

Election Issue! Election Issue! Election Issue! Election Issue!

March - April 2007

America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



Vol. 21, No. 2

The Remains of War...
'Freedom Is Not Free'

Vote! Vote! Vote!
Ballot Inside

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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



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The mailing address for magazine articles and pictures is: Graybeards Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

We Honor Founder William Norris

Editor

Arthur G. Sharp
152 Sky View Dr
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
Ph: 860-563-6149
sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

Advertising Manager

Frank Bertulis
99 Deerfield Ln
Matawan, NJ 07747-1332
FBEB@optonline.net
Ph: 732-566-2737

Webmaster

James A. Doppelhammer
1801 Madison Ave #12
Charleston, IL 61920
webmaster@kwva.org

Publisher

Finisterre Publishing Inc.
3 Black Skimmer Ct
Beaufort, SC 29907
finisterre@islc.net

Address Changes, Corrections, & All Membership Questions

Annelie Weber
P. O. Box 22857
Alexandria, VA 22304-9285
Membership@kwva.org
Ph: 703-461-0061
Fax: 703-461-0062

National KWVA Headquarters

President

Louis T. Dechert
163 Deerbrook Trail
Pineville, LA 71360
louisdechert@cox.net
Ph: 318-641-8033
FAX: 318-640-8312

1st Vice President

Byron Dickerson
314 S Horne St
Duncanville, TX 75116
JD1435@sbcglobal.net
Ph: 972-298-7462

2nd Vice President

James E. Ferris
4311 Lazybrook Circle
Liverpool, NY 13088
RedDogFerris@aol.com
Ph: 315-457-1681

Secretary

Bill Hutton
4 Belleview Blvd #402
Belleair, FL 33756
billhutton@KWVA.org
Ph: 703-842-7429

Asst Secretary

Frank E. Cohee, Jr.
4037 Chelsea Lane
Lakeland, FL 33809-4063
CoheeSan@verizon.net
Ph: 863-859-1384

Treasurer

Richard E. Hare
1260 Southhampton Dr
Alexandria, LA 71303
HarePic@aol.com
Ph: 318-487-9716

Asst Treasurer

Clyde Durham
1016 Highway 3128
Pineville, LA 71360
Cgbsdurham@aol.com
Ph: 318-445-3247

Asst Treasurer

Bill Doyle
270 McNeely Rd
Anacoco, LA 71403
BillD821@bellsouth.net
Ph: 337-239-9833

Membership Management

Jake Feaster, Board Oversight
(See Directors)
Jim Doppelhammer, Data Base Develop.
(See Webmaster)

Annelie Weber, Data Base Input
(See Address Changes, etc)

Washington DC Area National Office

Warren Wiedhahn
4600 Duke St, #420, Alexandria, VA 22304
JWiedhahn@aol.com Ph: 703-212-0695

Directors

Term 2004-2007

Lee Dauster

15444 Camino Del Parque, Sonora, CA 95370
leedauster@aol.com Ph: 209-588-1529

Jake Feaster

22731 N Hwy 329, Micanopy, FL 32667
JFeaster@kwva.org Ph: 352-466-3493
FAX: 775-242-8113

Dean McClain

521 Westgate Blvd., Youngstown, OH 44515
kwbd@zoominternet.net Ph: 330-792-5928

Bob Morga

PO Box 835, Bayport, NY 11705
salbalboa@verizon.com Ph: 631-286-3075

Term 2005-2008

Robert S. Banker

516 Millwood Dr., Fallston, MD 21047
RobertBanker@comcast.net Ph: 410-877-1935

Jeffrey J. Brodeur

48 Square Rigger Ln., Hyannis, MA 02601
KVAMANE@aol.com Ph: 508-790-1898

William F. Mac Swain

8452 Marys Creek Dr., Benbrook, TX 76116
billmacswain@charter.net Ph: 817-244-0706

Warren Wiedhahn

4600 Duke St, #420, Alexandria, VA 22304
JWiedhahn@aol.com Ph: 703-212-0695

Term 2006-2009

Mike Doyle

2418 Winewood Ln, Arlington, TX 76013
M-B-Doyle@msn.com Ph: 817-459-2463

Marvin Dunn

1721 Briardale Ct., Arlington, TX 76013-3467
MarvDunnJr@yahoo.com Ph: 817-261-1499

James Fountain

14541 Soho Dr., Florissant, MO 63034-2653
BudFon@netzero.net Ph: 314-974-3579

Christ Yanacos

6452 Brooks Blvd., Mentor, OH 44060-3624
ChristYanacos@kwva.org Ph: 440-257-5395

Appointed/Assigned Staff

Judge Advocate

Leo D. Agnew
84 Prescott St
Clinton, MA 01510
Abn187thpf@aol.com Ph: 978-733-1499

National Legislative Co-Directors

Robert S. Banker (See Directors)

Edwin R. Buckman

216 Montreal Dr.
Hurst, TX 76054-2217
ERB7964@sbcglobal.net
Ph: 817-498-0198

National Veterans Service Officer (VSO)

Arthur E. Hills
4300 Esta Lee Ave., Killeen TX 76549
AHills@hotmail.com Ph: 254-526-6567

National VAVS Director

J. D. Randolph
1523 Pinebluff Dr., Allen, TX 75002-1870
Randy9683@sbcglobal.net Ph: 972-359-2936

Sergeant-at-Arms: (ex officio)

John Sonley
15415 S 16th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85045-1810
Jwscpd8@aol.com Ph: 480-705-8038

POW & MIA Coordinator:

(Open)

KWVA Liaison to Museums/Libraries:

William F. Mac Swain
(See Directors)

KWVA Liaison to Canadian KVA:

William B. Burns
105 Emann Dr, Camillus, NY 13031
bgliam@verizon.net Ph: 315-487-1750

Chaplain Emeritus:

Robert Personette
7136 Oak Leaf Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409
PamP@vom.com Ph: 707-539-7276

Chaplain:

Leonard F. Stegman
7123 Thrush View Ln. #28
San Antonio, TX 78209 FAX: 210-805-9127
Hall06@aol.com Ph: 210-822-4041

KWVA Committees (ART III, Sect 1G, Bylaws)

Budget/Finance Committee

Marvin Dunn, Chairman
(See Directors)

Bylaws Committee

Bill Mac Swain, Chairman
(See Directors)

Membership Committee

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(See Directors)

Resolutions Committee:

Lee Dauster, Chairman
(See Directors)

Reunion Committee

James E. Ferris (see 2nd Vice President)

Tell America

Larry Kinard, Chairman
2108 Westchester Dr
Mansfield, TX 76063
Ph: 682-518-1040
Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com

Revisit Committee:

Tom Clawson, Chairman
953 Gorman Av
St Paul, MN 55118
Ph: 651-457-6653
TimClawson@charter.net

Warren Wiedhahn, Coordinator
(See Directors)

Ethics and Grievance Committee

Stephen Szekely, Chairman
1516 Laclede Rd
South Euclid, OH 44121-3012
Ph: 216-381-9080
SxDSEzek@sbcglobal.net



From the President

Louis T. Dechert

Another four weeks have passed and it is *The Graybeards'* time again—time to write something that you will not even receive until about sixty days from now. Only those officers and directors involved in “copy” for *The Graybeards* can fully recognize the extent of the role this venerable publication has in the Association. We are fortunate to be served by a top-notch Editor-Publisher team, one dedicated to veterans. Thank you, Art Sharp and Dr. Gerald Wadley.

In last month's issue there was a reprint of the article by Jimmy Faircloth, *For the Good of the Order*. No other single article in any issue since 2003 has received as many expressions of understanding and support. In contrast, when it first appeared in the May-June 2005 issue, not a single comment was received. I hope this means that the rank and file of the KWVA are wearying of unnecessary conflict and are anxious to get on with Founder Bill Morris' vision for this organization.

This issue is the annual election issue. Ballots are distributed in this issue in accordance with the Bylaws and under the direction of the *Nominations/Elections Committee*. Active voting members who experience any problems in receiving a Ballot—to which they are entitled—should contact the Chairman of the Committee. His name and relevant contact information are located across the page from where you see these remarks. Please do not contact the editor or publisher of the magazine, or the President. Remember, the election is the responsibility of the Nominations/Elections Committee. On election matters, the magazine staff, the President, and all other members of the Administration take our orders from the Chairman of that Committee.

This year is an election of Directors. Contrary to much of the heated and more often than not unwelcome and uninformed rhetoric, Directors are not part of the Administration (unless appointed to a task other than a Board Committee). I say this in an attempt to head off any false impres-

This issue is the annual election issue. Ballots are distributed in this issue in accordance with the Bylaws and under the direction of the Nominations/Elections Committee. Active voting members who experience any problems in receiving a Ballot—to which they are entitled—should contact the Chairman of the Committee.

sions being legitimately drawn from the remainder of my remarks in this issue. As I am writing (March 14, 2007), I do not know who all the candidates are. I do know the ones who I am supporting personally—just as do many of you—and I will tell anyone who asks, again just as will many of you.

The remainder of this article deals with the Administration. I recently attended a thoughtful meeting where the *Requirements of a Successful Organization* were posited:

- a *Mission* that matters
- a *Leadership* that leads
- the Necessity of *Training*
- a unifying *Strategy*
- *flexibility* in execution
- *Risk-taking* execution of operations
- *High Technology* support and approach

We have a Mission tracing right back to Founders' Day—and it matters! (A copy of our Mission Statement appears at the bottom of this page.) I must acknowledge that we seem to be the only organization on the North American continent interested in securing our blood-bought victory and defense in Korea, which is part of our Mission: **Support a Free Korea**. However, I am proud that the *International Federation of Korean War Veterans Associations* (IFKWVA), our allies from 1950 through today, supports the same objective.

THE MISSION OF THE KWVA/USA

DEFEND our Nation
CARE for our Veterans
PERPETUATE our Legacy
REMEMBER our Missing and Fallen
MAINTAIN our Memorial
SUPPORT a free Korea

The *Leadership* of the organization has led since July 2004. Indeed, that has been a continuing source of conflict—it is change and (we) older folks don't like change! But, change is going to happen, because death and infirmity are *inevitable and more probable* as we age. We can choose to accept change and thus become a positive force in the legacy of the KWVA, or we can curse change and its agents and sully our own images/reputations and places in KWVA history after all the “Graybeards” are gone.

Training is a continuing weakness in our association. It will be a critical and non-debatable requirement if we attain a Federal Charter. And it will cost money. There is no room for argument about training. We have done what we could in the past three years. It must get better.

Strategy is properly a function of the Board of Directors (of which I am Chairman). It is also a result of *training and longevity*. *Training* money and a shortage of capable members willing to run for office as Directors—and officers—limit the amount of effort we have been able to spend on *Strategies* other than the campaigns for a Federal Charter (since 2003) and the *care and maintenance of our National Memorial* (late in 2006).

We have exercised *Flexibility* in advancing our *Mission*, even while trying to catch up on years of neglect within the organization. One example: members had long been told—prior to July 2004—that we had 300. The truth is that at that time we had about 220 chapters. Reports and claims of having more were false, leading the Administration to coin the phrase “*Phantom Chapters*.”

A similar situation existed in the matter of the Departments. We have chapters today which have only a few members of

Continued on page 6

March/April 2007

COVER: A Korean child dressed in clothing made from GI wool blanket material stands amid the rubble of war in Seoul, Korea, 1953. Photo by Clifford C. Borden, Jr., Col. USA (Ret), 4304 Drexel Ave., Madison, WI 53716-1630



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A Revised KWVA Standard Procedure Manual Available

The Board of Directors approved a revised Standard Procedure Manual at its meeting on October 10, 2006 in San Antonio, TX. The Standard Procedure Manual (SPM) will be placed on the KWVA Web Site the last of April, where it can be downloaded free by any member. A coupon for ordering a SPM copy and for printing and mailing costs can be found on page 15 of this edition of *The Graybeards* for those members who do not have access for downloading the manual.

The Board of Directors approved these methods for obtaining a copy, but asked for more time to make any other changes that they thought would be necessary before releasing it to the membership. The Board immediately began using the manual as approved. Any changes necessary are to be suggested by those committees or individuals involved with the manual guides, and the changes suggested will be checked by the Bylaws Committee for any circumvention problems with the existing Bylaws. Approval of changes will then be made via mail ballots by the Board of Directors.

This six-month trial period should be enough time to make sure the approved SPM and any necessary changes are workable and do not cause any problems with their implementation.

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.

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

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

CONTRIBUTOR	LOCATION	CONTRIBUTOR	LOCATION
Ray Bosch	OH	Lloyd M. Loop	NY
Thomas Contreras	MI	Ray Miskimens	OH
For all my fellow veterans of the		Edward A. Morin	MA
86th F.A. Searchlight Co., Korea 1951-53,		Max Reynolds	OH
Kumwah Valley		Bob Richardson	TX
Roland D. Dye	IN	Ronald C. Ross	PA
Ray Gagnon	NY	Robert E. Ringer	FL
Mary Gifford	OR	Kenneth N. Roberts	CA
Jon Heich	CA	Gene F. Sears	NC
Anton R. Hinrichsen	CA	Robert S. Turner	NY
Jack E. Jones	PA	Carl Tynday	NY
Charles E. Keone	MA		

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *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

PRESIDENT from page 3

the KWVA. Many of these chapters are led by non-members of the KWVA, including Commanders/Presidents and other officials who are not KWVA members or are delinquent in dues. We have some Departments in the same situations. Obviously, *Flexibility and Risk Taking* become limited when you are trying to put together an organization on the go and *train* it after years of neglect.

In the last of the requirements we have been able to forge a *High Technology* compatible and based membership and management information system. One product of this has been a world-class website useful to all Korea and other veterans in the US and overseas. In a similar vein, we have a continually improving world-class veterans' magazine.

This is the state of the KWVA as I prepare these thoughts. Future leadership is, as always, in the hands of the members. **VOTE.**

Louis T Dechert
National President, KWVA/US

ANNUAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS GATHERING

DATE:24 – 28 July 2007

PLACE:Holiday Inn, Gaithersburg, MD

24 July: Registration Begins at 1 p.m.

27 July Ceremony on the Mall at 10 a.m.

27 July Memorial Service at Arlington Cemetery: 2 p.m.

For information, registration form, call Chairman Jack Cloman at (410) 676-1388 or email connienjack@msn.com

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



The Editor's Desk

Art Sharp



Here is the bottom line regarding coverage in *The Graybeards*: we publish only what we receive. We cannot go out and dig up information. Our entire editorial staff is pictured to the right.

Dancing Around The Issue Never Helps[©]

One of the most common complaints I receive alleges that there is an imbalance in the way the various branches of the armed services are portrayed. There is not, and I cannot dance around the issue. And, the only people who can take steps to resolve the perceived problem are the members of the KWVA.

I went to see "Riverdance" in Savannah, GA, on March 7, 2007. For those of you who are not familiar with the show, it depicts a bit of Irish history through dance and song, with copious amounts of Spanish, Russian, and African-American numbers thrown in. One of the numbers in particular caught my attention.

The number was a dance "contest" between Irish-Americans and African-Americans that depicted the time that the Irish started coming to the United States in large numbers and began a contest to see which group was poorest. It was prefaced by an African-American tenor who sang a song containing these lyrics (and I paraphrase, because I was half asleep by that time): "...poor at birth, how great a man is worth..."

The message of the song was that we

are not much different regardless of ethnic background, color of our skin, amount of personal wealth, etc. As I watched and listened, I thought of the audience, the KWVA, the importance of balance in our lives, and the need to address the perceived imbalance in representation in *The Graybeards*.

Let's illustrate the problem with an example of a complaint I received recently. A U.S. Navy veteran and KWVA member called our Membership Office to complain about the lack of balance in the way different branches of the armed forces are covered in *The Graybeards*. The caller noted that he and some of his Navy friends were displeased with the lack of coverage the Navy received in the magazine compared to the other services. They were threatening to leave the organization because of what they perceived as an imbalance.

Well, that would be one way to express their displeasure. Another would be to actually do something about it. For example, they could submit stories, photos, Chapter news involving U.S. Navy involvement in the Korean War, etc. Or, they could write "Letters to the Editor" to encourage their Navy brethren to flood the editor with material. Either action,

i.e., actually doing something to correct the problem, would be better than resigning from the KWVA,

which would accomplish nothing for them or the association. And, we don't want to lose any members who can make positive contributions to the KWVA.

Here is the bottom line regarding coverage in *The Graybeards*: we publish only what we receive. We cannot go out and dig up information. Our entire editorial staff is pictured above to the right. So, if we receive a preponderance of U.S. Army-related material, that is what we print. If the balance shifts to the U.S. Marine Corps, which has often been accused of having the world's greatest public relations and propaganda machine, that is because a lot of Marines are sending in material. The same argument holds true for the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. YMCA, the U.S. Sons and Daughters of the Society of the Western Three-footed Hoot Owls...whatever.

Here is my editorial plea: if you feel that your particular branch of the service is being slighted, **do** something creative. **DON'T RESIGN.** That will do nothing to correct the perceived imbalance. Send us some stories, photos, news of interest, etc. Of course, if enough of you do that in proportion to your individual branches of service, the perceived imbalance might still exist, but at least we will have a plethora of material to perpetuate *The Graybeards* for another decade or so.

Oh, and go see "Riverdance" if you get a chance. The dancers may be agile and fun to watch, but they can't perform the steps that our members need to take if they want to eliminate the perceived imbalance. Dancing around the problem may have worked for Fred Astaire, Gene Kelly, Cyd Charisse, Michael Flatley (the former lead male dancer in "Riverdance") et al—but it does not do a thing to balance the contents of *The Graybeards*.

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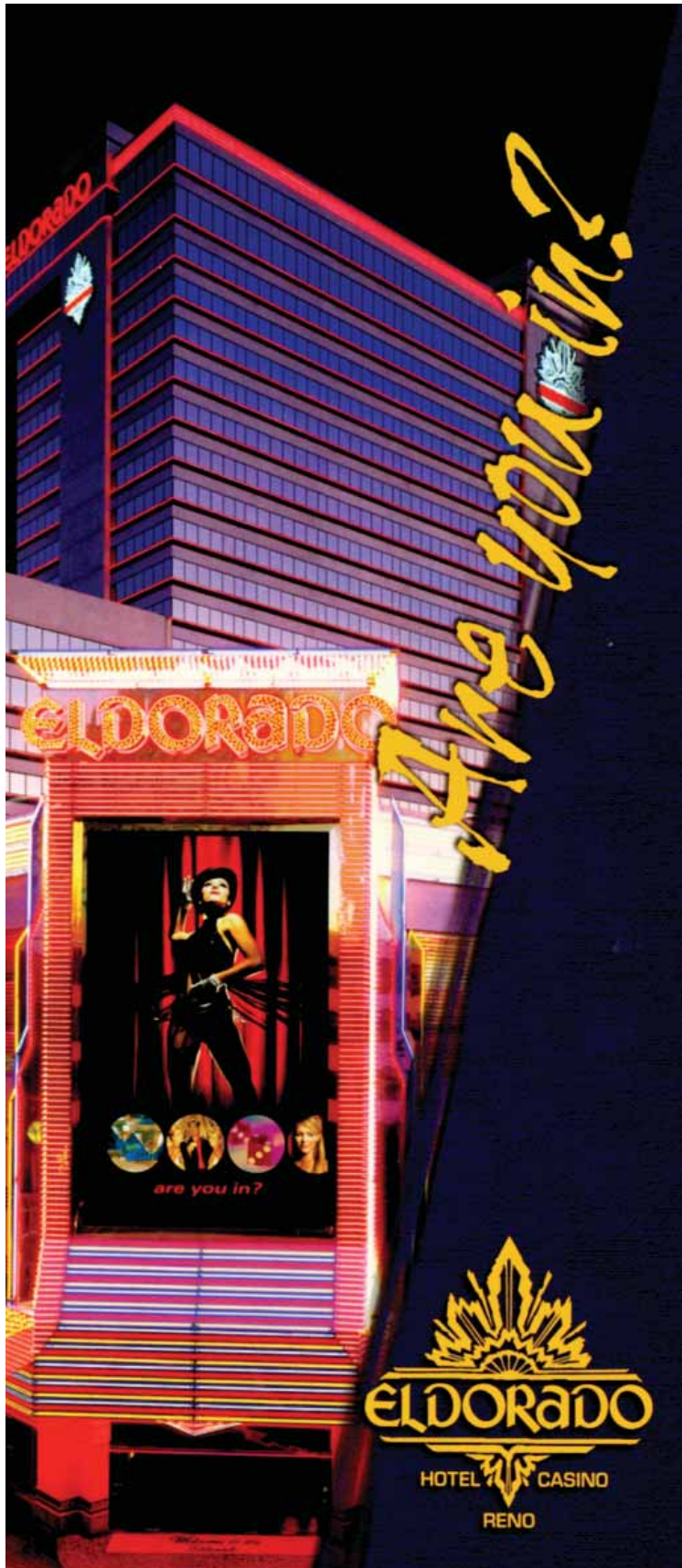
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HAVE YOU MADE YOUR PLANS FOR RENO?



Your KWVA National Convention and Annual Meeting will be held in Reno, NV, October 22-26, 2007. That's only a little more than six months away! It's not too early to make your travel plans (Hotel and Convention Registration Material will be in a later issue of *The Graybeards*).

Reno "The Biggest Little City in the World," offers tremendous value. The El Dorado Hotel, with its showroom of 580 seats, 8 restaurants, casino action (named one of the 10 casinos where you are likeliest to win), offers a great location in its own right.

In addition to a super hotel, you have access to great hiking, golf, and sightseeing at the Old West at Virginia City, and other attractions.

Lake Tahoe, truly one of the most beautiful locations in the world, is a short drive west of Reno. San Francisco, as part of a West Coast swing, is less than a one-day drive or commuter flight.

The Proposed Convention Schedule (Subject To Revision) Will Include:

- **OCTOBER 22** – Arrival and Registration, with Opening Ceremonies and memorial service in the evening.
- **OCTOBER 23** – Committee Hearings (Free Time for non participants), National Board of Directors Meeting, Ladies Special Event, Mini Conventions and Reunions.
- **OCTOBER 24** – Convention Breakfast, Committee Meetings, Presidents Dinner for Department Commanders
- **OCTOBER 25** - National Membership Meeting, National Board of Directors Meeting, Ladies Special Function, Mini-Conventions. Evening: Annual Banquet.

Your officers and committee people are hard at work to make this the most productive, educational, well-organized, and **MOST FUN KWVA CONVENTION EVER!** Plan to be there—OCT 22-26, 2007.



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

- ★ Rufus J. Etheredge
- ★ Gilbert R. Yancey

ALASKA

- ★ Stewart N. Rothman

ARIZONA

- ★ John Hayward Upton

ARKANSAS

- ★ Burton O. George

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- ★ David H. Holtzer
- ★ Walter J. Kubala
- ★ Carl B. Newman
- ★ Glenn D. Rodeman
- ★ Jesse S. Sanchez
- ★ Gerald D. Skipper
- ★ Herbert A. Smith
- ★ Alvin F. Troy
- ★ Donald R. Walker
- ★ Thomas F. Wattle

CONNECTICUT

- ★ Richard Cyr
- ★ Joe Tarrant

FLORIDA

- ★ James H. Appleton
- ★ Martin M. Behan
- ★ John Cline
- ★ Ira Grant Darling
- ★ Thomas N. Digney
- ★ Stanley Hadden
- ★ Howard D. Hudgins
- ★ Robert V. Matis
- ★ Richard McGrath
- ★ Gilbert Medoff
- ★ John E. Munchel
- ★ James T. Paek
- ★ Frederick L. Rentschler
- ★ Jack W. Sorkowitz
- ★ Joseph P. Turner
- ★ Lucian L. Vestal
- ★ Charles A. Yates

GEORGIA

- ★ Alan I. MacLean

ILLINOIS

- ★ James J. Carr
- ★ Darrell M. Ferguson
- ★ James N. Gentry
- ★ James D. Hunter
- ★ Joseph G. Iniguez, Jr.
- ★ Nathan Street, Jr.

INDIANA

- ★ Billy Berry
- ★ Charles R. Griffin
- ★ William W. Thompson

IOWA

- ★ Donald J. McDonald

KANSAS

- ★ William Mills Brownell
- ★ William E. McCartney

KENTUCKY

- ★ Miller Baker

LOUISIANA

- ★ Marvin L. Finney
- ★ Roland H. Laborde

MARYLAND

- ★ Norman F. Bohrer
- ★ James E. Ellsworth

MASSACHUSETTS

- ★ Joseph Mirisola

MICHIGAN

- ★ Billie J. Flippo
- ★ Harold F. Frye

MINNESOTA

- ★ Robert W. Mohr

MISSISSIPPI

- ★ Floyd L. Butler
- ★ Hugh W. Ketchum

MISSOURI

- ★ Wendell D. Follis
- ★ Sidney J. Fufts
- ★ Walter E. Phillips

NEBRASKA

- ★ Charles W. Hite, Sr.

NEW JERSEY

- ★ George J. Ferguson, Jr.
- ★ William J. Flynn

- ★ Cono A. Gonzalez

- ★ Joseph J. Gramigna

- ★ Joseph Hughes

- ★ Frederick A. Johnson

- ★ Dave Kamins

- ★ John J. Killeen

- ★ Philip J. Koehler

- ★ Alfred R. Maguire, Sr.

- ★ Harry W. Moore

- ★ Maurice I. Nielsen

- ★ Joie G. Prizzi

- ★ Albert A. Spangenberg

- ★ Donald W. Spedaliere

- ★ Amaris E. Strojan

- ★ Thomas A. Sullivan

- ★ Henry W. Vile

- ★ Thomas W. Whittle

- ★ Douglas L. Williams

- ★ Ora L. Wooster, Jr.

NEW YORK

- ★ David R. Besso

- ★ John A. Blind

- ★ Timothy Collins

- ★ Vito J. Deluca

- ★ Richard W. Dibble

- ★ William L. Fisher

- ★ Patricia Garopolo

- ★ Joseph J. Good

- ★ Raymond O. Hall

- ★ Sherwood F. Littlefield

- ★ Dianne Raphael

- ★ Joseph Salemi

OHIO

- ★ William J. Abel

- ★ William C. Bradford

- ★ Lemmie E. Collins, Jr.

- ★ Harry David Garnes

- ★ Lacy M. Keith

- ★ Robert Kerr

- ★ Donald E. Nesbitt

- ★ Robert J. O'Brien

- ★ Jimmie E. Sprigg

- ★ Robert D. Steward

- ★ James H. Thornton

- ★ John M. Thull

- ★ Harold Watson

OKLAHOMA

- ★ Bruce D. Lippert

- ★ Walter T. Stone

OREGON

- ★ Harold J. Arendt, Jr.

PENNSYLVANIA

- ★ Henry D'Amico

- ★ Hubert S. Hotchkiss

- ★ Emil P. Kushner, Sr.

- ★ Ludwig A. Lombardi

- ★ Richard L. Welliver

SO. CAROLINA

- ★ Carl E. Lee

SO. DAKOTA

- ★ Ruby G. McCormick

TENNESSEE

- ★ Austin Ray Hensley

- ★ James T. Jones

TEXAS

- ★ Bobby Dean Kimberlin

- ★ Robert J. Pappas

- ★ John H. Peyton, Jr.

VERMONT

- ★ Daniel J. Crawford

VIRGINIA

- ★ Philip Dornon Egert

- ★ Carson N. Hutsell

- ★ William S. Winters

- ★ Donald Zimmerman

WISCONSIN

- ★ Walter H. Lohrentz

CANADA

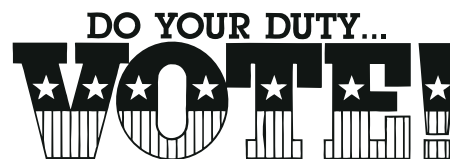
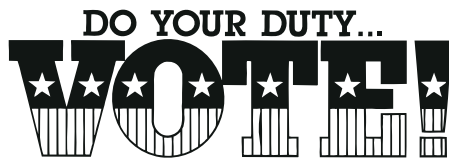
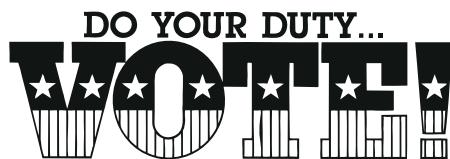
- ★ Thomas E. Randell

UNKNOWN

- ★ Anthony W. Korb

So that his brethren shall know...

Please report the death of any member of the KWVA to: Membership, P.O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304-9285 for listing in "Last Call."



2007 Election of Directors

Call for Election

March 2, 2007

Mr. Arthur G. Sharp
Editor, The Graybeards
152 Sky View Drive
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Dear Mr. Sharp:

The members of the Nominating Committee have reviewed all letters, documents, etc. received from each Candidate for Office in the forthcoming election in the Korean War Veterans Association. It is our opinion that all of the requirements have been met as listed in the Association's By-Laws and published in *The Graybeards* issue of November-December 2006.

Sincerely,

/s/ Robert S. Banker
Robert S. Banker
Chairman, Nominating Committee

/s/ Anthony Cirincione
Anthony Cirincione
Member, Nominating Committee

/s/ Jack E. Cloman
Jack E. Cloman
Member, Nominating Committee

CC: Mr. William Hutton, Secretary, KWVA

Candidates for Office

- Charlotte M. Ayers (R028336)
- Lee Dauster (R005657)
- Thomas S. Edwards, MD (LR33145)
- George "Don" Ellwood (LR27904)

- Michael J. Glazzy (LR05656)
- C. Clyde Hooks (LR29987)
- Thomas M. McHugh (LR07169)
- Joseph Pirrello (LR07979)

CHARLOTTE AYERS



This is to announce my candidacy for Director of the KWVA for period 2007-2010. I am a Korean War Era veteran of the Marine Corps, having served at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC and Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, NC from Oct 1952 to Jul 1953.

I was born and raised in Neillsville, WI. In Oct 1952 I enlisted in the Marine Corps, thereby joining my dad serving in

the Army, two brothers in the Marines (one serving in Korea), and another brother in the National Guard. After completing Boot Camp and Clerk-Typist School, I was stationed at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, NC where I worked in the Sergeant-Major and Adjutant's offices, which included the S&C Files (Top Secret, Secret, and Confidential Files). Served three years on the Inspector-Instructor Staff, 1stEngrBn USMCR, Ft. McHenry, Baltimore MD, and received an honorable discharge in Oct 1957.

In the ensuing years, I married a Marine, raised a family, relocated many times, then made Beaufort, SC our home. In 1981, I joined the Naval Reserve Unit in Savannah, GA. The military was not recruiting prior service veterans in those years so I enlisted as a Seaman, retiring as a Yeoman Chief Petty Officer in 1996 (which included my active duty years). My Naval Reserve annual training included assignments with the US/European Command, Stuttgart, Germany; NavSupAct, Holy Loch, Scotland; and COMSC Washington DC. I retired in 1998 from Civil Service. I have three children, two grandsons, and live in Beaufort, SC

I take part in ceremonies on Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and POW/MIA Recognition Day at the National Cemetery in Beaufort, volunteer with community organizations, including Red Cross Community Emergency Response Teams, and am a member of the USO welcoming servicemen and women back from overseas and seeing them off on deployment. Joined SC State Guard in 1998 serving as Adjutant (Captain) for five years. Am a member of the Women Marine Assoc., American Legion, and KWVA.

I joined KVV A Chapter 185, Charleston, SC in 2000. In Nov 2004, with assistance of President Pat Sullivan, organized Palmetto Chapter 303, Beaufort, SC where I served as President until Jan 2007. Presently, I am a Trustee of SC Department of KWVA, and am on the By-Laws Committee.

My membership number is R028336. My dues are paid through 2010. I am a team player, support the mission of KWVA and all that it stands for, and will abide by the Code of Conduct of KWVA. I promise to attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors, and it is understood that two unexcused absences can be used to remove me from office. The enclosed application form is released to the Nominating Committee for verification. I request your vote for KWVA Director for the 2007-2010 term.

S/ Charlotte M. Ayers, R028336
801 Mystic Dr. E.
Beaufort SC 29902-6621
843-524-8675
cmabftsc@islc.net

LEE DAUSTER



I am a candidate for "Director" National KWVA primarily because I try to never leave a job unfinished. I have two objectives that require a second term for completion.

1) The KWVA has not acquired national recognition because the Congress of the U. S. has not approved a Charter for our organization. I want to work diligently to assist our members in receiving this deserved certification.

2) Secondly, I have initiated an effort to recapture a large amount of money due our Association that has been denied by an insurance company. Our loss was properly insured but we were denied full coverage of our loss. With legal help, I want to see our KWV A properly compensated.

