

America's Forgotten Victory!

September - October 2005

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



Vol. 19, No. 5

Never Forgotten

September 16, 2005



National POW/MIA Recognition Day



www.dtic.mil/dpmo/

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

In loving memory of General Raymond Davis, our Life Honorary President, Deceased.



The Graybeards is an official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), Camp Beauregard, Louisiana. Mailing address: 163 Deerbrook Trail, Pineville, LA 71360. Website: <http://www.kwva.org>. It is published six times a year for members and friends of the organization. It is not sold by subscription.

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Bylaws Committee

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(See Directors)

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Dean McClain, Chairman
(See Directors)

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(See Directors)

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(See Chief of Staff)

From the President

Louis T. Dechert



Congratulations to Mr. Eugene Chin Yu

On December 4, 2004, a beautiful Korean War Monument was dedicated in Augusta, Georgia. One of America's outstanding young Korean citizens, Mr. Eugene Chin Yu, and his family were forces behind that monument. For the most part, the KWVA veterans "who made it happen" in North Augusta are members of South Carolina Chapter 255.

At the just concluded National Convention, Mr. Chin Yu was honored with a life honorary membership in the Association. Mr. Chin Yu and the Chapter were represented at the Convention by four great members, who also brought a contribution of \$1,600 to the KWVA Disaster Relief Fund. Great and generous members, proud veterans, are grown in that Savannah River Valley. Thank you, Chapter 255 and the Chin Yu Family.

Convention 2005

Speaking of the KWVA Convention 2005, we held it in spite of two major natural disasters, a disrupted local economy weighed down with tens of thousands of evacuees, military deployments, FEMA and federal and state emergency field headquarters imported into the area, and many other factors. The Convention was almost universally hailed as the best ever. It will certainly be one very hard to match—and impossible to surpass overall.

I welcome this opportunity to acknowledge a small group of people who arrived early, and without whose labors to assist me there would have been a much less satisfactory convention: Chris Yanacos, Steve Szekely, Charley Price, Cheryl Diamond, and my dear wife, Marietta. Tine Martin arrived somewhat later and completed the dynamic trio of "doers" - Yanacos, Szekely, Martin. Later on, Jodie Buckman helped fill some gaps. Thanks to all of you, and to all of our other members who helped to make this a memorable convention for the KWVA.

The opening event—a newly established annual memorial service—led by a dynamic speaker, Rear Admiral Harold L. Robinson, USN Chaplain Corps, assisted

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by newly appointed KWVA Chaplain Leonard Stegman (KWVA), set the tone for the convention. (By the way, the KWVA now has two National Chaplains.) All in all, it was an exceptional convention.

The attendance, examples and constant mixing by two Korean War MOH honorees, Colonel James Stone and SFC Ron Rosser, throughout the convention was motivational, to say the least.

The meeting of the Executive Council was another step in maturity of our organization's leadership. It was the first meeting of the Council in several years attended by all members, and the first one in several years with a full agenda which was completely considered.

And the Annual Meeting was a vigorous and spirited affair. Among other matters, it adopted new bylaws for the KWVA!

Over 400 people attended the banquet, many of whom were from the local communities. They were all left standing by the guest speaker, Secretary of Veterans

Affairs James Nicholson, who spoke of the current VA disaster relief operations. He also brought a salute to the men who began the ultimate downfall of the Iron Curtain by fighting back in Korea over 55 years ago. The entire Executive Council and KWVA officers, Colonel Stone, MOH, appointed KWVA officials, and all VA hospital and regional personnel were introduced to the banquet through a Cordon of Honor - they deserved it!

Federal Charter

Anyone who wants to follow the progress of our Federal Charter process can do so by viewing the homepage status-keeper of the Senators and Representatives who show their REGARD for the veterans of Korea. We welcome one Senator and three Representatives who signed on this week: Senator Tom Coburn, (R-OK), and Representatives Robert E Andrews, (D-NJ), Roscoe G Bartlett (R-MD), and Dan Boren (D-OK), and Wayne Gilchrist (R-MD). Thank you, Gentlemen.

Convention 2006, San Antonio, TX; Viva and Ole!

Remember, our 2006 Convention will be held in San Antonio, Texas. Between now and then I'll be seeing you in *The Graybeards*, at www.kwva.org, on the road and in the elections.

God bless America and her fighting forces, Valley Forge through 2005!

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CONTENTS

COVER: The cover is the official poster for the national POW/MIA Recognition day. This commemoration is set aside to honor the commitment and the sacrifices made by this nation's Prisoners of War and those who are still Missing in Action, as well as their families.



5



25



28



4

77

Business

Executive Council Business: Minutes	6
A Dues and Who Gets What Primer	7
Thanks for Supporting "The Graybeards"	9
KWVA 2006 Budget	13

Features

The Medal of Honor: SSgt William G. Windrich	18
Unit on Parade: The 430th Engineers	20
Old Letters Stir Up Memories	26
On the Home Front	50
The Mail Must Go Through	57
A POW in Korea: Part III	64
Topo Maps	70
Images of Korea	76

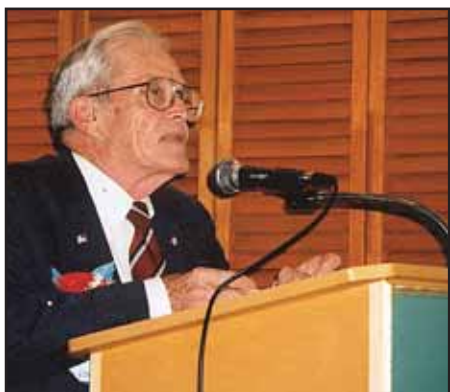
Departments

From The President	3
POW/MIA Update	10
Last Call	11
The Editor's Desk	12
Key Bills in Congress	14
Report from Belgium	19
Monuments and Medals	25
Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions	32
Chapter News	36
Tell America	52
Feedback/Return Fire	58
Canadian Corner	62
Recon Missions	68
Reunion Calendar	69

News & Notes

Remembering Raymond Davis	5
Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library	8
JPAC Commemorates POW/MIA Recognition Day	11
Thank you, all	19
A Pleasant Experience	22
56th Amphibious Tank & Tractor Battalion	23
Gents At The Gathering	24
Korean War Veterans Armistice Day	28
Propaganda Corner	30
Humor By Farley	31
KWVA POW /MIA Coordinator Marty O'Brien	
Awarded UN Norwegian Peacekeeping Medal	48
Korean War Hero Receives Medal of Honor Belatedly	49
An Honorable Discharge - 52 Years Later	51
Anything But Jolly On Christmas Hill	54
Sam Meets Audie—and a Few Other People and Creatures	55
Forgotten No More	71
Brothers in Death	72
2006 Revisit Korea Tour Program	75
Building on a Foundation of Freedom	78

Remembering Raymond Davis



General Davis Chapter President Thomas Harris thanks the Korean Veterans Association Southern Regional Chapter for its hospitality.

Some readers of *The Graybeards* may note casually on the masthead page the entry “In loving memory of General Raymond Davis, our Life Honorary President, deceased.” Davis died of a heart attack on September 3, 2003, at the age of 88. The anniversary of his passing should not go unnoticed.

Davis had an illustrious career. Perhaps the highlight was the Medal of Honor he received for heroism at the Chosin Reservoir in Korea. But, for people who knew him, it was no surprise that he earned the nation’s highest award for service above and beyond the call of duty. The Medal of Honor was not his first high-caliber award—nor would it be his last.

Davis, a native of Georgia and a 1938 graduate of Georgia Tech, served in WWII, where he earned a Navy Cross and the Purple Heart for his actions in the Palua Islands operation. Then, in Vietnam, he became Commanding General of the 3rd Marine Division. During that period of his career, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. Purple Heart, Navy Cross, Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Medal...these were indications of Davis’ courage, dedication, and selflessness. It was that selflessness that steered Davis’ life—and benefited the KWVA and other military organizations to which he dedicated his time and energy.

Following his retirement from the USMC, he was appointed by President Reagan to the committee to oversee the creation of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. He was also



Honoring our most honored. From the right, President Clinton, Ray Davis (MOH), South Korean President Kim, Vice President Gore, L. Burke (MOH), and Ron Rosser (MOH).

...for people who knew him, it was no surprise that he earned the nation’s highest award for service above and beyond the call of duty. The Medal of Honor was not his first high-caliber award—nor would it be his last.

active with the U.S. Korea 2000 Foundation, an organization dedicated to commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Korean War and honoring veterans, for-

mer POWs, and soldiers who are still MIA.

No wonder he has a KWVA Chapter named after him—the Raymond G. Davis Chapter, CID #19, Conway-Atlanta, GA.



From the left, Korean Veterans Association, Southern Regional Chapter Bruce Lee (outgoing President), James Conway, Thomas Harris, John Kahle, incoming KVA Southern Regional Chapter President Dae Young Mun.

Summary Minutes

This is a summary of the Executive Council Meeting held in Bossier City, Louisiana, at the Isle of Capri Resort during the Annual Meeting and Convention of the KWVA. This summary is subject to confirmation by verbatim record when it becomes available.

Call to Order:

President Dechert called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM on October 4th. Assistant Sergeant at Arms Yanacos led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The newly appointed KWVA National Chaplain, Rev. Leonard Stegman, gave the invocation.

Adoption of the Agenda:

The agenda was adopted. Moved by Dauster, 2nd by Edwards.

Roll Call of Executive Council and Introduction of Guests and Staff:

Executive Council – All Present

President – Louis Dechert

First VP – Dick Adams

Second VP – Byron Dickerson

Secretary – Bill Hutton

Treasurer – Richard Hare

Directors

James Ferris	Dean McClain
Stan Grogan	Bob Morga
Larry McKinniss	Robert Banker
Joseph Pirrello	Jeff Brodeur
Lee Dauster	William Mac Swain
John Edwards	Warren Wiedhahn

Guests and Staff

Medal of Honor Recipients:

Col James Stone, MH00028

SFC Ronald Rosser, MH00025

Staff:

Tom Clawson	Boyle Henderson, CPA
Frank Cohee	Tine Martin
Jimmy Faircloth, Esq	Charley Price
Jake Feaster	J. D. Randolph
Sim Goodall	Steve Szekely
Art Hills	Chris Yanacos

Minutes of Meeting:

July 26, 2005: Approved unanimously as published in the July/August 2005 issue of the Graybeards.

Correspondence:

Secretary Hutton reviewed the types of correspondence received.

Treasurer's Report:

Presented by Treasurer Richard Hare (will be included in General Meeting summary in future Graybeards).

Old Business Action Items:

• Convention/Reunion Committee Report

Presented by Chairman Byron Dickerson. The Committee recommended that the 2006 Convention/Reunion be held in San Antonio,

TX, from October 8-11, 2006. Approved.

• **Budget and Finance Committee Report:** Presented by Chairman Jim Ferris. The following were suggested as methods to reduce expenses: (1) Cut one issue of Graybeards-Not Approved, (2) Schedule only two Executive Council meetings-Approved, pending review of new Bylaws, if approved, (3) limit the number of attendees to Executive Council meetings-Approved, leaving Presidential discretion; and, (4) Review per diem procedures-Approved.

• **Investments:** Presented by Treasurer Hare. Mr. Hare recommended that the KWVA funds in the Smith Barney Account be moved to AG Edwards Account. Joseph Bruska of AG Edwards made a presentation. Approved unanimously by the Council.

• **2005-06 Appointments:** President Dechert made the appointments for the year - Approved. (See KWVA Website)

• **E&G Committee Report:** The report of a nearly year long investigation was presented by outgoing Chairman Goodall with the recommendation that civil action be considered and Harley Coon and Kenneth Cook be expelled from the KWVA. After much discussion and secret ballots, the Council voted to send Mr. Coon and Mr. Cook each a letter of reprimand and to ban them from holding any office in the KWVA.

New Business Action Items:

• **Loan Request, Dept of Virginia:** Referred to Budget & Finance Committee.

• **Public Affairs Officer:** Referred to Budget and Finance Committee.

• **Request for Website Link and Donation:** Link approved, but no donation.

• **Recruiting Task Force Committee:** Approved.

• **Budget & Finance Committee-Disaster Relief Fund:** Director Ferris reported. The Council approved the recommendation that the funds donated for disaster relief be distributed to the chapters located in the disaster areas for further distribution, as they deem appropriate.

• **Korean War Veterans Memorial:** KWVA promotional support will continue; referred to Budget and Finance Committee for ways and means study.

• **KWVA Museums and Libraries Report:** Museums and Libraries Liaison Bill Mac Swain and Larry Sassorossi, Executive Director, Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library, Rantoul, IL, gave excellent reports. A motion of support for the KWVNML, Rantoul, was passed by the Council.

• **Bylaws/Procedures Manual Responsibility:** The President was requested to appoint a subcommittee to the Bylaws Committee for development and maintenance of the Policy and Procedures Manual, subsequent to any action by the Annual Meeting, October 5, 2005, on the new Bylaws.

• **Tell America Report:** Marvin Dunn reported for Larry Kinard, Chmn. of Tell America Committee. James E Yaney, Sr., of the Central Indiana Chapter 30, gave an outstanding presentation of the Tell America Program in their area as a part of the report.

• **Resolutions:** Four resolutions were approved for action at the

Continued ➤

A Dues and Who Gets What Primer

■ Let's get a head start...

For your dues this year:

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

Sample of dues date: "01/01/06"—this means January 1, 2006.

Right above your first name is your membership number...

- ♦ If you are a "Regular" member, your dues are \$20.00 annually.
- ♦ If you are an "Associate" member, your dues are \$12.00 annually.

If your dues are due:

January thru March, your dues are	\$20.00
April thru June, your dues are	\$15.00
July thru September, your dues are	\$10.00
October thru December, your dues are	\$5.00
January thru March, your dues are	\$12.00
April thru June, your dues are	\$9.00

Executive Council Meeting (Continued)

annual meeting: (1) Resolution supporting posthumous MOH for Chaplain Emil Kapaun, USA; (2) Resolution commending Mr. Eugene Chin Yu and awarding a Lifetime Honorary Membership to him; (3) Resolution supporting H.R. 2369, Award of the Purple Heart Medal to certain POWs; and (4) Resolution restricting monetary donations for museums and libraries to KWVAML, Rantoul (see KWVA Museums and Libraries Report, elsewhere in summary).

• **Membership Records Management:** Updated report of the member data project was presented. The problems in getting chapter and department responses were discussed.

It was noted that a number of elected chapter officers were not current members of KWVA, to include some presidents.

Motion to Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM, to be reconvened on October 5 for the purpose of reviewing the proposed budget revisions directed by the Council during the course of the October 4 meeting.

Benediction: Given by Chaplain Stegman.

Added: The Executive Council reconvened at 9:00 AM, October 5, to review the changes ordered in the proposed 2006 Budget. After discussion, the proposed 2006 Budget was approved for presentation to the Annual Meeting. A special order was requested. After discussion, the Council approved a Special Raffle of three weapons of the Korean War—the M1 Rifle, M1 Carbine, and Cal. 45 Pistol—donated by a US Army source, to be promoted through all available in-house media. A fundraising committee/task force of Bill MacSwain, Jim Ferris, and Charley Price was appointed to carry out the task and authorized to expend funds on a reimbursable basis to promote and conduct the raffle. The President later appointed the CPA, Mr. Boyle Henderson, to the Task Force. The Council adjourned to prepare for the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted:
Bill Hutton, National Secretary

July thru September, your dues are\$6.00
October thru December, your dues are\$3.00

Life Membership: Life membership for a "Regular" Member is \$150.00—regardless of age. You may pay in a lump sum or 6 payments of \$25 each over the period of a year.

Special Notice: If your chapter collects your national dues for transmission to national, please send your dues to them. This will assist your chapter in determining which members are in good standing.

If your chapter does not collect your national dues, send your dues payment to: KWVA, PO Box 101238, Arlington, VA 22210-4238.

Incidentally, if you move (or just head South for the winter) always notify us of each address change at least three weeks ahead of the move. The post office merely notifies us that you are "AWAY," and we do not receive a forwarding address. You are then "away" on our records until we hear further from you. These returns cost us 90 cents each...so let us know. Plus, you don't get your magazine.

To expedite your mail, check the KWVA Directory on the inside front cover of the Graybeards Magazine:

- Things regarding publication in The Graybeards should be submitted to the person whose name is identified as "Editor" [Art Sharp]
- "Membership Office" [Nancy Monson] is to receive information/questions regarding dues, address changes, deceased notices, etc.
- KWVA "Treasurer" [Richard Hare] receives questions concerning other financial matters.
- "The Membership Committee Chairman" [Dean McLean] receives requests for chapter formation information.

Reports of KWVA Department/Chapter Officer elections and President contact information are to be sent to "Assistant Secretary" [Jake Feaster]

Addresses for all the above are on the inside cover of this magazine. Send your questions/information to the appropriate person for handling so as to expedite processing.

Important notice to Chapters: Please include your Chapter ID (CID) number on all applications and communications. These numbers may be found on the KWVA website. Be sure to *use the new membership application* which appears on the inside cover of this issue with correct dues amounts. *It has been changed.* Be sure all information is filled out on a new member application—zip code, area code, chapter assignment, unit of service, etc.

We have developed special forms which can be of assistance to you in submitting dues payments, reporting address changes, etc. You may print them from a link on the KWVA website, www.kwva.org. If you do not have internet access, request them from the Membership Office.

It's important not to abbreviate on a membership application—you may know what "P'sville" is, but we don't—we then have to take additional time and look it up by the zip code. Another item sometimes missing is the telephone area code.

We are still in need of information regarding some chapter officers. Be sure that you keep the Ass't Secretary for Membership, Jake Feaster, advised when you elect officers of the date of the election and titles of those elected.

Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards

Many members have responded to the suggestion to help underwrite the cost of publication of *The Graybeards* by making voluntary contributions. Remarkably, *The Graybeards* is still being printed despite cost restraints. Your heartening response has made it possible to increase the quality of *The Graybeards*, and make desired changes in subsequent issues. We greatly appreciate your help—and we invite you to continue your generous support.

Members & Friends

Baldovi, Louis	Hawaii
Brady, George M.	New Jersey
C17 Reunion	Connecticut
DeGonda, Jack	Minnesota
Fayle, Andrew H.	Colorado
Heich, Jon	California
Jerin, Louis V.	New Jersey
Konze, William	Maryland
Lindgren, Conrad Henry	Texas
Reynolds, Max	Ohio
Shima, Hiroshi	Hawaii

Make checks out to KWVA, Support of Graybeards, or to KWVA with a note in the memo (Or "for") section at the bottom of the check "Support of Graybeards." Every donation will be acknowledged in *The Graybeards*.

Send checks to Richard E. Hare, 1260 Southampton Drive, Alexandria, LA 71303.

Shook, Leroy L.	Virginia	
Taylor, Ben (Buster)	Kentucky	
Thompson, Bernard F.	Ohio	
Williams, John R.	California	323rd Engr. Light Equip. Co..

Chapters:

Johnnie Johnson	115	Ohio	IMO Eugene T. King
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Donor

Alderete, Elias T.	New Mexico	In Memory of:
home		Those who didn't come
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Easterly, Wesley	Michigan	Lt. Donald Rietsma
Frankenbach, William A.	New York	Fred Knoebel

New KWVA Decals for Sale



Courtesy of KWVA Recruiting Task Force Committee.

These decals are round and measure a full four inches in diameter, in full color, and adhesive backed.

Prices are:

- One (1) each decal @ \$3.00
- Two (2) each decals @ \$5.00
- Twelve (12) each decals @ \$25.00

No handling fees, only stamp fees as delivered

To order, contact Tom Sunseri, KWVA Recruiting Task Force Quartermaster, 6160 82nd Terrace North, Pinellas Park, FL 33781-1307 <kwvaf1qm@tampabay.rr.com>
Phone: 727.547.1991 Website: <http://www.kwvaqm.org>

GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *Graybeards* must be sent to the editor no later than the 15th day of the first month of that issue. —Editor.

Jan-Feb	Jan 15
Mar-Apr	Mar 15
May-June	May 15
July-Aug	Jul 15
Sept-Oct	Sept 15
Nov-Dec	Nov 15

ROK Increases November 2006 Revisit Quotas!

Fellow Korean War veterans and friends - We have just received notice that the ROK government has unused 2005 "Revisit Korea" money and is increasing the 7-13 November quotas! The criteria are simple, but you must move fast!

• **Eligibility** Veteran from 25 June 1950 to 15 October 1954 who has not participated in a previous ROK Revisit Korea tour.

• **Allocation** One veteran & spouse OR direct descendant.

• **Dates** Korea tour 7-13 November 2006.
Post to Beijing, China 13-17 November (Optional)

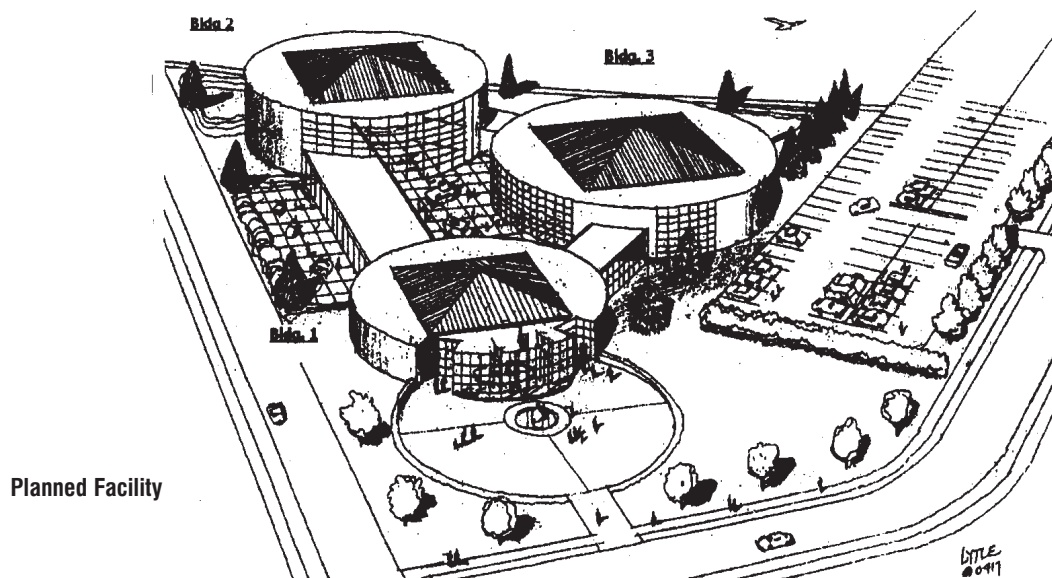
• **Special** This tour overlaps the Marine Corps Birthday Ball on 12 November. ALL VETERANS and family members are invited to participate in this festive event! (Optional)

CALL IMMEDIATELY: 800-722-9501 or 703-212-0695

Warren Wiedhahn, Revisit Korea Coordinator
KWVA Board of Directors
Korea -1950-Pusan-Inchon-Chosin

KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

Rantoul, IL



1. At the Annual Board of Directors meeting on August 27, 2005, KWVNM&L Executive Director Larry Sassorossi reported on the time-line, as proposed by the architect, for the construction of Building 1 (10,000 Square Feet) the first of a three (3) building complex totaling 50,000 square feet, which was approved by the KWVNM&L Board of Directors.

- a. September 13, '05 Mail out Bids for Phase I
- b. October 13 Opening of Bids for Phase I, Building 1
- c. October 22 Board of Directors to take action on Bids
- d. November 23 Construction to begin on Building 1
- e. February 15, '06 Award Bids for Phase II, Building 2
- f. March 15 Construction to begin for Building 2
- g. May 15 Award bids for (final) Phase III, Building 3
- h. June 15 Construction to begin on Building 3
- i. August 30 Anticipated COMPLETION of Building I
- j. Sept./Oct. 2006 Grand Opening ceremonies for Building 1

2. Phase II, Building 2 (20,000 square feet) is devoted to the history of Korea "before, during and after" the Korean War. Funding is being sought through and from the Korean Community. Considerable progress has been made. Cooperation has been received by visits with four Korean Consul Generals (Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, and Boston), support groups in Chicago and Houston, and contact with Retired Korean War Generals and Admirals (Members of our Advisory Board) in Korea. Sufficient progress has been made that anticipated construction may begin on this Phase in 2006.

3. Phase III, Building 3 (20,000 square feet) will display a "War Machine Gallery," consisting of armaments used in the Korean War. Anticipated funding will be sought from major United States corporations

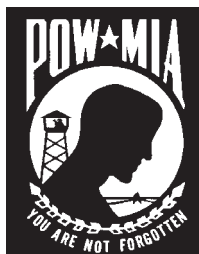
4. A Resolution to acknowledge the Purpose, Mission, and Objectives of the KWVNM&L by U.S. Congress is being sought, and major headway has been made. Contacts and cooperation to sponsor such a resolution in the House of Representatives has been made and received from Congressmen serving on the Veterans Affairs and the Armed Services Committees, plus others.

5. Assumed control of the KOREAN WAR CHILDREN'S EXHIBIT that strives to keep alive in the public's consciousness the story of how American GIs aided orphaned children during and following the Korean War; and documents the efforts of American GI's in saving the lives of thousands of Korean orphans.

Thus the progress made by the Museum and Library Board of Directors this year has been tremendous, and points the way for a successful Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library to finally be established with a major national building fund-raising program now in work, and future plans for construction placed in action.

Respectfully submitted,
William Mac Swain
KWVA Liaison

"The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. Board of Directors has approved support for the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library and requests that all Korean War Veterans support the fund raising being accomplished for construction of the Facilities to house the Museum and Library in Rantoul, IL."



POW/MIA Update

by Marty O'Brien

Progress Report

"Tiger Survivor" Shorty Estabrook and Rick Tavares report that the Military Order of the Purple Heart has given its backing to H.R. 2369, "Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act"

- a bill to posthumously award the Purple Heart to those who died in enemy prisoner of war facilities from 1941 to date. On September 4, Ray Funderburk, the National Public Relations Director for the MOPH, reiterated the Order's strong support for the bill as a guest participant on Veterans Radio <www.veteransradio.net>.

Also participating in the last program of a three-part series dealing with Korean War POW issues, during imprisonment and after repatriation, was former Army veteran and POW Robert Fletcher, who was captured on November 27, 1950. Funderburk pointed out that a qualifier for the award of the Purple Heart is that the person has to be wounded by an instrument of war. Funderburk said that the MOPH considers the death camps in themselves as being instruments of war.

Brian McGinn Remembered

Brian McGinn of Alexandria, VA, a Vietnam veteran and an accomplished author, died on July 20, 2005 after a long illness. On July 23, he was buried at Mt. Comfort Cemetery in Alexandria.

Brian was born in New York, but raised and educated in Ireland. In 1969-1970, he served with U. S. Army intelligence in Vietnam. He was a key member of a team of dedicated people from all walks of life who for many years worked diligently to get posthumous U. S. citizenship (upon application) for non-citizens of all nationalities who served, fought and died in our nation's wars while wearing Uncle Sam's uniform.

The Irish leg of the story started when John Leahy, a native of Kerry, Ireland, and a decorated Korean War veteran, was in New York during the bicentennial celebration of our nation's independence. He got to thinking of his fellow Irish who had died in Korea and who were never recognized as full citizens. He mobilized a team. Twenty-seven years later, on October 30, 2003, after a lot of hard work, a total of 28 Irish warriors were awarded posthumous citizenship under the terms of "The Posthumous Citizenship Restoration Act of 2002."

The Irish born men hailed from counties Cork, Mayo, Kerry, Limerick, Roscommon, Lonsford, Leitrim, Galway, Antrim, Tipperary and Louth. Twenty-seven of them served in the Army; one was a Marine. Twenty were killed in action, two died while POW, one died of wounds, one was missing in action and four were non-hostile deaths.

After a Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on October 30, solemn ceremonies took place on Capitol Hill and at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Many notables attended that day, including Gen. P. X. Kelley, former commandant of the Marine Corps, who shepherded the process of the campaign in the final days leading up to the signing of the bill.

Pat Maguire, of County Fermanagh, Ireland, a decorated Korean War veteran, was the person who convinced McGinn to research all

of the military and civilian Irish deaths in Korea. The result was www.irishinkorea.org. Brian's hard work helped many, not least those families who finally saw their soldiers made posthumous citizens. May God hold him in the hollow of his hand!

A Death March and Nightmares

That's the name of a great little 127-page soft-cover book written by Donald Donner of Newport, Washington, a "Tiger Survivor," describing his life in the Army in Japan in 1948 - 1949, and later in Korea with the 24th Infantry Division. Like most former POW, Donner didn't talk much about his experiences in Korea after he came home, but as the years went by he came to realize that the plight of the POW in Korea was - largely unknown - and the public needed to know. So, for the sake of his grandchildren and his legacy, he sat down and wrote the book.

