

America's Forgotten Victory!

The Graybeards

Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Vol. 13 No. 1

January - February 1999



Honoring fallen comrades...

The Graybeards

The Magazine for Members and Veterans of the Korean War.
The Graybeards is the official publication of the Korean War Veterans Association, PO Box, 10806, Arlington, VA 22210, and is published six times per year for members of the Association.

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(see President Emeritus)

On the cover...



Veterans honor fallen comrades with flags

By Mike Billington,
Staff Reporter
The News Journal, Wilmington, DE

GLASGOW - Pat Giordano cradled two dozen American flags in his big hands and walked carefully down the rows of graves, pausing every few feet to plant one next to a marker before moving on again.

Nearby, 24 other veterans did the same. Within two hours, all 3,834 grave sites at the Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery had a small replica of Old Glory standing at attention in the early morning sunlight.

"We do this twice a year to honor the memory of our fallen comrades. Once for Veterans Day and again for Memorial Day," said Giordano, 70, a New Castle resident who served as a Seabee in World War II and Korea.

Today is Veterans Day. It is a day when the nation pauses to remember the men who slogged through the chill waters of the English Channel during the morning of June 6, 1944, to launch the Allied invasion of Europe.

It is a day when veterans throughout the nation hold ceremonies to honor the men and women who went to fight in places with names like Can Giouc, Pusan, Dhahran, Panama, St. Lo and Guadalcanal. Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen -they fought on islands, in deserts, across mountains; they braved the

heavy seas of the North Atlantic and sweltered in the Pacific. They fought in the skies over Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

"We should not forget what they did, what we all did" said Glenn Graff, 72, the commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 475. Graff, who lives in Newark, served in the Navy during World War II, was aboard the LCT 535, the first boat to hit Omaha Beach on D-Day.

For Jerry Mathena, 64, of New Castle, those memories are especially poignant. One of five sons, his four brothers fought in World War II. He and three of his brothers also fought in Korea, where he was a member of the First Cavalry Division. His oldest brother, Richard, is buried in the Delaware Memorial Veterans Cemetery.

"My parents received an award for having four sons in World War II and another for having four sons in Korea," he said. "All five of us never served at the same time because I was too young for World War II. That's the only reason."

Most of the veterans who showed up early Monday morning were older men. They fought in World War II and the Korean War.

Some, like Giordano and Joe Reed, 67, of New Castle, fought in both wars. "I was in the 82nd Airborne in World War II," said Reed, "and the 24th Division artillery in Korea." Like Graff, he also was part of the Normandy invasion force.

"I came down this morning, like I always do on the holidays, to pay my respects," Reed said as he stood among a small knot of men sipping coffee and smoking cigarettes after they finished planting the flags. Heads nodded as he spoke.

"It's hard to explain to people sometimes, what it means to do something like this," said Jim Timmons, 70. He served in the 90th Infantry during World War II, part of Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army. His platoon was the first U.S. unit to reach Czechoslovakia.

"It's the least we can do for our fallen comrades -to honor their sacrifice on behalf of this country," William W.

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President's Message

First I would like to thank all of you that sent Holiday greetings. For those that I did not get to send cards to, I hope you had a very happy holiday.

It has been a good year for the KWVA. We have put a lot of our problems behind us and we have recovered much of the missing funds. Our membership is growing. We have increased our membership over 500. We look forward to having more new members in the year 1999.

On November 10th, Maryland Chapter President, Sam Fielder, Jack Cloman (President, The Gathering) Norb Reiner and myself along with others attended the Marine Corps Birthday at the Marine Memorial. The afternoon of the 10th we met at the Korean War Memorial and were greeted by MD Honorable Senator Paul Sarbanes. Senator Sarbanes informed us that there was an appropriation of two (2) million dollars to repair the Korean War Memorial and that all repairs would be completed by June of 1999.

On November 11th, Norb Reiner and I, along with all National Commanders and Presidents from Veterans Organizations attended a breakfast at the White House. Then we went to a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and a ceremony at the amphitheater.

On November 14-16 we had our Fall Meeting in Absecon N.J., much was accomplished. (The minutes are printed in this issues of Graybeards) I would like to thank the Board for their support of the appointments to committees. In order to administer an organization in a professional efficient manner, it is my belief, that the President and Treasurer should be in the same area, as it will allow for the timely processing of the KWVA obligations. This will avoid having to mail checks back and forth to be signed. I appointed Mr. Dan J. Nickolas from Dayton, Ohio as Treasurer of the KWVA. Dan has been the treasurer for the Department of Ohio KWVA for the last 4 years.

I would like to thank Jim Martin for his service to the KWVA. He has served as secretary and later as treasurer. Jim's dedication to the KWVA is appreciated. Jim Martin has been appointed our fund raising chairman.

On Nov. 17th Norb Reiner and I were back in Washington, D C and attended a

round table discussion on military funerals. All branches of the service were in attendance along with the Department of Veterans Affairs and all Veterans Organizations National Commanders/Presidents. Each member present had the opportunity to give input for military funerals.

Quartermaster Ken Cook and myself met in Danville IL to set up the KWVA Quartermaster, which will only carry merchandise to satisfy the requirements of our members. The Quartermaster will be operated as a subdivision of KWVA and will be responsible for its own expenses, it will forward profits to KWVA. If any chapters have their own Quartermaster please check with Ken Cook, he may be able to supply you with what you want. Ken Cook informed me of the dedication of US Route #1 from Chicago, IL to the Kentucky Border, naming it, Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway.

My wife Sylvia and I attended a Christmas party which included the Tri-State Chapter (OH-WV-PA) located in East Liverpool, Ohio, I had the honor of installing the Officers of this chapter. Whenever the Tri-State Chapter meets they include husbands and wives.

The following week we attended the Western Ohio Chapter Christmas dinner, also in attendance was Department of Ohio President and National Director C. J. "Skip" Rittenhouse. A great time was had by all.

Then on the 17th of December we attended the Greene County Chapter Christmas Dinner. Once again I had the honor of installing the officers for next year. There was a gift exchange and I received a Ohio lottery ticket for a prize of 35 Million. The

only trouble was that the ticket I had did not have the winning numbers. Such is life. The Greene County Chapter is working on getting US Route 35 through Greene County named the Korean War Veterans Memorial Highway. They have received approval from 9 different cities, townships and villages. The ODT should approve their request sometime after the first of the year.

The Greater Cincinnati Chapter held their Christmas dinner on the 28th of December. There were 3 National Officers in attendance, National Director C. J. "Skip" Rittenhouse, National Assistant Chaplain Howard L. Camp and myself. It is a good feeling to go to other State Department and Chapters meetings, and meet other Korean War Era Veterans. Each of us have our story to tell, although we may have been in the same place each have had a different experience.

I have been asked about the procedure of meetings when a Department or Chapter has a guest speaker. As a matter of courtesy the Department or Chapter President should ask the speaker if he/she would prefer to speak before the meeting. The business meetings are sometimes long and the speaker may have other plans. Another option would be to schedule a speaker to arrive after the business meeting.

On the POW page in this Graybeards is the information on the Hawaii POW ceremony on April 9th at the Punch Bowl (National cemetery), and other activities. Until next time I remain,

Harley
President, KWVA

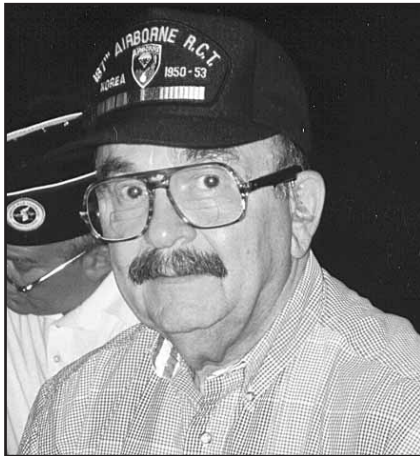
The Graybeards

The Graybeards is the official newsletter of the Korean War Veterans Association Inc. It is scheduled to be published six times per year. Views expressed in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the KWVA Executive Board nor does the KWVA Inc. assume any responsibility for errors of omission or commission. All articles, reports, and items except those clearly marked Official KWVA Notices and/or Announcements may be edited to conform to space, clarity, and format specifications without permission of the authors. Expressions of opinion as in editorials and letters to the editor if printed, may be edited only with the writer's consent. Material used with permission from other sources will identify and credit that source. The use of copyrighted materials must have the permission of the copyright holder before being used.

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Meet your new KWVA Treasurer...

Dan J. Nickolas



- ♦ Born in Chicago, Ill. on 7-20-29. Raised in Dayton, Ohio and graduated from Fairview High School 1948. Attended University of Dayton.
- ♦ Drafted on 1-25-51.
- ♦ Basic training at Fort Knox, Ky, B Co. 3rd Armored Division.
- ♦ Jump school at Fort Benning, Ga. Airborne Class 48 A Co. Graduation 6-29-51.
- ♦ July '51 A Co. 187th ABN RCT Weapons Platoon 2nd Squad, 60 mil. mortar Squad Leader, Temp. CPL.
- ♦ Participated in "Operation Showoff" Korea Nov. 17-51. Koje-Do POW RIOT 6-14-52.

- ♦ Iron Triangle Kumwha Valley as "Blackjack Regt." 7-5-52.
- ♦ Discharge - 10-24-52 at Fort Knox, Ky.
- ♦ 1953 - 1957: Co-owner and operator Washerette Laundry. 1957 - 1963 Remington Rand - Typewriter Div. as salesman and District Manager. 1963 - 1994 Lenz Co. - Sales Rep. "Hydraulic & Pneumatic Equipment". 1967 - 1972 Served on the Parish Council of the Greek Orthodox Church "The Annunciation" Dayton, Ohio. 1970 - 1971 served as President.
- ♦ Lifetime Member of DAV Chapter 140.
- ♦ 187th ABN Assoc. Buckeye Chapter
- ♦ KWVA #13639 LM Piqua and Greene County Chapter
- ♦ Now serving as State Treasurer, also served as KWVA
- ♦ Representative on the Planning & Dedication Committee for the "Veterans Memorial Plaza" in Columbus, Ohio
- ♦ Member American Legion Post #0888, VFW Post #7741
- ♦ Married Ann Kapnas (Toots) 12-1-57. 3 children :
John D. - Manager of Cozymels Restaurant
Major James D. and wife Shelley - Class of '86 West Point, 2 tours in Korea. Now at Command School in Fort Leavenworth, KS.
Melpo and husband Denny Murdakes - live in Eden Prairie, MN with the "King of the Clan" grandson NICKOLAS.
- ♦ On a very personal note - *I am a Die Hard Cubs Fan* - "Wait till next year."

Check Your Mailing Label

Membership Number
First two letters reflect membership type

Membership Dues Expiration Date. Date written in reverse with the year first followed by the month and day. The example shows a dues date of 2001, January 1st.

*****5 Digit	
R012345	010101
JOHN J. JOHN	320
12345 MAIN ST	
SMILEY NY 01234-5678	
DELIVERY POINT BARCODE	

Check your name and address (Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). Notify the Membership Chairman if you find an error. **If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4),** your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

Important: If barcode does not extend across full label, your zip code does not have 9 digits and your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

You're Probably in the 95% Group

... meaning that your KWVA dues are probably due.

Look at your mailing label (on the right hand side of the second line, just before it says "PKG"), if it says:

"01 /01 /99"—your dues are due in the amount of \$20.00 for the calendar year 1999.

"POW"—your subscription payment in the amount of \$6.00 is due for the calendar year 1999 in accordance with policy adopted at the July, 1998, General Membership Meeting.

If it says anything else, just wait until you receive a notice. We are attempting to get all members on a calendar year basis with their dues payment and we will notify you of the proper amount to pay you to the first of the year 2000.

Send your dues payment to: KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210.

Incidentally, if you move (or just head South for the winter) always notify us of your address change. It cost us approximately \$200 recently for notifications that members had moved and no forward address was provided. We were notified that the member was "AWAY" to the tune of 50 cents each. So let us know.

To expedite your mail...

☐ Vincent Krepps gets everything regarding The Graybeards.

☐ Nancy Monson and/or Lynne Eldridge get everything regarding dues and mailing information.

☐ Ed Markart gets all chapter materials.

☐ Dan Nicholas gets other financial matters.

☐ Ken Cook gets all quartermaster requests.

All addresses are on the inside cover of this magazine.

Notice To Chapters: Please include your chapter I D number on all applications and be sure to use the new membership application with the new dues amounts. Be sure all information is filled out on a new member application—zip code, area code, unit of service, etc.

Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation

By Bill Van Ort

1999-2000 Campaign in full swing



The KWVEGC is now accepting applications for college grants that will become available for the 1999-2000 school term. Eligibility for

these grants must be consistent with our Bylaws.

Applicants or sponsors must send in a request for the application forms to Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation, 8968 Thomas Drive, Woodbury, MN, 55125-7602. Please enclose a business size envelope (\$.33 for each application, \$.55 for 2 applications in one envelope), and the application will be returned by U.S. Mail. Completed applications returned after 1 May 1999 will not be considered.

Students of Korean War Veterans Deserve an Equal Chance to Attend College Too!

Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation
PO Box 14648, University Station
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Name _____ Rank/Title _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____ E-Mail _____

☐ Special Sponsors \$1,000.00

☐ Supporting Sponsors \$5.00

☐ Patron Sponsors \$500.00

☐ Sponsor \$10.00

☐ Associate Sponsor \$100.00

☐ Other \$ _____ (amount)

The term "Honorary Sponsor" shall apply to each member of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

Honor Chairs

Honor Chairs within the Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation provide an opportunity for individuals, Chapters and Corporations to honor Korean Veterans, both men and women, who served our country. All proceeds received will be used to support candidates on a yearly bases. For further information, please contact Lt.Col. Hansel C. Hall, USAF (ret), Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer @ 612-32-2685 or Director Richard L. "Dick" Adams @ 209-864-3196 before sending a tax-deductible contribution of \$1000.00 or more.

Graybeards Copies

The requests for extra Graybeards to support printing of same was such a success we will offer extra copies for every issue on a first-come first-serve basis. For future issues if you wish to make sure your orders are filled I must have advanced payment. The Graybeards will also be a great tool for the Chapters in New Membership and Tell America Programs.

Your order along with check or money order made out to KWVA National must be sent to the Editor by the first week of the first month of by-monthly issues. i.e. November-December issue, orders must be in first week of November. We request minimum orders of 5 at \$1 donation per copy plus \$3.20 postage. We can send up to 7 copies for \$3.20 postage. For orders above 7 copies additional costs for postage is \$3.20 for each increment of 7 plus \$1 per copy. Example: If you wish to order a full year (6 issues), send a check for \$61.20 with your request. —Editor.

COVER from page 3

Wailes, 67, of Newark, said. An Air Force veteran, he served with the 36th Fighter Bomber Wing.

Many of the men who planted flags Monday also will take part in Veterans Day ceremonies today. Traditionally, those ceremonies are held at 11 am. It was at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, 1918, that World War I officially ended. The holiday was formerly known as Armistice Day.

"We will take part in the Delaware Memorial Bridge ceremonies," said Gene Rose, 67, of Newark. The commander of the Korean War Veterans Association, he served in the 25th Infantry Division.

Rose waved a hand at the veterans who had spent the morning planting flags. "There are a half-dozen or so veterans groups that are represented here this morning," he said, "and all of them, and more, will be represented at the bridge ceremony." By 9 a.m. Monday, their job done, most of the veterans had left the cemetery.

"It's great that these guys come out to help with this twice a year," said Bob Rich, 52, a Marine Corps Vietnam veteran from Harbeson who is the cemetery's maintenance supervisor. "It's our pleasure," said Korean War Navy veteran Carl Weik, 66, of Newark, as he and David Carney, 66, of Bear, got ready to leave the cemetery. Carney, a Korean War Army veteran who served as a combat engineer, nodded. "We're proud to do it," he said.

(Thank you News Journal, Charles Farrell and Pat Giordano for the great photo and story.—Ed.)

Action Book

A Platoon Sergeant's Diary

During the Korean War (Sept. 1950-Sept. 1951), by B.R. Spiroff, 1stSgt-E8, USA (Ret). A realistic and detailed account of an infantry platoon's front line action.

Send \$12.95 plus \$1.50 (s&h) to:

B.R. Spiroff
524 Old Annapolis Rd.
Severna Park, MD 21146
(410) 647 -4503
or Barnes & Noble #1198-119

Veterans Services



By J. Norbert "Skip" Reiner
National Service Director.

Legislative Matters

Soldiers and Airmen's Home (SAAH), Washington, D. C. For years the SAAH had questionable management practices. Current SASH officials are making attempts to correct conditions. It is not too late! Senator Rick Santorum (PA-D) introduced a bill allegedly at the urging of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (MASS-D) that relinquishes SAAH land to a special interest group at a one bid offer. 49 acres would be transferred to Washington, D.C. Archdiocese for an under-market price.

The particular parcel is being designed by a private group, which supports veterans, in order to continue operation of financially strapped SAAH. Income generated would provide for annual operation of SAAH and of course benefit its occupants. Retired veteran occupants contribute heavily from their income and savings to reside at SAAH. The relative "free" aspect ceased long ago.

Approximately 525 of the current ± 1200 residents are Korean WAR Veterans. Estimates from sale will allow operation of SAAH until 2002 or 2003. Its doors would then close and the residents would be without shelter.

To all who criticize actions of the KWVA officers and appointees, those who ask how can I care, and those whom I respect the most who take an interest in their nation and veterans welfare, take positive action. Write, fax, and call your senators and congressman/woman. Protest vigorously but in nice terms how you abhor treatment and neglect of veterans. Ask why they wish to increase homeless veterans by 1200 or more in this nation. Urge them to stop any actions which would allow the sale. Further state the development of the 49 acres would relieve a tax burden on the Federal Government and be a benefit to those who served their country diligently and valiantly. Contact your representatives? Get busy! No procrastination! Help your buddies!

The National Defense Authorization Act for FY '99

I did summarize some of the data which

was pertinent in the prior "The Graybeards" however, this escaped my eyes. Thanks to Senators John W. Warner (VA-R) and Strom Thurmond (S.C.-R). Logically speaking our Memorial is now an *Official War Memorial*.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

NATO ministers will meet in Washington, D.C. during late March or early April. KWVADCC and others who care to join us will arrange for the ministers of involved nation in the Korean WAR to visit our Memorial. Chapters in southern and central Pennsylvania; eastern West Virginia; eastern, central and northern Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and southern New Jersey are invited to participate in whatever event is planned. For details fax or mail me.

League of Korean Americans

LOKA is composed of young Korean American legal immigrants or second generation citizens. Vaguely they remember the WAR. They supplied the repast after the ceremonies in 1998 and 50% of the beverages at last summers convention in Washington, D.C. LOKA members generally greet the Korean WAR Veterans with, "Thanks, if it wasn't for you I would not be here and there would be no freedom in my country." They are now planning another activity. Would like to re-visit Korea? Cost will be nominal; the same charged by various Christian church groups (composed primarily of Korean/American citizens). They offer a touch more to my liking as you get to meet the Korean citizens on a one to one basis, and see a little bit more. Are you interested, let us know? More details in the next issue of "The Graybeards." LOKA has chapters in many major U. S. cities. They want to know you!

Veterans Services

Disabled American Veterans: Service officers from the DAV represent the KWVA until we finalize our accreditation and have sufficient service officers. They do this with great gusto. Special thanks to Bob Plan and Ken Wolf who have undertaken several difficult cases (claims) of Korean WAR Vets. These are at the Board of Veterans Appeals and the Court of

Veterans Appeals. A tip of the hat and much thanks for their efforts. Why not thank local DAV service officers when you see them on behalf of the KWVA.

Criticism of VAMC's

It is constant throughout the U.S.A. Weekly summaries on VA matters continue to contain complaints, allegations, and out right descriptions of questionable medical care. The increasing amount of questionable deaths gives great concern. This item will definitely be on the agenda at the meeting of the National Military And Veterans Association Alliance meeting on 20 January 1999 which will be hosted by the KWVA.

Smoking

A continuing unresolved issue. Once some definite action is taken you will be alerted in this column. To those who have requested data on smoking, I am just clearing my backlog.

Chemical use in Korea

One response was received regarding knowledge of chemicals used in Korea. Some of our allied buddies are pressing for this data. Please provide any information you have. DoD alleges none. I am beginning to get different information from inside sources?

Disabled Veterans Receive Increase in Benefits:

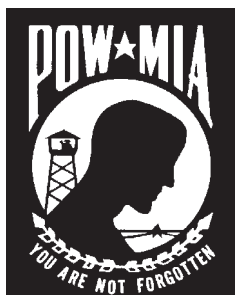
This is very misleading. They will receive a 1.3% Cost of Living Adjustment; same as government employees. The range is from \$ 96 (10% disability) to \$ 1,989 (for 100%). There are qualifications for widows, other dependents and non-service connected disabilities.

New Defense and Military Attaches Arrive

The Korean WAR Veterans Armistice Day Coordinating Committee (of course we are all members of the KWVA) will be meeting with the Defense and Military Attaches during the first part of February. The list for points of contact will be updated. KWVADCC welcomes donations to cover expenses for activities conducted at the Memorial and ANC. Make checks payable to KWVF, 1801 Saw Mill Run Blvd., Pittsburgh, Penna. 15210

Defense POW/MIA Weekly Update

Korean War /Cold War Document Family Research



Toll Free Info Number

Each of the services has established a toll-free number to keep these families fully informed on

Korean War and Cold War remains recovery operations. Family members of these servicemen should contact the appropriate service casualty office to provide name, address and relationship to their loved one.

If the missing serviceman was in the Army, the number is (800) 892-2490. The Navy number is (800) 443-9298. The Air Force number is (800) 531-5501 and the Marine Corps number is (800) 847-1597. Families of civilians missing from these conflicts may contact the State Department at (202) 647-6769.

Documents Released to U. S.

Officials of the Russian government have presented to the U. S. a collection of some 6,000 documents and 300 photographs from their military archives which relate to one of their combat units which flew in the Korean War.

During the 15th Plenum of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIA Affairs held in Moscow last week, the Russians presented the documents and photos from Russian Ministry of Defense Archives in Podol'sk. All the archival material passed to the American side pertains to the Soviet Union's 64th Fighter Aviation Corps which flew 74 percent of all the combat sorties flown by the communists forces during the Korean War.

The material contains descriptions of air combat between Soviets and the UN air forces, most of which were American. Often the records describe where aircraft crashed and on occasion note whether parachutes were seen. In a few cases there are photographs of aircraft wreckage and, in a few cases, remains of American airmen.

These archival documents will be used by American analysts at the Defense POW-Missing Personnel Office to clarify the fates of unaccounted for American servicemen from the Korean War. The documents may assist future U.S.-North Korean Joint Recovery Operations to locate remains of missing American airmen.

U.S. researchers working in Podol'sk selected the material for photocopying. However, until the Russians passed this material to the U.S. side last week, American researchers were allowed only to read the documents and to take notes. A preliminary analysis of U.S. notes has already allowed the Department of Defense to pass information to the families of missing personnel. Now that the Defense POW-Missing Personnel Office has possession of these photocopies, analysts will analyze them for additional information on unaccounted for Americans.

As each Russian document is catalogued, it will be analyzed by Russian-speaking analysts. Meanwhile, a copy of the Russian documents will be sent to the Library of Congress where it will be translated. Once translated, an electronic copy will be sent to FOIA [Freedom of Information] Branch at DPMO where it will be redacted according to privacy and McCain Act standards. The redacted version of the document will then be sent to the Library of Congress where it will be made available to the public.

Cataloging, analyzing, translating, redacting, and releasing documents is a continuous process. As each document completes this process, a copy of the original and a translated version will be provided to affected families and placed into the public domain. Nevertheless, in view of the large number of documents involved, it is anticipated that it will take at least a year to process all the documents.

Russians Meet U.S. Air Force Fighter Pilots

Five U. S. Air Force fighter pilots from the Korean War met with Russian officials recently to share information on American

shootdowns of MiG aircraft.

The unprecedented meeting was arranged through the U. S. -Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs, which is staffed by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO). Russian members of the commission requested assistance in resolving cases of Russian airmen missing in action from the Korean War.

A detailed analysis of the Russian cases, including the date, time and location of the shootdowns, indicated that any of these five Air Force pilots could have knowledge of the Russian cases.

The Russian side of the commission has assisted U. S. investigators for several years in interviews with Russians who have shared information about U. S. MIAs. A small U. S. team is stationed full time in Moscow, from where it conducts archival research, site visits and interviews with Russian citizens who may have knowledge of American MIAs.

The commission was established in 1992 by Presidents Bush and Yeltsin to examine information relating to Americans who may have been held by, or transferred into the former Soviet Union during the Vietnam War, the Korean War, the Cold War or World War II.

The six Russian officials visited the National Archives, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the DPMO and the offices of Senator Bob Smith and Congressman Sam Johnson, both U.S. commissioners. The Russians and Americans exchanged documents during these visits which may be of assistance to both sides in their analyses of unaccounted-for servicemen. The documents given to the Americans are currently being reviewed by DPMO analysts who are seeking to correlate them with American losses in an effort to further clarify the fates of Korean War-era pilots.

December 21, 1998

Agreement Set With North Koreans for 1999 Operations

U.S. and North Korean negotiators have reached an agreement in which teams in 1999 will jointly recover the remains of Americans missing in action from the Korean War.

This will be the fourth consecutive year that the U. S. has conducted remains recovery operations in North Korea.

The agreement following four days of negotiations in New York City led by the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, expands similar operations which have been conducted since 1996.

“We’ve hammered out an agreement that takes us far beyond our three previous years’ operations,” said Bob Jones, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for POW/Missing Personnel Affairs. “We formalized the concept of a joint investigation team to locate and interview witnesses to accelerate the pace of recovery, long before our excavation teams begin their work. This concept gives us the potential to recover more remains by using our people more efficiently,” he added.

The two sides agreed on an expanded schedule of six joint operations between April and November. Operations will begin in Kujang and Unsan, where joint teams have previously operated, with the potential to move to other areas later in the year as circumstances warrant. Exact site locations will be finalized in technical meetings in February.

During the past three years, through U.S. -North Korean agreements, Joint teams have recovered the remains of 29 soldiers. One has been identified by the U. S. Army Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii. Forensic examinations are underway for all the recovered remains. Identifications of additional servicemembers are expected within a few months.