My qualifications for this office are several:

- Past Commander chapter #6 San Jose, CA
- Past Commander chapter #7 Sonora, CA
- Past President G-3-1 U.S.M.C. Korea
- Director National KWV A 2004-2007

I want to continue working for you. I pledge honesty and integrity as I interpret the many situations requiring a vote. My interest will always be for the Good of the Order. I am proud to have been a part of the progress made this last three years.

I certify that my dues are prepaid for the three years of this office term. I will attend each meeting called, and I understand two unexcused absences from called meetings may result in my removal from office.

Furthermore I have read the KWVA Code of Conduct, and approve every statement made in that Code. I accept its intent as an ethics pronouncement.

I have supported the advancement of improved conditions for all veterans and currently am

Life Member- Disabled American Veterans

Member - American Legion

Member - G-3-1 Korea U.S.M.C. Korea was my war. I was in country Dec. 1950 until early May 1951.

My personal awards include two purple hearts, a Silver Star, and Marine Corps Good Conduct medal. These awards remind me that I have faithfully served my country, and now, my service is dedicated to dignified representation of you, the membership of KWVA. As a director, I have been active in the capacity of

Chairman Resolutions Committee

Member Budget & Finance Committee

Chairman Insurance Subcommittee of Budget & Finance

I not only ask you to vote for me, I ask that you permit me to complete my mission as a Director KWVA 2007-2010.

S/ Lee Dauster RO 5657
15444 Camino del Parque N.
Sonora, CA 95370
209-588-1529

THOMAS S. EDWARDS, MD



Enclosed is the resume of Thomas S. Edwards for the application for the Board of Director of the Korean War Veterans Association. My Life Membership Number in 33145 and I understand the dues are current and paid through the 2007-2010 term, since I understand the dues are paid for a lifetime. I intend to attend all called meetings and understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be reason

for removal from the office.

I was involved in the Medical Care of the Army personnel for almost the entire 37 months of the Korean War. I served at Brook Army Medical Center from June, 1950, through December, 1951. We had many casualties air evacuated in 3 or 4 days after injury. Communication about an injury, as well as therapy, is an important part of the case. That may help in preliminary therapy for Post Traumatic Syndrome. After a 5-month course in Medical Administration at Walter Reed in early 1952, I went to Korea. In the summer of 1952, I joined KMAG as the Medical Advisor to the Corps Surgeon of the Second ROK Corps. This involved the tactics and medical support for three Korean Division and the support units. There were two U.S. Army Medical Officers serving with the Korean Combat Troops, each with one of the ROK Corps on line. We worked to keep all the personnel working together. Korean, American and other support -Aussie, Ethiopian or Turkish were involved.

I rotated to Tokyo Army Hospital in June, 1953, for the last wave of casualties and then in July and August we had the POW Release. For the next year I was at Camp Rucker as Regimental Surgeon of the 145th Regiment and as a Temporary Division Surgeon for the 45th Division. I was discharged from Regular Army August 30, 1954.

Since 1954 I've served as Chief of Surgery of an Army Reserve Hospital in New York and then returned to Florida. In Jacksonville I was placed in Command of a Reserve CSH. We moved the hospital up from marginal to Top A-I rated. After commanding it for (7) seven years, I was placed in command of most of the Medical Reserve in the South and was one of the Advisors to the U.S. Army Surgeon General. With 30 years service I retired in August 1981. I also belong to DAV, VFW, American Legion, ROA and other veteran organizations.

In addition, since I returned to Jacksonville in 1957 I have also been active in Medical Practice and many organizations, such as:

- Florida Medical and American Medical Associates - Delegate and Member and Chairman several committees.
- Florida Medical Political Action Committee & AMPAC - Board of Governor over 20 years, one of three initial incorporators, Officer of corporation for many years, including President; contact physician for U.S. Senator & U.S. Representative.
- Voluntary Health Agencies - Prevention of Blindness and Arthritic Foundation: Local and State Officer and National Board.
- Civic - Rotary: 48 years - Charter President, Mandarin, FL; Lions - Honorary Lion & Consultant.
- South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church - Member for many years, Usher, Deacon, Board of Trustees - President.

There are other organizations, but with this experience I will do my best to help the KWVA Board of Directors work together for the good of the whole organization. Further the political contacts should be helpful if, and when, we decide to work for a Federal Charter.

The current mailing address for Thomas S. Edwards is:

Dr. Thomas S. Edwards
Telephone: P. O. Box 10129
Jacksonville, FL 32247-0129
(904) 730-7183 Home
(904) 655-0961 Cell
(904) 367-8774 Fax

Yours very truly,

S/ Thomas S. Edwards, MD

GEORGE A. "DON" ELLWOOD



Subject: Submission For Election
As A Director

Dear Sir:

I am submitting my resume to be considered for Director in the 2007 elections.

(1) My membership application is hereby attached. You may release this application form for verification by the Nominating Committee.

(2) My current photograph is

attached.

(3) It is my intent to run for the office of Director.

(4) I was one of four men that started Chapter #259 in August 2001 in Indianapolis, Indiana and was its first chapter commander for nearly two years. Upon stepping down, for several years I was the chapter's program officer. On June 2005, I was elected as Indiana State KWVA Commander and re-elected for two years in June 2006. During these years, I had re-established department ties with a chapter that previously disassociated itself with the Department and started two new chapters, #308 & #309 for the Department. In addition, I generated more communication with all nine chapters by use of the internet and by mail thereby making each chapter more aware of what is going on with each chapter. During my term of office, there has been more contact between the chapters and the Korean Presbyterian church in Indianapolis.

(5) My current address is 8770 Carriage Lane, Pendleton, IN 46064. My phone number is (765) 778-8735. My KWVA membership number is LR27904

(6) I will endeavor to attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office.

(7) My dues are current through the whole of the term of office I am seeking (2007- 2010) as I am a Life member.

(8) My e-mail address is DANDC2K@WEBTV.NET

Respectfully submitted,

S/ George A. "Don" Ellwood

MICHAEL J. GLAZZY



I am a candidate for office of National Director, KWVA, Inc. I place a great measure of importance on the activities of Veterans' organizations, and have recently assumed the responsibility of organizing the many KWVA chapters of California into a Nationally Chartered KWVA State Department. I initiated this overdue activity, to assist in meeting the overall objectives of the KWVA.

This goal is under way, and defines the manner, in which I justify my life membership, and my continuing involvement for the good of all veterans.

It all began in 1948. I graduated from high school and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. I qualified as a radar technician and I was assigned to the First Marine Aircraft Wing, MGCIS- 3. I served with my unit in 1951-1952 at Pohang, South Korea. Following my discharge, I used the G.I. Bill to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree in electrical engineering from Youngstown University June 1958. A career as an Aerospace Engineer followed.

Major programs I worked on included: orbital space vehicles for the Air Force, the Polaris nuclear submarine for the U.S. Navy and electronic components for the U.S. Space Shuttle Program. I retired in 1992.

Prior to retirement in 1989, I became a charter member of the KWVA Chapter #6 in San Jose, California followed by several years as President of Chapter 6. While President, I was instrumental in the formation of KWVA Chapter #7 in Sonora, California, Chapter #56 in Ventura, California and Chapter #203 in Turlock, California. I am also a member of the Marine Corps League, First Marine Division Association Inc., AMVETS, VFW and American Legion.

As a Director, I will promote: the membership of the DMZ Service veteran, promote chapter formations in the western states, provide an open forum for the general membership to express their concerns and grievances, and to support proper maintenance of the Washington D.C. Memorial.

I have read the KWVA "Code of Conduct" and accept those statements as a guideline for our membership. My dues, as a life member, are prepaid through the years 2007 - 2010.

I am hopeful you will permit me to continue my service to the Veteran Community and the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. I will attend all called meetings and understand that two unexcused absences may be cause for removal from the Board of Directors.

S/ Michael J. Glazzy, LR05656
3361 Williams Rd., San Jose, CA 95117
408.296.8282
mglazzy@sbcglobal.net

C. CLYDE HOOKS



Dear Chairman Banker,

1. This is to inform you of my intent to run for the office of Director for the years 2007 through 2010.

2. I feel that I am qualified for the position of Director because of the following:

a. I am a past commander and past treasurer of a Disabled American Veterans Chapter.

b. I have been the adjutant and treasurer of KWV A Chapter 255

since its formation in 2001.

c. I have been the commander of the Department of South Carolina since its formation in 2006. I organized the Department.

d. I have served on the National Bylaws Committee for the past two years.

e. I have attended the last three National Conventions at my own expense.

f. I served two tours in Korea, one during the War, and one after the War.

3. If I am elected to the position of Director, I would like to do the following:

a. Propose that the number of Directors be reduced to nine.

b. Propose that the United States be divided into nine Districts, based on the population of KWVA members, and that each District have one Director.

c. Propose that all meetings be opened to the public. Or at least, before an executive session meeting, the complete reason for the meeting be given, and after the meeting, a vote on the action be made in public.

4. My present mailing address and telephone number are listed in the heading. My membership number is LR29987.

5. I understand that I would be expected to attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office.

6. Since I am a life member, my dues are paid up for life.

Respectfully yours,

S/ C. Clyde Hooks
658 Hampton Circle
Belvedere, So. Car. 29841
(803) 278-1039, Fax: 278-2359
KoreanWar1950@bellsouth.net

THOMAS McHUGH



I am announcing that I am a candidate for KWVA National Director for the term 2007-2010. I am presently serving my second two year term as KWVA New Jersey State Commander and KWVA Chapter Adjutant/Finance Officer. I have served as KWVA Chapter Commander and Adjutant/Finance Officer and KWVA State Judge Advocate and E-mail Coordinator. We presently have e-mail contact with 11 of 13 Chapters. For three

years I served as New Jersey Program Chairman for the Ceremony at the NJ Korean War Monument, July 27th, in Atlantic City. Attendance has been well over 500 Veterans. The program is fully supported by Col. (Ret) Stephen G. Abel Deputy Commissioner of DMAVA. Col. Abel is presently a KWVA Life member in my Chapter, the Hector A. Cafferata JR MOH Chapter 213. Always remember: If you want something done, ask a busy man.

AMERICAN LEGION: I have over 53 years in the Legion and still serving on all levels including NJ Department SAL Vice Chairman. I have always served Veterans and will continue to serve.

MILITARY: I am NOT a Combat Veteran, I am a Korean Veteran and PROUD OF IT. I enlisted RA on March 1951 until April 1954. I served in the (EAB) ENGINEER AVIATION BATTALION (SCARWAF) "SPECIAL ARMY ATTACHED WITH AIR FORCE" Upon Discharge, served in the NJ National Guard for 30 years and the US Army Reserve for 10 years. US ARMY RETIRED with 43 years.

CIVILIAN: USPS Career and Retired as Postmaster Belvidere NJ. President Four County Postmaster/Supervisor Assoc. President Warren/Sussex Chapter National Association Retired Federal Employees (NARFE). NJ State Vice President 6 years. State Parliamentarian NJ Postmaster NAPUS. Married 49 years. Family includes 6 Children, including 2 Veterans and 10 Grandchildren.

My first resume included a lot more eye wash, but, that really does not

matter. What matters is that I know I can do the job if elected. What matters is that we deserve more for our service. What matters is that our members deserve a Federal Charter, as recognition for the brutal combat conditions and the monumental sacrifice paid by so many Korean War Veterans. We deserve the Federal Charter and we must receive it, since it has been earned by all Korean Combat, Non-Combat and DMZ Veterans.

As a KWVA LIFE Member, I have supported EVERY National President until it became apparent that they had failed or gone astray. A President that fails to see or allows KWVA funds to be stolen, thru poor oversight or collusion, or a President that illegally runs for a 3rd term. SHOULD NEVER BE AN ELECTED OFFICER AGAIN. The KWVA Board must groom the future slate of Officers, to allow continuity of operation. Much too much time is wasted by ridiculous criticism and distorted facts. I can and will continue to work for the future of the KWVA.

MY GOAL: Stop the Bombastic BS. Support ALL the Elected Officers. Work to explain to our membership that we are operating proficiently. The Constant Lies, Distortions and Partial Truths, do nothing to enhance the KWVA. Past Presidents must finally admit that YESTERDAY IS GONE. Times have changed and we must change with them. Present and Past Officers should help train our future Officers, not waste time trying to rewrite history. The KWVA is run by the Board of Directors. The President does NOT run the KWVA, HE DIRECTS the KWVA by appointing qualified members to Committees. If you want change, then volunteer to work on a committee. They can use your expertise.

My Dues are current LR07169. I have signed the "Code of Conduct." I will support a slate of officers that are dedicated to the future of the KWVA. I will attend and participate in all called meetings of the Board of Directors and understand that 2 unexcused absences may be cause for removal from the Board.

I hereby request your support. I would like the opportunity to serve as Director 2007 - 2010 and pledge to work tirelessly for the good of the KWVA. Always Remember: "Freedom Is Not Free"

S/ Thomas McHugh LR07169
217 Seymour Road
Hackettstown, NJ 07840-1001
Phone 908-852-1964
E-mail tmmchugh@msn.com



JOSEPH PIRRELLO

I, Joseph John Pirrello do hereby make known my intention to run for the office of Director for the years 2007-2010.

I have held the office of Director for six years and was term limited out last year. I was a member of the New York City Police Department for twenty-eight years, retiring in 1984. I joined the department in 1956 and spent ten

years as a patrol officer. In 1966 I was promoted to Sergeant and assigned to the Special Events Squad which handled demonstrations in those so called "Days of Rage" during the Vietnam War riots.

In 1970 I was assigned to the Civilian Complaint Review Board, investigating complaints against police officers by civilians. In 1973 I was promoted to Lieutenant and was assigned as integrity control officer for Queens Detectives squad consisting of three hundred detectives and supervisors. I also monitored the quality of investigations. In 1976 I then commanded various detective squads at various times such as airport, burglary and homicide till 1981 at which time I was assigned to command the Midtown South Detectives unit, the largest and busiest squad in New York consisting of four sergeants and thirty-six detectives handling all cases from petit larceny to homicides. I retired in 1984.

I am presently the Commander of the Oakwood Heights VFW and past Commander of the American Legion Post 1367 of Staten Island.

My current mailing address is 70 turf Road, Staten Island, New York 10314; tel.

No. 718-983-6803; KWVA membership #LR07979.

I am a Life Member therefore my dues are paid for my term of office.

I understand that I must attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that two (2) unexcused absences could be cause for removal from the office.

S/ Joseph Pirrello

Errata

Wrong Photo, Right Caption Published

The nearby photo should have been published on page 33 of the November-December 2006 issue of *The Graybeards* above the caption "CID 131 members assembled at the Toledo Memorial."

I'll inform the members at the next chapter meeting that a correction will be made, and publish the information in *Scuttlebutt*, the chapter newsletter. They will be glad to know that the error will be corrected

Lou Streb, CID 131 Secretary
415 Turnbury Lane
Perrysburg, OH 43551



KWVA

Membership Report

Jeff Brodeur

KWVA Membership Chairman

The new KWVA office is up and running, and we have been getting swamped with renewals and new members. Annelie Weber has been doing a great job for us in the new office. She recently had surgery and our Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer has picked up the slack.

New membership cards are being made and will be cost effective to the membership. We are trying to get members back from 2005 and 2006 to renew. This could increase not only the membership but, of course, the monies brought into the KWVA's coffers.

Jake Feaster and Ed Buckman have been working on chapter and department development with Mike Glazzy in California, Chuck Stohr in Arizona, and Clyde Hooks in South Carolina.



The Certificate of Appreciation



Jeff Brodeur's daughter Colleen displays the new KWVA recruiting poster

New posters are being made and have been sent to Korea, DC, Mass, NJ, NY, California, Texas, Virginia, and Rhode Island. These posters are made with the decal monies from our ad in *The Graybeards* and on the KWVA website. No KWVA monies have purchased any of these recruiting materials. We have sponsored 3 events in Korea with some of these monies, and our logo has been on all the flyers and posters at these 3 events.

Despite all the favorable news, we still need to attract new members to the KWVA and recruit more. Right now, we are just staying ahead of the game. A lot of our members are passing away and, quite frankly, we are lucky to still have a plus as far the membership goes!!

- We have 30 new members for the month of March so far (as of 3-12-07).
- We have 17,315 total members.
- We had 17,312 total members at this time last year, for an increase of 3 total members.

We really need to start recruiting these post war Korea vets, something that should have been done years ago.

Incidentally, the new updated KWVA Posters are now on the KWVA website, www.kwva.org. These posters look great framed.

The KWVA was awarded a nice certificate from MWR Korea, and our logo was on all the flyers for the BOSS event we sponsored at Camp Casey. We will be sponsoring another event in May.

Many members' KWVA dues are up for renewal. Send in your dues or you will be inactivated. Many of the members are still sending their dues to the old PO Box in Arlington VA. Please note the new address:

Korean War Veterans Association
PO Box 22857
Alexandria VA 22304 -9285

KWVA STANDARD PROCEDURE MANUAL ORDER FORM

You may order a SPM after April 30, 2007, with a check for \$3.00 for handling and shipping, by using this form or a copy of this form. The SPM will also be offered on the KWVA Website, www.kwva.org, at no charge after April 30, 2007

Name: _____ Membership No. _____
Please Print

Street or P. O Box Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

MAIL THIS COUPON AND CHECK MADE OUT TO KWVA (SPM) TO: KWVA SPM – PO Box 122084 – Fort Worth, TX 76121-2084 - Your cancelled check will be your receipt. _____

For SPM Committee Use Only – Do Not Write in this Area

Check # _____ Amount \$ _____ Received Date _____

KWVA MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

KWVA Departments, Chapters and Presidents Information

The past four months have been a very busy and challenging time for the KWVA Membership, with a change in the membership office from Arlington, VA to Alexandria, VA, the training of new personnel to process membership applications and switching to a new and more efficient database software program. Our hats are off to Jim Doppelhammer for his expertise and involvement in the coordination of this changeover and for bringing us up to speed.

Some of you have not picked up on the change of address as to where to send membership dues, so you have been sending them to the old address. It will ultimately be forwarded to the new address, but may take several weeks longer to make the trip. The new mailing address is found in several other places in this issue of the *Graybeards* but for your convenience and emphasis, here it is again: **KWVA, P.O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304-9285; Ph: 703-461-0061, Fax: 703-461-0062.**

For those of you with computers, be sure to visit our terrific KWVA web site, regularly, at: www.kwva.org for up-to-date information about KWVA activities, announcements, National/Department/Chapter staff and president phone and mailing address contact information, International KWVA news, news from Korea, and US Forces Korea, and access to past *Graybeards* issues.

Departments and Chapters that have met certain minimum Bylaw organizational and reporting requirements (accreditation) qualify for their president to receive a special access privilege on the internet. This privilege is an "authorization" to view and print their organization's membership rosters directly from the National database by way of a restricted link found on the KWVA website.

The Departments and Chapters shown on the succeeding pages

are subject to constant evaluation of their efforts to achieve accreditation status that will allow them to be legitimate units of KWVA, once we are authorized Federal Charter status. Failure to meet or maintain the minimum organizational and reporting requirements will take away or disallow the special access privilege to the internet—and may ultimately result in the revocation of their charter.

For all of you, especially those of you without computers, thereby preventing internet access, beginning below is a listing of the 15 KWVA Departments, 235 Chapters, their Presidents, and their phone and mailing contact information [This information is also available in more detail on a link of the KWVA website]. The listing should be of particular interest to the 7,100 Active and 11,300 Inactive KWVA members who are not members of a chapter!

Look through this list and find a chapter president who is within commuting distance of where you live. Make contact with him/her and invite yourself as a guest to one of the chapter's meetings. There, you will be able to participate and associate with veterans who have had similar experiences as you. This should be one of the benefits obtained through the payment of your national dues, so take advantage of the opportunity and join a chapter if one is available within commuting distance of your home!

All of you are encouraged to retrieve your May/June 2006 issue of *The Graybeards* and re-read the article concerning our KWVA Management Information System on page 11. It contains much information that is of interest and should be of concern to you.

Yours for a better KWVA,

Jake Feaster, LR13771, KWVA Director
Board Oversight: Management Information System
JFeaster@kwva.org, Home Ph: 352-466-3493
Cell Ph: 352-262-1845, FAX: 775-242-8113

KWVA Department and Chapter Presidents and Addresses

Alabama

Department of Alabama

Walter G. Ballard : 251-649-2887
3775 Hardeman Rd
Semmes, AL 36575-6109

1 Gulf Coast

William M. Pitt : 251-479-2311
1701 Gill Rd
Mobile, AL 36605-3939

2 Northwest Alabama II

Bill Gober : 256-383-7719
109 Woodland Dr
Sheffield, AL 35660

145 Tennessee Valley

Aubrey Gentle : 256-859-0885
5016 Colemont Ln NE
Huntsville, AL 35811

263 Metro-Montgomery

John R. Miller : 334-567-8906
230 W Deer Track Dr
Wetumpka, AL 36093-2220

Alaska

288 SSGT Archie Van Winkle Memorial
Berkeley J. Ide : 907-274-3218
PO Box 200142
Anchorage, AK 99520-0142

Arizona

Department of Arizona

Pete Martinez : 480-345-0117
1941 E Ellis Dr
Tempe, AZ 85282

3 Ray Harvey (MOH)

Carl Orth : 602-620-1874
2814 W Berridge Ln
Phoenix, AZ 85017-1722

4 Edward W. Rhoads

Lou Vukovich : 520-296-6471
7401 E Calle Antigua
Tucson, AZ 85710

122 Arden R. Rowley

Leroy Servin : 480-982-1740
2208 West Baseline Av, #133
Apache Junction, AZ 85220

132 Richard Countryman

Frank C. Guerrieu : 480-802-0160
24935 S Lakewood Dr
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

295 West Valley

Bob Burns : 623-546-9110
14018 Franciscan Dr
Sun City West, AZ 85375

Arkansas

22 Charles L. Gilliland

Vernon Hudder : 870-424-5108
517 Ouachita Av
Mountain Home, AR 72653-2257

California

5 Northern California #1

William I McKinney : 530-365-3656
6907 Riata Dr
Redding, CA 96002-9725

6 Santa Clara County

Walter Schrank : 510-656-4782
327 Starlite Way
Fremont, CA 94539-7642

7 Sonora Tuolumne County

Alexander Koski : 209-588-0292
10956 Green St, #160
Columbia, CA 95310

56 Ventura County

David Lopez : 310-323-8481
3850 W 180th Pl
Torrance, CA 90504

80 Porterville

James Davison : 559-783-1844
268 E Oak Av
Porterville, CA 93257-3963

102 Imperial Valley
Mike Singh : 760-344-4775
1720 Desert Gardens
El Centro, CA 92243

165 El Centro
Frank Pacheco : 760-357-2674
PO Box 2492
El Centro, CA 92243

176 Redwood
Mac Gardner : 707-443-2004
1854 McFarlan St
Eureka, CA 95501

179 San Diego
James Whelan : 619-656-8186
1042 Ardilla Pl
Chula Vista, CA 91910-8029

184 Vets of KW Cent Coast : CA
John R Davis : 805-349-0086
400 Garnet Way
Santa Maria, CA 93454

203 War Dogs
Lawrence Johnson : 209-523-5232
1705 Wolverine Way
Modesto, CA 95355

211 Charles N. Bikakis
Thomas Lewis : 661-831-4360
3608 Wood Ln
Bakersfield, CA 93309-7323

235 Santa Barbara
Reynaldo Sanchez : 805-705-9940
PO Box 40366
Santa Barbara, CA 93140-0366

264 Mt. Diablo
William J. Flaherty : 925-274-3866
1349 Ptarmigan Drive, #1
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

274 Mendo-Lake-Sonoma
Amos Moss : 707-462-7937
402 Observatory Av
Ukiah, CA 95482-5676

Colorado

9 Dutch Nelsen
Richard Weakley : 719-547-0686
149 S Golfwood Dr
Pueblo West, CO 81007-6073

195 Queen City
Robert Nelson : 303-279-2594
608 Wyoming St
Golden, CO 80403

Connecticut

10 Connecticut #1
Jim Sheldermine : 860-528-0251
745 Tolland St
East Hartford, CT 06108-2748

11 Greater Danbury Area
Bernard Rotunda : 203-744-1974
23 Highland Av
Bethel, CT 06801

204 Greater New Haven Area : Memorial
Edward C. Shultz : 203-288-7576
126 Mather St
Hamden, CT 06517

Delaware

Department of Delaware
Russell W. Cunningham : 302-945-3525
33161 Woodland Court S
Lewes, DE 19958-9329

12 Capt Paul Dill #2
John R Schroeder : 302-836-1134
560 Howell School Rd
Bear, DE 19701

13 Bill Carr
Walter Koopman : 302-945-7122
105 Creek Dr
Winding Creek Village
Millsboro, DE 19966-9680

92 Richard D Hutchinson
Louis Stubbolo : 302-284-9511
212 Henry Cowgill Rd
Camden, DE 19934

Florida

Department of Florida
William McCraney : 863-533-7374
2215 Helen Cir
Bartow, FL 33830

14 Suncoast
Joe Slotton : 727-345-4845
2696 56th Way N
St Petersburg, FL 33710

15 Eddie Lyon
Joseph D. Firriolo
2510 NE 209th Ter
North Miami Beach, FL 33180

16 COL Alice Gritsavage
John A. Nolting : 352-438-3392
10650 NE 142nd Pl
Ft McCoy, FL 32134-0492

17 LT Richard E. Cronan
Albert Ratner : 561-742-3901
7233 Lugano Dr
Boynton Beach, FL 33437

106 Treasure Coast
Peter Popolizio : 772-344-2301
449 SW Horseshoe Bay
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986

110 Miami-Dade
Ainslee R. Ferdie : 305-445-3557
717 Ponce de Leon Blvd, #215
Coral Gables, FL 33134-2048

124 Osceola County
David L. Conboy : 407-892-7409
4945 Spiral Way
Saint Cloud, FL 34771

153 Central Florida
Don Smith : 386-789-7856
1812 S Houston Dr
Deltona, FL 32738

155 Florida Gulf Coast
Donald Hamm-Johnson
239-573-0122
524 SE 33rd St
Cape Coral, FL 33904

158 William R. Charette (MOH)
James Bradford : 863-293-3055
1776 6th St NW, #308
Winter Haven, FL 33881

159 Sunshine State
John G. Edwards : 727-582-9353
PO Box 5298
Largo, FL 33779-5298

169 Lake County
Art Canale : 352-750-2505
684 Ellsworth Way
The Villages, FL 32162

173 Mid-Florida
Tom Roberts : 407-657-4608
2354 Flamingo Way
Winter Park, FL 32792-1619

174 Nature Coast
Richard Mellinger : 352-688-7196
10458 Upton St
Spring Hill, FL 34608

175 LT Baldomero Lopez (MOH)
Fred Gossett : 813-977-5327
14804 15th St
Lutz, FL 33549

188 South Lake County
Carleton Hogue : 863-424-5212
275 Jackson Park Av
Davenport, FL 33897

189 Central Florida East Coast
John R. Kennedy : 386-255-8429
3780 Clyde Morris Blvd, #205
Port Orange, FL 32119

192 Citrus County
Herman Butler, Jr : 352-563-2496
2110 NW 17th St
Crystal River, FL 34428

199 Manasota
Gurley E. Gillette : 941-746-4440
1407 39th St W
Bradenton, FL 34205

200 Northeast Florida
Henry L. Moreland : 904-384-2031
2360 Lake Shore Blvd
Jacksonville, FL 32210

210 Brevard County
James Snyder : 321-455-2937
400 S Sykes Creek Pky
Merritt Island, FL 32952-3547

267 GEN James A. Van Fleet
Richard E. Davis : 352-378-5560
2205 NW 19th Ln
Gainesville, FL 32605

293 West Florida
Virgil G. Oldham : 850-458-5891
2465 Granada Camino
Pensacola, FL 32507

Georgia

19 GEN Raymond G. Davis
Thomas Harris, Jr. : 404-321-9636
1315 McConnell Dr, #B101
Decatur, GA 30033-3527

Hawaii

20 Hawaii #1
Charles Aresta : 808-537-2753
1813 Sereno St
Honolulu, HI 96817-2318

47 Kauai
Royce T. Ebesu : 808-822-4341
4890 Lani Rd
Kapaa, HI 96746

144 Aloha
Jimmy K. Shin : 808-286-3333
PO Box 88232
Honolulu, HI 96830-8232

231 Big Island
Jim Santos : 808-961-2528
RR 3, Box 1282
Pahoa, HI 96778

279 West Hawaii
Ronald Cole : 808-327-9304
76-6283 Kololia St
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

282 Maui No Ka Oi
Royal G. Vida : 808-871-2109
219 W Niihau St
Kahului, HI 96732

Illinois

Department of Illinois
Paul W. Sutphin : 309-697-0659
5307 S Mid Ct
PEORIA, IL 61607-9537

21 Robert Wurtsbaugh
David Thornsborough
217-759-7321
28869 N 1800 E Rd
Alvin, IL 61811

23 South Suburban
Arnold Feinberg -708-460-6914
8916 W Leslie Dr
Orland Hills, IL 60477

24 Charles Parlier
David M. Freyling : 217-428-2897
34 Ridgedale Dr
Decatur, IL 62521

25 Greater Chicago
Niels Larsen : 773-545-4379
5347 W Waveland Av
Chicago, IL 60641-3354

26 Lester Hammond CMH
Robert H. Ericson : 217-222-1640
1134 S 14th St
Princeton, IL 63201-5529

27 Sangamon County
Bernard Scott : 217-824-6847
3712 E Lakeshore Dr
Taylorville, IL 62568-8943

95 Imjin
Thomas G. McCaw : 618-632-2220
PO Bx 211
O'Fallon, IL 62269

150 Northwest Illinois
Clyde G. Fruth : 815-233-0242
3060 W Prairie Rd
Freeport, IL 61032

168 Quad Cities
Ronald Sears : 309-786-5391
1301 2nd Av, #3W Apt 1
Rock Island, IL 61201

243 Peoria

William Wilson : 309-742-8151
8220 N McClellan Rd
Elmwood, IL 61529

272 Greater Rockford

Jack F. Philbrick : 815-226-1601
1601 Scottswood Rd
Rockford, IL 61107-2069

Indiana

Department of Indiana

George Ellwood 765-778-8735
8770 Carriage Ln
Pendleton, IN 46064

28 Indiana #2

John M. Rutledge : 765-447-5296
208 Eastland Dr
Lafayette, IN 47905-4805

29 SSGT William E Windrich #3

Douglas E Handley : 219-844-0676
3423 164th St
Hammond, IN 46323

30 Indiana #1

Bernard Wisniewski
260-432-1106
6612 Goodrich Dr
Ft. Wayne, IN 46804-2010

129 Southeastern Indiana #4

Luther E. Rice : 812-926-2790
414 Water St
Aurora, IN 47001-1242

133 Quiet Warrior

Marcos Botas : 260-747-0601
1730 Kinsmoor Av
Fort Wayne, IN 46809-1026

259 Central Indiana

Donald Seib : 317-892-3044
5856 Essex Dr
Pittsboro, IN 46167

278 Gene A. Sturgeon Memorial

Loren E. Sturgeon : 765-825-5427
827 Earl Dr
Connersville, IN 47331-1728

308 Anderson Tri-County

George A. Ellwood : 765-778-8735
8770 Carriage Ln
Pendleton, IN 46064

309 Jackie L. Murdock

Albert L. Lowe : 765-435-2304
104 Old Ford Rd
Waveland, IN 47989

Iowa

99 Tall Corn

Bill Hartsock : 319-753-3478
2301 Agency St, #29
Burlington, IA 52601-1986

Kansas

181 Kansas #1

John W. Gay : 913-268-6917
6805 Oakview
Shawnee, KA 66216

Kentucky

139 C. H. Dodd

William Diefenbach : 270-769-9432
900 Winchester Blvd
Louisville, KY 42701-9167

219 Central Kentucky

John H. Armacost : 859-233-3855
3845 Carleton Dr
Lexington, KY 40510-9709

Louisiana

180 CENLA [Central Louisiana]

Louis T. Dechert : 318-641-8033
916 Marvin Av
Leesville, LA 71446

205 Crossroads

Douglas J Rhodes : 318-487-1608
101 Big Lake Rd
Pineville, LA 71360

230 Baton Rouge

Robert Thomas : 225-275-6289
10724 Sherwood Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70815

