

America's Forgotten Victory!

# KOREA VETERANS

## The Graybeards



Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**  
March - April 2013 Vol. 27, No. 2

*Remembering...*



*the fallen*

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Official Publication of  
**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION**



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# From the President

James E. Ferris

Nine months have gone since I assumed the presidency of the KWVA. In my last message to you there was both good and disappointing news. This time all I have is good news.

As you recall, when I ran for President I told you that I would try to place us in a stable financial condition. One plan was to approach the South Korean government for subsidies. If that didn't work, I would try private business and industry or employ other means to help us out.

I pointed out that the dues we collect each year just about pay the bills. I reminded you that *The Graybeards* is our biggest expense, and I would do my best to find funds other than dues to pay for this great magazine.

The last thing I want to do is reduce issues or lessen the quality of *The Graybeards*. After my first meeting with the South Korean Ambassador last summer, I asked him if the South Korean government could subsidize us in the amount of \$150,000.00. I know this was brazen of me, but I look at it this way: if you don't ask, you don't receive—and I am not afraid to ask.

The Ambassador tried to convince his government to do so, but to no avail. It wasn't that they did not want to help. It was just something that they do not do for any of the UN countries. I understood this completely, and I have absolutely no problem with the government's decision. So, I thanked the Ambassador for his efforts.

That left me with my second option: contact private business and industry leaders. I have cultivated a great friendship with Professor Jongwoo Han, a Korean-American professor at Syracuse University, who is very influential in his native country.

In the last several months Professor Han and I have met many times to discuss issues concerning the KWVA that I will talk about later. I asked Professor Han whether he could, with his knowl-

**Mr. Park has donated to us \$100,000.00 dollars! Yes, that is one hundred thousand dollars. He will send it to us in two increments: \$50,000.00 this year and \$50,000.00 next year.**

edge of influential industries in South Korea, possibly ask them for a donation to the KWVA. Because of Professor Hans's dedication to the KWVA, he contacted a friend of his in South Korea, Mr. Byeong Yeop Park, Chairman and CEO of Panteck Industries, manufacturers of cell phones and other products.

Mr. Park has donated to us \$100,000.00 dollars! Yes, that is one hundred thousand dollars. He will send it to us in two increments: \$50,000.00 this year and \$50,000.00 next year.

We owe Professor Han and Mr. Park a great deal of gratitude. Professor Han is working extremely hard on our legacy. As you know, he has developed an online digital museum that is growing larger and larger each day. He is now working on extending his interviews to our grandchildren. He would like very much to interview your grandchildren and to allow them to comment on you and the Korean War.

I urge you to contact Professor Han. He can explain in detail his plans for your grandchildren. His name and address are on the inside front cover of *The Graybeards*. I assure you it will be quite exciting for those who participate and well worth their doing so.

Here is another good piece of financial news. I received a final settlement of the estate of Frances Mathilda Worley in the amount of \$11,763.17. And the good news keeps on coming.

The 60th anniversary events that will take place in Washington DC in July have taken a turn for the good. For several months Col Wiedhahn and I have attended meetings of the 60th anniversary committee in Arlington VA. This committee is made up of members of several VSOs, such as the VFW, American Legion and others.

The main force behind these meetings is the Department of Defense. Gen Sharp

and Col Clark have been working on the agenda since the onset of the planning stages. From the beginning, I, Col Wiedhahn, Col Weber and others have insisted that the memorial event on the 27th of July take place at our KWVA National Memorial on the mall. Problems existed with this plan, as Col Clark has explained at these meetings.

The largest problem that existed was the lack of funds to hold the memorial there. He told us that although they wanted the event at the mall, doing so was beyond their budget. So, it would probably be held at the amphitheater at Arlington Cemetery. This was unacceptable to us.

Col Clark and Gen Sharp also wanted it at the mall, and they worked diligently to convince the powers to be that this event should be held there. On Wednesday, March 20th, during my conference with the Board of Directors of the KWVA, I received notice from Col Wiedhahn that the event will be held at our National Memorial on the mall.

The Secretary of the Army, Mr. John McHugh, stepped in and made it possible. We owe him our thanks. If the event were held at Arlington Cemetery, it would have been limited to approximately 5,000 people. Col Weber, Col Wiedhahn, and I insisted in all of the meetings that this was unacceptable for two primary reasons.

First, I expect at least four to six thousand Korean War veterans to attend, most of whom will bring their spouses, friends, children, or other guests. That alone would mean at least eight to ten thousand people who would wish to be there and could not, due to seating restrictions.

Second, although Arlington Cemetery has great significance to the Korean War, it is not wholly dedicated to the Korean

Continued on page 7

**COVER: DAEJEON, Republic of Korea (March 26, 2013)**  
Rear Adm. Bill McQuilkin, center, commander of U.S. Naval Forces Korea, and members of the Republic of Korea military leadership salute after placing flowers during the Cheonan memorial ceremony at the national cemetery. Forty-six sailors were killed when the Republic of Korea corvette was sunk by a torpedo attack from North Korea three years ago in the Yellow Sea. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Joshua B. Bruns/Released)



26



46



56



76

# CONTENTS

## Business

From the President.....	3
From the Secretary .....	6
Chapter Recruiting Contest Rules .....	8
Recruiting.....	8
Thanks for Supporting <i>The Graybeards</i> .....	11
Official Membership Application Form.....	71

## Features & Articles

A Seder in Seoul .....	23
Remembering .....	52
Dentyne Is My Favorite Gum.....	58
One Day At A Time .....	60
The Taking of Punji Pass .....	68
Did He Do It?.....	70

## Departments

News of Interest .....	9
The Editor's Desk.....	10
Tell America .....	28
Thanks .....	32
Chapter & Department News .....	34
Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions .....	54
Members in the News .....	56
Welcome Aboard.....	57
Feedback/Return Fire .....	62
Recon Missions .....	66
Last Call .....	73

## News & Notes

Korean American Partisan and Airborne Chapter of the American Airborne Association Activated .....	7
Application of KUSCO Internship Program for the Decendants of Korean War Veterans .....	13
Call for Return of Korean Buddhist Artifacts .....	14
Recognition of the Ongoing Nature of the Korean War from 1953 to Date .....	16
Misfires .....	18
New 'Distinguished Warfare Medal' Creates Controversy .....	19
KWVA Reunion Activity Registration Form .....	20
KWVA Reunion Schedule .....	21
Tours Descriptions: Korean War Veterans Association Reunion .....	22
Down Memory Lane With the 68th FIS.....	24
60th Anniversary Memorial Fund-Raiser .....	25
Thank You, Col Clark.....	26
In Memoriam: E. Lee Dauster.....	48
A Letter from the Grave .....	51
From Graves Registration to Mortuary Affairs .....	53
'Uncle Joe' and His Boys .....	56
Kangaroo Court Aboard the Marine Adder .....	61
Soldiers Missing From Korean War Identified .....	65
Thanks, Darcy Flanagan .....	74
The End of a War and the Beginning of a Friendship.....	76
Application For Korean Revisit Tours .....	78



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## From the Secretary



Frank Cohee

### There Has To Be A Way

Mr. Cohee:

I have spent years on this computer trying to help a friend of mine who is a Korean veteran.

He has been trying to get his disability or pension from the Army. He gets the same story: there was this fire that destroyed all his records.

Through the years his personal records have gone missing due to moves and divorces.

He needs repairs to his home, his roof leaks, and he has mold in the walls. He lives in a 1978 mobile home that he has tried to repair. He has no friends or family to help him.

He loves to talk of the older days. He goes to the VA for medical services, but the care is not very good. He feels no one cares and with the new health care, he thinks they are just waiting for him to die, rather than helping him get better.

He suffers from service connected issues, but without those records from that fire he cannot fight for what this country owes him for his service. He is in constant pain from injuries he got in the service of his country, and he feels now that his country has turned its back on him.

Can you help in any way? He will be 78 in April. I am a friend who is trying to help him, but sadly I have no money to help him. I myself am legally blind and on disability of \$537/mo.

I am lost as to where to go to get help for him.

He has been to everyone and no one can help without those records, and no one will help look for any records any longer. His story needs to be told. If he can find anyone who knew him in the service and can verify his injuries, he may be able to get his pension/disability. Thank you for your time.

God Bless you and All our Veterans,

Linda Baker, karlin4748@yahoo.com

*Here is my response. Hopefully it will be of some help.*

Linda:

There are a couple possibilities. One is to contact his local Veterans Service Officer. The contact information should be in his telephone book under U.S. Government. Another possibility is to contact his Congressional Representative and ask for his or her help.

The records center has been conducting a review of the records that were supposedly destroyed because some of them were only scorched and are still readable. His Congressional person can put the pressure on the records center.

### Looking For Information

I was in Korea 1954/55 in the 17th Field Artillery, 8-inch Howitzer Unit. I can't find any information as to location, etc. Can you help?

Russ from Penna, ralanyn@yahoo.com

*My response*

Russ:

You need to "Google" the 17th Field Artillery. There is a lot of information there on that unit. (Access <http://www.17thartilleryregiment.org/>) Here is an example of what you will find:

### The 2013 Reunion will be held in San Antonio, TX. September 25-27th

The 17th Artillery Regiment Association was formed at Lawton, Oklahoma (Fort Sill) on November 10, 1999 and held our first reunion as a Regimental Association. Its purpose is to bring together those who served honorably with, or who are now on active duty in all Battalions of the 17th Artillery. It was also formed to honor those who sacrificed their lives while serving with the unit. The Association's objective is to find all who served with said unit and to hold yearly reunions at various locations. We wish to preserve and strengthen the friendships and camaraderie that was formed while serving in this outstanding Artillery Unit. The Organization will publish a newsletter to keep all members informed of events, historical information, and activities of the Association. We will also maintain the 17th Artillery Classroom in Snow Hall at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and add new Memorabilia, pictures, and history of the past and present units in addition to the exhibits that are already there, as well as maintaining an Internet Site. This site is in recognition of and dedicated to all that proudly served in the great units of the 17th Artillery. Please use our Guest Book to leave a message to other visitors. You can find the old entries at the following link Old Entries. Want to join the Association or add yourself to the Roster ? Send us an email.

### AMVETS And Others Still Calling It A Conflict: It Was And Still Is A War

Mr. Gregory:

I am a member of the AMVETS, so I receive the Florida AMVETS News. In the February 2013 issue, under "Legislative Report," there was a comment about military license plates and the term "Korean Conflict" was used. Trust me, I was in Korea in 1950 and 1951 and that was a war, not a conflict.

Congress has finally recognized that it was a war. Public Law 105-85 and Public Law 105-261 direct the Korean Conflict be designated "Korean War." Please correct that error.

Thanks. Frank Cohee, National Secretary, KWVA

*This is the notification to which Frank Cohee referred. It does mention the date October 17, 1998. By itself it does not verify a declaration of war.*

**Note. Public law 185-85 as well as Public Law 105-261 direct that the Korean Conflict be redesignated "Korean War." See official Public Laws language:**

### Public Law 105-85

### SEC. 1067. PROGRAM TO COMMEMORATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR.

(a) LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES.-Subsection (f) of section 1083

Continued on page 11



# Korean American Partisan and Airborne Chapter of the American Airborne Association Activated

**O**n March 15, 2013, the Korean American Partisan and Airborne Chapter of the American Airborne Association was activated at a meeting held in Ellicott City, MD. Eight Korean Americans and two American veterans of the Korean War attended.

The purpose of this unique chapter is to continue seeking official recognition by the U.S. government of the Korean

Americans who fought behind the Chinese and North Korean lines and caused the Chinese to divert an entire division of troops from the front lines to cope with the unconventional warfare waged by these Partisans. At the time of the end of hostilities in July 1953 there were approximately 20,000 Korean partisans organized, trained and supplied by the United States armed forces.

The partisans conducted water landings on the coasts of North Korea, participated in airborne operations from single agent jumps to larger partisan units that jumped into combat areas throughout North Korea, and infiltrated front lines to gain intelligence for the U.S. divisions.

Today, many of these Korean Americans who became partisans reside throughout the United States. The chapter members will continue seeking recognition for their combat service under the control of the United States armed forces throughout the Korean War.

The Korean American Partisan and Airborne Chapter is located in the Washington DC area. However, it is a national chapter and seeks to recruit new members from the Korean-American community, including family members as Associate Members across the United States. The Chapter needs your support to perpetuate the history of the partisan warfare during the Korean War and support its efforts to eventually gain United States recognition of their combat role during the Korean War.

The Chapter works closely with the Veterans Affairs Office of MD.

Membership may be obtained by completing the following information and paying a \$25.00 fee to the American Airborne Association: name, address,, phone no., e-mail, branch of service, i.e., Army, Navy, Air Force, USMC, ROK Army, ROK Air Force, U.S./UN Clandestine or Family Member of Veteran, and period of service.

Mail the information to AAA, 10301 McKinstry Mill Road, New Windsor, MD. 21776-7003. Membership includes four issues each year of the Airborne Quarterly that contain short histories and stories of the Korean American partisans in combat.

Principals are Col. Doug Dillard (e-mail [coldillard@gmail.com](mailto:coldillard@gmail.com)) and Dr. Richard Kim.

*WE NEED YOU!*

---

## PRESIDENT from page 3

War, whereas our memorial on the mall is.

Can you stand more good news? At our March 20th Board meeting, we worked very hard. The board members have found ways and means to help our chapters reduce the stress of being in compliance with our national charter, as overseen administratively by Jake Feaster and Jim Doppleshammer. You will be receiving information on this from Jake and Jim.

We also talked about the need to cut some of the transition costs after each KWVA presidential election. Up to now, when a new President is elected, all the funds and records are transported to his area of residence, and a new CPA must be hired each time. I proposed that this process be changed, i.e., we should retain a permanent CPA/Accounting firm based near our National membership office in Charleston, IL. This will eliminate our need to send our money all over the country and hire new people every time we elect a new President. This change is a work in progress, but it will happen soon.

Our recruiting efforts are still not at the level I was hoping for. However, we are building new and inventive ways to recruit. Sonny Edwards and Tom Stevens are doing a great job. They need your help; each chapter must begin a recruiting campaign. If your chapter does not have a recruiting committee, please appoint one now and work with Sonny and Tom. They can help you. It is for your benefit and our legacy to recruit more members.

Another positive item to report: although HR 50903 died with the last Congress, I have appointed Charlie Price, who is extremely knowledgeable in this sort of thing, to work on this problem. He indicated to us that he indeed has some plans that he is confident will bear fruit. As soon as he can put together the proper information he will require to convince the powers to be that the so-called Korea Service veteran is indeed a Korean War veteran, he will start the process.

Finally, our fund raising Committee Chairman, Art Griffith, told me that within the first 22 days of our advertising of our fundraiser, all of the expenses of advertising etc. are paid for. From now on, all that comes in is profit. I am expecting to net over \$100,000.00 on this fund raiser. Please don't hold me to that; I am just hoping.

I am out of good news, so I urge all of you to contact the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington and make your reservations for the 60th anniversary now. The rooms are going fast, and we do not have a back-up hotel at this time. If we are able to get one, I am sure it will be quite a distance from the center of the activities.

All of the information you need is published in this issue of *The Graybeards* and on our website, [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org).

We are moving in the right direction, and we will continue to do so.

I look forward to seeing all of you in DC in July.

*Jim Ferris, President  
KWVA Inc.*

## Chapter Recruiting Contest Rules

Increasing membership in the KWVA has taken on great importance under the leadership of President Jim Ferris. To emphasize the importance of recruiting into Chapters, a National Chapter competition is being inaugurated. Competition rules are as follows:

- The period for this contest will be six (6) months, beginning March 1, 2013 and ending August 31, 2013.
- A picture and Chapter member names of the winning Chapter will be in *The Graybeards* following completion of the competition period.
- In addition to the recognition given to the winning Chapter, the next five Chapters will receive name recognition in *The Graybeards*.
- The winning Chapters will be determined by comparing percent increase in membership. The Regular membership\* count as of March 1, 2013 will be compared to the Regular membership count on August 31, 2013 to determine the winning Chapter, as well as the next five Chapters.
- For purposes of this contest, only Regular memberships\* are included to determine percent increase in membership.
- In the event of a tie for first place, multiple Chapters will receive recognition in the *Graybeards*, as will be the case for ties for 2nd through 6th place.

Computation of percent increase in Chapter membership includes:

- ♦ New Regular members
- ♦ Inactive Regular members who re-join during the competition period.

Deaths of existing members or of a newly recruited or re-joined member, if that death occurs during the contest period, shall continue to be reported to the membership office as usual, but will be in the Chapter membership count for the purpose of determining % increase.

Accuracy and timeliness of reporting the status and personal data of Chapter members are of utmost importance to the validity of the contest results.

Tom Stevens, LR25716  
Membership Chairman

**If you earned one of these -**



Korean War Service  
1950 - 1954



Korea Defense Service  
1954 - Present

**Then you should be wearing this -**



**Korean War Veterans Association**  
www.kwva.org

**THE MISSION OF THE KWVA/USA is**

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

**Join Us Today!**

Membership Information  
& Application:  
KWVA Membership  
PO Box 407  
Charleston, IL 61920  
217-345-4414  
Membership@kwva.org

## Recruiting

In our continuing effort to reach those who are eligible for KWVA membership wherever they may live in the USA, existing members are encouraged to copy and personalize a "Letter to the Editor" shown below. This is only a suggested letter. If you want to compose your own, feel free to do so. But you are urged to take action. Recruiting is everyone's responsibility.

Editor:

The Armistice ending open warfare in Korea was signed July 27th, 1953. Those Korean War veterans who returned to the U.S. resumed their lives with virtually no fanfare. There were no welcome home parades or other recognition events. They merged back into civilian life with only their families realizing the ordeal they had survived.

In the years since the signing of the armistice, U.S. Soldiers have continued to be deployed to and stationed in the Republic of Korea as a continued protective force, many of them being injured, maimed and killed—even up to the present day—while continuing to protect South Korea and the world from the continued aggression of North Korea.

In 1985 the Korean War Veterans Association was formed, and finally recognized by Congress and awarded a Congressional Charter in June, 2008, thus achieving equal VSO status with the VFW or American Legion. If you are a Korean War or Korea Service veteran (those who served after the cease fire) we invite you to join with your fellow Korean War veterans to enjoy their fellowship and help them support many veteran causes of local and national scope.

If you have ever served in Korea, I would encourage you to go to [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org), look for information on your local chapter, and learn about this great organization. You can join by downloading the KWVA Membership Application directly from the website. Or, you can call the organization's membership office at (217) 345-4414 for information.

There are local chapters all around the country, and we encourage you to visit an existing KWVA chapter near you.

Signed:

## RECRUITING!

## RECRUITING!

President Jim Ferris has made RECRUITING his top priority since his election as KWVA President. To give RECRUITING the proper emphasis and to get every KWVA member involved, a Chapter Membership Recruiting Contest will begin March 1, 2013.

Rules of the contest are outlined above. Let's do it!

Tom Stevens,  
Membership Chairman



**We Want Members**





## .....of interest

We bring you items that might have escaped widespread notice, but that are of interest to readers nonetheless. In short, they don't fit anywhere else in the magazine, so we'll put them here.

### Father Kapaun Receives Medal Of Honor

Father Emil Kapaun, who died in 1951 in a prisoner of war camp during the Korean War, received the Medal of Honor from President Obama in an April 11, 2013 ceremony. The AP notes that word of the honor apparently came from "former Kansas Congressman Todd Tiahrt," rather the White House or Pentagon, as expected.

KWVA National Director Tom McHugh notes that, "Father Kapaun's support took a lot of us a long time getting approval. A lot of good veterans wrote and pushed for this certification and approval."



Neil McCain's tribute to Fr. Kapaun

Former KWVA President Lou Dechert wrote, "I want to personally acknowledge the urgings, counsel, and assistance of a great American veteran, the late Martin J O'Brien, 1st US Cav Div, Korea, personal advisor to President of the KWVA, 2004-5. Marty left us on June 28, 2006, and life was not the same. We give thanks that his urgent actions on behalf of Chaplain Kapaun have lived on—and now will continue to do so as long as America is free. Thank you, dear friend."

### Video Available

Vince McCormick has advised us that there is a 45-minute video of Fr. Kapaun's life available. Here are the details he sent:

The Miracle of Father Kapaun

The story of the Servant of God Fr. Emil Kapaun, a hero of the Korean War whose cause for Sainthood is moving through Rome, and who has also been nominated for the Medal of Honor. This documentary tells of his heroic work as a Chaplain during battle, and leadership and comfort

of fellow American prisoners after capture and torture by the Communists, which led to his death at 35 years of age in 1951. Features interviews with soldiers who knew Kapaun, as well as with the Kansas family who is convinced Kapaun's miraculous intercession saved their son's life.

One source of the DVD is at [www.Ignatius.com](http://www.Ignatius.com) or 800-651-1531 [\$19.95]. (NOTE: We are not endorsing the video; we are simply passing the news along.)

### Very good news from Korea...

According to The Korean War Veteran Internet Journal, March 14, 2013...

#### Honorable Park Sung Choon to continue as Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs

We have just learned that Korea's President Park Geun Hye is keeping Minister Park Sung Choon in her newly appointed cabinet where he remains in charge of the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs.

This is astoundingly good news for veterans in the Republic of Korea, in Canada, where Minister Park has established very strong ties, and in all other nations that benefit from his Ministry's good work.

### How To Get A Cold War Certificate...

All KWVA members are qualified for the certificate. Legislation is pending to upgrade the certificate to a medal, but passage is doubtful. It was sponsored by Senator Clinton during her senate tenure and she did not push passage when funding was available. Perhaps when the economy improves it will be passed.

For details on how to apply for the Cold War Certificate <https://www.hrc.army.mil/TAGD/Awards%20and%20Decorations%20Branch%20-%20Cold%20War%20Certificate%20Program>

John Gavel

### ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ A-Vet Emblem Supply

8228 Josephine Road, Norton, VA 24273  
(276)679-2096 / email: [raywellsavet@aol.com](mailto:raywellsavet@aol.com)  
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## “Wow! You get a lot of mail.”<sup>©</sup>

One of my biggest fears is a breakdown in mail deliveries. UPS, FedEx, and the U.S. Postal Service are in effect silent partners in *The Graybeards* publication process. Without them we would not be able to function. That process almost came to a screeching halt recently.

Some pieces of mail never arrive at their intended destinations. Those occasions are few and far between. And, I must admit, I do misplace mail sometimes—also rarely. That generally happens when I put something in a file to be processed later, and then misfile the file. More often than not, misplaced files turn up sooner or later. Lost mail does not.

Okay, let's look at how the regular submission process works. You send me your material via “snail mail,” as we call the U.S. Postal Service, which is how the bulk of it is sent. Some people prefer to use services like UPS or FedEx. A growing number of people send their stories and photos via email, which alleviates my fears over losing material—although even that system is not foolproof. But, let's concentrate on “snail mail” here.

I split my year between my “northern office” in Rocky Hill, CT and my “southern office” in Beaufort, SC, which is where our publisher is located. Certainly, the publishing process goes more smoothly when we are both in Beaufort. But, it goes well when we aren't—until the mail dudes suffer a breakdown in their communications system, as happened recently.

As I transition between duty posts, I notify the postal authorities via a mail forwarding system. When I am in Rocky Hill the postal dudes in Beaufort forward my mail there and vice versa. They do a good job of it. Sometimes they do too good a job.

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**Some pieces of mail never arrive at their intended destinations. Those occasions are few and far between. And, I must admit, I do misplace mail sometimes—also rarely.**

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For the most part the mail delivery technicians in both Beaufort and Rocky Hill are regulars. They keep the mail flowing smoothly between places. It's when they take days off that the problems arise. (I am going to suggest to the postmasters in both Beaufort and Rocky Hill that they prohibit my regular mail delivery technicians from taking days off when I am in their jurisdictions. I'll let you know how that goes.) That's what happened recently.

In early February we had to return to Rocky Hill for emergency purposes, and we did not have a specific date set for our return to Beaufort. I did not have time to notify the postal authorities in Beaufort that I was leaving. My plan was to handle everything from Rocky Hill once I got back. That is what I did—or so I thought.

I visited the Rocky Hill post office and filled out the form to stop the forwarding process from there to Beaufort. Then I went on line and filled out the paperwork to advise the folks in Beaufort that I wanted all my mail forwarded to Rocky Hill until further notice. Everything went fine for a few days. The Rocky Hill folks stopped forwarding mail to Beaufort and their Beaufort counterparts started forwarding mail to Rocky Hill. It's so beautiful when a system works flawlessly!

There was still a pile of material in my Beaufort mail box that had to be forwarded to Rocky Hill before the forwarding notice took effect. Since it had already been delivered, that was not the Beaufort mail delivery

technicians' responsibility. So I asked a friend in Beaufort to gather the orphan mail and ship it to me in Rocky Hill. He did, and advised me via phone that it was on the way in a rather large package. I noted his “famous last words” utterance: “Wow! You get a lot of mail.”

About that time my regular Rocky Hill delivery specialist had the temerity to go on vacation. Apparently, his temporary replacement did not realize that there was a change in the forwarding process. So, when mail arrived from Beaufort he dutifully sent it right back. Thus began a game of “postal ping pong.”

Once the mail forwarded from Rocky Hill got to Beaufort, the diligent Beaufortians sent it right back to Rocky Hill. That would have been fine, except that the one package my friend had forwarded contained some checks, bills that needed to be paid with the receipts from the checks, and numerous pieces of mail that contained material that had to be processed in a timely fashion for inclusion in this edition of *The Graybeards*.

The words “Wow! You get a lot of mail.” bounced around my head as my mail bounced around between Beaufort and Rocky Hill.

Anyway, the package finally arrived in Rocky Hill—two weeks after it was mailed. It was so large that it took both the regular delivery technician and his substitute to drop it on my doorstep. I heard the substitute say as they walked back to the truck, “Shouldn't we be forwarding this to Beaufort?”

I was about to rush outside and scream, “No!” First, though, I had to figure out where I could hire enough people to help me carry the box into my office.

As it turned out, the delivery gave me just enough time to process the large pile of mail for *The Graybeards*, cash the checks, pay my bills, and breathe a sigh of relief. My fears about lost mail were alleviated—until the next time.

### 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 .....	July 15
Sept-Oct .....	Sept 15
Nov-Dec .....	Nov 15



**SECRETARY from page 6**

of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (public law 105-5; 111 Stat 1918; 10 U.S.C. 113 note) is **amended** to read as follows:

“(f) **LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES.**-The total amount expended by the Department of Defense to carry out the commemorative program for fiscal year 1999 may not exceed \$1,820,000.”

(b) **REDESIGNATION OF COMMEMORATION ACCOUNT.**- The account in the Treasury known as the “Department of Defense Korean Conflict Commemoration Account” is redesignated as the “Department of Defense Korean War Commemoration Account”.

(c) **OTHER REFERENCES TO KOREAN WAR.**-Such section is further amended-

(1) in the section heading, by striking out “**KOREAN CONFLICT**” and inserting in lieu thereof “**KOREAN WAR**”;

(2) by striking out “**Korean conflict**” each place it appears and inserting in lieu thereof “**Korean War**”;

10 USC 113 note.

10 USC 113 note.

Deadline.

10 USC 2254 note.

PUBLIC LAW 105-261-OCT. 17, 1998 112 STAT. 2135

SEC. 1067. PROGRAM TO COMMEMORATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR.

(a) **Limitation on Expenditures.**—Subsection (f ) of section 10B3 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 199B (Public Law 105-85: 111 Stat. 191B: 10 U.S.C. 113 note) is amended to read as follows:

.. (f ) **Limitation on Expenditures.**—The total amount expended by the Department of Defense to carry out the commemorative program for fiscal year 1999 may not exceed \$1,820,000.00

(b) <<NOTE: 10 USC 113 DO note.>> Redesignation of Commemoration Account.—The account in the Treasury known as the ‘Department of Defense Korean Conflict Commemoration Account’ is **redesignated** as the ‘**Department of Defense Korean War Commemoration Account**’.

Col. Peter Cuthbert, in his book, KOREA (Our War) 1950-1953, wrote on p. 283:

“A very belated Declaration of War against North Korea was passed by Congress on 22 September 1998 and signed by, of all people, “slick” Willie Clinton the draft dodger. Until then, the fighting in Korea was referred to as a ‘Police Action.’

“After “war” was declared, the ROK War Service Medal (ROKWSM) was finally approved by the U.S. Defense Department...”