Shortly after the Korean War broke out, Donald was sent to Korea. He arrived at Taejon on July 8, and for the next twelve days participated as a radio operator and a close combat soldier with Battery A, 11th Field Artillery Battalion, in the heroic but futile attempt to save Taejon from the advancing North Koreans. His descriptions of the battle and the chaos surrounding the combat are instructive and riveting.

Donald was captured on July 20, and survived the infamous "Death March" to the prison camps along the Yalu River near Changsong where he was harshly imprisoned until August 1953. His is just one of many remarkable stories of courage, survival and hope, stories by ordinary men of faith who fought bravely only to live a nightmare - but who now look only to the future. They are stories that definitely need to be told.

"It is so asinine," he said, "that those of us who lived this nightmare must also be the ones to preserve for posterity the truth of what happened there."

The book is available on-demand by Trafford Publishing, Canada, 1-888-232-4444, <sales@trafford.com>, U.S. \$15.

Corporal Heath Interred With Honors

Corporal Leslie R. Heath of Bridgeport, Illinois, was interred on August 20 in Bridgeport, some 54 years after he was captured by Chinese Communist Forces on the morning of April 23, 1951, along with more than 80 other members of Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Regimental Combat Team.

Cpl. Heath was held in a temporary POW camp known as Suan Camp Complex in North Hwanghae Province in North Korea. Reportedly, he died in June 1951. His remains were returned by the North Koreans in July 1993. They were identified by forensic experts of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command in Hawaii in May 2005.

Heath's mitochondrial DNA sequence matched that of two of his maternal relatives.

*Martin J. O'Brien, CavKVet50@aol.com
27 Meadow Road #202, Augusta, Maine 04330
http://www.kwva.org/pow_mia/index.htm*

Continued ➤

Last Call



All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

ALABAMA

★ Paul B. Wiener

CALIFORNIA

★ Richard E. Bredernitz

★ Joe Deluna

★ Leroy C. Weygand

CONNECTICUT

★ Thomas L. Bash

★ Frank M. Devney

★ John Kinicil

★ Robert F. Mihalcik

★ Louis Pacific

DELAWARE

★ William D. Schulz

FLORIDA

★ Joseph M. Aronica

★ Richard Brickley Foster

★ Edward "Ted" Magill

★ Albert J. Strumble

GEORGIA

★ Robert E. Fishburn

★ John E. Pierson

HAWAII

★ Kab Joon Kim

ILLINOIS

★ Ross A. Millatti, Sr.

INDIANA

★ Mark Dinsmore

★ Jim Gray

★ Edgar Koenemann

★ Robert R. Ondrish

★ Charles Edward Williams

IOWA

★ Richard P. Smith

MARYLAND

★ Louisa A. C. Frazier

★ Allen W. Speicher

★ Harry L. Wallace

MASSACHUSETTS

★ Edward Hufnagle

★ Leo Provost

★ Arthur L. Wilk

MICHIGAN

★ Dolores A. Johnson

★ Roy A. Koski

MINNESOTA

★ Wendell R. Fricke

MISSISSIPPI

★ Joseph V. Rogers

MISSOURI

★ Ralph D. Beckering

★ Robert H. Finlayson

★ Harold Morrison

NEVADA

★ Richard D. Hyde

NEW JERSEY

★ Robert Slepian

NEW YORK

★ Paul "Ray" Braca

★ Alfred L. Brandt, Jr.

★ Paul Duke

★ George R. Everson

★ Charles Rakestraw

★ Joseph V. Rogers

★ Sam Schevera

★ Gordon H. Schultz

★ Anthony J. Simish

★ Henry J. White

NORTH CAROLINA

★ Alan G. Bennett

★ Eugene F. Pruitt

OHIO

★ John Ahumada

★ Gilbert M. Frontz, Jr.

★ Kenneth Hopkins

★ Robert F. Krieger

★ Harold W. Lunsford

★ Robert P. Small

OREGON

★ James A. Huff

SOUTH CAROLINA

★ Jack R. Moore

★ Frederic M. Pirl

TEXAS

★ Daniel Lee Cooper

★ John P. Edele

★ John D. Ervin

★ Earl Ray Gibson

★ Albert T. Watson, Jr.

VIRGINIA

★ Richard D. Boyd

A Captivating Speech From Col. Stone

The Korean War Veterans Association numbers several hundred former POWs as members. Of that number, some were recipients of the Medal of Honor after return from captivity. I had the great privilege of hearing one of those members September 9, 2005, at Killeen/Fort Hood, Texas. The occasion was the banquet at the Department of Texas KWVA Convention. The speaker was Colonel James L. Stone, USA Ret. Colonel Stone is an active member in the General Walton Walker Chapter 215, Dallas/Ft Worth Metroplex, TX.

Colonel Stone recounted some of the details of his capture—the events for which he received the MOH—and captivity in the harsh winter of 1950, in far North Korea as the 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st US Cavalry Division, surrounded by tens of thousands of attacking Chinese Communists, finally fell apart. He was wounded three times that freezing night.

Jim's account was somewhat light—"didn't want to get too heavy for the women present." But as he concluded, and was leaving the rostrum, he came back to the microphone to add, in broken tones: "I remember being released and coming across that (Freedom) bridge, and seeing that American flag again. I cannot describe how it affected me, *how it was to be a person again.*"

Well done, noble warrior. God bless our armed forces.

Lou Dechert, President, KWVA, USA

JPAC Commemorates POW/MIA Recognition Day

The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, Hickam AFB, HI commemorated National POW/MIA Recognition Day at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific [Punchbowl] on September 16, 2005.

A Presidential Proclamation designates the third Friday in September each year as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. At this year's ceremony, the national anthem was played during the Presentation of the Colors. There was also a wreath laying ceremony. The playing of taps was conducted in honor and recognition of the prisoners of war and those still missing in action from previous wars.

The ceremony was led by JPAC's commanding general, Brig. Gen. Michael Flowers. Keynote speaker was U.S. Navy Capt. (Ret) Gerald Coffee, a former Vietnam War POW. Also speaking at the ceremony was Hawaii Lt. Gov. James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the audience was invited to tour the cemetery or lay wreaths at the monument.

JPAC's mission is to investigate, recover and identify missing service members as a result of our nation's conflicts.

One American is still missing from the Gulf War, more than 1,800 from the Vietnam War, 120 from the Cold War, more than 8,100 from the Korean War, and more than 78,000 from World War II.



The Editor's Desk

Art Sharp



A Tale Of Two Jacks—And An Opportunity

Ironically, as I sit here writing these comments, I am listening to Camille Saint-Saens' 3rd Symphony, known as the "Organ Concert." To me, it is the most powerful symphony ever written. In fact, I have told my wife Betsy that Saint-Saens' Third is the last piece of music I ever want to hear as I am transported to my final duty station wearing the asbestos suit I will surely need. That piece of music is entirely fitting as I contemplate the bittersweet death of my oldest sister, Pat, who died on September 26th, 2005.

The death of a sibling is a bitter thing. But, there is always something sweet to counter the bitter. In my case, it was encountering at her funeral for the first time in fifty years an old friend and Korean War veteran.

Pat was eleven years older than me. She took her older sister responsibilities seriously. Pat gave me a lot of opportunities to enjoy new experiences, meet new people, try new things...all the things an older sister should do for her younger brother. I always relished our oldest sister-first brother relationship, which continued after she wed John L. ("Jack") Cavanaugh, Jr., who served in Korea with the 1st Marine Division.

Jack's best friend was Jack Cassidy, who served in Korea as well, I believe with the 7th Cavalry. (He also belonged to the KWVA at one time, but severed relationships with the organization a couple years back. It is my job to get him back in.) The two Jacks went their separate ways on their circuitous routes to Korea. Fortunately, they both survived, and they revived their friendship when they returned to the U.S.

After Pat and Jack married in 1955, they built their own house, with the considerable assistance of Jack Cassidy. I was a mere lad of 14 or so at the time. My brother-in-law was an electrician by trade, and a very handy guy all-around. I am not sure what Jack Cassidy did for a living, but he too was very handy. He could fix everything but cats and dogs (although I'm sure

So, in a way, [my sister] Pat's death was a sweet thing. I got reacquainted with an old friend, heard some stories about Korea that I had not heard before, received an opportunity to bring a disgruntled member back into the KWVA fold,...

he could have done that too if there were no veterinarians around). The two Jacks worked hard on the house. They even let me do a few things to let me prove how inept I was with a hammer and/or nails.

I will never forget how nicely these two battle-tested veterans treated me. They did not even crack a smile when I drove a nail through my thumb or dropped a pile of shingles on my toes. Rather, they simply offered me a beer and made me swear I would never try to fix anything but a horse race for them. Yes, my brother-in-law was the person who introduced me to beer. That began a life-long relationship that is still going on (always in moderation)—and I have never dropped a beer.

I lost track of Jack Cassidy over the years. I simply lost Jack Cavanaugh. He died 13 years ago. So, it was a joy to run into Jack Cassidy again after almost half a century.

He was as affable as ever. He told me a couple stories about his time in Korea. That opened up the door for a couple of Jack Cavanaugh's siblings and kids to share stories about his experiences in Korea. Neither Jack was much for talking about their war experiences when they

were younger. And I never asked. Apparently, my brother-in-law did tell his siblings one or two tales, though. One in particular amused me.

Jack (Cavanaugh, that is) was driving a truck near Panmunjom when the peace talks were going on. Apparently, he fell asleep at the wheel, and almost ran over some dignitaries. (I infer they were of the North Korean persuasion.) In the process, he almost set off an international incident, since they took exception to his driving. (He was a rather feisty individual, and setting off incidents, locally, nationally, or internationally, was not out of character for him.) Somebody placated everyone before the situation got out of hand. Even though the details were fuzzy in the telling, I found the story amusing—especially because of my affinity for Korean War history and my relationships with the men and women who fought the battles.

So, in a way, Pat's death was a sweet thing. I got reacquainted with an old friend, heard some stories about Korea that I had not heard before, received an opportunity to bring a disgruntled member back into the KWVA fold, and heard Saint-Saens' Third Symphony once again. If she had not died, I might not have gotten to do the first three. Once again, she provided me with an opportunity. The biggest one she ever provided me, though, was the opportunity to know her. And, I hope she got one of her own: to hear Saint-Saens' Third when she reported to Saint Peter.

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National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

The Rose of Sharon is the National KWVA fund raising flower. The Rose of Sharon is sold by the dozen.

- ☐ Sample order is 4 dozen @ \$10 plus \$3.00 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$50 plus \$5.00 S/H.

Order from: Earl House
1870 Yakona Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21234
Phone 410-661-8950



Make Checks payable to: **Maryland Chapter – KWVA**

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

APPROVED BUDGET FOR 2006 1 JANUARY 2006 THROUGH 31 DECEMBER 2006

INCOME:

DUES	\$250,000.00
CONTRIBUTIONS GRAYBEARDS	3,000.00
AFFINITY FEES	2,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS	200.00
GRAYBEARDS ADVERTISING	1,900.00
DIVIDEND INTEREST	15,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$272,100.00
INCOME FROM FUND RAISING	\$94,000.00
TOTAL COMBINED INCOME	\$366,100.00

EXPENSES:

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	
ACCOUNTING FEES	\$7,000.00
LEGAL FEES	6,000.00
TOTAL PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$13,000.00
GRAYBEARDS MAGAZINE (SIX ISSUES)	
EDITING	\$12,000.00
PRINTING/PUBLISHING	108,000.00
POSTAGE	35,000.00
TOTAL GRAYBEARDS EXPENSE	\$155,000.00

MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

SECRETARIAL SERVICE	\$18,000.00
TELEPHONE	5,000.00
POSTAGE	11,000.00
MEMBERSHIP CARDS & SUPPLIES	3,000.00
NEWSLETTER	5,000.00
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OFFICE	\$42,000.00

MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS

TRAVEL (Directors, Officers and essential others)	\$65,000.00
RECORDER	2,100.00
HOTEL CHARGES (Misc. Copying, Faxing etc.)	1,500.00
TOTAL MEETING AND CONVENTION	\$68,600.00

ELECTIONS (All Expenses required for the process)	\$10,000.00
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TRAVEL

PRESIDENT (1ST Vice & 2nd Vice as necessary)	\$15,000.00
CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT	1,000.00
TOTAL TRAVEL	\$16,000.00

TELEPHONE/ SUPPLIES AND POSTAGE:

SUPPLIES	\$1,000.00
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT	6,000.00
OTHER	2,000.00
TOTAL TELEPHONE SUPPLIES & POSTAGE	\$9,000.00

BANK CHARGES	\$2,100.00
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WEBSITE	\$18,000.00
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DONATIONS, COLLEGES, VETS ORG	\$6,000.00
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INSURANCE	\$16,000.00
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MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:

CHAPTER FORMATION	\$700.00
HEADQUARTERS EXPENSE	1,500.00
REIMBURSED EXPENSES	1,000.00
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	\$3,200.00

CREDIT CARD EXPENSE (PROCESSING expense)	\$100.00
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VSVA REPRESENTATIVE	\$300.00
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VSO AND LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR	\$3,000.00
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RECRUITING TASK FORCE	\$3,000.00
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TELL AMERICA PROGRAM	\$500.00
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BY LAWS AND PROCEDURE MANUAL TASKS	\$300.00
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TOTAL 2006 EXPENSES	\$366,100.00
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TOTAL 2006 INCOME	\$366,100.00
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Tell America Program

In Appreciation...

January 14, 2005

Mr. Fred Shively
415 East Walnut Street
Covington, OH 45318

Mr. Ken Williamson
2861 St. Rt. 48
Ludlow Falls, OH 45339

Dear Sirs,

I am sorry it has taken me so long to write. However, the tardiness of this letter is not meant to be any less sincere.

On behalf of the students and staff at Versailles High School, I wish to thank you. Thank you for your time, energy, and compelling Veterans Day Program. Your presentation was extremely educational and informative. The humanistic approach you took teaching the students "How to Identify a Veteran" and the sharing of your true life experiences was extremely impactful.

You gentlemen have dedicated and for a time risked your lives for the citizens of the United States. Nothing but a special place in heaven can ever reward you or thank you for your service

God Bless,

Timothy J. Whitestone, Principal
Versailles High School

Key Bills in Congress

This compilation of key bills in Congress is graciously provided by the National Association of Uniformed Services (NAUS). We are grateful to Marcy Genest of NAUS for her willingness to share the information with our members.

Authorization/Appropriation

H.R. 889 – Rep. Don Young (R-At Large-AK), 04/07/2005 – Reported by the committee to the full House for consideration on 07/29/2005. Authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for FY06, to make technical corrections for various laws administered by the Coast Guard.

H.R. 1815 – Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-52-CA), 04/26/2005 – Passed by full House and referred to the Senate 06/06/2005. Authorize appropriations for FY 2006 for military activities of DoD, to prescribe military personnel strengths for FY06 and for other purposes.

H.R. 2528 – Rep. James T. Walsh (R-25-NY), 05/26/2005 – Passed the House. Making appropriations for military quality of life functions of the DoD, military construction, the Dept. of Veterans Affairs and related agencies.

S. 1042 – Sen. John Warner (R-VA), 06/02/2005 – Reported by the Senate Committee on Armed Services. To authorize appropriations for FY06 for military activities by the DoD, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths and for other purposes.

S. 1280 – Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-ME) – Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation passed bill and referred to full Senate 07/28/2005. Authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 for the United States Coast Guard.

Defense

H.R. 97 – Rep. Sam Graves (R-6-MO), 01/04/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Establish requirements with respect to the terms of consumer credit extended by a creditor to a service member or the dependent of a service member.

H.R. 771 – Rep. Edward Markey (D-7-MA), 02/10/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title 37, US Code, to require that a member of the uniformed services who is wounded or otherwise injured while serving in a combat zone continue to be paid monthly military pay and allowances, while the member recovers from the wound or injury, at least equal to the monthly military pay and allowances the member received immediately before receiving the wound or injury, and to continue the combat zone tax exclusion for the member during the recovery period.

H.R. 1406 – Rep. Tom Latham (R-4-IA), 03/17/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 37, US Code, to increase the authorized weight allowances for the shipment of baggage and household effects of senior noncommissioned officers of the uniformed services.

H.R. 2874 – Rep. Harold E. Ford (D-9-TN), 06/14/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Government Reform. A bill to

provide for a program under which postal benefits shall be made available for purposes of certain personal correspondence and other mail matter sent from within the United States to members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty abroad who are engaged in military operations.

H.R. 3200 – Rep. Jeff Miller (R-1-FL), 07/26/2005 – Passed by Full House and passed to Senate. Amend title 38 U.S. Code, to enhance the Service Members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program.

S. 11 – Sen. Carl Levin (D-MI), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend Title 10, US Code, to ensure that the strength of the Armed Forces and the protections and benefits for members of the Armed Forces and their families are adequate for keeping the commitment of the people of the United States to support their service members, and for other purposes.

Guard & Reserve

H.R. 558 – Rep. Tom Latham (R-4-IA), 02/02/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to revise the age and service requirements for eligibility to receive retired pay for non-regular (Guard & Reserve) service.

H.R. 783 – Rep. Jim Saxton (R-3-NJ), 2/10/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to reduce the age for receipt of military retired pay for non-regular service from 60 to 55.

S. 1142 – Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-LA), 05/26/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Provide pay protection for members of the Reserve and National Guard (Hope at Home Act).

S. 32 – Sen. Mark Dayton (D-MN), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Enhance the benefits and protections for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are called or ordered to extend active duty, and for other purposes.

S. 38 – Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Enhance and improve benefits for members of the National Guard and Reserves who serve extended periods on active duty, and for other purposes.

S. 337 – Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), 02/09/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to revise the age and service requirements for eligibility to receive retired pay for non-regular service, to expand certain authorities to provide health care benefits for Reserves and their families, and for other purposes.

MGIB & Educational Benefits

H.R. 197 – Rep. David Scott (D-13-GA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US

Code, to require a State to charge in-State tuition rates to active-duty members of the Armed Forces domiciled or stationed on active duty in that State and to the dependents of such members.

H.R. 269 – Rep. David Camp (R-4-MI), 01/06/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to provide for certain servicemembers to become eligible for educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill.

H.R. 772 – Rep. Jim Matheson (D-2-UT), 02/10/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Provide entitlement to education assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill for members of the Selected Reserve who aggregate more than 2 years of active duty service in any five-year period.

H.R. 2248 – Rep. Lane Evans (D-17-IL), 05/11/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 38, US Code, to improve benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill by establishing an enhanced educational assistance program, by increasing the amount of basic educational assistance, repealing the requirement for reduction in pay for participation in the program, eliminating the time limitation for use of benefits under the program, expanding the opportunities to transfer educational assistance benefits to dependents and for other purposes.

H.R. 2365 – Rep. Bob Filner (D-51-CA), 05/16/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to extend the time limitation for use of eligibility and entitlement for educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill.

H.R. 3347 – Rep. Rick Larsen (D-2-WA), 07/19/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Titles 10 & 38 US Code, to repeal the 10-year limits on use of Montgomery GI Bill educational assistance benefits. Companion Bill:

S. 1162 – Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA), 06/06/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs.

S. 615 – Sen. Mark Dayton (D-MN), 03/14/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to improve benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill by establishing an enhanced educational assistance program and by repealing the requirement for reduction in pay for participation in the program.

Increase in Military Death Benefits

H.R. 292 – Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-6-AL), 01/20/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code to increase the amount of the military death gratuity from \$12,000 to \$100,000.

H.R. 377 – Rep. Terry Everett (R-2-AL), 01/26/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Titles 10 and 38, US Code, to improve death benefits for the families of deceased members of the Armed Forces, and other purposes.

H.R. 447 – Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-7-TN), 02/01/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to increase the amount of the military death gratuity to \$100,000.

H.R. 502 – Rep. Christopher Smith (R-4-NJ), 02/01/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Increase the amounts payable under the DoD death gratuity program and the Servicemember's Group Life Insurance program.

S. 42 – Sen. George Allen (R-VA), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code,

to increase the death gratuity payable with respect to deceased members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 44 – Sen. Chuck Hagel (R-NE), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to increase the amount of the military death gratuity from \$12,000 to \$100,000.

S. 121 – Sen. Mike DeWine (R-OH), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Titles 10 & 38, US Code, to improve the benefits provided for survivors of deceased members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

Flag Amendment

HJR 10 – Rep. Randy Cunningham (R-50-CA), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States. Companion Bill:

SJR 12 – Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), 04/14/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Health Care & Medicare

H.R. 201 – Rep. David Scott (D-13-GA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to stabilize the amount of the Medicare Part B premium. Companion Bill:

S. 222 – Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), 01/31/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.

H.R. 218 – Rep. Cliff Stearns (R-6-FL), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for amounts paid for health insurance and prescription drug costs of individuals.

H.R. 322 – Rep. Jo Ann Emerson, (R-8-MO), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit to military retirees for premiums paid for coverage under Medicare Part B.

H.R. 376 – Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (R-8-MO), 01/26/2005 – Referred to the House committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate fair prices for Medicare prescription drugs on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries.

H.R. 602 – Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-8-MD), 02/02/2005 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Restore health care coverage to retired members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes. (Keep Our Promise to America's Military Retirees Act) Companion Bill:

S. 407 – Sen. Tim Johnson (D-SD), 02/16/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 836 – Rep. Charles Norwood (R-9-GA), 02/16/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to take such actions as are necessary to change the reimbursement rates and cost sharing requirements under the TRICARE program to be the same as, or as similar as possible to, the reimbursement rates and cost sharing requirements under the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Standard Plan provided under the Federal Employee Health Benefit program under Chapter 89 of Title 5, United States Code.

H.R. 994 – Rep. Thomas M. Davis (R-11-VA), 03/01/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Ways & Means. Amend Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums. Companion Bill:

S. 484 – Sen. John Warner (R-VA), 03/01/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Finance.

H.R. 1478 – Rep. Michael R. Turner (R-3-OH), 04/05/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Ways & Means. Amend Title 10, US Code, to provide limited TRICARE program eligibility for members of the Ready Reserve of the Armed Forces, to provide financial support for continuation of health insurance for mobilized members of reserve components of the Armed Forces.

H.R. 2824 – Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-46-CA), 06/08/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to provide TRICARE Standard coverage for members of Reserve Components of the Armed Forces who serve at least one year on active duty overseas.

S. 18 – Sen. Mark Dayton (D-MN), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make improvements in the Medicare program for beneficiaries.

S. 123 – Sen. Russell Feingold (D-WI), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for negotiation of fair prices for Medicare prescription drugs.

S. 160 – Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals a refundable credit against income tax for the purchase of private health insurance, and for other purposes.

S. 184 – Sen. Judd Gregg (R-NH), 01/26/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to protect the public health from the unsafe importation of prescription drugs and from counterfeit prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 239 – Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-ME), 02/01/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Reduce the costs of prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

Social Security

H.R. 80 – Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (R-8-MO), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title II of the Social Security Act to provide for an improved benefit computation formula for workers affected by the changes in benefit computation rules enacted in the Social Security Amendments of 1977 who attained age 65 during the 10-year period after 1981 and before 1992 (and related beneficiaries) and to provide prospectively for increases in their benefits accordingly (Notch Reform).

H.R. 147 – Rep. Howard McKeo, (R-25-CA), 1/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

H.R. 266 – Rep. Ginny Brown-Waite (R-5-FL), 1/06/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Rules. Amend the

Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to protect Social Security beneficiaries against any reduction in benefits.

H.R. 276 – Rep. Gene Green (D-9-TX), 01/06/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title II of the Social Security Act to remove the limitation upon the amount of outside income which an individual may earn while receiving benefits under such title.

H.R. 615 – Rep. Ralph Hall (R-4-TX), Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend Title II of the Social Security Act to allow workers who attain age 65 after 1981 and before 1992 to choose either lump sum payments over four years totaling \$5,000 or an improved benefit computation formula under a new 10-year rule governing the transition to the changes in benefit computation rules enacted in the Social Security Amendments of 1977, and for other purposes (Notch Reform).

H.R. 1164 – Rep. Walter B. Jones (R-3-NC), 03/08/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Ways & Means. Guarantee the right of individuals to receive Social Security benefits under Title II of the Social Security Act in full with an accurate annual cost-of-living adjustment.

S. 275 – Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA), 02/03/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Require the establishment of a Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers to compute cost-of-living increases for Social Security benefits under Title II of the Social Security Act.

S. 292 – Sen. David Vitter (R-LA), 02/03/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on the Budget. Establish a procedure to safeguard the Social Security Trust Funds.

S. 568 – Sen. George Voinovich (R-OH), 03/08/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on the Budget. Balance the budget and protect the Social Security Trust Fund Surpluses.

Taxes

H.R. 64 – Rep. Christopher Cox (R-48-CA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Repeal the Federal death tax, including the estate and gift taxes and the tax on generation-skipping transfers.

H.R. 66 – Rep. Christopher Cox (R-48-CA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve health care choice by providing for the tax deductibility of medical expenses by individuals.

H.R. 321 – Rep. Jo Ann Emerson (R-8-MO), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit to certain senior citizens for premiums paid for coverage under Medicare Part B.

H.R. 443 – Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-9-FL), 02/01/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit to employers for the value of the service not performed during the period employees are performing service as a member of the Ready Reserve or the National Guard.

S. 78 – Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. Make permanent marriage penalty relief.

Veterans

H.R. 76 – Rep. John Duncan (R-2-TN), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to improve access to medical services for veterans seeking treatment at Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinics with exceptionally long waiting periods.

H.R. 170 – Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-37-CA), 01/04/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to improve benefits for Filipino veterans of World War II.

H.R. 302 – Rep. Randy Cunningham (R-50-CA), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 303 – Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-9-FL), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 10, US Code, to permit certain additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of the years of military service or Combat Related Special Compensation and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt (full Concurrent Receipt). Companion Bill:

S. 558 – Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV), 03/08/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 515 – Rep. Lane Evans (D-17-IL), 02/02/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to provide for an assured adequate level of funding for veterans health care. Companion Bill:

S. 331 – Sen. Tim Johnson (D-SD), Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 531 – Rep. Ed Case (D-2-HI), 02/02/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to increase the allowance for burial expenses of certain veterans.

H.R. 616 – Rep. Joe Baca (D-43-CA), 02/08/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Provide for reduction in the backlog of claims for benefits pending with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

H.R. 693 – Rep. George Butterfield (D-1-NC), 02/09/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to require the Department of Veterans Affairs pharmacies to dispense medications to veterans for prescriptions written by private practitioners, and for other purposes.

S. 13 – Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-HI), 01/24/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Titles 10 and 38, US Code, to expand and enhance health care, mental health, transition and disability benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 146 – Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-HI), 01/25/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of bene-

fits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 331 – Sen. Tim Johnson (D-SD), 02/09/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to provide for an assured adequate level of funding for veterans health care.

S. 481 – Sen. Daniel K. Akaka (D-HI), 03/01/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to extend the period of eligibility for health care for combat service in the Persian Gulf War or future hostilities from two years to five years after discharge or release.

S. 614 – Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA), 03/14/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. Amend Title 38, US Code, to permit medicare-eligible veterans to receive an out-patient medication benefit, to provide that certain veterans who receive such benefit are not otherwise eligible for medical care and services from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Pay and Compensation

H.R. 808 – Rep. Henry Brown (R-1-SC), 02/15/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to repeal the offset from surviving spouse annuities under the military Survivor Benefit Plan for amounts paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs as Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

H.R. 968 – Rep. Jim Saxton (R-3-NJ), 02/17/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to change the effective date for paid-up coverage under the military Survivor Benefit Plan from October 1, 2008 to October 1, 2005.

H.R. 995 – Rep. Jerry Weller (R-11-IL), 03/01/2005 – Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to provide for the payment of Combat-Related Special Compensation under that title to members of the Armed Forces retired for disability with less than 20 years of military service who were awarded the Purple Heart.

H.R. 1366 – Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-9-FL), 03/17/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to expand eligibility for Combat Related Special Compensation paid by the uniformed services in order to permit certain additional retired members who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for that disability and Combat Related Special Compensation by reason of that disability.

H.R. 2046 – Rep. Steve Buyer (R-4-IN), 05/24/2005 – Passed full House on May 23 and sent to Senate for action. Amend Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to limit premium increases on reinstated health insurance on servicemembers who are released from active military service.

H.R. 2076 – Rep. Michael Bilirakis (R-9-FL), 05/04/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or CRSC.

