

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

May - June 2014

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The Graybeards

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THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



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We Honor Founder William T. Norris

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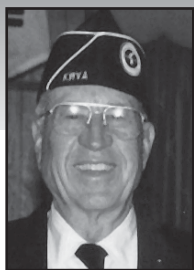
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From the President

Larry Kinard

As I am writing this letter another Memorial Day is approaching. As we all know, this is the time

when our nation pauses to remember those who have died in the defense of freedoms across the world. I read something recently that said "the greatest casualty is being forgotten." I think it is very important that we remember this and hope all of you will be able to take part in a Memorial Day ceremony somewhere.

Again this year the KWVA will be represented at the Memorial Day program at our Memorial and Arlington Cemetery in Washington D.C. On Sunday morning, May 25, several of us, including our color guard, Tim Whitmore and Ed Brooks from Chapter 191, will hold a brief ceremony at our Memorial to remember those who died during the Korean War. The next morning we will join with President Obama and the other VSOs in the wreath laying ceremony at Arlington Cemetery.

Thanks To Mr. By Park

This continues to be an interesting and exciting time for the KWVA. I touch on several events that have taken place or will be happening shortly. We recently received the second half of a \$100,000 donation from Mr. By Park, former CEO of the Pantech Corporation in Seoul, Korea. We are very pleased that he was able to do that.

Dr. Jongwoo Han was instrumental in our receiving this gift, both this year and last year. Our appreciation and thanks to both of them for this much needed help for funding our outreach to Korean veterans. It is very meaningful to me that we have such strong supporters from the Korean community.

Bills We Cannot Do Without You

By now I hope you have all received the information we sent out asking everyone to contact your congressman about H. R. Bill 318. As a quick reminder: this is a bill currently in the 113th Congress that would add a "Wall of Remembrance" to our Memorial, listing the names of those who were KIA during the war. We currently

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Dr. Jongwoo Han was instrumental in our receiving this gift, both this year and last year.

have only 50 co-sponsors. With your help during this Operation Veterans Surge, we are hoping to get enough additional sponsors to get it out of committee.

I have heard from several of our members who have gotten the message and are working on it. Thanks for your response and help with this important endeavor. If you need additional information, please contact Jack Cloman at 410-658-1788 or Bill Alli at 301-464-5664.

Another bill before Congress that you might be interested in is H. B. 293. The bill, which was introduced in January 2013, authorizes the Secretary of the Army to award the Army Combat Action Badge to any member of the Army who participated in combat during the period between December 7, 1941 and September 18, 2001. Additional co-sponsors are needed to get this out of committee. So, you might want to contact your Congressman about this one also.

I Will See You In Chicago

I am looking forward to attending a luncheon for the Midwest Korean Veterans Association in Chicago, June 14, that is being held at the Westin North Shore Hotel. This event is in commemoration of the 64th Anniversary of the Korean War and is being sponsored by the Korean Sae Eden Presbyterian Church and the Korean American Association of Chicago. I hope to see many of our members there, and I hope to visit with them about their activities in that area.

The Death Of Art Griffith

We were sad to hear of the passing of another one of our former members of the Board of Directors, Art Griffith. Art was very active and served several years as our Fund Raising Chairman and did a wonderful job. He was also Chairman of the Honor

Guard that served us very well at our Washington D.C. ceremonies and during our annual meetings. I feel honored to have known and served with Art. We will miss him.

The "Tiger" Returns To South Korea

We have heard that Col. Moon Ho Kang, Deputy Defense Attaché in the Korean Embassy, who is known affectionately as "Tiger," will be completing his tour in the U.S. and returning to Korea in August. Many of you know him because he has visited many of our chapters around the country. He will certainly be missed by those who have had an opportunity to work with him and have benefited from his very outgoing personality. He has been a huge help to the KWVA during his time in the U.S.

Thanks For Your Votes

You will find the results of the recent election in this issue. I congratulate the new officers and directors and look forward to working with all of them for the next two years. For those who were not elected, I thank you for placing your name on the line to be a part of the KWVA Board. It is an interesting time to be involved with the Board at the National level, and I respect and admire those who are willing to give of their time to help us make the KWVA a better organization. I appreciate all who voted this year, and I hope we can continue to increase member interest in the elections.

Nothing To Report On Washington

As of this printing we have no information on a planned meeting in Washington D.C. in July, except for the Youth Corps meeting being held by Dr. Jongwoo Han

Continued on page 7

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An 80th Fighter Squadron pilot comes in for a sunset landing after completing a sortie at Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, May 7, 2014. Beverly Bulldog 14-2 tested Kunsan's ability to tackle obstacles on the ground and air to ensure continued operations. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Armando A. Schwier-Morales/Released)



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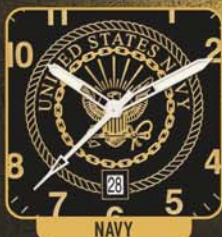


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(Print clearly)

RANK: _____

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Frank Cohee

"Korea Reborn-A Grateful Nation"

All of you should be aware by now that not only is this a great book, but it has become very popular and sometimes hard to find. Well, because of a dedicated member of the Rome, GA Chapter, Charles Patterson, I now have 100 copies available for distribution.

Charles called me a couple weeks ago and said that he had about 200 books and that I could have a hundred. But, it is a long way from Lakeland, FL to Rome, GA. I told him that I would like to have them but I could not drive that far and the postage to send them would be prohibitive. He called me back later and offered to deliver them to Lakeland if I would pay for his gas. He delivered them a few days later. Anyone interested in receiving a copy can send me an e-mail (kwvasec@gmail.com) or call me (863-859-1384). Postage and shipping costs will be applied.

New Veteran Health Identification Card:

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced that a newly designed, more secure Veteran Health Identification Card, with additional security features and a dif-



From the Secretary

ferent look and feel, will replace the old Veterans Identification Card. The new cards will protect against identity theft and will be personalized with the emblem of the veteran's branch of service. Other new features add "VA" in Braille, to help visually impaired veterans, along with VA phone numbers and emergency care instructions.

As part of a phased rollout that started in February, the card will be offered initially only to newly enrolled and veterans who have not previously been issued a Veteran Identification Card. In April, the VA will begin a three-month effort to automatically issue the new card to other veterans. The VA recommends that veterans cut up or shred the replaced card, just as they would dispose of a credit card.

Veterans enrolled in the VA health care system can get more information by visiting their local VA medical facility's enrollment coordinator, by going to va.gov/healthbenefits/vhic, or by calling 877-222-VETS (8387).

Eligible veterans not enrolled in the VA health care system can apply for enrollment at va.gov/healthbenefits/apply or by calling 877-222-8387. Unsure if you are eligible for VA health care benefits? Go to hbexplorer.vacloud.us/benefits to find out.

Frank

The Everready Force – Battery Included

By Tom Moore

Fearful that the communists might manufacture an incident that would result in a massacre of the unarmed negotiators, Vice Admiral C. Turner Joy and the truce delegation 1st Marine Division Major General John T. Selden were tasked with the responsibility of providing security for the diplomats who conducted their business inside enemy territory.

On 19 April 1952, a unique rescue and recovery operation came into existence. The 5th Marines, Colonel Tom A. Culhane, Jr., occupying the center regimental sector, was ordered to organize a tank-infantry force for rescue of the United Nations Truce Team should such action become necessary.

The regimental plan, published on 22 April 1952, utilized a 245-man reinforced rifle company, a platoon of five tanks, supported by organic 5th Marine 4.2 inch mortars, and Colonel Fred P. Henderson's 1/11 artillery, on continuous standby, whenever peace talks were in progress.

The Everready Rescue Force, from the regimental reserve, occupied the high ground (OP-2) east of, and dominating, Panmunjom. In addition to setting forth organizational details of the task unit, the 5th Marine Operational Plan 6-52 specified the method of operation for the rescue force.

To alert The Everready Rescue Force, the negotiators were to send up a flare. Taking advantage of the peace corridor in the western end of the center sector, a Forward Covering Force would speed tank-riding infantry to the high ground one-half mile beyond the objective, Panmunjom. Following would be the Pick-Up Force, from the 1st Tank Battalion Headquarters Platoon, which would retrieve the principal U.N. Truce Team and take it quickly to the assembly area, two miles to the rear of the MLR.

A rear Covering Force composed of a tank-infantry element would follow the

Continued on page 27

PRESIDENT from page 3

that is detailed in this issue. If something develops, it will be sent out by email or posted on the National website.

Don't Go To The Wrong Rochester

We are planning a great Annual Membership meeting in Rochester, MN in October this year. I strongly encourage all who are able to be there. Details are shown in this issue.

Good News For Korea Defense Veterans

As a final note, during a recent visit to

Washington D.C., ROK Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA), The Honorable Park, Sung Choon, announced that commencing in 2015, Korea Defense Veterans would become eligible for the Revisit Korea Program. This is very good news and an initiative that KWVA has been recommending for several years.

At this time, we have few details on the change, except Minister Park emphasized that Korea War veterans will continue to have first priority. We anticipate receiving more details and eligibility requirements toward the end of the year.

Larry Kinard, President

An Update

Reporting For Duty

By George E. Lawhon

In the November-December 2013 edition of *The Graybeards* I accepted the honor offered by President Kinard to serve as the Chairman of the KWVA Tell America Committee. In that article, I promised to develop an online operating manual for the Tell America function. The current text of the Tell America Operating Manual content is:

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION Tell America Operating Manual

What is Tell America?

The KWVA Tell America Program consists of Korean War Veteran Association chapters who give presentations to students in local schools, fulfilling the obligation of telling the story of the Korean War and helping our citizens understand the true meaning of the FREEDOMS that we all enjoy in this country.

The Tell America Program is the story of the Korean War presented to students in local schools by those who served there. Tell America fulfills the KWVA obligation of telling the Korean War story in a manner that engenders citizen understanding of the meaning and cost of the freedom that all enjoy in this country.

All KWVA members must continue to tell what we did in Korea sixty years ago that stopped the advancement of communism in Korea and allowed the South Korean people to live in freedom and prosper as a democracy unequaled in East Asia. And, to pass on the message that "Freedom Is Not Free" to the next generation.

It should be noted that all KWVA chapters are not only encouraged to become active participants in Tell America, but the service of their presentations should not be restricted to schools. Community service organizations such as Rotary, Optimist, Lions, Kiwanis, Ambucs, Scouts, churches, rest homes, other VSOs, etc. represent groups that need to hear the Korean War narrative from those who were there, and who can benefit from the story.

Post Cease Fire Service

There have been a number of service members killed in action and by accident while serving in Korea and territorial waters of Korea after the cease fire of 27 July 1953. They were among the service members routinely deployed since the cease fire took effect, and those deployed in response to DPRK violent provocations. Clearly their service and losses preserved the victory against communism and have permitted the Republic of Korea (ROK) to become the vibrant democracy it is today.

A 1994 DOD report stated: Dates of death range from 1950 to 1955. Of the 641 deaths with Casualty dates after July 27, 1953, the majority are classified as hostile, Died while missing (presumptive finding of death). Most of these deaths were Air Force.

In our KWVA recruitment work it would be useful to screen veterans for their experiences in the defense of the Republic of Korea since the cease fire. They have been and still are, in fact, placing their lives on the line each day they serve there.

A Collected Short History

On the Home Page of the KWVA website, <http://www.kwva.org>, there is a link, Tell America Program, in the left sidebar, under PROGRAMS. It gives excellent information, and there is a link to an 'Honor Roll List.' Our new plan is to have ALL participating chapters and those who plan to do so to be listed there. On the same page is a link to a survey form for screening chapters for possible participation in Tell America.

History in *The Graybeards*

In each edition of *The Graybeards* there is a Tell America section. Collectively, they represent the reported history of the Tell America function. The link to past issues of *The Graybeards* is also on the left side of the KWVA Homepage, but down below it, under: ARCHIVES

The Graybeards

Online Archives of Past Issues

Presentation Tools (A library)

The Operating Manual Library will contain presentation slides and videos for use and, if and when available, hand-out material. Some items may be available for download.

Tell America Data Entry/Report Tool

At the core of the Tell America Operating Manual is its online data entry/report tool, which informs the KWVA leadership on KWVA Tell America chapter activity. Access to scheduled presentations and the presentation reports will be password protected.

To repeat, on the Home Page of the KWVA website, <http://www.kwva.org> there is a link, Tell America Program, in the left sidebar, under PROGRAMS. Added to it will be a link to the new Tell America Operating Manual. The link title for the data entry tool will be TELL AMERICA 2014.

SPECIFICATION for the Tell America Data Entry/Report Tool

ENTRY

Date

Chapter #

TA Commander (Last Name, Member ID)

KWVA Participants (Last Name, Member ID)

Forum (school/organization name)

Location

Scheduled

Performed

Students/Attendees (number)

Report, data to GB Editor

Software for the Tell America Data Entry/Report Tool is currently under development. It is my plan and intention for it to be ready for approval by the Board of Directors at the October Meeting in Minnesota.

Respectfully and fraternally to all,

George E. Lawhon, Chairman, KWVA Tell America/Director, KWVA, 408-734-0305 (Home), 408-507-9416 (Cell), george.e.lawhon@gmail.com.

NOTE: Both phones have voice mail; you may call any time. I will answer all calls and emails.



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America has a bizarre fascination with WWII. You would think that the country has not engaged in a meaningful war since 1945. That's the conclusion I drew from a foray to a Barnes & Noble bookstore the other day.

I went there to buy a copy of my latest book, *The Siege of LZ Kate*, which I mentioned in my previous column. It's the true story of an astounding November 1969 escape and evasion from a firebase in Vietnam, near the Cambodian border, led by two U.S. Army Special Forces Soldiers. They saved the lives of about 30 U.S. Army 1/92 FA artillerymen and 120 Montagnard security troops.

Okay, why do I have to buy my own book? It's simple: the publisher furnished me with only ten copies, most of which go to reviewers. I needed an extra copy for myself, so I had to buy it. That's a great way to build sales, but it sure kills the author's royalties—if there are any.

As I browsed through the military history section I noticed a preponderance of WWII history books. One stack focused on the 70th anniversary of D-Day. Another pile described the battles for Italy, North Africa...it's as if the war has not ended. So, being the researcher I am, I scoured the shelves for Korean War books. Sad to say, I did not find one. Granted, I didn't check every book on every shelf, but anecdotal evidence suggests to me that the Korean War is truly a "Forgotten War" among military historians.

Sadder still, I found copies of two of my other books. The score: me 3, Korean War 0. That is indeed a sad commentary on "bookdom." A large bookstore has copies of three different books by a mediocre author and none about what is apparently a mediocre war? The other post—WWII wars didn't fare much better. There were hardly any books about Desert Storm, Somalia, Afghanistan...even Vietnam is losing whatever popularity it had, if any.

The trend seems to be personal memoirs written by individuals who want to explain "what I did in the war, with the help of a few of my friends." The WWII

Technically, any letters regarding the material included in *The Graybeards* should be addressed to me ... since I am responsible for the magazine's contents.

books, by contrast, are overviews that are simply rehashes of older volumes. Historians have discovered that WWII books sell, and books on other wars don't. Let's face it: authors are not going to write what people don't want to read, and publishers won't publish what readers don't want to read.

I guess I had better get started on my next non-bestseller, a history about the stores of cheese that were damaged by German and American artillery in the Battle of Camembert-Edam in the Belalugosian province of Fromage de Formaggio and the psychological effects the bombardments had on the local lemming population. I can see it now, stacked in every row of the local bookstore—and stinking like limburger.

Speaking of the "Forgotten War," some of you may remember the "Singing Barber," Perry Como. In part of his TV show he sang, "Letters, we get letters, we get lots and lots of letters." I do, too—except I don't sing about them.

Handling letters is part of my job. Technically, any letters regarding the material included in *The Graybeards* should be addressed to me (excluding death notices and problems with delivery and address changes, which go to the Membership staff in Charleston, IL), since I am responsible for the magazine's contents. That includes the cover photos, although the publisher advises me on occasion that a certain photo is not "cover worthy" because it does not meet the rigid technological specifications re dots, pixels, resolution, etc.

Recently, a member wrote a letter to the publisher to complain about the front cover of the March-April 2014 edition. "Do you want them to forget us more?" he asked. "Why do you put a squad of veterans from 'Nam. The M-16 wasn't in the Korean War. We used the M-1 Garand. You must

be a Nam veteran?" (I am not a 'Nam veteran, and neither is the publisher.)

Letters should not be sent to the publisher. His job is to lay out the material that the editor selects for publication. Would the writer have sent a letter to Andy Williams complaining about Perry Como's song selections? No! Letters should be sent to the proper person: me.

Moreover, if the writer had read the front photo description on p. 4 he would have learned that the subjects were U.S. and South Korean Marines "walk[ing] to the next station of a squad competition course...at the Pyeongchang Training Area in Pohang, Republic of Korea." It is no surprise, then, that the Marines are carrying M-16s—in Korea, not Vietnam.

We don't select cover photos at random. We choose them to honor the men and women, past and present, who served in Korea during the war and afterwards. We try to match them to specific dates, seasons, events, etc. (Note, for example, that the Marines in the photo cover in question are patrolling in snow, and the March-April edition is still winter oriented.) And we always place a photo description and attribution on p. 4.

So, if anyone has comments, suggestions, or complaints about *The Graybeards*' covers, please direct them to the editor, not to the publisher.

Finally, the writer implied that we should not include photos of anyone but actual veterans of the 1950-53 period. We have never subscribed to that idea. There have been millions of men and women who have served in Korea after 27 July 1953. Many of them are members of the KWVA. They are just as deserving of coverage as are their Korean War predecessors.

Now, say "cheese" and wait for my next book to come out.

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE KWVA BYLAWS

At its meeting held on March 11, 2014 in Dallas, Texas, the Korean War Veterans Association Board of Directors approved the following revisions to the KWVA Bylaws. These proposed revisions will be presented to the Membership for its action at our Annual Meeting to be held in Rochester, MN in October, 2014.

Revision Number 1:

As currently written, the KWVA Bylaws do not contain a Dissolution Statement to provide for the orderly and proper disposition of its remaining assets should the Association be dissolved for any reason. To correct this oversight, the Board of Directors propose the following addition to be made to the Bylaws:

ARTICLE X

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. DISSOLUTION

Section 1. PURPOSE: *The purpose of this Article is to insure that if this Association is dissolved for any reason, the remaining Assets are disposed in an acceptable manner.*

Section 2. METHOD: *Since this Association was formed as a 501(c)19 Veterans Organization and incorporated as an Exempt organization, assets of this organization were permanently dedicated to an exempt purpose. Therefore, should it be dissolved, its assets must be distributed to an exempt entity as described in Publication 557 TAX-EXEMPT Status for your Organization. Thus other Veterans organizations that help veterans are logical exempt organizations to receive the Assets. Assets are not to be distributed to KWVA members or other individuals.*

Revision Number 2:

There are some KWVA Chapters that either do not have enough active Regular members to fill all of the Officer and Director positions on their Board of Directors **or**, if they have enough active Regular members, those members are not willing to serve as an Officer or Director of their Chapter. Most of these Chapters do, however, have some active Associate members who are willing to fill some of the positions.

It has been an unwritten, unofficial understanding that Associate members were not permitted to serve as an Officer or Director of a Chapter, although there is no reference in our Bylaws that specifically prohibits Associate members from holding APPOINTED positions on a Chapter Board of Directors. Therefore, Associate Members can fill appointed positions on a Chapter Board of Directors. However, ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP, Section 1. Qualifications of Members prohibits Associate members from having a VOTE on issues that come before the Board.

To clarify this issue and remove any doubt as to who may serve in **Appointed** positions on the Board of Directors of a Chapter, the KWVA Board of Directors recommends approval to rewrite the following Bylaw to read as follows, with the added verbiage printed in BOLD Italics:

ARTICLE V, DEPARTMENTS AND CHAPTERS, II CHAP-

TERS, Section 4. Officers, Each Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. shall elect a Chapter President, Vice President(s), ***who shall be Regular Members of the KWVA***, and elect or appoint a Secretary, Treasurer, and if so required, Directors, to form at least a Board of ten (10), according to approved Chapter Bylaws. ***Elected or Appointed positions of Secretary, Treasurer or Director(s) may be filled with either active Regular or active Associate members, although appointed Associate members may not vote on Chapter matters that come before the Board.*** The results of said election shall be transmitted forthwith to the KWVA Secretary. The President shall appoint all other Officers and Committees with approval of the Board. Chapter Bylaws will determine if those ***Regular Members*** who are appointed to the Board will have the right to vote in Chapter matters. After their election to the office in the Chapter, the President and Vice President(s) titles can be changed to Commander and Vice Commander(s), with the approval of the Chapter membership, during their time in office. No person may hold two (2) elective offices, except for Secretary and Treasurer, which may be held by one (1) person if elected or appointed.

Revision Number 3:

With the ever increasing volume of time and work required to successfully accomplish the goals of our Association, the Board of Directors realize that we have reached the point in the history of the KWVA that we need the help of a **PROFESSIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** to assist the KWVA President and, as directed by the President, help our Association move forward into the 21st Century.

The primary duties for our Executive Director will be:

Administrative Assistance – To assist the President with his day-to-day Administrative duties.

Lobbying Congress – To interact with our Senators and Congressmen and Congresswomen in Washington, D. C. to solicit support for legislation that is critical to the ongoing success and survival of our Association.

Fund Raising – To assist with our Fund Raising efforts by soliciting contributions from some of our larger industries, retailers, corporations, banks, etc.

Recruiting – To work with and assist our Membership Committee and our Recruitment Committee with recruiting new members, especially Korean Service veterans.

With the approval of the new Executive Director position, we will need to revise two sections of our Bylaws to incorporate the position into the Bylaws. The revised and/or added verbiage is printed in BOLD Italics.

■ Action Number 1:

ARTICLE III, OFFICERS AND POWERS, Section 1. Powers and Duties, E. Appointed Positions. All appointed positions (i.e. Chaplain, Historian, Judge Advocate, [who shall hold only one position], The *Graybeards* Editor, The *Graybeards* Publisher, Webmaster, ***Executive Director***, Ex-POW/MIA [who shall be an Ex-Prisoner of War member if available], VA/VS, Sergeant at Arms, VSO, Tell America and Annual Association Membership

Meeting Chairman), shall be approved by the Board. The responsibilities and duties for all Appointed Positions and Standing Committee Chairmen are included in the Board-approved SPM.

■ Action Number 2:

ARTICLE III, OFFICERS AND POWERS, Section 1. Powers and Duties. **H. Executive Director.** – **The Executive Director shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the KWVA President. The Executive Director duties and procedures are defined in the SPM.**

The Board of Directors recommends a vote of approval for all of these proposed revisions.

Lew Ewing, Chairman, Bylaws Committee, 310 Clay Hill Dr., Winchester, VA 22602, 540-678-1787 (Home), 540-539-8705 (Cell), lewewing@gmail.com

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

Pentagon Officer Honors Korean War Veterans in Chepachet, RI

Veterans Receive Certificates and Medals at Special Ceremony

Some of Rhode Island's Korean War veterans were honored... at a special ceremony in Chepachet. Over 45 veterans from [CID 258] were honored for their service and sacrifice at the Gloucester Senior Center. Navy Commander John O'Brien, a member of the Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, presented the veterans with certificates signed by Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel and medals from the Republic of Korea.

"It is imperative that we honor our Korean War veterans for the contributions they made to ensure that freedom was preserved on the Korean Peninsula," said Commander O'Brien. "People should never forget that the Korean War was the beginning of the end of Communism and without the sacrifices made by our veterans and those who died in Korea, Communism might have spread to other parts of Asia."

The program at the Gloucester Senior Center included the reading of the names of all of the service members from Rhode Island who lost their lives in the Korean War during the month of September from 1950 through 1953. Richard St. Louis is the Commander of [CID 258].

"It is wonderful that the Department of Defense is acknowledging veterans in Rhode Island, particularly since the nation

60th Anniversary Cease Fire Edition Completed --Finally

We have finally completed our 60th Anniversary of the cease fire special edition. When we asked for material to include in what we envisioned as a one edition special publication, we were overwhelmed. Over 100 readers submitted enough stories and photos to fill seven editions. For that we thank you.

Now we can get back to producing our "normal" editions--whatever "normal" is. We will try to catch up on material that has been languishing in deference to the special edition, although we did mix and match enough so that we didn't fall too far behind.

Once again we thank you for your contributions to our "seven-volume" special edition, and we encourage you to continue submitting your memoirs, photos, etc. Maybe now is a good time to get started on our special 70th anniversary of the start of the Korean War. Hey, it's only six years down the road. There's no time like the present to get started.

recently commemorated the 60th Anniversary of the signing of the Armistice on July 27 that ended fighting in Korea," said St. Louis. "Even though we honored our Korean War veterans today, everyone was thinking about the victims of 9/11. That's why we opened the program with a prayer to remember those who died on 9/11."

The Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, authorized in the 2011 Defense Authorization Bill, is dedicated to thanking and honoring all the veterans of the Korean War, their families, and especially those who lost loved ones in that year. Through 2013, the Committee will honor the service and sacrifice of Korean War veterans, commemorate the key events of the war, and educate Americans of all ages about the historical significance of the Korean War. For more information, visit our website at www.koreanwar60.com. Keep connected with the Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee via Facebook and Twitter, through videos at YouTube, or with photos on Flickr.

Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee David Thompson, 703-545-0011 (office) 301-785-7670 (cell) or Barbara Foelber, 703-545-0522 (office) 703-973-4417 (cell).

Source: Department of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee

Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes - March 11, 2014

Place of Meeting: LaQuinta Inns and Suites, DFW Airport, South Irving, 4105 West Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062

☐ = New Item/speaker

Call To Order: Larry Kinard, President

Pledge of Allegiance: Secretary Cohee

Invocation: Bill Mac Swain,

Past President Advisor

Board Members Present:

Larry Kinard, President

Roy Aldridge, 1st Vice-President

Frank Cohee, Secretary

Tom Gregg, Treasurer

Richard Brown, Director

Lewis M. Ewing, Director

George E. Lawhon, Director

Luther Dappen, Director

Salvatore Scarlato, Director

John T. Edwards, Director

Tine P. Martin, Sr., Director

Thomas W. Stevens, Director

George Bruzgis, Director

Also Present:

Bill MacSwain, Advisor

Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster

After the Invocation, Past President Mac Swain expressed the hearts of those present with a prayer for Gary Rockburn and James Tilford Jones, both of whom had recently passed away.

They had both served on the battlefield and with their brothers in the KWVA with honorable due diligence to both obligations.

Administrative Announcements: Larry Kinard, President

☐ President Kinard thanked Bill and announced that coffee and sandwiches would be coming and that rest rooms were nearby. He told of the plans to have dinner together around SPM with JongWoo Han and his consuls at the nearby Red Lobster.

☐ He asked for a motion to adopt the Agenda; it was made by Director Lawhon and seconded by Director Brown.

☐ Then he reviewed the Rules of Decorum with those present, amending them to shorten the time limits, and asked for questions and for a motion to adopt. There were no questions. Director Bruzgis made the motion to adopt them as amended, which was seconded by Director Dappen.

Board Of Directors

Roll Call: Frank Cohee, Secretary

President Kinard: Here.

1st Vice-President Aldridge: Here.

2nd Vice-President: Vacant.

Secretary Cohee: Here.

Treasurer Gregg: Here.

Director Brown: Here.

Director Ewing: Here.

Director Lawhon: Here.

Directory Rice: Absent.

Director Dappen: Here.

Director Scarlato: Here.

Director Edwards: Yes, sir.

Director Bruzgis: Here.

Director Covell: Absent.

Director Martin: Here.

Directory Stevens: Here.

President Kinard: Director Rice called me Sunday to tell me his knee surgery had given way; his is an excused absence. Director Covell is not excused.

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

☐ President Kinard asked if there was a quorum. Secretary Cohee said there was, President Kinard then allowed that business could now proceed, beginning with approval of the previous Board of Directors Meeting of July 25th, 2013. To this, Secretary Cohee stated that the minutes had been posted in The Graybeards.

☐ Director Stevens made a motion that the minutes be approved. It was seconded by Director Bruzgis. President Kinard acknowledged that and asked for a vote. The motion passed unanimously. The Ayes were unanimous, with no 'Opposed.'

DIGITAL ARCHIVES OF KOREAN WAR VETERANS AND THEIR ARTIFACTS

☐ President Kinard stated his intent to move right into the guest speakers, starting with Dr. Jongwoo Han, who was here to speak about his program.

