeds to keep a country free. It has been 53 years this September since we hugged on the battle field near the Naktong River and said our goodbyes. Who knew it would be our last time. Freedom was not Free.

God Bless all of you and America,  
Vincent Krepps, Past Editor  
The Graybeards.

## 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: Sept-Oct 2004 articles must be received by editor no later then Sept 10. Material is printed on a first-come-first-served basis. —Editor.

Sept-Oct 2004 .....Sept 10  
Nov-Dec 2004.....Nov 12

Jan-Feb 2005 .....Jan 14  
Mar-Apr 2005 .....Apr 12

# Mulrine's Minutemen

By Manuel A. De Matos

THE WARRIOR, Volume VI Number 70 KOREAN EDITION July 1952; Newspaper of the 2nd Inf. Division

■ **"Mulrines Minutemen," a special section of 20 volunteers attached to the 9th Infantry Regiment., 2nd Infantry Division, specializes in aggressive reconnaissance.**

Led by 1st Lt. William A. Mulrine, the Minutemen have spent most of their time since organizing early in March, training for their behind-enemy-line chores and straining at the bit.

They've also been out on three full scale missions, the latest one producing what Indianhead Division intelligence men referred to as "the most complete reconnaissance report we've seen since the Division went on line."

"I'm completely sold on this bunch," says the Lieutenant, "You can't beat them. Teamwork is their by-word. Everybody is looking out for everybody else. When one man gets hit, no matter how slightly, there's a man with him immediately.

**The love of excitement and desire to be part of a close knit team encouraged the unit's two squad leaders to volunteer.**

A veteran of 14 years in the infantry and paratroopers, serving in the Pacific during World War II, Lt. Mulrine says, "I don't like to sit still. It's fun trying to outwit the other guy."

The love of excitement and desire to be part of a close knit team encouraged the unit's two squad leaders to volunteer. Thirty-four year old SFC Alexander Arick and M/Sgt, Harrel Baxter, both prefer the group to any other with which they have ever worked.

One night in April the Minutemen penetrated 2400 meters behind Red lines, This time, the enemy discovered them and two members of the patrol were

Continued on page 19

fulness for the blessings of being an American. He had written that his faith had been increased by his nation's work to keep men free and then, commenting about American soldiers, added:

To me there is something fascinating about the courage of men who can go out through mines facing enemy fire on dangerous missions and raids, then come back to their tents or foxholes and stomach a good meal in a cheerful mood.

One month later, on 27 October, Chaplain Byrd was enjoying some time off during a new lull in the War — hunting pheasants with a Korean interpreter. With tragic irony, the 10-year veteran of Army service tripped a concealed land mine and was killed instantly.

U.N. forces had managed to inch forward over the difficult ground. The Communists called for a resumption of the armistice negotiations and discussions opened again in late October 1951 at Panmunjom, southeast of Kaesong, near the 38th Parallel. The little village, which rested in "No Man's Land" between the lines, became the center of the world's attention.

By that time, the Korean War had become increasingly unpopular in the U.S. and some chaplains, like the soldiers they served, were emotionally torn by the issues. Adamantly refusing to declare all of the sacrifice of no value, they were frustrated over the little gain that seemed to be resulting from it. As if to remind them of the ideological struggle at stake, however, a Navy chaplain, who had served with the Marines in battle, lashed out at American attitudes. "They ask questions as if it [the war] had no special significance or relationship to themselves or the interests of our country and our way of life." Korea, he insisted, "is a segment of a world-wide struggle for the preservation of our way of life."

While the talks at Panmunjom dragged on, minor skirmishes between patrols and front-line elements continued. It was, perhaps, easier during this time for chaplains to locate the units they served, but no less difficult or dangerous for them to get there. One chaplain had to use a 2,200-foot cable tramway to transport his field organ and altar kit part of the way up a hill to one

**One chaplain had to use a 2,200-foot cable tramway to transport his field organ and altar kit part of the way up a hill to one group. He and his assistant carried the equipment on their backs the rest of the way.**

group. He and his assistant carried the equipment on their backs the rest of the way. Another estimated that he traveled between 1,500 to 2,000 miles a month to provide counseling and religious services for his men.

Concentrating much of their efforts at aid stations and hospitals, many of them empathized with the suffering of their comrades. Chaplain Paul W. Bare, Methodist, was over 50 years old when he concluded: "The world is in flames, I just couldn't sit it out as a civilian." Quietly he moved through a front-line hospital late one night and grieved over the misery about him. He repeated prayers and Psalms for a young Tennessee boy who had lost both his legs. He bent down to embrace a 17-year-old, wounded for the second time, who clung to him like a child to his father in the dark. He helped another, whose shoulder was ripped and torn, to concentrate on the blessing of life rather than his handicap. He stopped by an old sergeant who wept for his lost men and prayed with him till he was calmed. Hundreds were suffering and dying as the negotiations continued.

Some outside viewers thought the Cease Fire meant that no conflict was taking place. One chaplain was amused by a radio reporter's efforts to pre-record artillery fire so that he could overlap it as a background on his recording of the chaplain's worship service. Actual firing was earned on so close during the service that the back blasts from the guns kept blowing out the candles in the chapel tent.

During the stalemate in March 1952, elements of the 40th Infantry Division were occupying positions on the central front. Among the men assigned was Episcopal Chaplain Robert M. Crane. The 40th Division was a National Guard unit that had relieved the 24th Infantry Division little more than a month before. Although Crane, like many of the men he served, had had previous Army experience, his second

tour had begun only 12 months earlier. He spent most of that time in Japan where the two National Guard divisions, the 40th and the 45th, trained and provided security while high-level commanders debated over sending them into combat. When the units were finally shipped to Korea, however, they quickly demonstrated their effectiveness.

On 11 March Chaplain Crane had just concluded a worship service for a unit of the 160th Infantry Regiment near Kumsong, North Korea. As he was leaving the area, an incoming artillery round nearly scored a direct hit on his jeep. The blast beside the road mortally wounded him. Robert Crane was the last U.S. Army chaplain to be killed in action in Korea. Nearly a year later the final Army chaplain casualty was added to the list when fellow Episcopalian Kenneth C. Wilson, 54th Quartermaster Battalion, died of non-battle causes on 23 January 1953. There was tragic similarity between Crane's loss and the sacrifices of the Minutemen-chaplains of the American Revolution — dying among citizen-soldiers who struggled to protect the independence of a tiny and, to many people, unimportant nation.

The men of the 40th Division collected over \$5,000 during worship services to help build a Robert Crane Memorial Chapel in northern Honshu, Japan, where the chaplain had expressed an interest in serving as a missionary after the War. The same division contributed more than \$29,000 toward relief work in Korea during their service there. Their contributions were typical of thousands of dollars donated by American servicemen around the world for Korean relief, particularly among war orphans, in drives often sponsored by Army chaplains.

In April 1952 Far East Command Chaplain Ivan Bennett left for the States with the intention of retiring. He was succeeded by Chaplain James T. Wilson,

Methodist, former Third Army Chaplain. Because of an October 1952 reorganization which made the Far East Command a joint command, Wilson became the first Staff Chaplain of the newly organized Army Forces, Far East. Shortly after Bennett arrived on the west coast, he learned that he had been nominated by the President as the next Chief of Chaplains, to replace retiring Roy Parker. After confirmation by the Senate and promotion to major general, the 60-year-old Bennett assumed the leadership role on 28 May.

Chaplain Bennett's ingenuity for getting things done at high command levels was seldom flashy but generally effective. Early in the Korean conflict, for example, he was determined to publish a combined English-Korean hymnbook for use in the war zone. Chaplain Steve P. Gaskins, Jr., Methodist, serving as the project officer frustrated by constant refusals from the responsible officers to grant necessary funds for printing. Bennett, understanding the psychology of staff officers, went to General MacArthur and invited him to autograph a pre-written foreword to the book. The general obligingly signed the document. With a clever grin, Bennett visited the man holding the "purse strings" and suggested it would be nice to have a hymnbook to go with the general's foreword. Chagrined, the officer admitted, "O.K., Chaplain, you've got me again."

Some of the chaplain's talents were obviously inherited by his children — Dr. Ivan L. Bennett, Jr., was appointed Deputy Director of Science and Technology by President Johnson in 1966 and his brother, Major General John C. Bennett, became the commander of Fort Carson, Colorado, and the 4th Infantry Division in 1970.

### **Surviving With Determination**

Just as General Mark W. Clark arrived in May 1952 to replace General Ridgway as the U.N. Commander, an embarrassing incident took place at the large POW camp on the island of Koje-do. Brigadier General Francis T. Dodd, the camp commander, was captured and held hostage by his own prisoners. Brigadier General Charles F. Colson secured Dodd's release by making a statement tantamount to an admission of mistreatment of prisoners — providing the Communist negotiators at Panmunjom with a powerful propaganda tool. Clark

**Our own worship services in combat were tremendous experiences throughout the 3d Div Arty, but when it came to the Korean Christians we couldn't hold a candle to what they accomplished in the same sector.**

eventually ordered Brigadier General Haydon Boatner to the scene and order was final restored.

Much of the camp's disturbance began over discussions by the negotiators regarding the right of POWs to choose whether or not to be repatriated. When screening processes for that purpose were first attempted, staunch Communist prisoners violently objected, refused to be questioned, and punished those who admitted a desire to remain in South Korea.

Civilian Auxiliary Chaplain Harold Voelkel recalled the difficult struggles of the Christian prisoners during this period. Hard-core Communist leaders literally controlled some of the compounds and dealt ruthlessly with those who refused to remain loyal. Many were murdered by their fellow prisoners; a large portion of the victims were faithful attendees at Voelkel's services and Bible classes. Like the Christians in ancient persecutions, however, their faith only strengthened under the pressure. One group drew up a declaration of their willingness to die rather than return to Communist North Korea, individually signed the document with their own blood, and presented it to Chaplain Voelkel. Within days, Christians in every compound presented similar blood petitions to the chaplain. One of these petitions was later given to visiting Evangelist Billy Graham who, in turn, presented it to the President on a subsequent visit to the White House.

The fervor with which many Koreans grasped Christianity after conversion amazed American observers. Chaplain Viggo Aronsen, American Lutheran, discovered that six ROK sergeants serving with the 10th Field Artillery Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, were actually ordained Presbyterian ministers. Aronsen supplied a field altar and other supplies for them and was astounded at the results.

What happened thereafter was a minor miracle. After the initial English-GI service on Sunday, these ROKs (great people) set up for Christian worship in the same location. Believe it or not, the hills emptied and

people came in by the hundreds (conservatively, more than 500). Our own worship services in combat were tremendous experiences throughout the 3d Div Arty, but when it came to the Korean Christians we couldn't hold a candle to what they accomplished in the same sector.

Attacks and counterattacks continued to take the lives of men as the jagged hills north of the Parallel repeatedly changed hands and the negotiations again deteriorated. The intensity of the fighting was reflected in the medal-citations awarded to many chaplains during the period. Chaplain Peter D. Van Dyke, Episcopalian, was awarded the Silver Star for his services in the 17th Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, on 3 July. During intense enemy fire, he left his position in a rear-area aid station and dashed about the battlefield ministering to wounded and dying, encouraging those still fighting, and aiding the litter bearers. As the unit was forced to withdraw, he remained on the field until all of the wounded were evacuated — personally carrying out the last man.

Chaplain Michael T. Morgan, Roman Catholic, with the "Puerto Rico Regiment" (65th) of the 3rd Infantry Division, was in the midst of battle so often that the men jokingly insisted the enemy intensified their fire whenever he arrived. In one inadvertent move he nearly became a chaplain for the NKA. On his way to the front to conduct services, he had stopped to examine a burned-out Communist tank when suddenly he noticed a soldier some distance away waving for him to come back. Glancing in the other direction, he could see enemy soldiers about 100 yards away staring at him incredulously. "You know, Father," said his driver, "I think we're on the wrong road." Quickly jumping in their jeep they sped back to the friendly side."

By October 1952 the Panmunjom talks had broken down again and the whole war issue was the hottest political topic in the U.S. Dwight D. Eisenhower, promising to bring a conclusion to the agony, was elected President in November and visited



Korea before his inauguration. But the War continued through its third bitter winter as the new Chief of Chaplains, Ivan Bennett, asked religious leaders for more chaplains. By then, 175 Army chaplains had received 218 decorations in Korea, including 22 Silver Stars. Chaplain William H. Weitzel, Episcopalian, had even received the Marine Commendation Medal with "V" device for his voluntary work among front-line Marines while assigned to an Army ordnance unit.

It was obvious by now that the chaplains in Korea were facing a different ministry than those in World War II. While the fearful environment of the battlefield was the same, the attitude and morale of the soldier — deeply affected by the debates over the value of his sacrifice — had slowly changed. Severely wounded on the battlefield with the bodies of his friends lay the idealism of many soldiers. The interminable, on-again, off-again negotiations while blood was continually shed over the same terrain, made many feel like little more than political pawns.

Fortunately, perhaps due in part to the death of Joseph Stalin on 5 March 1953, the Communist position softened somewhat. Surprisingly, at the end of that month, they agreed to a previous proposal by General Clark to exchange sick and wounded prisoners while resuming the talks. Operation "Little Switch" in April returned 684 U.N. personnel and 6,670 Communists. With the 149 Americans came the stories of many deaths — including those of the four chaplains who would never return.

But the political-football aspect continued in a war that seemed to refuse to die. ROK President Syngman Rhee would not agree to a divided Korea and the subsequent discussions among the allies became as difficult as those with the enemy. General Clark later remarked, "Never, it seemed to me, was it more thoroughly demonstrated that winning a satisfactory peace, even a temporary one, is more difficult than winning a war."

Beginning in April 1953, and reaching its peak in June and July, renewed fighting, mostly against CCF forces, tested the abilities of Lieutenant General Maxwell D. Taylor, who had replaced Van Fleet as Eighth Army Commander in February. Chaplain Parker C. Thompson, Southern Baptist, was among many who would have

sworn that the War was nowhere near an end. Serving from November 1952 until May 1953 in the 7th Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, and then in the 10th Combat Engineer Battalion, he was wounded three times and suffered a severe back injury during those 6 months. In one of his awards for combat bravery, he was cited for giving his armored vest to one of the wounded he was helping to evacuate. First used extensively in the latter part of the War, the vest was considered the most important possession of the infantry soldier next to his weapon.

The intensity of the last 4 months of the War is reflected by the statistics: the combined total of dead, wounded, and missing from both sides was more than 200,000, and the artillery rounds expended by them during the same period totaled an incredible 8 1/2 million.

For organizing the evacuation of the wounded under withering fire — personally carrying many of them himself — Chaplain Cormac A. Walsh, Roman Catholic, 180th Regiment, 45th Infantry Division, received his third Silver Star. That incident took place only 2 days before the negotiations resumed for the last time, and 9 days before the final Armistice was eventually signed on 27 July 1953.

Like some horrible monster dying after one final, violent convulsion, the Korean War had come to an end. For a moment, in the tension-filled silence that followed, only the quiet utterances of thanksgiving drifted with the smoke toward heaven.

One author of the period had written:

The man least attuned to what Bernhardt has called "the biological necessity" of war,

and than whom there is non deeper enmeshed in it, is the chaplain. By vocation he is committed to an optimism of the spirit which believes and preaches that a man is capable of settling his differences by means other than war. Yet he accepts the commission to walk in the midst of it, to work in the thick of it, and to pray for the successful prosecution of it.

To many people, perhaps, it was an inconsistent philosophy. To most chaplains it was an inescapable call to instill an ancient conviction: "Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit: or whither shall I flee from Thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, Thou are there." To that end, scores of them had shed their blood, 13 had given their lives, and hundreds were committed to a continuing ministry among American soldiers.

*(I have removed some of the detail prior to June 1950 due to space and that most of us know how and why the Korean War started. There were 4 long pages of history of our chaplains serving the troops in Korea. The final page has been printed in this issue.*

*This story by no means wishes to diminish the heroics of any other unnamed Chaplains from any branch of service in war or peacetime. They were and still are the special people we looked up to keep our sanity in order to do our Duty to God and Country. May God Bless them all. If you want to read all pages go to <http://www.usachcs.army.mil/Korea/BattleforKorea.htm> Editor.)*

## 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



## Fellow Korean War Veterans

We have come to the end of another decade for the Korean War Veterans Association. 20 years ago an old soldier and a hand full of Korean War Veterans in New York state and Massachusetts began to give birth to the Korean War Veterans Association. They thought what if we organized veterans across America, could we some day have a Memorial in the nation's capitol.

These old warriors even then believed they and all Korean War veterans had what it would take to get it done.

Mr. Bill Norris and friends set the wheels in motion to contact and bring together Korean War veterans in our nation's capitol. Bill Norris called me from his home in Half Moon, New York and asked me to put out the word in Maryland, and Joe McCallion in Massachusetts, about a get-together of Korean veterans in Rosslyn, VA at the Best Western Hotel, West Park, 24-28 July 1985 and we had great success in that adventure.

As I write my last article for the Graybeards it is a time to reflect upon the Association and the progress that has been made possible by the officers, committee chairmen and committee members who gave their best for the past 20 years. Our thanks and gratitude to all of them, and we wish the new officers and committee chairpersons the very best in their term of office. Let us unite behind them and press our Association forward to be a greater Association. A special thanks to the Chapters and the great work they do in their states and communities.

Jack Cloman

## Federal Charter Update

Since the first report of our efforts regarding the Federal Charter in the D.C. Affairs section of the May – June 2004 issue of *The Graybeards*, the Blair Cross Federal Charter Committee has made nine trips to Washington, D.C. starting on May 11th, knocking on 212 doors to talk to 115 Congressmen and Congresswomen. A single issue surfaced; most of the

## We need at least 218 co-sponsors to become viable in the eyes of Congress.

Representatives and their Aides were not aware of our Bill (HR 1043) and, if they were aware of it, they had very little background knowledge. However, once this was brought to their attention, we had a good measure of success. As mentioned, we started with 112 co-sponsors and at this time we have 141. Our group has also personally contacted chapter presidents in every state and heard loud and clear that a Federal Charter for the Korean War Veterans Association should be a priority.

While we have made it our mission to visit the office of your Representatives, your local participation in endorsing our efforts has not been as successful as initially visualized, although where efforts were made they have borne fruit, for which we are grateful. In fact, many of the new co-sponsors have come on board solely through your efforts.

However, we need at least 218 co-sponsors to become viable in the eyes of Congress. We are still continuing our efforts to seek more co-sponsors. Please re-double your efforts as time is against us, thanks to the up-coming Conventions and the Congressional recess in August.

We have learned during our days on The Hill that the Representatives listen first to their constituents - they need to hear from you. In one instance, one of our chapter presidents had requested that his

representative become a co-sponsor. I visited his Representative's office whose Aide informed me that the issue had been given to the Congressman and there the matter would rest. That evening, I called our fellow veteran who informed me that the Congressman's Aide had telephoned him that same afternoon to advise that he had signed on as co-sponsor. That is remarkable evidence that your VOICE counts.

Senator Sarbanes (MD) has successfully added an amendment to the Defense Appropriations Bill to provide a Federal Charter for the KWVA.

At this point, we are trying to arrange an appointment for our National President, Mr. Harley Coon, to meet with the Chairman as well as the ranking Democrat of the House Committee. We hope that this direct contact will help to advance our cause and result in this amendment being retained in the final version of the Appropriations Bill now being considered by the Senate and House Joint Conference Committee. In past years, the Judiciary Committee has blocked all similar amendments.

Meanwhile we are continuing to visit D.C. and will do everything possible to ensure that this matter is resolved in our favor. We feel honored to act in this matter on your behalf.

Robert Banker

## Check Your Mailing Label

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First two letters reflect membership type

**Membership Dues Expiration Date.** The example shows a dues date of January 1st, 2005

\*\*\*\*\*5 Digit

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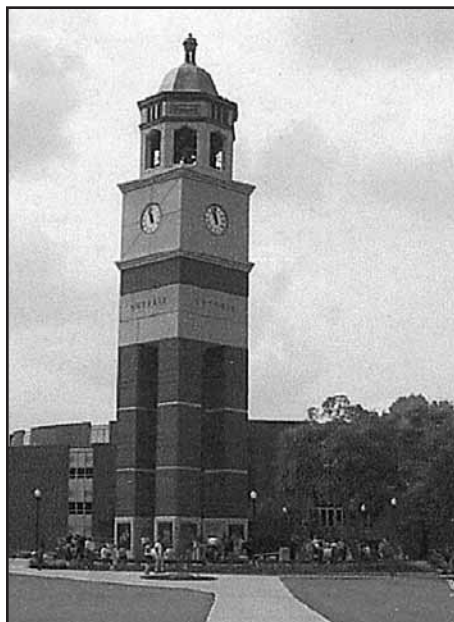
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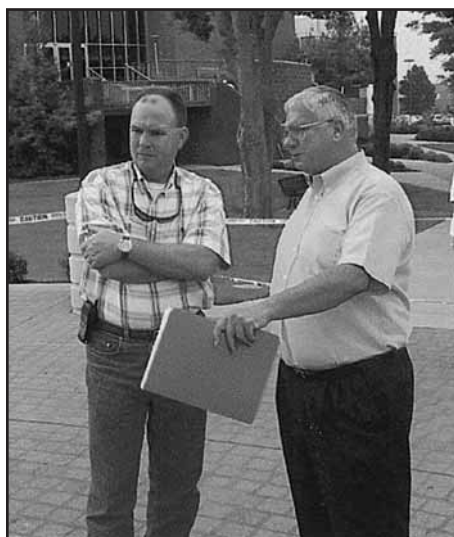
Guthrie Bell Tower at Western Kentucky University Bowling Green, KY.



Trailer hauling bells to the Guthrie Bell Tower Aug. 11, 2003 There were several sizes.



John Magazzu, Jo Killen, Deanne and John Green at Guthrie Bell Tower



Near Guthrie Bell Tower, Phillip Marks and the man responsible for the tower Lowell Guthrie.



Close view of a Guthrie Bell Tower addition.

Kentucky. On May 6, 2002 a bell clock tower was dedicated to the memory of Robert H. Guthrie with recognition to all veterans. Lowell Guthrie provided a bus from the Shoals for veterans and friends to attend this ceremony last year. This memorial is a very impressive structure that towers over the WKU campus and the bells are heard for miles around the facility, but they wanted improvements.

Statue of Robert H. Guthrie in front of the Guthrie Bell Tower at WKU Bowling Green KY



On August 11, 2003, forty-three additional bells to complete the 47carillon bell design plan were received by the University to be installed in the bell tower to complete the capabilities of the facility to play various tunes. The local veterans were invit-

ed, by Dr. Ransdell, to return to Bowling Green to attend a viewing of the bells immediately after they were received and before they were placed in the bell tower, and to honor Lowell and Carolyn Guthrie for their generosity to the university. Transportation was again provided from Florence, Alabama to WKU.

A bus loaded with veterans and friends left Florence at 4:55 am on August 11, 2003 and arrived in Bowling Green about 8:30 am. About 2pm the bell truck rolled in to be unloaded. The bells were made in a Fonderie Paccard 1776 bell factory in Paccard Annecy, France. The bells were of different sizes and individual names of various, WKU, state and federal officials had



George J. Ellis and wife Bobbye Ellis standing by bell that has their name cast on the side at the Guthrie Bell Tower.





Carmel and June Olive examining bell with name at Guthrie Bell Tower.

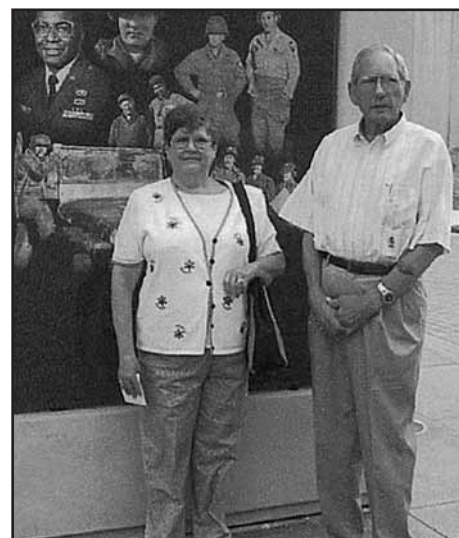


Guthrie Bell Tower Muriel. Virgil Miles, picture etched on top right of back ground, Lowell Guthrie (responsible for the tower, and Carmel Olive.

been cast on the sides of the bells. One of the larger bells weighed 2,235 pounds. This bell had the names of 18 Korean War Veterans from this area, who attended the dedication ceremony on May 6, 2002, and who had received the Korean Presidential Medal and letter of appreciation from the Korean President for Korean service, cast on two sides of the bell. These included Bobby N. Bray, Bobby W. Burbank, William O. Gautney, Coy R. Cannon, George J. Ellis, William C. Flippo, Bill Gober, William M. Gotcher, J. Clinton Killen, Samuel M. Landsdell, George E. McFall, Virgil B. Miles, Carmel D. Olive, Olon R. Patterson, Eric F. Plunk, Paul E. Riley, Edwin J. Smith, Robert S. Wode. This was a happy surprise for many of these who had their names cast on the bell.

It was an enjoyable trip for all who were there to honor the Korean War casualties; and to express our appreciation to Lowell and Carolyn Guthrie; and to Dr. Gary A. Ransdell for building such a monumental structure to honor our veterans and our former friends and neighbor such as Robert H. Guthrie who lost their lives. The Tower is called Robert H. Guthrie Bell Tower and will chime at regular times and at special times during ball games or other events on campus when completed late this fall. It has been a major monetary investment, and of great value in promoting the beauty of the campus and unity in the community.

*Sent to The Graybeards by Paul E. Riley, 2117 Covington Drive, Florence, AL 35630 or e-mail <priley2117@aol.com> (Thank you Paul Riley for letter and photos.—Ed)*



Mary Grigsby coordinator and Korean War veteran Edwin Smith at Guthrie Bell Tower.



Approximate Positions. Starting left front going back and forth to rear: George Ellis, Bobbye Ellis, Kathryn Landsdell, Mertice Miles, Jonathan Marks, Edna Gautney, Marie Burbank, Tommie Plunk, Eric Plunk, Marvin Landsdell, Paul Riley, Iva McClure, Chester McClure, Ethyl Wode, Bobby Burbank, Deanne Green, Jo Killen, Ruth Flippo, Faye Liverett, John T. Green, Mary Riley, Ashley Marks, Susan Marks, Robert Wode, June Olive, William (Bill) Flippo, Bobby Bray, Phillip Marks, John Magazzu, William (Bill) Gotcher, Carmel Olive, Edwin J. Smith, Millard Liverett.

# A Son's Unfinished Letter

## ■ A father learns of his late son's request to have him recognized for his actions during the Korean war

I am a Dan Brandi member of the USS *Saint Paul* Assn. and the President of the New York City/Long Island Chapter of the Chosin Few. The following story is about a loving warmhearted, dedicated son who wanted, desperately to have his father's bravery during the Korean War- rightfully recognized. However, his efforts were cut short because Thomas "Tommy" Murolo was killed in an accident on June 15, 2002. He was 51 years old.

Only after his death did his father, Salvatore Murolo, learn that his son Tommy was constructing a letter to a local Congressman to request his support in the evaluation of his father's military decorations.

A letter that Tommy did not complete because of his death follows:

Dear Congressman Forbes

This letter is to request your support in the evaluation of my father's military decorations. Until recently the only knowledge our family had of my dad's military background was that he was a Marine who fought in the Korean War. In conversations with a friend of mine who is a decorated Marine Viet Nam Veteran I began to understand the term "forgotten war". I asked my dad some questions and became amazed at what he went through as a 20-year-old Marine.

Through the use of the library and the Internet my dad was able to take me through a timeline of his endeavors climaxing at the "Chosin Reservoir". My dad receives a 70% disability from the VA for wounds that he sustained at the "Chosin Reservoir".

While doing some research I came upon the heroics of his final battle on hill 1520. At the time of this battle my dad was the platoon corporal runner his job was to protect a platoon corpsman (medic) as well as passing along messages during battle. Attached you will find information on Sgt. Will Windrich who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroics at hill 1520 which was also my father's final battle. He was positioned next to Navy Corpsman John Fedalia (deceased 4/15/99) in the foxhole next to Windrich. He knows exactly how brutal that final battle was. The Marines threw over 1000 grenades in one night. After Windrich died my dad held his position and continued to fight. The bravery of this small group, (7 men survived), enabled the trapped Marines to continue their descent from the reservoir. My dad brought Windrich's body down the Hill after being relieved by another platoon. It was at this point where he was diagnosed with shrapnel wounds to both hands and frostbite to both of his feet and hands. That was my dad's last battle. I feel that if it was not for this small group of survivors from Item Co. 3 Battalion, 5th Marines many of the Marines who made it past that point on December 1, 1950 might not have survived.

I think this is where Tommy's letter ends.

There is where my evaluation begins... In November-December 1950, seventeen thousand troops mostly from the 1st Marine Corps

Division-fought the battle of the Chosin Reservoir. They struggled to survive not only the fierce combat but also the coldest winter to hit North Korea in 100 years- temperatures as cold as 60 below zero were recorded.

Surrounded by regiments (approx. 130,000) of Chinese soldiers they fought their way out along a steep mountain, narrow roadway known as the main supply route (MSR). This was 78 miles from the port city of Hungnam where Naval ships were stationed to assist them in their withdrawal. This journey took 13 days with numerous heroic acts performed and the loss of lives of many good men.

The following is a war story that must be told and "Deserves to be told". It is about Item Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines and their heroic acts on Hill 1520. There is no way that the Marines could have prepared themselves for what they were going to encounter on Hill 1520. Actual combat is not described in the training manual when you are in combat the company; platoon or squad is never at full complement of strength. Out of the 179 men of the company only 20 survived after fighting, continuously, all day and part of the night December 1, 1950, as a squad of men from Item Company 12 men and 1 sergeant took possession of Hill 1520.

Sgt. Windrichs ordered his squad to dig in and prepare to stay the night. They were unable to penetrate the ground to dig foxholes because the earth was too hard (frozen) and the snow too deep. As Marines are known to do-they improvised gathering rocks and trees for cover and prepared to hold the hill. Upon doing so a second order came to proceed down the hill, into a gully and take the next hill. This was about 12:00 midnight. They thought that it was an unusual command-but orders were orders.

Along with Sgt. Windrichs the squad of 12 men proceeded down the hill, when all "hell" broke loose and they were caught in crossfire. Sgt. Windrichs led the squad back up the hill to their original position. As a result of this action the sergeant was wounded and five (5) Marines were killed. The squad now consisted of 1 sergeant, 4 Marines and 1 corpsman. Upon reaching the top they reorganized and were under constant fire throughout the night. By throwing hand grenades and the operation of a machine gun they held their positions. At one point the machine gunner kept screaming and yelling that he could see the Chinese coming up the hill in droves. He also said that all of his crew were killed or wounded, he was alone and needed help. Sgt. Windrichs and a corpsman John Fedalia and corporal Murolo (runner) was positioned a short distance from the machine gun.

At this point the sergeant was wounded for the second time he was unconscious and bleeding profusely. Murolo and Fedalia attended to the sergeant's wounds and wrapped him in a poncho ready to take him down when orders came. Though Murolo was wounded in both hands he left the sergeant and corpsman and proceeded to the machine gun position to assist the gunner. They manned the machine gun took turns firing and changed positions all-night preventing the Chinese troops from taking the hill. They were unaware of how many Chinese they had killed, however, when George Company came up to relieve them in the morning they counted over (400) Chinese dead or wounded.

Upon being relieved Murolo and Fedalia carried Sgt. Windrichs body down the hill and about halfway down the hill two Marines





L to R: Tony Sinish - Chosin Few NYC/LI, Daniel Brandi - Chosin Few NYC/LI, Salvatore Murulo - Recipient of Purple Heart Award, Admiral R. Stewart United States Merchant Marine Academy Kings Point, NY, Ret. Lt. General USMC.

from George Company met them and carried Windricks to the bottom. When corporal Murolo and corpsman Fedalia reached the bottom they noticed that Sgt. Windricks remains were wrapped and tagged- he was dead.

The remaining Marines (20) from Item Company 3rd Battalion 5th Marines were greeted by their captain. Captain Schrier though wounded twice in the neck, commended the remaining Marines for holding on all night-and "for putting up one hell of a fight". The wounded were administered aid; most of them were wounded and had frostbite of the hands and feet.

Upon being completely surrounded the First Marine Division broke through and fought their way, continuously, to Hungnam with all their wounded and equipment. They were credited with destroying ten Chinese Divisions in the withdrawal.

It has been documented that this encounter on Hill 1520 opened the way from Yudam-Ni through to the Port City of Hungnam for evacuation of the military and freedom for 100,000 civilians aboard ships. The last ship departed the port city on Christmas Eve.

For his conspicuous gallantry Staff Sgt. USMC *Windricks* was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on Hill 1520. It has been noted that a review established that certain levels of each regiment were recognized equally-except for the Fifth Regiment. The review explains that this could have been because so few remained to report it or they were unable to follow up on the report. In each of the above situations the remaining Marines must now seek help of others.

It will never be too late to examine the evidence and explain it for history. Just for the record, Salvatore Murolo received his Purple Heart 48 years after the Chosin Reservoir battle. Accompanied by his colleagues from the Chosin Few- New York City/Long Island Chapter, this ceremony took place at Veteran's Park, Rockville Centre, New York. Thank you Tommy, you will be forever remembered.

#### **A note to the USS *Saint Paul* Association:**

November 30, 1950 began with USS *Saint Paul* being called upon to help cover the evacuation of hard-pressed UN troops from the eastern side of Korea by the entry of Communist Chinese troops into the Korean War. Wonsan and Hungnam were the major evacuation points for seven days. The withdrawal was carried on in an orderly and efficient manner under cover of the five and eight inch guns of



L to R—Police Officer R. Brussels, Mayor of Rockville Centre Eugene Murry, Salvatore Murolo - Recipient of Purple Heart Award, Daniel, J. Brandi President Chosin Few LI/NY City Chapter and Police Officer Brian Burke.

*Saint Paul* and accompanying destroyers. *Saint Paul* Gunfire support "TG90.8 Task Force", was in charge of all naval gunfire, answering directly to the command ship, USS *Mount McKinley*. Only after the last man and piece of equipment were evacuated did *Saint Paul* leave the immediate vicinity-the last ship to depart.

The *Saint Paul* unleashed a huge bombardment on the abandoned Port of Hungnam, blasting its facilities and remaining dumps into ashes. The marine performance had been heroic. They had fought their way from the Chosin Reservoir in column of units with virtually all of their equipment, dead and wounded, maintaining the spirit of the Marine Corps all the way. Once the marines and army columns

Continued on page 84

### **Lapel Pin / Hat Pin**

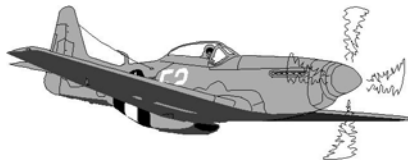
**\$10.00**



**Send Payment with order  
No S&H charges  
Korean War Veterans Assn.  
Sunshine State Chapter  
PO Box 5298  
Largo, FL 33779-5298**



# 1stLt 'Snowflake' Grisham



## *Day or Night, F-51 Mustangs Still Don't Float Chinhae, Korea, May 1951*

In response to the North Korean invasion of South Korea on Sunday morning, June 25, 1950, I had gone into Korea in mid-July 1950 with the first increment of the 'Dallas Project,' a hastily-formed squadron of volunteer fighter pilots from the US Air Force's 18th Fighter-Bomber Group, then stationed at Clark Field in the Philippine Islands.