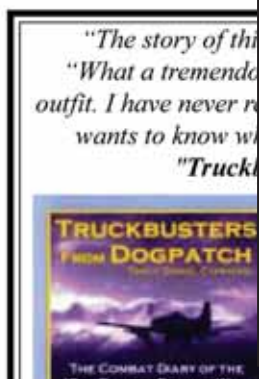
H.R. 2832 – Rep. Sue W. Kelly (R-NY), 06/09/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Establish certain conditions

on the Secretary of Veterans Affairs implementing any recommendation of the CARES Commission that would have the effect of eliminating or severely reducing any medical service provided to veterans throughout the United States at Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities.

HRES 270 – Rep. Jim Marshall, (D-3-GA), 05/10/2005 – Referred to House Committee on Rules. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 303, to amend Title 10, US Code, to permit certain additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or CRSC and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt.

S. 185 – Sen. Bill Nelson, (D-FL), 01/26/2005 – Referred to the Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to repeal the requirement for the reduction of certain Survivor Benefit Plan annuities by the amount of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and to modify the effective date for paid-up coverage under the Survivor Benefit Plan.

S. 558 – Sen. Harry Reid, (D-NV), 03/08/2005 – Referred to Senate Committee on Armed Services. Amend Title 10, US Code, to permit certain additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt.



SSgt WILLIAM G. WINDRICH

Medal of Honor

1950

3/5/1 Korea

The President of the United States in the Name of The Congress takes pride in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR posthumously to

STAFF SERGEANT WILLIAM G. WINDRICH
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Platoon Sergeant of Company I, Third Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in the vicinity of Yudam-ni, Korea, the night of 1 December 1950. Promptly organizing a squad of men when the enemy launched a sudden, vicious counterattack against the forward elements of his company's position, rendering it untenable, Staff Sergeant Windrich, armed with a carbine, spear-headed the assault to the top of the knoll immediately confronting the overwhelming force and, under shattering hostile automatic weapons, mortar and grenade fire, directed effective fire to hold back the attackers and cover the withdrawal of our troops to commanding ground. With seven of his men struck down during the furious action and he, himself, wounded in the head by a bursting grenade, he made his way to his company's position and, organizing a small group of volunteers, returned with them to evacuate the wounded and dying from the frozen hillside, staunchly refusing medical attention himself. Immediately redeploying the remainder of his troops, Staff Sergeant Windrich placed them on the left flank of the defensive sector before the enemy again attacked in force. Wounded in the leg during the bitter fight that followed, he bravely fought on with his men, shouting words of encouragement and directing their fire until the attack was repelled. Refusing evacuation although unable to stand, he still continued to direct his platoon in setting up defensive positions until, weakened by the bitter cold, excessive loss of blood and severe pain, he lapsed into unconsciousness and died. His valiant leadership, fortitude and courageous fighting spirit against tremendous odds served to inspire others to heroic endeavor in holding the objective and reflect the highest credit upon Staff Sergeant Windrich and the United States Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

/S/ HARRY S. TRUMAN

(See page 25 for more on SSgt Windrich)

Report from Belgium

THANK YOU, ALL

'So many support personnel will never get full recognition for the excellent service they gave to our units because their duties were taken for granted.'

Military personnel often overlook the importance of the entire organization in favor of their individual units. They forget that an army, a navy, an air force, etc., cannot carry out its mission unless every unit, regardless of its purpose, carries out its job. All too often, service and non-service people alike look at the "front line" units that actually do the fighting as the focal point of the military, and ignore the support units. That is neither accurate nor necessary.

For instance, "top of the line" naval vessels could not get from Port A to Port B if they did not have oilers to "fill 'em up" en route. Similarly, air force planes need to be refueled in the air while on missions. If they had no place to "stop for gas," mid-air, they would be pretty useless on some missions. So, the airborne fuel planes are a vital cog in air force operations. Similar support is necessary on the ground.

The "grunts" have always borne the brunt of ground fighting. Yet, rifle companies need the support of mortars, artillery, recon, etc., to get their job done. Once the fighting is over, they need mail units et al to maintain their morale. In short, the success of any branch of the military is predicated on its ability to integrate all its specialized units into one cohesive force.

Some members may miss that point when they are engaged in combat. But, that is understandable. What is important is that they recognize it at some point—and offer thanks, however belated, for their contribution. That is what John Quinn has done in the following letter—and what a lot of other former (and present) service personnel might want to do when they get the chance.

His letter:

Continued on page 54

19



Two U.S. Army senior officers of the 7th Inf. Regt., U.S. Army, a Belgian senior officer, Jan Abts-Lo, and Belgian Korean War veteran Bob Boucart at Fort Stewart



We have Korean War veterans in Belgium. In fact, there were 3,200 Belgian members in Korea in 1950-55.

Following a decision by the National Ministry of Defense, a ribbon with the Belgian colors has been hooked to the pole of the flag of the 7th Inf. Regt., U.S. Army on 29 August 2004. The ceremony took place August 29, 2004, at Fort Stewart, GA.

The delivery of the "high reward" took place originally in the office of Mr. André Flahaut in Brussels, Belgium, in the presence of Cdt. Van Cauwelaert, the National President of the Korean Veterans.

The official document and the ribbon were handed to the U.S. Military Attaché, who entrusted Mr. Boucart with the two treasures to accomplish the agreeable task at Ft. Stewart.

Bob Boucart
Anspach Blvd.,
17 Box 36
1000 Brussels Belgium



Twelve Belgian Korean War veterans (L-R) R. Muris, M. Schmit, E. Cordier, A. Vandenbroucke, J. P. De Leeuw, J. Navet, C. Billiet, N. Demeuter, J. Libert, M. Chanet, B. Boucart, L. Hassewer

Unit on Parade

From time to time, we focus on specific units that participated in the Korean War. In this issue, we take a look at the 430th Engineer Battalion, primarily because, coincidentally, a lot of information concerning the unit came into the office recently to supplement news of its mini-reunion in Nashville last year. Let's start with a letter from Jack Reissman, who provided the photos accompanying this article. As he explained, "Here are some pix that I got from Gene Lloyd, the only guy I know that had his picture in the *Stars and Stripes* paper when the outfit was on Koje-Do Island for the riots in 1952!"

The 430th Engineers

Our outfit was connected to the 32nd Engineering Group, which had 3 battalions in the group: the 430th Engineer Construction Bn, my outfit, the 434th Engineer Construction Bn, and the 439th Engineer Construction Bn.

I joined the 430th, having gone to the 32nd Group HQ, which was at Tague then, in July of 1951. The 430th was at Chunchon when I joined them.

We had a variety of projects while I was with them until

July of 1952, when I rotated home. The biggest one was the building of two bridges over the Soyang River, south of Inje. The first one was a timber trestle bridge which could carry two-way traffic to the eastern front. The second was a steel trestle bridge that was longer and could also carry two-way traffic. I don't remember if I sent you pictures of these bridges, so I am attaching more that you may want to use sometime in the *Graybeards*.

The last project that I was involved with was when the whole 430th outfit went by train from Wonju to Pusan and then LST to the Koje-Do island

to assist with other outfits during the POW riots in June, '52. The riots resulted in the capture of the island's General Dodd by the POWs. The 430th built some 500-men compounds on the other side of the island to contain the POWs who were moved from the overcrowded compounds that were involved in the POW rioting.

The 430th hasn't been given that much praise for its actions in Korea, which were great contributions to the war effort, as far as I am concerned.

Jack Reissman, Pittsburgh, PA 15224, (412) 361-4450.

Ironically...

Ironically, on the reverse side of a page from either a

1951 or 1952 issue of the *Stars and Stripes* (no exact date was on the page) submitted for another topic, there appeared an article entitled "Gen. Palmer Formally Opens New Bridges, Mountain Pass." Here is as much of the article as we can reprint. (Some of it was not legible.)

WITH U.S. ARMY – Two new bridges and an improved pass through the mountains were formally opened recently by X Corps Commander Maj. Gen. Williston B. Palmer in a dedication ceremony.

The bridges and the mountain pass, dedicated to the "memory of those troops who lost their lives in the bitter fighting in this area," were constructed by the officers and men of the 430th Engineer Construction Battalion.

AT THE CEREMONY were representatives from units who fought to wrest from the Reds



Gene Lloyd and Charles "Porkchop" Goen



1st Sgt. Joseph F. Naughton



430's Korean buddy Chae Song Shik



Gene Lloyd and James Long at basic training



Joe Naughton and Gene Lloyd



ABOVE: Cooper hauling steel for Soyang River bridge.



LEFT: On LST at the Koje coast

430th Engineer Battallion

the craggy heights through which the strategic supply route passes. Lt. Col. Joseph I. Gurfein, 2d Division, as spokesman for the group, paid tribute to the "troops who fought, bled here and died here."

Col. Gurfein spoke following prayers led by Chaplains (Col.) John J. Mullaney, X Corps, and Capt. Farrell E. Evans, 430th Engineer Combat Battalion and the raising of the U.S. and ROK flags to the accompaniment of the 1st Marine Division Band.

HIGH POINT of the ceremony came when Palmer, after paying tribute to the men who constructed the bridges and pass, took a pair of scissors and snipped in two the ribbon across the bridge and opened the new route to traffic.

The general then led a procession of distinguished visitors across the new bridge behind the band and the color guard. Men of the 430th and other visitors completed the column.

MAJ. J. THOMAS BLAIR, 430th ECB operations officer, was master of ceremonies for the program.

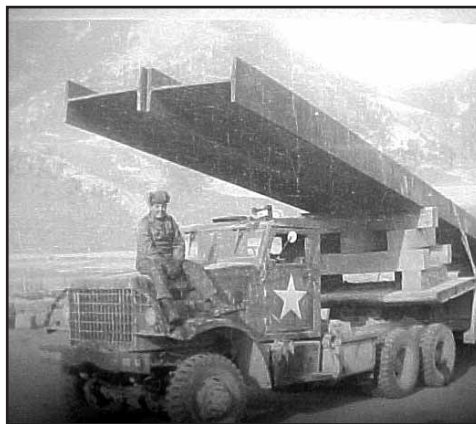
Continued ➤



Ship on which 430 left Kojé



Radio station on Kojé coast



Driver Kauathas



Prisoner compound on Kojé



Loading equipment going to Kojé, with Warrant Officer Talbot in front



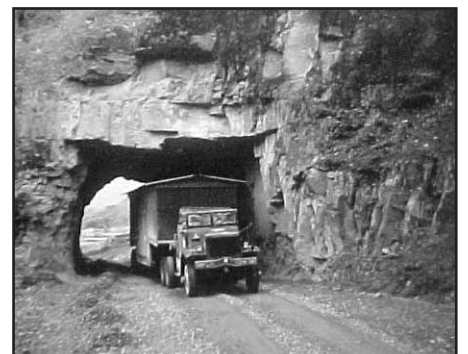
On the road to Pusan: WO Talbot directs traffic



Raymond S. Talbot on the way to Pusan



On LST 625 looking over to another LST



Truck pulling 430's "office on wheels" to Kojé

The new bridges and the new mountain pass now afford a route with no grades steeper than a moderate seven percent.

THE 430TH ECB's Company [personnel] and guests, in addition to Palmer, included Lt. Col. Robert W. Love, 2d Division; Maj. Clifton S. Lindsey and Capt. John B. Dahin, 7th Division; Lt. Col. August L. Vogt, 1st Marine Division; Maj. Dok Ri Kim, 7th ROK Division, and Col. Giles Evans and Lt. Col. Denis Grace, 19th Engineer Combat Group.

Col. Raymond B. Oxrieder, X Corps engineer section; Lt. Col. Ellis O. Davis, EUSAK engineer section; Lt. Col. Claude M. Rhoades, commanding officer, 430th Engineer Construction Battalion, and his executive officer, Maj. Fred Millican Jr., completed the guest roster.

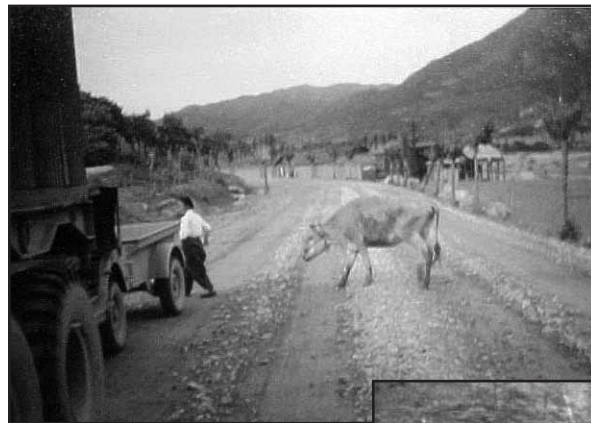
The 430th ECB, builder of the new bridges and mountain pass, is a reserve outfit from the Washington, D.C. area. It was recalled to active duty in August 1950, trained at Camp Carson and entered Korea in February 1951. Of its original members, approximately 30 enlisted men and 20 officers are still in Korea, the remainder



Last night on Kojé: Robert Warren, Red Willis, Gene Lloyd



Low Boy drivers Dursteter and Mason



ABOVE: Still on the road

RIGHT: The Inge Pass

having returned to civilian life or to other assignments. Many of the reservists were employed by the Army at Fort Belvoir, the Potomac Electric and Power Co., and governmental agencies prior to being recalled.



The Domain of the Golden Dragon



A Pleasant Experience

My old Korea vet buddy, John, and I had a really nice experience today. We were having lunch with our wives at a northern Michigan resort when a large party of Orientals, men and women, sat down near us. It's been a long time, but I still recognize Korean when I hear it—and I heard it then.

So, after lunch, as the four of us were leaving, I stopped and asked, "Excuse me, but are you from Korea?"

"Yes, we are," answered one of the older men, probably wondering why I

was asking.

"I just wanted you to know that my friend and I were in your country fifty-some years ago. He was a Marine, I was Army," I explained.

He translated this for the others, and they all broke into big, friendly smiles. They were obviously delighted.

"Thank you, thank you," said the older gentleman, pumping my hand, "Thank you for saving our country!"

"Yes, thank you," said another younger man, "We wouldn't be where we

are today if it weren't for you."

Everyone was still all smiles and nodding in agreement. They were truly grateful.

It was unexpected and a bit embarrassing. All we could say was, "It's been nice to meet you. Thank you for coming to our country."

John and I left feeling more than a little proud of ourselves. It was something I wish every Korean War vet could experience for themselves.

Source Unknown

56th Amphibious Tank & Tractor Battalion

The 56th Amphibious Tank & Tractor Battalion is holding its reunion in Sept/Oct (see the Reunion Calendar for details). These vehicles will no doubt not be used to transport the attendees back and forth.

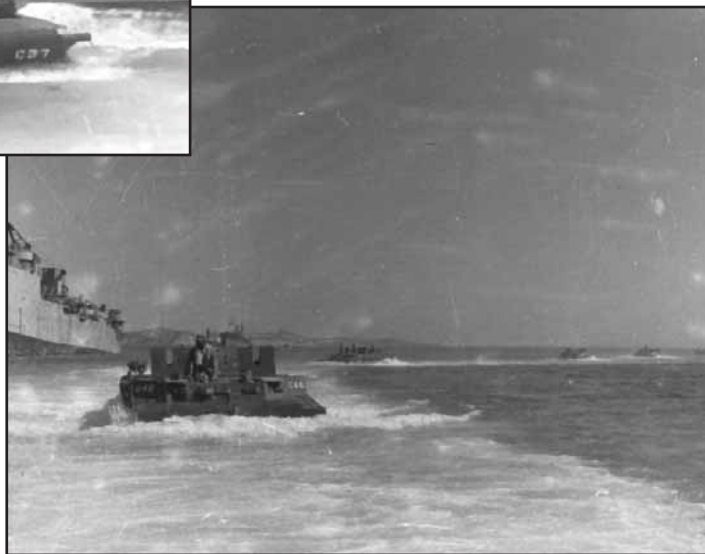
Thanks to Bob Hawks for supplying the photos.



An amphibious tractor leaving the ship



56th's Equipment in formation



An amphibious tractor at sea

“I Like Ike”

Even busy Marines could take the time to vote in Korea, as this 1952 photo shows. It was submitted by Jim Rusher, 436 Luther Lane, Gibsonburg, OH 43431.



Gents At The Gathering



Jeff Brodeur (Middle) and two guests at "The Gathering"



(L-R) Col. Bill Weber, guest speaker at the banquet, Warren Wiedhahn, and Jeff Brodeur



Chapter 299 (L-R) members Bill Hutton, Jeff Brodeur, KWVA President Lou Dechert, and John Goula suffer through the heat in Washington D.C.



(L-R) Bill Burns, Jim Ferris and Jeff Brodeur share a laugh at "The Gathering"

Folks at "The Gathering" in Arlington, VA, in July displayed a lot of friendship and camaraderie, as these photos submitted by Jeff Brodeur suggest.



(L-R) Jim Ferris, Jeff Brodeur, Don Duquette, Dick Adams, Bob Morga gather at "The Gathering"



Monuments and Medals

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

Chapter 29 – SSgt William Windrich [IN]

Herb Verrill

Lake County, IN, has an impressive Korean War Memorial at the intersection of Grand Boulevard and 145th Avenue, just east of Leroy, IN. It includes 5 18-foot tall limestone columns, one for each branch of the service.



The Lake County, IN, memorial



ABOVE: Chapter 29 member Pete Chang reads the inscription of Windrich on reverse side of Lake County memorial

LEFT: The inscription to SSgt Windrich



The history of the Korean War written in stone in Lake County, IN

The monument wall has the names of 101 servicemen from Lake County who lost their lives in Korea—including SSgt. William Windrich, from Hammond, IN. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously. (*see citation – page 18*)

The memorial, which was dedicated on November 15, 2003, is situated on two acres of land donated by Robert and Patricia Ross, who lives adjacent to it.

A Backyard Memorial

Not all Korean War memorials are located in public places. KWVA member T. J. Nicholas has one in his backyard.

The flags flanking “Old Glory” and the POW/MIA are the U.S. Army flag and the Korean War Veterans flag. He had to set them this way because of the trees. The black rock is reminiscent of the mountains of Korea, and the plaques are for the 21st Inf. Regt. and the 24th Inf. Div., as well as the Korean Service Ribbon.

The memorial is dedicated to all who served, but especially to the good friends we left behind. Lest we forget.



Memorial in yard of KWVA member T. J. Nicholas, Ft Lauderdale, FL.

*T. J. Nicholas
2140 N.E. 62nd Ct.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308-1301*

Old Letters Stir Up Memories

We have received a few old letters recently. The writers share one common connection: letters and memories. Let's share a couple letters.

On Defense

By Daniel R. Beirne

In World War II, the army spent most of the time in offensive action. In Korea, however, the army experienced most of the first year's action on the defense. As a member of K Company, 5th RCT, I remember the many times spent as rear guard for the withdrawing American Eighth Army. In a letter to my family on 9 December, 1950, I wrote:

After we received a fierce night attack by the Chinese north of Pakchon and had fifty casualties, we withdrew in the middle of the night to a defensive position just north of the Chongchon River. The 3rd Battalion took the west bridge, while 2nd Battalion took the one on the east.

Company K stood on the west bridge as two ROK divisions and most of the U.S. 24th Division passed. On the other bridge, most of the U.S. 2nd and 25th Divisions withdrew. Long convoys of trucks and tanks passed through us, all headed south. We seemed destined to possibly be cut off and left behind. At the end came elements of the United States Second Division which had been overrun by the Chinese at Kunu-ri. Many artillery units had lost their guns which had been left behind.

The trucks were full of shivering men, trying to keep warm at minus 10 degrees. Many in the ROK units, especially officers, were afraid of reprisals by the North Koreans. After everyone had crossed, and the Chinese had not appeared, we still waited for hours for orders to blow the bridges and withdraw to the rear.

We waited for a day and a night. Morale became very low. Everyone was fearful of being cut off. Tension was terrific. Finally, the bridge was blown, and we withdrew to high ground in Anju. All around us were thousands of refugees who were trying to get across the river. Many had waded into the icy water and crossed at the shoulder deep fords. On both sides of the river, lights flickered from fires as these refugees tried to dry out their clothes and keep warm.

When we got to Anju, we were told to go into a defensive position. The men had not eaten for twenty-four hours. Our kitchens had moved thirty miles to the south. Our bedrolls had been moved with the kitchens. We hadn't slept for three days. Finally, after another day, our trucks arrived to take us south. We climbed into the trucks and took a cold night ride to the rear where we finally found a hot meal and a warm place to sleep.

Col. Beirne can be reached at 5818 Meadowood Road, Baltimore, MD 21212.

When Cardinal Spellman Visited Korea

When Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, visited Korea in 1952, he was kind enough to send a note to George Kinne's mother. He wrote:

CARDINAL'S RESIDENCE
452 Madison Avenue
New York 22, N.Y.

February 20, 1952

Dear Friend:

You will be pleased to know that during my recent trip to Korea, Japan and other places in the Far East, I had the privilege and pleasure of meeting your dear one from whom I am happy to bring affectionate and prayerful greetings with the hope that before a very long time has elapsed, your loved one will be able to greet you personally. At the time we met, he was doing well, was in good spirits, and very courageous in facing the problems that confront him and bravely bearing the burdens of a serviceman's life.

Begging God's blessing on you and all those dear to you, I am

Prayerfully,

Francis Cardinal Spellman
Archbishop of New York

Mrs. George Kinne
Box 214 – Rural Free Delivery #2
Monticello New York

Kinne, who served in Korea from February 4, 1951 to November 25, 1952, provided several photos to document his experience.

*George W. Kinne, 1812 Harrodsburg Rd,
Lawrenceburg, KY 40342-9238*



Cardinal Spellman celebrating mass in Korea, 1951



(L-R) C. Tracy (CA), Descouteaux (RI), Pimetal (RI), George Kinne (NY), T. Mscisz (PA)



(L-R) Chuck Tracy (CA), Howard Boughman (TX), Milton Myron (Brooklyn, NY)



John Bell (GA)



(L-R) Ayers (ID), Mills (MI), Walters (GA), George Kinne (NY)



George Kinne, 1952



(L-R Top) Venetilli (NJ), Descouteaux (RI), Fox (CO), Pimantal (RI), (L-R, Bottom) George Kinne (NY), Mscisz (PA), C. Tracy (CA), H. Boughman (TX), Mills (MI)

USMC
Birthday,
Korea,
November
10, 1952



Even in Korea the USMC Has a cake (11/10/52)

Korean War Veterans Armistice Day



National Director Stanley J. Grogan (L) and Jack Edwards, National Director, view a picture of Edwards, taken in 1952, emblazoned on the wall at the Memorial



The KWVA Volunteer Color Guard at the Arlington meeting



The Turkish delegation at the ceremonies



The Canadian delegation at the ceremonies



There are still a lot of warriors missing



Too many paid the ultimate price



The true cost of the war in wounded



Major General Jan Blom, Royal Norwegian Embassy, Office of the Defense Attaché



The Korean delegation at the ceremonies



Lou Dechert (left) and fundraising advisor Bruce Eberle at Executive Council meeting in Arlington



The Korean flag bearer



Per Jan Larsen (R), Brigadier General Defense, Military, Naval and Air Attaché, Royal Danish Embassy.



The true cost of the war in captured



Saluting the flag

Armistice Day. Ceremonies were held at the d by National Director Stanley Grogan.

30

Humor By Farley

Curtis J. Farley Jr., of Chapter 6, St. Louis, MO, was in his first year of art school when he enlisted in the Air Force in 1951. He carried a sketch book with him at all times during his four-year enlistment. Here are a couple samples of his work, which ranged from serious to humorous—at times self-deprecating.

The Tsuiki Story

Three friends were sitting around a bar
Each was smoking a cheap cigar
Each one's eyes filled with fear
Each one holding a can of beer
Each had decided to go to war
To keep the enemy from his back door
But by some amazing chance,
Each had joined a different branch.
The Marine rose steady on his feet
His eyes filled with much conceit
When the war is over and we are together again
I'll tell you some stories of real men.

The Soldier arose with a big smile
And laughed at the Marine for a while
I've only one thing to say to that, my friends
The infantry will be there until the end.

The Airman didn't say a word.
He acted as though he hadn't heard.
I'll neither brag nor boast, my friends,
Until I am sure I am back again.
So then they made a farewell bet,
One that they would never forget.
The one whose story was the best
Would have his drinks paid for by the rest.

The war was over and they were back
All of them were drinking in the same old shack.
The Marine with his ribbons on his chest
Stood up before the rest.

I saw action in the Korean cold
Routed the enemy right out of their holes.
Hit the beaches of Inchon
And drove the enemy far beyond.
The Soldier toasted this tale so bold
For he knew of those battles of which were told
I really saw all them fights
Pusan, Seoul, and the like.
But if I told you of every fight
I am sure that you would lose your appetite.

The Airman did not say a word.
He acted as though he hadn't heard.
He slowly began to rise to his feet
As to whom he should admit defeat
But then he said in words well spaced,
"I was at Tsuiki Air Force Base."

Then the Marine jumped up and the Soldier, too,
And said, "Brother, we owe the drinks to you."
For each had heard and knew well
There stood a man "RETURNED FROM HELL."



THE AIRMAN'S FIRST
BITE OF KIM-CHEE

YOU

and

Charles E. Wilson



When you next go out on patrol, or sit under those shells wondering which one will get you—

JUST THINK OF CHARLEY WILSON!

Charley's got a tough job too—back in Washington.

For years he's been President of the General Motors Corporation. Now he is Ike's Secretary of Defense.

And, says *United Press*, "One of his first jobs will be to pass on General Motors' request for a 6 to 12 per cent hike in profit margins on some defense contracts."

That doesn't bother Charley. Not long ago he publicly stated his simple belief—"What's good for General Motors is good for the country."

This war is good for General Motors all right. Every time you fire a bullet you're contributing to the support of GM and the other needy corporations.

But is it good for you—who may be get killed at any moment—or for your folks at home who are paying for the war in taxes and heartaches!

Think you're fighting for home and country—way out in Korea? Think again! You're fighting for Charley and the rest of the Big Money boys.

Isn't it about time you did something for YOURSELF, and for all the other fellows who'll die if the Wall Street war continues!

**YOU RISK YOUR LIFE; BIG BUSINESS RAKES
IN THE DOUGH.**

The unit's tanks on rail flat cars, moving to new positions on the MLR in May 1953. They were loaded at the rail head in Munsan-Ni and transported to the Nevada complexes, e.g., Outposts Carson, Reno, Elko, Vegas, etc. Frank Wescott, Corbin City, NJ, is in the foreground



Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

Company B, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division

I am a member of Chapter # 142, Korean War Veterans Association, based in Frederick, Maryland, where I spent my youth. However, I have lived in Latta, SC since I retired from the US Army in 1980.

Three of us Korean War veterans, I, Glen Dohrmann, and Bud Ball, members of Co. B, 5th Cavalry Regt., 1st Cavalry Division, held a real mini-reunion at Abingdon Manor in Latta on February 24, 2005. An article covering the gathering appeared in the March 17, 2005, Dillon (South Carolina) Herald.

The three were at "Old Baldy" together when then Lt. Griffin was hit in the right temple with a fragment of a Chinese 82mm mortar round. Griffin, who had flown with the U.S. Air Force for three months during the summer of 1951, had directed many air attacks against Hill 346. This time, he was a victim.

Dohrmann, who was a lieutenant at the time, asked then Sergeant Ball to put a bandage on Griffin's wound. However, blood continued spurting from Griffin's wound, so Dohrmann asked Ball to apply a second bandage. Then, Dohrmann and Ball made sure Griffin was taken to a helicopter that would transport him to a M.A.S.H unit. Griffin credits them with saving his life. Yet, the three did not get together again for 53 years.



Standing (L-R) Glenn Dohrmann, Bud Ball, Joe Griffin; Seated (L-R) June Ball, Betty Dohrmann

Unfortunately, Bud Ball died of a heart attack on April 28, 2005, only two months after their get-together. As Griffin noted, "How fortunate it was that we got together in February."

Joseph T. Griffin, Jr., P. O. Box 206, Latta, SC 29565

772nd Military Police Bn.



Members of the 772nd MOP Bn. in Tucson

Several members of the 772nd Police Bn. Veterans Association and guests got together in April 2005 in Tucson, AZ. It was the unit's 10th Reunion.

The battalion, whose motto was "On Our Mettle," was represented in Pusan, Wonsan, Hamhung, Hungnam, Kyung-Ju, Andong, Uisong, Taegu, Yongchon, Chechon, Taejon, and Yongdong-Po after arriving in Inchon 8 October 1950.

Joel C. Davis, P. O. Box 342, Luckey, OH 43443-0342

Have a Mini-Reunion?