Maine

32 Burton-Goode-Sargent #1

Edward Davis : 207-469-7918
PO Box 100
East Orlando, ME 04481

79 CPL Clair Goodblood (MOH)

Philip Tiemann, Jr : 207-623-9309
9 Glenwood St
Augusta, ME 04330-6907

277 Mid-Coast Maine

Joseph E. Wallace : 207-594-5799
38 Lakeview Dr
Rockland, ME 04841

292 Crown of Maine

Norman. Bourgoin : 207-762-2391
58 Chapman Rd
Presque Isle, ME 04769

Maryland

33 Maryland

Charles J. Reed, Jr : 410-682-5135
610 Greyhound Rd
Essex, MD 21221-1803

107 James P. Dickel

Bernard Wenrick : 304-738-9451
RR 4, Box 17
Ridgely, WV 26753-9703

142 Korean War Veterans

Robert F. Miles : 301-371-7769
4308 Feldspar Rd
Middletown, MD 21769-7549

271 Aberdeen

Jerry R. Cather : 410-272-5840
2400 N Post Rd, #48
Aberdeen, MD 21001

Massachusetts

34 CPL Alfred Lopes, Jr./Lt. Ronald R.

Ferris
Richard L. Lariviere
781-834-8538
29 Woodlawn Cir
Marshfield, MA 02050-3503

35 Rudolph H. DeSilva Memorial

C/O VFW Post 611
Robert V. Simmons : 508-823-0572
82 Ingell St
Taunton, MA 02780-3507

36 Central Massachusetts

James E. McDonald 508-753-3789
190 S Quinsigamond Av
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

37 PFC Joseph R. Ouellette

John L. Hourihan : 978-658-3865
55 Lake St
Tewksbury, MA 01876

141 Cape & Islands #1

Albert Makkay : 508-790-0201
15 Meadow Farm Rd
Centerville, MA 02632

187 Western Mass. 2000

Richard Reopel : 413-583-4405
35 Blue Grass Ln
Ludlow, MA 01056-1030

294 Greater Haverhill

Kenneth Bilodeau : 978-346-8220
8 C St
Merrimac, MA 01860

299 Korea Veterans of America

Al Holden : 978-582-7336
1057 Northfield Rd
Lunenburg, MA 01462

300 Korean War Veterans of

Massachusetts
Nicholas Paganella : 508-872-5895
20 Antrim Rd
Framingham, MA 01701

Michigan

38 Northwest Michigan

Albert C. "Al" Ockert : 231-946-4698
356 W River Rd
Traverse City, MI 49684

39 Mid-Michigan

Donald L. Sanchez : 810-653-4453
5156 N Gale Rd
Davison, MI 48423-8955

164 Dale H. Williams Post #1996

Harry Ray Nelson III : 231-775-0622
11 Huron St
Cadillac, MI 49601

251 Saginaw/Frankenmuth

Bob Simon : 989-792-3718
7286 Spring Lake Tr
Saginaw, MI 48603-1684

256 Norville B. Finney

Richard Charbonneau
248-543-3577
532 W Troy St
Ferndale, MI 48220-305

306 West Michigan

Harold Hoekzema : 616-827-7244
3946 Pemberton Dr SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508

Minnesota

40 Minnesota #1

Edward R. Valle : 715-425-8992
1410 Foster St
River Falls, WI 54022

41 Frozen Chosin

William A. Maher : 507-388-5577
217 Viola St
Mankato, MN 56001-4576

254 Fairmont

Darvin D. Cottew : 507-238-2740
650 Summit Dr, #2
Fairmont, MN 56031

Mississippi

42 Lee County

Terry Carlock : 662-871-3606
3606 Fair Oaks Dr
Belden, MS 38826

Missouri

Department of Missouri

Stuart L. Ballou : 314-838-5634
3210 Kingsley Dr
Florissant, MO 63033-6224

43 Kansas City Missouri #2

Gene Winslow : 816-373-6087
16204 E 35th St
Independence, MO 64055-3053

44 Missouri #1

Donald Gutmann : 314-739-7922
11959 Glenvalley Dr
Maryland Heights, MO 63043

78 Jefferson County

Wilbert W. Sexauer : 636-586-6931
3245 Fountain City Rd
Desoto, MO 63020

96 Florissant #4

Leondus "Lee" Hull : 314-837-4855
3050 Newgate Dr
Florissant, MO 63033

135 Harry S. Truman

Robert A. Kamp : 417-338-2181
643 Holiday Acres Cir
Reeds Spring, MO 65737

186 St. Charles County

Ezra F. Williams : 636-272-5046
2 Cedar Ln
O'Fallon, MO 63366-3404

246 Ozark Mountain Region, #8

Robert E Soden : 417-350-3773
2524 S. Delaware Av
Springfield, MO 65804

281 Rolla #9

Leslie V. Burris : 573-364-6663
15717 Co Rd 8430
Rolla, MO 65401

Nebraska

183 Nebraska #1

Samuel Wall : 402-330-0732
15937 Dorcas Cir
Omaha, NE 68130

Nevada

198 Reno Sparks
Ralph Christie : 775-331-2910
PO Box 60547
Reno, NV 89506

305 Carson City
Fred Williams, Jr : 775-246-3767
PO Box 1374
Dayton, NV 89403

New Jersey

Department of New Jersey
Thomas McHugh : 908-852-1964
217 Seymour Rd
Hackettstown, NJ 07840-1001

48 Chorwon
Lawrence Morgan : 201-666-1281
5 Berkshire Rd
Park Ridge, NJ 07656

49 Ocean County
Joseph Spinicchia : 732-350-8321
4-B Monticello Dr
Whiting, NJ 08759-1824

52 Hong Song
Victor Hando : 732-787-0692
493 Sherman Av
Belford, NJ 07718

53 Union County
John Stonaker : 856-983-7748
427 Faitoute Av
Kenilworth, NJ 07033-2058

54 Thomas W. Daley, Jr.
Thomas Daley, Jr. : 908-241-0175
26 Knox Blvd
Marlton, NJ 08053-2930

87 Middlesex County
Metro Kopchak : 908-755-0065
1311 Maple Av
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-4515

94 Hudson County
Ralph Pasqua : 201-858-4538
PO Box 841, 32 East 39th St
Bayonne, NJ 07002-0841

130 Cape May County #1
Otis Jones, Jr. : 609-465-9797
PO Box 389
Whitesboro, NJ 08252

148 Central Jersey
Erwin Hampson : 732-723-2556
315 Village Dr NE
Spotswood, NJ 08884-1542

170 Taejon
Thomas Falato : 201-796-8660
418 Leonhardt Dr
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663-5026

213 Hector A Cafferata, Jr [MOH]
Leonard Speizer : 973-691-8265
4 Prospect Av
Budd Lake, NJ 07828

216 KWVA M*A*S*H 4099
Albert J. Gonzales : 201-461-0152
115 Irving St
Leonia, NJ 07605

234 KWVA of Atlantic County
John J Varallo : 609-476-1916
7 Maple Ct, Oaks of Weymouth
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

New Mexico

82 Albuquerque NM #1
Jerry Chapman : 505-565-0338
1600 Knoll Crest
Los Lunas, NM 87031

New York

Department of New York
T. James Lewis : 315-539-2928
PO Box 176
Waterloo, NY 13165-0176

55 Nassau County #1
Howard E. Plattner : 516-334-3692
22 Crystal Ln
Westbury, NY 11590

58 Monroe County
Alverne Brown : 585-288-6389
886 Britton Rd
Rochester, NY 14616-2911

59 Northeastern
Louis LeFevre : 518-439-7425
PO Box 360
Troy, NY 12182-0360

60 Adirondack
Raymond Waldron : 518-584-4362
4 Patricia Ln
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-2812

63 Western New York
Carl J. Marranca : 716-876-5528
3354 Delaware Av
Kenmore , NY 14217

64 Central Long Island
P. G. "Bob" Morga : 631-286-3075
PO Box 835
Bayport, NY 11705-0835

65 Eastern Long Island
Richard G. Faron : 631-725-3220
135 Noyac Av
Sag Harbor, NY 11963

66 CPL Allan F. Kivlehan
Joseph A. Calabria : 718-967-1120
PO Box 120174
Staten Island, NY 10312

67 Finger Lakes #1
Richard J. Compo : 315-568-6431
1780 Auburn Rd
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

90 Eagle (Rockland Co.)
Rudy Damonti : 845-268-7412
PO Box 304
New City, NY 10956

91 Westchester-Putnam County
Eugene McLeer : 914-633-8826
6 Rosedale Av
New Rochelle, NY 10801-1405

105 Central New York
Garry Rockburn : 315-656-8528
518 East Av
Kirkville, NY 13082-9706

113 Thousand Islands
Shawn K. Finley : 315-287-0816
1400-321 Bellow Av
Watertown, NY 13601

171 Brooklyn
Don Feldman : 718-946-4175
2015 Shore Pkwy, #88
Brooklyn, NY 11214-6839

202 Orange County
Samuel L. Tucker : 845-386-1370
PO Box 230, 2098 Mountain Rd
Otisville, NY 10963

208 Putnam County
Louis Gasparini : 845-278-7856
63 Oakwood Dr
Brewster, NY 10509-3825

239 Skinner : Grogan
William Brusio : 315-894-3252
PO Box 84
Ilion, NY 13357

283 Columbia County
Jack Hallenbeck : 518-828-3776
27 Apple Meadow Rd, #F8
Hudson, NY 12534

284 St Lawrence County
Reginald H Mott : 315-769-3690
46 Urban Dr
Massena, NY 13662-2702

296 Cayuga County
John Barwinczok : 315-253-6022
25 Leavenworth Av
Auburn, NY 13021-4552

North Carolina

265 Charlotte
James W. Williams : 704-545-1829
6817 Wilson Grove Rd
Charlotte, NC 28227

North Dakota

68 North Dakota #1
Roger S. Smith : 701-952-0893
1739 4th Av NE
Jamestown, ND 58401

Ohio

Department of Ohio
Robert L. McGeorge : 513-923-4420
3296 Blueacres Dr
Cincinnati, OH 45239

51 Richland County
Frank J. Russo : 419-756-1468
618 Orchard Dr E
Mansfield, OH 44904

69 Greater Cleveland
Paul Romanovich : 440-885-5101
5400 Sandy Hook Dr
Parma, OH 44134-6124

70 Ohio Valley
Edward Fellabaum : 740-458-1040
PO Box 243
Clarington, OH 43915

71 Western Ohio : Lake Erie
Gerald D. Stephen : 440-365-8872
164 Alexander Dr
Elyria, OH 44035-1834

81 Buckeye
Hubert L. Bair : 330-875-1526
716 E Main St
Louisville, OH 44641

108 Western Ohio
Richard Schwartz : 937-773-5399
211 Drexel Av
Piqua, OH 45356

112 Lake Erie
Stephen Szekely : 216- 381-9080
1516 Laclede Rd
South Euclid , OH 44121-3012

115 Johnny Johnson
David L. Jarvis : 419-331-5683
1066 N Sterick Rd
Elida, OH 45807-2120

116 Central Ohio
James L. Kay : 614-279-2428
PO Box 236134
Columbus, OH 43222

121 Greater Cincinnati
Robert McGeorge : 513-923-4920
3296 Blueacres Dr
Cincinnati, OH 45239-6109

125 Greene County
Howard W. Camp : 937-372-6403
430 S Stadium Dr
Xenia, OH 45385

126 Tri-State
Donald R. Wolf : 330-385-7403
829 Louise Av
East Liverpool, OH 43920

131 Northwest Ohio
Edward Auerbach : 419-874-7037
415 Turnbury Ln
Perrysburg, OH 43551

136 Marion
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Francis (Sam) Slater
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215-657-5104

74 KWVA of WPA : GEN Matthew B.
Ridgway
Edwin Vogel : 412-921-7751
92 Kingston Av
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75 PFC Stanley A. Gogoj #38
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203 Ridgecrest St.
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Ed Maunakea : 254-634-7806
PO Box 10622
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2010 Mistletree
Victoria, TX 77901-3521

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PO Box 791
Mabscott, WV 25871

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Norbert C Carter 262-675-6641
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Westbend, WI 53095-3102

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4130 Lee Cir
Waterford, WI 53185

245 South Central Wisconsin
Wayne Pickarts : 608-222-2566
6303 Kilpatrick Ln
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275 West Central Wisconsin
Edward J. Adams : 608-788-4850
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Unit Profile

8221st Army Unit: Field Artillery, Topographic & Meteorological Detachment

Korean War Service 1950-1954

By Michael C.J. Kaminski

The 8221st was activated in Yokohama, Japan at Camp McNeely on 7 September 1950. It was deactivated in Korea at a location about 11 miles north of Yanggu in the east central sector on 1 November 1954. This location was north of the 38th Parallel, approximately two miles south of the south line of the DMZ. The "Punchbowl" was easterly of its bivouac. The village of Mundung-ni and "Heart Break Ridge" were a bit to the northwest.

The Met section was located near a small airstrip and a MASH unit. Elements of the 24th Infantry Division were also in this immediate area. The Topo section was camped in a draw off to the west side of the road leading north to the DMZ. The CP for X Corps Artillery was also in a draw off to the west side of the same road, but a bit further north in a schoolhouse complex. The 8221st closed out its war service at that location almost four years (1 November 1954) to the date the charter members of the unit set foot on a beach in Wonsan, NK on 5 November 1950.

In the unit's four years of service in Korea, the roster turned over almost five times. There were 10 different Commanding Officers. The unit had 1 KIA, Sgt. Donald Burdett, who was killed in action in March 1952 by a "Bouncing Betty," and 2 WIA, Pfc Arthur Sandt, wounded in March 1952 by a "Bouncing Betty," and Pfc Gene Harris, wounded by a booby trap in August 1952. No member was MIA.

The 8221st qualified for 8 battle stars to its Korean Service Medal, and was awarded two Korean Presidential Unit Citations. Individual members received citations for heroism under fire, commendations for outstanding duties performed under adverse conditions, recognition for special achievement, and certificates of merit for special tasks assigned. Unit members also qualified for combat awards while detached to other X Corps units during certain tactical operations.

Members of the 8221st took part in or



8221st AU detachment, Wonsan, North Korea, November 1950

directly supported a host of offensive and defensive operations throughout the X Corps area. Some of these actions are identified and referred to in the 8221st Army Unit Association History Booklet.

The 8221st Army Unit was unique and had a T.O. & E. (Table of Organization & Equipment) that provided for 52 Enlisted Men, 1 Officer and 1 Warrant Officer. The enlisted ranks ranged from Privates to

Master Sergeants. Each of the two major operational sections (Topographic and Meteorological) was headed up by a Master Sergeant.

Equipment consisted of a variety of vehicles up to a 2 1/2 ton truck, trailers, weapons, surveying and meteorological gear. The unit had no Mess, Motor, and Supply or Administrative sections. These

Continued on page 24



The 8221st Detachment with X Corps Artillery at a campsite outside Chunchon, Korea, in 1951. Note the meteorological weather balloon ready for launch on the left side

A CHANCE TO COME OUT CLEAN!

By Michael C.J. Kaminski, Korean War
(1950-51) 8221st AU Field Artillery,
Topographic & Meteorological
Detachment

Several months into 1951 our unit located with X Corps Artillery HQ near a river along a route leading up to the MLR. As usual, we set up our little tent bivouac with our defense perimeter surrounding our motor pool and operations section. The Topographic and Meteorological 2 ½-ton vans contained our sensitive equipment and computer gear. From that bivouac we would fan out into the countryside to complete survey recon and ground surveys for the artillery battalions coming up the line. At the same time our Met section would send up weather balloons throughout a 24-hour period to record climate conditions. The data they produced was important for corrections for artillery fire direction control and for the Air Force's flying missions.

After a couple days at this location, Corps Artillery HQ sent us a message that a Quartermaster Bath & Shower Company was to be in our area. It had been several months since any of us had a shower or change of clean clothes. We had been too busy completing missions and moving from one bivouac to another since our arrival at Wonsan, NK in November of 1950.

The idea of a shower and clean clothes was great news. Our CO, Lt. Dockstetter, passed the word that it looked good for us to take advantage of the facilities that were



LEFT: Taking a bath in Korea, 1951: 8221st A. V. personnel.

BELOW: The laundry ladies at work, Korea 1951



to be set up near a river close to our location. The CO directed the Sections Chiefs to set up a schedule (that would not interfere with our missions) for all the work parties to get a shower and an issue of clean clothes. The word got around fast, and the humor began to build.

When my survey team's turn came we all got together in our jeep and weapons carrier and headed out to the Bath & Shower Company campsite. There was singing and a lot of hootin' and hollerin,' along with some kidding about all of us getting together naked in an open shower area. M/Sgt Reynolds came along with our group and joined in with some shower-stall humor of his own.

At the river site there were a couple large (Mess Hall Size) tents set up. They were surrounded by water trailers (Buffalos), pumps, a generator, and water line hoses like the firemen use, extending from the river into the heating units and on into the tents. Steam from the field stoves and heaters reached up to the sky through long extended stove pipes.

The scene did not fit the landscape, but it was inviting even here on the rocky edge of a river along a very flat stretch of terrain. The sound of artillery was in the air. The location was not that far from the MLR. The immediate area was buzzing with activity. The sign on one end of the big tent was inviting with the word, "ENTRANCE." Way over at the other end of the big tent was another sign with the word, "EXIT." The signage was typical military....short, concise and non-descriptive!

at the entrance flap behind a column of jabbering and fidgety bodies waiting their turn. M/Sgt Reynolds elbowed his way in to find out what the procedure to enter was going to be. He was also hoping that he could get our group in and out in a hurry. He disappeared inside for a few minutes, while we got the word on the outside from those standing in line as to what we had to do to make it through the shower process. Just then M/Sgt Reynolds came out with a little sneer on his lips and the rage of the devil in his eyes. Right behind him was another M/Sgt with a Quartermaster Corps patch on his fatigue jacket shoulder, and a surly look on his face. We thought we were either going to get to buck the line or get kicked off the campsite.

M/Sgt Reynolds must have hit a nerve or said the right things to one of his own.....the Quartermaster Corps M/Sgt motioned us to move ahead of the line outside and into the tent. As we slipped inside we could hear the cat calls and snide remarks from those still suffering outside in the cold. It was nice and warm in the big tent. It was also very busy and steamy. A bunch of field tables and chairs on one side were in front of us. There was a divider curtain ahead of that with a flap doorway and steamed-up window. Beyond that was a lot of hootin' and hollerin' goin' on. Boy, we



The Bath & Shower Co., Korea 1951

We all got out of our vehicles to line up

must be close to fun city.....

The Quartermaster Corps M/Sgt bel-
lowed his routine instructions. We are all
ears and ready to get through that flap door-
way with the steamed up window. First of
all we had to clear all weapons. Next, our
personal effects, boots and weapons were
to be stashed in Barracks Bags furnished by
the bath and shower company. Each of the
bags was left in the care of M/Sgt Reynolds
and me.

The next phase of the routine com-
menced. We had no idea what was coming
next. It was just plain fun to hear about
phase two. The Quartermaster Corps M/Sgt
bellowed again. Phase two...when he
blows the referee whistle attached to a lan-
yard around his neck, strip down to our skin
and dog tags before entering the next part
of the big tent. The whistle sounds the
alarm for those in the shower area to shut
off the spigots and move to the next area.

As the whistle was blown, off came the
clothes. Each man got into line (not neces-
sarily too close to the guy in front) and was
handed a towel and bar of soap before
entering the showering area. You had to get
wet, soap up, and rinse off in the quick time
frame set by the Quartermaster Corps
M/Sgt. When the whistle was blown again
it would be time to move into the next
phase of the process with your towel. No
malingering or foolin' around. There were a
lot of guys right behind us who were itch-
ing to take their turn under the hot water.
Besides that, the Bath and Shower
Company would be off to a new location
sooner than later. It would be fun time for
another batch of field soldiers.

After following through with the set
routine and passing on to the next big tent
compartment, each man would be issued a
clean set of underwear, socks, a set of

fatigues and a winter cap. For that we had
to give up our worn out grimy clothes. The
hot shower (however brief) was worth the
trade off.

All our field gear and boots would not
be replaced. M/Sgt Reynolds and I chuck-
led at the sight of collecting all the person-
al stuff as the guys peeled off their worn-
out grimy clothing. Most of them had per-
sonal side arms as well as their M-1 or
Carbine. We would take all the stuff to the
compartment next to the exit flap. Before
they got in line for the shower they sure
looked comical lining up for the shower
and disappearing into the steamy compart-
ment of the big tent.

After getting into the shower area it did
not take them long to start up with the jokes
and poking each other. If anyone of them
dropped their bar of soap it was left there
between the slats of the duckboard flooring.
We met them on the other side with all their
personal stuff and weapons before we
weaved our way back through the maze of
tent flap doors to get our own shower and
clean clothes. The Quartermaster Corps
M/Sgt was there to take care of our person-
al stuff and weapons.

While going through the routine of wet-
ting down, soaping up, and rinsing off, we
could hear the guys hootin' and hollerin'
about the smell of the clean clothes issue.
We wondered what all the fuss was about.
We found out as we passed into the same
compartment.

The guys behind the table issuing the
replacement clothing were fast, furious and
uncontrolled as to size and the matching of
fatigues tops and bottoms. It was and was
not almost like going through the clothing
line for your initial issue of clothing before
basic training. Most of the time you got a
rather close fit, but sometimes you didn't.

Remember? Here there was not much of a
choice, let alone any exchange policy.

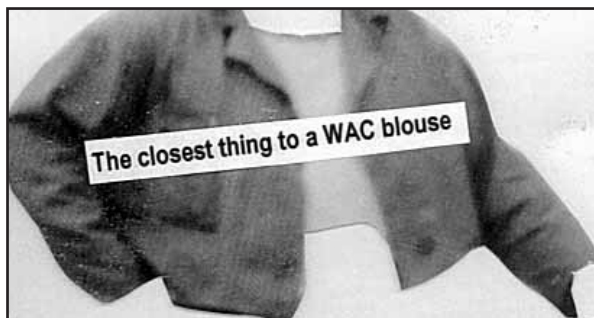
M/Sgt Reynolds and I got in line to get
our clean exchange issue of clothing. The
line behind us was building up and we had
to move along and get back to our unit
bivouac so the next group could make it in
before dark. We got our issue and moved
over to re-dress.

Dressing as quickly as we could, we
grabbed up the last bit of our personal gear
and weapons and headed out the door
marked "EXIT." Outside M/Sgt Reynolds
adjusted his field gear and put on his winter
cap (the pile lined one with the ear flaps).
He got a big laugh out of the guys. The cap
made him look a little like Stan Laurel of
the Laurel & Hardy Comedy Team when
Stan would scratch his head and put on an
undersized bowler.

He found another cap from one of the
guys in our group, but when he put it on it
came down over his ears. He decided to
keep the undersized cap. In my case, I had
a real life dilemma. The fatigue jacket they
gave to me (my size then was a 38R) had
the buttons on the wrong side and it was
kind of 'full' in the chest area. It did not
take long to figure out that what I got was a
Nurse or WAC fatigue blouse. We got a lot
of hoots and whistles from the guys as we
paraded around the bath and shower site.
Frankly, I wanted to keep the fatigue blouse
and try like hell to find the girl that could
fill it out.....

M/Sgt Reynolds got a few extra miles of
laughter out of his undersized winter cap
and my female fatigue blouse over the next
few weeks. Later on, I finally gave the
fatigue blouse up to our Supply Sgt for a
replacement. We understand that he had
some fun with it when he pushed it up the
supply line.

It would be several more months before
we were able to get anywhere near, or have
the time, to visit a Quartermaster Corps
Bath & Shower Company near us. In the
meantime, we did our best for maintaining
personal hygiene by using our helmet for a
wash basin and taking a "bird bath" in a
stream or river that was near our bivouac.
Once or twice we even stayed in a location
long enough to get some clothes washed by
the locals. At least there was no shrink-
age..... Never did find the Nurse or
WAC that belonged to that female fatigue
blouse!



ABOVE: WAC or nurse fatigue blouse, Korea 1951

LEFT: M/Sgt Frank Reynolds, 8221st A. U. gets a new winter
cap in Korea, 1951

tasks were assigned to and performed by members with secondary MOS skills. The Detachment Commander doubled as S-1, S-2, S-3 and S-4. The 8221st was nomadic in its operational mode, i.e., it was all over the X Corps area and many times outside it, in “No Man’s Land,” fulfilling a variety of surveying and meteorological assignments. In January of 1951 a like unit, the 8219th Army Unit, was a detachment of IX Corps in the western sector of operations. Both units performed similar missions during their duty in Korea.

The scope of the unit’s mission was rather simple, i.e., supply Corps artillery and Air Force units with survey data and weather data as required. Higher headquarters for the 8221st was X Corps Artillery, the 5th Field Artillery Group and X Corps. As a detachment the sections of the 8221st were farmed out at times to other units.

The Topo section worked with and for division artillery, battalions and some tank and heavy weapons units. The Meteorological section was tasked to gather weather information primarily for X Corps. On occasion, the Met section assisted the Topo section in survey operations in addition to other assigned duties.

During the first six months of service in Korea, the 8221st’s main mission of surveying for artillery gun positions, observation posts, target areas and registration points, and gathering weather data for the artillery and Air Force was somewhat detoured by the tactical situations that came up. All unit personnel found themselves “volunteering” for a variety of other duties, which included, but were not limited to, special recon missions; security and special patrols; communication team duties; special driving missions, and forward observer duties.

The 8221st rank and file, like all other units at the beginning of the war, was filled mostly (98%) with regular Army personnel who came from units in Japan, the Philippines, and the U.S. Beginning in 1951 the replacements were draftees, reservists and National Guardsmen. They came from all walks of life. No matter who or what, if you served with the 8221st Army Unit or any other in Korea between 1950 and 1954, you should be proud of that service. The 8221st was given a mission that included a great many other tasks, and it performed all

Book Review

Escape From North Korea: A Non-fiction Account of Savage Battles and Political Intrigues of the Forgotten War

Paul G. Petredis

438 pp., Fire Ant Books, Trafford Publishing 2005. ISBN 141207244-1

By Kris Barnett

Were the words “non-fiction account” not part of the title, many readers would find the saga described in this book to be simply unbelievable. The plot sounds like something that only Hollywood could create: An 18-year-old, under-prepared, all-American soldier is sent into combat, is shot through the side during one of the many battles he endures, is a POW for about two minutes until his platoon is essentially murdered, and then embarks on a more than 200-mile journey on frostbitten feet through the mountains of North Korea. He does not eat, he does not sleep, and he defies death more times than he can recount. Ultimately, with the help of his own indescribable will to live and a sort of Korean fairy godfather, he prevails over death and escapes from North Korea.

But this isn’t a Hollywood invention. It’s the true story of Paul G. Petredis, originally of the 29th Infantry Regiment. Despite the title (*Escape From North Korea*), we learn from Petredis’ eloquent, graphic, and insightful description of his own experiences and the Korean War that he, and perhaps many others who lived the horrors of that war, may not have been able to truly escape from North Korea at all.

Petredis prefaces his work by explaining how it came to be a book in the first place. Nearly fifty years after he endured unimaginable savagery and brutal conditions, Petredis took a writing class and found that the act of writing the book unleashed the memories his mind had mercifully locked away for his own self-preservation. Reading his recounting of those memories explains why his subconscious had squelched the details for so long.

He had seen and experienced sights, sounds, and feelings with which only other

soldiers can possibly relate. Other readers can only read the book to gain better understanding of the war that some considered a debacle from the start, and to understand what war can do to a country and to the individuals – cultures and soldiers – who are caught up in the aggressions of politics.

As anyone who has been in combat knows, war is not a Hollywood movie. Petredis writes:

“My mind wandered to when I was a child at the Saturday afternoon matinee, viewing glorious, victorious, World War II American fighting infantrymen – ‘That’s what I’m going to be when I grow up, A soldier! Not just any ordinary soldier, but an infantry soldier!’”

Indeed, Petredis was no ordinary soldier. He was one of only four to escape the ambush and slaughter of hundreds of American soldiers at Anui, where he took a bullet through the side. For six days, he and his fellow survivors walked to find what was left of his battalion, and then he went right back into battle. A week after escaping another ambush at Chinju Pass, an Army doctor stuck a probe clear through Petredis’ bullet wound to ensure the bullet had cleared his body. Petredis remarked that after suffering the thrust of a metal rod through his healing but scarred tissue without benefit of anesthesia, he felt he earned his first purple heart. And then he was sent back to battle again.

Petredis recounts his amazing odyssey through combat experiences, capture, escape, and a long journey back to safety. His book also provides well-researched and some little known information on the Korean War, including insight into U. S. and Chinese military strategies and their outcomes. All in all, the book combines riveting personal narrative with “a study of the unmitigated culpability....” of those in power, including General MacArthur, President Truman and the Democratic Administration.

While the book is skillfully written, there is no Hollywood ending; instead more than 60,000 Allies soldiers were lost, and questions still remain regarding the “cover-up of the first war America lost.”

Pizza in the Bupyong Rice Paddies

By Anthony J. DeBlasi

I was in Korea during the troublesome prisoner exchanges, 1953-54, stationed in a radio operation company (304th Signal Battalion) in Bupyong. The compound was the site of a Japanese World War II radio station located near Ascom City, in a valley full of rice paddies, a favorite target of Bed-Check Charlie before the cease-fire.

We lived in barracks that the Japanese built during their occupation. We called them huts because of their shabby construction. Our mission was to provide Eighth Army with radio-teletype and radio-voice communications from various hills (VHF) and from mobile units, with an air-ground liaison unit at 5th Air Force in Osan.

One day, after duty hours, fellow Brooklynite Irving Peckler and I were in the company dark room developing some film when Peckler said, "Why don't we go out for pizza?" It was of course an advanced case of daydreaming. Boy, if we only could!

"Well, I could make it if we had the ingredients," I told Peckler. (I'd seen my Italian mother make it often enough when I was growing up.)

As we talked about it, the daydream began to materialize into a possibility. Peckler could send home for the ingredients and we could make it in the mess hall kitchen—in secret. (We were both radio men, not cooks, and the caper could get us into trouble.) It was a deal.



"Red (P) Alert" (Imminent Pizza Attack) hits Hut 4! Pizza participants who, as best as can be remembered, included (L-R) Sweeney, Lovi (?), Peckler, DeBlasi, Nagy, and Proctor

I made a list of what we needed, enough to make pizza for the guys in Hut 4, and Peckler mailed the list to his folks in Brooklyn, N.Y. Bless the Pecklers! They took our project seriously and sent us the stuff!

We had gotten some darned good packages from home at Christmas, but the package that came on 21 March 1954 beat them all. That night, Peckler and I and a couple other guys from Hut 4 sneaked into the mess hall, helped ourselves to the pots and pans, rolled up our sleeves, and got busy making like pizza chefs.

My recollection of mom's cooking served me well, and our secret, makeshift "pizza parlor" delivered with flying colors.



Above, fellow "Brooklynites" "pizza chef" Tony DeBlasi (L) and co-conspirator Irving Peckler (R) in the kitchen

Our buddy George Herschell (Webster, N.Y.) took pictures of the affair and recently e-mailed them to me with the following note:

"Just a little something to jar your memory. I found these few shots going through some of my old stuff. They are of the two best multi-ethnic pizza cooks in the world. At least at that time they were. Who would have ever believed that a Jew and an Italian could turn out the glorious feast that they did. It hooked me on pizza for life"

Herschell called our pizza fling a Red (P) Alert, meaning Red (Pizza) Alert. In other words, heads up and keep things quiet—we don't want the whole battalion storming Hut 4 for pizza!

You can bet that this did not get into the company's history log book. And since we left the kitchen just as we found it, everything cleaned up and in order, few knew it ever happened.

When Sicilian pizza came to the rice paddies of Bupyong, there was a brief spell of heaven and two Brooklyn boys became instant heroes.



Tony DeBlasi (L) and Irving Peckler (R) secretly making pizza in the Radio Co. mess hall kitchen on the night of March 21, 1954



Shhhhh—keep it quiet—it's a "Red (P) Alert" for Peckler (L) and DeBlasi (R)

Anthony J. DeBlasi
455 Shady Nook Rd
West Newfield, ME
04095
(207) 793-8808
tonyjdb@psouth.net

To Our Troops We Must Remain Always Faithful

By Rep. Sam Johnson (R-TX)

The following text comprises the remarks delivered by U.S. Congressional Representative and KWVA member Sam Johnson on the floor of the House of Representatives on February 16, 2007. CID 270 is named after Rep. Johnson.

You know, I flew 62 combat missions in the Korean War and 25 missions in the Vietnam War before being shot down. I had the privilege of serving in the United States Air Force for 29 years, attending the prestigious National War College, and commanding two air bases, among other things. I mention these stories because I view the debate on the floor not just as a U.S. Congressman elected to serve the good people of the Third District in Texas, but also through the lens of a life-long fighter pilot, student of war, a combat warrior, a leader of men, and a Prisoner of War.