As the full-time Squadron Intelligence Officer and part-time Combat Pilot, it didn't take me long to realize that our gallant, but feeble efforts, flying ten weary F-51 Mustangs from the dirt airstrip at Taegu, South Korea, were having little effect in slowing the North Korean's relentless offensive drive toward Pusan. I continued my dual duties, garnering fifty-five combat missions by early November, 1950, when I was transferred to Clark Field's 44th Squadron, flying the F-80C jets until May of 1951, when an extreme shortage of combat fighter pilots ... caused by overly-optimistic Personnel forecasts during the "Home by Christmas" euphoria prior to the mid-November, 1950 entry of Chinese forces on the side of North Korea.

Because I had not thus far been able to escape the tenacious grip of Far East Air Forces, I was hastily transferred back to the 18th Group in Korea, this time into the recently-absorbed 39th Fighter-Bomber Squadron.

It was there, at the newly-refurbished base at Chinhae (K-10), on the south coast, near Masan, that I belatedly heard of another of the unsung heroes of the Korean Air War ... "Snowflake" Grisham

First Lieutenant Grisham (I never did learn his first name, he was always known as "Snowflake"); he was an ever-friendly Weather Officer, a forecaster who had one time forecast a July snowfall at their central-Japan airbase and he turned out to be correct. It snowed enough to briefly close their airfield ... hence his nickname "Snowflake."

Grisham was caught up in the same "Reduction in Force administrative grounding" that had decked Don Bolt. In fact, his name was on the same set of orders returning him to flight status ... provided that he "volunteer" for immediate combat duty in Korea. And, like Bolt and the others so named, he also had not flown any kind of an airplane for almost a year.

Snowflake maintained his ground responsibilities as well, serving as one of only two assigned base weather forecasters, which meant that his combat flying had to be carefully integrated with his ground duties. He couldn't fly very often ... maybe once or twice a week, at most, and it meant that he had to fill in on many of the odd-ball scheduling times.

For example, Grisham would often request the early, pre-dawn missions so that he could be back on the ground in time to meet his schedule as weather forecaster for the day; or he would take the last flight of the day for the same reason, so that he could finish his Weather forecaster duties before going off on his combat missions.

Chinhae Air Base, on the south coast of the Korean peninsula, had been a Japanese seaplane base during World War II, and, although it had a semblance of a landing strip on the shore ... about 4500 feet of packed gravel, adjacent to a steep rock bulkhead separating the sea from the shore, and a large, tall hangar within 200 feet of the centerline on one end; it was a long ways from being a "comfortable" strip for land flying operations.

The twin mental hazards of the steep bulkhead with the sea on the left, and the proximity of the big hangar on the right, made it mandatory that we pay strict attention to countering any wind-drift while coming down the final approach at the usual 100 mph glide speed.

Night flying conditions were even more seriously aggravated by the barely visible string of dim, temporary runway lights, and the single little red light atop the corner of the hangar ... all of which had the nasty habit of shorting out and going black at the critical point of the landing pattern ... the final approach.

In early May, 1951, when the 39th Squadron was flying out of Chinhae and staging out of the little Han River sand-strip island K-16 base at Seoul, \*Grisham flew a late mission to the target area in the vicinity of the 38th Parallel, making it necessary for him to return to Chinhae long after darkness had enveloped the mountainous coastal area.

His mission had been pretty "routine", if any ground attack combat mission could ever honestly be considered that ... striking targets along the front-lines at dusk, then a leisurely one-hour flight in the dark back to our coastal K-10 base.

The remainder of his flight had returned to K-16, at Seoul City Airport, where they were to operate for a few days.

Grisham navigated to the field at Chinhae without any difficulty, called the

### Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War

by

Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman,

Lt Col, USAF, Ret

control tower, and set up his initial approach at 1000 feet for landing toward the west; the water and the bulkhead would be on his left, and he would have a good, clear over-water final approach.

He 'pitched out' in a steep ninety degree left turn, leveled his wings briefly on the crosswind leg, then rolled smoothly into another steep 90 degree turn to downwind leg.

With throttle off and speed dropping, he reached down by his left shin to extend the handle which lowered his landing gear; with his left hand then placed his flap handle in the 'full down' position, then eased gently into another left banked turn onto base leg and final approach.

He tried desperately to keep his eyes focused on the dim light which marked the separation between the bulkhead and the approach end of the landing strip...

Moving his left hand from the flap handle near his left thigh, to the landing light switch at the lower left corner of the instrument panel, Grisham flicked the switch to light the landing approach ahead.

Simultaneously, as he did so, there was a great splash, as the Mustang's gear and propeller hit the sea.

Instantly, the nose and cockpit dove beneath the water, and in brief seconds the entire airplane was completely submerged in the dark sea, just 500 yards from the end of the runway ... and safety.

The landing light continued to glow eerily, deep under water, marking the location of the submerged Mustang. But before a boat could be launched, and divers get down to the cockpit where Snowflake Grisham ... the weather forecaster and volunteer combat fighter pilot, had already drowned. We were never able to determine just why his familiar, final landing approach had been so misjudged in the darkness.

'Nor could his determination to fly combat ever be fully explained. "Snowflake" was just one more of the special ones ... the Unsung Heroes of that dirty, forgotten war.

*(Col. Biteman passed away on September 23, 2002. I will honor him and his unit by printing all of his stories. Editor.)*

Next Issue: **Capt. Ross Cree, 5-51**  
Dedicated to his duty ... to the Death.

## MINUTEMEN from page 9

wounded by grenade fragments.

Their latest patrol, two days later, was the Minutemen's most successful to date. They blew up an enemy bunker deep in Chinese territory, then it seemed that every weapon on the front lines was leveled in their direction.

Surrounded on three sides, the Minutemen battled for 15 minutes, killing at least 13 Chinese, and wounding 10 others. Five of their own men sustained minor wounds

The new armored vest, worn by the men whenever they don't have to climb steep Korean hills, saved at least two of them from serious injury or death. "That eight pound vest felt like summer underwear when those guns opened up." M/Sgt Robert P. Eis said afterwards. Sergeant Eis, platoon sergeant, was one of the wounded men saved by the vest.

While a young man living in Hartford, Connecticut in 1950, Manuel "Hank" De Matos answered his conscience and his nation's call by enlisting in the military. With the advent of war in Korea, he was sent to serve with the U.S Army's Second Division between 1950 -51 and 1952. During this period he became part of a special 'volunteer group' comprised of Rangers and paratroopers of the '187th'. Eventually this unit would earn the nickname of "Mulrine's Minutemen". In this tenuous and dangerous time he served with dedication, distinction and honor.

Following his service during this conflict, he carried out his 'civic duty' as a Hartford law

enforcement officer.

At the conclusion of this career, he relocated to Florida to assist in the care and nurturing of his widowed mother. While enjoying marriage to "Rita", he has been an active member of 'Korean conflict era' veterans' organizations.

While attending the '50th anniversary of the Korean armistice ceremony at the Arlington Korean War Veterans monument, "Hank" was approached by a 'comrade from the past'. Known by his Albanian heritage name of "Chufi"; this former paratrooper of the 187th was also a member of the aforementioned "Minutemen". Mr. Giaffo had spotted the insignia on "Hank's" patch and approached him. They both enjoyed a well-deserved reunion of 'elder warriors'.

Since that time, both men have dedicated their attention, efforts and time to affecting a chronicle of the experience they shared a half century ago in that exotic, tragic land. Both feel it necessary, and just, that more acknowledgement, documentation and information be made available and forthcoming. This would detail and illustrate the contributions, sacrifices, and valor of those volunteers known simply as "Mulrine's Minutemen".

*Manuel A. De Matos, 13955 Danielle Ct., Seminole, FL. 33776*



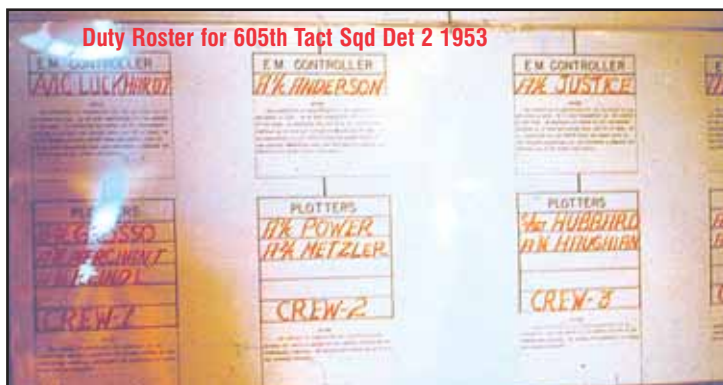
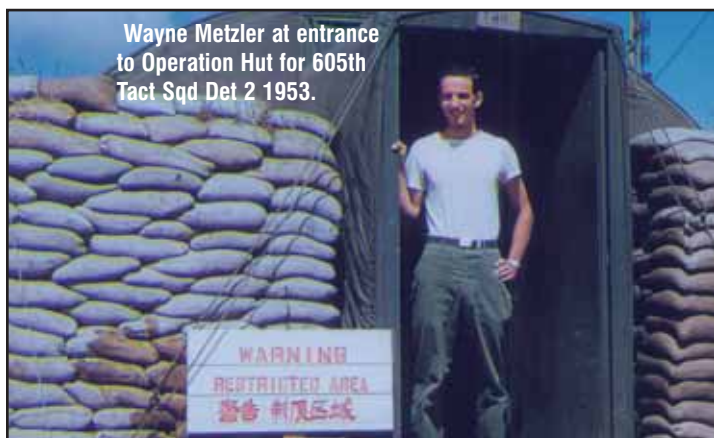
LEFT: Manuel "Hank" DeMatos, May 1952

ABOVE: De Matos (left) and Giaffo



# Images of Korea

Photos from  
Wayne Metzler  
1418 Deveron Drive  
New Haven, IN 46774-2265

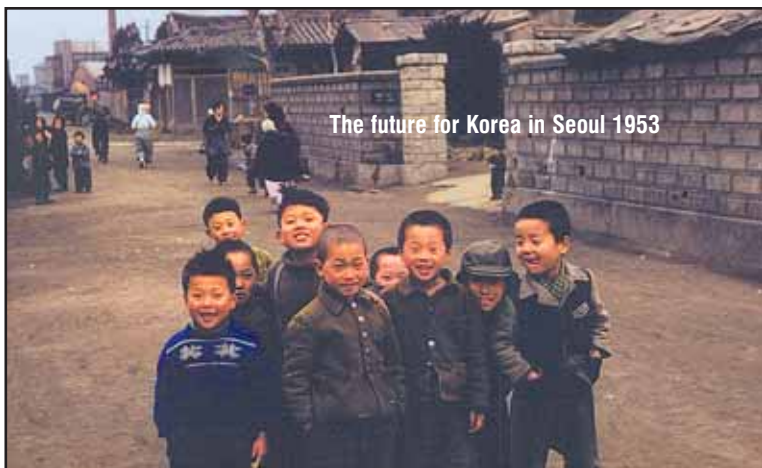




PX in Seoul 1953



The future for Korea in Seoul 1953



Downtown Seoul 1953



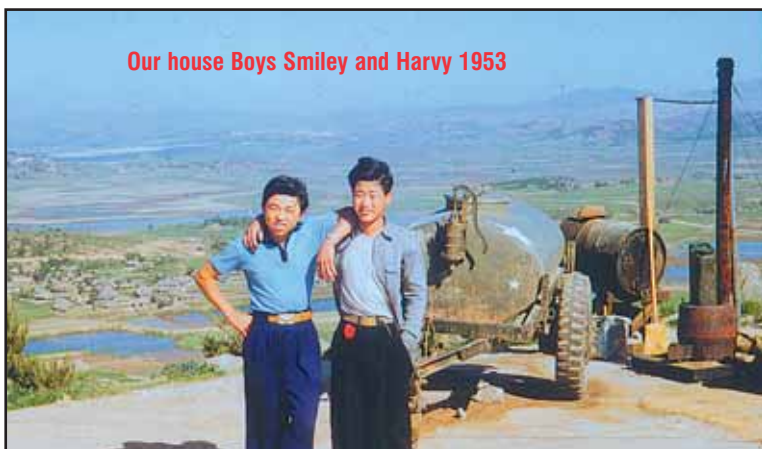
Building new living quarters at 605th Tact Sqd Det 2 1953.



Wayne Metzler at entrance to 5th AF Headquarters Seoul 1953



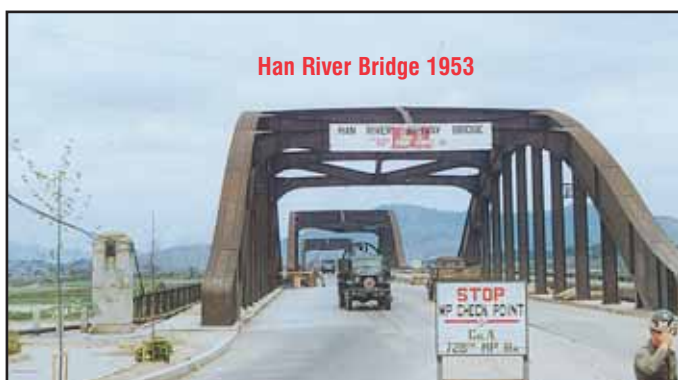
Our house Boys Smiley and Harvy 1953



Seoul 1953.



Han River Bridge 1953



Leaving from K-16 for home 1954.







### Photos by Lewis E. Page, 118 South Main St., Centerville, OH 45458

The 64th Heavy Tank Battalion was formerly the 758th Heavy Tank Battalion. In January 1948, it had the distinction of being one of the first heavy tank battalions organized in the United States. In August 1950, the 758th was changed to 64th Heavy Tank Battalion and assigned to the 3rd Division. The 64th left for the Far East on August 30, 1950 and arrived in Moji, Japan September 15, 1950. The 64th arrived at Wonson on November 20, 1950 and fought with the 3rd Division until the Hungnam evacuation. The battalion then sailed to Pusan then moved to Ulsan then to Masan before taking another boat to the East Coast Port of Taecheon. The tankers then went across Korea and joined the 25th Division and went from Suwon to Anyang to capture Kimpo Airfield and isolated the port of Inchon. After capturing the town of Uijongbu Corridor they joined the 187th Rct Paratroopers at Munsen. On March 31, 1951, the 64th was the first to cross the 38th Parallel. These are some of the highlights of the 64th Heavy Tank Battalion in photos.

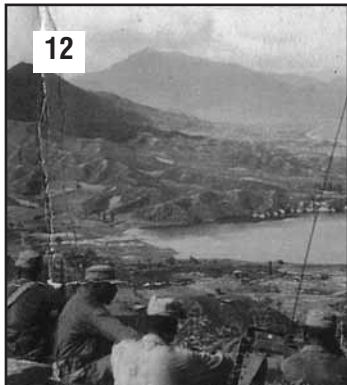
- #1 - Our platoon sergeant, M/Sgt Charles Lanier standing by my M/24 tank.
- #2 - Make-shift shelter.
- #3 - S/Sgt Lewis E. Page doing preventative maintenance on his M/24 light tank.
- #4 - "Pappy", M/Sgt Charles Lanier and S/Sgt Lewis E. Page.
- #5 - This tankier (soldier) is inspecting the mechanism of the turret of this M/48 tank.

- #6 - Cpl Lee Yober is the topographer of HQ Co. of the 64th Heavy Tank Bn.
- #7 - A group of tankers are discussing the latest update regarding the Korean Conflict.
- #8 - Chow time with our favorite food: "C" rations.
- #9 - Cpl James Holiday relaxing after driving his tank over some rough roads.
- #10 - Returning from a reconnaissance mission.





11



12



14



16



13



15



17



18



19



20



21



22



23



24

#11 - Somewhere in Korea.

#12 - Maintaining an outpost.

#13 - The troops were inspected by a General of the 3rd Infantry Division

#14 - Relaxing before our next mission.

#15 - Our first lieutenant in charge of our recon platoon.

#16 - Some of our little friends in Korea.

#17 - Sfc Reuben Berry, my tank commander and radio operator of our platoon.

#18 - Checking out the tank for the next mission.

#19 - A portion of the 64th Heavy Tank Battalion returning from a combat mission

#20 - A Korean village.

#21 - Gassing up for our next mission.

#22 - Waiting for orders to move out — this was a very important mission.

#23 - The tanks were in fighting positions.

#24 - S/Sgt Whimbly.





Han River Bridge, Max McLaughlin, USAF 8th Maintenance Squadron



Damaged prop of a Hawker Sea Fury



Inchon



32nd Infantry – Seoul, unknown veterans.



Seoul.



Occupational Duty – Korea, William Smith 32nd Regt.I. Co. – 1948 - Seoul William Smith, 1937 Hilton Avenue, Dover, Pa. 17315





5th RCT Heavy Mortar Co. 4/19/51 – Don Gotshall,  
37637 Landis Ave., Zephyrhills, Fl. 33541-9311



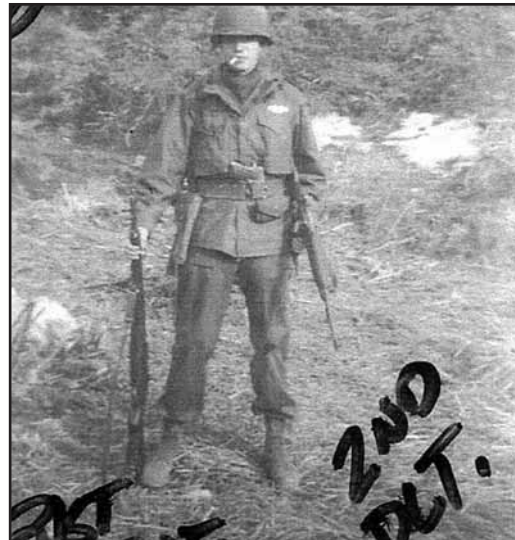
Seoul, Korea – 1948.



Chosin Few – X-Leroy Creel 31st I Co., 1st left – Bob Hammond 57 FA  
Batt Heart Break Hill



5th RCT – Don Gotshall, 37637 Landis Ave., Zephyrhills, Fl. 33541-9311



Chosin Few –  
Lewis Shannon

# KWVA National 20th Annual Reunion ★ ★

The Reunion Committee are pleased to announce the site selected for our 20th Annual Reunion.

After review of several hotels, their locations, costs, etc the reunion committee members selected The Hilton Hotel in Knoxville, Tennessee. The address is 501 W Church Ave, Southwest Knoxville, TN 37902-2591.

There were many reasons for choosing this hotel but the most important one was location. It is very near to many historical areas, business areas, major airports, great shopping and eateries.

We hope you will start your planning to join your fellow veterans and friends in September 2004 at our 20th Annual Reunion. Thank You.

Reunion Committee Members

## Location

★ Center of the downtown business district, 12 miles/20 minutes from McGhee Tyson Airport with easy access to I-40 and I-75

★ Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge and Sevierville, the ideal place for both art enthusiasts and outlet shoppers, Dollywood Theme Park and the beautiful Great Smoky Mountain National Park, are all within a scenic 45-minute drive

★ Oak Ridge, the site where the Atom Bomb was developed, is a 20 minute drive and offers science and energy related tours

★ Access to the Knoxville Convention Center via covered walkway across Henley Street

★ Adjacent to the University of Tennessee Conference Center

★ Walking distance to the Knoxville Convention Center, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Federal Building, University of Tennessee, Neyland Stadium, Thompson Boling Arena, the Old City, which features many restaurants, clubs and antique shops, World's Fair Park, Market Square, Courthouse and the Riverfront Development

★ Walking distance to many historical and cultural events, such as the Knoxville Museum of Art, the East Tennessee Historical Society Museum, Blount Mansion, James White Fort, the beautiful Tennessee Theatre and the Bijou Theatre

★ Historical and cultural events nearby are turn of the century homes such as the Mabry-Hazen House, Ramsey House and the Crescent Bend House, the Beck Cultural Museum which features Knoxville's African-American heritage, McClung Museum, the Knoxville Zoo, the Gateway Regional Visitors Center, Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, Ijams Nature Center and the Tennessee Riverboat Company where you can enjoy a cruise on the Tennessee River's "Star of Knoxville."

## Accommodations

★ 317 spacious, comfortable guest rooms, including 7 Luxury and Executive Suites. All guest rooms are newly renovated as of winter 2003. Each suite includes a hidden wall bed for additional sleeping capacity.

★ Exercise room, Business Center, Gift Shop, seasonal outdoor pool and sundeck and YMCA access privileges

★ Prepare your palate for traditional American Cuisine and International delicacies in "The Market Cafe"

★ Relax in the trendy and refined atmosphere of our expand-

ed lounge, "The Orange Martini"

★ Enjoy a high-quality whole bean coffee or a rich-brewed Italian style espresso beverage in our Starbucks Coffee Shop located on the lobby level

★ Room Service - enjoy quick service with a complete menu selection from the comfort of your room

★ Meeting and Banquet Facilities - with over 14,000 square feet of flexible meeting and banquet space and seating from five to 700, allow our staff of professionals to assist you with planning your important meetings and social events

## Special Features

◆ Each guest room features a coffee maker, hair dryer, iron, ironing board and 27" television. Our two concierge level floors, as well as our suites, offer a 32" television

◆ Two, two-line data-port telephones with in-room voice mail allow you to receive calls while on the line

◆ 27"/32" remote control color television with complimentary; ESPN, ESPN2, Weather Channel, TNT, TBS, CNN, CNN Headline News, Cartoon Network, HBO, CNBC, Fox News, ABC Family, Discovery Channel, Animal Planet, History Channel, A&E and local channels including; ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, PBS, WB/UPN

◆ Laundry valet service

◆ Non-smoking guest rooms available upon request

◆ Zip out check-out and USA Today

◆ Complimentary Wireless Internet

## Directions

**Hilton Hotel in Knoxville, Tennessee.**

**501 W. Church Ave, Southwest Knoxville, TN 37902-2591**

**Tel: 865-523-2300**

★ **Traveling North on I-75 or East on I-40**  
or.

★ **Traveling from the Airport taking I-29 North (Accoya Hwy) to I-40 East**

◆ Take I-40 EAST into the Downtown Knoxville Area

◆ Take exit #388

◆ You will exit off the interstate to the right - stay left

◆ Go through the tunnel to Henley Street

◆ Go to the second traffic light (at Church Avenue) - turn left

◆ The Hotel is one (1) block up on the left



# ★ Sept. 22 - 26, 2004 ★ ★ ★ Knoxville, TN

## ★ Traveling South on 1-75 (1-275 South):

- ♦ Take 1-275 South to Knoxville
- ♦ Follow signs for 441 South/Henley Street
- ♦ Go through the tunnel to Henley Street
- ♦ Go to the second traffic light (at Church Avenue) - turn left
- ♦ The Hotel is one (1) block up on the left

## ★ Traveling West on 1-40:

- ♦ Take Exit #388A (James White Parkway) - this will exit left
- ♦ Take first exit off of James White Parkway (at Summit Hill)
- ♦ You will come to a stop sign at Summit Hill - turn right
- ♦ Go to the fourth traffic light (Locust Street) - turn left
- ♦ The Hotel is three (3) blocks up on the left

## Activities

### ★ Wednesday, September 22

1:00pm - 6:00pm Reunion Registration open  
Hospitality Room open

### ★ Thursday, September 23

7:30am - 8:30am Reunion Registration open  
9:00am - 2:00pm **City Tour/Lunch Cruise**  
(description follows)  
2:30pm - 4:30pm Reunion Registration open.  
Additional hours will be posted at  
the reunion if necessary.

### ★ Friday, September 24

7:00am - 8:30am Full Breakfast Buffet  
8:30am - 11:30am Board Meeting  
9:00am - 3:45pm **Ladies Tour** (description follows)  
1:30pm - 5:00pm General Membership Meeting

### ★ Saturday, September 25

7:00am - 8:30am Continental Breakfast (fruit, cereals,  
yogurt, breads, juice, & coffee / tea)  
8:45am - 4:30pm **Museum of the Appalachia/  
Oak Ridge** (description follows)  
6:00pm - 7:00pm Cash Bar  
7:00pm - Banquet begins

### ★ Sunday, September 26

Farewells and Departures

## Tour Descriptions

### City Tour/Lunch Cruise Thursday, September 23

Enjoy a guided driving tour of Knoxville, historic capital of the Southwest Territory. Stop at the McClung Museum to see one of the country's finest exhibits of American Indian artifacts recovered in the southeastern United States. Other points of interest include the World's Fair Site of 1982, Alex Haley Square, the University of Tennessee campus, and the Gateway Regional Visitor's Center. Lunch, featuring baked chicken, will be onboard Star of Knoxville Riverboat. Enjoy a relaxing sightseeing cruise down the Tennessee River on an authentic 325-passenger stern

wheel riverboat.

9:00am board bus, 2:00pm back at the hotel  
\$58/Person includes bus, guide, and lunch cruise.

### Ladies Tour

#### Friday, September 24

Board bus for Pigeon Forge, the friendly resort nestled in the Great Smoky Mountains, and host to more than ten million visitors a year. Learn the history of this area and how it has developed into one of the country's finest vacation spots. On the way, we'll stop at Douglas Dam Overlook for a beautiful view and then some free time at Sugarland's Visitation Center. For lunch and shopping, we'll head for Tanger Five Oaks Outlet Mall. You'll find everything from Samsonite, Reebok, and Isotoner to Oneida, Polo, and Liz Claiborne. There's something for everyone, and there's plenty of room on the bus for your purchases! Leave your man at the hotel for the business meeting, while you take his wallet to Pigeon Forge! On the way back, we'll see Dolly Parton's statue in her hometown of Sevierville, Tennessee.

9:00am board bus, 3:45pm back at hotel  
\$31/Person includes bus and guide. Lunch on your own.

### Museum of the Appalachia/Oak Ridge Saturday, September 25

Begin the morning with a drive to the Museum of Appalachia located in Norris. This nationally acclaimed farm/village complex pays tribute to the early pioneers who settled the Big Valley of east Tennessee in the 1700's. The sixty-five acre museum includes dozens of authentic log structures, a large display building, an extensive craft and antique shop, and the Appalachian Hall of Fame. Enjoy the self-guided tour, some gift shopping, and a great lunch with entertainment. The buffet lunch consists of BBQ pork, chicken, rolls, slaw, beans, iced tea, lemonade, and cookies. During lunch watch and listen to the live band playing music of the era and area! After lunch, embark on a brief driving tour of Oak Ridge, home of the WWII Manhattan Project, on your way to the American Museum of Science and Energy. This is one of the world's largest energy exhibits presented through interactive displays, films, and live demonstrations. Learn the story of the Manhattan Project, code name given to a massive wartime effort, which produced the world's first atomic weapons. Oak Ridge was built in 1942 under cloak of great secrecy during WWII. The city went from 3,000 residents to 75,000 almost overnight and three manufacturing plants were constructed to develop a technology that ended the war. Your visit will include a self-guided tour of the museum and time to browse the gift shop.

8:45am board bus, 4:30pm back at hotel  
\$60/Person includes bus, guide, admissions, and lunch.

Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices. Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.

## KWVA ACTIVITY REGISTRATION

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order (no credit cards or phone reservations accepted). Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before August 20, 2004. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing.

**Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.**

**PO Box 11327**

**Norfolk, VA 23517**

**ATTN: KWVA**

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

Inputted \_\_\_\_\_ Nametag Completed \_\_\_\_\_

	Price Per	# of People	Total
<b>TOURS</b>			
<b>CUT-OFF DATE IS 8/20/04</b>			
Thursday: City Tour / Lunch Cruise .....	\$58 .....	_____	\$ _____
Friday: Ladies Tour .....	\$31 .....	_____	\$ _____
Saturday: Oak Ridge / Museum of Appalachia .....	\$60.....	_____	\$ _____
<b>MEALS</b>			
Friday: Full Breakfast Buffet .....	\$14.....	_____	\$ _____
Saturday: Continental Breakfast.....	\$11.....	_____	\$ _____
Saturday: Banquet (Please select your entree)			
Roast Prime Rib of Beef.....	\$30.....	_____	\$ _____
Chicken Marsala .....	\$28.....	_____	\$ _____
<b>MANDATORY PER PERSON REGISTRATION FEE</b>			
Includes reunion and administrative expenses. ....	\$7 .....		\$ _____
Total Amount Payable to <b>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</b> .....			\$ _____

*Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.*

PLEASE PRINT

Name (for name tags) \_\_\_\_\_ KWVA Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Pow? \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Names \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Disability / Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

In Order To Participate In Tours, Would You Require A Wheel Chair Lift On The Bus? \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please Note That We Cannot Guarantee Availability).*

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone. (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_ Are You Staying At The Hotel? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are You Flying? ☐ Driving? ☐ Rv? ☐

For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined below. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday–Friday, 9:00am–5:00pm, Eastern Time** (excluding holidays). Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain your cancellation code.

### Cancellation and Refund Policy for Armed Forces Reunion

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$5 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cutoff date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non refundable AFR registration fee. Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays. Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.

## HOTEL REGISTRATION

### KNOXVILLE HILTON — KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, 865-523-2300

The Knoxville Hilton is located at 501 West Church Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37902-2591 in the center of the downtown business and shopping district, only twelve miles from McGhee Tyson Airport. Connected to the Knoxville Convention Center by a covered walkway and just 1/2 mile from the University of Tennessee campus. The Knoxville Hilton offers 317 spacious guest rooms each with coffee makers, iron/ironing board, and hair dryers. Relax in the hotel's outdoor pool or health and exercise room. Enjoy the facilities of the neighboring Y.M.C.A including indoor pool, racquetball, jogging track and massage. Handicapped accessible and non-smoking rooms are subject to availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your hotel reservation. Parking for guests staying in the hotel will be complimentary. Check in time is 3:00pm; check out is 12:00pm. The Market Cafe serves steaks, chops and chicken. Room service is available.

Transportation services are provided by Airport Express Shuttle (Chariots of Hire) for \$12/pp one way or \$16/pp roundtrip. Their booth is conveniently located in the baggage claim area on the lower level. Please come directly to the booth upon your arrival.

The nearest RV park with full hook-up is the Knoxville East KOA about twenty miles from the hotel. The park recommends reservations be made immediately. For information, directions and reservations please call (800) 562-9693.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair while at the reunion, Lincare rents wheelchairs by the week. They are located about three blocks from the hotel and will deliver for a charge. Call (800) 524-7499 to make a reservation about two weeks in advance.

Vendors, Schedules, and Prices are subject to change.

*Cut Out Form Below and Mail to The Hotel*



### KWVA HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

**Group Code: KWV**

**Reunion Dates: September 22 - 26 2004**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sharing Room W/ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Hilton Honors#, \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Approx. Time \_\_\_\_\_ Dep. Date \_\_\_\_\_ # Of Rooms Needed \_\_\_\_\_ # Of People In Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Handicap Access ☐ Smoking ☐ Non-Smoking ☐ King Bed ☐ 2 Double Beds ☐

In the event room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned.

RATE: \$89 + tax (currently 17.25%) for one or four people in the room. Rate will be honored three days before and after reunion, based on availability.

**CUT OFF DATE: 8/20/04.** Late reservations will be processed based on space/rate availability.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Deposit is refundable if reservation is canceled 72 hours in advance. Call 865-523-2300.

All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.

☐ AMEX ☐ DINERS ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD ☐ DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE (regardless of payment method) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Hilton Knoxville Hotel, 501 West Church Ave., Knoxville, TN 37902, Attn: Reservations**



# Book Review



## Confess, Confess, Confess

By Nick A. Flores.

### Author:

Nick A. Flores Email: [mflores@networkcommunications.net](mailto:mflores@networkcommunications.net)

### Story:

Bones, the dog named after our camp commander.

As we settled in our new home, we asked around to find out how many guys were there and what they did in hard labor camp. They stated that ten were there for fighting with the sympathizers; we haul wood, break up rocks, and shovel snow. That night I saw the camp mascot for the first time. One of the men had found a small dog wandering in camp. He then took possession, making it the mascot. When I asked what the puppy's name was, the reply was "Bones." Tom and I started laughing and knew that they had named him after the officer in charge. "Bones was a small man, short hair, very wrinkled face, sunken eyes and dark complexion. He was wearing a padded cotton winter uniform so he appeared bigger than he really was.

That night after we had gone to bed, someone had yelled slang words, adding the name Bones, you s.o.b. That particular commander happened to be on the ground and had overheard what they had said. When this occurred the time was between 2200 and 2300 hours, and very cold outside. The commander arrived with six guards, ordered us to get up and go outside and to hurry up. We had not been allowed to put on our shoes or jackets so everyone had to stand in the cold with just socks on our feet.

By that time the temperatures had dropped to twenty below. He told us to line up, and demanded that whoever made the remark to step forward. No one moved. He then added that he would ask us one more time and if we did not confess to who it was, we would not go to bed. Since the temperature was so blistering cold, the commander felt so sure it would be so miserably uncomfortable for us, that whoever had made the remark

would quickly say so, and then we would all return to our hut. Wrong! Even after this no one said a word, so we stood out there for quite a while, forty-five minutes to an hour. The guards standing with us were cold as their faces were showing displeasure.

The commander returned from his office to ask us again if the person responsible would step forward. Still no one made a move so he left again. Another half hour passed, and by this time we were cold plus everyone's feet were frozen. The commander returned saying something to the guards and they made a motion for us to get in the hut. It was almost 2400 hours by the time we finally got in bed.

The next morning after we got up and completed our exercises, we headed for the mountains to gather logs for the kitchen, then shoveled snow in the "fort." Soon we realized that we had not seen our mascot, so started looking for him, searching every corner of the hut and even outside on the fort grounds, but useless. A terrible thought entered our minds. The commander had confiscated the dog because of the episode last night. All too soon the officer came to inform us he had taken the mascot.

For our dinner that night they told us it would be soup, so we settled back in our beds waiting, during which time we discussed the disappearance of our mascot. The whistle blew for dinner then the Chinese cooks came over to our hut and dished it out. After eating our soup and rice, we still had not figured out why they had taken our dog. One of the men went to the latrine then came running back to tell us that we had just eaten our mascot. The pelt was hanging by the latrine, put there purposely for us to see.

After all the commotion, the officer came out of his office, approached us and asked if we had enjoyed our soup. He grinned then left. Some wanted to vomit and a couple of men did, after the officer had told us what we had just had for dinner. All of us were sick at the thought that the commander had taken his anger out on the little dog. (Many more pages of

camp life and escapes.)

(Paducah, Ky.) - Turner Publishing Company has released its historic publication, "Amidst the forgotten heroes of "The Forgotten War", there arise the saga of one hero who finally has found recompense for years of injustice and abandonment. The story of Nick A. Flores is a singular one for a variety of reasons. First of all, he was an exceptional figure in the North Korean Prisoner of War camps, a realm of the war that has not produced a plethora of Humoresque giants. Secondly, his brazen escape attempts landed him quite accidentally in an enigmatic investigation which is still mysteriously being unraveled today. And lastly, his personal story of justice accomplished, coupled with belated recognition for his heroic deeds, makes his journey of pain all the more special and rewarding. The story of Nick A. Flores is the story of a simple man who cherished his country and his Corps and who did his utmost against incredible odds."