The agreement also included two joint archival reviews, in which U. S. archivists are granted access to documents relating to U. S. personnel lost or captured during the war. U. S. researchers conducted an archival review in museums and records collections in North Korea during 1997 and 1998.

The U. S. side also continued to press to establish a mechanism for investigating reports of live Americans living in North Korea and to interview American defectors in North Korea.

DPMO 1999 Family Updates

DPMO has scheduled its family updates for the coming year. These sessions provide family members an oppor-

Hawaii — Proposed Itinerary 1999	
April 5th Mon.	Arrival: Rest
April 6th Tue.	10 AM tour of Schofield Barracks, lunch at the Club or Mess Hall
April 7th Wed.	10 AM tour of Kaneohe Marine Corps base and lunch. (evening show at Germaines Luau, if reasonable and participation).
April 8th Thurs.	8 AM Flag Raising Ceremony aboard the <i>Arizona</i> Memorial then tour the <i>Missouri</i> . 10 AM visit to CILHI and lunch at the Officers Club.
April 9th Fri.	Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific for the Prisoner of War Recognition Day Ceremony. Banquet Dinner, Hale Koa ballroom 5:30 pm 4:30 Army Museum
April 11th Sun.	Visit the Big Island staying at Kilauea Military Camp for two days. I am also going with Ken and Myrna Viles, but they will stay for a longer visit and return home on their own. The rate to these cabins are very reasonable and 30 miles from Hilo. Nick Nishimoto 2344 Ahakuka Pl. Pearl City, Hi. 96782 (808) 455-5088
Georgia — Proposed Itinerary	
<i>Andersonville POW Museum</i> – \$15.00 Per Person Starting Wednesday July 28, 1998 and running to Saturday July 31 if needed.	
<i>Fort Benning</i> – \$22.00 Per Person This tour will be on Thurs. 29 July Buses depart 0800. Incl. Lunch	
<i>Warner Robbins</i> – \$15.00 Per Person This tour will be on Fri. 30 July. Buses depart 0900 Includes Lunch and Movie	
<i>Shopping Tour</i> – \$8.00 Per Person This tour will be Sat 31 July. Buses will depart 1200	
<i>Historical Tour</i> – \$10.00 Per Person This tour will be on Wed. 28 July. Buses depart 0900 See December Korean War Ex-POW newsletter Please make all checks payable to Korean War Ex-POW Reunion and mail the completed form with your checks to Lloyd W. Pate, 5720 Broad Oak Dr, Grovetown, GA 30813.	

tunity to come together and hear status reports about various aspects of the accounting effort. It also gives us an opportunity to ask questions, raise particular concerns, and to emphasize the continued importance of the full accounting to us all. Families can review their own loved one’s file at these updates. You need to register with the appropriate casualty office if you plan to attend.

February 20Jacksonville, FL
March 20Sacramento, CA
April 17Hartford, CT
May 15Omaha, NE
June 19Washington, D.C.
July 17St. Louis, MO
August 21Oklahoma City, OK
September 25Spokane, WA
October 16Birmingham, AL
November 20Houston, TX

Update

Korean War Ex-POW

Dear Friends,

It is time for my Xmas message to you way out there. Mele Kalikimaka and Hauoli Maka Hiki Hou, (thought I didn't know Hawaiian uh!) Wishing you the best through out the years. Portland was great seeing you at the reunion, then in Sept. Barbara and I took a tour to Europe for 15 days and it was beautiful in Italy, Paris and London.

My project for April POW/MIA week is open to all POW's, widows, MIA families and friends. Contact me, Harley Coon, Shorty Estabrook or Ken Viles for information. Reservation for Punchbowl Ceremony has been approved for April 9th, Hale Koa is reserved for our banquet dinner for over 100 people also on the 9th. Visit to Schofield Barracks and Kaneohe Marine Corps Base is pending for approval from CINCPAC, and visit to CILHI is a must for you new comers. The day I have set for the Arizona Memorial, is followed by going aboard the Missouri (cost \$9.00 per head) and CILHI on the same day. Military bus is being arranged.

Aloha nui loa, Nick

The welcome mat is getting ready for you to arrive the day after Easter Sunday. You will arrive on April 5 thru 11, 1999 for the 6th annual POW/MIA week sponsored by the American EX-POW Hawaii Chapter and the Office of Veterans Affairs. This program is open to all POW's, widows, MIA families and friends. If you are

coming, check out the flights now for the best possible rates The only money needed now is \$30.00 per person for the banquet dinner held at the Hale Koa ballroom on April 9th, POW/MIA Recognition Day, on that morning we will have our ceremony at Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific, and bring your flat POW cap. Please make out the check to American EX-POW, Hawaii Chapter and mail it to me.

Your flight will bring you into Honolulu and it is only a 30 minute ride if the traffic is normal so take the shuttle bus to *Outrigger West* on Kuhio Ave. (coo-he-oh). For hotel reservations contact: Outrigger West 1-800-325-7171 or fax 1-800-663-5779 Let them know you are with the POW's to get the special rate of \$72.00 plus room tax so it will be about \$80.00 per room.

Hale Koa (Military) 1-800-367-6027 or fax 1-800-425-3329. Military ID card or sponsor with card must be at the hotel with you. The rate varies with rank. I am arranging a military bus to pick you up at both these hotels for the visit to the military bases and Punchbowl so there will be no travel expense but everyone will pay for their lunch at the Club or Mess Hall.

Taps Ex-POWs

Baldwin, Edwin A. ..A Bty/300FA Bn
Ireland, AlfredC/19/24
Norman, Gray M.K/38/2
Robertson, Alan B. ..E/8/1Cav
Sutton, Jung S.
Tickell, Alexander ..Svc Bty/38FA/2Div
*We will try to report on our Ex-POWs
in every issue—Editor.*

Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased _____
Date of death _____
Department/Chapter _____
Home of record _____
Army Navy Marine Corps Air Force Coast Guard
Other _____
Primary Unit of service during Korean War

Submitted by _____
Relationship to deceased _____

Send to: Editor, The Graybeards, P.O. Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210

Note: TAPS notices will be published in each issue of Graybeards

Korean War Veterans Memorial Video



Concert program cover
from 1892 concert tour.

RAH Video Productions announced that soon after the first of the year it expects to complete post-production of its latest video, Korean War Veterans Memorial, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Korean War (2000-2003).

According to producer Richard Huebner, a KWVA Life Member, the video portion of this full-length, ten-part VHS tape may contain some of the most extensive video graphic and photographic coverage ever accorded any American War Memorial.

"Augmented by sixteen complete musical selections by nine highly-acclaimed Armed Forces bands and choruses, veterans' personal war accounts, and paintings by combat artists," says Huebner, "images from the Memorial create an unique tribute to over 5,700,000 American men and women who answered their country's call."

The video's extensive audio background includes music by "The President's Own" U. S. Marine Band which has celebrated its 200th anniversary in 1998.

Huebner reports that initially a quantity of limited edition, numbered copies of this copyrighted video, along with a four-color, six-panel brochure and detailed information about the one-hundred-minute-long video's contents, will be available while supplies last. Unnumbered copies of the video will be available thereafter.

Those wishing to reserve limited edition, numbered copies should check out the Video Advertisement located in this issue.

I have been asked to inform you Mr. Huebner will try to have voice contact with you on the telephone when you call. Messages left on answering machine will not be responded to for at least two months because of the heavily involvement in production and packaging. Mr. Huebner requests you call again until he can talk to you directly.—Editor.

— See ad this issue.

National VA/VAS Representative Report

By Norman S. Kantor

I am pleased to report that KWVA had doubled in representation in the VA Medical Facilities within the past year. If every Chapter would become active in the VAVS program it would show one and all that the Korean War Veterans have not forgotten their fellow Veterans.

Certified VAVS Representatives are reminded that annual joint reviews are to be conducted in April. Contact the chief of Voluntary Services at the VA Medical Center. Copy of this report is to be sent to the National VAVS Representative.

Two Auxiliaries have been chartered and certified into the VAVS program. Welcome ladies of the central New York Chapter and also Chapter Two from MO.

One of our National Directors has been of great help to this vital program not only did he bring the Chapters located in Mass. into the program but is now in contact with the chapters throughout New England plus he is our Representative in one of the V.A. Medical Centers, to Rusty Tramonte, I say well done and thanks. Mr John Kwang Nam Lee our National Staff Officer Eastern Region has signed up to become our Representative at the VA Medical Center located in New York City

Organizations will be removed from the VAVS program when none of the certified members are in attendance at three consecutive meetings. Representatives must make sure that either the Representative or a Deputy Representative attends the VAVS Meetings at the VA Medical Center as stated in VA rules listed in 1620.1

The following VA Medical Centers still do not have certified KWVA representation. Check over the following listing as a member is your Chapter active? Are YOU?

AL	Montgomery, Tuscaloosa, Birmingham, Tuskegee
AR	Little Rock, Fayetteville
AZ	Prescott, Phoenix, Tucson
CA	San Diego, Sepulveda, San Francisco, Fresno, Long Beach, Loma Linda, Los Angeles, Palto, Pleasant Hill
CT	West Haven
FL	Gainesville, Miami, Lake City
GA	Augusta, Dublin, Decatur
HI	Honolulu
IA	Des Moines, Knoxville, Iowa City
ID	Boise
IL	Chicago, Marion, Hines
IN	Indianapolis, Marion
KS	Leavenworth, Wichita, Topeka
KY	Louisville, Lexington
LA	Alexandria, Shreveport, New Orleans
MA	Boston
MI	Detroit Park, Battle Creek, Saginaw, Ann Arbor, Iron Mtn.
MO	Columbia, Poplar Bluff
MS	Biloxi, Jackson
MT	Fort Harrison, Miles City
NC	Durham, Salisbury, Asheville, Fayetteville
ND	Fargo
NE	Grand Island, Omaha, Lincoln
NH	Manchester
NY	Bath

NV.	Reno, Las Vegas
NJ	East Orange
OH	Chillicothe, Columbus, Brecksville
OR	Roseburg, White City
PA	Altoona, Coatesville, Lebanon, Pittsburgh, Butler, Erie, Philadelphia
SC	Columbia, Charleston
SD	Fort Meade, Sioux Falls
TX	San Antonio, Big Spring, Dallas, Amarillo, Bonham, El Paso, Temple
TN	Mtn. Home, Memphis, Murfreesboro
UT	Salt Lake City
VA	Hampton, Salem
VT	White River Junction
WA	Seattle, Walla Walla, Spokane
WI	Milwaukee, Madison, Tomah
Wash DC	Washington VAMC
WV	Beckley, Huntington, Clarksburg
WY	Cheyenne, Sheridan

If a Chapter is out of state but nearby any of the above listed Centers, then we need you. Out-Patient Clinics are also requesting Volunteers-Certification and placement call me at 914-632-5827

Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

Actual Expenditures vs Budget Comparison 31 December, 1998

	Budget	Actual	<over> or under Budget
RECAPITULATION:			
INCOME:			
Graybeards	\$38,600.00	\$110,851.54	(\$74,251.54) Note 1
Quartermaster	30,000.00	28,329.75	1,670.25
Dues	125,650.00	221,042.63	(95,392.63)
Administration	1,800.00	15,584.49	(13,784.49) Note 2
TOTAL INCOME:	\$194,050.00	\$375,808.41	(\$181,758.41)
EXPENSES:			
Graybeards	\$74,320.00	\$82,879.37	(\$8,559.37)
Quartermaster	15,900.00	15,840.47	59.53
Dues	24,000.00	23,303.75	696.25
Administration	45,200.00	110,315.28	(65,115.28)
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$159,420.00	\$232,338.87	(\$72,918.87)
NET INCOME OR <LOSS>:			
Graybeards	(\$37,720.00)	\$27,972.17	(\$65,692.17) Note 1
Quartermaster	14,100.00	12,489.28	1,610.72
Dues	101,650.00	197,738.88	(96,088.88)
Administration	(43,400.00)	(94,730.79)	51,330.79
TOTAL NET INCOME : OR <LOSS>	\$34,630.00	\$143,469.54	(\$108,839.54)

Note 1 - Net income of \$27,972.17 is dedicated to GRAYBEARDS operations for 1999.
Note 2 - Includes \$7,427.67 balance transferred from '97 Reunion Account unexpected.

Korea, The Forgotten War..... remembered

Ohio Remembers



Sign located on Route 77, as you leave Ohio and enter WV.
(Not sure which State sign belongs to but we thank Dolan Faber of Ohio for the photo.)

Rhode Island Remembers



The new memorial will ensure that Rhode Island's Korean War veterans are always remembered.

Located in the small park across from the Frank Licht Judicial Complex on South Main Street, the memorial includes 1,500 engraved, commemorative bricks surrounding the statue. Cast in white, 145 of the bricks carry the names of the Rhode Islanders who died while serving in Korea; another 55 white bricks carry the names of Rhode Islanders missing in action. The engraved red bricks were purchased at \$100 apiece to honor loved ones who fought in the war.

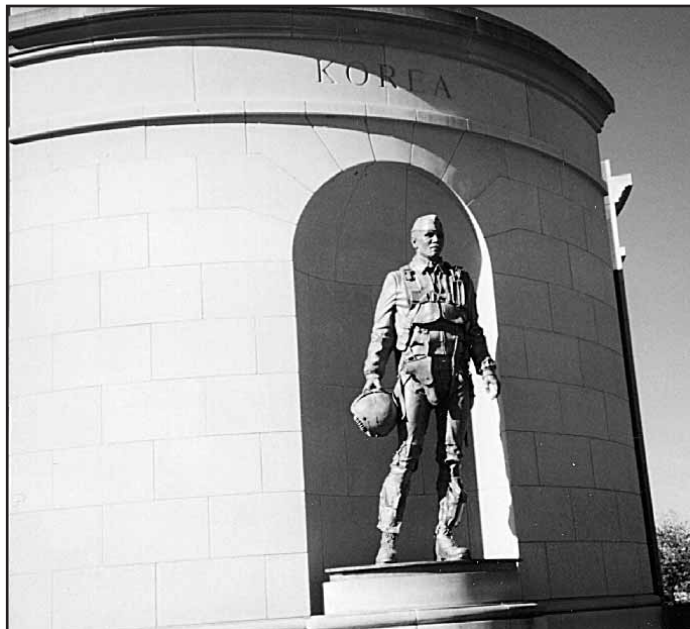
The statue, created by renowned sculptor Robert Shure, of Massachusetts, depicts a kneeling soldier with his hood pulled over his head, seemingly shielding himself from the wind at his back, gripping his gun with both hands in an ever ready position.

Colorful Korean dogwood trees, Japanese Barberry, Viburnum and Japanese Yew line the brick walkways leading to the statue.

Three granite benches sit across from the steady soldier. Five flags representing the United States, the Republic of Korea, the United Nations, Rhode Island, and Prisoners of War/Missing in Action are posted behind him.

(Thank you Maurice Trotter for the photos and newspaper accounts of Rhode Island's beautiful memorial remembering the Korean War)

West Virginia Remembers



On November 11th, Veterans Day, the Korean portion of the Veterans Memorial located on the grounds of the State Capitol in Charleston, was dedicated to all West Virginia Korean War Veterans both living and dead.

The Memorial is circular in nature with certain portions dedicated to World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Inside the Memorial the names of all those who perished in each of the wars are listed on the marble walls. The statues of a Doughboy for World War I, a Sailor for World War II and an Airman for Korea are all 8 feet tall and cast in bronze.

(Thank you Jack Tamplin for photo and detail on a super memorial from a great State.)

Canada Remembers



Photograph of the caskets, U.N. representatives, and the veterans' Honour Guard prior to the removal of the remains to Hawaii.

During a pilgrimage to Korea conducted by Veterans Affairs Canada this fall, our visit to Panmunjon coincided with the hand-over of the remains by North Korea to U.N. representatives, on 9 October 1998. We were honoured to provide five members of

the veterans' Honour Guard, together with U.S. veterans and three Belgian representatives. The ceremony, although brief, was conducted with the utmost dignity, and the dress, drill and deportment of the U.S. and R.O.K. bearers was exemplary.

Les Peate. National Secretary K.V.A. Canada. (Thank you Les.)

Montana Remembers



Montana Korean Memorial.

Montanans who served and died in what has long been termed America's forgotten war are no longer forgotten in Montana where a community memorial was erected in Missoula Mt. on 14 June 1997 as a tribute to their dedication and sacrifice.

Since the late 60's, the Korean War and its veterans slipped into the shadow of the more controversial Vietnam War. To correct what many perceive as an oversight, an 18 man committee was formed in September 1995 to raise money to create the memorial which was dedicated on Flag Day, 14 June 1997 in Missoula's Rose Memorial Park. The park is home to memorials for every war and conflict from WWII forward.

In just three years, over 54,000 Americans died in Korea; 103,284 were wounded; 8,177 listed as missing in action; 7,000 were prisoners of war (51% of whom died in prison camps) and 389 soldiers, sailors and airmen were unaccounted for when the war ended. Montana lost 138 men in combat in the war.

The memorial is constructed of black, academy granite, the same as that used in the Korean Memorial in Washington, D. C. The names of the 138 Montana men who died in combat are etched into the granite slabs.

The original design and artwork was donated by Missoula artist and Vietnam Veteran, Bruce Haegg Johnson. It features a map of Korea, a soldier looking down at the helmet of a fallen comrade.

The project would not have been possible without the tremendous outpouring of love and resources from throughout

Montana, several other states, Canada and Ireland, according to C E Crookshanks, Committee Chairman.

The construction of the memorial was funded entirely by donations from individuals, corporations, civic and veterans groups. There were no government funds of any kind used in the project.

The war that has been characterized as the "Forgotten War" is no longer forgotten in Montana. The memorial stands as a symbol that all veterans can look upon and know that we recognize and honor their patriotism, sense of duty and sacrifice.

(Thank you Chairman C E Crookshanks, former Lt. U.S. Navy 1953 - 56 for the photo and history of a memorial erected in the great state of Montana. I hope to publish more of what you sent at a later date.)

Minnesota Remembers



New Memorial dedicated to the Korean War Veterans of Minnesota in the State Capitol of St. Paul. Associated tablets contain the names of 738 Minnesotans who died in the War.

(I thank Ronald V. Hanson who is shown in photo for sending in several photos and newspaper articles. Maj. Gen. Ray Davis USMC (Ret.) MOH in Korea was the featured speaker. From the articles I see this must have been a great ceremony. Also associated with this memorial is an 8 foot statue of a soldier dressed in the clothing worn during the Korean War. Ron goes on to state that 94,646 Minnesotans served in the war. Part of that number were 738 KIAs, 154 MIAs, 1,500 WIAs and 30 POWs.)

Plates of Pride...



Tag of Wayne Dodge, Minneapolis, MN.

New Jersey Remembers



Presentation of \$5,000 check to spearhead a drive to raise funds to build a memorial. Shown (l to r) Joseph Cassella, Mike Yun, Mr. Yun's son, Jamie Cabrera, Ralph "Yucky" Pasqua, and Henery McCall.

It's Time to Remember. . . to memorialize

The time has come for the residents of Hudson County to remember the bravery of the men who fought in "The Forgotten War" as some historians have called the Korean War. This is the sentiment of the members of the Korean War Veterans Association of Hudson County.

The 38th Parallel Chapter of the Association is spearheading a drive to raise funds to build a fitting memorial to the 117 men from Hudson County who were killed while fighting for freedom in South Korea nearly a half century ago. The Korean War Veterans want generations of the Next Millennium to know of the commitment to maintain peace and freedom in the Twentieth Century.

As envisioned, the memorial will be located in a magnificent setting—in a new Veterans Park to be built by the State on the Hudson River Waterfront in Downtown Jersey City—with the spectacular New York skyline as a background.

A fitting site for a most fitting memorial! With two other monuments dedicated to freedom nearby—the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island—The Korean War Memorial will be on hallowed ground, where people can come to relax and meditate, and remember The Forgotten War.

To learn more about the Memorial

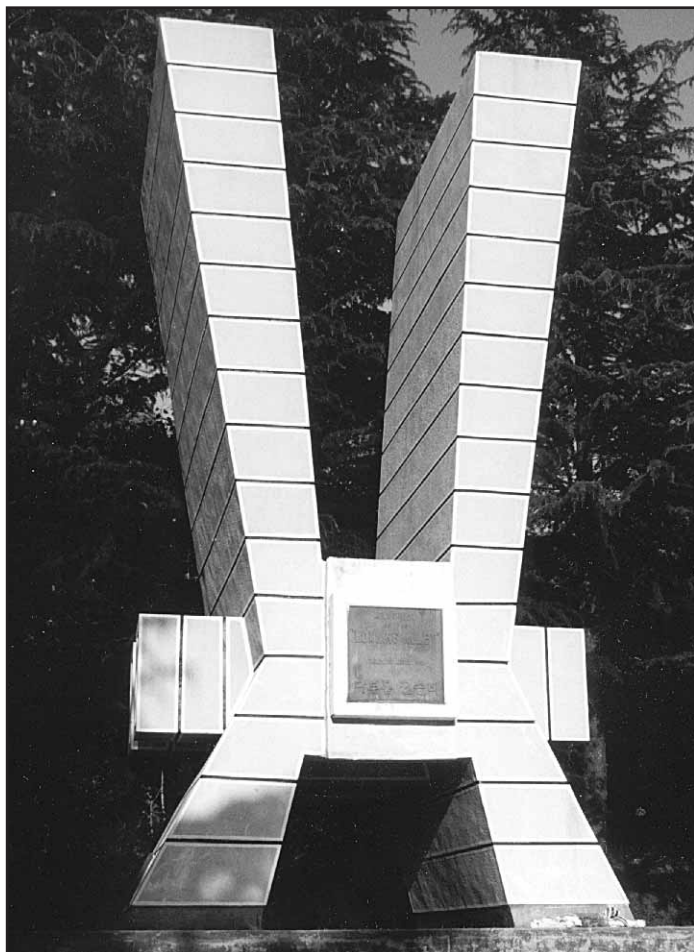
For more information about the campaign to raise funds for the Korean War Memorial, please write to: Korean War Memorial Fund Raising Committee, Korean War Veterans Association of Hudson County, P.O. Box 841, Bayonne, NJ 07002.

(Thank you Larry Barulli for the photo and memorial booklet. Your cause is very worthwhile and I am sure the support you need will start coming in. Donations can be sent to the address above and checks can be made out to the Korean War Memorial Campaign Committee. Editor)

Publish your Events

The KWVA has over 169 Chapters and Departments in the United States. Graybeards wants to hear from all of them!

South Korea Remembers



Memorial of the "Bowling Alley" Victory, Tabudong, August 1950.

Dedicated to the 27th Infantry Regiment

This monument is dedicated to the men of the 27th U.S. Infantry Regiment commanded by Col. John Michaelis whose courage and sacrifice represent the finest example of the strength, devotion and capabilities of the American soldier.

At this site in August 1950 the 27th stood side by side with the 1st ROK Infantry Division to hand communist aggressors their first major defeat of the Korean War. Their inspired leadership, fierce determination and aggressive fighting spirit helped preserve the freedom of the Republic of Korea and will be long remembered.

Erected by the Second Republic of Korea Army, the Kyung Sang Buk Do Province and the city of Taegu on 15 December 1971.

(Your Editor printed this memorial of South Korea to remind you that Korea remembers and that I still remember a Janet Westin Bicker that sent me an e-mail message looking for information on a brother lost at a battlefield called the "Bowling Alley," then supplying what she had learned including a trip to South Korea to see the area where her brother died. Janet, I will print the complete story and photos you sent me as soon as possible. I promise. We will also add the memorial to the web page. Editor.)



Dedicated to peace and unification

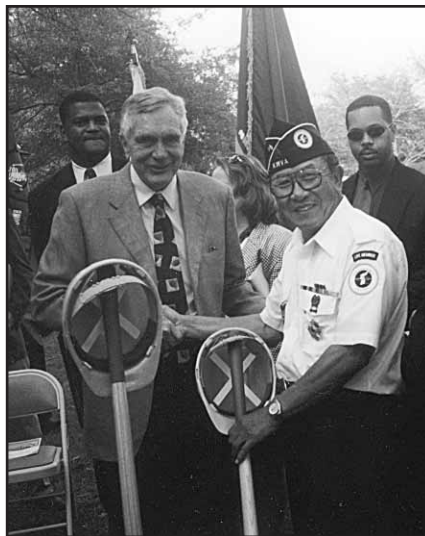
This statue is based on the dramatic true story of two brothers who met each other on the battlefield during the Korean War. It symbolizes brotherly love transcending ideology. The hemispherical shape of the pedestal symbolizes the grand unity and harmony of both Koreas while the crack in the center of the hemispherical pedestal, which is 18m in diameter and 11m in height, symbolizes the divided nation. The statue reflects the people's wish for peace and unification.

(I print this memorial for two reasons. First to remind Wilbur Webster that I still have his photos and this is one of them. In my recent visit to N. Korea and S. Korea and in seeing photos of what is in both museums, it is easy to see that both sides view the war favorably towards their beliefs. Second, I plan to do a story on my visit to South Korea similar to the one in this issue on North Korea. I will use many of Wilbur's photos since my trip to South Korea was filled with many meetings on Korea 2000 and I only saw this War Memorial and museum from a distance. My plan for the South Korea story is to tell you what I saw and what is on the agenda for you in 1999 to 2003. Thank you Wilbur for being so patient.)

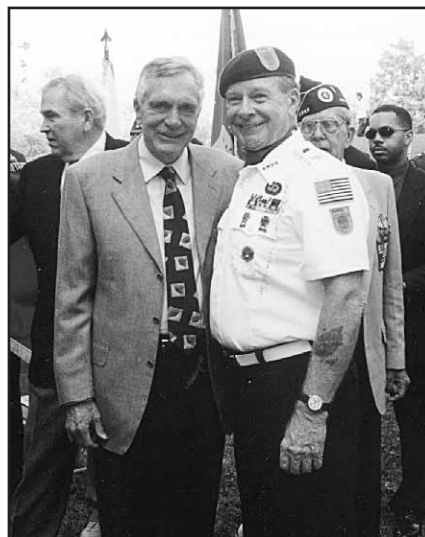
Florida Remembers



KWVA Dept. of Florida President Fred Shear (2nd from left) and Florida Governor Lawton Chiles (2nd from right) break ground with other dignitaries for Florida's Korean War Veterans' Memorial in the State Capital. The long anticipated monument is scheduled for completion in June 1999. *(Thank you Fred for photos.—Ed.)*



James Paek With Gov. Lawton Chiles at Florida Groundbreaking Ceremony.