☐ In 2011 Dr. Han introduced his program of digital archives of interviews of Korean War veterans and their artifacts. He pointed out that we currently have about 180 interviews since 2011, with 120 added last year, 2013; this year there is a plan to add more than 250, because Dr. Han was able to double the budget from the Korean government for digital archives.

KOREAN WAR YOUTH CORPS (KWV YC)

☐ Dr. Han pointed out that at the 2012 Board Meeting in St. Louis we agreed to create a descendent organization, and in 2013, we are setting up a five-man committee to manage the KWV YC. Our plan is to meet in Washington, D.C. this July 25. One task is to locate donors from the South Korean business community.

☐ Dr. Han then introduced Ivy Bell, the granddaughter of Bill Baker, a Texas veteran who has passed away.

☐ Dr. Han's Book, "Networked Information Technologies, Elections, and Politics: Korea and the United States": Dr. Han said, "...this is the book that I wrote and recently published. It's about how Korea was able to accomplish two things together: rapid economic development and democratization at the same time. It's very unique. No other country was ever able to do that, because theory says that you have to be wealthy enough to be able to do democracy, but we were able to catch two stones with—I mean, two rabbits with one stone. This is possible because you fought for us, you

know. I have only one copy with me. I wish I had more, but I want to present it to Larry.”

■ President Kinard thanked Dr. Han, and pointed out to everyone present all the work Dr. Han has been doing and is very respected by the MPVA in Korea. He’s doing a lot of good work not only in the U.S. but, as you can see, internationally with all of the UN countries.

HARRIS DIRECTORY

■ President Kinard introduced Chris McCullough of Harris Connect, who made a proposal for a new Membership Directory, akin to the one we did four years ago. McCullough believes they did a good job then, and says that now, “...We can have the entire thing collected, all of the data in the back updated in terms of the addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, spousal information, career networking information. All of that stuff can be updated, stories collected, pictures put together, even the front section updated, and have it out by Christmas of this year.”

Last time, he said, “...the end result was worth the time and effort. Not only did the association reinstate 1,400 inactive members, but we collected \$14,000.00 and additional funds are forthcoming. We had to update this. It ended up being \$21,000.00 in royalties. A total of 18,000 active and inactive members were updated during our phoning process, hundreds if not thousands of mailing addresses, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers were updated, and the members of the association have a membership book they can be proud of. To quote one of our members, it’s spectacular, so detailed, with information, so much more than we expected. Thank you for a beautiful book. It was worth the wait.”

McCullough also pointed out the methods of contact and input for the new directory.

■ Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer questioned them and asked for an explanation, pointing out that last time there was difficulty in connecting, actually merging, the collected information with the correct KWVA Membership number.

■ McCullough then made a commitment to put a fix on that by making the merge right at the beginning. McCullough also put forth a royalty guarantee of \$35,000, an increase from the \$21,000 earned last time.

■ Past President Mac Swain informed McCullough that the membership data in the Directory regarding service in Korea needs to be more specifically accurate, to satisfy the IRS, so that we’ll know who are service veterans and who is something else.

Mac Swain said, “...We need to — we need to be able to say — if they served during this particular time, we know that that is when they were war veterans and what have you. 1950 through 1955 is our place. Anyone after that who served in Korea is not considered to be a war veteran, even though we’re trying through Congress for five years to get that changed because these people defended them. We know that, but the IRS doesn’t know that, and Congress doesn’t know that, and Congress dictated those particular time periods.”

Following further discussion by the Board, President Kinard stated that if this was going to be approved to be in time for the October Meeting, we should decide. Director Scarlato made a motion to accept the project, Director Brown seconded the motion. President Kinard called for a vote, all said ‘Aye.’

USAA AFFINITY CARD PROGRAM

■ Mr. Wiedower of USAA presented the following: “This is a co-branded credit card program that has no annual fee, interest rate beginning at 10.9 percent with each one of them being individually underwritten, so every member would apply for the card themselves as an individual and get the interest rate that they would qualify for based on their credit history, individualized for the Korean War Veterans Association, and as a result of any card that is opened, any account that is opened, Korean War veterans would get \$1.00 for each new card every year that it’s used, get another dollar and then 25 basis points on the eligible transaction volume. Transaction volume means using it, not balances. So all you have to do is use it. What that equates to, if there’s a thousand accounts out there, each one of them charging \$10,000.00 per year, Korean War vets would get \$25,000.00.

■ After considerable discussion, President Kinard asked for a vote. The motion came from Director Lawhon, as amended by Director Ewing, to be subject to later review by an attorney, with a unanimous ‘Aye’ vote by the Board.

KWVA FINANCES

■ The discussion began with President Kinard’s introduction of Tom Gregg, the KWVA Treasurer. Tom was appointed by the President to be Treasurer in 2013. With the help of Tilford Jones and Jim Doppelhammer, he was instrumental in moving the KWVA finances to Charleston, Illinois.

■ “...We’ve just finished our audit performed by a firm Franklin & Vaughn. They’re in Illinois. They’ve completed the draft report. They’ve sent the draft report. As soon as they get the management representation letters signed by me and Doug Sager, who is our accountant in Illinois and Charleston, as well as Jim Doppelhammer, they will finalize that report and will have it available for publishing. I expect that to happen no later than April 30th. I suspect it will be even sooner than that.

“They performed their audit and I would like to make a motion that we accept the proposal of the firm and I’d like this board to agree to accept that proposal for five years. We have a five-year engagement on a year-by-year basis, which means if they don’t perform in one year, we just don’t renew it for the next year. But I would like to propose as a motion that we accept their proposal for 2013 through 2017, five years, at a cost ranging from \$5,100.00 to \$5,500.00.

“The 2012 audit was \$7,000.00, so that’s a reduction. From my audit practice, I wouldn’t have even touched it for the price that they offered, but they did it and they’ve done a good job, and we’ll get that very soon.”

■ President Kinard asked for a second, which was made by Director Martin. He then asked for questions, of which there were none, and for a vote, which was a unanimous ‘Aye.’

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

■ President Kinard began with acknowledgement and pleasure with our financial position because of Gregg, Tilford, and Doppelhammer. He continued by thanking the four Directors (Dick Brown, Lew Ewing, George Lawhon, and Luther Rice) whose terms are ending, and for the service they have given to their obligations.

■ He spoke of the upcoming progress to be had by Jerry Wadley, who is now generating an advertising budget since we approved a contract with him at our last meeting.

■ President Kinard was definitely unhappy with the response to a request he made: "...I was a little disappointed when I sent out my request for the directors to send me their three top items. You know, I'm the one who likes to look ahead a little bit if we can, so I was hoping maybe I could get some input from the directors about what you thought our top three items ought to be. Well, I heard from eight out of the twelve. And I just want to tell you when I ask for your help, I want you to help me. I mean, I need that."

■ President Kinard on the subject of emails: "We don't need to be forwarding e-mails that talk about religion or politics. We have enough of our own things to be concerned about to not be doing that and creating a problem. So if you would, bear with me on that and please refrain from passing e-mails around that are not really having to do with KWVA business."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TASK FORCE

■ Next, President Kinard introduced a report from the task force he set up at the last meeting. "All of you will recall at the last meeting we asked a task force to review the possibilities of adding an executive director or at least someone to help us with the management of the organization. That task has been done. You have some information before you on the report, the results of what the task force did. I'd like to turn it over right now to Lew Ewing, and let him kick it off with the report from the task force."

■ Director Ewing began by pointing out that each Board member had a copy of the document generated by the task force, the Executive Director Job Description. It listed the primary duties for Executive Director as: 1. Administrative Assistant, 2. Lobbying Congress, 3. Fund Raising and 4. Recruiting. Director Ewing went through each of the tasks, in turn, and made a motion to vote on the creation of an Executive Director Position for the Association.

■ President Kinard asked for a Second and got it from Director Scarlato, but Director Lawhon objected.

■ "Mr. Chairman, there are some issues about the structure of the proposal as presented by the task force as to certain elements of it, like primarily how is it accounted for, and so I would like to make this vote contingent upon us settling or solving those by discussion and vote before it is passed or if we approve this motion, they should be contingent upon the result of that."

"If we pass this job description as described, there is no way presented in the description as to how to account for the fact that the man is doing his job. Basically you're still responsible. You're the president, okay?"

"I'm saying there is yet no decision about that. For instance, is the question can a member of the KWVA be that contractor? Yes or no. And so I'm just saying — I'm not trying to oppose it at all, but there has to be some discussion and definition somewhere along the line to settle exactly what this description is, and it's not complete as written."

■ Tom Gregg noted that we could approve the position, but with the understanding that the details could be determined by the search committee during negotiations for the position. Director Lawhon said yes to that, and there was a unanimous vote to accept.

DIGITAL FORMAT FOR BUSINESS WITHOUT A MEETING

■ Director Lawhon: "In our search for how to enable a digitally formatted Business without a Meeting, Jim Doppelhammer found a tool that had been used by President Dechert, 'Planning and Events Calendar.' An onscreen demo of that is what Jim Doppelhammer is showing on the monitor."

■ Jim Doppelhammer: "This is a demo of what could be done. Basically a bylaw change is required in order to be able to do this because now it calls for mail-out, certified mail. If it is approved to make the bylaw change to eliminate the certified mail requirement that we could go to doing it electronically, here's basically a sample."

"A director can log in. This is set up for demo director. This is actually business without a meeting that was held back in 2006. But these are like how you would do your action items so it can be shown. You have to vote either yes, no or abstain and go through each one of the items that is on the list."

"This one's got to do with appointments and so on. This was an actual business without a meeting that was held back in 2006. Basically this is just the demo to show it can be done. Hit submit button. If it's all filled out, this comes up and says, oops, you missed something, but if it's all submitted properly, it goes in an e-mail to the secretary. He can tally the votes directly off of an e-mail and it's doable."

■ Jim then passed around a handout. Director Lawhon made a motion to accept the change and it was seconded by 1st Vice President Aldridge.

■ President Kinard asked for a vote, which was a unanimous 'Aye.'

■ Director Lawhon promised to write the Bylaw and SPM changes required for implementation.

BYLAW CORRECTIONS

■ Director Lawhon: "At some time in the past, a change was incorporated into the Bylaws which is a policy that assumes that the Membership attending the KWVA Annual Association Membership Meeting has the duty and possesses the authority to ratify all KWVA Bylaw changes/revisions approved by the Board of Directors at that or previous meetings of the Board of Directors. That policy is in direct conflict with the primary, basic policy, established in Article III, Officers and Powers that gives the Board of Directors its absolute authority to act in the interests and affairs of the Korean War Veterans Association. The sole exception gives the Membership present the authority to ratify the Board of Directors' decision during the Annual Association Meeting to establish the date, time and place of the next year's Annual Association Meeting."

"One of the results, a negative one, of the present policy has been to delay the effective changes approved by the Board of Directors. An example is that the bylaw changes authorized by the Board at the July 2013 Meeting would not be in effect until the October 2014 Meeting."

Director Lawhon made a motion that the changes outlined in the 2014 Meeting Agenda Item GEL-2, to the following, be approved:

Action 1 to Article IV Annual Association Membership and Special Meetings

Action 2 to Article VIII Amendments and Resolutions

Action 3 to SPM 3.9 MEETINGS

■ Director Ewing: “I agree with what George is trying to say here. I mean, the structure we have right now is just unbelievably complicated. The fact that the board can approve a bylaw change in July of last year and we can’t get it ratified by the membership until October of this year is ridiculous. You cannot conduct business that way. It just doesn’t make any sense at all. So I’m all in favor of the change.

“My only exception, George, is I think that we need to have this change approved by the membership in October. Now, I know what you’re saying that it’s not in the bylaws that they have to approve it, but it’s been the unwritten policy, if you will, for the last X number of years and you couldn’t tell me how many. I would suggest that we have it approved by the membership in October.”

■ Director Lawhon: “I’ll go along with that; it will clearly mark the correction.”

■ 1st Vice President Aldridge: “If we take a vote on it, it should be subject to legal review.”

■ President Kinard: “Are we ready to vote on this? All in favor say ‘Aye.’” (All said ‘Aye’.)

■ President Kinard: “The next item is Director Ewing’s: Change the bylaws to allow active associate members of a chapter to hold certain appointed officer and director positions of the chapters.”

■ Director Ewing: “I make a motion to incorporate this change.”

■ Director Martin seconded the motion. President Kinard asked for questions or comments, received none, then called for the vote, which was unanimous, ‘Aye.’

■ President Kinard: “The next item is Director Ewing’s: Change the bylaws to add a dissolution statement.”

■ Director Ewing: “I make a motion to incorporate this change. In doing some work earlier, we found out that there’s nothing in our national bylaws that provides for the proper disposition of the assets of the national KWVA, Incorporated should this association need to be dissolved, and so we are proposing that we add a new article to our bylaws, Article X, Korean War Veterans Association, Incorporation dissolution, paragraph one — Section 1. Purpose: Purpose of this article is to insure that all of the assets of this association, should the association be forced to dissolve, be done in an acceptable manner. Section 2. Method: Since the association was formed as a 501(c)19 veterans organization and incorporated as an exempt organization, assets of this organization were permanently dedicated to an exempt purpose.”

■ Director Bruzgis seconded the motion. President Kinard asked for questions or comments, received none, then called for the vote, which was unanimous, ‘Aye.’

■ President Kinard: “The next item is Director Ewing’s: A SPM change for dissolution of a chapter.”

■ Director Ewing: “The bylaws refer you to the SPM for distribution of assets of a department or chapter that has to be dissolved, but there’s nothing in the SPM at this time, so we’re proposing that we add a Paragraph 3.4.7 chapter dissolution.

A. Purpose: The purpose of this procedure is to describe and define

the process for distribution of assets upon KWVA board approval of the dissolution of a KWVA chapter. B. Procedure: The steps would be if you are a non—not for profit 501(c) exempt charitable organization:

One: You must distribute all of your assets to either another exempt not for profit 501(c) organization or to a state or local government for a public service.

Two: If you are not an exempt organization, but incorporated in your state, you must contact your state attorney general for dissolution information.

Three: If you’re not either exempt or incorporated in your state, you may donate to any cause you wish. That is for chapters.

Dealing with departments would be Paragraph 3.5.6, department dissolution.

A. Purpose: The purpose of this procedure is to describe and define the procedures for dissolution or distribution of assets upon dissolution of a department.

B. The procedures: Steps one, two and three are the same as for chapters. So I would move to approve both the SPM and Bylaw revisions.”

■ Director Bruzgis seconded the motion. President Kinard asked for questions or comments, received none, then called for the vote, which was unanimous, ‘Aye.’

■ Director Ewing: “Now, I have one more. As the result of our vote this morning to appoint (hire) an executive director, we need to make a couple of revisions to our bylaws to accommodate for that position. So let me pass these out. See that Jim gets one.”

■ Director Ewing: “Yeah, that’s fine, everyone, read it real quickly.”

■ Director Edwards: “Sonny Edwards, director. I make a motion that we accept this proposed change by the bylaws committee.”

■ Director Lawhon seconded the motion.

■ President Kinard: “Any discussion, questions?”

■ Director Lawhon: “Yes, I have—it involves one of my items down there.”

■ Mr. Doppelhammer: “I’m not a board member. I’m not allowed to vote on anything like this, but might I make the suggestion that instead of naming all these positions here, we specifically just make a statement that the positions to be named in the SPM, instead of tying them directly into specific positions in the bylaw. In other words, make it easier for an additional change or correction at some other date and time.”

■ Director Ewing: “I have no problem with that. That’s the way it was written before and I just threw one more in there, but let’s go ahead and approve it this way this time and we’ll maybe clean that up later on. How about that? Would you agree to that?”

■ Mr. Doppelhammer: “Just a suggestion.”

■ Director Lawhon: “I think the action two item where it says the executive director duties and procedures are defined in the SPM, which is okay.”

■ President Kinard: “Well, we have a motion to accept. Need a motion to second to accept this recommendation.” Director Lawhon seconded it.

■ President Kinard: “All in favor say aye.” (All said aye.)

■ The discussion moved to the question of the Department of Arizona, Director Stevens led the way, with input from Past President Advisor Mac Swain, at the end of which it was moved by Director Stevens that the subject be tabled: "... as far as the Department of Arizona, Korean War Veterans Association, is concerned I would like to not take action at this time but kind of put that on the back burner until I can talk with the individual who is currently in charge of the State Department of Arizona to confirm what he's asking us to do in this letter or to say don't do it, one or the other, and we can make that decision to remove them by way of a meeting without a meeting or can just wait until October. So that's my motion, that we do nothing as far as the chapters are concerned and that the State Department of Arizona be left in the database until we can get more current information."

■ Director Stevens: "President Kinard referred this to the membership committee and it was to consider the question of life KWVA membership for 78 years of age and older to reduce the life membership cost to \$75.00. The proposal was made at our membership meeting in Washington by the President of the Department of Florida, Robert Hebner.

"Life membership for those 66 and older is currently \$150.00. The membership committee rejects that proposal. Tilford Jones was very strong in his opinion in opposition to it. Jim provided some data that would indicate that it would be a significant loss of revenue if we reduced that. So it is the membership committee's recommendation, after considering the proposal, that it be turned down.

"So I would like to make that motion at this time that we considered the proposal and because of the possibility of a significant loss of revenue to the organization and probably no result if it were reduced, we would not really increase our membership to any significant amount, that the proposal be rejected." The motion was seconded by Director Brown.

■ President Kinard: "All in favor say aye." (All said aye.)

■ President Kinard then brought up the item of Director Lawhon's offer to donate the royalties from his books currently on Amazon from August through December 31, 2014.

■ Director Lawhon: "It's a gift to the KWVA. All my books — there's four now. There may be another one in November. I'm going to give all the royalties from those books—that includes from what I or anybody here buys or anyone else buys because they are up on the Amazon timeline, all of them through December 31st. So in January, I'll find out how much in royalties came in and I'll write a check to the KWVA Treasurer for use in the Tell America Program."

■ Director Scarlato made a motion to accept Director Lawhon's proposal. The motion was seconded by Director Bruzgis.

■ President Kinard: "All in favor say aye." (All said aye.)

■ At this time an open discussion began, drifting through many subjects until it came time to end the meeting.

■ President Kinard: "Guys, I think we did a wonderful job this time. You stuck with me, you hung in there, and I thank you very much for it. Do I hear a motion to adjourn?"

■ Director Brown made the motion, seconded by Director Bruzgis and it was passed unanimously.

■ President Kinard led the salute to the Flag.

New KWVA Directory To Be Published

The Korean War Veterans Association has partnered with Harris Connect, LLC to commemorate our members' years of service to their country and to the fight for freedom for South Korea in a new edition membership directory. Harris Connect is a leading provider of multi-channel solutions for non-profit organizations.

Members will be contacted by mail, e-mail, and phone to verify and update their contact and career information,...

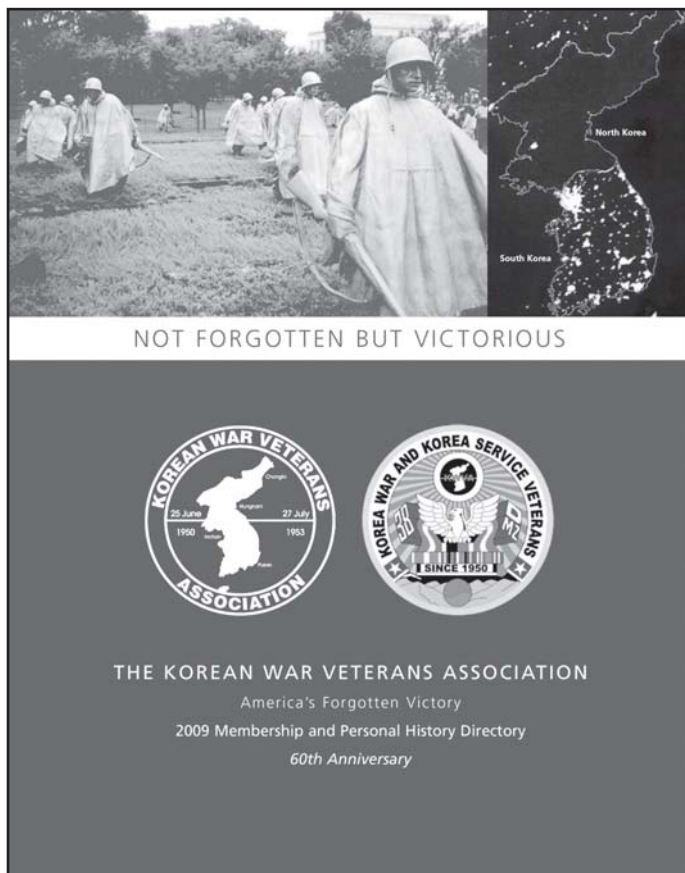
You will have a unique opportunity to showcase your military career through your listing information (years of service, military rank, conflicts served, medals earned and more). Plus, you'll have the opportunity to include a personal photo and share a mem-

ory in a short message.

The publication will also have an introduction, including color photos and valuable information, about the Korean War Veterans Association and Korea Service veterans.

Members will be contacted by mail, e-mail, and phone to verify and update their contact and career information, so watch for further notification on how you can participate.

This handsome publication will be a welcome addition to your personal library. A portion of each sale will go to the KWVA.



The 2009 KWVA Directory cover

2014 Election Results

I am pleased to inform you of the Official Certified Final Election Results as provided by D.J. Burrows, CPA.

NOTE: This Official Final Count Posted By Highest Vote Count

OFFICE OF PRESIDENT Votes

Larry C. Kinard 2,253
Elected President, 2014-2016

OFFICE OF 1st VICE PRESIDENT Votes

Warren H. Wiedhahn 2,250
Elected 1st Vice Pres, 2014-2016

OFFICE OF 2nd VICE PRESIDENT Votes

J. D. Randolph 1,279
Elected 2nd Vice Pres, 2014-2016

James A. Fountain 1,020

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR Votes

Albert H. McCarthy 1,848
Elected Director, 2014-2017

Thomas M. McHugh 1,833
Elected Director, 2014-2017

Roy E. Aldridge 1,801
Elected Director, 2014-2017

L. T. Whitmore 1,712
Elected Director, 2014-2017

Richard E. Brown Sr. 1,706

I thank the candidates who ran for office for their interest in working for the betterment of the KWVA. I congratulate all the successful candidates, and I look forward to working with them on the Board.

Respectfully Submitted,
KWVA Elections Committee
George J Bruzgis, Chairman

THE 5 Rs: Recruiting-Reinforcement-Reinstatement-Retention-Replication

Recruiting

Who is the primary beneficiary of KWVA recruiting? YOU ARE!

When it comes to recruiting, you must keep an ongoing prospect list. Be sure to send these prospective members your Chapter newsletter and any announcements.

Thanks to the social media, this will not cost you a dime. If you cannot contact them electronically, then send it USPS for it is worth its investment. Be sure to advertise your Chapter meetings in the local newspaper. Many newspapers allow non-profit groups to put a blip in them. If your paper allows this, please take advantage of it.

I encourage Departments and Chapters to appoint a Recruiting Chairman to plan recruiting days and set up a recruiting table with applications and pamphlets.

Reinforcement

As a Department and Chapter Commander, get to know your members as well as new members. Put your new members on a committee where they can be useful to the Chapter. This will give them a sense of ownership, which is important. Assign the new member to another member of the Chapter to provide a mentorship program.

Reinstatement

It is important that we bring all of our inactive members

back into the fold. The Chapter newsletter is very useful in letting them know your activities.

Retention

One of the keys to retention is effective communication. This communication can be done in many ways. Probably the most popular is the Chapter newsletter. This keeps all the members in the know. The phone tree is a form of passing any information along to the members. I used this when I was a Post Commander in the VFW, and it increased attendance at our meetings.

Replication

There is an old saying that "Bigger is better." While that may be true in some circumstances, the main focus of the Chapter should be having success and meeting its goals. Once this is established, the Chapter should spread its success around and help start new Chapters, which in turn bring in new members.

Remember these? How do we bring back those lost members? Reinstatement: How do we keep current members? Reinforcement/Retention. How do we attract new members we don't lose? Recruiting

If I can assist any of you in recruiting please let me know.
John T. "Sonny" Edwards, National Director, National Recruiting Chairman, kvetedwards@yahoo.com

Take an historic sixty-year journey back in time! With this book you will fly fifty combat missions, mostly low-level, low-speed bombing and strafing raids, along with young USAF bombardier-navigator Arthur Haarmeyer, leaning over his Norden bombsight in the nose of a swift and deadly Douglas B-26 light bomber. Your mission—to detect, destroy, damage, and delay the seemingly endless streams of men and materiel coursing down the roads and railroad tracks of North Korea from China and Russia through narrow and twisting snow-covered mountain passes.

Now available in softcover at your local bookseller or online through Amazon or a choice of other online retailers. Price: \$17 (ISBN: 978-0-9886-7891-2). Also available for your Kindle, Nook, or Apple reader through Amazon and iTunes. Price: \$9.98.

For an autographed softcover copy at \$24 (price includes tax and Priority Mail delivery within 3 days), contact the author at arthurhaarmeyer@gmail.com. Mail payment (with your check drawn to Arthur Haarmeyer) to UPS Store, 3308 El Camino Avenue, Suite 300, Box 118, Sacramento, CA 95821, or use PayPal via the author's website at www.arthurhaarmeyer.com.

For answers to questions or additional information, please contact the author at arthurhaarmeyer@gmail.com.

One-third of the author's profits from this book will be donated to the Wounded Warrior's Project, Washington, D.C.

A Bombardier-Navigator's Story INTO THE LAND OF DARKNESS



The Vital Role of Douglas B-26 Air Crews
in Restoring Freedom to the People of
The Republic of Korea (1950-1953)

Arthur L. Haarmeyer

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, 430 W. Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920 or Treasurer@KWVA.org. 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

GRAYBEARDS DONATIONS

Raymond J. Bosch	OH
Steven S. Bosma	CA
IMO Albert C. Bosma 45th ID	
Lewis R. ("Lew") Bradley	AZ
Thomas Caroland	TN
Thomas Patrick Dowd	MN
Jack William Droneburg	MD
IMO Twin Brother Gene Droneburg	
Timothy M. Forbes	NY
Frank Kandula	NY
Russell A. Merrill	MI
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IMO Bruce Bielenberg Iowa	
Cecil L. Rice	CA
Charles A. Saul	FL
Jerome A. Shaver	PA
Bruce D. Wilkie	IL
Edwin R. Wong	CA
William Wright	OR

CONTRIBUTOR

LOCATION

Non Member	Unknown
IMO James S. Delaney	
Non Member	NY
KWVA DONATIONS	
Basil Thomas Bauch	IN
John Tanner Boone	FL
Gordon J. Cottet	NY
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Aaron J. Reiff	AZ
Michael Tucci	FL
IMO John ("Jack") Edwards CID 159	
Bruce D. Wilkie	IL
Edwin R. Wong	CA
Non Member	Unknown
Non Member	Unknown
IMO F. Mark Elliott	
Non Member	Unknown

A Happy Unhappy 'Day'



Funeral services for returned MIA Soldier Cpl William Franklin Day were held in La Center, KY on April 7, 2014. Day was missing in action as of December 2, 1950. He was assigned to Co. C, 32nd Inf. Regt., 31st Regimental Combat Team, which was deployed east of the Chosin Reservoir with Task Force Smith when he disappeared.

There is a war memorial in front of Ballard Memorial High School, which Day attended. His name is on the memorial, and the town of La Center held a parade in his honor.

The turnout at Day's service was remarkable. It included the Patriot Guards of Kentucky and Tennessee and a military honor guard from Ft. Campbell, KY. His granddaughter, Carrie Rose-Matens, wrote the nearby tribute to the people who were involved in the identification process and return of Cpl Day. He was married at the time of his death, and had one child.

A 1961 graduate of Ballard Memorial High School, BGen George ("Buddy") Petty Jr., spoke at the memorial service at his alma mater. He said that it was "altogether fitting and proper" for the purpose of burying an American hero and that the students should be honoring Day. Principal David Mienschien urged the students to remember the day, telling them that it was a "once in a lifetime" experience.

Fortunately, the return of missing service members is not a "once in a lifetime" experience. For one family in Kentucky, the "Day" came when their loved one was returned. Let's hope there are more days like that for other families of soldiers still missing in action, waiting to be brought back home.

Thanks to Sgt. W. E. Hixon, a Korean War veteran with C-1-7, 1st Marine Division, USMC, who served there from January 1951 to January 1952. He can be reached at 3325 CR 1129, Arlington, KY 42021. 270-694-4208.