According to medalsofamerica.com, “The Korean War Service Medal was established in 1951 by the Government of the Republic of Korea for presentation to the foreign military personnel who served on or over the Korean Peninsula or in its territorial waters between June 27, 1950 and July 27, 1953. However, it was not approved for acceptance and wear until 1999. To be eligible for this award, U.S. military

personnel must have been on permanent assignment or on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days. The duty must have been performed within the territorial limits of Korea, in the waters immediately adjacent thereto or in aerial flight over Korea participating in actual combat operations or in support of combat operations. The 48 year interval between establishment and its formal acceptance represents the second longest period of time in U.S. history between an event of significant national and military importance and the establishment of an appropriate commemorative medal.”

The actual document that President Clinton signed declaring the Korean War a war still eludes us, however.

## Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards

Members are invited to help underwrite the publications costs of *The Graybeards*. All contributions in any amount are welcome. Mail your donations to KWVA Treasurer Carmen Zeolla, 5077 Stagecoach Rd., Camillus, NY 13031 (315-484-9363; [carmenzeolla@gmail.com](mailto:carmenzeolla@gmail.com)). All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an “In memory of” (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

### CONTRIBUTOR

### LOCATION

*We received two significant donations from KWVA chapters this period:*

- 23 - SOUTH SUBURBAN IL
- 215 – GEN. WALTON H. WALKER TX  
IMO Col. James L. Stone, MOH recipient

### GRAYBEARDS DONATIONS

- Henry K. Ahlo HI  
IMO E. Ho KIA 1951
- James J. Britt AR
- Domineck Carrero NJ
- Chester M. Harvey Jr. AZ
- Lewis Hebert VA
- H. Ray Henderson TN
- Charles E. Keone MA
- Bong Keon Kim CA
- Cecil L. Rice CA
- Kieth & Marilyn Roberts IN
- Earl M. Stanton NY
- William Wright OR

### KWVA DONATIONS

- Robert H. Bauer IL
- Thomas Patrick Dowd MN
- Timothy M. Forbes NY
- Marty & Bill Gustavson OH  
IHO Earl T. Lambert
- Blanche C. Hill Canada
- Jeffery J. Kim GA
- Bill & Sandy Lambert OH  
IHO Earl T. Lambert
- Dave & Carol Lambert AR  
IHO Earl T. Lambert
- Terry Lloyd England
- Linda Ulrey OH  
IHO Earl T. Lambert
- Marian A. Weidenhof DE

# Internship Program for Korea War Veteran Descendants

On the occasion of commencing the 60th Anniversary of end of the Korea War, the Korea-US Science Cooperation Center (KUSCO) is pleased to announce a new internship program in honor and recognition of US Veterans who served in the Korean War. These Veterans fought under incredibly difficult circumstances and many gave their lives for Korea's freedom. In honor of these veterans KUSCO will offer their descendants whom are students majoring in science and engineering an opportunity to apply for an internship.

KUSCO's internship program will recognize outstanding students who have demonstrated excellent talents in their fields. Furthermore, it will help identify and nurture future leaders for closer cooperation between Korea and the US in the future. This internship will be for up to six months, and will be in a variety of private companies or research laboratories in Korea - depending on your professional interests. English will be the language of the workplace, and these will be compensated internships - at levels yet to be finalized. Some internships may include airfare. You will arrange your own housing in the local neighborhoods near to your workplace but the housing information will be provided.

## Internship Eligibility Requirements

### The applicant should be:

1. Direct descendants of a Korean-War veterans
2. Enrolled in a BA (Junior & Senior), MA, PhD course in the US

### Eligibility Documents

1. KUSCO Internship Application Form
2. Curriculum Vitae (including work experience and extracurricular activities)
3. Official transcripts from colleges attended
4. One recommendation letter from a current advisor

### Evaluation Criteria

1. Academic performance
2. Recommendation letter
3. Work experience and extracurricular activities

### Timeline

1. Application Deadline: May 30, 2013
2. Announcement of Awardees: June 14, 2013
3. Internship Period: July 1 – December 31, 2013 (tentative)

### How to apply

Visit the Korea-US Science Cooperation Center's web site at <http://www.kusco.org/program/kusco-internship> and follow the application instructions.

## Planning Update For 60th Anniversary Event

About 22 representatives from a variety of organizations, e.g., DOD, Republic Of Korea Embassy, and the KWVA, attended a recent DOD meeting on the KW-60, 24-27 July events. The best news is that the Secretary of the Army has made a decision that the event will go at our Memorial on the Mall, regardless of the cost.

The President of the United States has been invited, but he has not confirmed yet. Here are a couple results from the meeting:

- Projected attendance ranges from 7 to 12 thousand! DOD is commencing a national and international advertising campaign. Hotel rooms at the Sheraton Pentagon City are going fast. Members **MUST** get their reservations in ASAP or they will be left out in the cold. We don't have a backup hotel, yet! Ref: For details: [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)
- Since it's a Saturday, parking will be at the North Pentagon parking with buses to the Memorial. KWVA will have buses from the hotel to the Memorial provided by DOD.
- Three (3) "special" evening events being planned are:
  - 24 July - Evening Tattoo at Ft Meyer
  - 25 July - Evening Parade, Marine Barracks, 8th and I
  - 26 July - Capitol Hill social sponsored by Ambassador and the ROK Embassy.
  - 27 July - an "invitation only" gala is in planning sponsored by MPVA. No details.

We will keep everyone posted as plans evolve.





Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name, Last Name

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip Code

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Home) (Cell)

Current Status: ☐ Undergraduate Course ☐ Master Course ☐ Ph.D Course

Expected Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Korean War Veterans: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name, Last Name

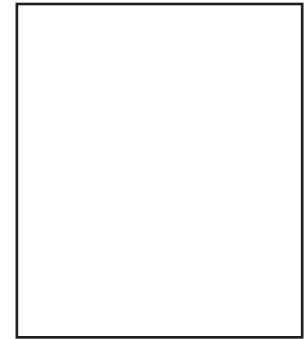
National KWVA Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

College or University: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Graduate) Name of the Institute Years Attended

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Major (& Minor if applicable) with Specialty

College or University: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of the Institute Years Attended  
Major (& Minor if applicable) with Specialty



Photo

The estimate of total expense for six-month internship in Korea is \$13,000 including airfare, living expenses, and administration. We, KUSCO, are doing our best to ask a host company to make full support. However, if they support partially, what is YOUR ABILITY TO SELF-SUPPORT

- Round airfare, Yes ☐ No ☐
- If yes, how much ( \_\_\_\_\_ )
- Living expense stipend, Yes ☐ No ☐
- If yes, how much ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

■ APPROXIMATE DATES OF AVAILABILITY FOR INTERNSHIP:

Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Approximate length of internship (desired # of months): \_\_\_\_\_

■ PREFERENCE AREA OF INTERNSHIP (check)

- Business Administration ☐
- Marketing ☐
- Policy ☐
- R&D ☐
- Other area ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

■ SECTOR of INTERNSHIP (check)

- Private Company ☐
- Government ☐
- National Laboratory ☐
- Non-profit ☐
- If you have a specific company for your internship, please name the company \_\_\_\_\_

# Call for Return of Korean Buddhist Artifacts

by C. Monika Stoy

In November 2012, my husband Tim, whose father is a Korean War veteran, and I were privileged to escort a group of Korean War veterans on a Korea revisit sponsored by the Korean Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA). David Mills, who served with the 15th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division in April 1953, now President of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division and President of the Outpost Harry Survivors' Association, returned to Korea with us for the first time since he left captivity there in August 1953.

Others in our group were Major (Ret) James Campbell and wife, Jan; Alan Lefcowitz, and wife Ann; and Paul and Alexander Pratt, the son and grandson of LTC (Ret) Sherm Pratt, who served with the 23rd Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division 1950-1951. Jim and Al served with Army special operations, training and supporting the Korean partisans.

The MPVA did a marvelous job showing their country's appreciation to the veterans, including visits to the National Cemetery in Seoul, Panmunjom, the National War Memorial, the UN Cemetery in Pusan, and a great visit to the Korean Army Special Warfare Command, with a personal welcome by its commander, LTG Jang, Jung Gyu. It was a truly memorable visit for all of us, just as many veterans have previously enjoyed the experience of revisiting Korea under the MPVA's program.

While in Korea, Tim and I visited the Museum of Korean Buddhist history in Seoul. We learned that over 400,000 Buddhist artifacts were systematically looted and transported to Japan, and others were taken back to the USA as war souvenirs during the period of Japanese occupation and the Korean War. We have read in numerous veterans' publications the past several years of U.S. WWII veterans returning items they had taken as souvenirs when serving in Italy, Germany, or France. It would be a great initiative for U.S. Korean War veterans who may have taken some of these Buddhist artifacts as souvenirs to return them to Korea.

**It would be a great initiative for U.S. Korean War veterans who may have taken some of these Buddhist artifacts as souvenirs to return them to Korea.**

Korea has rebuilt itself impressively from the ruins of 1953 – but much of its cultural heritage still remains lost. The time has come for those who fought for Korean freedom to do the right thing and return any war souvenirs they may have taken. Should any of our KWVA members have an artifact, or know of a fellow veteran who does, please consider returning it.

Contact me at 703-912-4218 or [tim-moni15@yahoo.com](mailto:tim-moni15@yahoo.com) and I will put you in touch with the appropriate persons in Seoul to arrange the return. They would be grateful, and *it is the right thing to do*.

Buddhism has a long history in Korea. The Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism is the largest Buddhist community in Korea today. It was founded in 826 and played a significant role in the development of a united Korea. Buddhism was repressed in favor of Confucianism, beginning in the 15th century until political reforms in 1895.

Monks participated in resistance activities and efforts continued to keep Korean Buddhist traditions alive under Japanese occupation, which began in 1910. Following liberation in 1945, Korean Buddhist traditions which had been preserved and cherished over the years were reestablished in all temples. Today the order manages over 1,700

temples, over 10,000 clerics, and has over 10,000,000 adherents.

A six-monk and fourteen-lay person delegation visited Washington DC and held a small ceremony with wreath laying at the Korean War Veterans Memorial the morning of 1 November 2012, followed by a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and circumambulation of the Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery. It was the first such Korean Buddhist visit or observance in Washington since the war.

The head of the delegation, the Venerable Won Jang Su Nim, is third in order of precedence in the Jogye Order. He also is the Abbott of his own temple, Yuk Ji Jang. It was his initiative to conduct the visit because as a young boy during the Korean War he survived by receiving handouts of food from American soldiers and he wanted to thank and remember the American soldiers who gave their all for his country's freedom.

Also with the group was the Venerable Shim San Su Nim, Abbott of Hong Beop Sa Temple, outside of Pusan, who served as a Buddhist Chaplain for KATUSAs working with the U.S. forces, and still serves as the auxiliary Chief Monk for the order to the Korean Air Force.

## Editor Back In Northern Office, Continues New Office Hours

*The Graybeards'* editor, Art Sharp, has returned to his northern quarters. His address there is: Arthur G. Sharp, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

Mail sent to the South Carolina office will eventually get to Rocky Hill, since the postal authorities in Beaufort do forward it on a "When we get around to it" basis. Thus, the resulting delays can make a difference regarding which edition of *The Graybeards* includes information sent to the South Carolina address.

His phone number remains the same: 860-202-3088. The same holds true with his email address, which is [sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net).

Please bear in mind that the editorial offices are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Standard (or Daylight Savings) Time, whichever applies, Monday through Friday. Phone messages and emails received outside those hours will be returned as quickly as possible.



## Reunion Calendar: 2013

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or email it to [sharp\\_arthur\\_g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net). Include Unit, Date(s), Place, and Contact's name, address, phone #, email address. Entries are posted "first come, first served." *The Graybeards* is not responsible for the accuracy of the information published.

### MAY

**L Co., 21st Inf. Regt., 24th Inf. Div., U.S. Army**, 1-5 May, Branson, MO. George Vlastic, 918-287-5618, [geonanvlastic@atmc.net](mailto:geonanvlastic@atmc.net)

**67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing** (All units), 6-10 May, Plano, TX. Marion Edwards, 126 Willow Ave., Greenfield Twp., PA 18407, 570-709-8551, [jeeme@nep.net](mailto:jeeme@nep.net)

**Army Counter Intelligence Corps**, 9-13 May, Herndon, VA, Hilton Washington Dulles Hotel. [ellyb@cox.net](mailto:ellyb@cox.net)

### AUGUST

**Korean War Veterans Committee of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA**, 8 Aug., Richmond, VA, JWV National Convention, Omni Hotel. Ainslee R. Ferdie, 305-445-3557, [lawoffice@ferdieandlones.com](mailto:lawoffice@ferdieandlones.com)

**U.S. Army, 32nd Eng Construction Group** (430th, 434th, & 439th Bns.), 9-11 Aug., St. Louis, MO. David Mikusch, 310 North Lake Drive, Hillsboro, MO 63050, 636-797-2323; [hardwork50@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hardwork50@sbcglobal.net)

**NSVA Convention And MCB1/MCB9.MCB10** (All Seabees welcome to attend), 21-25 Aug., Warwick, RI (near Davisville, RI old Seabee base). Peter Dowd, 781-837-0393, [mcb1reunion@verizon.net](mailto:mcb1reunion@verizon.net)

### SEPTEMBER

**USS Ingersoll** (DD 652), 5-8 Sept., Duluth, MN. Dick Fontana, [dick.fontana@yahoo.com](mailto:dick.fontana@yahoo.com), 218-666-5702, [uss-ingersoll-vets.com](mailto:uss-ingersoll-vets.com)

**84th & 62 ECB** (Korea), 9-12 Sept., Gettysburg, PA. Carol Nelson, 39 Myrtle Ave., Warwick, RI 02886, 401-738-0693, [CEN21255@verizon.net](mailto:CEN21255@verizon.net)

**USS Sphinx** (ARL 24), 9-12 Sept., Branson, MO. Frank Ironi, 954 Lilac Dr., Sauk Centre, MN 612-352-3271

**15th Radio Squadron Mobile**, 15-19 Sept., Colorado Springs, CO, Colorado Springs Marriott. Ernie Short, 210-493-7561

**G-3-1 KOREA Assn.** (open to all who served with or were attached to George Co., 1st Marines, 1st Mar Div between Sept 15, 1950–March 15, 1955), 16-19 Sept., Dana Point, CA, Marina Inn Dana Point. Carlton ("Bing") Bingham, 1453 Patricia Drive, Gardnerville, NV 89460, 775-265-3596, [bingbingham@msn.com](mailto:bingbingham@msn.com)

**USS Montague** (AKA 98), 19-22 Sept., Roanoke, VA. F.C. ("Fred") Machado, 5445 S. Blythe Ave., Fresno, CA 93706, 559-266-2978, [fcm@unwiredbb.com](mailto:fcm@unwiredbb.com) or Bob Raftis, 2025 Timbercreed Dr., Marion, OH 319-377-5815

**Army Security Agency Korea Vets**, 22-26 Sept., Nashville, TN. Bob Richter, 1305 Blue Springs Rd., Franklin, TN 37069, 615-373-2522, [bestshoe@aol.com](mailto:bestshoe@aol.com)

**USS Hornet** (CV 8, CV 12, CVA 12, CVS 12), U.S. Navy/Marines, 24-29 Sept., Warwick, RI, Crowne Plaza. Carl & Sandy Burket, PO Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673, (814) 224-5063, [hornetcva@aol.com](mailto:hornetcva@aol.com), <http://www.usshornetassn.com/>

**USS Ozbourn** (DD 846), 25-29 Sept., San Diego, CA. Jeff Parker, 909-910-9644, [ljparker1@cox.net](mailto:ljparker1@cox.net)

**USS Charles P. Cecil** (DD/DDR 835) Assn., 29 Sept.-5 Oct., Branson, MO. Greg Wells, 405-365-1926, [glw513@yahoo.com](mailto:glw513@yahoo.com)

### OCTOBER

**USS John R. Pierce** (DD 753), Open to all former crew members. 1-4 Oct. Greensboro, NC. Keith Brauer, 910-571-0864, [kdbrauer@embarqmail.com](mailto:kdbrauer@embarqmail.com)

**USS Yorktown** (CV 10, CVA 10, CVS 10) anyone serving onboard from 1943 to 1970, Ships Co., Air Groups, Squadrons or Marines, 3-5 Oct., on board the ship in Mt Pleasant, SC. Nina Creasman, 834-849-1928, PO Box 1021, Mt Pleasant, SC 29465, [ncreasman@yorktown.net](mailto:ncreasman@yorktown.net)

**Veterans of the Korean War, Inc.**, 8-11 Oct., Virginia Beach, VA. Floyd Newkirk, 757-340-9801, [Fnewkirk1@cox.net](mailto:Fnewkirk1@cox.net) or Richard Stacy, 757-490-8022, [p2radio@verizon.net](mailto:p2radio@verizon.net)

**25th Infantry Div. Assn.** 14-19 Oct., Columbus, GA. PO Box 7, Flourtown, PA 19031, [TropicLtn@aol.com](mailto:TropicLtn@aol.com)

### Calling All Graduates of the 27 USMC Special Basic Classes of the Korean Era for 2013 Reunion

In an effort to build Esprit de Corps among veteran Marine officers by bringing as many of them as possible together at a reunion, officers from 11 Korean Era SBCs gathered last year in San Diego for a first-ever combined reunion. Due to its success, the USMC All Korean SBC Classmates 2013 Reunion will be held for all 27 Korean era SBCs in San Antonio, Texas, November 1-4, 2013.

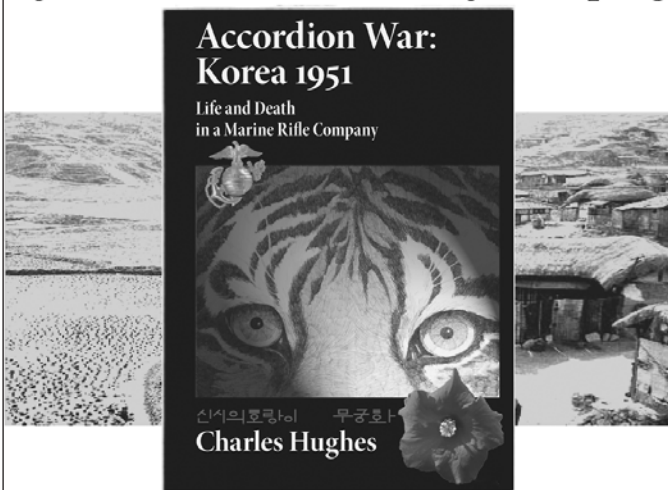
"We're asking for everyone to please help spread the word so we can reach as many folks as possible," said reunion co-chair John Featherstone. "Without rosters, our challenge is locating and contacting our former members. We know the benefit to all those who attend our reunions is invaluable. Coming together provides a tremendously heart-felt sense of community and pride."

All Korean Era Marine Corps Officers SBCs 1-27, from June 1950 through 1954, should contact Bob Lukeman at [jrlukeman@aol.com](mailto:jrlukeman@aol.com), 405-842-3601 or John Featherstone at [johnf9375@aol.com](mailto:johnf9375@aol.com), 310-833-2190. Be prepared to provide Basic School Class, name, address, phone number and email address.

The USMC All Korean SBC Classmates 2013 Reunion will offer a mixture of military related activities and ample socializing opportunities. At past reunions, keynote speakers and special guests have included the 32nd Commandant of the Marine Corps and 14th Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General James L. Jones; the 16th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Peter Pace; the 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James L. Conway; the current commander of all US and NATO forces in Afghanistan, General Joseph F. Dunford; and the 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps and graduate of the 14th SBC General Alfred M. Gray.

Other SBC graduate flag officers, including General George C. Crist and Lt. General D'Wayne Gray, both of the 15th SBC, and Major Generals Dean Sangalis and Bill Groeniger, both of the 17th SBC, also have attended our reunions.

### Life and Death in a Marine Rifle Company



"...A gifted writer...This book is hard to put down. The writing is terrific...Well done, "Doc" *GySgt John Boring, (Ret) Leatherneck Magazine of the Marines, Sept. 2007*

"Flags of Our Fathers" came close but you nailed it!" *Maxwell Baker, Vietnam, Korean Vet, HMCN*

"...A quality read. Your descriptions... Are like paintings without the sounds; however, your recounting of the artillery barrages was deafening." *Bob "Doc" Wickman, Korean vet*

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# Recognition of the Ongoing Nature of the Korean War from 1953 to Date

By John Gavel

**D**oes an armistice end a war? Is there still an armistice in effect? How will peace be achieved? What is the appropriate way to view duty in Korea, peacetime or wartime?

## Does an armistice end a war?

An armistice is not a peace treaty. While the objective of an armistice agreement is to bring about a cease-fire, a halt to hostilities, that halt may be indefinite or for a specified period of time only. An armistice agreement does not terminate the state of war between the belligerents. A state of war continues to exist with all of its implications for the belligerents and for the neutrals.

In the only other instance in which this issue has arisen, the 1949 armistices between Israel and the Arab States, peace treaties have expressly superseded the armistices between Egypt and Israel and Egypt and Jordan. Syria has continued to maintain that it is in a state of war with Israel despite the armistice.

Sixteen nations signed a Joint Policy Declaration supporting the armistice and pledging that if there is a renewal of the armed attack, challenging again the principles of the UN, we should again be united and prompt to resist.

## Is there still an armistice in effect?

First, let us address the armistice agreement itself, then the efforts to enforce it.

Clause 62, Article V, of the Armistice Agreement says that it shall remain in effect until expressly superseded either by mutually acceptable amendments and additions or by an appropriate agreement for a peaceful settlement at a political level between both sides.

Article 5 on the South-North Agreement in Principle states that South and North will make every effort together to replace the current Armistice Agreement by a permanent peace settlement and must follow the current Armistice Agreement.

Provisions and mechanisms of the agreement have not survived totally intact. When one side ignored provisions, notice was given that the other side would no longer abide by them. Unified Command's report A/3631 in 1957 announced that in order to maintain the relative military balance in the face of violation by the Communist side of subparagraph 13(d), it was relieved of compliance with this provision in order to prevent the resumption of war in Korea rather than invite it. The UNC intends to fully observe the ceasefire provision and all other provisions, as it has in the past.

In the 1990s, North Korea openly concentrated on ending the Armistice Agreement system, including the MAC and NNSC. After refusal of MAC meetings in 1991, North Korea requested General Officer (GO) talks between the United States and North Korea in March 1995. This suggestion

The defense structure in Korea was eventually overtaken by the professional growth and development of the Republic of Korea's (ROK) armed forces. It is remarkable that control of ROK forces in peacetime and wartime was ceded to the U.S. from 1950 almost to date.

divulged North Korea's intention to ignore the UNC. However, it could not avoid accepting a February 1998 amendment by the UNC and ROK Ministry of National Defense (MND) that the GO Talks are not between the United States and North Korea, but between the UNC and North Korea.

GO Talks were held 15 times through 2003, and carried out the role of maintaining the Armistice Agreement and the function of managing crises in Korea.

In 1993 Poland and Czechoslovakia withdrew from Korea because of the political upheavals in Eastern Europe. Today, five Swiss representatives and five Swedish representatives stationed in Panmunjom, South Korea are on duty for the NNSC. Presently, their main task is to show a presence at the inner Korean border and demonstrate that the cease-fire is still in force.

Occasionally, Polish delegates attend the meetings at Panmunjom, albeit through South Korea, as Poland has changed sides politically.

North Korea formally withdrew from the MAC in 1994 and had previously declared the NNSC defunct in 1991. In February 1996, North Korea recommended a so-called "U.S.-DPRK Temporary Agreement and Military Authority," and even declared that it had abandoned its responsibility to maintain the DMZ.

In October 1996, the Security Council made its most definitive statement on the status of the armistice since its original resolutions in the early 1950s. The President of the Council made a statement on behalf of the Council, which "urge[d] that the Korean Armistice Agreement should be fully observed" and "stress[ed] that the Armistice Agreement shall remain in force until it is replaced by a new peace mechanism."

All members of the Council, including the United States and China, i.e., two of the principal belligerents whose generals signed the Armistice, approved the statement. This statement was intended to effectively refute any suggestion that the armistice is no longer in full force and effect. North Korea responded by denouncing the armistice agreement in



1997. In 2009, it again announced that it is no longer bound by the 1953 armistice that halted the Korean War.

Almost six decades of fragile ceasefire have marked the history of “post-war” Korea, where the longest armistice ever remains tenuously in force. For most of these years, the directing headquarters was the United Nations Command (UNC), which had also directed combat operations in the 1950-53 war. It had the dual mission of maintaining the armistice and defending the ROK, should that be necessary.

The defense structure in Korea was eventually overtaken by the professional growth and development of the Republic of Korea’s (ROK) armed forces. It is remarkable that control of ROK forces in peacetime and wartime was ceded to the U.S. from 1950 almost to date. As early as 1965 it was recognized that what worked in the war could be significantly improved by increasing ROK participation in the planning structure.

A combined operational planning staff, developed in 1968 as an adjunct to United Nations Command/United States Forces Korea/Eighth United States Army Headquarters and the U.S.-led ‘I’ Corps (Group), evolved in 1971 as an integrated field army headquarters. However, it was not until 1978, as a bilateral agreement related to the planned U.S. ground combat force withdrawal of that time (subsequently canceled in 1981), that the US/ROK Combined Forces Command was organized.

This bi-national defense team that evolved from the multinational UNC today deters hostilities. Established on November 7, 1978, the ROK/U.S. Combined Forces Command (CFC) is the warfighting headquarters. Its role is to deter, or defeat if necessary, outside aggression against the ROK. The UNC delegated operational control to the CFC for this mission, retaining its responsibility for enforcing and maintaining the armistice agreement.

It is the intent of the U.S. and ROK to continue to transition the control of all ROK forces from U.S. to ROK control. One feature of the Korean command structure is that most higher headquarters personnel hold multiple positions providing an inherent unity of action. For example, the Commander, UNC is also the Commander, CFC, the Commander U.S. Forces Korea and Commanding General, Eighth U.S. Army.

### **How will peace be achieved?**

The ROK was against the armistice and participated as an observer to negotiations. This is why North Korea always denied that the ROK had a role in it, and always wanted a NK-U.S. peace agreement only. General Assembly Resolution 711(VII), of August 28, 1953, recommended that the United Nations side in Korea be represented at a Peace Conference by “the Member states contributing armed forces pursuant to the call of the United Nations..., together with the Republic of Korea.” The Korea Political Conference held in Geneva in 1954 failed to bring about a peace treaty. Both sides blamed the other for the failure.

After failing to achieve direct dialogue with the United States, North Korea tried in 1975 to submit a UN resolution

**Acts of war were not restricted to Korea. In October 1983, North Korea attempted to assassinate ROK President Chun Doo-Hwan during his visit to Myanmar (Burma). Time bombs killed 17 Korean officials, including several cabinet ministers, and wounded others.**

for the UNC dissolution. It argued that the UNC should be dissolved because it is a U.S. command “wearing a blue hat.” South Korea naturally proposed a resolution claiming the legitimacy of the UNC. As a result of both Korea’s actions, the General Assembly had a rare opportunity to pass resolutions for both keeping and dismantling the UNC.

In the meantime, the most directly interested parties have taken a number of actions bearing directly on ways to supersede the armistice. In February 1992, the two Koreas entered into an “Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression and Exchanges and Cooperation between the North and South,” in which they agreed, inter alia (among other things), to “endeavor together to transform the present state of armistice into a solid state of peace between the South and the North and [that they would] abide by the present Military Armistice Agreement until such a state of peace has been realized.”

Action by the Security Council in support of any political resolution of the armistice by the interested governments would be especially appropriate in light of the Council’s (admittedly disputed) role in the Korean War itself. Because the Council’s decisions in this regard could be drafted so as to be binding on all UN members, a Council resolution could effectively resolve any doubt as to whether one of the belligerent parties was bound by the resolution, even if that party did not sign the operative agreements.

Compare the end of the Gulf War. In that instance, Iraq signed a truce with the military commanders of the allied coalition. The Security Council then adopted its Resolution 687 setting out the terms of a permanent cease-fire. Iraq accepted those terms in writing, and the Security Council formally declared the cease-fire to be in effect a few days later. There was no peace treaty or other final agreement among the belligerents; the Security Council, in effect, was able to impose a supervening legal mechanism.