Send your photos and a short write-up to *The Graybeards* editor for publication! Mail to 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

They Served Together At Fort Rucker [AL]

Clarence Marshall, of Church View, VA, Mack Owens, of Brandon, MS, and Kenneth Cordon, of Chanute KS, served together at Fort Rucker, AL, in Co. M, 3rd Bn., 164th Regt., 47th Division. They went overseas together, but were separated in Japan.

Marshall and Cordon served in Korea with the 179th and 180th Regts., 45th Division. Owens served in Japan, in the 19th Regt., 24th Division.

After more than fifty years, they got together again in Dickson, TN, in both October 2003 and 2004. They set a date to meet again in October 2005.

(L-R) Clarence and Janet Marshall, Mack and Ortis Owens, Kenneth and Donna Cordon



Battery B, #3 Gun, 31st Field Artillery, 7th Div.



ABOVE: Gun 3, Battery B, 31st Field Artillery members (Standing L-R) Sam Stapleton, Charles Young, Goldman, Gene Peebles, Eugene Wilson, Leroy Shook (Seated L-R) Floyd Jorda, Jack Howby

Unit members got together in Florida in February 2005. Some will be attending the 5th Annual Veterans Reunion Dinner in Keysville, VA, on November 12, 2005.

Leroy Shook noted that, "With the help of your magazine, we have contacted a great number of our veterans."

Editor's Note: It is "our" magazine.

BELOW: Leroy Shook addressing attendees in Keysville



Battery "A," 300th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, Wyoming Army National Guard

"A" Battery, 300th Armored FA Bn. Mini-Reunion attendees: Back(L-R) Walt Slane (WY) Bob James (WY) Chuck Jones (WY), Bill Whitt (WY) Howard Norskog (ID), Ray Peterson (CO), Dick Thune (MN), Leo Cline (ID), Ken Tveit (MN), Bill Bellis (FL), Ron Fry (CA), A.J.Burns (OR), Bob Whitt (WY)

Front row (Kneeling, L-R) Gunar Lapins (WA), Henry Mizutani (NV), Chuck Mills (WY), Pete Cavelli (WY), Frank Manning (WY), Vern West (TX), George Romagno (CA), Laurel Auxier (CA).



A total of 29 Battery "A" Korean War Veterans and 22 wives and guests were in attendance at the unit's mini-reunion at the Holiday Inn in Thermopolis, Wyoming, 13-15 July, 2005.

The 300th Armored Field Artillery Battalion was equipped with M-7 full tracked artillery pieces (affectionately known as the "Priest") that had WW2 combat history from North Africa, through Italy, and up to Bastogne and the Battle of the Bulge. The first of 514,212 rounds of 105 mm ammunition expended by the 300th in the Korean War were fired in support of the 9th and 23rd Infantry Regiments—2ND Infantry Division at Soyang River.

Then, it was on to Inje to join the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team and the 72nd Tank Battalion in Task Force Baker.

In the first 26 days of combat, the 300th exceeded the 100,000 mark in rounds fired at the NK and CCF.

At war's end the 300th was nearly overrun by the CCF at Kumsong River while firing support for the 6th Republic of Korea Infantry Division. Only with a great concealment barrage of smoke rounds fired by the 176th A.F.A. Bn., Pennsylvania National Guard did the three firing batteries of the 300th escape amid a hail of small arms and automatic weapons fire.

Men of the 300th were awarded 12 Silver Stars, 83 Bronze Stars, 283 Purple Hearts, 48 Air Medals for Meritorious Achievement in Flight, and 12 Prisoner of War medals.

Dick Thune, 5880 Parkwood Court, Baxter, MN 56425-7432

38th Ordinance



Unit members and their guests gathered in Branson, MO, for their biannual get-together. The 38th Ordinance was a combat support unit. The Association holds a reunion every two years.

Anyone who wants to get more information about the Association or its reunions can contact Bill

*Mack D. Owens, Jr.,
101 Springtree Dr
Brandon, MS 39042-2327*

Members and guests of the 38th Ordinance unit gather in Branson, MO

936th Field Artillery Battalion's Memorial Board And Monument

The 936th FA Bn. has a Memorial Board and Monument in Fayetteville, AR. Allen L. "Sonny" Dunn built both.

Dunn, a retired personnel technician with the Arkansas National Guard, is a well-known custom furniture builder. He served with the battalion in Korea during the "Forgotten War."

The Memorial Board Honor Roll contains the names of 230 deceased former

members of the battalion. Dunn updates it with the name of each new deceased member.

The Monument contains the names of 112 men from HQ & HQ Battery called to active duty on August 21, 1950. They served in Korea during the war.

936th's Monument (right) with close-up of plaque below



936th's Memorial Board Honor Roll



At left, "Sonny" Dunn poses next to 936's Memorial Board

630th Engineers Light Equipment Co

Leon Boyce, Paul Deason and Oscar Viehland became buddies while serving in the 630th Engineers Light Equipment Company, Korea, in 1952-53. In July 2005, Viehland from Robertsville, MO, Deason from Milledgeville, GA, and Boyce from Midway, GA, were together again for the first time in over 52 years.



ABOVE: (L-R) Leon Boyce, Paul Deason and Oscar Viehland, Now

BELOW: (L-R) Leon Boyce, Paul Deason and Oscar Viehland, Then



EDITOR'S REQUEST: To avoid confusion in this section, we will use Chapters' national IDs, rather than state Chapter numbers. For example, Kansas Chapter 1 will appear as Chapter 181, which is its national chapter designation. Similarly, Missouri Chapter 2 will appear as Chapter 43, etc.

We Welcome A New Chapter

September 12, 2005

Commander Fred Williams, Jr.
Carson City Chapter 305
Post Office Box 1374

Dayton, NV 89403

Dear Commander Williams and Members of Chapter 305,

Welcome to the Korean War Veterans Association, America's largest and most senior group of men who have served in Korea, 1945-2005! We are the United States member of the International Federation of Korean War Veterans Associations, and the exclusive agent for the official "Return Visits" Program of the Republic of Korea. And we are the publishers of The Graybeards Magazine.

Now, we are even better because Chapter 305 has joined ranks! I offer my support and every desire to see your Chapter grow through the coming years as more veterans from Korea are added to your number.

Cordially, and for all veterans,

Louis T Dechert
President, KWVA

Appreciation to Director Lee Dauster, the Presenting Official.

20 Hawaii #1 [HI]

Louis Baldovi

Korean War Veterans Honored

The Roll Call of Honor, sponsored by The Pacific American Foundation, was held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), on Sunday, May 29, 2005. This was the Sixth Annual Roll Call of Honor in remembrance of Hawaii's veterans who served and continue to serve the State of Hawaii and our great nation.

Six of the ten honorees were Korean War veterans: Alexander Kahapea, Peter Cabral, Alfred Los Banos, Albert Chang, Arthur McColgan, Nick Nishimoto, and Louis Baldovi.

After more than 50 years, Korean War veteran is finally recognized

After more than fifty years, Clarence Young of Hawaii was finally awarded the Silver Star medal for his heroic action while under enemy fire in April of 1951 while serving with the 5th Regimental Combat Team. U.S. Senator (D-HI) Daniel Akaka presented the medal to Young at a ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific on May 29, 2005.

After his unit was attacked by a large enemy force, Young leaped on a disabled vehicle equipped with a machine gun and



(L-R) Nick Nishimoto, former POW, and Louis Baldovi, after being inducted into Hawaii's Roll Call of Honor (Photo courtesy of Charles Avesta)



Hawaii Congressman Daniel Akaka pins the Silver Star on Clarence Young as family and BGen Irwin Cockett look on (Photo courtesy of Honolulu Advertiser)

fired at the oncoming enemy. For nearly half an hour, Young kept the enemy at bay and accounted for an estimated 100 enemy casualties, until he was blown off the vehicle by a mortar round. After he regained consciousness, Young, with other Americans, escaped into the hills, only to be captured by enemy soldiers hours later.

As a prisoner of war, Young's escapades were legendary, as he risked his life aiding other prisoners of war and became a thorn in the sides of his captors. He was one of the last prisoners released after the cease fire.

29 SSgt. William E. Windrich [IL]

Stan Klekot

Chapter members paid their final respects to Pfc. Lowell W. Bellar, who was KIA in Korea on December 1, 1950. However, Bellar, who served in combat with the 2nd Inf. Division at "Old

Baldy,” was listed as MIA until April 2005.

The Bellar family was surprised to learn that Lowell’s remains had been recovered. But, DNA tests matched his remains to Bellar’s sister and niece. So, they chose to have him buried at home, rather than in Arlington National Cemetery. Chapter 29 members participated prominently in the full military burial.



29 members participating in the final march at Munster Community Veterans Memorial, Munster, IN: (L-R) Stan Klekot, Mell Rangel, Alonso Solis, Eliseo Castaneda, Douglas Handley, Tony DallaCosta, Peter Chang, Warren Eubanks



LEFT: The rifle, helmet, and dog tags were posted at the beginning of the procession. **RIGHT:** The Highland, IN, and Munster, IN, Fire Departments raised a large American flag across Calumet Avenue, under which the procession passed



Commander Eliseo Castaneda (L) and 1st VP Douglas Handley (R) holding 29’s banner



Members of different veterans’ organizations wait to salute as the hearse carrying Bellar’s remains passes by

51 Richland County [OH]

Sam Sgambellone

Chapter members hold regular meetings, but they have an added twist: a KWVA BBS. The BBS stands for Breakfast Bull Session. These meetings are held monthly, when members gather for an informal get-together at a local restaurant.



51’s President Frank Russo at recent BBS



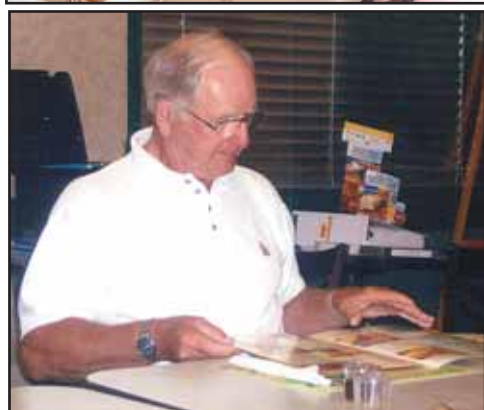
Jim Meeker getting the news at a 51 BBS



51’s BBS is well attended



ABOVE: Coffee done, alert 51 members listen at BBS



LEFT: What's on the menu at a 51 BBS? Lots of members attend to find out.

The Chapter recently completed its Richland County Korean War Memorial project, and began immediately to look for new projects to continue its useful service.

55 Nassau County #1 [NY]

Joe Carco



LEFT: Ray O'Connor is installed as President of United Veterans Organization

BELOW: Installation of 55 officers (L-R) Joe Carco (Director), Hank Nowicki (2nd Vice Commander), Charlie Bours (1st Vice Commander), Howie Plattner (Commander), Rudy DiCristina (Director), Bernie Hoffman (Director), Bill Troise (Director)



The Chapter installed new officers for their 2005-2007 terms. Significantly, Chapter Treasurer Ray O'Connor became the new President of the United Veterans Organization of Nassau County. This group represents every veterans group within the county.

66 Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan, [NY]

George Parsons

Several members of the Chapter visited the Korean War Memorial in Nashville, TN, in June 2005.

Public School 6 in Richmond Valley, located at 555 Page Avenue, Staten Island, New York celebrated its 5-year anniversary with an assembly on Flag Day, June 14th and a graduation of its 5th grade students on June 24th.

This school's principal, Ms. Carol C. Ildebrando, has been its principal since its completion. The dedication of this school was on Flag Day, 2001. This school's name is the Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan School, in honor of Cpl. Kivlehan, who served in the United States Army in Korea in 1950. He was a prisoner of war who died in captivity in 1950. The Korean War Veterans Chapter on Staten Island was named after him. Many members of his family still live here on Staten Island.



66 members in Nashville (L-R) Frank Zielinski, Peter Santannera, Joe Bonamo, Joe Malinelli, George Parsons, Charlie Malone, Tony Passaro, Richie Consoli



Korean War veterans attending PS6 Assembly on Flag Day June 14th. Standing in front: 2VP George Parsons, President Joseph Calabria, 1st VP Jordan Czemiawski and Trustee Bernard Hoganson.



Korean War Veterans 1st VP Jordan Czerniawski and Trustee Bernie Hoganson with PS6 graduating students receiving Patriot Savings Bonds - (L-R) Paulina Gawor, Diana Cullen, Brian Russell, Brett Birkbeck, Mikhail Krubitskiy and Daniel Delaney (not shown)

When the plans were being made to build this school in Richmond Valley in 1999, the Cpl. Kivlehan Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Assn. took the lead and lobbied to name this school after him. Many other names were considered for this school, but working furiously with city and Education Department officials—and especially with the endorsement of our fellow Korean War veteran, the late Mr. Christy Cugini, Community Superintendent District 31, the Chapter succeeded.

When the school was dedicated on Flag Day in 2001, the Cpl. Kivlehan Chapter was invited and asked by the principal, Ms. Ildebrando, to supply the Color Guard and to participate in the ceremony. This school has the distinction of being the only school named after a veteran in the City of New York.

We supplied a plaque to be placed in the lobby of the school for all to see when entering. We also made sure that the proper name was displayed on the outside of the main entrance to the school. We wanted to ensure that Allan's name and his sacrifice in the Korean War will be remembered by all. We also took it upon ourselves to see that the American and POW flags were flown and provided same when needed. This is our school and will never be forgotten.

This year the Chapter wanted to be an adjunct to the school's graduation ceremony and voted to provide Patriot Savings Bonds to deserving students that were graduating. We contacted Ms. Ildebrando, who was very receptive and appreciative of this venture by us.

Her reaction was straightforward; she invited us to the upcoming Assembly that they had planned for Flag Day, called "Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan" Day" and also invited us to participate in the Graduation Ceremony held on June 24th.

We arrived at the school for Flag Day and provided our color guard and conducted the Pledge of Allegiance for the Assembly. We were also privileged to hear and appreciate the talents and performances of the students in the school. We noted especially when some students who had researched Cpl. Kivlehan's life spoke diligently about him.

On Graduation Day, June 24th, 3rd VP Jordan Czerniawski and Trustee Bernard Hogan son gave out Patriot Savings Bonds

to selected students deemed extraordinary by the faculty.

This was an outstanding event for the school and the Chapter, because this June 25 is the fifty-fifth anniversary of the start of the Korean War. The war was from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953.

Next year the Chapter will try to duplicate the same ceremonies that were conducted this year with the permission of the principal.

89 Oklahoma [OK]

Harold "Muley" Mulhausen

The Chapter participates in 4-6 parades a year. At one of them this year, Little Miss Korea Oklahoma and her family rode with us. Next year, the Oklahoma Korean Society will ride with us.

89 on parade (L-R) Lee Roland, John Blair, the beautiful and talented Nicole Brogder, Oklahoma's Little Miss Korea, Harold "Muley" Mulhausen, and his great grandson, Nathan Mulhausen



111 Cpl. Richard A. Bell [WI]

Henry Waldeck

Chapter members are members of the West Bend Veterans Color Guard and Firing Squad, which rendered honors at 102 military funerals in 2004. All the squad's members are from West Bend, except for Leslie Ostrander, who is from Kewaskum, WI. Two members are not KWVA members, although they do belong to the American Legion of West Bend.



111 Veterans Color Guard and Firing squad members (L-R) Henry Waldeck, Squad and Chapter Commander, Chaplain Harold Mapes, Jr., Leslie Ostrander, Leland Oelke, Norbert Carter (Sr. Vice Commander), Gerald Jung (Treasurer), Stanley Olson, Donald Cardarelle

121 Greater Cincinnati [OH]

Bob McGeorge

Chapter President Bob McGeorge and member Harry Falck were awarded plaques from the Cincinnati Warbirds EAA Squadron 18. The plaques read, "With our gratitude and appreciation for your Distinguished Military Service To Our Country."



Bob McGeorge and Harry Falck of 121 display their plaques

142 Korean War Veterans [MD]

Richard L. Martin

Chapter members participated in a parade in Gaithersburg, MD. Several members also attended the Department of Veterans Affairs 75th Anniversary ceremony on July 21, 2005 at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington D.C. The program included Adrian Cronauer of Good Morning Vietnam fame as the emcee. Secretary of Veterans Affairs R. James Nicholson and Vice President Richard B. Cheney were also in attendance.

Finally, a group of members and spouses attended the Korean War Veterans Memorial Armistice Day Commemoration



142 members on parade (L-R) Tony Malavenda, Scheller Garlock, Kenneth Davis, Reggie Kephart, Charles Chipley, Past Commander Robert Eader



142 attendees at the Department of Affairs 75th Anniversary ceremony (L-R) Commander Chip Chipley, Vice Commander Bob Miles, Secretary Ken Davis, Treasurer Bob Mount, Past Commander Bob Eader



142 group and "Minnie Bus," their transportation to and from Washington D.C for the July 27th ceremony

Ceremony in the Nation's Capitol on July 27, 2005. The ceremony commemorated the 55th anniversary of the signing of the armistice and the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C.

153 Central Florida [FL]

Don Smith

Chapter members attended a memorial service on July 27, 2005, at Deltona Veterans Park. Chapter Past Presidents Tom Gaffney, Ted Sullivan, Ed Kent, and Bob Balzer delivered brief talks.



153's Memorial, dedicated June 25, 2005
(Photo by Ed Brandt)



A good turnout at 153's memorial dedication (Photo by Ed Brandt)

168 Quad Cities [IL]

Art Holevoet

Chapter members marched in the Music Festival Parade on June 19, 2005.



168 members in the Music Festival Parade (L-R) Bob Berry, Art Holevoet, Parade Grand Marshal and Korean War vet Don Meier, Don Simpson, Dan Foulke, Jerry Guinn, Keith Kramer, Bill Weber, Norm Neely, Ron Sears

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

The mailing address for sending/requesting information relative to membership in the KWVA has changed. The new address is:

Nancy Monson

Recording Secretary

PO Box 101238

Arlington, VA 22210-4238

Email: kwvamembership@verizon.net

Please make a note of this address and use it when paying dues and/or requesting information concerning receipt of "The Graybeards" or your membership in the Korean War Veterans Association.

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

169 Lake County [FL]

Monique R. Gleason

Members made a field trip to Camp Blanding, Starke, FL, and enjoyed lunch at the dining hall.



169 members at the Camp Blanding Dining Hall: (L) Jack and Monique Gleason, Mary Cain (R) Harold Sievers, Karl Cain

176 Redwood [CA]

Hank Nicols

Several Chapter members remembered the signing of the Korean Armistice aboard a U.S. Coast Guard craft stationed in Humboldt Bay, California. Incidentally, "Happy Birthday" to the Coast Guard, which celebrated its 215th anniversary on 7 August.

When I was 18 and bored with college, cotton, and cows, I considered enlisting in the Coast Guard. Both the Coast Guard and I are fortunate that I did not. But, on a murky Wednesday, 27 July 2005, I went to sea, sorta, to remember the anniversary of the signing of the truce in Korea 52 years ago. I rode over to the U. S. Coast Guard Station Humboldt Bay with the Bill Odonells, Sr. and Jr., and Bob Leep. Bill Thurlough and Ray Marquardt were already there. We were joined by Frank C. Mendes and Jerry Cross.



(L-R) 176 members Bill Thurlough, Bob Leep, Bill Odonnell, and Hank Nicol get their "sea legs" ready (Photo by Ray Marquardt)

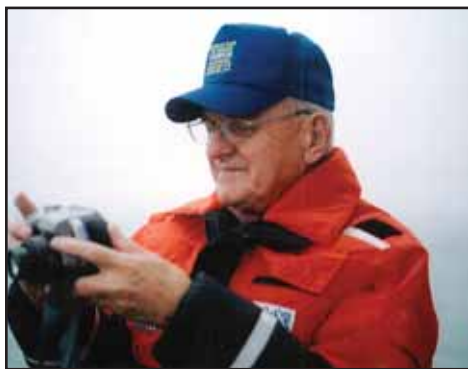


Chaplain Bob Leep, Bill Odonnell, and 176 President Frank C. Mendes share a solemn moment aboard the Coast Guard vessel

Bosun's Mate 2d Class Terrell Horne gave us an orientation on the 47-foot motor lifeboat on which we were to go out. The boat is built to survive 30-foot seas and 20-foot breakers. Horne passed out lifejackets, not the fore-and-aft pillows we wore three years ago, but new orange and black (my high school colors) beauties. They could pass for team jackets as well as save your life. "Coasties" should wear them around town. Every high school kid would want to sign up.

I put on the only extra large in the pile, but had to give it up to Times-Standard reporter Chris Durant, who is a more honest XL. I expected the crew to be wearing the government version of topsiders, since it might be difficult to swim in the bloused combat boots they all wore. Our Skipper, Bosun's mate 1st Class

Hank Nicol (unseen) takes a photo of Ray Marquardt taking a photo



RIGHT: Former 176 President, founder, and "Godfather" holds the wreath to honor Korean War veterans (Photo by Hank Nicol)



BELOW: 176 members leave the vessel with their "sea legs" intact (Photo by Hank Nicol)



Ryan Sanford, said they were for kicking heavy machinery without being kicked back. I made an insurance stop where I learned why BM-2 Horne had the lifeboat specs down pat. They are posted above the paper dispenser in the men's head (and I expect in the women's as well).

We boarded and pushed off. The deck crew was Seaman (Seawoman? Seaperson?) Jean Charles and Seaman Frederick Ryals. Fireman Evans Drew was engineer. They carried us out to about the midpoint of the channel, where the boat marked time while we held our brief ceremony for those who died in the Korean War. An orchestra being unavailable, and the deck being small, Bill Odonnell Jr. played appropriate music on his block blaster. President Frank C. Mendes dedicated a wreath with,

"We have not forgotten our soldiers," he observed. His words were halting, and I saw several handkerchiefs out. I was busy with the camera, but I, too, suffered damp eyes. I thought not only of those who died in the war, but also of Richard Anderson, Andrew Terry, and John McLain, who survived the war, but who were recent and personal losses to me and the rest of the Christmas Hill Gang. Chaplain Bob Leep gave a prayer to "honor those who served our country," and Frank cast the wreath onto the outgoing tide.

I didn't take the two pills as I promised, only one-and-a-half. The water did only a slow roll. I survived, the ceremony was a success, and we returned to shore safely. BM-1 Ryan Sanford didn't let us go without thanking us for our service. That has happened a lot recently. I'm not used to the new generation's remembering us better than our own did. Our war was forgotten while we were still fighting. At least nobody jeered when we came home.



(L-R) Coast Guard crew members BM-1 Ryan Sanford, Fireman Evans Drew, Seaman Jean Charles, and Seaman Frederick Ryals hosted 176 members (Photo by Hank Nicol)

187 Western Massachusetts [MA]

James K. Stathis

Members presented a Korean War Veterans Commemorative Ceremony at the Court Square in Springfield, MA, on July 31, 2005.



The Veterans Memorial in Springfield, MA



187's Secretary, Al Nataro, speaks in Springfield, MA

195 founder Kenneth Camell (L) and Joe Anello, Chapter member and former POW in Korea, discuss past experiences



195 member Chuck Makey, President Kenneth Giest, and members Jerry Johnson and Jacinto Runes pause for a photo

195 Queen City [CO]

Kenneth Camell

Chapter members had great times at the past two luncheon meetings. The Chapter meets every month. The meeting includes a guest speaker, who is followed by lunch. Then, we hold a business meeting and a social period.

Plans were made for the Chapter to participate in at least five parades this year, beginning with the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 12. Our new President, Kenneth Giest, is a professional bag piper. As such, he attracts a lot of attention to our parade unit.



195 Executive Committee members discuss plans and finances (L-R) Calvin Keil (3rd VP), Nancy Millinsifer (Notification and Coordinator), Lyle Carter (Treasurer), Chuck Kammerer (Past President), and member Henry Bohne



195 members Frank Montijo, Sal Rivera (Secretary), Walt Walko, and Don Simmons enjoy a delicious lunch and pleasant conversation



195 members Bob Brockish, Kenneth Camell, Chuck Kammerer, and Kenneth Giest, in Piper regalia, pose for a pre-parade photo

246 Ozark Mountain Region 8 [MO]

John Girth

Members of the Chapter met with KWVA President Lou Dechert on August 20, 2005. He was in Springfield to attend the national convention of the Purple Heart Association, so he graciously invited us down for a visit. It was a pleasure to meet him at this enjoyable get-together.

246 members stand behind President Lou Dechert: (L-R) John Girth (1st Vice Commander), Bob Dimond (Commander), Bob Wimmer (Adjutant)



251 members gather at the Saginaw County Monument

258 Northern Rhode Island [RI]

Frank Meo

Chapter members participated in a couple events with members of Ocean State Chapter 2 (CID #117). Among them were Flag Day at the Senior Center in North Providence, RI, and the Gaspee Day Parade in Cranston, RI.

251 Saginaw/Frankenmuth [MI]

Bob Simon

We now have 91 Chapter members. About 45 of them took 3-hour stints selling roses in front of Sams and two Wal-Marts. Three days of rose sales netted the Chapter over \$7,900.00. The principal reason we are so successful is that we involve in our effort as many of our members as possible who proclaim themselves "healthy enough."

Members gathered at the Saginaw County Veterans Plaza on Memorial Day 2005. There are 4 25-foot pods with 26,000 located in front of our monument. The Korean Pod is nearly filled with engraved bricks.



258 members participating in Flag Day ceremony on June 14, 2005 (L-R) Gene Pezzullo, Norman Desrosier, Herb Southworth, Norman Paiva, Frank Meo



251 members selling "Roses of Sharon" at Saginaw, MI



(L-R) Meo (behind flag), Derosier, Southworth, Paiva, and Pezzullo at 258's flag ceremony

264 Mt. Diablo [CA]

Stanley J. Grogan

The Chapter is extremely active. Dave McDonald has done yeoman work in starting chapters in both California and Alaska. He is a Purple Heart recipient as a result of his infantry combat background.

A close-up of the plaque recognizing Dave McDonald's role in establishing 264



McDonald's plaque is so impressive it takes (L-R) 164 officers President Peter Muller, Treasurer Bill Ghirardelli, and former President McDonald to hold it



Like the true infantrymen they were, Jack McDonald and Don Short (L-R) lead 264's contingent in the July 4th Parade, with vintage cars close behind



258 is well represented at the June 11th Gaspee Day Parade (L-R) Richard Lothar, Norman Paiva, Ernest Lincourt, Norman Desrosier, Gilbert Cochran Jr.



Members of Rhode Island Chapters 2 & 3 gather at the Gaspee Parade



Young Boy Scout volunteers protect 258's banner and vehicle



264 members and their families rode in cars like this in the July 4th Parade



Twenty one members of the KVA pose at meeting held at Cape Cod.



264 members Ron Craven and Stanley Grogan pose in front of the Andrews Sisters, who belted out nostalgic songs from the WWII and Korea as the parade rolled through Concord



The Korean War Veterans Memorial in Concord, CA

Chapter members participated in the annual July 4, 2005, parade in Concord, CA. More than 30,000 spectators viewed dozens of marchers—including some 40 members of 264. Two members marched carrying our banner. Some rode in vintage cars of the Studebaker Classic Car Club.

After the parade, we had a picnic in Hillcrest Park, the site of a Korean War memorial plaque.

299 Korean Veterans of America [MA]

Jeff Brodeur

The KVA conducted its Cape Cod meeting while Hurricane Ophelia was fifty miles off the Nantucket coast. Thirty-four members and some family members showed up.

Everyone was given a new KWVA/KVA coffee mug. A raffle was held, and a KVA PX was set up. There was a spread of cold cuts, pizza, fruits, and desserts.

The meeting lasted 2 1/2 hours, during which business from the local to the national level was discussed.

One new member came over from Martha's Vineyard when he heard the Korean vets were meeting in Falmouth. And, many members took applications back to their various posts and chapters.

Freedom March

Cadets march at the Korean Military Academy at Taegu. KWVA Director Stanley Grogan took the picture while on a Revisit Program.



CHAPTER OF THE MONTH(S)

With each issue, we feature one Chapter that has been particularly active and which has interesting stories to tell that may be of widespread interest to KWVA members—and which might assist them in pursuing their own activities.

In this issue we honor **Chapter 281 – Rolla #9 [MO]**.

281 ROLLA #9 [MO]

Roger Lueckenhoff

One of our most recent accomplishments has to do with the 38th Parallel, which intersects U.S. Highway 63 just north of the Rolla city limits.