*Captain Phillip Rogers, USMC*

*Confess, Confess, Confess* is a must-read for history buffs and anyone interested in learning about what goes on in the hearts and minds of men during the trials and tribulations of the POW experience.

6x9 inch, hardbound, dust jacket 238 pages, ISBN 1-56311-878-5. Retail: \$24.95. To order, visit Turner Publishing's website: <[www.turnerpublishing.com](http://www.turnerpublishing.com)>. Wholesale orders contact: <[svos@turnerpublishing.com](mailto:svos@turnerpublishing.com)>

*(The story goes on describing much valor and many great photos made by many brave men under horrible conditions. A must read for all that wishes to know the complete story of those that fought in the Korean War. My twin brother Richard W. Krepps died in Camp #5 where he still lays in that shallow grave almost 54 years ago. I thank Nick for letting us family members extend our loved ones lives during this period. Welcome home Nick and all our former Ex-POWs, may God Bless you all with many more days of freedom.—Editor.)*

Continued on page 83

## 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: (*Donations as of July 10, 2004*)

### Members & Friends

Armeli, J. P.  
Barnes, W.  
Bates, Jr. A. E. G.  
Batherson, C. R.  
Bessire, D. W.  
Biesky, S.  
Bloomfield, J. F.  
Bonaiuto, Sr. R. V.  
Bosch, R.  
Bosco, J. G.  
Camp, H.  
Carroll, J. C.  
Chilcott, T.  
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Cirincione, A.  
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Defenbaugh, S.  
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Ellis, G. J.  
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Fielder, S.  
Fox, T.  
Fritz, A. H.  
Gibbons, R.  
Glock, R.  
Gorski, D. C.  
Gregory, T. J.  
House, E.  
Jannsen, H.  
Kaminski, M. C.  
Krepps, V.  
Kriszat, E. F.  
Kvet, G.  
Lake, C. E.  
Maloy, T. L.  
Marcarelli, R. A.  
Mayen, M.

Mellon, W. R.  
Morin, E. A.  
Newkirk, F.  
Pak, H.  
Pimentel J. G. J.  
Proctor, W.  
Powell, J. W.  
Quinn, J.  
Rudzinski-Rudy, A.  
Sanford, R.  
Schaffer, E.  
Schildbach, R.  
Skipka, E. J.  
Sloan, G.  
Spollen, J. P.  
Stern, P. H.  
Stratton, Bob  
Villanueva, M. C.  
Wainwright, M.  
Wiedhahn, W.  
Wilson, P.  
Williams, J. R.  
Wise, C. R.  
Wright, P. J.

### Chapters:

Central Long Island Chapter  
Dept. of Ohio  
Johnnie Johnson Chapter  
Kivlehan Chapter  
Maryland Chapter  
Mountain Empire Chapter #289  
NW Alabama Chapter II

### Organizations:

VKW Reunion Inc.

### In Memory of:

Joseph H. Bonaiuto, Sr.  
(By Robert V. Bonaiuto, Sr.)  
John C. Everts  
(By David W. Bessire)  
Richard W. Krepps POW/MIA  
(By Vincent A. Krepps)

## Update

# Korean War Ex-POW

Excerpts taken from Korean War Ex-POW May newsletter.

## News from the President, Ray Unger

Our 27th Reunion will be in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky from September 12 to September 19. From all indications we'll have a better-than average turnout. The latest hotel registration list shows a good response. I strongly suggest if you haven't registered to do so ASAP.

Also, they do not send out confirmations, so please be sure to get your confirmation number and the name of the person who took your reservation. At last year's reunion there were many mix-ups.

Ray Unger, President 6113 West 123rd Street Palos Heights, IL 60463. Email <rayunger2002@earthlink.net>

## TAPS

Burton, Charles A.  
Haram, Robert M.  
Naito, Tadao  
Patton, John M.  
Payne, Euell, B.

Sterrett, Harlo E.  
Van Denburgh, John R.  
Wilson, Glen I.  
Young, J. W.

**Not listed previous to 2003**  
Potvin, Joseph E.

## KWVA Members and Friends

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

## "Keep The Memory Alive"

*Unique "hand-crafted" heirlooms of the Forgotten War  
manufactured in the USA by America's Finest Craftsman  
Each Piece individually handcrafted.*



**10 Kt. GF Lapel pin / Hat-Pin  
\$10.50**

**For other exciting gifts, visit our web page [www.kwv.org](http://www.kwv.org)**

*Send payment with order.*

*Include \$4.50 for S&H Charges. MA residents add 5% Sales Tax.  
Price includes deluxe gift box.*

### Cape-Co

**316 Salt Creek Drive,  
North Port, FL 34287**

**Tel: (941) 429-0653 E-Mail [info@kwv.org](mailto:info@kwv.org)**

*"Owned and operated by a Korean War Veteran"*

### KOREA 1950

UN soldiers fought and were forced to retreat  
Behind sandbags protected by barbwire hoops.  
Many GI's died as they held off attacks,  
By 810,000 Chinese troops.

Our guys used phosphorus, flame-throwers, and napalm,  
For without these weapons they could not survive.  
The Communist charges led by buglers,  
Till the UN could start it's offensive drive.

On the battlefield of Chosin Reservoir,  
Many froze with their hands still stuck to their guns.  
While others hobbled with their boots wrapped in rags,  
City boys, farmers, students, fathers and sons.

With a million and a half dead or wounded,  
Both sides singed a truce before Generals involved.  
July 27th, 1953,  
And though thousands were orphaned, nothing was solved.

By Tom Hart

### KOREA

There is a country called Korea,  
American men fought the war to defend.  
Hills and valleys stained with blood  
and sweat of these brave young men.  
O Lord, please do not let the souls of young soldiers  
forgotten in the heap of time  
For, they died the death that brought forth a life in all of us.  
*By Dr. Charles Sung, D.V.M., Korea*

### SHE GAVE HER SONS

They asked of us our all –  
We gave them our youth –  
Forgotten now we lay in the wasteland –  
Will anyone remember?  
The snow covers us –now peace descends –  
Yet, here we lie- –  
Was it all in vain? We cry out to the heavens,  
from the bottom of our souls –  
Yet, here we still lie- –  
Honor, loyalty and duty we knew well- –  
Yes, we gave our all –  
Yet, will we ever know, was it worth it –  
Will anyone remember?  
By Andrew J. Zawalinski

### "My Treasure"

For the freedom of that little nation - far beyond the sea,  
A great sacrifice was given - from the Land of the Free.

America knew that freedom is a gift that can not be lost.  
This little nation could not be ignored - regardless of the cost.

Many brave men and women came to Korea's shore,  
Willingly giving their lives, for freedom was treasured more.

Though the war was treacherous, and many lives were spent,  
I have received a treasure, from the land to which they went.

Many call it the "Forgotten War", but that is not so for me,  
For I have received a treasure, from the land that they kept free.

Had it not been those men, who fought not long ago,  
My father - my treasure, would not be free - hope he would never know.

Had those brave men not cared, for this little land so foreign,  
My father would not be here, nor would I have been born.

My words would fail to thank these men — only tears can come,  
So great is my treasure from South Korea - whose freedom has been won.

By Jessica E. Pak

### NAVY MEN IN KOREA 1950-1953

Hail to the crews who sailed their ships, so far away  
To battles wide they sailed their ships, in harms way

We paid our price with death and scars  
We earned some ribbons and battle stars

Ignored by the press, welcomed home with nary a fuss  
What a shame that no one spoke kindly of us

Dammed be to all that shunned us  
Our ships were there

*By Ron Bennett*

## 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



# CHRISTMAS IN JULY

## The Forgotten Battle of the Forgotten War

*Christmas in July* is the story of a forgotten battle in Korea, told fifty years later by twenty of those who fought it. They left for war as boys from all parts of our country. They returned home as men, changed forever. The telling of this story has released many of these old soldiers from the nightmares that plagued them all these years, and it has revitalized them as they recall and relive their youth. The reader "goes back" with them on patrols in pitch black nights, listening to every sound, and is with them in their trenches as they fight this critically important, though forgotten, battle to beat back hordes of advancing Chinese troops in what was to become, until recently, a generally "forgotten war." Not previously told, this is a moving story of fear and courage related by those who knew it best - and lived it day by day.

In brief commentaries about their lives since Korea, these men of greatly diverse backgrounds, display the same courage, commitment and American spirit they showed 50 years ago.

*Christmas in July* provides rarely seen data intended to preserve a basis for future historians and other writers to create an authentic voice.

Please take the wonderful opportunity to learn more about this often overlooked time in our country's military history. The authors of this living history have generously agreed that all profits will go to fund research for a cure for Fragile X Syndrome, the leading known cause of mental retardation.

### TESTIMONIALS

"I am honored to have been the architect of the Korean War Memorial and proud to know one of the GI's in *Christmas in July* who is an acquaintance from our city of Barre, Vermont."

*Frank C. Gaylord, Architect, Korean War Memorial*



45th Infantry Division

"The young men in this story exemplify the spirit of answering one's call to serve their country. They were ordinary boys who became extraordinary men much sooner than they anticipated. In this Christmas Hill battle account, they describe unforgettable memories of horror and terror. As boys, they proved they could become the men who defended our nation's honor."

*Brig. Gen.(ret) Alan H. Noyes*

"Fifty years ago in Korea, while we fought together in the fierce battle for Christmas Hill, most of us did not know each other, yet our lives were in each other's hands. At last, through *Christmas in July*, we have met, and I feel privileged to have served beside these courageous Americans."

*Harris Hollin, President, Conquer Fragile X Foundation; Author, The Power of Honor*

#### Order Form—Christmas in July, "The Forgotten Battle of the Forgotten War"

All profits from the sale of this book will be donated to Conquer Fragile X Foundation for research projects. This 215 page paperback book is available at \$15.95 + S&H: \$4.00 first copy + \$1.00 ea. above one copy.

**Special offer for 5 books plus: \$12.75 each with free S&H**

Please send me \_\_\_ copies of *Christmas in July* Book/books \$\_\_\_\_ S&H \$\_\_\_\_ Total \$\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Payment: Type of Card: MC Visa (Please circle one)

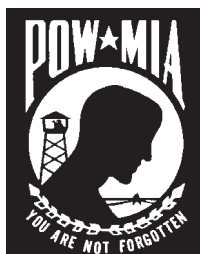
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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Avon Park Press

Please detach order form and return in envelope to: Avon Park Press, PO Box 4100, Rydal, PA 19046



# Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

KOREAN WAR/COLD  
WAR DOCUMENT  
FAMILY RESEARCH

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jun 25, 2004

Media Contact: (703) 697-5131

Public/Industry Contact: (703)428-0711

## Remains of American MIA Found in North Korea

Remains believed to be those of an American soldier missing in action from the Korean War have been recovered by a U.S. team and will be repatriated at Yongsan Military Compound in Seoul on July 1.

The joint remains recovery work is the result of negotiations with North Korea led by Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs, Jerry D. Jennings. The remains will be returned overland from North Korea across the demilitarized zone as was done in late May for the first recovery operation of 2004.

A joint team operating near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea recovered the remains believed to be those of a U.S. Army soldier from the 7th Infantry Division who fought against Chinese forces November-December 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 of specialists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, where the remains will be flown to begin the forensic identification process.

Since 1996, 29 joint operations have been conducted in North Korea, during which more than 200 remains believed to be those of U.S. soldiers have been recovered. Of the 88,000 U.S. service members missing in action from all conflicts, more than 8,100 are from the Korean War.

For additional information about POW/MIA recoveries, visit <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> [<http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo>], or call the Defense POW/Missing

Personnel Office at (703) 699-1169.

### Web Version:

<http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/2004/nr20040625-0942.html>

### News Releases:

<http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/>

### DoD News:

<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/dod-news.html>

### Subscribe/Unsubscribe:

<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/dod-news.html#e-mail>

### Today in DoD:

<http://www.defenselink.mil/today/>

U.S. Department of Defense Official Website: <http://www.defenselink.mil>

U.S. Department of Defense News About the War on Terrorism:

<http://www.defendamerica.mil>

## Casualty Offices

### Department of the Army

(800) 892-2490

Total Army Personnel Command (TAPC-PER)

2161 Eisenhower Avenue

Alexandria, VA 22331-0482

### Headquarters, US Marine Corps

(800) 847-1597

Manpower and Reserve Affairs (MRC)

Personal and Family Readiness Division

3280 Russell Road

Quantico, VA 22134-5103

### Department of the Navy

(800) 443-9298

Navy Personnel Command

POW/MIA Section (PERS-621P)

5720 Integrity Drive

Millington, TN 38055-6210

<http://www.persnet.navy.mil/pers62/POW-MIA/62P.htm>

### USAF Missing Persons Branch

(800) 531-5501

HQ AFPC/DPWCM

550 C Street West, Suite 15

Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4716

### Department of State

(202) 647-6769

Office of American Citizens Services and Crisis Management

CA/OCS/ACS/EAP

2201 C Street, Northwest, Room 4811

Washington, DC 20520

### 2004 Family & Veteran Update Schedule

Date	Location
Aug 28 .....	Denver, CO
Sep 25.....	Hartford, CT
Oct 23.....	Portland, OR
Nov 20 .....	Orlando, FL

\*\* The Southeast Asia Annual Government Briefing held in conjunction with the 'National League of Families' Annual Meeting

### Remains ID and Terminology

By Larry Greer

Director of Public Affairs

Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office

### DNA Identification

After publication of a column in the last issue of *Graybeards* magazine, several readers contacted me and asked for some additional information on two subjects. The first subject was DNA, or how we used it in making identifications of the remains we recover, particularly those from the Korean War.

The forensic scientists at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) are using DNA now in about 75-80% of the identifications. DNA – or specifically mitochondrial DNA – must be used along with other evidence that is gathered at the site of the excavation. For example, the team members may have also recovered dog tags, buttons, zippers, ID cards, or some other equipment that would narrow the identification to just a few candidates. Mitochondrial DNA can help confirm exactly whose remains they have.

Mitochondrial DNA is passed down the family tree through the maternal blood line. The mother passes it to all her children, but it's only the female children who pass it down to their offspring. So when the JPAC scientists need that DNA sample from the family, they ask the military services to get a sample from an appropriate family member. It can be a sister of the



missing serviceman, because they both came from the same mother, and it can also be his brother. The sister can pass that mitochondrial DNA down to her children, but the brother cannot. So the family tree must be examined carefully to find just the right donor.

But what if all members of a family tree have passed away? Then the military services must reach out to other branches of that tree, often with the assistance of a genealogist. On many occasions, a genealogist is required to go up a family tree, and down another branch in order to find that person who can be the right donor. Sometimes the donor does not even know the MIA serviceman.

The DNA testing is done by the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) in Rockville, Md. This is another team of talented scientists whose work is so important to the identification process, and to the closure this brings to families who have waited decades for answers. The AFDIL scientists generate one "sequence" from the blood sample of the family member, and one sequence from the remains of the deceased. Think of a "sequence" as a long string of coded

letters. These tests are done separately, or in the "blind," to ensure there is no possibility that the results of one test could influence the results of another.

If the "sequences" match, then the JPAC scientists can confirm the identification.

Several years ago, the work of the AFDIL scientists helped identify the remains of the Vietnam unknown in the Tomb of The Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. We are very fortunate to have cutting edge technology, and a team of dedicated scientists at both JPAC and AFDIL. The families are well-served by these professionals.

#### **"Remains" Terminology**

The second subject that a reader asked about was the use of the term "sets of remains." Frankly, it should not be used because it's misleading. Usually the remains that our teams recover from any part of the world are not complete. There is not a full skeleton. The recoveries are often of small bone fragments which have to be carefully examined and cataloged in the laboratory to ensure the fragments all belong to the same person. Use of the term "set" might seem to infer that we are

looking at a rather complete skeleton, but usually that is not the case.

So to avoid misleading readers, we usually write, "...recovered remains believed to be those of five American soldiers...."

#### **Graybeards Copies**

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.

*The Graybeards* is a great tool for the chapters in New Membership and Tell America Programs. We request minimum orders of 5 at \$1 donation per copy plus \$3.85 postage.

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# Reunion Showplace.....

## 72nd Engineer Combat Co

Attendees at the last 72nd Engineer Combat Co reunion held in Strasburg, PA. The outfit shipped from Hawaii to Korea in July 1950. Even though its been over 50 years, we still get a pretty good representation of the original 131 officers and men who made the trip.

*(Thank you Robert Mount for photo and letter.)*



Pictured from left to right, starting with the top row, is Lunie Prim, Ray Bluey, Alex Zukus, Jim Murphy, Jones Irons, Art Winn, Robert Ellis, George Gilchrest, Bob Ferrier, Fred Lembke and Bob Mount. Our 2004 reunion will be in Branson, MO

## Have a Reunion?

Send your photos and a short write-up to *The Graybeards* for publication in Reunion Showplace!

## 11th Engineer Battalion

The 11th annual reunion of the 11th Engineer Battalion Association was held at the Hotel here Marquette in Peoria, IL on October 3rd thru 5th, 2003. Attending were 29 members, 17 wives, and 3 guests, for a total of 49. The highlight of our reunion was our guest speaker, the current Battalion Commander of the 11th Engineers, LTC Tom Smith, who along with the Battalion CSM, Barry Hamilton, traveled from Ft. Stewart, GA to share their experience in Iraq with us. LTC Smith gave a great presentation, with slides, of what the 11th had done while leading the 3rd Infantry Division on the dash to Bagdad.

The 11th Engineer Battalion Association 12th Annual Reunion September 30th thru October 4th 2004 in Branson, Missouri

Contact: Fred Boelsche, 54 Edstan Drive, Moonachie, NJ 07074 -1239, Phone: (201) 641-5828 E-mail: FredB11theng@hotmail.com.

*(Thank you Fred Boelsche for photos and letter.)*



**The Men:** 1st Row (L to R) CSM Barry Hamilton, Len Pavell, Jim Bell, Ernie Seymour, Bill Barnes, Fred Boelsche, LTC Tom Smith, Gene Bowler. 2nd Row Noah Bass, Dick Fischl, Don Graves, Bob Hansen, Bob Tippet, Jim Loose. 3rd Row Fred Boehle, Tom McGee, Russ Meredith, Jack Gray, Dutch Heiney. 4th Row Ben Botelho, Ray DiVacky, Billy Boyce, Chuck Scott, Ed McEniry 5th Row Milton Tucker, Dave Schouweiler, Lynn George, Ernie Reeves, Dick Soehlke



## Korean War Veterans of Texas

Bringing to a close the Korean War 50th Anniversary Commemoration at Walker Plaza, Laredo, Texas. (Thank you Pete Trevino for photo and letter.)



Seated L-R: Pedro Trevino, Jr., Ed R. Sanchez, Richard K. Chamberlain, Jose Luis Munoz, David C. Leyendecker, John M. McKeown, and Rene G. Dufresne. Standing First Row L-R: George E. MacDonald, Antonio Ruiz, Jr., Sam Brewster, Sr., Mario Herrera, Reynaldo Reyna, Hector Castaneda, Raymundo M. Barrera, Napoleon Hernandez, Arnoldo D. Gutierrez, Pedro Cantu, Jr., George Andrews, Heriberto R. Gonzalez and Jesus M. Gonzalez. Standing Second Row L-R: Sgt. Major Command Luis J. Landin, James V. Proffitt, Raymond S. York, Carlos Sandoval and Hector Garza. In attendance, but missing from picture are Ricardo Garza and Frank Hugo McKinnis.



**The Ladies:** 1st Row (L to R ) Jan Pavell, Charlotte Boelsche, Bobbie Reeves. 2nd Row Estella Seymour, Jama Bell, Marie McEniry, Veda Graves 3rd Row Ruth George, Pat Meredith, Doris Gray, Virginia Heiney. 4th Row Joanne Loose, Helen Tippet, Eileen Boehle, Colleen DiVacky, Sue Scott, Lila Fischl

## E.O.D. at Haeundae, Korea

By Jim Koukl

The following is a continuation to the article that appeared in the November-December 2001 issue, Page 55.

I receive each issue of the "Graybeards" looking for names of those I served with as a member of the 8th and 21st E.O.D, Squads (Explosive Ordnance Disposal), more commonly known as Bomb Disposal.

**While this would become a diversion from defusing unexploded bombs our major concern came from the shells filled with white phosphorus,...**

I was a member of the 8th E.O.D. Squad in Seoul at that time. About noon time headquarters received word about the explosions at the largest ammo dump in Korea. Shortly

after that eight of us were boarding a plane at Kimpo Airfield to be airlifted to Pusan and then on to Haeundae. The eight of us were from three different E.O.D, Squads. I remember Neil Ciangi (8th Squad) and Walt Koarsgard (24th Squad) being there but my memory is fussy on the other five.

As the plane entered Pusan air space the pilot circled the dump which was still exploding so we could see what awaited us.

By the end of that day tanks equipped with blades had pushed over many stacks of ammo and quiet followed.

The next morning we surveyed the extent of the damage and realized that it was not a welcome site. We decided to work in two man teams and spread out covering different areas. The explosions had spread shells over a large area, not just limited to the sections where ordinance had been stored. We found mortar shells imbedded in the thatched roofs of Korean Farm homes and in open fields. We used the "Korean A-Frame" to carry shells out of the fields to make shift roads and then on to a single accumulation area.

While this would become a diversion

Continued on page 69

# Moon Beams Over Korea

By Jacques K. Doyle

The Infantry has been described in many ways over many years and frequent wars. “Queen of Battle,” “Mushrooms of the Service” (Kept in the dark and fed manure.), or “Bottom of the Barrel” are some examples.

What ever the Infantry is called, it is

**We called our shafts of light “Moon Beams” and they were a real blessing. A hand of friendship giving us better visibility, and I am sure the Chinese reason not to venture into our territory.**

their job to occupy the land and fight and die in the mud or sand. Over seventy percent of the casualties in all wars are the ground troops. This number was eighty-two percent in Korea. The Infantry may be the Marines on Iwo Jima (25,851 casualties.), the Tommys at the Battle of the Somme (78,900 casualties in twenty-four hours.) the 45th Division at Anzio or the Grunts in Vietnam. Whatever their name or title, their role has changed very little.

The Infantry’s job in Korea after November 1951 was a war of the outposts and “no man’s land” beyond. The ground troops were used as bait to draw the enemy out of their well fortified hills so they could be killed by our artillery. More artillery shells were used in Korea then in all of World War Two.

The Infantry’s job is filled with a few “highs” and a lot of “lows.” The “lows” are when you are ordered to assault a hill; patrol an area ahead of your outpost or a friend is killed or seriously wound-

ed. The few “highs” are when someone else takes on the enemy. For example; artillery barrage, an air-strike, or some other act that does not involve you leaving your fairly secure bunker and getting into harms way.

Early in 1952 I was in the 179th regiment North-West of Chohan. Our outposts were called Eerie, Dale, Westview, and etcetera. The area beyond were disputed hills such as Old Baldy, Pork Chop Hill, and 191.

We were well equipped, well trained, and at a total loss as to what the future was going to bring. We were shelled for the first time and quickly learned the difference between “incoming” and “outgoing” artillery. The more frequent mortar rounds did not whistle but we could sometimes hear the “pop” of the shell coming out of the tube and one “Our Father” later the explosion of its landing.

The Chinese moved mostly at night and our “listening posts” would pick up



**LEFT: 86th Searchlight Co. 1952. Light #25. Shown are Drake (left) and Smitty. RIGHT: 86th Searchlight Co. 1952. Third from left is Tom Contreas and next to him is Charles Chalcraft. Others are unknown.**



some noise or see their movements. We would ask for flares and then call for artillery hoping we could catch the enemy in the open.

Some nights were so dark we could not actually see our own hands. I don't believe dark ever meant so much to stand in a trench and see absolutely nothing in any direction. It was a very unique feeling. Noises were hard to identify and with a little imagination you could visualize someone trying to crawl through your wire. You could not fire your weapon; the flash of an M1 could probably be seen on the moon. If a noise would persist you could throw a grenade but you did not want to be considered paranoid. In the American Army every shot or grenade explosion has to be accounted for. Your phone goes back to your Platoon Sergeant and then to company Headquarters. So a tossed grenade will result in a request of "why?" A serious enemy patrol has to be identified quickly.

On one of my first dark night guard duties I was vainly trying to see what a

powerful beam of light came right down the valley in front of my position. I was amazed at the amount of light one beam parallel to the Earth could give. Any movement in the valley would have been seen. We called our shafts of light "Moon Beams" and they were a real blessing. A hand of friendship giving us better visibility, and I am sure the Chinese reason not to venture into our territory.

The Moon Beams were from the 86th Search Light Company on our MLR. The 86th would move their search lights so they could actually shine directly on the enemy hill or they could move into a valley and bounce their Moon Beams off of the clouds.

The Chinese tried to find the search lights with artillery and also tried to infiltrate our lines. Thomas Contreras and Gerry Uren of the 86th were manning light number twenty five behind the 45th Division area when two Chinese attacked their unit. One American was wounded before both of the Chinese were killed. On another

occasion Thomas Contreras' crew moved their light under cover of darkness down a valley so they could take advantage of the low hanging clouds. They were waiting to set up when they heard digging. It turned out to be a Chinese patrol. They carefully withdrew and reported the Chinese advanced position. The entire enemy patrol was captured.

The 86th Search Light was part of the IX Corp and attached to the 86th Field Artillery. They were within range of the Chinese guns so it was necessary to dig bunkers for the personnel. Shell fragments frequently broke the pie-shaped glass replacement lenses. Concussion waves from our nearby artillery could also shatter the lenses.

Sergeant Odd Knutstad was also in the 86th from November 1951 into most of 1952. His crew of eleven men had two killed.

Richard S. Clayton was in the 5th Regiment when his position was overrun by the Chinese. The survivors became lost evading the Chinese. They then saw a search light beam and were able to get back to friendly lines.

Frank A. Voleck was in the 2nd Division, 23rd Regiment and was assigned to a unit guarding our search lights. Later Frank ended up in a light 30MG crew and was wounded on Old Baldy.

First Lieutenant John C. Evans was the last commander of the 86th Field Artillery and the search lights. In the fall of 1954 the unit was deactivated and all the equipment turned over to the ROK Army.

The book "U.S. Army in the Korean War" by Walter G. Hermes, has three references on the use of search lights in battle. They are: "Battle for White Horse", "Hill Hedy" and "Bunker Hill."

The Moon Beams were a great asset to the front line troops. It would be difficult to know how many lives were saved, enemies were killed, or how often the lights deterred enemy action. The crews of the search lights can join the band of unsung heroes.

*Photos were provided by Thomas Contreas, 14478 Parklane Street, Livonia, MI 48154-5224 Story and photos mailed by Jacques K. Doyle, 128 Hancock Road, Port Crane, NY 13833*



**Clockwise from top left:** 86th Searchlight Co. 1952. Gary Uren standing. Others shown are unknown; Digging Bunker. From left are Ott, Drake, Gerry and Tom; Camp area in Kunwha Valley. About 5 miles East of Chorwon and 3 miles West of "Heart Break" Hill; Smitty at Light #25.



# Chapter Affairs

## KWVA Chapter #33 of Maryland



At an early Fall Ravens Game the Color Guard wore the white short sleeved shirts. Shown in photo L to R Captain Ray Glock, Sylvester Walker, Carl Collier, Robert Banker, John Voigt, Vincent Krepps and Charles Ridgway.



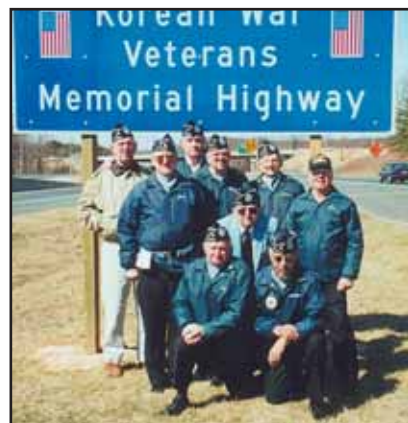
At a later Ravens Game the Color Guard wore their winter jackets. Shown in photo L to R are Captain Ray Glock, Sylvester Walker, Carl Collier, Robert Banker, Vincent Krepps, Anthony Cirincione, Jack Cloman and Charles Ridgway.

SGM Moran (right) with "Enduring Freedom" Plaque presented by Lt. Col. Rick Dean. SGM Moran is an Army Recruiter at Ft. Meade. In case are ccertificate and flag that flew at Bagram AFB, Afghanistan for 9 hours and 11 minutes.



Taken at the Maryland State Korean War Memorial located across the water in from Ft. McHenry after Korean War Memorial Dedication Ceremony 31 May 2004 - Memorial Day. Shown in photo is The Table of The Fallen Heroes. Behind table left to right are Carlo DePorto, SGM Ray Moran, Vincent Krepps, Boris Spiroff, Lt. Col. Rick Dean, Walt Jordan and Les LeCompte.

MD Chapter members at Route 43 now known as Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway. Many Chapter members worked hard to make this happen. Some are shown in photo



MD Chapter Color Guard at Baltimore Orioles Baseball game. July 27, 2000.

Maryland Governor Robert Ehrlich, Jr. making a Memorial Address to the Fallen Heroes of all wars during Memorial Day at Circle of the Immortals and in front of WWII/Korean War Memorial at Dulany Valley Memorial Gardens.





Chapter Color Guard at Present Arms during the playing of the National Anthem on Memorial Day at ceremony at Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens.

*(Thank you chapter members for photos and text.)*



## Quad Cities KWVA Chapter #168 of Illinois



Helping Libraries - Korean War Veterans Art Holevoet (on left) and Ron DeReu provide the Atkinson Public Library and director Ninette Carton with a special packet of books and posters about the Korean War, in honor of the closing of the 50th year anniversary of the war. The packets will be donated to libraries in Annawan, Cambridge, Geneseo, Sheffield and Mineral as well. Holevoet obtained the information through the Korean War Chapter 168 of the Quad Cities and worked with the Atkinson Township Historical Society and the Atkinson American Legion Post to obtain the free books. *(Thank you Arthur Holevoet for photo and letter.)*

## Harry S. Truman Chapter #135 of Missouri



Richard Peters, center, "unofficial chairman" of the awards committee far the chapter has the tables turned at a chapter meeting. Presenting him an award as "Plaque-man of the Year" are adjutant Charles White, left, and Robert Kamp.



Missouri State Commander Neil Hurley, center, receives a plaque from the Branson Veterans Task Force honoring Chapter 135 for outstanding support of the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress. Making the presentation are Becky Tipton, left, and Linda Buckles, co-chairs of the project for the Task Force, a partner of the Library of Congress. Hurley is past commander of the Branson chapter.

*(Thank you Joseph Bryant for photos and letter.)*

## Redwood Chapter #176 of California



Korean War veteran Corporal Martin T. LeMasters, 1st Marine Division, on July 27th 50th Anniversary of ending of the war and the dedication of our Korean War Memorial.



Young and old cheer the annual Rhododendron Parade with a thumbs up, salute and many thank-you and well done as the Chapter float passed in review. There were special acclamations as we passed the reviewing stand. We went on to win the "Mayors Trophy." Many of the Chapters 95 members rode in the float. The floats winded through a three mile stretch of Eureka, California. Our president Frank Mendes accepted the award.





Chapter float included a towed boat decorated with flowers, flag and a chapter sign. (Thank you William Odonnell for photo and letter.)

## Chapter #181 of Kansas



Our chapter is planning for the construction of a Korean War Memorial in the Kansas City area. Recently members erected a sign on the site in Overland Park, KS.

The chapter held a pancake breakfast to begin publicity and fund raising for the project.



KWVA National Director Jack DeLap with BG Stephen R. Berk Heiser, USMC (Ret.) at Veterans Day at library memorial in Kansas City, MO.



KWVA National President Harley Coon, members of chapter at dedication of memorial in Overland Park, KS.

(Thank you Wayne Shireman and Jack DeLap for photos and letter.)

## Hilo Chapter #231 of Hawaii



KWVA National President Harley Coon, presents the KWVA National Charter to Chapter 231 President Robert Montague, the Chapter was surprised, and happily honored by the presence of our National President Harley Coon on his short visit to Hilo, Hawaii. (Thank you Hilo Chapter for photos and letter.)



Chapter 231 was honored by having KWVA National President Harley Coon on his visit to Hawaii present the US-ROC on Taiwan, Mutual Defense Commemorative Medal. The Korean Veterans receiving the Medal front row kneeling L-R, Gerard Guyod, Zac Abregano, Tatsuo Kimoto, Hiroshi Shima, Lino Cabral, standing L-R, National President Harley Coon, Francis Paycheck, Dan Kawaiaaea, Hisashi Morita, Buddy Johnston, Joe Kaleikini, Bill Sibayton, Boniface Choi. Missing from the photo is Denny Austen, and Chapter President, Robert Montague who is the taking picture.

**CITATION: Your duty with the United States Armed Forces, during the period of 1948-1955 in the Far East Command, has contributed greatly to the Defense of the Republic of China on Taiwan, and the Taiwanese Government. It reflects great credit upon yourself and the American Armed Forces.**



## CNY Chapter #105 of New York

On Friday, March 26, 2004 several chapter members as guests of the Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, attended the 4th Ambassador PYO Wook Han lecture on Korean/U. S. affair at the Sheraton University Hotel. Ambassador Kim, Sam-hoon, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations lectured on the "North Korean Nuclear Issue, Past, Present and Future." Highlighted by issues emerging from the recent 6 party talks on Nuclear Weapons Program in DPRK. His presentation was timely, informative and newsworthy. The lecture was followed by a luncheon in Honor of Ambassador Kim.



**Front row from left:** Edward Craig, Harry Heath, Ambassador Kim, Bruce Ackerman and Garry Rockburn. **Back row from left:** William Burns, Richard Lewis, David Allen, Richard Houser, Reginald Rawls and James Ferris.  
(Thank you Bruce Ackerman for photo and letter.)

## Manasota Chapter #199 of Florida



Highlight of Patriotism Week in Bradenton, Florida was the selection of Manatee County's Veteran and Auxiliary of the Year. Chapter member Don Courtney was named Veteran of the Year and Dora Frierson, whose late husband served in Korea was selected as the county's Auxiliary of the Year. Dora is the Chapter director of special events.



Patriotism Week in Bradenton, Florida included a parade featuring our chapter. Leading the chapter's honor guard is George Staudt holding the chapter's banner.



The Chapter participated in the 41st Annual Manatee County History Fair which attracted over 834 entries from area students studying American history. Three winners in the Korean War category are shown with two chapter members who presented them with plaques. From (L to R) are Chapter Commander Gene Gillette Kelsey Azadian, Sean Glenville, Dick Kennedy, and Hillary Howe.

(Thank you chapter for photos and letter.)

Visit the  
Korean War Veterans Association Website:  
[www.KWVA.org](http://www.KWVA.org)



## Western Ohio Chapter #108

The veterans and associates of this chapter celebrated the anniversary of ten active years. Our purpose within this chapter is to promote the objectives of the National Korean War Veterans Association as set forth on the Charter of the KWVA. The chapter co-founders, Gene Bowser and John Monroe continue to support this purpose.