William Franklin Day

In Sept. of 1994, the North Koreans gave to the USA 208 boxes of remains that could hold up to 400 US servicemen from the Korean War. On February 13, 2014, the remains of William F. Day were positively identified through dental records, chest x-rays and mitochondrial DNA, which was provided by Gloria Shonrock; Mattie Terrell, his niece; and Herman Day, his only living brother.

Workers at JPAC Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii, through hard work, dedication, and the utmost respect for the people they have been charged with identifying, my Grandfather will finally, after more than 63 years, be laid to rest next to his Mother in LaCenter, KY. It took almost 20 years to get to the box holding my Grandfather's remains. The painstaking work, gentle care, and persistence by these amazing workers to find out who these individuals were and get them back home to their loved ones is absolutely amazing.

My Mother now has Parkinsons and I worry about her health and longevity. I am so grateful and thankful that my Mother can have this closure while she is still able to have it make a difference in her life. In a couple of months we will be traveling to KY to lay him to rest. There is a war memorial in front of the High School there and it bears my Grandfather's name. He will be buried with full military honors which is absolutely fitting and well deserved. The town will have a parade in his honor.

This team of people, who have dedicated themselves to making families whole again, have once again renewed the spirit of my Great Uncle who believed that the US Government didn't care about his missing brother or his family. God Bless the team of people who negotiated the release of these remains and to the North Koreans who showed empathy and respect by releasing the fallen. War is hard on everyone. Time can heal. In the end, good can indeed overwrite the bad and make it right.

Thank you for reading this.
Carrie Rose-Matens

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

War Is Irony, A Crapshoot, And Very Often Sad

Some Personal Illustrations And Memories

I joined the Air Force in January 1951. I went to basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, which then had double the 30,000 trainees the base normally accommodated. We therefore lived in tents with warm uniforms and blankets in short supply during the “close to zero” weather that month.

I wanted to go to weather school after basic training. One of my tent mates was interested in radar school. When I asked the young airman processing us late one night for information about weather school, he said, “I don’t know anything about it; I just processed through here three nights ago.” When we got our orders, my tent mate got weather school and I got radar school.

After completing basic and radar training (and for the second time passing the test for entry into pilot training), I accepted a switch to a shorter Navigator/Observer Cadet Training program. I completed cadet training, was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant, and immediately went to combat crew training at Tyndall AFB, FL in Fighter Interceptor Jet Aircraft.

The first week there they measured our height and weight. When we finished our training, we and our pilots were assigned as follows:

- The smallest crew members were sent to Alaska, where the crews needed to wear additional cold weather survival gear in the smaller F-94 jet aircraft.
- The medium-size crew members (which I was) were sent to the Far East war theater, where less cold weather gear was required in the smaller F-94 jets.
- The largest crew members were sent to sites in the northern U.S., where they could wear more cold weather gear because the cockpits in the F-89 jets there were much larger than F-94 cockpits.

My pilot and I (as a team) got orders to Korea for one year. When we arrived a day early and signed in at Stoneman Base in California to leave for Korea, the officer in charge called us into his office and said, “Because we need more crews in Okinawa (also in the Far East combat zone), your orders are being changed from one year in Korea to up to two years in Okinawa.”

Sad Memory #1

While I was home on leave before going to the Far East combat zone, I learned that my close friend and baseball teammate in high school, George Koenig, (who had just graduated from West

Point, where he played on its baseball team, was also on leave before going to Korea as an infantry officer. We double dated, played tennis, and tossed around the baseball during that leave.

We were both somewhat surprised that many of our friends who had neither been drafted nor enlisted were not fully knowledgeable about the war. It was almost as if they thought maybe we had gone somewhere else to work or we were on an extended vacation. (No wonder some have called it “The Forgotten War.”)

Sad to say, just a few months after George and I left for duty in the Far East, he was killed during combat on the front lines in Korea.

Sad Memory #2

My best friend in cadets and in combat crew training was Charles (“Chuck”) Foster, from Iowa. Because he was smaller than me, he was sent (at the same time I was sent to Okinawa) to an F-94 All-Weather Fighter squadron in Alaska as part of our Air Defense against North Korea and Red China. Several months later Chuck and his pilot were lost in a snowstorm during a mission out of Anchorage, and their F-94 All-Weather jet was not found. His dad and mom later journeyed to Alaska and searched for Chuck’s aircraft, but not even a sign of the wreckage was ever found.

The Far East Combat Zone-Naha AFB, Okinawa

We arrived at Naha AFB on Okinawa in the Far East Combat Zone by way of Hawaii, Midway, and Iwo Jima (which had a very short runway and was extremely small considering the thousands who were killed there during the final days of WWII). At Naha AFB, our aircraft taxied to the Quonset hut which was headquarters. There were no aircraft hangars or permanent buildings, and all the aircraft were tied down out in the open on the flight line. The runway was crossways on a sliver of land jutting into the sea, with the sea on both ends of the runway.

We all immediately calculated what length runway we needed for our F-94s to land safely at sea level, and found that the runway was too short! When we pointed that out to our new commanding officer, who had been there for at least a year, he just laughed and said we had to land on it anyway.

During the almost two years we were there, we lost a large number of aircraft but, fortunately, hardly any crews. The aircraft either crashed on “Final” or ran off the end of the runway after landing. We learned that you do the best with what you have in combat zones!

Twenty miles north was Kadena AFB, the largest B-29 base in the Far East. The island also had an Army base. Our job was to protect the island during the frequent foggy, hairy weather and occasionally escort the B29s on the way to North Korea past Shanghai, which had the largest MIG fighter base in the Far East.

Occasionally, we would be scrambled at night and ordered to climb to 35,000 feet and fly toward Shanghai. (China, of course, was North Korea’s major ally during the Korean War.) Shanghai was only 380 air miles away from our base, and we were told not

60th Anniversary Special

The Turks Were Happy

In the capital, Ankara, I was a guest of Erdoğan Başaran, one of the Turkish brigade veterans who had been attached to the US 25th Infantry Division. The news of the armistice was welcomed by the Turkish people I met, but many were still apprehensive about future relations with the Soviet Union, which was on the northeast border of their country. (William Edward Alli)

to turn around until we saw the searchlights and MIGs climbing to intercept us. We assumed this was to test their alertness in intercepting our B-29s and fighter aircraft.

Each F-94 crew at Naha AFB was scheduled for regular Flight Line Alert Duty. The night following that duty was often "Drunk Night." Since I didn't drink, my pilot agreed that I could hog tie and drag him, if he resisted, to our sleeping quarters when he started drinking a lot within two nights of our next "Alert" duty.

Christmas Day 1952: A Day I Will Never Forget!!

Larry (my pilot) and I were in our Alert Quonset on the Flight Line about noon, waiting to be relieved so we could go up to our Mess Hall Quonset to eat Christmas dinner. Instead, we got scrambled with some urgency. We could hardly see the tips of our wings because the fog/smog was so thick as we took off. In the air we were directed toward Shanghai. We were about five minutes out when over our radio we heard all our available aircraft being scrambled.

About ten minutes later I looked at my radar screen, and it looked like it was filled with mosquitoes! We were heading directly into what looked like dozens of unidentified aircraft. I immediately radioed in, and Larry and I started discussing our impending doom, agreeing to call the other's friends and relatives if either one of us survived.

We experienced about five minutes of certainty that we had met our "maker." All at once, all the aircraft slowly started turning back toward Shanghai. We and all our other aircraft kept pursuing, but they were headed at top speed back to their base. Our operations finally instructed all of us to return to base. Evidently, the Chinese or North Koreans had assumed we might not be alert on Christmas Day (particularly in bad weather), and had planned a truly major attack on that 1952 Christmas Day.

Ending The War

In 1953, new U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower flew secretly to Korea. Every U.S. base in the Far East was probably alerted to his "secret flight," because we escorted him part way in extremely bad weather on his way to Korea. As I recall, his trip led to ending the Korean War shortly thereafter.

Sad Memory #3

I had renewed a friendship while at Naha AFB with an earlier friend who had become a navigator on a B-29 flying out of

Kadena AFB. We often met after evening mess and visited in the evening we were not on duty. The night before the armistice was signed ending the Korean War, we visited after evening mess, not knowing the armistice would be signed the next day.

He had to hit the sack early, because his B-29 aircraft was scheduled for a run over North Korea the next day, and they would be taking off early. That next day the armistice was signed at noon, ending the Korean War. That next evening I called him to visit after evening mess, and they said he was not available. I decided to track him down. To my dismay, I found that his B-29 was shot down, and he and all his crew killed at 2 p.m. over Korea—two hours after the armistice was signed at noon.

Herb Hughes, 7112 Lantern Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109

Happy Birthdays

Brothers-in-law William E. Beck and Laverne Nordmoe were stationed at K-8. Beck was with the 90th Bomb Squadron B-26s and Laverne was with an F-84 Squadron.



William Beck (L) and Laverne Nordmoe in Korea

The war started on Nordmoe's 20th birthday (June 25, 1950) and ended on Beck's 23rd birthday (July 27, 1953). (Nordmoe passed away on December 27, 2001.)

*William E. Beck, 608 E. Renrose Ave.
Loves Park, IL 61111, 815-633-5684*

Was It Worth It?

Certainly, the results of the Korean War were not worth it for everybody. On a macro basis, the fact that a viable country emerged from the carnage of war was pleasing to many people. But, on a micro level the price for some people was high. That is evident in the experiences presented in this segment.

An Amazing Transformation

I returned from Korea in August 1953, with 22 months yet to serve. In May of 1953, I was sent to Camp Desert Rock, Nevada, where I witnessed the first firing of the 280mm Atomic Cannon ("Atomic Annie"), UPSHOT- KNOTHOLE-GRABLE.

While in Korea I served in the 7th Division operations. I was in Korea for 11 months and 9 days.

I revisited Korea in 1988 and again in 1992. I was amazed at what I saw.

In 1992 I wrote an article to the Korea Herald in Seoul. The editor printed the article and sent me the nearby copy. The letter depicted some of my thoughts of the Korean War, which I feel was the most vicious war in modern history.

Mel Schriefer, 203 W. Railroad Ave., Alvin, IL 61811



Mel Schriefer

The Korea Herald

Mel Schriefer's letter
to The Korea Herald

코리아 헤럴드

LATE CITY EDITION ★★★

SEOUL, THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1992

Korean War vet returns to find a new Korea ⁷

Mel Schriefer returns to Korea for a visit, 40 years after first arriving here to fight in the Korean War. He finds little that is familiar but much to admire in modern Seoul and most of all, is glad to confirm that the battle was worthwhile. — Ed.

By Melvin W. Schriefer

On April 10, 1992 I had the opportunity to return to Korea for a revisit to some of the areas where I had served with the 7th Division in 1951-52. I took advantage of this rare opportunity along with 37 others who were either Korean War veterans or family members.

Like most Korean veterans, I was a young man when I arrived in Korea in 1951. Due to the nature of our responsibilities and the environment, most of us did a lot of growing up in a short period of time.

Everyone had to endure extreme conditions with an atmosphere of death and wounding, destruction and debris, refugees and suffering, and

there was very little for anyone to look forward to in the near future back then.

Even though there were millions of lives lost and much suffering by many, the fighting in that war did come to a stop in 1953.

Now 40 years have passed and South Korea has a new look that I am happy to pass on to others who have not had the opportunity to see it for themselves.

The people of South Korea have their freedom. They have a lot of respect for military personnel from the United States and the other 15 United Nations countries that contributed to the great effort of Korean defense.

If you haven't returned to Korea since the war, there is very little that

you would recognize. The hills are still there but they don't look the same. The hills aren't barren any more, there is a solid growth of trees up to 35 feet tall. It is especially beautiful in fall.

There are wide hard surfaced streets and highways. Seoul is a very modern city of approximately 11 million in population compared to 300,000 in 1950.

There are approximately 20 beautiful bridges that span the Han River in Seoul. There are high-rise buildings up to 63 stories. The hotels are large and as fine as you would find anywhere. The subway system is modern and massive, it will take you to some of the nicest shopping areas that I have ever seen. Seoul is a large modern city that can stand with the best of cities throughout the world.

It is easy to remember Korea during the war as a nation that was persistent in its struggle for freedom, but obviously needed help from U.N.

countries. The refugees with their few belongings, the KSCs in their drab dress, the children in the orphanages, the hard winters, and the relentless setbacks are easy for everyone involved to remember. There were also tragic personal losses to individuals throughout the world that will never be forgotten by them.

I always knew that we did a good job during the war in Korea, and I know now that the Koreans are very thankful for our extreme efforts.

The Korean War was probably the most vicious war ever in modern history. There was some good that came from that war: a better life in freedom for the people of South Korea.

You should try to revisit Korea. It will be a milestone in your life.

I love the people from the land of Korea, where I seemed to have done a lot of growing up during the eleven months that I served there in 1951-52.



MIAs made headline news in 1992

Still Receiving Thanks—60 Years Later

Jay H. Lowden, Jr. believes his contribution was worth the effort although, he noted, "I wouldn't want to go through all of this again, but I'm so glad that I had the experience." It is especially gratifying when they receive thanks—60 years later.

"We old men occasionally discuss some of our experiences in Korea when we have our monthly meetings," he noted. (Lowden is a member of Ch 143.) "And it is most gratifying when the Richmond Korean Presbyterian Church members invite us to an annual Appreciation Dinner."

Jay H. Lowden Jr., 11625 Candle Ct., Richmond, VA 23238, 804-741-4621, 804-405-5200 (cell), LowdenAero@comcast.net

Glad To Help

Hopefully, other Korean War veterans will share the same good feeling I experienced a couple years ago while visiting Europe. I asked a man who was traveling with his wife and son if he would mind telling me his nationality. He said he was Korean.

I asked him what part of Korea he was from. He told me that he had lived in Seoul, but he was residing in Syracuse, NY currently. Strangely enough, I replied, that was where I lived. Moreover, the parents of our first child, who we had adopted, lived in Syracuse as well.

We chatted for several minutes. Then he said, "Mr. Ford. Our country owes your country a great debt of gratitude. You and your fellow Soldiers saved our country." That said it all for me.

To say the least, I was overwhelmed. I have long felt that my participation in the Korean War on behalf of my country—and for South Korea—was a worthwhile effort. May all my comrades who lost their lives in that endeavor always be remembered.

Lionel E. Ford, 1391 Brayford Pt.
Deland, FL 32724, 386-879-2245, dford37@cfc.rr.com

The Mementoes Weren't All Memories

Many returning Korean War veterans had only their memories to remind them of the country they had fought so hard to save. Others brought home physical reminders.

Curtis Halverson literally brought home a small piece of Korea. "On 26 July 1953, the day before the truce, I had celebrated my 23rd birthday on that hill by drinking a small bottle of blackberry brandy my mother had sent. The day after the truce I located the empty bottle and filled it with dirt from the spot. It sits on a shelf today in my den along with a few other mementoes."

tos,” he noted.

It was a strange place for a young American Soldier to celebrate his birthday. But, in effect, his was but a prelude to an entire country’s birthday. Technically speaking, 10 p.m. July 27, 1953 marked the birth of South Korea, as the guns went quiet and a new country took shape.

Halvorson and South Korea may not exchange birthday cards every year, but they do share a common memory: the birth of a nation that has stood tall for sixty years.

The Missing Flak Jacket Would Have Saved A Life

I served with the 40th Infantry Division, 224 Infantry Regiment, Service Co., Graves Registration Section. That is not what I was trained for initially. I was trained in heavy weapons, but on arrival to the Punchbowl area I was assigned to graves registration as a replacement for a rotating section member, Dennis Hultgren, a veteran, friend, and contact to this day.

Graves Registration is a specialty that lingers in one’s memory, especially mine.** I recall particularly the ravages of war, noting death on the battlefield and seeing Soldiers make the supreme sacrifice for the sake of freedom. How quickly some people forget these ultimate sacrifices!

Our unit had just moved from the rim of the Punchbowl and positioned itself on line along with the two other 40th regiments, the 160th and 223rd. The 224th Regiment was north of the 38th Parallel, having moved near Satae-ri (Sandbag Castle sector) on July 17, 1953.

We had heard rumors for several weeks that this “police action” was almost over and a cease fire would be announced. Rumors, as we learned, do not stop fighting.

My memories as to where I was and what I was doing leading up to the announcement and the implementation of the cease fire are reflected in one significant event involving the last hostile casualty of our 224th regiment. I do not have the soldier’s name, and would be reluctant to research military records due to the possibility of error. But, not having the person’s name does not replace my vivid memory of the situation of this young soldier.

It is beyond my comprehension to explain the why of what happened; but the event occurred just short of the “cease fire” agreement. I can only surmise “what if?”

The young casualty, who I will always remember, was a new replacement for one of the line companies. This new arrival was checking in at the supply section for his equipment before moving on up to the front. Equipment, as most GIs knew, was always sadly lack-

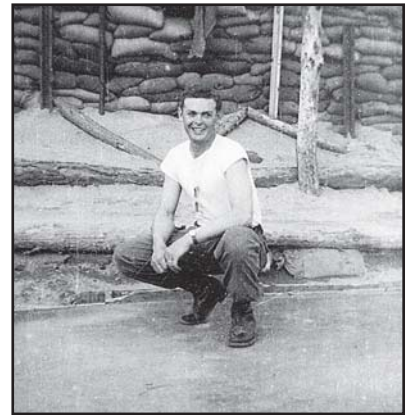


Double exposure: life and death merge

Harold Maples in Korea

ing. That which was available was often of WWII vintage. In this particular Soldier’s case, there was one piece lacking: a “flak jacket.” There were none available at supply, so he was told to pick one up on line at his assignment.

I don’t know when “flak jackets” were made available to troops as a regular item. I do know that their lack of availability at that time resulted in an untimely—and possibly unnecessary—death. At any rate, within a few hours of the new Soldier’s arrival, our graves section received a call on the field phone concerning a KIA.



Children like these paid a price: was that price worth it?

When I arrived at the site, I was dismayed to find that the Soldier was the one I had seen earlier at supply. Needless to say, he was minus the flak jacket. His wound was caused by a small, but lethal, mortar shell fragment that had penetrated his chest. No doubt the jacket would have saved his life.

The truce was signed that night, July 27, 1953, at 22:00 hours. My thoughts at that time, and now, were that the soldier’s parents and loved ones were hearing the cease fire news and were probably thinking that their loved one had escaped harm’s way and was safe. Sixty years later, memories of this young soldier linger in my mind, along with others of a similar nature. The most significant, however, is how the role of this young casualty played

Continued on page 54

Registration Form – KWVA 2014 Annual Membership Meeting October 15 – 19

Kahler Grand Hotel - 20 SW 2nd Ave, Rochester, MN 55902 - 507-280-6200

Print this registration form, fill in and mail it with your check or Money Order made payable to KWVA, Inc. to:

The Korean War Veterans Assoc., Inc. - P.O. Box 407 - Charleston, IL 61920-0407

Note: Mail-in Registration deadline: Sept. 26, 2014. Any Registrations mailed after Sept. 26 might not be received in time... however, walk-in Registrations will be accepted at the convention.

Date	Activity	Cost/person	# people	Total
Wed 15 Oct	Arrival - Registration opens at NOON Registration Desk/Hospitality Room 12:00 pm until 9:00 pm	Member: \$25 Guest: \$25	x x	= \$ = \$
Thur 16 Oct	Board of Directors Meeting 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Registration Desk 9:00 am until 6:00 pm Hospitality Room 8:00 am until 9:00 pm			
Thur 16 Oct	Old Order Amish Country Tour (Lunch on an Amish Farm, & Historic Lanesboro) Bus Leaves 9:00 am and Returns 3:00 pm	\$49 (All inclusive)	x	= \$
Fri 17 Oct	Registration Desk 9:00 am until 5:00 pm Hospitality Room 8:00 am until 9:00 pm			
Fri 17 Oct	Mississippi River Valley "Fall Color" Tour (National Eagle Center, LARK Toys & Carousel, with Lunch at Slippery's Restaurant & Tavern) (Price covers admissions, carousel ride, ice cream cone, and lunch) Bus Leaves 9:00 am and Returns 4:00 pm	\$59 (All Inclusive)	x	= \$
Fri 17 Oct	Spam Museum Tour, with Wine-tasting and Lunch at Four Daughters Winery Bus Leaves 9:00 am and Returns 3:00 pm	\$49 (All Inclusive)	x	= \$
Fri 17 Oct	Mall of America Tour Bus Leaves 8:00 am and Returns 4:00 pm	\$25 (Bus Fare)	x	= \$
Fri 17 Oct	Treasure Island Casino Tour Bus Leaves 8:00 am and Returns 4:00 pm	\$25 (Bus Fare)	x	= \$
Fri 17 Oct	Korean's Reception 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm Reception sponsored/hosted by South-Korean Community of Minnesota			
Sat 18 Oct	Membership Meeting 9:00 am until 3:00 pm Registration Desk/Hospitality Room 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm			
Sat 18 Oct	Ladies Brunch 10:30 am until Noon	\$15	x	= \$
Sat 18 Oct	Social Hour 6:00 pm (cash bar)			
Sat 18 Oct	Banquet 7:00 pm (Indicate Meal selection(s) below) Guests Only Attending Banquet:	\$35 \$45	x x	= \$ = \$
Sun 19 Oct	Memorial Service at Soldiers Field Veterans Memorial 9:00 am – 10:00 am Trolley loads at 8:30 am and Returns at 10:30 am			

Beef (number) _____ Chicken (number) _____ Vegetarian (number) _____ Total \$ _____

Please print your name as you want it on your badge.

FIRST _____ LAST _____ NICKNAME _____

KWVA MEMBER # _____ CHAPTER # _____

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME(S) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____

PH. # _____ EMAIL _____

Disability/Dietary Restrictions: _____

There will be a \$25 charge for returned checks.

(Note: Hotel reservations or cancellations are to be made direct with the hotel.)

Members in the NEWS

Lew Bradley... received a certificate for the Kiwanis Club in appreciation of the many volunteer hours members have put in. Mayor Jay Tibshraeny and Councilwoman Nora Ellen presented the certificate on behalf of the city's Adopt A Park program.

Richard Garza, Sr....was featured in



Lew Bradley accepts certificate from Mayor Jay Tibshraeny (R) and Councilwoman Nora Ellen

an October 13, 2013 article in the Munster, IN Northwest Times newspaper. The staff-written article, "Teen earns trip to U.S. capital," related the story of Garza's fifteen-year-old grandson, Richard Garza III, who "led his family on a trip of a lifetime thanks to an essay contest he entered last summer...to participate in the first Korean War Veterans Legacy Workshop where he was one of five students to win a scholarship for Best Presentation."



Richard Garza III (L) and Dr. Jongwoo Han

The teenager's essay was based on his grandfather's participation in the Korean War as an Infantry Medic who worked under the South Korean and U.S. Surgeon General and served with the U.S. Military

Continued on page 26

Reunion Hotel Information

For more information on the hotel and registration, go to the hotel's website, Kahler Grand Hotel. (Yes, it's that simple.) Or call Hotel Information/Reservations at 1-800-533-1655.

Special Hotel Rate for KWVA members:

- \$89.00/night plus tax (Double Occupancy)
- \$79.00/night plus tax (Smaller Single Occupancy Economy Room)

Reservations/Cancellations

Hotel reservations or cancellations are to be made directly with the hotel.

You must make your reservation by phone—and when you do, mention Code "KWVA" to get this rate. The hotel reservation deadline is September 17, 2014.

Flights To/From Rochester, MN

Flights are available into Rochester International Airport (RST) as well as nearby Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, which is approximately ninety minutes south of RST. RST's terminal hours are 4 a.m. - 11 p.m. (or until after the last flight arrival). Delta, Allegiant, and American Eagle operate into and out of RST.

For more information about RST, go to this website: <http://flyrst.com/flightInfo/why.html>

Rochester, MN welcomes

the Korean War Veterans Association 2014 National Convention

October 15-19, 2014

Convention information available online at
www.KWVA.org

Contact the Rochester Convention & Visitors Bureau for travel planning information 800-634-8277

An Invitation to KWV Youth Corps 2nd Convention

NOTE: We are aware that the registration dates have passed. We are including this article here because it is good information about what Dr. Han is doing. This material has been on the KWVA website, but we have many members who don't use computers. So, this format will reach some members who haven't seen it before and will tell the story of his program.

*President/Dr. Jongwoo Han KWV
Digital Memorial Foundation, Inc.*

To My Heroes, the Korean War Veterans
and Your Descendants,

It is my greatest pleasure and honor to announce the 2nd Convention of KWV Youth Corps in Washington D.C. from July 25 to 28 this year. The KWV Youth Corps (KWV YC) was launched on July 26, 2013 in Washington D.C., when we gathered in the nation's capital to celebrate the 60th Anniversaries of the US-Korea Alliance and the cease fire.

The KWV Digital Memorial Foundation formed KWV YC, which is a KWV descendant organization (your grandchildren or great grandchildren in high school and colleges in their 20s and 30s) in order to keep your legacy. With support and encouragement from the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs and Korean companies, both KWVDM Foundation and KWV YC will invite about 100 descendants of KWVs to a 4-day program in the Hyatt Arlington Hotel and engage in several activities that will educate them to preserve your memories and promote the legacy of the Korean War and your sacrifices (Please refer to the program agenda below).

The KWV Digital Memorial Foundation will cover every expense, including hotel rooms, meals, D.C. transportation, and other program fees, with two exceptions: each participant pays 50% of their transportation cost and a registration fee of \$50.

We ask that you make your own transportation to the convention in Washington, D.C. The registration form, which is due on May 15, 2014 (late registration due on June 2 with a late registration fee of \$80), is available at www.kwvdm.org or <https://adobeforms-central.com/?f=50z0fLifCSdngyORY6RJYQ#>.

If you and your family are interested in attending the 2nd annual Korean War Veterans Youth Corps Convention and



KWV YC successfully launched on July 26, 2013

learning more about who we are as a descendant organization, please fill out and complete this registration form (a check of registration fee payable to "KWVDM Foundation") and submit either online through the link provided or mail to Jongwoo Han at P.O. Box 808, Syracuse, NY 13214-0808.

Parents are also welcomed to participate in this program with the same low rate for hotel rooms—if you let us know far in advance. However, parents should cover their meals and other costs, including transportation. KWVA Board members, including President Larry Kinard and other interested KWVs, will participate too.

MEMBERS from page 25

Advisory Group to the Republic of Korea that trained Republic of Korea Army personnel and provided logistic support for them.

According to the article, "All students who were participating in the workshop were invited to the Korean Embassy and met the South Korea President's Special Envoy, Jeong-Hun Kim" and was ... seated near the front at the 60th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice Ceremony on the Washington Mall."

The young man learned about the contest through the KWVA. He told the reporters that his experience whetted his appetite for additional international workshops. The writers concluded the article

This registration form will serve as a request to become a member in the KWV Youth Corps. Therefore, we are requesting your descendant's basic personal information, verification of your service in the Korean War, and a brief essay written by your descendant about their background and interest in attending the convention. If you or your descendant knows of any other Korean War veteran families, we would greatly appreciate if you could refer them to us to also become involved.

Please note, if your descendant would like to participate in a visual presentation of an unsung story of a Korean War veteran, they will be entered into a competition to win a \$500 scholarship offered by the KWV Digital Memorial Foundation!

For more information, questions, or concerns, you can find our contact information within the registration form. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any question or concern on the convention: Dayne Weber (President of KWVYC, kwvyouthcoprs@gmail.com, 724-822-8900) or KWVDM Foundation President Jongwoo Han (jonghan@syr.edu, 315-480-9427).

with an insightful aspiration from Richard Garza III: "It was my first experience in a workshop and I like to see how the other parts of the world live and appreciate the privileges Americans are given in the U.S.," he said.

Reach Rich Garza, Sr. at Richard Garza, 3917 S Sheffield Ave., Hammond, IN 46327, 219-932-2846, RGarzaVFG@hotmail.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: The essay contest was part of Dr. Jongwoo Han's Korean War Veterans Legacy Workshop program, which we have written about frequently in *The Graybeards*. (See, for example, "Sharing the Vision of Keeping the KWV's Legacy with KWVA," p. 50, Jan/Feb 2014.)

In the previous edition we reported on nine Korean War veterans who recently received belated Medals of Honor. In this edition we will start presenting their citations.

The first is **Sergeant Eduardo C. Gomez** distinguished himself by acts of



gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Company I, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division during combat operations against

an armed enemy in Tabu-dong, Korea on September 3, 1950.