On June 22, 2005 Missouri Governor Matt Blunt signed House Bill No. 243, which reads as follows:

Section A. Chapter 227, RSMo. is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 227.357, to read as follows:

227.357. The portion of U.S. Highway 63 in Phelps County from one mile north of the intersection of U.S. Highway 63 and the parallel thirty-eight degrees north latitude to one mile south of the intersection of U.S. Highway 63 and the parallel thirty-eight degrees north latitude, except where otherwise designated, shall be designated the "Korean War Veterans Association Memorial Highway." The intersection of U.S. Highway 63 and the parallel thirty-eight degrees north latitude shall be indicated as the "38th Parallel" by signs. Costs for such designations and signs shall be paid by the Korean War Veterans Association, Rolla Chapter 281.



U.S. Highway 63, Rolla MO

Dedication of the signs was held in conjunction with our annual fish fry on Saturday Oct. 8 at the Lions Club Park. The Rolla Lions Club helped defray the cost of manufacturing and installing the signs. Among those present at the dedication was Missouri State Representative Bob May, who is a member of our Chapter and who was instrumental in introducing and getting approval of the Bill authorizing the 38th Parallel signs.

Also present at the dedication were Missouri Senator Frank Barnitz and Randy Mayo of the Missouri Dept. of Transportation.



Same highway, another sign



Missouri Governor Matt Blunt addressing the attendees at the signing of House Bill #243: Directly behind the governor are 4 members of 281 (L-R) Bob May, Henry Stroud, Fred Krueger, Roger Lueckenhoff



281 members (L-R) 1st Vice Commander Harrison Meaux, Bob May, Commander Les Burris

Information and photos concerning the 2005 KWVA Convention held in Bossier City, LA will be forthcoming in the next issue of *The Graybeards!*



Bob May offers opening remarks at the sign dedication ceremony



281's parade banner

KWVA POW /MIA Coordinator Marty O'Brien Awarded UN Norwegian Peacekeeping Medal at Maine State House

By Jeff Brodeur

KWVA National Director/KVA Commander

On September 27, 2005, on behalf of KWVA National President Louis Dechert and the Korean War Veterans Association, KWVA National Director Jeff Brodeur arrived at the Maine State House to award Marty O'Brien, our POW/MIA Coordinator, the UN Norwegian Peacekeeping Medal.

Marty was awarded the medal for his hard work and dedication to the KWVA. Marty does the POW/MIA statistics and research on behalf of the KWVA

Marty was awarded the medal for his hard work and dedication to the KWVA. Marty does the POW/MIA statistics and research on behalf of the KWVA. He has his own column in *The Graybeards*, and is the founder of the KWVA Clair Goodblood Chapter (#79) in Augusta, Maine. He served in the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea in 1950-51.

While we were in the Hall of Flags, I, Marty, Ed Hoyt, Ken Cyphers, and Richard Chick (Clair Goodblood members) presented Maine Governor Baldacci with a copy of the July/August 2005 *Graybeards* Magazine, on which his photo appeared, and a new KWVA/KVA coffee mug.

While we were in the Hall of Flags, I, Marty, Ed Hoyt, Ken Cyphers, and Richard Chick (Clair Goodblood members) presented Maine Governor Baldacci with a copy of the July/August 2005 *Graybeards* Magazine, on which his photo appeared, and a new KWVA/KVA coffee mug.



KWVA members flank Maine Governor Baldacci



Marty O'Brien (left) and Jeff Brodeur display medal

Korean War Hero Receives Medal of Honor Belatedly



President Bush honors Ted Rubin at White House.

President George W. Bush bestowed the Medal of Honor on Corporal Tibor "Ted" Rubin at a White House Ceremony on September 23, 2005. Here are excerpts from the White House Press Release.

This is a special occasion for our nation. We are here to pay tribute to a soldier with an extraordinary devotion to his brothers in arms, and an unshakeable love for his adopted homeland of America.

Corporal Tibor "Ted" Rubin's many acts of courage during the Korean War saved the lives of hundreds of his fellow soldiers. In the heat of battle, he inspired his comrades with his fearlessness. And amid the inhumanity of a Chinese prisoner of war camp, he gave them hope. Some of those soldiers are here today, and they have never forgotten what they owe this man. And by awarding the Medal of Honor to Corporal Rubin today, the United States acknowledges a debt that time has not diminished.

Corporal Rubin exemplified the highest ideals of military service and fulfilled a pledge to give something back to the country that had given him his freedom. Born in Hungary in 1929, Ted and his family were rounded up by the Nazis and taken to concentration camps when he was just 13 years old. He was taken to Mauthausen Camp in Austria, where an SS officer told the prisoner, "You, Jews, none of you will ever make it out of here alive." And many did not. Before the war was over, both of Ted's parents and one of

Even though he was not yet a citizen, he volunteered to serve his new nation in uniform, and seven months after taking the oath of a U.S. soldier, he was sent to Korea.

his sisters were lost in the Holocaust. Ted Rubin survived the camp for 14 months, long enough to be liberated by U.S. Army troops on May the 5th, 1945.

These American GIs gave Ted his first real taste of freedom. Their compassion for the people in the camp made a deep impression on this teenage survivor. It was his first experience with soldiers who were fighting to protect human life. That day Ted made a promise to himself. If he ever made it to America, he would show his appreciation to this great land by enlisting in the United States Army. He did move to America after the war, and the

young immigrant made good on his pledge.

Even though he was not yet a citizen, he volunteered to serve his new nation in uniform, and seven months after taking the oath of a U.S. soldier, he was sent to Korea. The conditions were brutal, the fighting was intense, and the bitter cold was unrelenting. And it was in these grueling circumstances that Corporal Rubin impressed his fellow soldiers in the 1st Cav Division as one of the best ever to wear our nation's uniform.

Continued on page 61

CITATION



For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty:

Corporal Tibor Rubin distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism during the period from July 23, 1950, to April 20, 1953, while serving as a rifleman with Company I, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division in the Republic of Korea. While his unit was retreating to the Pusan Perimeter, Corporal Rubin was assigned to stay behind to keep open the vital Taegu-Pusan Road link used by his withdrawing unit. During the ensuing battle, overwhelming numbers of North Korean troops assaulted a hill defended solely by Corporal Rubin. He inflicted a staggering number of casualties on the attacking force during his personal 24-hour battle, single-handedly slowing the enemy advance and allowing the 8th Cavalry Regiment to complete its withdrawal successfully. Following the breakout from the Pusan Perimeter, the 8th Cavalry Regiment proceeded northward and advanced into North Korea. During the advance, he helped capture several hundred North Korean soldiers. On October 30, 1950, Chinese forces attacked his unit at Unsan, North Korea, during a massive nighttime assault. That night and throughout the next day, he manned a .30 caliber machine gun at the south end of the unit's line after three previous gunners became casualties. He continued to man his machine gun until his ammunition was exhausted. His determined stand slowed the pace of the enemy advance in his sector, permitting the remnants of his unit to retreat southward. As the battle raged, Corporal Rubin was severely wounded and captured by the Chinese. Choosing to remain in the prison camp despite offers from the Chinese to return him to his native Hungary, Corporal Rubin disregarded his own personal safety and immediately began sneaking out of the camp at night in search of food for his comrades. Breaking into enemy food storehouses and gardens, he risked certain torture or death if caught. Corporal Rubin provided not only food to the starving Soldiers, but also desperately needed medical care and moral support for the sick and wounded of the POW camp. His brave, selfless efforts were directly attributed to saving the lives of as many as forty of his fellow prisoners. Corporal Rubin's gallant actions in close contact with the enemy and unyielding courage and bravery while a prisoner of war are in the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

On the Home Front

One of the remarkable things of note at veterans' gatherings is the fact that many of them are not alone. They are accompanied by wives, sons, daughters...the very people for whom they fought in wars waged thousands of miles from home. These warriors were separated from their friends and relatives for long periods of time, often wondering what the folks were doing back home in their absence.

Sure, there were occasional letters and packages to ease the boredom and provide the news they coveted. But, these missives did not always compensate for the isolation and loneliness that filled the warriors' hearts and minds as they fought valiantly to protect their country—and the freedom of people in other countries whose names they did not know. Some of the warriors came home; others, sadly, did not.

Those who did come back picked up the pieces of their lives and moved on. They renewed marriage vows and friendships as best they could, and cherished the people with whom they shared love and mutual affection. For many of them, their bonds grew stronger as they recognized the importance of having other people in their lives. That realization is reflected in their attendance at veterans' functions. They appreciate the folks at their sides more than they will ever know (and frequently more than the warriors are willing to admit). There is a certain bit of irony here, though.

Often, we do not get any insights from the wives, sons, daughters, friends et al who waited as their loved ones fought thousands of miles from home. Hopefully, we can rectify that somewhat. We begin here a series (hopefully) in which correspondents tell us what it was like to wait—and hope.

Let the series begin.

Just a Pen-Pal

By Edna Holmes

The turning-point of my life came very early, when my cousin joined the army in February of 1948. When he was sworn in at Love Field in Dallas, TX, Charles Holt stood with another seventeen-year-old lad, named Holmes. The two became friends, always standing together in every line or formation in alphabetical order.

After basic training at Fort Ord, CA, they were shipped out to Japan, still together and a long way from home and all that was familiar. One day, Charles suggested that his friend write to his cousin in Texas. "She will write and that way you will get some mail," he said. So it was in the fall of 1948, at age fourteen, I received the first letter from Louis Holmes—a polite, correct, and very neat letter.

In the years following, I was to receive hundreds, but this first one is the only one I remember well. I was impressed and wrote back wondering if I'd get another. That started the pen-pal correspondence which changed my life.

I liked writing letters, and my parents were not concerned that I was writing to a soldier in Japan. He was thousands of miles away, and it was "safe." In fact, Louis soon became a familiar person to the family, and a hero to my six brothers younger than me, because he was a soldier. I read his letters aloud and we became more interested in news from that part of the world. Though we had never seen him, he soon became important to us.

Within a year, the letters were coming and going at a rate of at least one a day. By then, Louis had decided we were going to be more than pen-pals. He sent nice pictures of himself and sheets of airmail stamps to cover postage expense. He also began talking about "our" future! I was thrilled that this smart, handsome soldier was so interested in me—a fifteen year old country girl.

And there were favorable signs!

My girlfriend and I had heard that if you sleep with a piece of wedding cake under your pillow, you will dream of the man you will marry. We could hardly wait to get that valuable information! When her older sister got married, we kept our pieces of wedding cake and tucked them under our pillows that night at my house. Sure enough, I dreamed about Louis! That is, I dreamed about his picture, which was my only frame of reference.

My friend didn't dream at all. We decided that the only thing we proved is that if you sleep on a piece of wedding cake, the next morning it will be flat as a pancake.

In 1950, the news of Korea and a possible war became a troubling factor.



Louis and Edna Holmes, June 10, 1951

We knew it would no doubt involve Louis and my cousin, since they were in Japan already. I remember that day in June when I was cultivating cotton in our field, and a rainstorm struck suddenly. I had to get the tractor out of the field, and as I drove up to the barn, my sister-in-law ran out to meet me with news that the Korean War had started. My hopes were dashed to the ground, because all I could think about was the sure delay in Louis and me getting to see each other in person. And a new fear gripped my heart. He might get wounded—or killed.

I'd written 31st Inf. Regiment, 7th Division at least a thousand times on letters. Now, it was the words I listened for in the news and searched for in newspapers. Yet, what I felt could not compare to the anxiety and fears of the wives whose husbands were on the battlefields of Korea. The fear for the safety of their men must have been a heavy weight in the hearts of those women who hoped and prayed and waited for their loved

ones.

Each letter from Louis became more precious. When we worked in the field near our house, I'd instruct my little brothers to bring the letter from Louis to me if one came. I can still see how they looked running across the field, their heads bobbing up and down in the cotton stalks with the others in hot pursuit of the one with the letter.

The year dragged on. I could not have imagined the terrible winter Louis was enduring in Korea. He and many others would be affected for the rest of their lives by Cold Injury. Mercifully, he survived, and in late spring of 1951 he was pulled out and shipped back home.

It was early in June when I got a call from Illinois and heard His voice for the first time. A few days later he came. Five days after that, we got married! He was on furlough and could not stay in Texas, and I could not go anywhere with him without a chaperone. If we were to get further acquainted, we had to be mar-

ried. Our pen-pal relationship ended abruptly, and a permanent relationship began on June 10 1951, which has flourished for 54 years.

Strangely enough, we have none of the hundreds of letters we wrote. Louis had to destroy all personal mail before he left Japan for Korea, and my collection of the letters he wrote to me were later lost in a house fire. His letters would have been a great treasure for our children—a running account of every day of his life for over two years.

My first impression of my pen-pal over 57 years ago was a true one. Louis Holmes is a unique individual, and I'm glad that we made that youthful, impulsive decision to get married with only the letter "courtship" between us. Life would not have been complete for either of us without each other.

*Edna Holmes
1302 E. Ninth
Bonham, TX 75418*

MEMBERS' MILESTONES

An Honorable Discharge—52 Years Later

I share this information with my comrades who participated in "The Forgotten War." Since 1967, I have been trying to obtain my Honorable Discharge Certificate from The National Personnel Record Center to no avail. The last time I wrote to them was on February 2005—and I'm still waiting for a reply.

Due to the lack of response to my request, I wrote my Congressman, Mario Diaz-Balart, to request assistance. In only six weeks, he got in touch with The National Personnel Record Center and obtained my certificate—something which is so significant in my life—and which I should have received almost 52 years ago. After all, I am a Korean War veteran. I served with Co. A, 180th Regt., 45th Infantry Division, from 1952-1953, at Heartbreak Ridge and Christmas Hill.

I am grateful to my Congressman for his great efforts, and for hosting me at his office, where he presented to me the certificate and an emotionally significant letter.

George A. Aubert, 15060 SW 180th St., Miami, FL 33187



Congressman Balart presents George Aubert his certificate

MARIO DIAZ-BALART
29th District, Florida
BUDGET COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

313 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2778
Fax: (202) 225-4946

20519C01 OFFICES
12051 S.W. 42ND STREET
SUITE 100
MIAMI, FL 33187
(305) 275-4600
Fax: (305) 275-7422

4716 GULFVIEW GATE PARKWAY
SUITE 100
NAPLES, FL 34116
(239) 340-1020
Fax: (239) 340-3600

**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0925**

June 20, 2005

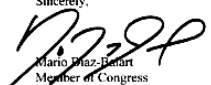
Mr. George A. Aubert
15060 Southwest 180th Street
Miami, Florida 33187

Dear Mr. Aubert:

It was an honor and great pleasure to meet with both you and your wife this morning. The opportunity to listen to your memories was refreshing.

Mr. Aubert your bravery and dedication to our great nation is highly commendable and presenting you with your Honorable Discharge Certificate from the United States Army was a privilege. My staff and I will always be grateful for allowing us the opportunity to be a part of something so significant in your life. I am enclosing two photographs of our memorable day together for you to enjoy and share with your love ones.

Once again, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to bestow this honor to both you and your family. It goes without saying that we are proud for the service, commitment and sacrifices you made on our behalf.

Sincerely,

Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress

MDB/ya
Enclosures

Congressman Aubert's letter: An added, welcome touch

Update

Tell America

Chapter 30 – Indiana #1 [Fort Wayne, IN]

Thanks For The “Bubble”

Chapter members visited Mrs. Ecclestone’s 6th grade class at Lane Middle School in Fort Wayne. They impressed the students with their stories, as their letters suggest. Jim Yaney, a medic in Korea and the Chapter’s Tell America program coordinator, particularly interested them with his stories.

Dear Mr. Yaney,

Thank you so much for taking time to come see our class, and for serving in Korea. If you didn’t, my life would be horrible.

I found it quite interesting when you told us about the helicopter “bubbles.” It must’ve taken a lot of courage to go over to Korea.

I greatly appreciate what you’ve done for this country and for me. I will never forget you.

Molly Morgan

.....

Dear Mr. Yaney:

I’m glad people like you helped in the Korean War. I’m glad you came to our class. I think it’s cool that you had that medal. It must be a big honor.

How many people came to you a day with frostbite? It’s scary knowing [that] people froze on the helicopter ride to see a doctor. I’m glad they created the bubble.

Overall, I would love to have you back.

Chase Ellinwood

.....



Chase Ellinwood’s art work

Dear Mr. Yaney,

I am very thankful that you took all your time to tell us about the war. Everything was shocking. It was all terrifying. I felt like I was actually there.

The thing that impressed me the most was about the disease when the mice or rats touched the soldiers and they got fever.

It was all impressive. That’s why I’m very thankful.

Esthefania Paniagua



Esthefania Paniagua’s letter cover



The Yaney brothers Jim, a medic in Korea, and Joe, who was in the Army in WWII and Korea

Chapter 71 – Western Ohio/Lake Erie

Fred Shively

The Chapter sponsors an active Tell America program. For example, members have participated at Fort Laramie, Lehman, Anna, Tipp City, Tri-Village, and Versailles High Schools over the years. One in particular, stands out: a 2004 Veterans Day visit to Tri-Village High School, where they were joined by Cindy LaPointe, the widow of Conscientious Objector Joseph G. LaPointe, Jr., who died in Vietnam—and was awarded the Medal of Honor.

The program, presented by Fred Shively and Ken Williamson, was extensive. It included:

- INTRODUCTION
- VETERANS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR HISTORY
- HOW ONE BECOMES A VETERAN
- HOW DO YOU RECOGNIZE A VETERAN
- WAR STORIES
- THE MILITARY FUNERAL

- THE REST OF THE STORY (The story of Joseph G. LaPointe, Jr.)
- THE FLAG
- THE MEANING OF THE FLAG TO A VETERAN
- ENDING: THANKS, AND GOD BLESS AMERICA

Based on the letters from students and administrators alike, e.g., the nearby letter from Principal Whitstone, the Chapter's efforts and presentations have been very well received.

See letter from Principal Whitstone – Page 13



Tell America coordinator holds the 50th Anniversary flag

71's Fred Shively (L) and Ken Williamson (R) share a laugh with students at Lehman High School at a 2003 presentation



(L-R) Fred Shively, Cindy LaPointe, and Ken Williamson together at Tri-Village High School at their Veterans Day presentation in 2004

71's busy Tell America summary

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION		
TELL AMERICA PROGRAM		
"2002"-2003 school year	"2003"-2004 school year	"2004" school year
VETERANS DAY PROGRAM	VETERANS DAY PROGRAM	VETERANS DAY PROGRAM
Number of schools -- 22	Number of schools -- 17	Number of schools -- 18
Number of classes -- 17	Number of classes -- 17	Number of classes -- 18
High Schools assemblies -- 17	High Schools assemblies -- 4	High Schools assemblies -- 5
Number of students -- 1,423	Number of students -- 2,313	Number of students -- 2,313
Teachers & Adults -- 57	Teachers & Adults -- 91	Teachers & Adults -- 4,444
Number of trips -- 6	Number of trips -- 7	Number of trips -- 245
Miles traveled -- 320	Miles traveled -- 481.6	Miles traveled -- 10
Travel time -- 3.6 hrs.	Travel time -- 14.6 hrs.	Travel time -- 11.6 hrs.
TELL AMERICA PROGRAM	TELL AMERICA PROGRAM	TELL AMERICA PROGRAM
Number of schools -- 22	Number of schools -- 22	Number of schools -- 22
Number of classes -- 36	Number of classes -- 34	Number of classes -- 34
Number of periods -- 114	Number of periods -- 120	Number of periods -- 120
Classroom time -- 95 hrs.	Classroom time -- 89.7 hrs.	Classroom time -- 89.7 hrs.
Number of students -- 1,420	Number of students -- 1,520	Number of students -- 1,520
Teachers & Adults -- 116	Teachers & Adults -- 62	Teachers & Adults -- 62
Number of trips -- 36	Number of trips -- 34	Number of trips -- 34
Miles traveled -- 2,328	Miles traveled -- 2,407	Miles traveled -- 2,407
Travel time -- 60.8 hrs.	Travel time -- 67.9 hrs.	Travel time -- 67.9 hrs.

Chapter 256 – Oakland, Macomb, Wayne [Rochester, MI]

Robert C. Sharrard

During the past four years, the Chapter has conducted an ongoing school program for grades 5-12. We have obtained a reputation that has kept our "School Squad" busy. They have returned to many schools, and are picking up more."

Our program, under the direction of Sgt. Richard Charbonneau, each man introduces himself, tells the students where in Korea he served, what unit he was with, and what branch of service he was in. We talk about some of our experiences, and then ask the students for their questions.

We find that the elementary students seem to ask more questions than the high school students; the middle school students are close behind.

The teachers have stated that the students talk about us and our program for months afterwards. The students say that they learn more from us in the hour [sometimes two] that we are there than they learn from all the books. That is because we were there.

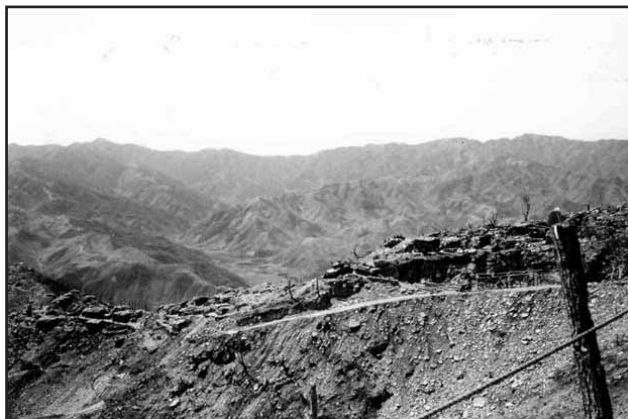
Another aspect of our visits the students like is that they get a chance to see some of the medals that they have heard about, what they look like, and what they mean.



256 members march in 2005 Sterling Heights' Memorial Day Parade

Continued on page 56

Anything But Jolly On Christmas Hill



Looking into the MunDung-Ni Valley

The photo above shows the 179th Regt., 45th Inf. Div. emplaced on Heartbreak Ridge, looking north to the Chinese and down into the MunDung-Ni Valley, where field glasses can spot over 15 destroyed US tanks. (Both photos were taken on Heartbreak Ridge.) The valley was a death trap for US troops and armor trying to force their way north; the Chinese at the high positions had the whole valley zeroed in.

The Chinese launched their last big offensive in July to the west of this scene at Christmas Hill, of which several of us wrote a book titled Christmas in July. We held our positions despite severe casualties.

Evacuating casualties from Christmas Hill was a problem. It was a ½ -mile litter carry from aid station to Jeep trail, and then onto the Bell "MASH" helicopters. I walked that 1/2 mile several times, and Bill Oelkers was a litter carrier on that grueling walk.



45th Division casualties being evacuated from Christmas Hill in July 1953. Battalion surgeon Dr. Bob Shorr is to right of the litter Jeep.

Damned little of anything green survived on Heartbreak, but nothing green survived Outpost Queen. Trees and bushes can't duck.

The 2nd BN of 180th had over 55% casualties from July 1-18, when they were relieved by the 1st BN of 179th. The 179th, in turn, had high casualties from July 18th to the 27th, when the cease fire was declared.

The Christmas Hill Aid Station was up near the top of Outpost Queen where no Jeep could possibly go. Damned little of anything green survived on Heartbreak, but nothing green survived Outpost Queen. Trees and bushes can't duck.

This was one of the last big forgotten battles of the Forgotten War. The other was on the western front, with the 7th Division at "Pork Chop Hill."

Wayne Pelkey

THANK YOU from page 19

The 25th of June seems a good time to say thank you to all those who sacrificed to defeat the Communist takeover of South Korea. 55 years ago we committed to keeping South Korea free. Many lives and injuries later, they are still free from Communist rule.

Our unit was the 607th AC&W Sqdn. of the 5th AF, 502 TCG. We came from Georgia in September 1950 to give radar and radio cover for the troops. We moved up and down the peninsula and had a site in Pyongyang until the Dec 1950 evacuation to the South. Sitting on the hills and mountains to watch for enemy air traffic and control U.N. air activity, we were like sitting ducks for air attack or ground assault.

It is appropriate to say a big thank you to all those who kept us safe and cared for on those radar sites. The infantry kept the enemy away, and supply personnel gave us what we needed to survive away from towns and villages, through fierce winters and summer storms. The medics kept us well and made sure our water was safe to drink, while our cooks managed to prepare the best meals possible.

So many support personnel will never get full recognition for the excellent service they gave to our units because their duties were taken for granted. I wish more stories, e.g., the one about the graves and registration personnel, will be told about how they managed to deliver the goods under such adverse conditions.

I thank you all for taking care of us so we could accomplish our mission. You all did a great job for us in accomplishing your missions.

John M. Quinn, 607th, later 6132nd AC&W Sq., Korea 9-50 to 3-52

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in "The Graybeards" should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to: Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Sam Meets Audie—and a Few Other People and Creatures

Sam Sgambellone had the pleasure of meeting WWII hero and actor Audie Murphy once—and an assortment of other people, critters, and freaks of nature as well.

As he recalled, he met Murphy while he was on R&R in Japan. “We were behind the hotel at which I was staying,” he said. “I think the name of the hotel was the New

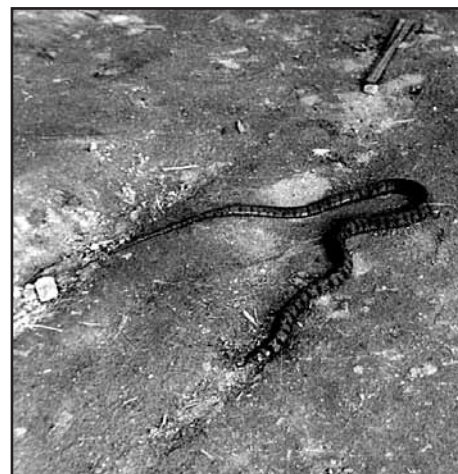
Mori.” Sgambellone remembered that, “He was very nice to talk to.” He believes Murphy was making a movie there, called *Joe Butterfly*, which he used to see on TV every now and then, but not lately.

During his time in Korea, he saw a lot of other things and people, as the nearby photos suggest.

Audie Murphy and Sam Sgambellone



“God bless those Red Cross Ladies,” are Sgambellone’s sentiments



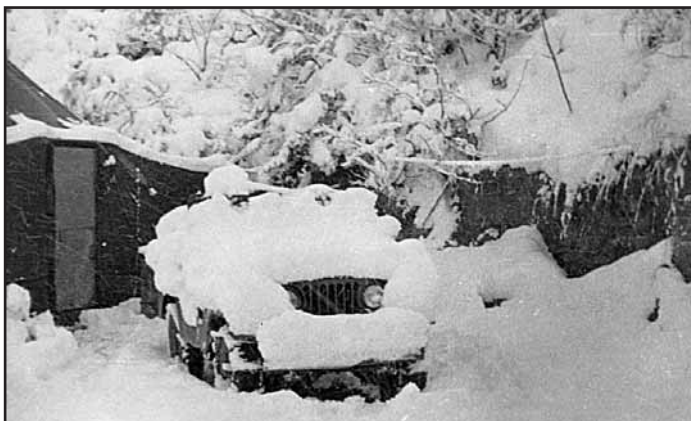
Snakes abounded in the mountains of Korea—copperheads, as Sgambellone recalls



◀ Sgambellone then



Sgambellone now ➤



Sgambellone—and everyone else—is snowed under in Korea



Sgambellone’s home in Korea: a counter fire tent

Chapter 175 – Lt. BaldoMero Lopez [FL]

Clarence Clifton

Chapter 175 members make frequent visits to school in the Tampa Bay area. The members who are assigned and participate in the School Program go to schools to present the history of the Korean War throughout the year.

November is a demanding and busy month. The School Program was conducted at eight schools during November 2004. Schedules and outlines were made for Memorial Day, 2005.

The procedure and explanation of the POW/MIA table is a highlight for the students. They eagerly await each revelation. Afterwards, they ask questions relating to the Korean War.

This has proven to be an excellent opportunity to give an account of the Korean War. Details of events and times are explained to the students. They, in turn, are encouraged to write an essay of their understanding of the Korean War. The winner receives a \$50.00 Savings Bond and a trophy.

The members enjoy making visits to the schools, as they spend this valuable time with the students. Lopez - Chapter 175 has been involved in the School Program for five years.

Lucinda Ford, shown in the photograph, is our youngest member. She has spent time in South Korea and is now stationed in California. Lucinda is twenty-six. When she comes home on leave, she attends our monthly meetings and participates in the activities.



It may not be a collage for 175 in Tell America, but this is a collage of their activities

Chapter 296 – Cayuga County [Auburn, NY]

An Experience One Will Never Forget

On April 17, 2005, Chapter 296's Commander, John Barwinczok, and 1st Vice Commander, Donald Tavener, presented a talk on the Korean War to 111 6th grade history students at Whitney Point Middle School, Whitney Point, NY. There were 5 40-minute sessions. We

spoke of the harsh living conditions, the weather, and our readiness throughout all phases of the war.