Present executives, Ken Williamson, President; Delbert Breese, Jr., Vice President; Barbara Lockery, Secretary and T. Dale Snyder, Treasurer, continue to have general charge of affairs of this chapter. President Williamson and Charter Member, Fred Shively, continuously promote the TELL AMERICA PROGRAM. Other committee members and associates take a active interest and support our annual ROSE OF SHARON fund raiser and contribute to a social gathering after each meeting, twice a month.

*(Thank you Gene L. Bowser for photo and letter.)*

## Brevard County Chapter #210 of Florida

### Veterans Day Celebration and Massing of the Colors

Our Chapter was well represented at the Twenty First Annual Massing of the Colors Ceremony at Brevard Community College in Cocoa on Veterans day, November 11, 2003. A large contingent of our Chapter members were in attendance, wearing Class A uniforms, as our colors were being carried and proudly displayed by ROTC Cadets.

The colors of a total of 75 participating military organizations were displayed at this glorious event. Since 1982, BCC and the Space Coast - Indian River Chapter #170, Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) have jointly presented this activity as a patriotic tribute to our nation. On this beautiful late autumn day the superb program presentation included the welcome address by Dr. Thomas Gamble, District President, Brevard



**Attending the ceremony:** Front row: Nelson Ruiz; Middle row, L to R: Nick Beninate, Charles Hackney, Jim Christiansen, John Howard, Chapter 210 President: Julius Farago, and John Stansell; Top row: William Lovitt, Mickey Tutolo, Paul Spescia, Richard Williamson and Howard Maxcy.

Community College and a Regional Site Proclamation and Introductions by CWO Mary C. Ward, Commanding Officer United States Coast Guard Station, Cape Canaveral. The featured Speaker, Thomas Barrett, Vice Commandant, United States Coast Guard, delivered a stirring speech and received an enthusiastic response from the audience. The program also included a 21-Gun Salute to honor our nation's fallen comrades from all our wars and a Fly-Over by a Clearwater Air Station helicopter. This event has received national recognition as being one of the very few events recognized by the U. S. Defense Department. This recognition has been received for the past five years!

### Helicopter Dedication Ceremony

A spirited dedication ceremony was held on the display grounds in front of the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center and Museum Building in Merritt Island, Florida on November 9, 2003. The ceremony celebrated the completion of restoration and erection upon its pedestal of a Huey UH 1H 71-20139 Helicopter.

The helicopter, donated to the Center by the Government Museum Display organization and moved from the-U.S. Army's Ft Pickett, was considered the "workhorse" of air-to-ground combat and rescue support as well as various other missions during the Vietnam War. The task of restoring this aircraft was performed by volunteers from the Center and KWVA Chapter 210. This particular 17th Calvary, H-Troop Huey also took part in the hectic and dangerous evacuation of Saigon during the closing days of that conflict. Several guest officers and crew members who served on this helicopter were present at the ceremony and gave verbal comments of their experiences and praise of the aircraft.

The ceremony also included a KIA Reading of H -Troop by Captain Sam Slaughter XO. Guests representing "Air Calvary" and "Air America" also gave comments. Guests were welcomed by Lou Rossi, Co-Chairman Brevard Veterans Council and introduced by Maury Meisner, Co-Chairman, Brevard Veterans Council and Helicopter Project Manager, both are also members of Chapter 210.



Attending the ceremony: L to R: Chapter members: Nelson Ruiz, Nick Beninate, John Howard, James Appleton, Charles Hackney, Paul Spescia; and, second from the right, Maurice Meisner. Also shown are dignitaries, members of the Huey helicopter crew and a representative of Air America.



*(Thank you Charles W. Hackney for photo and letter.)*

Huey Helicopter. Introducing guests and Chapter 210 members, is Chapter 210 member and Co-Chairman, Brevard Veterans Council, Louis Rossi.



## Cincinnati Chapter #121 of Ohio



Chapter at our display at Union Terminal, Veterans Day weekend. Members L-R Roy Miller, Betty Michael (navy nurse during Korean War), Bob McGeorge, Al Rost And Joe Celenza.



Mr. Lee, Mr. Kim, Hawl Ran Kim and Bae Suk Lee MD. Dr. Lee is a member of our Charter. He served with the 3rd Inf. Div. during the War.ana Chapter



Dr. Lee donated the picture to our chapter at the January meeting.  
(Thank you Bob McGeorge for photos and letter.)

### 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."

## Indiana Chapter One



Our 2004 officers. The one standing in the middle with the Medallion is our President Bernard "Ski" Wisniewski. We are once again all looking forward to a fun year of fellowship together.

(Thank you Mary Anna Roemke for photo and letter.)



The gals in our group that support their Korean War and WWII husbands by attending the meetings and all of the events that we have. A great bunch I might add. It seems I am always sending a picture of the fellows so thought it was time to honor the ladies and thank them for their hard work. This is the same number that attend the monthly meetings. The first two on the left in the back row are Veterans themselves.

(Thank you Mary Anna Roemke for photo and letter.)

## Central Indiana Chapter #259



Back row (l to r) (Chaplain) Amos Board; (Historian) Don Hall; (Honorary) William Kim; (Judge Advocate) Don Seib; (Program Manager) Don Elwood; (Sgt-At-Arms) Jack Beaty; Front row (l to r) (2nd Vice Pres.) Ernest Gondra; (President) Tine Martin; (1st Vice Pres.) Bob Sanders; (Treasurer.) Everett Mofarland. (Thank you Jack Beaty for photo and letter.)

## Lake County Chapter #188 of Florida

On February 28, 2004 I had the pleasure of attending the Patriots Parade in Eustis Florida. The Korean War Veterans were well represented. Both KWVA Chapter 169, Leesburg, and KWVA Chapter 188, Clemont were in the parade. KWVA Chapter 169 presented their Color Guard, and KWVA Chapter 188, Clemont presented the Honor Guard. One complimented the other and they looked great together.



Pictured Left to Right are Harold Sievers, Jack Gleason & Ed Pilarski (Chapter 169 Banner), Maxine Parker & Carol Becker (Chapter 188 Banner), Paul Russell (US Flag), Henry Smith (South Korean Flag) Art Dube (Chapter 169 Flag), Brooks Gusseman (POW Flag)



Honor Guard KWVA Chapter 188, Clemont, Florida Commander Don Sams, Rube Morehouse, Bill Shibler, Charlie First.

(Thank you Joan Klawunn for photos and letter.)

## Union County Chapter #53 of Delaware

Mickey Geoghegan, British Korean War Veteran who served with the Welsh Regiment during the war and started a chapter of the British Korean War Veterans in London in 1977. He came over for the dedication of our national memorial in 1995 and became an honorary member of our chapter 53. Enclosed is a letter and photos he sent to me. — Richie Alexander  
Dear Richy, Charlene and Family.

Hope this letter finds you, all as well as can be expected, sorry I haven't wrote before, but these last couple of months, have been so busy, especially with the Korean Veterans, but now things will ease up a bit.

Here are a few Photos taken in St. Pauls Cathedral, London,



Left to right: Mickey Geoghegan, who served with the Welsh Regiment during the war. and formed his chapter in 1977., the South Korea Defense Attaché, and the ambassador of South Korea.



Left to right: South Korean Defense Attaché, British Gen. Peter Downward, South Korean Ambassador, Gen. Birtwistle, President of British Korean War Veterans, and Rev. Sam Davis, who was a POW in Korea.

where we have our main Memorial, these were taken on the 25th June, the start of the Korean War, this is only a few of the people present, the others were in the surrounding areas, and as you can see the Plaque has the Badges of every Unit what served in the War, and being down in the Crypt, it is protected from the elements, and as long as St Pauls is standing, our Plaque will always be there.

Must tell you about the Padre in the Photo, that is Canon Rev. Sam Davis, he was captured in April 1951, with the Gloucestershire Regiment, he stayed with the Wounded, and he was tortured, and kept in solitary confinement for about 18 months, with Col Carne, in a Corrugated tin shed about 8ft x 4ft, by 5ft high, the North Koreans, said they didn't want him, giving faith and courage to the Men, but he survived, and we think the world of him, and he said he forgives all of those who ill treated him, and that is the kind of Man he is, he is in his Eighties, but still manages to travel, if possible, to all functions we ask of him.

On the 26th July, the Korean Veterans in the S/E. England, we had a big Parade, and March past, in my Regimental Barracks, that is at Woolwich, that has been home to my Regt, since the 1670s, we met a lot of friends, some I haven't met since Korea, we then had a March past, about 500 Vets, we had a Military Band, and afterwards we had a lovely meal, and after that we all went to the biggest Army Museum in the Military, we laid Coaches on, from each Chapter, so that we wouldn't have cars everywhere, I left home, about 6-30am, and got home about 9pm, so I was about shattered, and wasn't looking forward to the next day, the 27th July.

On Sunday, I had to leave early, as being the President of my Chapter, which I founded in 1977, I wanted things to go right, in the



town we have our own Chapter Memorial, which we dedicated in 1999, we had a lot of VIPs, and what was very nice. The Mayor of Romford was a Korean Veteran, the Vicar was a Korean Veteran, who knew quite a lot of the Lads, had the Queens representative, Deputy Lieutenant, of the County, Korean Defense Attaché, Member of Parliament. Chief of Police. Leaders of the Local Council, and a few more, the church where we held the service is right in the Market Square, and a lot of the big Stores open on a Sunday, so we had a great audience, and we even managed to get the Band of the Salvation Army, who are very good, and their Trumpeter, played Last Post, and we had a Piper, who played, Lament, a lovely time, had by all.

With the Band leading, and the Standards blowing in the Wind, about 100 of the lads marched past the Saluting Base, where I had all the VIPs lined up, they were all cheered by the crowds, and afterwards they were dismissed, and we all made our way to a big Service Club, only about 10 minutes away, where all the Food was laid on, and soft Drinks, all that was free, but they had to buy their own alcohol, and believe me, a lot did get consumed, and I forgot, we also had a General take the Salute, and during the evening, he went and shook hands with all the Veterans in the Hall, which showed the Lads, they weren't forgotten, we had a Cabaret show who was excellent, and it went on until the Club shut, about 12pm, so the best weekend we could have had, and many can't remember the evening, and one chap said he didn't sober up until about Wednesday.

M. Geoghegan  
42. Barrett Road  
Waltham Forest  
London. E17 9ET, England

*(Thank you Richie Alexander for Photos and letter.)*

## Central Florida KWVA Ladies Auxiliary Chapter #153

**Installation Dinner of Chapter 153 - Central Florida - Ladies Aux. on January 10th, 2004**



left to right: Mary Gaffney, Founding President: Bonnie Reddy, 2003 1st V.P.: Patricia Marinelli, In-coming 2004 President: Patricia Batissa, 2004 Membership Chairwoman: Helen Saccente, 2004 Secretary: Rose Balzer, wife of Chapter President, Bob Balzer: Annette D'Amico, Auxiliary member. All of these ladies acted as servers for our sit-down dinner.



Seated, second from left, Patricia Marinelli, newly elected 2004 Auxiliary President, with several of her 2004 Officers and members who attended the Installation Dinner. Our Installing Officer was Jake Feaster, Dept. of Florida, KWVA. President, accompanied by his wife Annette.

*(Thank you Helen Saccente, Secretary 1787 McFarlane Avenue Deltona, Florida 32738 for photos and letter.)*

## Mahoning Valley Chapter #137 of Ohio

Mathews High School held a program Thursday November 13th marking the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Korean War. Korean War Veteran Robert H. Brothers of Niles spoke on "Korea Revisited".

Three Students excepted a Korean War Commemoration Flag on behalf of the School they are: Jenna Martin, Tyler Hudak and Chris Vesey. Their Grandfathers were Korean War Veterans. Mr. Michael Miller, history teacher was in charge. Approximately 200-250 people were in attendance. Mathews High School is the third School in Trumbull County to be a Korean War Commemoration Partner

**RIGHT:** Mathews High School welcomes Korean War Veterans

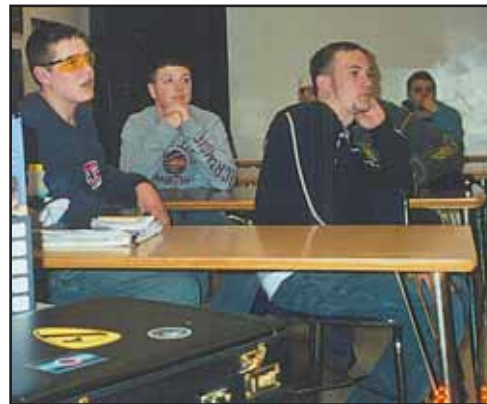
**BELOW:** (1-r) Richard Koker, Joann Onstott-Associate Captain, Rocky Anobile, Herb Lucy, Robert Brothers and Roger Gardner, who was in charge of the Color Guard.



A Tell America Program was held March 3, 2004 at the "Mahoning County Career and Technical Center." There were 22 seniors in attendance of the American History Class. Mike Lettau is the teacher. Also in attendance was Ron Jongeling a graduate student from Kent State University who is doing a documentary about the Korean War. The students were very attentive and asked many questions. Those speaking were Robert Brothers, Bob Donalson and myself Associate Captain Joann Onstott.



This is teacher Mike Lettau in his Naval Reserve Uniform.



These are some of the students listening to Robert Brothers and Bob Donalson speak.



Robert Brothers telling of his Korean War experience's.



On Monday night March 22, 2004 President Harley J. Coon visited and spoke to our Chapter. Lunch was served after.

*(Thank you Joann Onstott for photos and letter.)*



Bob Donalson speaking of the Korean War.



On May 4, 2004 a Tell America Program was held at Mathews High School in Vienna, Ohio. The American Government Class consisted of 67 Senior's and Junior's . The teacher is Mr. Mike Miller. They were very attentive and asked many questions. Members of the Korean War Veteran's Association Chapter #137 who presented the program were as follows: Robert Brothers, Roger Gardner, Herb Lucy and Joann Onstott Associate Captain and Historian.





Junior's and Senior's listening to the Veteran's telling of their war experience in the Korean War.



L-R: Joann Onstott, Roger Gardner, Herb Lucy and Bob Brothers.



Bob Brothers



Roger Gardner

Herb Lucy



(Thank you Joann Onstott for photos and letter.)



On Friday, May 28, 2004 a Flag Raising Ceremony was held at the Youngstown Developmental Center of Mental Retardation and Disabilities on County Line Road in Mineral Ridge, Ohio. Seven members of our chapter did the honors. Ben Martin played the bagpipes. Pictured 1-r are Rocky Anobile, Richard Schulz, Joann Onstott, Roger Gardner, Herb Lucy, Bob Brothers, Ben Martin with his bag pipes, and Richard Koker.

(Thank you Joann Onstott for photos and letter.)

## Ventura County Chapter #56 of California



Manual Adaue lays wreath on Memorial Day 2004



## Southeastern Chapter 4 of Indiana

Chapter members Bob Riede and Glynn Clark participated in the awards day ceremony on May 5th at the Southeastern Career Center in Versailles, Indiana by presenting scholarships to two graduating seniors.

Receiving \$500 scholarships were Emily Nicholson who will pursue a degree in elementary education at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana and Matthew Hartman who will pursue a degree in diesel technology from the University of Northwestern, Ohio. Chapter members pride themselves in the fact that this is the seventh consecutive year that KWVA Chapter 4 has awarded scholarships to student graduates of the Southeastern Indiana Career Center.



Standing left to right: Chapter member Bob Riede, Matthew Hartman, Emily Nicholson, and member Glynn Clark.

## Northwest Ohio Chapter #131

In keeping with the program of the KWA the Northwest Ohio Chapter #131 has been going into the schools telling the students about the Korean War. This is the second year we've been to Anthony Wayne School and the enclosed is one of the pictures that was in their school paper. Our contact to the schools is Leonard Tomasik and he does a great job. The 7th grade students have a clever way to collect money as donations and presented us with a very generous check that will help us place a very nice monument in the Civic Center Mall in Toledo, Ohio.

*(Thank you Joel C. Davis for photo and letter.)*



Shown is Tom Van Buren, Gene Gorski, Jerry Noland and Joel Davis.

## C.H. Dodd Chapter #139 of Kentucky

Appreciation Ceremony for Korean War Veterans, Nov. 16, 2003 at Hyatt Regency Hotel in Louisville, KY sponsored by Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs. ROK and presented by Centennial Committee of Korean Immigration to the United States – Kentucky.



Shown L to R M/Sgt. Thomas Crump, Ernest West MOH and S/Sgt. Till Lecian.



Shown L to R Sgt. Thomas Cork and S/Sgt. Till Lecian.



Shown L to R Brig. Gen. Carl Black and S/Sgt. Till Lecian.

*(Thank you Till Lecian for photos and letter.)*



## Saginaw County Chapter #251 of Michigan

Saginaw County Veterans' Memorial Plaza. We have our block granite Korean War Monument located in the \$344,000 Plaza. Other monuments are WWI, WWII and Vietnam. We have three 30 foot tall flag poles in a 50 foot diameter pod and the other 4 war pods are 25 foot diameter. Of the 26,000 paver bricks (engraved) we have well over 7,000 bricks for the 4 wars. We also have 6 welded wire benches, ground lights, irrigation system and an audio system for school children to listen to each respective war.

*(Thank you Bob Simon for photos and letter. A photo of your memorial would have helped.)*



Fred Bauer (left) and Bob Simon

## Quiet Warriors Chapter #133 of Indiana

After three years of receiving thanks our chapter felt it was time to give thanks to those currently serving our nation. On March 30th

2004 the chapter traveled to the Atterbury Training Center area where they presented the base with an eagle for their flag staff holding the American Flag in their Chapel. In addition the chapter made up a proclamation signed by the Mayor of Ft. Wayne, making April 4, 2004 LTC. (Chaplain) Jim Cotter's day of honor. Rev. Cotter had formed the Allen Co./Ft. Wayne Yellow Ribbon group to support families during the Gulf War I. He was activated for OEF and OIF and serves as the base Chaplain.

This was presented at the Base Commander's staff meeting. The group toured the base and ate lunch in the All Ranks Club. The base has a full time staff of 600 and prepares activated units for deployment overseas as well as out processing upon return to the states. They are particularly proud of the live-fire convoy protection training they have developed and are using. Two of the chapter members present had been at Atterbury during the Korean War. The chapter plans similar visits to the Crane Naval Weapons Base this Fall and Grissom Air Force Base and Marine Reserve Base next year.



From left, Wayne Doenges, Chaplain (LTC) Jim Cotter and Ken Kurtz. Presenting eagle to the Chaplain at Base Chapel.



Shown L to R are Dick Loney, Ken Kurtz, Chaplain (LTC) Jim Cotter, Wayne Doenges. Others shown are Atterbury Base HHC Staff. We are presenting the Mayors Proclamation to Rev. Cotter.

*(Thank you Dick Loney for photos and letter.)*

## Rockford Chapter #272 of Illinois



Chapter Members are shown with their new float preparing for their second parade of the day. The Chapter marched in both Freeport Illinois and Pecatonica Illinois on Memorial Day. The float was originally a John Deere hay rack that now has permanent benches and signs. Goodyear Tire Company donated a set of radial tires and members donated over \$1,100. to finish the project. *(Thank you Jack Philbrick for photo and letter.)*



## Central Coast Chapter #184 of California



Getting ready for the Elks Parade the board shows all Divisions, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard that served in Korea. Pictured are SGM Joe Padilla (Ret.) Commander and LTC Donald Cook (Ret.) Secretary/Treasurer. Padilla was a member of the 73rd Tank Bn., 73th Inf. Div. Cook was a member of the 17th Regt., 7th Inf. Div



Sitting in the passenger side is SGT Barkley (Ret.). Standing is MAJ Marshall Noel (Ret.) looking through the window (driver's side) wearing black beret is SGT Louie Espinoza. Far right of picture with white goatee is SGT George Shaw. The local National Guard Unit provided the Humvee.



Chapter picnic following the Elks Parade. Shown from left to right are Joe Padilla, Louie Espinoza, Basil Gonsales, George Shaw, Jimmie Garcia and Mel O'Campo.



Chapter members visit the 40th Division Memorial at Vandenberg Air Force Base. Pictured from left to right - Don Cook, Richard Barkley and Joe Padilla. VAFB was Camp Cooke during the Korean War. (Thank you Joe Padilla for photos and letter.)

## Taejon Chapter #170 of New Jersey

Passaic County Tech High School of Wayne, New Jersey honors Veterans. Our Color Guard was honored by being the only group to advance and retire the Colors at the high school in Wayne, N.J. The high School honored one of their students who was killed in Vietnam and all veterans from all wars



Shown L to R are James Lomauro, William Burns, Henry Ferrarini, Alex Atheras, and Louis Quagliero. Color Guard at ceremony.



Shown L to R are Henry Ferrarini, George Bruzgis, Louis Quagliero, Alex Atheras, John Di Lonardo. In front Director of Veterans Affairs and History teacher Cathy Pagano and ROTC Cadet Suarez.

(Thank you for Louis Quagliero for photos and letter.)



All Veterans honored in Parade on Sunday Nov. 9, 2003. Our Chapter Color Guard participated in the annual Veterans Day Parade in Clifton, N.J.



Shown L to R are Erwin Burkert, Alex Atheras, Lou Quagliero, and Alex Atheras. On the light side Lou Quagliero waiting to march when his grand-daughter Samantha ran to him, she wanted to march with him.



Chapter members in Clifton Veterans Day Parade.



Our Color Guard marching in parade.  
(Thank you for Louis Quagliero for photos and letter.)

Our chapter Color Guard marched in the Veterans Day Parade in New York City on Nov. 11, 2003. Korean War Veterans from surrounding states of New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania were honored by marching in the first Division of this enormous parade.



Italian American Korean War veterans were interviewed by RA1 Radio-Television Italiana. Paolo Aleotti U.S. Correspondent and his cameraman. Shown L to R Lou Quagliero, Richard Onorevole, Prolo Aleotti, Donald Rista. In back are John Ottina, Dominick DiPaola and John Di Lonardo.



Dr. Richard Onorevole at parade.



L to R are Chapter members Van Brunt, Messina, Cupo and Dr. Holt.



Members behind Chapter Banner.  
(Thank you for Louis Quagliero for photos and letter.)



# Korea, The Forgotten War..... remembered

## Illinois Remembers

The Korean War Veterans Association, Imjin Chapter of Southern Illinois displayed a Korean Front Line Christmas tree by our Memorial in Mel Price Park. It represented a Christmas tree that our Veterans would have possibly put up while on active duty in their combat area or in whatever situation they were in and what ever was available. It might be only a branch, part of a scrub bush, nothing pretty, and decorate it with ornaments from aluminum foil from their cigarette packs, C rations, maybe a picture of their wife, sweetheart or loved one.

This to let the general public possibly see or imagine what Christmas might be on the front lines, and some would have nothing. They would place it in a bunker, trench, fox hole (only a twig) or tent, where ever and what ever available, something they could remember and feel closer to their loved ones. On December 1st and on December 14th at 2:00 P.M. we had a "VETERANS CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE" program, with Christmas carols, music, prayer by our chaplain, and talking of Christmas on the front lines and remembering our Veterans on all fronts this Christmas. The public was invited to attend, and other veterans will be there to share their Christmas experiences. *(Thank you Bill Juergens for photo and letter.)*



Memorial and Christmas Tree.



Bridge over North Fork River dedicated to Korean War Veterans.



Plaque at bridge. *(Thank you Hershall Lee for photo and letter.)*

## Ohio Remembers

Korean War Memorial: Chapter 137 of Youngstown Ohio. Our Memorial was dedicated July 27, 2003. The guest speakers were: Lt. Col. Gordon Ellis, Dr. Charles Sung and State Representative Captain John Boccieri of the Air Force and flies C- 147's out of Youngstown, Ohio.



Korean War Memorial: Chapter 137 of Youngstown Ohio.



Dr. Charles Sung and Richard Koker.



Lt. Col. Gordon Ellis; to his right is Chaplain Walt Tully of 137.

*(Thank You Joann Onstott for photos and letter.)*



## North Carolina Remembers

On Veterans Day, 11 November, 2003, the last day of the DoD sponsored official three (3) year 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration period. Although we do not have a KWVA Chapter here in Henderson County, those of us in photo, excluding the two ladies, formed a 5th Anniversary Commemoration Committee. Our two main objectives were to give educational presentations in area high schools, colleges and civic groups; plus, to design and raise funds for a Korean War Memorial and have it installed beside the memorials of other wars. I am pleased to say that we accomplished both these goals very satisfactorily. The Memorial is located on the lawn in front of the Henderson County, Historic Court House, here in Hendersonville, N.C.

*(Thank you Richard S. Raby for photos and letter.)*



Captain John Boccieri and Richard Koker of 137.



## Canada Remembers



The Greater Lowell KWVA, Joseph R. Ouellette Chapter, took part in the dedication of this monument on 17 August 2003. Thirty members and guests spent three days enjoying the hospitality of Atlantic Provinces Korea Veterans Association at their 28th reunion/convention and the dedication.

*(Thank you Edward Fonseca for photo and letter.)*

Memorial at Henderson County, Historic Court House. From left to right; Frank Enos (with wife, Lynn), B Co., 1st Bn., 5th RCT; 7/50 - 8/51, Richard Dahl, A Co. 1st Regt., 1st Marine Div.; 4/52 - 5/53, Harold Pace, USN, DD836, McKenzie, Jan-Aug 1953, James Jean, USA, (Designer of memorial); 7th Sig. Co. 7th Inf Div. 5/52 - 3/53, M. "Chic" Evans, USAF; 502 nd Tactical Control Gp., 8/50 - 3/52, R. "Dick" Raby, D Co., 6th MTB, 24 th Div., 8/50 - 8/53, 28 Mos. POW, Mrs. Grace Pittman. Special guest to help in unveiling memorial with me. Grace lost a brother, PFC Kelley Watson, 2 nd Div. Recon., who died while a POW.

## Minnesota Remembers

The memorial project was brought before the Babbitt VFW Post in the year 2000. At that time we were unable to come up with a way to raise the funds. The Post home was sold in 2001 and the money distributed. With the money just sitting idle we remembered the memorial project and contacted former mayor Dennis Orn July 2002. He still had all the information. With the information we contacted business' that would do the work, received quotes and found we could accomplish the project with the money on hand.

At the August 2002 meeting we decided to approach the city of Babbitt and ask for approval to build the memorial in front of the Municipal building. At the September 2, 2002 city council

Memorial in front of the Municipal building in Babbitt, MN.



meeting we received permission. The slab and monument were placed late fall 2002. The flag poles were ordered early spring 2003 and placed in position June 2003. The 753 names bricks were ready in July and the contractor placed them the first week of August 2003.

On Monday October 20, 2003 we held a dedication ceremony. Mayor Don Negely delivered a proclamation and the guest speaker was State Representative David Dill. Other funds were received from The American legion post for half the monument and their post members name bricks. Also the local organization of the Babbitt Lions donated the flag poles and assisted with the cost of running electrical power out to the site. Pictures show the monument with all three flags flying and a close up of the Monument that was mined at a local quarry.

There is also a Walk of Honor containing 753 completed name bricks with room for 226 more. Each brick contains name, branch of service, war involved in or service dates and also personal info such as medals.

*(Thank you Robert Curtiss for letter and photos.*

## West Virginia Remembers

On November 11, 2003 the recently completed Korean War Memorial was dedicated in the city of South Charleston, West Virginia.

The dedication of the memorial was the result of three years of fund raising activities including. cookbook sales, quilt raffles, sales of home made crafts and of individual and private donations. The Mountaineer Chapter of Charleston, W. VA. and the Elk River Chapter of Clendenin, W. VA. joined forces to raise funds for this memorial. Both chapters would like to thank all those who donated either time or money to

View of Eastern Side of Memorial.



**Above:** Full side view with names of donating chapters and other organizations.



**Above:** Korean War Plaque on side.

**Below:** Front view has paved blocks of 6 counties



bring the Memorial to completion. The memorial has engraved bricks on the Eastern side dedicated to approximately 240 young men who made the supreme sacrifice during the Korean War. All of these young men were from the area surrounding Charleston, West Virginia.

The Western side of the memorial has bricks engraved with the names of those who have served and survived all our wars. During the dedication KWVA members read the names of the 240 who perished and members of the South Charleston Fire Department rang a bell as each name was read. The Korean



War Veterans Association would like to thank the City of South Charleston and those city workers who helped to erect the memorial. *(Thank you Jack Tamplin for photos and letter.)*



L to R. A.C. Squires, Jack Tamplin and Chet Fleming reading the names on memorial.



Small group of Purple Heart Veterans at Memorial.  
*Thank you Ralph Nonnenmacher for letter and photos.)*

## Rhode Island Remembers



Combat Monument dedicated to all wars. **Left:** Front; **Above:** Back



Bench at side of Monument.



Wilfred E. Herbert Ex – POW founder of monument

## Massachusetts Remembers

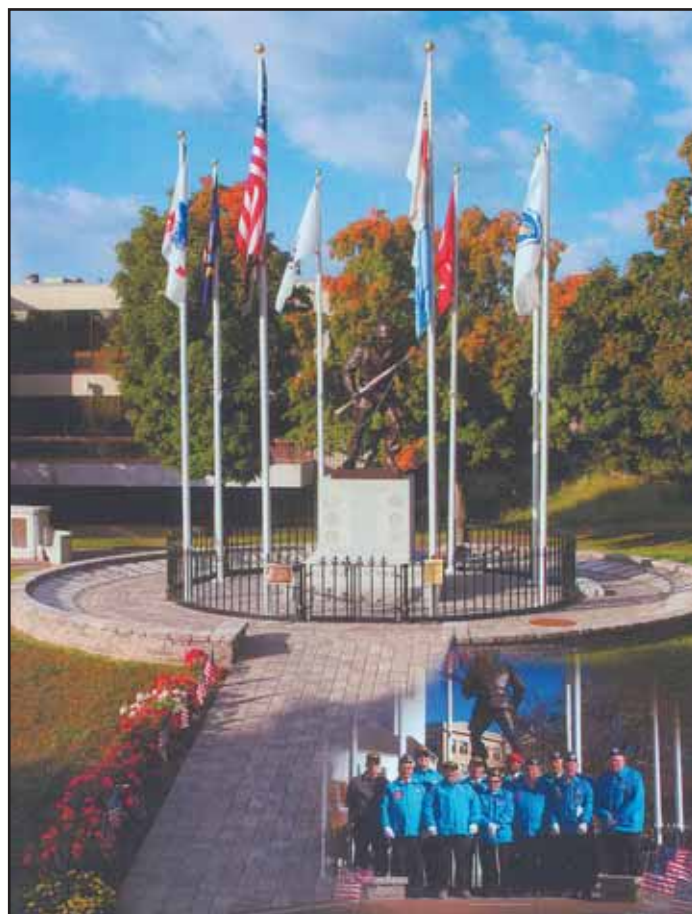


Photo of Memorial in Haverhill, MA. Those shown in photo were responsible for getting and establishing this Memorial. Shown front row L to R are Robert H. Turcotte, Kenneth Bilodeau, Mrs. Dorothy Brienza, Fiorino F. Brienza, Russell V. J. Chaput and Raymond J. DeRoche. Back row L to R are Paul E. Sanborn, Walter Millington, James E. Britton, Richard C. Broadnax and Myles Marcus.

*(Thank you William Rogers for photo and letter.)*

### KWVA Members and Friends

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

# Pork Chop Hill and the Knowledge of Good and Evil

It was mid April 1953, near the end of the Korean War and a few days before the worst two days of the battle of Pork Chop Hill. I was one of the officers of E Company, 31st Infantry Regiment. We were put on special alert and notified that we would relieve the company occupying Pork Chop Hill. We went there to familiarize ourselves with the landscape, layout of trenches, visibility, gun positions and fields of fire. We approached the hill on foot, and saw slight reminders of past life, a few stumps and tree branches. If we looked closely we could see patches of grass, green enough to show all was not dead. Our approach was under observation from the Chinese on Old Baldy, which got its name because artillery and mortar fire had long since killed all but the most tenacious blades of grass, close enough to the earth to come through still alive and green.

Pork Chop Hill was an outpost surrounded on three sides by enemy held ground, as we left the relative safety of the main line of resistance. I was bolstered by my precritical and naive Christian faith. I had little fear of death, only a wish to live because of all the things I wanted to do. I hoped to return to the University of Kentucky, do graduate work in psychology or English literature, marry and raise a family. A kind of detachment from immediate earthly matters defended me against any lingering fear of death. Thus armed against fear I went forward.

At a distance, I saw some seven or so stretchers lying at oblique angles to the path we were to take up the hill. At that distance, I could barely see men on the stretchers. I could not understand why

**By Carl E. Begley**  
1962 Largo Place  
Jacksonville, FL 32207

there would be soldiers on those stretchers that were randomly strewn along the path. To add to the mystery, no one else was around. We continued walking toward the hill. My thoughts were as illogical as was the apparent arrangement. Attempting to understand the scene, I assumed that the soldiers were resting on the stretchers. Then as we moved closer and began to climb, I realized I could not make sense out of the situation by thinking they were merely resting. I thought, these must be our wounded awaiting evacuation. I maintained this belief for a few minutes, as we moved closer to the scene. But why was no one attending to the wounded? As we continued, moving ever closer, I was suddenly shocked by the reality of the situation. I could no longer maintain my denial of death.

The men were dead. More pressing matters prevented the company occupying the hill from transporting the bodies any further back. I had a camera around my neck and had taken pictures of many different scenes at the front. I could not, however, bring myself to take any pictures of this.

At the company command post bunker near the top of the hill, we met with the other company's officers. As my company commander spoke with the commander of the company we were to relieve, I looked around inside the bunker. I found and read an unfinished letter that a soldier had been writing to his wife. I told myself that he

must be among the dead on the hill; that his letter deserved a reader, even one as unworthy as I.

In the letter, he remarked that they had no children yet, but that he would try to remedy that situation as soon as he got back home.

We moved from the relative safety of the bunker to observe more closely the landscape as it sloped downward toward Chinese held territory. We finished our observations of possible enemy approaches, locations and condition of the barbed wire, and the general layout of the landscape. Then we walked back down the hill. As best I remember none of us spoke of the dead soldiers.

We returned to our position in reserve. In a day or two, we went back to Pork Chop Hill and relieved the company. In another day or so, the Chinese attacked, over-ran Pork Chop, occupied the hill for 24 hours or so and killed many soldiers of my company. I survived on nearby Hill 200, where I commanded a weapons platoon, which fired 60 millimeter mortars onto some approaches to Pork Chop Hill. In another day or so our side counter attacked and retook Pork Chop Hill. My company's survivors moved back in reserve, in a peaceful valley sprinkled with wild flowers and the singing of birds.

I survived the two remaining months of my tour of duty. A cease-fire was soon agreed to at Panmunjon, and the war ended. I returned to the United States and entered graduate school at the University of Kentucky, where I studied the scientific psychology of that day. In those days most



Pork Chop Outpost taken from hill 200 shortly before the battle, April '53.



Lt. Begley in vicinity of Pork Chop Hill - Spring 1953



academic psychologist had a severe case of physics envy as they desperately tried to be scientific and held to Newtonian mechanics as the model for their field. This period, before behavioral psychology became cognitive/behavioral psychology, could be called the dark ages of academic psychology. A few chinks were appearing in this rigid defensive armor, which guarded academic psychology against humanism. Heisenberg's indeterminacy principal was mentioned, but not thought through and presented. Along the way, my naive religious faith in which, for example, I half believed Adam and Eve were historically real waned. I read and discussed poetry and literature as a hobby. I later developed a post-critical faith in Christianity, and was quite comfortable with parts of the Bible being metaphorically true.