Ironically, this week marks the anniversary that I started a new life - and my freedom from prison in Hanoi. I spent nearly seven years as a Prisoner of War in Vietnam, more than half of that time in solitary confinement. I flew out of Hanoi on February 12, 1973 with other long-held Prisoners of War - weighing just 140 pounds. And tomorrow - 34 years ago, I had my homecoming to Texas - a truly unspeakable blessing of freedom.

While in solitary confinement, my captors kept me in leg stocks, like the pilgrims... for 72 days.... As you can imagine, they had to carry me out of the stocks because I couldn't walk. The following day, they put me in leg irons... for 2 1/2 years. That's when you have a tight metal cuff around each ankle - with a foot-long bar connecting the legs. I still have little feeling in my right arm and my right hand... and my body has never been the same since my nearly 2,500 days of captivity. But I will never let my physical wounds hold me back. Instead, I try to

see the silver lining. I say that because in some way ... I'm living a dream...a hope I had for the future.

"From April 16, 1966 to February 12, 1973 - I prayed that I would return home to the loving embrace of my wife, Shirley, and my three kids, Bob, Gini, and Beverly... And my fellow POWs and I clung to the hope of when - not if - we returned home. We would spend hours tapping on the adjoining cement walls about what we would do when we got home to America. We pledged to quit griping about the way the government was running the war in Vietnam and do something about it... We decided that we would run for office and try to make America a better place for all. So - little did I know back in my rat-infested 3 x 8 dark and filthy cell that 34 years after my departure from Hell on Earth... I would spend the anniversary of my release pleading for a House panel to back my measure to support and fully fund the troops in harm's way....and that just days later I would be on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives surrounded by distinguished veterans urging Congress to support our troops to the hilt.

We POWs were still in Vietnam when Washington cut the funding for Vietnam. I know what it does to morale and mission success. Words can not fully describe the horrendous damage of the anti-American efforts against the war back home to the guys on the ground.

Our captors would blare nasty recordings over the loud speaker of Americans protesting back home...tales of Americans spitting on Vietnam veterans when they came home... and worse. We must never, ever let that happen again. The pain inflicted by your country's indifference is tenfold that inflicted by your ruthless captors. Our troops - and their families - want, need and deserve the full support of the country - and the Congress.

Moms and dads watching the news need to know that the Congress will not leave their sons and daughters in harm's way without support. Since the President announced his new plan for Iraq last month, there has been steady progress. He changed the rules of engagement and removed political protections. There are reports we wounded the number two of Al Qaeda and killed his deputy. Yes, Al Qaeda operates in Iraq. It's alleged that top radical jihadist Al-Sadr has fled Iraq - maybe to Iran. And Iraq's closed its borders with Iran and Syria.

The President changed course and offered a new plan ...we are making progress. We must seize the opportunity to move forward, not stifle future success. Debating non-binding resolutions aimed at earning political points only destroys morale, stymies success, and emboldens the enemy. The grim reality is that this House measure is the first step to cutting funding of the troops...Just ask John Murtha about his 'slow-bleed' plan that hamstringing our troops in harm's way.

Now it's time to stand up for my friends who did not make it home - and those who fought and died in Iraq - so I can keep my promise that when we got home we would quit griping about the war and do something positive about it...and we must not allow this Congress to leave these troops like the Congress left us.

Today, let my body serve as a brutal reminder that we must not repeat the mistakes of the past... instead learn from them. We must not cut funding for our troops. We must stick by them. We must support them all the way...To our troops we must remain...always faithful. God bless you and I salute you all. Thank you.

Have a Mini-Reunion?

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

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor,
Korean War Veterans
Association, 152 Sky View
Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Veterans Are Veterans, Regardless Of “Their” Wars

As many of you know, there was a “major” anti-Iraq War demonstration held in Washington D.C. and other locations worldwide on Saturday, March 17, 2007. This time, veterans from different wars and all branches of the armed forces gathered in Washington to make sure none of the protestors damaged the numerous memorials on the Mall and elsewhere. Lou Dechert was one of them.

President Dechert filed this report from Washington at the end of the day. Certainly, it demonstrates that veterans are veterans, regardless of which war they fought in or with which branch of the service. In their eyes, no war will be forgotten or degraded, nor will the monuments and memorials to their efforts.

GATHERING OF EAGLES ON THE MALL, WASHINGTON, DC

PINEVILLE, LA, MARCH 17, 2007, KWVA: The local media, regardless of where “local” is in the US, covered the protestors in Washington today and ignored those opposing them.

The patriotic veterans assembled in accordance with the overall coordination of the Gathering of Eagles Organization (www.gatheringofeagles.org). A large contingent of veterans who had received the Purple Heart for combat wounds attended with the veteran’s organization, the Military Order of the Purple Heart of the USA. Many in this group belong to the MOPH as well as numerous other veterans’ organizations.

The National President of the Korean War Veterans Association, Louis T Dechert, Joseph P Genduso, a Regional MOPH Vice National Commander and member of the KWVA, and Billy J Scott, KWVA member from Boyce, Virginia, maintained watch over the Korean War Veterans Memorial and greeted an unusually large number of visitors for over half a day. They assisted the US park rangers, police officers, and a husband and wife veteran couple, Gayle and Vicki Bovee, of Edinburg, Virginia, who were also on guard. Gayle is a Special Forces Warrior from the Vietnam War.

Dechert, for one, said when it was over that he had only been so cold once before—in Korea! No incidents happened at the Korean Memorial and many new commitments were made to Korea veterans.

After the event ended, Dechert and the Bovees exchanged these emails:

Dear Gayle and Vicki:

You all were more than BRAVE to stick it out in the cold. God bless you for helping and inspiring us to buck the weather as well.

It was good to meet you and will not be forgotten.
Lou Dechert

Poems written by Gayle “Beau” Bovee can be found on page 51

From: Vicki Bovee
Subject: March 17, 2007 Gathering of Eagles Rally
Dear Sir,

I would like to take this opportunity to send a solemn “THANK YOU!” to you and the other Korean War Veterans for allowing my wife (Vicki) and I to stand with you yesterday, the 17th, at the Korean War Memorial. It was both an honor and a privilege!

Although originally, we traveled to Washington, D.C. to stand silent guard over the Vietnam War Memorial to protect it from being desecrated by the anti-war protestors, we knew in our hearts where we’d take our post and stand. The ones who went before us deserved the respect, honor and dignity earned through their unselfish sacrifice and bravery for us. Though seeing that you standing at your memorial were few, you were mighty in spirit! My wife and I have discussed it, both on the ride home and afterwards, and are glad at the opportunity to give back something to you and your fellow veterans. If not for you and your fellow vets’ sacrifices, we know we would not have had the freedoms, nor the opportunity to say “THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR US!” which we were able to do yesterday.

Yours may be the “forgotten war” in some minds, but it will remain forever “remembered” in my wife’s and mine. We had an opportunity to meet some of the bravest, honorable men that have walked “God’s” green earth. We learned much from you and your fellow Korean vets yesterday, things that are not known or taught in schools today. You can fill volumes with what you don’t know or learn from the people that should teach such things!

Thank you for giving us the Korean War Veteran Association pins. They will hold a special place in our hearts forever. Thank you for giving one to us to send to my wife’s “Uncle John.” It will mean a great deal to him! My wife and I had an opportunity to meet men that made history and prepared the way for us, and we walked away with new friends and fond memories!

In closing, I would like to “THANK YOU AND YOUR FELLOW KOREAN WAR VETERANS FOR GIVING US A PLACE OF HONOR AT THE KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL AND ALLOWING US TO STAND WITH YOU ALL AND GUARD IT FROM THOSE THAT WOULD HARM IT!”

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

Gayle “Beau” Bovee
Vicki Lee Bovee
112 Windsor Knit Road
Edinburg, VA 22824

PS. I have attached a few poems I have written. If you can use them, distribute them to our soldiers, or however you may choose to use them. If you can, you do so with my best wishes and with my full authority! When we move to California, we will send our new address so that we can keep in touch.

“THANK YOU KOREAN WAR VETERANS!”

Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions

L Co., 279th Infantry, 45th Division

**L Co. 279th Inf., 45th Div.
2006 reunion attendees:**
(Back, L-R) Norbert
Robben, Bob Zeimet,
John Pietraszewski, Gene
Piontkowski, Don Pouk,
Jim Bowman, Charles
Klenklen, Jack Cochran,
(Front, L-R) Dave
Holloway, Paul Elkins



L Co. held its 2006 annual reunion at Western Hills Lodge in Eastern Oklahoma. Twenty veterans attended. (Not all of them were present for the nearby picture, though.)

We had men from the Chorwon sector, including Old Baldy, Porkchop and other areas in this sector in the west to the east-

ern flank battles for Heartbreak Ridge, Punch Bowl, Christmas Hill and many more areas.

The 2007 Company L reunion will be held in Laughlin, NV at the Riverside Hotel/Casino, from October 1 - 4, 2007. (See "Reunions" for details.)

194th Eng. Comb. Bn

Former members held a mini-reunion in Laughlin, Nevada in October 2006.

*Charles O. Havey, 715 West
Saint Moritz Drive Payson, AZ
85541-3693, (928) 472-6956,
cshavey@cybertrails.com*

**194th Eng. Comb. Bn. Members at
Branson, MO (Front Seated, L-R) Bob
Sanford, Ralph Stearns, Chuck Havey
(Standing, L-R) John Travis, Bob Flick,
Marvin Tenopir, Warren Boyer, Bill
Alexander, James Rice, Leon Tate
Attending, but not pictured: Glenn
Moses, Jeff Morris, Chuck Conner**



8221st Army Unit Association

Members gathered at the Embassy Suites, Seattle/Tacoma, WA on 27 August, 2007.

Anyone interested in reconnecting with their former comrades can contact Michael Kaminski, 2912 S 10th Ave., Broadview, IL 60155, (708) 345-8244, (708) 345-8263 (Fax), mcjk.8152@worldnet.att.net



8221st Army Unit Association Group. TOP ROW (Standing) Ken Paulson (Topo 1950-51), Jack Brown (Mechanic 1950-51), Sam Wise, Jr. (Met 1952-53), Ed Perrott (Topo 1952-53), George Pakkala (Met 1950-51), Christine Pakkala Joseph, Jim Bennett (Topo 1950-51), Jack Coombs (Met 1953-54), Richard Chaney (Met 1953-54), John Fessenden (Topo 1950-51), Darrel Bogner (Met 1953-54), Sam Miller (Topo 1953-54), Dick Fedus (Topo 1952-53). MIDDLE ROW (Standing) Ted Pang (Topo 1951-52), Michael C.J. Kaminski (Topo 1950-51), Bob Bayouth (Clerk 1951-52), Ed Cleary, (Topo 1950-51). FRONT ROW (Seated) Judy Paulson, Dorothy Wise, Pat Perrott, Eva Pakkala, Shirley Pang, Kay Coombs, Jeanne Chaney, Dolores Fessenden, Donna Bogner, Joyce Miller, Marie Fadus

One Medic Calling Another: 'Patch' Me Through

Korea

(1950-1953)

5,720,000 Americans served
33,741 died in battle
20,505 others died in service



Last November 11th, Long Island Newsday dedicated a magazine edition to area veterans who had served from WWII to Iraq. The magazine was titled "Generations of Honor" and my photo was included in their tribute.

A WWII Marine veteran from Delaware, wounded at Iwo Jima, had written a poem and sent me a copy. His letter and his touching poem are self-explanatory. I thought you might want to include it in a future issue of The Graybeards.

Paul Zerafa, 2919 Chestnut Avenue, Medford, NY 11763-1901

Dear Paul,

Like you, I am a World War II Veteran. I served with the U.S. Marine Corps, and am a (wounded) survivor of Iwo Jima.

Because of the immediate medical treatment I received when I was wounded, together with the "countless" stories I have heard and read about, I have the highest respect and gratitude for all combat medical personnel. As a Marine I was treated by a "Navy Corpsman."

In 1969 I wrote a poem in an attempt to say "Thank You" to "Corpsmen" for their dedication, courage, and bravery. I subsequently re-wrote it to include Army medics as well, for they too are dedicated, courageous, and brave. I know this personally, because one of my brothers-in-law was an Army medic in Europe during WWII, where he was awarded two Bronze Star Medals.

I try, whenever possible, to reach out and say thank you on behalf of all men and women who have served, and continue to serve, and to you brave people who were there, or are there, when needed.

I recently obtained the Newsday Publication, "Generations of Honor" Veterans Day, November 11, 2007. It was while reading through this publication that I learned of your 'history' as an Army medic. I do not think it is ever too late to say "Thank You," so I am saying it now: "THANK YOU, on behalf of ALL those people you treated when they needed it.

Please accept copy of my poem, which I have enclosed as a token of that gratitude and appreciation.

Respectfully,
John Murphy

A medic's pain. "He was 19...I couldn't control the bleeding. I was able to stop a Jeep coming down the hill and put him on. Later I heard he didn't make it. I often think of him and so many others. I also remember the six months we were on the main line of resistance defending Sandbag Castle. We were relieved finally by a Philippine regiment. The sights, sounds and smells of war can never be forgotten."

Paul Zerafa, 77, of Medford, Army medic, Korea, 1952-1953

THE REAL HEROES!

The Artillery and Mortar shells "lob their way in",
They land with a roar and a "thud";
The sound of automatic rifle fire,
Makes you wish you were buried in sand or mud.

The exploding shells, land mines, do their damage,
The Soldier/Marine in the "shooter's" sights lays shot;
Suddenly, **FRANTICALLY**, the call goes out -----
MEDIC !, MEDIC! – CORPSMAN!, "DOC"!

HE knows **HE** must enter the target area,
Where **HIS** chances of survival are thin;
But **HE** never hesitates to answer the call,
Knowing someone's life depends on **HIM**.

A "Medic" is a Soldier; a "Corpsman", a Sailor,
Trained to treat the wounded and sick;
HE may be called to treat a Private or a Colonel,
For an amputation, or only a "nick".

Many times **HE** is completely unarmed,
With only medicine and bandages in his kit;
His "secret weapon" is his **COURAGE**,
Which brings **HIM** to wherever a Soldier/Marine is "hit".

Many "Medics/Corpsmen" earned the 'MEDAL OF HONOR',
Some of them, their **OWN** Lives, they did give;
THEY lingered where **NOBODY** else dared go,
So that other Soldiers/Marines might live.

In Europe, the Pacific, Korea, Vietnam, "The Gulf", now Iraq,
Quickly, the "casualties" started to mount;
How many lives were saved by "Medics"/"Corpsmen"?
Perhaps, they are too numerous to count.

Hollywood has portrayed as "Heroes",
Pilots, Submariners, Commanders of Tanks;
But the '**REAL HEROES**' are the '**MEDICS & CORPSMEN**',
And it is time we offered our '**THANKS**'.

We **THANK** them for "patching us up",
Some of **US** might **NOT** be here today, but for '**THEM**';
We thank them also for our Buddies, they **TRIED** to save,
We know when each one died, **THEY** said ----"**AMEN**".

- PFC John Murphy -USMC -WW-II

CIB Plate Issued in Virginia



■ Yes, Virginia, There Is A Special License Plate For CIB Recipients

I am sending you info about an accomplishment that took one of our veterans over five years to complete.

Major Garland Gibbs (USA Ret) took it upon himself to petition the Virginia Dept. of Transportation to manufacture special plates for those who received the Combat Infantry Badge while serving in the U.S. Army. For close to three years, Major Gibbs dealt with politicians, veterans organizations, etc. to attract the 350 applicants the DMV required. (I had to get two sets to help get the number up.)

DMV has warned Major Gibbs that unless that many or more apply for them this year they will cease manufacture of this hard-won plate.

His problem in finding the required number of applicants is that there is no way to know who received the award. The lists are not made public, and word of mouth took a long time to get around. This is why I am asking if you can help us by publishing this information in *The Graybeards*.

We think that if the Virginia veterans find out about this beautiful plate, they will help get the number above the threshold. All applicants have to do now is go to DMV with their DD-214s. Major Gibbs said the WWII & Korean War veterans are leaving so fast it was hard to get and hold the original 350.

If you can help us with this it would greatly be appreciated.

Anyone who would like additional information about this request can reach me at (434) 793-5828 or flomo@game-wood.net. We appreciate whatever help we can get.

Davis Newman
324 Cathy Drive
Danville, VA 24540

Tell America

44 – Missouri #1

Your Tell America update article in The Graybeards Nov - Dec 2006 issue was of great interest to me. I am chairman of Missouri Chapter #1 Tell America Program, and have been since 1995. We started our program in 1990. Mr. David Depew was at that time the architect of the National Tell America Program and Tell America National Committee Chairman.

We now have 13 to 15 members who participate in our presentation. We usually have 2-4 members in each program, except on Veterans Day. On Veterans Day we get as many of our members who can attend to spend the whole day at a local high school, and we have veterans from all wars in each classroom of all social studies and history classes. We usually speak to about one thousand students on that day alone.

When the posters came out in 2000, they were a big help. We don't feel we have time to show a video. We think that the more time spent telling our stories, the more interest we stimulate.

I send a copy of the enclosed letter to all the schools in our area at the beginning of each school year. Once we visit a school we are almost always invited back year after year. Most schools have more videos of our program to be used in the future.

To put the Korean War in perspective, we start by giving a look back at the end of WWII and how Korea was split by the Allied forces of Russia and the U.S. North and South, respectively, and how evident it became early

on that Russia wanted to spread communism in the Far East. We then talk about how Russia pulled out of the U.N. and would not allow North Korea to have free elections like South Korea was allowed to do by the U.S. This sets the stage as to why the Korean War began.

Our chapter was very busy between 2000 and 2003, when many museum committees and university professors were interested in hearing first hand from Korean War veterans. They liked hearing our feelings about our country entering the war, our thoughts about the outcome, and the long-term effects that the war had on us.

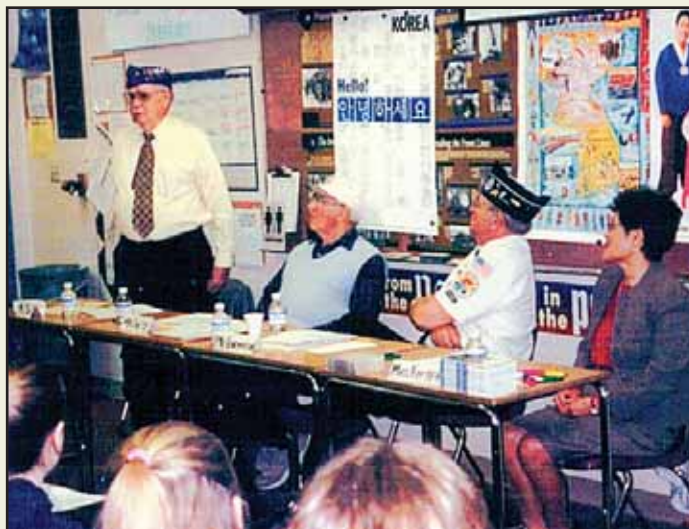
Our program has reached more than 20,000 students, several hundred teachers, and dozens of college and university professors. We are all proud to have been veterans of the Korean War and feel rewarded from our participation in the Tell America Program.

As you can see from the pictures, we try to include the Korean American Society in some of our school programs. We also are involved in several social activities each year with the society. They are very aware of what the United States did for their country and are very generous to Korean War veterans.

Because of the lack of information in our history books, it is our responsibility to reach as many people as we can. Over the past ten years—and especially since the flood of information that came out at our 50th Anniversary—there seems to be more knowledge about the war.



Dwight Henderson (C), CID 44, speaks to students in Honors History class at Lafayette High School, St. Louis County, as Harry Dietz (L) and Kimmie Foster (R), President of the Korean-American Association, listen



Nick Zak, CID 44 member, speaks to students in Honors History class at Lafayette High School, St. Louis County, as (L-R) Harry Dietz, Dwight Henderson and Kimmie Foster look on

2006 was a culture year for the Korean people. We were invited to be color guard at one of their large entertainment programs. We joined with Missouri Chapters 3, 4, and 6 to form a 20-man color guard. You wouldn't think a bunch of old guys could look so sharp. The entertainers were from South Korea and traveled to many cities throughout the U.S.

This past fall the U.S. Ambassador to Korea and the

Korean Ambassador to the U.S. were in town at the same time. Five of our members and spouses were invited to attend a discussion. We were brought up to date on the developments of the politics, and their thoughts about whether North and South Korea will ever unite under democracy. They are always concerned about China. This program was held at the University Club in Clayton, Missouri. About three hundred people were in attendance.

As you can see, by being involved and active in the Tell America Program, we are included in many other activities in the St. Louis area. If your chapter is not participating in Tell America now, please start. Our students

are always interested and have lots of questions. You will have fun and feel proud and rewarded.

Dwight Henderson
4757 Cactus Wren Court
St. Louis, MO 63128
(314) 892-7110



Kimmie Foster (R) answers questions from Lafayette High School students while Nick Zak, Harry Dietz, and Dwight Henderson (L-R) listen as attentively as the class does



Lafayette High School Honors History students offer undivided attention to CID 44 Tell America presenters and Kimmie Foster



CID 44 members (L-R) Nick Zak, Harry Dietz, and Dwight listen to Kimmie Foster speak to students in Honors History class at Lafayette High School, St. Louis County, MO

ROCKWOOD DISTRICT SCHOOL
Growing Together, Learning for Life

Partners in Education
Lafayette High School
17050 Clayton Road
Wildwood, MO 63011-1794
636.458.7200
636.458.7219 Fax
E-Mail: lshd7@rockwood.k12.mo.us

Joan Pischel
School/Community Facilitator

March 23, 2004

Dwight Henderson
4757 Cactus Wren Ct.
St. Louis, Missouri 63128-2308

Dear Dwight,

On behalf of our students, teachers and the Partners in Education Department, we would like to thank you for your valuable contribution to our curriculum enrichment program. It is exciting for everyone involved when an expert from the community can share in the educational process.

Introducing "real world" expertise and timely information makes learning come alive! Through the many efforts of dedicated professionals like you, our students have benefited from unique learning experiences that reinforce classroom studies.

Please accept this 2003-04 Certificate of Appreciation with our thanks. We are most grateful for the generous gift of time and knowledge that you shared with our students. More importantly, you have made a very positive impact in the education of our students. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,
Joan Pischel
Joan Pischel
Lafayette High School/Community Facilitator
Partners in Education

enclosure

Letter of Appreciation to CID 44 for Tell America presentation

270 – SAM JOHNSON [TX]

The Chapter conducted an all-day "Tell America" presentation on February 7, 2007 to American History students at Plano (TX) Senior High School. The Chapter initiated the informative program to counter a state-adopted textbook author's claim

that the Korean War was a "useless war."

At the end of each class session, the vets lauded the students for their extreme interest and insightful questions.

Jerry Karsten, via email

Keith Fannon (standing) and Richard Sanchez, of CID 270, at Tell America presentation at Plano (TX) Senior High School



Continued ➤

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

Chapter members John Laura and John Reidy spoke at East Syracuse High on 2 Feb. 2007. They showed some pictures taken during the Korean War and related their experiences about

what they did in Korea. Reidy was an infantry soldier; Laura was a dentist

John Laura,
jlaura1@twcny.rr.com
(via email)



Left, John Laura shows illustrations and at right, John Reidy shows some of his souvenirs to East Syracuse Minoa Middle School students.

Thank You For Coming
and teaching us about the
In Sides of the wars. I learned
a lot of thing about what happen.
The small thing and the big
things.

Not only I want to thank
you for coming and telling me
what happen in the war. I want
to thank you for fighting in the war.
Ever one who went and fought in
the war is a hero of mine because
I have a place to live and a
place were I can call mine.

Thank You

John Laura received this letter after talking to the East Syracuse Minoa Middle School

Dwight Henderson
1st Vice Commander – Missouri Chapter #1
Chairman of Tell America Program

4757 Cactus Wren Court
St. Louis, MO 63128

To: Head of History Department

Good Morning,

One of the most important conflicts in America's struggle against international tyranny was fought in Korea from 1950 to 1953. That war demonstrated the resolve of the United Nations and the United States to halt aggression against any free nation, throughout the world. It was the first step in the momentous collapse of the Soviet Union, which so affects all of our lives today.

Korea was the bloodiest war fought in America's 20th century! America's armed services lost over 54,000 killed in 37 months. You hear a lot about Viet Nam, where we lost 58,000 in 10 years of war. Compared to America's other wars, Korea cost more lives per day, kept our servicemen under continuous combat conditions longer, faced our troops with a larger number of enemy forces, and left us with a higher percentage of missing in action than any other war.

Unfortunately, as significant as the Korean War was to the history of the 20th century, today it is called "The Forgotten War." Coming so soon after World War II, Korea was never popular, and there was little coverage by the news media. People really preferred to get on with their lives.

However, we who fought in Korea believe it is vital to America's future generations to understand what happened there, the consequences of America's commitment, and what Korea's significance was to their lives ... today and tomorrow.

Accordingly, we have prepared a brief 50-60 minute program explaining the Korean War, and the sacrifices the youth of that day made in waging it. We supply first hand accounts by local combat veterans. We also include (for teachers) a hand out "A Brief History of the Korean War," which can be used to prepare lesson plans for history classes.

This program has been given at schools throughout America and is always received enthusiastically, as demonstrated by the interest and perceptive question students ask afterward

We'd very much appreciate the opportunity to tell your students about the Korean War and its impact. It could be presented at almost anytime, to single classes or in an assembly.

Thank you,

Dwight Henderson
Chairman, Tell America Program

Veterans Day

Here are more Veterans Day photos. The Gulf Coast Chapter, CID 1, Mobile, AL participated in the city's Veterans Day Parade, as they do every year.



The Gulf Coast Color Guard (CID 1) in the Mobile, AL Veterans Day Parade, Nov. 06



Mr. & Mrs. Bud Holston carry CID 1's banner in the Nov. 6 Mobile, AL Veterans Day Parade

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

Celebrating National Medal Of Honor Day

Additional material may be found at www.KWVA.org/update/update.htm, March 24, 2007



The U.S. Senate has set aside a day to honor Medal of Honor Recipients. Here is the resolution:

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

February 15, 2007

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of a National Medal of Honor Day to mark the significance and importance of the Medal of Honor and to celebrate and honor the recipients of the Medal of Honor on the anniversary of the first award of that medal in 1863.

Whereas the Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that can be bestowed to a member of the Armed Forces, is awarded by the President, in the name of Congress, to individuals who have distinguished themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of their lives above and beyond the call of duty;

Whereas the United States will forever be in debt to the recipients of the Medal of Honor for their bravery and sacrifice in times of war or armed conflict;

Whereas the first Medal of Honor awards were presented to 6 men on March 25, 1863, by the Secretary of War;

Continued on page 79

1 GULF SHORE [AL]

The Chapter was involved in several events in the latter part of 2006. Among them:

- A church service on June 25th at the Korean church. The service was conducted in both English and Korean. After the



CID 1's Christmas Cake looks good enough to eat

service was completed, the church members served lunch to Chapter members, all of whom attended. Our Color Guard performed as well.

- In October, we reciprocated by hosting a picnic for the Korean folks in Mobile.

- As usual, we marched in the Veterans Day Parade in November.

- Another annual event took place in December. As we do every year a week before Christmas, we gave out Christmas fruit baskets for sick members in Lynwood Nursing Home. This time we handed out two, one to a person recovering from a stroke and the other to an individual who underwent breast removal surgery.



CID 1's Color Guard at the Dec. 7, 2006 Pearl Harbor observance in Mobile, AL (L-R) Sonny Willison, James Glover, Walter Ballard, Claude Amos, Horace Weldy, Levon Howell



As they do every year, CID 1 members visit the Lynwood Nursing Home to hand out baskets (Standing, L-R) Claude Amos, Herb Chatman, Bill Pitt (Seated, holding basket, Marvin Smallwood)



KWVA Life Member Harold Martin at Lynwood Nursing Home in Mobile, AL, who has been there quite a while



Roy Pope, member of CID 1, sits in Lynwood Nursing Home with comrades from Chapter as he recovers from stroke

- On December 7th, we posted the colors on the battleship USS Alabama in observance of Pearl Harbor Day.

- Finally, on December 25th we held our yearly Christmas party. One of our new members brought a big pot of shrimp gumbo.

And, of course we participate in various ceremonies such as posting the colors, flag raisings, etc., at schools.

Bill Pitt, 1701 Gill Road, Mobile, AL 36605

12 CAPTAIN PAUL S. DILL [DE]

Chapter Vice Commander Franklin Davidson, Chairman of the Rose of Sharon Committee, along with Chapter volunteers Bill Russell, Ed Pickhaver, Dave Gillan, Al Barker, Bill Hendricks, Frank Howerton, Dave Hitchcock, Dick Trager, Fran Daney, Bob Zickafosse, and Al Irons, collected Rose of Sharon donations to help local active duty service members' families and veterans in need and the local VA hospital.



CID 12 Vice Commander Franklin Davidson presents a check for \$1,000.00 to MajGen Francis Vavala, Commander of the Delaware National Guard, to help in case of unforeseen financial duress to current and retired members of any National Guard or reserve component located in Delaware

As a result, the Chapter contributed \$1,000.00 to the Delaware National Guard and Reserve Foundation, Inc., to help the families of National Guard and Reserve members who have been sent to Iraq and Afghanistan.

*Franklin H. Davidson, 1703 Delpenn Road
Wilmington, DE 19810-1613*

19 GEN. RAYMOND DAVIS [GA]

At a recent appreciation dinner given by the Korean community in Atlanta, two of our chapter members, Robert Moore and Thomas Cabaniss, were awarded the Korean Peace Medal for their service during the Korean War.



(L-R) CID 19 members Robert Moore and Thomas Cabaniss receive the Korean Peace Medal. Dae Yong Moo, President of the Korean Veterans Assoc., makes the presentation, as Louis Liu, chairman of the R.O.C. Veterans Assoc., narrates

*James Conway, 1184 Fourteenth Place, N.E
Atlanta, GA 30309, (404) 875-6170, conatlanta@aol.com*

23 SOUTH SUBURBAN [IL]

Our Chapter honors its members in times of sadness and in times of happiness as well. For example, in June 2006 we conducted a graveside memorial service. We participated in a Veterans Day ceremony on November 11, 2006, and presented the colors at the wedding reception for one of our members.

*Paul Guerrero, 4352 S. Mann Street
Oak Forest, IL 60452*



CID 23 performs a memorial ceremony: Back to camera is Bill Minnick. To his left are Jay Pritchett and Art Schultz. The Color Guard is in the rear



CID 23's Color Guard members, Al Schaffenberger and Ed Kablec, stand behind the happy couple, Ron and Judy Gerhardt, at their June 2006 wedding



CID 23's Color Guard grows as does the love between Ron and Judy Gerhardt



The Gerhardt wedding party is given a good send-off by CID 23's Color Guard and guests. Chapter members include (L-R) Bill Minnick at Port Arms, Al Schaffenberger holding the American flag, Ed Kablec holding the Chapter flag, Art Schultz, and Paul Guerrero

48 CHORWON [NJ]

Chapter members have been busy. Among their activities they have:

- Participated in the rededication of the New Jersey Korean War Memorial

- Installed new officers at Madeleine's Petit Paris, including:
Homer Martelli, Chaplain
Walter Bilz, Quartermaster
John Valerio, Jr. Vice Commander
Tom Padilla, Freeholder (who installed the new officers)
Warren Dartell, Sr Vice Commander
Ed Fehmian, Sgt.-at-Arms
Larry Morgan, Commander



CID 48 Officer installation (L-R) Homer Martelli, Walter Bilz, John Valerio, Tom Padilla, Warren Dartell, Ed Fehmian, Larry Morgan



Chorwon Chapter members serving dinner at Paramus Veterans Home



CID 48 members who gave out gifts at Paramus Veterans Home (L-R) Walter Bilz, Bob Bramley, Warren Dartell, Larry Morgan, Winnie Bramley, Dolores Dartell, Andy Demes and (kneeling) Maureen Demes and Ethel Macchio



CID 48 members who participated in Circle of Honor ceremony (L-R) Sergei Leoniuk, Andy Demes, John Valerio, Bob Bramley, Ed Halvey, Warren Dartell, Ed Fehmian, Walter Bilz, Jim Farrell, bugler Bob Ciollo and (kneeling) Larry Morgan



Chorwon Chapter's Color Guard at Hackensack ceremony



CID 48 members pay respect at the Circle of Honor ceremony to those who made the supreme sacrifice

- Served Thanksgiving dinner at Paramus [NJ] Veterans Home
 - Gave out gifts at Paramus [NJ] Veterans Home
 - Participated in a Circle of Honor in Hackensack, NJ
- Warren P. Dartell, 211 Hayward Place, Wallington, NJ 07057*

56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

Chapter members participated in two parades in late 2006: the San Fernando Valley Veterans Day and Santa Paula Christmas Parades.