That afternoon, while conducting combat patrol, Sergeant Gomez' company was ruthlessly attacked by a hostile force which moved within seventy-five yards of the command post before it was immobilized by rocket fire. However, an enemy tank and multiple enemy machineguns continued to rake the company perimeter with devastating fire. Realizing the tank posed a serious threat to the entire perimeter, Sergeant Gomez voluntarily crawled thirty yards across an open rice field vulnerable to enemy observation and fire, boarded the tank, pried open one of the hatches on the turret and dropped an activated grenade into the hull, killing the crew.

Wounded in the left side while returning to his position, Sergeant Gomez refused evacuation. Observing

MOH Citations



that the tripod of a .30 caliber machine-gun was rendered inoperable by enemy fire, he cradled the weapon in his arms, returned to the forward defensive positions, and swept the assaulting force with withering fire. Although his weapon overheated and burned his hands and his painful wound still bled, Sergeant Gomez maintained his stand and, upon orders to withdraw in the face of overwhelming enemy superiority, remained to provide protective fire. Sergeant Gomez continued to pour accurate fire into the enemy ranks, exacting a heavy toll in casualties and retarding their advance. Sergeant Gomez would not consent to leave his post for medical attention until the company established new defensive positions.

Sergeant Gomez's extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

I May Be The Only Eyewitness

I was a witness to Sgt. Gomez' actions the night of 3 September 1950 at a place called Tabu-dong-ni, at the south end of the "Bowling Alley." If there are any other eyewitnesses I would surely like to know, because we took an awful lot of casualties. I may be the only eyewitness!

Sgt. Gomez crawled along a ditch beside the road that enemy tanks were using. Our Bazooka man knocked out the lead tank and disabled the second tank. Gomez opened the hatch and threw a grenade in the second tank. I can still see the explosion with a silhouette of Gomez jumping off the tank.

Later, when we were taking fire from a mound in the middle of a rice paddy, Gomez grabbed a .30 caliber machine gun and yelled for a tripod. We both looked around and didn't see one, so Gomez fixed the machine gun in his left arm, which got burned from the rapid firing. But, he enabled me and others to attack the hill, because he took out several of the enemy.

Dudley A. Middleton, 3109 Old Farm House Rd., Fort Myers, FL, 33917, 703-330-1978 (Home), 239-656-5390 (Cell), dudley201@aol.com

EVERREADY from page 6

Pick-Up Force, both on its way towards the objective and on the return trip. Withdrawal of both Covering Forces was regulated by a series of phase lines. The Everready Rescue Force stood by to protect the units involved in Operation Little Switch, the exchange of prisoners of war.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: This blurb from the Army Magazine May 1953 calendar dated May 22, 1953 expands on Tom Moore's description:

Gen. Clark sends the Operation Everready plan to Washington for final approval. This is a contingency plan in case the Republic of

Korea's government or army threatens to break with the United Nations on peace negotiations. In the worst-case scenario, Everready calls for an overthrow of the ROK government by U.S. forces in the name of the United Nations. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles warns China through India that the United States might use atomic weapons if the latest UNC POW settlement proposal is rejected. Access the calendar at

<http://www3.ausa.org/webpub/DeptArmyMagazine.nsf/byid/KGRG-6FJHHR>

The above entry raises several questions. For example, were there two separate

plans? Was the plan designed to thwart the South Koreans or the communists? Mr. Moore's article suggests that it was designed to be implemented should the communists react adversely to the talks. The Army Magazine item states that it was designed for a ROK uprising. Which was it? And, was this really the point at which the U.S. warned China that it might use atomic weapons? What made the UN forces suspect that the communists might try to eliminate the negotiators in the first place?

We welcome your comments on the conflicting ideas at work in this article.

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

24 – CHARLES PARLIER [IL]

We presented a program to Diane Hankins' history class at Pana [IL] High School on 7 March 2014.

*Jerry Seymour,
gearshift3a1@yahoo.com*



Students at Pana High School listen attentively to Ch 24 presentation



Gene Howell (U.S. Army) (seated) and Oval Mechling (U.S. Navy) of Ch 24 at Pana High School



Students and teachers at Pana High School participate in Q&A period with Ch 24 presenters



Jerry Seymour (U.S. Army) speaks to students at Pana High School as Gene Howell (U.S. Army) looks on

43 - KANSAS CITY MISSOURI # 2 [MO]

So far this year Paul Wolfgeher and I have done two tell America Programs. On January 30th, 2014, we returned once again to our favorite school and our favorite History teacher, Mr. Kelsey Boswell, at Lawson High School in Lawson, MO. This year Mr. Boswell has three history classes, 4th hour, lunch with Mr. Boswell, 5th hour and 6th hour. In these three classes we had about 80 plus students.

Paul and I arrived at about 10:30 a.m. and left about 3:30 p.m. It was a long day for a couple of old Korean veterans, but we still love doing it.

On March 20, 2014, Paul and I returned to the City of Independence. MO Palmer Center (Senior Citizens) for the second time. Peggy Sowders told us that we were a big hit last year and when she scheduled us this year, 100 people signed up for lunch.

One of the things that some of them requested was that this year

we leave our fold-out panels up so that they could look at them during and after lunch. This was a hit.

This year we also set up our tell America Display table. A few people inquired about the program and if we charged to do it. Of course we do not.

Also on this display we have 4X6 signed photos of Paul and me. One lady asked if she could have two photos and she was thrilled when I said sure.

Oh well, what can I say? Maybe I can quote a line from an old Roger Miller song: "I am a Kansas City star that's what I are."

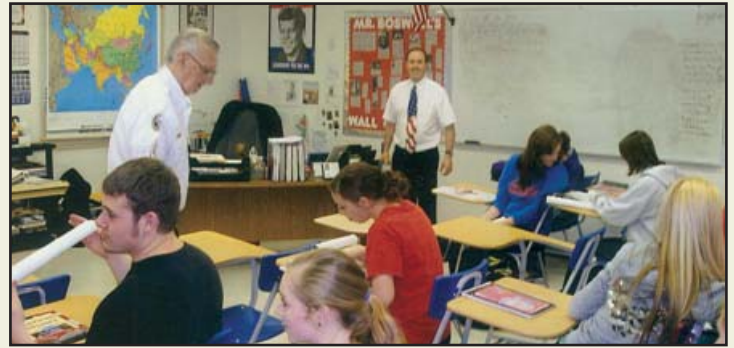
It was a great day at the Palmer Center. Thanks for inviting us back, Peggy.

*Robert ("Bob") Jones, 13975 E.
35th St., Apt. 428,
Independence, MO 64055,
816-836-0969 (H),
816-809-0123 (C),
bobjones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com*



Peggy Sowders, Senior Adult Programs Specialist at The Palmer Center, introduces Paul Wolfgeher and Bob Jones of Ch 43

Paul Wolfgeher (L) of Ch 43 speaks to guests at Senior Citizens event; Bob Jones (R) looks on



Paul Wolfgeher (L) of Ch 43 and teacher Kelsey Boswell during Q&A at Lawson High School



Paul Wolfgeher (R) and Bob Jones of Ch 43 deliver presentation

54 - THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

Korean War Veterans Provide First-Person History to WTHS Students

Eight local Korean war veterans shared personal experiences from their time in service to their country in a series of assemblies to Washington Township High School social studies students on April 10, reminding them that "war is hell,

unpleasant and very difficult."

"We were young men living in a strange land," Captain Andrew T. Jackson from the U.S. Army said. "We tried our best to be good soldiers. It takes a lot of work

and sacrifice to keep this country free. Let there never be a time when a generation of Americans are unwilling to fight for this country. Love your country and honor it."



Veterans (left to right) Corporal William Millison (Army), Sergeant Fred Connolly (Army), Corporal Charles Kerber (Army), Petty Officer 2nd Class John Hartley (Coast Guard), Captain Andrew Jackson (Army), Staff Sergeant Stanley A. Levine (Army), Airman 1st Class Charles Jackson (Air Force) and Corporal Ray McBride (Army) recalled their time in "The Forgotten War."

Is The Military Funeral A Thing Of The Past?

One of the sad facts of life is that military veterans, like everyone else, grow older. In many cases, younger people step in to carry on the functions their elders previously performed. There is one glaring exception to this tradition nowadays in the world of military pomp and circumstance: the number of veterans providing color guards and firing parties for parades, military funerals,

and other civic functions is diminishing, and their younger counterparts are not stepping in to fill the void. One of the problems this situation creates is what to do with the rifles color guards, firing parties, etc. they use for their ceremonies.

The email below, written by Milnos Gordy, addresses this problem as it pertains to the Cape Cod, Massachusetts town of Barnstable. The contents can

apply to a lot of other places as well.

What Do We Do With Old Rifles?

Wanted: A Home For Ten Springfield Rifles, model 1903

The only remaining rifles in Barnstable that may serve for color guards and military funerals in which salutes are fired with blanks, apart from the military and the police, are set to return to the U.S. government. These rifles were assigned to American Legion Barnstable Post 206, which loaned them to the KWVA Post (CID 141, Cape Cod & The Islands).

The KWVA, limited to veterans of the Korean War, now mostly more than 80 years of age, has long used these guns for their intended purpose as described above. But, due to the increasing infirmity of their participants, they have decided to retire this service to the community. At the same time, the place where the rifles are stored, the VFW, is slated to be sold.

In other towns, faced with the same or similar problems, the police have stored these guns rather than lose them forever. On the civilian market, depending on their condition and date of manufacture, these guns could sell for \$900 to \$4,000 each.

General Matthew B. Ridgway regarded the Springfield '03 as the best military rifle ever made. It is the most preferred for military drills, the manual of arms, and all such ceremonial use or in military qualifying competitions. Some of Barnstable's citizens may remember that "Buddy" Hebditch used the '03 to fire perfect qualifying records three times in WW II. (See the story below, posted by Mr. Wilnos in a November 2010 American Legion publication called the Burn Pit.)

The Barnstable Police, however, have stated that they do not have space for storing these rifles and Legion Post 206 is preparing to return them to the government. They would henceforth be absent from Memorial Day, Veterans Day, military funerals or other veterans memorial celebrations.

As old veterans grow older, younger veterans seem averse to serving in the same capacity to honor past and continu-

Continued on page 75



MIAs Identified

The names listed here are U.S. military service members who were once missing and are now accounted-for.

These names are displayed in chronological order based on the accounted-for date. The highlighted names are linked to a more detailed news release on that serviceman's identification.

• **Sgt. Richard John Archambeault**, U.S. Army, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, was lost on Nov. 2, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for on April 29, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors. The date and location of the funeral are to be determined.

• **Cpl. William N. Bonner**, U.S. Army, Medical Company, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, was lost on May 31, 1951, in North Korea. He was accounted for on April 22, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors summer 2014, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

• **Cpl. Richard Isbell**, U.S. Army, Company H, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, was lost on April 25, 1951 in South Korea. He was accounted for on April 17, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors.

• **Pfc. Arthur Richardson**, U.S. Army, Company A, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, was lost on Jan. 1, 1951, in South Korea. He was accounted for on March 21, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors.

• **Cpl. William S. Bladel**, U.S. Marine Corps, Company H, 3rd Battalion, 11th Regiment, 1st Marine Division, was lost

Oct. 28, 1953, in North Korea. He was accounted for March 10, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors spring 2014, in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

• **Sgt. Paul M. Gordon**, U.S. Army, Company H, 2nd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, was lost on Jan. 7, 1951, in South Korea. He was accounted for Feb. 12, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors June 20, 2014, in Williamstown, Ky.

• **Pfc. Donald C. Durfee**, U.S. Army, Company M, 31st Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team (RCT), was lost on Dec. 2, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for Jan. 30, 2014. He will be buried March 6, 2014, in Rittman, Ohio.

• **Sgt. 1st Class John C. Keller**, U.S. Army, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, was lost on Nov. 2, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for Jan. 29, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors May 2014, in Florida National Cemetery.

• **Pfc. James R. Holmes**, U.S. Army, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, was lost Dec. 1, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for Jan. 14, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery in May 2014.

• **Cpl. Cristobal Romo**, U.S. Army, Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, was lost Dec. 12, 1950, in North Korea. He was accounted for Jan. 13, 2014. He will be buried with full military honors in Riverside, Calif., March 22, 2014.

Book Review

How To Make Horse Sense

By Rego Barnett

Janet Barrett, *They Called Her Reckless: A True Story Of War, Love And One Extraordinary Horse*. Chester, CT: Tall Cedar Books, 2013. 177pp. ISBN 978-0-9898040-0-4. \$15.95.



Janet Barrett has done an excellent job of telling the story of SSGT Reckless, the little Mongolian mare that served in Korea with the Recoilless Rifle Platoon, Antitank Company, Fifth Marine Regiment. The seemingly indefatigable Reckless carried ammo and transported wounded Marines for the platoon. Barrett melds tales told by the Marines who served with Reckless and treated her as one of them.

As Barrett wrote regarding Reckless's service at Outpost Vegas in March 1953, where she earned two Purple Hearts, "The guys remember her always in motion, coming up to the gun site, being unloaded and heading back, never hesitating, never stopping save for the couple of times she was taken off her route for a snack and some rest." (p. 89) She explains clearly why they employed a horse to assist them in their fight against the enemy, which she depicts in her narrative as anything but easy.

Barrett makes it clear that Reckless was one unusual horse, in that she loved being in the spotlight. "Life without Reckless started out nice and easy...With a saddle still to arrive, there was time to break her in slowly. It gave her time to settle down, become comfortable with her surroundings, and show who or what she might become. An enjoyment of the limelight was certainly a part of her responsibility...." (p. 37)

The author does not spend all her time recounting Reckless's exploits in combat. She presents a thorough explanation of Reckless's background, e.g., her race horse training, how the war affected the race tracks in Korea, and what happened to her home track. "Three days later, when Seoul was captured, the racetrack was turned into a supply depot by the North Koreans."

No, Barrett does not horse around when she provides background material about the horse, the war, and her role in it. The book is filled with helpful tidbits of information that illuminate the story of this little mare that served the Marines so well in Korea—and was amply rewarded for her service once her "enlistment" ended.

As she reveals, the Marine Corps retired Reckless from active duty on November 10, 1960. Fittingly, that was the Corps' birthday. She

died slightly less than eight years later, on May 13, 1968, due to complications from a bizarre accident. Barrett provided a fitting tribute to the horse, her military career, and her life in a closing paragraph:

"Life did not change much with retirement. Reckless no longer marched ahead of her regiment when they came back to camp after a long hike, but she still enjoyed appearances at the rodeos and the attention it brought her. She had her two last foals and, with age, was bothered by arthritis in her back. Yet her pleasure in visitors bearing treats stayed strong. Even as Korea must have been a dimming memory, her old buddies still came around, and the youngsters at the stables never stopped showering their special horse with attention." (p. 162)

Certainly, "showering their special horse with attention" is what Barrett does in her fact-filled, entertaining, concise tale of a unique horse that served its comrades faithfully. People who are looking for a well-written book about a little-known Korean War hero are encouraged to pick up a copy of *They Called Her Reckless: A True Story Of War, Love And One Extraordinary Horse*.

It's the ultimate "Semper Fi" to one of the U.S. Marine Corps' most unusual heroes.



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.

Wrong Chapter # Listed

Ch 192 is listed on page 39 and 40, but as Chapter 106, not 192. Thanks to Richard Lee, Rita Butler and Victor and Madeline Costas for posing for the pictures of my Battle Cross display at the MOPH Ceremony on Feb. 15th.

Hank Butler, hankrita@tampabay.rr.com

Mr. Hish Is Alive And Well

We mistakenly named Mr. Walter W. Hish Sr. of Maine as deceased in the March-April 2014 "Last Call" section. Happily, he is very much alive and well.

Wrong Photos

The Mini-Reunion photo on page 55 of the March-April 2014 issue labeled 76th Engineer Construction Bn. is incorrect. The photo is of the 772nd Military Police Bn. Assn., and was on page 52 of the January-February 2014 issue.

Robert J. Cummiskey

Chapter & Department News

5 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA #1

We have new officers: Chuck Goff, Commander, Frank Bloomquist, Chaplain & Secretary, John Baker, Treasurer, Bill McKinney, Sr. Vice President. They were sworn in by Leroy Neunfield, a charter member of the chapter.

Some members attended a meeting for the State of California for the Capital Legislative Day in Sacramento on May 14th.

RIGHT: (L-R) Chuck Goff, Frank Bloomquist, John Baker, and Bill McKinney of Ch 5 are sworn in by Leroy Neunfield

BELOW: (L-R) Frank Rose of Ch 5 being sworn in by Bill McKinney, as Ken George looks on



Our drive for the Rose of Sharon flower was very successful.

Frank F. Rose, 984 West St., Redding, CA 96001
530-247-3844, ffrrose@32@yahoo.com

19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

Seven members and wives attended The Korea Southeast U.S. Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner at the KIA Georgia Training Center in West Point, GA.

The Director of Operations for the Georgia Emergency Operations Agency, Charles Dawson, was the guest speaker at our February luncheon. He led a timely discussion following the Atlanta ice and snow traffic jams that made national headlines and late night TV jokes.

Frank Kaliner, Global Trade Manager of The Home Depot,



Jim Conway, Bob Hendershott, Henry Taylor, Rodney Rector, "Sobie" Sobieski, David Lee, and Stan Fisher (L-R) represent Ch 19 at U.S. Chamber of Commerce dinner

RIGHT: Charles Dawson speaks to Ch 19 audience

BELOW: Frank Kaliner addresses Ch 19 members



made a warm down-to-earth presentation at our April luncheon. Mr. Kaliner spoke proudly of his company's dedicated involvement with military related programs in the Atlanta area, such as the USO and military family assistance projects.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net

29 SSGT WILLIAM E. WINDRICH #3 [IN]

Commander Luis Aquilera, who served with the 1st Marine Division in Korea, visited Camp Pendleton, CA to see the Chosin Reservoir Memorial there.

Herbert A. Verrill, 1833 169th St.
Hammond, IN 46324, 219-844-4369

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



Luis Aquilera of Ch 29 stands by the Chosin Reservoir Memorial at Camp Pendleton

54 THOMAS W. DALEY, JR. [NJ]

We presented our new Associate Member, Coleen Rolke, daughter of member Daniel Stanley, with a Certificate of Appreciation and our Chapter KWVA Medal for her granddaughter, Madeline. Coleen said of the presentation:

"I would be honored to accept this Certificate/Award Recognition on behalf of my granddaughter Madeline O'Connor. Maddy is 13 years old and she lives in Clarksville, Tennessee, which is approximately ten minutes from Ft. Campbell, Kentucky.

Maddy's mom, my daughter, served 4 years on active duty and 4 years as an Army Reservist. Maddy's dad, Chris O'Connor, did four tours in Iraq and Afghanistan in the Special Forces. He received two Bronze Stars.

Maddy has grown up with a profound sense of respect for our country and our military. She has spent much of her life in a military town and many of her friends and classmates and her parents' friends are in the military. Maddy's letter that she wrote and read to the wounded Soldiers at Ft. Campbell received a standing ovation. We all are proud of Maddy.



Fred Connolly (L) and Andy Jackson (R) of Ch 54 present Certificate of Appreciation to Coleen Rolke on behalf of Maddy O'Connor



The certificate presented to Maddy O'Connor by Ch 54

This is Maddy's speech to those Soldiers:

Hello, Fort Campbell Soldiers:

My name is Madeline O'Connor. I am in the eighth grade and I attend Clarksville Academy along with my peers, who are honored to present this gift today.

I, as well as many other children at my school, belong to a military family, and I understand your struggle of missing holidays, your children's birthdays, and your family. That is why, whenever my father was deployed, my top priority was for him to know that he was thought of and loved. That is why we came up with the idea to make patriotic blankets for our troops.

Many sixth, seventh and eighth graders worked on making these blankets comfortable and colorful for American heroes, in hopes of bringing love and brightening up soldiers' barracks. Although these blankets can never express our lifelong gratitude and debt to our military, we hope that they can make you smile, brighten your day, and make you remember how grateful we are for the selfless courage and passion that it takes to serve in the military. Thank you for all that you've done and all that you have sacrificed. We truly are grateful for your dedication to our country's freedom.

Thank you, Madeline O'Connor.

Andy Jackson, captjack71@comcast.net

56 VENTURA COUNTY [CA]

We were invited to a Korean War Veterans meeting at the Yongsusan Restaurant in Korea Town. Several members attended.

A few of our members attended a 24th Div. mini reunion in Laughlin, NV.

David Lopez, 3850 W. 180 Pl., Torrance, CA 90504



Attendees from Ch 56 at Korean War Veterans gathering include (L-R) Sally Ann Lopez, Gregory Garcia, Jr., David Lopez, Alice Guevara, Henry Guevara, Commander Parks, George Silva and his son, John Campos, Ann Campos



Korean War Veterans and KWWA group from Ch 56 assembles at restaurant meeting



Contingent from Ch 56 at Korean War Veterans meeting (L-R) Benjamin Espinoza, George Silva, David Lopez, Henry Guevara, Gregory Garcia, John Campos

58 MONROE COUNTY [NY]

Frank Nicolazzo, a charter member of the chapter, represented Korean veterans in placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington Cemetery. The wording on the wreath

said, "Some gave all—all gave some."

"It was the most exhilarating experience any vet can have," Nicolazzo said. "No adjective can describe the honor, pride, or emotion."

Frank Nicolazzo, 54 Lyncrest Dr., Rochester, NY
14615, 585-865-0145, KWVFN@aol.com



Frank Nicolazzo of Ch 58 (L), Tony Ferrarese, Past NY State Commander, to his left, and unidentified VFW rep wait to be escorted in to place the wreath at Arlington National Cemetery



Frank Nicolazzo of Ch 58 places wreath at Tomb of the Unknowns



Frank Nicolazzo and Tony Ferrarese (L-R) salute at Tomb of the Unknowns

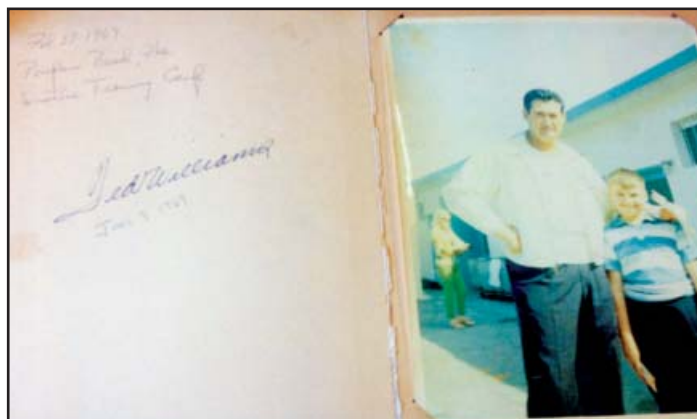
Reporter Searches For Korea Veteran



Steve Brown, Buffalo, NY
reporter

WGRZ-TV (Buffalo, NY) reporter Steve Brown is asking Korean War veterans for help in locating a Robert Lowler Sr. and/or any member or relative of the Lowler family. Mr. Brown believes that the senior Lowler served with or near baseball legend Ted Williams during the Korean War. If anyone has any information about the Lowler family, please contact Mr. Brown at WGRX-TV, (716) 201-8734.

Mr. Brown has an autographed folder and a picture of Ted Williams with Robert Lowler as a young boy. He would like to present the picture and folder to the family.



Ted Williams with a young Robert Lowler

A Personal Tribute To Korean War Veterans

Mr. and Mrs. Chiodo of Buffalo, NY have presented a personal tribute to those who served in the Korean War. The tribute is in the form of an American eagle above the U.S. flag. Below it are the dates of the Korean War with the inscription, "For All Who Served."

Both Mr. and Mrs. Chiodo were members of the U.S. Air Force in the early 1950s.

Norman R. Lipkus
19 Manser Dr., Amherst,
NY 14226, 716-835-
3522, *Norrlip@aol.com*



"For all who served"—the Chiodos' tribute in Buffalo, NY

137 MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

We gather every Friday morning at Denny's Restaurant in Austintown, OH for a breakfast. This routine has been going on for years. At each breakfast we are ably and happily served by waitress Beth Stanko.

On April 25th this event took on a special turn as members of the post presented Beth with a copy of Korea's book of appreciation, Korea Reborn. Beth's dad, Steve Gonda, was a Korean veteran.



Members of Ch 137 with Beth Stanko

Husbands and wives join in this weekly event, with sometimes as many as twenty members attending.

Charles Stepan, 175 Erskine Ave.
Boardman, OH 44512

142 COL WILLIAM E. WEBER [MD]

On March 19th, we hosted a Meet and Greet in Frederick, MD for the newly appointed Republic of Korea Defense Attaché, MG Shin, Kyoung Soo and his wife. This function was suggested to us by Col Bill Weber as a good will gesture to the incoming Defense Attaché. He said that to his knowledge it had not been done previously by any other chapters. We considered it a significant suggestion, which we carried through. The reception turned out to be extremely well attended and well received.

We were extremely honored to have in attendance from The National Assembly of the Republic of Korea the Honorable Kim Jung-Hoon, Chairman of the National Policy Committee, as well as Director BGen (ret) Park Jong Wang and the Assistant Defense Attaché, LtCol Kang, Moon Ho, ROK Marine Corps and wife.

Host Bob Eader introduced all local area Korean chapters. We are proud of the fact that every Commander from the invited chapter was in attendance, with many of their members. We were pleased to have Lew Ewing, one of the Directors of National, and his wife head the receiving line. Also, Leo Ruffing, National's Chaplain, led the group in prayer and Winchester Commander Narce Caliva led the Pledge of Allegiance.



Attendees at Ch 142's "Meet and Greet" (L-R) (Seated) Purple Heart recipient Wendell Murphy of Ch 142, MG Shin, Col Bill Weber, Honorable Kim, Yung-Hoon, Commander of Ch 142 Bob Eader, BGen (ret) Park Jong Wang. (Standing) Purple Heart recipient Robert Flores of Ch 142, KWVA National Director Lew Ewing, Ch 33 Commander Charles Reed, Ch 313 Commander Narce Caliva, Department of Virginia Commander L.T. Whitmore, Ch 312 Commander Les Bishop, Ch 191 Commander Jimmy Carter, and Asst. Defense Attaché LtCol Kang

After these formalities, Col Bill Weber introduced the Republic of Korea delegation, as well as representatives from two Maryland Congressional Districts, Ann Humphrey, (Rep Van Hollen) and Diana Modelski (Rep Delaney).

For this event we invited several area chapters to participate in this reception: Baltimore Chapter #33 (Charles Reed, Commander); Tidewater Chapter #191 (Jimmy Carter, Commander); Hagerstown Chapter #312 (Les Bishop, Commander), and Winchester Chapter 313 (Narce Caliva, Commander). With the participation and support of these chapters, the veterans present had the opportunity to meet and share some of their experiences with MG Shin, who was extremely receptive in talking with the veterans.

We feel this reception was hugely successful and well received, not only by the Korean delegation, but by our fellow veterans as well. It gave us all a great opportunity to mingle and meet our fellow veterans from other chapters. Hopefully, our shared camaraderie will present opportunities for future events.

Bob Eader, 5673 Barberry Ct., Frederick, MD 21703

169 LAKE COUNTY [FL]

Chapter 169 holds a successful Walk-a-thon fund raiser

Art Canale, Past President, proudly shouldered a 3rd Infantry Division banner around the Leesburg High School track as one of the more than 300 participants in our March 15th Walk-a-thon. Art says that a friend of his from the 3rd Division gave him the flag, which saw much service in Korea.

Despite two area competing events, the Walk-a-thon took in over \$11,000.

Walk-a-thon organizer Art Iversen says of the event, "As Fund Raising Chairman for Chapter 169, I was looking for a new fundraiser that would be different and not too physical for our

Art Canale of Ch 169 participates in walkathon



members who are getting older. I suggested to the Board a Walk-a-thon around a track (minimum of one trip around the track) at a high school where we do our Tell America programs. We would ask the three ROTCs in the local area that we service to help getting people to walk. The walkers were asked to get people to sponsor them and contact businesses to be corporate sponsors."

The Walk-a-thon was held at Leesburg High School. We made the school the sponsor/host, which eliminated the cost of a facility to do the event.

Chapter members were asked to contact their friends and associates, clubs in the retirement communities, and the military organizations to request that they walk and/or donate to the project.

The Walk-a-thon's proceeds were split equally among three organizations: each received about \$3,800.