We received 81 letters from the students thanking us for enlightening them about the Korean War. After reading those letters, I had tears in my eyes. They restored my faith in today's youths. (A couple of those letters appear below.)

If anyone ever has the opportunity to speak to youth groups or organizations or schools, don't pass it up. It's an experience that one will never forget.

John Barwinczok

.....

Letters to Messrs. Barwinczok and Tavener

Thank you for visiting Whitney Point Middle School and speaking to our sixth grade World History classes. Your presentation was informative and interesting, but perhaps your presence was most important.

To some sixth graders, a war that happened in the 1950s may seem like ancient history, but your being here brought real life to their study of the Korean War. Veterans such as yourselves are so valuable to our country, not only for what you have done, but also for what you still do.

Our students need to understand that we owe our freedom and democracy to those who have been willing to fight for it.

Thank you again for your willingness to travel to schools and share your experiences with students.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S. Johnson, World History Teacher

.....

Dear Mr. Barwinczok and Mr. Tavener

Thank you for taking time off from your day to talk to us. I liked the posters you two brought in. I agreed with you guys about the Korean War being forgotten.

I will try to get a lot of my friends to go to the Memorial Day parade to honor the veterans that served in the war to protect us and give us what we have today.

Once again, I thank you all.

Yours Truly,

Harley Burden

.....

Dear Mr. Barwinczok and Mr. Tavener

Thank you very much for taking time out of your life to come share about the Korean War. I appreciated it very much. I really enjoyed the pictures and the displays you showed us.

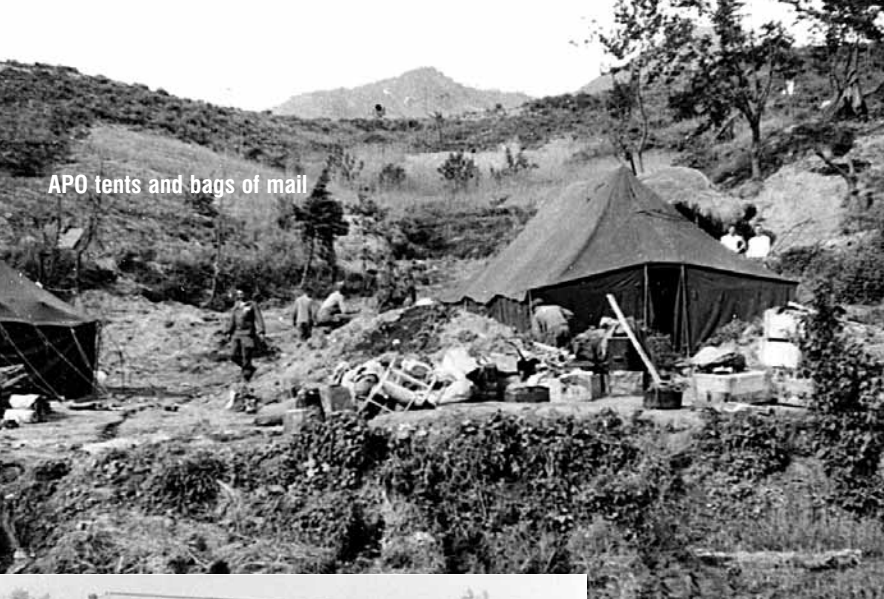
I agree that the Korean War is the "Forgotten War." I have heard about it, but haven't learned too much about it.

Veterans are a very important part of my life, because if they hadn't gone and fought for our country, I probably wouldn't have the freedoms that I have today.

Sincerely,

Mary Krasse

APO tents and bags of mail

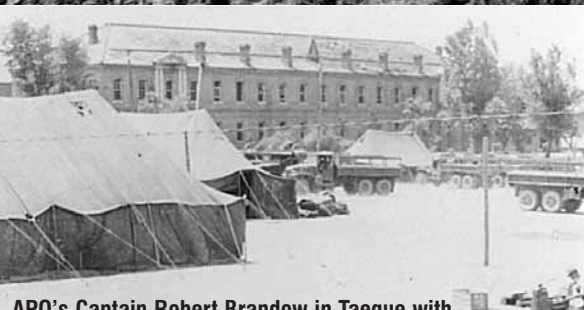


Mason, Larson, and Sanders take a break from unloading tons of mail

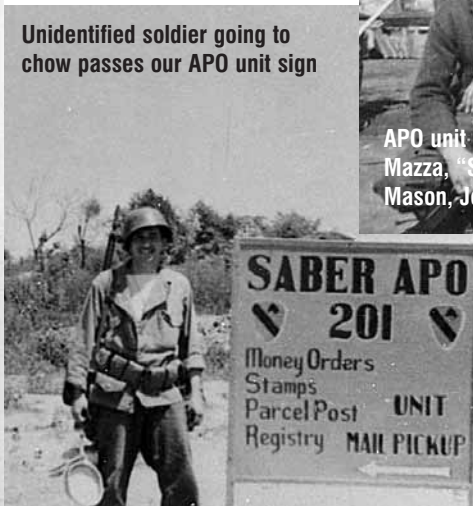


The Mail Must Go Through

APO's Captain Robert Brandow in Taegue with unidentified lieutenant in August 1950



Unidentified soldier going to chow passes our APO unit sign



APO unit (Front) unknown truck driver, "Doc" Long, Sgt. "Sal" Mazza, "Sandy" Sanders (Rear) Korean helper, Oren Larson, Sgt. Mason, John Kronenberger

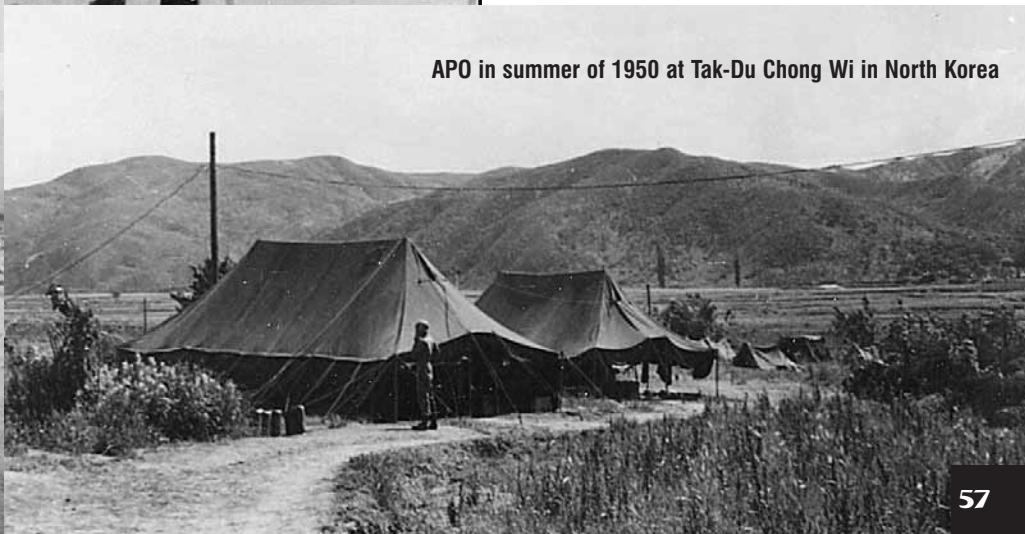


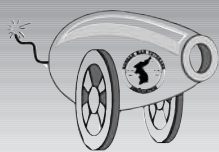
John F. Kronenberger sent us these photos of the 1st Cavalry Division APO 201 in Korea. Kronenberger can be reached at 102 Williamsburg Drive, Belleville, IL 62221-3157, (618) 277-2311, JKRONEN809@aol.com

Loading the APO on a 6-by



APO in summer of 1950 at Tak-Du Chong Wi in North Korea





Feedback/Return Fire

This section of Graybeards is designed to provide feedback—and generate more feedback. It gives readers the opportunity to respond to printed stories, letters, points of view, etc., without having to write long-winded replies. Feel free to respond to whatever you see in the magazine. As long as it's tasteful and non-political, we will be happy to include it. If you want to submit ideas, criticisms, etc. that you prefer not to see in print—at least with your name attached to it—then we will honor that. Make sure to let us know, though.

Mail your "Return Fire" to the "Feedback Editor" at 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067-2859. E-mail it to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 563-6149. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

507th AAA: First Into Korea

Re the May-June 2005 issue, page 20: Don Dugay's diary was very interesting. On page 22, just before he signed off, he wrote: "October 11, 1951: left Japan for San Francisco on USNS Raymond O. Beaudoin. Arrived Frisco on 10-24-51"

I departed from Frisco on the Raymond O. Beaudoin in April 1949, and arrived at Yokohama, Japan, 15 days later. I was surprised to hear that the Beaudoin was still sailing in 1951. I thought for sure she would sink on her way back to Frisco.

We went by rail to Camp Zama. From there we traveled by 6xs to Camp McGill, Japan, which was just over the hill from Yokosuka Naval Base. We helped reactivate the 507TH AAA. Next, we moved to and dug in around Ashiya AFB, at the tip of Kyushu, Japan in 1950.

On 25 June 1950—the beginning of the Korean War—General MacArthur contacted our headquarters (Col. Fultz) and requested approximately 30 men to fly into Suwon Air Strip and evacuate the women and children of the military advisory group at Seoul. This mission, called Detachment X-ray, was accomplished successfully in about three days.

All records and history of the Korean War show that members of the 507th AAA were the first military group to enter and fight in the Korean War. There were several Purple Hearts, Bronze Stars, etc., awarded.

*Joseph H. Bisher, S/Sgt., Battery D,
507TH AAA Jhbisher@aol.com*

Let's Not Make A Joke Out Of The Graybeards

I have been a member of the KWVA since 1990, and I am a life member. Up till the last year or so I felt you had done an excellent job on the *Graybeards* magazine. On the subject of "looking for" was

a very good write-up. Now, you have it labeled "Recon Mission." And on some things you or someone is making a joke out of it.

In this past May/June issue, a lady was trying to find information on her brother, Cpl. Robert Henry, MIA July 1953. To me, the heading of "Oh Henry" on the notice was an insult. This is a veterans' magazine, not a comic book.

Why can't this "Recon Mission" go back to the way the notices were printed in the past without making a joke of it?

*Lloyd Pitman, P.O. Box 128
Preble, NY 13141*

Coming Home

How Did We Survive?

These photos were taken after my return from Korea. In one year I was transferred from Co. C, 116 Eng. Combat Bn. in Korea to Camp Stoneman, CA to Co. C, 398 Eng. Cons. Bn., Ft. Leonard Wood, MO, to First Guard Co., USDB, Ft. Leavenworth, KS, and finally to U.S. Army Garrison, Ft. Crowder, MO, where I was a disciplinary guard in the disciplinary barracks until it closed around 1959.

When I show these photos people don't believe we wore this summer uniform in the states around 1955. I owned this home in Goodman, MO, but when the post was

closing it was hard to sell. I just about gave it away. That car on the side was my 1955 Mercury Monterey. I always said it was named after my wife. He name was Montie Ray Case.

I don't know how I was able to pay for it all. I was an E-4, and my wife did not work outside the home. Maybe it was because we had no credit cards or shopping centers.

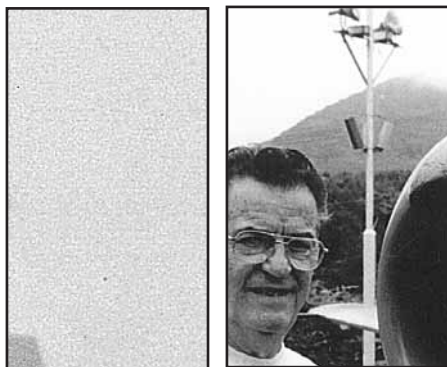
One expense we had was in being transferred. You had to buy a different post sticker every time you got to a new post.

*Bernard E. Case, 6790 E. 34 Road,
Cadillac, MI 49601*

Clarification Re Kim Il Sung

In the July-August issue of The Graybeards, Mr. Paul A. Klein, in a letter addressing the role of the Soviets in Korea, recounted the personal history of Premier Kim Il Sung, Premier of the Democratic People's Republic of North Korea. He states that Kim (erroneously referred to as "Sung" by Mr. Klein), formed the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army in 1932 in China, that he was captured in 1940 and escaped to Russia in 1941, and that he returned to the Soviet zone of Korea in 1945 as a Soviet army major. Recent research leads me to conclude that there are several errors in Mr. Klein's recounting of Kim's personal history:

1. Kim did not form the "Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Army" in 1932. A Chinese guerrilla, Yang Ching-yu, formed the Northeast Anti-Japanese army in 1936, which consisted of a number of Chinese and Korean guerrilla groups, including a unit of several hundred Korean partisans commanded by Kim. However, by 1939, Kim was so successful in his conduct of guerrilla warfare against the Japanese that the Japanese considered Kim to be the equal of Yang, each man commanding



1955 Summer Uniform: A "Case" In Point

units of approximately four hundred men. In fact “the Japanese set up a ‘Kim Special Activities Unit’ to track down Kim Il Sung and his allies” (Bruce Cumings, *The Origins of the Korean War: Liberation and the Emergence of Separate Regimes, 1945-1947* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1981), 35.

2. Kim was never captured by the Japanese and never served in the Soviet army. Cumings states that “the best evidence that [he has] been able to locate suggests that Kim [never went to Russia and] got no further than Khabarovsk, just across the Manchurian border during the period from 1941 to 1945; . . . was not an officer in the Soviet army; but did have contact with and training by the Soviets. American intelligence developed information in 1947 that Kim and his guerrillas retreated to the Khabarovsk area after the intense Japanese counterinsurgency campaign in Manchuria . . . and stayed there until the liberation [of Korea in 1945]” (Cumings, 400).

However, I commend Mr. Klein for his making a significant contribution to the literature describing the role of the Soviets in the Korean War.

*Wilson A. Heefner, M.D.
COL AUS (Ret)*

Presentations to the 245th Tank Battalion

I thought you might be interested in a couple photos I took in the fall of 1952 in Korea of presentations to members of the 245th Tank Battalion, 45th Infantry

Division. One shows Captain Victor Moore, a company commander, receiving the Bronze Star. One other person in the photo, Captain Jarmon, also received the Bronze Star.

In the other photo, Col. Clement is awarding the Purple Heart to one of our medics, Private John Moncreif, 120th Medical Battalion, who was assigned to the 245th Tank Battalion, 45th Infantry Division.

Moncreif was wounded on a recon patrol. Another medic on that same patrol, Private Vachon, came back in a body bag.

*Dr. John E. Laura, 8 Parkington Circle,
E. Syracuse, NY 13057-8264*

No Metal, So New Medals

Interesting Insights Into The History Of Medals

Compared to later wars, WWII and Korea were disorganized when it came to awards and decorations. The criteria for award of the Bronze Star medal allow it to be granted for heroism, achievement or service. When it is awarded for heroism, it carries a “V” device for valor. Additional awards are recognized by an oak leaf cluster, but only one “V” device is worn, even if more than one Bronze Star was for heroism.

During WWII and Korea, recommendations for awards for heroism weren’t always prepared, submitted, and approved as they should be. We all have seen awards granted decades after the deed to correct this. Heroism is a short-term, intense act that stands out. Achievement



Col. Clement awarding the Purple Heart to Pvt. Moncreif

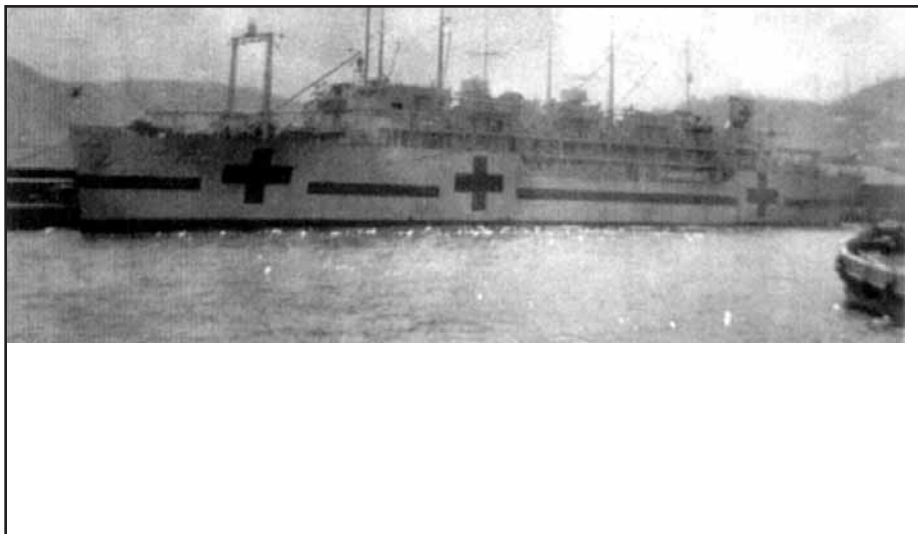
is something that covers a longer period, say days or weeks, and while not as intense, is worthy of achievement. Service may cover months or even years, but when viewed in terms of its total value, it is also worthy of recognition.

I have the Bronze Star with one oak leaf cluster from the Vietnam era. I am not a hero: no “V.” One was for meritorious achievement, and the other for meritorious service.

My late father-in-law served in WWII and earned the CIB. He and many others were granted a retroactive Bronze Star medal for meritorious service upon application for it. It was realized after the war that those who qualified for the CIB or CMB should have been awarded a Bronze Star for meritorious service. Spending the amount of time under fire that they did meant that the thousands of little acts of daily “heroism” deserved special recognition.

Lots of awards and decorations slipped through the cracks during WWII. There was a metal shortage, and a lot of GIs didn’t get their medals. Rather, they received just a citation and/or entry in their records!

Things were better during the Korean War, but award of the Bronze Star medal for achievement or service still did not come up to standards. Awarding a Bronze Star medal for meritorious service to Korean War CIB/CMB holders would correct a recognized oversight. No, it would not correct all the oversights and errors of omission, but it would help to do so. (I did not serve in the 1950-53 Korean



Captain Moore receiving the Bronze Star (L-R) Major Fleig, Adjutant; LTCol Clement CO, Cpt. Moore, Capt. Jarmon

War period, so I have no personal stake in the issue.)

As for the issue of ribbons in general, each service has its own view of what is liberal and what is not. You have only to look at a photo of a soldier, sailor, marine, airman or coastguardsman of the same pay grade to see that this is true. Perhaps this is why there is no push to have a Bronze Star medal awarded to holders of the Navy/Marine Corps Combat Action ribbon.

As for the Air Force, aircrews were awarded the Air Medal for so many missions in the Vietnam era, and an end of tour Distinguished Flying Cross. If the same is true for WWII and Korea, then they were recognized for meritorious achievement and service, but with an aviation medal rather than a ground medal.

While everyone realizes that the more a medal is awarded, the less it is valued, this is no reason to deny the valid award of one. It should be noted that those CIB/CMB holders who received a Bronze Star for heroism would be awarded an oak leaf cluster to show an additional award, and their "V" device would still appropriately set them apart from other awardees. No citation was issued to those who received the WWII CIB/CMB

Bronze Star. I would expect it would be the same for Korean awardees. Remember, a recipient gets to keep only the initial award of a decoration. Additional award elements are a large size oak leaf cluster and accompanying citation.

If anyone is really interested in a unique case, I recommend reading *Shower Of Stars: The Medal of Honor and the 27th Maine*, by John J. Pullen, which gives the entire story of how several hundred members of the 27th Maine infantry regiment were awarded the Medal of Honor for staying on beyond the termination of their enlistment to defend Washington, DC in the aftermath of the battle of Bull Run. The award was made personally by the Secretary of War, in accordance with the original legislation establishing the Medal of Honor and allowing its award for meritorious service.

While totally legal, an army review board in the early 1900's revoked this award during a review of all previously awarded Medals of Honor. Despite this,

some veterans of the regiment continued to wear their medals at parades and gatherings. However, few actually received their medals, as the names of those actually present for duty were in question.

The book notes that a barrel full of medals was known to be in the possession of the regimental commander. But, he retained them, lacking good documentation of who should have received them. It should be noted that the 20th Maine, which distinguished itself defending Little Round Top at the battle of Gettysburg, received only four Medals of Honor. The one awarded to the commander, Joshua Chamberlain, was not made until the 1890s, as the two officers senior to him were both killed during the battle, and their seniors failed to recommend him.

There was only one medal awarded during the Civil War, and that was the Medal of Honor. It was around the turn of the 20th century, in the wake of the Spanish-American War, that the Civil War service medal was authorized. The Bronze Star medal dates from 1917, when it was realized that not only were more campaign medals needed, but that medals to recognize lesser acts than that required for award of the Medal of Honor were appropriate.

John Gavel, Brevard Chapter 210

There Is An Impressive Memorial In Uniontown, OH

The nearby photos of the Uniontown Community Park All Veterans Memorial depict the results of a worthwhile effort.

I challenged the board on August 7th, 2002, to erect a memorial. They took my basic design and enlarged on it. The memorial is the finished project, which was dedicated July 4, 2004.

I revisited Korea with my wife in



Freedom is Not Free, as viewers learn from this memorial in Uniontown, OH



William Bloss, his hat, his medal, and the Uniontown monument

2003. (We were there on June 25th.) I received my Korean hat and freedom medal while I was there. I am in awe at how far this country has progressed in fifty years; the gratitude shown to us was fantastic. They really enjoy their democracy.

The entrance to the Korean War museum was designed to honor all United States service members who lost their lives during the Korean War. Their names are cast in bronze by state. It is quite a fit memorial to them.

I can honestly say I am glad I was part of the UN effort.

*William Bloss,
3865 Hugh Street,
Uniontown, OH
44685 (National
Guard, Btry. "C,"
987th Armored
Field Artillery
(1951)*



The Uniontown, OH, memorial is a place to reflect

A Tribute To Korean War Veterans

On March 24, 2005, I, my brother Ralph Coalts, and a fellow veteran, Robert Burgess, left our monthly meeting of the Manasota Chapter 199 KWVA of Bradenton, FL, at the American Legion Kirby Stewart Post #24. We decided to stop at the Sizzlin Platter Buffet Restaurant on Manatee Ave. in Bradenton for lunch.

We sat down to eat, still in our uniforms, when a fireman eating there came over to our table, shook our hands, and said, "Thank you for your service."

I believe he was from the West Manatee Fire Rescue Dept. I didn't get his name. This single act of patriotism made me so proud to be a veteran and to have honorably served our country. What I didn't say, but I feel I should have, is that they (along with, police, EMTs, and many other public servants) are, the forgotten heroes—until we need them.

...students and teachers alike show their patriotism by shaking our hands and saying, "Thank you for your service."

Every time they go on their tour of duties, they don't know what lies ahead for them, or whether they will be going home to their loved ones at the end of their duty time. They are also a great part of the homeland security.

I also have seen this same patriotism from the students and teachers at the schools where our Chapter has gone to give a talk about the history of the Korean War. After each presentation, we have a question and answer period during which our veterans get to talk about their experiences during their tour of duty. It is at this time that students and teachers alike show their patriotism by shaking our hands and saying, "Thank you for your service." They don't have to do it (whether they believe in the war or not). They are showing respect and patriotism to the flag, country, and to all veterans and military personnel, wherever they may be.

May God bless you all, and keep you safe and secure.

*Richard Coalts, 602 Crete Ct.,
Bradenton, FL 34207-3470*

RUBIN from page 49

Those who served with Ted speak of him as a soldier of great skill and courage. One night near the Pusan Perimeter, Corporal Rubin had been assigned to hold a hill that was essential to the 3rd Battalion's safe withdrawal. For 24 hours this lone rifleman would defend the hill against an overwhelming number of North Korean forces. By his actions Corporal Rubin inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy, saved the lives of countless soldiers, and gave the unit time to withdraw.

Those who served with Ted speak of him as a soldier who gladly risked his own life for others. When Corporal Rubin's battalion found itself ambushed by thousands of Chinese troops, the Americans' firepower soon dwindled to a single machine gun. The weapon was in an exposed position and three soldiers had already died manning it. That was when Corporal Rubin stepped forward. He fought until his ammunition was gone. He was badly wounded, captured and sent to a POW camp. He risked his life that day to protect his fellow American soldiers, and his heroism helped many of them escape.

Those who served with Ted speak of him as a soldier whose many acts of compassion helped his fellow GIs survive the nightmare of imprisonment. As a teenager, Ted had taught himself how to survive the horrors of a Nazi death camp. He was resourceful, courageous, and unusually strong. And in Korea, he drew on these qualities to help keep many of his POWs alive. Whenever he could, at the risk of certain execution, Corporal Rubin would sneak out and steal food rations from the guards, and then he shared them with his fellow soldiers. Throughout this ordeal he nursed those who were sick back to health, and

said the Kaddish prayers for those he buried.

And when his captives offered to release him to Communist Hungary, with the guarantee of a good job and nice clothes and plenty of food, Corporal Rubin refused. He said, "I was in the U.S. Army, and I wouldn't leave my American brothers because they need me here." Ted's decision was in character.

As a Jew and non-citizen serving in uniform, he had experienced prejudice in the Army. And he knew that the America he fought for did not always live up to its highest ideals. Yet he had enough trust in America's promise to see his commitment through. He saw it as his personal duty to live up to our nation's promise, and by doing so he set an example of what it means to be an American.

Many heroes are remembered in monuments of stone. The monuments to Corporal Rubin are a legacy of life. We see his legacy in the many American families whose husbands, fathers, and sons returned home safely because of his efforts. We see his legacy in the free and democratic South Korea that grew on the soil of his sacrifice. And we see his legacy in a new generation of American men and women in uniform who were inspired to their own acts of courage and compassion.

Today, we remember the mother, father and sister that Corporal Rubin lost to an unspeakable evil. We admire the determination of a young man who sought to repay his American liberators by following in their footsteps, and we recall the selfless acts that gave his comrades strength and hope in their darkest hours.

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in The Graybeards should be sent to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT06067 or emailed to:

sharp_arthur_g @sbcglobal.net



Hats Off To Derby

There appeared in the September 12, 2005 Kingston [Ontario] Whig-Standard an article featuring retired Canadian surgeon Dr. A. Campbell Derby, who served a six-month tour in Korea with the 25th Canadian Field Dressing Station alongside the American M.A.S.H. unit.

Derby, who has recently published a new book about his experiences as a field surgeon in WWII and Korea, *Not Least in the Crusade: Memoirs of a Military Surgeon*, noted that he never particularly liked the television program *M.A.S.H.*, which was based on Korea. He told the reporter, Derek Baldwin, that he, "Rarely watched it, because it bore little resemblance to the horrors of front-line conflict."

In his memoirs, Derby wrote that the extreme conditions of war often necessitate improvements in the treatment of casualties and important surgical advancements have been conceived and tested on the battlefield before they are introduced into the operating rooms of civilian hospitals.

One of the most important surgical measures used in Korea, Derby said, was debridement, a procedure in which surgeons would remove as much dead tissue as possible from around an injury until the wound was bleeding and contracted, then you knew you were into living tissue.

The wounds were then dressed and left open for five to seven days before being closed. The secret to success was ensuring that nothing was left in the wound to fester and become infected.

The operating room was deadly serious, he said, but it also proved to be a valuable learning tool. Surgery in the field taught him methods that later saved lives when he returned to Kingston as chief surgeon at Canadian Forces Hospital.

After retiring from the army in 1965, Derby went on to accept a variety of surgeon-in-chief and teaching positions in both Canada and the United States.

Derby, Keirstead, and Jack O. Lantern

An excerpt from Derby's book

Derby recalls an October night in 1952 when he, two other doctors and his jeep driver, well-known Kingston painter James Keirstead, shared a few sodas. Keirstead is quoted in Derby's book, recounting a scene that could have been lifted straight from the pages of the television show's script.

"After several hours of partying, we headed for home," writes Keirstead. "But, just before we left, the doctors swiped a large jack-o-lantern and plunked it back into the jeep. One of them grabbed a

big wad of cotton waste, dipped it into the gas tank under the seat, tossed it into the pumpkin, and lit it.

With Derby, by then a major, firmly ensconced in the passenger side of the jeep, the foursome roared off into the Korean night. Keirstead writes, "We whistled down the road in the open jeep, the wind roaring through our orange fireball, flames and sparks flying, making a wonderful, glowing spectacle in the dark night."

Such unbridled fun, however, was the exception rather than the rule at the M.A.S.H. unit, Derby said.

Wisconsin Honors Canadian Korean War Veterans

by Colonel Cliff Borden, AUS-Retired

On Sunday, June 5, 2005 Wisconsin veterans of the Korean War paid homage to the 516 Canadians who were killed in action while fighting alongside United States, South Korean and other United Nations forces in a monumental struggle against Communist aggression which threatened to deny FREEDOM to the people of South Korea.