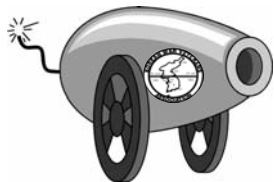
The most important considerations in any effort to replace the Korean Armistice Agreement are that the Korean War is definitively terminated and a firm basis for a lasting peace is established.

The United States and Republic of Korea can finally defeat North Korea without a battle with strong alliance between two countries and keeping the UNC, which means the world support from the UN. Despite the limitations of the armistice agreement, no one can deny that the UNC preserved the freedom and legitimacy of the ROK.

## What is the appropriate way to view duty in Korea, peacetime or wartime?

Over 1,200 U.S. servicemen have lost their lives and some 90 have been captured and held prisoner since the fighting ended in 1953. At least 13 aircraft and 4 ships have been lost. To give a few examples of the wartime status in April 1958, hostile fire pay was awarded for those personnel stationed above the Imjin River.

In June 1975, North Korean guards attacked the United Nations Command Joint Security Force Commander Joint Security Area. In August 1976, two U.S. Army officers were mur-



## Misfires

Occasionally, we make mistakes in *The Graybeards*. We try to be as accurate as possible, and we apologize for any errors that slip through. We do not have the funds for a fact checker, so we miss a fact or two now and then. Here are a couple clarifications. Incidentally, we rely on readers to inform us of any “misfires” that need correcting. We will print corrections in the next available edition.

### Member Not Dead As Reported

Our Membership Office received a phone call from Duane G. Kupersmith’s wife to tell us that he is alive and well. Since a member of his chapter notified us that Mr. Kupersmith was deceased, we included his name in the Jan/Feb 2013 “Last Call” list. We wish him continued good health.

### I Was In St. Louis

I see in the minutes of the Jan/Feb 2013 issue that I was not listed as being in attendance at the convention in St. Louis. No big deal—but I was there.

John T. (Sonny) Edwards, National Recruiting Chairman, kvtedwards@yahoo.com

### Jogyee, Not Joggle

On p. 75 of the Jan/Feb 2013 edition, in “Korean Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Honors Medal of Honor Recipients,” there is a photo caption titled, “LTC Tim Stoy retired and Won Jang Su Nib at Joggle Order Headquarters in Seoul.” The correct order name is Jogye.

### Missing Attachment

In the “From the Secretary” section of the Jan/Feb 2013 edition, there was a reference to an attachment from Annelie Weber regarding when the “Korean Conflict” was changed to “Korean War.” The attachment was not included.

The attachment referred to Public Law 105-85 and Public Law 105-261, which direct the Korean Conflict be designated “Korean War.” We have covered those laws in previous editions of *The Graybeards*, and have pointed out that they are merely directives to change the wording from “Conflict” to “War.” Neither law is a “Declaration of War.”

dered with pick axes in the “tree-trimming” incident. Four other U.S. personnel were wounded, along with 4 ROK personnel, and 5 North Korean personnel were wounded by the U.S. response force.

In 1983, the American Cultural Center in Taegu was bombed. In November 1984, North Korean guards opened fire on JSA guards. In April 1996, hundreds of North Korean soldiers conducted military exercises in the DMZ with mortars and machine guns. This was after NK announced that it would no longer observe the rules of the armistice.

Acts of war were not restricted to Korea. In October 1983, North Korea attempted to assassinate ROK President Chun Doo-Hwan during his visit to Myanmar (Burma). Time bombs killed 17 Korean officials, including several cabinet ministers, and wounded others. Myanmar severed relations with North Korea and expelled North Korean diplomats from Rangoon. Three North Korean Army officers were involved—acting under direct orders from Kim Jong-Il. One captured officer who was later sentenced to death confirmed this.

Since the 2nd ID no longer mans a one-mile sector of the DMZ, JSA forces conduct the only U.S. patrols. As a result, the number of incidents involving the U.S. has declined greatly. Not that the life of a U.S. soldier is worth more than that of a ROK soldier; this action was in response to North Korea’s deliberate targeting of the U.S. sector.

Armed combat has taken place on the Peninsula every year between either the North Koreans and South Koreans, or the North Koreans and U.S. units, or both. There have been over 40,400 breaches of the armistice by North Korea.

It is worth looking at the statistics for recent military operations:

	Combat	Other	Total	Wounded	Total
Grenada Invasion 1983	18	1	19	119	138
Libya Bombing 1986	2	0	2	0	2
Panama Invasion 1989	23	17	40	324	364
Gulf War 1990-91	113	148	258	849	1231

When you consider that these operations were recognized with combat decorations, it begs the question as to whether or not awards in Korea should not be considered for the wartime version if in response to a hostile act by the north. Ground support personnel in the United Kingdom during the bombing of Libya in 1986 received Bronze Stars for their efforts. Since no information could be found at the time this was written, no statement can be made as to whether or not the Purple Heart was awarded to the commander of the UNC JSF, for example.

Likewise, no statement can be made as to whether other combat awards should be made, since we do not know if they have been made or not. Without a doubt, those who do get individual decorations for post-armistice service generally do not get the wartime version.

Of course, this can be challenged, since many awards are both wartime and peacetime and the issue of hostile fire pay would be raised. The response is that personnel stationed in Thailand did not get combat pay (unless they served in the air or on the ground in Cambodia or Vietnam) and got the Bronze Star.



# New 'Distinguished Warfare Medal' Creates Controversy

According to a February 13, 2013 announcement, Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta has approved a new medal designed to recognize service members directly affecting combat operations—but who may not even be on the same continent as the action! That aspect of the new medal has generated a great deal of negative reaction among veterans of “old fashioned” wars in which they found themselves up close and personal with the enemy.

According to an American Forces Press Service article, “The Distinguished Warfare Medal recognizes the changing face of warfare. In the past, few, if any, service members not actually in a combat zone directly affected combat operations. These new capabilities have given American service members the ability to engage the enemy and change the course of battle, even from afar, Panetta said at a Pentagon news conference today.”

Veterans Services Organizations across the U.S., including the KWVA, registered their displeasure immediately. Here is what KWVA National President James Ferris wrote to Defense Secretary Panetta:

17 February 2013

Leon E. Panetta, Secretary of Defense  
1000 Defense – Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Panetta:

As National President of the Korean War Veterans Association, I represent the Korean War veterans of the United States and its territories. The recent creation of the “Distinguished Warfare Medal” to be awarded to pilots of unmanned aircraft, cyber war experts, and others has created an extremely negative reaction from our members.

We do not disagree that the aforementioned people should be rewarded for their dedication to duty; their ability to save ground troops lives’ and to cope with the stress they are under to guide unmanned drones that destroy our enemies or their installations is deserving of recognition. However, to rank the “Distinguished Warfare Medal” above the “Purple Heart” and the “Bronze Star” is unacceptable to our members and those of other Veterans Service Organizations that I have spoken to.

The men and women who will receive this award are indeed brave individuals, but they are not in the category of a combat infantry person, a fighter pilot, or a seaman. When the members of these three groups fire weapons, in most cases someone fires back at them. In far too many cases, the return fire results in the maiming or death of these extremely brave men and women. This does not happen in the case of a drone pilot.

We are not urging you, Mr. Secretary, to withdraw this award. Rather, we encourage you to change its significance, better define its merit, and give the unmanned aircraft, cyber war experts and others who are involved in this type of warfare an

award that is commensurate with the nature of their risks. Their risks are somewhat different then a combat soldier, the stress of knowing you have destroyed an entire village or an entire military installation or just the life of one person with the movement of a computer is a risk to them worthy of an award, but not one ranked as high as the “Distinguished Warfare Medal” has been designated.

Respectfully,

James E. Ferris, President  
Korean War Veterans Association

The VFW released a similar statement, which suggested that “America’s largest combat veterans’ organization is in total disagreement with the Pentagon’s decision to have its new Distinguished Warfare Medal outrank the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.”

According to John E. Hamilton, national commander of the two-million member VSO, “It is very important to properly recognize all who faithfully serve and excel, but this new medal — no matter how well intended — could quickly deteriorate into a morale issue.”

Based on the reaction so far from concerned veterans, it already has.

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## KWVA REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order (no credit cards or phone orders accepted). Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at [www.afr-reg.com/KWVA2013](http://www.afr-reg.com/KWVA2013) (3% will be added to total). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before June 27, 2013. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

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**CUT-OFF DATE IS 6/27/13**

	Price Per	# of People	Total
<b><u>TOURS</u></b>			
THURSDAY: CITY TOUR	\$ 45		\$
THURSDAY: MARINE BARRACK SUNSET PARADE	\$ 28		\$
<b><u>HOTEL EVENTS</u></b>			
WEDNESDAY: Welcome Reception	\$ 15		\$
FRIDAY: Breakfast Buffet	\$ 25		\$
FRIDAY: Ladies Brunch	\$ 25		
FRIDAY: BANQUET ( <i>please select your entrée below</i> )			
Pepper Crusted Beef Rib Eye	\$ 52		\$
Chicken Breast Francaise	\$ 50		\$
SATURDAY: Breakfast Buffet	\$ 25		\$
SUNDAY: Breakfast Buffet	\$ 25		\$
<b><u>MANDATORY REGISTRATION FEE (per person)</u></b>	\$ 25		\$
<b>Total Amount Payable to <u>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</u></b>			\$

PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAMETAG

FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_

KWVA MEMBER #: \_\_\_\_\_ KWVA CHAPTER # \_\_\_\_\_ POW: ☐ Yes ☐ No

You are not required to be a member of the KWVA to participate in this Special Commemoration Event!

BRANCH OF SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_ MAJOR UNIT ASSIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS IN KOREA: 19\_\_\_\_ - 19\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE NAME (IF ATTENDING) \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, ST, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

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For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program. **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays).** Call (757) 625-6401 or email [cancel@afri.com](mailto:cancel@afri.com) to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.



**KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION REUNION**  
**JULY 24-28, 2013**  
**SHERATON PENTAGON CITY, ARLINGTON, VA**

**Wednesday, July 24**

- |      |   |      |  |
|------|---|------|--|
| 1300 | - | 1800 | Reunion Registration Open<br>Hospitality Room opens for the duration of the<br>reunion |
| 1500 | - | 1800 | KWVA Committee Meetings  |
| 1800 | - | 2000 | Welcome Reception at the hotel<br>Dinner and evening on your own                       |

**Thursday, July 25**

- |      |   |      |   |
|------|---|------|---|
|      |   |      | Breakfast on your own                             |
| 0900 | - | 1100 | Reunion Registration Open                         |
| 0830 | - | 1500 | KWVA Board of Directors Meeting                   |
| 0930 | - | 1500 | CITY TOUR   |
| 1530 | - | 1730 | Reunion Registration Open                         |
| 1630 | - | 1730 | Light Buffet dinner available in hotel restaurant |
| 1830 | - | 2230 | MARINE BARRACKS SUNSET PARADE                     |

**Friday, July 26**

- |      |   |      |  |
|------|---|------|--|
| 0730 | - | 0830 | Breakfast Buffet                         |
| 0830 | - | 1500 | KWVA General Membership Meeting          |
| 0930 | - | 1130 | Ladies Brunch with special entertainment |
| 1800 | - | 2200 | KWVA Banquet Dinner                      |

**Saturday, July 27**

- |      |   |      |   |
|------|---|------|---|
| 0730 | - | 0830 | Breakfast Buffet  |
| 0830 | - | 1200 | 60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony,<br>hosted by the Department of Defense<br>Evening – Special event, in planning |

**Sunday, July 28**

- |      |   |      |                  |
|------|---|------|------------------|
| 0830 | - | 1000 | Breakfast Buffet |
|------|---|------|------------------|

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**TO REGISTER: Central reservations (toll free) 800-325-3535 ♦ Local/direct 703-521-1900. Must mention Korean War Veterans to receive special \$114.00/night room rate**

## **KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION REUNION TOUR DESCRIPTIONS**

### **CITY TOUR**

Thursday, July 25

See the sites of our nation's capital during a driving tour of Washington, D.C. Ride by the Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, WWII Memorial, the Mall, Capitol Building, Washington Monument, White House, and other notable monuments and federal buildings. Free time will be allowed at the Korean Memorial, a stunning tribute to all those who served in the "forgotten war". Afterward, stop at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, which is the largest building (3.1 million square feet) in Washington, DC and is the first and only federal building dedicated to both government and private use. While there, enjoy lunch on your own at the Reagan Building food court - named one of the "best family food courts" in DC.

**A photo ID is required for entrance to the Ronald Reagan Building.**

**9:30am, board bus, 3:00pm back at the hotel**

**\$45/Person includes bus and guide. Lunch on your own.**

### **EVENING PARADE AT MARINE BARRACKS**

Thursday, July 25

Korean war veterans will be honored during the opening ceremonies at the Evening Parade at Marine Barracks at 8th and I Streets, Washington, D. C. Korean veterans who attend the parade will be recognized for their efforts in the historic campaign. With a private performance, we promise a memorable evening viewing the Silent Drill Team and enjoying the U.S. Marine Band as well as the ceremonial Drum and Bugle Corps. Even if you have been there before, tonight is for Korean Veterans!

**6:30pm board bus, 10:30pm back at hotel**

**\$28/Person includes bus and escort. There is no admission charge for the Evening Parade.**

**Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices.**

**Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to the scheduled time.**

### **CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.**

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date (June 27, 2013), Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$7 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Standard Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities. Each must be cancelled separately.



# A Seder In Seoul

It was spring 1952. We had taken back the island of Yalta from the Chinese and fortified it to protect the Inchon Harbor from attack. Out of the blue a package came from a Jewish women's organization in New York containing boxes of Matzo, the bread of affliction eaten by Jews during the eight days of Passover. At this point of my life, I had no Jewish education nor had I celebrated any Jewish holidays.

Just after we received the package we were notified that there would be a Seder held in Seoul, and any Jewish men could get a three-day pass to attend. Suddenly, I discovered my Jewish affiliation and signed up to go. Had several men signed up, we would have been transported in a two-ton truck. Since I was the only one from the area going to Seoul, I was assigned a jeep and driver. I was on my way.

In a war zone, Soldiers do not wear stripes or bars. Since I had my own jeep and driver, I was being saluted along the way. Soon I realized that Soldiers believed I was an officer, so I saluted back. I arrived in Seoul under those conditions, and when I went to sign in I was addressed as "Captain." Who was I, a staff sergeant, to contradict the officer in charge? I signed in as Captain Sanford Epstein, and was housed with the officers.



Sanford Epstein on Yalta on April 10, 1952



Guests at the Seoul Seder on April 12, 1952 include four-star General Frank Everett, the "Rough Riding Rabbi," Herb Shriener, and Joseph Cohn (in background)

The Passover Seder was held April 12, 1952 in an old school house built by the Japanese when they occupied Korea. There were over 1,100 attendees from all the countries serving in Korea at the time. I met men from Colombia and other countries—as well as a guy I knew from my hometown of Philadelphia.

Fast forward to 1991. My wife Sheila and I moved to Las Vegas, NV, where we regularly attended services at the new Chabad synagogue every Sabbath. There was a gentleman in a wheelchair who we learned after a time was a retired cantor.

We greeted one another and had a few words each week.

One Sunday we attended a Cantorial Concert in Las Vegas honoring cantor Joseph Cohn, who it turned out was the gentleman in the wheelchair. He was also the cantor who, in 1952, helped arrange the Passover Seder in Seoul, Korea. What a small world!

Now, when we see each other, we have much to talk about. Anyone who was at that Seder in Seoul can contact me:

Sanford ("Sandy") Epstein, aka "The Kid," 702-360-4554, [simcha210@yahoo.com](mailto:simcha210@yahoo.com).



# Down Memory Lane With the 68th FIS

**T**he 68th Fighter Interceptor Squadron was the first unit to down an enemy aircraft in the Korean War. Members attended several reunions after the war, although they no longer hold formal gatherings.

The 68th, which saw its last combat duty in Iraq, was deactivated in 2001 at Moody Air Force Base, in Lowndes County, GA, near Valdosta.

According to former member Stanley J. Grogan, "We had some pretty good athletes in the 17th Air Force, as the nearby photo suggests." In fact, MajGen H. R. Spicer, 17th Air Force Commander, presented 49th TFWg Commander Col Wilbur J. Grumbles with the 17th AF Commander's Trophy at Spangdahlem, Germany, on July 8, 1961.

Grogan noted that both Col Grumbles, a Korean War combat veteran, and MajGen Spicer were prisoners of war during WWII. He also pointed out that his boxing teams won two Germany Sports District Championships, and his light heavyweight was selected to compete in the 1964 Olympics.



MajGen H. R. Spicer presents 17th Air Force Commander's Trophy to Col. W. J. Grumbles, as team coaches and captains watch

The 68th, which saw its last combat duty in Iraq, was deactivated in 2001 at Moody Air Force Base...



Attendees at the 68th FIS's final reunion



# KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION INC.

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To enter this exciting fund-raiser, complete the attached order form. Winners will be announced at the 2013 National Membership Meeting in Washington D.C.

**Deadline for ticket donations July 15th 2013**

**KWVA Membership #** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Mail to: KWVA Membership Office, PO box 407, Charleston, IL, 61920-0407**

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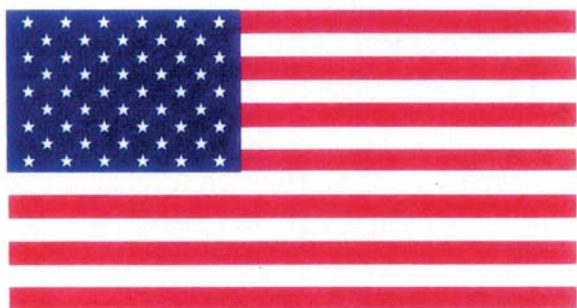
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**Art Griffith, Chairman, Fund-Raising committee, Artzkwva@yahoo.com**

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**“I pledge allegiance  
to the flag of the  
United States of  
America, and to  
the Republic  
for which it stands,  
One Nation Under God,  
indivisible, with liberty  
and justice for all.”**



**“One Nation Under God”  
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*(This pin isn't available in any stores...it is made for special fund raising activities)*

## Thank You, Col Clark

KWVA President Jim Ferris presented Col. David Clark of the Department Of Defense with a fruit basket as a token of appreciation for all his and his committee's work placing that beautiful float in the Rose Bowl—and inviting him and his wife to ride on it.



KWVA President Jim Ferris presents fruit basket to Col Clark



General Walter Sharp (Ret), right, watches Jim Ferris presenting award to Col Clark



Audience at Col Clark presentation





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2 – 14 Jul 70<sup>th</sup> Anniv of WWII Battle of Kursk Tank Reenactment, Moscow & Stalingrad Post Tour: St. Petersburg

4 – 13 Jul 70<sup>th</sup> Anniv Invasion of Italy Sicily “Op Husky”

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24 Aug – 6 Sep Vietnam I Corps “Chu Lai to the DMZ”

24 Aug – 7 Sep Vietnam I-II-III-IV Corps “Delta to the DMZ”

7 – 18 Sep 70<sup>th</sup> Anniv Invasion of Italy Landing “Op Avalanche”

★ 14 – 27 Oct U.S. Military in China Beijing – Tientsin – Xian – Tsingtao – Shanghai

8 – 13 Nov Bermuda Golf Getaway USMC Birthday & Remembrance Day Parade

26 Jan – 4 Feb 2014 World War II in the Philippines



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## The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

# Tell America

### 24 - CHARLES PARLIER [IL]

Co-Chairman Rich Teike submitted this report:

- 12/7/12 Lutheran School Academy-33 students and 1 teacher
- 1/12/13 Boy Scouts of America, Merit Badge Jamboree, Argenta High School, 26 scouts and 2 councilors

- 1/14/13 St Teresa High School, 4 classes, 73 students and 4 teachers
- 1/29/13 Pana High School, 1 class, 100 students and 3 teachers

*Jerry L. Seymour, 352 W Arch St., Mount Auburn, IL 62547, 217-825-5874, GearShift3a1@yahoo.com*

### 215 - GENERAL WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

We made Tell America presentations in secondary schools located in Waxahachie and Red Oak, TX. An estimated total of 2,000 students participated in the one-hour presentations presented to classes of 50-300 students throughout the day at each campus.

- February 13, 2013 (Waxahachie School of Choice and Waxahachie Global High School)

- February 14, 2013 (Waxahachie High School)
- February 22, 2013 (Red Oak High School)

Chapter participants included Larry Kinard, William "Bill" Hoyle, William Mac Swain, and A. J. Key.

*Alves Key, alveskey@sbcglobal.net*



Students at Waxahachie Global High School display Tell America handouts



Ch 215 Tell America Team from Ch 215 at Red Oaks High School February 22, 2013



Tell America team from Ch 215 at Waxahatchie Global High School on February 13, 2013 poses with Principal Donald Snook



Tell America team from Ch 215 at Waxahatchie School of Choice on February 13, 2013 poses with Principal David Nix



Bill Hoyle Brad Burns Bill MacSwain A.J. Key  
Principal

Tell America team from Ch 215 at Waxahatchie High School on February 14, 2013 poses with Principal Brad Burns

## 270 - SAM JOHNSON [TX]

Members spoke to U.S. History students at Allen High School, one of the largest secondary schools in Texas. Eight members of the Tell America Team spoke to 22 high school classes on February 12th and 13th; there were over 570 students in the combined classrooms.

Students heard about U.S. and Soviet tensions leading up to the Cold War and learned about what occurred in the first few months of the war, including General MacArthur landing on Incheon. Later, they heard about Truman's decision to relieve MacArthur. Finally, there was a brief explanation of the events that occurred for the first time in the Korean War, like the use of helicopters, M.A.S.H. units, etc.

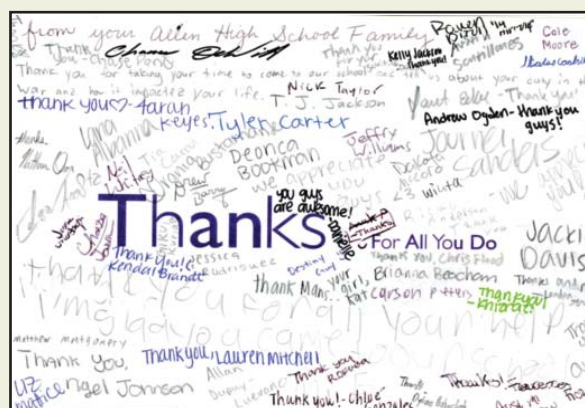
Presenters explained where and when they served and what they did. After that, they shared stories of interest. Some members brought photos and other objects to share with the students. When time permitted, there was a drawing for the greatest Army invention – a P-38 can opener

taped under a desk.

Students were required to develop flyers about the Korean War and encouraged to ask questions. They were able to utilize this firsthand knowledge from the veterans to finish their flyers. (Note that one student in the nearby photo is wearing a T-shirt with a picture of General MacArthur on it.)

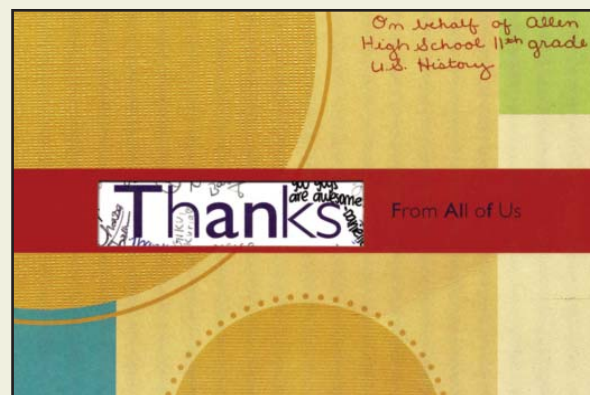
Students and teachers from all the classes signed thank you cards which were presented to the Tell America Team. The written evaluations completed by students selected in each class were quite positive. They enjoy hearing the stories about a part of history they know little about. Dick Lethe, who heads the program, said that presentations have already been made in 2013 at five Dallas and Plano schools, with four more talks set for April and May. Last year, our team spoke to 2,293 students at 11 schools in several North Texas communities.

Joe Seiling  
Glen Thompson,  
[gthomp32@suddenlink.net](mailto:gthomp32@suddenlink.net)



Front of folded Thank You card signed by students and teachers at Allen High School

Second section of Thank You card signed by students and teachers at Allen High School



Third section of Thank You card signed by students and teachers at Allen High School

Chapter members and student (L-R) Joe Seiling, Tilford Jones, Jesse Uriostegui (student), Richard Sanchez, Paul Pfrommer, Dick Lethe, and Jerry Kasten



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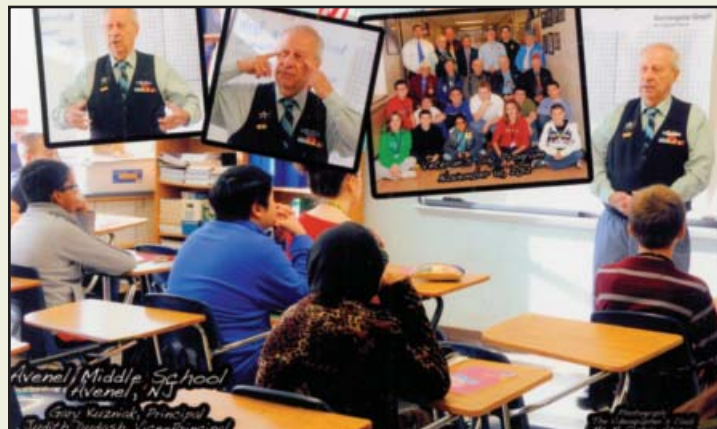


## Richie Alexander

For the past ten years I have been called upon to speak to students in the Woodbridge [NJ] public school system during the Veterans Day week. Every veterans organization in this large community participates.

This year we had ten speakers to cover all wars. I was the only speaker on the Korean War.

Richie Alexander, 14 Wisteria Dr.  
#1-A, Fords, NJ 08863



**ABOVE:** Richie Alexander speaks to students at Avenel Middle School in Avenel, NJ. **BELOW:** Letters of thanks to Richie Alexander

Dear Mr. Alexander,

Thanks a lot for coming to our school and telling us about the Korean War. It was totally awesome. You can only learn so much from textbooks, but **ACTUALLY** meeting a person who was part of all the action is really amazing. I have quite an interest in history - especially wars, and learning about the Korean War was really cool because I never knew that there was a war in Korea before. But now I know and I'm totally going to research and learn more about it. It was a great honor to meet you and your story was truly awe-inspiring.

I'm no expert on war, but your words taught me quite a lot. For example, I wasn't sure why the U.S.A. was down in Korea, but you explained why. Everyone asked a lot of good questions that you answered, which provided us with more knowledge.

Honestly, I've realized through your story that forgetting history is wrong. We should at least know the important things in history, and the Korean War was important. So thanks a lot for helping me realize that.

Well, to sum up, I would like to say again that it was a **HUGE** accolade to meet you. Once again, thank you for coming and talking to us. We wish you the best.

Sincerely,  
Mahwish Jawed

Dear Mr. Alexander,

Thank you for coming in and teaching us about the war. It was inspiring and interesting to hear facts from someone who actually experienced the war themselves. It taught me to respect people (soldiers) who help shape the country to what it is today, which is strong. When I heard you speak about the way you experienced the war made me imagine how horrible it must've been. But most of all, thank you, for serving our country.

Sincerely,  
Julia Jagodka

Dear Mr. Alexander,

11/15/12

Thank you so very much for coming to visit us yesterday, (11/14/12) here at Avenel Middle School. I really enjoyed learning about the Korean War from someone who had actually seen it rather than some other source that might not have been accurate. I was and felt so involved into the story, and that wouldn't have been possible using a normal text book.

The experience was just something new for me. I learned so much, but here's the catch, I actually wanted to. History class is mandatory learning, but I felt inclined to this type of teaching. As for the Korean War, I never would have thought that it would be so interesting. I normally dislike learning about battles and war and all the gore, but this really struck me. All of that is important to us - to our country, to our history. Thank you so much for helping us to realize that.

To just sum up all of this, I'd like to thank you once again for taking the time to come visit us kids and tell us what the world is like. We all were happy to meet you and hope you felt the same.

Sincerely,  
Nitya Shah  
I was the girl who first asked if you'd ever been shot.

## Carl L. Cramer

On November 9, 2012, Carl L. Cramer, the Sgt-At-Arms of the Shippensburg American Legion Post No. 223 Minutemen (Honor Guard), presented a "Tell America Program" to the sophomore classes of Shippensburg Area Senior High School, located in Shippensburg, PA.