Life member Benjamin Espinoza and his wife Betty served as honorary grand marshals of the Veterans Day Parade.

*KWVA Ventura County Chapter
1121 New Street, Santa Paula, CA 93060*



Benjamin and Betty Espinoza at the San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade



CID 56 members prepare to march



Members of CID 56 participate in the 2006 Santa Paula Christmas Parade: driver David Garcia sits in front (naturally) with David Lopez. In back are Everett Baca and William Duarte

63 WESTERN NEW YORK [NY]

Chapter members have been extremely busy attending regular meetings, participating in events at the Korean War Memorial in Buffalo, etc.

*William N. Hooch Jr., 3354 Delaware Avenue
Kenmore, NY 14217*



CID 63 members attending their Chapter's October 2006 monthly meeting



Blue jackets prevail at CID 63's October 2006 meeting (Front, L-R) Treasurer Nick Paul, 1st Vice Commander Bill Hooch, Commander Carl Marranca, Secretary Bob Manzella (Back) The supporting cast



Members of CID 63 gather in June 2006 at the Korean War Memorial in Buffalo, NY (L-R) Lou Diakus, Don Burns, Jim McDonald, Bob Manzella, Sal Shallaci, Ken Fentner, Carl Marranca

109 NORTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA [PA]

This past year's activities included our annual picnic for local vets living in private nursing homes, with gift giving/visitations over the holidays as well.

For the third year, we have participated in "Operation Touch of Home," a multi-organization effort for collection of non-perishable foodstuffs/toiletries for shipment to personnel in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The first annual rededication of the only combined Korea/Vietnam Memorial in Northeast Pennsylvania, at Schnecksville, included our participation as well. A photograph taken in Korea in 1952 was the inspiration for the design of the statue. The statue depicts the friendship military personnel share with the children in war-torn countries.



Some of CID 109's members who hosted their picnic (L-R) Joe Kunkle, Joe Talocka, Mark Tramontina, Franny McFadden, Pat Coppola, Rudy Szollar, Bill Neville, Ken Hendershot, Paul Warman, and Elmer Hessiam.



Chow Time at CID 109's picnic!

The star base represents branches of the armed forces, with each leg inscribed with the names of KIA/MIAs who were from surrounding counties.

*Paul A. Warman, P. O. Box 297, Mountainhome, PA 18342
(570) 595-2885, pawiz31@yahoo.com*

CID 109 Treasurer Pat Coppola, with American Legion commander Joe Kluk, during "Operation Touch of Home" at a local supermarket.



The Korea-Vietnam memorial at Schnecksville, Pennsylvania.



Representing CID 109 at the memorial rededication, with their wreath (L-R) Commander Paul A. Warman, Secretary William Neville, and Chaplain John (Jack) Price.



Guests gathering at the Schnecksville monument after rededication ceremonies

112 LAKE ERIE [OH]

Chapter members held their annual Christmas party at Euclid [OH] Post 1056, VFW. Our Chapter meets there monthly.

We are most grateful for their hospitality.

*Steve Szekely, 1516 Laclede Road
South Euclid, OH 44121-3012*



CID 112 members at Christmas party: (Front) Vice Commander Bob Brice, Finance Officer Ray Stopar, Jim Ficere, Nat'l Director Christ Yanacos, Ed Thomas (Back) Adjutant Dick Doremus, John Foerst, Ray Lesniok, Sgt.-At-Arms Joe Buerger, Commander Steve Szekely

121 GREATER CINCINNATI [OH]

Chapter President Bob McGeorge and members Don Seiwert and Dr. Lee were guests at the Cincinnati Korean-American Association. President McGeorge and Don Seiwert also participated in a Tell America program.

The ever-busy Seiwert and Dr. Lee helped furnish a Korean War display at the Hamilton County Library. The library also received a copy of Faces of War, which McGeorge and Dr. Lee presented to it.

*Robert L. McGeorge, 3296 Blueacres Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45239*



(L-R) CID 121 President Bob McGeorge and members Don Seiwert and Dr. Lee at the Cincinnati Korean-American Association get-together



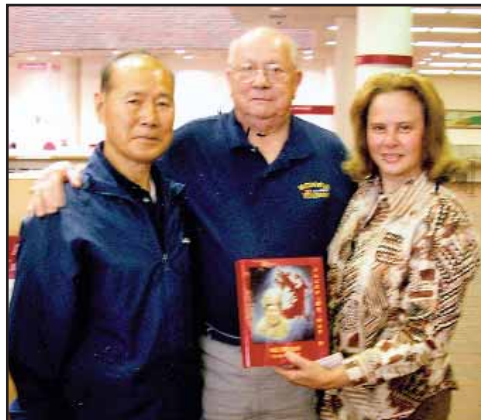
There was a large crowd at the Cincinnati Korean-American Association gathering attended by CID 121 members



President McGeorge and Don Seiwert of CID 121 stand with students at a Tell America program



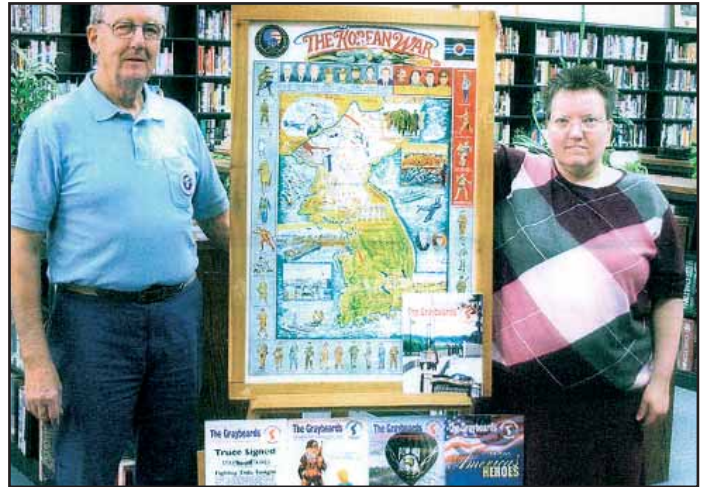
CID 121 members Don Seiwert and Dr. Lee are dwarfed by the Korean War display at the Hamilton County Library



Dr. Lee (L) and President McGeorge (R) of CID 121 present Faces of War to an unidentified Hamilton County Library staff member

146 MOUNTAINEER [WV]

The Chapter passed a motion to make four libraries "Associate Members" as a way of getting the word out that there was a Korean War—and to recruit new members into the KWVA. The local newspaper, the Jackson Herald, wrote a brief article featuring the Chapter's display at the Ravenswood Library, one of the four. (The others were Clay County Public Library, Putman County Public Library, and Boone/Madison Public Library.



Arol C. Squires, CID 146 Secretary/Treasurer, and Librarian Lynn Pauley, show Chapter's display at the Ravenswood [WV] Library (Photo by Greg Matics, *The Jackson Herald*)

The display, which marked the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, includes a copy of *The Graybeards*.

*Arol C. Squires, 113 Ripley Landing Rd
Millwood, WV 25262*

175 LT BALDOMERO LOPEZ, MOH [FL]



CID 175 members (L-R) President Fred Gossett, Treasurer Sam Hayes, Murdock Ford, Past President, accept a Wal-Mart Good Works check from an unidentified store manager

The Tampa-based Chapter received a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 from Wal-Mart in appreciation for its accomplishments. The money was a reward for being the outstanding charitable organization that it is, especially for its work with veterans at James Haley Hospital, the Baldomero Lopez MOH State Veterans Home in Land O' Lakes, the Children's Home in Tampa, and for all the members' other generous charitable works, particularly with all the veterans throughout the area.

Wal-Mart has recognized the Chapter's exceptional efforts. But, that is not the only donation to the Chapter.

Sam's Club contacted one of our officers to come by their store in Tampa. The store presented him with a check in the amount of \$500.00 in a further acknowledgment of the outstanding work done by Chapter 175.

*Clarence Clifton, 819 Sidney Washer Road
Dover, FL 33527*

191 HAMPTON [VA]

Motivational speaker Steve Philbrick spoke to Chapter members about "Self Improvement" after a March meeting.

Dick Hartung, (via email)



Motivational speaker Steve Philbrick with CID 191 member Leo Ruffing and Chapter Commander Richard J Hartung

192 CITRUS [FL]

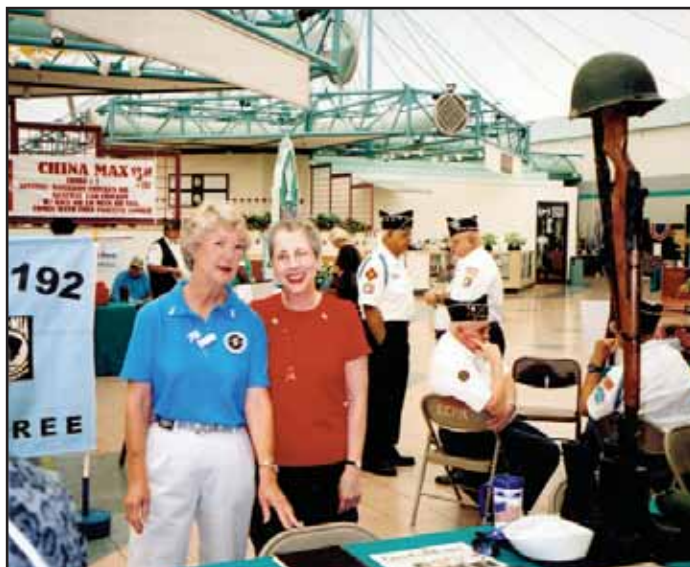
Chapter members have been involved in a number of projects and provided several donations in recent months. Projects include work with Brown School, which is now a VA clinic, the Veterans Coalition, and the Korean War Monument. They have made donations to Vets in Nursing Homes, Inverness Primary School Veterans Memorial Fund, families of deployed troops, the National Guard, and other military organizations.

Sadly, one of the Chapter's charter founders and an active member in Citrus County veterans' affairs, Ken Heisner, is leaving the area due to a long-term illness. Members and officers of the Citrus County Veterans Coalition gathered to honor him and award him a Lifetime Service Award plaque.



Officers of the Citrus County Veterans Coalition (CCVC) gather to honor CID 192 member Ken Heisner (L-R) Richard Floyd, CCVC Secretary; Hank Hemrick, CCVC Judge Advocate; Joel Smoyer, CCVC Second Vice Chairman; Ken Heisner, Ray Michael, CCVC Chairman; Richard Venticinque, KWVA; and Larry MacMillan, Public Information Officer.

Plaque to Ken Heisner



CID 192 earned a third place plaque for Veterans Display at Nov. 4, 2006 Veterans Fair (Standing, L-R) Rita Butler (Aux), Flora Barker (Aux), Tony Napolitano (Member), Lou Poulin (Chapter Commander) (Sitting) Jim Decker (Director/Sgt.-at-Arms), Charles Barker (Treasurer)



CID 192 members get together (L-R) Paul Salyer (Director), Hank Butler (Director), Ken Heisner (Commander), Lou Poulin (Vice Commander), Roy Hedin



Hank Butler, CID 192's 2007 Commander, stands by "Lady Luck"



Ken Heisner inspects "Lady Luck's" trailer hitch

It was Heisner's idea to unite all service organizations in Citrus County to serve needy veterans. He and the veterans have been dedicated to the philosophy of "Veterans Helping Veterans" ever since.

CID 192 Commander Herman ("Hank") Butler notes that Heisner has served the Chapter since its inception as Treasurer, Secretary, and 1st Vice Commander. He is now a Director Emeritus. Butler commented that, "Ken was 102's Commander when we conducted the first organizational meeting for the coal-

tion. It is an honor for me to have served with him, and he will always be a lifetime member of CID 192."

Speaking of Butler, he worked with Heisner to build the Chapter's vehicle, "Lady Luck." A retired Command SgtMaj from the Florida National Guard donated the frame. The seats are red velvet church pews made available after a church upgrade. Heisner did all the painting, while Neville Anderson provided the flags and decorations.

*Herman "Hank" Butler, CID 192,
P. O. Box 248, Crystal River, FL 34423*

195 QUEEN CITY [CO]

Chapter members and their spouses participated in a Memorial Luncheon of the Korean War. During a period prior to the luncheon members socialized and related their experiences during the Korean Conflict.

*Kenneth Camell, 120 Baylor Drive
Boulder, CO 80305, (303) 494-2013*



CID 195 President Ken Giese (C) chats with two new members at Denver luncheon

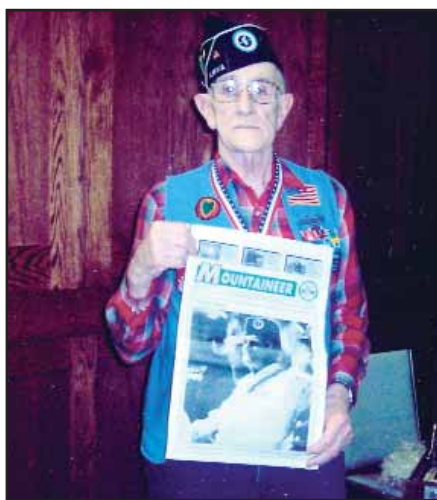


(L-R) CID 195 members Don Simmonds and Ken Camell at Denver Memorial Luncheon



After the Memorial Luncheon in Denver, CID 195 veterans and their spouses pose for a photo to remember the occasion

Walter Curran, CID 195 Quartermaster, displays a local newspaper with his photo and article as a Korean War Veteran



CID 209 members (L-R) on their prize-winning float: Antonio Martinez, Hector Casteneda, Rey Reyna, Salvador Sciaraffa, and Paulino Lucia

209 LAREDO 1950 [TX]

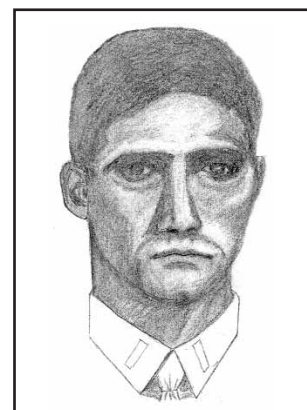
The city of Laredo held its Washington's Birthday celebration and parade on February 17, 2007. Our Chapter members entered a float—and earned the Americanism Trophy.



(L-R) Rey Reyna, Roberto Ramirez, and Neto Sanchez of CID 209 stand by their float

One of our members, Henry E. Gutierrez USMC (Ret) has drawn some photos of the Korean War. He has been kind enough to share one with us.

*Pedro Trevino, Jr., 3219 E. Lyon St.
Laredo, TX 78043*



An original drawing by CID 209 member Henry Gutierrez

215 GEN. WALTON H. WALKER & 270 – SAM JOHNSON [TX]

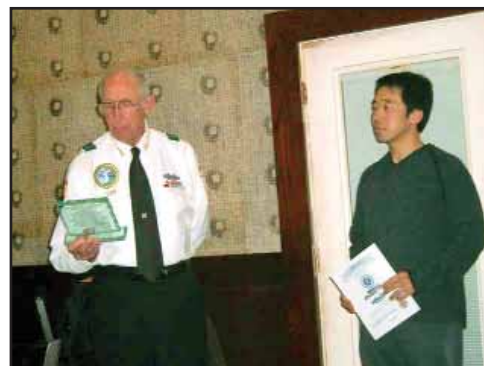
Korean American Coalition Dinner — Feb. 3, 2007

Officers and members of the Korean American Coalition of Dallas hosted Korean War veterans at a dinner on February 3 to

Medal of Honor recipient James L. Stone contemplating the moment during the Korean American Coalition dinner.



Bill Mac Swain (in white shirt) reading the inscription on a plaque he is presenting to Tom Park, Chair of the Board, Korean American Coalition



Attendees included KWVA Chapter 215 (designated by white shirts in the bottom photo) and 270 (designated by blue shirts) members, plus representatives from various Korean organizations.

After dinner, KWVA Director Bill MacSwain from CID 215 and First Vice President Paul Pfrommer of CID 270 presented a plaque and a proclamation from KWVA President Dechert to Tom Park, Board Chairman of the Korean American Coalition.

Glen Thompson, via email



Ex-POW Jim Hall (left), ex-POW and Medal of Honor recipient James Stone (center), Doyle Dykes (right) were among the attendees at the Korean American Coalition dinner.

express thanks and gratitude for rescuing South Korea from tyranny. Honorees included guests, officers, and directors from two KWVA Chapters, 215 and 270. Both groups enjoyed a splendid dinner at the Chosonkaibi Restaurant in Dallas.

CIDs 215 and 270 members and guests at the Korean American Coalition dinner: second row standing (L-R) Jim Hall (215), Bill Mac Swain (215), Jack Cooper (215), Ed Buckman (270), Don Bates (270), Marvin Dunn (215), Doyle Dykes (270), Bill Carman (270), Glen Thompson (270), Keith Fannon (270), Miles Brown (270), Dick Lethe (270), Jay Zo (270), and Paul Pfrommer

234 ATLANTIC COUNTY [NJ]

One of the Chapter's most active and respected members, Chaplain William Humphrey, of Mays Landing, New Jersey passed away recently. Services were held at the Central United Methodist Church in Linwood, N.J on September 24, 2006.



Bill Humphrey never forgot family, God, country or the armed forces. He was always ready to give

CID 234 Honor Guards exit the church after a final prayer and salute to William Humphrey





CID 234 Honor Guard members prepare to enter the church prior to William Humphrey's funeral service (L-R) Bob McEvoy, Alan Ferguson, Gil Boyer, Frank Peters, Dennis Ruley, Dan Smith, Jerry Foley



A last photo of William Humphrey, taken at the New Jersey Korean War Memorial on July 27, 2006, the last time Bill was able to join us in honoring our fallen comrades. CID 234 members (Front, L-R) Niel Wannan, Bob McEvoy, Bill Humphrey, Gil Boyer (Back, L-R) Gene Corcoran, Tony Massara

of himself to help others. Besides all the other veterans service organizations, he belonged to the Civil Air patrol as a captain. In that capacity, he helped shape young minds.

His squadron was based at the Millville Airport in Millville, New Jersey. We will all miss this fine man.

*John Varallo, 7 Maple Court
Mays Landing, NJ 08330*

259 CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

Katie Carr received recognition at the Chapter's 2006 Christmas Luncheon for her tireless efforts for the work of CID 259. Her husband Bill, who is on the Ways and Means committee, says he finds the 'Ways' and Katie and the other wives provide the 'Means' to get good works done.

The Wal-Mart Foundation "Good Works Program" just awarded \$1000 to Central Indiana Chapter 259 for use in their work at the Indianapolis Veterans' Hospital.

Veterans of the Iraq War will be receiving supplies and equipment to make their recuperation and treatment stay more comfortable. That will include furnishing a space for visiting family members to spend time with the wounded troops.

John M. Quinn (via email)



Taking part in CID 259's 2006 Christmas Luncheon award presentation to Katie Carr are (L-R) Jack Beaty, First Vice Cmdr., Bill Carr, Katie, and Cmdr. Don Seib



CID 259 members receive check: Bill Carr, Chapter's Ways and Means Director, Wal-Mart's 86th St. Store Manager Andrea Reason, and Chapter's First Vice Cmdr. Jack Beaty

270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Chapter 270 recognized its volunteers with a special ceremony during its February 12 chapter meeting. Chapter members volunteered 3,335 hours in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006. The VA estimates the monetary value of Chapter 270's volunteer hours at over \$60,000.

Two members, J. D. Randolph and Wayne Neely, volunteered over 400 hours each.

Sam Johnson Chapter 270 proudly salutes its many volunteers who symbolize the spirit of the chapter's membership.

Glen Thompson (via email)

J. D. Randolph (left), of CID 270, had 475 volunteer hours and Wayne Neely (right) had 465 volunteer hours in 2006





CID 270 Volunteer Award winners (L-R): J. D. Randolph (473 hrs), Wayne Neely (465 hrs), Homer Mundy (205 hrs), George Kraus (358 hrs), Bill Carman (240 hrs), and Cliff Platt (233 hrs)

272 GREATER ROCKFORD

Chapter 272 Hits Its Target

Five years ago three men decided to organize a Korean War Veterans Chapter. One of their first goals was to raise money for a memorial to the men from their area who were killed in action. Today, a total of one hundred veterans have participated in the project. Now, we have hit our target, with over \$135,000 raised. The monument will soon become a reality, thanks largely to Daniel Arnold, a veteran with a long family history of military service. His recent \$10,000 donation was the largest individual donation to the project. He presented a check in that amount on Saturday, February 17, 2007 during the Chapter's monthly meeting.



The proposed CID 272 monument in letterhead style

Construction will start as soon as the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency issues a permit. The memorial will be located at Anderson Peace Park in Loves Park, Illinois. The park is owned by the Rockford Park District. The Park District is furnishing engineering, land and maintenance to Chapter 272.



(L-R) CID 272 Commander Jack F. Philbrick, Daniel J. Arnold, of Road Ranger, L.L.C., and Fund Raising Chairman Stan Mattson hold the \$10,000 check that put Chapter 272 over the top. (Photo by Joseph Arbis, Jr.)

Winnebago County donated \$5,000 to help fund the project. Incidentally, the site is a superfund clean-up site.

The memorial will have Winnebago, Boone and Ogle county KIAs & MIAs listed. The list presently consists of 62 men.

*Jack F. Philbrick, (815) 226-1601
felbrigge@insightbb.com*

DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

The Department of NJ has been working for the veterans. It has made two donations recently to the Menlo Park Veterans Home in Edison NJ, where it holds its bimonthly meetings.

Thomas McHugh, via email



A \$700 EZ Chair donated by the Dept. of New Jersey: Dept. officers (L-R) Lee Kaczmarek, Treasurer; Len Speizer, 1st Vice Commander; Al Gonzales, 3rd Vice Commander; Charles Koppleman, Chaplain; VA Nurse; George Bruzgis, 2nd Vice Commander; Tom McHugh, Dept. Commander



The special type of wheelchair utilized by residents of the New Jersey Veterans Home



Department of NJ officials present a donation of \$700 to New Jersey Veterans Home ((L-R) Al Gonzales, George Bruzgis, Tom McHugh, Erwin Hampson, Veterans Home representative, Lee Kaczmarek, Len Speizer, Charles Koppleman



National Director Jeff Brodeur makes presentation to the Dept of NJ

DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

National President Louis T. Dechert visited Columbia, South Carolina on August 5th, 2006, to install the Department of South Carolina officers and to present the Department Charter. During the ceremonies, which were open to the public, six Korean War Veterans joined the KWVA.

The officers are:

- Adjutant & Treasurer: Blake Hill
- Trustee for Chapter 304: Paul Savko
- Commander: C. Clyde Hooks
- Trustee for Chapter 255: Tom Schinskey
- 2nd Vice Commander: Al Bryant
- Trustee for Chapter 303: Charlotte Ayers
- 1st Vice Commander: John Penman

Chapter 301 didn't have a representative at the meeting.

On September 9, 2006, C. Clyde Hooks, Cmdr., Dept. of So. Car., and Adjutant/Treasurer of Chapter 255, married Mary L. Landers, an Associate Member of Chapter 255. Mary was the widow of John T. "Buddy" Landers, a Purple Heart veteran of the Korean War.

The ceremony was performed in front of the Korean War

Memorial in Augusta, Ga., by the Rev. David Lee, who was born in Inchon, Korea, and immigrated to the United States.

Matrons of Honor were Judith Knight, Associate Member of Chapter 255, and Erline LaGrone, sister of the bride. Best men were Ernest and Carl Hooks, sons of the groom, and Eugene Chin Yu, builder of the memorial and current KWVA Liaison to the Korean-American Association.

The bride and groom are living in Belvedere, SC and Augusta, GA.



C. Clyde Hooks, and Louis T. Dechert



Department of South Carolina officers being installed (L-R) Blake Hill, Paul Savko, C. Clyde Hooks, Tom Schinskey, Al Bryant, Charlotte Ayers, John Penman



Mary L. Landers and C. Clyde Hooks on their wedding day

Washington State Highways To Be Named In Honor Of Korean War Veterans

Gerald Rettela and Don Roberts, members of CID 310, Olympic Peninsula, are determined to get sections of a highway—possibly two—in their home state of Washington named in honor of Korean War veterans.

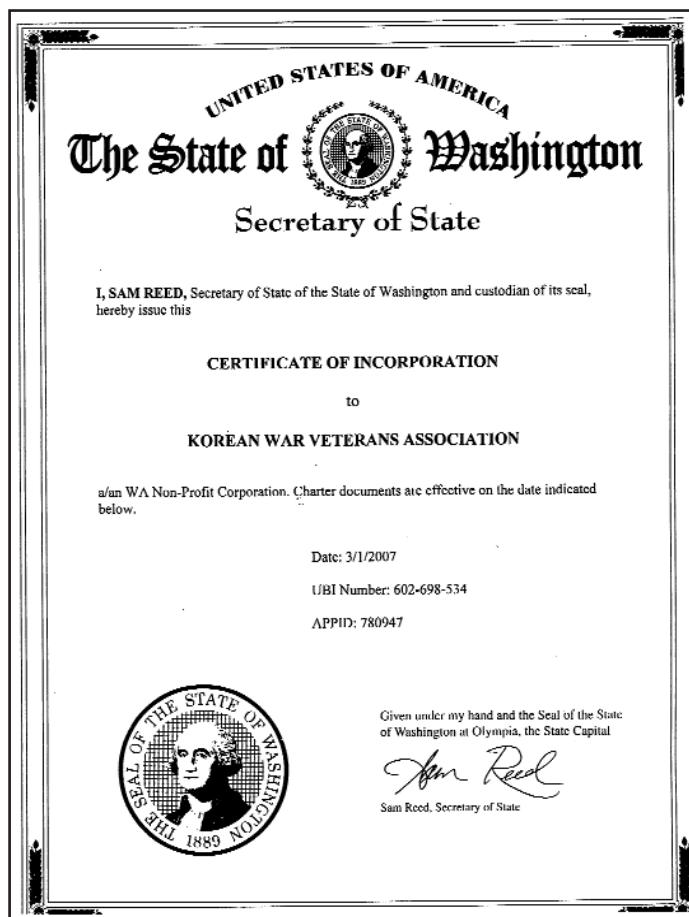
Based on their efforts, state representatives are pushing through a bill that will designate sections of state highways 112 and 113 in Clallam County as the Korean War Veterans Blue Star Memorial Highway.

Politicians with whom Rettela worked had high praise for him and Roberts. State Representative Lynn Kessler, one of the co-sponsors of the bill, related that “The [House Rules] Committee was so moved by the veterans, both from Port Angeles. Those two did quite a job—now the goal is to get [the bill] passed out of the Senate, then to the State Department of Transportation.”

Rettela is well qualified to undertake a project of this sort. He has a degree in law, 30 years experience in law enforcement, and 20 years in legislation. More importantly, he is tireless. “I am willing to make personal appearances and plead this case,” he told a reporter for the local Sequim Gazette. Yet, Rettela understands that he and Roberts cannot do the job alone.

Rettela stressed that non-veterans can get involved as well. “We can really use the endorsements, sponsorships and blessings of everybody in the community,” he told the Gazette. As he concluded in an article in the February 7, 2007, edition of the paper, “My expectations are very high. It might not happen this year, but I have reason to believe it will happen by 2008.”

There is no doubt Rettela and Roberts will succeed, and their efforts should serve as an example for other KWVA members who also want recognition for their efforts in keeping Korea—and Freedom—free



CID 310's Certificate of Incorporation



Legislative Committee, CID 310, State of Washington House Joint Memorial Bill #4017 (L-R) Charles F. Gagnon (USN), Richard L. Smelling (USAF), Donald I. McClure (USMC), Donald L. Roberts (USA), Gerald P. Rettela (USA)

Washington State Bill
House of Representatives Analysis
Transportation Committee
HJM 4017

Brief Description: Naming portions of Highways 112 and 113 the Korean War Veteran's Blue Star Memorial Highway.

Sponsors: Representatives Kessler and VanDeWege.

Brief Summary of Bill:

- Requests that the Washington State Transportation Commission commence proceedings to name Highway 113 in Clallam County between the junction of Highway 101 and the junction of Highway 112, and Highway 112 from the junction of Highway 113 to the Makah Indian Reservation in Neah Bay the "Korean War Veteran's Blue Star Memorial Highway(s)."

Hearing Date: 2/21/07

Staff: Harvey Childs (786-7322).

Background:

Under current policy, the Transportation Commission is responsible for naming transportation facilities. The policy states that community support shall be measured, preferably, through a resolution or memorial adopted by the Legislature.

Summary of Bill:

The Memorial recognizes the following in its message to the Secretary of Transportation, to the Washington State Transportation Commission, and to the Washington State Department of Transportation. The Legislature finds that: the Korean War erupted on June 24, 1950, when the North Korean Army invaded the Republic of South Korea;

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

- President Harry S. Truman ordered United States forces to defend South Korea;
- 2.5 million men and women of our armed forces, 122,000 from Washington State, met the test, fighting in harsh terrain and extremes of weather, in battles and actions;
- 528 Washington State residents and five Clallam County residents were killed in action between 1950 and 1953, and over 40 known men had been missing in action or held as prisoners of war;
- 33,629 members of the United States armed forces lost their lives between 1950 and 1953;
- 2,000 United States service members have died as a direct result of responding to one of the 40,479 hostile incidents or breaches since the truce has been signed; and
- it is appropriate to honor the service and sacrifice of Washington State Korean War Veterans who served the nation in that war with such valor and distinction.

The Legislature requests that copies of this memorial be immediately transmitted to the Secretary of Transportation, the Department of Transportation, and the Transportation Commission and that the Transportation Commission commence proceedings to name Highway 113 in Clallam County between the junction of Highway 101 and the junction of Highway 112, and Highway 112 from the junction of Highway 113 to the Makah Indian Reservation in Neah Bay the "Korean War Veteran's Blue Star Memorial Highway(s)."

Appropriation: None.

MARCH 17TH'S ANTI-ANTI-WAR PROTEST

Here I go to the HALLOWED WALL,
Located just off D. C.'s Mall.
Protestors come to share the same,
Have they no sense, honor, or shame?

Names are chiseled upon the Wall,
Names of our heroes that did fall.
Many names are etched here to say,
"GAVE THEIR ALL!" for the U.S.A.!

Now come the clowns to have their say,
I'm a Protector on this day!
I stand here in place at the WALL,
To help turn back the tide of all.

Brothers will come from near and far,
As if led by a Holy Star.
Vets have heard and answer the call,
To protect the names on the WALL!

Protestors come to have their say,
BUT Vet Brothers will rule the day!
We're deployed here in front of all,
THERE WILL BE RESPECT AT THE WALL!

Gayle "Beau" Bovee
Vet

UNSUNG HEROES

Once they stood in New York most grand and tall,
Silhouettes on the skyline above all.
An American icon all could see,
Now, both have become part of history.

Five years ago, America saw HELL,
It was the day the Twin Towers fell.
Many a Son and Daughter, Moms and Dads,
Lost their lives due to some TERRORIST CADS.

A TERRORIST WAR started on that day,
"I SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!", I'm so proud to say.
Our Military's gone to save our land,
And right by their side, I'd make my last stand.
Terrorists brought WAR to our native soil,
Towards VICTORY and FREEDOM we must toil.
It's a day I'll always remember,
Two Thousand One, Eleventh September.

To serve our Country, I find so divine,
They are sent there to protect yours' and mine.
All of OUR HEROES, I salute and wave,
It's "HOME OF THE FREE BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE!"

Written by: Gayle "Beau" Bovee
September 11, 2006

The Korean War and the ‘Broomstick Scientists’

By George N. Gianopoulos

There is a chapter of the Korean War-period that many KWVA members have no doubt never heard about. While our military was engaged in the fighting on the Korean Peninsula, a relatively classified program was going on in the New Mexican desert. It had its origins in WWII, but by the mid-1950s it was leading to a transformation in the arsenal of American fighting capability: the introduction of rocketry and guided missiles. It was, to a large extent, conducted by draftees—just like the fighting in Korea was.

Remember the German rocket and guided missile program that rained V-1s and V-2s on the British Isles and places in France? “Operation Paper Clip” was formed by the U.S. as the war was progressing and moving into Germany itself. The objective of Paper Clip was to learn as much as possible about that German rocket program, who ran it, where these instruments were produced, what technology they embraced, etc. While there was a trickle of work in rocketry taking place in the U.S. at that time, it was nowhere near what it was in Germany.

What was the result of Operation Paper Clip? It did find the leadership of the program, did locate key personnel, did manage to get them out of Germany (from what would have been the Eastern Zone), did get V-2s and other German missiles and spare parts out and to the U.S., and did get documentation and drawings. What happened to all these people and material? Most of the personnel and much of the material ended up at the White Sands Proving Grounds in New Mexico. There, at White Sands, began an intense U.S. effort in rocketry and guided missiles. And here is where this story begins.