While in graduate school, I joined an informal, amateurish poetry club. I wrote a poem about my experience of that day on Pork Chop Hill, but it was not a good poem. I have long since lost it or thrown it away. I, however, do remember a crucial line of the poem, and it continues to serve me well in coping with any posttraumatic stress stemming from my first encounter with the corpses on Pork Chop Hill. This barely remembered line of poetry also triggered a quantum gain in insight.

As best I can recall the poem described my walking up the hill, told of my seeing the stretchers with the bodies and maintaining a denial of death for an unusually long time. I then finally expressed the shocked acceptance of death in the poem's last line, the only line I remember, precisely: "Son of Adam, these men are dead."

I involved myself in graduate work in clinical psychology, was awarded my Ph.D., and eventually went into private practice in Jacksonville, Florida. Only now and then did I think back on my war experiences in Korea, and the dead men on the hillside.

In graduate school, I had become quite interested in the poetry of Dylan Thomas.

Almost half a century after the battle of Pork Chop Hill one of his poems took on special meaning for me. It was during the last few months of the year 2000. I was participating in a book club related to Jungian psychology. The Jungian book group had lasted more than seven years. Over that period, we had read and dis-

cussed many books related to C.G. Jung's psychology. As our interest began to wear a bit thin and the group became smaller, we changed our approach. Rather than read a book for the next meeting, we would bring our favorite myth, legend, or fairy tale.

According to Jungian psychology, myths, legends and fairy tales are expressions of archetypes that are inherited structures of the collective unconscious. These archetypal motifs in our every day lives may be expressed in dreams, fantasies, psychotic delusions and creative works of art, music, and literature. They cause us to respond with strong feeling to certain situations and ideas depending on our individual personalities and the configuration of our complexes. Our individual choices of a myth, legend or fairy tale that has interested us the most would, presumably, give us a better understanding of why we find certain ideas and experiences unusually compelling, sometimes holding us spellbound with fear and fascination. In the process of making the choice and discussing it with the book club we could become more aware of hitherto unconscious meanings of our memories and personal beliefs. We would better understand the effects they have had on our personalities, behaviors and philosophies of life.

While pondering this assignment, a line from Dylan Thomas' poem, "Ceremony After a Fire Raid," kept coming to my mind: "The legend of Adam and Eve is never for a second silent in my service." This poem of Thomas' grew out of a World War II experience in London where he was impressed by the story of a child killed in an air raid, "a child of a few hours/ with its kneading mouth/ charred on the black breast of the grave/ the mother dug, and its arm full of fires." As best I can discover, Thomas did not see the child. He saw a picture of it, or, perhaps, read an article about it, or both, in a London newspaper. I realized the legend of Adam and Eve was my favorite legend, my answer to the



Inchon - June 1953

assignment. As an archetype, the story of Adam and Eve expresses a longing for a lost Paradise, for a Golden Age, for a Camelot. It, however, is important to experience this Archetype in full. It is an archetypal illustration of the loss of innocence through the acquiring of the knowledge of evil, the existence of evil as well as good. It is important to not ignore the fall from innocence part of the story because it gives meaning to and makes more bearable the facts of frustration (thorns and thistles) and death as an expected part of the human condition. At the book club meeting I explained why the legend of Adam and Eve was my favorite. I played a recording of the poem read by the poet, and showed pictures I had taken of Pork Chop Hill and its vicinity.

As I think back over my life since my Pork Chop Hill experience, especially, that part of my life informed by study, training, and experience in the practice of clinical psychology, I realize my favorite legend has had more meaning for me than I first thought. I have come to accept death with little or no fear. I have come to realize the fact of something wrong with the human condition. I have gained a better perspective on what I can change for the better, and to accept, without further waste of energy, what I cannot change. Though I have never attended an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, I believe now I have a deeper understanding of that part of their prayer where they ask for the serenity to accept the things they cannot change. The legend of Adam and Eve gives me a rationale for not expecting things to be the way I think they should be. From a psychological perspective, this legend is rich with mean-

Continued on page 84

## Dedication of the World War II Memorial on the

Commentary by Jim Garamone,  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, May 26, 2004 - When organizers first proposed placing the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall,

critics complained.

They said the memorial would spoil the ambience of the National Mall. Proponents of the memorial countered that the site - between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument -

emphasized the crucial role World War II has had in shaping the United States and the world. It's hard to argue with their logic.

World War II was as central to the 20th century as the American Civil War was to the

19th. We continue to be affected by that global conflict as we proceed through the 21st century.

The proponents fortunately won that argument, and the monument on the National Mall will be dedicated May 29.

The memorial honors the more than 16 million Americans who served during the war. It also recognizes the sacrifice of more than 400,000 U.S. soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen, Coast Guardsmen and members of the Merchant Marine who died in that conflict.

World War II was the central facet of the 20th century. The war proved once and for all that democracies could stand up to totalitarian regimes. As with totalitarians before and since, Hitler and his Axis partners were wrong in their assessment of the United States.

The United States did unite during the war. Americans volunteered for service in the military. Millions swarmed production plants and churned out the tools of war. People endured rationing and collected scrap metal to build weapons.

It was total war, and the total population had to participate with unseen results.

Millions of women moved into the work force. "Rosie the Riveter" gave impetus to the push for women's rights.

African-Americans fought for the chance to do battle against the Axis — and to prove the promise of the Declaration of Independence "that all men are created equal."

World War II saw the rise of science. It changed the way Americans live. Radar came out of the labs to the battlefield. Instant coffee, Teflon, jet aircraft



President George W. Bush addresses a crowd of more than 150,000 people at the formal dedication ceremony of the National World War II Memorial on Saturday, May 29, 2004. (Photo by Don Ripper/Latoff Inc.)



Presidents Bill Clinton and George Herbert Walker Bush joined other dignitaries on stage at the formal dedication ceremony of the National World War II Memorial on Saturday, May 29, 2004. (Photo by Don Ripper/Latoff Inc.)



# Remembers

**National Mall ★ Washington , D.C. ★ May 26, 2004**

and rockets are just a few of the technologies that came out of World War II labs.

In a mixed blessing, labs also produced atomic weapons and atomic energy.

The war hastened the destruction of the colonial system in the world. In Asia and Africa, people saw the great empires humbled, and that encouraged their nationalist aspirations.

In the United States, a lasting effect of the war was the G.I. Bill. American service members came back from war and used this piece of legislation to get educations and buy homes. The middle class grew by leaps and bounds in the post-war years. Millions of Americans who had no chance before the war of attaining a college degree could get one. And that alone has changed the face of the United States.

Two superpowers emerged from World War II: the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. That rivalry shaped the world through the

early 1990s. In fact, some historians said the fall of the Soviet empire really signaled the end of the post-World War II era.

Before the war, Americans felt safe behind the moats of the Atlantic and Pacific. The United States did not need allies to defend Fortress America.

After the war, Americans felt the moat had shrunk, and most realized that the United States had to remain a player on the world stage. Americans supported the United Nations and many other international organizations.

NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw

has called those who fought in World War II “the Greatest Generation.” Their memorial deserves its central place in Washington, because their sacrifices have been central to the world we have today.



Veterans look on at the formal dedication ceremony of the National World War II Memorial on Saturday, May 29, 2004. They were joined by more than 150,000 people, most of whom are members of the “greatest generation,” representing all 50 states. (Photo by Don Ripper/Latoff Inc.)



Freedom Wall



Atlantic Arch



Field of Stars

Ceremonial  
entrance  
Shield



Plaza at Night

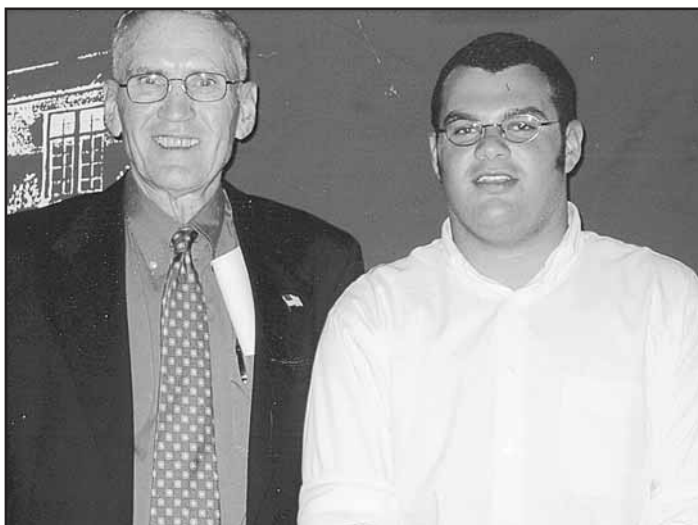


Atlantic Pavilion Pillars



## My Old Box of Memories Scholarship

For the fifth year in a row William "Bill" Allen, Ex-Prisoner of War Korea, has given \$1,000 scholarships from the sale of his book "My Old Box of Memories". Pictured is this years winner Joel Lombardi. Bill plans to give scholarships through the year 2006.



Bill Allen (left) and 2004 scholarship recipient Joel Lombardi

If anyone is interested in the book contact Bill at 421 4th Ave. N., Tierra Verde Fl. 33715 or E-mail <Wallen2@tam-pabay.rr.com>. Book is sold on donation basics all money goes for scholarships. Cost of the book is \$13.00 + \$2.00 postage.

## A Ex-POW Thanked

The following photo is of William E. Baker who served with the 2nd Inf. Div., 38th FA BN, Svc Btry. Mr. Baker was a stranger to me until approximately four years ago when he called in response to a letter I had sent. Mr. Baker served with my late uncle, Albert E. Boothroyd, who died a POW. After our initial telephone conversation, Mr. Baker and his wife, Janet, continued to stay in contact by sending me materials on the Korean War. We chat on the phone monthly and last year they made a special trip to Vermont to meet my family.

Our meeting was an emotional one and I was honored to finally meet this wonderful man and his wife who helped me in so many ways in understanding what Korea was all about. Mr. Baker was a POW for 33 months and every time I looked into his eyes sadness fell upon me as I tried to ponder what his 33 months as a prisoner was like. Ironically, their visit fell on the 50th anniversary of the Armistice.

The cake Mr. Baker is holding is one that I had made special to thank him for his service to our county. Mr. Baker is smiling in this picture, but when the cake was presented to him, a silence fell over the room as he sat and stared at the cake.



William E. Baker, 2nd Inf. Div., 38th FA Bn

After looking at my uncle's picture on the wall, he took my father aside and said that he had carried my uncle to his grave. He remembered his eyes and the cracks in my uncle's glasses. I believe there was a purpose for our meeting and this closed a chapter in the quest of locating someone who knew or remembered my uncle.

Our meeting was an emotional one and our parting was even more so. Mr. and Mrs. Baker remain in constant con-

tact with my entire family and they are planning yet another trip to Vermont in September.

I hope you can find the space to include this letter and Mr. Baker's picture because it would be a surprise for him to see this in The Graybeards and it would be my way of showing him just how much I appreciate the friendship and love I share for both he and his wife.

And yes, thanks to all the veterans who served during this time.

Linda (Boothroyd) Lazaroff  
140 Old Colchester Road  
Amston, CT 06231-1322  
E-Mail: <north2vt@peoplepc.com>.

## The Graybeards helps us to communicate

I wanted to let you know how extraordinary the men are who read the magazine you edit. I haven't seen what was published, as I haven't received my copies yet, but I had three different men e-mailed me and offer to help, even tho they didn't know my Father. Bill, in Wisconsin told me my Father had been in "K" Co.

With that information, Ray in Florida was kind enough to send me a list of names and addresses of 27 men who might have been there at the same time. Another Bill, in Pa. sent

me his own personal story, and offered to help me obtain Military



Joanne's Father, George L. Swearingen's grave marker in Kansas.



records and any awards that survivors might be entitled to. I couldn't find phone numbers for about ten of them, but I did talk to the rest of them, they were all very kind.

Only two knew anything about my Father. Donald in Va. called me back, and spoke with me at length about the day he died. His memory was remarkable, and he did his best to explain without being too graphic. Then, Ted in Texas called me and remembered that my Father had been at Camp Carson with him, before being with him also in "K" co in Korea. He also found and sent me copies of the orders, with both their names on it, when they received the Combat Infantry Badge, dated Sept. 13, 1950.

Isn't that amazing? Ted has also written a book called "Waiting For The Blessed Light Of Dawn" about his experiences in "K" there. I bought a copy and it is an excellent book. It's absolutely more than I really ever dared to hope for after all these years. I may end up with more information later, but I'm very happy with what I've got, which is something very tangible to show and tell my children and grandchildren, so he will not be forgotten.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for putting my request in your magazine. This generation of men are truly remarkable. They were all still emotional about the "Hell" they went thru, and yet they took the time to help out, and talk to a child of a fellow soldier.

May God bless you all!.....Joanne Chmura  
(Thank you Joanne for the kind words and I hope you get closure from the veterans that knew him. We will always remember our buddies we lost. Editor.)

### **I played Taps with my Trumpet**

As a former bugler I would like to add to the letter by Albert Little in the March - April issue of The Graybeards. I played my trumpet at Memorial Day Services and for many funerals, mostly away from the crowds. At one funeral which was held in a private family cemetery I was requested by the family to play Taps over the casket. At the time I didn't think much about it so I agreed and stood at the head of the casket. When I hit the first note, the family standing at the other end of the casket started crying. I wasn't sure the second note would come out but it did and I finished the call without any trouble. However, I would never do that again.

After that I always placed myself where nobody could see me and let the mourners wonder where those beautiful notes were coming from.

I am a Veteran of World War II and one of the inactive reservists that was recalled during the Korean War in 1950. I am now 78 years young but have given up playing the trumpet. I also believe Taps sounds better coming out of trumpet rather than a bugle

Ron Trabucco  
1720 Emerald Pl.  
Reno, NV 89502

### **The day we were going to take on the Russian Fleet**

The aircraft carrier, Princeton, had been in the Far East off

the coast of Korea for over five months and each day we launched our aircraft which, depending on their mission, carried a mix of bombs, rockets and napalm. Well, that changed on May 1st, 1951. On that day we fitted eight Skyraider attack aircraft with Mark-13 aerial torpedoes. Torpedoes! They're used to sink ships. BIG SHIPS! We had heard that Russian pilots were flying MIG-15 fighters that tangled with our aircraft over North Korea. Could some of their warships be on their way to engage our Task Force??

Most of the guys on the flight deck knew the straight scoop, but a good rumor is something which can be embellished as it's passed on from person to person. It gives sailors with fertile imaginations the opportunity to create some real interesting "scuttlebutt." (A Navy term for a rumor, usually of local importance.)

At the end of the rumor pipeline some boiler men deep in the bowels of the ship, heard "the Russian Fleet is on its way and we're going to kick their asses."

All of our aircraft returned to our ship without their torpedoes. The Skyraiders had used them in an attack on the Hwachon Dam in North Korea, a target that guided bombs from B-29s failed to breach. Our pilots using their torpedoes did the job, but that's another story.

Bernard "Ben" Kloek  
Cpl. A.F. Kivlehan Chapter,  
Staten Island, NYE-Mail:  
<north2vt@peoplepc.com>.

### **LOOKING FOR COMBAT BUDDIES?**



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**NATIONAL 10<sup>th</sup> REUNION 4-7 OCT, 2004**

## A Hero to Korean War Veterans and all veterans

For Baltimore County's World War II and Korean War veterans, Memorial Day 1998 was more significant than usual. Decades after the conflicts ended, their service was honored with a monument, a gift to the county.

"It disturbs me that the United States waits so long to memorialize those who fought its wars," said John W. Armiger Jr., owner of Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens, who presented the monument May 25 1998 at the cemetery's Circle of the Immortals.

County Councilman Joseph Bartenfelder said the memorial "goes hand-in-hand with the Memorial Day services which are held at Dulaney Valley and it recognizes those veterans of the Korean War. They sometimes seem a little forgotten."

Bartenfelder, a Democrat representing Fullerton, sponsored a council resolution calling the \$35,000 gift "a powerful and

## A Special Tribute to John W. Armiger Jr. for..

# Honoring Our Fallen Heros

By Vincent A. Krepps

## One man's efforts to recognize heroism has made him a hero to all who know of his unselfish deeds

lasting tribute to the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of their country."

Various county communities have war memorials, and the Spanish-American War, World War I and Vietnam are commemorated in Towson, the county seat. But until 1998, veterans of World War II and Korea had no countywide memorial.

Twenty-five Marylanders who died in Vietnam are buried in the Circle of the Immortals. Other state heroes, including several missing in action, (and at least one from the Korean War) are memorialized with plaques and on a low stone wall that surrounds it. A Memorial Day service has been held there since 1967.

Armiger said his father, a World War II veteran, initiated the annual ceremony because he felt the public was losing sight of the meaning of Memorial Day.

He said Vincent Krepps, (then) 66, of Towson, whose twin brother, Richard, died as a Korean prisoner of war in 1951, was the inspiration for the new monument. The brothers were in the same outfit, the 2nd Infantry Division, and a memorial to Richard Krepps was added to the circle.

When the county Vietnam Memorial was dedicated in 1996, Krepps said, "I realized that we'd been forgotten again." He broached the idea of a Korean memorial to a county official but was told it was too soon to start planning another one.

Krepps said he also discussed it with Armiger because of Dulaney Valley's tradition of recognizing heroism in the military and with the annual Fallen Heroes Day commemoration of police officers and firefighters who die in the line of duty.

"A light bulb went off in my head. I could accomplish this with very little red tape," Armiger said.



**Fallen Heroes Memorial in Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens.**



**WWII-Korean War Memorial for Baltimore County at Dulaney Valley**



**LEFT: Vincent A. Krepps, KWW at twin brother's marker during a ceremony.**

**BELOW: Richard W. Krepps POW/MIA VA Marker in Circle of the Immortals along side of many veteran markers from all wars.**





Armiger conferred with Korean and World War II veterans groups and county government - then drafted a plan. The stone monument, 8 feet high and 10 feet wide, was built into the Circle's wall. It has bronze replicas of the World War II Victory Medal (1941-1945) and the Korean Service Medal (1950-1953). Between them is a 4-by-5-foot replica of a photograph of one soldier comforting another after the death of a buddy in Korea in 1950, as a medic fills in the casualty log. To those who served in the wars, a plaque reads, "Yours was the most remarkable generation of the Twentieth Century."

"It was the generation that saved the world," said Alan Walden, a broadcaster who was master of ceremonies for the dedication.

### A Hero to Police and Firemen

It's a good bet that an hour into this year's Fallen Heroes Day celebration, Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens owner John Armiger Jr. was thinking about next year's event. "Putting one of these things on takes a lot of planning, so it's not unusual for us to start almost before the current event is over," said Armiger, the guiding hand behind 19 Fallen Heroes Day celebrations, including the one May 2004. Held at the cemetery on East Padonia Road, the event annually draws more than 1,000 people to honor police officers and firefighters who died in the line of duty over the past year. "My father came up with the idea for this back in 1976, but it took me almost 10 more years to really organize the event the way it is now," Armiger said.

"I think the turning point came in 1984,

when we buried some firefighters from Dundalk who had died in a fire," he said. "It was very moving, and I realized we ought to do something special to honor these special people who protect us every day." Within two years, Fallen Heroes Day was born, and 19 years later, the result is an elaborate event that would almost certainly make Armiger's father, the late John Armiger Sr., proud. The annual Fallen Heroes Day takes more than a year of work to plan and involves a score of Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens' employees and a host of others, from police officers and firefighter units to caterers and sound engineers.

"It's really a team effort," Armiger said. "Everyone involved plays an important part and knows what to do, and they all make it happen. It wouldn't happen without them." Although that's true, Armiger is being typically modest. "He doesn't like to toot his own horn," said Meredith Bower, a public relations woman who each year helps Armiger promote the event. "He honestly does this because it means something to him, but he doesn't like the attention focused on him," Bower said. "He wants the attention put on the police and firefighters who are being honored." Armiger is so dedicated, she noted, that he donates the cost of burying any police officer or firefighter who dies in the line of duty anywhere in Maryland.

"My father always said that it is important to do the right thing, and I think this is the right thing," Armiger said, referring to both Fallen Heroes Day and the burial donations. "He always said that if you get recognized for doing the right thing, that's great. But it is far more important to do

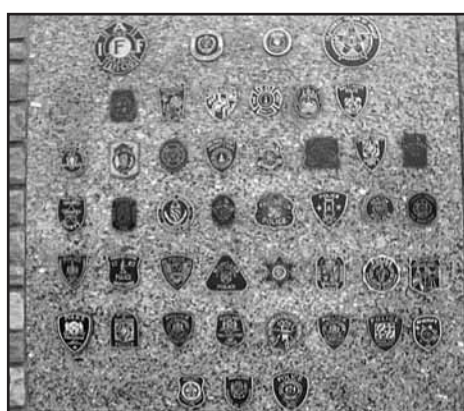
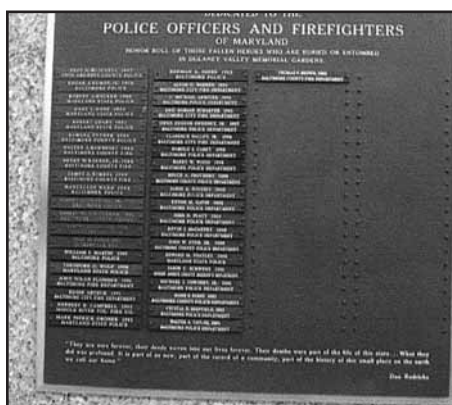
what's right."

For Armiger, doing what's right means moving through a gargantuan "to do" list to prepare for each Fallen Heroes Day. That list includes everything from contacting the families of fallen heroes to inviting them and learning about each person who died. The list also includes deciding on a keynote speaker, arranging for music, food, drink and sanitary facilities, and designing each year's commemorative Fallen Heroes Day pin. "I design them myself on the computer," Armiger said, showing examples from the past. "I use a design program and then color it in. My goal is to use elements that are historical and meaningful, but look good, too."

Past pins borrowed design elements from the Botany cross, the Maryland flag, as well as Lord Calvert with his sword drawn, with the phrase "They are ours forever" also included. But those details - things such as the design of the pins and the program - are secondary to the arrangements that must be made with police and firefighter units, including honor guards, across the state regarding their participation in the celebration. "We have 150 or more people in the opening procession, which includes recruit classes from the city and county police and fire units," Armiger said. "I think their participation is important because the whole thing shows them the importance of their jobs and that people honor what they are about to do."

At this past event, some of those units turned the tables on Armiger, presenting him with two awards for the service he has done for them. A representative of Concerns of Police Survivors, the statewide chapter of a national organization aimed at helping the survivors deal with the loss of police officers, presented Armiger with a small bronze award at the celebration also, the Baltimore City Firefighters union gave him a bronzed firefighter's helmet. "Every year, we try to do something for John," said Steven Fugate, president of the Baltimore City Firefighters union. "We decided to give him the universal symbol for firefighters - a helmet - but were worried that if we gave him a real one, he would put it on and go out and fight fires. So we got him this instead." Armiger responded with a

Continued on page 80



**Names of Fallen Police Officers and Firefighters (left) and Unit Patches (right) on plaques next to Memorial.**

# Korea's Sleeping Ghosts



Dean (right) brother of Gene stands next to school memorial honoring his KIA brother and other KIA students of the Perry County High School in Pennsylvania.

In the January-February 2002 issue *The Graybeards* featured on page 29 the history of the memorial shown in photo above. We also featured this memorial's dedication in *The Graybeards* July-August 2002 on page 44. Well! I thought this would be the end until I read a book called "Korea's Sleeping Ghosts." After reading the story that starts on page 46 I became very curious. The story below and the e-mails (sidebar) will tell you why. It is a small world. The book review was in the November-December issue on page 71. The author was completing a book from his Korean War Veteran father's notes after his father passed away—Editor.

## The Story

It was the next afternoon that the war got to Mullins for the first time. He and Harvey and Watts were converging on the George CP about half an hour before evening chow. As they stood outside a moment, they caught the dull thumping of heavy mortars in the direction of Mullins' second platoon.

"Sounds like you're ketchin' a little," grunted Watts. "Yeah," said Mullins. "The big ones." A queer uneasiness tightened his chest.

They stood listening, and after a moment Mullins realized that the others were looking at him expectantly, waiting. "You going back?" said Harvey. Mullins was on the point of saying, "What the hell for?" but something on Watts' face scraped his pride.

"Yeah ... sure. Save some chow for me." "Best I go with you," said Watts, "and look in on my bunch." Mullins went off a dogtrot back along the reverse slope trail, with Watts at his heels. Both were ducking every few seconds at the ominous whisper of mortar shells just before the instant of

impact.

The barrage had slackened and seemed to be over when they rounded a shoulder and sighted Mullins' OP. But, there was a little group of men just beyond it. Someone was down. Intent upon the cluster of figures, Mullins was slow to react to the sharp warning from Watts; he dropped, but almost too late. The dull, heavy blasts came in quick succession; the second lifted him several inches off the frozen ground, then slammed him back so violently he thought his chest would burst. He fought sudden nausea, tasting blood where his teeth had split his lips. In reflex, he had rolled under an overhang along the trail. He lay there in the snow, wondering foggily where he had been hit...he couldn't seem to move his legs.

Watts was half up, crouching and looking over at him. "You okay, Mullins?" He stared up at Watts, and then with dreadful clarity, he realized what was wrong. He wasn't hurt ...he was fear-stricken. Watts perceived it in almost the same instant. He glanced up the trail, then back at Mullins without sympathy. "One of your boys is hit

## E-mails:

From: Keith Miller  
To: vkrepps@erols.com

Hello Mr. Krepps, my name is Keith Miller. A couple of weeks ago, after reading the Baltimore Sun article about your long ordeal trying to find information on what happened to your twin brother in Korea, I sent you a letter along with a copy of my late father's book, *Korea's Sleeping Ghosts*. I hope you received it and have had the chance to look over the book. At the bottom of the article, it said that you were editor of *The Graybeards* magazine. I did a little searching, but was unable to find out how to get a subscription to the magazine. Would you please let me know how subscriptions can be ordered?

From: Vincent A. Krepps  
To: Keith Miller

Keith,

I have reviewed the book and I am hoping it will be in the Nov.-Dec. issue. I do have at least 7 books to review so we will do our best. I think the DuBois twins are men I know from Pennsylvania named Metz.

Thanks,  
Vince

From: Keith Miller  
To: Vincent A. Krepps

Hey Vince, that's great ... I appreciate that. When I sent you the book, I didn't even know that you were editor of a Korean War magazine. I'd simply found the article from the Baltimore Sun when I was doing searches on the Internet for information on the Metz twins, the real name of the two boys in dad's book that were involved in the mortar strike, and I sent you a copy because I thought you'd enjoy it. It was only when I showed the article to my mom a couple of nights ago that she noticed the notation at the bottom saying you were editor of the *Graybeards* magazine. I just went to the website you suggested and saw the application. I think my mom will also want to join as a veteran's spouse.



up there, Mullins.”

He looked past Watts, on up to the cluster of men gathered around a fallen form. His mind was completely lucid, and he wanted desperately to go up there. But he was absolutely powerless to break the paralyzing inertia that gripped him. He lay there, immobile.

Watts stood up straight and cradled his carbine in his arm. “Guess I had you figured right all along, Mullins. You’re just a mite short on gumption, ain’t you?” The contempt in his voice made him sound rasping and unfamiliar. “Go on back to the rear - you’re no good up here.” He spat in the snow before Mullins’ face, and walked off up the trail.

Mullins watched him go, and as he did, something inside him exploded. Suddenly he was filled with uncontrollable fury - at himself, at Watts, at everyone and everything - but mostly at Watts, who had witnessed his raw humiliation.

Then he was up and running, and roughly jostled Watts in passing him. The entire episode had consumed less than a minute, and the scene near the OP was unchanged. Mullins hurried up and knelt beside Sergeant Yancey, who was crouched over someone on the ground. He looked, and blanched in horrified disbelief. One of the DuBois twins sat in the snow, cradling his brother’s head in his lap. Both were drenched with blood. Neither moved. The sitting twin’s eyes were fixed on the ground just beyond his feet.

Mullins came to himself. “Get an aid man!” he yelled Schneider. “No.” Sergeant Yancey looked up, and his face was a mask of anguish. “He’s gone,” he said dully. “Send for a litter.” The others went silently away, and presently only Mullins and Yancey remained with the twins. Mullins squatted on his heels, numbly watching a pool of blood that soaked the snow in a widening circle. He tried to swallow a great lump in his throat, and could not. “Mortar.” He finally managed a word in a thick voice. The sergeant nodded. “Just b’fore you come. Took him in the back.” “Were they ... together?” Sergeant Yancey nodded again. Then Mullins thought of the twins’ squad leader. “Where was Lister?” “Down the hill, on ammo detail.”

The sitting twin still sat motionless and mute, his eyes set in their frozen stare.

Mullins moved around beside him and awkwardly put an arm around his shoulders. “I’m sorry,” he said. “I’m so sorry.” The youngster made no response. Mullins glanced at Yancey. “Shock,” said the sergeant. “He ain’t hit.” He shook his head, got to his feet and walked away.

The young soldier continued to sit as if in a coma, holding his dead brother’s head. Mullins stayed beside him, saying nothing, miserable in his inadequacy. A crew of litter bearers came, after a time, and with them came Captain Evans. The bearers went to work without a word, gently separating the boy from his brother’s body and placing it on the litter. “It’s time to go now,” Mullins said softly. He grasped the youngster’s shoulders and slowly raised him to his feet. Sergeant

Yancey returned, with Corporal Shiga. “Go with him, Shiga,” said the sergeant. “Take care of him until he goes home.” They watched without speaking as the little train went off down the trail to the rear. The surviving twin moved as if in sleep, with one hand on the edge of the litter, and never looked back. They passed out of sight around a bend and were gone.

Sergeant Yancey turned and went away. After a moment, Captain Evans laid his hand on Mullins’ shoulder. “I’m sorry, Pete.” The built-up emotional pressure boiled over. Mullins wrenched away, and lashed at the captain in a low, savage voice. “Sorry? You’re sorry? Well, he’s DEAD! And the other one ...I hope you got a good look at the other one! Why the hell didn’t you split them up when I asked you to?” “The fact is,” said the captain quietly, “I was advised to keep them together. It wasn’t my idea, but that’s no alibi - I might have done just the same.” “Yeah” Mullins shot back bitterly. “You probably would have! What the hell ...this is a business to you! You’re a professional, a West Pointer, so what are a couple eighteen-year old kids to you?”

Evans winced. But instead of cutting Mullins down, he kept his head and spoke in the same calm, sad tone. “You know better than that. And you know what I have to do next. I have to write a letter to their family, and this is one duty that I truly dread.”

“Well, Jesus Christ, say the Regular Establishment is sorry about it! Give ‘em a shit-load of sympathy and sincere regrets. That’ll fix it all up just fine.”

Thanks again for the information, and I look forward to the review! Take care,

Keith

From: Vincent A. Krepps

To: Keith Miller

Keith,

I know Dean Metz very well. He has been to my home and we also went to D.C. together for several events including DPMO. Dean also comes a long way from PA to our chapter meetings where he is a member. I have been to his home and also was the main speaker last year or the one before at his high school when they dedicated a memorial to the lost students in the Korean War. An article or two and photos was in a past Graybeards issue. Does Dean know about the article. I have his telephone number 717-691-1294. I read the story and Dean told me some of it and it looks correct. I know Dean would have let you use the names of Dean and Gene Metz. He is now going to the VA for his emotional problems and that is how we met. He learned about my twin brother and wondered how I handled seeing my brother taken POW. Well I did not see that because I was just returning from a hospital a few days after his capture, in fact he was listed as MIA for at least 6 months. Well you know the story. I called Dean and left a message.

Vince

From: Keith Miller

To: Vincent A. Krepps

Thanks Vince. I can’t believe that you know the surviving Metz twin ...that’s amazing. If you recall, dad referred to them as the DuBois twins in the novel. The only reason I knew that their name was Metz is because of an entry that dad made in his journal (my father kept a tiny little daily journal while he was in Korea). The entry for Jan 29, 1952 says: “A tragedy. A 120 mortar round killed 4 of our men. One of the Metz boys got it, and died in his twin’s arms. Bad - but bad.” So, I went on the Internet to see if I could find a record of the death of the Metz boy, and sure enough, I found a record of a KIA of a man named Metz on January 28, 1952, the day before dad’s journal

entry. I'm just amazed at this coincidence, that you actually know the living brother. Actually, I wasn't trying to contact him ...I was only trying to confirm his brother's death. I guess I figured that the event was such a tragedy that I'd honor his privacy about it, and I thought finding him would be an impossible long shot anyway. But I guess not. Amazing, just amazing. You asked me in your email if Dean Metz knows about the article—what article are you referring to? Did you mean the book? The answer is no, at least not from me, because as I said, I didn't even know what his first name was, where he lived, or even if he was still alive. Your email was the first confirmation of that. How do you think Dean would feel about a phone call from me?

Keith

From: Vincent A. Krepps

To: Keith Miller

Keith,

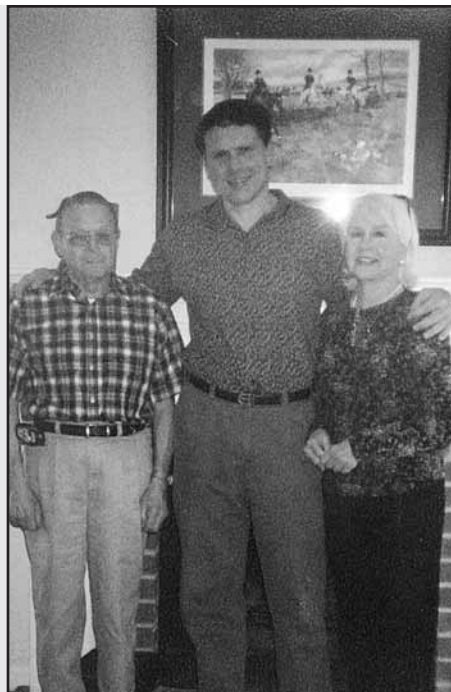
I talked to Dean and mentioned some of the detail on pages 47 to 51. Dean is a very nice person and I am sure a call from you would be ok. I gave him all the detail on getting the book. Yes, I was talking about the book when I used the word article. I also told him that it would have been difficult to find the people in your fathers story and that using another name was very common and also gives some protection to the author to write books without first using original names. He understood. Give him a call, I am sure he would like to talk to someone that knew both of them even if it was a son of the father. A small world sometimes.