Gov. Lawton Chiles at Florida Groundbreaking Ceremony with Dave Hanson. *(Thank you Dave Hanson, I will print your story next issue—Ed.)*



Clarence Dadswell, President Sun Coast Chapter at Groundbreaking Ceremony presenting \$3,000 check for War Memorial to Carlos Rainwater, Executive Director of Florida Veterans Affairs. *(Thank you Clarence for photo and story.)*



Florida Groundbreaking Ceremony. Shown above (l to r) is Pres. Conboy, Ted Sullivan, Charles and Amy Carafano, Carlos Rainwater, Jake Feaster, and R. Levy. (Thank you Charles for the photos.—Ed.)

Why so many memorial photos from Florida?

(1) Florida Governor Lawton Chiles is a Korean War Veteran, (2) Florida Governor Lawton Chiles passed away 2 weeks later, and (3) I had such a large response with many photos.

Florida - Chiles Accorded Military Honors

Vice President Al Gore flew to Tallahassee Dec. 16 to attend a funeral with full military honors for Florida Gov. Lawton Chiles, 68, who died of a heart ailment Dec. 12. Chiles, a Korean War veteran who served in the U.S. Army as an artillery captain from 1953-54, was commander-in-chief of the Florida National Guard. The memorial service included a military fly-over by the Jacksonville-based 125th Fighter Wing. The four F-15 Eagles, led by an aircraft named after Chiles, flew the missing man formation at 3 p.m. over the grave site at Roseland Cemetery in Tallahassee.

The coffin arrived in Tallahassee Dec. 15 following a drive that took the late governor's cortege across Florida's panhandle, retracing the steps taken 28 years ago when the Democrat began his first successful run for the U.S. Senate with a trek through the state which earned him the nickname "Walkin' Lawton." Thousands of mourners lined portions of the 200-mile drive from Century to the state capital, passing the rural hamlets of Mossy Head, Defuniak Springs and Sneads.

(Thanks for the photos, looking forward to Memorial photos.)

Pennsylvania Remembers

We are in the process of building The Philadelphia Korean War Memorial, in the near future. It will honor more than 600 men from the Philadelphia area who were reported, killed in action, missing in action, died while in captivity or who are unaccounted for from the Korean War. We do need quite a bit of money to get it built. Every bit helps to accomplish our goal to get it done.

We have 46, men from Philadelphia who died in captivity and 46 men who are unaccounted for from the Korean War in the over 600 men we will honor.

Send donations to The Philadelphia Korean War Memorial, Inc Fund and mail to Brian J. Gallagher, CPA, Treasurer c/o



John Plenskofer shakes hands with a POW from the Korean war who had just laid a wreath at our memorial site marker on Veteran's Day, November 11, 1998. The POW is Joe Demeo, The other POW with sun glasses is Thomas Francione, captured November 2, 1950, at Unsan, North Korea. Our Honor Guard is also shown. John Mitchell with web belt served with the 2nd Division.

Schalleur & Surgent, LLC, 237 Lancaster Avenue, Suite 240, Devon, PA 19333

(Thank you John Plenskofer, President, Philadelphia Chapter #38 KWVA for the photo and other documents. We know the veterans of PA will not let you down. When your memorial is built send us a photo.)

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Call for nominees for Election

To: Members Korean War Veterans Assn., Inc

Subject: 1999 Election of Directors

Dear Members:

The By-Laws of our organization state that a call for nominees for election at the annual reunion be stated in the "Graybeards" each year. This call is for any qualified member who seeks one of the positions available in the 1999 elections to submit their request.

Four Directors positions are open for the 1999-2001 three year term. Those desiring to apply will be required to meet the following requirements as stated in our By-Laws.

(Reference Paragraph C, Section 3, Article III of the bylaws amended July 27, 1997.)

C. No later than February 15 of each year where offices are to be filled, any person who is a member in good standing of The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. of New York, seeking to run for President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, or Director shall make his or her intentions known to the chair of the Nominating Committee in writing using the following format:

1. Requirements:

a. Must present proof of service by submitting a copy of a DD-214 or other document notarized as a true copy showing eligible service and a statement releasing your document for verification by the Nominating Committee.

b. Must present a current photograph suitable for publication in the association newsletter.

c. Must submit a letter with the following:

(1). Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.

(2). A resume of your qualifications for this office stating your experience that will be of benefit to the association.

(3). Your current mailing address, home phone number and KWVA membership number.

(4). This letter will be limited to approximately one typed page.

d. A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Executive Council and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.

e. *Your dues must be current through the term of the office you are seeking.* You will sign a statement to this effect. Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the association. *(Note: If dues are not paid in accordance to this paragraph, candidates will be automatically disqualified with no*

recourse to run for an office.)

f. Send the above items by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to the Nominating Committee Chairperson to arrive not later than March 15 of the current year.

Applications will be addressed to:

Nominating Committee

Co-Chairman

Maurice R "Dick" Wainwright

9001 E Rosewood St

Tucson, AZ 85710-2659

It is the duty of the Nominating Committee to receive, review and certify the nominees. The approved certified declarations will be forwarded to the Editor of "Graybeards" for publication.

The May-June issue of the "Graybeards" will list each certified nominee and the Official Ballot. Each member in "Good Standing", those whose dues are current when the "Graybeards" is mailed, are eligible to cast their vote by mail. The instructions to cast your vote will be listed on your ballot. It is imperative that you follow the instructions, complete your ballot and mail the ballot to the selected CPA.

Nominees are requested to write for a check list to assist them in completing their application.

Korean Vignettes ad

They Remember Our Lost Veterans

By Vincent A. Krepps

The words still echo's in my ears and they will forever, "I would spend the rest of my career over here if they allowed me to find your loved ones." Now I hope to have the ability to write a story about the field crew in North Korea searching through the hills and dells to find what is left of remains from a war that is over 48 years old. To put it in perspective, think of going to a local cemetery with markers on the graves and finding a loved one without a map. Most of us know how frustrating that is. Now consider that cemetery as large as North Korea and no markers and sketchy maps from memories that are over 48 years old. Now I think I can continue with my story.

On October 24, ten delegates from DPMO, and family/veteran associations entered North Korea to make our feelings known on POW/MIA issues and to also go to the field and actually see a remains recovery operation. The location was at best guess about 100 miles

north of Pyongyang, the Capitol of North Korea. The location is called Kujang. From maps that were given me by DPMO it was evident that several divisions of the 8th Army fought their way North to this location and beyond in October-November 1950. This is also about the time it became obvious to the frontline troops that another country had entered the war. The word was still "Push North" and "The War will be over by Christmas." As I struggle to find the proper words for this 'Thank You Story' I find my mind wondering back 48 years attempting to intermingle into my text, for tomorrow will be the day (December 1, 1950) 48 years later when my twin brother Richard became MIA, then POW, then body not returned. I must fight off these emotions as I had to while in the field this past month looking at the familiar terrain and seeing the outlines of several search areas where remains were recovered during the time we were there. I will inter-mingle photos as I go along and recall my emotions and thoughts.

The photo #1 upper right is the airplane that took us from Beijing, China to Pyongyang, North Korea. It was fairly modern with the average services one would expect in this mode of travel. We were served while in flight and all seemed normal. I do not know the nationality of the pilots or hostess, but one would assume they would be North Korean. Several things one would feel a little unusual compared to modern day large plane travel. First is the scramble for the standing room only busses that meet you at plane side. Second and it was pointed out to me this way. "When we land look back at the plane." After a few minutes I

did look back and to my amazement they were pouring buckets of water on the wheels. Why? you ask, to cool off the breaks for they do not use the engines to slow the landing, they use mostly breaks in order to save fuel. We also got propaganda material to read.

The next photo #2 is the Pyongyang Airport. Security is very tight here as one must expect. I did not see anything too odd here. But I do recall someone had a souvenir statue bought in China that caused us several anxious moments while the entire bag was opened and searched. Thank God for Maj. Cohen and his friendly ability. He actually had friends in both China and North Korea, he knew the language and was able to almost get us VIP treatment wherever we went. He also was a super bargainer in the shops and saved us many of those things they use that we call dollars.

While I am mentioning names, I better name all the delegates and who they represent.

G. Michael Schlee, American Legion
Donald Hearon, American Veterans
Robert Lunney, Chosin Few

Mrs. Gerri Montgomery Prescott,
Coalition of Families of Korea/Cold War

Mrs. Ann D. Bakkensen, Korea/Cold War Families Association

Vincent Krepps, KWVA

Ken Steadman, VFW

Lt. Colonel J.J. Campbell, USAF Escort Officer, Office of Family Liaison

Maj. Steve Cohen, Senior Analyst

Danz F. Blasser, Senior Analyst

Now that every one is known, I can continue the story.



◀ #1 - Air Koryo - North Korea's Airline - Russian IL 62

#2 - Pyongyang Airport - Kim IL Sung in photo on roof. ➤





◀ #3 - Uptown
Pyongyang as
seen from my
hotel window



#4 - American
delegation on left,
Mr. Cha and the
Mr. Kims on the
right. (2nd meet-
ing). ➤

Photo #3 will be the view of uptown Pyongyang from my hotel window. This is also the location where we held our first dinner meeting with Mr. Cha and three other North Koreans that would be with us for our entire stay. It is easy to remember the other three for they were all Mr. Kim. At this time I will say these four North Koreans had no part in the war but several had lost family members during the war. I would also say they all treated us with great respect and their manners were of the highest degree. In fact after several days of seeing each other I would have to upgrade our feelings to friendship.

As you look at the streets, you see very few vehicles and most of them were military or government. Transportation was mainly street cars and busses. I would say most people walked and I do not just mean blocks. They walked for miles from early morning to well after dark. This was also true with the military in uniform. I would say 7 out of 10 were military.

Photo #4 will be of our second meeting that took place at the Foreign Ministry. I will not go into a lot of detail about that

As you look at the streets, you see very few vehicles and most of them were military or government. Transportation was mainly street cars and busses.

for it was in my report in the Nov.-Dec. issue. Mr. Cha was the main speaker at our dinner meeting as well as this one. At each meeting the 10 delegates also had a chance to speak.

Photo #5 will show the location of the meeting in the background. Those in photo are the 7 delegates from associations. Three of us had POW/MIA loved ones.

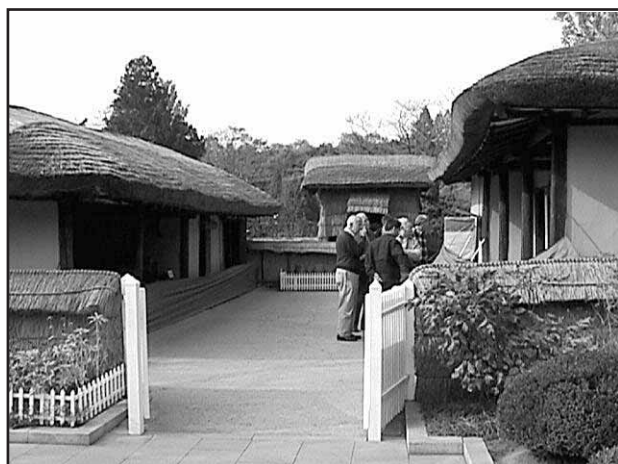
The location of the 2nd meeting was near an area what we would equate to as Red Square in Russia. This is the area where mass meetings and parades are held to honor their Great Leader, Kim IL Sung and now his son, Kim Jong IL. The photo of their Great Leader is on the building at the left. I believe this building is the Grand Peoples Study House. Most public buildings are entrance free to the public. Our transportation to all the different loca-

tions was by bus for the majority but we did have a Mercedes and a four wheel vehicle accompany us on most trips. The Mercedes was for Mr. Cha. On each trip one of our delegates was selected to be the Head Delegate for the day and that person rode in style with Mr Cha. That honor had its drawbacks, for everyone given that honor had to hear the comments (Friendly teasing) from all the other delegates for the whole day. Needless to say all comments were out of hearing range of the North Koreans.

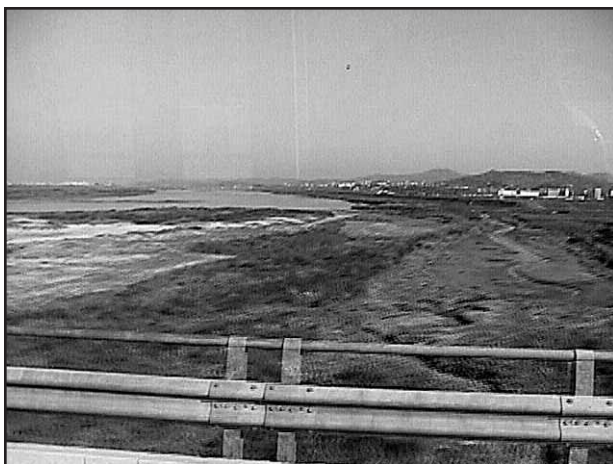
Photo #6 is out of sequence but it was on one of our stops on the 26th of October due to a change in plans that I will mention later. This photo was of Kim IL Sung's birthplace. Very primitive living quarters separated into sleeping, living, cooking, and storage areas. Surrounding this was a large beautiful park assumed to belong to the family. I would imagine that in the spring and during the summer blooming period this area would be a special location for a summer family outing. Nearby was Taedong River and what looked like an amusement park and picnic



◀ #5 - Seven
Association
Deligates at Kim
IL Sung Square



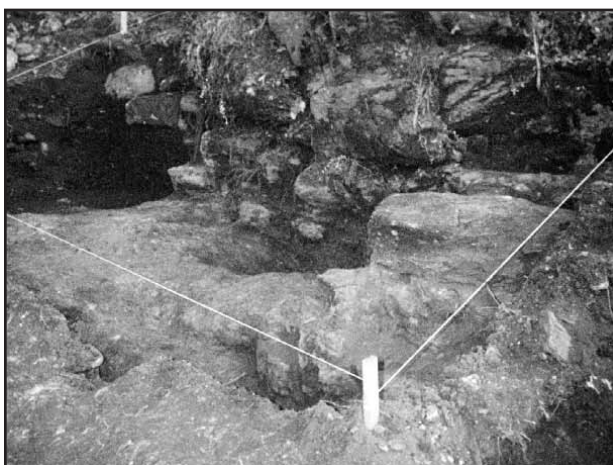
#6 - Delegates
viewing Kim IL
Sungs birthplace ➤



◀ #7 - The Chongchong River as seen from the road.



#8 - The cabbage patch. The blue tarp is for shelter. ➤



◀ #9 - The marked off recovery locations.



#10 - The sifting devices for finding small articles and bones. ➤

area. On this day there were large groups of military and school children visiting. Yes, there was a gift shop and several memorials in memory to Kim IL Sung. One memorial was to a U.S. ship sunk in the 1800's. As you can tell by the clear photos, October 1998, was not the cold Winter weather we all experienced in 1950. Most days were in the high 60's

Finally after a little photo and text lead-ins I come to the most important part of this story. I will show as many photos I can and also pay honor to those men in the field looking for the remains of our buddies.

Remains Operation Oct. 25, 1998.

The excitement of this day was heavy, for I did not know what my reactions and emotions would be. We were going to our 2nd meeting at the Foreign Ministry. The first meeting was at dinner the night before in a different atmosphere where many toasts were made and all had went well. This meeting would be more of a business environment where we would be making statements in a more demanding

way. Surprisingly all went well and both sides listened. So far, our association with the North Koreans were with the government type people or as I call them, the politicians. After lunch we are scheduled to meet our field team and also members of the Korean Peoples Army. (KPA) This day was mine to be the so-called head delegate. Lt. Col. Campbell and Maj. Steve Cohen, in my mind knew that I was the only ground combat veteran in the group that fought in the Korean War. They had SFC Tonanue ride with me as a buffer between the North Koreans and myself. It also could have been emotional or physical support for this old veteran. Mainly in my mind they had their reasons and I welcomed this seasoned soldier to be my crutch if needed. We were going to Kujang. We rode what seemed to be 2 hours on a paved road that had very little traffic as I recall. From the map and overheard conversations I assume that we were 100 plus miles north of Pyongyang. At one time we were parallel to the Chongchong River (Photo #7) that was a major obstacle to the troops that fought in

that area during the war. The convoy finally came to a stop. Several of the men in the field came out to greet us.

My recollections are Major Robinette and Dr. Adams.

There was just too much to take in to recall all the details. We were directed to a location about 200 yards from the road. First we had to get across what appeared to be a wide and deep irrigation or drainage ditch that had makeshift ladders to get in and out. We worked our way through a narrow patch which we were told was a cabbage patch. (Photo #8). In fact the field team kiddingly called themselves "The Cabbage Patch Kids." As you approached the site many men were lingering about but the one thing that stood out to me was the outlined diggings. (Photo #9). The apparent locations where remains were found and also where more searching would take place that day. It did not take long for your eyes to be attracted to the sifting devices. (Photo #10). We all knew their function, they were a part of this emotional scene.

We then met and shook hands with all

the Field Team. What an honor for me. At this time I will give all the names that was given to me.

The Field Team

Maj. Jeffery Robinette - Mission Commander, Major Timothy Thomas - Team Leader, Dr. Bradley Adams - Anthropologist, SSG Thomas Murphy - Sr. NCO, SSG Leon Hudson, SGT Jonathan Loar, SFC Hyon Paek - Linguist. Other members of the Field Team were SFC Chris Fields - Communications, SSG Felipe Rodriguez - Mechanic, HT2 Randy Lewis - EOD, HMC Warren Kenndy - Medic, SFC Tonanue and Rusty Harrison DPMO (Photo 11). I will have more to say about them later in this story.

Major Robinette and Dr. Adams (Photo 12) briefed the delegates on the process that was taking place in this area. Major Robinette used the map in photo to point out our location. The Major showed the battlefield situation and troop locations. The 2nd Inf. Div. and 25th Inf. Div. and other 8th army units passed through or fought in this area. Dr. Adams showed us a skull and other remains from at least two

Dr. Adams showed us a skull and other remains from at least two America servicemen that will be coming home. He also pointed out that the teeth are the strongest identifier, not DNA.

America servicemen that will be coming home. He also pointed out that the teeth are the strongest identifier, not DNA. Dr. Adams also made an observation he noticed while looking at the remains. The remains found in North Korea were more intact then those found in Vietnam because of the different climate and less acidity in the soil. Needless to say this was very emotional to me knowing I was tracing my twin brothers footsteps and that I was only 45 miles from the assumed location of his remains.

Photo 13 shows the North Korean Recovery team and I do not have names.

None fought in the Korean War, but I am sure they lost family members. They were very friendly and agreed to pose for my picture. Like most photos we had to ask first. I was told this area was Kunu-ri

and is now called Kaechon. Since the Gauntlet was over 20 miles long, I do not know what part of the roadblock we were near but from looking at the terrain this must have been a horrible location to defend especially with the ridge lines on both sides of the road.

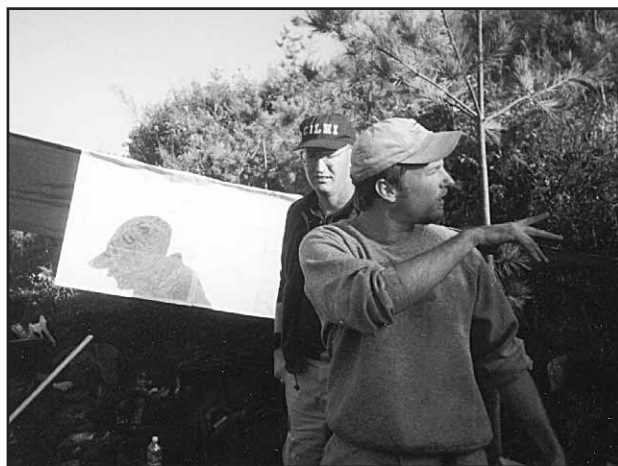
At this location I met Sr. Col. Pak, Korean Peoples Army (KPA) for the first time. I would assume he is the North Korean equal to Major Robinette. He had very little to say at this location. I do not recall how long we were at this site but it seemed to be at least several hours. We left just as dark was approaching. A delay occurred due to a fall from the ladder.

During our return to the vehicles and waiting for the first aid being given to our friend Rusty Harrison who fell, we learned that we would be going to the Field Team Base Camp. One thing that I forgot to mention is that every association delegate brought gifts to the team in the field. All gifts were of the edible type and something that was not available in North Korea.

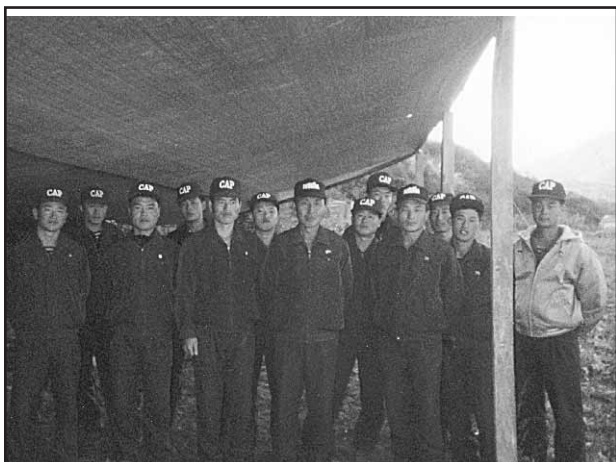
Photo # 15 was the type of road we



◀ #11 - The American Field Crew.



#12 - Major Robinette and Dr. Adams brief delegation. ➤



◀ #13 - The North Korean, Joint Recovery Field Team.



#14 - Sr. Col. Pak, glasses and Mr. Cha far right. ➤

traveled on most of the way North and our return back to Pyongyang. The road to the remains site was not as good but the dirt road to the base camp took me back to the 50s. We pulled off the paved road somewhere near the Chongchong River. Several of the bridges I saw across the river looked like they still carried the scars of war. We passed many similar styled huts of the 50's but much improved. In some cases the homes were grouped together village style. These could have been military compounds. Most military compounds were very obvious due to the uniforms and vehicles located in the area. It seemed that the people both civilian, military, old and young walked from the early hours to hours well after dark. No need for exercise bikes or treadmills in this country. We rode for what seemed forever over the dusty narrow roads to a remote area over the mountainous terrain until we came to the base camp. Again many things caught your eye quickly. The motorpool area, the makeshift steps up to the large tent that was the eating tent, more steps from that area to the sleeping quarters tent and last but not least the last set of steps up to the tarp protected latrine. Yes, at some time during our stay I walked all these steps. We entered the large tent first and it was clear this would be our evening meal and meeting location. Sr. Col Pak spoke first. It was apparent that he was not a politician but a military man. Sr. Col Pak is the Deputy Commander of the Kaesong Garrison and oversees the KPA involvement in the recovery operations. His initial comments in the tent were severe and he toned down toward the end of his speech with a toast to us and the joint recovery operations, including

improvements in future years. The food was not an upgrade, much less then the old C-Rations. Apples were for dessert. We all walked out with armloads and I think that hillside will see many new apple trees sprouting up after the winter thaw. Our good-byes to the men in the field were short but showed in our comments that we were grateful to these men for enduring primitive living conditions under armed guard for what they expressed to be a privilege of recovering the remains of American servicemen. We told them our parents and the men they were looking for were up in heaven looking down and blessing them for their sacrifices. We did exchange some small talk with each due to our limited time. As I look back now I wish I could have spent an entire day learning more about these special men. For most their home base is Hickman AFB and Schofield Barracks. Again, I will say the remarks of Major Robinette and others about their commitment to the missing will not be forgotten, hence one of the reasons for writing this story and showing the photos. I wish I had photos of the base camp but it was getting dark and I do not recall anyone telling us we could photograph this area. We arrived back at our hotel in Pyongyang well after bed check.

Our schedule for early in the morning was to go to Pyongyang Airport to be helicoptered to the Chosin Reservoir. Needless to say we all slept well that night.

Photo #16 was a view of Pyongyang from across the river. Although two rivers flows through or past Pyongyang, the Taedong and the Pothong, I believe the one in the photo is the Taedong. This

photo is also out of sequence and it associates with our local city tour of monuments and historical sites taken on 26th October and is associated with photo #6.

On October 26, we arrived at the Pyongyang Airport to be transported by helicopter to the Chosin Reservoir. We were going to review this area for future recovery sites. After going through the dreaded security we were sent to the VIP section to await our departure. We could see the Russian helicopters based across the runways. A few stories about the reliability and the need for spare parts for our helicopter was passed on in low tones to the delegates. The longer we waited the more stories we heard. An hour later we learned our trip to the Chosin was canceled due to bad weather in the Chosin area. I must say even though I wanted to see the Chosin, I was not too disappointed when the trip was canceled after hearing all the stories.

What do we do now to fill up the day? The Fatherland Liberation War Museum was something I wanted to see as you can tell by the photos. Several of our members had seen it before and had less interest to go there again. Mainly the family members wanted to go there.

From a family and military point of view I wanted desperately to see this museum for I had heard much about it. The guide at first said we had little time to see the full museum. She said it would take at least two days to see it all. We explained to her that we only wanted to see certain areas. Being trained and programmed to tell the history from room one, which I believe had a lot about the liberation of Korea from Japanese rule, it did not take long to let her know we had



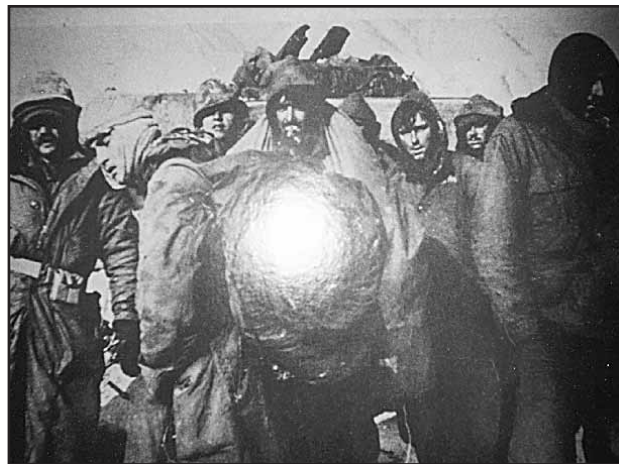
◀ #15 - North Korean highway. Very little traffic.