Leesburg High School did a fantastic job! The whole school got behind the project. The ROTC held weekly car washes and the cadets went to churches, businesses, and fire stations and asked for donations. They took in over \$5,800. We presented them with a substantial monetary award as the school that brought in the most. Eustis ROTC brought in \$750, and the Mount Dora ROTC \$639.

A few of our members donated money, but sadly, fewer than ten members actually participated.

The Villages Daily Sun donated a quarter-page page ad at no charge, and the Daily Commercial gave us an 80 percent discount for a one-eight page ad.

When asked if he was going to produce a 2015 Walk-a-thon, Iversen said: "... not next year at least, maybe in three years."

The Villages Honor Flights, Save our Soldiers, and Chapter 169

Honor Flights of the Villages, FL, provides veterans in our area with a free one-day trip to Washington, D.C. Both WWII and Korean veterans are included. Save Our Soldiers, Inc. supplies motorized wheel chairs (42 last year) to disabled veterans, delivers food, water, blankets and medical supplies to homeless veterans, etc.



Art Iversen of Ch 169 in recent walkathon

D.J. Lynch of Ch 169 prepares to "go to work" in front of a Walgreens store in Leesburg, FL

A New Recruiting Tool

2nd VP D.J. Lynch is really trying to get new members by wearing a sandwich board and walking in front of various shopping, movie theaters, and malls in our area. He carries a pocketful of membership brochures and membership applications.

Don really works hard at this, and has probably brought in more new members than any other single member.

Tom J. Thiel, 19147 Park Place Blvd, Eustis, FL 32736, 352-408-6612, kwvathiel@gmail.com, www.cid169.kwva.org, www.dfl.kwva.org, www.24thida.com



183 NEBRASKA #1 [NE]

Members were among 462 Nebraska veterans selected to visit the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the WWII Memorial, the Changing of the Guard ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery, and the Iwo Jima Memorial as part of the twenty-hour Honor Flight to Washington D.C. in March. This was the second Honor Flight for the Korean vets. In October 2013 150 veterans were honored.



How the Ch 183 Honor Flight participants viewed the Tomb of the Unknowns

181 KANSAS #1 [KS]

We held our annual pancake breakfast in early April. The function was well attended and provided a sound financial base for the coming year. In addition to a scholarship provided for an ROTC student at the University of Kansas, we give financial support to Fisher House, Platoons Forward Program, and The Wounded Warriors Project during the year.



The Korean War Memorial on the day Ch 183 members visited

The breakfast was made possible this year, in large part, by the support of members of the Kansas City Korean community and veterans from Sprint.

Don Dyer, 7913 Westgate Dr., Lenexa, KS 66215
913-492-8921, DDyer15@everestkc.net



The Korean War memorial on the day Ch 183 members visited



The greeting party for returning Ch 183 Honor Flight heroes lines the halls



A welcoming committee greets Ch 183 Honor Flight participants on their return home

The April contingent composed the largest number ever sent as a group to Washington D.C. It required three separate flights.

Upon their return home, the veterans were greeted by bands, banners, and cheers from more than 3,000 people at Eppley Airfield.

Bill Wirges, Jr., 15010 Holmes St.
Omaha, NE 68137, 402-957-0076

192 CITRUS COUNTY [FL]

We donate to three Citrus County High School JROTC's programs, two Civil Air Patrols, the Young Marines, and the Naval Sea Cadets in each year in which funds are available. We also contribute to the Citrus County Veteran's Food Pantry, The County Veteran's Foundation,



ABOVE: Ch 192 Commander Butler awarding KWVA Plaque to NJROTC Cadet Francisco Tenario, who is enlisting in the U.S. Army



LEFT: Commander Butler of Ch 192 donating \$100 to the Army JROTC program



Army Cadet Colby Dawson accepts KWVA Plaque from Ch 192 Commander Butler

The Honor Flight for WWII and Korean War veterans, and for other veterans' needs as funds are available.

Hank Butler, hankrita@tampabay.rr.com

231 BIG ISLAND [HI]

Our officers for 2014 and 2015 were elected and installed at the annual Christmas Party at Nani Mau Garden Banquet Hall. Sixty-three veterans, spouses and guests attended the December 9, 2013 event.

The officers are President Emile Wery, 1st VP Nicolas Lopez, 2d VP Rankin Gossert, Secretary Robert Karp, Treasurer Hiroshi Shima, and Service Officer Robert Montague.

Robert Montague, 1590 Kilikina St., Hilo HI 96720,
808-961-2528, rlmkkm9@gmail.com



New officers of Ch 231 (L-R) Emile Wery, Nicolas Lopez, Rankin Gossert, Robert Karp, Hiroshi Shima, Robert Montague

243 CENTRAL ILLINOIS [IL]

We donated \$3,158 to buy a plate warmer for the veterans of LaSalle Veterans Home in Illinois.

Pete Williams, 309-697-3307



Robert Derrick, Gene Wilson, and Commander Walter ("Pete") Williams of Ch 243 with LaSalle Veterans Home Jerry Sorenson in wheelchair

251 SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

We conducted our annual scholarship drive over the past several months. The criteria to earn a scholarship are:

The student:

- must live in Michigan
- be a graduating senior from a Michigan high school, academy, or home school
- earn a minimum of a 2.5 GPA for four years of high school
- plan to attend a college or university in Michigan
- must be the grandchild of one of our chapter members
- must write a few lines on his/her ultimate career goal, a brief essay on how his/her honorably discharged Korean War veteran/grandfather's military performance has affected their life
 - provide two teachers' recommendations, grade transcripts, and records of awards and honors, school activities, community service, sports, and part-time employment

Our scholarship recipients are usually brilliant students.

This year's recipients are:

STUDENT	HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE	AWARD SPONSOR
Jacob Reinbold	Frankenmuth High Central Mich. U.	\$750 George Reinert
Derrick Yurgens	Valley Lutheran Delta College	\$750 Fred Bauer
Michael Rygiel	Grand Blanc High Univ. of Mich.	\$750 Chuck Wenzel
Joshua Theisen	Lowell High Grand Rapids CC	\$750 Bill Theisen
Kathleen Murphy	Bay City Central Saginaw Valley St.	\$750 Richard Ruyts
Connor Flynn	Heritage High Jackson CC	\$500 Don Bell
Jacqueline Reimers	Heritage High Central Mich. U.	\$500 Ron Reimers

Our Scholarship Committee includes Rick Anderson, Richard Rosa, Richard Hunter, Dick Peters, and Bob Simon.

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

258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

Members received a citation of interest and support at a recent meeting. They were also active in different Christmas programs.

Norman J. Paiva Sr., 42 Morgan Ave.

North Providence, RI 02911

401-231-9176 (Home), 401-573-8338 (Cell)



Russell F. Godin, Bernard ("Bo") Kenahan, William M. Mulcahey, Herbert J. Southworth, Kathleen O'Neill, Richard R. Ackley, Norman J. Derosier Sr., Ralph E. Palmieri, Wendy McKenzie, Joseph Elmand, and Norman Paiva of Ch 258 display certificates at recent meeting

RIGHT: Ed Kane, VA Secretary, receives copy of Korea Reborn from Commander Richard St. Louis of Ch 258



BELOW: Director Kevin McDonnell of RI National Guard (C) stands with members of Ch 258 at Christmas gift presentation. They include Richard St. Louis, Richard Mende, Norman Paiva, Gil Botelho, and Frank Meo





Gil Botelho, Frank Meo, and Norman Paiva of Ch 258 (L-R) discuss Toys for Tots program with unidentified U. S. Marine and host at the 20th Annual Victor J. Venturini Memorial



Will Flaherty, Bob Witbeck, Bill Winstead of Ch 264 and an unidentified Chinese gentleman at front door of Legendary Palace Restaurant in Oakland, CA

264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

We held our March meeting at the Legendary Palace Restaurant in Oakland, CA, which boasts the best food in Chinatown. The restaurant is noted for its seafood. Eleven members attended the meeting/meal.

Our new President is Bob Hooker. He replaced Dave McDonald, who sustained serious injuries in a recent fall.

We hosted an ice cream social at the Yountville, CA veterans' facility on April 6th.



Bob and Terry Hooker (C/L) at Ch 264's meeting

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



Mary Grogan, Stan Grogan, Bill Winstead, Bob Witbeck, John Antreczak, Terry Hooker, Bob Hooker, Jerry Guerrero, and Louise Guerrero (L-R) of Ch 264 at Legendary Palace



Attendees from Ch 264 await entrance into Legendary Palace Restaurant for lunch

271 ABERDEEN [MD]

LtCol Ray Astor (ret) received the Military Services Archdiocese Medal recently.

Ray Astor, 4408 Colt Ln.
Havre de Grace, MD
21078, 443-690-6068

LtCol Ray Astor (ret) receives the Military Services Archdiocese Medal from Chaplain Jonathan Morse (R) in the VAMC Chapel, Perry Point, MD, as Chaplain John Rich looks on



297 PLATEAU [TN]

We presented an Award of Appreciation to Don Eliason, the originator of the chapter in Cumberland County and our Past Commander. Trooper Eliason will be relocating to North Carolina.

We also donated a new American flag to the Fairfield Glade Community & Conference Center. Their old flag was old, worn, and torn.

Bob Johnston, Commander of Ch 297, presents plaque to Don Eliason (L)



Commander Bob Johnston of Ch 297 gives flag to Fairfield Glade General Manager Bob Weber (R)



Bobby Smith addresses Ch 297 members

Bobby Smith, the Fairfield Glade Fire Prevention Chief, talked about fire prevention in the home at a recent meeting. He presented an interesting discussion on how easy it is to stay out of fire trouble in the home.

Dick Malsack, 146 Anglewood Dr.
Crossville, TN 38558

323 P. O. TAYLOR MORRIS [IA]

We visited the Marshalltown, IV, Veterans Home, which is a wonderful place for our veterans. In some cases, the veterans' spouses live there with them.

Commandant Jody Tymeson presented a talk about the facility, and then took us on a tour. Then they fed us and we held our membership meeting.

5180 Stone Creek Dr., Pleasant Hill, IA 50327, 515-494-6106, BHartsock3478@msn.com



Bill Hartsock and Dan Gildersleeve of Ch 323 with Col. Hapgood (L-R) at Iowa Veterans Home

Bob Steben, Ch 323's Veteran Affairs Officer, Jody Tymeson, and Ch 323 President John Rossi (L-R) at Iowa Veterans Home



Bill Hartsock, Ch 323 consultant, greets U.S. Congressman Steve King (R-IA) at Marshalltown IA veterans home



John Rossi of Ch 323, President of Ch 99, and 2nd VP Don Gildersleeve of Ch 323 (L-R) in front of new Korean War monument at Marshalltown, IA veterans home



Ch 323 members at meeting at Marshalltown, IA Veterans Home

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

Members of New York chapters met at Longfellows Inn in Saratoga Springs, NY on May 8, 21014.



New York State members gather at Longfellows Inn

The Enemy's Reaction

It is safe to say that the North Koreans and Chinese were as happy to see an end to the fighting as were the UN troops. The evidence suggests that was true.

Jim Krueger, a member of the 40th Inf. Div., 224th Inf. Regt., Company A, who was on Sandbag Castle on July 27th, recalled that the North Koreans were out of their positions once the treaty became official. "We could see them there with their big signs, saying they were also happy the truce was signed," he said. "Company C was next to us, only thirty yards away from the North Koreans. They were almost close enough to shake hands." But, they didn't. American officers were still a bit leery about the enemy's reaction.

"I was on a .50 caliber machine gun in support of a tank when the news that the fighting was over," Krueger stated. "I wanted to take some pictures, but I could only take four, because the company commander came by and told all of us to get down into the trenches and put our helmets and flak jackets on." The CO did not trust the North Koreans. They may have been too happy to get away from the tank Krueger mentioned to bother firing at the Americans.

An article in the August 8, 1953 edition of *The Fire Ball*, the 40th U.S. Inf. Div.'s newspaper, titled "Singing Reds, Blowing Bugles On Top Of Sandbag Castle Signify Cease Fire," described the North Korean reaction in the vicinity of Sandbag Castle.

"Instead of the crack of bullets, the drifting voices of singing Red soldiers greeted the men of the division on the first day of the armistice in the Sandbag Castle area.

"In Company E, 224th Infantry Regiment, Sgt. Milton R. Berman, Brooklyn, N.Y., pointed over to distant Sugar Loaf Mountain.

"A group of communists were sitting on the bomb-scarred hillside, singing native songs and relaxing in the warm sunshine. On another part of the slope, the Reds were wandering up and down a path. 'Probably one of their patrol routes,' Berman said.

"The sound of a bugle caused Berman to pick up a pair of field glasses and scan a jagged ridge line. 'It's only the Commies having a formation,' laughed Berman, laying down the glasses.

"On Sandbag Castle itself, the soldiers didn't need any field glasses to see the enemy they had been fighting. Thirty yards away, on the edge of a foxhole out of which many grenades had been tossed, stood a Red soldier smiling and snapping pictures.

"In the background, an enemy captain pointed out the sights to some visiting officers. No talking was done on the part of the American troops as the Reds were still the enemy and this was only a truce."

According to Krueger, "They really make this sound dramatic."



The North Koreans and Chinese were never happy to see tanks like this (Photo courtesy of James Peterson)

Show Of Force

In 1953 I was with the 1st Cavalry Div., 7th Regt., 77 FAB, 1B Battery, as a forward observer, stationed at Chitose II, Hokkaido, Japan. During the early part of June 1953, our division was involved in amphibious training aboard U.S. Navy LSTs. The 77th was on LSTs out of Otaru, on the Sea of Japan, traveling from south to north and back again. We did this for about ten days, as I recall. Later that month we were told to turn in our assigned weapons for inspection and refurbishing. We also had to turn in any clothing that needed to be replaced due to wear and tear.

About the second week of July our division was mobilized and placed in a convoy heading south, presumably to Sasebo, Japan. We were in a convoy for several days, when we stopped suddenly. The convoy stayed in place for several hours, until it turned around and headed back to camp. I had a conversation at the time with two of our officers, 2nd Lt. Carone and 1st Lt. O'Connell, both of whom said they believed the war was over.

Needless to say, we were puzzled by all the sailing back and forth and sudden stops. I surmise now that all the activity was carried out to prepare us for activation should the truce talks break down again or as a show of strength during the time they were in progress. Either way we got a lot of time at sea.

When we learned finally that the armistice was signed on July 27, 1953 everyone celebrated in the barracks and in the Enlisted Men's and Officers Clubs.

*Michael LaSala, 48 Hamlet Dr.
Mount Sinai, NY 11766-3002*

60 – ADIRONDACK [NY]

On November 8, 2013, some members visited Galway High School for a Tell America presentation. They spoke to a large number of students, and were warmly welcomed by the school principal, Mr. Michael Healy, as well as the school staff.

Eight members spoke of their experiences to the students, followed by a question and answer period. Chapter Commander Bill Shaw, Gene Slavin, Earl Keeler, Bob Olsen, Ed Bushey, Paul Nolan, and Ed Dandarow were present, as well as program chairman Bob Garland. Also present were members of the school board and special guests.

This was one of the most successful presentations the chapter has had, with a great deal of interest shown by the students and extraordinary cooperation by the school. Many interesting items were exhibited for the students to

examine, and Galway School very kindly provided lunch following the presentation for the veteran panel and guests.

We will continue to make young people aware of the "Forgotten War" and its cost at every opportunity. All our members are very supportive of this program, providing items for display, some of which were personally constructed.

The Saratogian published a long article on the visit and some of the presenters' backgrounds in its November 11 edition. According to reporter Paul Post, "Garland said he's never questioned America's role in Korea. 'I think it was a just cause...It's just amazing the difference between North and South Korea today.'"

*Robert S. Garland, 35A Cass Ct., Ballston Lake, NY 12019
518-899-4385,
firecop@nycap.rr.com*



Members of Ch 60 at Galway High School



Exhibit presented by Ch 60 presenters



Speaker from Ch 60 addresses Galway High audience

133 - THE QUIET WARRIORS [IN]

Commander Ken Kurtz and 2nd Vice Commander Wayne Doenges gave a presentation on the Korean War to the 8th grade students of Central Lutheran school in New Haven, Indiana on March 27, 2014. Kurtz talked about the history of the Korean War and Doenges presented a slide show of personal photos

taken in Korea in 1953.

There was a question and answer session after the presentation. Many questions were asked by the respectful and attentive class. The presentation was well received.

*Wayne A. Doenges
goldnrocket@frontier.com*



Ken Kurtz of Ch 133 shares Korean War memories with Central High School students



Ken Kurtz (L) and Wayne Doenges of Ch 133 watch Korean War highlights with class at Central High School

172 – HANCOCK COUNTY [OH]

We recently inducted our first associate member, Ms. Kim Turley, BSN/RN. She has volunteered to serve on our Tell America Committee.

Her goal is to write a book on the accomplishments of all the nurse veterans who served in the U.S. and overseas during the Korean War. She is gathering information

from nurses all over the United States.

Ms. Turley gives the students a whole new aspect about our nation's efforts to keep South Korea a free nation.

*Harry C. Biddinger, 1 Windstone Ct., Findlay, OH 45840
419-423-5785*



ABOVE: Kim Turley and Ray Jameson of Ch 172 at Vanlue High School



LEFT: Ray Jameson (L) and Kim Turley of Ch 172 at Van Buren High School



Kim Turley of Ch 172 addresses students at Vanlue High School

183 – NEBRASKA #1

On March 26th several members met with 300 junior class members of Omaha Westside High School in assembly and recounted their activities during the Korean War. They also shared the history behind the encounter and gave their ideas on the future of the divided country.

Two presenters, Bill Wirges and Bill Christensen, and Sam Wall had just returned from the Honor Flight

to Washington D.C. The flight included 450 Korean War veterans and 150 companions, reputedly the largest Honor Flight thus far, including the World War II flights.

The students were attentive and interested. After the formal presentation, they all came to the stage and personally thanked the presenters.

*Bill Christensen,
chriwl@msn.com*



Nathan Bramley of the Omaha Westside High School Social Study Department, moderator, Dale Griffith, Bill Wirges, Sam Wall and Bill Christensen (L-R) at Ch 183's presentation

270 - SAM JOHNSON [TX]

We did a presentation at Bryan Adams High School in Dallas. Ernie Bousquet set up a Table of Remembrance for POWs and MIAs in the school cafeteria just prior to the students entry for "Meet a Hero Day," which is held

annually at the school.

Ernie used the display to emphasize the great losses during those years

*Deanna Kasten,
Ebousquet@tx.rr.com*



Ernie Bousquet of Ch 270 lays out the Table of Remembrance at Bryan Adams High School (Photo by Jerry Kasten)

**Visit the Korean War Veterans
Association Website:
www.kwva.org**

60th Anniversary Roundup

As mentioned in previous editions of *The Graybeards*, there were activities and newspaper articles galore to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Korean War cease fire. They ranged from a speech from President Obama in Washington DC to general articles in newspapers. Some of the articles featured KWVA members. And, there were criticisms from some people regarding a lack of coverage by the media.

We include below some of the speeches, articles, criticisms for lack of coverage, etc. Please note that this is only a sampling, since we do not have space to cover them all.



186 – ST. CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

We were involved in two events to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Korean War cease fire. First, the City of St. Peters, MO, honored us. The program included the posting of the flags by a Marine Honor Guard. Chapter Commander Dick Saip was the guest speaker.

Mayor Len Pagano of the City of St. Peters presented a proclamation to Dick to honor the occasion. Several short speeches followed, one by member Art Minor. Numerous veterans of the City of St. Peters Veteran Commission also spoke.

We heard a musical arrangement that honored each military group (Army, Navy, Marine Corp and Coast Guard). That was followed by a closing ceremony, prayer and Taps. It was a very emotional one-hour program.

Due to a shortage of parking space at our Korean War Monument, members presented a second, short, service at the site.

Salvatore Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Park Dr.,
O'Fallon, MO 63366, 636-294-1836
SChristifulli@charter.net



Marine Honor Guard that posted the Colors at St. Peters, MO ceremony



Art Minor of Ch 186, the chair of the St. Peters Veterans Commission, addresses crowd at St. Peters, MO 60th anniversary event





Virgil Olendorff and Bob Osborn of Ch 186 place a wreath at St. Peters, MO Veterans Memorial



Commander Dick Saip, Gene Stack, Art Minor, Bob Greeley, Bob Breig, Darold Woodcock and Bob Peitz (L-R) of Ch 186 at 60th anniversary second service in St. Peters, MO



The proclamation presented to Ch 186 by City of St. Peters, MO

Arizona Youth Advances To Eagle Scout With Korean War Project

Levi Sylvester created a Korean War memorial for his Eagle Scout project. Chapter 311 helped pay for the project, which took twenty months to complete.

*James Johnston, 1311 Peak View Dr.,
Chino Valley, AZ 86323*



The inscription on the bench at the Prescott, AZ memorial



The Korean War memorial created by Levi Sylvester



Close-up of Levi Sylvester's project



Commander George Schlottenbeck of Ch 311 addresses audience as Levi Sylvester (L) listens



Levi Sylvester pins award on his mother as his grandfather, a Korean veteran, watches

Korean War Vet John Y. Lee Visits S.F. In Support of the Korean War Memorial Foundation

San Francisco, April 2, 2014: Korean resident and KWMF supporter John Y. Lee was in San Francisco from March 31 to April 2 for a series of strategic meetings with the KWMF officers and Board members. John is a Korean attorney and Korean War veteran who has been supporting, on a pro bono basis, the KWMF mission in the Republic of Korea. During his visit, he agreed to accept the official title of “Advisor to the Korean War Memorial Foundation.” The title is well earned: John’s advice on Korean cultural, media, and government affairs has already been invaluable for KWMF, and will continue to be so.

John Y. Lee is a remarkable man with a remarkable story. At the outbreak of the Korean War in June, 1950, the then university student swam the Han River to evade the North Korean communists attacking Seoul. He was subsequently commissioned as a second lieutenant in the ROK Army and assigned to the 1st Marine Division as an interpreter/translator. He participated in the Inchon (Incheon) Landing, the Chosin (Jangjin) Reservoir Campaign, and other battles, and received the Legion of Merit for his service.

Reminiscing with KWMF Secretary John Stevens, LtCol, USMC (Ret.), also a veteran of the Inchon and Chosin campaigns, and KWMF Treasurer Don Reid, Sgt USMC and Korean War veteran, John Y. Lee said that he was never fearful when he was with U.S. Marines.

After the war, Mr. Lee came to the United States and studied at Yale University and Yale Law School. He then served as attorney-advisor for U.S. Forces in Korea; with the U.S. Department of Justice; and in private practice with several Washington, D.C. law firms, including Hogan and Hartson. He is a Founding Member and former Director of the Chosin Few, a Life Member of the 1st Marine Division Association, and an Honorary Member of the ROK Marines.

The Korean War Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit established to build a Memorial in San Francisco dedicated to all who served in the Korean War. Interested parties may contact the Foundation or John Y. Lee at info@kwmf.org or 415 750 3862, <http://kwmf.org>



John Y. Lee shares a memory with KWMF Secretary John Stevens, LtCol, USMC (Ret.).



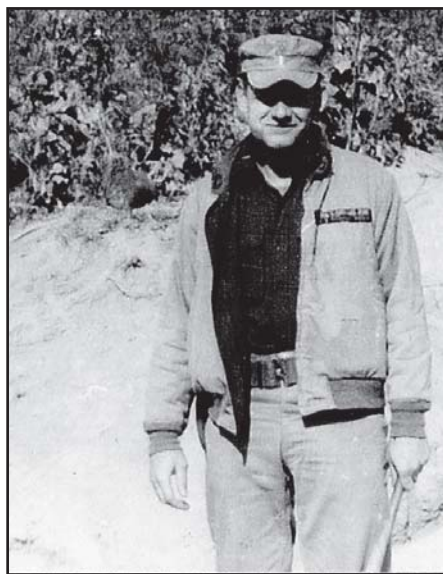
**DRAFT
PREDECISIONAL**

Views of the Proposed Memorial
**The Proposed Korean War Memorial
at the Presidio of San Francisco**

Images of the San Francisco Korean War Memorial



The Life Of A Marine Tanker



Rollie Thom in Korea

Mount Sinai, NY 11766

In his 2005 book, *The Hill Wars Of The Korean Conflict: A Dictionary of Hills, Outposts, and Other Sites of Military Action*, Paul M. Edwards identified more than 400 hills, outposts, complexes and phase lines that were key components of the Korean War. One of them was Hill 31, also known as Ungok.

As Edwards described the position it was 600 miles north of the MLR. Second Bn., 1st Marine Regt. (2/1) leaders wanted to find out how many

Chinese were there and where they were located exactly. The solution was a time-honored one: send out patrols, which returned with insufficient information.

According to Edwards, the Marines did not want control of the hill. On the other hand, they didn't want the Chinese to hold it either, because they could use it as a firebase for mortar and troops operations. So, on June 12, 1952, Fox Co. 2/1 launched an assault on Ungok.

The two sides engaged in a series of firefights, after which the Marines reached the top of the hill. They took one prisoner and returned to their position. Unfortunately, they discovered that they had left eight Marines on top of the hill. Commanders assembled a tank and infantry team to retrieve them.

The team comprised two squads from Fox Co. and two tanks from the 3rd Platoon, Charlie Co., 1st Tank Bn. After some heavy fighting, during which the rescue team incurred an additional 1 dead and 28 wounded, the Marines reached the hill. But, they could not find the missing men.

A hasty recount determined that three of the eight had been killed in action. However, there were still five Marines unaccounted for. Subsequently the troops learned that the Chinese had one of them.

Roland W. Thom, one of the tankers involved in the operation, recalled the incident in a letter he wrote to his family on June 14, 1952. (NOTE: The letter has been edited slightly for clarity and continuity.)

"At 2 a.m. the 12th we moved out with our tanks. We got to the position where we were to fire from to give the infantry support. We laid low all day the 12th behind a little ridge. At midnight we hid infantry behind tanks so they wouldn't jump out of holes and get our tanks.

"The 13th is when the infantry jumped off. The infantry

"This morning I found out that the gooks have one of our missing men on a hill propped up with sticks so we could be damn sure to see him."

called in for our tanks to go on this hill and lay a base of machine gun fire to see if we couldn't find the 8 missing men. The moon was out in full so it was pretty light.

"We [the tanks] moved up on the ridge and started firing. This raid was just to take prisoners, not to take the hill and keep it. Our two tanks fired 60 90mm rounds each. We were out there twenty minutes, but couldn't find the 8 missing men.

"At 2:45 a.m. the infantry dropped back to our own front lines. They had killed 100 enemies, but they could only get one prisoner, and he was pretty badly shot up. We had 27 wounded and 8 missing.

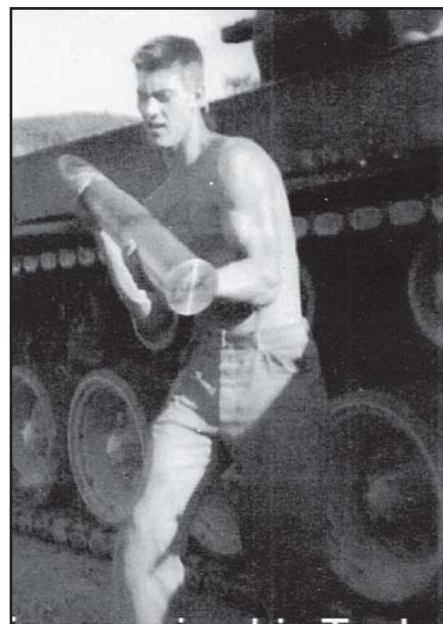
"This morning I found out that the enemies have one of our missing men on a hill propped up with sticks so we could be damn sure to see him."

No doubt the last line was unsettling to Thom's family. Unfortunately, that was the nature of the war the Marines and their counterparts in the other services were experiencing. And more harsh experiences lay ahead for Thom and his fellow Marines. One of them occurred at the bitterly contested hill (aka outpost) Siberia, which was part of the Battle of Bunker Hill in the summer of 1952.

A Hill Called Siberia

In an August 12, 1952 letter he described another battle in which he participated, this time starting on August 8th at a hill called Siberia. He began the letter with an apology for not writing sooner, but the war intervened.

"We had to move out Saturday the 9th and we just now got back this afternoon. The enemies took a hill from us called Siberia last Friday night the 8th. We had one company of men holding the hill when the enemies set a counterattack. We had 22 men left Saturday noon the 9th out of this company.