Vince

From: Keith Miller

To: Vincent A. Krepps

Vince, my phone rang last night and I picked it up, and it was Dean...I couldn't believe it! We talked for about 30 minutes, and it was great. You can imagine how much it meant to me to hear from him ... or maybe you can. As you know from reading the book, my dad was greatly affected by the death of the Metz boy and it stuck with him for a long time, especially the fact his brother, Dean, was right there to watch him die. Many, many times I've wondered if



**Dean Metz (left) with Keith Miller (center) and Keith's mother whose husband kept a tiny little daily journal while he was in Korea. Keith took the notes after his fathers death and turned them in to the book called "Korea's Sleeping Ghosts".**

the surviving twin was still alive and how he dealt with the loss. That's also why your own story struck such a chord with me. On the book's website ([www.koreassleepingghosts.com](http://www.koreassleepingghosts.com)), we wanted to put a chapter from the book on the website so people could read a sample chapter, and when the publisher and I discussed it back in August, it was the chapter about the Metz twins (DuBois) that we chose. I offered to send Dean a complimentary copy of the book, but he's already bought one. I considered reading him that particular section of the book last night, but then thought better of it; that's such an emotional thing for him that I decided I that I'd allow him to read it in private. Maybe it will help Dean to know that he's not alone, that the loss of his brother affected other people to a huge degree, including his platoon commander. As soon as I got off the phone, I called my mother and told her about it, and she was stunned. She was very aware of the situation with the twins because, in addition to dad writing about it, he had told her about it. Neither of us could believe that we've

found each other, thanks to you Vince.

Small world indeed.

Keith

From: Keith Miller

To: Vincent Krepps

Hi Vince. Just wanted to let you know that I finally got to meet Dean and Minnie Metz a few weeks ago while they were vacationing in Williamsburg, Virginia. Dean, my mother, and I sat around for awhile and talked about his brother, their experiences, my dad, and Korea's Sleeping Ghosts, the book my dad wrote. It was really great to finally meet him after all this time, and I know it meant a lot to my mom. She'd heard my dad talk about the Metz twins and what happened that awful day 52 years ago, but she never thought she'd actually meet Dean.

While we were talking, I told Dean what a superb job I thought you did with the Graybeards, and he gave me the sad news that you're no longer going to be doing the magazine. Though I'm disappointed to hear that and wish I'd had been a subscriber longer so that I could have enjoyed your work, I know it's a hell of a lot of hard work to produce that sucker, and you've certainly gone above and beyond the calling for years now. I just want to give you my personal appreciation for the incredibly fine work you did in producing that magazine for all the rest of us.

Thanks also for hooking me up with Dean Metz... we spoke again last night on the phone, and we're going to stay in contact.

Take care Vince, and stay in touch!  
Keith Miller, Over The Top

Phone: 919-881-9195, Pager: 919-871-3523, Fax: 919-783-0823 E-mail: [<km300ft@earthlink.net>](mailto:km300ft@earthlink.net).

*(Members: Over the past 6 plus years stories like this and others helping family members and veterans has made this job as your editor very rewarding. My goodbye in "Editors Pen" in this and the last issue states these feelings. Again I thank all for the honor you have given me along with the many thank you letters and donations to your great magazine "The Graybeards." -Vince.)*





Stacked exploded ammo picked up and relocated.

from defusing unexploded bombs our major concern came from the shells filled with white phosphorus, commonly referred to as W.P. this can be a very dangerous item. Shells found in fact did not pose a safety problem for us. However, W.P. shells were found with split casings and partially buried in mud. When W.P. is exposed to the air it is activated. Our solution was to remove the split shells from the mud and quickly place them in a bucket filled with water. The challenge was not to spill any water. Occasionally water would splash out of a bucket prompting the W.P. to start smoking. At this point we would set the bucket down and double time away.

The eight of us worked at cleaning up the dump for two weeks when we were replaced by eight other E.O.D. men. For those two weeks we pieced up and stored the ordinance at a single accumulation point. Some time after we were replaced the accumulated ordinance was moved to a safe area and destroyed.

Several months later I was transferred to the 21st E.O.D. Squad supporting the Heartbreak Ridge and Sand Bar Active areas.



**Jim Koukl with A-Frame carrying exploded ammo.**

*Jim Koukl, 2 Silverbreeze, Irvine, California 92614*

*(Thank you Jim for photo and continued story. Editor.)*

# KAMAG

By Frank A. Imparato

In an era when the United States Military Assistance Group are scattered all over the world, the story of one of the earliest of these groups is of more than passing interest.



The mid-twentieth century added new dimensions to the roles and missions long performed by the United States Army. The American soldier lived and worked as an ally, friend and coun-

selor. As a representative of the American way of life, as a persuasive advocate of his country's modern equipment and tactical doctrine, as a partner in a global system of achieving security for the entire free world, he was called upon to demonstrate a Variety of talents, patience, tact, linguistic ability and superior professional knowledge, among others and he must make a supreme effort to understand people and traditions often vastly different from his own.

One of the Army's new pioneers was the US Military Advisory Group To The Republic of Korea, know as "KAMAG". The EM and Officers who served in KAMAG during the early days of Korea came to know all the frustrations and triumphs, the problems and partial solutions, the failures and successes that was a new venture.

In an era when the United States Military Assistance Group are scattered all over the world, the story of one of the earliest of these groups is of more than passing interest. The United States Military Advisory Group to The Republic of Korea, or KAMAG as it was known, was not only one of the first Advisory Groups to be formed but also one of the few that had to operate both in peace and war.

Continued on page 88

# Three Stories of a Korean War Veteran

By Dick C. Nooe

## STORY 1

### USS *GENERAL M. C. MEIGS*

After three and one half months of Training and Replacement Command at a Marines Corps base called Camp Pendelton in Southern California we were heading for Korea. My outfit was transported by bus to the Los Angeles Harbor Authority area. There we were to debark on a WW II troop transport called the USS *General M. C. Meigs*.

There was the ship in its birth and quite imposing. I'd been on the ocean before, but just in small fishing craft; this was very different. Going up the gangplank we were in full gear including sea bags and full pack. This included a butt pack that, for me, was forever slipping its cinches and falling.

I had several good buddies with me including my closest friend, Joe Fickeria. We had been in a Marine detachment on the naval base at Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay. From there we went to Camp Pendelton for the Training and Replacement Command in preparation for Korea. Joe was Italian through and through. He had an east coast accent and dark, penetrating eyes that seemed to look through you. Joe was short and stocky with a ready smile, but tough as nails. In Long Beach I saw him deck a guy twice his size. Joe was a China Marine and had been back and forth across the Pacific before so I took my cues from him.

There were five thousand of us jammed on to that transport to replace part of the First Marine Division in Korea. It would take us eighteen days to cross the Pacific. This was because the "brass," with their profound wisdom, decided to map a zig zag course. This was to protect against submarines (as if North Korea or China had any). If they did have such attack boats, they would have found us quite easily irregardless of the course we took because of the amount of garbage that went overboard each day.

When we left port everyone was in high spirits. Although there are always heavy, blustery winds on the ocean, the weather

## There were five thousand of us jammed on to that transport to replace part of the First Marine Division in Korea.

was clear. At first the Marines were relieved because there were only swells and rolling seas rather than foamy white caps to toss the ship about. Unlike seasoned sailors we did not know the ways of the sea. Unfortunately those rather innocent looking swells combined with the movement of the ship created unwelcome problems.

When two hours out of port some of the troops started becoming sea sick. This was contagious and before long I would say ninety percent of the "jar heads" were green and barfing. The ship's crew, who were seasoned merchant marines snickered, explaining that that kind of rolling sea was one of the worst for sickness. Most of the troops did not want to stay below deck because of the stench and foul air, and 5000 on deck meant it was crowded. I could see and hear coughing and gagging everywhere. It became so important to keep a weather eye out and duck if there was anyone up wind from me who was sick. Anyone coming up from below deck tried to be cautious. It was comical seeing a Marine coming from below and sneaking a peek around the bulkhead before bounding on deck for fear of a face full of barf.

I was half sick for the whole voyage but never enough to throw up. Some guys were so bad they took to their bunks and were hardly out of the sack for those eighteen days. Upon arrival in Japan there were several stretcher cases.

The ship was transporting Army "brig rats" (soldiers who had been in military prisons) to Sasabo, Japan. These guys, along with the merchant marines, were the ones that did the dirty work of cleaning up. For the first few days there was three to four inches of vomit in waves across the deck. This mass would pick up momentum as it flowed with the rocking of the ship.

On ship board there were waiting lines and more waiting lines. I'm sure if the *Meigs* had a crow's nest, and if there was someone up there, they would see lines

snaking all over the ship and even intersecting each other. These were for chow, for the canteen, for the head, for the shower, and many others. There were guys that would try to crowd in a line giving the lame excuse that their buddy was holding a place for them. This would first result in shouting matches and then, if the guy didn't retire to the end of the line, fist fights. I had to keep my senses about me in these lines because I could start out in the canteen line and end up in the shower line. Once I was waiting in the chow line and after an hour or so ended up exactly where I started.

The galley and chow hall (or mess hall), below deck was hot and steamy. It reeked of dirty bodies, the smell of puke, and rotten food. We went down the chow line with trays and the food would slop out as the ship rolled. People had to stand up to eat and they were "asshole to elbow." Every now and then I would hear someone "keck" and would try not to look down the line because, sure enough, there would be a tray of barf. The food was full of weevils. Some of us sang to the tune of "Old Mc Donald" in order to keep our spirits up and get the food down as follows: "Old General Meigs had a mess, E I E I O! With a weevil weevil here and a weevil, weevil there; here a weevil, there a weevil, every where a weevil! weevil!"

When below deck one had to really avoid looking through the port holes. It was just as if they created an inner ear problem. If one looked out, the motion of the water was exaggerated. At times, if the ship rolled the right way you could look out the hole at the green tumultuous sea. Then when the ship reversed its roll, the glass would be covered with bubbly slime. The few times I snuck a look out the port hole there was a dizzying, surreal effect. Most of the time if a guy looked at it long enough he would end up vomiting.

Our sleeping quarters were in the bowels of the ship. There the smell was about



the same as in the chow hall absent the food but added was the stench of dirty feet. The bunks were eight tiers high from deck (the floor) to the ceiling. These were metal framed with canvas laced on the frame. There was no more than ten inches between bunks so, in order for everyone to get into their "sack" the bunks were on hinges. The person assigned to the bottom bunk would have to lift up the frame on the bunk above him in order to get in first and so on up the tier. After everyone was in if someone below wanted to get out it was a little like trying to pull a stick of wood out from the bottom of the pile. This was one of the few times I used good judgment and took the top berth. In this way I could get out of bed anytime I wanted and simply go down the bunks' ladder. Though it was even more stuffy next to the ceiling at least I did not have to worry about someone in my tier of bunks puking and it dripping down on me.

The "heads" (bathrooms), were unholy places. As with all ships the USS Meigs had compartments and gutters throughout. These were to isolate the water should the ship spring a leak. In the heads there were several commodes in a row military style. I remember sitting on one taking my constitutional only to look down to see turds floating where my feet were. I needed to periodically lift my feet as these sloshed back and forth in the gutter under the commodes. With nothing better to do I sat there wondering who had dropped that load. Undoubtedly it was either someone too sick to straddle the toilet or a Marine fed up with the trip and leaving his rebellious mark.

The showers were very different. They were all salt water. With these it is absolutely impossible to work up a lather with soap. Consequently after a shower I felt more cruddy than before with that salt caked on me.

There was so little to do on shipboard we had to create our own diversions. Joe and I along with several others teamed up. We would pick out one person and stare at him in unison. Our goal was to see just how powerful this combined fixation might be. Eventually the guy we were looking at would know he was the center of attention. He would first have a variety of facial responses which usually went like this: Staring back; questioning look;

amusement; defiance; anger; bewilderment. After this gambit of emotions with no wavering gazes from us then the person would usually leave. There was one black brig rat who was busily sweeping. We conferred and decided rather than staring at him we would focus on his broom. Eventually this "dog face" (which is what we called anyone in the Army), saw us and carefully followed our gaze to his broom. He turned his sweeper every which way apparently looking for something wrong with it. Then we saw that whole array of emotions as he tried to stare back but was out numbered. Then his eyes rolled up so far in his head I could only see the whites against that dark skin. His final gesture was to throw that broom away and get another.

The silliness continued. Several of us decided it took too much energy to wash clothes and set out to look for long lengths of rope. You guessed it; these were not too hard to find on shipboard. On the end of these ropes we planned to attach our duds. After making sure a couple pair of fatigue trousers and jackets were secured tightly I threw them over the fan tail and into the ocean. The idea was that the ships wake and boiling motion of the waves was supposed to pound the dirt out. I was just sitting there conjuring up visions of home. There was my mother with her wringer washer and my grandmother with a wash board. They were doing about the same thing except dear grandma was applying more elbow grease than either my mother or me. As I held that rope the added benefit was fantasizing trolling for trout on an exquisite mountain lake in Central Oregon. Within ten minutes my bubble burst because there was no longer any tension on the rope. I "reeled" it in and my clothes were gone!

Sea life was the most memorable of the whole voyage. Groups of dolphins would follow our ship for miles and miles. Rhythmically they dove in and out of the ocean like the most synchronized water ballet. Standing at the rail I wondered what was going through their minds. Did the dolphins want to become our friends? Were they trying to protect us? Perhaps the reason was completely unromantic like their simply being after our garbage.

The nights were cloudless and ink black but resplendent with color. Poking

through that shroud of darkness were millions of brilliantly shimmering stars.. Their twinkling, together with the motion of the ship, were mesmerizing.

Little creatures of the sea made the nights even more opulent. At first I thought they were over grown fire flies but then had to remind myself that I was on the ocean. They were flying fish with an array of phosphorescent colors who seemed to follow the ship and soar high out of the water. It would seem that I could reach out and grasp one.

The ship's propellers created a fan-shaped foam and stirred up microscopic plankton. They appeared as a penetrating luminous emerald green cloud that seemed to surge to the surface. It was as if King Neptune armed with his seaweed brush had decided to paint the face of the ocean.

Someone started shouting "Land Ho!" Everyone ran screaming and there were unisons of "God damn!" or "Hallelujah!" The lethargy I had felt for those many days was gone.

At first the land appeared to rise out of the ocean and was just a dull dark blur through the mist. As it unfolded into something real, there were even more shouts of joy. This turned out to be a coastal city in Japan called Kobe. It was a hilly coastline speckled with dull colors of reds, browns, grays, and greens. The strangeness of the landscape was even more pronounced with what appeared to be tiny dwellings jammed closely together and tucked away in the sides of bluffs. Word passed rapidly that this was where we would dock and have a twelve hour liberty. Again there was a surge of adrenalin as everyone was ecstatic with anticipation to get off that ship!

There were sampans all over the bay. These were small boats with a single sculling oar in the stern and a roofing of mats. A shouting and yelling of a different sort came from all five thousand of those Marines as they crowded to the port side. The ship began to lisp and I thought surely old General Meigs was going to capsize. However, not to be outdone, I shouldered my way over to the rail. There no more than fifty feet from the ship was a sampan with a mamasan crouched taking a crap off the side of her tiny boat. She was waving up at us and had a big smile on her face.

## STORY 2

### KOBE

It was June 6, 1953 and, after eighteen days on board the USS *Meigs* the harbor in Kobe, Japan looked heaven sent. We anchored at about 0700 hours and eventually the loudspeakers were squawking, "Liberty for all Marines from 1200 hours to 2400 hours." Just as earlier in the morning when someone whooped, "Land ho!" a mighty cheer went up. With our eyes riveted on the strange surroundings, my buddy Joe Fickeria and I were thinking about women and whatever the Japanese had for alcohol.

The docks were swarming with little people busier than the proverbial bees. Pilings holding up the irregular planking in the docks were crude and jagged. Ancient rusty cranes were scattered about, loading and unloading goods with their huge canvas slings.

The only time I had seen so many Oriental people was in Chinatown in San Francisco. However there the people dressed well, were robust, and seemed fairly well off. On the docks in Kobe, the Japanese looked emaciated, and their clothes were ragged and faded.

Joe and I waited, along with several thousand other Marines, to get our \$25.00 in script to whoop it up with for those twelve hours. Then it was down the gangplank to terra firma. After so many days on shipboard, we were still rocking and swaying. I could certainly understand why some books I had read referred to sailors as "rolling" down the street."

We were inundated with peddlers hawking their wares. They were waving watches, jewelry, food, pennants, hats, and God knows what else in front of our noses. I knew a Marine who had been in on the invasion of the Japanese mainland during WW II. His outfit was storming ashore, (as good Marines are supposed to), and right there on the beach the industrious Japanese had their curio stands ready to sell those grunts anything.

Joe and I were looking for transportation to downtown Kobe and had a choice between dozens of rickshaws and beat up, charcoal burning cabs. We chose the former. After hailing one, its owner, a rather shriveled, scrawny Japanese man came over to us. His color was a muddy yellow,

**In 1953 Kobe was about 500,000 population. During the time we were there I saw no traffic lights and what appeared to be just one stop sign.**

while his face and head resembled a skull. His dark eyes were sunken in their sockets, and his teeth were bucked. This poor man's skin was stretched tight over protruding bones. It was beyond me how this sickly man was going to pull that contraption with two beefy Marines in it. My mother had always told me to be helpful so I had this urge to get out and pull. However as the day and night wore on, I found out there was more to this Japanese fellow than first met the eye. Did he do what I actually thought he did, or was it my confusion and suspicion? Later Joe hooted, "hey, Dick, you are really paranoid!"

The rickshaw had oversized patched bicycle tires. Perched on the axle was a threadbare miniature couch. Protruding out in front were two long parallel poles. Just as we were trying to decide where to go, the driver must have been reading our minds. With a toothy grin, he came up with some universal sign language. He made a circle with his thumb and forefinger on one hand and poked the middle finger of the other hand into the hole. After a pause, he changed and cupped his hand as if drinking. Again Joe and I conferred, deciding we needed some alcohol before venturing forth with the women. Joe then repeated the cupped hand sign. The little guy shook his head knowingly, screeching, "Hi-hi!" Then he jumped between the poles and jerked them off the ground. I could not believe his strength! And he was off at a full trot, which he maintained for at least a mile into the city.

Joe and I were merrily bouncing along, gawking at the weird sights. In 1953 Kobe was about 500,000 population. During the time we were there I saw no traffic lights and what appeared to be just one stop sign. The streets were unbelievably choked with masses of people shouting, and carts, rickshaws, and tiny cars honking incessantly. Then a car hit a young boy, and I was ready to jump out of the rickshaw to help, but the kid merely shook his arm and ran off. There were open sewers we had to navigate around. My stomach rebelled with the smell of these mixed with the

odor of burning charcoal.

It was hard for us to tell what the Japanese women were like because a number of them were wearing flowing kimonos. I don't know about Joe but after eighteen days on shipboard I was wishing I had x-ray vision. What was under those clothing? Were the women stacked? Did their rear ends wiggle? Were their legs just as shapely as those belonging to the gals in China Town? Some of these garments were shabby and dirty but others were quite beautiful with soft pastel colors that blended into dainty, picturesque patterns. The women's black hair was piled high on top of their heads and large ornate pins protruded, supposedly to hold it in place. Even so, it looked like those big roles of hair along with the small heads they were perched on would simply topple off. With tiny mincing steps women walked several feet behind the men who were probably their husbands. Many of the Japanese women carried flowers and I suspect they were to provide some relief from the smells in the air.

Our driver stopped in front of a dingy match box-like shack. He again gave the cupped hand sign so we jumped out, paid him, and sauntered in. As Joe and I opened the paper thin door, some Swabbies (Navy men), came out saying to us, "You'll be sorry!" Inside it was dark and dingy and the floors were hardened mud. From what little we could see, there were a few women in there but they were quite homely. The bartender came over with a toothy grin. Hey, he looked like the same guy as our driver! But how could it possibly be that shrimp who was operating the rickshaw? "Of course not!" Joe said. "It's just that they all look alike." On the other hand, when the bartender gave that well-known cupped hand sign I could swear he was holding his hands just the way the driver was. He brought us something to drink but, God, was it awful! Whatever it was reminded me of some bad moonshine I had had in the States. It tasted like a mix of raw alcohol, gasoline, and pepper. We decided to find our own bar and got out of there.



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After wandering around a bit, we found another dive and this one had bottled beer. It was called Asahi and was in quarts. Although it could not compare to the Olympia back home it wasn't too bad. Joe and I had many of those quarts and, after several hours, stumbled out of there. This time we hailed one of the smelly charcoal-burning cabs. The driver pulled out of traffic and slammed on the brakes in front of us. There was that toothy grin again! It couldn't be the same guy trying to play with our minds? This time I would check him further. As the driver was scopeing out what we wanted to do, I was alert to any symbols he might use. He made that circle and put his middle finger in it. Sure enough, it was that same guy! He was holding his hands and fingers in exactly the same way! Joe said I was nuts.

We decided that if we were going to "do it," it would be best in one of those famous Japanese bathhouses. Therefore right in the street we pantomimed a bathhouse for the driver. With a big smile on my face I pretended sitting in a tub of water while Joe was scrubbing my back. The little guy said "Hi!" Hi! (Yes, in the same way the rickshaw driver did and my suspicions were running wild), and then we were off.

It was like Mr. Toad's Wild Ride at Disney Land. This driver, whom I was sure kept reappearing ruined the glow that I had from the beer. He had that rickety rig of his floorboarded and would jump the sidewalks with it if he couldn't get by pedestrians and traffic. Eventually he stopped at a building that was low to the ground and in shambles. It was difficult to see much because of the darkness and the steam coming out of the complex which shrouded it.

We went in and with disbelief in his voice Joe bellowed, "I'll be go to Hell if this isn't a geriatric bath house!" Sure enough, there was a mix of men and women in there taking in some steam who were old enough to be my grandparents. Most had that blank look about them. They were stark naked and their birthday suits truly needed ironing.

There was an older man that seemed to be in charge and we tried to communicate with him about wanting some younger ladies. He nodded knowingly and motioned for us to follow him. There were

some smaller rooms off the main steam area and, with anticipation, I went in one and Joe into another. There was a large tub in the room and the guy motioned for me to take off my clothing and then left. I did so and crawled into the tub. There was a slight knock at the door and my heart was aflutter. The door flew open and, guess what? Out of the steam came a face with a toothy grin! I would swear it was the same guy that had been my bane. Joe had called me paranoid but now, for sure I knew better. This little creep grabbed up a bar of soap and began washing me!

At 2400 hours Joe and I arrived back at the dock. There were Marines everywhere, jostling each other, fighting, singing, and throwing up from too much booze. I really wondered how many of those leather-necks had some little Japanese punk making sure they didn't get what they wanted.

### STORY 3

#### MOM — A letter home

Sgt. Dick C. Nooe  
H. Co. 3rd Bat.  
5th Marine Reg.  
FMF c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, Calif.  
July 22, 1953

Dearest Mom,

It was so great getting your last letter. I've read it over and over. Please keep them coming. Tell my little sister "hi!" and that I love her and give her a big kiss for me.

Sometimes the news we get here is that the armistice is right around the corner. The guys are excited about this possibility but I don't know what to think because the North Koreans have been back and forth about this issue so much.

While in Kobe, Japan, Mom, I got you a beautiful kimono and for my little sister Japanese pajamas, clogs for her feet, and a geisha doll. I think you'll both like your presents and they should be there soon.

We continue to be entrenched at a place called Shrapnel Ridge along the parallel. These trench lines go for miles threading in and out among Korea's many hills. The communist Chinese lines are about five hundred yards away and they also go on endlessly.

It's been fairly peaceful here. There's

some sniper fire through the mist in the early morning, and now and then the Chinese will tube in a mortar to keep us on our toes. Two of the guys in my outfit tried to take a shortcut over one of the hills yesterday, exposed themselves, got hit with mortar fire, and ended up in a MASH unit.

Tomorrow I'm heading out for my tour of duty on an outpost. This is immediately in front of our main trench line and is called Outpost Esther. It is about two hundred yards away and between our line and that of the Chinese. Esther is actually a small hill that is down in a valley that separates us from the Chinese. There is a trench line dug around the top of this hill with about twenty marines (called a reinforced squad), who are dug in bunkers along the trench line. They are there with machine guns, other automatic weapons and rifles to keep a closer eye on those Chinese.

Keep the letters coming. Hope to see you in a few months.

My love to everybody,

Dick

.....

BY DIRECT WIRE FROM WESTERN UNION  
WASHINGTON DC JULY 29 1953  
MRS NELLIE K SLY  
240 WEST BIRCH ST ORE

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SERGEANT DICK C NOOE USMC WAS  
WOUNDED IN ACTION 24 JULY 1953 IN  
KOREA IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS  
DUTY AND SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY.  
YOUR ANXIETY IS REALIZED AND YOU  
WILL BE FURNISHED ADDITIONAL INFOR-  
MATION AS SOON AS IT IS RECEIVED. YOU  
MAY BE SURE THAT HE HAS EXCELLENT  
MEDICAL CARE. HIS MAILING ADDRESS IS  
MARINE DIRECTORY SECTION NAVY 850  
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NEW ADDRESS

G C THOMAS LIEUTENANT GENERAL  
USMC ACTING COMMANDANT OF THE  
MARINE CORPS

.....

WESTERN UNION  
SEATTLE WASHINGTON: AUG 2  
MRS NELLIE K SLY  
240 WEST BIRCH  
REDMOND OREGON



DEEPLY REGRET INFORM YOU WOUNDS  
SUSTAINED BY YOUR SON RESULTED IN  
THE LOSS OF BOTH EYES. COMPLICA-  
TIONS OF BRONCHIAL PNEUMONIA AND  
ENCEPHALITIS. CONDITION CONSIDERED  
TO BE SERIOUS. RECEIVING TREATMENT  
ABOARD HOSPITAL SHIP USS REPOSE  
YOUR ANXIETY REALIZED AND INFORMA-  
TION RECEIVED WILL BE PROMPTLY FOR-  
WARDED:

COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORP  
WASHINGTON D.C.

.....

WESTERN UNION  
SEATTLE WASH AUG 5  
MRS NELLIE SLY  
240 WEST BIRCH ST REDMOND ORE  
LATEST REPORT STATES CONDITION YOUR  
SON STILL SERIOUS  
COMMANDANT MARINE CORP WASH DC

.....

Aug. 30, 1953,  
Oak Knoll Naval Hospital,  
Oakland, Ca.

I was just airlifted from a naval hospital in Yakoska, Japan to this hospital state-side. Strapped in a stretcher I could hardly move as the plane seemed to drone and drift through the air as if in an endless fog bank. This was much like my mind and body that floated dizzily through mist that permeated everywhere. I don't know how long I have been at this hospital, laying in this bed, but the airplane engines are still roaring in my ears, a little like the sounds of mortars and artillery that seem to lurk in the background. My face and head continue to throb with pain as do other parts of my body. I've been frightened to touch my face because it just doesn't feel right anymore. The doctors told me my right eye is missing out of the socket and the left will open just a slit. My face and head are swathed in bandages and so sore and swollen. I try to make grimaces with my face and there are painful shock-like responses. Both my legs and flank have shrapnel wounds and the bandages seem to tear at the open flesh when I try to move. There is nothingness before my eyes. I'm shrouded in the blackness of one of those Korean nights with its frightening sounds of war and chaos. I'm still in that mist being carried along, with little control of my own.

## **The doctors told me my right eye is missing out of the socket and the left will open just a slit. My face and head are swathed in bandages and so sore and swollen.**

There's that agonizing cry from the marine in a hospital bed across the ward from me. They tell me that half his leg is shredded from a mortar, but the docs are still trying to save it.

My memory is there momentarily but then gone as it swirls and fades. Did that nurse tell me my mother was going to visit today? Yes! I think she did. I've wanted and needed my mother so badly. As far back as I can remember she has always been there for me.

Sometime after I was hit in Korea, and I'm not sure when; was it a week ago? Was it a day ago? Through delirium and confusion I could see my mother floating there, veiled in the shadows, just out of my reach. I was asking her for water because I was so thirsty and she was calling for me. Now, my mind, for a fleeting moment could register a picture of her. That very striking woman with a deeply tanned face highlighting her silvery white hair. Her dark, penetrating eyes twinkled and the corners wrinkled with every smile. Mom's laugh is so merry and contagious. She is a strong, caring woman and people love her.

What would happen today when she saw my face? Would she cry? If so, Then I would try to choke back tears and just not know what to do.

My mind cleared just long enough to go back through an earlier doorway in time. I was about five and saw a movie about men and their dog sleds. My Mom said they lived where it was very cold and had discovered gold. It showed it there on the screen, glittering and mother said it was worth lots of money. Then the scene changed abruptly to a time later in my fifth year when I was on a hill a short way from my home playing out the drama, imagining that the rocks on that hill were gold. In the process of moving that gold about I dislodged a boulder. It smashed over my hand and gashed several fingers as it plummeted down the hill. I howled! There was blood and pain on that hill too. So many tears for a little boy. Then, as if by magic, my mother was coming, running up that hill. I couldn't see her through my hot,

tear-stained eyes, but I could hear her calling to me and running faster. I had so wanted her on that other hill sixteen years later. Then she scooped me up and tucked me into her arms. I felt the love surge within and clung to her, nestling even closer.

Some groans brought me back. A swab-bie in the next bed had been working in the galley on shipboard. He had been cleaning a meat grinder and was in it up to his arm pits when someone accidentally turned it on. The nurse said he was stitched from his fingers to upper arm like a Raggedy Ann doll and in terrible pain.

How would my mother respond to my blindness and disfiguration? Would she sob? Would she collapse? I heard this happening with some parents on the ward when they saw their amputee son. That kind of reaction would be the end of me.

Then I remembered that day in 1944 when we were both hurt so deeply. My father wrote from his army camp asking for a divorce. Tears scalded my eyes and I was paralyzed with grief. I was too young then to even begin to realize what my mother went through. However, God bless her, she was brave! Mom worked hard and held things together. Then we really needed to rely on each other and that brought us even closer. I don't know for sure but she still might have that kind of grit.

I was jerked back by a peel of music from a radio on the ward. It was Ebb Tide. "First the tide rushes in, plants a kiss on the shore, then rolls out to the sea and the sea is very still once more." My mind and body were such that I could undulate in those waves and be carried off by that tide. "As I rushed to your side like the on coming tide." My mother had been by my side and there for me and for other people all her life. She showed me that life is exciting and how to live it and to enjoy it to its fullest.

As I was growing up in Central Oregon my mother taught me to swim in those beautiful mountain lakes and rivers, to

Continued on page 91



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Web-Site: [www.theforgottenvictory.org](http://www.theforgottenvictory.org)

## Progress Report – July-August 2004

### KWVNM&L to Move to Rantoul, Chanute AF Base

At the May 22, 2004 KWVNM&L meeting of the Board of Directors, they unanimously voted to move the entire museum complex from Tuscola, Illinois to the former Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, Illinois. "This is one of the most important and significant actions ever taken by the museum's board," Board President Bill O'Brien said. "At our Board meeting on January 8, 2004, our executive director, Larry Sassorossi presented a plan for a multi-phase building program for our site in Tuscola", O'Brien continued, "This was well documented in our last newsletter; however as we were about to put the shovel in the ground on site in Tuscola, It was becoming extremely cost prohibitive, thereby making an immediate shift in plans mandatory."

Sassorossi had reported that it was becoming evident that building on our site in Tuscola was proving to be totally economically unfeasible. The cost of converting farm land to a commercial use was becoming prohibitive. O'Brien, then directed him to begin an immediate search for another site that would allow the museum to be built in the "heartland America" as has been the museum's goal since the beginning that the move to another site must allow the museum to not skip a beat on locating and building our museum.

At this juncture, Sassorossi contacted the Village Officials in Rantoul. He received an immediate positive response and a total answer to finding a location to not only build our museum, but also was able to receive major concessions and incentives from the Village of Rantoul. These factors made the site on the former Chanute Air Force Base economically feasible, whereas such concessions and incentives were not made available.

At the State of Illinois KWVA Convention, KWVNM&L president Bill O'Brien reported on the Board's decision to move the museum to Rantoul. He received an outstanding positive response, encouragement and support. His offer to make the museum available to hold future State conventions was enthusiastically received.

The rest of the story is history, as the saying goes; and the full extent of benefits and advantages in moving to Rantoul can be best told in the following recent article in the Champaign News-Gazette:

### Korean War Museum Moving Into Rantoul's Grissom Hall

■ **New facilities eventually will be constructed.**

*By Tim Mitchell  
News-Gazette Staff Writer.*

**RANTOUL** – The Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum will soon be sharing Grissom Hall with the National Korean War Museum and Library. Interim Rantoul Village Administrator Scot Brandon told the Rantoul Area Chamber of Commerce on Thursday that officials have made arrangements to set up a temporary Korean War museum on the north end of Grissom Hall, 1011 Pacesetter Drive, on a temporary basis until a permanent building can be constructed.

The Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum will remain on the south end of the hall. Brandon said that Lincoln's Challenge Academy and the Illini football training camp, which also use classrooms in the hall will not be affected by the addition of the Korean War exhibits.

The board of directors for the Korean War Museum voted unanimously on May 22 to move its facility from Tuscola to Rantoul and the board will be voting Saturday to formally accept the village's offer to use Grissom Hall.

"We've written a letter to the city of Tuscola expressing our regrets," said Larry Sassorossi executive director of the Korean War Museum. "Rantoul, here we come!"

The museum will be a national repository to house books, manuscripts, maps photographs and military and civilian documents associated with the Korean War.

Brandon said plans now call for the permanent Korean War Museum to be built on 2 1/2 acres on the far side of the Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum parking lot. But Brandon said the museum will be housed in Grissom Hall until the permanent facility is completed.

"It makes sense to have the two museums share the same parking lot," he said. "It will be a lot more convenient for tourists visiting Rantoul if they can visit both places without moving their cars."

Rantoul Aviation and Economic Development Director Reed Berger said he is still negotiating a formal lease arrangement with the museum, but he anticipates a lease would be signed by July 1.

"Clearly this is a major achievement to have a national museum come to our area," Berger said. "The plans call for the Korean War Museum to initially use 5,000 square feet at Grissom Hall and gradually build up to 10,000 square feet.

"We're really excited with what is happening," Sassorossi said. "We required a temporary building, and the village of Rantoul came forward in an outstanding way and offered a portion of Grissom Hall to us."

Korean War Museum leaders working to establish a facility in Tuscola had set up a temporary museum in the Tanger Outlet Mall and purchased 22 acres on U.S. 36 east of Interstate 57 as a permanent museum site.

But Sassorossi said the cost of developing farmland into a modern museum made the project, which he estimated at \$10 million or more, too expensive.

Since the site by the Grissom Hall parking lot is already close to utility, hookups and the museum won't have to pay for the construction of a parking lot, Sassorossi believes that the first of three planned museum building will cost \$800,000 to \$1 million.



After the 22 acres in Tuscola are sold, Sassorossi estimates that museum organizers will have raised some \$400,000 toward the cost of the first new building.

In addition the museum intends to ask the Rantoul Revolving Loan Committee for a loan of up to \$250,000 toward the project. Brandon said that no meeting has yet been set to consider that loan request.

Meanwhile, Sassorossi said that former astronaut Buzz Aldrin, a Korean War veteran and the second man to walk on the moon, is spearheading a national letter writing campaign to solicit the rest of the money needed to build a permanent facility.

"The importance of having Buzz Aldrin on board just can't be overstated. His credentials are impeccable," Sassorossi said.

If the fund-raising campaign is successful, Sassorossi said his organization hope to break ground on the first new building in spring 2005. Construction is expected to take four to six months, he said.

After the initial 8,000 to 10,000 square-foot museum building is complete he said two additional 20,000 square-foot buildings will be constructed in future years to complete the complex.

## WE NEED MORE NEW MEMBERS



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## 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



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**A memorial honoring those from Maryland who lost their lives while serving in the military during Cold War and terrorist events.**



**Children Memorial in Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens.**

simple “thank you” and a joke. “I have a stone head, so this shouldn’t be any problem to wear,” he said.