#16 - Pyongyang from a distance across Taedong river. ➤





◀ #17 - American POW's. On way North to POW Camps.



#18 - More POW's. M-19 (twin 40s) in background. ➤



◀ #19 - American vehicle and dead soldier. This hurt.



#20 - MiG -15. ➤

our own agenda. Most did not listen to many of her words and picked out displays from each of the rooms that we entered. It was not long before she understood that we had no interest in hearing her version of the wars. Our movement from room to room moved much faster and soon she was adhering to our wishes to see certain rooms. Mainly the rooms dedicated to the POW photos and shoot-downs. The museum had three floors and we were on each of them. Our rides on the elevators were many.

Photo # 17 shows maybe early war POW's.

These are the photos of interest to me. I spent as much time at each POW photo studying the faces, looking for someone that I knew. The photos are not clear and pardon the flash but the actual photos in the museum were bad also and some looked like reproductions that I had seen in magazines and newspapers.

Photo # 18 shows a M19 in the background (the vehicle that I drove in Korea) but the faces were much clearer. Maybe someone out there will write and say, "I

knew that man," or "that was me."

Photo # 19 was a tough one to see. Many murals on the wall depicted Americans being bayoneted and clubbed during battle but none hurt as much as this one. I hope a family member out there does not see it.

Photo # 20 shows one of their planes. This display took up the whole basement. Many captured U.N. vehicles and weapons were on display on this floor. I ran out of film so I can only tell you what was there. I saw I.D. Cards, Dog Tags, M-1's, Carbines, Grease Guns, BAR's and hundreds of other small arms and machine

guns. It was quite an emotional site. This was quite a moving scene. It did not take too much imagination to see Americans behind the wheel of these vehicles, manning the guns or carrying the weapons. I even seen the type of vehicles my brother and I drove in Korea. We had the city tour later but nothing could erase the emotions of the prior sites in the field and at this museum and nothing will.

With deep emotion and from the bottom of my heart, I thank our new friends from CILHI, Hickman AFB, Schofield Barracks and DPMO who look for all our loved ones. May God Bless you and your

Graybeards for Sale

Back issues:

☐ May -June 1995

☐ March-April 1997

☐ Nov-Dec, 1998

☐ March -April 1996

☐ Sept.-Oct. 1998

These issues are limited so get your order in early. \$1 per copy plus \$3.20 postage. Make your check to KWVA National and state in message or note on check "For Back Issues." I suggest minimum orders of 7 issues including the most current. Mix your issues as you want. Orders of 50 of the above issues (except current) for gaining new members or just passing out at veteran hospitals can be obtained at an reduced rate of \$25 including postage. Send your orders to Editor. See address on page 2.

Comfort Inn - Absecon, New Jersey
November 14, 1998

Minutes

Present were:

Harley J. Coon, President
Kenneth B. Cook, 2nd Vice President
Nick Pappas, Past President
Bob Morga, Director
Ted Trousdale, Director
Jack Edwards, Director
Ed Grygier, Director
Bill Van Ort, Director
C. J. Rittenhouse, Director
Tom Clawson, Director
Richard Danielson, Director
John Settle, Director
Dot Schilling, Director
Edward Markart, Secretary
Jim Martin, Treasurer
Excused were:
Edward Magill, 1st Vice Pres.
Rusty Tramonte, Director
Donald Barton, Director

Call To Order

President Harley Coon called the meeting to order at 0901 hours and welcomed all those who were present. He led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Invocation by Chaplain Ervin Sharp.

He requested that the Secretary take the roll call of council members. There were sufficient members present for a quorum.

President Coon requested a **motion to approve his rules for the meeting**. Mr. Van Ort made the motion, seconded by Mr. Edwards, and **approved unanimously** by all present.

He then asked each member and guest in the room to introduce themselves.

President Coon requested that the **item regarding the dues structure be removed from the agenda**. The **motion** was made by Mr. Clawson, seconded, and with 2 opposed (Pappas and Rittenhouse) **it was passed**.

Copies of the minutes of the Executive Council meeting on Friday, July 24, 1998 and the General Membership meeting on Sunday, July 26 at the Annual Reunion in Virginia were distributed for comment and review. However, **the minutes of the Executive Council meeting on Saturday, July 25 were not available** in time for printing and distribution. A motion by Mr. Van Ort, seconded by Mr. Pappas, recommended that the **approval of these minutes be tabled until the next meeting**. **The motion passed.**

The Secretary asked if there were any changes or corrections to be made to the minutes that were distributed. It was reported that Mr. Bob Morga had attended the July 24th Executive Council Meeting but his name was omitted from the attendance list. Also Mr. Reiner's name was spelled incorrectly and should be changed. There being no further corrections, a **motion was made by Dot**

Schilling, seconded by Mr. Grygier, to approve the minutes of the July 24, 1998 Executive Council Meeting. It passed unanimously.

Likewise, the minutes of the July 26th General Membership meeting were amended to show that Mr. Magill was an excused absence and that 115 members were in attendance. **A motion made by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Clawson, and with one abstention, the minutes were approved.**

Report on Financial Status

Mr. Pappas reported for Stan Myrda, the CPA who is filing our claims with the insurance company. He said that claims are to be filed for the years 1995, 1996 and for another \$95,000 on the present claim. There has been no further word from the FBI regarding the case.

President Coon reported that settlement with Greene Associates who handled the arrangements for the 1995 Annual Reunion was being resolved. A stop payment was made on the KWVA check previously sent for \$6,800 since Mr. Magill indicated that they would settle for \$6,800 plus an additional \$500 to close the account and the debt would be paid in full. A **motion** was made by Dot Schilling, seconded by Mr. Clawson, **to pay the \$6,800 and the additional \$500 in two checks, provided that the previous check of \$6,800 was returned** and a letter from Greene Associates indicated that the debt was paid in full. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Korean War Commemorative Events

Mr. Reiner displayed some of the exhibits from the Department of Defense regarding the Korean War commemorative events for the years 2000-2003. They were previously reviewed by Sherman Pratt, John Kenney, and himself.

Reiner also advised the members that he had a manual which contained instructions regarding a military person at all veteran funerals who was to present the American flag to the next of kin. He said that the funeral directors and national cemetery personnel will be advised of these procedures.

Reiner requested that the chapters submit reports to the VA/VS Director, Norm Kantor, who needs to certify any member who wishes to volunteer at any VA hospital in their area.

Reiner further stated that the Soldiers and Airmen's home in Washington, DC. was in dire financial need. It was also requested that family members provide the DOD with samples of DNA to help identify the remains of any MIA's returned home.

He said that the KWVA has applied for a Congressional Charter and that Congress has approved \$2 million dollars for the repair of the Korean War Memorial on the mall.

President Coon requested a round of applause for the work done by Norb Reiner in Washington, DC. on behalf of the association which he duly received.

Mr. Wiedhahn reported on Korea 2000 and the events scheduled in Korea and the United States. He said that the KWVA is represented on the U.S. - Korea 2000 Foundation. He requested that all inquiries be directed to either President Coon, Norb Reiner or himself

1998 Annual Reunion

Mr. Wiedhahn reported that we had fallen short in our commitment of hotel rooms to the Sheraton Premier Hotel in July. Since many of those who registered for the meeting did not stay at the hotel but selected other properties in the area, the shortfall was \$22,000. He met with the owner of the Sheraton properties to negotiate some kind of settlement. The owner told him that he would reduce the debt by \$5,000 immediately and that the association consider returning to the hotel in the year 2,000. If we were to do this, and sign a contract, he would cancel the remaining debt of \$17,000 and the debt would be written off.

Mr. Wiedhahn asked that a **motion be made to authorize President Coon to negotiate arrangements for the Annual Reunion for the year 2000 with the Sheraton Premier Hotel in Tyson's Comer, Virginia**. The **motion was made** by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Van Ort and **passed unanimously**. During discussion it was determined that the date of the Reunion should be July 27 provided the Department of Defense approves it and cancel the June 25th date. A motion was made by Dot Schilling, seconded by Mr. Cook, and was approved unanimously.

Quartermaster Supplies

President Coon recommended that the association enter into a separate contract with Ken Cook as an independent provider of KWVA supplies. The association would no longer carry an inventory and all risks for the sale or purchase of materials would be the responsibility of Mr. Cook.

During the discussion it was decided to eliminate obsolete materials and donate some of the items to Veterans' homes, Boy Scouts, etc. Notification would be made to KWVA chapters of available supplies.

A **motion was made** by Bill Van Ort, seconded by Jack Edwards **to unload these items from inventory and evaluate the cost of these items so that they could be written off the financial records**. The motion was amended to accept the concept of having an independent Quartermaster and that a committee be appointed to study the issue. The amendment was made by Mr. Van Ort, seconded by Dot Schilling and with one abstention **the amendment was passed.**

Mr. Edwards made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pappas, to donate the camping equipment to local Boy Scout organizations with the appropriate write-off value given to the Treasurer. It was subsequently revealed that the camping equipment was not on the inventory list and the motion was withdrawn by both parties. It was therefore a **CONSENSUS**:

That all items not on the KWVA inventory list be donated to the appropriate organizations including clothing to the Veterans homes.

Membership Report

President Coon read a report from Nancy Monson that we presently have 14,763 members, of which 5,177 are Life Members. This is an increase of 525 members from the last report.

KWVA Museum

Mr. John Settle reported on the progress of the Korean War Museum to be constructed in Tuscola, IL. He said that they had 555 members in less than a year and that the museum is set-up as a not-for-profit organization. He requested financial support from all the chapters. He further asked if the association would give the museum an additional page in "The Graybeards" at no cost. They are now paying for one full page. **A motion was made** by John Settle, seconded by Mr. Pappas, and with one opposed, it was **voted to provide a second advertising page at no additional cost in one issue of "The Graybeards" for the Korean War Museum.**

Korean War Veterans Educational Grant Corporation

Mr. Van Ort reported on the scholarship program and requested continued financial support. He said that a majority of the *winning* applicants *were* from Missouri, with New York, Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, and Washington. The selection committee is made-up of *retired professor emeritus's and are also Korean War Veterans* who are in the educational field. He presently has 60 applications that have been received and expects anywhere from 100 to 150 applications.

Mr. Rittenhouse reported on the Department of New York resolution (sent by the Cpl. Kivelhan Chapter of Staten Island, NY) that they will discontinue their financial contribution and commitment to the KWVA's contribution to the KWVEGC. It was noted that the Departments of Massachusetts and Florida, Chapters of Maine, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Hampshire also approved the New York resolution. **A motion that the KWVA will discontinue their financial commitment in support of the KWVEGC after we have paid them funds owed,** was made by Mr. Pappas, seconded by Mr. Grygier, that this **resolution be put in a ballot in the May-June issue of "The Graybeards"** for membership approval. A roll call vote was taken indicated the following:

In favor of the motion: Messrs. Pappas, Morga, Edwards, Grygier, Rittenhouse, Clawson, Danielson, Settle, Trousdale (9). Opposed were Cook, Van Ort, and Schilling (3). **The motion passed.**

President Coon presented his personal check of \$100 to the scholarship fund and a \$100 check for support of "The Graybeards".

Before adjourning for lunch, President Coon asked for comments from non-Executive Council members and guests present about the meeting thus far. Some comments received included: that several were impressed with the meeting, that more Public Relations work needs to be done, that member lists be made available, that a pen or other item be given to new Life Members, distribute copies of the agenda to all in attendance, have the chapters pay cost of shipping for inventory items to be disposed of, update the membership card each year, prepare a fact sheet on the Korean War for the media.

Mr. Cook **made a motion**, seconded by Mr. Pappas, **to sign the papers necessary to destroy the 1998 election ballots** and send a copy to Mr. Wainwright. **The motion passed unanimously.**

President Coon stated that the election of 4 Directors for the three year term from 1999-2001 must be reported in "The Graybeards." It was recommended that the resumes of the candidates be published in the March-April, 1999 issue and the ballot be printed in the May-June edition. Mr. Edwards made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cook to follow the above procedure which **passed unanimously.** Mr. Dick Wainwright was appointed Co-Chairman of the Nominating Committee under the guidance of Vice President Cook.

Graybeards Report

Mr. Krepps reported on his trip to Korea. His report is attached as Exhibit "2" to these minutes. (See Nov.-Dec. Graybeards). He said that we are now on the internet and he has received many responses. He further reported that we have received a total of \$18,216 in donations over the raffle sales and sales of more than 2,000 copies of "The Graybeards". He is selling copies of a poster taken from a cover of "The Graybeards" at \$3.00 each.

Mr. Clawson presented a copy of a French edition of their Korean War magazine to President Coon.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Martin explained the financial statements for the month of October, 1998 sent to the Executive Council members. Upon **motion made** by Mr. Clawson, seconded by Mr. Cook, the **Treasurer's report was accepted** subject to audit. Mr. Martin also presented the proposed budget for 1999. He stated that the anticipated income from dues would be \$194,300, Administrative income would be \$5,200, Graybeards income of \$15,600, other income of \$4,400 for a gross total income of \$219,500. Expenses would be a total of \$202,450 leaving a net income of \$17,050. However, he said that a major mistake was made in that there would be a transfer from the Life membership reserve of \$75,000. He said a revised budget would be prepared and published in "The Graybeards." Upon motion by Mr. Morga, seconded by Mr. Cook, the **tentative budget was approved** with 2 opposed (Danielson* and Pappas).

*Secretary's Note: Director Danielson objected that the proposed tentative budget did not reflect the incurred cost not billed and the estimated expenses related to the insurance claim.

Department of Veterans Affairs

Mr. Danielson reported on the Department of Veterans Affairs as it related to PTSD. Many veterans do not know if they suffer from it and should be tested at a VA hospital to determine if they need treatment. Dot Schilling reported that claims should also be filed for any cold weather injuries. She said that the Disabled American Veterans Association will help to handle all veteran claims if requested.

Next Scheduled Meeting

After discussion it was the **CONSENSUS: That the date of the next meeting be tabled.**

Resolution Regarding Michael New

Mr. Rittenhouse read a letter from the Eagle Chapter, Rockland County, NY stating that they passed a resolution endorsing the legal defense and appeal by Michael New in connection with his discharge from military service for refusing to wear a foreign (UN) uniform while serving in the U.S. military.

Mr. Rittenhouse made a motion, seconded by Mr. Van Ort, that the KWVA should not endorse this resolution. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Not to endorse the resolution were Edwards, Van Ort, Rittenhouse, Settle, Schilling, Trousdale (6). To endorse the resolution were Cook, Morga, Grygier, Clawson (4). Abstaining were Pappas and Danielson (2). **The motion passed not to endorse the resolution.**

Mr. Rittenhouse requested a committee to assist him in this matter. Mr. Morga and Dot Schilling offered to volunteer.

Extension of Meeting

President Coon requested a **motion to extend the meeting until 5:30 PM** in order to finish-up the days business and not require a second day of meetings. Mr. Danielson made the motion, was seconded, and **passed.**

Amendments to the By-Laws

Mr. Edwards said that the amendments to the By-Laws will be printed in "The Graybeards".

Appointments

President Coon announced the following appointments:

Presidential Envoy to UN Forces - Kathleen Wyosnick

Judge Advocate - Ed Magill (Pending)

Corporate Legal Advisor position was eliminated.

Executive Director for DC Affairs and Service Director - Norb Reiner

National Chaplain - Ervin Sharp

National Asst. Chaplain - Howard Camp

VA/VS Representative - Norman Kantor

Liaison for Canada - Bill Coe

Korean Advisor to the President -
Myong Chol Lee

KVA Liaison (Western Region) -
Kim Young

KVA Liaison (Mid-Western Region) -
Joseph Cho

KVA Liaison (Eastern Region) -
John Kwang -Nam Lee

Historian and Presidential IRS Advisor posi-
tions eliminated.

Public Housing - Nicholas Caruso

Membership/Chapter Formation -
Jerry Lake, Skip Rittenhouse

POW/MIA Co-Chairmen - Donald Barton and
Vince Krepps

Bylaws* - Jack Edwards, Chairman, and Ted
Trousdale

** Secretary's Note: Nick Pappas and John
Settle also volunteered to serve on this com-
mittee.*

Reunion Chairman 1999 - Neil Livingston

Revisit: Warren Wiedhahn

Nominations/Election Chairman -

Ken Cook/Dick Wainwright, Dick Adams

Secretary - Ed Markart

Treasurer - Dan Nickolas

Fund Raising -

Jim Martin/Warren Wiedhahn

Procedures Manual - Tom Clawson

A motion was made to approve the above appointments by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Grygier and it passed with one dissenting vote by Mr. Pappas. *

**Secretary's Note. Mr. Pappas was not present in the room when this vote took place. Subsequently, Mr. Pappas sent a letter to the Secretary advising him of his dissenting vote in accordance with the New York Law, Paragraph 719 5B.*

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. Respectfully submitted.

Edward B. Markart, Secretary

Presidents Comment

When I took office I wanted to make sure that the membership was informed of what is happening in National KWVA headquarters. The minutes printed in this issue are the minutes of the November 14, 1998 Board of Directors held in Absecon, N.J. These minutes have been reviewed and corrected by each Board Member. If there are any more corrections these corrections will be addressed at the next Board Meeting. This meeting will be held in Mobile, AL on April 23-24-25.

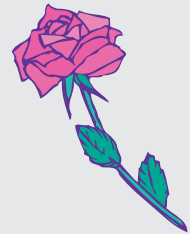
National KWVA Fund Raiser Flower Rose of Sharon

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

☐ Sample order is 4 dozen @ \$10 plus \$3.00 S/H.

☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$50 plus \$5.00 S/H.

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



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

Lang Designs ad

Hat ad-1
pg 27

Hat ad-2
pg 28

Hat ad-3
Pg 29

Chapter Affairs

Monroe County Chapter No. 1 of New York



Gen. Colin L. Powell returns CG Cmdr. Don Cofsky's salute. Also on dais, (from left) Richard Aab, Honorary Chairman; Gen. Powell; Susan Fanara, Vice Chair, Lakeside Foundation; Hon. John D. Doyle, Monroe County Executive; Hon. William Johnson, Rochester, NY Mayor.



Color Guard members (l to r): Frank Nicolazzo; Bill Orman; CG Cmdr. Don Cofsky; (front) Paul Wurzer; Charlie Harshbarger.

It was billed as "An Evening with General Colin L. Powell", but for the members of the Color Guard of Monroe County Chapter No. 1 (Rochester, NY), it was a once in a lifetime event.

Gen. Powell, invited to Rochester by Lakeside Foundation, was former Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff under three presidents Reagan, Bush and Clinton - and today is chairman of America's Promise - The Alliance for Youth, a national campaign on behalf of our nation's young people, which has been endorsed by every living U. S. President and First Lady.

Thanks to MG Norbert J. Rappl, a member of Monroe County Chapter No. 1, the Chapter's Color Guard was asked by the Foundation's Executive Director, Jean Hawkes, to Present and Post The Colors at the gala dinner on Dec. 4th, which was planned to mark Gen. Powell's appearance.

Color Guard Commander Don Cofsky established the protocol for Presenting and Posting of the Colors, and acted as liaison

between his unit, the U.S. Army's 98th Division Band, and the Foundation, so that all aspects of this momentous occasion would be militarily correct.

(Thank you Don for story and photos.)

Suncoast Chapter #14 of Florida

The photos provided are of the Suncoast Chapter, KWVA at several Memorial Day events. We were proud to be so strongly represented by our members.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the Suncoast Chapter ladies (spouses) and all they do for the veterans and our chapter in volunteering on our behalf this past year. They fed 2 families



Suncoast Chapter at Bay Pines VAMC, Bay Pines, FL.



Brenda (left) and Rita serving coffee at Bay of Pines VAMC



Suncoast Chapter Color Guard (l to r) Gene Peebles, Bill Miller, Al Bauschmidt, Ed Hunter, George Landon and Don Jeske.

for Thanksgiving. They put together a wonderful Christmas for 2 families. They have adopted 4 veterans in Nursing Homes. They visit regularly and take them gifts for all the holidays. Made a veteran a wonderful food basket for Easter, and continue to find ways to spread the name of Suncoast Chapter, KWVA. We are proud of all the work they do on behalf of our Suncoast Chapter. *(Thank you Bob Blewitt for the report on you super chapter and the ladies that make it all possible.)*

Greater Cincinnati Chapter #121 of Ohio



Greater Cincinnati Chapter #121 Picnic on Sept. 8th 1998 for all members and their wives. *(Looks like you had a great time. Where are all the wives?—Ed.)*

Greater Danbury Area Chapter of Connecticut



Greater Danbury Area Chapter Color Guard behind banner in Memorial day Parade in Bethel, CT. Holding banner is Bernie Rotunda, President (left) and Bill Landers, Ex-POW. *(Great looking Color Guard and welcome home Bill.—Ed.)*

Imperial County Chapter #165 of California

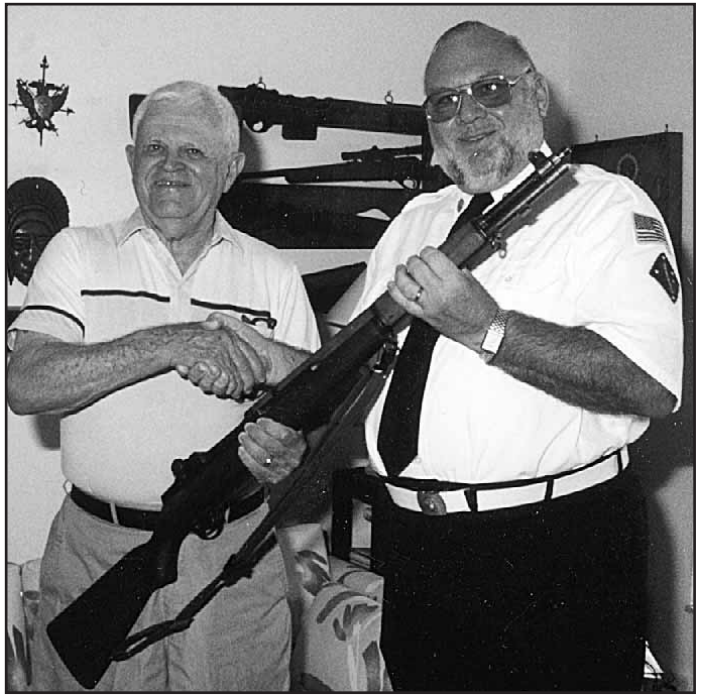


Marching drill team of Imperial County and members of the Imperial County Korean War Veterans Association.

Presentation of colors and very impressive and inspirational ceremonial marching maneuvers were conducted by the marching drill team of Imperial County at our fund raiser on November 15, 1998.

(Thanks Ernie Romero for the photo and story.)

Department of Florida



Fred Shear, Department of Florida President (r), congratulates Maurice Balan of the Lt. R.E. Cronan Chapter, winner of the M-1 rifle raffled off at the State Convention in Fort Pierce 31 October 1998. Department Officers elected until March, 2000 are Fred Shear, reelected President; Ralph Levy, Mort Rosen and Jimmy Williams Vice Presidents; Joe Firriolo Secretary and George Spitzer Treasurer. *(Thank you Fred for the photo and story.—Ed.)*

Kenneth Shadrick Chapter #156 of West Virginia



Pictured with the float left to right are Prince Clyburn, Jr., James Woolwine, President Sam Birchfield and David Frame. The Kenneth Shadrick chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association, which is located in Beckley, West Virginia built the above pictured float for the annual Veterans Day parade in Beckley. This years parade was the largest in the history of this function. *(Thank you Jack Tamplin for the photo and story. Great float.—Ed.)*

Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter



Chapter President Robert Schotter (front) with Chapter members (l-r) Angelo Quadarella, Pat Coppola, and Joseph Kunkle.

The Northeast Pa. Chapter took part in the Veteran's day festivities. In the front row is our current President Robert Schotter who is a career Veteran who landed on Normandy at sixteen year's of age, during the Korean war was captured and was a P.O.W. for three years, survived that and went on to serve in Vietnam, Bobs father was an Admiral in the German Navy during WWI. In the back row left to right is Angelo Quadarella, organizer and first President of the Northeast Pa. Chapter, in the center is Pat Coppola our 1st Vice President who also lost his brother in Korea, on the right is Joseph Kunkle our Sgt. At Arms a proud member of the 3rd Div. in Korea.

Our festivities were held at the East Stroudsburg University who opened the University up to us and welcomed us with open arms. Our President Bob Schotter is also the County Comdr. of the American Legion, which is why he is in his A.L. uniform. *(Thanks Angelo for the story and photo. Angelo is the Secretary of the United Veteran's Organization of Monroe County.)*

Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter of Illinois



Four members of the Robert Wurtsbaugh chapter taught the history of The Korean War. (l to r) Kenneth Cook, Charles Water, Arnold "Barney" Baroff, Milton ("Sarg") Crippen. Kenneth Cook is 2nd Vice President of National Korean War Veterans Association.

Members of The Robert Wurtsbaugh Chapter of Korean War Veterans Association of Dannville, IL. conducted a educational program for the second and fourth grade students at the Judith Giacoma Elementary School at Westville (Danville,) IL on November 9, 1998.

Kenneth Cook gave instruction to the students of history and respect of the United States Flag. He also emphasized gun safety, especially for children.

Miss Nancy Cook, is the teacher of the second grade and daughter of Kenneth Cook.

(Thank you John Spencer, for sending in the photo and story. Keep up the good work.)

Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan Chapter of New York



(US Army Photo)

Korean War Veterans Donald Bellezza, Paul Martin, Joe Pirrello, Anthony Volpe, Jack Gorelick (behind Volpe), Joe Calabria and John Panarella surround Miguel Bach and Lieut. Col. Francis D. Clepper, Jr., garrison commander of the Fort Hamilton Military Community, at an award ceremony to honor Bach. In the early part of December in 1952, Private First Class Bach was wounded during a battle in North Korea for which he is receiving the Purple Heart from Lieut. Col. Clepper. Miguel Bach is a highly decorated veteran. Among other awards for his service to the nation, he has been awarded the Silver Star, Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star with "V" Device. This is Bach's second Purple Heart.