A Veterans Day breakfast was served to all veterans of the area at 0730. Approximately 250 vet-

erans attended. During breakfast a choral group known as the "Sharps" sang several patriotic songs. After the breakfast, we had an outstanding Veterans Day Program in the school auditorium.

Mr. Cramer took part in the presentation and retrieving of the colors, as well as reading a paragraph from the poem "It Is The Soldier." There was a display of Korean artifacts in the large glass



case in the lobby near the front entrance to the school.

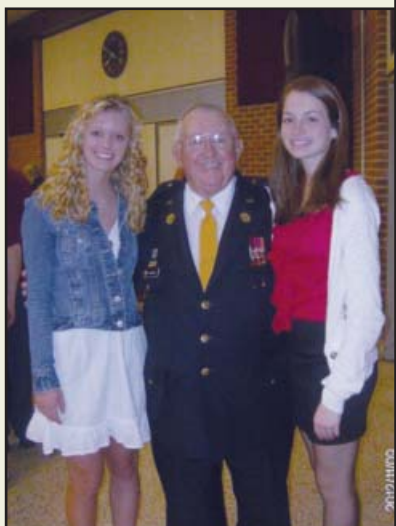
After the program in the auditorium, two students, Abigail Frey and Ellen Diehl, escorted Mr. Cramer to the class room for his "Tell America Program." He had one 40-minute class and two 80 minute-classes, during which he spoke to approximately 100 students.

Before the classes started, he displayed the five phases of the Korean War posters and a large Korean Map poster. He gave each student the booklet "A Brief Account of the Korean War." The posters, books, and DVD were sent to him by The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee.

During the "Tell America Presentation," he showed the DVD "The Korean War and its Historical Impact," the video of "Sgt. Reckless" (War Horse), and excerpts of "The Chosin Reservoir" and "Ship of Miracles," which recounted the story of 100,000 refugees waiting to leave North Korea.

The Chairman of the World History Department, Virginia Sanchez, sent him a thank you card and about 15 thank you letters from some of the students in the classes.

*Carl L. Cramer is a KWVA Life Member and a member of CID 142, Col. William E. Weber, Frederick, MD. Reach him at 2 E. Main St., P.O. Box 98, Newburg, PA 17240, 717-423-6425, the-cramers@pa.net*



Ellen Diehl, Carl L. Cramer, Abigail Frey (L-R) at Shippensburg Area Senior High School



Korean War display at Carl Cramer's presentation



Students at Shippensburg Area Senior High School enjoy a lighthearted moment

Dear Mr. Carl Cramer,

Thank you for taking the time to share your stories and experiences of the Korean War to our class. It was very interesting listening to your stories. Hopefully you continue doing this because many of us appreciated your speech. Thank you for the booklet and pamphlet as well!!

Sincerely,  
Allyson Fetter

Dear Mr. Carl Cramer,

First, I would like to thank you for serving in the Korean War and helping to keep our freedom. Secondly, I enjoyed all of your presentations this past Friday. I especially enjoyed all of the informational videos that you showed, including the story about Reckless. I also liked how you tied in your stories with the events of the war. Thank you so much!!

Sincerely,  
Denice Lovett

Dear Mr. Cramer,

I was very grateful for your visit and presentation in our class on Friday. The information that you provided gave me an insight into a war I knew little about. I was particularly interested in the stories of the real life war horse, as well as the stories of the Chosin Reservoir. Although you may have not stepped on land in Korea, I'd like to thank you for your service at sea. I have a lot of respect for you because of your work and I only hope that future classes will appreciate your knowledge as I did.

Thank you!!  
Patrick Slocum

Sample "Thank You" letters to Carl Cramer

# Thanks!

As we have noted in past issues, there is no shortage of thanks extended from Koreans to the veterans who fought for their country's freedom over fifty years ago. Here are more results.

## 66 – CPL ALLEN F. KIVLEHAN [NY]

At our meeting on January 19, 2013 we had in attendance about forty members from the organization named "Hearing Our Heroes." They provided lunch and served 75 members of our chapter.

The organization was founded and is run by students of Monsignor



Farrell High School, located on Staten Island, NY. (Check <http://www.msgrfarrellhs.org/>, for details about the school.) Its mission is to assist local veterans and thank them for their service. In doing so, the members remind themselves and others how much our brave veterans sacrificed to protect our blessings of liberty.

These young men have recently visited Walter Reed Medical Center in Maryland, made visits to local veterans hospitals, hosted barbeques for veterans, and sponsored a snow removal program for veterans homes. In addition, they have assisted veterans with clean ups and rebuilding in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

On Memorial Day weekend they placed over 1,000 American flags on veterans' graves at local cemeteries. We thank these young men for

taking the time in their lives to consider us heroes.

*George E. Parsons, 56 Boyce Ave., Staten Island, NY 10306*

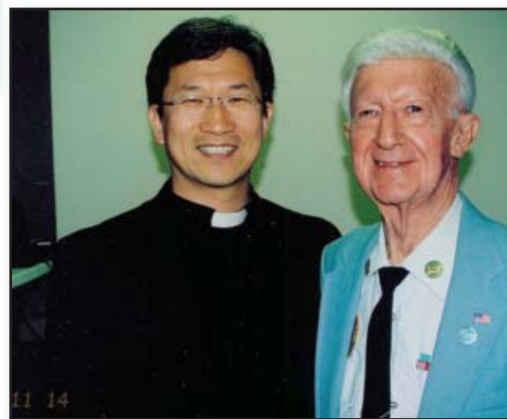
## 170 - TAEJON [NJ]

### Korean Church Honors Taejon Chapter

Members of the Church of Korean Martyrs Roman Catholic of Saddle Brook, NJ honored our chapter on November 14, 2012. The annual event coincided with Veterans Day ceremonies throughout the U.S. Forty members and guests attended.

Church pastor Father Don Bosco Park and members of the church welcomed everyone at a cocktail hour and fellowship gathering. After that, Sr. Vice Commander Kenneth Green and Jr. Vice Commander Henry Ferrarini advanced the Colors.

The assembly sang the U.S. and South Korean national anthems. That was followed by a



Members of Ch 66 with students at Monsignor Farrell High School

"Hearing Our Heroes" serve lunch to Ch 66 members at Monsignor Farrell High School

Fr. Park and President Onorevole of Ch 170

moment of silence for Korean War veterans who did not return from the war.

Father Park addressed the veterans, thanking them for their service in the war. He assured them that Korea will never forget the sacrifice of those who served and died for South Korea's freedom.

Chapter Commander Richard Onorevole presented Father Park with a framed copy of a painting by member Robert Henry. After a prayer offered by Father Park, we enjoyed a great buffet of American and Korean food.

Church members provided entertainment at the ceremony before closing remarks from Father Park and Commander Onorevole. As a warm gesture, church members distributed gifts for the veterans and their guests.

It was a great night of fellowship. God bless our two nations.

*Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503*





Korean dancers perform at Church of Korean Martyrs event in New Jersey



Fr. Park, Mayor Robert J. O'Toole of Cedar Grove, NJ, his wife Young-ok, and visiting priest from South Korea (L-R) at Church of Korean Martyrs



Members of Ch 170 and Father Bosco

## 216 – KWVA M\*A\*S\*H 4099 [NJ]

We were the guests of honor at a Christmas Party sponsored by the Korean-American Business Assc. of Bergen County, NJ. Mrs. Viviana Kim, president of this Korean Business Owners Assc., was our hostess. This group of business owners has held many activities in helping our chapter raise funds for our many charitable endeavors.

They have sponsored golf tournaments, fundraisers, and dinners, and provided Korean supermarket exposure to our members. We are very grateful to Mrs. Kim and her staff for their support.

We presented Mrs. Kim with flowers and a certificate of our appreciation for their time and effort and their thanks to us for helping their country. We all had a good time at a local Italian restaurant in Leonia, NJ.

The following week Commander Gonzales and his wife Ann were guests at a Korean-American Vietnam chapter, where he spoke about our mutual friendships in helping fight communism.

*Albert Gonzales, 115 Irving St., Leonia, NJ 07605, 201-943-5700*



Mrs. Kim greets members of Ch 216 at restaurant



Attendees at Leonia luncheon include members of Ch 216 (Back, L-R) Art Dingman, John Ottino, Vince Arfuso, Joe Poggi, Vivian Kim, Al Gonzales, Sal Vasile, Faust Faustini, Bill Huston, Paul Lee



Commander Gonzales of Ch 216 presents certificate of appreciation and flowers to Vivian Kim



# Chapter & Department News

## 11 DANBURY [CT]

As we have for 28 years, we held our annual bell ringing ceremony honoring POW-MIAs from WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and subsequent conflicts. Seven chapter members were present.

Peter Orenski, [TMEALF@aol.com](mailto:TMEALF@aol.com)



**ABOVE:** Members of Ch 11 at bell ringing ceremony (L-R) Bernie Rotunda, Frank Ferraiuolo, Ken Post, Ray Boddie, Joe Gatto, Jim Derwin and Brendan Sniffin. Members present but not pictured were Frank Morris and Peter Orenski.

**LEFT:** A beautiful day for the bell ringing ceremony in Danbury, CT

## 12 CAPTAIN PAUL DILL #2 [DE]

We participated in 5 parades in 2012 with our trailer equipped with the 5 service flags, 2 banners, and a CD system that played military marches. Some members marched behind the Color Guard; the rest rode in the trailer.

The parades were: Newark Armed Forces Day (May 20); Wilmington Memorial Day (May 30); New Castle Separation Day (June 9), the oldest parade in the United States, which commemorates the separation of Delaware from Pennsylvania; Delaware City Day (July 21).

Finally, we had a group go to New York City to be in the Veterans Day Parade up Fifth Avenue. We had a decorated mini-bus that played military marches. After the parade we were invit-

ed to Dewey's Flat Iron Restaurant on Fifth Avenue for lunch. It was a day we won't forget.

Frank Howerton, 110 W. Pembrey Dr.  
Wilmington, DE 19803



Ch 12 members line up for the New York City Veterans Day Parade (L-R) Cortland W. Warrington, Alfred G. Lawler, Franklin H. Davidson, Leroy R. Rutter, John W. Day, Dave Torrens



Members of Ch 12 at New Castle [DE] Separation Day Parade (Front, L-R) Cortland W. Warrington, Al Parker, James M. Restucci, Franklin H. Davidson, Wendell O. Onley, Samuel T. Riebel, Jr.



Contingent from Ch 12 at Wilmington Memorial Day Parade (Front, L-R) Franklin D. Howerton Sr., John R. ("Mick") Schroder, B. Raffel, Jay W. Weber, Franklin H. Davidson, Francis X. Daney, Eugene L. Rose, Leroy R. Rutter, Allister Barker, (Back, L-R) Samuel T. Riebel, Jr., Wendell O. Onley, E. Watson Day, David P. Hitchcock, James M. Restucc



## 19 GEN. RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

At a recent Veterans parade, chapter President Robert McCubbins was honored to ride in the lead car to represent all Korean War veterans.

Jim Conway, [conatlanta@comcast.net](mailto:conatlanta@comcast.net)



Bob McCubbins of Ch 19 stands next to Veterans Parade "limo"

## 24 CHARLES PARLIER [IL]

The Macon County Honor Guard [IL] performed military rites for 137 veterans in 2012. Many members of our chapter are an intricate part of this wonderful organization commanded by former U.S. Marine Rudy Escobar. Formed in 1995, the MCHG has done 3,057 funerals, traveled 86,200 miles, and fired 64,197 rounds of ammo.

Jerry L. Seymour, 352 W Arch St., Mount Auburn, IL 62547, 217-825-5874, [GearShift3a1@yahoo.com](mailto:GearShift3a1@yahoo.com)

## 43 KANSAS CITY MISSOURI #2 [MO]



Bob Jones of Ch 43 speaks in Independence, MO

Three of our members were invited to be part of the City of Independence's 2012 annual Veterans Day Tribute held at the Truman Memorial Building.

Bob Jones and Jim Schultz, Mayor Pro-Tem of Independence, MO, presented a wreath at the ceremony. Jones was also a guest speaker.

Edward Slater, an Ex-POW and chapter member, was the keynote speaker.

Bob Jones, 816-836-0969 (H), 816-809-0123 (cell), [bob-jones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com](mailto:bob-jones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com)



Edward Slater of Ch 43 delivers keynote address at Independence, MO gathering

Jess Barbosa, Commander of Ch 43, introduces guest speaker Bob Jones at Independence, MO event



Jim Schultz and Bob Jones of Ch 43 present wreath at Veterans Day ceremony

## 56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

Three of our members attended a luncheon at Sagan Restaurant at Buena Park, CA, near Los Angeles. The restaurant specializes in Korean food. There, several veterans received medallions from Korean Ambassador Y. J. Choi.



David Lopez, 1121 New St., Santa Paula, CA 93060

Ambassador K.Y. Choi and Ch 56 Commander David Lopez at Sagan Restaurant



David Lopez, Manuel Adame, and Henry Guevara of Ch 56 display medallions received at Sagan Restaurant



Guests and dignitaries at medallion presentation at Sagan Restaurant in Buena Park, CA

## 108 WESTERN OHIO [OH]

This was our year to host the "I-75 picnic." Veterans, their wives, and guests from Ch 172, Hancock County (Findlay), Ch115, Johnnie Johnson (Lima), and Ch 125 Greene County (Xenia) joined us on Sept. 8, 2012 for an enjoyable afternoon of comradeship.

On Dec. 14, 2012, we met at Piqua VFW Post 4874 Hall for our 18th annual Christmas party. Seventy-two people were present, including members, their wives, and guests. We had the honor of our Honorary Members couple, Dr. Kwang Vii Kim and



Head table folks at Ch 108's Christmas party (L-R) VP Lawrence & Francis Gehert, Treasurer Dale and Teresa Snyder, Pres. Ben & Jane Hiser, Sec. Robert & Susan Wisenbarger, Dr. Kwang Vii & Julie Kim

wife Julie, from Dayton, attending again this year. Everyone enjoyed an evening of fellowship with music, good food, and the drawing of various items.



Large crowd at Ch 108's 2012 Christmas party



Attendees at Hope Social Service Center event in Ohio

Dr. Kwang Vii Kim and Julie have led in organizing the "Hope Social Service Center," where they welcome Korean War veterans and adopting families of Korean children for an annual evening meal and entertainment. Veterans, wives, and family members from Chapters 108 and 125 are invited. A good number of members from both chapters attend.

As most of us have experienced, South Koreans can't do enough to show their appreciation and gratitude in thanking Korean War veterans. They always present an outstanding program.

Fred Shively, 1842 W. Parkway Dr.  
Piqua, OH 45356, 937-773-8179

## 158 WILLIAM R. CHARETTE MOH [FL]

For Veterans Day, we held a large Korean War display at Polk County Summerlin Military Academy in Bartow, FL. Hundreds of students visited the display. The M1, the carbine, the .45, and miscellaneous weapons drew the most interest and questions.



First VP Bill McCraney of Ch 158, recipient of three Purple Hearts and the DSC





**LEFT:** Frank Cohee, Ch 158 Commander and KWVA National Secretary, and Dick Champion, chapter Sgt. of Arms

**RIGHT:** A display furnished by Ch 158 Judge Advocate Walt Benton for Veterans Day event



Believe it or not, the next item of interest was the mess kit and utensils. The students could not believe how it all went together, how it was washed and rinsed, etc.

Frank Cohee, [kwvasec@gmail.com](mailto:kwvasec@gmail.com)

## 209 LAREDO KWVA 1950 [TX]

### Highway Dedicated In Texas

Members attended a February 8, 2013 dedication ceremony in Falfurrias, TX. The highway, named Veterans of the Korean War Memorial Highway, runs from Laredo, TX to the Gulf Coast.



Highway dedication in Falfurrias, TX

Tony Silva, Webb County [TX] Veterans Service Officer, retired recently. We presented him with two beautiful plaques.



Edwardo R. Sanchez Jr.  
2519 Garfield St.  
Laredo, TX 78043, 956-723-4206 and Pete Trevino  
3219 E. Lyon  
Laredo, TX 78043  
956-723-6978

Tony Silva at his desk



J.J. Trevino and Ernesto Sanchez of Ch 209 present plaques to Tony Silva as Nico Nanez (right) watches



Members of Ch 209 at plaque presentation (Seated, L-R) Pedro Trevino, Tony Silva, Eddie Sanchez, Dave Leyendecker (Back, L-R) Jerry Alvarado, Hector Castaneda, Paulino Lucio, Nico Naez, J.J. Trevino, John McKeown, Neto Sanchez, Salvador Sciaraffa, Luis Bazaldua, Hector Garza, Rey Reyna

## 222 ARDEN A. ROWLEY [AZ]

Our Honor Guard posted and retired colors on February 8, 2013 at Yavapai Elementary School in Scottsdale, AZ for their Patriotic Day Ceremony.

Lew Bradley, [lew.bradley@gmail.com](mailto:lew.bradley@gmail.com)



Lew Bradley, Don Taylor, and Charles 'Pete' Stewart of Ch 222 (L-R) prepare to march colors forward at Yavapai Elementary School gymnasium





Don Taylor (L) and Lew Bradley pose with one of the many Yavapai Elementary School students who wanted pictures after ceremony

## 227 SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN [WI]

We have participated in the Milwaukee Veterans Day Parade for the past eight years. Last year's march was the 49th annual Veterans Day Parade.

Jim Becker, 3709 Candle Ct. Apt. 3, Racine, WI 53402



Members of Ch 277 at Milwaukee Veterans Day Parade (L-R) John Kamperschroer, Ed Slovak, "Smoky" Scholzen, Bill DeBock

## 235 SANTA BARBARA [CA]

We held our Christmas party on December 15, 2012.

John Ramieri, 121 Dearborn Pl., Apt 150  
Goleta, CA 93117, 805-698-4304



Christmas party members from Ch 235 (Back, L-R) Santo Ojeda, John Ramieri, Ray Sanchez, Ralph DeLaVega, Santos Escobar (Front, L-R) Sal Perez, John Suzuki, and guests

## 251 SAGINAW/FRANKENMUTH [MI]

At our November 2012 monthly meeting, Jin-Hyun Lee, Consul to the Consul General of South Korea, attended as a guest.

On Dec. 5, 2012, we had our annual Christmas party. Bob Simon was the emcee. Mr. Lee gave all members present a Thermos and drinking jug—sixty sets in total.

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



**LEFT:** Jin-Hyun Lee (L) and Bob Simon of Ch 251 at chapter's November 2012 meeting

**BELOW:** Bob Simon, Hugh Lee, President of the Mid-Michigan Korean Association, and Ron Lubis (L-R) gather at meeting



Jo Ann Polzin, Ed DeWitt, Shirley and Walter Tessin at Ch 251 Christmas gathering

### Did you know...

You can check your National KWVA Membership Status On line? Simply go the KWVA website at [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org), navigate down the page to the header marked Check Your National KWVA Membership Status Online, and click on the line below it. There you will find:

Mbr #	Member	Status/Renewal	Chap/Unit Served
Give it a try.			





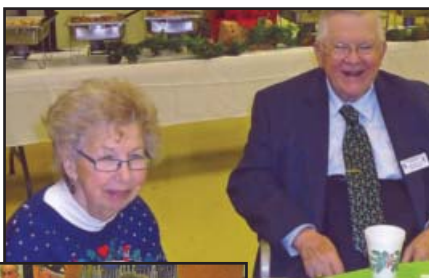
Sweet Adelines serenade Dallas Mossman, Sr. of Ch 251 at Christmas dinner



The "Sweet Adelines" entertain 100 Ch 251 members and guests at Christmas dinner

## 256 NORVILLE FINNEY [MI]

About forty members and their guests attended our annual Christmas Party. As usual, everyone had a good time.



Members of Ch 256 and guests at 2012 Christmas party

James E. McCarthy,  
2159 Parliament Dr.  
Sterling Hts, MI 48310  
586-264-4223



## 258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

Several of us attended an October 5, 2012 appreciation luncheon at the InterContinental Hotel in Boston.

We made a donation to the Bristol, RI Veterans Home.

Norman J. Paiva Sr., 42 Morgan Ave.

North Providence, RI 02911, 401-231-9176



Ch 258 members at Boston appreciation luncheon (L-R) Ed Daniels, Gil Botelho, Joe Perry (standing in back), Bernard Eaton, Frank Meo, Bo Kenahan, Dick Mende, Norm Derosier, Rich St. Louis, Herb Southworth, Norm Paiva (kneeling)

"Welcome, veterans" to Boston hotel



Korean chorus entertains veterans at Boston hotel luncheon



Members of Ch 258 making a donation to Bristol, RI Veterans Home: Gil Botelho, Frank Meo, General Baccus (Facility Director), Richard St. Louis, Norm Paiva (L-R)





Gil Botelho and Norm Paiva of Ch 258, unknown Vietnam veterans, and Richard St. Louis of Ch 258 (L-R) visit Bristol, RI Veterans Home

## 264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

Bob Hooker and Stan Grogan accepted donations from the general public at a store in Concord, CA during a Rose of Sharon fundraiser for veterans at the Yountsville veterans facility.

Stanley J. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr., Pinole, CA 94564



Bob Hooker of Ch 264 (seated) confers with passers-by at fundraiser

**RIGHT:** The Ch 264 fundraiser display at Concord store



**BELOW:** Sometimes fundraising is a lonely task as Bob Hooker of Ch 264 suggests



## 270 SAM JOHNSON [TX]

### CID 270 Recognizes Volunteers for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2012

We handed out awards to volunteers for fiscal year ending September 30, 2012 at our March 9 meeting.



Volunteer Award recipients from Ch 270 (Standing, L-R) President Randolph, Tilford Jones, Morris Chambers, George Kraus, Dick Bové, Bill Carman, Paul Pfrommer

### Chapter Names and Awards Members with over 100 Volunteer Hours

Twenty-seven members were named and honored for logging 5,142 volunteer hours at the Dallas VA Hospital. As one of the main attractions during the March 9 chapter meeting, these volunteers received plaques and applause from fellow chapter members.

Leading by example, Chapter President J. D. Randolph topped all chapter volunteers by logging 575 volunteer hours at the Dallas VA Hospital in fiscal year 2012. Bob ("Ski") Wojciechowski followed in second place with 375 volunteer hours. Carolyn Bolds took third place with 302 volunteer hours.

### Volunteers with between 200 and 299 Hours

Three members, Tilford Jones, Morris Chambers, and Joe Seiling, logged over 200 but fewer than 300 hours. Tilford Jones logged 288 hours, Morris Chambers logged 254 hours, and Joe Seiling logged 203 hours.

### Volunteers with 100 to 199 Hours

Seven chapter members and one spouse logged between 100-199 hours at the Dallas VA Hospital: Ken Borchers (197), Jimmie McGee (195), George Kraus (194), James Cawyer (172), Bill Carman (168), Grace Borchers, Ken Borchers' spouse, (158), and Paul Pfrommer (114).

### Volunteers with Fewer than 100 Hours

Thirteen members logged fewer than 100 hours at the Dallas VA Hospital in 2010: Homer Mundy (95), Jim McCrary (80), Dick Lethe (59), Ernie Bousquet (57), Bill Lovas (48), Ed Wuermsier (36), Pat Jetton (33), Angela Sasser (33), Bobby Medford (30), Richard Sanchez (13), Freeman Dunlap (12), Doyle Dykes (8), and Billy Joe Denton (6).



## 289 MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

December was a busy month. We sponsored a Christmas party at the VA C Ward on December 13. There were 30 plus patients in this ward. We provided ice cream treats and handed out gifts provided by the VA to the patients.

We donated \$300 to the VA towards the purchase of these presents. We also furnished 350 signed Christmas cards for the patients. Our Christmas party gets a little smaller every year.

Our Member of the Year Plaque was presented to William Reed, Junior Vice Commander.



Members of Ch 289 with their spouses—and one grandson at Christmas party

Senior Vice Commander Fred Himelwright, Junior Vice Commander Bill Reed, and Past Commander Bob Shelton of Ch 289 (L-R) at Member of the Year presentation



Member Arlen Hensley (Fox Co., 2nd Bn., 5th Regt., 1st Marine Division) was one of two Korean veterans who recently took the inaugural Honor Flight to Washington DC from our area. They took a bus instead of a plane because of our nearness to Washington.

Arlen Hensley of Ch 289 with radio operator at Korean War Memorial



They took a side trip on the way to visit a new World War II memorial in Virginia. Since Arlen was a radio man in Korea ('52-'53), he had his picture taken with the radio man in the memorial.

Carol Shelton, [cshelton37663@yahoo.com](mailto:cshelton37663@yahoo.com)

## 297 PLATEAU [TN]

We had a successful Christmas luncheon with 36 members, wives, and friends attending. It was held at the Legends in Fairfield Glade in mid December 2012.



Richard Malsack, 146 Anglewood Dr. Crossville, TN 38558

Jim and Nancy Morris at Ch 297's Christmas luncheon



Roger and Andrea Vanrekorn and Betty and Ray Bush (L-R) enjoy festivities at Ch 297 luncheon

Jim and Ida Douglass and Margaret Malsack (L-R) at Fairfield Glade event in Tennessee



## 298 ALAMO [TX]

We hosted the 2012 Texas State Convention the weekend of 16-18 November 2012 at the historic Menger Hotel next to the Alamo in San Antonio, TX. The weekend was filled with meetings, tours of local military installations and attractions, food, fellowship, and more food.

Friday began with the awarding of DoD Certificates of Appreciation to the veterans by representatives from the Pentagon, followed by a reception filled with tables overflowing



**ABOVE:** Attendees at Texas State meeting

**LEFT:** Texas State meeting attendees enjoy reception





Folks at Texas State meeting at banquet



Gwang Ju Korean Pavilion at Denman Park

with hors d'oeuvres in the main lobby of the Menger. The setting was made complete with a mariachi band and gathering with old friends.

The Friday night banquet included guest speakers from the local city government, a retired BGEN from USAA, a MGEN from Fort Sam Houston, and the Korean Consulate General from Houston. A professional dance group from Houston provided entertainment.

Saturday began with the Texas Department Chapter President meeting, a general membership meeting, and then tours of the Wounded Warrior Center, Fort Sam Houston Museum, the Airman Heritage Museum at Lackland AFB, and a tour of the Gwang Ju Korean Pavilion at Denman Park in San Antonio.

(The "Pavilion of Gwang-Ju" was gifted to the City of San Antonio by Mayor Kang Un Tae to represent the sister-city relationship with Gwang-Ju, Korea. A special ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 29, 2010 marked the opening of the attraction.)

The evening concluded with a one-hour barge tour of the Riverwalk. Sunday morning began with a church service, followed by a final meeting to select next year's location and exchange final goodbyes.

The weekend was dampened with the loss due to a heart attack of the President of the Laredo Chapter, Jorge De La Garza – to whom the weekend was dedicated.

Thomas Cacy, [pastortomcacy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastortomcacy@sbcglobal.net)

## 299 KOREA VETERANS OF AMERICA [MA]

We held our 10th annual Christmas party at the West Roxbury Elks. About 70 members, spouses, and guests attended. They obtained PX items and received new KWVA/KVA challenge coins.

Boston Korean Consulate General Park and Milton/Randolph [MA] VSO Mike Cunningham were the guest speakers. In addition to the Ch 299 challenge coins, they received a Medal of Honor recipient SFC Jared Monti plaque and an MOH SFC Jared Monti challenge coin.

Jeff Brodeur, 48 Square Rigger Ln.  
Hyannis, MA 02601



Members and guests at Ch 299's Christmas party



Korean Counsel General Park displays SFC Jared Monti Memorial Plaque as Al McCarthy (L) and Jeff Brodeur and Art Griffith (far right) observe



Members and guests of Ch 299 celebrate Christmas at annual party



## Chapter Very Busy Over Veterans Day

The officers and members of Antietam Chapter 312 were extremely busy over the Veterans Day 2012 weekend and beyond. Many members started the weekend by attending a veterans appreciation event at nearby Boonsboro High School on Friday morning. Later that afternoon the chapter sponsored a social event for the residents of the Julia Manor Home in Hagerstown, MD.



Commander Les Bishop of Ch 312 delivers the Veterans Day address at the Washington County [MD] courthouse



Vice-Commander Pat Patterson prepares to place a wreath at the Veterans Day ceremony at the Washington County [MD] courthouse

On Sunday morning, November 11th, thirteen members attended a Veterans Day event in a city park where Commander Bishop laid a wreath honoring all veterans. Later that morning, Commander Bishop and several members attended a similar event at the county courthouse in Hagerstown. Commander Bishop was the featured speaker.