As the war in Korea was beginning, the Selective Service System – the Draft –was gathering young people to fill the ranks of the military. Through a special program centered on scientific and professional personnel, draftees with university degrees in engineering, mathematics, physics and science in general were shunted over to White Sands to work in this new area of rocketry and guid-

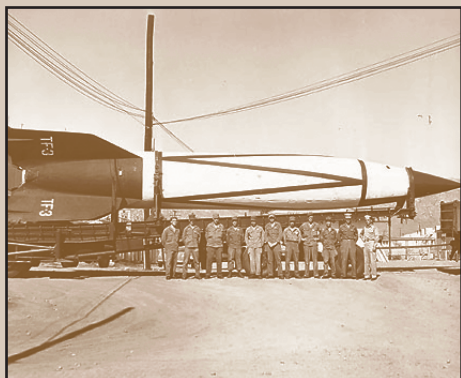
The Broomstick Scientists group was composed of guys who made up the 1st Ordnance Guided Missile Support Battalion. They referred to themselves as the “Broomstick Scientists,” a name they adopted after an envious Captain commented that he was no more impressed with them than he would be with a bunch of broomsticks.

ed missiles. These soldiers first had to go through usual basic training. But, after that they were transferred to the White Sands Proving Grounds, where they joined this program. And what did they do? They worked on the various guided missile programs in which the military and industry were engaged. Here are some examples.

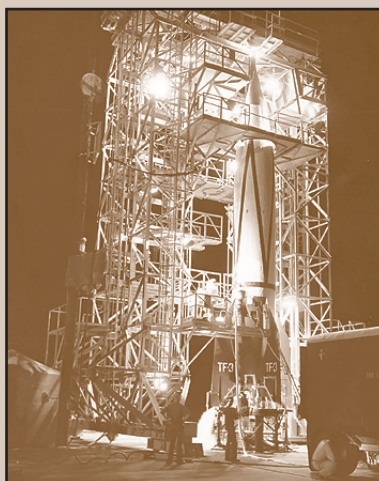
One group worked on the V-2. They studied documents, blue prints, circuitry and mechanical structures and became expert in the propulsion system, the guidance system, the fuel system, etc. They became proficient in assembling, testing, erecting and launching those same V-2s that had been produced for the German war effort and delivered to the U.S. under Operation Paper Clip.

Others went off on temporary assignments to companies like General Electric, Douglas Aircraft, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Lockheed, where they engaged in analysis, design and development of missile projects under way in those facilities. Still others stayed at White Sands to work on things like tracking, testing (prior to launch), assembling, communicating with and guiding these same missiles. These soldiers even launched them. Some even set up schools to train soldier to assemble, transport, test, operate and launch these new weapon systems when transferred to operations in the military.

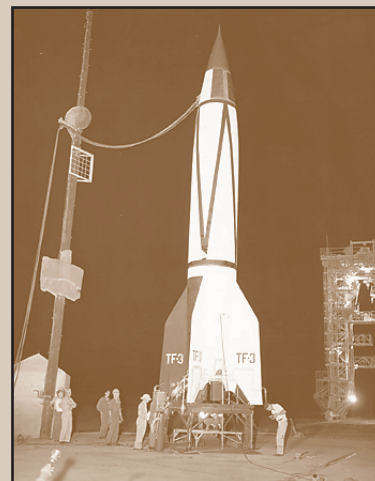
The Rocket Missile



Broomstick group at White Sands with their V-2 rocket missile



The same missile, TF-3, in the Gantry being prepared for firing



TF-3 ready to go, with the Gantry retracted



Assembled "Broomstick Scientists" preparing to witness a test/demonstration firing of a modern guided missile at their 2001 reunion



"Broomstick Scientists" at their 2001 reunion banquet

Home base was always White Sands. When these new guided missile specialists returned to home base, they not only worked on their respective projects, but they also did K.P., barracks duty, guard duty, and marched in reviews and parades in nearby Las Cruces, NM. They fired the rifle for proficiency, stood inspection – all those routine activities required of all military personnel.

It was at this time, while performing these routine military duties, that they were named "Broomstick Scientists," mostly in jest, but with some derision by regular military personnel. The Broomstick Scientists group was composed of guys who made up the 1st Ordnance Guided Missile Support Battalion. They referred to themselves as the "Broomstick Scientists," a name they adopted after an envious Captain commented that he was no more impressed with them than he would be with a bunch of broomsticks. He did not approve of the ease with which they climbed the promotion ladder due to their civilian experience.

They all had extensive engineering or scientific backgrounds prior to being drafted, or in some cases, recalled to active duty from the Reserves. The unit was made up of personnel associated with a diversity of missile programs like the NIKE, V-2, Hermes, LOKI, Terrier and Corporal. So, the name stuck!

In many ways, this group, this 1st Ordnance Guided Missile Support Battalion, was a military fraternity of a bunch of college kids, serving their country but making a large and desperately needed contribution to the war effort and the arsenal of the U.S.

military. From their work, with the industrial power of this nation, guided missiles such as the Corporal (JPL), Nike (Douglas Aircraft), Honest John (Douglas Aircraft), Hermes (General Electric), Sergeant (JPL) and Terrier eventually found their way into the war machine of the U.S. For those who worked on the V-2, a door was opened for material testing, guidance system technology, upper atmospheric research et al, but just as important, a basis for transfer of technology to the new programs of the U.S.

What happened to these guys when this all came to an end, when their 2-year tours of duty were up? Many went back into some aspect of engineering and technology. Some ended up in the space program of the U.S. Exploration of the Solar System definitely has an imprint of "Broomstick Scientists." Others took their experience to developing the new arsenal of modern weapon systems for the military. One Broomstick even headed up the production of the B-1B Bomber decades later.

About 6 years ago, after some fifty years, this group gathered for a reunion at the White Sands Missile Range. "Broomstick Scientists," who were dubbed the original proverbial 'rocket scientists' by a local Las Cruces newspapers, met, viewed their old work sites, and reflected on their accomplishments many decades before.

A quarterly newsletter/journal has been produced by one of the original V-2 group, an informal publication that has become a virtual archive of that period when a bunch of draftees, college graduates all, engineers mostly, once came together to help put the U.S. on a fast track to guided missile superiority.

That is the story of the "Broomstick Scientists."

*George N. Gianopoulos (Once a Broomstick Scientist)
2727 W. Bluff Ave., #123, Fresno, CA 93711
(559) 432-4630, gsqrd@padbell.net*



The 2001 "Broomstick Scientists" group visits the block house, the control center for rocket firings back in the 1940s and 1950s

New Mexico VA Hospital To Be Named After MOH Recipient Raymond ‘Jerry’ Murphy

When I was in the Albuquerque VA Hospital trying to heal from lung cancer, there was a long-time volunteer who was there to push us in our wheelchairs when we could not do it ourselves. Hundreds of thousands of folks who saw him probably never imagined that this quiet white haired gentleman was a MOH recipient.

He was a Korean War Era Marine and a POW in Korea. His name: Raymond G. Murphy. Now, as the nearby press release indicates, the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services has proposed naming a VA hospital after him.

Mr. Murphy is also a member of Chapter New Mexico #1, Albuquerque (CID #82) of the KWVA.

Bruce L Salisbury

**State of New Mexico
Department of Veterans Services
John M. Garcia, Secretary**

For immediate release

January 5, 2007

Contact: Floyd E. Vasquez

Public Information Officer
(Santa Fe) 505-827-6635
<http://dvs.state.nm.us>

STATE OF NEW MEXICO REQUESTS NAMING OF VA HOSPITAL AFTER JERRY MURPHY, CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO – The State of New Mexico Department of Veterans Services’ effort to name the Albuquerque VA Medical Center after New Mexican Raymond “Jerry” Murphy is moving forward in Washington, D.C. Jerry Murphy is one of three living Congressional Medal of Honor recipients in New Mexico and his contributions to the nation and state continued long after his valiant service on the battlefield in Korea. Mr. Murphy was decorated by President Eisenhower in a White House ceremony on October 27, 1953.

“Mr. Murphy’s service to the United States in the Korean War earned him the respect and admiration of the nation, and that was just an early chapter in the long and productive life of Jerry Murphy,” said John Garcia, Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services. “Mr. Murphy returned to New Mexico and dedicated his life to the service of veterans, including 23 years as Director of the Veterans Services Division of the Albuquerque VA Regional Office. In addition to receiving the nation’s highest military honor, Jerry Murphy is a pillar of the New Mexico veterans’ community.”

Mr. Murphy is now gravely ill. When Secretary Garcia observed that a VA facility in Oklahoma had been named for a local veteran, with the support of the state’s Veteran Service Organizations, he engaged Governor Bill Richardson to make the request of New Mexico’s Congressional Delegation to introduce legislation in Washington to name the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Albuquerque in Jerry Murphy’s honor. That effort is now moving forward.

“Jerry Murphy represents the highest standard of service to our nation and New Mexico veterans. It is our hope that with the support of the New Mexico Congressional Delegation, we can name the premiere veterans’ medical facility in the state the Raymond “Jerry” Murphy Medical Center” said Secretary Garcia.

2dLt RAYMOND G. MURPHY

Medal of Honor

1953 - 1/5/1

Korea

The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to

**SECOND LIEUTENANT RAYMOND G. MURPHY
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 a Platoon Commander of Company A, First Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), in action against enemy aggressor forces in Korea on 3 February 1953. Although painfully wounded by fragments from an enemy mortar shell while leading his evacuation platoon in support of assault units attacking a cleverly concealed and well-entrenched hostile force occupying commanding ground, Second Lieutenant Murphy steadfastly refused medical aid and continued to lead his men up a hill through a withering barrage of hostile mortar and small-arms fire, skillfully maneuvering his force from one position to the next and shouting words of encouragement. Undeterred by the increasing intense enemy fire, he immediately located casualties as they fell and made several trips up and down the fire-swept hill to direct evacuation teams to the wounded, personally carrying many of the stricken Marines to safety. When reinforcements were needed by the assaulting elements, Second Lieutenant Murphy employed part of his Unit as support and, during the ensuing battle, personally killed two of the enemy with his pistol.

When all the wounded evacuated and the assaulting units beginning to disengage, he remained behind with a carbine to cover the movement of friendly forces off the hill and, though suffering intense pain from his previous wounds, seized an automatic rifle to provide more firepower when the enemy reappeared in the trenches. After reaching the base of the hill, he organized a search party and again ascended the slope for a final check on missing Marines, locating and carrying the bodies of a machine-gun crew back down the hill.

Wounded a second time while conducting the entire force to the line of departure through a continuing barrage of enemy small-arms, artillery and mortar fire, he again refused medical assistance until assured that every one of his men, including all casualties, had preceded him to the main lines.

His resolute and inspiring leadership, exceptional fortitude and great personal valor reflect the highest credit upon Second Lieutenant Murphy and enhance the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service.

/S/ DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

May They Both Be At Peace

Helen Ludgate was the sister of a young soldier reported missing in action. For fifty-five years his fate was a mystery to her.

In the fall of 1951, a telegram arrived at the Ludgate home in Minneapolis with the news that (then) SSgt. Homer I. May who, with his mother, made his home with his sister's family, was missing in action.

It was the kind of news every household dreads when they have some one in service. There had been a previous telegram the spring before, when Homer had been wounded, but he had recovered and returned to duty with L Company, 3rd Battalion 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division.

The family feared the worst, but hoped for word that Homer, a young man who had already served with the Occupation Forces in Korea during WWII, would be found.

At first the hope was that he was just separated from his company. As time went by that hope faded, but it was replaced with the hope that he was being held prisoner. That would be better than learning he was dead. Surely, after the war, Homer would come home and return to the University of Minnesota, where he had been an education major on the Dean's list before re-enlisting.

During Operation Little Switch and Operation Big Switch, the family gathered around the radio to listen to the names of the POWs who were being returned. Night after night they listened, but Homer's name was never read.

After the war, Helen and her husband made numerous trips around the country to talk to men who had served with Homer. Now it began to seem that not knowing

In the fall of 1951, a telegram arrived at the Ludgate home in Minneapolis with the news that (then) SSgt. Homer I. May who, with his mother, made his home with his sister's family, was missing in action.

Homer's fate was more cruel than knowing he was dead. Maybe someone who was in that battle on Hill 851 would know what happened to this much-loved young man.

The soldiers who knew Homer had only good things to say about him, and were eager to relate those things to Helen. Homer was always one to look out for the under-dog, to lend a helping hand and to do the job no one else wanted to do. It seemed he did the same in Korea, shouldering more than his share and looking after others, according to the men he served with. Homer had turned down a job in headquarters to stay at the front with his buddies. One of them said he would have "given a million dollars for the opportunity to go to the rear." But to Homer, staying with his buddies was important.

It was not surprising to hear these things, but it did nothing to clear up the mystery of Homer's fate. On December 31, 1953, his status was changed from Missing in Action to Presumed Dead.

One day a letter arrived. Homer was being awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. On September 1, he had sent his platoon to safety and acted with complete disregard for his own safety and had single handedly taken out several enemy bunkers. On September 2, he was last seen in hand-to-hand combat when superior Chinese forces swarmed over Hill 851 on Heartbreak Ridge.

There was a ceremony and family and friends gathered to honor the missing soldier

and wonder what his fate was. It seemed so unfair that a young man of great promise had his life cut short, with no opportunity to make his mark or leave a legacy.

The years passed, but Homer was not forgotten. Eventually a marker was placed in Arlington Cemetery and Helen was able to visit the spot. For her, it was some satisfaction, but still there was the bitterness of the mystery of Homer's fate.

After more years there was a special program for Korean War veterans, their families, and the survivors of those no longer living; the KIAs and the MIAs.

Helen, along with other family members, attended the program, "Korea has Come to You," which was presented by the Korean American Cultural Foundation in a town near her home.

That night the veterans, their families, or next of kin were entertained by young Korean college students, talented in music, dance and other arts. They were also presented beautiful medallions, gifts from the Korean people as a thank you for the service and sacrifice of the veterans who had served in that long ago and continuing war.

It was then that Helen and her family realized that Homer had made his mark and did have a legacy. It was the lives of these young Koreans who were living in freedom and prosperity that Homer and those like him, living, dead, or whose fate was known only to God, had made possible.

On August 22, 2006, Helen Ludgate left this world for a better one and for her the mystery of Homer's fate has been cleared. May they both be at peace.

President's Note: Judith Knight A027975 and husband Larue M Knight R034212 are members of Sergeant Harold D Adkison Chapter 255, Department of South Carolina. Judith is the sister of SFC Homer I. May, MIA, and loving care-giver for her mother for her last years.

Sergeant May's picture and awards may be viewed at The American Battle Monuments site, The Korean War Veterans Honor Roll <http://www.abmc.gov/search/detail.php>.

Members in the NEWS

Fred Hoon Reports For Duty—56 Years Later

Some veterans never get military-oriented duties get out of their blood. Fred Hoon reported to the Air Crew Survival Pool at the Cherry Point [NC] Marine Air Base on 20 January. He is in the Coast Guard Auxiliary as an air crew member. It is not his first stint in the military.

He was in the 337 Air Sea Rescue Squadron in Bermuda—in 1950 and 1951. The squadron had four B-17s, all in excellent flying condition. The planes carried 32 lifeboats under their bomb bays.

Talk about long times between assignments!

Reach Fred Hoon at 4359 Polly Gully Ct SE, Southport, NC 28461-8522.





Monuments and Medals

Korea: the Forgotten War, Remembered

48 – CHORWON [NJ]

Chapter members attended a rededication ceremony of the New Jersey Korean War Memorial in Atlantic City.



Winnie Bramley presents the wreath at the New Jersey Korean War Memorial



CID 48 members and their wives board the bus to attend the rededication ceremony in Atlantic City

‘Yemassee’ Marines To Meet In Beaufort – Oct. 2007



A piece of history on a Yemassee wall

Text and photos Special to The Graybeards by Arthur G. Sharp©

Many Marines who fought in Korea will remember the building in the photo above. It is located in beautiful “down-town” Yemassee, South Carolina, which was for many years the “holding pen” for USMC recruits en route to Parris Island. For those Korean War veterans, it was the first stop on their way to Inchon, Chosin, and beyond,

The last recruits got off the train there in 1964 or 1965, and Yemassee lost a bit of its history. One local resident, Roy Hughes, was unwilling to let that history go, though.

Hughes, who was not even a Marine, worked hard to put together a reunion for Marines who passed through Yemassee. His efforts paid off. The first reunion was held in 2003. Since then, it has grown considerably. It has become so popular, in fact, that it has outgrown Yemassee.

This year the reunion will be held on October 20th at the Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort, South Carolina. Marines of all eras are invited to attend and share their memories of Yemassee—which are no doubt limited, since they generally arrived there at “0 dark thirty,” i.e. around midnight, and went immediately to Parris Island.

For more information about the reunion, contact Roy Hughes, P. O. Box 265, Yemassee, SC 29945, (843) 589-3385. Hughes is a great role model for inter-service participation in projects.



One of the many planes on exhibition in front of the Beaufort Air Station

News Vets Can Use

NOTE: We make every effort possible to verify the accuracy of the information in this section. Generally, if there is any doubt about its accuracy we do not print it. Whenever possible, we print the source at the end of each entry to allow readers to follow up on the information.

Special Military Social Security Rate

When a veteran applies for Social Security benefits, they should take their DD-214 with them. Social Security then computes the extra benefit and it is added to the monthly payments. In many cases, the Social Security office asks for a DD-214 and this benefit is computed automatically. But, not always.

If you are a veteran who is collecting Social Security, and you're not sure whether you are receiving this benefit, call your local Social Security office and ask them to check your account. If you are not getting the benefit, take your DD-214 to your local Social Security office and apply. They will compute your new benefit and you will receive a larger monthly check plus retroactive benefits computed from the time you started collecting Social Security.

Remember, military retirees and government retirees who use military time to compute "time in service" do not qualify for this benefit. For more information, visit <http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm>. (Here is what you will find.)

SPECIAL EXTRA EARNINGS FOR MILITARY SERVICE

Under certain circumstances, special extra earnings for your military service from 1940 through 2001 can be credited to your record for Social Security purposes. These extra earnings may help you qualify for Social Security or increase the amount of your Social Security benefit.

Special extra earnings are granted for periods of active duty or active duty for training. Special extra earnings are not granted for inactive duty training.

Note: Social Security cannot add these extra earnings to your record until you file for Social Security benefits.

How You Get Credit For Special Extra Earnings

The information that follows applies only to active duty military service earnings from 1940 through 2001. Here's how the special extra earnings are credited:

Service In 1978 through 2001

For every \$300 in active duty basic pay, you are credited with an additional \$100 in earnings up to a maximum of \$1,200 a year. If you enlisted after September 7, 1980, and didn't complete at least 24 months of active duty or your full tour, you may not be able to receive the additional earnings. Check with Social Security for details.

Service In 1957 Through 1977

You are credited with \$300 in additional earnings for each calendar quarter in which you received active duty basic pay.

Service In 1940 Through 1956

If you were in the military during this period, including attendance at a service academy, you did not pay Social Security taxes. However, your Social Security record may be credited with \$160 a month in earnings for military service from September 16, 1940, through December 31, 1956, under the following circumstances:

You were honorably discharged after 90 or more days of service, or you were released because of a disability or injury received in the line of duty; or

You are still on active duty; or

You are applying for survivors benefits and the veteran died while on active duty.

You cannot receive credit for these special extra earnings if you are already receiving a federal benefit based on the same years of service. There is one exception: If you were on active duty after 1956, you can still get the special earnings for 1951 through 1956, even if you're receiving a military retirement based on service during that period.

Note: Change in special military service credits.

In January 2002, Public Law 107-117, the Defense Appropriations Act, stopped the special extra earnings that have been credited to military service personnel. Military service in calendar year 2002 and future years no longer qualifies for these special extra earnings.

Source: Social Security Administration Website

Federal Benefits Reference Available Online

The 2007 edition of the Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents is now online. This annually updated desk reference covering federal benefits programs for veterans and their families is available at <http://www1.va.gov/opa/feature/index.asp> and http://www1.va.gov/OPA/vadocs/current_benefits.asp.

Source: Kevin Secor, Veterans Service Organizations Liaison, Office of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC, (202) 273-4836

Have a Mini-Reunion?

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

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor, Korean War Veterans Association, 152 Sky View Drive., Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304 (Telephone: 703-461-0061)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Assigned Membership Number: _____

KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$12.00

Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00

Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)

Ages up to and through 35 years of age:\$600

Ages 36 through 50 years of age:\$450

Ages 51 through 65 years of age:\$300

Ages 66 years of age and older:\$150

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."

[If you are applying for membership in a category other than Section 1, par A.1., of the "Criteria for Membership," complete the "Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership" form on next page.]

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA

Mail to: Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 22857, Alexandria, VA 22304

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD

Expiration Date _____ Your Signature _____

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA membership application form on page 1 above, persons who make application for membership and qualify under one of the categories listed below, are required to fill in the appropriate blanks, sign in the space provided below and attach this page to the completed membership application form on previous page.

Check One

- ☐ Medal of Honor: I am a recipient of the Medal of Honor for service during the Korean War and the date on which it was awarded was: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Ex-POW: I was held as a Prisoner of War at some time during the period June 25, 1950 to the present, From: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____ To: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ UN Command/Korean Armed Forces: I served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United Nations Command or in the Republic of Korea Armed Forces during the Korean War era (June 25, 1950 - January 31, 1955): From: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____ To: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Gold Star Parent: I am the parent of : Name [print] _____, who was () killed in action, () missing in action or () died as a Prisoner of War on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Gold Star Spouse: I am the spouse of: Name [print] _____, who was () killed in action, () missing in action or () died as a Prisoner of War on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ Associate: I have a legitimate interest in the affairs of the Korean War Veterans Association and agree to accept the terms and conditions set forth in its charter and bylaws.
- ☐ Honorary: I was elected as an honorary member of KWVA by a vote of the Board of Directors on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes indicated is true and correct."

Signature: _____ Month ____ Day ____ Year ____

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.

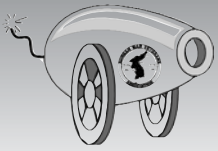
B. Associate Members. Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular membership and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the charter and bylaws shall be eligible for associate membership 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.

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Adopted 10/10/2006



Feedback/Return Fire

This section of *The 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—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.

Clarification...Or Correction?

I may be off base here, but I believe a correction may be needed in the Nov/Dec 2006 edition of *The Graybeards*, pg. 72, "Korean War Memorial in Arkansas."

One of the descriptive paragraphs of the memorial notes that one of the statues will symbolize the end of racial segregation in the Armed Forces as a result of the Korean War. Not true.

In 1947, former President Harry Truman signed an Executive Order ending segregation in all military forces. Every unit I was in from 1951 to 1955 was integrated.

Nice to know our magazine is still *The Graybeards*!!

Bob Charlesworth, via email

Wrong Time Posted For Integration

The article on page 72 of the November-December 2006 edition, "Suhor Industries to Build Korean War Memorial in Arkansas," contains this statement: "One of these statues will be an African-American soldier symbolizing the end of racial segregation in the Armed Forces of the United States that resulted from the Korean War." The statement is erroneous.

President Harry Truman, by Executive Order, ended racial segregation in the Armed Forces in 1947, nearly three years before the outbreak of the Korean War.

Jack L. Kime (via email)

The Turks Did Light Fires

We asked on p.21 in the Nov/Dec issue about reports that Turkish soldiers lit fires near their positions during the Korean War. Here is what we learned.

In March 1952 I was with Co. M., 27th Inf., 25th Div. on Heartbreak Ridge. The Turks were to our right.

From my position we could see the hills that the Turks occupied. At night, we could see the fires going on top of the hills.

Arthur Ellermann, 7 Luci Court
Colonia, NJ 07067-1912

Nobody Needed To Light A Fire Under The Australians

I am writing to you in regards to the article on p. 21 in the Nov.-Dec. 06 issue of *The Graybeards* regarding whether Turkish soldiers lit fires at night as a dare to the enemy to attack. I never heard of the Turkish soldiers doing this, but they might have.

However, I know that the Australian soldiers did.

One night, while returning from a reconnaissance mission and driving on a mountain road, I looked down and saw a big log fire in the valley. I said to the officer next to me that "they must be crazy, or awfully brave—but probably both." He said, "That's a wild bunch of Australians. They're known to do that when they get their monthly beer ration." They were around the fire drinking and singing.

This was in the summer of 1952, in the Kumwha Sector of Korea, right near the front lines. After that night I always had a lot of respect for the Australian soldier.

Bill N. Marshall
22928 Gaukler Street
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080-2555
(586) 778-5570 Visgemi@gmail.com

Spitting Mad, Spitting Teeth

In regards to the questions about the Turkish Brigade soldiers on page 21 of the Nov-Dec issue, I submit the following information.

During my time as a tank platoon leader in Korea, our 4th platoon, Charlie Co., 89th Tank Bn of the 25th Inf. Div supported, at various times, the 27th Regt, the 35th Regt, the 5th RCT and, for 2 months, the Turkish Bde on the MLR. In Dec.'52-Jan.'53 we were with the Turks in Kumhwa and in Feb.'53 in the Chorwon Valley area. They were outstanding soldiers and we always felt safe being with them on the MLR.

As far as Question # 1 is concerned, I have to say that we never heard any music played by the Turks although we sometimes heard music played by the enemy during their propaganda broadcasts to us. And we never saw the Turks building any fires outside on the MLR, but we were led to believe that sometimes they would send out patrols to "no-man's" land, during which 2 or 3 men would start a fire and sit around it as a "decoy" to be captured, while the bulk of the patrol, armed with knives waited to kill the "captors."

Several times, although we heard no shooting, returning Turk patrols would offer us a "presento" of enemy ears. That was a fact! The enemy, however, got revenge on May28/29 '53 (just 2 months before the Truce went into effect) by overrunning the Turks on outposts near the west coast of Korea, killing 104, wounding 324, plus 47 MIA!

As to Question # 2, regarding the Turk Bde., I was totally unaware that they were attached to the 14th Regt and assumed

that they were assigned to the 25th Inf Div., as was the 5th RCT. However, as the regimental tank companies were attached to the 89th Tank Bn for logistics, perhaps that was the reason for the Turk Bde. to be attached to the 14th Regt.

In my book, *KOREA (Our War) 1950-1953*, I discuss several interesting incidents involving the Turks that I personally witnessed. For example, one night we saw a Turk soldier who had been caught asleep on guard on the MLR be sent out alone to “No-man’s-land” armed only with a knife. If he was alive in the morning he could come back in. That was his punishment!!

One quiet morning on a small isolated outpost just above Chorwon, the Turkish Bde. CO showed up unexpectedly. Seeing no Turks in sight, he fired his pistol. When no one came out of their bunkers, he sent a man in to rouse the officers and top NCOs! They rushed out and stood at attention in a line. The CO walked up and down in front of them, screaming at them. Then, he began to punch each one in the face as hard as he could as they bled and were spitting teeth!!

My troops couldn’t believe their eyes, but after that there were always Turk soldiers visible during daytime to make sure our tanks were protected by infantry.

Peter W. Cuthbert, P. O. Box 695
East Moriches, NY 11940

Ear, Ear Now (F-4/6)

I was in Korea in 1952-53 with the 27th Regt, 25th Div. at Sandbag Castle. I was a jeep driver at the time. We heard about the Turkish soldiers selling souvenirs. When we got there, the Turks showed us rugs (all sizes), knives, shoulder harnesses for pistols, etc. It sure made me uneasy. But, after a while we finally made out what (we and them) were saying to each other. A Turkish sentry spoke a little English.



Turkish Sentry at Bloody Ridge

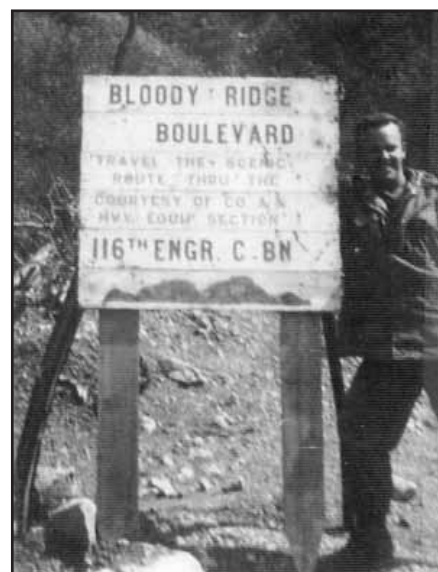


A Turkish Army camp in Korea

As far as I know, the Turks were not attached to my outfit. But, we did hear stories about them. For example, I heard they went out on listening posts with a couple cases of beer and had a party—music and all. But, that’s only hearsay.

And, I can’t say anything with certainty about the fires. I did hear, however, that the Turkish soldiers collected enemies’ ears. They had to get so many before they could rotate or get time off.

Anyhow, their camp was right on the top of Bloody Ridge. They had sentry on duty often who was a good soldier—and he spoke English well. He was very helpful to us.



Albert Holmes leaning on a Bloody Ridge sign

Albert Holmes, 33 Lakeshore
Drive, Holliston, MA 01746

We Deserve Our Charter

The article written by Stanley A. Levin hit the nail on the head. All too often the Korean War is not mentioned on the radio, TV—or even by our government. The only wars mentioned seem to be WWII and Vietnam. It’s as if there never was a Korean War.

The Korean War was hell and high water. It was no walk in the park. Anything but!

We lost a lot of good men in that war, and a heck of a lot more shed their blood for our country.

A Korean War veteran can and should hold his or her head high. He or she can be very proud. Nor were he or she a draft dodger or yellow bellied coward.

The Korean War veterans should get their charter. They earned it—and deserve it.

It's time the Korean War vets stood up for their service. They have nothing to be ashamed of or sorry for. God bless them all—and God bless America and its past, present, and future veterans.

Incidentally, I am a member of Chapter 69 (Greater Cleveland) and Chapter 112 (Lake Erie).

Dick Blanc, 19200 Pawnee Ave.,
Cleveland, OH 44119-1725

Only Two B-17s?

An item on p. 35 in the Nov/Dec 2006 issue notes that only two B-17s served in Korea. But, I was stationed with FEAM COM (Far East Air Materiel Command) at Tachikawa, Honshu, Japan. We had three B-17s flying. One was General Doyle's personal aircraft. The other two were "classified."

Also, my cousin William Wachs piloted a B-17 to photomap the Philippine Islands. Its main base was Clark Air Force Base.

Larry Chase, 1118 Sylvan Way
West Bend, WI 53095-5051

Pictures Tell The "Plane" Truth

I can add to the information to the B-17 article mentioned in the previous letter. We had a B-17 land at Pusan East Air Base sometime in the 1951-52 timeframe. I do not know where it was stationed.



A B-17 at Pusan East Air Base

We also had B-29s land there.

Thomas Largent
10478 US Hway 50
Aurora, IN 47001-9162

Past Tense, Present Tense...Always Tense

I commend your staff on the selection on Joseph L. Harman's article, "Life As A Peacekeeper In Korea." Joe's article showed how tense and how significant our presence remains all these long years "after" the war—which remains not only unresolved but a constantly easily-inflamed juxtaposition of tyranny vs. democracy.

James M. Mutter
(317) 852 4963, via email

An Undeveloped Photo

I am a member of VFW 3106 in Leesville, LA. I picked up a copy of your magazine for my father, who is a Korean War veteran. (He lives in NC.) He enjoyed the reading.



Ray Humphries and his buddies at Chosin

I am enclosing a photo of my father and his two buddies taken at the Chosin. He found a roll of film about a year ago he had never developed, and this was in the roll.. He had it developed at the Camp Lejeune, NC PX. They recognized the importance it has to the Corps and Korean War veterans.

Steve Humphries, via email

A TV Program That Should Be In Re-runs

I read with interest the "Tell America Program - Committee Reports" included in the KWVA Board of Directors Meeting minutes that appeared in the Nov/Dec edition of *The Graybeards*.

Back in the mid 1990s (1991 thru 2002), I produced a television program called "Veterans Viewpoint." We did 15 programs a year, utilizing the TV studio (a state-of-the-art facility) located in Pemberton Township, NJ High School. We used students as directors, camera operators, etc.

My program featured veterans from all services, including living original Tuskegee Airmen, representatives from local, county, state and national agencies engaged in assisting veterans and their families regarding entitlements, etc.

Veterans related their wartime experiences. For example, I produced 3 programs featuring Korean War combat veterans, including 2 former POW in the Korean War.

Our viewing audience numbered over 100,000. For 4 of the years our program was broadcast throughout New Jersey over Cable Television Network.