(Thank you Bernie Hoganson for photo and story. Miguel Bach is a member of the Cpl. Allan F. Kivlehan Chapter. We are all proud of you Miguel.)

Dear members and readers.

I must repeat again that articles newspapers take a lot of time to scan and most are too long to retype. Photos from newspapers also do not copy well. I tend to use original photos and articles that are typewritten in lower case. I still have to optically scan everything in to the computer and it sure helps when you type them well, in 12 point type and keep the length to a minimum.

Yes, I do use some long newspaper stories, but I try to limit them to one per issue. This makes the scanning better with less typing. I want to print all your memorial photos and the associated details. Your help is needed. Also please watch what you print on the back side of photos, especially in ink, because when sending more then one photo the writing tends to adhere to the stacked photos. Do not send photos you want returned.— Editor.)

Turner ad

Pg 33

Letters



She Remembers Bill Norris

It was with much interest that I read the letter of Joseph McCallion in the last copy of "The Graybeards"

My brother, Charles Selby, was killed in Korea on August 26, 1951. His body was returned and buried in his home city of Denver, CO. However, I could never put a closure to my feelings.

On June 24, 1985, I became involved in the Korean War Veterans Association, with the first of many letters that Bill Norris and I exchanged. I have a Certificate of Life Membership, dated October 10, 1988, signed by Dick Adams. I also have the GS0000 number.

We all worked hard those years, writing and making contact with the 'Powers That Be.' Now we have the Memorial for those who are POW, MIA, and those who lost their lives in Korea, "The Forgotten War."

Enclosed is a copy of an article that Bill Norris sent to me in September of 1985. Since Joe McCallion is in the picture I am sending an extra copy for him. To our Bill Norris, a job well done.

Sincerely,

Genevieve S. Anderson

(I am not sure Genevieve knows that Bill has passed away. Either way, Bill was our Founder and we are today the association he started for all Korean War Veterans. We will always remember Bill. We also remember your brother Charles.)

Remember your old friends today

On a September Saturday I drove about 5 hours to visit a Veteran's cemetery in Tennessee. I was there for about 2 or 2-1/2 hours. During that time period not one other person entered the grounds although it was evident that there were recent burials. About 4 weeks later, on a Friday, I visited the new Veteran's cemetery in Middle Tennessee. Again, I was there for about 2 or 2-1/2 hours and once more I was the only visitor. I walked the entire grave area and counted approximately 2,000 graves. Of that number over 1,200 were Veterans of Korea.

The majority of the birth dates on the markers of Korean Veterans ranged from 1928 to 1933. That indicates they were between 65 and 70 years old at the time of their death. This gave me the push that I needed to attempt to locate those with whom I served in Korea. I had thought to myself since about 1983 that I wanted to look up these friends but there was always some convenient excuse that I could put it off until tomorrow. When I got back home I began my searches and in three days I was able to trace 9 individuals and discovered that 8 were deceased, the first in 1987 and the eighth in 1997.

By way of this letter, I suppose that I am trying to make two observations. One, Veterans of all wars are forgotten, not just Korean Veterans. This is obvious from the lack of visitors at Veteran's Cemeteries. Two, don't put off looking for old friends. I did, and I was too late for most of those that I was seeking. I really have no valid reason for procrastinating other than I was

just damn lazy. So find your friends. You can get help from anyone you know who has a computer and is "on-line". You can also get assistance at most public libraries. Don't wait. Tomorrow may be too late.

Albert R. Scalf

(Yes, we do wait too long and that is where your KWVA Magazine becomes a great tool to find old friends. When you write, I need an address and permission to print same.)

Sailing from Ft Lawton

The photo below is of the chow line at the Main Mess Hall at Ft. Lawton, Washington on Thanksgiving Day 1952. The fort had been condemned for closure and this troop contingent was the last ever to sail from Ft. Lawton. We sailed on the USNS Marine Lynx on Dec. 10, 1952, arriving at Yokohama, Japan Dec.26, 1952 for processing. Departing Dec. 29 and arriving December 31, 1952 at Pusan.

(Thank you Ed Murphy for the photos and story. Ed's number is 973-627-0980 for those friends that may remember the long journey on the USNS Marine Lynx and Ft. Lawton mess hall.)



Chow Line at Ft. Lawton, WA.



Nameplate of last ship sailing from Ft. Lawton.

My friends from Turkey

When I read the story of the visit to Turkey by Bill Kramer and his wife it brought back memories of my tour in Korea, and the fine Turkish Brigade we was encamped close by. The location has long been forgotten, but the event will never be. It just happened that at this location I had the opportunity to go on R & R to Japan. I had a camera and had taken many pictures of the Turkish Flag, and of some of the men. When I returned from R & R, I showed many of the pictures to the Turks who was ready with government script to buy the pictures. They ended up with most of my pictures as free gifts.

The following day I was summoned to the tent of the top brass of the brigade. Not being able to communicate I was not sure what I was in for. As it turned out I was invited to eat with the officers. They brought me nearly half of a baked chicken, home made bread, and something very much like our "split pea soup" all very well prepared and hot. What amazed me was that I could not understand their speech and they me. I made friends as best as could under the circumstances.

The soldier's name was "Aonan Ozyamanlour" Halil Rifat Pasa 369 No. 4 Izmir, Turkey. My experience with their hospitality was one of the high points of my tour of duty in Korea. Even in the midst of a bad situation, comes something that leaves engraved on my mind an unforgettable moment. I have often wondered if Aonan is still alive. They were a great ally.

Carl L. Hempen
2014 W. Main, Salem
IL 62881-5842

A Turkish Rifle

In the recent Sept./Oct. Graybeards, I saw an article by Mr. Bill Kramer about his trip and visit with the Turkish KWVA members.

In May of 1995, I purchased a Turkish T-38 K98 Mauser rifle from Century Int. Arms Inc. Serial #32220 stamped over 921Q painted on the stock is 6.BL135. During the process of cleaning and inspecting the rifle I found a handwritten note inside the cable lock hole in the stock.

I took the note to Middle TN State University Language Dept. and had one of the instructors translate it. A copy of the translation and the original note is enclosed.

My Dear Friend, Since this gun is to honor you, keep it very well and use it very well. Best Wishes – From Izmit

I would hope that this information is passed on to Dr. Kramer and one of his Turkish Associates might be able to further identify this rifle and maybe find out something of it's previous owner.

I would appreciate hearing what you can find out.

Bill E. Asbury
3936 Porterfield Road
Readyville, TN 37148

Help needed for grandson

I am trying to help a young soldier, stationed in Korea, fill in

some information concerning his grandfather who was KIA during the Korean War. In a display in the 2d ID Museum in Korea he saw a write up about his grandfather who was killed in action and was recommended for the Congressional Medal of Honor. There was another soldier who recommended and awarded the MOH during the same incident but his name is unknown to the soldier.

Because his grandfather was KIA and many of his records were destroyed during a fire at ARPAC there is very little information available. If anyone has any information that will help Jay get to know his grandfather, please share anything you remember.

Name of grandfather: 2nd Lt. George W. Harvey, 38 Inf. Rgt, 2nd Inf. Div., Date of Casualty: February 15, 1951, ID No.: 2262406, MOS: 01542, Home: Marion County, IN

The Battalion Commander was: Col. James H. Skelton possibly of San Francisco, California.

(Thank You, Steve Dall, P.O. Box 682, Esparto, CA 95627-0682, Tel: 530-787-4004)

Ex-POWs of Kentucky Remembered

I am a National Service Officer for The American EX-Prisoners of War here in Paducah, Ky., and for the past ten years or more, I have been trying to get Our State Legislators to pass a Bill that, would allow Former Prisoners Of War to obtain a license Plate with the National Handicapped Wheel-Chair Symbol on it, that would allow them to park in handicapped spaces, as the majority of our POW's are not service connected enough to merit The Disabled American Veteran Handicapped Plate (must be 70% or more to receive this plate).

I am proud to advise you that, in January 1998, our State Senator Robert "Bob" Leeper introduced a Bill and, our Governor signed it on April 3, 1998, The plates will be available to all former Prisoners of War on December 1, 1998. The clippings I am enclosing are where The Senator and Ky. Commissioner of Vehicle Regulations are presenting me and my Buddy Russell Kingston with Numbers 001, and 002.

We were both Prisoners of War in Korea, Kingston was captured in Nov. 1950, 1st, Cav, Division. I was captured 17 May, 1951. Second Infantry Division 23 REG. 3rd.Bn., I Co. Sure was solid HELL for all of us too.

Oren D. Hanbaum
226 Longview Drive
Paducah, KY. 42001-5969

(Sorry for not printing the clippings from the newspaper. Send in a photo and I will print it. Your letter will surely get a reaction from the POWs from other states that need a plate similar to yours. Thanks for the letter.)

Thanks for the Web Page

I am visiting your website for the first time. I am the daughter of a Korean War Veteran. My father, Richard Andrew Moats passed away at age 71 on September 11 of this year. My father was a master Sergeant when discharged from the Army during the Korean War Conflict. Although he returned home in one

piece, he suffered for most of his life because of the memory of Korea. I remember when I was still a small child seeing my father kneeling over his uniform spread across the bed, and crying. That was one of two times I saw him cry in my entire life.

Not too long before he died this year, Dad told me of once holding a Korean soldier while he was dying. The soldier reached into his pocket and pulled out a picture of a woman and child. Probably his wife and son, Dad assumed. Even though Dad returned home in one piece, in a very large sense he still gave his life for this country. He earned my freedom by sacrificing his health and youth. While in Korea, he developed severe bleeding ulcers which plagued him the rest of his life, and ultimately contributed to his death.

I appreciate your web page. Korea is still a forgotten war, and we all need to remind people of the sacrifices of those wounded or killed in action, missing in action, or those such as my father who lived to tell of Korea's horrors. Sincerely, Pamela K. Moats
(Thank you Pamela, This is the reason for our webpage.)

E-mail addresses requested

The members of the Tuolumne County KWVA Chapter, Sonora, California and I agree *Graybeards* is the life line of the KWVA, without this life line the small chapters would have no communication what so ever from our national organization.

In the form of a suggestion, I understand that forty percent of all households in the United States have a personnel computer, I am convinced that communication within our organization would be enhanced many times if the *Graybeards* would encourage the chapters, state departments and individuals submitting articles and letters to include there e-mail address. Communication with the national officers, The board of directors, Staff officers and the committees staff would provide an avenue of correspondence never before achieved. Robert W. (Bob) Mildenerger Chapter President Tuolumne County Chapter Nine North Washington St. Sonora, CA 95370. E-Mail sambob@goldrush.com

(Great suggestion Bob. This ties in with the problems maybe I created. I not only would like to see the e-mail addresses but also snail mail addresses and telephone numbers. I have been getting responses from several sections of Graybeards where people want to communicate to the articles but have no modems and see no way to respond other than writing the editor. I do my best to respond but my time is limited. What I would like is that everyone sending something in to the editor that may require a response, please give all addresses and permission to me to print them. We would also like to print a listing of e-mail addresses similar to what we are doing on our webpage www.kwva.org)

Magazine ads unite engineers

In 1997, Alan Stewart, Korean War veteran, ran an ad in "The Graybeards" seeking members of his former Engineer Battalion. Five responded including Jack Cato, George Pawlak, Don Mettillie, and Norbert "Mike" Mikalajazak. They met in Indiana, 1997 and Cato agreed to host the 1998 Reunion in his home town of Lebanon, Tennessee. Besides "The Graybeards," other ads were run in the "American Legion Magazine" and the "VFW



Engineers hold reunion in Lebanon, TN. Members united following successful ads in veterans magazines.

Magazine" for 1998. Twelve more veterans were located.

All together 54 people, including wives and relatives, assembled in Lebanon on September 20, 1998, for the 3 day affair. They were from Texas, Florida, Kentucky, New York, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Virginia, Ohio, Georgia, North Carolina, Indiana, Illinois, and Tennessee.

(I did not print the full letter but you can see what a great communicator our magazine is. Keep those letters coming in. Thanks Jack Cato for the letter. Jack also said to write him at 216 S. Maple Street, Lebanon, Tennessee 37087 for future reunions.)

Interview for the History Channel at KWVA convention

On or about July 27th, 1998 while at the convention, several veterans were asked by a television crew to be interviewed and give brief stories of their experience in the Korean war. I believed that the interviewer would want experiences of riflemen and may not want to hear from other G.I.s such as myself. However, I was encouraged to be interviewed as I was in the artillery and they wanted to hear from all men that served in combat. Not having been in the infantry, I thought of what I might say that would be poignant Since I was a reservist, I thought I would tell of our contribution to the war.

A good many of the soldiers that served in the Korean war were there as a result of being recalled. I thought it only fitting that we give them proper recognition for their service and coined the phrase:

"WE WERE THE MINUTE MEN OF OUR CENTURY"

I truly hope the interviewers use this phrase as it will be a rallying point for the thousands of reservists that were recalled to active duty. For the most part many of us had served in the military before the Korean War and joined the inactive reserve army when we were first discharged. As inactive reservists we were recalled to reinforce the troops that were already in Korea. Most of us were recalled in the early part of the war in 1950. I had been out of the service little more than a year when I received my notice to return to active duty. Speaking for myself and others that were recalled with me, we were given five days refresher training at Camp Campbell in Kentucky and sent on our way to Korea via Camp Stoneman in California.

We were individual replacements for men that were wounded or killed in action. Yes, we were truly the "Minute Men of Our Century." Reservists have had very little recognition and they served a vital role in the Korean War.

Joe Cappella, 48th. F.A., 32nd. RCT, 7th. Div.

Korean "Police Action" finally termed a "War"

The painful struggle in Korea half a century ago that cost 55,000 casualties and lasted more than three years has at long last been officially and legally identified as a War. Veterans of that fighting from its earliest hours after the North Korean Communist army crossed the 38th Parallel on June 25, 1950 have long rankled, protested and fumed over the consistent referral of the costly and bitter fighting as less than a war.

Labeled as a "police action", or merely a "conflict" by a President who committed American forces to combat without a formal and Constitutionally mandated declaration of war, veterans of the action in Korea have long urged that the struggle be officially and formally recognized as nothing less than a full blown war. This action arrived this year by an act of Congress signed by President Clinton on September 22, 1998.

In the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999, an enormous piece of legislation of many pounds and involving billions in spending, a provision (Section 1067) buried deeply within, repeatedly struck statutory provisions referring to the "Korean Conflict" and inserting in lieu thereof, the "Korean War". The provision was sponsored by Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina as the Armed Services Committee Chairman, in response to urging by Virginia Senator John W. Warner, himself a Korean War veteran.

A spokesman from Senator Warner's office advised that the Senator had acted in response to a request for such legislation from LtGen "Mick" Kicklighter who heads up a special DOD group that is planning nationwide ceremonies in the years 2000-2003 to observe the beginning and ending of the Korean War. The DOD group will work closely with the unofficial and volunteer "Korea 2000" Commemoration Committee co-chaired by retired Marine General and Medal of Honor recipient Raymond G. Davis and Army retired General William C. Westmoreland.

The final classification at long last of the Korean involvement as a war will be welcomed by veterans who endured pain, hardships, hunger, fear, and anxiety and shed blood "to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met" and can now legitimately consider themselves bona fide "war" veterans.

Sherman Pratt, Capital Chapter Korean War Veterans Assn.
(Sherm, your inputs are always welcomed, just tough to print all.)

A memorable Christmas party in Germany

Several years ago I played some Christmas music on my accordion for about forty residents of a local nursing and convalescent home at their Christmas service. I concluded the program with "Silent Night," one of our best loved carols. I took the occasion to tell of one of my experiences which happened at



German orphans with me (left) and a fellow serviceman, Christmas, 1951.

Christmastime when I was in the military service overseas.

In 1951, I served in the United States Army with the 43rd Infantry Division stationed in Augsburg, Germany. The reason our Division was serving in Germany rather than in South Korea was that the Soviet Union backed the North Korean forces and General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Supreme Commander of NATO forces, felt that the American forces in Europe needed to be reinforced. Ours was one of several Divisions he sent to Europe.

Although I was 22 years old it was my first time away from home at Christmastime. My buddies and I sat on our bunks talking over what we would like to do for the holiday. Some of the men in the Company who were lucky enough to get a three-day pass talked about going skiing on the Zugspitze, Germany's highest mountain. Still others planned to go sight seeing in Munich, Garmisch-Patenkirchen, or Berchtesgaden (Hitler's old retreat). Most of the rest of us were staying around the post.

Our Company offered to supply food and the use of the mess hall for a Christmas party for some German children. We thought this was a good idea and it certainly would be a nice thing to do for the children. There was an orphanage nearby which housed, as I remember, about fifty to sixty boys. These boys were all about the same age—seven years old. We were told that these children were displaced after World War II and had no place to go except to an orphanage. So, with the approval of the orphanage staff we hosted a Christmas party for the boys. We were not sure how many children would come but we planned to have enough food for all the boys and the orphanage staff. The meal would consist of a traditional turkey dinner.

When the day finally came several trucks from our motor pool picked up the children in mid-morning. All the children, except two who were sick, and several staff members came. When the

boys arrived at our Kaserne (barracks) for the party, they were keyed-up. I'm sure they did not know what to expect. They had never socialized with American servicemen and we had been at war with their country just six years earlier. Some of the boys were very quiet and others were rather outgoing. After a short time they blended in. When it was time to eat we paired off with the boys and helped them through the mess line. We were using our regular mess trays and utensils. As we went through the line one of the boys said to me "Nicht Gut" referring to his knife—meaning the knife is not good, it's dull! I said, "Well, that's regular Army issue". I'm sure he didn't understand me. As I thought about his comment I realized that the Germans are accustomed to really sharp knives.

We were stationed in Germany only about six weeks and knew just a few words in German and the boys did not know any English so it was difficult to talk with them. After eating, we all went outside to the recreation area to play a few games even though it was quite cold. One of my buddies brought out a volleyball. We tossed the ball to the boys. When they got hold of it they became very excited and started to play soccer. Soccer was not a popular American sport when we were growing up in the 1930's. Most of us played football, basketball or baseball, so it didn't take long for the boys to beat us. After the games they seemed to become more at ease with us.

In the mid-afternoon the orphanage staff remarked that it was nearly time for them to leave. My buddies and I gathered around a large Christmas tree we had decorated in the mess hall and sang Christmas carols for them. I especially recall their reaction when we sang "Silent Night". The little boys joined in with us singing in German. I remember their bright little faces and their sparkling eyes and their pure voices. At the conclusion of the day we took a few snapshots and the boys carried their small bags of goodies we had given them earlier and boarded the trucks. They shouted "Auf Wiedersehen" as the trucks drove away heading for the orphanage.

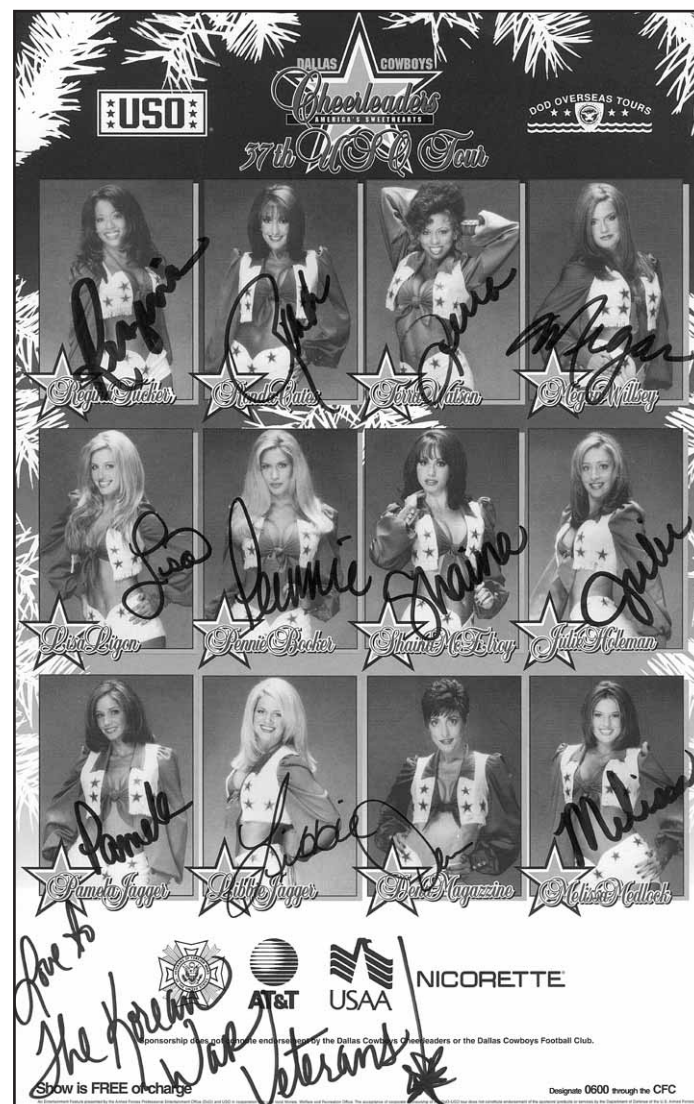
To this day, whenever I hear "Silent Night" I can almost hear those little boys singing. That was some forty-seven years ago and those children are fifty-four or fifty-five years old now. They had a difficult life. I look back with fondness to that Christmas and often wonder where these men are today.

Robert H. Schumacher, LRO 2196, Chaplain
Captain Paul N. Dill Memorial Chapter #2
Department of Delaware.



The USPS will not forward Standard mail (3rd class) so please be sure and notify *The Graybeards* of your new address so that you will get your next issue. Contact the KWVA, PO Box 10806, Arlington, VA 22210, Attn: Membership Chairman or call Nancy Monson at (703) 522-9629.

In the line of duty



On my recent trip to South Korea, one of the highlights of the trip was while visiting the USO we were surprised to learn that the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders were there also.

Now you must admit that this was tough duty but I kept all of you on my mind and asked them to autograph this card for the Korean War Veterans. (Oh yes, I have one also.)

In the next issue I hope to give you more detail on what is planned for you on your revisit trips to South Korea in the next 4 years.

There will be an official report from Korea 2000 Foundation Inc.

My report will be in a form of a returning veteran for the first time for this was my only return after 48 years.

I will attempt to prepare you for your trip.

Vince Krepps

KWVA Members and Friends

Visit the KWVA web site at: [HTTP://www.kwva.org](http://www.kwva.org)

Korean Christmas

By Kermit Parker

Korean stories are usually about the hard fighting our service men were subject to, and the lack of anything that resembled comfort. Very few stories are told about people whose homes and lives were being destroyed every day. I was commanding the 440th Avn. Signal Construction Bn., headquartered in Seoul, Christmas 1952.

Christmas is a special time for all children, is what we have been taught from the time we were children, but doesn't make it true. In Korea during the war there were thousands of little ones who had never seen a Christmas tree or received a Christmas present. Many had never heard of Christmas.

The winter of 1952 was a cold bleak time for all Koreans, especially the children. Many went to bed at night cold and hungry, if they were lucky enough to find a bed. This misery did not escape the attention of the American servicemen stationed throughout South Korea, and the organization of which I was a member was no exception. The men donated large sums from their pay to support orphanages and other charitable institutions. But that didn't help the children we saw daily around our area.

Our outfit was housed in the Ewa Women's College on the outskirts of Seoul, near a housing district where people were returning after the enemy had been driven out, just a few months before. It was decided to give a Christmas party for children in the vicinity. This was a noble idea, but it's implementation was not simple. Arrangements were started in midsummer, because in a war zone items of a non-military nature are scarce.

They began several months in advance having folks back home send hard candy and small presents, which were stored until the day they would be distributed. Someone found a way to have several crates of oranges shipped in. By the time the show was ready to go, there was an impressive amount of goodies.

Fortunately the gymnasium of the college had received very little war damage, and was an ideal place to have a large party. It was decorated in Christmas colors, with

paper streamers draped from the center of the room to the top of the walls and left hanging to the floor. We needed a Christmas tree. There were no trees in that area even resembling a traditional Christmas tree. However it did not deter the active imagination of a couple of our soldiers, they produced a tree. Well it wasn't really a tree at all. It started out as a six foot length of 500 pair telephone cable about four inches in diameter. The outer sheath was peeled away except for a small ring around one end to hold the wire strands together, which became the bottom of the tree. The men flared the individual wires out in all directions, then trimmed them into the shape of a pine tree. The color was a problem because the only paint available was standard GI olive drab. But, as I said, most of the children had never seen a real Christmas tree, and when this one was covered with ornaments, foil and a few strings of lights, only a GI could tell it wasn't real.

The children arrived mid-morning Christmas day, about two hundred of them, ranging in age from six to ten years. Many of them were inadequately clothed, some wore no shoes, their feet wrapped in any rags they could find. The rest of their wardrobe was in similar condition.

They were escorted by teachers and parents. They entered the gym in single file, forming lines facing the stage. When they were all in place, a signal from one of the teachers seated them, in unison, cross-legged on the floor.

It was fifteen or twenty minutes before the program began, but there was no hollering at each other across the room, no hitting the neighbor, or grabbing and throwing someone's possessions, and no moving out of place. They sat there like miniature statues taking in all the wonderment of this American type celebration. When Santa appeared with a large bag of candy and handed some to each of them, they were so awed it didn't matter he couldn't speak to them in Korean. For most of them it was the first time they had seen anything like this.

The show consisted mostly of music. There were many talented men in the outfit,

Please turn to **CHRISTMAS** on page 43

Book Review



Franklin D. R. Kestner Sr. was born December 21, 1932 at Point Pleasant, Missouri. The eldest son of a Missouri sharecropper, he joined the U.S. Army in May of 1950 just prior to the breakout of the Korean War. He was only 17 years old when he made the Wonson landing in North Korea. A combat veteran and survivor of epic battle at the infamous Chosin Reservoir, he quickly rose up the ranks and was said to have been the youngest in the battalion when promoted to Sergeant. Served three tours in Korea and would go on to do two tours in Vietnam before combat related injuries forced him into medical retirement. During his 21 years of service in the Army, Franklin Kestner received some of our country's greatest honors which include the CIB, Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Joint Service Commendation, U.S. Army Commendation, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, and POW Medal. A graduate of the University of Nebraska, he and his wife of 45 years "Treva", currently reside in Tucson, Arizona. The couple have three children and four grandsons and one granddaughter.