Rollie Thom rearming his tank



Thom's crew cleans their 16-foot gun

"So then Sunday planes were hitting the hill morning till night, also Monday and Tuesday. They were hitting it with 500-pound napalm. Well, it looks like I won't be able to finish. We got to move out again."

Thom picked up where he left off on August 23rd.

"Well, I won't write too much because I can hardly keep my eyes open. Four days and nights out, and sleeping in a tank sitting up if you can."

"We had 72 artillery guns and 20 tanks pounding away on Siberia last night. The enemies were trying to take it away again, but they didn't get it. They tell me we killed some 2,000 enemies in the last four days. I've seen all I want to see for a while. Well I'm going to close and hit the rack and sleep for a week if I can."

(For a description of the bitter fight at Outpost Siberia, go to <http://www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck/summer-52-bunker-hill-part-i>.)

The End Draws Near

By March 1953 the fighting in Korea was drawing to a close, although the troops had no idea of when a cease fire would be signed. Thom's days in Korea were drawing to a close. Incredibly, he was talking about staying there for the experience.

On March 4, 1953 he assured his family that he was safe—as safe as he could be in a war zone:

"Well, we're back in reserve now, so you don't have to worry about me. I maybe won't write quite as much now. You maybe heard over radio about the battle we were in. We were going out to fire a few rounds at the enemies as

usual one night, but they got tired of it I guess.

"Anyhow we went out ahead of our lines to fire on a gook outpost. Our four tanks and a platoon of infantry. Tank 35 hit a mine. No one was hurt in 35. About five minutes after the 35 hit the mine the enemies attacked us. Before we knew it they were around our tanks.

"Between the infantry and our tanks we killed 85 enemies. Our lieutenant got hit. How bad I don't know. Then, on Tank 33 they were taking some wounded back. One of the men in the tank got out to hold the wounded on when the enemies ambushed them. They got the man holding the wounded on the tank through the legs with a burp gun. The tank commander got two enemies with his pistol. So you know they were pretty close."

Just after Thom got through describing the perils of a tank commander's job, he dropped a bit of information in his family's lap:

"Well, I'll have a little more weight on my shoulders now. I made tank commander. I got 4 men and a tank to look after. I may extend just for a month. That won't be for so long. Besides, if I do extend for a months, I won't have to go on line anyway, and I would like to have the experience of a tank commander."

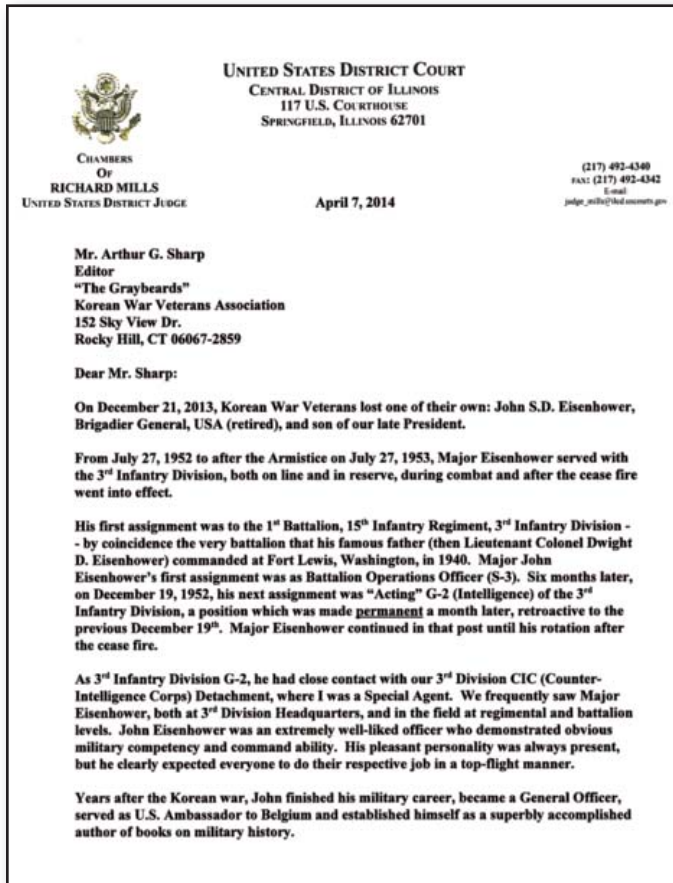
Certainly by that time in the war he had enough experience.

*Roland W. Thom, N 5562 County Rd. #J
Ellsworth, WI 54011, 715-273-4934*



Tank crew outside their bunker: (L-R) Beck (Tank Commander), Don Bell (Driver), Al Wolff (Loader), Rollie Thom (Gunner), Boman (Assistant Driver)

The Loss Of BG John S. D. Eisenhower..



3rd CIC Det.
3rd Inf. Div.
Korea, 1953



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KWVA INC. Korea War and Korea service Veterans

Announcement from the Fundraising chairman's office: My co-chair and I will be stepping down after the 2014 annual meeting. (Effective with the awarding of above three prizes.) We thank all the members that have supported our efforts during the past 7 years and ask your support for the incoming fundraising committee. God bless each and every one of you and again, Thank You.

Art Griffith, Chairmen

Otis Mangrum Co-Chairmen

Make check payable to: KWVA

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WORTH IT? from page 23

out. I can only wonder about one of the worst scenes in my memory: a missing piece of equipment.

Could this flak jacket have saved his life? I knew “how” this role played out, but still have trouble with the why and what if? I wish I knew more about his early life, family, friends, ambitions never realized ... The list goes on and on as to how the Korean War shaped his life.

The rest of the day and into the night of cease fire was filled with lots of firing on both sides. Both sides were seemingly saying that no one wants to carry out a lot of ammo, so “keep your heads down and fire at will.” Out of the smoke came the cease fire.

I read somewhere that on the last day of action the enemy fired in 4,799 rounds at the 40th Division and got better than 11,000 in return. There was not a lot of ammo to tote out of “no man’s land” if the figures are correct. (I wonder who was doing the counting.)

According to the terms of the cease fire, all materials and personnel were to be moved south in order to create a “no man’s land,” i.e., a demilitarized zone 2.5 miles wide. Evacuation was to be completed within 72 hours of cease fire. The troops were a busy bunch and completed the task on the p.m. of July 30, 1953.

The month of July always brings floods of memories to me. My military enlistment began shortly after my wedding date of July 12, 1952, and I eventually returned home from Korea to my loving wife Phyllis and a 9-month old son, Lloyd, who was born while I was in Korea. But, there are other memories of 60+ years ago and counting.

For example, the double exposure photo nearby taken on the rim of the Punchbowl reflects a remembrance that all veterans share—a meaningful reminder that honors our comrades who died on the field of battle—many of whom have not been accounted for.

Also we would be amiss if we didn’t honor those children who were victims of misplaced lives—and missing flak jackets.

Perhaps, Robert Louis Stevenson’s writing summarizes this article: “The world has no room for cowards. We must all be ready somehow to toil, to suffer, to die. And yours is not the less noble because no drum beats before you when you go out to your daily battlefields, and no crowds shout your coming when you return from your daily victory and defeat.”

*Harold Maples, 8348 Collier Rd.
Powell, TN 37849, 865-947-6949,
Hp.Maples@frontiernet.net*

60th Anniversary Special**Integration Worked**

Back at home in the USA the diversification that was implemented in the military during the Korean War helped ex-GIs lead the United States to the unprecedented prosperity of the 1950s and 1960s and paved the way for civil rights for all.

Robert H. Jones, 2961 Givens Dr., Norton, OH 44203

**** EDITOR’S NOTE:** *Ted H. Paillet talked about the importance of Graves Registration in his book, The Korean War And Me. He was in charge of the UN Military Cemetery in Tanggok, Korea, a suburb of Pusan, when the armistice was announced. Prior to that assignment he led the 114th QM, Graves Registration Company’s Search & Recovery platoon stationed in Masan, Korea. The unit’s mission was to search the Pusan Perimeter for MIAs.*

“Despite tendencies to avoid the subject, the work of Graves Registration is extremely important, interesting and rewarding,” Paillet noted.

A Memory Stamped On My Mind

The cease fire took effect sixteen months after I left my unit and returned to the U.S. (I was a machine gunner with the Second Battalion, First Marines). In the summer of 1953, I was neither in the U.S. nor Korea; I was in the Republic of Turkey on my first summer vacation from Wayne State University, where I was enrolled under the G.I. Bill.

My active duty during the Korean War, which was only twenty months, was within a four-year enlistment in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. My duty started in January 1950. Thus, when I returned I was still obligated to serve in the Marine reserves until January 1954. There were no Marine infantry reserve units left; they had all been activated for the Korean War. So, even though my MOS showed me as a Machine-Gun Unit Leader, I was assigned to be an Air Intelligence NCO (Buck Sgt.) with VMF-222, the Marine air wing at Naval Air Station/Grosse Ile, Michigan.

The Department of Defense extended reservists’ enlistment by one year - the “Truman Year” - and I was not discharged from the Marine reserves until January 1955. Later that month I joined the U.S. Air Force Reserve at Selfridge Air Force Base, Michigan. I was first given the rank of Staff Sgt. and classified as an Air Intelligence NCO; later I was promoted to Second Lieutenant and classified as an Air Intelligence Officer.

I am a life-member of the KWVA (Chapter 33) and have memberships in other veterans organizations. But my active involvement did not start until I was in my 60s. I don’t recall talking much about my wartime experiences to my four offspring and I certainly was not encouraging them to volunteer for the armed forces. Nevertheless, my two sons joined the Marines and served together in the first Gulf War (my nine-month “nervous breakdown”).

My eldest daughter even took, and passed, the entrance examination for the Military Academy at West Point, but eventually went to medical school and is now a supervisory physician at the veterans hospital in Sacramento.

Because this year’s commemoration on July 27 may be the final DOD organized activity for Korean War vets, at least in Washington D.C., we should use the occasion to remind our fellow Americans to look at the Korean War in a broader perspective:

First, history shows that the world avoided World War III, part-

ly because of the impact of our war. Our standoff war led to “rules of engagement,” which guided the West and the Soviet Union for nearly 40 years, ending with the Soviet collapse. The two powerful adversaries had decided that they would allow no regional conflict to set off a worldwide nuclear war between them.

Second, the war is not over. There is no peace treaty yet between North Korea and the UN members who fought to save South Korea. God forbid that we have to go to war again because of North Korean aggression. We already know that “freedom is neither free nor cheap,” and it can be bloody.

Third, we do have an enduring Korean War Veterans Memorial on the National Mall in Washington DC close to other reminders of America’s great struggles - the Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Most stamp collectors, and many Korean War vets, may recall that the United States Postal Service issued 75 million U.S. first-class postage stamps, starting with the last big commemoration - the 50th, in 2003. The 2003 stamp showed the Memorial, using a winter photograph of it taken as a retirement present for me by my son, LtCol John W. Alli, USMC (Ret).

As a Korean War veteran, I cannot forget the “forgotten war.” As the father of the photographer, I cannot forget the Memorial.

*William Edward Alli, 2803 Baker Ln., Bowie MD 20715-2411,
301-464-5664, billalli39@verizon.net
(Mr. Alli is the author of .net author of Too Young for a
Forgettable War: Second Edition.)*

No Peace Treaty Or Surrender May Have Been A Mistake

The longest war in U.S. history is the Korea War, now suddenly grabbing headlines again, just as dangerous, armed with weapons of mass destruction. That war began June 25, 1950 and no peace treaty or surrender has ever been accomplished.

The North Koreans (DPRK-Democratic People’s Republic of Korea) did not renounce the “ceasefire” as it did in early 2013: the DPRK and CCF (Chinese Communist Forces) actually renounced the ceasefire when they failed to return to the negotiations for a peace treaty after the period provided for in the ceasefire agreement—generally acknowledged as 90 days after the conclusion of the POW repatriations which took 60 days after the ceasefire.

The legally defined combatants of the Korea War were DPRK, CCF, and UNC (United Nations Command). We have a mess in Korea today because the UN did not execute its responsibilities and obligations. Indeed, the UN granted the DPRK UN participation, and the CCF membership status without resolving the war among the three parties (DPRK, CCF, UNC).

If the DPRK needed a legitimate pretext for renewed hostilities (and they haven’t bothered to seek one in the past; they just “do it”), a case might be made from THEIR point of view that all of the UN edits of recent years are unilateral demands from the opposing force in the war which they do not have to honor since they were not defeated, signed no peace treaty or other limiting document except a ceasefire pause in hostilities.

In case anyone is interested they should remember two bits of blood-bought truth:

• “You cannot gain back at the conference table what you have already lost on the battlefield.” GEN W. Bedell Smith, C/S Eisenhower

• “There is no substitute for victory.” G/A Douglas MacArthur.

Louis T. Dechert, dechert@bellsouth.net

A Message To Youths Elsewhere

Keith R. Bennett sent a message to youths everywhere in his summation of the Korean War. He wrote to his grandchildren on November 30, 1998:

“From what I have seen in the war, especially, the many orphans, I get extremely angry at youths today wasting all their opportunities. They had better wake up.

“Jealousy, greed, laziness and mostly disrespect for others are the prime causes of war and crime today.”

*Clara Jean Bennett, 205 Salisbury Rd.
Conneaut, OH 44030, 440-593-6356*

Bennett’s words of advice were particularly poignant when taking into consideration the number of young people, military and civilian, killed during the Korean War. They never realized their opportunities: never had opportunities to waste. Yet, they paid the supreme sacrifice to make sure their peers, contemporary and future, had opportunities. That is the story of all wars. The Korean War was no exception.

Freedom’s Price

“What price freedom?” a father asks
Is it leaving your country of birth?

Seeking a better life?

Is it the opportunity to work

For a better life?

Is it owning your own home?

Is it giving your children a better life

Than yours was?

Is it seeing your oldest son leaving home

To defend his country?

Is it seeing another son leaving home

To do the same?

Is it losing a son in the war

Defending his country?

Is it the pain of losing a son

So dearly loved?

Is it the pain my wife suffers

Losing a son so dearly loved?

Is it knowing another son can also

Lose his life in the war?

“What price freedom?” a father asks

All of the above,

To have the chance to say,

God bless America

For God has so blessed me.

*Vincent J. Dominguez, 20885 Yale St.
Williston, OH 43468, 419-340-4485*

Reunion Calendar: 2014

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. 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.

JULY

91st Military Police Bn., Pusan, Korea 1952-1954 (58th, 289th, 560th, 563rd MP Cos, 54th Tr Companies), July 29-31, Mackinaw City/Mackinac Island, MI. Don C. Hart, 11805 Goodfellow Drive, Frederic, MI 49733, 989-732-8102, donchart@yahoo.com

Korean War Ex-POW Assn., 27 July-3 Aug., Louisville, KY. Bill Norwood, 423-476-3628/ wnorwood909@charter.net or Jack Chapman, 505-369-5188/franklinjack33@gmail.com.

AUGUST

32nd Eng. Grp. (430th-434th-439th Bns.), 8-10 Aug. Burlington, WI. Tim Steager, 2805 Circle Dr., Burlington, WI, 262-763-5025, steags5@yahoo.com

USS New Jersey (BB 62), 20-24 Aug., St. Louis, MO. Steve Sheehan, 215-887-7583, stevebb62@comcast.net

Item Co., 3rd Bn., 1st Marines, 1st Mar Div. (Korea), 13-17 Aug., Branson MO. Suzie Woodward, 860-262-1334, Suzi11111@aim.com

SEPTEMBER

17th Inf. Regt., Assn., 4-7 Sept., Tacoma, WA, Hotel Murano. Steve Goodwin, 4366 Central Ave., Western Springs, IL, 773-263-2619, Scout17@yahoo.com

10th Inf. Div./8th Cavalry Regt. (For veterans of infantry training at Ft. Riley, KS, Nov. 30, 1953-Apr., 1954 and/or served at Camp Crawford and Camp Wittington, Japan 1953-1956), 5-7 Sept., Shawnee Mission, KS, Drury Inn. Steve Bosma, 408-270-1319 or Alan Sanderson, 319-283-4043, aasanderson82@gmail.com

USS Ingersoll (DD 652), 5-8 Sept., Houston, TX. Dennis Harris, 6581 CR108, Iola, TX 77861, oldsailor62@gmail.com or www.uss-ingersoll-vets.com

630th Engineers L.E. Co., 7-10 Sept., Branson, MO, Branson's Best, 800-335-2555. Gerald Clemons, 311 Co. Rd. 398, Killen, AL 35645, 256-757-2090

USS Sphinx (ARL 24), 8-11 Sept., Branson, MO. Frank Ironi, 954 Lilac Dr., Sauk Centre, MN 56378

84th & 62 ECB (Korea), 8-11 Sept., Ft. Leonard Wood, MO, Carol Nelson, 39 Myrtle Ave., Warwick, RI 02886, 401-738-0693, cen21255@verizon.net

USS Hornet (CV 8, CV/CVA/CVS 12), 9-14 Sept., San Antonio, TX, Hilton Double Tree-Airport Hotel. Carl & Sandy Burket, PO Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673, (814) 224-5063, (814) 224-0078 (Fax), hornetcv@aol.com, www.ushornetassn.com/

25th Infantry Division Assn., 9-15 Sept., Seattle, WA. Sarah Krause, PO Box 7, Flouertown PA 19031, 215-248-2572, Fax: 215-248-5250, TropicLtn@aol.com, www.25thida.org

4th Fighter Interceptor Wing, 334th, 335th, 336th FTR Interceptor Sqdns & Support Personnel (anytime, anywhere), 10-13 Sept., Goldsboro, NC. Carlo Romano, 301-593-2266.

USS Colonial (LSD 18), 10-14 Sept., Boise, ID, Riverside Hotel. Loren Kerby, 3013 Emerald Ct., Platte City, MO 64079, 816-858-3158, kerbyplatt@aol.com

51st Fighter Interceptor Wing Assoc., 11-14 Sept., Myrtle Beach, SC 29577, The Landmark Resort., 888-974-0478. Ernie Stroud, 8518 Flat Creek Rd., Kershaw, SC 29067, 803-475-2654, erniesth@windstream.net, www.keithfannon51st.org

Army Security Agency (ASA Korea), 15-18 Sept., Frankenmuth, MI Bavarian Inn Lodge. Bob Rudolph, (269) 789-2860 or John Sears (770) 559-3878. Info: webmaster@asakorea.org.

50th AAA AW Bn. (SP) (Korea), 15-18 Sept., Branson, MO. Arline Farmer, 916-381-5747, GOGRAM1@aol.com

2nd and 5th Mule Train (Korean veterans), 16-17 Sept., Nashville, TN. Roger Robertson, 760-245-0201, rdrc@msn.com

14th Regt., 25th Div. (Korean War, 1950-53), 16-19 Sept., Escanaba, MI. Roman Gill, 1713 8th Ave., Escanaba, MI, 906-786-5710, rggill59@hotmail.com

Second Inf. Div. Assn., 16-20 Sept., Omaha, NE. Bob Haynes, 224-225-1202, 2idahq@comcast.net

44th Engineers, Broken Heart Bn., 17-20 Sept., St. Robert (Ft. Leonard Wood), MO, Hampton Inn. Ken Jobe, kejo425@aol.com or Ken Cox, 314-423-5483, kdc1@wans.net

LST 883 (Korean War and WWII veterans), 17-21 Sept., Idaho Falls, ID. Ben Mills, (208) 585-2284

24th Inf. Div. Assn., 17-21 Sept., Omaha, NE, The Omaha Marriott Hilton. Don Maggio, 828-686-5931, the24thidavp@aol.com

LSMR 404, 21-24 Sept., Branson, MO, Grand Plaza Hotel. Warren L Gilmour, 801-641-6538, warlyn97@utahbroadband.com

13th Engineer (C) Bn. Assn., 25-27 Sept., St. Robert/Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Billy D. Quinton, Sr., 727-323-1144, bquinton@tampabay.rr.com

USS Rochester (CA 124), 25-29 Sept., San Antonio, TX. Joe Hill, 931-432-4848, nitecrawl@twlakes.net

772 Military Police Bn., 2nd week of Sept., Washington D.C. area. Gene Michaels, 28511 TR 1233, Warsaw, OH 43844, 740-824-4774, gccalin@gmail.com

Veterans of the Korean War (All branches welcome), 30 Sept. - 3 Oct., Virginia Beach, VA. Floyd Newkirk, 757-340-9801, fnewkirk1@cox.net

OCTOBER

5th Air Force Track & Field Team, Spring 1952, Tokyo, Japan, 4 Oct. Bob Lucas, 9418 US 31, Beulah, MI 49617, 231-889-3400

USS Cowell (DD 547), 6-9 Oct., Jacksonville, FL 32211. Vincent Kraus, 248 Johnston Ave., Jacksonville, FL, 904-721-8009, volga36@aol.com

USS RENDOVA (CVE-114), 7-10 Oct., New Orleans, LA. Charles Fecay, 22000 Madison, Apt. 326, Dearborn, MI 48124, 313-565-1515, Cfecay@att.net

USS Yorktown (CV-10, CVA-10, CVS-10), anyone serving onboard 1943 to 1970, Crew, Air Groups/Squadrons or Marines, 16-18 Oct., Mt. Pleasant, SC (aboard the ship). Alix Adams, P.O. Box 1021, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29465, 843-849-1928, aadams@ussYorktown.net

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SOURCES

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- The Fire Ball (The 40th US Infantry Division), Vol. 1 No. 27, August 8, 1953
- Leatherneck, "The Summer Of '52, Bunker Hill: Part I," By Allan C Bevilacqua, August 2002

WEBSITES

- "Checkerboard Squadron" (VMFA-312) - <http://www.koreanwar2.org/kwp2/usmckorea/reference/vmf312.pdf>
- "Death Rattlers" (VMFA-323) - www.3maw.usmc.mil/external/3dmaw/mag11/vmf323/history/history.jsp
- Leatherneck, <http://www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck/summer-52-bunker-hill-part-i>

Korean War Thoughts

Joseph Russo summed up the sights and sounds of the Korean War in these brief thoughts. They are the topics that are covered in this special edition of The Graybeards.

Leaving Home – Fear – Frozen Fear – Lonely – Homesick – Mail Call – Cowardly Thoughts – Swim in Ponds, Creeks, Rivers to Bathe – All infested with Dead Animal and Human Bodies – All Korea Farmland/Rice Paddies Fertilized with Raw Urine and Feces, Animal and Human – The Heat – The Dust – The Rats – The Grasshoppers – Stray Dogs – Rats and Flies on and in Half-Dead and Dead Human Bodies – Maggots on Dead and on Wounded Areas of Live Humans – Booby Traps – Road Mines – Mines Anywhere – USO Shows – "Bed Check Charlie" (Communist Enemy Single or Bi-engine Planes Harassing American Troops Especially at Night/Also Dropping Explosives and Hand Bombs – "Papasans" – *Stars and Stripes* Newspaper – Airstrikes

Torrential Rains – Flooded Rivers and Streams – Mud Slides, Mud and Piss Poor Dirt Roads – Flattened Korea Huts – Leveled Towns and Villages – Caved in Thatched Straw Roofs Full of Rats – Rockets – Cannon – Artillery – Mortars – Recoiled Rifle Blasts – Headaches – Constipation – Boils, Diarrhea – Fungus – Athlete Foot – Frostbite, All Body Areas – Road Marches – Refugees Fleeing Communists – Foggy Nights – Nuns (Buddhist/Christian) – Packages from Home – Guitar Playing – Songs – "Wildwood Flower" – "Arirang" – "Mona Lisa" – Red Sails in the Sunset – American G.I.s (POW's) with Hands Tied Behind Backs ... Shot in Back of Heads and Buried in Shallow Graves ... Different Areas of Korea Wars Battle Zones – American G.I.s Found Before Death, with Hands Tied Behind Backs Turning Black

Bodies Frozen in Snow, Some Dead, Some Not – "Ghost" Movements in the Night – Blue Snow Nights – Intense Cold – Smell of Army Tent Canvas – Arctic Tents and Coleman Heaters – Gasoline Fed Stoves – Boxes of Rations on Tanks and Vehicles – C-Rations – Assault and "K"-Rations – "Baby Ruth" Candy Bars – Foreign Troops; Aussies, Puerto Rican, British, Greeks, Turks, Ethiopian, South Korea (Roks) – Enemy Troops: Russian "Advisors", North Koreans, Chinese, – Rear Area Movies and Sports – R and R – "4 Point" Zone (Combat Area) – Rotation – Landing Craft – Rope Ladders – Sickening Smells of Land and Dead – Patrols, Day-Night – ACR 300 Radios – Beer Cans Full of Urine Thrown Out of Gun Ports of "Buttoned Up" Tanks Under Heavy Fire

Shell Casings – Ration Boxes and O.D. Cans – Burned Out

Tanks and Vehicles, Enemy and Friendly – Bunkers – Warming Tents – Shower Points and Odd Size Clean Fatigues – Ration Breakdown – Thermite Cans – Chow Lines – Tank Engines – Whine of Jeep Engines – Trenches – Poplar Trees – Commo Wire – Outfit Signs – Burned Bodies – Decapitated Bodies – Tree Bursts

Smell of Burned Huts and Rain Soaked Burned Out Huts – Air Drops – Air Strikes – American Planes Shot Down – Moving Out Dead and Wounded on Vehicle Fenders, Hoods, Roofs, Strapped to Gun Barrels of Tanks – Trucks Full of Dead Frozen Bodies, Black Body Bags – Litter Jeeps – Aid Kits – Morphine – Thawing Out Frozen Morphine Syrettes in Mouth – "EMT" Emergency Medical Tags – Morphine I.D.s Marked on Wounded – 105s – 155s Artillery "Long Toms" – Quad 50s – Twin 40s – Pile Caps – Shoe Pacs – "Mickey Mouse" Boots – Field Shirts – Parkas – Flak Vests – "Burp Guns" and Mortars and High, High Mountains" (Song) – Sleeping Bags – "P-38" Can Openers – Medics – Nurses – M.A.S.H. Hospitals – Collecting Stations – Bn Aid Stations – "Cracker Box" Ambulances – Surgical Cot Holders Full of Blood From Wounded – Road Marches over Mountain Passes – Chinamen Quilted Uniforms – Chinese Bugle Calls, Whistles, and Colored Signal Flares – Open Air Vehicles at Night and in the Cold Night Air – Blackouts – Smoke Pots – O.P.s – Road Blocks – "Lonely" M.P.s – Frostbite – Snipers – Guerillas – Troop Trains

Hills – Mountains – Bare Hills, all Trees and Foliage Completely Blown Away by Artillery and Auto Weapon Fire – The Thunderous Sound of Quad 50 Firing – B.A.R. – Deer Hunts – F4U-5 Corsairs – Chinese "Human Wave" Attacks – Ice and Snow – The Cold – MLR – MSR – Assault Wire and "Mikes" – Tin-Can Wire – Loudspeakers and Music, "Seoul City Sue" and her Propaganda Broadcasts – Propaganda Jeeps, Teams and Radios – Searchlight Trucks Flooding Light on Chinese/No. Korean Positions – Nurses, WWII Age and Younger (Great People) – Dead Along Roads, in Gullies and Huts – Knocked Out Tanks and Vehicles (Rusted and Burned Out) – Over-heated Machine Gun Barrels – Surrounded – Parkas – Railway Guns – Railway Tunnels –

"Willy Peter" White Phosphorous Shells – "Rotation Blues" – Fear of not making it Home, Especially near Rotation Date – Strange Feelings on way Home – Leaving ("Deserting") Buddies, "Do I really want to go home?" – "Loneliness" on ship – Long Trip Home – Elation at Reaching U.S.A. – Mixed Emotions and Feelings with Family and "Old Friends" – Some negative, some positive.

ENOUGH SAID!

Names that had some kind of meaning back then

Tokol-Ri – Sabanngo-Ri – Chipyeong-Ni – Chi-Song-Ni – Saetari Valley – Kapyong (Division Reserve Oct. 1951) – Kansas Line – Chi-Chon-Ni – Chup-a-Ri – Hills 850/461/602 "Old Baldy I" – Kumsong Assault 1951 – Kumwha – Iron Triangle – "Triangle Hill" (598) – Mundung-Ni Valley – "Heartbreak Hill", (Hills 894,851, and 931) – Bloody Ridge (Hill 983) – Sataeri Valley (Hills 656, 1052, 841) – "Punchbowl" (Hills "J" – Ridge, 917, 908,748) – Chorwon: Hill 380, "White Horse" (Hill 395) –

60th Anniversary Special

Rejoice

Thirty years after the war a reporter for the Grand Rapids [MI] Press (July 31, 1953) asked Norm Spring why there wasn't more rejoicing after the truce was signed. Spring told him that the settlement had been expected for a long time. "Besides," he concluded, "we feared that the fighting in Korea was not over yet." His belief was prophetic. For many warfighters, it just did not seem as if the war had ended.