The commemorative program, held at the Wisconsin Korean War Veterans Memorial complex in the Village of Plover, in Central Wisconsin, was sponsored by the Wisconsin Korean War Veterans Memorial Association of Wisconsin, an independent non-profit corporation which established the Memorial in 1994, and which is responsible for its maintenance in perpetuity.



Wreath bearers and escorts process across causeway to island memorial. In the lead are Memorial Association president Laverl Pieper (in blue blazer), escorted by Richard Staley (KWVA Chapter 245). To Staley's rear is wreath presenter, Memorial Board Vice President Verlyn Larson (Chapter 275), followed by escort Gordon Faust (Chapter 245). Faust is escorting KVA- Canada presenter Paul Rochon (hidden from view). Next is Gold Star Wives representative Deb Kiser, escorted by SSG Brian Jopek (in desert camo). Behind Jopek is Jim Harvey (VP, Chapter 245).

Deb Kiser, whose husband SSG Charles Kiser was killed in action in Iraq, places wreath at foot of the Memorial's bronze statuary.



KVA-Canada Honor Party, led by National Sergeant-at-Arms Sam Carr of London, Ontario, participates in Retirement of the Colors.

Les Peate of Ottawa, National President of the Korea Veterans Association of Canada (KVA-Canada), who also is a Life Member of KWVA of the U.S. Also speaking was the Honorable Ann Charles, Canadian Consul General, representing "Official Canada." Acknowledging Canadian sacrifices in the Korean War was Bill Kloster, Wisconsin Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Highlighting the tribute to the Canadian Korean War dead was a very moving presentation of the "Last Post," featuring a flag-bearing Canadian "Honor Party" with music provided by five trumpeters from the band and a bagpiper in full dress. Following presentation of a \$30,000 check from the Village of Plover for repairs to the causeway leading to the island memorial, recognition was given to the Association's past president, Dorothy "Dot" Wenzel, who recently completed three terms as a National Director on the KWVA Board.

The program concluded with the presentations of wreaths, a fly-over by two UH-1 Army Guard helicopters, prayers for the war dead, the firing of volleys and the sounding of "echo" TAPS by two trumpeters.. Association Vice President Cliff Borden served as Master-of-Ceremonies for the occasion.



KVA's Paul Rochon observes as KWMAW President Laverl Pieper and Cliff Borden, Vice President (PR), study the Program Sequence of Events. In the background is CWO Brad Anderson, director of the 132d Army Band, WIA-G, which performed in concert before the ceremonies. Borden, who was Emcee for the event, is former Canada Liaison for KVV A (2003-2004)



SSG Brian Jopek reads list of 41 Wisconsin men and women KIA in Iraq and Afghanistan, as Emcee Cliff Borden (Past President of Chapter 245) salutes the colors on the island Memorial.

The international event began with a concert by the 132d Army Band of the Wisconsin Army National Guard. Following presentation of the Colors, the band played the national anthems of Canada, the Republic of Korea, and the United States of America. Precise military protocol was observed during the ceremony.

First honors went to the 41 Wisconsin men and women who had been killed in action in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Brigadier General Bruce Schrimuf, representing the Adjutant General, paid tribute to the fallen heroes. Then, the names of the KIA were read aloud by SSG Brian Jopek, who had recently returned from combat in Iraq with his National Guard unit.

Main speaker for the event was

KVA-Canada National President Les Peate, Ottawa (Life Member, KWVA), the main speaker, addresses the crowd.



A POW IN KOREA

by Wilbur R. Webster

Battery D, 82nd AAA A W Bn (SP) © 1999

Prisoner of War stories are intriguing in that each one reveals minor details about the individuals' treatment in captivity, what they saw along the way, the differences in their treatment from captor to captor, etc. This is Part III of a mini-series we began in the Jan/Feb 2005 issue.

The series details the captivity of LTC Wilbur R. Webster, USA, (Ret), who served in Korea with the 82nd Antiaircraft Artillery (Automatic Weapons) Battalion, 2nd Division, Eighth Army.

After we published the first part, a member called to tell us that Wilbur Webster passed away several years ago, shortly after he produced his memoir.

Part III

There were 30 to 40 Chinese soldiers pulling on each rope, in time to a chant, such as 1, 2, 3, pull. Each time, on command, the howitzer would move forward a few feet. As we were walking by this group, we were challenged by what I believed to be a Chinese lieutenant. This would be our first test.

I showed him my Safe Conduct Pass, told him our story in my best Chinese and Japanese language, and answered his questions. He had a flash light, U.S. Army type, and read the Safe Conduct Pass. After a few more questions he told us we could proceed.

Captain Harrod still had his GI issue watch, and we had decided we would walk 50 minutes, then take a 10-minute break. Remember, walking was a bit difficult because I was faking a limp with my right leg, and Captain Harrod was holding onto my arm, or the back of my coat, with his

good right hand. As we walked south we were at the very edge of the road because the Chinese were in a column of 4s, moving, in their shuffling run, north, the opposite direction to our travel.

At the end of the first 50 minutes we stopped alongside the road. There were several Chinese soldiers sitting around also. I filled my pipe with tobacco, bummed a light from one of them, and then we started talking and smoking. We told them where we had been, in a Chinese hospital north of Chunchon, and where we were going, to an American hospital. They told us how far it was to the front lines, using the Chinese measure of distance, "Li," which, as I recall, is about 2 miles. When our 10 minutes were up, we bade our new found "friends" goodbye and started walking for the next 50 minutes.

We were stopped quite often, sometimes 2 or 3 times an hour, and questioned. Each

time I would show my Safe Conduct Pass and relate how we had been in a Chinese hospital and had been given the Safe Conduct Pass and told to go to an American hospital. After a few more questions, we were allowed to continue walking south on the same road the Chinese units were moving north.

It was obvious the Chinese were in retreat, but they were well organized. We could tell where companies ended, the number of companies in the battalion and the number of battalions in the regiment, etc. With each company there would be a group of soldiers carrying one or two large cast iron pots. These would be suspended by a rope from a pole that was being carried, usually by two men. Others would have large bags, which we took to be rice. These looked like they might weigh between 75 and 100 lbs. These would also be suspended from a pole, carried by two men. There would usually be 6 or 7 men in these groups, which we assumed were the "Mess Sergeant and his cooks." Other men would be carrying boxes of ammunition, mortars, machine guns, etc. Usually the Battalion Commander and one or two of his staff would be mounted on horses, as would be the Regimental Commander and his staff.

Seldom were motor vehicles in the unit. However, there were occasional trucks traveling both north and south on the road. During the approximately three weeks we were with the wounded Chinese, we had numerous conversations on many subjects, many of them concerning the military. One, I recall, was about the movement of troops. I asked how far they could move a division in 24 hours. (Their divisions had a strength of approximately 10,000) The answer was, "with no interruptions, about 75 miles." This was without trucks—everyone traveling at their speed, between a walk and a run, and carrying their basic load of ammunition and rations. Each soldier carried a cloth tube, about 3 inches in diameter, slung over his shoulder like a bandoleer. In the tube was the soldier's ration of rice, about a five day supply. When stretched to its full length, the tube was approximately 5 feet long.

We saw a steady column of the Chinese Army, moving north in this manner, for three full nights and about half of the fourth night, between Hongchon and Chunchon,

while we were moving south on the same road. We continued on our schedule, walk 50 minutes, rest 10. At each rest stop we would find Chinese soldiers. I would load my pipe with tobacco, bum a light, and then we would talk.

The conversation was basically the same at each rest stop. There was much humor, laughing and joking with each other. It was very difficult to view them as the enemy, although we knew the situation could change at any moment.

We were subjected to the “search” by the US Air Force 2 or 3 times each night. Each time the “Air Raid Alert” was sounded, everyone would immediately take cover, often no more than lying down in a ditch, if there was no snow, drawing our legs up under our coat and hiding our face. The color of the clothing would blend in with the ground, grass and weeds. In a few minutes the flare plane would arrive, kicking out flares. It would be followed by a light bomber. We were never bombed or strafed, and I can only assume we were not sighted.

Certainly, there were hundreds of Chinese all along the road, including a significant number of trucks and horse-drawn conveyances. About five minutes after the last plane passed, the “all clear” would sound. The road would become a regular beehive of movement by troops, trucks and horses. This would continue until the next air raid warning.

As we continued our journey, we began to think about how, or where, we would obtain food. We knew the Chinese troops went into camp before daylight and did not move again until dark. They would prepare the morning meal shortly before daylight, using wood fires. By the time of first light they were all “sacked out” for the day. The evening meal would be prepared near dark, after the possibility of an attack by air had passed. We finally decided, since our Safe Conduct Pass was working so well, our best bet for food was to find a unit going into camp, walk into their area, show them our pass, and tell them we would like to have some food and spend the day with them before continuing on our journey.

About 5:30 a.m. the morning of March 9, we found what appeared to be a battalion setting up camp a short distance from the road, in a grove of trees. We boldly walked into their camp. As might be expected, we

When I took the package from the Chinese soldier, it was very warm. This was a very strange occurrence, and Captain Harrod and I commented on the situation. We had no idea what was in the package, but decided we should open it and find out. If it blew up, so be it.

were stopped by a sentry. We showed him the Safe Conduct Pass, told him our story, and said we would like to have something to eat and would like to spend the day with them. He told us to follow him. We were stopped at the Battalion CP. There we told our story again to a group of officers. They were about to sit down to eat. Much to our surprise, they invited us to join them. The meal consisted of rice only, but they very graciously shared it with us. During the meal we made “small talk” with them and they with us. Everyone was very congenial. After the meal was finished we were taken to a place where we could sleep. We were cautioned about not moving into the open during the day. We told them we knew all about that and they could be assured we would do absolutely nothing to expose our position.

The Chinese began to stir and move around shortly after noon, but never in the open. We talked with several of them. The conversations were the usual “soldier talk,” wine, women and food being mentioned quite often. Shortly before dark we were taken to the Battalion CP again, where we joined the officers in the evening meal. After eating, we talked for a few minutes. They were getting ready to move, and we expressed our appreciation for their hospitality, departed, and started walking down the road.

The night of March 9 was a repeat of the preceding night—walk 50 minutes, take a 10-minute break, smoke, talk with the Chinese soldiers along the way, show the Safe Conduct Pass, answer questions, take cover from air raids, and walk some more.

I mentioned earlier that I had a parka. It had large patch pockets on each side. I kept my pipe and tobacco in the right pocket. When we left the North Korean headquarters in Chunchon, I had about the equiva-

lent of a Bull Durham sack of tobacco in my pocket. At almost every break I would be given more tobacco by the Chinese soldiers with whom we visited during the break. On several occasions I told them I didn’t need any more tobacco, but they insisted I take it, so I did. I certainly didn’t want to offend anyone over a sack of tobacco. When we reached the U.S. lines, my parka pocket was overflowing with tobacco, all of which had been given to me by the Chinese soldiers we met along the way.

The morning of March 10 we walked into a Chinese unit about 5:30 a.m. just as we had the preceding morning, told them our story, asked for food and permission to spend the day with them. We had two good meals, a good sleep, some conversation, much as before, and, at dark, continued on our way. We had been traveling two nights. Each night the Chinese were moving north while we were moving south.

The night of March 10 was a repeat of the preceding two nights—same schedule, same everything, except, now the Chinese soldiers were telling us more details of how far it was to the American lines. They would tell us when we got to the American lines we could get a jeep (their word) and we wouldn’t have to walk any more. We readily agreed that would be most welcome, and I was very sincere. Remember, I was faking a serious limp with my right leg. If you don’t think that is tiring, try walking 50 minutes without putting much weight on one foot. Bet you are ready for a break. Then do this for about 12 hours and a jeep ride really sounds good. The morning of March 11, after our third night of walking south on the road between Chunchon and Hongchon, we again found a Chinese unit settling down for the day. As before, we walked into their area, showed our Safe Conduct Pass, told them where we

had been, that we had been given the pass, and told to go to an American hospital, and we would like to have something to eat and spend the day with them. We were well received and taken to a very fine house on the side of a hill, under a very large tree. There were a number of Chinese soldiers around the house, preparing to eat. We were given food (rice) and ate with them. After eating we were taken to a room in the house and told this was our room. The room was about 10 feet by 12 feet, and had a hard wood floor, which was heated. There were regular windows in the room with frames that would open. We lay down and went to sleep. We were awakened about noon by a tapping on the window at the back of the house. I went to the window and saw a Chinese soldier outside who had a small package, wrapped in newspaper, in his hands. He was smiling and making motions for me to open the window, which I did.

He handed me the package, placed his forefinger, vertically, over his lips in the universal motion that says, "Be quiet." He then departed around the corner of the house and I quietly closed the window.

When I took the package from the Chinese soldier, it was very warm. This was a very strange occurrence, and Captain Harrod and I commented on the situation. We had no idea what was in the package, but decided we should open it and find out. If it blew up, so be it.

I unwrapped the package and found a large piece of hot meat, possibly 2 pounds. We took it to be beef, but will never know for sure what species of animal it came from. This was the first real meat we had seen in about a month. I tasted it and pronounced it to be delicious. We disposed of it in short order. Later in the day I saw the Chinese soldier who had given us the meat. He was looking directly at me and smiling. I looked directly at him, surreptitiously patted my stomach, and smiled back. He got the message and we were very grateful for the meat.

During the course of the afternoon, in talking with the Chinese soldiers, we learned they were a Psychological Warfare unit. They started telling us of their dislike for President Truman, General Marshal, and other members of President Truman's staff. They emphasized their friendship for the American people, but not the political leaders of the United States.

During the course of the afternoon they produced U.S. Army backpacks that were filled with leaflets of all types. They asked if we would take some of the leaflets and distribute them to the American soldiers as we passed through the front line. We told them we would be delighted to do that. What we didn't tell them was the American soldiers would be in intelligence and very interested in that type of literature. We "loaded up" on several copies of each type of literature they had, until our pockets were full.

The evening meal turned out to be our last meal with the Chinese army and it also is very memorable. Instead of rice, they took the cooked rice, pounded it flat into a dough and fried it like a pancake. It was very different, had a good taste and, of course, much appreciated.

Shortly before dark we said goodbye to the group of Chinese and departed. As we were leaving, they gave us three or four of the "ricejacks" to carry with us. The house was a short distance from the road, with a trail leading along a small stream. As we were walking down the trail, the Chinese soldiers were calling their "good-byes" to us. We would turn and answer them, wave, and continue walking. This continued until we could no longer see each other.

The night of March 11 turned out to be the most nerve-racking night of the whole trip. The first 5 or 6 hours were a repeat of the preceding three nights--walk 50 minutes, rest 10 minutes, visit with Chinese soldiers who were also taking a break, being stopped, showing our pass and answering, then allowed to proceed. Shortly before reaching Hongchon, the last of the Chinese forces, who were moving north, passed us. We found ourselves alone on the road. We took this to be an indication we were very close to the front lines. Our concern then was, how do we keep from being shot by our own troops when we reach the front lines?

When we reached Hongchon we found it "graveyard quiet." We passed through Hongchon, but took the wrong road. We intended to take the road from Hongchon to Hoengsong, but mistakenly took the road leading to the southwest towards Seoul. Shortly after passing the edge of town, at approximately 1 a.m., we heard a voice, speaking English, saying, "Halt, you are surrounded. Put up your hands". We

stopped and very shortly we were indeed surrounded. We were again ordered to put up our hands, which we did. When the English speaking Chinese made himself known, we told him of our Safe Conduct Pass, where we had been, and the instructions we had to go to an American hospital.

I asked him to let me show him the pass, which he allowed. He read it through, gave it back to me, and said we would go with them. We objected, but found ourselves facing rifles and we then started back north, two very dismayed individuals. We were taken into Hongchon, where there was a large, open area with a large building on one side. We were told to sit against the building, which we did. We were separated from the Chinese by 40 or 50 feet and could talk in whispers. We decided this was the rear guard of the units we had seen moving north the previous three nights. We were much concerned as to what would happen to us.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE HEROES GONE

*See that veteran sitting next to you
He is a hero and so are you*

*See the Airforce streaking
Across the sky those are heroes
Some will fall and some will die*

*See the Navy in waters deep and blue
They have heroes for a crew*

*See the Infantry charging up that hill
Many heroes lie their still*

*See that medic fighting to save a GI
Both are heroes both will die*

*See the Marines invading that beach
Heroism is within their reach*

*See those white crosses standing at
Attention all in a row
Those are heroes lying below*

*And when God calls on you
for a white cross to bear
you will be a hero resting there*

Where have all the heroes gone

By Herb Verrill

RAFFLE



New drawing date is Veterans Day, November 11, 2005

KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

ANNUAL FUND RAISER

RAFFLE

FIRST PRIZE:

Limited Edition Korean War Springfield M1 .30 Caliber Rifle
& Presentation Case. Serial #KW005.

Donated by Leo Baranowicz

SECOND PRIZE:

\$1,000 Cash

Donated

THIRD PRIZE:

Round Trip Plane Tickets, \$400 value.

Donated

FOURTH PRIZE:

Springfield, IL Weekend includes 2 nights at Quality Inn Suites,
Dinner for 2 at "Sebastians Hideout". 2 tickets to New Lincoln Library & Museum.

\$5 per ticket or 8 tickets for \$25

Need not be present to win.

To Obtain Raffle Tickets Please call 1-888-295-7212 or

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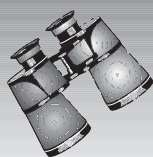
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RAFFLE TICKETS SOLD _____ TOTAL AMT. DUE _____

CHECK _____ VISA _____ MASTER CARD _____

CARD# _____ V-CODE _____ EXP. DATE _____



Looking For Information About...

David J. Bowser, USA

One of the members of the Korean War Veterans Association of the Netherlands (VOKS) asked me if it was possible to find the address of a US soldier he met in Korea.

I think the only way to find this address is by putting a call in a US military magazine.

In July 1953, I, Jan van der Hoorn, member of the Netherlands Detachment United Nations, when traveling on a troopship from Yokohama to Inchon, met a US soldier, named David J. Bowser, probably serving in the 38th Regt of the 2nd (Indianhead) Division. After the Korean War, they corresponded for a good while. Later on, they lost contact.

The last known address of Mr. Bowser was Box 187, Knox, Pennsylvania. He was the son of Lloyd H. Bowser, who was born at Kittaning, Pennsylvania on March 12th, 1901.

If anyone knows the present address of Mr. Bowser, please contact J. van der Hoorn, Beneluxlaan 27, 5042 WK Tilburg, Netherlands.

Yours Sincerely,

*Leendert C. Schreuders, Col. (Ret),
Korean War Veteran 1950-1951*

Robert Peter Keller, USMC

While cleaning my home I found some Western Union telegrams dated 11 November and 4 December 1950 concerning SSGT Robert Peter Keller, USMC, who was wounded on 4 November, a gunshot wound to the arm, and on 29 November in a missile attack. The telegrams were sent to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Keller, 5 Kathryn St. Rahway, NJ.

Keller was moved to Japan for treatment and was assigned to the 1st Provisional Casual Company. I would like to get these telegrams to either Keller or a relative.

As a Marine vet myself, these I have a great respect for the veterans of the Korean War and would like to see these items returned. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated. You may

reach me at 908-229-0099.

Jim Little

John Dozier Knight, USMC

Frank Knight wants to get in touch with anyone who served with his father, John Dozier Knight, in Korea.

He wrote, "My father passed away when I was a child. He served as a proud Marine with the 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Tank Battalion. Is there any way that I might be able to find any of the gentlemen who may have been in his battalion?"

John Dozier Knight served in Korea from 1951-1953. He was with the 2nd Marine Div, 2nd Tank Bn.

*Frank Knight, 2 Waterwheel Ct.,
Charlottesville, Va. 22901, Cell# 434-
465-7197, fdknight@adelphia.net*

Paul Francis Taylor

I am looking for Korean War veteran Paul Francis Taylor, Jr. His father and my mother were married for a number of years.



Paul Francis Taylor

We lived in Cincinnati, OH, and Ypsilanti, MI. We lost track of them in the early 1950s. His wife (at that time) was named Louise, and they had a son Richard. His sisters were Jean and Helen. I have a

few pictures his family would want.

I would also like to know the burial place of Paul, Sr, as I would like to honor him for being the father I needed.

Mrs. Peter Cartwright, 4383 Frances Dr., Redding, CA 96001, (530) 241-2288

Garland R. Valentine

My father died in a veteran's hospital from injuries while serving in the Korean conflict. This is about all I know. I never met him, and he was in a veteran's hospital.

Can you direct me to possible resources to find out about his history? Our family was very quiet, and neither he nor the reasons for his demise was dis-

cussed. His name is Garland R. Valentine.

Thanks,

*Roger D Valentine,
Laboratory Supply Technician
US Naval Hospital (Rota, Spain)
PSC 819 BOX 18
FPO AE 09645*

*Comm: 34 956 823573 DSN: 727 3573
Fax: 34 956 823571 DSN: 727 3571
rdvalentine@rota.med.navy.mil*

Back Issues

Wayne Hanson is looking for back issues of *The Graybeards*. He is interested in individual back issues or a complete collection. Hanson can be contacted at 7515 Lilla Place, West Hills, CA 91304, (818) 702-0763.

Chosin Reservoir

Hello. I am writing a book on the Chosin Reservoir Campaign during the Korean War, and I am looking for veterans and family members to interview about the mission and its aftermath. I want to personalize/humanize the book as much as possible and make certain that I have my facts correct. I would also like to get as many viewpoints about the Chosin Reservoir Campaign as possible, because I believe I can make the book more objective by telling stories of the campaign from various perspectives.

I originally began this book-writing endeavor because one of my husband's uncles, Dick Ferry, is a survivor/veteran of the Chosin Reservoir Campaign. Once he began to tell me a little bit about his experiences during that time, I realized how little I know about the Korean War in general, and individual campaigns in particular. My ignorance really bothered me, especially since I am a military officer, but I also realized that the Korean War is often dubbed "the Forgotten War" because most Americans probably know as much (or as little) about it as I do.

For this reason, I want to gather as much information as possible as soon as possible, so America does not lose any more of its history than it has already. If any of you would be willing to corre-

spond with me, please contact me and let me know what your role was during the Chosin Reservoir Campaign. Then I can send you a list of personalized questions for you to answer as you see fit—and in your own time.

I would, of course, like as many details as possible, but if there is something that any of you would feel uncomfortable discussing, I completely understand.

I hope that I can create a book that will not only be an historical memoir and a tribute to those who served, but also create as honest a picture of the war as possible, including the good and the bad (even though I know people often do not care to remember the bad things).

I truly hope to hear from some of you soon, as this project is both personally and professionally very important to me.

Thank you and God Bless,

*Erin Elizabeth Bradley Macri,
3655 Misty Meadows Drive,
Colorado Springs, CO 80920,
(719) 641-7045
Captain, USAFR*

Looking For Sherm Pratt's Book

A Korean War veteran's daughter is looking for a copy of Sherm Pratt's *Decisive Battles of the Korean War* for him. She is willing to pay for the book and shipping costs. Contact Mary Mattson at mattsonm@gmail.com or (906) 280-0099.

Looking For Pictures)

The nearby picture was taken on the first Armed Forces Day, May 20, 1950. It is of Gen. David G. Barr, his wife, an Airman from the Air Force, a Sailor from the Navy, and me. We were the guests of honor of Gen. David

G. Barr, commanding general of the 7th Infantry Division. Several pictures of us were taken with General Barr on this special day, but this is the only one I have, and I am looking for the others.

Perhaps the airman or sailor in the picture might still have theirs, or some one of the 7th Division archives may have seen them and I can get copies.

The Korean War started a month and five days after this picture was made. When the 7th Division made preparations to enter the war at Inchon, we had to send all our personal effects home. Along with other stuff, I sent home the pictures and certificates that were given to me

I returned home from Korea in May 1951, married the girl I had written to for three years, and finished my tour of duty at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. I was discharged on February 19, 1952. While my wife and I were preparing to move our belongings into an apartment we had just rented, the house we lived in with my aunt and uncle caught fire and burned to the ground. We lost everything we owned, but somehow this picture and the certificates presented that day made it through the fire.

The celebration for the First Armed Forces Day was held at the Service Club, Camp Sandai, Japan. The Field Day was held at the Airborne Beach on May 20, 1950 from 1330 until 1730 hours. Perhaps some of the soldiers who were there and took pictures might remember the event and share their pictures with me.

Please contact me at Louis E. Holmes, 1302 E. 9th Street, Bonham, TX 75418, (903) 640-4412, lholmes@cableone.net



Gen. Barr, Mrs. Barr,
Louis E. Holmes et al

Reunion Calendar

NOTE: There is no fee required for entries to be published in the "Reunion Calendar." Entries are made on a "First-come, first-served, as space allows" basis. Korean War-related reunions are given preference. Of course, contributions to the KWVA are always welcome.

2006

MARCH

C-1-7, 1st Marine Division (Korea 1950-53), 26-29 March, San Antonio, TX. POC: Gene Cano, (210) 649-1859 or Bill Farrell, (203) 318-1889, willydoro@sbcglobal.net

APRIL

VF-194, 6-9 Apr. Washington DC. POC: Amos Lewis, (877) 658-4337 or Jim Crumly, P.O. Box 62, Bullhead City, AZ 86430 (928) 754-1757, vf194_reunion@hotmail.com

151st Combat Engineers (Korea), 27-30 Apr., Branson, MO, Welk Resort. All veterans, family, and friends invited to join us! POC: Jessie Stewart, (765) 723-1362, jessiestewart@webtv.net

MAY

I-3-1, 1st MarDiv (Korea, Sept. 1950 – July 1953), Branson, MO. POC: Victor ("Doc") Shepherd, 4586 Vermona Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45245-1017, (513) 528-4495, vshepherd@cinci.rr.com or www.ItemCompany31.com

SEPTEMBER

GHQ 1st Raider Co/X Corps Sp Opns Co, 20-22 Sept., Spring Green, WI, Round Barn Lodge. POC: Robert Graves, (608) 588-2951."

The Tennessee Waltz

As we welcome home from Iraq troops from the 278th RCT of the Tennessee National Guard, let's recall a point of the past. The unit was federalized for the Korean War and trained recruits at Ft Devens, Mass. One who received the training said that they were very good and effective at their job. However, the trainees were not too pleased at having to stand at attention when the band played "The Tennessee Waltz," a number one hit in 1950.

Jack D. Walker, Apt. # 115, 5353 Cane Ridge Rd., Antioch, TN 37013, (615)-731-8795 jdwal@hotmail.com

There is an adage that says “an army travels on its stomach!” Yep, an army must have food. Without food it cannot get very far; but, an army must know where it is going to get that food. For that, they must have maps. If the army doesn’t know where it is going then what can it do?

The 62nd Engineer Topographic Company (Corp) left Fort Bragg, N.C. in early September 1950, and headed for the west coast-Oakland Army Base. We were ordered to report to Korea, since the Korean War had started on June 25th 1950 when the North Koreans invaded South Korea. We spent a few days at Oakland getting the necessary shots and indoctrination about the war we were headed for.

For a bunch of “kids,” this was pretty much a case of the Army’s “hurry-up-and-wait” game. But, we were given some training in how to get off a troop ship by way of the rope net ladders, one of the most miserable devices ever devised by man. As one steps down toward the next “rope-rung,” it moves away and causes one to slip and hang on for dear life. But, we managed to conquer the device and moved on to “bigger and better” things.

Our ship, the *General Patrick* (why does the merchant marine name its ships after generals? Ships should be named after admirals), was loaded with 1,800 troops, most of whom were “greener than grass.” (I know I was.) We sailed out of San Francisco Bay and under the Golden Gate Bridge on September 18th, 1950—and we were on our way to Korea.

We entered Pusan Harbor on October 3, 1950 and walked down a gangplank onto Asian soil. From there we were transported by 6 x 6 GMC trucks to a tent encampment right on the Pusan Bay. Between our tents and the bay was barbed wire on which the squid divers had hung their little squid to dry. Gad, what a stink!!! But, as the days moved on we became acclimated to that odor.

For the next few days we received instructions on how to behave in that for-

Are We There Yet?

TOPO MAPS

By Roland Turley

eign culture. During our time in Pusan we attended a few classes designed to inform us about Asian culture. It was a failure, so we waited for our trucks and equipment to arrive at the docks in Pusan.

While waiting, we were assigned to “native” pushing, i.e., supervising Korean laborers in the unloading of cargo ships that came into Pusan Harbor. It was our job to see that whatever came off those ships was properly stored in the huge warehouses on the Pusan docks. After three weeks of this we were ordered to Seoul, Korea. We boarded our trucks and joined a large convoy headed for that city.