### A hero to Families of Fire Victims

When children die, burial is often provided by John Armiger, the owner of Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens. On a

misty January afternoon, Armiger watched as a procession of limousines wended its way through the green grounds on a misty January afternoon. Under a tree in the distance sat three caskets holding the bodies of three family members, each from a different generation, who would be buried side by side after a fatal fire. “You can see, there was quite a large turnout,” said Armiger, who shied away from introducing himself to the mourning relatives as the man who offered them free burials in his cemetery. “I don’t want to ... intrude.” The day before, two young children who died by fire also were buried free of charge in Dulaney Valley, a rolling 70-acre landscape set off by a small lake with ducks and geese. Neither family was the first to find a modern-day Good Samaritan when their lives were touched by tragedy.

Since 1978, more than 80 Baltimore-area children - and two dozen firefighters and police officers - who lost their lives in fires, murders or accidents have been buried at the Timonium cemetery, compliments of Armiger. Whenever he hears of a child’s death from fire or other tragedy he offers grieving families a place to put the child to rest.

“I can only imagine that’s the hardest loss to take,” said Armiger, a 52-year-old bachelor who grew up in Baltimore County. “It’s not the natural order of things. It’s terribly difficult to outlive your children.

In his gray double-breasted suit and tortoise-shell eyeglasses, he looks like he might teach history in a prep school, which is what the Yale-educated Armiger did at Gilman School before entering the family business in 1975.

Armiger’s late father, John W. Armiger Sr., began the practice of free burials for public-safety officers in an area called the “Fallen Heroes” memorial grounds. Every May, a service is held to honor those who died in the line of duty. In 1978, when he



**Plaque on Children’s Memorial states:**

became president, Armiger applied the same concept to children who die tragic deaths. Deaths by fire are the most common, though he noted, “We have had kids over the years who have been shot ... It’s a time when we can help,” he said. “Generally, the offer is taken by people who don’t have a great deal of funds. When you read about a fire because of a space heater or candles, you know their circumstances are not the greatest.”

Counting the cost of donated cemetery spaces in hard dollars and cents would add up to thousands of dollars. “It was a blessing, because we didn’t know what we were going to do,” said Iris Arrington, who accepted Armiger’s gift on behalf of her family last month. “Friends had offered to lend us money to help us handle the expenses.” “He’s been a wonderful friend to us,” said Battalion Chief Hector L. Torres, spokesman for the Baltimore Fire Department, who frequently has acted as a liaison between Armiger and families.

Part of what motivates Armiger.

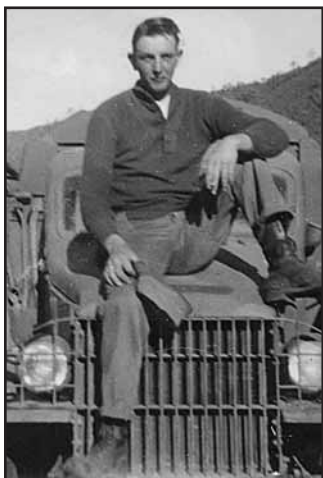
*(John, I and thousands of others could never find the proper words and space to describe what a special person you are. You have touched our hearts with your generous deeds in a way that is so meaningful to us that will forever grieve over the loss of a Fallen Hero, a Family Member or an Innocent Child that never had a chance of a full life. It has been a great honor to have known you and to be able to call you a friend. Korean War Veterans and I will never forget. —Vince.)*



# Looking for...



Looking for information on 1st Lt. **Tom James**, KIA Korea May 1951, **Pfc. Richard H. Hutton**, MIA and John Lowery, WIA at Osan. Both were in Co. E, 31st Inf. Regt., 7th Inf. Div. Also Cpl. **Robert M. Henry** MIA Porkchop Hill, July 1953. Co. I, 31st Inf. Regt., 7th Inf. Div. Contact Lloyd Pitman, PO Box 128, Preble, NY 13141.



PFC Milton L. Orr.

Looking For anyone who knew PFC **Milton L. Orr**. His nickname was Buddy. Received his Basic Training in Ft. Dix then sent to Camp Stoneman, from there to Japan and on to Korea He served with Det 2 Co. B 23rd Signal Const. Bn and spent most of his time near the front lines. He was near Chun-Chon near Soyang Gang River attempting to save two of his comrades. I would like to contact 1st Lt. Largent M. Miller Signal Co. C a Cpl. Farris and Cpl. Sullivan or anyone who knew my brother.

There was one fellow that went through Basic and all the way through with him. Please contact Nancy G. Bailey PO Box 98 Northville, New York 12134-0098. Tel: 518-863-4025, e-mail <nbpinept@capital.net>



Marine veteran would like to hear from Marine personnel that served in Korea with **VMO-6** from 1950-56. Contact Art "Skip" Nelson at (772) 335-0470 or email <Arthur.Nelson4 @Att.Net>.



I am looking for anyone who knew my father... **Russell Robert Miller Jr.** from New Albany, Indiana from Dec. 1950 thru 1952... He was in the 29th Inf. and was discharged from Camp Carson Colorado....Please email his daughter at <Daniel-Gillaspy@msn.com>. I would really feel Blessed!!!! God bless... Cheryl Miller Gillaspay.



I am a member of the KWVA and reside in Navarre, FL., near Ft. Walton and Pensacola. Looking for **Coast Guard Veterans** of the war like myself. Do you have any details or list of such names? I recently made a trip to Korea, June 21-28, 2003 with the KWVA. Unbelievable and exciting trip. Have you seen the DMZ article in the Natl. Geographic recently? Contact Joshua S. Sparrow, Tel: 850-936-8322. E-mail <doclock@mchsi.com>.



I am looking for **Richard Ordway** from Vermont, **Warren Starks** from Chatauagay New York and **Richard Phillip** from Maine. We were together from basic training at Ft. Dix, then Cable splicing school at Camp Gordon. We where shipped out on the USS Randolph to Pusan, S Korea. We where stationed at L.L. Signal Bn., and then shipped back to Ft. Bragg. Discharged on Oct. 26, 1956. At that time I lived in Brooklyn New York.

Please contact Mark Bratter at <mibratter@aol.com> and please Cc: <dslb14@bellsouth.net>



I have been trying to locate **Thomas A. Kissick**, Sgt. 1st Class, 73rd Tank Bn., Co. C, 1951/1952. Last location Chowon, Korea Supported the ROK. Contact: Bob Augello, 19120 Salt Lake Place, Northridge, CA 91326. Tel: 818-366-4104 or e-mail <augellornm@earthlink.net>.



I am writing on behalf of my father and found your name and email address on a Korean War Veterans site. My dad fought in the Korean War and didn't talk about his experiences much until the last few years, as I am sure is quite common. Two years ago he asked me to try to find two old army buddies for him via internet. I was miraculously able to locate one of them, as he had an uncommon name. Dad and he were able to talk on the phone several times before the gentleman died of cancer. Yesterday, Dad brought me a picture of the other man, along with a handwritten note of information he has of him, and asked me to please try again. This is what Dad wrote: "**Paul Harrison**— He came home from Korea on the *USS Freeman*, arriving in Seattle 4-15-52. Stationed at Camp Cook, CA. Unit transferred to Ft. Lewis, WA 12-52. Last known married to Marlene with three children. Living in Illinois 1954." My parents do not have email, so use ours: <HamiltonFamily@MyFreei.com> His contact info: Ernest Dickason, 913 Allen Ave., Centralia, WA 98531. Tel: 360-736-6268. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Jean Hamilton



In the latter months of 1950, my father and I were bowling at Boom Town, Fort Meade, MD. A young soldier came over and asked me if I would write to him. He said he was heading for Korea. I looked at my Dad, he shook his head "yes" so I gave the soldier my address and he gave me his. We wrote for over a year, and in that time I managed to write to 20 others I had never met. I often wonder what happened to them, and still pray hard for all our service people. I remember only a few names, the one I met was Joe Benny Unseld, ones I remember writing to were **Byron Simpson**, **James Shirley**, **Russell Niedermeyer**, **Johnny Branseum** and **Big Mo (Moselewski)** I realize the spelling might be off on the names but if by chance you recognize the names, please write to me. I realize it has been 54 years, but through the years I have wondered about all I wrote to for up to two years while they were in Korea. I was just 15 when I began to write to Joe Benny and the others. If you or your friends remember writing to me, please drop me a few lines.. I would love to hear from you. I married a Korean vet, and January we had 50 years. Hoping to hear from you. Viola (Boyd) Mican, 1328 Norwood Drive, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004.



I am looking for information concerning a young Korean boy, by the name of **Oh Jun Yong**, who was with us in Korea in 1951. Enclosed is a letter dated Nov. 13, 1951 that he wrote to my wife. What I am looking for, is for anyone who was in Charlie Battery, in the 987th Field Armored Fired Artillery after December 1951



**Left:** Sgt. William H. Bloss taken in Korea 1951

**Below:** Oh June Young taken in Korea 1951



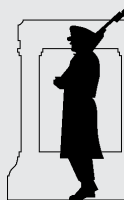
when I was rotated back home. I went on a revisit last June and met a man named George Kim, who is attempting to find the whereabouts of Oh, but he says I need more information. I am not sure how old he was at that time, possibly 15, and I'm not sure where he was from, possibly Inchon. Contact William Bloss, 3865 Hugh St. Uniontown, Ohio 44685.

My e-mail address is <Lgisbloss@netscape.com>



Hello. My name is Joshua Prager. I'm a reporter at the Wall Street Journal currently on book leave writing about a baseball game that took place on October 3, 1951—right in the middle of the battle at Heartbreak Ridge. The event was a playoff **game between the Brooklyn Dodgers and the New York Giants** that culminated in Bobby Thomson's famed home run, the "Shot Heard 'Round the World." The radio call of the game was carried by Armed Forces radio and I'd very much like to include a story or two about soldiers in Korea who were able to listen to the game. If you have an interesting story to share about listening to the game while a soldier in Korea, I'd love to hear it. Thank you so very much. Sincerely, Joshua Prager. My email is <jhp@nyc.rr.com>.

PS: On April 8, 1998, an article by reporter Ira Berkow ran in the New York Times about a man who had been in a bunker in Korea on October 3, 1951, listening to the game when Thomson hit his home run. The man was a marine and was next to a friend of his who was a Giants fan. According to the article, when the home run was hit, the friend fired his gun, triggering gunfire in return. The man who told his story to the NY Times was from Boston and told Bobby Thomson that his friend (the Giant fan) was killed in action about a year later. I'm trying to figure out who these two men are.



# 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.)

## Arizona

★ W. D. Anderson

## Arkansas

★ Thomas F. Garrett

★ J.W. Young

## California

★ John W. Dawson

★ F. J. "Jim" Hill

## Delaware

★ James K. Buckley, Sr.

★ Cleon E. Eckler

★ James F. Finerty

★ William F. Gillen

★ James E. Lister, Sr.

★ John E. Teoli, Jr.

★ Carl "Pat" Welk

## Florida

★ Edward J. Harrigan

## Hawaii

★ Jesse A. Miller, Jr.

## Illinois

★ Scott Brainbridge

★ Dwight Cravens

★ Donald E. Vaughn

## Indiana

★ James E. Huffman

## Maine

★ Everett L. Steele

## Maryland

★ Mickey Warfield

## Massachusetts

★ Catherine Asch

★ Walter F. Gregory

## Michigan

★ Dick L. Roth

## Missouri

★ Alfred Hawkins

★ Cecil L. Kibby

★ Vernon W. Shepard

★ Harlo E. Sterrett

## Nebraska

★ Daryl Granfield

## New Jersey

★ John W. MacDougall

## New Mexico

★ Charles R. Abrams

## New York

★ Emma M. Bosch

★ Albert T. Bugala

★ Joseph A. Busacca

★ Charles M. Denosky

★ Bernard Graham

★ Eugene R. Kaweski

★ Vincent L. King

★ Peter W. MaGee

★ Jacob Moritz

★ Erwin Ray

★ Louis Selmi

★ Thaddeus Wasilewski

## Ohio

★ Burt V. Blose

★ John V. Crable

★ Charles D. Hildsworth

★ John E. Peterson

## Pennsylvania

★ Charles H. Moyer

★ Charles A. Rhinehart

★ Joseph J. Riggs

## South Carolina

★ J. Richard Deyo

★ James R. Grice

★ Sidney Hartley

## South Dakota

★ Albert Cecil Bosma

★ Leroy M. Gullickson

★ Darold K. Symonds

## Tennessee

★ Edward C. Rice

## Texas

★ Edward P. Daviss

★ Guy R. Green, Jr.

★ John F. Fowler

★ Lel L. Medford

★ William C. Monroe

★ Wadie M. Moore

★ Sam A. Nixon

★ Frank Tymel, Jr.

## Washington

★ Samuel J. Farrow

★ Robert A. Schelling

## Wisconsin

★ William R. Jereczek

★ David Schuster

'B' Btry - 49 EA BN - 7th Inf Div

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## BOOK REVIEW from page 32

### Journey

By Louis W. Bontempo

#### Author

Bontempo went to Korea with Company G, 2nd Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division on September 15, 1950 during the Inchon Invasion.

#### The Book

History of Bontempo from Basic Training to the Korean War, the battles he and his unit were in and finally the day he left Korea.

#### Story

### *The Push to Seoul*

Once past the crowd on the beach, we hurried along as fast as possible, listening to commands yelled by our cadre. Without breaking stride, we hurried toward a dirt road which could be seen from the beach. Within minutes we had reached the road and settled into an orderly formation behind Captain Reynolds. All four platoons were hard on the heels of Captain Reynolds and his ever present guide, Collier, who carried the bobbing guidon which could be seen at the head of the two columns which split the road.

We quickly passed by many homes with roofs hanging limply, as if torn off by a giant hand. Every house was riddled with holes from aircraft fire or ships' batteries. The road we were traveling was at the southern end of the city, away from the main invasion force. Many of the larger buildings still smoldered as we headed directly east into the morning sun.

Many winding turns brought us to the last remnant of shattered homes. Many bodies lying dead and grotesquely bloated were strewn beside the houses and along the roadway. I wondered how long they had been there.

The pace Reynolds now set drove all thought from my mind except keeping up as we trudged relentlessly along the dusty dirt road. The countless vehicles barreling along between the marching columns convinced us that we were still a good distance from the Marines. All we had to worry about, no doubt, was keeping up with the irrepressible Captain Reynolds.

Two hours of forced march without any

letup began to have its effect on us. Grumbling began in earnest and was clearly audible throughout the ranks. Several guys dropped out of the ranks ahead and sat motionlessly along the sides of the road. When one of the Koreans from Hopson's squad dropped beside the road unable to continue, Rinker broke from the column and crossed to where the Oriental sat.

While Rinker tried to help the Korean get to his feet, someone called out "Leave him be! The cooks will pick him up with the truck later!"

Realizing the futility of his efforts, Rinker hurriedly returned to our squad. "I told that God-damn Miles not to give them too much to carry!" Rinker fumed as we hurried on. The 4th Platoon was almost on top of us. As we reached our platoon, I was on the verge of collapsing like the Korean. I still don't know what kept me from falling right then and there.

"We're going to stop just a short way," Ferguson's voice assured us, this time totally without the giggle. How he knew we would stop less than a hundred yards from that point I neither knew nor cared. I took a few steps off the road and fell to the ground, as did the rest, when the order to halt was called.

My energy was completely gone, my feet burned and throbbed, and I had no strength left to even light up. The sun had all but disappeared behind the road, and we comforted ourselves with the thought that, whenever it got late, the Army prepared for the night. Squad leaders were summoned almost immediately. When they returned from the command area, we dug in for the night right where we were.

*(The above story is only a page and one half of a chapter called "The Push To Seoul" which is 26 pages long. The book has 21 chapters and 333 pages of war history and heroics of this unit. The cost is \$14.95 plus \$3.05 S and H. Total \$18.00. You may order by writing to Journey, 5145 Stonyfork Court, Mableton, GA 30126-1975 or e-mail <clbto1@juno.com>.)*

*This will be my last book review. I thank all who sent in books for review and I hope by doing these reviews you now know there are hundreds of books out*

*there on the Korean War. We have complained over the many years that we were forgotten. These many authors spent years and their own money getting the history of the Korean War out to the public and veterans. All we ask is that you buy the books and also purchase one for your local school or library. Any future books you wish to have reviewed please see the Editors Pen for the address of the next editor:*

*Thanks, Vincent A. Krepps. Past Editor The Graybeards.*

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## PORK CHOP HILL from page 58

ing for anyone open to its wisdom. This is the case whether one believes it is literally true, as do some creationist, or figuratively true, as might be the case with those who believe in evolution.

In my practice of psychology, as well as among my acquaintances, I have gotten to know people who spend a great deal of time and effort in complaining about what is wrong with the world. Over and over, almost daily, many people seem freshly astounded that their situation, as well as the world at large is not ideal, not all good; and they can't accept the reality of evil or bad things. From them, I hear long lists of complaints: My wife doesn't understand me; I thought he would take all day; Where was God during the holocaust? I get the impression that these people awaken each morning with the thought, "The beginning of a new day in the Garden of Eden." Then, when the first frustration comes along, they are surprised and outraged because things don't work out the way they had expected. Sometimes they seek professional help; sometimes they drink too much; some simply suffer and keep complaining.

Over the years I have incorporated the corpses of the forever too young dead at Pork Chop Hill into my view of existence. They had, as far as I know, done nothing to deserve their fates. The soldiers, the child burned in the fire raid, Adam and Eve and our archetypal fallen ancestors accompany me and help me find my way in a world that often seems unfair and contrary to the way I want it to be.

# A Tribute to the Korean War Memorial

CWO-5 Rod Mooney  
United States Marine, Retired

As I stand here, in front of this memorial and as I gaze into it's wall, I can visualize what was and what might have been. Gone are the tears and sorrow, gone are the dreams of yesterday and tomorrow.

As I look into the many faces etched into these tablets, that make-up part of this memorial, I see the youth of yesterday. I can see the eyes of young men who have faced the enemy, survived for another day and have experienced horrors that the average person will never have to endure, thanks to the men of this and other wars.

I can see the men who make-up the ranks of the thousands who are no more, who are but just a memory. I can hear the silent cadence of their marching feet, white, black, Latino and the others who served so nobly for a cause, a cause they were not certain of.

Men who were afraid of failing their fellow warriors, who had the fear of being the weak link in the chain that bound them together.

All they had was the promise of death facing them on the sharp ridges, the cold snow covered hills and valleys, the sweltering heat of summer and the smell that was and still is Korea, a smell they will never forget.

I think of the countless thousands who are yet accounted for and of their families who will never know for certain what happened to them.

I think of the children who never knew the joy of having their fathers see them take their first steps, of never having their fathers tuck them into bed or read them a story, of never having their fathers see them go out on their first date.

I think of the men who were captured and survived the brutality and in-humane treatment that was metered-out to them. Men who will forever bear the scars and memories of that experience. I also think of the others who died at the hands of their captors, who were treated like they were less than human and more like animals.

As I look closer at these faces, I see hope etched in their eyes, hope for the future. I see gladness, gladness being the fact that they had lived through their experiences and were there to serve another day.

As a tear starts to form, I swell with pride, having known but just a few of these gallant souls, men who were called upon to lay their lives on the line for this noble cause, some who lived and some who died.

As I turn slowly around, I see the nineteen who are standing guard, it's as if they are on patrol, ever vigilant, ever alert, so that nothing or no one will do anything to disturb the dignity, the remembrance and the final ever-lasting peace of those who were and are no more.

As I look toward the crest of the hill, I see a fountain, I feel a gentle breeze on my face and as I listen closely I can hear the soft notes of the silent bugler as he plays taps for his fallen comrades. The notes are sharp, but not loud, clean and crisp, but oh so soft. As the bugler weeps for his friends he never breaks a note or misses the beat.

Day is done, night has come, good night brother and friends of mine.

## LETTER from page 17

came within range of our five and eight inch guns, we rained thousands of shells down on the Chinese attackers. The final tally showed we had assisted in sea lifting 105,000 troops, 17,500 vehicles, 350,000 tons of cargo and 98,000 Korean refugees. Just as *Saint Paul* cleared the harbor, Navy demolition teams blew up the entire waterfront facility. The *Saint Paul* destroyed all buoys and obstacles within the harbor and silenced enemy gun positions that were firing on us upon departure.

The *Saint Paul* was not through with the evacuation. After December 24, 1950, we were ordered to another area where we stayed for two weeks along with USS *Rochester* and several destroyers. We were ordered to lay down a curtain of fire to prevent the enemy from interrupting withdrawal of any special forces from this beachhead. Finally, we got underway from the evacuation area, and again, we were the last ship to leave. Before departing, all navigational aides that remained in the area were destroyed.

More Naval shells were used in Hungnam than Inchon. Navy records show that during the period of 7-24 December 1950 the expedition headed by 162 sixteen-inch 2,932 eight-inch; 18,657 five-inch; 71 three-inch plus 1,462 five-inch rockets.

### Source

1. Naval shells were used at Hungnam during the period of 7-24 December 1950.

- a. Sixteen-inch- 162
- b. Eight-inch- 2,932
- c. Five-inch- 18, 657
- d. Three-inch- 71
- e. Rockets 5 inch- 1,462

2. "Frozen Chosin" - by Brigadier General Edwin H. Simmons USMC-retired

- a. Task force 90's Hungnam
- b. Redeployment- 9-25 December 1950

Dan Brandi, USS *Saint Paul* Association/Chosin Few President NYC/LI Chapter, 100 Daly Blvd., Unit 3308, Oceanside, NY 11572

## Proud Korean War Vets Display Tags



Donald W. Killmeyer



William S. Bakalyan



Lel L. Medford



Urban G. Rump



Edwin Weatherwax



Korean War Vet



## APPLICATION FOR KWVA REVISIT TOURS

**KVA (Seoul) Revisit Purpose:** *"To express the gratitude of the Korean Government towards Korean War Veterans of the United States who took part in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953."* (Eligibility below).

Please check year of desired revisit tour: **Month:** ☐ April ☐ June ☐ July ☐ Sept. ☐ Nov **Year:** ☐ 2005 ☐ 2006

### VETERAN'S PERSONAL HISTORY (Please print or type)

Veteran's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

KWVA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of family member and relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Veteran's Soc Sec # \_\_\_\_\_ Family member's Soc Sec # \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously received the Korean War Medal from the Korean Veterans Assn in Seoul, Korea? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Have you received the medal elsewhere? If so, where? \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### VETERAN'S MILITARY BIOGRAPHY

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Service Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Service in Korean War, from: \_\_\_\_\_ (Month/Year Arrived) to \_\_\_\_\_ (Month/Year Departed)

Unit Assigned: \_\_\_\_\_ Location of Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank Achieved in Korea: \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Rank Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Military Decorations: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I hereby certify that I have never previously accepted a KVA (Seoul) Revisit Tour.

Veteran's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and mail, with deposit of \$300 per person, (check or money order), made out to Military Historical Tours. (This deposit is fully refundable at anytime and for any reason, since there are more applicants than the limited amount of Revisit space available.) KWVA Revisit Program, c/o Military Historical Tours, Inc., 4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22304, Tel: 703-212-0695 Fax: 703-212-8567.

## Background and Eligibility - Official Korean Veterans Association KVA (Seoul) Revisit Program

### Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Korean Veterans Association (KVA, Seoul) in 1975, the 25th Anniversary year of the outbreak of the Korean War, to express their gratitude to veterans of the Korean War and to show them the bountiful results of their sacrifices and devotion.

### KVA Eligibility

A. Korean War veterans and/or war correspondents of the 21 nations which came to the assistant of the Republic of Korea between June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1953.

B. Immediate family member of those killed in action in the Korean War.

*Note: You are eligible to take a spouse or one immediate descendant with you. (Not a sister, brother, companion or friend.)*

The family member must be housed in the same hotel room with you in Seoul. (Descendants must be over 18).

### Privileges Extended Courtesy of KVA

A. Hotel accommodations (2 persons per room), meals, tours, and transportation while in Korea for 6 days and 5 nights.

B. Tour of Seoul and its vicinity: itinerary

includes visits of Panmunjom, North Korean Invasion Tunnels, Korean War Memorial Monument, National Cemetery, National Museum, Korean Folk Village, Korean War Museum, plus other cultural/industrial facilities and activities in the Seoul area. (Other tours of battles sites and/or Incheon may be made through the local tour guide).

C. A special reception and dinner hosted by the President of the Korean Veterans Association (KVA) during which the Korean War Medal and Certificate of Ambassador for Peace will be awarded to each veteran. (Who have not received it before!).

### Miscellaneous

A. The KVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.

B. Participants are required to be in possession of a valid passport. (A visa is not required for visits to Korea of 15 days or less.)

C. KVA (Seoul) is not responsible for any loss of, or damage to personal or other items, medical expenses, injuries, or loss of life due to any accident of whatever nature during the revisits. Trip insurance is available and recommended.

D. The cost of the airline ticket must be borne by each individual visitor who will fly with the group.

E. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, First-serve" basis.

*Note: If you have previously accepted an official KVA (Seoul) Revisit tour from any sponsoring association or group - you are not currently eligible to participate again. The reason for this is obvious; there are many veterans that have not gone before so, they get their "first right of return!" KVA Seoul now has all former revisit returnees in a computer database, so please don't try and beat the system. We may not know it, and submit your name to KVA (Seoul), only to have it rejected. This could cause embarrassment for all of us, as well as, create a delay that could cause a bonafide Korean War veteran to miss the opportunity.*

F. Those desiring to use frequent flier miles (or other means of "Free" air transportation) will be required to pay a \$ 100.00 (per person) administrative processing fee. Caution: Not traveling with the KWVA group air contract, can result in much higher Post Tour costs to China and other Pacific locations!

# Reunion Calendar

## August 2004

**H-3-7 Marines** (1950-1955) Korea, August 11-15 will be at the 1st Marine Div. reunion, at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D. C. Contact Bob Nichols, 5517 Williamsdale Ct., Seminole, FL 33772 Tel/Fax: 727- 392-2886 or e-mail to <jarheadh37@ij.net>

**61st F. A. Bn.** at Super Motel, New Hampton, Iowa, August 12-14 Need to make your reservations by July 24th. 1-614-394-3838, Please mention that you are with the 61st FA Bn. Korean Veterans Reunion. Contact Richard D. Walter, 2729 Kenwood Ave., New Hampton, IA. 50659. Email <ameritec@jowatelecom.net>.

**USS Bon Homme Richard** (CV/CVA-31) ships company and air groups & USS Bon Homme Richard (LHD-6), Aug. 13-14. To be held in Anaheim, CA. Contact Ron Edlund, 2299 Madalene, Muskegon, MI 49442. Tel: 231-773-0441 (Apr - Nov) 850-234-5722 (Dec - Mar).

**GHQ V Raider Company/X Corps** Special Operations Co., Aug. 18-20 at Courtyard by Marriott, 170 4th Avenue North, Nashville, TN Tel: 800-259-8393 or 615-256-0900. Contact Lee Broussard at Tel: 337-394-4994.

**USS ALGOL** AKA 54, Aug. 18-21 in Atlantic City, NJ., Contact Tony Soria, 2045 Avalon Dr. Merced, CA. 95340. Tel: 209-722-6005.

**The Chosin Few, Inc.**, all service survivors of the Chosin Reservoir Campaign, North Korea, Nov-Dec 1950. August 18-21 at Sheraton Nashville Downtown Hotel, Nashville, TN. Contact: Jack Nolan, 3610 McMillan Dr., Tyler, TX 75701-8220. Tel/Fax: 903-595-0556. E-mail: <jandbnolan@etgs.com>.

**2nd Bn., 1st Marines, 1st Marine Div.** (KOREA), Aug. 25-28 in Seattle, WA, at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Contact: R L Payne, 6319 89th Ave W., Tacoma, WA 98467, Tel: 253-564-3252 or email <korea2bn1mar2004@yahoo.com>

**U.S. Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Assn.**, August 25-28 at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown in Nashville, TN. Contact Don H. Gee, 238 Cornwall Circle, Chalfont, PA 18914-2318; Tel: 215-822-6898 or e-mail: <USMCCCA@aol.com>.

**The Third Inf. Div. Society** and attached units in war and in peace-time, August 27-31. To be held in Savannah, Ga. The hotel accommodations will be at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront Hotel, 100 General McIntosh Blvd, Savannah, GA 31401 Tel: 912-233-7722. Contact: Linda Irvine, 50721 State Highway 410, Greenwater, WA 98022. Tel: 360-663-2521. E-mail: <TheReunionBRAT@tx3.net>. Web Page www.warfoto.com/3rdiv.

**USS IRWIN** (DD-794), Aug. 30 - Sept. 3 in St. Louis, MO. Contact Tom Rehagen, Tel: 314-843-4681, Fax: 314-843-0259.

## September 2004

**88th Inf. Div. Assn.**, "Blue Devils", Sept. 2-5 in St. Louis MO. Contact Bil Konze 7318 Riverhill, Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20745. Tel 301-839-4427) or Web Page <www.88infdiv.org>

**Seventh Field Artillery Regiment**, all Battalions, all periods of service. Sept. 9-11 in Philadelphia, PA at the Double Tree Guest Suites Plymouth Meeting, PA, 640 W. Germantown Pike. Contact Stanley C. Stankiewicz, 112 Bremer Street, Fayetteville, NC 28303. Tel: 910- 822-0703

**430th Engineer Bn.**, (Korea 50-54) Sept. 9-11 in Nashville, TN. Contact Charlie Wise, 9542 Yolanda Ave., Northridge, CA. 91324. Tel: 818-993-5876. E-mail: <wisekev@aol.com>.

**3650th Basic Military Training Wing** (B.M.T.W), Sampson Air Force Base Veterans Association, Inc. To all Veterans of Sampson Air Force Base, Permanent Party, Women's Air Force (WAF's), Basic Trainees and Special School Trainees, 1950 thru 1956. Sept. 9-12 at Sampson Air Force Base, now known as Sampson State Park, on Seneca Lake, Romulus, NY. Contact Chip Phillips at PO Box 331, Williamsville, NY 14231-0331 or by E-Mail at <Chip34@aol.com>

**75th Air Depot Wing**, 1952-1955, Sept. 9-12 in Milwaukee, WI. Contact Walter A. Walko, 13616 Paradise Villas Grove, Colorado Springs, CO. 80921-3294. Tel: 719-488-1106 or e-mail <wawlaw1@juno.com>

**14th Combat Engineer Battalion Association**, Sept. 9-12 in Louisville, KY. Contact Stanley H Schwartz, 313 Hollow Creek Road, Mount Sterling KY 40353. Tel: 859-498-4567 or e-mail <shs313@mis.net>

**712th TROB**, Sept. 12-15 in Peoria, IL. Contact Robert Shannon, Tel: 910-949-3920 or E-mail <rgshannon@ac.net> or Dean McClain, Tel: 330-799-9565 or E-mail <dbm521@aol.com>.

**USS TITANIA** AKA 13 Sept. 9-14. Contact Cliff/Caroline Trumpold, 816-31st Ave. S., Box 31, Middle Amana, IA 52307. Tel: 319-622-3103

**The 300th Armored Field Artillery Assn.**, Sept. 10-12 is seeking members who served in the Korean War 1950-1953. Our Association is active with "COWBOY CANNONEER" news letters and Reunions every other year. Join us at the Holiday Inn, Sheridan, Wyoming, for the 300th's next reunion. Contact Bill Laya, 91 Kool Road, Ranchester, WY 82938. E-mail <laya@fiberpipe.com> or Dick Thune, 5880 Parkwood Court, Baxter, MN. 56425. Tel: 218-825-0286 or Don Crawford, 13813 Illinois Hwy. 9, Good Hope, IL. 61438. E-mail <doncrawford@

winco.net>.

**USS Waldron (DD-699)**, Sept. 12-16 in Hyannis, Mass. Contact Fr. Herbert J. Cleary, S.J. Tel: 617-267-1008 Ext. 21 or 617-247-0457. E-mail <herbie699@verizon.net>.

The **USS Wasp** CV/CVA/CVS-18 Assn. is seeking all members of Ship's Company, Air Groups and Marines who served aboard the ship between 1943 and 1972. Sept. 12-16 in Annapolis, MD. Contact Richard G. VanOver, USNR(Ret), 6584 Bunting Road, Orchard Park, NY 14127-3635. Tel: 716-649-9053.

**Korean War EX-POW Assn.**, Sept. 12-19 at the Drawbridge Inn Fort Mitchell, KY. Contact Jim Ball, PO Box 48, Eau Claire, MI 49111 or E-mail <jamiball@qtm.net>.

**630th Engineers**, Light Equipment Co., Korea, Sept 13-15, in Branson, MO. Contact: Oscar Viehland, 9587 Woodland Rd., Robertsville, MO 63072. Tel: 636-285-4402 or e-mail <OGVCCV@ruralcom.net>.

**U.S.S. Sphinx-ARL-24**, Sept. 13-16 in Branson, MO. Contact Franklin Ironi, 954 Lilac Drive, Sauk Centre, MN 56378-1643. Tel: 612-352-3271.

**538th Ordnance MAM Company**, Korea 1950 thru 1955. Sept. 13-16 in Las Vegas, NV. Contact William Olynk, 656 Cervantes Drive, Henderson, NV 89014. Tel: 702-434-1606. E-mail <forwildone@cox.net>

**51st Signal Bn.**, Sept. 14-16 at Double Tree Inn, Nashville, TN. Korean Vets and all former members are welcome. Contact: Tommy Thompson, 4129 Fairway Dr., Granbury, TX 76049. Tel: 817-326-4773 E-Mail: <tom@itexas.net>.

**330th Field Artillery Bn.**, Army Sept. 14-16 in Auburn, IN, Contact Raymond Krider, 429 W. Maple Grove Ave., Ft. Wayne, IN 46807. Tel: 260-745-4412 or 260-413-3185. E-mail <skippy30@worldnet.att.net>.

**A-1-1 U.S.M.C.** (Korea 1950-1953) Sept. 15-18 at the Ramada Inn Airport and Thunderbird Convention Center, 2201 East 78th Street, Bloomington, MN 55425. Tel: 952-854-3411, Fax: 952-859-1183. Contact Rod Bennett, P.O. Box 196, Marshall, MN. 56258, Phone 507-532-6203.

**2nd Inf. Div. 82nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery** (AW) Bn., (SP), Sept. 15-18 in Colorado Springs, CO at Hampton Inn North. Contact Ed & Hope Fernandez - Coordinators, 8447 Timber Bridge, San Antonio, TX 78250-4217. Tel (210) 521-7553 and email: <e-fernandez@sbcglobal.net>.

**780th Field Artillery Bn.**, Sept. 16-18 at Renaissance Hotel in Springfield, IL. Contact George Ellis, 1020 Wildwood Pk. Rd., Florence, AL 35630. Tel: 256-764-5938.

**X Corps**, Korea and attached units 1950-53, Sept. 16-18 in Dubuque, IA. Contact William E. Shafer at 319-934-3575.

**Anti/Tank Co 5th Marines**, Sept.16-18 in Nashville, TN at Sheraton Music City. Hotel Res. 615-885-2200 Friday night: Grand Ole Op. Contact persons: Chuck Batherson, Tel: 231-839-5476, E-mail <chuckandbarbat5@voyager.net> or CJ and George Barrette, Tel: 715-582-3835, E-mail <grinandbarrett@cybrzn.com>.