I also had a local newspaper reporter "covering" our programs. Thus, the veterans' experiences appeared in our local papers. If my memory serves me (I'm 82 yrs old), one of my reports appeared in *The Graybeards*.

Finally, due to the efforts of one of the guests, 3 segments of a New Jersey highway were dedicated to Korean War veterans.

Paul J. Tuliano, 29 Terrace Road
Browns Mills, NJ 08015-6817
(609) 893-3386

Error In Photo Caption

There is an error in the bottom photo caption on p. 27 of the May/June 2004 issue of *The Graybeards*. The photo is credited to Irwin Brawn. It was actually taken by an unknown bystander in February 1952 in Co. E 5th RCT after the 5t RCT was relieved by elements of the 40th Inf. Div, who had recently relieved the 24th Inf. Div that was shipped to Japan. The 5th RCT had been attached to the 24th Inf. Div for the previous seventeen months, September 1950 to January 1952.

I am pictured in the middle of the back row. I was a replacement assigned to the 3d Platoon, Company E, 2nd Bn., 5th RCT in January 1952. The men's names are:

(Kneeling, L-R) Johnie Llamus, Unknown, Harold Danger, Matt Walls (Standing, L-R) Paul Hart, Anderson, Al McAdoo, Sweed, Stanley

Albert McAdoo,
7506 S Mascotte St
Tampa, FL 33616



I would like to tell you something about the photo that you printed dated July 28th, 1953. At that time I was the intelligence sergeant for the 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Division.

No patrols would go out that day or night and everyone would just hunker down in their bunkers awaiting the cease fire. We were not allowed to fraternize with the enemy or even meet them in no-mans land.

The ROK artillery that night fired a massive artillery barrage right up to the 10 PM deadline and then a sudden stillness descended over the MLR. Lights went on and the Chinese began to play music over loud speakers.

The next day we packed up all our gear and moved south to an area near Uijongbu. However on July 28th, there were a few GIs who decided to disobey the orders and they decided to meet the Chinese.

The Chinese had erected banners (note signs in your photo) and were encouraging the Americans to come over and greet them. The soldiers who met the Chinese as shown in the photo were arrested by the MPs when they returned to our lines

Irwin Brawn

Spencer Duquette Earns Purple Heart

Don Duquette, former Secretary of the KWVA, reported that his grandson Spencer sustained an injury in Iraq, for which he received a Purple Heart. According to Don, his grandson is doing very well. In fact, he said, Spencer thinks he wants to make the Army a career.

"He loves the infantry, and has applied for different schools," Duquette noted. "He is due home for a ten-day leave in June, and then he heads back to Iraq."

Military service runs in the Duquette family. In fact, Don was an award winning combat photographer during the Korean War.



Spencer Duquette displays Purple Heart certificate

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

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Randy@mcgrogans.com

Randy Sweet LPN,
MM3 USN Ret. DAV

Clever Bumper Sticker

**IF YOU DON'T STAND BEHIND OUR TROOPS,
PLEASE, FEEL FREE...
TO STAND IN FRONT OF THEM !!!**

SPRING 1951

One early morning while the moon was still shining before daylight, our platoon ate breakfast first and loaded onto tanks for movement to begin the day's operation of obtaining critical terrain. The squad leaders had been briefed as to the enemy situation the night before, so there was no misunderstanding as to who would be the first to make contact with the enemy. After dismounting from the tanks, we moved out on foot in a column, checking the safety on our weapons every so many yards until there was no doubt in our minds that we were ready to fire the first instant contact was made.

The men moved from the column to the attack formation almost as if it were a training exercise. Good fortune was with us as no enemy occupied the first objective. At that point the second platoon moved through our platoon to become the attack platoon, and we fell to the rear to become the company reserve on the way to the next objective.

It had been daylight now for some three hours as the second platoon began an attack on the company's right, which happened to be a descending ridge line. Unfortunately, they did not succeed due to heavy enemy rifle fire from a much higher ridge. The first platoon moved to the left a few hundred yards and attacked, but they too were denied the objective. By now it was noon time—everyone in our platoon took time out for lunch, because we were in the company reserve position. The enemy also appeared to be having lunch, or maybe they were just conserving ammo, because we observed only sporadic firing from their position.

From the company reserve position we could see only half the main objective due to the heavy second-growth trees which were small in diameter but quite tall. We could not see how far the first platoon had advanced. Things were uncertain at this time for everyone. It was now close to two o'clock.

Lt. Riley, who was a few years older than most of us in the platoon (maybe 27) came over to our platoon and announced that if the objective was not taken within the next hour, we would have to move by foot back to where we began in the morning. We would have to move before dark because of

KOREA:

MY STORY – 1950-51

By Bob Ondrish

the chance of ambush in the narrow pass at night.

It now became our turn again, along with the second platoon to our left, to see if we could gain control of the ridge. Unlike our first objective, where we could find no enemy, now we all knew the enemy was dug in and did not want to leave.

My squad was to be on the platoon's right, joining Petit's squad to the left. All my men were good men who worked well together as a team when the going was easy as well as tough.

Because of the second growth saplings, I put my men in single file, all within eye contact of each other. The point man picked his way through saplings that were well over his head. Everyone followed the point man, who guided us along a natural drain that ran through the middle of the ridge. As we gradually gained elevation, I saw a large oak tree upon the ridge in the middle of our assigned area for the attack.

There was no water at this time coming down the drain—only a lot of rocks washed clean from previous water flows. The drain terminated just below the big oak as we continued moving upward. There was an almost vertical drop from the oak to the drain of some seventy-five or eighty feet.

My squad had not received any fire from the enemy at this time. This told me that we were undetected up to this point. The enemy probably had assumed no one would or could come up on to the ridge from below the oak. They had elected to defend the ridge above and below the oak tree. The

ridge was only about forty yards wide and descending away from the oak tree.

I already said my squad was a good team. We scaled the steep outcrop below the oak, helping each other, pulling and lifting until we had the entire squad on top. We were all bunched up, to say the least, but very quiet. Spreading out the width of the ridge, we were now on the high ground as it sloped away.

Sgt. Petit's squad was now a couple hundred yards above me, where the ridge line was much higher, and we were doing a lot of rifle firing. Actually, he was to my rear yet we were not receiving any fire from his men, which let me know his squad had not reached the top of the ridge.

The enemy must have gotten up out of their well-dug positions to see what was going on up the ridge from them. That is when they ran into my squad. Like mice jumping into their holes, they were back in their foxhole, which was a machine gun positioned to defend down the ridge, not up the ridge. Their mission, no doubt, was to defend a draw that separated their ridge from the beginning of another at a somewhat lower elevation.

Their main concern at this time was to eliminate my squad. The machine gun was lifted out of its original direction of fire, to the front, and was pointed at my squad to their rear. Firing began almost as soon as the tripods hit the ground. My men and I were all down in the prone position among the rocks, scattered over the width of the ridge. Some rocks were smaller than others, but all provided adequate protection from

direct fire. No one wanted to stand up and shoot it out with a machine gun. I had crawled up to a position to the left and a few feet to the rear of Hires, about ten yards away. A large rock about the size of a small pick-up truck was my main protection.

The machine gunners were doing a first-class job of denying us the lower part of the ridge. For a long time I had been carrying an anti-tank grenade, already attached to the rifle grenade launcher in the top of my entrenching tool (shovel) cover. It annoyed me because it was always rubbing against my hip. The bright idea came to me to use it against the dug-in placement of the enemy. Unfortunately, I had forgotten about the little red booster placed on the grenade to give it additional distance when fired from the rifle with the stock on the ground.

During past training I had fired the rifle from my shoulder with the grenade launcher attached without any ill effects. But that was without the booster cap, of course. I rose up onto one knee, peered around the rock, and pulled the rifle trigger all within a few seconds. Well, if you ever thought you had broken your shoulder, then you know the pain I felt in my right shoulder. The pain was so bad that I had to sit down for a couple of seconds to organize my thoughts. I watched the grenade hit the top of the machine gun foxhole with such force that it ricocheted off into the air, falling down well beyond the intended target into a deep ravine, detonating with the sound of a mortar round.

Forgetting about my pain, I crawled over beside Hires, who was protected by a rock the size of two bales of hay. I then traded weapons with him—my M-I rifle for his Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR). The enemy gave his attention to the two of us and was bringing his weapon up to his shoulder to fire more accurately when I fired with the BAR. In the blink of an eye it was all over. My squad quickly moved down the ridge and began firing at the retreating enemy.

Petit had secured the high ground above me, giving the platoon complete control of the ridge. Jumping into the gun position, I marveled at what a good position it was, especially how deep for protection against high angle mortar and artillery fire. They had been here for a long time, preparing the positions and intending to stay longer yet. There was plenty of food and ammo all car-

ried in what appeared to be a seamless cloth tube or stocking slung over the neck and shoulder. The tubing was about four feet long and four inches in diameter. The ammo was loose, not in clips—just like crayons dumped in a sock.

The Chinese foot soldier was a good walker—he could go for miles over the most difficult terrain, carrying a heavy load. He was also an expert on the use of camouflage in most any circumstances. Their motto could have been “Deep holes with overhead cover.” The threat of air strikes coupled with artillery no doubt helped reinforce that motto. Some holes or bunkers had overhead cover two or three feet thick with a firing port in the front. Others built and dug in on the corner of a hill had firing ports for two different directions. Most command posts were distinguished by their size and the amount of overhead cover.

While sitting on the edge of the foxhole facing the retreating enemy, for some unknown reason, I turned toward the other squad members. One single round, probably from a sniper, passed through my field jacket liner, OG shirt, and my fatigue shirt. I grabbed the BAR and fell down to the bottom of the foxhole, which was way over my head when sitting. Then I got a little shaky.

Our squad's flank boundary was the

handle. We did find some of the larger potato masher type that was about the size of a 3/4 quart fruit can, also with a wooden handle.

Just before dark I carried a whole case of the smaller grenades to my foxhole. When checking the squad that night, I met Sgt. Graham where our squad joined. We talked about back home. That always was on every soldier's mind. The high part of our conversation was what would happen if we would throw a couple of the grenades in front of our individual squads.

As soon as I returned to my foxhole, a repossessed Chinese one that had some reinforcements from the pine trees, I threw a couple of the grenades to the front of my squad. Almost immediately there were a couple different M-I rifles firing to the front. Those who had been catching up on their sleep were now wide awake.

The following morning, I listened to stories about the enemy probing in front of our positions. We ate our breakfast of C-rations and milled around until time to move out on the offensive that had begun some twenty-four hours earlier.

There are dark nights and then there are really dark nights—so dark that you can't see your hand in front of your face. One of those really dark nights I sat in my foxhole

For a long time I had been carrying an anti-tank grenade, already attached to the rifle grenade launcher... The bright idea came to me to use it against the dug-in placement of the enemy. Unfortunately, I had forgotten about the little red booster placed on the grenade to give it additional distance when fired from the rifle with the stock on the ground.

Chinese position already dug in. I recall that I got a large blister on one of my fingers from the hot barrel of the weapon I had been firing just prior to sitting down in the foxhole.

In the area that my squad had captured was a large tent full of all kinds of ammo and grenades in wooden cases. There were no roads nearby, so that all the ammo had to be carried by individual personnel cross country to the tent. Most of the grenades were the small type with a wooden handle with the detonating cord stuffed up in the

listening more than seeing because I could see absolutely nothing. About fifteen yards to my left rear was a 75 mm anti-tank gun well dug in, including some use of sand bags.

Trying to keep alert, I found myself catnapping when this 75 mm suddenly fired one single round. In addition to almost making me deaf, the noise, to say the least, was startling. Because only one round was fired into the pitch black night, I at first mistook the sound for an incoming artillery round from the enemy. Why was this weapon fir-

ing, and only one round?

No additional rounds were fired. Did they get a message from someone down on the road block that warranted firing at night? Was the firing on a pre-determined target selected before dark, or was the gun fired accidentally? I never did find out the answer. I do know it gave me enough of a scare that I wasn't sleepy the rest of the night-four more hours.

Riding tanks from one sector to another had become a routine part of combat for the 27th Infantry Regiment. Our mission included everything from plugging gaps in the main line of resistance, back up reserve, and counter attacking, to providing aid for some unit that had been over-run. When moving from one location to another, the squad climbed onto a tank then held onto the turret anywhere we could find a hand

anything in general. Because the interval between the tanks had been reached, our tank was slowing for what appeared to be a halt. Then, instead of stopping, our driver accelerated with a quick jerking motion forward as we continued up the road.

PFC Tyrone, who was not paying attention and was facing to the rear beside the turret, did not see a low-hanging tree limb that extended about halfway across the road. His head came in contact with ' the limb, which sent him sprawling off the tank onto the road in front of the trailing tank, which had increased its movement to catch up. Luckily, the oncoming tank moved to the right around Tyrone, who by now had rolled to the left side of the road.

We all thought Tyrone was seriously injured or even killed. The last thing I saw was the tank behind us swing around him as

When the orders were returned in one large box, they were then divided among those present. If, for whatever reason, someone was missing, his order was divided among those present.

When I now think of the Korean War, I am reminded of soldiers like Tyrone and others who were drafted and barely able to read or write. I wonder where his share of the Great American Dream was. Soldiers like Tyrone were unlikely to find a good education or economic prosperity in the fox-holes. Then I think of all the people who, for whatever reason, evaded military services and did enjoy a good education along with economic prosperity without ever hearing a shot fired in anger. It makes me wonder if the words "justice for all" really mean for "all" or just for those select few who manage to get away with anything and everything. I believe this injustice starts from the highest office in the land and goes down to the lowest political unit in the country.

The American hand grenades, when compared to the Chinese, were more powerful in the amount of shrapnel they sent out over the killing area. The enemy's grenades were marked by a lot of concussion but less shrapnel. Grenades may be considered the foot soldier's personal artillery, but, like the artillery, they are bulky to move from one place to another. Whenever a good opportunity to use grenades presented itself, we had all the noise of something big taking place, although it was really only three or four GI's getting rid of extra carrying weight.

That was the case when my squad came to the aid of another squad which was being held up by two enemy dug-in positions among some scattered trees. What normally should have happened was a fire-and-maneuver movement to outflank the enemy and bring small arms fire onto their position. Instead, it seemed as if everyone, including the enemy, just started throwing hand grenades.

Grenades thrown by the enemy periodically came up over the trees. We could see them coming and called out "grenade," at which time anyone exposed would curl up on the ground. Then it was our turn to hurl our grenades. Back and forth we went until the company command post called to find out what was going on and ask if we needed artillery or mortar support. After about fifteen minutes, we finally did outflank the enemy and take them prisoner. Despite all

Grenades may be considered the foot soldier's personal artillery, but, like the artillery, they are bulky to move from one place to another. Whenever a good opportunity to use grenades presented itself, we had all the noise of something big taking place, although it was really only three or four GI's getting rid of extra carrying weight.

hold. In the winter months a prime standing spot was the rear of the turret over the grating covering the big engines that moved the tank. Here a half frozen infantryman could warm up to the point of burning the bottom of his boots.

One spring day the sun was shining brightly when the entire company, four combat platoons, loaded onto tanks for the movement. My squad, being old hands at this method of transportation, climbed about our assigned tank and each man found his favorite handhold. The tanks, once moving, probably reached a speed of fifteen to twenty miles an hour at the most, with everyone enjoying the ride.

The tanks would frequently speed up then slow down or even come to a stop in order to maintain their proper interval of fifty yards. Upon stopping, the cannons were pointed outward for security. During one of these stop and go sequences, my men were talking and not paying attention to

he lay on the side of the road. Then the medics came up from their rear position in the column and took care of him.

Close to four weeks later when the company was way up in the mountains dug in, we suddenly saw a lone soldier making his way toward our position from afar. Everyone just took for granted that this was a new replacement who had been sent up from battalion headquarters.

After twenty minutes of observation, however, we determined it was Tyrone. Sure enough, it was him. Catching up on his breathing from the long climb with all his equipment, he explained that he only received a minor injury with a big, big headache from his fall off the tank.

There were two things I remember well about Tyrone: he was Negro and he could barely read or write. I always made out his six week order to Sears for candies, fruits and cookies. We made a consolidated envelope with each individual's order enclosed.

the noise, we had experienced only one minor casualty—Sgt. Perkins, who had shrapnel wound from metal that went through his canteen and into his hip.

As part of a large seek-and-destroy operation, our company was, at one point, about to overrun a delaying force of Chinese soldiers. They were using cover and concealment to the maximum as they moved away after crossing a small stream. Their movement looked like a tree nursery on the run, because they carried small trees in one hand and their weapons in the other. Every now and then they would stop and fire a round or two in our direction before continuing to move back.

My squad came to a steep precipice overlooking the stream, with the enemy just below us crossing the water, making a good exposed target. They could reach the other side only by going up a steep bank where some of their soldiers were bunching up. I called for Pvt. Clay, who had been carrying the 3.5 mm rocket launcher for a couple months, and told him to fire a round or two at the fleeing enemy. His reply was, "Can't, Sergeant—the clip latch is broken!"

Needless to say, he thereafter had a new job, carrying boxes of machine gun ammo. Our squad fired at the enemy until they were out of range and sight.

The 3.5 mm rocket launcher came as a new and bigger anti-tank weapon early in the war after the smaller 2.36 mm launcher proved to be ineffective against the Russian-made armor.

Another new weapon for the infantrymen which came into use during the spring of 1951 was the infrared night scope. The scope was a good weapon for defense and a good weapon for night patrols, but a bit bulky to carry around. The scope was an eight-inch disk mounted on a carbine, powered by a wet acid battery carried on the back with a special harness. The batteries were recharged at the battalion supply and delivered fresh every day in time to be used that night. The picture through the scope wasn't clear or colored but a definite outline that could not be mistaken for anything but an enemy soldier or GI.

No history of the Korean War can omit the date 21-22 April 1951. On those dates the British troops serving as part of the U.N. force received the brunt of the Chinese initial attack, marking their spring offensive

which was supplied from just north of the Yalu River. On this date, Company B was dug in on open terrain as part of the regimental reserve for a few days. Equipment cleaning, along with general maintenance, produced a beehive of activity, but there was no apparent sign of enemy activity anywhere in the nearby vicinity.

The sun glittered off various weapon parts as they lay on ponchos after being cleaned. Everyone also took care of personal hygiene, for there was no telling when another beautiful day would come around again. Some individuals were napping while others were writing letters home.

Our situation was exactly the opposite of what was going far to our left where the Chinese were determined to dislodge a British infantry brigade. The sound of their battle was so distant from our position that no one took any great notice, but the prolonged drone of distant gunfire was food for: thought of something big happening. It wasn't until a couple weeks later I found out that all the noise was the sound of desperate fighting between the Chinese and British.

Several years later, when I read about the battle, I came to associate it with that nice day where we had the good fortune of not being involved, and the double good fortune of having a great dedicated group of men on our side. The British Brigade sustained a great number of casualties, both killed and wounded, as they brought the Chinese Army almost to a standstill. They were a truly professional army unit that stood second to none on that day.

After nearly one year of back and forth, up and down the Peninsula, retreat and counterattack, positional warfare was becoming the mode of combat. Not since the days of the Pusan Perimeter was defense on so many soldiers' minds. The effort being put forth in preparation for the new type of warfare was unparalleled. All the defensive works combined since June 25, 1950, would not come close to equaling what was now being done in anticipation of a prolonged war from trenches, tunnels and bunkers.

Bunker building went into full production under the supervision of the Army engineers with mostly Korean laborers. Trenches were dug deep to interconnect bunkers with one another. But while all the defense effort and planning may sound invincible, yet, with as much personnel as the Chinese had at their disposal, lines were

continuously breached, resulting in close combat in the trenches.

I recall one of these defense lines was called Kansas, and another Lincoln. Both were well prepared to the rear on terrain suitable for defense. Front line units were periodically rotated back to man the lines away from the front line. Sometime around the last week of April or first of May, the Chinese made one big effort to break through a well-prepared defense system manned by the 27th Regiment at the junction where the 65th infantry joined them.

The attack came at night in hopes of a successful consolidation at daybreak. When day did break, there were enemy dead all over the area in front of the main foxholes and bunkers. Many were entangled within the barbed wire fences, looking like wet clothing hung out to dry. Those that had the misfortune of touching off 55-gallon drums filled with Napalm, which exploded with a spraying effect, looked like burnt meat. They lay on the ground amidst burned out patches of vegetation in the mine fields. Those caught in the mine field were always the last to be removed for burial.

The American Army always tried to recover the dead for burial. I don't think the Chinese and North Korean armies made any effort to do so. If they did, I always wondered how they accounted for the bodies we buried in gullies and ditches to keep from smelling up the area and to keep the flies from feasting on the human dead.

When passing over a high mountain one spring day, my squad came across a North Korean soldier's body. He had died sometime in the fall. He had no weapon, which made me think he died from wounds as he was attempting to escape to the north. The winter had preserved him quite well. I imagine the only report any North Korean commander could give of him was that he was missing in action, presumed dead. Maybe someone later came along to bury him. I don't know and seriously doubt it.

During the first year of the Korean War, it was hard for us to determine our exact location at any given time. Most soldiers in the line companies learned how to read a topographic map—one inch equals 25,000 inches on the ground. With the map and compass, we could move around locally.

During the squad briefings, the squad leaders were given visual briefings as to the

objectives, direction of attack, and the general points of the compass—north, south, east and west. I have to admit that most of the time I was in Korea my exact location was unknown to me. The Big Picture for the day was always just a few hundred yards to the front where the enemy was located.

One of those times when I was on unknown terrain which we occupied during the night in early spring, I half-heartedly dug a shallow prone position for a foxhole, lay down with my poncho pulled up over myself to the neck, and went off to sleep. The next thing I recall was it was breaking day in a wet falling snow. My poncho was all covered with snow, but that wasn't what awakened me. It was the sounds of bugles and horns echoing off the close mountainsides that got my attention. I quickly jerked off my poncho and went into position facing the sound, my heart pounding in high gear.

But nothing happened. It was as still as still could be, with no sound other than that of the bugles and horns. Other foxholes were fairly close, yet no one dared to talk or make any sounds. The snow kept falling—no wind, just straight down. After a long time of silence, we heard vehicles and troops on the move—our own troops. I guess the enemy was just reminding us that they knew where we were and were keeping surveillance on our whereabouts. Like wolves following a deer, they were just waiting for the right opportunity to attack. Like the deer, all we could do was stay alert and wait to see what they would do.

Spring was moving on toward summer with the days becoming longer and even some frost-free nights. For the better part of ten months I had slept on the ground through rain, snow, sleet, and some sub-zero nights. Now the rains seemed almost warm, except at night when they always seemed cold.

The war for me was drawing to a close as replacements began arriving to fill understrength squads and platoons. Some new men had ER in front of their serial number, indicating they were from the enlisted reserve back in the states. One reservist was killed after only a few days of being in the company. RA in front of a serial number meant the soldier was regular Army, a volunteer enlistee. U.S. before a serial number indicated that soldier was a draftee.

One of the new replacements from New Jersey whose name was Berucchi soon became the platoon runner (messenger). His position one day was just behind my squad, which, as part of the platoon, was in the process of making a frontal assault on a treeless grass-covered hill. The hill was baby-size compared to some we had encountered in the past. Enemy mortar fire began falling among the squad, and everyone was shouting to spread out and keep moving.

Our own 60 mm mortars were in a position to the rear and left of the platoon. Some soldiers were calling for our mortars to cease fire, thinking we were receiving short rounds from them. Others called to elevate the angle of fire to cause our mortar rounds to fall further to the enemy's front. Some soldiers just fell to the ground and did nothing. The squad finally moved up onto the objective.

Berucchi came up to me as we organized our defense, claiming he had received a sliver of shrapnel in his foot just above the sole of his shoe. I gave his boot a quick look and told him it looked as if he had run thorns into his foot. I then went about checking the other members of my squad. We needed everyone who carried a rifle to dig in for a possible counter-attack by the enemy.

The next morning Berucchi came to tell me his foot was swollen too badly to walk. I then sent him to see the medics who took him to the Aid-Station back in the rear. The medics at the Aid-Station did find a piece of shrapnel which had gone through his boot and lodged in his instep.

Since January, the Chinese forces had launched several coordinated drives with the North Korean Army with only limited success. We were slowly pushing them back a short distance above the 38th Parallel. However, the nature of the war was changing to the positional fortified lines where 600 to 1000 yards separated us and the enemy on a semi-permanent basis. Sniper and mortar fire increased dramatically, making movement outside the foxhole or trench extremely unsafe.

While I was an infantryman, I directed heavy mortar fire on the enemy. Sgt. Lum, from Cincinnati, acting in the capacity of a forward observer attached to Company B checking coordinates for the 4.2 mm mor-

tars in our area, asked me how I would like to become an observer. I said why not?

Registration points on potential targets were established ahead of time and given a registration number. Later, night or day, this was a reference point to bring mortar or artillery fire to that location. These coordinates were recorded back at the dug-in position of the mortars. Each point was given a number, as well as a deflection and angle, which calls for setting the mortar at that angle and deflection to hit the target.

The first thing we needed to do, Lum said, was to see if the mortar crew was alert or not. He called over the radio, "Fire Mission," and gave the registration point number, concluding with "Fire for Effect." The mortar crew then fired a given number of rounds or until the words "cease Fire—end of mission" were given. A good crew could put twelve to fifteen rounds in the air before the first round landed on target.

After all the instruction procedure, I called for a fire mission using one of the pre-registered points. That was my first and only experience in indirect fire on the enemy positions. All this occurred before there was ammo rationing to conserve munitions at the front lines.

Company B was involved in many tank-infantry attacks against enemy-held terrain. One time the objective was almost void of any vegetation. We moved out after dismounting from the tanks, spreading between them as they moved up to form a line some three hundred yards wide. The tanks would at times move ahead fifty yards then wait for the foot soldiers to come up on line. All the time they were waiting, a continuous firing of their machine guns was taking place. At the last second, the tanks over-ran the enemy position by moving up over their dug-in holes.

Within thirty to forty seconds my squad caught up to the tanks, and then spread out between the now stationary armor. There were dead enemy everywhere, some mangled by the tank treads as the machines passed over them. I can't figure out why they didn't elect to retreat rather than stay and meet certain death.

One day I was in the Pusan area and decided to visit the military cemetery. The sun was shining through the trees, about to set for the day. I was searching for a cross marking the gravesite of one of the men

from my company. Another soldier was in the cemetery with me. He, too, was searching for a cross making the gravesite of one of the men from his company.

We were within talking distance of one another when he looked at a grave site marked with the Star of David. In all seriousness, he said to me, "That soldier must have been a general." Knowing better myself, I didn't explain the Star to him, but I did know for sure the soldier speaking to me wasn't from New York City.

Seeing all those crosses of white with a sprinkle of the Star of David was a very sobering experience for me. All those who gave their lives were now equal before their creator—the poor, rich, black, white, Christian, Jew, believer and non-believer—all in repose.

There were soldiers in Company B who were killed that I knew very little about. A few I was closer to for one reason or another and their names still bring back memories—Edwards, a tall, lanky blond from South Carolina, who carried a BAR; Morgan from West Virginia who carried a GI blanket cut in half wrapped tightly in a roll on his ammo belt harness; and Sedut, who carried two hand grenades John Wayne style on the front of his belt harness. I am sure someone besides me remembers them.

Two others I didn't serve with but knew quite well were Bill Baker and Jim Miner—both of whom lost their lives in combat. I went to high school with Baker, who was with one of the cavalry units. Miner, a Marine, lived down the road a short distance from my family. We often played baseball together during the summer months. He was in the Marines less than six months before he was sent to Korea.

For all practical purposes, the war in Korea for me was over the third week in May 1951. I was one of the first soldiers to rotate back to the States under the point system. The system took into consideration how many months we served in a front line combat unit and total continuous overseas service, in addition to how many times a person went on sick call from duty in the company.

Cpl. Thull, from Pittsburgh, was the first soldier rotated from Company B, 27th Infantry. He had never been on sick call for anything, including being wounded. He was likened to the Model T Ford that just kept going day in and day out at one speed. In

One day I was in the Pusan area and decided to visit the military cemetery... Seeing all those crosses of white with a sprinkle of the Star of David was a very sobering experience for me. All those who gave their lives were now equal before their creator—the poor, rich, black, white, Christian, Jew, believer and non-believer—all in repose.

winter he was wrapped in his long overcoat with a scarf tied around his neck. Always where the action was he could be found doing a good job.

I arrived in the States on June 9, 1951 after a pleasant crossing of the Pacific Ocean. The water was smooth as glass. Balboa, in 1513, when he discovered the ocean must have viewed it as I did when he gave the ocean the name Pacific, meaning peaceful.

I met my bother, Albert, who is two years younger than me, at the Bremerton, Washington, shipyard just north of Seattle. He was serving aboard the aircraft carrier Valley Forge with home base on the West Coast. I was impressed with the size of the flight deck—bigger than a football field!

We went by train from Seattle to Pittsburgh, PA, and then took a bus south 35 miles to Waltersburg in Fayette County. After getting off the bus, we walked about a mile up the county road to our two-story country home where we were both born.

Dad was sitting on the front porch swing; he got up and gave us both a big hug and hand shake. He said, "I was praying for both you boys!" We then went into the house where Mom greeted us with hugs and kisses. My younger brothers and sister living at home greeted us and wanted to know all about Korea.

Fifty years later, my views on the Korean War have changed very little. Reading a few books and articles has left me with the opinion that politicians are the same year after year, war after war. Most who had any significant input into the war were liberals who argued for the interests of Europe. From what I have read, it seems Britain basically demanded that the Korean War be fought to an indecisive end so that we could concentrate our military in Europe to bolster our former WWII allies against

the growing Communist threat.

Ten years after the Korean hostilities ended, the Vietnam War was already in its infant stages, with China in a much better position politically and economically to aid the Communist cause. Their political agenda back then was to extend their influence over all of southeast Asia while diminishing that of the United States and Russia. As far as I know, that is still their objective today.

Over the years, our political leaders made grave errors in foreign policy that cost thousands of American lives, from Pearl Harbor to the Yalu River. In both cases the better use of our military intelligence and capabilities went unheeded.

Modern school textbooks at the high school level give 3/4 of a chapter to WW II and 1/2 a chapter to Vietnam (mostly expressing how badly our service people performed). Those same books offer maybe a page or two of information about the Korean War, a war that cost over 54,000 American lives. By the time another generation passes, the texts will probably sum up the liberal view of the war in one sentence: "The Korean War, 1950-53, did nothing to advance the causes of freedom and democracy."

What I have written here is the way it was fifty years ago, according to my memory. I had it no more difficult than my fellow soldiers-in-arms during my tour in Korea. I prayed a lot, was very lucky, and managed to survive.

I am proud to have served as an infantryman, which bonds me in a certain personal way with those who have gone before me in the service of our country in past wars at Valley Forge, Bastogne, Verdun, and San Juan.

It has been my pleasure to have shared my experiences with you.

Bob Ondrish

Reunion Calendar 2007

To post your Reunion Dates, send your information to Reunion Editor, The Graybeards, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT, or by email to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net. The preferred format is: Unit, Date, Place, Point of Contact (POC). Provide as much POC info as possible, e.g., name, address, phone #, email address. Many of our readers do not use email, so contact information is important. Entries are posted on a "first come, first served basis" as space allows.

MAY

Chapter 186, KWVA, St. Charles, Missouri, 2-4 May, O'Fallon, MO, Comfort Inn. We welcome any KWVA member to join with us in the activities of this reunion. POC: Commander Frank Williams, (636) 272-5046; e-mail Gene Stark, gstark14@yahoo.com

USS Noble (APA 218), 3-7 May, Oklahoma City, OK. POC: Bill Murphy, 98 W. Albion Street, Holley, NY 14470, (585) 638-6060, or L. B. Thompson, (580) 371-9640

18th Fighter Wing Association (All units assigned to 18th Group Wing from 1927 to date, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf, Iraq), 4-7 May, Nashville, TN. POC: Linda Irvine, (360) 663-2521, info@ReunionBrat.com

SeaBees – MCB#4 (All Eras), 7-9 May, Branson, MO, Welk Resort. POC: Nick "Mush" Marschhauser, 478 Fortsville Road, Gansevoort, NY 12831-1573, (518) 745-7753, nick@nickstents.com

84th & 62nd Engineers (Korea, 1950-54), 7-10 May, Virginia Beach, VA. POC: Ted Anbuhl, 7255 Oakbriar Dr. S, Mobile, AL 36619, (251) 666-5521, tanbuhl4@gulfnet.com

73rd Tank Bn., 73rd Armor, & 73rd Cav. (USA), 14-18 May, 2007, Louisville, KY. POC: Curtis Banker, (518) 643-2302, dmbanker-curtis@northnet.org

USS Cogswell (DD-651) Association, 17-19 May, Branson, MO. POC: George H. Overman, P.O. Box 6098, Oceanside, CA 92052-6098, (760) 889-2216, uss-cogswell@cox.net or www.destroyers.org/uss-cogswell

180th Medical Company (Korea), 18-19 May, Boston/Newton, MA. POC: Patrick "King" Sbarra, 220 Brainard Ave., P. O. Box #157, Cape May Point, NJ 08212, (609) 884-6652, j.sbarra@comcast.net or Col. Bat Shunatona (Ret), (405) 739-0277 (Oklahoma City, OK)

999th AFA Bn (Armored Field Artillery Battalion (Korea, 1950-54), May 25-27, Tallahassee, FL, Park Plaza Hotel. POC: Andrew Brown, Jr., 340 Ave. V, Northeast, Winter Haven, FL 33881, Andrew.brown@velfafarms.com

KMAG, We are gauging interest in attending our KMAG reunion this year, tentatively May 25-27. (The actual date is subject to response by vets.) We invite all Korean Military Advisory Group (KMAG) vets from 1950 to the present. For more information, contact: U S Army Korean Military Group, Omaha, NE, Dale Griffith, (402) 393-4904, dalegrpanthers@aol.com.