In the afternoon, Chapter Treasurer Jim Mobley participated in a veterans appreciation event at the local Elks Lodge, while our chaplain placed a wreath at a similar ceremony in nearby Smithsburg, MD.

Commander Bishop represented the chapter at another veterans appreciation event at Musselman High School in Inward, WV. We participated in a total of 9 events in 6 days, with approximately 30 members participating over the 6 days. We were pleased with the member turnout at each event and feel that, as



Ch 312 Chaplain Dr. Bud Johns presents a wreath at the Veterans Day ceremony in Smithsburg, MD

Korean War veterans, they made their mark on the community. In fact, numerous local citizens remarked about seeing the blue jackets at events all around the city. It certainly made us proud.

Finally, we hosted a social event for the residents at a local assisted living center in Hagerstown, MD. The event was held over the Veterans Day weekend and the veterans at the center were the honored guests. Cake and ice cream were provided to the guests while everyone was entertained by the pleasant music of Sentimental Sounds.



Les Bishop of Ch 312 presents a chapter pin and American flag to a veteran at Hagerstown, MD assisted living center



Residents at Julia Manor Nursing Home in Hagerstown, MD enjoy Ch 312 members' visit

Members mixed with the resident veterans while Commander Les Bishop provided each veteran with a chapter pin and a souvenir flag. It was a nice time for all and very much appreciated by the resident veterans and staff alike.

Veterans participating in the event were Commander Les Bishop, Vice-Commander Pat Patterson, Secretary Jim Mobley, Past Commander Jim Enslinger, Al Jacobson, and Joe Startari.

Les Bishop, 11822 Oriole Dr., Hagerstown, MD  
21742, 240-420-3755, [lbishop@myactv.net](mailto:lbishop@myactv.net)

## 315 SOUTHERN OREGON [OR]

U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) attended a recognition ceremony at which he presented Department of Oregon President Neil McCain with a Certificate from the Senate making the year 2013 the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War.

Neil McCain, [neilmccain@clearwire.net](mailto:neilmccain@clearwire.net)



Sen. Wyden presents  
Neil McCain with certificate

Members of Ch 315 gather with Sen. Wyden (L-R) Commander Henry Nusbaum, Vern Beck, Senator Wyden, Al Pule, Neil McCain



Oregon veterans gather at town hall meeting with Sen. Wyden

## 318 INDIAN RIVER COUNTY [FL]

We elected new officers/directors for the calendar year 2013. Eric "Rip" Wieler, past president, Indian River County Veterans Council, installed them. The officers/directors include Joseph A. Gomez (Commander), George D. Todd (First Vice Commander), W. Alan Cunningham (Second Vice Commander), William J. Duggan (Recording Secretary), R. G. "Ace" Cappelen (Judge Advocate), Vincent P. Abbate (Director), Ernest J. Miller (Treasurer), Nicholas Troiano (Director), Leon P. Lenze (Director), and Robert D. Reisman (Assistant Treasurer).

Joseph A. Gomez, 1210 24th Ave.  
Vero Beach, FL 32960, 772-473-2313  
[JGomez@bellsouth.net](mailto:JGomez@bellsouth.net)



Eric "Rip" Wieler installs new officers of Ch 318 (L-R) Joseph A. Gomez, George D. Todd, W. Alan Cunningham, William J. Duggan, R. G. "Ace" Cappelen, Vincent P. Abbate, Ernest J. Miller, Nicholas Troiano, and Leon P. Lenze

## DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

Certificates of Appreciation were presented recently to 172 Korean War veterans by the Department of Defense and the KWVA. Veterans began arriving early to the Port Orange Amphitheatre to make sure they could find a seat. All were rewarded by being "forgotten no more."

Bob McGuire, Vice President of the State of Florida KWVA, the master of ceremonies, introduced the keynote speaker, Major John Buchanan of the Department of Defense K60 program and the other members of his staff who came to honor these local veterans. VFW 3282 Auxiliary President Kim VanDeventer sang the national anthem following the presentation of the colors by VFW 3282's Honor Guard.

Commander John Lickfold of VFW Post 3282 gave a congratulatory speech to all those in attendance, as did President Chuck Husband, Ch 189 president, in his opening speech. The names of all recipients were read. All veterans, widows, widowers, and surviving children were acknowledged.

The certificates were then presented, along with a keepsake program, cover jacket, and personal photo opportunity. Everyone was congratulated by Mayor Allen Green and City Manager Ken Parker of Port Orange.

The DOD will continue to present Certificates of Appreciation to those who send their name, rank, address, phone number and e-mail to KWVA, PO Box 214009, South Daytona FL 32121. For further information, call 386-323 6401. The United States government wants to say "Thank You" to all Korean War veterans.

### Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicating a Memorial? Attending a Banquet

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





**KOREAN WAR**  
NATIONAL MUSEUM  
*no longer forgotten*

## The Armistice: Then and Now

March 15, 2013

To the Korean War Veterans Association:

On Monday, March 11, 2013, Kim Jung-Un, the current leader of North Korea, declared that the Armistice that ended the Korean War nearly 60 years ago is now invalid. With this single statement, the North Korean regime has reminded us all of the incredible importance of the Korean War and how it is up our generation to make the peace that our fathers forged, into one that is permanent.

It goes without saying that the relevance of the timing of this announcement is hard to ignore. 60 years have now passed since the United Nations, United States, Republic of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and China negotiated the Armistice. Since that fateful summer day, Communism has been deterred; the Republic of Korea has become one of our strongest allies and a shining example of the strength of democracy; American men and women of all races and backgrounds proudly serve side by side; and air fighter and drone technology that was pioneered during the War are now on the front line of helping us defeat terrorists the world over. Above all, these 60 years have showed us why it was worth participating in this War and what democracy, alliance and courage can accomplish.

In remembrance of this incredibly legacy – a gift that you, as our Veterans, have given to us- I wanted to take this opportunity to renew the Korean War National Museum, Library and Cultural Center's commitment to not only being a place where history is preserved and celebrated but a critical interface where Veterans, Soldiers, world leaders, diplomats, academics, and students can work together to end this War once and for all. This year, in addition to continuing our successful capital campaign to build a state of the art Museum facility in New York City, I am hoping to fulfill this promise by working with governments, national leaders, organizations and institutions to hold seminars, forums and conferences on the current situation on the Korean peninsula and collaborate to come up with real and plausible solutions. Through these conversations, I hope to recognize your sacrifices and what you built and to fan the strong flame of your legacy.

As always, thank you for your service and commitment to spreading and protecting and ensuring that freedom, friendship and democracy prosper all over the world. God bless.



Sincerely,

Tony Enrietto  
President and CEO  
Korean War National Museum, Library and Cultural Center

# Home at last: A Soldier's remains return to



*By Sgt. Javier S. Amador, 10th Mountain Division*

**FORT DRUM, N.Y.** (Nov. 16, 2012) — In the late morning of Nov. 6, a commercial jet touched down at Syracuse International Airport, marking the ending of one Korean War Soldier's saga that began with his enlistment into the Army in 1948, and ended with closure for his family.

Soldiers from C Company, 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, rendered honors as the flag-draped casket bearing his remains emerged from the jet, now parked on the tarmac, in a plane-side ceremony.

According to the Joint Prisoners of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii, Pfc. Elmer C. Kidd, a native of Seneca Falls, N.Y., was assigned to the Heavy Mortar Company of the 31st Regimental Combat Team, or RCT, in late November 1950. His unit was deployed to Korea, and at an area east of the Chosin Reservoir near Sinhung-Ri, South Hamyong Province, North Korea, engaged an enemy force that was immensely greater in numbers.



Soldiers with 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, carry Cpl. Elmer Kidd's casket to an awaiting hearse, during his funeral ceremony, Nov. 9, 2012, in Seneca Falls, N.Y.

## KWVA members in attendance at Cpl Kidd's service

On Nov. 29, 1950, what remained of his unit along with the remnants of the 31st RCT, which historically went to be known as Task Force Faith, named for Lt. Col. Don Faith, then commander of the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment. Task Force Faith began to withdraw, fighting furiously as they sought to establish more readily defensible positions near Hagaru-Ri, south of the reservoir.

It was during this withdrawal a day later that Kidd was reported Missing In Action. A military review board held in 1956 determined that he likely did not survive the withdrawal and therefore changed his status to presumed dead. He was promoted to the rank of corporal while on MIA status.

The location of Kidd remained a mystery to his family for over 60 years, until Sgt. 1st Class DeWayne Beasley, the appointed Casualty Assistance Officer, or CAO, whose normal job is as the platoon sergeant for the 2nd Platoon of C Company, 2-87 Infantry, reached out to them.

"I received the call from the CAO in Hawaii on October 30th that [Cpl. Kidd] would be here [Nov. 6.]"

Beasley's job as a CAO is a complex and sensitive one, encompassing many duties that are all critical in bringing home Soldiers who lost their lives in the line of duty. He knew the phone call was just the beginning.

"From there I had to notify the family, give them the times and dates as well as to notify the Honor Guard and the Soldier's unit," said Beasley. "I also had to take care of all of the arrangements, making sure they fulfill the family's wishes, answer any questions they may have and act as the liaison between the family and the Army."

Kidd was among numerous other service members whose remains were turned over to the United Nations Command by the Democratic People's Republic of North Korea, according to the Joint Prisoner Of War/Missing In Action Command.

The funeral service for Kidd was held at the Sanderson-Moore Funeral Home in Seneca Falls, N.Y., Nov. 9. The battalion executive officer for the 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, presented a complete dress uniform, known as the Army Service Uniform, complete with corporal chevrons and a Purple Heart, to Kidd's family. It would later be placed upon Kidd's remains shortly before his casket was closed for



A firing detail and a bugler from the 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, stand at attention while "Taps" is played at Cpl. Elmer Kidd's funeral.



# American soil



Patriot Guard Riders, military officials, and residents of Seneca Falls, N.Y., wave flags as the hearse carrying Cpl. Elmer Kidd's casket drives by



Patriot Guard Riders outside funeral home where Cpl. Kidd's services were held



A complete Army Service Uniform with corporal chevrons and a Purple Heart is displayed next to Cpl. Elmer Kidd's casket during his funeral in Seneca Falls, N.Y.

the last time and the American flag was draped over it, just prior to the Honor Guard moving him to the hearse that would carry him on the last move to his final resting place.

"He would have wanted to be buried in his uniform," said Maj. Edward Sedlock, Jr., the 2-87 Infantry Battalion executive officer.

The motorcade that escorted the hearse and the family, law enforcement officials, the Patriot Guard Riders and veterans of the Korean War, made its way thru the streets of the town of Seneca Falls. Masses of residents lined the sidewalks, some waving flags, others holding handmade signs either



Soldiers fold flag at Cpl Kidd's service

welcoming him home or wishing his family well. Local businesses also paid their respects.

Kidd's burial ceremony was held at the Sampson Veterans Cemetery in Romulus, N.Y. Although the family had the option to bury him at Arlington National Cemetery, they chose Sampson so they could visit him more easily. He was buried with full military honors, rendered by the Honor Guard from the 2-87 Infantry Battalion.

Senator Michael F. Nozzolio, a member of the New York State Senate, was in attendance and spoke at the ceremony. He conveyed his thanks and appreciation for Kidd, saying, "He has taught me many things today — courage, service to country and the real meaning of sacrifice."

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to Richard Fastenau, 338 Village Blvd N, Baldwinsville, NY 13027, 315-635-1457, for providing four of the photos for this article.*



National KWVA President Jim Ferris, NY State Senator Michael Nozzolio, and the Rev. Leah Ntuala (L-R) at Cpl Kidd's service



## IN MEMORIAM

### E. Lee Dauster

By George Lawhon  
george.e.lawhon@gmail.com

On January 13, 2013, a good and decent man, known to God and his mother as Elmer Lee Dauster, but to the rest of us as just Lee, made the journey we will all take someday, passing over the bridge that separates the living from the dead. I'm sure he was welcomed upon his arrival there, but he is and will be just as surely missed here by all who knew him.

Lee was devoted to his family, and a good friend. He was a poet, a warrior, a Marine, a Life Member of the KWVA (1988), and one of the founding members of Santa Clara Chapter CID 6.

#### THE MEMORIAL - February 2, 2013

The KWVA was notified by Lee's daughter, Debra Zink-Brody, that a February 2, 11 a.m. memorial service followed by a reception was scheduled in Sonora, CA. She asked if we could participate.

KWVA President Jim Ferris responded by directing that arrangements for floral displays at the memorial begin, and asked for attendance support. As a result, KWVA Vice President Roy Aldridge, KWVA California Department Commander Mike Glazzy, CID 6 Commander Walt Schrank, our Association Historian Jim Byrne, and National Director George Lawhon attended. Ed Dauster, Lee's brother, came to the Memorial from his home in Virginia.

The Military Memorial, with an Honor Guard, was held at the Dambacher Mountain Memorial Cemetery in Sonora. It included a Color Guard, a 21-gun salute, and the playing of Taps. Afterwards, the American flag was folded and given to Lee's wife, Marie.

#### RECEPTION

An informal reception was held in downtown Sonora at the Veterans Memorial Hall and Military Museum. There was an excellent buffet. After the consumption of food and socializing ended, folks began to share experiences they had with Lee. My recollections of Lee center around our mutual love of poetry, especially the writing of it, and his sense of humor.

He had a really great laugh. We had planned

to write an audio book using that wonderful voice of his and poetry from both of us. Too bad.

By far the most interesting presentation was Ed Dauster recalling that fateful night in Korea that Lee lost his leg. I was a bit apprehensive about writing it up accurately, but I was given kind permission by Jim Byrne to use his formerly published G/3/1 (G Co., 3rd Bn., 1st Regt., 1st Marine Division) newsletter for credible source material. Bless his heart, that enabled me to give you the remarkable story below.

#### SOMETIME AROUND MIDNIGHT

During April '51, G/3/1 went into reserve. Lee, a Scout Sergeant with a FO (Forward Observers) Team, was sent to support a South Korean Marine unit. On April 23 and 24, the Chinese first probed and then launched a full-scale attack on that part of the line. Lee's FO team was with a platoon of Korean Marines out in front of the main defensive line.

When the Chinese hit on the 24th, the platoon of Korean Marines withdrew from its position to join the rest of the company on a ridge line shortly to the rear of its former position, leaving the FO team by itself to face the Chinese advance.

Permission to withdraw with the Korean Marine platoon was denied by the artillery liaison officer, which left the FO team no choice but to hold on to its position as best it could. The only advice the team received from the 11th Marines liaison officer was to call in artillery air bursts on its position.

Richard Matheney saw a light .30 cal machine gun abandoned by the Korean Marines. Dauster and Matheney moved to the gun. Matheney manned the gun, while Dauster used his carbine to hold off enemy soldiers trying to get around and behind the devastating fire of the light 30.

Sometime around midnight, Lee saw a Chinese soldier suddenly jump out

of a concealed position, firing an automatic weapon at Lee as he charged. The Chinese soldier got off three rounds before Lee was able to take him out with a shot to the chest. But in that first burst of fire, three rounds found their marks, ripping into Lee's ankle and shin bone, shattering the bones beyond repair.





## HELL ON AND OFF A HILL

Somehow, the FO team held all night and left thirty counted enemy dead in front of its position (for this action, Matheny was awarded the Navy Cross, while Dauster received a Silver Star). During the night, Lee lost consciousness from loss of blood. In the morning, he regained a certain degree of alertness, only to see what he thought was a Chinese soldier about to end his misery. Instead, it was one of the Korean Marines who, with his comrades, placed Lee in a

sleeping bag and later a blanket, and pulled him to an observation chopper that had to be jury-rigged to handle the evacuation.

Just about the time that Lee was strapped into the chopper, and before the chopper had achieved full rotary speed, three rounds hit, almost taking Lee's head off. The pilot wasted no time and took off, but with insufficient rotary speed to ascend. All of a sudden, Lee was aware that the chopper was barely off the ground and was rapidly dropping into the valley below. The pilot knew what he was doing, and eventually gained altitude and headed home.

The three rounds that ripped into the chopper had done significant damage, and the pilot was forced to make a landing at the 1st

MarDiv CP. The chopper bounced around, breaking the straps on Lee's stretcher. As a result, Lee found himself on the ground next to a chopper that could have easily burst into flames.

From out of nowhere a Marine rushed to his side. This Marine had just finished delivering a report to the Division CP and was about to return to his unit. When the chopper came down hard and he saw a Marine on a stretcher, he rushed to give what aid he could.

When he looked at the Marine on the stretcher, his first cry was, "Lee! Lee?"

The wounded Marine looked up to see who it was that was taking a chance with a chopper that could suddenly explode—and stared into the face of his brother, Ed Dauster.





Neither had known the other was in the area!

As soon as Lee was safely separated from the chopper, Ed was told to "get a letter to Pat (Lee's pregnant wife) and mom. Tell them that I am coming home, but don't mention the leg."

Ed got the letter home.

#### AT DAY'S END

While it was a sad day indeed, it had its sweet pleasures to compensate for our pain. One of them is the realization that our friend Lee no longer has to carry his burden of pain he did so well for more than 60 years. I say to my friend, "God bless you and goodbye."

Lee's daughter Debra took the flower wreath home and put it on her front door. Her final comment was later, in an email:

"...The memorial was wonderful. The VFW & KWVA really made it special. The 21-gun salute will be memorable. What an honor. Marie gave me the flag. I will cherish it.

Thanks for getting the word out.."

Lee Dauster's record of service to and for his country is extensive and honorable.

#### MILITARY AWARDS

Purple Heart (2)

Silver Star

Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal

President of G-3-1 USMC (Korea) Assc.

#### OTHER SERVICE

Life member:

Disabled American Veterans

Member - American Legion

Member - G-3-1 USMC Korea

#### KWVA SERVICE

Commander CID 6 (Santa Clara County, CA)

Commander CID 7 (Sonora Tuolumne County, CA)

National Director 2004-2007

National Director 2007-2010

## Lee Dauster: An Indomitable Spirit

By Mike Glazzy

I received an email message the other day. Another Korean War veteran, E. Lee Dauster, had passed away. I sat there deep in thought about Lee's formative years...his birth in St. Louis, MO on Christmas Day 1928, during the "Great Depression" era...his military service to flag and country...and his many years of service to the KWVA.

Lee graduated from high school in June 1946, and enlisted immediately in the U.S. Marine Corps. In December 1950, this Parris Island Marine, now trained as an air wing squadron intelligence clerk, arrived in Hungnam, Korea with the third replacement draft to serve with a forward observation (FO) team assigned to G Co., 3rd Bn., 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. On March 2nd, 1951, Lee, during his first combat engagement, was among the wounded (four KIAs and 21 WIAs).

Lee Dauster was wounded twice in a six-week period, losing a leg to the automatic gun fire above. Lee's personal citations include two Purple Hearts and a Silver Star for uncommon valor. He "retired" with those wounds and 14 months of hospital time.

Years later, Lee Dauster, along with 28 Korean

War vets, answered the call to form a Korean War veterans chapter in San Jose, California. On the first day of December 1989, KWVA President Nicholas Pappas chartered the Santa Clara County Chapter CA 6. Lee volunteered as the chapter's first newsletter editor, and later served as the chapter's second President.

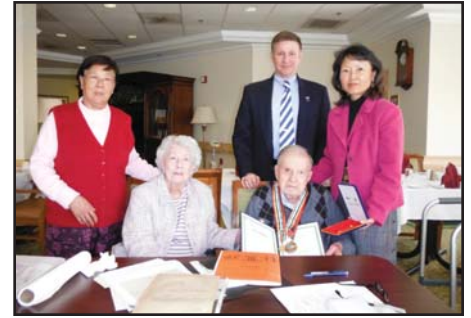
Later, Lee moved to the Sonora, California area and served as President of the Tuolumne County Chapter CA7. Lee also served as President of the Marine G-3-1 organization. On the National KWVA level, Lee Dauster was elected and served two terms, 2004-2007, and 2007-2010 as Director, taking on additional responsibilities as a member of the budget/finance committee and chairman of the resolution committee. He also served as an insurance advisor.

Most of us will remember Lee as the eternal optimist, living in concert with the lyrics of a song sung by Frank Sinatra titled "My Way": "I faced it all and I stood tall and did it my way."

"Semper Fidelis," Marine E. Lee Dauster

Reach Mike Glazzy at 3361 Williams Rd., San Jose, CA 95117, 408-296-8282, MGlazzy@sbcglobal.net

## Colonel Roswell Freedman Honored



Hae Sook Choi, Barbara Freedman, LtCol Tim Stoy, Col Ross Freedman, Cpt C. Monika Stoy at medal presentation

By C. Monika Stoy

Retired Air Force Colonel Roswell Freedman, a veteran fighter pilot from both World War II and the Korean War, was recently presented the Ambassador of Peace Medal by Captain, retired, C. Monika Stoy on behalf of Minister Park, Sun Choon, the Republic of Korea Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs. Colonel Freedman is 98 years old and now resides at Falcon's Landing, a military retirement home in Potomac Falls, Virginia, with his wife Barbara.

Colonel Freedman flew more than 50 combat missions over Korea and later in the war served as Base Commander of Kunsan Air Base. Many of his missions involved interdiction of enemy supply lines in North Korea.

Colonel Freedman was unable to attend the MPVA sponsored banquet on 27 July 2012 when Minister Park personally thanked the veterans in attendance, but the Minister's office asked Captain Stoy, as a U.S. Advisor to the Ministry, to present the medal on his behalf. Colonel Freedman was also presented the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Korean Armistice medallion.

LTC Timothy R. Stoy, US Army, retired, son of an Army Korean War veteran, and Mrs. Hae Sook Choi, widow of a ROK Korean War veteran, also participated in the award presentation. To date Colonel Freedman is believed to be the oldest Korean War veteran to have been presented the Ambassador for Peace medal.

Colonel Freedman served as a researcher, writer, and professor at the Air War College after his retirement from the Air Force in 1961.



# A letter from the grave

*By Judith Knight*

I was going through some of my mom's papers and came across a letter written by her brother, SFC Homer I. May, 59 years ago. The letter is written in pencil and it is so light that it is difficult to read. I cannot copy it, so I will try to decipher it as best I can. Perhaps one of your readers will be one of the men he mentions or will know them. I would be interested in hearing from them.

April 28, 1951

Dear Folks,

Greetings from a misty, cloudy Korea. I wrote you a quickie this morning but it looks like we are going to have a few minutes time so I'll drop a line to my constituents. Everything is going fine. In order to have something to talk about I'll tell you something about our squad.

Our squad leader is Cpl. Harold Wilson from Mike Horse Montana. He's a swell guy and I think he is the best squad leader in the company. He's a leader rather than a driver like our former squad leader. He's been over here about 7 months and is due to go home soon. B.A.R. man is Lawrence Watkins from Raleigh, NC. He is another swell guy. Butt of many jokes because he got a "Dear John."

Asst. B.A.R. man is PFC George Kundra, a D.P. from Czechoslovakia. He is a draftee. There are 2 draftees out of the 8 men in our squad..

The riflemen include the following. Pvt. Beard from a suburban city near Philly. His dad runs the W. Auto store there and Beard works for him. He is another swell guy.

Pvt. Robert Drake is a St. Paul boy. He got a teeny scratch in our last skirmish and was awarded the Purple Heart. We really tease him about that.

Pvt. Tony Martinez of St. Louis, Missouri, is our latest addition. A young Mexican kid, he has a brother over here.

Then there is Al Fornier, my fox hole buddy. He B.S.'s a lot and drives me nuts singing the only two songs he knows but we get along pretty good. He's about the youngest in our squad at 19.

To round out the squad there is Pfc. Homer I. May. That's right, Pfc. I made it yesterday. Just happened to be looking

sharp one day when the Sgt. saw me so he recommended the promotion. It means about \$10 more a month. I should be able to make Cpl. before I go back to the U.S. on rotation about 6 months from now.

We had fried eggs, 2, bacon and 2 pancakes, oatmeal and coffee for our breakfast this morning. I don't know if I told you but our cooks make the best hot cakes in the world. I am looking forward receiving that candy and watch you spoke of. A watch really is a necessity her and I was dumb to come without mine.

Well Folks, my heart goes out the 5,000 miles that separates us today,

Love to all,

Homer.

Homer was wounded less than a month later, on May 25, 1951 and was listed as Missing in Action while defending his position on Hill 851, Heartbreak Ridge, North Korea, against superior Chinese forces on September 2, 1951. He was presumed dead on December 31, 1953.

For his leadership and valor, Sergeant First Class May was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (the highest award earned in the battle on September 1), the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Korean Service Medal, and the United Nations Service Medal.

*Judith Knight, c/o KWVA Chapter 255, P.O. Box 6234, North Augusta, SC 29860-6234, [littlegreenwafer@gmail.com](mailto:littlegreenwafer@gmail.com)*

## July 27th In Chicago

Relative to the 60th Anniversary of the cease fire in Korea, CID 25, Greater Chicago [IL] is planning a Commemoration Weekend July 25-28, 2013 with a banquet to be held the evening of the 27th.

We are well along in our planning, having made arrangements for the hotel, the entertainment, and the banquet menu. In addition, we have commissioned a Challenge Coin to be given to all veterans. We will invite as guests of our chapter the Consul General of the Republic of Korea as well as the Consuls General of all the nations allied with the United States under the auspices of tile United Nations.

We plan to invite all Illinois members of the KWVA personally, as well as members of a number of chapters just across the borders of states abutting Illinois. We are also working to identify and invite veterans of the ROK Armed Forces. We will encourage attendance by family members.

If there are any members in other states who would care to attend, they may contact me by phone, 773-774-9671, or in writing at 15641 N. Olcott Ave., Chicago, IL 60631.

Joe Henmueller, Commander, Ch 25

# Remembering

I have rarely seen references to the many trucking companies in Korea that were in direct support of the front-line troops.

As I sit here celebrating my 80th birthday, my memories go back to January 30, 1951, when I graduated from New Utrecht High School in Brooklyn, NY, at the tender age of 18-1/2. I was contemplating joining the U.S. Army in the next few days. I went to the Whitehall Street Recruiting Center in downtown New York City, where I began with a complete physical checkup, shots that were needed, etc.

After enjoying a 24-hour pass, we were placed on buses and went off to Ft. Devens, MA, for the distribution of our GI clothes, a GI haircut, and many classes on Army etiquette. After a week or so, we were placed on a troop train headed for Ft. Bragg, NC, where many of us were assigned to the 420th Engineer Dump Truck Company. After settling in, we started our 16 weeks of basic training. When I finished the course, I received a 10-day pass and went home.

Upon returning, we were taught how to drive those dump trucks. The first week in August my orders came to report to Camp Stoneman in Pittsburgh, CA. I knew then where I was headed—KOREA!!

After we arrived at Camp Stoneman, we had classes on how to take care of ourselves in a foreign country and what to do if captured. After a week or two we were sent by ferryboat to the San Francisco Port of Embarkation, where I boarded the USS *General William Weigel* (AP 119) with others from the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force.

Following a lovely cruise on the Pacific Ocean, we landed in Yokohama, Japan, where we were placed on trains and sent to Camp Drake for more informational classes. Then we returned to Yokohama, where we boarded another ship headed for Inchon, Korea. The following day we arrived in the harbor,

which was loaded with ships from all the United Nations countries that were fighting in Korea.

That night we went over the side of the ship with all our equipment. We descended the rope ladders to an LCV (Landing Craft Vehicle Personnel), and we were off to the “Land of the Morning Calm,” aka Korea. We boarded trucks and went to a replacement depot. Then, we climbed on to a train, which transported me to a town called Wonju, where I was assigned to the 504th Transportation Truck Company.

After a few weeks, many of us were sent to the 351st Transportation Highway Transport Group, where we learned how to drive vehicles from Jeeps to 2-ton trucks, along with the maintenance of these vehicles. After several weeks we were sent on a convoy and were tested on how we handled the vehicles and ourselves. Once we graduated, we received U.S. Army driving licenses. We were reassigned to our original outfits and accepted our driving assignments.

Orders came down for us to break camp and proceed to a town called Sokchori, on the east coast of the Japanese Sea. LSTs landed in this area with all kinds of supplies for the front line troops that we supported directly. We hauled 55-gallon drums of gas, food supplies, ammunition, and sometimes troops.