A complete depiction of Kestner's experiences in Korea could not have been made available if not for the editorial and literary assistance provided by James Livingston, a Ph.D. candidate in Literature Criticism and Theory at the University of Arizona. A prolific writer, Livingston has published a number of short stories and poems.

In 1991, the two men collaborated on *To The Last Man*, a graphic account of the legendary Chosin Reservoir battle whereby a meager 15,000 Allied troops confronted a horrific onslaught from 120,000 Chinese Communist troops in ten divisions. And though U.S. troops were written off as "doomed" and "lost" by military experts, the survivors would emerge with a Presidential Unit Citation for "Decisively defeating seven enemy Divisions, together with elements of three others." Franklin Kestner was said to have seen more combat in two weeks than what some veterans see in twenty years.

Please turn to **BOOKS** on page 43

Looking for...



My father served in Korea. Entered the service when he was fifteen, later a Sergeant with 2 Silver Stars, 2 Bronze Stars, and I have been told a nomination for the Congressional Medal of Honor at seventeen. His name was **Jack Cotton**. I believe he served with the 21st Infantry Reg..

I would be interested in talking with anyone who knew him. He spent the last 20 years trying to locate a friend by the name of Walter (Skidrow) James. My father passed away and I am continuing his search. Any assistance you can provide would be greatly appreciated. Respectfully requested Stephen L. Cotton @ SCotton@aol.com



My letter to you about members of the **1169th Engineer Combat Group** in Korea produced many interesting replies. Some were there at different times but knew some of the same people that I had known. What a great feeling! We correspond from time to time now.

I wonder if anyone may know Dave Bedford, Bill Scarpino, Rex Osborne or Bob Edmond. These are men that I knew well and had written their names on some pictures at the time. If you are out there please let me know. Tony Kondysar, 33 Fuller Lane, Hyde Park, N.Y. 12538 E-Mail marto7@juno.com



We are in search of so many of our lost **Mosquitoes** since the end of the Korean War. It is hard to find some in these days in good health and some we are too late to find, and they are gone. It is with hope that you could print the below listing and bring light to those that still survive that they "were never forgotten".

Its a proud unit with so many people involved. Some units like mine, 6150th Tactical Air Control Squadron (which later became the 942nd Forward Air Control Sq) was a unique unit up in the front lines. We worked with our observer aircraft (T6) and whatever type fighter plane was available to destroy the enemy at the front line. We also had many people that supported a base at Chunchon (K47) that kept us going with all their hard work and support.

We have a reunion every year and our next one will be in Shreveport, LA; Sept. 7 through the 12th, 1999. The printing of the units, will I hope, attract a good crowd from those that have been lost. Richard L. Souza TSgt. USAF Ret. 79 Brads treet Ave, Lowell, MA 01851-4120



My name is Basil Clark, I have been trying to locate a Korean Veterans Association that is actually situated in Seoul (that is actually a Korean Vets Assoc.). I served with **No. 77 Squadron Royal Australian Airforce**, the squadron was attached to the American 5th Airforce based at Kimp'o, between September 1952 and December 1953. Would appreciate it if you could help with some info. my E-MAIL address is; basilc@mpx.com.

I am Bill Allen, who was a member of **Co C, 19th Inf., 24th Div.** I am trying to locate some POW who were captured Jan. 1, 1951. There were a small group of wounded who we carried and took care of. When we were about to start the march North the Chinese said they would set the wounded free. They were going to have two G.I.s stay with them until the Americans picked them up. We all exchanged addresses with each other not knowing who would go with the wounded. I later found out that they contacted my parents and they went to visit them at an Army Hospital. If by some chance there are some of that group out there and remember the situation please contact Bill Allen, at Lilibunn@aol.com



The **90th FA Bn.** (155 mm Howitzers, track drawn) has formed an Association to include former members from Nara and Kyoto, Japan, and the Korean War years. All former members are urged to join with us. Contact Andy Lucas, 2139 Ora Drive, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701-1550 (501) 442-4612, e-mail Alucas90th@aol.com.



I am looking for any information on Jack **Caldwell** from Memphis TN. He was my uncle. He died when I was about 12 or 13. My dad just passed away this past week and I received his flag and would like to find out more about his military tour of duty. I am a retired CWO. Please send any information to caldwell@usmo.com.



Please help me! I am looking for any info on my grandfather. His name was **Kenneth Donald Rochester** and he was a Korean War Veteran. The only thing I really know about him is that he was in the navy, lots of people called him "Rock" while others called him "Don" and he was stationed in Korea during the war. I have seen millions of pictures of him over there but he died 3 years before I was born. My grandmother just recently passed away and now I am more curious than ever to find out any info on his years over there. No one ever really talked about it much. If you can help me out in any way please e-mail me at: Liam8500@aol.com



When **I lived in Inchon, Korea** as a young boy, I often go to the park top of the hill, called "Freedom park", where in the center of the park stands statue of General Douglas MacArthur ... a hero among all Korean war veterans ... I wasn't born at the time, but I still feel those who call to defend a country they never knew and the people they never met, with their bravery and honor, Korea lived and I am alive.

Due to the respect to all Veterans, We (members of Korean Baptist Mission Church in Minot, North Dakota) plan to organize a small appreciation ceremony in our region on June 25th 1999. I am trying to gather information of the veterans, with regard to send them a invitation specially in our area (Korean war veterans in North Dakota region) and in accordance with the invitation, we would like to find out how many veterans

would be able to attend beforehand to find us a permissible space. Contact Alex, at E-mail address Arakaki@ndak.net

My relative, Korean War Vet, is looking for **Michael Cannon**, who served in the Marines from 1952 to 1956, and was discharged from Quantico, VA. Contact Al Gibson, E-mail address: algibson@ix.netcom.com



Looking for anyone that served with the **76th Engr. Const. Bn.** B Co. from 1953 to 1954. I have lost many addresses and phone numbers through the years. They can E-mail me at roy3541@yahoo.com or write to Roy Miller 6115 Roe St. Cincinnati, OH. 45227-2401



Can help me find an old, US 8th Army, friend. We were stationed together in Seoul Korea 1965-66. His name is **PFC. John G Gidley**. Stationed at HQ Commonwealth Liaison mission, Seoul Korea. I was then CPL. Tony Shieber, British Army, at the Mission. John's home town was Lowell Arizona, and his last known address was: Box 3171 Lowell Arizona. I would also like to hear from anyone who remembers me from the mission. They can contact me at this E-mail address: tonyschieber@hotmail.com or telephone UK 191-2629578.



I was stationed in Korea 1952-1953. I was in the **45th Division**, 279th infantry and 3rd Division, 65th infantry; I would like any info that you can send me relating to these military assignments, and the time frame. SFC Frank J. Murlasits, US 27935467, 6812 N 44 Street Milwaukee, WI 53223 or e-mail me at fjmjfmkalli@worldnet.att.net



Looking for **Matthew Ryan** one of the members of our unit who served in Korea during the early days of the Korean War. Please contact ajohnston@worldnet.att.net if you have any information on his whereabouts or how to contact him.



I am writing to you concerning my great uncle's capture (POW) during the Korean War. He did survive, I was just wondering if you could find more information on him for me. His name is **Harvey Benjamin Love**. He is from Baltimore, Md. and was in the United States Marine Corp. I have no idea what battalion, or Regiment or squad, or anything like that. Please e-mail me back at weldon@fastol.com, or reiben27@hotmail.com. -Amy Weldon



For the past 46 years, I've been trying to find an ex-marine from Santa Rosa, CA who shared a foxhole with me on Bunker Hill. Name **Robert Lee Fowler**. I can be contacted by phone: (727) 392-4974 or e-mail ron62@ibm.net



My name is Andy Wong. I'm now 36 years old born in Korea 1962, my mom had very limited information about my father. All I know is, he served in **Red Cloud Camp** as Engineer, his name might be Nurley he's from Texas, he grew up in an orphanage. One of his fingers has lost one digit. My mother's name is Helen she is the only child in the family, her

family escaped from North Korea to South Korea, she used work at a nightclub as waitress. If you served in Red Cloud Camp please contact me at 703-591-6668 ask for Lan (my wife) or e-mail: awong@tidalwave.net



My uncle, **Harvin J. Overbeek**. Serial # US55289416 was KIA on 2 May 1953, and his remains did return home.. my dad had to identify the body, since my mom was pregnant with my younger brother. I understand he may have died by some type of booby trap. He was assigned to the 17th Inf Reg, 7th ID. Where, when, etc.. those types of things are what I am interested in knowing. You are very kind to help me, and I appreciate it. Kerry & Cindy VerBeek at e-mail address kcvb@i2k.com



2nd Chemical Mortar Bn Association is looking for veterans who served in our Battalion before or during World War II (1935-46) and before or during the Korean War (1949-53). Our Association includes those who served with our Battalion's successor units – the 461st Infantry Battalion (Heavy Mortar) and the 88th Infantry Battalion (Heavy Mortar). The next annual reunion observing the 50th anniversary of our Battalion's reactivation will be held in Colorado Springs, CO, September 22-26, 1999. The following year reunion will be held at Edgewood, MD, September 13-17, 2000 – exactly 50 years after our departure for Korea. Enlist today by phone or mail, providing your full name, address, phone number, unit and dates of service. You will then receive a current roster and future newsletters. No dues. Contact: William R. Thomas, 7418 Overdale Drive, Dallas, TX 75240; 972-387-1247.



I'm looking for any information I can find about my father, **Thomas Roehrich**, USAF. Contact Tammy Roehrich at e-mail address idox1r8@worldnet.att.net



Anyone who knows of the whereabouts of these men who served in the **196th Field Arty** assigned to X Corps: William Thomsen First Sgt., Hq.s Batry and Huie Cunningham SFC, Svc. Btry. 1952-53, Lt. R. P. Hatch would like to know how they are doing. Address: 20360 Strawline Road, Bend, OR 97702.



My name is Jim Hudson I was Co Clerk with the **Hq & Hq Co 55th QM in Pusan** Korea 53-54-55. I am looking for other personnel who were there at that time. I have located Jonh Mangani, Bob (Nick) Zimmerman, Kevin O'Toole, Len Sisbach and Dick Metiille and we are going to have a re-union in Sept 99. We have been trying to locate others such as Fred Marshall and Don Hildebrand who came in from a National Guard outfit and our driver Neal Warden, Lt Richard Matney and others who were there at that time. Please contact me at 816 S Ferrel Drive, Olathe Kansas. 66061 or E-mail address at pegjim@aol.com.

I am looking for a listing of the **809th Engineering and Aviation Bn.** My father-in-law is Roger Ernest Telkamp, who was a member of this battalion in 1952 and 1953 and is looking for other members. Marta Jo Telkamp at e-mail address robar@itctel.com or mail to Roger Telkamp, 47158 219th St. Brookings, SD 57006-7048

★

Looking for information on history, fate, shipmates, reunions, anything and everything to do with the **USS Symbol** on which I served during the Korean War. Contact William E. (Bill) Banks, at e-mail address m.banks3@gte.net

★

Looking for **Francis R Buttler** from Boston, we were in Korea 1953 and 1954 at 8063 MASH also called 44th MASH Hospital. He was discharged late 1954 or 1955. Lost track of him. He was in Boston 1955. Please contact Tom Duquette at e-mail address TOMDUQJR@aol.com

★

I am looking for men who was with **Hq and Hq Co, 3d Inf Div Korea** from July of 1951 to June 1952. One man I got to know real well is Robert K. Chong from HI. There was also about 6 or 7 who also came from HI. My mane Tag M. Jensen 1102 Dennis Ave Leesville, La 71446, my email address is korea@worldnetla.net

★

My name is Lisa Lamagna Feraco. My father **Rudolph (Rudy) Lamagna** served in Korea in 1951-1953 in MASH Unit 4077. I am searching for a man named Art Bowers (or Bauer) I am unsure of the spelling) who was also in the unit with my father. The last we heard from him, which was quite some time ago, he was residing somewhere in Florida and was a school teacher/principal. Any help you could provide in how I can search for him would be greatly appreciated as this is very important to my mother and I. Contact Lamagna Feraco at E-mail address jandlfer@usaor.net

★

My uncle, an Air Force pilot, is listed as died while missing in action in Korea on 2/28/54. His name is **Louis Paul Gorrell**. I am interested in posting information on my uncle in as many places as I can in hopes of finding anyone who might remember him. Douglas Grant at e-mail address Douglas_Grant@fema.gov

★

I am trying to locate an old friend who was a pilot for Ozark Airlines in the 1950's and 1960's. His name is **James A. (Jim) Eckols** and he is about 67 years old, same as me.

Jim and I became best friends shortly after enlisting in the Air Force in 1951. We went to technical schools together, aerial gunnery school and later flew on the same B-29 crew in combat over Korea. I am retired now and my thoughts have turned to old friends. I managed to locate a few crewmembers, but no one seems to know the whereabouts of Jim. His leave address after we returned from the Pacific in December 1952 was his parent's address; 511 Iowa St., Burlington, Iowa. His dad was a Baptist minister in Burlington.

After Jim got out of the service in 1953 he went to flight school and earned his pilot's license. He married a girl named Louise around 1956 and they came to Louisiana and spent a few days with us in late 1957 on their way from Florida to Missouri where he had accepted a job as a pilot with Ozark Airlines.

The last address I have for Jim is 4412 Glenmar Court, Bridgeton, MO. 63042. This was in late 1968 and he was still flying for Ozark then. At that time, at least, they had no children. That was the last contact I've had with him.

I would really like to find out where Jim is. Hopefully he is still alive but if he isn't I still want to know. If you have any address for him, any kin of his, or friends please Contact: Clyde Durham 1016 Hwy. 3128 Pineville, LA 71360-8531 Tel: 318-445-3247

★



I am former POW from Camp #5, 7th. Reg. 1st. Cav. Div. I have recently become acquainted with a family who has an unaccounted for family member from the Korean War. Would like to communicate with anyone who may have known **Cpl. Robert J. Stim**, RA 16251099, Co. G. 8th. Cav. Reg. Declared missing Nov. 1, 1950 at Unsan North Korea. It is possible that he may have been captured and on the Death

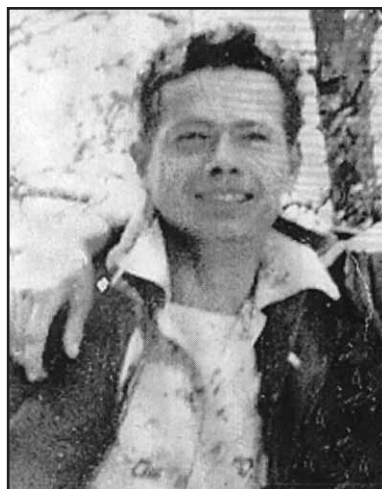
march but his name is not on the list of dead from that group. He was attached to the Cav. in Sept or Oct. of 1950, (was in HQ Det. 8001 TC Depot in Yokohama just before that, worked in mess hall for a bit there also.) Sometimes called "Jimmy or Stim." He was in Merchant Marine as a teenager. Anyone with information please write 501 Banana Lane, Ft. Pierce, FL 34982 or call me C. Allan Keck collect 561-468-9969 or E-mail me at ALKEK@worldnet.att.net or call his sister Florence Flick at 561-468-0454 also collect.

★

Would like to find any Army Group that was entertained by **Elton Britt**. He was a Country Western singer and also was the greatest yodeler in his field. We have articles about him singing on the front lines and when he started to sing the shooting stopped. The Koreans were listening to him sing also. Any information any one can supply would be appreciated. Contact: Joe Macchia Box 1091 Arizona City, AZ. 85223 or E-mail: Jomack@casagrande.com

★

Looking for a pilot: in Korea during the winter of 1952, you just made it over the MLR in your damaged P-51 Mustang Fighter. You circled our camp just missing my radio antenna which was 12 Ft. high. You bellyflopped it down in the middle



I am interested in any information on a friend, **Pfc. Walter F. Piper**, RA 13352804, Hq. Co. 38th Infantry, 2nd Division. He was listed as MIA, then POW in February 1951, later on August 14, 1953, he was listed on the Official POW Roster as dying of wounds on July 18, 1951 at an unknown site.

The Army says—based on his time of death—he probably died on the

march to the Suan Mining Camp or while being moved to the permanent camp at Pyoktong. I am in contact with his mother and older brother.

Contact me Ralph M. Delaney, 1109 Sunset Dr., Somerdale, NJ 08083, Tel: 609-783-1755, Fax: 609-784-1591 or E-mail: MMMMM Del@aol.com

of our camp. General Huddelson, Commander of the 40th Inf. Div. came down in his chopper to check on you and your plane. I notified your base and the General of your landing and the General returned you to your base in his chopper. I have pictures of the General and your plane which I am sure you and or your family would like to have. I.D. number on the plane is RF 781. If any pilot knows who this might be contact me, Bill Marshall, 22928 Gaukler St., Clair Shores, MI. 48080. Tel: 810-778-5570

Dear readers and veterans: Being a Korean War Veteran and a family member who lost a twin brother in Korea, 2nd Inf. Div. MIA 12-1-50, then POW, then BNR, I know how important it is for those in this column to receive any bit of information about a lost loved one, just a friend, or a buddy that shared your experiences. Our time is running out to get that special letter, so please if you can reply to any request no matter how trivial your information seems. We cherish your response and usually just a few words can lead to another missing link and believe me your letters give some closure to those still waiting for answers.

As you can see the majority of letters are coming from our Internet Web Page or my E-mail address. Typed letters help me

to get the newsletter out quickly and also helps to avoid errors. Please attempt to type your letters, if not, take the time to print or write clearly. I have over 25 written letters for "Looking for" and can only take the time to type a few each issue. If you do not see your request, then you know it was a written one and in some cases I cannot read them.

Those that have no availability to Internet, please contact me and I will relay your information forward. My addresses are on page 2. Also when you call or write please give me some detail of the article you are responding too and the page number. I spend many hours on this section alone, please help, we want your input. Thank you—Ed.

CHRISTMAS from page 39

and they did an outstanding job of presenting Christmas music, with children's tunes from many countries.

Two Korean girls, who worked as administrators for our civilians workers, had melodious voices, and when added to the others in the show, made it an enjoyable experience for all of us. One of the teachers acted as an interpreter so everyone could understand what was going on.

After the entertainment was over Santa again appeared, this time to hand out individual bags containing an orange, some cookies, more hard candy and a toy. As each child received the gift they said in English "Thank you". The spoken words were only a formality, the look in their eyes showed their true appreciation.

BOOKS from page 39

He bore witness to the merciless death of many friends and mentors who helped mold him into a man and professional soldier. This book begins in those days following the attack at Chosin and accounts for the distinguished service rendered by his now fragmented unit led by Captain Phillip Kulbes, Co. D, 10th Eng. Bn (Combat), 3rd Inf. Div, otherwise known as Kulbes' Mongrels... the War Dawgs.

(Editors Note: Once you start reading this book you will not put it down until you have read all 160 pages and have studied the many photos. The 22 Chapters are mini-stories and each are well written and informative. I enjoyed this one so much that I hope I can still purchase his last book, "To The Last Man.")

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One Came Home

By Vince Krepps

I wish to print this story in order to introduce you to my best friend. This is the reason I devote many hours printing your stories with a mixture of the personal emotions from myself and families who spend a lifetime remembering the loss of a loved one.

Part II

Continued from November-December issue of The Graybeards

At one point, the enemy was so close that Krepps stood in the tank's hatch and fired a round from his grease gun that took out a cluster of shadowy figures.

At each new enemy roadblock, the columns of American tanks, half-tracks, trucks, jeeps and infantry would slow to a crawl. From the surrounding cliffs, the North Koreans would lob grenades and lay down withering machine gun fire. "It was chaos, total chaos," Krepps says softly. Then Lieutenant Higgins was hit. He took a bullet in the neck that seemed to spin his entire body around. In an instant, his terrified sobbing pierced the night air: "Take me home! Please don't let me die here!" John H. Higgins was in his late 20's, but he was a combat veteran of WWII. His naked fear and anguish unnerved the young soldiers around him. For 19-year-old kids, that was pretty hard to take," Krepps says. "To see your leader crying..."

Somewhere south of the Naktong River, Krepps' tank was hit; he and the crew abandoned it and hitched a ride with another tank. Everywhere were bodies of American soldiers, twisted in burning vehicles on the side of the road and scattered in ditches.

The long, bloody night seemed to drag on forever. As the first streaks of dawn brushed the sky and a brief lull in the shelling ensued, Vince Krepps crawled under a jeep, sneaked a cigarette and reread a few letters from back home.

The situation was grim. The American troops were completely surrounded. Doubtless, there were more enemy roadblocks ahead. We're not going to make it, he thought.

Exhausted, depressed, fear vibrating from every nerve in his body, he had no

Jesus God, I'm going to die! he thought. He was in a muddy ditch with no weapon save one hand grenade. His unit was trapped. And he could see himself dying on this muddy hillside with a gaping hole the size of a grapefruit in his gut, the blood soaking into the brown dirt and the life slowly ebbing from his body.

way of knowing he was headed inexorably toward the defining moment of his time on the battlefield. Suddenly a voice cried: "Here they come!" and the jeep above him roared off. Krepps threw himself in a nearby ditch, then cautiously peered out. The sight froze him. Everywhere, as far as the eye could see, North Korean troops were advancing. Their drab uniforms seemed to cover the hillsides. "Oh, God, they were coming," Krepps says now, eyes widening at the memory. "They were like ants."

The sight re-ignited a panic among the American troops, who were in full retreat once again. Krepps jumped on a passing M-19. He rode a couple of miles down the road until the tank was hit and the men were ordered to take a position on a nearby hill. Terrified, they sprinted up the hill, straight into a North Korean ambush. Two enemy soldiers rose up with machine guns blazing. As he dove for cover into an erosion ditch, bullets ricocheted above him.

Jesus God, I'm going to die! he thought. He was in a muddy ditch with no weapon save one hand grenade. His unit was trapped. And he could see himself dying on this muddy hillside with a gaping hole the size of a grapefruit in his gut, the blood soaking into the brown dirt and the life slowly ebbing from his body.

Then he heard the voice. It came from somewhere below him, low but urgent: "We got any M-19 drivers here?" Good God, it's, Lieutenant Higgins! Krepps thought. Higgins was bandaged and bleeding, but he was back with his men. Krepps, in the erosion ditch, his breath coming in short, rapid bursts, kept silent.

An abandoned tank was blocking the road below, he could see that. When several moments went by and no other drivers responded, he heard himself yell: "Sir, it's me, Krepps! I'm over here!" The assignment was put to him directly: Get down to the M-19. Move it off the road so the heavier tank behind it can get by. Tell that tank to get help, or we're all going to die.

It seemed a suicidal mission. Krepps would need to traverse 200 yards of terrain



Before teen years, Richard (left) and Vincent.

exposed to intense enemy fire. His only weapon was a grenade. It all seemed surreal as he set off, his body seeming to move on its own, his brain locked in a wild scream: What are you doing?! This is crazy!

Drawing heavy machine-gun fire, he moved from rock to rock, tree to tree, the way he'd seen John Wayne do it in all those World War II movies. Somehow, he made it to the tank and moved it off the road. By now, the North Koreans were firing mortars and rockets at the M-19; the small-arms fire blistering off the steel shell sounded like hail bouncing off a tin shed. Moments later, he arrived at a momentous decision. The heavier tank would never get through because several other vehicles still blocked the road. He would have to make the run for help himself.

In the dry, bureaucratic language of his official Silver Star citation, Pvt. Vincent Krepps "then performed emergency repairs on the vehicle, displaying complete indifference to the enemy fire...and drove it through an enemy road block." Complete indifference? Not quite. On and on he drove, drawing heavy fire, his heart pounding in his chest, the grenade in his lap. After several miles, he saw what looked like another enemy roadblock a few hundred yards ahead. A large tank was pulled across the road.

"The North Koreans were killing their prisoners at the time," he recalls. "So when I saw the roadblock, I made up my Mind to ram the vehicle. I'm thinking if they get me,, I'll pull the pin on my grenade and take as many of them with me as I can."

He floored the M-19. Then just 25 yards from the big tank, he saw a white star painted on it. It was an American vehicle. Pulling back furiously on the laterals, he came to a skidding halt in front of the roadblock. Shaking, crying, nearly hysterical, he ran up to a lieutenant colonel in the middle of the road. "Soldier, what's your problem?" the colonel barked.

When he could compose himself, Krepps blurted out the story of the trapped men and vehicles miles back in the hills. Heavy tanks were rushed out to aid the U.S. troops under siege. But when the tanks returned, the news was not good. Most of the Americans had 'been wiped out.

A week later, Krepps rejoined his unit. There was a long, emotional reunion with his brother. Dickie Krepps had gotten his first taste of combat, too, a near-deadly firefight with a Russian-made T-34 tank. They had been in Korea a total of three weeks. There was mail waiting for the brothers. Their dad had written: A new 1950 Plymouth was sitting in front of the new family home in Essex, where George Krepps had found work after being laid off from the foundry in Monesson, PA.

The brothers talked about the war, but mainly they talked about home: the pretty girls waiting back in Essex, what they'd do after the fighting stopped, the shiny Plymouth they would drive around on Saturday nights. Soon, however, came word that a half-track driver had been wounded and a replacement was needed. Dickie was moving back to the front. The brothers hugged again and said their good-byes.

"Now we knew about war," Vince Krepps says. "This time we hugged not knowing if we'd ever see each other again." Within a week, Dickie Krepps was wounded in battle. Word was it was a "million dollar wound" -not serious enough to cause permanent damage, but serious enough to get him sent home. Vince was elated. "It really took a load off



Stateside, 1950 — Vincent (left) and Richard.

my mind. Because your chances of survival there were nil"

A month later, Vince was injured and spent a week aboard the Hospital Ship docked in the Pusan Harbor, then airlifted to Japan. At a U.S. military hospital, he was told by a nurse that he'd just missed his brother.

She also had more ominous news: Richard was not headed home. He was headed back to the war.

Vince, also learned in talking with released American prisoners from his battery due to the Inchon Invasion, that Lt. Higgins who was a POW was killed along with other officers to keep them from freedom.

