

# Tour News

**Revisit Korea**

## 60th Anniversary Commemorations

The week of the 59th Anniversary of the Inchon Landing, 15 September, Major General "Jack" Singlaub, USA (ret) and I represented all U.S. Korean War veterans at a series of high level meetings in Seoul. The purpose was to get a feel for the level of planning for the anniversaries commencing in 2010. We met with both U.S. and ROK committees and were very pleased with what we learned.

The ROK government is going to go all out to thank the veterans and their families for their sacrifices during the war. Their sacrifices kept their country free from communism and provided them with stable security, enabling them to rebuild from the ravages of war.

There will be four major commemorations in 2010, commencing with the anniversary of the invasion 25 June. This will be followed with the Pusan Perimeter, the Inchon Landing, the Liberation of Seoul, and the Northern Winter Campaign commemorations. (The 2011-2013 plans are still on the drawing board.)

At this juncture, the actual 2010 dates have not been finalized. However, we do know that the annual quotas will be doubled and the eligibility restrictions for participation will be reduced. We also know that through the persuasion of the Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), Minister Yang Kim, an increased emphasis will be placed on the education of the children and grandchildren of Korean War veterans in Korea! As the paraphrased saying goes, "Those who don't study history, may be doomed to repeat it!"

Inside *The Graybeards* is an application for the commemoration tours. Fill it out and return it ASAP. Those who are pre-registered will have the "Right of first refusal" once we receive the actual Revisit dates from KVA, Seoul. (Your name will be entered by the date the application is received).

We expect these tours to be oversubscribed, so please don't hesitate! Send the application now, so you will not be left behind. June 2010 is only eight (8) months away!

If you need more information, you can call us at 703-590-1295 or email us at JWiedhahn@miltours.com.

*Warren Wiedhahn  
KWVA USA Revisit Coordinator*

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## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

*By Frank Cohee*

Contrary to all the pros and cons about the Korean War Veterans Membership Directory, it has been a huge success. Those of you who found fault with this project and who have decided not to participate will not only be surprised at the results but will regret your decision.

Here are some statistics as of the end of August, 2009. (Incidentally, if you decide to participate, call 1-800-877-6554, which is the number for Customer Service at Harris Connect.)

- 17,907 members have called in to update their information during the phoning process. Using this number as the base, the sales rate is about 51% (outstanding).

- Sales

Regular .....	710
Collector's Edition .....	4,960
CD ROM.....	111
Regular/CD ROM .....	41
Collector's/CD ROM .....	1,430
Tribute Print .....	1,825
Tribute Print/Membership .....	11
<b>Total Orders .....</b>	<b>9,088</b>

I still have not had a good explanation of what the above breakout means, but I think the Collector's Edition is the hard copy version. If that is correct, then the KWVA will receive at least \$24,800—if not more. And what did it cost the KWVA? "0," except as I previously mentioned, my time.

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**... we are offering inactive members a special membership dues cost of only \$10 to be reinstated as a member for one year.**

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If you recall, there was an article in the Jul-Aug *Graybeards* on page 7 (continued on page 31) that I wrote about the Directory. One of the

benefits I mentioned was that we are offering inactive members a special membership dues cost of only \$10 to be reinstated as a member for one year. As of the end of Aug 2009, 1,034 inactive members have taken advantage of this offer. The KWVA has received checks from Harris Connect in the amount of \$10,394. Again what did it cost the KWVA? "0"!

I do not have any numbers yet, but we discovered several bad email addresses, several bad postal addresses, and a few members who were deceased but who were still being sent copies of *The Graybeards*. Again, the cost to the KWVA was "0."

And many of you think this was a fraud, a scam, or too expensive, etc!!!

Lastly, I have received about 200-300 phone calls about the Directory, both pro and con. But, some members have taken their time to call and thank me for such a great idea. At least one has taken the time to write me a personal note to say how much he appreciates being able to participate in the project.