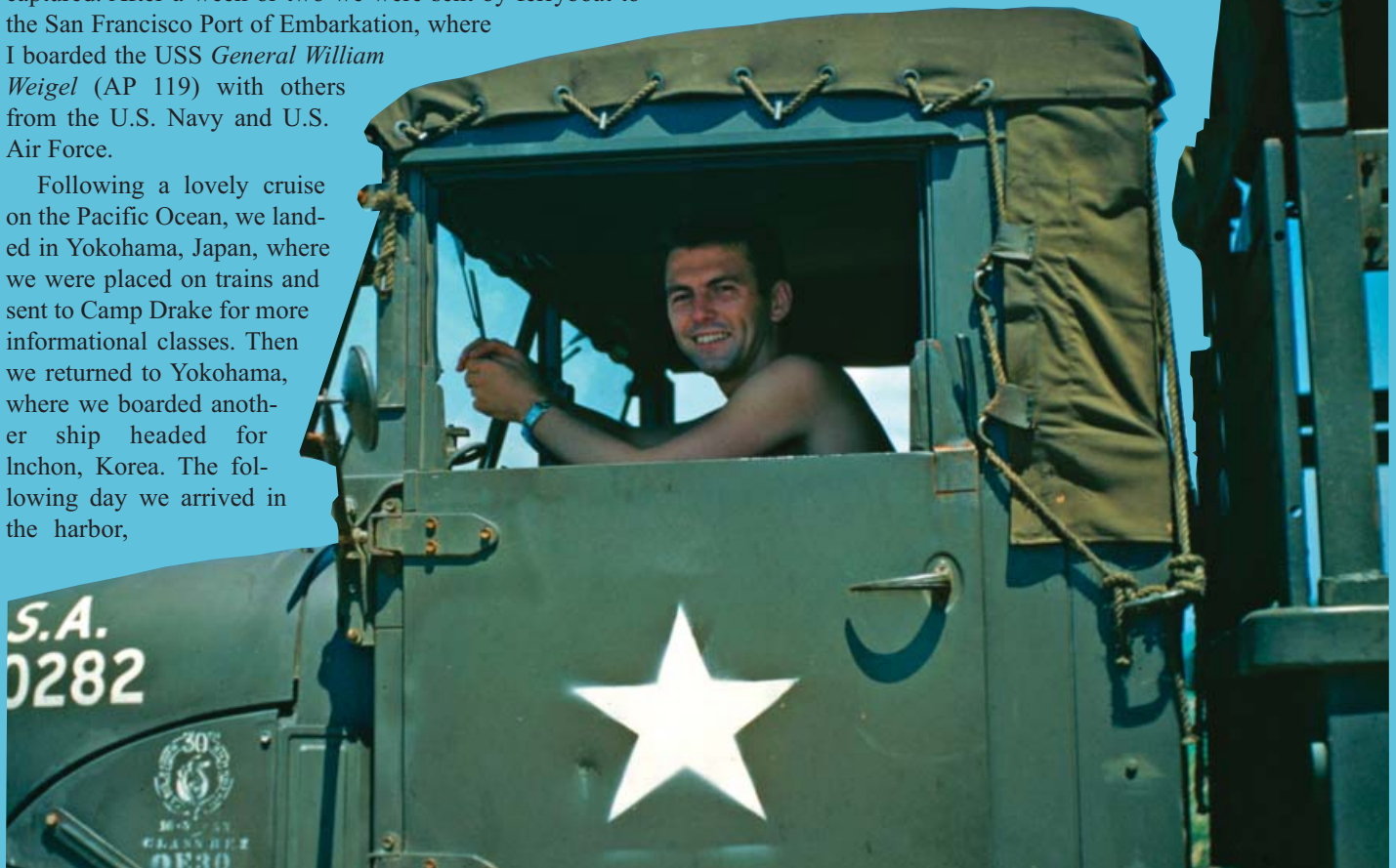


Photo courtesy of Stanley A. Jones (pictured), 25 Huckins Neck Rd., Centerville, MA 02632



From March 1 to August 31, 1952 we were in direct support of the front line troops. We displayed such outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of difficult tasks as to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions. Consequently, we were awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation.

The 504th had a great contingent of men and officers, such as Commanding Officer Clarence Walk, Lt. Samuel Price, Lt. Stein, CWO Goggins (our maintenance officer) and several others.

Most of the time I spent with the 504th was as a mess hall truck driver for our Mess Sgt. White, whose mess hall was known as "White's Hashdashery." From there I went to the front office as the Company Clerk/Mailman, a job I thoroughly enjoyed.

I rotated back to the states in the middle of January 1953, where I ended up at Camp Kilmer, NJ. There, I received my release from the U.S. Army. Those two years in the army compose the time in my life when I learned what it is to be a man. They created beautiful memories that never leave me.

If there are any of you who were in the service with me, I sure would like to hear from you.

Larry Hochfeld, 9537 Weldon Circle #408, Tamarac, FL 33321, 954-721-4833, [Hochfeld2@aol.com](mailto:Hochfeld2@aol.com)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *There is an excellent book, Vietnam Rough Riders: A Convoy Commander's Memoir, that depicts the role of truckers in combat. Admittedly, it is about a different war, but truckers are important parts of military operations in any war. The aforementioned book is written by Frank McAdams. The 265 pp. book was published by University Press of Kansas in 2013. ISBN is 978-0-7006-1898-9. It lists for \$34.95, although it was available in hard cover for \$27.90 at [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) and [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) as of 1/23/2013.*

## Profile of a Hero

God blessed the soldier who went to war,  
Came back to society and spoke of it no more.  
He protected America with blood, sweat, and tears,  
And made it a point to receive no cheers.  
His rank he achieved with knowledge and skill,  
And retired it in a closet to work in a mill.  
Silver stars were pinned upon his chest,  
But in Church he looks like all the rest.  
God blessed this soldier who holds it all within,  
He felt it was his duty to just defend.  
To the grave he shall carry it; the demons of war,  
And keep it silent ever more.  
Real heroes walk amongst us from time to time,  
But you will not recognize them for they will decline.  
God Bless You Soldiers, Ever more!

Paul R. Lawson, 401 W. Marshall Rd.,  
McDonald, OH 44437, 330-530-6700

# From Graves Registration to Mortuary Affairs

By Tom Moore

After WWII, Graves Registration (GRREG) was effectively disbanded. In 1950, when the Korean War began, the 108th GRREG Platoon, the only graves registration platoon in the entire theater, was in Japan. It sent five-men units to each of the 24th Division, 25th Division, and the 1st Cavalry Division—15 members in all—to Korea. The only other GRREG unit extant was the 565th, located at Fort Bragg, NC.

Division-level cemeteries were used in Korea: the 24th's at Taejon, then the 24th's and 2nd's at Miryang, the 25th's at Masan, the 1st Cavalry's at Taegu, and the 2nd Logistical Command's at Pusan. In September 1950, the 565th Graves Registration company arrived in Korea. The 114th GRREG arrived in Korea in November 1950. Later during the war, the 25th, 148th, 293rd, and 392nd GRREG companies served in the Korean War.

Other UN cemeteries were at Inchon, 7th Division at Pukchon, X Corps at Hungnam, 1st Cavalry at Pyongyang, and the 187th Airborne, 24th at Suchon. In 1951, a new UN military cemetery opened at Tanggok. When the Chinese entered the war, the division cemeteries were shut down, and the dead were evacuated to Japan, to (CIU) in Kokura. That was the first time in U.S. history that a mass evacuation of combat dead took place while hostilities were still in progress. All remains were evacuated, except those in the cemeteries at Pyongyang and Suchon, when the Eighth Army lost control of the cemeteries.

Starting on 25 December 1950, under MajGen K. L. Hastings, the U.S. changed policies. It stopped temporary cemeteries and returned the dead as soon as possible to the United States. The policy, known as "concurrent return," remains in effect today.

Many families were concerned if the remains were truly their loved ones. The U.S. Army set up a central identification laboratory at Kokura, Japan. For identification of the individual, fingerprints, dental charts, hair color, skin pigmentation, height, shoe size, and numerous other items were recorded. Personal effects and clothing on the remains were examined in the chemical laboratory.

If chemical means failed, infrared photography was used to bring out faded writing, serial numbers, and laundry marks, as well as recording on film all tattoos, scars, and physical abnormalities. X-rays were taken for evidence of old fractures. When, as a result of tank, aircraft, etc., accidents, the remains of several individuals were intermingled, the anthropologists made the necessary segregations and reconstructed the physical characteristics of each individual. A complete case history was prepared, establishing beyond all doubt the identity of each individual before the remains were transferred to the United States.

Korea has 85,246 square miles. Over 40,000 square miles have been searched for dead UN troops. The dead UN troops in North Korea have not been forgotten. Studies have shown that graves registration personnel have some of the highest rates of post traumatic stress disorder.

The U.S. Army now calls Graves Registration Mortuary Affairs.

Reach Tom Moore at 20838 Gleneagles Links Dr., Estero, FL 33928, 317-849-1924, [tm103ps@yahoo.com](mailto:tm103ps@yahoo.com)

# Korean War Veterans' Mini-Reunions .....

## 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing

The 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing (1950-54) held its 23rd annual reunion at the Dayton, OH Marriot, 13-15 Sept., 2012

*Richard E. Ehrick,  
86 Franklin Ct.,  
La Porte, IN 46350*



Members of 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing

## 1ST FA OBSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Members got together in Springfield, MIL, where they visited the Korean Memorial, attended their annual dinner, and honored their deceased president, George R. Brkovich. George, a resident of McKeesport, PA, was elected to the office at our October 2011 reunion. He passed away on January 1, 2012.

Vice President Earl F. Breese took over George's duties and was then elected to the presidency for the 2013 term.

The association comprises WWII and Korean War veterans who served in the 1st Field Artillery Observation Battalion.

*Walter J. Bracich, 8811 Northcote Ave.,  
Munster, IN 46321, 219-972-2354  
waljang@gmail.com*



**ABOVE:** A commemoration to the 1st FA Obsn. Assn.'s deceased president presented by R. Meier, D. Dust, D. Wehling, R. Mueller, E. Breese, J. Palla, J. Barnes, W. Bracich



**LEFT:** Members, spouses, guests and friends at 1st FA Obsn. Assoc. reunion dinner





# 60TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS *MAY—JUN—JUL—SEPT 2013*



*Brigadier General Robin Akin, Deputy Commanding General (Support) Eighth U.S. Army & Veteran Carlo Anzelmo at Chipyeong-ni Wreath Laying last June.*

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## Biggest Little Supporter Of A Korean War Veteran



Nikki Butler (L) and her sister Julia

After attending a 50th anniversary celebration for the signing of the armistice, I showed my granddaughters the medal I received in appreciation for my service. The youngest, Nikki, wanted to wear the medal and my cap. My wife captured the moment on film.

*Jack Butler*

401 East Kerr St. Burnet, TX 78611  
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**Sandra ("Sandi") Williams...** was

featured in a January 21, 2013 New York Post article, "NY vets head to DC for inaugural parade," written by Amy Stretten. Williams writes, "I am a Korea Defense Veteran who served in Korea from 1982 to 1983 and a member of the KWVA, CID 63, Western New York. I was in the Presidential Inaugural Parade with the United War Veterans Council.

"I am proud to say that I was among the 44 individuals who represented New York State. Our group consisted of veterans from all eras, two Gold Star mothers, and family members. [KWVA National



Sandi Williams, Jessica Bryan (founder of "Step into Their Boots" and a member of the United War Veterans Council), Gold Star Mother Kathryn T. Cross (President, Gold Star Mothers of America, NYC Chapter), and Debbera Ransom (a Cold War veteran, and the Commander of AMVETS Post 24) (L-R) at Inaugural Parade



Director] Salvatore Scarlato, the KWVA's New York State Dept. President, was also in the Parade," Williams wrote.

Salvatore Scarlato (L) and Sandi Williams picking up their Inaugural Parade credentials at the Pentagon

"I am still happy and thrilled about my trip to the Presidential Inaugural Parade," she added. "It was a real honor to be part of this great historic event. I will always remember that moment when our group passed by the reviewing stand and we saluted the President of the United States and he acknowledged us and saluted us back. Those of us who rode on the float had a close up view of the President."

*Reach Sandi Williams at hanau86@aol.com*

## 'Uncle Joe' and His Boys

*By Tom Moore*

With the collapse of the USSR in the 1990s, "Stalin's Boys" in Korea became known to the western world. We find out that before the Korean War Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin had sent his 29th Fighter Air Regiment from Kubinka to China. We now know that the USSR helped plan the North Korean invasion of South Korea, using USSR weapons. so it was no stretch to send his 64th Fighter Air Corps into the Korean War in "secrecy," not wanting to start a global war.

The USSR pilots could not fly south of a line across North Korea, from Pyongyang east to Wonsan, or fly over the Yellow Sea. At first, the Russians wore Chinese uniforms, and were instructed to speak Chinese over their radios. The Soviets who were killed were buried at Port Arthur, and not sent home. When more and more Caucasian pilots were seen in Chinese, North Korean, or unmarked MiGs, and Russian was heard in air traffic, the Soviets leaked that there were some Soviet pilot "volunteers" in China.

When the USAF brought the 4th Fighter Wing and its F-86s into the war, the USSR, in March-April 1951, brought into the war Ivan Kozhedub (top ace of WWII), and his 324th Interceptor Air Division, and Georgy Lobov and his 303rd Interceptor Air Division, with their WWII aces, and over 50 MiG 15s. The 324th IAD had the 196th Fighter Air Regiment, commanded by the Soviets' top Korean War ace, Yevgeni Pepelyaev.

The two air divisions left the Korean War in 1952. It is believed they lost perhaps up to 50 MiGs. With the night bombing by the B-29s, the Russians sent the night-fighter 351st Air Regiment to Manchuria, as well as sending the 196th far back to Manchuria. A 351st pilot, Anatoli Karelin, shot down five B-29s, and was a night-fighter ace.

In 1953, the Russians brought another night-fighter group to Manchuria, the 535th FAR. At the end of the war, the night-fighters claimed 15 to 18 B-29s. The Soviets' total claimed kills of UN aircraft in the war did not add up. In truth, no one side ever matched the other side. The air war losses were near even.

It was a strange air war, with piston and jet engine aircraft engaging each other. But, some new tactics were learned that were used a few years later in Vietnam.

Yes, "Uncle Joe" and his boys certainly were in the Korean War.

*Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com*





# Welcome Aboard!

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LR44621 TRYSTAN PALMER



Airmen gather by a plane

## Dentyne Is My Favorite Gum

In December 1969, before I left home for my U.S. Army assignment in South Korea, my mother asked me to look into the black market in Korea for my father's West Point ring, to no avail. My father, Captain Fred Brinson Rountree Sr., went MIA in Korea on January 14, 1951. His presumed date of death was January 31, 1954. His aircraft, a B-26B Invader bomber, was shot down near Hamjong-ni. He and his navigator, Lt. Don Thomas, bailed out of the aircraft while it was burning.

Though the order to bail out was given, they received no response from the gunner, Sgt. Bernard Mitchell. The navigator was able to escape and make his way through enemy

territory to friendly lines, where he was befriended by a Christian family who hid him in caves (see the 'Cave Man' story referenced below). My father and Sgt. Mitchell were never heard from again.

My father was born on August 13, 1922 in Egypt, Georgia. He graduated from West Point in 1946 and was assigned to the Army Air Corps as a pilot. He met my mother, who lived in Newburgh, New York, at a West Point dance. After he graduated, they married and moved to El Paso, TX for flight school, where I was later born.

Shortly after we arrived in El Paso, the Army Air Corps became the U.S. Air Force. After flight school, the family was transferred to Japan, where my father's squadron, the 13th Bomber Squadron, 3rd Bomber Wing (the "Devil's Own Grim Reapers") flew to Korea to support the war effort.

After completing his 40th mission, on January 14, 1951, my father took off for what was reportedly a routine mission, during which their aircraft came under fire and was shot down. I was 3 ½ years old at the time, and my brother, who was born in Japan, was 1 year old.

Over the years, I have seen reports, especially the 'Nielsen-Henderson List,' that show my father was a POW in North Korea. Other reports indicate that many pilots were moved out of the POW camps to unknown destinations prior to the prisoner exchange after the armistice.



"Chadwick"



Pre-flight Planning





Capt. Fred B. Rountree, Sr., Lt. Don Thomas,  
Staff Sgt. Bernard Mitchell

Though the order to bail out was given, they received no response from the gunner, Sgt. Bernard Mitchell.

In recent years, my brother and I have supplied DNA samples to the U.S. Air Force, as well as envelopes from letters my father sent from Korea to my mother in Japan. (We were told that the saliva from the envelopes can be used to extract DNA.) Our hope is that one day his remains will be found and these samples can be used to identify him. Only then will he be able to receive a proper burial.



Though we have many photos and a few home-made movies, my only real memory of my father was when, on his return to Japan, every so often he would bring us Dentyne chewing gum. To this day I still love that gum. It's a very small and simple memory in what should have been a lifetime full of them.

P. S. The story of the 83 days it took navigator Capt. Don Thomas to return to the U.S. forces can be found at <http://www.13thbombsquadron.org/cave-man1.html>. I sometimes wonder what happened to those Koreans who helped Capt. Thomas. They truly were real life heroes.

Fred Brinson Rountree Jr., 77 Forest Rd.,  
Wallkill, NY 12550, [FRountree@aol.com](mailto:FRountree@aol.com)

## Missing Bomber Pilot Listed as Dead by U. S.

Capt. Fred B. Rountree, 68 Campbell St., whose bomber plane was shot down over Korea, Jan. 13, 1951, was officially presumed dead today by the Department of the Air Force.

Word of the decision was received by the pilot's widow, the former Dorothy Carnright, in a message today. **JAN. 31, 1954**

Maj. Gen. John H. McCormick, USAF, director of military personnel, said in the message: "It is with deep regret that I must officially notify you of the termination in the missing status of your husband, Capt. Fred B. Rountree, since he can no longer reasonably be presumed to be alive."

Though the only previous official report had listed Captain Rountree as missing in action, the family had received hope in June 1951 when the navigator of her husband's B-26 attack bomber had visited Mrs. Rountree.

### West Point Graduate

The navigator, who escaped with the help of underground collaborators, reported a scouting party had been sent out to rescue the pilot and the plane's machine gunner. The scouts reported seeing a white prisoner, believed to have been Captain Rountree, led away by enemy troops.

Captain Rountree had graduated from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point in 1946 and was assigned to the Air Force for pilot training. He was born in Egypt, Ga., Aug. 13, 1922. Besides his widow, he leaves two sons, Fred Brinson Rountree, 6, and James Carnright Rountree, 4; his parents and two brothers in Georgia.

General McCormick's message said further:

"As explained to you upon completion of our previous review, your husband was participating in Korean operations when he became missing and regrettably he has not been seen or heard from since that time.

"The review just completed was initiated after the cessation of Korean hostilities. It reveals that your husband's name was included in the list presented to the communists for an accounting, but no report concerning him has been forthcoming.

"Furthermore, no supplemental information has been received through interrogation and re-interrogation of former prisoners of war, or from any other official or unofficial source, which would establish his ultimate fate.

"These facts compel the conclusion that no reasonable possibility exists for his continued survival. Consequently, it has been necessary under the provisions of the 'missing persons act' to terminate his missing status by a presumptive finding of death, presumed date being recorded as 31 Jan. 1954.



CAPTAIN ROUNTREE

### To Seek Further Details

"This is not considered to be the actual or probable date of death, but it is established in accordance with the cited law for the purpose of terminating pay and settling accounts. An official report of the change in his status has been issued by the Department of the Air Force.

"We realize how distressing it must be to receive so little information about his fate. While we can offer no assurance of further particulars, I do want to assure

you that the termination of his missing status will not affect our efforts to obtain more complete details.

"You may be certain that you will be notified immediately, if additional information is received concerning his death or the recovery of his remains."

The story of Capt. Rountree's disappearance

# One Day At A Time

*By Vincent J. Speranza*

I was a happy kid. I grew up in a close-knit family in the Bronx. My father was an engineer; he worked on the gyroscopes that were put into ships and planes. He always spoke to me in a way that I understood and never denied me anything. Even during World War II we always had meat on the table and gas in the car.

Because I was interested in flying, I started to build my own airplane. I built it out of spare wood in our basement. It wasn't a small plane; it was thirty-two feet long and I was planning to get an engine for it.

My plans for the future all changed at Christmas time in 1950 when I was ordered to White Hall Street in New York City for a pre-induction physical. Two weeks later, on January 1, 1951, I was officially a soldier in the United States Army.

The transition was not easy. The Korean War had started and everyone, including myself, suspected that we were headed for combat. It was difficult for me to adjust to the Army lifestyle, but I sucked it up and did what I was told.

I received much of my early training at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. I was assigned to heavy weapons and for the next five months I lived with mortars, machine guns, and artillery. There was constant excruciating noise. After some days of intense firing, I felt like I'd experienced several concussions.

I received orders to the Far Eastern Command. After a few days in Yokohama, Japan, I was assigned to a special school for medics and given extensive training on caring for men wounded in combat. Our mission was to keep seriously wounded men alive until they could be evacuated to field hospitals. In addition to caring for

the seriously wounded, medics were responsible for keeping their men healthy and fit for combat even in the worst possible conditions.

In October of 1951, I was assigned to the MASH unit of the 35th regiment, 25th Division. I was farmed out to whatever units were headed for trouble; I knew there would be many casualties. In addition to caring for the wounded, the combat situation was so precarious that everyone had to lend a hand. There were many days when I had to trade in my medical supplies for a flame thrower, a Thompson, or whatever weapon the nearest sergeant handed me with the order, "Here, Doc; start shooting."

I thought that outgoing was loud, but for some reason incoming is much louder. It seemed like the explosions went on non-stop for days at a time. The fighting wasn't just at the front line; the North Koreans and Chinese were excellent at infiltrating, so it seems that no matter where you went in Korea, there was someone shooting at you.

We lived one day at a time on the line, so a bunker was just about the best cover we could get. We got one that was built out of trees that had been cut down and almost looked like a log cabin. It was about 15 x 20 feet with an entryway that was covered with a shelter half to keep the cold wind out. Inside was a homemade grill that we kept going most of the day and into the night.

The temperature would run 20-30 degrees below zero. We burned wood to keep warm. There was an old man who chopped wood for us with a wedge-shaped chisel. I gave him my bathing trunks; we also gave him K-rations to eat.

The floor was hard frozen ground. After placing the shelter half on the floor you would place your down sleeping bags

with emergency snap zippers for a quick escape if needed.

Mornings came quite fast. We'd get up at the first sign of daybreak. Outside you'd make a fire under your helmet to melt snow for hot water. We'd use the hot water to shave and clean up, and then we'd chow down with K-rations or Assault-rations, whatever we had.

Around the bunker was some sort of homemade trench with high elevation for protection. Beyond that was another fortified trench for lookout and to observe the enemy. That's where we'd test our equipment-B.A.R.s, bazookas, flamethrowers. Beyond that point, approximately 50 to 100 yards, we'd set up trip-flares for the enemy. If any of those flares went off, you knew there was someone out there and we'd spray the area with lead so you'd know that anyone out there would be dead.

A few times I and the others had to go and check that area out. We'd find dead Chinese. You knew they were Chinese because they wore black, quilted outfits. I would make a body count and then report.

It was a joy to see the sun come up on the eastern horizon. I would just stare at that yellow dot to the east, knowing that the daylight would soon get warmer and warmer. After that, we would take our weapons, our B.A.R.s, carbines, M-1s, and fire them, maybe a half dozen rounds or so, to make sure they hadn't frozen overnight.

As a medic, I had to check my men and made the rounds to a couple of squads. Since I was a medic, I didn't have to stand guard. Medics were privileged. Guys were always calling, "Hey, doc, you were like Jesus on the line."

One day we were assigned two point men who led the way to an area we had to set up for a night ambush. It was a low-cut area, sort of a passageway used both by us and the Chinese. We were assigned to set up trip flares. After about two or three hours we took a break and had some K-rations, just lying back and relaxing for a while. All of a sudden, about fifteen or twenty Chinese appeared and blocked our escape.

The sergeant told us to hold fast. They took our weapons and whatever they wanted. There were twelve of us, includ-



I knew it was a U.S. tank. Yelling with all I had, I ran toward it. The Chinese had taken my uniform but the soldiers still recognized me. A half hour later a regimental jeep came and took me back to a holding area.

ing a radio operator; they took his equipment and ordered us to walk. We walked for approximately one or two hours. We were separated and I was put in a rusty metal shack. The floor was frozen dirt. I think there were four or five men below me in a downstairs room. They gave me water and some black bread.

I'd been locked up for several days. At one point, I had to go relieve myself but the guard didn't understand me. Finally, he did and then pointed his rifle toward a box outside. I sat there for a long time, waiting. I looked around and after a while I saw no one around. So I started to walk away, and I still saw no one near me. I saw artillery flashing a mile or two away, and I decided to run toward that.

I ran for two or three hours until I felt like I was going to die. It was now dark and sometimes I thought they were following me. As I came over a hill I saw a large white star on the side of a tank.

I knew it was a U.S. tank. Yelling with

all I had, I ran toward it. The Chinese had taken my uniform but the soldiers still recognized me. A half hour later a regimental jeep came and took me back to a holding area. I was taken to the mess hall; I was hungry and they fed me well.

A week later I was back on the line. When I told the men in the squad what had happened, they didn't believe me.

Three days later, during an enemy artillery barrage, I got hit in the right leg with shell fragments. The next day, with my broken leg in a cast, I was ordered to attend a parade to honor the 35th Regiment; everyone marched except me. I rode in a jeep with my cast sticking out the door at full attention.

I was evacuated to a Pusan hospital, where I was operated on. After a week, I was shipped to another hospital in Omiya, Japan. Following a period of recovery, I was sent back to the United States and discharged.

While some guys got their Purple

Hearts soon after being wounded, I didn't get mine until much later. Because it had happened so many years ago, it reminded me that fate had given me several reprieves and I'd lived a life that had been denied to so many of my friends.

As a result of my training and time in heavy combat, my hearing was severely damaged by the time I came home. Over the years, I've been troubled by uncontrollable rage, depression, sleeplessness, terrible dreams, and flashbacks. It is impossible, for instance, to be out at night without the streetlights transporting my mind back to Korea where so much of the fighting was at night.

I've tried to put the past behind me, but the fact is that what happened in Korea changed my life permanently. The Vince Speranza who went to Korea never really came home.

Reach Vincent Speranza at P.O. Box 614, Scarsdale, NY 10583, 914-882-6123

## Kangaroo Court Aboard the Marine Adder

Repatriated POWs hardly sailed to the U.S. in elegance. There was an incident aboard the *Marine Adder* (T-AP-193) as repatriated POWs were returning from Korea in 1953. The ship had a civilian crew, hence no military guards. The repatriates were placed in a hold, but not locked in. The crew left the hold's doors open to allow fresh air in.

One former POW who was a favorite of the Chinese was included in the group aboard the ship. The POWs accorded him a Kangaroo Court aboard the ship and sentenced him to death. The wisest thing would have been to gag the prisoner and simply toss him over the side. But, they wanted him to suffer. So, they decided to beat him to death.

The captain of the vessel heard the commotion and confronted the mob. He asked what was going on. They told him what they were doing and suggested that he should leave. The captain refused. He said he would leave only if the prisoner

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**The wisest thing would have been to gag the prisoner and simply toss him over the side. But, they wanted him to suffer. So, they decided to beat him to death.**

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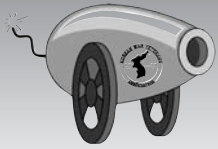
went with him. Remember, he had no military guards, and he carried only a .45 pistol. They continued to refuse his demand that the prisoner be allowed to leave with him.

Finally, the captain said that if he were not allowed to leave with the prisoner, the repatriated POWs would be locked in the hold and not fed until the ship reached the U.S. The POWs finally relented. The brave captain saved the prisoner's life.

**NOTE:** After the Communist invasion of South Korea, *Marine Adder* was acquired by the Navy from the Maritime Commission 24 July 1950 and assigned to MSTs 1 August 1950. Manned by a civilian crew, she carried combat troops to the Far East and arrived Korean waters 14 December

1950. After returning to the west coast in mid-January 1951, she resumed her valuable support of the U.N. police action in Korea less than 2 months later and continued Far Eastern runs during the protracted struggle to repel Communist aggression in Asia. Between 6 March 1951 and 5 September 1953 she made 17 voyages out of Seattle to ports in Japan and South Korea, including Yokosuka, Sasebo, Pusan, and Inchon. After reaching San Francisco 5 September 1953 with homeward-bound veterans of the Korean conflict, she arrived Seattle 8 September and was placed in reduced operational status.