Arrowhead (Hill 281) – "T-Bone" – "Pork Chop" (Hill 255) – Old Baldy II (Hill 266).

Joseph William Russo joined the U.S. Army May 10, 1950. He took 16 weeks infantry basic at Ft. Dix, NJ with Co. M., 60th Inf. Regt., 9th Div. He later completed a medical surgical technician course at Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX.

In March 1951, he and a good friend, Joseph Violette, volunteered for duty in Korea. At Chipyeong-ni, Russo was assigned to A Btry., 15AAA Automatic Weapons Bn. He was assigned temporary duty in July 1951 as a medic for the 2nd Abn. Inf. Ranger Company, 7th Inf. Div. before the Ranger units were disbanded in August 1951.

He was with the 32nd Inf. Regt. "Task Force Lulu" Tank Infantry Assault Group during the September 1951 "Operation Cleaver" assaults from the Chup-a-ri to Kumsong. North Korea area where he was slightly injured. He served in the Chunchon-Hwachon, Yanggu-inje, Iron Triangle and Punchbowl fighting area.

Russo has many memories of the Korean War. One was riding the "cattle cars" from Pusan. Before they left, the personnel back there had scared the soon-to-be combat vets with all kinds of stories about guerillas attacking the trains, trains getting stuck in tunnels, etc. While trying to sleep on the train, Ronald LaRocque, stepped down beside him. Russo almost stabbed him in the leg.

Another memory was when he helped to bring American bodies out of graves where they were assassinated by North Koreans or Chinese troops. He will never forget how their hands and feet were wired behind their backs, before they were shot from behind over these shallow graves. He hopes God had a special place in heaven for all those young American soldiers.

S/Sgt. Russo rotated from Korea in March 1952. He later served in 1955 until his release from service in 1957 with the 3rd Armd. Cav. Regt. On the East German and Czech borders. He received the Combat Medical Badge, Army Commendation Medal, Good Conduct Medal with two knots, Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, United Nations Medal, and the National Defense Medal.

He retired from civil service employment as an illustrator for the U.S. Army. He is married and has a daughter and a granddaughter. Reach him at 901 Schisler Dr., Florence, NJ 08518, 609-499-2593

60th Anniversary Special

What A Great Souvenir We Missed

The 5th Marine Regiment had the far west sector on line. The evening before the cease fire "Bed Check Charlie," a North Korean AO plane, dropped leaflets on our position that said something like they always knew where we were and could have annihilated us at any time.

We were ordered to turn these leaflets over to regiment. They would have been nice souvenirs for us. We never saw the leaflets mentioned in the news media.

Allen Affolter, 514 S. Franklin St., New Ulm, MN 56073, bev_allen7@hotmail.com

The Korean War Crimes Commission: Was It Just For Show?

On 28 January 1951, U.S. Marine Patrol #8, Baker Co., 1st Bn., 5th Regt., 1st Marine Division, was sent on an anti-guerrilla operation in the Nakchon Dong area. The patrol consisted of 10 U.S. Marines and 4 South Korean policemen who served as guides and interpreters. They were to be picked up three days later by a motor patrol.

Patrol #8 failed to return. It was believed they were ambushed and captured by the enemy. On 7 March 1951, a Republic of Korea (ROK) 2nd Division patrol went into a small village. The native villagers reported Patrol #8 was captured in an ambush set up on a trail near their village on 29-30 January and then held in their village by guerrillas and North Korean soldiers.

On 5 February 1951, the 14 in the patrol, plus 10 ROK soldiers and one civilian, were forced to dig their graves. Then, with their hands bound behind them, they were bayoneted into their graves.

In August 1950, General MacArthur reviewed reports describing barbaric, unspeakable atrocities perpetrated on UN troops and Korean civilians by North Korean People's Army personnel, who were accustomed to torture and execution. The atrocities included burning and castration. After his review, MacArthur issued a terse warning to the North Korean Premier, Kim Il Sung.

Then, under the Staff Judge Advocate, General MacArthur put into action the Korean War Crimes Division. Its mission was to carry out the investigation, accumulation of evidence, preparation for and conduct of trial, and the review of cases of atrocities and other crimes committed by the enemy during the Korean War. Some of the crimes included:

- Chaplain-Medic Massacre (07-17-1950)
- Hill 303 Massacre (08-14-1950)
- Taejon Massacre (09-27-1950)
- Naedae Murders (10-13-1950)
- Suncheon Tunnel Massacre (10-30-1950)
- Kaesong Massacre (11-06-1950)

The Korean War Crimes Division (KWC) was established with 26 officers, one warrant officer, and 35 enlisted men. Colonel James W. Hanley was assigned Division Chief. By 1953, the Korean War Crimes Division had 1,615 case files. 1,591 cases were found to be alleged murder of defenseless military prisoners or civilians. 1,134 incidents occurred in South Korea; 481 took place in North Korea.

The breakdown of enemy perpetrator was 1,164 North Korean cases, 439 Chinese cases, and 12 cases unknown.

Tom Moore, tm103ps@yahoo.com

EDITOR'S QUESTION: Did the Korean War Crimes Division ever bring anyone to trial for the atrocities? Was it effective? Was it strictly for show? Please let us know your thoughts about the commission. Send them to Arthur G. Sharp, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

The Spider

By Howard Norskog

I'd been running and it seemed like for days
The truth is I couldn't go on
I was weary and tired and beaten
The strength in my legs now was gone

And that's when I came to the hollow log
I could barely just slip inside
Then I pushed myself back as far as I could
And waited there to die

They'd never pass a hollow log
Too obvious a place to be
And then the rattle of a Chinese gun
To mark the end you see

I kind of closed my eyes I guess
I don't know how long I did
It didn't matter anyhow
I wasn't much more than a kid

A kid that came to fight a war
I wasn't even sure of the why
I packed a gun and shot at folks
Folks as scared as I

I could hear them moving through the trees
And at daylight they would come
I wondered if mom and dad would know
When lips were stricken dumb

Maybe I should call out to the Lord
To come and help me here
But men moved out there in the trees
I knew that they were near

And in that first soft light of dawn
They'd find me crouched and scared
To tired and sick to hardly move
Even if I dared

And then I noticed if you think
You ever could believe
A movement from the opening
That I could barely see

A spider moved just past my gaze
And left a trail across
The opening of that stupid log
Like maybe she was lost

To make my situation worse
She just kept spinning threads
Across the gap where I'd crawled in
To this my special bed

Dawn was slowly breaking
Through the branches of the trees
And men were getting closer
Too soon now they would see

A kid as scared as he could be
Crouching in a log
A shaking and a sweating
Just like a sickened dog

No, even God could never come
Down here to save me now
I guess it's just the rules of war
That never change somehow

I looked back on the bygone days
A sleeping on the ground
Working with a thousand cows
A milling all around

Spiders plagued me back then too
Crawling round my bed
The one thing that I hated most
Would now be here instead

To see me face my last cold day
In a forest full of trees
To think that God was watching
And could look down and see

That spider's threads of gossamer
Made strings across the end
Of that old log I hid within
Again and then again

Dear God how could you do this
The thing I hate the most
Being with me my last hours
Kind of like a ghost

Big and black and ugly
Spinning threads of silk
Long and white and lustrous
Like streaks of fresh spilled milk

Across the front of that old log
I couldn't hardly see
The hole I came in nearly closed
What was to be would be

And then the soldiers crashing through
The brush at break of day
Where a young boy was hiding
And couldn't run away

Watching there, I noticed now
The spider's web was done
There wasn't one thing I could do
And sure no place to run

I would have killed that spider
If something had been near
But not so much as one small stick
With which the air to clear

And then the soldiers all were gone
And I was still o.k.
Why did they pass this old log by
What could I ever say ,

And then it hit me like a rock
They'd seen that web secure
The opening in the hollow log
So they were more than sure

That no one could have crawled within
Its dark and damp confines
And so the life the spider saved
Had turned out to be mine

I searched and searched for near an hour
And all around its lair
But all my looking was in vain
That spider wasn't there

Lots of time now I look back
Upon that fateful day
Could God have sent that spider
I don't know what to say

But if you look at all the times
Things happen just for you
Do you believe it possible
The wonders God can do?

Howard Norskog, P.O. Box 953,
Lewiston, ID 83501

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Norskog survived that day—and lived for another sixty years. He died on January 18, 2013.



Recon Missions

A "Phair" Request



Dave Newman (L) and Ron Phair in the Chowon Valley of North Korea

On March 25, 1954, a Sherman tank attached to the 35th Tank Co. of the 35th Inf. Reg., 25th Inf. Div., tripped an anti-personnel mine in a supposedly de-activated mine field, killing the entire crew of four. Of course, they were not "buttoned up" My best buddy and great friend, Sgt. Ronald J. Phair, was tank commander of the tank, 2-6. I had been a member of

that tank crew before I was transferred to infantry months before.

I saw their bodies at the GRO unit to verify that it was, in fact, my good friend, and I had the honor of closing his eyes for the final time. Years later I wrote his Mom and Dad to console them with the fact that although killed by a mine explosion, his body was not broken and mangled.

In a return letter, she assured me that they were aware of his condition and in fact the casket had been open at the funeral. She also sent printed copies of the incident that had been published in *Stars and Stripes* (March 27, 1954) and some other paper that covered the story.

Note: Here is the *Stars & Stripes* article:

"Three Yanks Killed by Mine

SEOUL, March 26 (UP) - The U.S. 8th Army announced today that three American soldiers were killed and one was injured seriously yesterday when their tank hit a landmine. The men were members of the 25th Div and were on a field maneuver."

Through the many years since, I have lost those articles and would like to see if any of them still exist. I have a good picture of Ron and me that he took after a fire mission on a distant hill. I will try to send it with this request, along with a copy of a very small article that my local state Senator's office found in the *Stars and Stripes* March 27, 1954 archives.

There may have been follow-up articles in the *Stars & Stripes* or somewhere that I am unaware of. Also, the local Detroit paper could have picked up on it. I would like to put these stories with our picture for my family to have, so that grandchildren can have access to this piece of history.

I know that after all these years this is a long shot that those who were involved with or knew about this incident are still with us. I would appreciate it if you would give it a try in *The Graybeards* and see if there are friends or family who may have copies of these articles.

Ron was an only child who was born and raised in Detroit, MI. Of course, his parents have passed on.

Dave Newman, 324 Cathy Dr., Danville, VA 24540,
434-793-5828, flomo22@verizon.net

Operation Kiddy Car

Does anyone remember Operation Kiddy Car and/or USAF

Chaplain Col. Blaisdell? A Korean newsman was looking for some of the veterans, including pilots, Marine truck drivers, or anyone else who was involved with the operation.

If anyone has any information, please send it to Arthur G. Sharp, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

32nd Inf. Regt. Assn. Looking For Members

The US 32nd Infantry Regiment Association is looking for new members. Most of our membership has been, in the last 26 years, WW II, Korean War, Cold War and Panama invasion troopers from this regiment. Death and medical issues are reducing our head count so much that we see the end of the association.

I know the same is happening to the Korean War Veterans Association. We have one member who is 95 years young and was with the 32nd on the invasion of Attu in 1943 that ended the Japanese occupation of that island and Kiska in the Aleutians. (The only American territory our enemies landed on and occupied).

This regiment has one battalion that has been active: the 1st Battalion 32nd Infantry with the 10th Mountain Division out of Fort Drum, NY. In the past twelve years they have been deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, with many combat actions and casualties. The 1/32 has been back in Afghanistan since last November and is still there as I write to you. Some of the soldiers are on their fourth and fifth deployments.

These young troopers more than likely do not know of us. There are probably readers of *The Graybeards* who do not know of us. I ask that you note that we are here: www.32ndinfantryregimentassn.com

Join us! Thanks,

Warren MacDonald LR03115

Families Of Minesweeper Sailors Killed

I am looking for the families of two men who were killed when their minesweeper exploded in 1950 or 1951. I attended their burial at sea, which was a very solemn event.

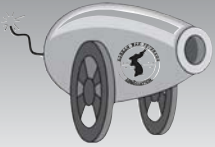
I was a radarman aboard USS *Maddox* (DD 731)

Jack Pendarvis, 121 Westwood Dr.,
Simpsonville, SC 29680, 864-228-8414

Did Chinese And North Korean Soldiers Camouflage Themselves As Tombstones?

According to a Korean War veteran quoted in a recent edition of the *Hartford Courant*, Chinese and North Korean soldiers would sometimes disguise themselves in cemeteries as tombstones. They would place crosses on themselves and lie down to resemble tombstones. He said he would look around and see nobody there, and suddenly there would be an enemy soldier right next to him.

Is there any truth to that? Please let the editor know at Arthur G. Sharp, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.



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.

Rhoads Or Gorman?

You questioned if the *Stars and Stripes* were right or I was about Capt. Rhoads and Lt. Gorman flying the targets on the Yalu River. (See "What Happened To The Lion," Jan/Feb 2014, pp. 54-55.) I think both of us are right.

The 67th Tac Recon Wing had two (2) Squadrons that flew F-80s, the 15th Tac Recon Sqd and the 45th Tac Recon Sqd. Rhoads was from one of the squadrons and Culbertson was from the other. (I can't remember who was in which squadron.) Lt. Gorman departed at the same time as Capt. Rhoads. However, he was assigned a different target.

Although the targets on the Yalu River were of low priority, they were considered "high risk," as they didn't have fighter escort all the way. It was the policy of the 67th not to have two pilots from the same squadron fly the high risk targets at the same time.

DeWayne Hayes, dhayes@rushmore.com

Why Didn't General Gordon Stop?

Sometime ago I sent in an article about my trip to Korea on the U.S.N.S. *General W. H. Gordon*, which appeared in the Jan/Feb 2014 edition, "Somebody Dealt Me A Lucky Hand," p. 65. Shortly after that I received a letter from a Sailor named Warren T. Lynch, 601 S. Turquoise Pl., Tucson, AZ 85710, who was aboard that ship. It is an informative follow-up to a good story. Here is what he wrote:

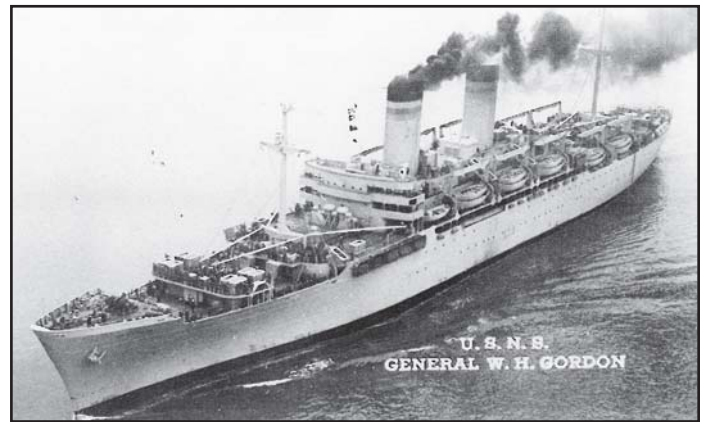
Hi, Richard:

I read your article in *The Graybeards*. I was stationed on the General Gordon from April 1952 to June 1953. We had a crew of only 18 Navy personnel, and our duty was taking care of the troops. Here are some details that you might enjoy.

On March 17th 1953 the General Gordon left San Francisco to San Diego at 6:30 a.m. We arrived there the next day at 11 a.m. We left San Diego later that day at 4 p.m. bound for Kobe, Japan, where we arrived on April 2, 1953. The next day at 8 a.m. we headed for Inchon, Korea. We reached Inchon on Easter Sunday, April 5, 1953, at 9 a.m. On board was a Marine named John Van Houten, who was a military policeman who got stationed at Ascom City. He was from near my hometown in Rockland County, NY.

After we left San Francisco, about two hours out, some of the troops started to get sea sick. We had a fire drill and the troops

were told to put on life jackets. My station was deck 3, which was located under the bridge. As the troops were coming up from below, some were throwing up. When the drill was over I had a hard time getting them to bring down their jackets.



When we got to Kobe the troops got liberty, which was rare. Of the fifteen trips that I made over and back, this was the only one on which this happened. When we were leaving the harbor Kobe for Inchon at 8 a.m., there was a harbor boat with eight Marines trying to catch up to our ship. One Marine was on his knees praying for our ship to stop. His stripes looked like he was Master Sergeant. We did not stop for them. Did you know any of those Marines who missed the ship? Did they lose any stripes?

Richard Dombrowski, 3222 Marvin Ave.
Erie, PA, 824-825-0623

What Is An Arrowhead Device?

The Arrowhead device is a miniature bronze arrowhead that may be worn on campaign, expedition, and service medals and ribbons to denote participation in an amphibious assault landing, combat parachute jump, helicopter assault landing, or combat glider landing by a service member of the United States Army.

A soldier must be assigned or attached as a member of an organized force carrying out an assigned tactical mission, and must actually exit the aircraft or watercraft to receive assault credit. Individual assault credit is tied directly to the combat assault credit decision for the unit to which the soldier is attached or assigned at the time of the assault. Should a unit be denied assault, no assault credit will accrue to the individual soldiers of the unit.

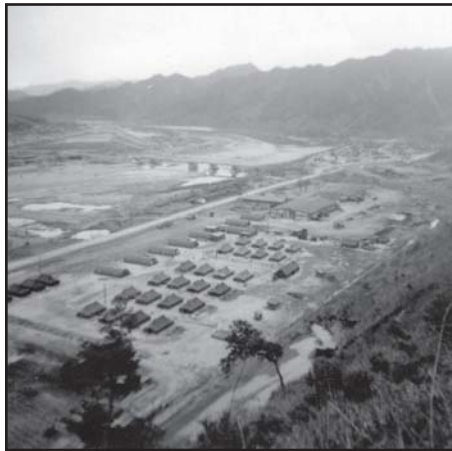
The arrowhead device must be authorized for wear in order to be worn on the suspension and service ribbons of the medal and is placed in position to the wearer's right of other devices on the ribbons including the "V" device, 3/16 inch service star, and 3/16 inch campaign star. Though more than one arrowhead may be authorized for wear, no more than one arrowhead may be worn on a medal and service ribbon.

As of 2004, the medals which are authorized the arrowhead device include the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal (a campaign medal), Korean Service Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.

John Gavel, THEGAVEL@aol.com

984th Engineer Field Maintenance Company

The nearby photo of the 984th Engineer Field Maintenance Company was taken by Cpl. Charles G. Crockett in the spring of 1953. On the same hill, slightly to the right of where this picture was taken, was the location of the American Forces Network-Korean radio station TROUBADOUR.



The 984th Engineer Field Maintenance Company known as K-51 Inge. To the left of K-51, not shown in the photo, was the location of 10th Corps Headquarters.

I served in the 984th from November 1952 until February 1954. The 984th was under the 32nd Engineer Group in Wonju in November 1952. In 1953 it was reassigned to the 45th Engineer Group in Yongdung-Po, directly under 8th Army. I was NCO in charge of the Spare Parts Section of the 984th when I rotated home in February 1954.

Charles G. Crockett, cgcrockett@embarqmail.com

Discombluberating And Toilet Paper

Your editorial in the Jan/Feb 2014 edition brought to mind a word my mom made up in the 1940s: "discombluberating." As I recall, she used it to tell me or my brothers when we were doing something that didn't make any sense. Me being a teenager, she probably had reason to use that word often.

Incidentally, back in 1953 I was a supply clerk. As such I was always on the lookout for items that we could conserve on. For example, I suggested a way to cut down on the amounts of toilet

paper we used: stop using it for cleaning windows. As a solution, we asked people who lived off base to bring in newspapers to clean the windows.

Another idea was to recycle used motor oil. I received a letter of commendation for that one.

Marvin Reed, 2900 Right Hand Canyon Rd.
Reno, NV 89510

Napalm In Korea

When I saw the headline, "Napalm in Korea," I was immediately drawn to your story because I was a little familiar with napalm while serving in the Flame Platoon, First Tank Battalion, First Marine Division in Korea (1951-52). For your relative interest in that brutal weapon of war, I suggest you dig a little further into it at www.flamedragons.info.

That is the website developed out of Flame Dragons of the Korean War, the book I co-authored and wrote with the late Jerry Ravino. It since has been reissued in paperback as *Hearts of Iron*. Though the website does not carry the detail – method of mixture, the mechanism of the flame gun, nor damage it did in Korea – it will give you a picturesque critique of the Flame Platoon operations in the "Land of the Morning Calm."

I drove, and later was a tank commander of, one of those monsters in Korea, but never had the opportunity to fire it in action I saw, though I had plenty of practice with it. Jerry Ravino, a Purple Heart recipient, detailed the complete makeup, mechanism and combat experience he had with it later in the war.

Our tanks were very active with the flame gun on Wolmi-do Island when it was being cleared for the Inchon Invasion, and during the First Marine Division's drive to and through Seoul.

Midway through the war, it was used mostly for Battalion security, but became very combat active in Western Korea in the months before the Armistice in 1953.

Flame tanks were used on the islands by Marines in WWII, but those did not have the capability that our updated Sherman M4A3E8 versions—originally developed for the proposed invasion of Japan—would use in the "Land of the Morning Calm." The WWII models lost the value of their main armament – a 75mm rifle – but ours maintained its 105mm howitzer.

Jerry and I never came up with information of how much napalm was consumed in the three years our tanks worked in Korea. But we are on record with the little-known contribution our weapon made to Marine Corps history against the NKPA and Communist Chinese forces.

Just thought I'd pass along a little-known fact on the use of napalm in the Korean War.

Jack Carty, S/Sgt. USMC, Korean War (1951-52)

Where Is The Korean War Museum Really Located?

The bit in the March April *Graybeards* "From The Secretary" lists several times that the present National Korean War Museum is in Springfield IL. Such a town does not exist. The actual town (Illinois' state capital, whether we are real happy with it or not) is Springfield, IL, which is located in the middle of the state.

Actually, after the museum has moved several times in the past few years, people keep talking about placing it in either

Chicago or New York. I know we sign a quit claim of sorts when we donate stuff—and I have donated many items over the past few years—but rather than send everything off to either of those locations, I believe I will try to get back the things I gave to them. I don't know if I'll have any luck at all, but I donated a UN Flag, a 3.5 inch Rocket Launcher, radios, grenades, uniforms, sketches, and other items.

I've also donated volunteer time in Mattoon, Chanute, Tuscola, and Springfield (not Springville). Chicago and New York are out of the question.

Lee Parks, Decatur, IL, geoleeparks@yahoo.com

E-mail Address Correction Requested

Thanks for printing my story, "There Was Still Smoke Coming From Their Bodies," p. 59, in the March-April 2014 edition. Can you please correct my email address on that story? It's Oscarcortez456000@yahoo.com.

I used to have the email address that appears on my story. I had to change it and I added another zero "456000." The rest is still the same.

Oscar Cortez

Wrong Photos

I browsed through the March-April 2014 edition this morning. I came upon p. 55, on which appeared a photo of a group of gentlemen from the 76th Engineer Construction Battalion.

During the Korean War, I was a member of the 772nd Military Police Bn. from Jan. 1952-June 1953. I have since become a life member of the battalion association, as well as a member of the KWVA.

I noted while looking at the picture that there was something amiss. The gentlemen are sitting and standing around a flag that shows the Coat of Arms for the 772nd MP Bn. that was awarded to them in 1951. I am sure that the members of the 76th Engineer Construction Battalion have their own Coat of Arms.

The 772nd MP Bn. had a reunion in Mystic, CT in September 2013, so I am sure that that is where the picture came from. You will probably be getting many letters regarding this error.

James A. Jacobs, 522 Grant Ave.,
West Hempstead, New York 11552

NOTE: Mr. Jacobs is correct. We have received a few comments regarding the mix-up. We will get it corrected.

Print Our Photo Often—Just Include Names

Re the "Misfire" on pp. 54 and 55, bottom of pages: I don't know who the OCS Class 11-52 are, but the pictures are of the 44th Engineers Reunion at Marietta, GA Sept. 2013, which was in the previous edition of *The Graybeards*. But, thanks for putting our pictures in two months in a row, even with no names.

Ken Cox, 314 423 5483, kdcl@wans.net

Revised Point System

The point system description on page 47 of the March-April issue of *The Graybeards* is accurate as far as it goes. The 40 point requirement was reduced to 36 in June 1952. That's how many I had earned when I rotated home.

Here's an excerpt from the Army publication, *The Korean War YEARS OF STALEMATE*, which gives the history of the Korean War point system:

"In September 1951 the Army had introduced a point system that tried to take into account the nature of individual service when determining eligibility for rotation home to the United States. According to this system, a soldier earned four points for every month he served in close combat, two points per month for rear-echelon duty in Korea, and one point for duty elsewhere in the Far East. Later, an additional category-divisional reserve status-was established at a rate of three points per month.

"The Army initially stated that enlisted men needed to earn forty-three points to be eligible for rotation back to the States, while officers required fifty-five points. In June 1952 the Army reduced these requirements to thirty-six points for enlisted men and thirty-seven points for officers. Earning the required number of points did not guarantee instant rotation; it only meant that the soldier in question was eligible to go home. Nevertheless, most soldiers did return home shortly after they met the requirement."

Not to put too fine a point on it however...

Don Hart, donchart@yahoo.com

Tanks To My Brother (Literally) Marine

I know that there were brothers who served in Korea, but I don't know of any who served more closely than my brother Don and me. We both had prior service in the Marine Corps and were recalled with our Reserve Unit in August 1950. After unit assignment at Camp Pendleton, we were sent to the 1st Tank Battalion, First Marine Division at Del Mar. (My prior service was infantry, sea duty (*USS Missouri*), and MP duty at Pendleton. How I ended up in tanks is another story.)

"Able" company had already left with the Brigade, so "Baker" company was being formed for the Inchon landing. Since Don and I were both officially members

of "B" Co., we sailed for Kobe, Japan for staging. During the cruise, it was decided to permit us to be assigned to the same tank (B-12). The logic was that to separate us was essentially doubling our chances of one or the other being exposed to enemy fire. So, ignoring the "Sullivan" rule, we fought in four major battles in the same tank, without question by anyone.



The B-12 tank crew in Seoul after its capture in October 1950 (L-R) Little** (Loader), John Mixon (Driver), Don Mixon (Asst. Driver), James Thomas, (Gunner—and the only Black Marine in the battalion, kneeling), and James Tull (Tank Commander) **Little replaced Ben Cassello, who was lost in September 1950

We landed at Inchon on September 15, 1950, following “A” company ashore at Wol-mi-do on the second tide. The 1st and 5th Marines were the assault forces, later joined by the 7th. We advanced toward Seoul in support of all three regiments and recaptured the city. In October, we reloaded onto LSTs and sailed around the peninsula for the amphibious landing at Wonsan, then north to the Chosin Reservoir, arriving at Koto-ri on November 29th.

After the ill-fated “Task Force Drysdale” fiasco with “Dog” company leading and “Baker” bringing up the rear, we returned to Koto-ri as “D” company proceeded to Hagaru-ri. When the 5th and 7th regiments assembled at Koto-ri, where Puller’s 1st was, we started the withdrawal to the sea. Upon arrival at Hungnam the Division loaded aboard naval vessels and sailed for Pusan.

We spent Christmas at Masan (Bean Patch) and licked our wounds. In early January, 1951 we headed back north along the east coast to Pohang and began the spring offensive. As a somewhat senior (by comparison) Marine I was rotated home on January 31st. With emotional regret, I left my brother and comrades and flew out to Itami, Japan.

Due to the confines of the interior of the tank, there are few places to view other tank members. Our behavior in combat situations was sometimes brazen, possibly to the point of being dangerous to ourselves. There is no doubt that having a brother relationship is far different than just a “buddy.” We don’t allow buddies to get too close, for obvious reasons.

The other members of the crew accepted us as an important part of a functioning tank complement, and had difficulty telling us apart. With our family resemblance and wearing the same uniform, they often called us by the other’s name.

Tanks was pretty good duty, as you didn’t have to walk or climb those damn hills, but it had its drawbacks. Wherever we went we made lots of noise, and the infantry guys didn’t like us, as we always drew a lot of fire. But, when they did need us, they loved our “kick-ass” ability.

Incidentally, the M-26 Pershing was a far superior tank to the T-34 Russian-made tanks that the North Koreans had. I had no fear of them at all.