As a lowly PFC, I rode in the open back of one of those 6 x 6s. On our way to Seoul, we ran into an ambush by North Korean guerillas. Our convoy was pinned down for several hours. As we waited—stalled in the early November sunlight—we watched as a “shave- tail-lieutenant” ordered his driver to get ahead of the convoy by fording a small stream. In the process, his jeep stalled in the stream. It was necessary to ask for help from a 6 x 6 on the other side of that stream.

As that 6 x 6 moved down the sandy bank of that stream, the left front wheel ran over a large anti-tank mine and blew two of the soldiers of that vehicle at least 100 feet into the air. Both died instantly!! They were just young boys trying to do their job.

We moved on after that traumatic experience, and headed for Seoul, where we were billeted in an old school house on the

south side of the city. We set up our equipment and again began to produce the Tap MAPS that every service unit needed. Now, every GI knows what a Tap MAP is. It is a depiction of a portion of the earth’s surface. It shows roads, streams and rivers, railroad tracks, little square dots representing buildings, little “tufts” of grass representing swamps, and different colors representing other features.

Producing these maps in the 1950s was done primarily by hand, by following the features shown on aerial photos, and then “scaling” those features to represent accurate distances.

An aerial photo, when taken from the proper altitude, will pretty much have a scale whereby an inch on the photo will be 24,000 inches on the ground. Thus, the scale of 1” = 24 000”

Photographs are on a flat piece of paper. So, they contain only two dimensions: length and width. However, the earth’s surface is in three dimensions: length, width and depth. By viewing two photos shot in close sequence through a pair of stereo lenses, the third dimension of depth or elevation can be seen and calculated mathematically. So, from these things come the beginnings of lines, colors and symbols on a piece of paper that we call a map. That was the job of the 62d Engineer Topographic Company (Corp) as attached to Eighth Army Hq. during its time in Korea.

I was one of the cartographers. My job was to draw those lines on paper to produce the map. Later, that original was photographed and made into different metal plates for the “offset printing” system. The 62d Engr. Topo. Co. produced and printed many thousands of maps. In fact, during the first 6 months of our time in Korea, we printed and distributed over 400,000 nine-color topographic maps of the peninsula of Korea. For this, and the manufacture of a 6 ft. x 8 ft. terrain model of the area around Pusan, our company received the Presidential Unit Citation; the laurel wreath proudly worn on our uniform sleeve.

We stayed in Seoul for only four or five

weeks. On December 10th, the Chinese army retook Seoul and we quickly returned to Pusan, where we produced the above-mentioned terrain model used by that command's general to establish a new defense perimeter around that city. We also continued the printing of hundreds of new maps. In late March of 1951 we went to Taegu and set up again for more map-making and printing.

But, our most important—and proud—productions came during the Panmunjom Peace/Armistice talks con-

ducted by Admiral Joy and his team. Each day we produced “up-to-the-minute” maps of the progress of those talks. At 7 p.m., a well-protected courier arrived at our company with the scratched-up and marked-up maps that had been used that day. We took those maps, from which we produced many new maps of the entire area around the 38th parallel involved in the negotiations. We gave them to the courier the next morning—at 6 a.m. to be flown to Admiral Joy for that day's discussions. It was from those maps that the

final “peace-line” was established as it is to this day. .

I had the distinct pleasure of returning to Korea during June of 2004, and going to Panmunjom. When I asked to see those maps, I was told they were classified as “TOP SECRET.” They must be very important!!

Roland Turley, a proud veteran of the 62nd Engineer Topographic Company (Corp), can be reached at 193 Wildwoods Lane, West Decatur, PA 16878, (814) 765-8910

Forgotten No More

*And when we go to heaven, St Peter will surely yell,
“Here're the boys from Korea, they served their time in Hell.”*
(Excerpt from a poem written by a GI killed in Korea)

By Christopher Gibbons

Those who have seen the memorial are struck by the stark beauty of its realism. It depicts a walking and weary platoon of 19 soldiers. These steel statues, with their helmets, guns, boots, and ponchos, are so accurately sculpted that you almost expect them to take a step forward. But it's their faces that haunt you. They wear the faces of war: looks of determination, fear, loneliness, and grim resolve that somehow the artist was able to capture. I've seen these faces before. My father is burdened with them on the rare occasions he talks of a certain place that his generation was asked to defend. That place was Korea, and the statues are part of the National Korean War Veterans Memorial.

The war is often referred to as “The Forgotten War,” and for good reason. While the conflict was raging from 1950 to 1953, it was not uncommon for newspapers to relegate stories from Korea to the back pages. With the horrific memories of WWII still fresh in their minds, Americans didn't want to deal with the harsh realities of this new conflict. The soldiers returning from Korea were greeted with little fanfare here in the U.S. When my father returned in 1952, the first thing my grandfather asked him was if he had a job lined up. My Dad told me “that's just the way it was back then,” and like the other returning soldiers, he very quickly and quietly

merged back into society. History books now barely mention it, and many young people know nothing about it.

Many of the Korean War veterans were the children of immigrant parents, and they endured the depression as young children. Their character was certainly shaped by the tough social environment of the times, and complaints at home surely would have been met with the back of a hand, or an icy stare. As adolescents, they huddled with their families around the radio for news from the fronts of WWII. They witnessed the changes in the men who returned from the war, and they remembered the ones who didn't return. Sacrifice and service to their country were second nature to them.

With a determination and resolve characteristic of their generation, the veterans of the Korean War waged one of the fiercest fights in the annals of U.S. military history. In a conflict that witnessed American and Communist forces meeting each other on the battlefield for the first time, both armies hurled each other up and down the Korean peninsula. The battles were often as brutal as the harsh Korean winters. After enduring some initial defeats at the hands of the Communist armies, the U.S. and UN forces, under the brilliant command of General Matthew Ridgeway, began to turn the tide of battle.

American led UN soldiers repeatedly routed the massive “human wave” assaults

of the Chinese, and after a prolonged stalemate, an armistice was eventually signed in 1953. The South Koreans remain free to this day. In addition, a message was sent to the Communist leadership in Moscow and Beijing: the U.S. will meet your aggression, with force and on the battlefield if necessary. Throughout the duration of the Cold War, Communist leaders surely remembered the bloody nose they received in Korea and set a much less aggressive agenda in the subsequent years that followed. Many historians now believe that the seeds of our eventual Cold War victory were sewn on the battlefields of Korea.

The brother of a GI killed during the war told me that he hates the term “The Forgotten War.” He said, “My brother is not forgotten, and there's not a day that goes by that my family and I don't think about him.” The time has come for all of us to remember the Korean War, and its importance in U.S. history. The United States emerged as the winner of the Cold War, but the first steps towards that victory were tread 55 years ago by American soldiers on the often frozen ground of the Korean peninsula.

June 25th marked the 55th anniversary of the start of the Korean War, and it's a day to remember, and not one to forget. If you ever get the opportunity, visit the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. And, if you happen to see some older gentlemen there, with the same haunting faces as the statues, let them know that they're not forgotten.

Christopher Gibbons (gibbonscg@aol.com) is a writer from Philadelphia and the son of Korean War Veteran, John M. Gibbons.

Brothers In Death

By Art Lajeunesse

Here are two more brothers who lost their lives in the Korean War, James Thomas and Kenneth Carroll Hamilton, from Amarillo, Texas.

James was born January 15, 1930; Kenneth on October 26, 1932. James attended

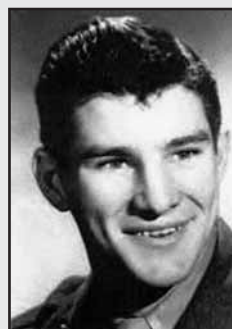
West Texas State College in 1949-1950, where he was on the boxing team. James and Kenneth enlisted in the USMC in January 1951.

In Korea, James served with Company F, 2nd Bn., 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division. He was killed in action while assaulting Hill 812 during the battle for Kanmunbong Ridge, on September 17, 1951, only five days after his brother died in combat. For his leadership and valor James was awarded the Silver Star, the Purple Heart, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, and the Korean War Service Medal. The 5th Marines suffered 250 casualties taking Hill 812.

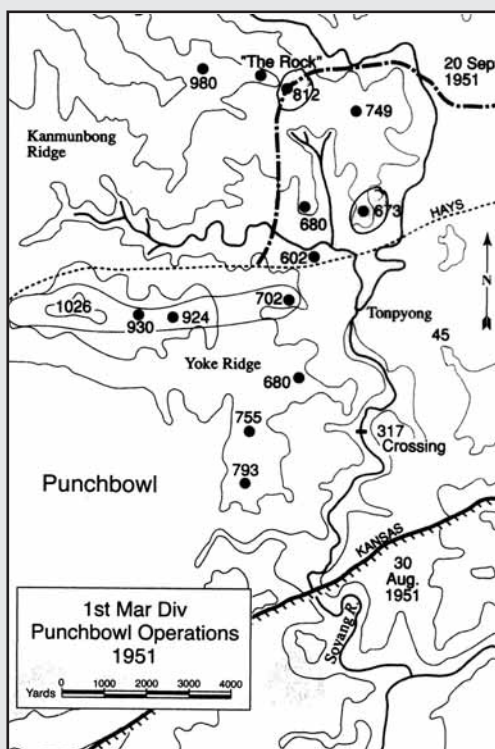
While in Korea, Kenneth



Pfc. James Thomas Hamilton



Pfc. Kenneth C. Hamilton



The Battle for Kanmunbong

served with Company C, 1st Bn. 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. He was killed in action September 12, 1951, while assaulting Hill 673 during the battle for Kanmunbong Ridge. Kenneth left his position to carry ammo to a machine gun. From there, he joined an under-strength rifle squad to help in the final assault on Hill 673. He was mortally wounded on this final assault.

Four members of his company wrote Kenneth up for the Navy Cross for his actions in this final assault. Kenneth was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, and the Korean War Service Medal.

This battle for Kanmunbong Ridge and the Army's 2nd Inf. Division battle for Bloody Ridge and Heartbreak Ridge in September and October 1951 were the last major offensives in the Korean War.

Thanks to the Hamilton family for providing the photos of James and Kenneth.

Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased _____

Date of death _____

Department/Chapter _____

Address _____

☐ 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 101238, Arlington, VA 22210

"Why Is My Magazine Late?"

We have received several inquiries recently as to why the two most recent issues of *The Graybeards* have been later than usual. The answer is simple: we made an executive decision to delay them to make sure you received the latest news from the Arlington and Louisiana Executive Council meetings, rather than make you wait months for minutes, revised by-laws, etc.

We will be back to the regular schedule with the November-December 2005 issue.

Thanks for your patience.



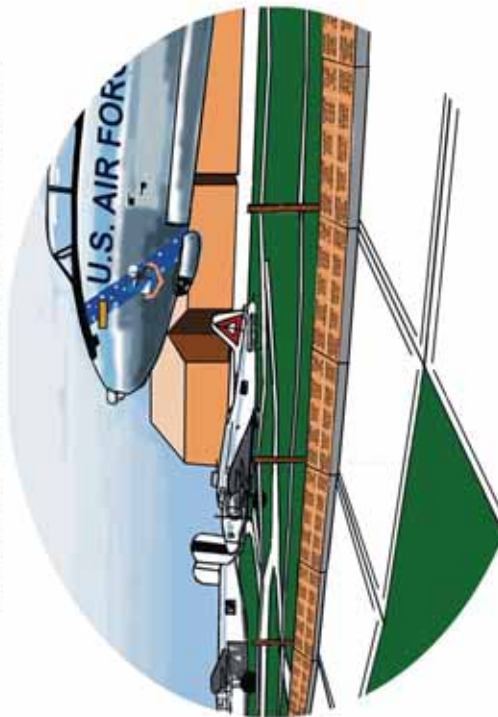
The EIGHTH AIR FORCE MUSEUM MALL OF MEMORIES PROGRAM gives you the opportunity to Honor someone who has sacrificed while in service to our country, past and present...it also gives you the opportunity to Honor someone who is or has served our country, past and present and it gives you the opportunity to Honor those people and organizations that support our men and women in military service to our country, past and present.

The EIGHTH AIR FORCE MUSEUM MALL OF MEMORIES program is open to recognize all branches of the military, to include uniformed and civilian service.

The money generated through your purchase of a MALL of MEMORIES 4 inch by 8 inch brick will help the EIGHTH AIR FORCE MUSEUM in its quest to preserve the great history you see all around you...the history you and your loved one help secure.. The Mall of Memories will run along the length of the MEMORIAL WALKWAY from the SR-71 to the KC-135.

In addition, you will receive a framed certificate showing your participation in the Mall of Memories program.

FROM APRIL 1ST TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2005
THE 4 INCH BY 8 INCH BRICK WILL BE \$35.00 EACH
AFTER 18 SEPTEMBER THE 4 X 8 BRICK WILL BE \$50.00



YES, I WANT TO PURCHASE A PERMANENT BRICK, PLEASE ENGRAVE MY BRICK
AS FOLLOWS: (BEST ENGRAVING IS IN ALL CAPITAL LETTERS)

ANY SYMBOL IS CONSIDERED ONE SPACE (PERIOD, COMMA, DASH)

ALL TEXT IS CENTERED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

4X8 BRICK

[illegible]

EXAMPLE

TSGT.	ALLEN	E.	TRUE
303RD	BOMB	GROUP	
B-17	GUNNER	1943-45	
KIA-MAY	6,	1945	

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

**EIGHTH AIR FORCE MUSEUM ASSOCIATION, INC.
MALL OF MEMORIES**

P.O. BOX 8159
BOSSIER CITY, LA 71113-8159
(318) 752-0055

Name: _____
Phone: () _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Amount Paid: _____

Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____

APPLICATION FOR KVA SEOUL REVISIT TOUR

KVA (Seoul) Revisit Purpose: "To express the gratitude of the Korean Government towards Korean War Veterans who took part in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to October 15, 1954."

Veteran's Personal History (Please type or print)

Last Name _____ First _____ MI _____ Date of Birth _____

KWVA Members# _____ Expiration Date _____

Companion Name/Relationship _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Veteran's Passport# _____ Expiration Date _____

Companion's Passport# _____ Expiration Date _____

NOTE: If you do not have a current valid passport or have just applied to KVA, write "applied for" on # line

Veteran's Military Bibliography

Branch of Service _____ Service Number _____

Period of Service in Korean War (month/year) from _____ thru _____

Unit Assignment _____ Location of Unit _____

Rank Achieved in Korea _____ Highest Rank Achieved while in Service _____

Personal Military Decorations for Valor _____

Veterans's Certification

I hereby certify that I have never previously accepted a KVA (Seoul) Revisit tour and that I am a member in good standing (or have applied) with the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA).

Veteran's Signature _____ Date _____

Complete and mail this form along with a \$300 deposit per person (check, money order or Visa/Mastercard only) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for all applications submitted sixty days or less prior to departure.

Credit Card Authorization

I, _____ hereby authorize Military Historical Tours to make charges to my _____

credit card, Account#: _____ Expiration date: _____

in consideration for airline tickets and any other travel or transportation services or products as requested by me or authorized users of this credit card.. Signature: _____

Mail To...

KWVA Revisit Korea Program
c/o MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS
4600 Duke Street, Suite 420
Alexandria, VA 22304-2517

Phone: 703-212-0695
Fax: 703-212-8567
E-mail: mht@miltours.com
www.miltours.com

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 War and to show them the bountiful results of their sacrifices and devotion.

KVA's Eligibility Requirements

You are eligible if you are:

1. A veteran of the Korean War and /or a war correspondent of any of the 21 nations which came to assistance of the Republic of Korea between 25 June 1950 and 15 October 1954.

2. An immediate family member of one who was killed in action in the Korean War.

Note: You are permitted to take a spouse or one immediate descendent with you to Korea. The family member must be lodged in the same hotel room with you in Korea.

Privileges Accorded Veterans by the KVA, Seoul

1. Hotel accommodations (two persons per room), meals, tours, and transportation, while in Korea for six days and five nights.

2. Tours of Seoul and vicinity. The visits are to Panmunjom, North Korean Invasion Tunnels, Korea 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 battle sites and/or Inch eon may be made through the local tour guide.

3. A special reception and dinner hosted by the President of the Korean Veterans Association (KVA) during which the Korea War Medal and Certificate of Ambassador for Peace will be awarded to each veteran who has not received it before.

Sundry Notes

1. The KVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.

2. Participants are required to have a valid passport: a visa is not required for visits of 15 days or fewer in Korea.

3. KVA/Seoul is not responsible for any loss of, or damage to, personal or other items, medical expenses, injuries, or loss of like due to any accident of whatever nature during the revisits. Trip cancellation insurance is available and highly recommended.

4. Transportation costs to and from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program.

5. Applications will be received/accepted on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

Note: *If you have previously accepted an official KVA/Seoul Revisit tour from any sponsoring association or group, you are NOT eligible to participate again. The reason is that so many veterans have not gone before so they get the "first right of return."*

Because former Revisit Program participants have their name in the KVA/Seoul's computer database, please do not try to beat the system. If your name is rejected because of prior participation, all of us will be embarrassed and an eligible Korea War veteran might miss the opportunity to participate.

6. If you want to use your frequent flier miles or other "free" transportation, you will be charged an administrative service fee of \$300 per person.

Caution: Not traveling with KWVA group air contract can result in much higher post-tour costs to China and other Pacific location.

Note: Should you desire to have a single room or take additional family or friends with you, this can be arranged for an additional cost. Any such requests must be made in writing.

2006 Revisit Korea Tour Program

Dear Fellow Korean War Veteran(s):

The Korean Veterans Association (KVA), Seoul has recently announced that the ROK government subsidized REVISIT KOREA Program will continue. They also indicated that a request has been made to increase the funding, and thus the numbers eligible to participate. Since these tours are ALWAYS sold out, it is vitally important that you register early. You can always cancel later for personal or health reasons, but you may miss out on the 2006 program if you procrastinate.

The eligibility requirements established by KVA Seoul are contained on the reverse of this letter. The most important requirement is that a veteran must have served "in, over, or around" the Korean peninsula during the period 25 June 1950 to 15 October 1954. In addition, applicants must be members in good standing of the U.S. KWVA. If you are not, a KWVA membership application is enclosed.

To register for the 2006 program, complete the enclosed application, attach the

appropriate deposit, and mail the form back to the above address. The actual Revisit Korea dates are usually received by us in late January or early February. Upon receipt, we will mail out to those ALREADY REGISTERED a preference form that lists the 2006 program dates. Registrants can then select, in order of preference, the programs for which they want to be considered.

Sincere Fraternal Regards,

Warren Wiedhahn

President/CEO

Korea - 1950

KWVA Revisit Korea Coordinator

Optional Post Tours: After every Revisit Korea tour, we schedule an optional tour to Beijing, China. Over 60 % of past Revisit Korea participants and their families have selected this very popular option. Beijing, China, is less than two hours by air from Seoul, Korea. You may also remain in Korea longer if you want to visit, on your own, the specific battle areas where you served. We will assist you in your tour extensions.

A Life Outside America

By Trevor W. Powis

My trip to Korea was an adventure I believe everyone should get a chance to experience. It's a trip like nothing you've ever imagined.

I made this trip last summer, before I started college. I was 18 years old when my grandfather offered me a trip to Korea. I didn't know what to think of it. I had this picture in my mind of a small town with dirt roads and tiny huts. You just really have no idea what to expect until you are actually there.

Possibly the most amazing thing I experienced on this trip was the culture of the Korean people. While walking the streets of Korea, I got to watch the people interact with one another in a way you can't experience in the States. It was truly amazing to see how differently things are done across seas. It seemed as though everything had changed; everything from the clothing to the cooking, and from the customs to the culture. It was almost like discovering a life outside America.

But the thing that surprised me the most

on this trip was how warmly we were accepted by the Korean people. They seemed to do as much as they could to make us feel welcome in their country. Some of the Koreans even spoke a little English to help us out.

One day, we decided to take the subway across town. But, when we got off, we weren't sure where to go next. We found a large map on the wall. While we were trying to make sense of it, a local asked us if we needed help. He helped us figure out where we needed to go.

I would definitely recommend this trip to anyone who is considering it. It was a trip I will never forget. From the time the plane left the runway in Los Angeles until the time we made it back home, the air was filled with excitement. There is nothing like a trip to a foreign country. Like I said, if you're considering this trip definitely take it. It's a decision you won't regret.

Trevor W. Powis, of Franklin, TN, is the grandson of William J. Powis, who lives in Seven Fields, PA. They made their Korean Return visit in June 2005.

Images of Korea



1. An overview of Incheon and Arabou in October 1954.

2. The Incheon Replacement Depot in winter of 1954-55. It was located eight miles north of Incheon. Several outfits were located in the valley, e.g., Engineers, Ordnance Department, Motor Pool. Beginning in early 1954, troops came directly from the states to Incheon.

3. All incoming troops at Incheon came through this arch. Note the parkas on these new troops loading on transportation for Incheon Replacement Depot.

4. Two house boys for barracks. Kim is on the left; Song is on the right. They kept troops' Quonset huts (barracks) clean, swept, and mopped each day. They even made the troops' beds some days (depending on the troops treated them). Troops simply did not mistreat house boys.

5. Downtown Incheon in September 1954. A foot pedal operated the cotton candy machine. Note "A" frame on the back of the onlooker. The troops in the background are communist observers. They attended each shipment of troops, and counted them. The U.S. could only replace their troops. They could not increase the number of troops. The observers were at every shipment of incoming and outgoing troops—all of whom were counted!

6. Incheon in September 1954, with Wo-Mi-Do Island in the bay. It was connected to Incheon by a causeway. The island was taken by the Marines in the 1950 invasion of Incheon.



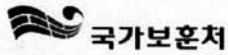
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We have here an impressive group of photos of the Inchon Replacement Depot and a narrative to accompany it. They were submitted by Bill Doyle, 270 McNeeley Road, Anacoco, LA 71403-2941. Doyle was stationed with the 8057th Army Unit (AU) Inchon Replacement Depot, located eight miles northeast of Inchon, in Ascom Valley. He was in Korea from May 1954 – April 1955.



7. Troops headed home. They had to be transported from the Inchon seawall to troop ships parked out at sea. The troops were headed for Oakland {CA} Army Base.
8. January 1955. All departing troops went through this arch. In this photo, the tide is going out. Notice the mud flats around the island. All boats but troop barge #539 had to leave before the tide was out, or they would be grounded on the mud flats.
9. The main street downtown intersection in Inchon in September 1954.
10. Inchon Harbor in the winter of 1954, with the tide out. The harbor features the second largest tide in the world. The small channel of water is only 6 feet deep. The tide drops 33 feet!
11. Notice the long metal causeway from the seawall all the way out into the channel. Most of the causeway rests on mud flats. The Marines came up this channel during the Inchon invasion in 1950. All incoming and outgoing troops walked this causeway.
12. An Inchon housing project in October 1954.

Building on a Foundation of Freedom...



MINISTRY OF PATRIOTS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF KOREA
17-23 Yeouido-dong, Yeongdeungpo-gu. Seoul 150-874

Dear Col. Louis Dechert
President of KWVA

August 25, 2005

I would like to thank you for the generous welcoming that you and the Korean War veterans extended to me in Washington DC, last month.

Thanks to the wholehearted cooperation of all related officials, I was able to complete my itinerary with no problem.

In particular, the resolution that the US Korean War Veterans Association and other related groups declared at the dinner for Korean War veterans on July 27 was a significantly meaningful event, in that it supports stronger Korea-US alliance, a nuclear free Korean peninsula, and a peaceful solution of the current nuclear issue of the North Korea.

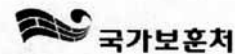
Such event and effort clearly showed the international society that Korea and the US are willing to continue to develop their friendship and contribute to World's peace.

Once again, I appreciate your great cooperation, and I wish you and all Korean War veterans and their families good health and good luck.

Best regards,

Chan Soo Ryu

Ryu Chan-Soo
Executive Director
International Affairs
Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs



MINISTRY OF PATRIOTS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF KOREA
17-23 Yeouido-dong, Yeongdeungpo-gu. Seoul 150-874

Louis Dechert
President of KWVA

August 24, 2005

Dear Mr. President,

I would like to thank you for the generous welcome that you and the Korean War veterans extended to me in Washington D.C. last month.

The Korean government and her people are deeply grateful to the noble sacrifices and outstanding contributions made by the Korean War veterans who not only have laid a firm foundation for bilateral alliance and friendship, but also contributed to the promotion of democracy and economic development of Republic of Korea. Their noble sacrifice and devotions will always remembered.

During my visit to the US, I was convinced that each and every one of your commitments contribute to the closer ties of Korea and the US, and I reaffirmed the two countries' bloodshed relationship created through the Korean War.

The Korean Peninsula is still divided into the South and the North. North Korea's nuclear issue is still on the table of the six party talks, gathering international concerns. However, those difficulties will be resolved in a peaceful manner just as you recently declared in the resolution. Overcoming all the challenges, the Republic of Korea will exert its utmost effort to be a leading contributor of peace and freedom in the international community.

We will never allow the friendship, trust and firm belief in free democracy you have shown us to be fallen in vain.

Again, thank you for such great hospitality. I wish the two countries will continue to maintain even stronger alliance.

Sincerely,

Yu Chul Park

Park Yu-Chul, Ph.D
Minster of Patriots and Veterans Affairs
Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs

**THE KWVA 2006 ANNUAL CONVENTION
WILL BE HELD IN SAN ANTONIO, TX**

8-11 OCTOBER, 2006



The Korean Conflict—the Forgotten War—lives on in the hearts of American veterans. Author Barbara Ann Derksen captures first hand memories from 54 - 2nd Infantry Division members in her riveting book, **SECOND TO NONE**. Raw, real, and gut-wrenching, **SECOND TO NONE** brings the battle-front to life as it chronicles green recruits evolving into battle-weary warriors and depicts humanity in the midst of war. Stories of courage, loss, friendship, and faith, **SECOND TO NONE** memorializes the sacrifices of America's finest. 50% of the proceeds will be donated to 2 veterans organizations. Read an excerpt of **SECOND TO NONE** at BarbaraAnnDerksen.com and order your copy of **SECOND TO NONE** at Amazon.com, Barnesandnoble.com and most retail booksellers.

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 101238, Arlington, VA 22210-4238 (Telephone: 703-522-9629)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Assigned Membership Number: _____

K.W.V.A. Regular Annual Dues - \$20.00 • Associate Membership - \$12.00 • Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00
Regular Life Membership - \$150.00: May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments over a 12 month period

Please Check One: ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal Member # _____

Please Check One: ☐ Ex-POW ☐ Regular Member ☐ Life Member ☐ Associate Member
☐ Honorary ☐ Gold Star Spouse ☐ Gold Star Parent

(Please Print)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle/Maiden Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Email _____

Name of Chapter (if applicable) _____

All Regular members please provide the following information if applicable

Unit(s) to which Assigned

Division _____

Regiment _____

Battalion _____

Company _____

Other _____

Branch of Service

☐ Army

☐ Air Force

☐ Navy

☐ Marines

☐ Coast Guard

Dates of service:

Within Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

Without Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA

Mail to: Korean War Veterans Association Inc., PO Box 101238, Arlington, VA 22210-4238 (Telephone: 703-522-9629)

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD

Expiration Date _____ Your Signature _____

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

Section 1. Qualifications of Members. Membership in this Association shall consist of Regular, Associate and Honorary Members. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability, as long as the individual meets the criteria of service requirements as stipulated below. Only Regular Members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.

A. Regular Members.

1. Service in the United States Armed Forces. Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, said service being within Korea including territorial waters and airspace (September 3, 1945 – June 25, 1950) within and without (June 25, 1950-January 31, 1955), or who served honorably in Korea from February 1, 1955 until the present time is eligible for Membership.

2. Medal of Honor. Any Medal of Honor recipient, so honored for service during the Korean War is 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 hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for life membership.

4. United Nations Command and Korean Armed Forces. 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 is eligible for membership. However, UN/Korean membership of the Association may not exceed 10% of the total membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

5. Gold Star Parents. Any person whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

6. Gold Star Spouses. Any person whose spouse was killed in action, missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War is eligible for life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

B. 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.

C. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors.

D. Ineligible. Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the United Nations Command, or the Republic of Korea under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

WEB SITE: www.kwva.org



A street in downtown
Inchon in 1954



A local fish and vegetable mar-
ket in Incheon in September
1954

'Images of Korea' courtesy of Bill Doyle, 270 McNeeley Road, Anacoco, LA 71403-2941. See pages 76 and 77

Korean War Veterans Association
Membership Recording Secretary
PO Box 101238
Arlington, VA 22210

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