When Vince Krepps rejoined his unit somewhere north of Seoul the first week in December, he was shocked at the deterioration he saw all around him. The wounded were everywhere, moaning and crying out in pain. The men, looked frozen, haggard, exhausted. They had the Thousand-Yard Stare, the vacant, hollow look of men who had seen and done horrible things in battle. "Kunu-ri," someone whispered, to Vince Krepps.

The Chinese communists had entered the war. More than 300,000 Chinese troops were believed to have crossed the Yalu River into North Korea. Near Kunu-ri, U.N. troops had been overwhelmed and forced into a chaotic retreat through a 20-mile gauntlet. The blood bath claimed more than 4,900 American troops, mainly the 2nd Division and this also was happening on the East coast near the Chosin Reservoir where 4,418 Marine

and over 2,500 7th Inf. Div. (Army) troops were lost.

Seeing the results of the horror that had engulfed his battalion, Vince Krepps went off quickly in search of his brother. But Dickie Krepps was nowhere to be found. A terrible, gnawing anxiety overcame Vince. Finally two red-eyed soldiers approached him and whispered the words he'd been dreading: "Your brother, didn't make it out of Kunu-ri. No one knows what happened to him."

"I was devastated," Vince Krepps recalls, the words coming softly now and seeming to rattle around the room. On Dec. 1, 1950, Pfc. Richard Krepps was officially declared missing in action.

War is not tidy or orderly. It can't be tracked in a ledger. Soldiers wander in off the battlefield all the time -days, weeks, sometimes months after they're declared missing. POWs escape from their prison camps. Men go mad or become disoriented and end up with different units, or in field hospitals, or wandering miles from where they were last seen.

This was the frail hope that sustained Vince Krepps and his family in the weeks after Dickie was declared missing -that he was still alive and that somehow, in the chaos of war, he had merely been misplaced.

For comfort, the family would re-read his letters from Korea. The plain, conversational prose was oddly reassuring. In his last letter, dated Nov. 9, 1950, and sent to his sister Loretta Brown and her husband, Bob seemed wistful.



Dear Retta and Bob,

Just a few lines to let you know that I am fine and hope this finds you the same. Received three or four letters from you in the past two days. Boy, I wish I could do that good. Well, you probably know that I'm back here and Vince is in Japan by now...

Well, the war isn't over yet. What are the papers saying back there? I heard they have been saying it's over...

Take the best care of yourselves for me.

All my love,

Dick

To be continued in next issue with: "Hope arrived in a photo"

Interrogation Tools



Clues from the Brews

Taegu, South Korea, – July 1950

After Typhoon Gloria had swept across Japan on July 22nd, 1950, just a week after our arrival in Korea, and we'd caught the downpour of the fringes of the storm, we set up four twenty-foot tents in the middle of our flightline parking area. One was used for maintenance and supply storage, the second for our Operations Office ... since we had promptly outgrown our limited space in the adobe shack, and needed a place to store parachutes, life rafts and other flying gear between flights.

The third tent became my Intelligence office, where I could brief the mission assignments and interrogate returning crews. The fourth tent became our "Pilot's Lounge", a place to lay down in the sultry shade to rest between missions. None were fancy; packing crates for chairs and tables, straw mats for cots ... but it was an improvement over sitting under the wings of the fighters, trying to get a few minutes of relaxation. And it made my task of interrogation somewhat easier, because the returning pilots could be prevailed upon to sit for a few minutes so that I could question and record the results of their missions, and pass the information on to FEAF Headquarters.

Their adrenalin was still flowing, understandably, when the pilots landed from an exciting, oftentimes scary combat mission; their nervous energy was not

conducive to sitting and answering a lot of detailed questions.

Typically, it was easy to get them to talk about the mission ... each was anxious to tell it in "war story" fashion, to tell how rough it was, and how close they came to getting their ass busted, but it was much more difficult to get them to recall an exact location of a certain event, or to estimate specifically how many trucks or tanks were seen at a certain target area, or to guess how many troops were seen in which location. Even under the best of circumstances, with no one shooting machine guns at you from the surface, it's extremely difficult to see clearly while traveling at 350 to 400 miles per hour while fifty feet above the ground ... it is more normal to concentrate on hitting the enemy than counting them!

My friend, Lieut. Don Bolt, formerly of the 67th Squadron at Clark, had been grounded by the Air Force economy purges of the previous year; and had been taken off of flying status, but had been offered the chance to fly again if he would "volunteer" to fly combat in Korea. He jumped at the chance, and sent word to me that he would be coming through Tokyo on his way to Taegu, in case there was anything I wanted him to pick up for me on the way over. By that time I had found a need for a some lockable storage lockers, and asked him to pick up a couple of

It was "weather-cooled"... in the heat of July, but it was thirst-quenching and refreshing, and, above all, it was the only beer available on Taegu air base at that point in time!

the nice aluminum foot lockers available at the Tokyo PX and, as an afterthought, said that he might just as well fill them with as many cases of canned beer as he could fit into them ... and I would pay him for the whole works upon delivery.

When Bolt arrived with my two footlockers and ten cases of individual cans of beer... two hundred forty cans, I knew that I had found my answer to keeping the returning pilots in the interrogation tent until I finished the mission critique ... I donated a free can of beer to each returning pilot, as long as he would sit and answer my questions while he sat and drank it.

It was "weather-cooled"... in the heat of July, but it was thirst-quenching and refreshing, and, above all, it was the only beer available on Taegu air base at that point in time!

World War II pilots in most theaters of operation received a one ounce "shot" of "Mission Whiskey" upon return from a combat flight. This, too, was one of the neglected oversights of the early Korean air war. The omission was not even considered by most crews; most were much more concerned with the floorless tents, cold showers from 55 gallon drums and the shortage of every conceivable item necessary to get a combat F-51 into the air... including spare airplanes and pilots. Reportedly, the traditional liquid relaxant was ultimately made available to the returning Korean combat crews, but the distribution did not commence until long after the author... the Squadron Intelligence Officer... had completed his One Hundred Mission Combat Tour behind enemy lines and left Korea eleven months later, in mid June, 1951.

My ten case Beer Donation lasted almost two weeks and, at the 1950 Tokyo PX price of \$2.50 per case, I figured it was \$25 wellspent to help me get my Intelligence interrogation job done.

D. E. 'Bud' Biteman, Lt Col, USAF, Ret

"...one of those OLD, Bold fighter pilots..."

Next Issue: Tender is the Tail

Unsung Heroes of the Korean Air War

by

Duane E. 'Bud' Biteman,

Lt Col, USAF, Ret

Steamboat ad
pg 47

Best Western ad
Pg 48

EGGS

...and the burn't "Billy"

By C.W Brown

I served with the U.S. Army in Korea during the first year of the Korean War and at various times and locations, a unit of the New Zealand Army was positioned near my outfit. I became friends with some of the NZ soldiers, and one in particular 'Gunner' Ernie Glover; a typical Kiwi, a good soldier, and an all-round good friend.

One warm summer day in 1951, Gunner Glover and I were taking advantage of a lull in the action and poking around in a deserted Korean village. While idly looking about, I found the only living thing left in the village, a chicken sitting on two, just-laid eggs.

After months of army field rations, the thought of fresh eggs was very attractive to both of us. The question was, how to prepare them? Neither of us had any kind of pan, so frying was out. It seemed to me that boiling was the only practical solution; but boil in what? Past experience had shown me that boiling water in an Army helmet required an extremely hot fire due to its thick construction. Ernie wasn't much help in solving the 'egg cooking' problem either and only contributed the thought that neither of us should smoke-up our helmets. Then it hit me - the *idea*! All New Zealand soldiers carried a 'Billy' in which they brewed their tea. These 'Billys' were nothing more than smoke stained, dented, tin cans, as far as I could see, but to the Kiwis they were prized personnel possessions. "Ernie," I said as soon as I got the *idea*. "Let's use your Billy."

The look that immediately came over his face should have stopped me in my tracks, and can only be described as one of total dismay. "Are ye completely daft?" he yelled. "Me Billy is meant for tea and nothing else. Forget the damn eggs, or eat them raw! They'll not be cooked in Ernie Glovers Billy!"

"But Ernie," I argued, "all we'll do is boil water in the damn thing. That's what you do when you make tea. How will the Billy know it has two (in the shell), eggs in it? They can't possibly hurt your old tin-can."

"Me Billy is meant for tea and nothing else. Forget the damn eggs, or eat them raw! They'll not be cooked in Ernie Glovers Billy!"

"It's no a tin can," responded my friend, but not quite as loudly or passionately as before.

The argument continued for several more minutes before Ernie finally gave in and said "alright, but if ye ruin me Billy, you're in for it!" I'm not really sure to this day, if I won the argument because of my amazing gift of persuasion which I obviously possessed, or simply because Ernie was a really nice guy, which he definitely was.

We soon had a small fire going and over it, the Billy filled with Korean rice paddy water and our two prized eggs. Anyone who knows the pedigree of rice paddy water in Korea, might question the wisdom of using it for cooking, but since the eggs would remain in their shells, I didn't see any problem. As soon as the water started to boil it developed a thick foam which prevented us from actually seeing the eggs during the cooking process.

We watched the boiling water for 3 or 4 minutes and then decided it was time to enjoy our feast. Ernie gingerly took the can off the fire and set it on the ground to cool. Very quickly the foam, which up to then kept the eggs from our view, dissipated. I happened to be turned toward Ernie at that moment, and could tell from the look on his face that something was terribly wrong! If his expression wasn't enough to at least startle and probably scare me, the sound coming from him certainly did both.

He was staring into his Billy and was actually screeching. It was some time before I realized there were words also coming from my friend, and not just screams. He was howling the same phrase over and over - "Ye've ruined me Billy, ye've ruined me Billy" he screamed repeatedly. I ignored his outburst for a moment and looked into the can to see what could be the cause of this unbelievably emotional eruption. What I saw in the Billy, gave me a sudden start, and immediately explained my companions distress.

Both eggs had cracked! The yolks had

run all over the inside of the Billy and partially cooked and stuck in many spots. I realized at once, this was a very serious problem with regard to our friendship and possibly even my own well being. Although I regretted losing the anticipated treat, the eggs would surely have provided, I didn't share my companions total anguish. I tried with absolutely no success to calm him down. "Ernie, I'll get you another tin can. This thing is so damn smoked-up and dented you should have gotten rid of it a long time ago anyway."

"Ye're daft," he screamed at me. "Me Billy was seasoned! And now ye've ruined it. It can't ever be fixed and I don't want just any damn tin can you can come up with. What'll I do without a Billy?" He then returned to his previous litany - "Ye've ruined me Billy!"

By then we both realized we couldn't stay in the village any longer and had to return to our units. It wasn't a long walk to the unit positions and I hoped that I would be able to calm him down before we got back. "How did I know the damn eggs would crack?" I asked him. "And I will get you another can. How long can it take to season a new one?"

He informed me in no uncertain terms, that there was a lot involved in "seasoning" a Billy, and that you couldn't do it quickly. He continued along that line, and added that all his mates would be brewing tea soon, and he wouldn't be able to. It began to sound as if he thought I had not only 'ruined his Billy, I but maybe his entire life.

Well, we kept plodding along the hot, dusty, Korean road with Ernie continuing his words and sounds of distress, and me doing my best to ease his suffering and to save our friendship. I don't recall exactly how I finally prevailed. I only know that I somehow won him over and that our friendship survived. I suspect that the survival was due to Ernie's agreeable and good-natured personality, more than it was to my less-than-convincing arguments.

Please turn to **EGGS** on page 56

BKVA International Reunion

London, England 17-24 July 1999

Optional Post Tours to Paris, France or Ireland

During the recent U.S. KWVA Reunion in Washington, DC, representatives of the British Korean Veterans Association (BKVA) presented their plans for a joint international reunion to be held in London, July 18-23, 1999. This was a very exciting "Pre Korea 2000" commemorative event that will draw hundreds of veterans and their families from all 22 countries that participated in the Korean War. The plans are as follows:

- ◆ Saturday, July 17 Depart US for London
- ◆ Sunday, July 18 AM - Arrive London early AM, transfer to hotel
PM - Welcome Dinner this evening
- ◆ Monday, July 19 AM - Memorial Service in St. Paul's Cathedral
PM - Reception and lunch at the Guildhall
- ◆ Tuesday, July 20 AM - Windsor Castle tour or optional sightseeing
PM - Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and the Royal Hospital, Chelsea
- ◆ Wednesday, July 21 AM - Parade and Inspection, Horse Guard
PM - US Embassy/High Commission receptions
- ◆ Thursday, July 22 AM - Windsor Castle tour or optional

sightseeing

PM - Gala Dinner hosted by Korean Embassy

- ◆ Friday, July 23

Optional London sightseeing or at leisure: Imperial War Museum, National Arm Museum, Churchill's Cabinet War Rooms, HMS Belfast or other sights.

- ◆ Saturday, July 24

Depart London for home or post tour extensions to Paris, France or Ireland

Since the main events will be subsidized in part by BKVA, participation will be limited to one family member per KWVA member attending the Reunion.

We are working very closely with our comrades at BKVA and Saga Holidays, LTD., in coordinating our hotel, air, and other arrangements. Full detailed information, as well as final tour costs will be available after a site recon' to London at the end of October. The approximate tour cost for the London Reunion is \$1875 per person and includes roundtrip international airfare, roundtrip airport transfers, hotel accommodations in London, most meals, Reunion events contribution, special events and more. To guarantee your space, complete and mail the advance registration form along with your deposit as soon as possible.

Note: You must be a member of KWVA to participate.

The BKVA London Reunion is very popular – return your registration ASAP

Advanced Registration Form

BKVA International Reunion London, England — 17-24 July 1999

I am interested in either ☐ Paris or ☐ Ireland Post Tour Extensions. I am further interested in:
(see details of Optional Excursions in Nov/Dec Graybeards)

- ☐ Half Day London Sightseeing (20 July or 22 July)
(The day you do not go to Windsor Castle)
- ☐ Half Day To Greenwich (23 July)
- ☐ Full Day To Stonehenge & Salisbury Cathedral (23 July)
- ☐ Full Day To The City Of Bath (23 July)
- ☐ Full Day To Cambridge & Duxford (23 July)
- ☐ National Army & Imperial War Museum (23 July)

Please reserve _____ space(s) on this historic International Reunion. I understand that my advance deposit of \$300 per person will be applied towards my final invoice and is fully refundable until May 18, 1999.

Your deposit may be made by check, money order or credit card (Visa and Mastercard only).

NAME _____

SPOUSE/GUEST _____

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (H): (W) FAX _____

KWVA Membership # _____

I authorize Military Historical Tours to charge my credit card # _____

Expiration date: _____

Issued to the name of: _____

for the tour deposit indicated above.

Signature _____

Date _____

MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS, INC.
4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22304
Attn: Warren Wiedhahn, BKVA Reunion Coordinator
703-739-8900*Fax 703-684-0193*800-722-9501

For more than two years I have endeavored to seek recognition for Lt. Col. Flamm D. "Dee" Harper, USAF retired, an unsung hero of a forgotten war and a great American. The purpose was not merely to get him another medal, he has plenty of those, but to bring his story to the attention of the general public.

There is good news. Monumental Productions of Everett, WA is about to release a ten hour plus video series entitled "Korea: Remembering a Forgotten War". No doubt the series will be shown on television at a later date. Dee's story and the exploits of his fellow pilots will be featured.

The story, which remained untold for more than forty years, pertains to a mission which I consider second only to the landing at Inchon for the advancement of the allied cause in Korea. On June 15, 1953 "Dee" Harper set in motion the mission by the valiant pilots of the 18th Fighter Bomber Wing which destroyed the munitions for a potential million man offensive by our adversaries to the north. Dee's article, which appeared in Sabre Jet Classics magazine, described how the events occurred. Dee never received the recognition he deserves for one of the most significant acts ever initiated by a junior officer in the face of combat conditions. He was a captain at the time with a spot promotion to major. I view the story as a paean to the dauntless American fighting man and to those unknown souls who do the heavy lifting on the job.

Attempts to get recognition for Dee through military channels had proven fruitless. I wrote to Senator Dole, but I doubt if he personally saw my letter. Senator Nunn referred my letter to Senator Specter who forwarded the information to the Department of Defense for reply. The letter received from the Department of the Air Force deals only with regulations and policies regarding awards and does not address the central issue of Dee Harper's extraordinary act.

The story presented a Catch-22 situation for the military, placing them between the Scylla of acknowledging a significant action reflecting glory on the Air Force and the Charybdis of denying the action occurred. Dee states that he was a junior

The Buck Stops Here

By Louis J. Cain

officer who had not yet learned the fine art of "keeping his buttocks covered". It must have been an act of providence that he occupied the position he had because he was in non-flying status due to any injury, and a command structure vacuum existing because the wing and group commanders were summoned to a conference in Tokyo in anticipation of the forthcoming truce. I submit that Dee did everything possible to get approval for the mission in which 120 sorties were flown. I doubt if anyone of equivalent rank ever made a decision of more momentous potential. The mission never had formal approval from higher headquarters and he could have been court martialed for his audacity. To think that this fine officer could have been sentenced to a term of playing rock hockey at the big arena at Leavenworth is outrageous. Dee was the right man, at the right place, at the right time, and now his story has been verified by the USAF History Support Office.

It appears that Dee Harper's perspec-

tive of what was necessary was to act with all due haste to destroy the munitions. It would also appear that those in staff level positions at higher headquarters viewed their responsibility as not interrupting the general's dinner until later when a command decision could then be made. R.H.I.P. and this would have been fine under normal conditions. The 18th FBW acted with all due dispatch. It was reminiscent of the comment made while General Patton's Third Army was advancing across Europe in WWII. The joke was that he had to slow down because he was three days ahead of H.V. Kaltenborn.

My recollections are pellucid to the point that I recall distinctly the mood of the country as well as how the diplomatic and political overtones affected military considerations. The newly inaugurated Eisenhower administration was committed to ending the conflict. A major assault by the North would have required a dramatic response. Could a widening of the war under such circumstances be contained within a limited sphere of operations? We can only guess. In the worst case scenario, it could have escalated into War World Three. The American public was weary of the constant state of attrition in Korea and the perfidious nature of our adversaries. They wanted an end to the conflict, one way or another. Perhaps those in authority thought it best not to publicize the aggressive intent of our adversaries while a truce to end hostilities appeared imminent.

I read General of the Army Omar Bradley's last book which was published posthumously and which gives information concerning the pertinent political and military philosophy extant at the time of his watch as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Although there was divergent opinion, it was felt that our best strategy was to obtain a stalemate settlement as escalation of military action might precipitate a wider conflict. We wanted a demarcation line roughly contiguous with the thirty-eighth parallel and our adversaries to the north wanted any territorial advantage they might obtain concomitant with the psychological advantage of "winning" that would appear as a result.

Based on the foregoing, we did not wish to do anything to upset the forthcom-



S/Sgt Louis J. Cain, USAF
Korea 1952

Please turn to **HARPER** on page 56

Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library — Progress Report

UPDATE - January 17, 1999
Tuscola, Illinois



As of this date, the legalities of transferring the first of two 11-acre tracts of land at the east edge of Tuscola from Leona Steven to the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library are not yet finalized.

However, the money is in place and the contracts have all been signed. Snow and ice storms have prevented the board of trustees from posting its new eight-foot sign, printed with the words "*Future Site of the Korean War Veterans National Museum & Library.*" If the ground is not frozen, the sign will be posted on the site of the national museum during our February 6 board meeting.

Meanwhile, excitement is mounting for the museum. We opened a new website on the internet on November 18, and as of today, over 5300 viewers have already visited <www.theforgottenvictory.org>. The site is being maintained free of charge by Kevin Zimmerman, nephew of board member Morey Zimmerman of Monroe, Wisconsin. The website includes incorporation information about the museum, as well as the full text for the Case for Support. Our Code of Ethics, Collections Policy, and Admissions Policy are also posted on the site, as well as a Buddy Search page for anyone wishing to list their own name or search for a Korean War buddy.

Also included on the site are photographs of the convention center wall tile, tile order forms, membership application, a roster of our growing membership, reunions, museum calendar of events, and Korea 2000 events. Visitors to our website can also browse our Reference Desk to find the names, addresses, and phone numbers of veterans associations and organizations. Details about the Mission for Amerasian Children of Korea can be found on the site, along with links to other Korean War-related websites. Those interested in finding information about Korean War MIA/KIAs can find it on our website. Merchandise available through the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library is also pictured, along with prices and the address where they can be obtained.

The website also contains a special surprise or two for Korean War veterans. The board of trustees encourages everyone who has access to the internet, either with their own computer or with that of family members and friends, to visit our website. Again, the URL is: www.theforgottenvictory.org>. You won't be sorry you visited us!

Our fund-raising efforts to raise the money needed for the national museum continue. The Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library has four separate bank accounts—three in Tuscola and one in Decatur, Illinois. The Decatur account holds the general operating funds of our organization. Three people are authorized to sign checks (Merle Sims, our bonded treasurer; Robert Kenney, board president; and Lynrita Sommer, secretary) drawn from this account, and no check is valid without two signatures. Receipts for purchases are required. General operating funds pay for the salaries of Tricia North (bi-weekly) and Sharon Corum (eight hours per week). No one else receives compensation of any kind for their work on behalf of the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library, and trustees do not get reimbursement for mileage or expenses to, during, or from monthly board meetings. The general operating account also pays for printing costs for brochures, Case for Supports, and the quarterly newsletter. It pays for telephone bills, advertising, office supplies, purchase of promotional merchandise, and miscellaneous expenses. The three accounts in Tuscola are held in the First State Bank.

An Endowment Account holds endowment fund money which cannot be spent. That money is set aside to provide for the future financial stability of the museum. Through a clause which was deliberately (and wisely) placed in our constitution by the board of trustees, 5 percent of all dues must be deposited in the Endowment Fund. After the year 2000, the amount increases to 10 percent. The remainder of all dues goes into the general operating account. A Building Fund Account holds money for the land purchase and construction. Again, checks drawn from this account must be signed by two authorized persons.

The Building Fund account money pays for land-related expenses such as our real estate attorney, land appraisal, land survey,

and land purchase. This account will hold the money needed for the construction of the museum.

The third account in Tuscola is the secretary's account. It holds a maximum of \$500 (from the museum's General Operating Account), and Lynrita Sommer is authorized to sign checks without a co-signer. Most of the money in the secretary's account is spent on postage for mass mailings, individual stamps, and general office supplies. Expenditures must be accompanied by a receipt, and a monthly review of the account is handled by our treasurer's assistant, Lorraine Kenney (a retired bookkeeper). Merchandise is inventoried each month, also.

The board of trustees of the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library suffered a tragic loss this holiday season. On December 19, trustee Billy Roy Smith of Oreana, Illinois died unexpectedly. Billy had been fighting cancer for many months, but was well enough to attend the Christmas party for the Charles Parlier Chapter of the KWVA in Decatur. One week later, he died in his sleep. Rarely can one find a person as devoted as Billy was to the Tell America program of the KWVA and to educating the public about the Korean War. He served as chairman of our Collections Committee because of his extensive knowledge of Korean War artifacts. Billy Smith was a wonderful man, and we miss him very much.

Numerous individuals and organizations (see list on our website) have already purchased a convention center tile to help us raise funds for the land and construction of the museum. We want to take this opportunity to especially thank VFW Post 4325 in Mattoon, Illinois for its \$4,000 Christmas gift to the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library. Thanks to its members, Christmas came early for Korean War veterans who so very much deserve a national museum to honor the survivors of the Korean War, as well as to honor those who sacrificed their lives to pay the high price for freedom.

This ad paid by a City of Tuscola marketing grant.

Check out our Web Page:
www.theforgottenvictory.org

Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library National Fund-Raising Event

Korean War veterans throughout the United States are invited to participate in a national fund-raising event for the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library in Chicago, Illinois. Sponsored by Korean Support Groups and Korean veterans in the Chicago area, the fund-raiser will be held April 16 through 18, 1999. The three events of the fund-raiser are open to Korean War veterans, their guests, and the general public. The weekend will kick off with a bowling tournament at Brunswick Zones, 588 E. North Avenue, from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m., with all ages bowling. Cost to enter the tournament is \$20 per person. From 10 p.m. until midnight, young people are invited to participate in Cosmic Bowling. The main event of the weekend, a national fund-raising dinner party, will be held from 7 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. at World Buffet (Golf & Waukegan), 8526 Golf Road in Niles, Illinois. The donation price is \$30 per person. Korean and American veterans and dignitaries will be present at the event. The program will consist of American and Korean veterans sharing stories about the Korean War, special songs, traditional Korean dance and instruments, raffles, a special presentation about the museum, and much more. World Buffet specializes in Korean cuisine. On Sunday, American veterans and their guests are welcome to attend Korean churches. Transportation to Sunday services will be provided. For more information about scheduled events, as well as hotel discounts and information, contact Hannah Mitter at 1368 Glengary Drive, Glendale Heights, IL 60139. Mrs. Mitter, who is president of the 6/25 Dongyee Support Group for the Korean

War Veterans National Museum and Library, is Korean. She speaks fluent Korean and English. Tickets for the bowling tournament and dinner party are available through Mrs. Mitter or by contacting Lynnta Sommer at the Korean War Veterans National Museum & Library organizing headquarters in the Douglas County Museum, 700 S. Main Street, Tuscola, IL 61953 (telephone 217-253-2535). Tickets are now being sold for the national fund-raiser.

Museum membership

We now have 665 members and growing. You are invited to become a charter membership of the Korean War Veterans National Museum & Library. Annual membership fees are: \$25 individual veteran or spouse; \$30 veteran family; \$35 general public; \$40 general public family; \$50 corporate or civic; \$100 sponsor. Life membership fee (one person only, paid only once) is \$1,000. Other paid-one-time-only membership categories are: \$5,000 benefactor; \$2,500 patron; \$10,000 founder. Send checks to: Merle Sims, Treasurer, 2441 Longwood Drive, Decatur, IL 62526.