JUNE

2nd Bn., 1st Regt., 1st Marine Division (Korean War Era, 1950-1955), 11-14 June, Atlantic City, Clarion Hotel. POC: George T Coyle Sr., 54 Price Street, Sayreville, NJ 08872-1644, (732) 254-6646, GTC1528@worldnet.att.net

21st Inf. Regt. (and attached units in war and peace time), 12-15 June, Fort Mitchell, KY, Drawbridge Inn. POC: Ezra P. Burke, 15322 Edgehill Dr., Dumfries, VA 22025-1037, (703) 730-9292, gimlet21st@comcast.net

Outpost Harry Survivors Assoc. [Korea], 15-17 June, Fort Benning GA. POC: E. Douglas Jones, 14614 Channel Dr., LaConner, WA 98257, (360) 466-1945, karkelko@wavecable.com

728th MP Bn., Korea (1950 - to date), 17-20 June, Columbus, GA. (Holiday Inn, Columbus North). POC: Aubrey Smith, (770) 597-6963, (770) 957-1023 (Fax)

58th Fighter Association (including World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the current 58th Wing in New Mexico), 19-23 June, San Antonio, TX. POC: J. Kupferer, 2025 Bono Road, New Albany, IN 47150-4609, jkupferer@insightb.com

68th Fighter Interceptor Squadron ("Lightning Lancers") All eras are cordially invited. 28-30 June, Oklahoma City, OK, Embassy Suites Hotel (405) 682-6000. POC: James R. Johnson, Grove City, MN 56243-3809, (320) 857-2480

7th Inf. Div. Assn. (aka Hourglass and Bayonet Division), 28 June-1 July, Fort Mitchell, KY, Drawbridge Inn. POC: John (Casey) Stengel, 712 Griggs St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, (616) 243-7174, execsec@7id.us, or visit www.7id.us

JULY

L Co., 31st Inf. Regt., 7th Div., 9-11 July, Richmond, KY. POC: John R. Jarvis, 607 Shady Court, Arnold, MO 63010-2333, (636) 282-2861

35th Inf. Regt. (CACTI) Assn., 26-29 July, Philadelphia, PA, Crowne Plaza Center City, POC: Richard Lopez, (760) 246-2184. Call toll free (866) 618-0410 or direct at (215) 561-7500 for reservations, or access www.cacti35th.org.

The Korean War Ex-POW Association, 29 July-5 Aug., Charleston, WV, Charleston Marriott Town Center Hotel. POC: F Jack Chapman, (505)-523-2298, fjchap@aol.com

AUGUST

5th Marine Division Association, 21-26 Aug., Raleigh, NC, Hilton North Raleigh. POC: George Cattelona, P.O. Box 58206, Raleigh, NC 27658-8206.

SEPTEMBER

USS Lewis Hancock (DD675), 6-9 Sept., Dayton, OH. POC: Patsy Iapalucci, 323 W. Third Street, Greensburg, PA 15601, (724) 834-0370, iapal@everizon.net

75th Air Depot Wing, Korea, Japan and Europe (1952-1955), 6-9 Sept., Portland, OR. POC: Walt Walko, 13616 Paradise Villas Grove, Colorado Springs, CO 80921, (719) 488-1196, wawlaw2@juno.com

630th Engineers Light Equipment Co., 9-12 Sept., Branson, MO. POC: Oscar Viehland, 9587 Woodland Rd., Robertsville, MO 63072-2300, (636) 285-4402, ogvccv@ruralnet.com

40th Inf. Div., 160th Regt., Co. A (Korea), 10-12 Sept., Rapid City, SD., Quality Inn. POC: Roger Lueckenhoff, 208 Steeplechase Rd., Rolla, MO. 65401-3784, (573) 364-4145, lueck@fidnet.com

USS Sphinx (ARL-24), 10-13 Sept., Branson, MO. POC: Frank Ironi, 954 Lilac Drive, Sauk Centre, MN 56378, (612) 352-3271.

91st MP Battalion (289, 560, 563 MP COs, Pusan, Korea, 1951-1955, plus all other Pusan area MPs), 11-14 Sept., Branson, MO. POC: Bob Simon, (989) 793-3718, robsimoncondo@charter.net; Don Hart, (989) 732-8102, donchart@yahoo.com

D-2-7 (Korea), 12-15 Sept., Valley Forge, PA. POC: Ric Barron, P. O. Box 96, Hamburg, NJ 07419, RicBD27@cs.com

38th Ordnance Co Association, 14-16 Sept., Dayton, OH, Holiday Inn North. POC: Bill Smith, (260) 485-6369, hurst468@aol.com, or Joe Hanel, (402) 986-1511

USS Essex (CV/CVA/CVS-9/LHD-2), 17-22 Sept., San Diego, CA, Crowne Plaza of San Diego, POC: Bruce Sims, 581 Conkle Rd., Hampton, GA 30288, (770) 707-1812, Hangerbay@aol.com

44th Engineer Battalion Association ("Broken Heart Battalion"), 18 - 21 Sept., Springfield, IL. POC: LT COL [Ret] Ken Jobe, (757) 428 0328, kejo425@AOL.com, or Bernie Resnick, (603) 434 6406, BigBMR@AOL.com. (Open to all Korean War, post Korean War, Vietnam and Iraqi War members of the Broken Heart Battalion Association as well as supporting and associated units.)

Hdqtrs 10th Corps and Attached Services (1950-53), 20-23 Sept., College Station, TX. POC: Gordon R. Kennedy, (979) 778-2563.

1st & 86th Ordnance Company, 26-28 Sept., Dayton, OH. POC: George Kvet, 812 Beverly Ave., Canal Fulton, OH 44614, (330) 854-9754, or Elaine Laketa, (630) 739-5008

Marine Corps Tankers Assn., 30 Sept.-5 Oct., York, PA. POC: G. D. Rose, (619) 579-7848, gdroseumcr@yahoo.com

OCTOBER

L Co., 279th Inf., 45th Div., 1-4 Oct., Laughlin, NV. POC: Paul Elkins, PO Box 348, Kasilof, AK 99610, (907)260-6612, pselks@gmail.com

67th TRW V 1 1, 3-6 Oct., Norfolk/Williamsburg, VA area. POC: Ronnie Krakovsky, 115 Texas Street, Elkin, NC 28621, lady_planter@yahoo.com, or Joe Krakovsky, joerene2@earthlink.net, (336) 835 5553

1st Bn., 7th Marine Association (Korea), 3-6 Oct., Oklahoma City, OK, Clarion-Meridian Hotel & Convention Center. If you were a Corpsman, chaplain or doctor, in or attached, to 1st Bn., 7th Marines, in Korea between 1950 and 1953, you are welcome! POC: H. L. Mulhausen, 6405 S. Douglas Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73139, (405) 632-7351, hmuleym@aol.com

USS Meredith Association (DDs 165, 434, 726, 890), 3-8 Oct., Washington DC. POC: Harry Wrede, 377 Conklintown Rd., Ringwood, NJ 07456, (973) 839-0332, hlwcaw@aol.com

Army Security Agency (Korea Veterans), 4-7 Oct., Lincolnshire, IL, Marriott Resort (Suburban Chicago). POC: Ed Collins, PO Box 7182, Deerfield, IL 60015, B Company, 15th Regiment, 3rd US. Army Division, 7-13 October, Lafayette, LA. POC: Verlin Abbott, (337-896-3663), verlin&marie@aol.com

712th TROB - Korean War, annual national reunion, 10-13 Oct., Newport News, VA. POC: Robert G Shannon, (910) 949-3920, rgshannon@earthlink.net

U.S. Army 28th Gen. Hosp. Association, 10-13 Oct., Branson, MO, Grand Plaza Hotel. POC: Joe Lott, 2210 Chidester Rd., Camden, AR 71701-3012, (870) 836-3725, wayx@seark.net

841st Engineer Aviation Battalion, WW II and KOREA, 10-14 Oct., Surfside Beach Holiday Inn, SC. POC: Ed McManus, 8703 Curtis Ave., Alexandria VA 22309, (202) 557-9407, Colsapper@aol.com

15th Radio Sq. Mobile/6922 (USAF) 1950-58 USAFSecurityService, 14-17 Oct., Charleston, SC. POC: Jim Bramwell, 108 President Ave., Rutledge, PA 19070-2111, (610) 544-5143, M.JBRAMPRES3@verizon.net

G-3-1 Korea Association (open to any who served with George Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st MarDiv in Korea 1950-1955), 16-18 Oct., Quantico, VA. POC: J. R. "Bob" Camarillo, (805) 647-9319, retiredx2@sbcglobal.net

Veterans of the Korean War, 17-20 Oct., Virginia Beach, VA, Surfside Inn. POC: Floyd D. Newkirk, (757) 340-9801, fnewkirk@cox.net, Gerald Brown, (757) 237-4541, PGKpfn12117@aol.com, or Richard Stacy, P2radio@verizon.net

Photo Section, Signal Corps, 25th Inf. Div. ("Tropic Lightning"), Oct.?, Tampa, FL. POC: Rollie Berens, 18400 Brookfield Lake Drive, Brookfield, WI 53045, (262) 797-8897.

NOVEMBER

Fox-2-7 (Korea), 1-5 Nov., Orlando, FL, Hawthorne Suites. POC: Dick Bonelli, 10 Stone Mtn Blvd., Englewood, FL 34223, (941) 460-1755, B027Fox@verizon.net

How Many MOH Recipients Were There In Korea?

Hershall E. Lee, a resident of Danville, IL, asked us for a listing of all MOH recipients for the Korean War. He heard there were 77 in all, seven of them from Illinois. We sent our crack research team out to find the answer. Here is what we learned.

■ As of 13 May 2003, there were 131 recipients. The breakdown is:

Army	78
Navy	7
Marines	42
Air Force.....	4
Coast Guard	0
Total	131

■ KWVA member Tibor Rubin received his MOH on 9/23/2005, which raised the total to 132.

■ As of June 2, 2006, there were fifteen surviving recipients.

Source: Congressional Medal of Honor Society, www.cmoHS.org. Mr. Lee also asked for a complete list of the recipients. Space does not permit us to print that list. However, it is available at the aforementioned website.

Incidentally, the seven recipients from Illinois were:

• William F. Dean, MajGen, US Army,



Korean/Vietnam Wars Memorial at Hazel & Williams Streets in Danville, IL

Chester IL

- Lester Hammond, Jr., Corporal, US Army, Quincy, IL
- John E. Kilmer, HN, US Navy, Lake County
- Edward C. Krzyzowski, Captain, US Army, Cicero, IL
- James J. Poynter, Sergeant, US Marines, Bloomington, IL
- Louis J. Seville, Major, US Air Force, Chicago, IL

• Richard G. Wilson, Private First Class, US Army, Marion, IL

• William G. Windrich, S/Sgt, US Marines, Chicago, IL

Lee also wants to see a map of all the K-Sites and Compound locations during the Korean War. If anyone can help him, he can be reached at 212 Kentucky Avenue, Danville, IL 61832, (217) 431-0467.

DOUBLE FLASH!

2007 REVIST KOREA QUOTAS INCREASED AGAIN

We are pleased to announce that the 2007 "Revisit Korea" quotas have been increased again! In addition, KVA Seoul has added a tour in October and **PLEASE NOTE** that the dates for our September Revisit have changed as well. Finally, **all dates for the China Options have been changed** from last month's Graybeards. If you **HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED**, please use the dates below as the **final ones** for planning purposes..

We have our President, Lou Dechert, to thank for these quota increases. He personally flew to Korea last fall to meet with KVA in Seoul and in addition to official business, lobbied for increased quotas. His flawless logic was, that although we don't like to admit it, we are getting older and each year, more and more veterans are becoming unable to make that long journey and receive the appreciation of the Korean people.

<u>Korea</u>	<u>China Option</u>
May 13-19	May 19-24
June 20-26	June 26 - July 1
September 10-16	September 16-21
October 14-20	October 20-25
November 7-13	November 13-18

In the last several years, many veterans have elected to join our **post tour to China**. Beijing is less than two hours flight time from Incheon. Since you are already in Asia, you can also enjoy the mysteries of China, from the **"Forbidden City"** to the **"Great Wall"**. My wife has joined me for this tour and **she loved every minute of it!** China is very exciting (and affordable), especially since you have already flown across the Pacific and your Revisit Korea tour has been subsidized by the ROK government. **The ladies especially enjoy the shopping in both Korea and China.**

AS IN THE PAST, these quotas will go very fast and we allot them on KWVA's strict "first come-first served" basis. *The bottom line is: "He who hesitates, is lost!"*

Please call our office, **Military Historical Tours**, at 800-722-9501 in Alexandria, VA with ANY questions. You can also apply on the phone, with a credit card, to place your name on the reservation list. Eligibility for these subsidized quotas is contained on the application form located elsewhere in The Graybeards.

Sincere and fraternal regards,

Warren

Warren Wiedhahn

Korea, 1950

Revisit Korea Coordinator

KWVA REVISIT PROGRAM C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS

4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22304 USA

800-722-9501 * 703-212-0695 * FAX 703-212-8567

mht@miltours.com * www.miltours.com

Thanks!

As we have noted in past issues, there is no shortage of thanks extended from Koreans to the veterans who fought for theirs and their own and their predecessors' freedom over fifty years ago. Here are more results.

1- GULF COAST [AL]

The Chapter sponsors a picnic every year for the Koreans living in Mobile, AL. In turn, the Koreans treat them to a dinner at their church in June. The photos below are of CID 1 members and church members at dinner after service at Korean church on June 25, 2006 and of Korean-American guests at picnic sponsored for them by CID 1 members.





Recon Missions

Looking for...

Robert E. Evans

I am looking for Robert E. Evans, from Runnels, Iowa. We were in George Company together, arrived in Korea, Oct. 8 '51, 7th Cav. When we got to Hokkaido, Japan, in Dec. '51, he transferred to Service Company. For some reason he came into our barracks and asked if I could type. I told him I had two years typing in high school, but no typing done since.

He made an appointment for me to come to type a letter. After I finished it, he asked if I had made any mistakes. I said, "Of course!" Then he told me to type a perfect letter because the position was finance clerk, which required accuracy, not speed, and my transfer went through. This was in March '52. So, for my last year in the army, I sat behind a typewriter. In fact, I was chosen as one of three typists on the ship's paper staff coming home in Feb. '53. I had all the privileges of an officer re chow lines, etc. I will never forget my assignment! One stencil a day! Wow! What duty, eh?

The last I heard from Evans he was in Chicago. That was over 50 years ago. I have had others try to find him for me, gone on the white pages on the computer, etc., with no luck.

I would like to ask him how he knew to ask if I could type and thank him for thinking of me before I check out of this life. We had gone over on the same ship Sept. 19, 1951, the Gen. M.M. Patrick.

Leroy Rogers, 413 Belle Meade Drive, Maryville, TN 37803, (865) 982-6030, leroyrogersusa@hotmail.com

Counter Mortar Radar

I was in Korea in 1951 and 1952, assigned to a Counter Mortar RADAR Team as a RADAR Repairman. The Team was assigned to the 8th F.A Bn. of the 25th Infantry Division. I believe there were 13 of the Teams in Korea.

I have never read or heard anything about those teams, so I would like to learn more about them, their history, etc.

Thank you very much.

James Phillips

EDITOR'S NOTE: Please send any information you have to The Graybeards, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, or sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net. I will pass it on to Mr. Phillips.

Looking for...

Lee, Seung Kyo

I was drafted into the United States Army on January 29, 1951 and discharged on October 28, 1952. I had my basic training in California and arrived in Inchon, Korea. From there we went on to Seoul, and on to the front line about July 1951. On the front line I was assigned to Co. E, 5th Regimental Combat Team (5th RCT) APO 301, Easy (E) Company, which was attached to the 24th Infantry Division.

I am writing to you in hopes that after 55 years I can put closure on this part of my life. I have been trying to find Lee, Seung Kyo (I am not sure if this is how he spelled his name, because we called

him Lee).

I wrote to Congressman Jim Costa on February 24, 2006, and I still have not heard from their office. I have called them several times, but still have not received an answer. This is why I am writing to you in hopes that you may be able to find out if Lee died on the front line after I left, because I heard there was a big push October 1952, or if he survived the war.

On the front line we were on a hill (10,703 ft. elevation). During this time is when the KATUSA (Koreans attached to U.S. Army) arrived, and when I met Lee, Seung Kyo. Lee was with me during the time I was on the front line as we moved from place to place constantly digging foxholes to keep us safe.

Lee's family lived in Pusan. At that time his father had two large commuter ship businesses that went from island to island. Lee was about 20 years old then.

The South Korean Army must have a listing of soldiers who served with the U.S. Army and those who died in battles that you might have access to.

William M. Ueki, 2619 S. Armstrong Ave.
Fresno, CA 93725, (559) 237-6025



Lee, Seung Kyo

Looking for...

McCormick Sisters

Maybe you can help me find the two daughters of PFC John McCormick, U.S. Army, who served in WWII and Korea, where he was killed.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: A chunk of the original piece of paper was missing when I received it, but it did list one daughter's name as Marie....Let's pick up the letter here]....I have no other information, so I know the chances are slim.

They were quite young at the start of the Korean War, so they would be somewhere in their 60s.

Harry Weiss, 20033 Balke Road
Warsaw, MO 65355, (660) 438-2315

8221st Army Unit Association Members

I am looking for:

1. Former members of the 8221st Army Unit, Field Artillery, Topographic & Meteorological Detachment (X Corps Artillery).
2. Former members of the 8219th Army Unit, Field Artillery, Topographic & Meteorological Detachment (IX Corps).
3. Unit members of perhaps a special engineering or USAF team(s) that were directly involved in the ground survey and/or ground marking of the DMZ.
4. Former members of X Corps personnel assigned to the operation of the Koto-ri Airstrip in Nov/Dec of 1950. These personnel

were perimeter guards, engineers, loaders and un-loaders of supplies and wounded. A Lt. of the 2nd Engr. Special Brigade was an officer on site.

Thanks for whatever assistance you can offer.

Michael Kaminski, 2912 S 10th Ave
Broadview, IL 60155, (708) 345-8244, (708)
345-8263 (Fax), mcjk.8152@worldnet.att.net

Searching for ID of Marine in photograph taken at Chosin Reservoir

I was born in Paducah, KY, graduated from Woodstock, IL High School in 1950, attended NROTC at Iowa State College in 1950-53, and graduated from Annapolis in 1957. While a high school sophomore, I attended the Patterson School for Boys in North Carolina, in 1947-48. I had a classmate there from Kingsport, Tennessee, named Bill Seaver.

Sometime between my high school graduation and entering the Naval Academy, I came across a full-page picture in *Life Magazine* of Bill, taken (as I recall) at the Chosin Reservoir in his Marine combat uniform. He had a "1000 yard" stare (later familiar in Vietnam), obviously from battle trauma of that now famous Korean War battle, but I never doubted the picture was of Bill.

I have never been able to make contact with him, although I have found the photo. Now, I would like to verify that the man in the photo is indeed Bill. If anybody can verify it was him—or knows of his whereabouts—I would appreciate your help.

Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Harry (Bob) Moore, 9510 Eredine Way, Bristow, VA,
20136, (703) 335-1133, harryjrmoore@msn.com

History of the Dog Tag

I am a military spouse who is researching ID Tags/Dog Tags for a book I am writing. I am trying to reach veterans who have personal stories about their Dog Tags. I have a website: www.dogtaghistory.com. On it there are questionnaires for those that are interested in sharing their stories. Here is the angle:

The 100 year anniversary of the official use of military personal identity tags, affectionately known as Dog Tags, recently passed without fanfare.

We are currently in a war where the Dog Tag is once again a highly personal item to warriors in every service and their families. Each Dog Tag carries its own human interest story; it is much more than a piece of metal with words and numbers imprinted on it.

Receiving it, hanging it around the neck, and feeling it is at once

a silent statement of commitment. The tag itself individualizes the human being who wears it within a huge and faceless organization.

The armed forces demand obedience, commitment, and duty to a higher cause, but the Dog Tag which hangs privately within their shirts, close to their chests, becomes a part of them. In a way it brings comfort to that fear of every Soldier facing death: I do not want to be forgotten; I will not be unknown.

Understanding and sharing the history of Dog Tags and their deeply personal meaning in today's world is at the core of this book.

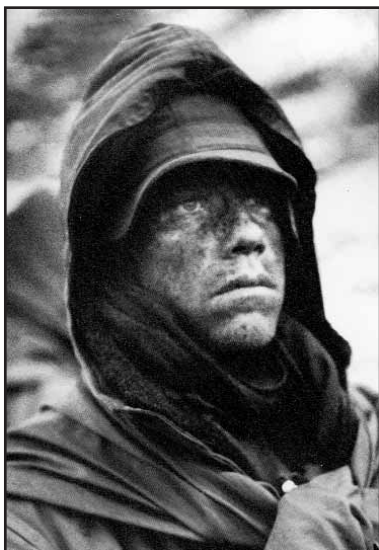
Any help getting this information out there would be appreciated.

Ginger Cucolo, 139 S. 22 Street, Arlington, VA 22202,
info@dogtaghistory.com

Looking for...

Cpl Jasper C. Lomax

I have collected articles published from letters written home from Korea in 1951 and have them near publishing into a book of about 100 pages. I am dedicating the book to a schoolboy friend my brother and I had who was killed within a month of arriving in Korea back in 1951.



"1000 Yard Stare"

'All hands on deck' except for a few lucky jarhead typists

Marvin Myers is a former Marine and Korean War veteran. While serving with the 1st Marine Division in Korea in 1951, he wrote more than 200 pages of letters to his parents. The letters and pictures in this series were kept in a cardboard box (time equals) until May 2005 when opened and scanned for the first time in decades. This series is based on these letters plus Mr. Myers' personal recollections.

Write Mr. Myers at marvmyers@aol.com. Vol. 1, Letter No. 3 © 2005 M.L. Myers.

By M.L. Myers

HOLLY LAKE RANCH—

Most Marines were already on the deck of the U.S.S. General J.C. Breckinridge when the call sounded, except for a few stragglers.

The purpose was to explain the shipboard rules: what stations they would report to in the event of an emergency, location of lifeboats and explanation of the Mae West jackets, etc.

After clearing the deck of house-keeping duties, a call went out for volunteers with typing skills to come down front and center.

Who we need?

Only three other Marines volunteered.

Naturally, I had the encouragement of my fellow Marines as I made my way down with such comments as "You'll be sorry," "I wouldn't volunteer" and "Are you sure?"

(An unwritten rule in the service is that you never volunteer for anything.)

As I approached those in command I noticed a familiar face. Lt. Col. Went.

For the past month I had worked in his office at Camp Pendleton as a volunteer typist. We knew each other.

Now he was going with us to Korea as the commander of the 5th Replacement Draft, but he had a round-trip ticket back to Camp Pendleton.

At the time, it was a great mystery to me as to how the system worked.

He smiled at me and whispered

something to the marine sergeant standing alongside of him before the sergeant pulled me and another Marine—named Ski from Minnesota—out of the line.

My selection, as I was to learn, would have even greater consequences once we arrived in Japan.

Seeing is believing

Here are excerpts from a letter sent to my mother our first full day at sea: 0500 January 28, 1951

Dear Mom,

I couldn't make myself believe that I was going overseas. You know how it is; you know you are going, but in a way you never actually believe until you have gotten on the way.

I'm working in the office (troop official typing with another boy and have my own desk. Tomorrow I'm going to get my own typewriter. We are both using the same one now.

I like the Navy life. The food has been better.

I typed out the official poop (day bulletin) a while ago.

We are scheduled to land in Yokosuka (Japan) 10 February.

This ship is not a luxury liner, but it could be a lot worse.

I haven't figured out the naps yet, yet, and mattresses all have rubber coverings. One (official) aft has little kids' decks all around.

Word just came over the PA that we are going to pass through a little squall in about 10 minutes.

I haven't gotten sick yet, but a lot of boys have.

Starting at 1800 (6 p.m.) they have movies aft.

I have to get ready forchow now. I'd better clean my rifle tonight too.

I haven't touched it [in] almost a week.

Write soon.

P.S. Wow, it's getting rough. I



think I'll go up and see what is happening. Jimmy.

Love always,

Jasper C. Lomax

Working in the troop office turned out to be a dream assignment. (So much for the unwritten laws.)

While it kept me busy and a turret gun mount, probably 20mm, but then what did I know? I was a jarhead, not a wacko jockey. (Armament: 4-by-16 inch, 38 dual-purpose; 4-by-40mm twin-gun mounts; 20-by-20mm (single), so they could take a few shots. Above: This was the first return of the U.S.S. General J.C. Breckinridge after dropping off the U.S. Marine 5th Replacement Draft at Pohang-Dong on Feb. 15, 1951. From there she stopped at Pusan and Yokosuka, Japan, picking up wounded and discharged servicemen for the trip back to Treasure Island Naval Base, San Francisco (shown here), arriving March 5, 1951. In the background in the above photo is Alcatraz, the island and maximum-security prison. (Commentary and photos by M.L. Myers)



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Then And Now

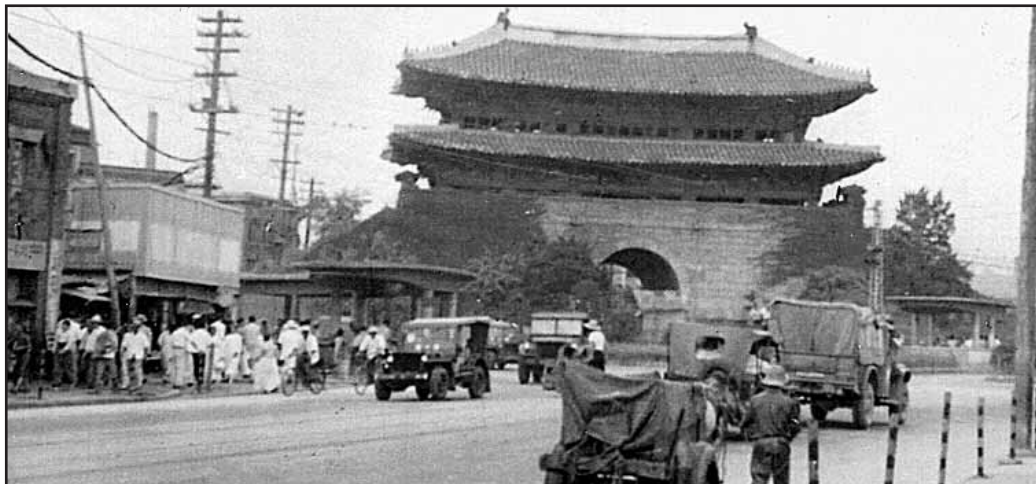
Seoul, Korea

In 1953 I was with the 326th Comm. Recon. Co.(ASA) stationed outside Uijonbue. In May 2006 I traveled to China for seventeen days and spent three days in Korea before coming home. The nearby photos are before and after shots.

In June 1953 I took pictures of the South Gate in Seoul and a street scene, also in Seoul. In May 2006 I took pictures of the same South Gate and a typical street scene.

Needless to say, some things have changed in the intervening years.

*Sherman Pincus, 247 Park Hill Avenue,
Yonkers, NY 10705*

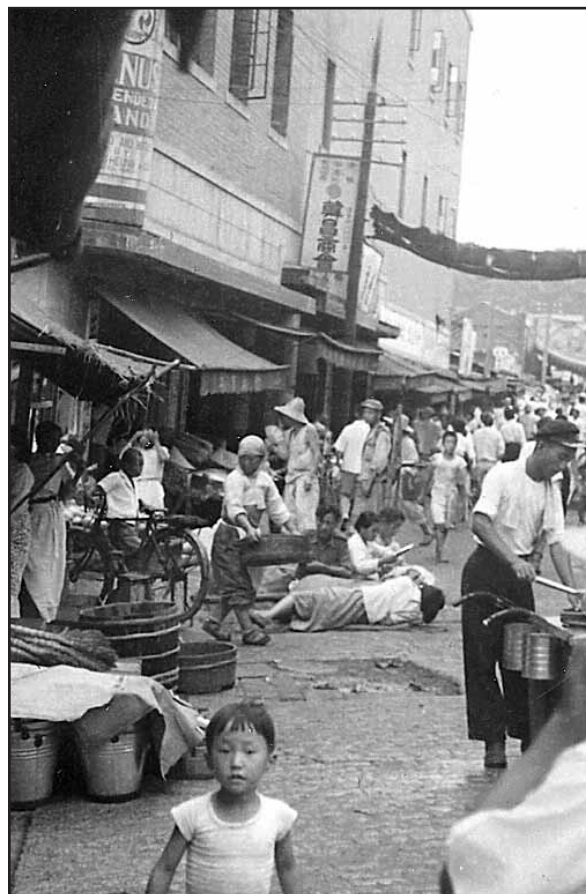


ABOVE: South Gate in Seoul, 1953

LEFT: South Gate in Seoul, 53 years later

BELOW: A busy street in Seoul, 1953

BELOW LEFT: An even busier street in Seoul, 2006



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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 Biography

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' 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

Phone: 703-212-0695

c/o MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS

Fax: 703-212-8567

4600 Duke Street, Suite 420

E-mail: mht@miltours.com

Alexandria, VA 22304-2517

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 Incheon 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.

Flashback!



Laredoan In Korea Learns Hard Way

WITH THE U. S. SECOND INFANTRY DIVISION IN KOREA. Aug. 3.—"I guess we have to learn the hard way," said Pvt. Reynaldo Reyna, Jr., 20, 2803 Springfield Ave., Laredo, Tex.

Reyna had just been assigned to the 82d Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Second Infantry Division, as a rotation replacement.

He was riding a supply truck up to "B" battery when the Chinese started pouring mortar fire into the supply route.

"We saw everybody running but we didn't know what to do first. When we heard the shells screaming in we jumped out of the truck and into a hole. Maybe that's automatic, huh?"

Reynaldo Reyna of CID 209, Laredo KWVA 1950 learned the hard way in Korea, as the nearby photo taken in 1950 attests.

Thanks to Pete Trevino, 3219 E. Lyon Street, Laredo, TX 78043 for sending the photo.

MOH from page 35

Whereas only 3,443 individuals out of the millions of men and women who have served the United States in war, military operations, or other armed conflicts have been awarded the Medal of Honor;

Whereas there are 111 living recipients of the Medal of Honor, as of January 1, 2007;

Whereas it is appropriate to commemorate and honor the recipients of the Medal of Honor and what they represent;

Whereas the people of the United States should always be aware of the significance and meaning of the Medal of Honor;

Whereas the designation of a National Medal of Honor Day would focus the efforts of national, State, and local organizations striving to foster public appreciation and recognition of Medal of Honor recipients; and

Whereas March 25, 2007, would be an appropriate date to observe National Medal of Honor Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the heroism and sacrifice of Medal of Honor recipients;

(2) recognizes the educational opportunity that a National Medal of Honor Day would present to the people of the United States; and

(3) supports the goals and ideals of a National Medal of Honor Day to celebrate and honor the contributions of Medal of Honor recipients.

SPONSORS:

Rep Skelton, Ike [MO]

Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [HI]

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, CT 06067 or emailed to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net



**The 68th Fighter Squadron “Lightning Lancers”
First Air-to-Air Kill – Korea**

A gathering of personnel of all grades after the F-94B became fully operational in 1951

Photo courtesy of Stanley J. Grogan, Mt. Diablo Chapter 264 [CA]

**Korean War Veterans Association
Membership Recording Secretary
PO Box 22857
Alexandria, VA 22304-9285**

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