(Source: Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, [http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/m4/marine\\_adder.htm](http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/m4/marine_adder.htm))



# 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 Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067; E-mail it to: sharp\_arthur\_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 202-3088. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

## Were There Female Enemy Soldiers In Korea?

I was with the 21st Reg., 24th Div. in Korea in 1950-51. I saw a female soldier who was a POW being interrogated on a hill in North Korea. I believe it was in October 1950.

She was wearing a brand new, dark olive-drab color uniform and a typical Chinese cap with a big red star on it. There was a young boy with her. He was wearing a similar uniform. He looked to be about 13 or 14 years old.

I was not involved in the interrogation, but I was only about six feet away. Her attitude left something to be desired. She was angry and arrogant.

This even took place at about the time General MacArthur said there were "No Chinese in Korea." I wondered why the kid was so young to be there in uniform. The word was that they said they were "Chinese volunteers" for the Korean War.

Not too long after this incident occurred, all hell broke loose when 300,000 Chinese crossed the Yalu River—and we went on to a whole new war.

Thomas Sherry, 340 US Highway 11  
Gouverneur, NY 13642

## The Lady Made Us Laugh

In July 1952 I was a Platoon Leader serving with the 35th Inf Regt - Tank Co., located on Hill 851, the northernmost crest of Heartbreak Ridge, just a few hundred yards from the enemy. Prisoners taken were mostly Chinese. Enemy shelling and sniper fire was heavy, and we had to crawl under our tanks and enter through the escape hatches!!

We had propaganda leaflets drop on us periodically from mortar rounds and almost every night the enemy broadcast to us over loudspeakers. After some old Russian classical music records were played, a live female would come on and say, "This is the voice of peace." Then she would name our commanders and units and ask us to come over to their side so we would live to see our families again, etc. She even said that they had girls who would take good care of us.

One day, while we were searching for enemy targets across the Sat'ae-ri Valley through my tank sight, a group of five enemy soldiers suddenly popped right out in plain sight. I watched them stroll casually down towards the So-ch'on River/stream as I had my loader chamber a 76MM round. They were all dressed in similar uniforms. Then I realized that at least one of them was definitely a woman! She could have been a Political Commissar, a

soldier, an "entertainer," or the girl who talked to us at night.

Due to the steel strike back home, we were rationed ammo and we couldn't fire 76MM rounds unless we had an enemy "group" to fire at. I fired a couple rounds; when the smoke cleared I saw nothing moving. On my daily report I indicated five enemy estimated KIA. What she was doing there I will never know. That was the only female enemy I ever saw, and I never heard a Korean War veteran mention an enemy female soldier.

Later, however, at an outpost north of Kumhwa on Christmas Day 1952, another female voice came over a loudspeaker during daytime and asked for a truce for that day. We listened to her for a while—then I saw the loudspeaker! I fired one round and destroyed the speaker. The next day she was back talking to us again—at night!

At least her voice sounded nice, guard duty went by faster, and we got a laugh at what she said once in a while.

Pete Cuthbert, P.O. Box 695  
East Moriches, NY 11940

## Captain Anthony Flew An F-94B

On page 67 of the Sept/Oct 2012 edition, Joe Labretto said he was "pretty sure that [Captain William J.] Anthony was flying an F84B, not a F94B." I can assure you, as a member of Red Flight, 68th FIS (Fighter-Interceptor Squadron), and a combat qualified F-94B Radar Intercept Officer, that the 68th was flying the F-94B, the U.S. Air Force's first all-weather fighter.

The F-84 was a fighter used for interdiction, supporting ground forces. It did not fly combat at night. The F-84 had only a pilot. The F-94B had a pilot and radar intercept officer.

Three versions of the F-94 existed. They were the F-94A, B, and C. They were all designed for air defense.

Stanley J. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr.  
Pinole, CA 94564

*EDITOR'S NOTE: One of the benefits of reading The Graybeards is discovering names of people you knew during your service days or finding connections to people you knew. Below is another story that highlights that benefit.*

## Another Connection Made

You printed in the Nov/Dec 2012 edition an article I sent you about my cousin, Harold LaVala. The article, on p. 65, was titled "From Sugumo To Korea To KIA."

A short time after I received the magazine a letter arrived from



a KWVA member named Tom Donaghy, who lives in Flagler Beach, FL. I used to live in Flagler Beach, about two miles south. It's a shame I never got to meet him.

His letter appears below.

Walter D. Hinrichs, 2195 Martin Dr.  
Gilbertsville, PA 19525

To Walter Hinrichs:

I was a member of the 24th Infantry Division in Korea from October, 1951 to January 1952 when they went back to Japan. I was left in Korea and finished my tour with the 2nd Infantry. However, I belong to the KWVA and I saw your letter in *The Graybeards*.

I knew your cousin Harold ("Tony") very well before he joined the army. I was a pallbearer when his remains were returned to his family. I believe the others included John Cosgrove, Nick Psoras (not sure of spelling), and Joe Neary. I'm not sure of the others. Anyway, I was surprised to see his name in your letter.

It was a flashback when I read your letter. Tony was a very good friend and we had some crazy times together. He also had a great line when he was told about taking some chances: "Live fast, die young, and make a good looking corpse."

How sad that he came home in a casket.

Tom Donaghy, 337 North 10th St.  
Flagler Beach, FL 32136, tom-tom@att.net

## 502nd Tactical Control Group Earned Two PUCs

On p. 48 of the Nov/Dec 2012 edition there was a statement that no U.S. Air Force units received the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation during the Korean War. Actually, the 502nd Tactical Control Group was awarded the designation twice during the war.

George Winkler, 1 Fowler Ct.  
Oroville, CA 95966

*EDITOR'S NOTE: This entry in the 502nd Tactical Control Group Air Force History - 502nd TCG Tactical Control, 502nd Tactical Control Group supports the writer's contention:*

### Decorations

- Two Distinguished Unit Citations for actions November 3, 1950-April 21, 1951 and May 1-November 30, 1952.

- Three Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations for periods September 16, 1950-January 25, 1951, January 25, 1951-March 31, 1953, and October 1, 1952-July 27, 1953.

[http://afhra.maxwell.af.mil/korean\\_war/usaf\\_organizations\\_korea/tactical\\_control.html](http://afhra.maxwell.af.mil/korean_war/usaf_organizations_korea/tactical_control.html)

## The Differences Between Chinese And North Korean Troops

I believe the Chinese were more lenient than the North Koreans, because some of the higher ranking officers served in the Chinese Nationalist Army during WWII and had been trained in the U.S. They spoke fluent English and were knowledgeable about the American culture and way of life. They were motivated to get involved in Korea for propaganda purposes. When the Chinese took over the Prisoner of War camps, they provided more humane treatment of the POWs than the North Koreans did.

The North Koreans had an intense hatred of Americans. They

had been thoroughly indoctrinated that Americans were "Brutal Imperialists," just as we thought about the Nazis during WWII.

Charles R. Noddy, 2200 Lancaster Dr. SE, Space 22B,  
Salem, OR 97317, 503-364-4980, [roddycjr@wmconnect.com](mailto:roddycjr@wmconnect.com)

## Greek Award For Bravery

It has been brought to my attention that my article on unit awards failed to mention the Chryssoun Aristion Andrias (or the Bravery Gold Medal of Greece). It was awarded to the colors of the 1st Cavalry Division and to the 3rd Infantry Division and separately to the 7th Cavalry Regiment and the 15th Infantry Regiment. It was the only such award made by the country of units attached to U.S. Division that I have found in the DA General Orders.

Note that it was awarded to the colors of the Divisions/Regiments as a unit citation, not as an individual decoration or service award to unit members. It does not have a corresponding ribbon, since the ribbon is for individual awards. If you were to "create" one, it would be a matter of putting the ribbon in an Army unit citation frame.

The DA GO can be downloaded from the Army's on line website: [http://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DA\\_GENERAL\\_ORDERS\\_1956.html](http://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DA_GENERAL_ORDERS_1956.html) and is 56-02 and contained the details of the citation to accompany the award.

John Gavel, [THEGAVEL@aol.com](mailto:THEGAVEL@aol.com)

## Let's Get Our House In Order

I have held the position of Commander of CID 44, Missouri Chapter #1, for many years. I am also a strong supporter of the current By-Laws, October 30, 2011. Mr. George E. Lawhon has my vote.

It appears that a great deal of concern and some ideas have been suggested regarding the cost and funding of *The Graybeards*. I refer to President James Ferris' comments on page 7 of the January/February 2013 edition of *The Graybeards*.

He makes reference to page 34 of the November-December 2012 issue which says that any chapter or department that wishes to send in an entry to *The Graybeards* for publication must first be approved by Jake Feaster. Mr. Ferris then ordered this procedure to stop, indicating that all chapters and departments may send their news and photos directly to *The Graybeards* without being approved. That leaves the door wide open for those chapters which continue to ignore National dues.

They not only ignore the by-laws, but also the SPM. Where is the leadership needed to either pull the charter of these chapters, or bring them into full compliance with current dues structure and by-laws?

At Chapter 44, if you are not in good standing with KWVA, you are not welcome. The only exceptions are invited guests.

It is no secret that numerous chapters are not in compliance with current by-laws (National Dues).

1. Members of these chapters who are delinquent in their dues should not receive any correspondence relating to KWVA business.

2. Chapters that are delinquent in National dues should not be permitted to place photos or other material in *The Graybeards*





# Soldiers Missing From Korean War Identified

## **Cpl. Robert G. Archer**

Feb. 7, 2013 - Army Cpl. Robert G. Archer, 19, of Brazil, Ind., was buried Feb. 8, in his hometown.

In late November 1950, elements of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT) were engaged in fighting with enemy forces east of the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea. On Nov. 29, 1950, servicemen of the 31st RCT began to withdraw to a more-defensible position near Hagaru-ri, south of the reservoir. During this withdrawal, Archer was reported missing in action.

In 1953, as part of Operation Big Switch, soldiers who were returned told debriefers that Archer had been captured and taken by enemy forces to a POW camp known as Death Valley.

Soldiers also stated that in December 1950, Archer died from malnutrition and lack of medical care. His remains were not among those returned by Communist Forces in 1954.

## **Pfc. Bobby L. Byars**

Feb. 12, 2013 - The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Korean War, have been identified and returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Pfc. Bobby L. Byars, 18, of Griffin, Ga., [was] buried Feb. 16, in his home town. In late November 1950, Byars and elements of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT) were deployed along the eastern banks of the Chosin Reservoir near Sinhung-ri, South Hamgyong Province, in North Korea. On Nov. 29, 1950 remnants of the 31st RCT, known historically as Task Force Faith, began a fighting withdrawal to a more defensible position near the Hangaru-ri, south of the reservoir, when he was reported missing Dec. 12, 1950.

## **Pfc. Roosevelt Clark**

February 25, 2013 - Army Pfc. Roosevelt Clark, 18, of Arvin, Calif., [was] buried March 1, in Bakersfield, Calif.

In late November 1950, units of the 35th Infantry Regiment and allied forces were deployed in a defensive line along the Kuryoung and Ch'ongch'on River in North Korea, when Chinese People's Volunteer Forces attacked their position. American units sustained heavy losses as they withdrew south towards the town of Unsan. Clark was listed as missing in action on Nov. 28, 1950.

See the full story at <http://atwar.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/02/19/korean-war-veteran-is-buried-six-decades-after-he-disappeared>.

## **Pfc. Weldon A. Davis**

Feb. 3, 2013 - Army Pfc. Weldon A. Davis, 24, of Tioga, Texas, was buried Feb. 6, in Dallas. In late November 1950, elements of the 2nd Infantry Division (ID) were engaged in fighting with units of the Chinese army south of the Ch'ongch'on River in North Korea. In the course of the fighting, and the subsequent withdrawal by U.S. forces, the 2nd ID suffered extensive casualties, with numerous men being taken captive by the Chinese. Davis was last seen in the vicinity of Somindong.

In 1953, as part of Operation Big Switch, soldiers who were returned told debriefers that Davis had been captured and taken by enemy forces to a POW camp known as Death Valley.

Soldiers also stated that in January 1951, Davis died from malnu-

trition and pneumonia. His remains were not among those returned by Communist Forces in 1954.

In 2005, a joint U.S. and Democratic People's Republic Korea (D.P.R.K.) team excavated a secondary burial in Unsan County in North Korea and found remains. The remains subsequently were repatriated to the U.S.

## **Sgt. Ervin A. Fricke**

Feb. 22, 2013 - Army Sgt. Ervin A. Fricke, of Oakville, Wash., [was] buried Feb. 26, in Portland, Ore.

In late November 1950, Fricke and elements of the 9th Infantry Regimental (IR) were deployed north of the North Korean town of Kujang, astride the Ch'ongch'on River. On Nov. 25, 1950, the Chinese Army attacked causing the 9th IR to withdraw south to a more defensible position.

During this attack the unit sustained heavy casualties. After the battle, Fricke was reported missing in action.

In late April 1999, a joint U.S. and Democratic People's Republic of North Korea (D.P.R.K.) team excavated a site in an agricultural field on the north bank of the Ch'ongch'on River. During this operation the team found remains that were later identified as Fricke.

## **Pfc. James R. Hare**

Cpl. James R. Hare, 19, of Cumberland, Md., [was] buried Feb. 13, in Levels, W.Va. In February 1951, Hare and elements of the 2nd Infantry Division (ID) were supporting Republic of South Korea forces near the South Korean town of Hoengsong when Chinese forces launched a massive counter attack. During these attacks, U.S. and Korean forces were forced to retreat south.

Over the next few days units of the 2nd ID were attacked again suffering more than 200 casualties including more than 100 servicemen being captured by enemy forces. Hare was reported as missing in action on Feb. 13, 1951.

In September 1953, during a prisoner exchange between U.S. and communist forces, a returning U.S. soldier told debriefers that Hare was captured by enemy forces and taken to a POW camp in Suan County on Feb. 13, 1951. The soldier also stated that Hare died from malnutrition in April of that year. His remains were not among those returned by communist forces during Operation Glory in 1954.

## **Cpl. Robert W. Scott**

Feb. 7, 2013 - Cpl. Robert W. Scott, 19, of Detroit, was buried Feb. 11, in Sarasota, Fla. In late November 1950, Scott and elements of the 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT) were deployed along the eastern banks of the Chosin Reservoir near Sinhung-ri, South Hamgyong Province, in North Korea. Scott was reported missing in action on Dec. 1, 1950, after his unit was engaged by vastly superior number of enemy forces.

## **Master Sgt. Robert A. Stein**

Feb. 6, 2013 - U.S. Army, Headquarters Battery, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, was lost on Dec. 4, 1950, near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea. He was accounted for on Feb. 6, 2013.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO web site at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> or call (703) 699-1420.



# Recon Missions

**Richard J. Clark...** is looking for the identities of the Soldiers in the nearby photos that he took in Korea. If anyone can help, contact him at 2755 S. 600 E., Greenfield, IN 46140, 317-462-9616, 49-51CavKVet@comcast.net



Teague, Korea, 1950: Gen Charles D. Palmer, commander of 1st Cav Div Arty, presents commendations to members of 1st Cav Div Artillery during Nakdong River Defense (Who were the Soldiers?)



Teague, Korea, 1950: Gen Charles D. Palmer, assisted by Capt. John Betz, awards field commission to unknown member of 1st Cav. Div. Artillery

**Darrell Lawson...** was with 25th Inf. Div., 90th Field Artillery, C Battery, 1st Gun Section. The nearby picture was taken in the spring of 1952 in Korea. If you have any information regarding the names of soldiers in back row or would like more information regarding the picture, please contact Darrell Lawson, 10156 Van Buren Rd., Wise, VA 24293, 276-328-3116.



Kneeling: Sgt. James Simons. Standing Front, L-R: Darrell Lawson, Luther Morrison, Cecil Bishop, Benjamin Tolliver, Juniea Nakomoto. The Soldiers in the back row are unknown.

**Paul McCloud...**served in USA 1ST CAV 8TH CAV REG 3RD BN, Weapons Platoon. As he recalls, his unit was on guard duty during the peace talks in Korea. He would like to hear from anyone who served with him at the time.

Reach him at 468 Brian Drive, Tallmadge, OH 44278, 330-633-7980, [PaulRMcCloud@yahoo.com](mailto:PaulRMcCloud@yahoo.com)

**Kenneth Paison...**wonders who he was fighting with.

I served with the 8th Cav. Regt, 1st Cav. Div. On June 29, 1950\*\*\* I was on patrol with a company of Thailand soldiers. I was a radio operator with a Heavy Mortar Co as an FO. We were in the Sinchon area in pursuit of the Chinese to see how far back they had fallen.

We walked into an ambush and had a heck of a firefight. I was wounded. When I got back to my outfit I was told that nineteen of us survived that battle.

I would like to know who I was fighting with.

Incidentally, I read in the magazine what you should do when you hear a mortar shell. The truth is that when you hear a mortar shell, which just makes a "whoosh" sound, it's too late to do anything.

Contact Kenneth Paison at PO Box 373

Fayette, OH 43521, 419-237-2703

\*\*\* *EDITOR'S NOTE: The writer may have meant 1951. According to Stars & Stripes, "The Thailand Battalion landed on Nov. 7, 1950, and on Nov. 24 moved to the Pyongyang area where it was attached*



to the 187th RCT and later to the 1st Cavalry Division and U.S. 2d Division.

Thailand provided to the UN command structure the 21st Regiment, comprising about 1,294 men, 4 naval vessels and 1 air transport unit. The contingent suffered heavy casualties, including 794 wounded, 114 killed, and 5 missing. There were none captured. The unit returned to Thailand by 1955.

Finally, Sinchon, North Korea is the site of The Sinchon Museum of American War Atrocities, which commemorates the deaths of over 35,000 people in a series of events that allegedly took place from October 17 to November 7, 1950, when the United States military occupied the area.

**Frank Sarver...**is looking for LST photos. He writes:

I am about finished with a small book for my children about my time in Korea, the Illinois National Guard, and KWVA.

I am looking for a picture of the LSTs that were used to move the North Korean prisoners from Koje Do to Inchon. There was fence wire and barb wire over the top to keep the prisoners from escaping, according to the agreement signed.

I saw some of these tied to the pier in Inchon when I boarded the ship to return to the USA. I have searched thousands of pictures on the internet without success.

Can you direct me to a source for these pictures?

Frank Sarver, 133 Jay Ave., Morton, IL 61550  
309-266-6366, bnfсарver@comcast.net

**Fred Tabler...**wants info about what happened to the 1st Cav. Div. after August 1952.

I was drafted in March 1951 and joined the 101st Airborne Division after I finished basic training at Fort Breckenridge, Kentucky. I was shipped to Korea in September 1951, where I was assigned to 3rd Div, 15 Reg., H Co. 75 Recol. Plt.



Fred W. Tabler sporting new haircut

We were on a blocking position at Thanksgiving when the Chinese tried to take Little Gibraltar. I was an ammo bearer that night for our machine guns. F Co. retook the hill. E, F, G, and H Companies held Gibraltar for the next four months.

Our bunker was right next to F Co. 2nd PT-CP. Some of my memory does not quite agree with the information in Denzil Batson's book, *We Called It War!: The Untold Story of Combat Infantry in Korea*. After we left



Gibraltar we spent time going back and forward in a number of different places in the central area of the line.

We did make that journey to the Kimp'o Peninsula. We were back on the line north

"Home" for Fred Tabler in Korea

side of the Imjin River in August 1952 when I was rotated out. I was Sgt. of the 2nd Section by then.

I lost a home town friend who was in the 1st Cavalry Division in Korea 1950-1951. No remains or other information have been available to anyone, including his family.

Could someone furnish me with more information about what happened to 1st Cavalry Division after I left Korea.

Fred W. Tabler, 3627 Shepherdstown Rd.  
Martinsburg, WV 25404, 304-267-6455

**Lewis Vaughn...**is interested in communicating with anyone who served in the 24th Inf. Div., 34th Regt. Tank Company from January 1954 through July 1955.

Contact him at 623 Ashley Commons Ct., Greer, SC 29651, 864-848-0368, lewisrvaughn@att.net

## U.S. And Korean Forces Still Working Together

### DESRON 15 Ships Visit Republic of Korea

By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Ricardo R. Guzman, USS George Washington (CVN 73) Public Affairs

DONGHAE, Republic of Korea (NNS) — Four U.S. Navy forward-deployed Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers and their crews arrived in Donghae and Pyeongtaek to support exercise Foal Eagle 2013.

USS Lassen (DDG 82) and USS Fitzgerald (DDG 62) pulled into Donghae and USS John S. McCain (DDG 56) and USS McCampbell (DDG 85) stopped in Pyeongtaek.

"The port visit is very important to set-up exercise Foal Eagle and to establish relationships between the two navies," said Cmdr. Scott McClelland, Lassen's commanding officer. "We'll also be able to conduct community relations, show the good-will of the U.S. Navy and interact with our Republic of Korea counterparts."

The scheduled visit enables Sailors to explore the cities and the surrounding area to better understand the Republic of Korea (ROK) culture. "I want to taste new food and I really want to visit the caves," said Seaman Vanessa Ruiz, from Rio Grande, Texas of Lassen. "I'm just really excited to visit a new place and explore South Korea with my shipmates."

The U.S. Navy has worked with the ROK in military exercises to improve capabilities of both Armed Forces since the ROK-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty was signed Oct. 1, 1953. Foal Eagle is an annual defense-oriented training exercise designed to enhance combat readiness to protect the region and maintain stability on the Korean peninsula.

"Participation in Foal Eagle is a great way for the ship to demonstrate warfighting capability," said McClelland. "This type of exercise provides a great opportunity to work with the Republic of Korea forces. We will increase warfighting effectiveness by learning each other's tactics so if the need arises we will be able to support our allies."

Lassen, Fitzgerald, John S. McCain and McCampbell are a part of Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 15, forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, and are participating in exercise Foal Eagle 2013 with allied nation Republic of Korea in support of regional security and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.

# The Taking of Punji Pass

December 1950-January 1951

By Col William E. Weber, USA (Ret)

Following the entrance to combat in Korea of the Chinese forces in November 1950, the situation became rather perilous for the UN Forces in the west in the area from Pyongyang south along the MSR to Kaesong and eventually Seoul and the crossings along the Han River.

Similarly, on the East Coast, X Corps was forced into a retrograde action to avoid encirclement, eventually resulting in evacuating all UN forces (primarily the U.S. X Corps), north of the 38th parallel through the port of Wonsan-ni back to Pusan.

In both the east and west coast lines of the peninsula, ROK forces that had not been demoralized and overrun were also engaged in retrograde movement to areas south of the 38th parallel. In effect, the Chinese had achieved a major victory resulting in regaining all of North Korea, saving the remnants of the North Korean Army and government, and threatening to defeat the UN and ROK Forces.

In essence, what saved the situation is that the Chinese had overextended their capability to resupply their forces and had to dampen their advance. This gave the UN forces an opportunity to recoil and conduct a somewhat orderly withdrawal, albeit with significant reduction of combat potential of two U.S. Divisions, the 1st Cavalry and 2nd Infantry.

The circumstances were such that any ability to reestablish a viable defensive position north of the Han River was not possible. The gap between Eighth Army and X Corps, and its ultimate evacuation, would have allowed the enemy to flank Eighth Army.

Along the central mountain spine of Korea, the Chinese and reconstituted North Korean forces had almost uncontested ability to move forces south between Eighth Army's I and IX Corps and its separated X Corps. The only real military hindrance was the lack of adequate road and rail networks to take advantage of the gap in UN lines.

Accordingly, the Chinese and North Korean forces infiltrated that area, striving to take and secure the passes through the mountains to control the limited road network that existed. Their goal was to enable them to encircle the rear of Eighth Army and either defeat it or force a disastrous retreat towards the port of Pusan and evacuation. They came dangerously close to succeeding!

It was apparent that any routes of egress through the mountains became areas that had to be secured and defended—held at all costs until the UN forces could establish a defensive position that extended across the entirety of the peninsula. In short, the 'win or lose' of the war rested on who could gain control and hold the limited routes of egress in central Korea.

During the abrupt withdrawal from North Korea, the 187th ARCT and the 29th British Brigade composed the rear guard forces holding the MSR and surrounding area from the west coast to the spine of the peninsula. Key to this action was ensuring that the MSR was denied to the enemy south of Pyongyang through Kaesong and then to Seoul. The 187th and 29th did that!!!! However, the end result was inevitable, as it was very apparent that the UN forces would have to retreat below Seoul and the Han River before they could stem the tide of the Chinese hordes.

After successfully extricating itself from North Korea and crossing the Han River, a reconstituted Eighth Army and X Corps, having rejoined, set about rebuilding their offensive potential and restoring ROK forces to a semblance of combat readiness. First, the enemy had to be denied egress through the central spine. That meant securing and holding passes!

The Chinese had regrouped and resupplied after their surprise assault in early November and by mid-December were prepared to reinitiate offensive operations. Similarly, U.S., UN and ROK had regrouped and were establishing a defensive line south of the Han River, running east through Wonju and thence east to the east coast. Probing operations established that the Chinese were preparing for a

major offensive operation in east-central Korea. But, to do so they needed control of the passes through the mountains. It was clear their strategy was to penetrate the center of the UN line, and thereby envelop both exposed flanks.

One of the most critical routes of egress was Punji Pass. The Pass consisted of a viable road network and a closely adjacent railroad line that was capable of handling vehicular traffic of sufficient scope to move and supply major forces during wintry weather conditions when surfaces were frozen. Absent having to contest for control of passes such as the Punji, the enemy would have been able to enfilade Eighth Army.

Punji Pass is situated in the east central mountainous spine of the Korean Peninsula. It is one of the few passes through the mountainous terrain that enable reasonably heavy movement through the area. The road is secondary, but can support heavy vehicular and personnel traffic subject to ice and snow conditions in winter months. Loss of the pass to CCF would have enabled CCF to pour major forces into the plains area around and south of the greater Wonju plain area defensive positions and capitalize on the penetration of UN lines.

The 187th ARCT, having successfully completed its rearguard mission, was assigned the task of securing and holding Punji Pass, denying its use to the enemy. Moving by foot to positions immediately before the Pass, the 187th attacked to take the high ground overlooking the pass on both sides of the road, as well as the road itself.

Enemy resistance was light, but fierce, as their main forces had not yet reached the pass. Only reconnaissance and light infantry forces were present. As a result, the 187th secured the pass area and its environs, and prepared defensive positions to hold the pass.

As was typical for the winter of '50-'51 all over Korea, one of the greatest impediments to effective combat performance was the severity of the weather. The only equalizing factor was that the enemy was



subjected to the same conditions. The field combat conditions experienced by personnel of the 187th ARCT during the period Dec '50-Jan '51 while holding front-line positions on the high ground surrounding Punji Pass were comparable to the Eastern Front in WWII..

The terrain elevations on both sides of the pass averaged between 350 to 500 meters in height. The secondary level road (unpaved) through the pass was at about 150 meters, with precipitous bluffs on each side of the pass. The mission of the 187th ARCT was to deny to the enemy (Corps sized Chinese Communist 'Volunteer' Forces [CCF]), use of the pass and control of the commanding terrain on either flank.

The 187th was able to blunt the CCF thrust to take the pass and was successful in taking control of the commanding high ground overlooking it. However, the CCF continued to attack over the following days until they too had to acknowledge the almost impossible combat environment because of the weather conditions. Accordingly, they established their front line positions opposite ours on the military crest side of the high ground we held.

It was apparent from prisoners we captured that their troops were as ill-equipped as we, if not more so, for that kind of combat under those weather conditions. Neither we nor the enemy had winter clothing and/or shelter. Nor could either side keep their infantry weaponry functioning as it was intended to. That didn't lessen their continuing attempts to take our positions—but it did mean they could not gain observed indirect fire superiority or even numerical superiority due to the limited routes of approach that we could interdict by observed indirect fire.

The prevailing weather conditions for the period Dec '50-Jan '51 were the worst recorded in several decades and are defined as one of the most severe winters experienced in that area. Temperatures as low as 30 to 35 degrees below zero (Fahrenheit) were common, particularly in the hours of darkness. As well, winds of 30 to 50 knots were frequent in the operational area extending from frontline trench and foxhole position to rear areas. These conditions were exacerbated by frequent snow and ice storms.