**532nd E.B. & S.R.**, Sept. 16-18 in Ponchatoula, LA. Contact Avery Brown at 225-294-5611 or Billy D. Gray at 618-243-6197.

**32nd Inf. Regt. Assn.** "The Queen's Own", Sept. 16-20 in Arlington, VA. Contact: Helen Dyckson, P. O. Box 5930, Spring Hill, FL 34611-5930, 352-597-5912, e-mail: <heland@bellsouth.net>

**USS ESSEX** CV, CVA, CVS-9, LTH -2, Inc. Sept. 20-25 at the Marriott International Hotel in St. Louis, MO. Contact Bruce Sims 581 Conkle, Rd. Hampton, GA 30228-2702 or call 770-707-1812 or e-mail <Hangerbay9@aol.com>

**50th AAA AW Bn.** (SP), All Batteries. Sept. 21-23 in Branson, Missouri. Contact Bob Matis at 352-686-0550 or Joe Harris at 530-347-3381 or e-mail <BOB50AAA@netzero.com>

**44th Engineer Battalion Association** (Korea) Sept. 21-25 at Ft. Campbell, KY. Contact Ed Wright, 24 Vale Road, Reading, MA 01867-2443, Tel: 781-944-4837.

**The 8221st Army Unit Assn.** (Korea 1950-1954) Sept. 22-25 at the Quality INN at 3269 Shepherd Hills Expressway, Branson, MO 65618. TOLL FREE 1-800-245-6776. E-mail: <INFO@ZBRANSON.COM>. Contact: Ken and Judy Paubon, 13820 Bradley Blvd., Becker, MN 55308. Tel: 763-261-2333.

**2nd Chemical Mortar Bn.** (and 461st Inf. Bn.) (Korea 1950-53), Sept. 22-26 at the Radisson Hotel, Norfolk, VA. Contact: William R. Thomas, 7418 Overdale Drive, Dallas, TX 75254. Tel: 972-387-1247.

Navy **USS Colonial** L.S.D. 18 Sept. 22-26 in Branson, MO. Contact Loren Kerby, 13375 Prairie Creek Rd., Platte City, MO 64079. Tel: 816-858-3158, or e-mail: <kerbyplatte@aol.com>

**H-3-1 KOREA-USMC**, Sept. 22-26 in Baltimore, MD. Contact Jack Dedrick, 10 Donna St., Peabody, MA 01960. Tel: 978-535-5451 or e-mail <jdedrick@aol.com>.



**6th Photo Tech/548th Recon Tech Sqdns.** FEF, Yokota AFB Japan (1946-57), Sept. 23-25 at Bransob, MO. Contact Guy Dille, 691 Ryland Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4279. Tel: 412-366-2094 or E-mail <gddrd5k@comcast.net>

**68th AAA Gun Bn.**, Sept. 23-26 in Midland, TX Contact Cliff Schlesinger, 4409 Gulf Ave. Midland, TX 79707. Tel: 432-694-6653.

**508th AAA Operations Detachment**, Sept. 23-26 in Midland, TX Contact Cliff Schlesinger 4409 Gulf Ave. Midland, TX 79707. Tel: 432-694-6653.

**92nd AFA Bn.** "The Red Devils", Sept. 26-28 at Knoxville, TN. Contact Guy McMenemy, 12027 Westover Drive, Cypress, TX 77429. Tel: 281-469-2819 or E-mail <reddevilbn@aol.com>.

**National Assn. of Atomic Veterans**, Sept. 26-29 in San Diego, CA. Contact W. A. Harper, 9308 Navajo Place, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248. Tel: 480-895-0676.

**25th Inf. Div. Assn.**, Sept. 26 - Oct. 3 in Tucson, AZ. Contact 25th I.D. Assn., PO Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031-0007 or e-mail <tropicltn@aol.com> or Fax: 215-248-5250.

**86th Ordnance Co. Assn.**, Sept. 27-29 in Cumberland, MD. Contact Robert F. Spurr, 614 Bench Street, Galena, IL 61036. Tel: 815-777-3814

**USS Rochester (CA-124)** Sept. 28 - Oct. 03 at Red Lion Hanalei Hotel San Diego, CA. E-mail <joehillsr@multipro.com>. Tel: 931- 432-4848.

**40th Inf. Div. 160th Regt., Co. A (Korea)** Sept. 28-30 at Guesthouse Int'l Inn & Suites in Nashville, TN. Contact Roger Lueckenhoff, 208 Steeplechase Rd, Rolla, MO. 65401-3784 Tel: 573-364-4145. E-mail <lueck@fidnet.com>

**1st Ord. MM Co.**, WWII, Korea and Cold War, Sept. 28-30 in Kansas City, KS. Contact George Kvet, 812 Beverly Ave, Canal Fulton, OH 44614. Tel: 330-854-9754.

**USS RENVILLE APA 227**, joint navy and troops from all eras. San Diego, Sept. 29 to Oct. 3. Contact Don Wright, 4289 Alex Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45211. Tel: 513-481-8317 or E-mail <jdwrightstuff@cs.com>.

**The 307th. Bomb Wing**, Sept. 29 - Oct. 4 in San Diego, CA. The hotel: Red Lion Hanalei, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108. Contact Cy Johnson 805-495-3518

**USS ARNOLD J. ISBELL** (DD 869): All shipmates: Sept. 30 - Oct. 2 in Baton Rouge, LA. Contact: Barry Dahlberg, 596 Gray Street, Geneva, IL 60134. Tel: 708-203-1445. E-mail: evba@usa.com; or Robert E. Thomas, Baton Rouge, LA 7081 Tel: 225-275-6289.

**ASA KOREA.** Baltimore & Washington, D.C. Sept. 30 Oct. 3. Tour of the National Security Agency Museum, where you will have a "peek behind the curtain" at the once secret world of Codes. Following this tour you will head to Washington DC for a stop at the Korean Memorial and the newly opened World War II Memorial. Dinner will be included in a Washington area restaurant. Saturday you will be transported to Baltimore Inner Harbor for some free time to explore the shops and attractions and lunch on your own at one of the many area restaurants. Wrap up the festivities with a Saturday evening Banquet and dancing at the Hotel. Lodging is at the beautiful Embassy Suites - Hunt Valley. Contact ALL-IN-ONE Tour & Cruises, 1530 Commerce Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601. Attn: Jackie Rishell. Questions concerning the arrangements of the reunion should be directed to the tour office. The number is 717-581-5333 in Lancaster, Pa. The long distance number is 1-888-681-5333 ext. 109, ask for Jackie, or call your host Pick Leibenguth 410-439-3114.

**The 11th Engineer Battalion Assn.**, Sept. 30 to Oct. 4 in Branson, Missouri. Contact: Fred Boelsche, 54 Edstan Drive Moonachie, NJ 07074-1239. Tel: 201-641-5828 E-mail: <FredB11theng@hotmail.com>

**45th Infantry Division Assn.** (Thunderbirds), Sept. 30 to Oct. 4, in Oklahoma City, OK. Contact Raul Trevino, 2145 NE Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111. Tel: 210-681-9134

**430th Engineer Battalion** (Korea) reunion to be held in September/October 2004 location TBA later. Contact Charlie Wise, 9542 Yolanda Ave. Northridge CA. 91324. Tel: 818-993-5876. E-mail <wisekev@aol.com>

#### October 2004

**17th F.A. Bn. - 75th F.A. Bn. - 96th F.A. Bn. and 96th AAA**, Korea, 1950 - 1954, Oct. 5-11, at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950, or call 973-538-7189 or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

**145th F.A. Bn. - 204th F.A. Bn. - 213th F.A. Bn. and 300th F.A. Bn.**, Korea, 1950-1954, Oct. 5-11 at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950, or call 973-538-7189 or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

**159th F.A. Bn. - 176th F.A. Bn. - 195th F.A. Bn. and 623rd F.A. Bn.**, Korea, 1950-1954, Oct. 5-11 at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ, 07950, or call 973-538-7189 or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

**936th F.A. Bn. - 937th F.A. Bn. - 955th F.A. Bn. and 987th F.A. Bn.**, Korea, 1950-1954, Oct. 5-11 at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 133 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950, or call 973-538-7189 or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

All members of **I Corps, IX Corps and X Corps Artillery Battalions**, Korea, 1950-1954, Oct. 5-11 at the Radisson Hotel in Tucson, AZ. For more information contact Nick Vanderhave, 1333 Littleton Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950, or call 973-538-7189 or e-mail at <Vanderhave@USA.Net>.

**28th General Hospital Assoc.** (Croix Chapeau '51-'54), Oct. 6-10 at The Arlington Resort Hotel and Spa, 239 Central Ave., Hot Springs National Park, AR 71901. Reservations: 1-800-643-1502 Ext. 2514. Contact Joe Lott, 2210 Chidester Rd., Camden, AR 71701-3012. Tel: 870-836-3725 or e-mail <wayx@seark.net>.

**6147th TAC CON GP, Mosquito Assn.**, with all supporting units, in San Diego, CA Oct 6-10 at the Double Tree Club Hotel, 1-800-486- 5315. Mention The Mosquitos. Contact S. Rooney, Tel: 916-489 0476, Email <Srooney@lanset.com> or D. Souza, 79 Bradstreet Ave. Lowell, MA 01851-4120. Tel: 978-453-3887, or E-mail <Skeeterloc@aol.com>.

**Heavy Mortar Company, 5th RCT**, Oct. 7-9 at Executive Inn, 978 Phillips Lane, Louisville, KY. Reservations: 1-800-626-2706. Contact: Bill Conley at 412-885-2053 or <Copconley@aol.com>.

**1st Field Artillery Observation Bn. Assn.**, Oct. 7 - 10 at the Best Western Airport Midway Hotel, 5105 S. Howell Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53201. Contact Don Dust, Tel: 352-799-2426 or Ralph Mueller 724-348- 5359.

**U.S.S. Oglethorpe** AKA 100, Oct. 7-10 2004 in San Diego, CA Contact Ron Williamson at Tel: 908-475-4435 or E-mail <mistyl @epix.net>.

**999th AFA Bn.** (Armored Field Artillery Battalion) "Never Die" Army Korea 1950-1954, Oct. 8-10 at Ramada Inn North, Dayton, OH. Contact Harold L. Spicer, 2010 Alpwoods Lane, Dayton, Ohio 45459. Tel: 937- 291-4227 or E-mail <s.rutan@att.net>.

**Veterans of the Korean War Reunion**, Oct. 13-16 at Virginia Beach, VA. Contact Floyd Newkirk at 757-340-9801 or e-mail <fnewkirk1@cox.net> or web page www.vkwr.org.

**U.S.S. Abnaki** A.T.F. 96, Oct. 13-16 in Branson, Mo. 65616. Lodge of the Ozarks Tel: 417-334-7535. Contact Pete Kingsley, 5320 N.W. 66th Place, Johnston, IA 50131. Tel: 515-276-7250 or e-mail: <p.kingsley@worldnet.att.net>.

**90th F.A. BN. ASSN.**, 25th Inf. Div. Oct. 20-24 in Oklahoma City, OK. Contact Glen Krueger, 1813 Q St., Auburn, NE 68305-1753. Tel: 402-274-5101 or E-MAIL at <Kruegers c@gopoint.com>.

**USS BAYFIELD** APA 33, Oct. 14-16 at Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 6401 Veterans Memorial Blvd. Metairie, LA. 70003. 1-800-325-3535 for reservations mention Bayfield Reunion. Contact Marvin Perett, Tel: 504-885-7174 or E-Mail <marvinperrett@netzero.net> or <artbets@cs.com>.

**Baker Co., 279th Inf. Reg., of the 45th Inf. Div.** (Korea) annual Reunion Oct. 14-16 will be held in Corpus Christi, Texas. Contact Trent and Helon Knudson, 1511 W. 13th Street, Clifton, Texas 76624-1806, Tel. 254-675-8650 or John A. Harshbarger, 1204 South Fern St., Stillwater, OK. 74074, Tel. 405-377-6150.

**44th Inf. Div.** (1946-1954), October 14-17 in Peoria, IL. IL National Guard Div. (war or peace) Contact Duane Heward, 505 W Merle Lane, Peoria, IL 61604. Tel: 309-682-6519 or e-mail <dfheward1@aol.com>. Charles Munie, 465 S Linden, Decatur, IL 62522. Tel: 217-423-6265 or e-mail <camunie@aol.com>.

**13th Engineer Combat Bn. Assn.**, Oct. 14-17 in San Antonio, Texas. Contact Levi Haire, Tel: 404-366-9891 or E-mail <Rabbit713E@Comcast.net>. Web site <http://13thEngineerBn.homestead.com>

**160th Infantry**, Oct. 20-23 is part of 40th Div Grand Reunion, Ventura CA. 160th HQ: Country Inn & Suites Tel: 805-653-1434 or 800-456-4000. For info contact Will Brown, PO Box 1172, St. Clarita, CA 91386. Tel: 661-947-6411 or e-mail <willbrown@mac.com>

**45th Inf. Div., 279th Inf. Reg., CO-L** (Thunderbirds), Oct. 21-24 in Western Hills Lodge, OK, Contact Paul Elkins, P.O. Box 348, Kasilof, AK 99610. Tel: 907-260-6612 or E-mail <p.s.elkins@att.net>.

**72nd Engineer Combat Co.** Oct. 25-29 at the Settle Inn in Branson, MO. Tel: 800-677-6906 and ask for Group 72E10254 for group rate of \$59 plus tax. Contact Bob Mount, 6518 Fish Hatchery Rd., Thurmont, MD 21788. Tel: 301-898-7952 or <Email taxpreper@aol.com>.

#### November 2004

**5th Regimental Combat Team Assn.**, Nov. 3-7 in St. Augustine Beach, FL at Holiday Inn, 860 A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine Beach, FL. 32080. Tel: 1-800-626-7263. Contact Bill Kane, 5023 Andrea Blvd. Orlando, FL 32807. Tel: 407-275-7450.

## KMAG from page 69

The problems that KMAG had to face in Korea in organizing and developing native forces was the problem of communications between a highly skilled and competent group of personnel on the one hand, and an eager and willing yet often uneducated and untrained people on the other; the need to establish a military language comprehensible to both teacher and pupil; the task of forging a military instrument out of raw material at the hand under conditions quite primitive by American standards.

Although officially KMAG's history does not begin until 1 July 1949, when a group was formally established, its mission during 1948-49 period, the seeds were planted and the area of development was laid out. During the first year of the war KMAGs' toughest era since it was the era of greatest stress and strains on the Advisory group and the ROK Army, since they had first to undergo the pangs of birth and the growing up and tested in the crucible of war before they were properly prepared.

A great deal of motion took place to establish a Korean government, ROK Army, Coast Guard, etc., and on 15 August 1948, the United States Military Government in Korea came to an end when the ROK Government took control by President Syngman Rhee. The Republic of Korea on January 1, 1949 was formally recognized by the United States and on 10 May 1949, General MacArthur recommended remaining U. S. units be withdrawn. On January 1, 1949, the United States formally recognized the Republic of Korea and therefore it was decided that the ROK should not depend on the presence of American military forces in the country. Instructions were received to make preparations for withdrawal by 30 June. However, the KMAG Group were still going to stay and were expanded in strength to help train ROK soldiers in tactics, use of weapons, equipment and communications and hoped to help develop a more efficient Korean military establishment. During this period many ROK changes, both government and military took place.

KMAG advisors consisting of officers and enlisted men was to devote their attention to their ROK counterpart; G-1 Section- provide advise and counseling; G-2 Section- Intelligence and investigations of political incidents; G-3 Section- Training of ROK

Army and familiarization of weapons; G-4 Section Logistics. A ROK army school system was to be established as well as organizing military chain of command and organizational levels. In all, try to establish all aspects of a complete military ROK Army. In addition, other branches of military concern to establish a Navy, Coast Guard and Air Force. In late 1948 and 1949, ROK units (Divisions, Regiments, etc.,) began replacing U. S. Army units along the 38th Parallel. However, the majority of these units were not up to full strength.

During this period of 1948-1949, there was always tension surrounding North and South Korea. The coming of 25 June 1950 came a surprise when small arms fire, high explosives and mortar shells from the North Korean border began to fall on ROK lines. This began the Korean War as we know it. Later on, KMAG became an integral part of the 8th Army.

I, was involved with WWII at the age of 18 right from high school and sent to Camp Blanding, Florida which was primarily one of the Infantry basic training consisting of 15 weeks basic and two weeks of bivouac (simulated warfare training). At my completion of basic training, WWII was over and the majority of trainees were scheduled for occupation duty overseas to replace veterans troops. I was instructed to remain as an infantry instructor. Infantry basic training was eventually cut to fifteen weeks eliminating bivouac training. I continued as an instructor for several years, then reassigned to Camp Pickett, Virginia and eventually to Ft. Geo. G. Meade, Maryland as an instructor and then assigned to administrative duties until my discharge in late 1947.

In early 1948, I reenlisted in the Army and was assigned to an Reserve unit as an instructor, then as an U.S. Army recruiting Sergeant. It was during my last year of my enlistment when I received orders in January 1952 to report San Francisco, California for debarkation to the Far East. I was considered a "Lone Rider" with my own orders since I was not attached to an Army unit. I left by troop ship, The General Win. O. Black with approximately 2000 or more US soldiers taking 21 days to reach Sasebo, Japan, then issued clothing and weapons and then flown by an AF C 131 Globe Master transport to Pusan, Korea which in turn boarded an army



SFC Frank Imperato at I ROK Corps

truck for Taegu, assigned quarters as an Army replacement, unit and destination still unknown.

It was not until the 5th replacement depot that I knew I was going to North Korea, but duty and outfit still unknown. In Seoul, I boarded a C47/C54 transport, with a parachute, with other GIs, supplies of all kind and flown to K50 airstrip loaded on a army truck with other enlisted men and supplies and transported to I ROK Corps located somewhere around YangYang and Mundon-ri in the Punch Bowl sector on the East Coast of North Korea near the Sea of Japan. All this taking place within a time span of two to three days.

I ROK Corps consisted of the 3rd ROK Division which was later replaced by the 5th ROK Division, the 11th and ROK Capitol Divisions. My title was Sergeant Major even though my rank was SFC. The sergeant I was to replace had already left for rotation. I was somewhat beside myself assigned to an all Korean outfit rather than a US Army unit. However, that was my assignment and responsible for approximately 180 to 200 US military personnel consisting of motor pool, cooks, signal corps personnel, Marine spotters (used to communicate with ships on the Sea of Japan) and Air Force with their radio controlled jeeps keeping in contact with US and ROK pilots going to and from strike missions who were unable to return to their ships or base.

P-51 Mustangs, F-80 Saber Jets and Navy/Marines Corsairs were used on air strikes and there were many incidents when pilots were in trouble as a result of small arms or artillery fire due to low level flying. Pilots in trouble were generally directed to land at an emergency air strip (K-50) by the AF radio jeep at which time a small contingent of US and ROK personnel would aid



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and assist in the rescue. There is a story to tell of one US pilot of a P-51 Mustang who radioed for help as a result of his plane with his electrical and hydraulic system pretty much shot up and unable to lower his landing gear. He was directed to land at K-50 airstrip coming in low and fast from a distance skimming and thrashing thru rice fields to attempt a belly landing and finally came to rest cross wise on the airstrip. His engine practically torn out and you could clearly see the P-51 cracked in half (picture enclosed of this plane which I was able to snap). The pilot was shaken, but not hurt. There were considerable number of aircraft damaged by small arms and artillery fire and it is hard to believe how these pilots made it safely to an airstrip, their carrier or air base. This was as a common occurrence since AF strikes was heavily stepped up during the 1952 period. It should be noted that ROK pilots were flying P-51 mustangs. Many a sortie we would see in formation of 9 to 12 planes (groups of 3) flying over the Sea of Japan from their base in Taegu (5th AF) which in many cases manned by ROK pilots.

During the Spring of 1952 thru the remaining months of 1952, steady growth of enemy artillery fire power as well as intense small arms and automatic weapons fire increased as the months as well as air strikes taken along the Kansas and Wyoming lines. I ROK Corps with its 5th and Capital Divisions continued to encounter fierce enemy opposition (Capitol Hill and Finger Ridge Hill). It was an up and down situation from Corps to divisions and back to Corps, really a Yo-Yo affair. In all, the ROK Army must be congratulated for in just a short few years after a heavy struggle, did grow and proved that they could help to maintain South Korea independence and are continuing to do so.

On several occasions I had the privilege of being in the company of President Syngman Rhee and his wife, General Van Fleet, 8th Army commander; General Wyman, US IX Corps Commander; General Ryan, US KMAG Commanding General; General O'Daniels, 1st Corp Commander and General Lee Hung Koon, I ROK Corps Commander who usually I would always see on a daily basis with his US counterpart, Colonel Walker, 2nd Inf. Division. A number of visits were made by all to discuss overall combat status and situations.

During the winter of 1952, it was very

cold, below the low thirties making it a problem with anything mechanical to function properly including the troops. To wash, shower, hot meals, trying to keep warm was not to be. On several occasions I made a trip to a MASH unit, a site one would never forget. However, there was one memorable time much on the lighter side. Around September or October, we, KMAG EM advisors managed to buy fresh shrimp from a Korean fisherman for one dollar consisting of two large orange crates. With the help of our mess sergeant, we had fried shrimp along with our beer rations for the month. What a night, shrimp and beer. Unbelievable.

Winter being cold, muddy when it rained and snowed, made mud like glue. After walking for a while, you began to get taller from the mud caking on the bottom of your boots. With all this, I was looking forward to R&R to Japan and finally in late December I went to Tokyo for your allotted one week but stayed for another week as a result of President Eisenhower visiting Korea. All air traffic was suspended for safety reasons. The first week was all hell break loose enjoying myself with the hospitality and the good life and the usual buying chinaware ,etc., for my wife.

The second week was a lost cause. I was broke and stayed at an Army camp in Yokohama and did some sight seeing. I returned to Korea and now it is January 1953, with the point system and my enlistment up in the latter part of February, I

P-51 Mustang that cracked in half on emergency landing.



was looking forward to returning to the states. As always, the more anxious you were to leave Korea, the longer the days and nights appeared to be, especially the nights. You had the feeling that something might go wrong during the remaining days as it happened to many a GI. They were stressful days, but always never to forget.

I returned to the states and was discharged at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, February 1953 ending my career of six days shy of seven years of military service. I am currently a life member of VFW Post 3460, Life member of the KWVA, and life member of the NRA and member of the Korean War Project. My hobbies include going to automobile shows with an un-restored 1970 Chevrolet Monte Carlo, doing competitive shooting (22 and 45 Cal) in national and local matches. Previously, I was a power boater for 25 years. All great and exciting sports. I do pray mostly every night for the safe return home from Korea with a wealth of information and experiences and memories and to the Korean veterans KIA, MIA POWs the able and disabled veterans. God bless them all.

*Frank A. Imparto, 621 Huntington Drive,  
Downtown, PA 19335  
(Thank you Frank for photos and story.)*

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## Korea Revisit

By Warren Wiedhahn Chairman,  
KWVA Revisit Program,  
Pusan-Inchon - Seoul - "Chosin" 1950

Dear friends and fellow veterans:

I have just returned from Seoul, Korea where I met with officials at both the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), the equivalent of our Veterans Affairs Department, and the Korean Veterans Association (KVA). These are the two agencies that since 1975 have been funding and administering the subsidized Revisit Korea program for the Allied Countries that contributed to the Korean War in the early 1950's.

I'm pleased to announce that the ROK government has decided to continue this "Revisit Korea" program well into the future. In addition to recognizing the contributions of the veterans, the program which has brought thousands of people from all over the world to Korea, has contributed significantly to the good relations between all these countries. We have requested, and have been assured, another good sized quota in 2005.

The 2004 quotas of 220, in June September and October, have all been filled and the program is closed. However, please fill out the application now, contained elsewhere in the for the 2005 program since we allocate the quotas by date of receipt.

Through our recommendation and encouragement, Korea has also decided to relax the eligibility requirements somewhat. The most important aspect for future year's is that the have moved the dates of eligibility from 27 July 1953 to 27 July 1954. This is to recognize that the war did not suddenly stop when the Armistice was signed and "hot" confrontations and those killed and wounded continued long after. This is good news and something that we have been urging for several years.

They have also decided to allow a looser definition of "direct descendants" allowing, for example, adopted children, "live in" spouses as well as grand parents to accompany the veter-

## STORIES from page 75

appreciate wild flowers in those alpine meadows, and to ski. We had climbed almost all those rugged mountains in the Oregon Cascades. I could see her now on one of those peaks, silhouetted against the sky in total harmony with nature. Will I be able to do these things again with my mother? Will she want me to?

There was that fun loving part of my mother, As a kid I loved football. Mom was ironing and I ran in the house begging her to play catch with me. She immediately dropped what she was doing and we dashed across the street to the vacant lot. When we were finished and went back in the house there was that burning smell and a little smoke because she had forgotten to unplug the iron.

Mother was very creative. In about 1943 during WWII my mom and I traveled to Virginia to see my father at his base. There was a stop over in St. Louis. My mother was so adventuresome and between trains, we hurried down to that grand old Mississippi river to get some of its mud. I have that mud to this day on a card in my old scrapbook.

The doctors and nurses are making their rounds now and I don't like what's coming. When they get to my bed they will just stand there talking in low tones about me as if I'm not there. It's not until I ask a question or two that they will address me and then I won't like to hear what they have to say.

My mother taught me to be kind and caring with other people. Our Japanese friends were torn away from their homes and hauled off to concentration camps during WWII. My mother was one of the very few in our community who raised a hue and cry about what was being done. I'm sure her determination and strength

of character is somewhere inside my very bones and will help me make it through.

Mom used to tell stories from when she was a kid. Near her town there were sugar beet fields where the Chinese worked. She was frightened of the way they looked with their pig tails and sharp cutting knives and would high tail it home. Will she be frightened like this and run when she sees me?

There she is! I can hear my mother! it's her! Just as when I was little, on that hill, and the tears were in my eyes. I can't see mom now but I know it's her! There's all that love again surging within me.

"There's Dick! Oh, my darling son! Let me hold you!" She came to me with strength and loving tenderness. My mother was there for me, as she always was. My prayers were answered. The mist cleared again and I could remember that day some sixteen years ago when, like now, she cared for and protected me, and I was transported away. How could I ever doubt her? I really didn't need to look any further for gold. I had my mother right there."

Dick C. Nooe, 567 E. Peckham Road,  
Neenah, WI 54956. Tel: 920-725-7102

*(Thank you Dick for the great story with a very sad ending. I do not know much about you today except you letter head tells me you did well in life and are helping others. Your story about Esther, that you did not send in this mailing, I would have to see to determine if I can print some or all.*

*Maybe it would show our readers a better ending at least I hope so. Moms have a way of making everything better. Your wisdom and bravery is something that heroes are made of. You truly are special.*  
—Editor.)

an. Reminder: Widows and children of those Killed in Action have always been eligible for this program!

If you have any questions, please call me personally at 703-212-0695 in Alexandria, Virginia. If I'm not in, any member of my staff can answer you questions.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Warren Wiedhahn  
President/CEO, Military  
Historical Tours  
FAX 703-212-8567  
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*(See application for the Revisit Korea in this issue.)*

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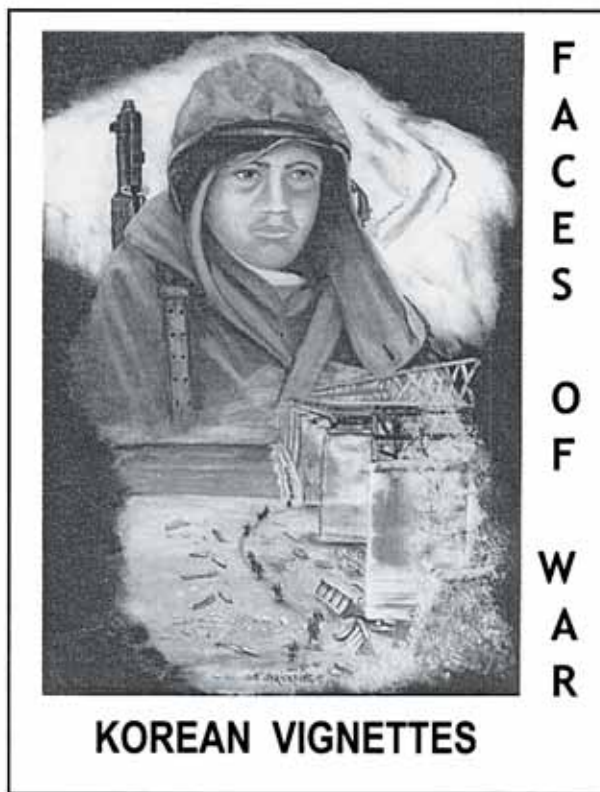
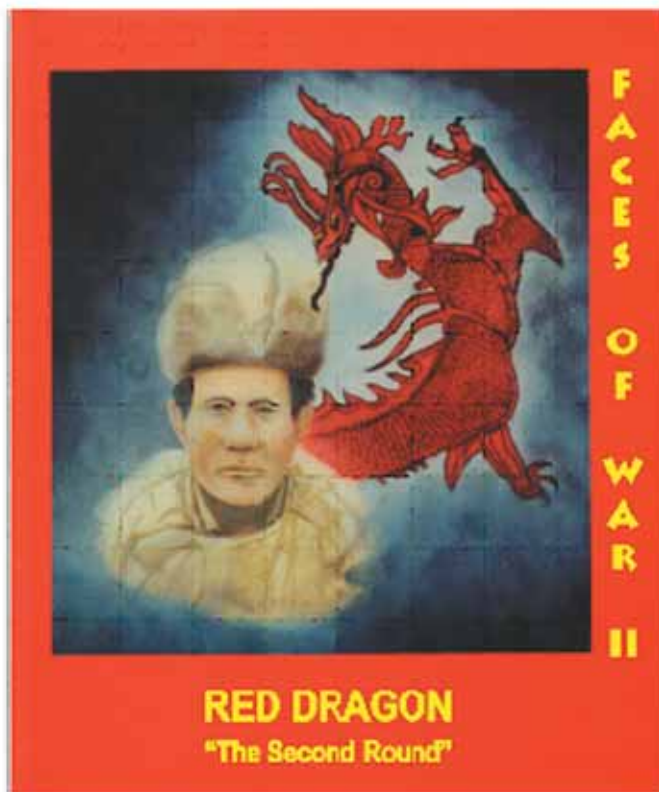
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**RED DRAGON** © is the sequel to **Korean Vignettes**©, (out-of-print). It provides historical coverage of the second half of the Korean War, placing special emphasis on the actions of the 40th and 45th National Guard Divisions whose accomplishments upheld the traditions of their Division's records in WW II. The role of the First Marine Division is stressed as it adapted to a prolonged struggle of trench and bunker warfare radically different from its usual tactical role of beachhead landings and initial assaults paving the way for new bases, supply buildup and troop reinforcement. The war is recalled also in memories of men of the other six American divisions and the 187th RCT. There are more than 600 photos, many taken on the battlefields by men whose 216 vignette memories constitute a living 'soldier's history.' 16 served in UN units, 200 in American. There are 20 pages of GI poetry. **RED DRAGON** completes a Korean War history which indelibly stamp memories of men, heroic deeds, epic battles, and patrol actions into the pages of our nation's military history.

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# Korean Battlefield Tours for 2004

## **"Second to None": 2nd Infantry Division Battlefield Tour:**

**April 7 - 16, 2004**



Sponsored by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division Association and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division Korean War Veterans Alliance, this tour will visit battlesites of the "Indianhead" Division, including the Pusan Perimeter, Massacre Valley, Twin Tunnels and the village of Chipyeong-ni, the Punchbowl (Hills 1179 and 1243), Heartbreak and Bloody Ridges, the Chorwon and Kumwha Valleys and the OP Line of Resistance along the Yokkok-chon River Valley, including Old Baldy. We will also visit the active-duty 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, now stationed at Camp Casey, in Tongduchon, north of Uijongbu. All are welcome on this tour.

## **Joint Battlefield Tour for the 40th and 45th Infantry Divisions:**

**April 21 - 29, 2004**



We commemorate the Korean War Service of the two Federalized National Guard Divisions, the California (40ID) and Oklahoma (45ID). All Vets - Guardsmen and Regular Army Veterans of these two Divisions, as well as all other Veterans - are welcome on this tour. We will visit battlesites of both Divisions, including sites in the Iron Triangle (this is the Chorwon and the Kumwha Valleys), the Yokkok-chon River Valley (this area includes Old Baldy, Pork Chop and T-Bone Hills), the Punchbowl, Heartbreak Ridge and Sandbag Castle. We will also visit Kapyong, site of the KATUSA Monument and the Kenneth Kaiser High School (built by the 40th Division during the War) where we will visit with the students and staff. All are welcome on this tour.

## **The Society of the 3rd Infantry Division:**

**September 29 - October 6, 2004**



Sponsored by the Society of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, this tour will visit Incheon, Seoul, and the Uijongbu Corridor, and spend two nights and three days in the Chorwon Valley, visiting 3rd Division battlesites including White Horse, Jackson Heights, the Boomerang, OP Harry, the cities of Chorwon and Kumwha, etc. All are welcome on this tour.

## **The 7th Division Association:**

**October 8 - 15, 2004**



Sponsored by the 7th Division Association, all are welcome on this tour, which will visit the Incheon landing sites, Seoul and the Uijongbu Corridor, the Chorwon Valley (T-Bone, Alligator Jaws, "Papasan" and Triangle Hill, etc.) the Hwachon Reservoir and the Punchbowl.

## **1st Cavalry / 24th Infantry Division Associations: Joint Tour**

**October 20 - 29, 2004**



These two Associations again sponsor a joint tour covering the southern battlefields of Korea, where both Divisions fought in July and August of 1950. Beginning at the TF Smith battlesite, travel through Pyongtaek, Chonan and the Kum River crossing sites at Kongju and Taepyong, through Taejon to Waegwan, Yuhak Mountain, the Bowling Alley, Taegu and along the Naktong Perimeter - the shared battlefields of 1950.



An added point of interest: this tour will also visit ROK Army positions along the DMZ near Yonchon, including Hill 346 (known to the Cavalry as "Old Baldy", not be confused with Hill 266, near Pork Chop Hill, also known as "Baldy"). All are welcome on this tour, which is the only tour to concentrate on the battlesites of the first 90 days of the Korean War.



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## Membership Application

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

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**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.

C. **Associate Members.** Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for regular membership and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the charter and bylaws shall be eligible for associate membership in the association.

# Korea 50 Plus Years Ago



◀ A woman with scissors cutting drying peppers near Song Dong Re.

➤ A Buddhist priest in a temple on a hill near Song Dong Re.



◀ A boat being built on Tach ong-do Island in the Yellow Sea near Inchon.

Photos courtesy of Lloyd E. Moore, 14004 E. Scatter Ridge Road, Athens OH. 45701  
(See May-June 2004 Issue of *Graybeards* for history on Lloyd and photos.)  
(Thank you Lloyd for photos and letter. —Editor.)



A man and backpack in Inchon.



A lady, two children and another lady on steps. Probably in Inchon.



A child and fishing net on Kumpo Peninsula.

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