I must say that serving with a brother is not only unusual, but we enjoyed the comfort of one another that individuals did not share. I came home with a Bronze Star and Purple Heart, but the fact that I came home at all is attributable to those magnificent Marines by whom we were surrounded.

The 1st Marine Division that fought in Korea not only distinguished itself in every battle that it fought, but was, without question, the finest fighting force ever fielded. The senior NCOs and officer corps were almost all combat veterans of WWII, committed and dedicated to the Corps and to themselves as career professionals who led the way in the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps.

John D. Mixon, PO Box 80984, Bakersfield, CA
93380, jmixon@djacivil.com

A Few Comments Re The March-April Edition

I found your Mar.-Apr. issue of “The Graybeards” especially interesting, because there were so many firsthand

accounts of Korean vets. I will comment on some of the contents.

When you said in your editorial that the massacre at Hoengsong claimed about 12,000 victims I was very skeptical. I consulted about 12 or 14 books on the Korean War and I found only one reference to the slaughter. That was in Clay Blair’s *The Forgotten War*, which I consider the most comprehensive book on that war. He had little to say, but quoted a “Time” article that mentioned only a few hundred U.S. and South Korean casualties.

I was in the 1st Ord. Bn. and we followed the division when it began its operation in early March with two other divisions into the Hoengsong sector. But when I went through I don’t recall seeing the 40 or so burned-out trucks and 6 155 damaged howitzers, etc. that were mentioned in the article. Of course, there were no bodies then, only fingers and toes alongside the road.

But in Wikipedia I found much more info in an article headed Chapter 14 that seemed to be an official Army document. Maybe you found this same reference. Total ROK casualties: 9,844 in three divisions and U.S. casualties 2,018. Dutch?

No wonder the Army kept this quiet for so long. Apparently this was a result of the new, disastrous policy of letting the ROK divisions take the offensive. One can hardly blame ROKs for their failures on the front lines, since so many of their men had little experience or training. Many were recently drafted and they were confronted by North Korean and Chinese veterans, who came in overpowering numbers. I pity our artillerymen, who were supposed to be protected by their ROK companions. The ROKs dropped their weapons and ran as the enemy hordes swarmed down on them in the valley above Hoengsong. The fault lay with the U.S. Army (aka UN) commanders.

On p. 52 Stan Grogan blames the U.S. education system for failing schools caused by “liberalism.” As a former teacher, I am not sure that there is one single cause for the failure of U.S. students to match the achievements of their counterparts in other countries. There are a multiplicity of causes without a doubt. But overall, our schools are doing a good job when one considers how well the U.S. does in comparison with other countries. Who leads in Nobel Prize awards, for example?

On p. 62 under “The Smith Brothers,” unless I misunderstand the writer, he says he enlisted in 1948 and was sent to Japan. Suddenly one day he and his buddies learned that we were at war in Korea. Not many knew where Korea was. I can’t fathom how that could be the case, though I am aware that Americans in general are weak in geography.

On the next page, under “Coleman flies a Sabrejet,” we learn that an Air Force pilot got in a Corsair and wrecked it. Do you suppose he was billed for the damage?

On pages 65-67, “U.S. Does Search for MIAs,” the writer disposes of some of the rumors about our MIAs being sent to the USSR and disappearing. There seems to be no evidence that this ever happened, but it’s something that some people want to believe and proof is apparently not needed. A sane, sensible discussion indeed.

On p. 68 Bill Roussel says when they were stationed near Pusan early in the war the Marines landed and suddenly their tent was full of bullet holes. That makes no sense. I know that Marines are more disciplined than that. My skepticism is showing.

On p. 77 we learn that the CTTG visited ten nations that sent troops to Korea during the war. Then follows a list of “combatants” that includes India, Sweden, Denmark, and Norway. India had a few troops there to help with repatriation of POWs, as I recall, but I don’t believe any of these nations had men there on the front lines.

Robert Hall, rdhall1925@yahoo.com

Just A Trip Up The Hill

I served in Korea in the U.S. Army from December of 1951 to December, 1952, attached to the 4th Signal Bn., X Corps. In Korea I was a radio operator with a radio team sent out to help with communications of the various artillery battalions of X Corps. We were located just south of Heartbreak Ridge.

One day four of us took a Jeep for a ride up to the MLR to see what was going on. One of the guys had a camera and took some pictures of our encampment from the MLR. Headquarters for our radio team was about 30 miles behind the line, and our place of operation was about 5 miles.

Richard (“Chuck”) Sutton, 1701 130th St. Unit 104,
Anamosa, IA 52205



Pfc. Richard Sutton (L) and Pfc. Richard Pesarcik (R) with our hand carved sign in front of our tents



Pfc. Richard Sutton in front of our Radio Truck dug in its bunker in the background outlined with sand bags on top



Trip up to Heartbreak Ridge: The first person we saw was a South Korean cleaning his machine gun



Looking across the valley at a white phosphorus shell exploding on enemy territory marking the spot for further bombardment



American outpost down from Heartbreak Ridge

Ask And You Shall Receive

Is it appropriate to ask under what conditions a guest editorial appears in *The Graybeards*? Are these articles solicited? And how are they selected to appear in print? While the content may not be an official position of KWVA, why are they selected for publication?

As I'm sure you can surmise, there is much in the editorial that I disagree with. I served as a medic with the 5th Regimental Combat Team, rotating from Korea on the day the fighting ended, July 27, 1953. After returning from a revisit program in 1995, I was greatly impressed with how Korea had grown since my time there and also with how appreciative the Koreans were of our participation in a conflict that led to their becoming the successful country it is.

There are a couple points Mr. Grogan makes that I would take exception with. A war of preemption's validity or even value is in the eyes of the beholder and one that is rarely seen as legal. Many have been unsuccessful in the final analysis. But I do not wish to enter into an argument about this. I do wish to dispute his conclusion about the successful outcome in Iraq, which is plagued by almost daily bombings, a government that is sectarian Shiite, and is now closely aligned with its Shiite neighbor Iran.

As for Afghanistan, how successful have we been when the Taliban is likely to take over after we have gone and corruption, as a U.S. general just declared, is the number one problem in the country?

Mr. Grogan is apparently a great believer in the Constitution, as all Americans should be. The right to peacefully dissent is also a basic tenet in our Constitution. Dissent serves to highlight and clarify our positions whether they be anti-war or something else. One does not need to agree with positions to realize their value. They are a right that characterizes a democracy. Let's not pick and choose which parts of the constitution we value.

Finally, are the liberals the cause of every problem our country has? Maybe it's the conservatives?

Bill Kramer, San Mateo, CA,
billkramer1865@gmail.com

Answers To Mr. Kramer's Questions: 1) It is appropriate to ask. 2) These articles are not solicited. 3) The editor selects them based on the merit of the ideas contained within. 4) They are selected to generate comments, pro and con, on particular topics.

Caveat: The ideas expressed in the guest editorials do not reflect the official position of the KWVA.

Apparently, Mr. Grogan's guest editorial did exactly what a guest editorial or op-ed piece is supposed to do. It stimulated critical-thinking members to respond with their own viewpoints.

Where Are They Now?

Several of us veterans of Co. F, 2nd Bn., 9th Inf. Regt, 2d Inf. Div. got together for the nearby photo in the rest area in October 1951 after the battle of Heartbreak and Bloody Ridges. I can't remember everyone in the photo. (I am the soldier smiling in the right side of the rear row.)

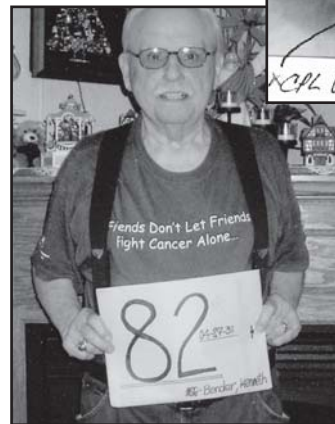
I was a 60mm mortarman and BARman in the Weapons Platoon. Our company commander was Captain Chevez, a former Philippine scout in WWII. (He is not in the photo.) Others in the photo are Vizzone (NJ), Eddie Johnson (PA), and Vargas (Chicago).

I got to Korea twice. I served twenty years after enlisting in

Members of Co. F, 2nd Bn., 9th Inf. Regt, 2d Inf. Div. who can be identified (Back, L-R) Sgt. Rueben Tiedt, Plt Sgt. Sgt. Shook, Squad Ldr. Sgt. Ron Cherrernont, Ken Bender



Ken Bender today



March 1951 and got there again in 1961. (Just for the record, my son served twenty years in the Army as well. He was a chopper pilot during the Gulf War.)

Kenneth Bender
605 N. 13th St.
Marysville, KS 66508
785-562-5528

I Was Also At Camp 5

Thank you for the Special Edition, March-April 2014. The article on p. 15, "Flash Back To March 1952," brought back many memories and flashbacks to me of March 1952, when I was at Camp #5. (I remained there until the beginning of March 1953. My time was up then, so I was sent home after being discharged on April 18, 1953.)

At first I was with the 34th MP Escort Guard Co. Then I was switched over to the 5th MP Co. The description of the camp was excellent—just the way I remember it. There was a lot I forgot.

I pulled guard duty at first. As time went by I volunteered to finish up Compound H so the prisoners could have a place to sleep. The Major who was in charge was so pleased with me that I was awarded the honor of being the Compound Commander of that compound. I served about eight months in Compound H until they decided that my time was up. Can you imagine being a PFC and being in charge of 500 prisoners?

I believe that I was a little underpaid for what I did. But, I was honored by the prisoners when they called me "Sarge." What a joke!

Vincent Abbate Sr., 656 Glenview Ter.
Vero Beach, FL 32962, 772-567-5673

Thank You, Joe Cirillo

Recently I had the pleasure of reuniting with two other Korean veterans. We read an article by Joe Cirillo on p. 65 of the Jan-Feb

2014 edition, "Mighty Mites And Hemorrhagic Fever," and remembered that we went through basic training with him.



LEFT: Joe Cirillo, Joe Colletti, and Pat Costagliola (L-R) in their Army days

BELOW: Pasquale Costagliola, Joe Cirillo, and Joe Colletti (L-R) on 1 May 2014

My other Army buddy was Pat Costagliola. We were all together in Korea in 1952. I served with the 25th and 14th Inf Divs. Cirillo, a BARman, was in the 25th Div., 27th Inf Rgt., Co I. Costagliola served with the 25th Division.



We got together in Manhattan on May 1st at the ARTE Café on 73rd Street.

Joseph Colletti, 5 Bungalow Ln.
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590, 845-296-0963

NOTE: The other two can be reached at: Joseph M. ("Joe") Cirillo, 2630 Rachel St., Bellmore, NY 11710, 516-781-5963, JoeActor27@gmail.com and Pasquale Costagliola, 2030 61st St., Brooklyn, NY 11204, 718-236-1088

KWVA Members Come Through Again

Your kind support in posting our request for Korean War photos has produced some strong results. We've launched a new page on our website, "Snapshots from the War." Here's the link: <http://kwmf.org/snapshots/>

We hope to get more in, and we'll add them as we get them. It's a page I really like, because it's a living link of past, present, and future. And we couldn't have gotten these great photos without your members' support. So from all of us at KWVF, thank you very much.

Gerard Parker, Executive Director, Korean War Memorial Foundation, 1806 Belles Street, #6-B, The Presidio, San Francisco, CA 94129, 415-750-3862, <http://kwmf.org/>

Pictures That Show Their Ages

As I read *The Graybeards* I was reminded that I had a lot of pictures of buddies I have thought about a lot when I served with M Co., 7th Cav. Regt. Then I thought about the nearby pictures themselves.

The nearby pictures were taken in the last part of 1951, but they weren't developed until we got to Japan, probably in January of 1952. So, they are over 61 years old, and the guys in them have never seen them. I have often wondered about these guys, how

many got home, and who might still be around, especially now at this late date.



Right after this picture was taken on 21 Sept. 1951, ten of us left with 2 machine guns for Hill 339 with K Co., 7th Cav.



When the 1st Cav. was returned to Japan in Dec. 1951, Green was left behind. He was 17 years old and a real nice kid



Field + Higgens



Higgens (L) and Field: Higgens was 15 years old, which I did not know at the time



LEFT: William ("Chief") Whistler pointing to bullet hole. He was a real good guy. He got hit by a mortar shell real bad in Aug. 1951 and sent home.



RIGHT: Robert Verecken in Korea, 1951

Higgins was 15 years old and Green was 17 years old, so they had a little advantage there. If anyone recognizes the soldiers in the pictures, please contact me. If you are one of the guys in the photos and want a copy, I'll send them to you.

Al Field, 10770 Deerfield Dr., Cherry Valley, CA 92223,
951-845-9453 (home) or 951-218-2132 (cell)

Points And Ted Williams

I just finished reading the March-April 2014 edition of *The Graybeards*. In my estimation, it is the best veterans' magazine out there—and I read every word. I have two comments from that issue.

There was a small box on page 47 saying that 40 points were necessary for rotation. I arrived in Korea in January 1952 and the points required then were 36, 9, 12 and 18 mos. When this changed or why, I don't know.

Also, I would like to weigh in on the Ted Williams story. He was my idol growing up and still is the best I ever saw. But, in WWII, he qualified for flight school even though he was only a high school graduate. However, he was so good at it they made him an instructor. This doesn't diminish his reputation at all.

When you are in the service, you go where they send you and do what you are told. I believe Williams never left the country, so technically he was not a combat veteran of WWII. He certainly was in Korea.

Ben Nicholls, vewini@verizon.net

Like A Knitted Sweater With A Pulled Yarn Stitch

The previous issue of "The Graybeards" (Mar-Apr 2014) had a statement from President Larry Kinard lamenting on the progressing number of lost members due to their passing on. The realization really hits hard at the 80 plus year olds, as we have to take part in last musters knowing that our own is inevitable in the near future.

My email to the many Korean vets who served with me and the ones I met from articles I wrote for *The Graybeards* is to a group that has become close like a knitted sweater and a pulled yarn stitch. Our future includes the unraveling of the treasured sweater and the disappearance of our thinned emotions.

I want to convey to you as editor and to your staff that the time, effort, and thoughtfulness that go into publishing the magazine have more meaning and purpose to us old vets as time goes on. Keep on publishing the news, updates and photos, as each piece reaches a memory in our fading minds.

Wayne Pelkey, wppelkey@charter.net

Freedom

The price that is paid,
A son will answer,
It is seeing a brother leave home
To fight in a war.
It is seeing the worry in your parents' eyes
It is seeing happiness when a
Letter arrives.
It is seeing another brother leave
To fight in a war.
It is more happiness, to receive
Another letter from your other brother.
It is the heartbreak, seen and suffered,
When that hated telegram arrives.
"We regret to inform you, you have
Lost a loved one in the war."
It is the suffering you see your mother has
In losing a son.
It is the pain, seen and felt by everyone,
When the remains of a son—a brother—are returned,
Ugly-but beautiful—in a box.
It is the suffering you see your father has

In losing a son.
It is the suffering felt by everyone
When your brother is lowered into the ground,
Lost forever.
It is the bugle, mournful and sad,
Crying its final farewell,
His last roll call.
It is the feeling to avenge the pain—the loss—
Your parents suffer.
It is the chance to help defend your country
In yet another war.
It is losing your parents, knowing the suffering
That they had.
For freedom—so precious—is not free.
For once again we are challenged.
Will we pay the price again?
For freedom is not free.

Vincent J. Dominguez, 20885 Yale St.
Williston, OH 43468, 419-340-4485

In memory of Luz Solorio De. Dominguez, Jose Dolores
Dominguez, G.M. 3/C John Dominguez, aka Jesus Juan.



Welcome Aboard!

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R045728 MERLE D. MEISINGER

ARIZONA

R045841 JACK W. GRAHAM

R045837 GEORGE R. NOBLE

ARKANSAS

A045734 NONA M. MCVAY

CALIFORNIA

LR45750 CLARENCE R. BREWER

R045801 LEONARD BURKE

R045770 STANLEY W. GIRE

R045758 GERALD R. GOULET

R045840 JOHN P. LALLO

R045865 PAUL L. MCCALLISTER

R045780 JOSE H. RODRIGUEZ

R045791 ARTHUR E. STEVENSON

LR45816 WAYNE E. THOMPSON

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R045759 DARWIN L. WENDEL

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R045787 OLIVER W. HOTT

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R045817 THOMAS T. TYSKIEWICZ

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or contributions for publication in The Graybeards should be sent to:

Art Sharp, Editor

152 Sky View Dr.

Rocky Hill, CT. 06067

or emailed to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

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

Dates of service:

Division _____ ☐ **Army**

WithIN Korea were: *(See criteria below)*

Regiment _____ ☐ **Air Force**

From _____ To _____

Battalion _____ ☐ **Navy**

WithOUT Korea were: *(See criteria below)*

Company _____ ☐ **Marines**

From _____ To _____

Other _____ ☐ **Coast Guard**

"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.

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. Gold Star Parents. Any person whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

D. Gold Star Spouses. Any person whose spouse was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

E. 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.

F. 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

Adopted 10/26/2009, R5 Approved 7/26/2013

Operation Showdown

By Tom Moore (tm103ps@yahoo.com)

In October 1952, the negotiations at Panmunjom began to fall apart due to a disagreement over prisoners of war repatriation. Consequently, negotiations officially ceased.

General James Van Fleet had submitted tentative offensive plans for Operation Showdown, a ridge-capturing operation. The goal was to improve the defensive line of the U.S. 7th Infantry Division near Triangle Hill, pushing the Chinese defensive line back 1,250 yards (a little over a mile).

With negotiations ceased, General Mark W. Clark gave his consent to Operation Showdown, an attempt to gain control of the Iron Triangle. The U.S. 7th Infantry Division and the ROK 2nd Infantry Division would be against the CCF 12th Corps and the CCF 15th Corps.

The immediate American objective was Triangle Hill (Hill 598), a forested ridge of high ground, overlooking Gimhwa Valley, near the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). The plan was for the Americans to attack Triangle Hill and the ROKs to attack Sniper Ridge; the planners expected the operation to last no more than five days.

On 14 October 1952, at 4 a.m., following two days of preliminary air strikes and intensified American-ROK bombardment, the American-ROK infantry advanced behind a rolling barrage. The UN bombardment succeeded in clearing the foliage on Triangle Hill and Sniper Ridge.

Triangle Hill was occupied by the veterans of the CCF 15th Corps. Qin Jiwei, commander of the CCF 15th Corps, constructed an intricate series of defensive networks on Triangle Hill, composed of 9,800 yards of tunnels, 55,000 yards of trenches, and 5,500 yards of obstacles and minefields.

As the Americans approached the Chinese defenses, they were met with grenades, Bangalore torpedoes, shaped charges, and rocks that were rolled down on them. The South Koreans captured Sniper Ridge, but the attack on Triangle Hill stalled as the attackers suffered heavy casualties due to Chinese grenades. Finally, on 15 October, the Americans captured Triangle Hill and Sandy Ridge, but the ROK troops lost Sniper Ridge to the Chinese. The back and forth battle went on and on, with an interlude at one point.

After all of the heavy fighting, the UN failed to gain the two hill masses that were their original goal. The battle lasted from 14 October until 25 November 1952. The battle of Triangle Hill was the biggest and bloodiest battle of 1952. Casualties: U.S. KIA-365, WIA-1,174; ROK KIA-1,096, WIA-3,496; UN estimation, Chinese casualties, 11,500.

I dedicate this article to my buddy, Pfc. Gerald V. (Jerry) McCoy, (US-55200453), "M" Company, 3rd Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division, KIA-23 Oct. 1952, on Triangle Hill. God bless him.

MILITARY

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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.

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DENVER R. ANDERSON
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WILLIAM L. BLANKENSHIP
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Name of deceased _____

Date of death _____ Year of Birth _____

Member # _____ 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**

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VINCENT A. STOCKHAUSEN

UNKNOWN

BOB G. CAMPBELL

RIFLES from page 30

ing service by those who still serve. There must be an alternative. It could be that Barnstable could have its own color guard formed from high school students who aspire to or are interested in military service. It could be called the Barnstable Drill Team or Rifle Team, but it would have to comply with the strict gun laws of Massachusetts in a well planned and organized fashion. Perhaps the Legion could sponsor them as "Sons of the American Legion," one of the legitimate forms of Legion organization.

Additionally, a gun club could take over the task of storage, maintenance, supervision and training. This task bears with it the possibility of military style target competitions. It is hoped that this form of activity for Barnstable youth would be a source of pride and accomplishment for

students who qualify to enter the Student Trooper program now taught by the State Police in cooperation with the American Legion.

Okay, that's the predicament one town faces. Other communities and organizations face the same situation. How do they address the problem? What steps have KWVA chapters taken to store their weapons used for military ceremonies, parades, etc? Are younger veterans stepping in to replace their older counterparts? If not, why not? Are military funerals going to become a thing of the past—or have they already?

Please direct your answers to these questions and related topics to Arthur G. Sharp, The Graybeards Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

"Buddy" Hebditch

Not long ago we laid "Buddy" Hebditch to rest. He had joined the Army in 1939. When he qualified for rifle he fired a perfect score. Not only that, but he did it three times more. With his '03 he competed against riflemen firing M-1s and won. What would you have done in WW-II with someone who was 'perfect'?

Buddy was a gunsmith since he was a child. His mother, who was part Indian, taught him about guns when he was three.

The Air Force was then the Army Air Corps. Buddy spent the entire war fixing 50 Cal. machine guns for them. There were so many that failed that Buddy was indispensable in his armory job in the USA. How many enemy aircraft his handiwork shot down is incalculable. When you serve, you never know where it will be. Hopefully, it will be where you can do your best for the sake of all.

Mariah: A Legacy Of War

The wall hanging Bob Echelbarger gave Mariah



I spent most of 1951 in North and South Korea as a lineman in the U.S. Marine Corps. For over sixty years the question, “Was it worth it?” has lingered in my mind. The answer finally came in bits and pieces and took the form of a smile on the face of a four-year-old little girl.

During the spring of 1951, after 73 days on the front line climbing hills, we finally went into reserve. We hiked down a ridge and came to a road which headed south to Regiment. While we were taking a break, I saw a large group of refugees walking south with all their worldly goods piled on their backs. My attention was drawn to a little Korean girl struggling along. She had dark almond shaped eyes, a round face, and wore a page boy haircut. She was wearing a dirty white dress that reached to her ankles. She had a large bundle strapped to her back, which caused her to lean forward under her load. She was barefoot, and her feet were dirty and flecked with blood.

As she passed close by she looked at me. Her silent lips and staring eyes seemed to ask the question, “Why?” Her eyes bore into my brain. There was a look of hopelessness on her face. I noticed tears trickling down her dirt-smeared cheeks. Suddenly, I realized her childhood innocence had been destroyed.

She disappeared from my life as we headed south. After I returned home, I often wondered about that “Little Porcelain Doll.” I even wrote a poem about her. I spent 35 years teaching in the public schools and raising a family. I lost my wife because

As she passed close by she looked at me. Her silent lips and staring eyes seemed to ask the question, “Why?” Her eyes bore into my brain. There was a look of hopelessness on her face. I noticed tears trickling down her dirt-smeared cheeks.

of a drunk driver in 1980. After I retired in 1990 I married a widow and have had an enjoyable retirement.

During 1999 another piece of the puzzle fell into place. My wife and I were invited to visit South Korea as guests with all expenses paid. The people live in freedom. While we were there, the citizens treated us warmly and bowed to us as we passed by. The country has a thriving economy.

While we visited a museum, happy, healthy, and bubbling-over elementary school children were thrilled with our presence. Their teachers warned us to not talk to them, because if we did they would not let us leave. It gave me a warm feeling knowing I and my buddies helped to put those smiles on their faces.

One summer in Iowa, I attended a gathering in a park honoring veterans. As I was looking at a display of war weapons, a young couple noticed my cap and came up to me. They said, “We want to thank you for what you did in Korea. Because of what



The "tontine" donated by F-2-5 Marines

you men did we were able to adopt a Korean orphan, who has brought joy to our lives. Thank you again."

The pieces continued to fall into place. We became good friends with a couple and spent winters in Texas with them. We discovered her sister and husband had adopted a Korean infant girl. She had been found abandoned on the street in Seoul, Korea when she was about three years old, and they adore her.

They attended a gathering of families that had adopted war orphans. The grown-up young lady met a young man there, who was also Korean. He, too, was an orphan abandoned on the street. I was able to attend their wedding, which included a ceremony in a Christian Church, followed by a traditional Korean wedding.

The final piece fell into place in July when I saw their daughter. She is about four years old, has almond shaped dark eyes, a round face, and beautiful black hair. Her radiant smile is something to behold.

Was it worth it? Yes, I believe it was, because I believe my "Little porcelain doll" was finally able to smile too because of what we did to protect her freedom.

I am now 85 years old, but memories of that long ago time still remain fresh in my mind. I have been fortunate to attend a number of F-2-5 First Marine Division reunions since I retired from teaching school.

Last September we met for the last time at the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, VA. At that meeting I was privileged to meet a surviving Fox Company Marine who was awarded the Medal of Honor for bravery in 1952. It was the last reunion of Fox Company men.

We donated the "tontine" (Last man bottle of wine) to the museum.

Robert V. Echelbarger, 16231 245th St., Mason City, IA 50401

LITTLE PORCELAIN DOLL

By Robert V. Echelbarger©

The little porcelain doll
stood by the side of the road
that early spring day in 1951.
Her dark almond eyes
registered the hopelessness
within her soul.

Fear showed within her eyes
like that of an innocent fawn,
cornered by wolves
with no place to hide.

She watched with tear stained cheeks
as we dealers of death slogged by.

Her silent lips and staring eyes
seemed to ask the question, "Why?"

The little porcelain doll
slumped with her shoulders pulled back,
by a cumbersome pack.
Her once white gown was streaked
by dirt and grime.

Her delicate bare feet were bruised
and flecked with blood.

I asked myself, "Why do you cry,
little porcelain doll?

Is it because your childhood innocence
has been destroyed?

I know you are weary
little porcelain doll,
and carry you I would – if I could."

"Like you, I have no place to lay my head
or a house to call my own.

Both of us are victims of war,
over which we have no control.

Your future lies in flight,
and perhaps survive.

My destiny is to fight,
and possibly die."

"Yes, little porcelain doll,
I will never see you again
as you disappear from sight.
Your haunting face will return to my mind,
during the quiet hours of night.
You will always have a special place
in my heart.

Little porcelain doll.

Oh, little porcelain doll."

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(UPDATE 03/07/13)

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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** _____

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Fax: 703-590-1292
E-Mail: mhtours@miltours.com
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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, Panmun-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 air-fare 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.

An Order From President Truman

Was this order implemented fully by all branches of the U.S. armed forces by the time the Korean War started? How did it affect operations during the war? Let the editor know.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 9981

Establishing the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity In the Armed Forces.

WHEREAS it is essential that there be maintained in the armed services of the United States the highest standards of democracy, with equality of treatment and opportunity for all those who serve in our country's defense:

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, by the Constitution and the statutes of the United States, and as Commander in Chief of the armed services, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion or national origin. This policy shall be put into effect as rapidly as possible, having due regard to the time required to effectuate any necessary changes without impairing efficiency or morale.

2. There shall be created in the National Military Establishment an advisory committee to be known as the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services, which shall be composed of seven members to be designated by the President.

3. The Committee is authorized on behalf of the President to examine into the rules, procedures and practices of the Armed Services in order to determine in what respect such rules, procedures and practices may be altered or improved with a view to carrying out the policy of this order. The Committee shall confer and advise the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Air Force, and shall make such recommendations to the President and to said Secretaries as in the judgment of the Committee will effectuate the policy hereof.

4. All executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Committee in its work, and to furnish the Committee such information or the services of such persons as the Committee may require in the performance of its duties.

5. When requested by the Committee to do so, persons in the armed services or in any of the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government shall testify before the Committee and shall make available for use of the Committee such documents and other information as the Committee may require.

6. The Committee shall continue to exist until such time as the President shall terminate its existence by Executive order.

Harry Truman
The White House
July 26, 1948

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Republic of Korea (March 8, 2013) Capt. John S. Banigan, commanding officer of the Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG-70) receives a lei from a child wearing a traditional Korean hanbok during a welcoming ceremony for Lake Erie in Mokpo during a scheduled port visit. Lake Erie is underway in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility supporting security and stability in the Indo-Asia Pacific region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Joshua Bryce Bruns/Released)