The front-line infantry personnel of the

187th ARCT occupied positions on both the military and topographical crests of the mountainous terrain flanking the pass. The terrain was denuded of any timber growth and there were too few areas below the topographical crest where some terrain shelter from the wind was possible. The only areas of relief were the heating tents, etc., that were erected in the battalion and regimental rear areas. These were accessible on an extremely limited basis when enemy activity was low or negligible, and personnel could be sent to the rear to recuperate. The average was one out of four on the front line and one of three in secondary supporting positions allowed to go to rear areas to warm up get some hot food. Individual combat rations were impossible to eat, as they were frozen. Even attempting to use squad Bunsen burners to melt snow in a canteen cup or helmet to make coffee, soup, etc., was next to impossible in daytime and a fatal act at night, as it was almost certain to draw enemy fire! Besides, there was no resupply available or possible for the pellets. Even lighting a cigarette was difficult because the infamous ZIPPO found it hard to cope with that kind of weather.

Most men spent almost all their time in (or wrapped up) in their sleeping bags and ponchos, even while in their foxholes. Officers and NCOs had to constantly walk the line of foxholes and gun emplacements to force troopers to move their arms and legs to prevent freezing. Lethargy was a death sentence!!!!

It is important to note that the personnel of the 187th ARCT were ill-equipped for the harsh winter conditions. Winter (Arctic) equipment had not been issued to the entire ARCT. Most of the men had only pile-lined field jackets for outer wear. Few had SnoPac boots. Most did have pile-lined head covers that could be worn under the helmet.

There were two primary reasons for such inadequate equipping: (a) Insufficient stocks in the combat zone and (b) the 187th ARCT had been one of the units contemplated for return to the U.S. in early winter 1950 (Nov), prior to the CCF incursion. Thus, the issuing of such equipment, even if available, would not have transpired prior to the CCF incursion.

By the time it became apparent that a

"new war" had started, it was not possible to meet the logistic requirements to ensure timely and proper equipping of units and personnel for the height of the '50-'51 winter season. The degree of frostbite and frozen extremities to the front line personnel was so high it gave concern to combat effectiveness of front line infantry companies, especially if the CCF, having been denied the high ground, would decide to mount another major attempt.

The cases of frostbite and frozen extremities were aggravated by accompanying severe colds, cases of pneumonia, and respiratory problems, not only among the frostbitten, but also those not frostbitten. Company commanders, platoon leaders and senior NCOs had to exert every ounce of leadership to discipline and coerce their troops to take appropriate means to cope with the extreme weather conditions, while trying to cope with them themselves! However, the undeniable truth was that we were just not prepared for what we faced!

That the mission given the 187th to take and hold Punji Pass was successful is due to the indefatigable elan of the airborne soldier and his ability to cope with conditions for which no training could prepare him!

#### **Footnote: (The 'why' of this story!!!)**

From 1987-1995, I was a member of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Advisory Board appointed by President Reagan. Our duty was to select a site, design, raise funds and dedicate the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Our Board Chairman was General Richard G. Stilwell, USA (Ret.), a Far East expert who was well known to the Chinese military. As such, he was like a 'kindred spirit' to his counterparts in the Chinese military hierarchy.

Strangely enough, there is that kind of mutual respect that lies beneath the surface of those who follow a military career. While the prospect of being enemies is always present, the mastering of the profession is mutually understood and makes interaction possible.

Gen. Stilwell received an invitation to the Chinese Embassy to meet and welcome their new military attaché, a Chinese Major General who had some previous contact with Stilwell. It was a military 'Mess Dress' type affair and Stilwell asked

me to accompany him. I was the only other Army officer on the Board who had served a full career, and he knew I had the "bells and whistles" uniform wise!

While we were standing in the ballroom of the Chinese Embassy, the new Chinese military attaché came over to me. He pointed to the 187th crest on my Mess Dress jacket and knew it as identifying the 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment. He asked if I was with the regiment in the winter of '50-'51. I replied that I was. He asked me if I was at Punji Pass that winter and, if so, what was my position.

I told him that I commanded "K" Company, and that we were the left flank company holding the high ground above the pass. He asked if we were on line the entire period (ten days) before we were relieved by the 5th Marines. When I answered in the affirmative (by the way, he spoke perfect English), he threw his arms around my shoulders and hugged me. I didn't know what to do and Stilwell motioned it was okay.

In a minute, he stepped back, keeping his hands on my shoulders, and said he had commanded the Chinese company directly opposite me on the line. There were tears in his eyes, and he asked Stilwell and me to remain after the reception. We did, and engaged in conversation for over an hour.

He explained how almost 50% of his troops died of exposure that week plus. They were even worse off than we were as far as clothing and rations were concerned. And, they had no ability to have "warming tents" behind their lines.

He served two years as the Chinese military attaché and then went back to command their equivalent of our Infantry School at Fort Benning. We stayed in touch until he died in '98.

That explains "why" for this vignette about the Korean War!

Reach Bill Weber at eagle187@hughes.net

NOTE: This article has also appeared in *AIRBORNE QUARTERLY* and *SHIMBUN*, the 187th ARCT magazine. Col Weber suggested that our readers would enjoy the article as well.

## Did He Do It?

By Robert V. Echelbarger

I spent most of 1951 on the line in Korea, climbing hills and playing tag with 82mm mortars. While there, I engaged in the Chinese Spring Offensive, Operation Ripper, Operation Killer, the Punch Bowl battle, and the fights for Hill 812 in September and Hill 886 in November.

(Just a side note here: on November 10, 1951 the Marine Corps Birthday, the 5th Marines became the first regiment in history to relieve another regiment (1st Marines) on the line by helicopter.)

A strange event happened during the late spring of 1951 on the rim of the Punchbowl in Korea. We Marines of Fox Co., 2nd Bn., 5th Regt. (F-2-5) were close to completing 74 days climbing hills. We made contact with North Korean and Chinese soldiers, often with firefights resulting in casualties.

Short rounds and 83mm Chinese mortar attacks were a constant threat. My platoon lined up on the rim and then hooked to the right down another ridge. While setting up we dug foxholes and level spots for our shelter halves. The ground sloped at an angle of about 45 degrees. The enemy had withdrawn back into the huge dormant volcano crater.

I picked up a rifle grenade from my pack setting by my shelter half and began walking towards my foxhole. All of a sudden there was a loud "whooshing" noise. Before I could react there was a loud explosion about eight feet down the slope from me. The concussion blew me backwards and I found myself upside down in a deep foxhole.

I started yelling for help, because only my feet were sticking out of the foxhole. My buddies grabbed me by the ankles and pulled me out. I sat doubled up on the ground with my head between my knees catching my breath and waiting for my eyes to stop rat-

tlng around in my head.

A corpsman came running down the line to see if anyone had gotten hit. My foggy head cleared a little and I started checking my body for any new holes. I noticed blood was trickling down my left arm. I said to the corpsman, "Hey, doc, I think I sprung a leak."

He looked at my arm, stuck on a bandage, and gave me a couple of APCs (aspirin). Then he said, "Here, take these and don't call me in the morning." He looked sort of disappointed as he walked back up the ridge.

I crawled into my sleeping bag and didn't wake up until the next morning. I looked at the place where I had been standing, the shell crater, and the foxhole. I noticed the shell crater. My shelter half had shrapnel holes and the tree I was next to was scarred with shrapnel. I couldn't figure out why I hadn't been killed. I found out later the short round came from a 4.2 inch mortar round that had been fired by U.S. Army troops that were setting up to cover us. Now for the rest of the story.

I met my wife at Buena Vista College in Iowa in 1948. We became close friends with another couple. He was a farmer and she was attending Buena Vista College too. He got drafted during the Korean War and was a 4.2 inch mortar gunner. I received a letter from my wife stating our good friend was set up at the Punch Bowl to support the Marines at about the same time I was there.

When I read the letter, I wondered if he was the one who dropped that 4.2 round down the tube that almost blew me away. To this day I still wonder why I wasn't KIA. I never did find out if it was him.

Strange things do happen in a war.

Robert V. Echelbarger, 201 S. Taylor Rd., Lot 74, McAllen, TX 78501

### National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

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

- ☐ Sample order is 4 doz. @ \$12 plus \$6.35 S/H.
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Phone 410-661-8950.

Make Checks payable to: **KWVA Maryland Chapter 33**





## Official Membership Application Form

### The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

**DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE** Assigned Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00**

**MOH, 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* ☐ **Medal of Honor** ☐ **Regular Member** ☐ **Regular Life Member** ☐ **Associate Member**  
☐ **Ex-POW** ☐ **Honorary** ☐ **Gold Star Parent** ☐ **Gold Star Spouse**

*(Please Print)*

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle/Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Apt. or Unit # (if Any) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Number/Name (if applicable) # \_\_\_\_\_

*All Regular members please provide the following information if applicable*

#### Unit(s) to which Assigned

#### Branch of Service

Division \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ **Army**  
Regiment \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ **Air Force**  
Battalion \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ **Navy**  
Company \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ **Marines**  
Other \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ **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" listed below, complete the "Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership" Form on page 2.]**

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: If this is a GIFT Membership – please sign here to certify, under penalty of law, that to the best of your knowledge, ALL of the information you have provided about the Applicant is true and correct. [Note: If applicable, you must also complete and sign the Eligibility Form on page 2.]**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: KWVA – Mail to: **Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407** (Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ **VISA** ☐ **MASTER CARD (only)**

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ V-Code \_\_\_\_\_ Your Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted 10/27/2012

## CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA Membership Application Form on page 1, persons applying for, and qualifying for, membership under one of the categories listed below, are also required to fill in the appropriate blanks, and sign in the space provided below.

### Check Only One Category:

- ☐ **Medal of Honor:** I am a Medal of Honor recipient and the date on which it was awarded was: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ **Ex-POW:** I was held as a Prisoner of War by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces at some time during the period June 25, 1950 to the present. 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 during the Korean 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. I do not qualify to be a Regular member.
- ☐ **Honorary:** I was elected as an Honorary Member of the 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."

Applicant 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, is eligible for membership if:  
**a.** Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or  
**b.** Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any KWVA Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
4. **Gold Star Parents.** Any parent whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
5. **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 (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

#### B. Associate Members.

1. Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
2. 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 KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

**C. Honorary Members.** Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

**D. Ineligible.** Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

WEB SITE: [www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)

Adopted 10/26/2009, R4 Approved 10/27/2012

Page 2 of 2





# 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

NOAH J. HURST

## ARIZONA

WILLIAM S. KRAUSE

## CALIFORNIA

JOHN M. CHABALA

WILLIAM S. COBOS

PETER T. MULLER

LEONARD B. ORTIZ

WILLIAM R. SHADISH

## COLORADO

WILLIAM F. 'BILL' DOWELL

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JAMES CARDINAL

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ADRIAN P. HART

JAMES D. HEALY

LOUIS C. IANNACCONE

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## FLORIDA

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ERNEST E. CALDWELL

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ROBERT HOPPER

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CARL PLANT

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DONALD R. VER HELST

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## KENTUCKY

MARION W. 'BUDDY' RANKIN

RICHARD H. WENGERT

## LOUISIANA

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## MAINE

NANCY BURLEIGH CATLIN

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KENNETH F. USHER

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THOMAS 'TOM' CLAWSON

BEN R. COLLIE

EVERETT O. DAMLOW

## MISSOURI

BURNETTE A. 'BERT' BACON

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WILLIAM H. ROGERS

## NEW JERSEY

JOHN S. MALINOWSKI

ALBERT C. VAN RAVENSWAAY

## NEW MEXICO

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## NEW YORK

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HENRY W. MOREAU

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GERALD A. PERRY

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RODNEY B. SIPPEL

### Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

*The following notice is submitted for publication:*

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Date of death \_\_\_\_\_ Department/Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Primary Unit of service during Korean War \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to deceased \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: **Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

# Thanks, Darcy Flanagan

In the Nov/Dec 2012 issue we included a letter on p. 6 from high school sophomore Darcy Flanagan. She wrote:

## **Pictures Of The 1st Cavalry Division From The Korean War**

A few months ago my friend and I were in Cumberland County, Virginia, when we stumbled upon some old negatives. After doing some research and asking our world history teacher about the uniforms and patches, we found that they are most likely from the Korean War.

It appears as though the patches belong to the 1st Cavalry Division. I have attached some scanned copies of the negatives we developed for you to look at. (There should be nine attachments.) If you know if they're actually from the Korean War or not that would be great!

Also, if you are interested we can send you some of the developed images.

Thanks, Darcy Flanagan, darcyflanagan4@gmail.com

Well, we were interested and told Darcy Flanagan so. True to her word, she sent us six photos, with the attached note:

Dear KWVA,

Here are some of the pictures that we talked about in an earlier email. Sorry about the delay in sending them. I had some trouble developing them! I hope that you enjoy the pictures and find a good place for them too.

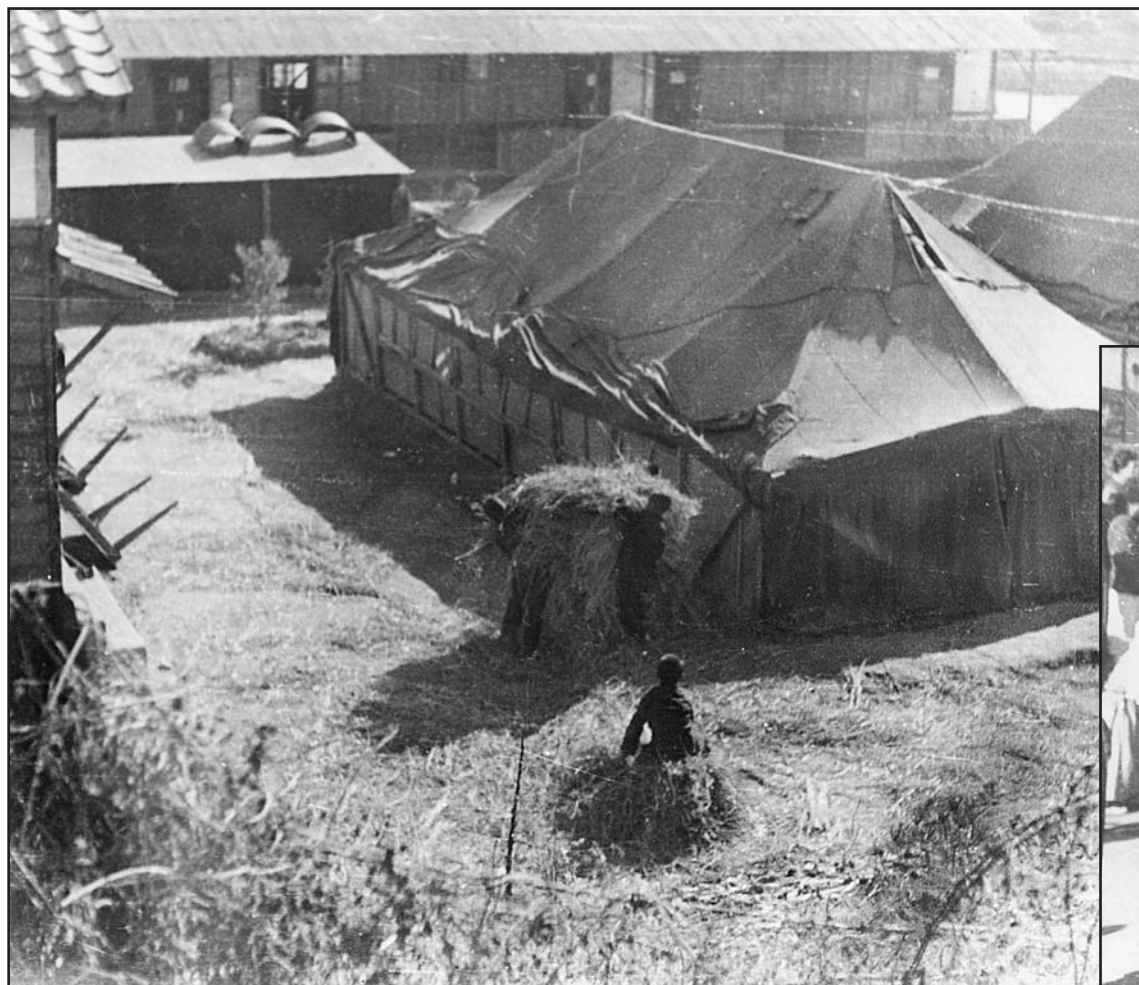
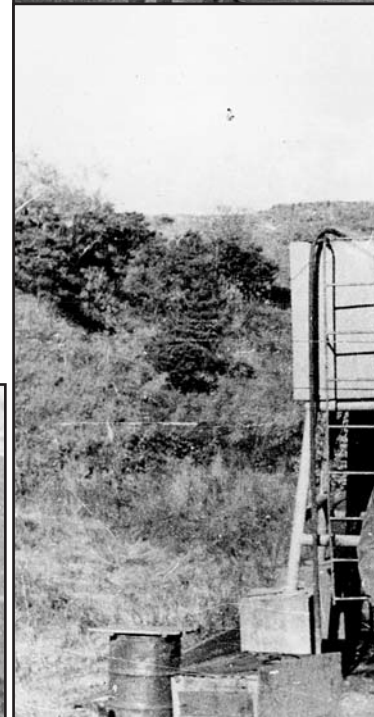
Please excuse any scratches, I am in my sophomore year in high school, just learning how to develop 35mm film.

Sincerely,

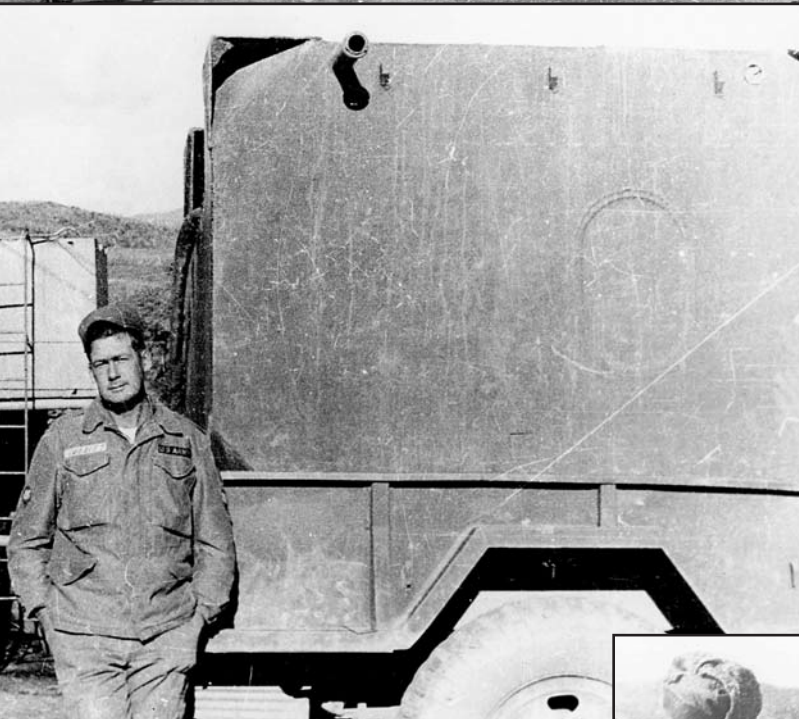
Darcy Flanagan

If anyone recognizes the people or places in the photos, let us know. We will pass the word on to Darcy Flanagan.

Send your info to Art Sharp, The Graybeards, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill CT 06067.









# The End of a War and the Beginning of a

By Rego Barnett

The South Korean government donated a memorial in Hawaii as part of ongoing series of events to commemorate the signing of the peace treaty on July 27, 2013. As Jimmy Shin, President of CID 144, Aloha Chapter [HI], noted, "During the Korean War a lot of U.S. Soldiers were killed. At Punchbowl, we have all kinds of different war monuments up by the lookout, but we don't have many Korean War stones." As a result, he encouraged the South Korean government to place a Korean War memorial there.

Shin, who served as a staff sergeant in the South Korean Marine Corps, was rewarded for his efforts when the South Korean government agreed to his request. So, on February 15, 2013, Korean War veterans, South Korean government officials, and various dignitaries, including Eric K. Shinseki, the USA's Secretary of Veterans Affairs, gathered at Punchbowl to dedicate a commemorative stone flown to Hawaii from South Korea.

South Korean Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Sung-choon Park and Korean Consul General Young-kil Suh represented the South Korean government. In his remarks Minister Sung-choon Park observed:

"I am truly pleased to present this Commemorative Stone on behalf of the Korean government in this meaningful year marking the 60th anniversary of the Armistice of the Korean War as well as the US Forces Participation in the War.



ADM Samuel J. Locklear, Erik K. Shineski, Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie, Minister Sung-choon Park, Counsel General Young-kil Suh (L-R) at Punchbowl dedication

"To those who fought for the freedom and peace of Korea and were laid here at the Punchbowl, and to the unknown 8,195 warriors who are still missing in action, I extend my deepest respect for your invaluable sacrifice and dedication.

"Today, taking this opportunity, I'd like to look back on the Korean War [that] broke out 62 years ago, and remind [us] of the War's lessons and meaning.

"When the ROK was in an extremely precarious situation with North Korea's unexpected invasion, the UN forces, including American soldiers, came to Korea and shed blood to defend the freedom and democracy of Korea. The US, in particular, sent military personnel and provisions that accounted for as much as

90% of the whole support from the UN allied nations.

"The US veterans played a decisive role in victory by showing their valor in major battles, such as the Battle of Pusan Perimeter, Incheon Landing Operation, and Battle of Chosin Reservoir. Thanks to the sacrifice and dedication of the US veterans, Korea could safeguard itself from the crisis of the Korean War.

"Last July 27th in Washington, I met Secretary Shinseki at the event to commemorate the U.S. Forces Participation in the Korean War. That night, I invited 600 veterans to a dinner prepared as an expression of our gratitude.

"There, I said this.

"It is the United States of America



Consul General Young-Kil Suh speaks at Punchbowl ceremony



Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, Pacific Area Commander, delivers memorial remarks



Minister Sung-choon Park speaks at Punchbowl dedication





# Friendship



Captain Yang, Yong Mo, South Korean Naval Attaché to Hawaii



Members of Korean War Veterans of Hawaii



The Korean War commemorative stone

that made Korea as it is today.

“The United States helped Korea win independence after 36 years of Japanese rule.

“It helped establish the Republic of Korea. It rescued Korea during the Korean War.

“And even after that, it ensured the security of Korea by stationing millions of troops.

“Based on such support, Korea could achieve remarkable economic growth. The history of Korea is the history of the Korea-US alliance. The Korean government and people have never ever forgotten the sacrifice and dedication of the U.S. government and American citizens, and you the veterans.”

Shineski echoed the Minister’s theme:

“There is a special trust and friendship between Korea and the United States because so many of our young fought side by side six decades ago. And Korea’s many thoughtful remembrances since, like this one, demonstrate the strength of our alliance today. Now, as then, Kap shi Ka

psi da! We go together.”

He added:

“Today, on this hallowed ground, we recommit ourselves to remember, with deep respect and gratitude, what the Korean people have never forgotten. The guarantors of the democracy that is, today, the prosperous Republic of Korea, were the young, who, six decades ago, fought magnificently, many giving their lives to preserve freedom on a distant, war-torn peninsula.”

Young-kil Suh continued the thread:

“We are gathered here today to pay respect to the heroes of the Korean War. Sixty years ago, you received a call to defend the freedom and democracy of a country you never knew and a people you never met.

“We Koreans remember your courage and sacrifice. During the war, we were devastated by the brutal attack of communists. We were driven to the Busan Perimeter in [the] southern tip of the Korean Peninsula,

Continued on page 79

Military representatives present wreath at Punchbowl



A salute to the Punchbowl stone donated by the South Korean government



Erik K. Shineski offers remarks at Punchbowl

# APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT TOURS

(UPDATE 03/07/13)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

KWVA Member, # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date (Exp date) \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTE: If you have not yet received your membership # from KWVA please insert "applied for."*

*List all your addresses, (seasonal/if more than one per year) and dates of residence, no P.O. Boxes.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail\* \_\_\_\_\_  
\*- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES

## Korea Revisit Only

Veterans Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (DOB) \_\_\_\_\_

Companion Name/Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Companion's Passport# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

*NOTE: If you do not have a passport with 6 months validity after last date of return to USA and have applied for a new one, please insert "Applied for" in the space provided and contact MHT when you receive it.*

## Veteran's Korean Service Information

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Service in the Korean Theater (month/year) from \_\_\_\_\_ thru \_\_\_\_\_

Veterans / Family Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Complete and mail this form along with the \$450.00 deposit / service-fee per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for applications submitted within sixty days of tour departure.*

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C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS  
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WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285**

**Phone: 703-590-1295 or 800-722-9501  
Fax: 703-590-1292  
E-Mail: mhtours@miltours.com  
www.miltours.com**



## Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA/Seoul) in 1975 for the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War to express the Republic of Korea (ROK's) government's gratitude to Korean War veterans and their families also to show them the bountiful results of their sacrifices and devotion.

## MPVA's Eligibility Requirements

Korean War Veterans who served in or supported ground, naval, or air operations in the Korean Theater between June 25, 1950 and October 15, 1954. Family members of deceased or disabled Veterans are eligible to participate in the "Korea Revisit Program." An eligible applicant is allowed to bring a family member or friend as a "travel companion."

## Expanded Eligibility

For the 60th anniversaries (2010-13) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2006 can apply to return again (Call MHT for more details). Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as Veteran Representatives.

## Benefits & Schedule

Free hotel accommodations for the veteran their companion or veteran representatives, meals for 5 nights and 6 days in Seoul for 2 people. If you want to bring more people you may at your expense.

Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want your own hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing.

Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, National Cemetery.

## Typical Korea Revisit Itinerary:

Day 1: Fly to Korea

Day 2: Arrival day Incheon Airport, Korea check into Seoul Hotel.

Day 3: Wreath Laying at United Nations Monuments.

Day 4: Korean War Commemoration Ceremonies.

Day 5: Panmunjom, DMZ Thank You Banquet in the evening.

Day 6: War Memorial Museum tour, Korean culture show.

Day 7: Departure

## Sundry Notes

1. The MPVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.
2. Participants are required to have a valid passport that does not expire until 6 months after return to the USA.
3. Neither MPVA Seoul nor MHT Virginia U.S.A is responsible for any loss of or damage to personal or other items; medical expenses, injuries or loss of life due to any accident of whatever nature during the Revisit tours.
4. Hospitalization, Evacuation and Trip Cancellation Insurance is required by MPVA for all veterans, companions or veteran representatives. Insurance costs are included in the admin service charge for Korea only.
5. Transportation costs to and from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The Korean government is now subsidizing airfare for persons traveling with the group administered by MHT.
6. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, first-served" basis.
7. Use of frequent flyer miles or other "free" transportation is allowed, but the administrative service fee of \$450.00 per person is still required for the insurance and administration.

## FRIENDSHIP from page 76

but your courage and sacrifice protected our freedom and planted a seed of revival.

"And the victory was and is on our side. Sixty years later, a friendship that was forged in a war has become an alliance that has led to greater security and untold progress of the Republic of Korea. Such accomplishments would have not been possible without your sacrifice, and we always kept in mind deepest gratitude for your service and dedication.

"The Commemorative Stone that we dedicate today is an expression of heartfelt appreciation from the people of Korea. Although it is small, this Commemorative Stone embodies the deepest respect for our war heroes. Personally, I started my Consul General mission in Honolulu thinking that I should serve Korean War veterans with all my heart. To return your sacrifice was something that I had in mind for a long time. At this moment, I am deeply honored and moved to host this event with the support of the Korean government.

"This event is also an opportunity to look back on our past that serves as a mirror for our future. We should never forget the lessons learned from history. That we must never forget what happened in history is the wisdom that our ordeal presented to us. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. Today's event is yet another reminder for us that you, Korean War veterans, are true friends of Korea.

"So I extend my sincere appreciation to the US government and Korean War veterans."

Finally, the stone, honoring U.S. Korean War veterans was unveiled. It features a bronze plaque with an inscription in both Korean and English. Fittingly, it is the 60th marker placed on Memorial Walk, which leads to the Punchbowl lookout.

How appropriate that is as the Republic of Korea and the U.S. mark the 60th anniversary of the signing of the peace treaty that all but ended the fighting in Korea—and began a significant friendship between the two countries.

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The King and Queen at Gwang Ju Korean Pavilion at Denman Park in San Antonio (see Ch. 298-pg 41).