Convention center tile

Tiles for the convention center wall of the national museum are available for purchase in three categories: \$300 -bronze tile; \$500 -silver tile; \$1,000 -gold tile. Proceeds from the sale of tiles go into the building fund to purchase land and construct the national museum. Three lines of text are available on each tile. Fill out the order form below to purchase a tile in your name or in memory of a special friend or veteran you would like to honor:

From the Past Secretary/Treasurer

Good-Bye and Thank You

16 January, 1999

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find my final (See page 11) report to the Council (and members) of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. as Treasurer of the Association. Please bear in mind that these reports are subject to amendment/correction by the C. P. A. designated by the Council to perform an audit/compilation of the accounting records used to prepare these statements.

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as Treasurer of this organization since appointed to the post by Past President Pappas at the meeting in Albuquerque, MN in February of 1997. My most sincere thanks to all of you for your assistance, support, and guidance during this most difficult time in the history of the KWVA. My only regret is the manner in which I was discharged from this position. I leave you with my deepest respect to you all, and the members of this fine organization.

My special thanks to all of the members with whom I have formed a deep friendship during the period in which I served the Executive Council, or as a member of same. Thank you all so very, very much.

Forgotten Warriors No More.

Sincerely yours,
James K 'Jim' Martin
L/M #09385

ORDER FORM — 8" x 2" CONVENTION CENTER TILE

Check appropriate category: ☐ \$300 -bronze; ☐ \$500 -silver; ☐ \$1,000 -gold.

Three lines of text as follows (*type or print clearly*);

- (1) _____
(19 characters per line, including spaces & hyphens)
- (2) _____
(31 characters per line, including spaces & hyphens)
- (3) _____
(31 characters, including spaces & hyphens)

Name, address, phone number of person ordering tile:

Korean Revisit

By Warren Wiedhahn

Chairman KWVA Revisit Committee

As I wrote in previous Graybeards, I will never be able to replace Lt. "Honey" (Kathleen Cronan Wyosnick) but, I'll do my very best to live up to her reputation for taking such good care of the KWVA Revisit Tours to Korea over nine long years. "Thanks Kathleen," hundreds of Korean War Veterans were touched by your heart and hand!"

Korea 2000 Update: Last December, General Ray Davis, LtGen Bill Maloney, Vince Krepps, John Lee and I traveled to Korea to obtain first hand the latest plans for Korea 2000. We visited with General Chang, Tae-Wan at the Korean Veterans Association; Ministry of Patriots, & Veterans Affairs, Minister Kim, Eui Jae; and General John Tilelli, U.S. Army, CG US forces Korea/Combined. Forces Command. We also spent over a half-hour with Republic of Korea, President Kim, Dae-jung in the "Blue House." At each meeting and every level, you could hear and feel the positive enthusiasm for the 50th Anniversary Commemorations that will commence next year in Korea.

President Kim boldly told us that his country was looking forward with enthusiasm to the Korean War Veterans and their families return. He said that the veterans' visit would serve to teach valuable lessons to young Koreans who are not that well acquainted with the Korean War. Those brave American soldiers, President Kim went on to say, helped contain the spread of communism on the Korean peninsula and they will never forget their sacrifices.

Details for 1999: The 1999 KWVA Revisit quotes were obtained while we were in Seoul. They are: May 10-15, 30 PAX, June 22-27, 30 PAX, Sept 13-18, 30 PAX. As we previously told you, the 1999 quotas were over subscribed and we have a waiting list. So, no more '99 requests can be accepted. The May returnees have been notified already and the June and September letters will be going in the mail soon

Details for 2000-2003: The USA events are still moving ahead under the very able direction and guidance Of LtGen Claude M. Kicklighter, U.S-Army (Ret.), Deputy Under Secretary of the Army for International Affairs. General Kicklighter is directly responsible to the

Department of Defense, and the Congress of the United States, to ensure that all U.S. Korean War Veterans (and their families) are appropriately recognized and thanked for their sacrifices during the Korean War.

The ROK events: are much clearer after our visit to Korea. However, their committee, chaired by a most distinguished Korean War Veteran, General Paik, Sun Yup is still getting organized. We obtained preliminarily plans that essentially call for four (4) major events during each of the three commemorative years (2000-2003). President Kim and Minister Kim have invited the U.S. Korean War Veterans Foundation back in April and June of 1999 to go over the final plans

We especially asked (again!) that the 2000-2003 revisit quotas be expanded to accommodate the thousands of veterans who want to return. We were told, several times, that the return of the veterans in the commemorative years is of paramount importance to the Government of President Kim, Dae-jung. They plan to subsidize the veterans returning (as they have in the past) but because of the numbers involved, the percentage of the subsidiary may be less. We also asked them again to eliminate the requirement that veterans only qualify for one official lifetime "Revisit" tour. This request is under serious consideration and we feel very positive that this restriction will be lifted once they consider the significance of the events.

The one thing we did hear, was that Korea intends to completely phase out the Revisit Program in 2003, after the last tour has visited Korea.

In conclusion, we received a very positive, upbeat enthusiastic response from both the ROK Government as well as the Korea Veterans Association while in Seoul. Our visits this spring and summer will result in more detail. In the meantime, please don't wait! Sign up now for the year and month that you want to return. Please note that November has now been added as a month to Revisit Korea commencing in 2000.

Attention Korean War Veterans!

In preparation for the 50th anniversary commemoration of the Korean War; veterans of that war are being encouraged to register with the U.S. Korea 2000 Foundation, Inc. According to Veterans Administration statistics, less than 20% of Korean War Veterans belong to a national organization such as the VFW, DAV, or American Legion. The Foundation wants to locate the remaining 80% and notify them of the national and international events that will mark the anniversary. If you were on active duty between June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1953 send the following information to: US. Korea 2000 Foundation, Inc, 4600 Duke Street, Suite 420, Alexandria, VA 22304-2517

Your Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail Address _____

Dates of Military Service _____

Branch of Service & Units Served with _____

Personal Decorations/Awards _____

Highest Rank Held _____ Rank in Korea _____

APPLICATION FOR KWVA REVISIT TOURS

KVA (Seoul) Revisit Purpose: *"To express the gratitude of the Korean Government towards Korean War Veterans of the United States who took part in the Korean War from June 25, 1950 to July 27, 1953."* (Eligibility below).

Please check month and year of desired revisit tour:

Month: ☐ April ☐ June ☐ Sept. ☐ Nov.

Year: ☐ 2000 ☐ 2001 ☐ 2002 ☐ 2003

VETERAN'S PERSONAL HISTORY (Please print or type)

Veteran's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____

KWVA Membership # _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name of family member and relationship: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: Fax: _____

Veteran's Passport Number _____ Date of Expiration _____

Family member's Passport Number _____ Date of Expiration _____

Veteran's Soc Sec # _____ Family member's Soc Sec # _____

Have you previously received the Korean War Medal from the Korean Veterans Assn in Seoul, Korea? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Have you received the medal elsewhere? If so, where? _____ Date _____

VETERAN'S MILITARY BIOGRAPHY

Branch of Service: Service Number: _____

Period of Service in Korean War, from: _____ (Month/Year Arrived) to _____ (Month/Year Departed)

Unit Assigned: _____ Location of Unit: _____

Rank Achieved in Korea: _____ Highest Rank Achieved: _____

Personal Military Decorations: _____

☐ I hereby certify that I have never previously accepted a KVA (Seoul) Revisit Tour. *or*

☐ I have previously accepted and participated in an Official KVA (Seoul) Revisit Tour in (Date) _____

I am requesting my name be submitted for a waiver to participate in the 50th Anniversary Revisit Tours in the years 2000-2003.

Veteran's Signature: _____ Date _____

Please complete and mail, with deposit of \$250 per person, (check or money order), made out to Military Historical Tours. (This deposit is fully refundable at anytime and for any reason, since there are more applicants than the limited amount of Revisit space available.) KWVA Revisit Program, c/o Military Historical Tours, Inc., Attn: George Malone, 4600 Duke Street, Suite 420 Alexandria, VA 22304, 703-739-8900 * Fax 703-684-0193.

Background and Eligibility - Official Korean Veterans Association KVA (Seoul) Revisit Program

Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Korean Veterans Association (KVA, Seoul) in 1975, the 25th Anniversary year of the outbreak of the Korean War, to express their gratitude to veterans of the Korean War and to show them the bountiful results of their sacrifices and devotion.

KVA Eligibility

A. Korean War veterans and/or war correspondents of the 21 nations which came to the assistant of the Republic of Korea between June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1953.

B. Immediate family member of those killed in action in the Korean War.

Note: You are eligible to take a spouse or one immediate descendant with you. (Not a sister, brother, companion or friend.)

The family member must be housed in the same hotel room with you in Seoul. (Descendants must be over 18).

Privileges Extended Courtesy of KVA

A. Hotel accommodations (2 persons per room), meals, tours, and transportation while in Korea for 6 days and 5 nights.

B. Tour of Seoul and its vicinity: itinerary

includes visits of Panmunjom, North Korean Invasion Tunnels, Korean War Memorial Monument, National Cemetery, National Museum, Korean Folk Village, Korean War Museum, plus other cultural/industrial facilities and activities in the Seoul area. (Other tours of battles sites and/or Incheon may be made through the local tour guide).

C. A special reception and dinner hosted by the President of the Korean Veterans Association (KVA) during which the Korean War Medal and Certificate of Ambassador for Peace will be awarded to each veteran. (Who have not received it before!).

Miscellaneous

A. The KVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.

B. Participants are required to be in possession of a valid passport. (A visa is not required for visits to Korea of 15 days or less.)

C. KVA (Seoul) is not 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 revisits. Trip insurance is available and recommended.

D. The cost of the airline ticket must be borne by each individual visitor who will fly with the group.

E. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, First-serve" basis.

Note: If you have previously accepted an official KVA (Seoul) Revisit tour from any sponsoring association or group - you are not currently eligible to participate again. The reason for this is obvious; there are many veterans that have not gone before so, they get their "first right of return!" KVA Seoul now has all former revisit returnees in a computer database, so please don't try and beat the system. We may not know it, and submit your name to KVA (Seoul), only to have it rejected. This could cause embarrassment for all of us, as well as, create a delay that could cause a bonafide Korean War veteran to miss the opportunity.

F. Those desiring to use frequent flier miles (or other means of "Free" air transportation) will be required to pay a \$ 100.00 (per person) administrative processing fee. Caution: Not traveling with the KWVA group air contract, can result in much higher Post Tour costs to China and other Pacific locations!

HARPER from page 51

ing truce. On the other hand, we did not wish to afford the enemy an unacceptable advantage. We were in a difficult balancing act between political and military considerations. Dee Harper did his duty; the munitions for a potential large scale offensive were destroyed, but it was better to remain mute about the incident. The American public had grown weary of the war and wanted a settlement. Perhaps lack of publicity was best.

Dee's article was reprinted in the Korean War Veterans Magazine, The Graybeards, which prompted a reply from Bob Jones who was a PFC at the time with the 31st Infantry Regiment, located along the main line of resistance (MLR) with troops of the First Marine Division and the 17th Regiment. These grunts (I use the term affectionately) would have borne the brunt of a major assault and the casualty rate would have been tremendous. Bob immediately saw what Dee's action did to preserve those in harm's way and joined in efforts to get recognition for Dee Harper.

His efforts with the military met the same fate as did mine. Other members of the fighting units mentioned never knew

EGGS from page 49

I left Korea shortly after our 'egg' experience and never saw my New Zealand buddy again. I didn't even know if he had survived the war, but almost 40 years after last seeing him, I decided to try to locate 'Gunner' Glover. I obtained a list of all Glovers in New Zealand phone directories. After composing a letter, explaining who I was, and that I was trying to locate my war time friend, I mailed a copy to every Glover listed.

Unbelievably, after almost four decades, I found him! He is alive and well, living in a small, south island town in New Zealand. We have corresponded often since our "by mail and phone" reunion and have talked and written -as old soldiers will -about many of our war time experiences. Many of which were less than pleasant, but still part of an unforgettable period in our lives.

The one event we both recall, both vividly and happily is The eggs and the ruining of Gunner Glovers Billy!

of Dee Harper's action which had a profound effect on preserving their lives.

In this interim period, I consider it my duty, honor, and pleasure to have a plaque made to honor Dee and his great achievement. We will have an appropriate simple and dignified ceremony to present him *The Buck Stopped Here* award. Hot dog vendors and politicians will not be invited. I will render a salute, shake his hand, and present the long overdue award.

Dee had been forced to bail out of this his F-86 Sabre Jet on June 28, 1953 while on a mission over North Korea and was picked up by an air and sea rescue group. He was evacuated to a hospital in Seoul and requested to be transferred to the hospital at K-55 AFB at Osan so that he could get back to duty with the 18th FBW. He would likely have been evacuated to the USA had he remained at Seoul for recovery from his injuries.

The video series will reflect great honor on units of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. It will feature the heroic troops who preserved a foot-hold to the Korean Peninsula at Pusan. The Navy, Army and Marine units who made the landing at Inchon will be show cased. The memorable rescue of those at the Chosin Reservoir will be portrayed. Korea was important because it was here that we elected to draw a line in the mud in the dominating east-west struggle which existed at the time.

We would be remiss if we failed to mention the service of units of other countries in Korea. The 2nd South Africa Squadron was stationed with us at K-55 AFB, Osan. I quaffed a few toddies with the august gentlemen at their Hizikizumba Club. What a great bunch of guys.

The Korean conflict was largely forgotten afterward and relegated to back page news when any tension surfaced between the forces of the north and south. It is unfortunate that we only recently learned that more than 900 U.S. POW's were not exchanged after the cease fire. Evidently somewhere in the Chain of Command these souls were regarded as expendable pawns in the grand chess board scheme of the dominating struggle.

On August 5, 1950, in the early days of

the war, Major Louis J. Seville, who was commander of the 67th FB Squadron of the 18th FBW, flew his damaged F-51 Mustang into a concentration of enemy troops. He posthumously became the first USAF member and the first pilot in Korea to be awarded the Medal of Honor. His last transmission was something to the effect, "I'll get those SOB's." Let us pray that we are worthy of his and the sacrifices of others.

Louis J. Cain
Ex S/Sgt, USAF

I have the Harper story and will look to see when his story was printed. If it was a few years ago we may repeat the story for our new members. I also have all the letters Louis Cain wrote. I will print the reply letter from The Department of the Air Force written to Col. Harper. The letter explains itself. - Editor.

**Department of the Air Force
Headquarters US Air Force
Washington DC 20332-1111**

9 October 1997
AFHSO/CC
500 Duncan Ave Box 94
Bolling AFB DC 20332-1111
Lt Col. Flamm D. Harper, USAF, Ret
Dear Colonel Harper

Louis Cain acquainted us with your 18th Fighter Bomber Wing story published in Sabre Jet Classics magazine. He suggested your initiative be developed into a lesson plan for the Air Force Academy. As you know, we verified the story, contacted you and worked out time frame details.

You stated your interest in gaining some recognition for the unique accomplishment of the 18th Fighter Bomber Wing in converting from piston engined F-51s to high performance jets (F-86F) at a new base, in winter, and in a combat zone. We agree. In fact, we cannot find another example of a similar conversion in the history of the Air Force. We plan to forward your story and Mr. Cain's article to Air Force professional military training organizations for possible use in developing lesson plans.

Thank you for your dedication to recording the contributions of the Air Force to the free world's defense!

Christine L. Jaremkow, Colonel, USAF
Commander
Air Force History Support Office

Video ad - 4 color
Pg 57

Thanks for Supporting The Graybeards

Many members have responded to the suggestion to temporarily help underwrite the cost of publication of *The Graybeards* by making voluntary contributions. This issue is still being printed considering cost restraints and due to change of printer and mailer we have been able to continue to reduce the cost per issue and also try to upgrade your newsletter. Your heartening response has made this step possible. Hopefully we will be able to restore our newsletter to a higher quality with other desired changes in subsequent issues.

Members please continue to respond by sending your contribution to KWVA, P.O. Box 1062, Locust Grove, VA 22508-9500 marked: **Support of Graybeards**. Every donation will be recognized in the magazine. Those that do not respond for any reason are still valued members for your dues also contribute to the printing of our newsletter. Names listed came from those wishing to support KWVA by donations for *The Graybeards*, Searching For, Reunions, and In Memory Of. **An early response to 1999 dues will also help your association.** At the time of publication the following names of donors and "Memorials" have been reported to *The Graybeards* and are listed as follows:

Members & Friends

Amos
Anderson, C.
Arellano
Augustine, Henry
Ayers
Balamoti, J. M.
Barto
Becker
Boelsche, F.
Bosma, Steve
Bremer
Brooks, Philo J.
Calabria, J.
Cannon, J.
Carmichael, Jr., J. K.
Caroland
Chase
Chieffalo
Chilcott, T.
Ciaravino
Clawson, T.
Cloman, Jack
Cofsky, D.
Cook, K.
Coon, Harley
Dall, Al
Darby
Dettefsen, J.
Distadio
Dolge
Easterly, W. L.

Eaton, T.
Faber, D.
Fielder, Sam
Fieldson, C. M.
Gagnon
Gauger
Glock, Ray
Gray
Gray, F. H.
Hambly
Harshbarger
Hartsock
Haygood
Hinojosa
Holm, D. J.
House, Earl
Hubbard, W.
Hughes
Jean
Johnson
Johnston
Jones, R.
Kenz, H. W.
Kerr, J. W., PH. D.
Kittrell
Krepps, V.
Lake
Lewis, J.
Lindemann
Mac Donald, C.
Madden, M. Col. Army (Ret.)
Martin

Matthews, W.
McDougal, B.
McGonigle
Monje
Mueller, G. R.
Murphy
Nelson
Ortiz
Pakkala, George
Palumbo, L. F.
Pavia
Pearl
Peate, L.
Peitz
Pence, W. L.
Perry
Pilkington, G.
Poda
Quinn, J.
Quis, F.
Rader
Reed
Rhode
Rodriguez
Roeder, D. E., D. D. S.
Rogenmoser
Ruland, A.
Salgado
Sertich, R. L.
Shearer, J.
Sinclair, R. E.
Smith

Stockdale
Terrell
Thomas, W.
Turner, J. L.
Unger
Vacarro
Valloric, J.
Wagner
Ward
Watts
Wahlhaupter, W.
Walker, F.
Wiedhahn, W.
Williams
Wong, H. B.
Worsham, W.
Zimmerman, I.

Organizations:

Delaware Chapter #1
5th RCT
L Co.

In Memory of:

Lewis, J. In memory of 343rd
Gen. Hospital - Korea

Hubbard, W. H. In memory of
Tony Shea - 72nd Tank Bn.

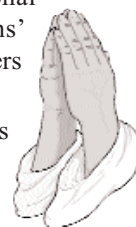
Chaplain's Corner

Rev. Irvin L. Sharp

A Blessed New Year is extended to each family in our membership by Velma and myself.

With less than a month into 1999, winter has descended upon us with ice, snow, wind, and cold - in short - the whole works, within just a few weeks. I'm sure many of you labored many days, as we did, with the shoveling and removal of so much ice and snow. I pray that each of us remembers constantly to exercise extreme caution. To say that we are not as young as we once were, is an under-statement (smiles).

I would like to impart get-well wishes to one of our own, who is recuperating at home from knee surgery. Robert D. Haas, Major General (Ret), is a charter member of the Greater Cleveland Chapter and a life-time member of the National Korean War Veterans' Association. Our prayers are with you, Bob.



We implore blessings for good health and happiness for all our membership and their families.

Notes on a Beloved Hymn:

"Nearer My God to Thee"

Sarah Adams (1805-1848), a notable English Unitarian writer, wrote her poem in 1841. Fifteen years later, the great teacher of American church music, Lowell Mason (1792-1872) set it to music. With its simple yet commanding melody and effective harmony, it has become part of the hymnology of all English-speaking countries and has become translated into several languages.

Thought for this Month

A wise man will bear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels.

Proverbs 1:5

Taps

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



Arizona

★ Henry Mejia

Delaware

★ Charles W. Fluharty
★ Marvin R. Harvey
★ William F. Mathais
★ Joseph Nicotra
★ Ralph T. Poulliot

Florida

★ William Rossell

Massachusetts

★ Andrew F. McCarthy

Minnsota

★ Joseph Anzaldi

New York

★ Howard Cassidy, Jr.
★ Danial Dipasquale
★ Alfred Evans
★ Ted Ferguson
★ James Patterson
★ Francis Pautz
★ Harold Rank
★ Frank Sciabica
★ William Shepardson

★ Joseph Sicignano

★ Fred C. Tomski

★ Michael Webster

★ James Williams

New Jersey

★ Nazeruo Santini

Ohio

★ James D. Schall

Virginia

★ David Coon

"ONE LEVEL"

The story behind the "Korean War Veterans Illustration".

Continued from November-December issue.

The last but not least is myself, (ego not withstanding) standing along side of my Jaguar XK-120 of 1950 and my 1950 MG-TD, with a Smith's Radio-Mobile Trans-ocean, radio in the glove box. I allowed my picture to be placed in this illustration to offset the belief that only the poor and low educated were willing to be drafted or were willing to fight our countries wars. For what its worth those two roadsters cost more money in 1949/1950 than most of the middle class homes in the California, Chicago, and New York areas.

The picture of the tank, a Sherman was from a photo with the 24th Inf. Div., in the Taegu area in fall of 1950, X Corp Area. The Officer and Infantryman were placed at different angles and reflect the warm dress necessary against the bitter cold of the Korean winter months. The Jet of the U. S. Air Force is from a book on early day jets of the Korean War. It was given me by an Airman of those days of the War, who won't make anymore reunions. The bunker/fox hole photo is from loose photo's gathered while working in the Far East, and from friends in the 2nd Inf. Div., 7th Inf. Div., and 25th Inf. Div. and others.

At least one of these riflemen is thought to be from the 1st Inf. Div. (Capitol) or 7th Inf. Div. ROK, X Corp. (an interpreter). The Field piece is a 155 mm, from an old magazine showing various battery's firing North of Inje, North Korea. The banner

shown with the names of the 24th Infantry, 5th R.C.T. and 1st Cav. Div., does not reflect any parochial treatment to these units in Korea, but only those which the Author is best acquainted.

The aging and placement of the five Veterans under the banner, are a direct reflection of the trust and respect which is shown during their time of commitment to each other in time of War. Some have aged faster than others, perhaps due to life style, and battle wounds which cannot be healed without the scars of war. Here they hold on to each other in this Illustration and speak with kind words, while listening with great interest. Some are more intent on being able to relate to each other on the happenings in their lives since they have last come together on "One Level".

While one might tell the story of being the Burial Party Officer or NonCom throughout the Middle West, with his closely guarded Railway Express car. Another might speak of seeing his oldest son for the first time while walking down a muddy lane to the farm house after a long bus ride home. They do all share a common bond, which will be with them until time is no more, which is clearly shown in the faces of each of these men.

When this "One Level" Illustration was 95% complete it was looked over carefully by the Artist, Writer and friends to make sure nothing was left out, as it is a one time production. With the assurance of the group that it was in fact ready for showing, it was taken to the "Gathering", at first known as "Bill Norris Gathering", and shown to the members present. After displaying it and receiving kind remarks from Mrs. Bill Norris and Virginia, and others, it was decided to offer it to the public.

The 24 inch by 36 inch is the right size for an Illustration of this quality, and goes well any place on the walls of homes of Veterans. It has received a great deal of attention as it relates itself to those who are part of our family of War Veterans, here, Korea and around the World. It is quite inexpensive when compared to other Litho's of this quality and size. It is thought to be a collectors item in years to come as the work and cost of production, has curtailed others from doing this in the past forty-nine years. The story told by this picture is in a class of its own when broadcasting the beliefs of the Veterans to their family and those they love.

To those who were not able to attend the Korean Olympics in 1988, and watch the opening ceremonies, part of which enabled the ROK paratrooper's to fall into the arena and throw one at the old vets. We can all stand tall and proud of what this little Nation has accomplished, and be aware it could not have happen without the efforts of the "One Level", of our *Fighting Forces*.

Dale L. Schreiber
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P.O. Box 7, Carlsbad, CA 92018.

Mr. Schreiber is member of 24th Inf. Div Asso. No Life 802., 5th R.C.T Asso No. 157, Korean War Veterans Asso. LC124., WFW Frank Brezina Post 5431, Past Cdr. , President, Ponto Historic Society, Carlsbad, California 92018-0007

The above background is for a paid Ad called "One Level." Dale Louis Schreiber is President and Founder of Ponto Historic Society. This is copyrighted and insured by those named above. Graybeards has a one time approval to print this background.—Editor.

The Poet's Place

OSAN

Task Force Smith dug in north of Osan ready for battle on July 5, 1950: 540 Americans mostly teenagers, green as cucumbers for combat.

At 7:30 a.m. eight NKPA tanks advanced slowly south toward them. Behind were twenty-five more Russian T-34 medium tanks.

Following the tanks, an enemy column six miles long, twisted on the road like a snake crawling forward slowly toward the teenagers on the hills.

The tanks rumbled through their positions and continued south on the highways, but first they shot up the truck park and the task force's artillery support.

Then came the enemy infantry well-trained and well-disciplined. The veteran infantry attacked frontally and around both flanks like a giant crab.

Task Force Smith was no more. Survivors struggled back over the hills. Almost 200 had been lost, killed, or wounded. They were our first Korean War Veterans.

By David J. Seigle

Ponto ad (KWV Illustration)

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Certificate ad - 4 color
Pg 61

Reunions

March 1999

West Coast Korean War Veterans Reunion: March 17-20, at San Luis Obispo, California. First "Western States" all services gathering to find our long lost buddies! To obtain reunion info phone 1-800-523-4715.

42/7 Marines, 1st Marine Div., Korea 1950, March 25-29, at Quality Inn, Branson, MO, Contact John M. Settle, 2236 Goshen Rd. Ft. Wayne, IN 46808 Tel: 219-484-3339 or Rob Hawkins, 8641 Woodward Dr., Richmond, VA 23236, Tel: 804-276-7891

April 1999

73rd Tank Bn., April 8-11, at the Breckinridge Inn, Louisville, KY, Contact: Curtis J. Banker, 44 Westcott Road, Schuylers Falls, NY 12985-2302, Tel: 518-643-2302

USS Washburn (AKA-108), (LKA-108) April 9-11, in San Diego, CA. Contact: E. Leonard Swenson, 109 Manzanita Drive, Vallejo, CA 94590 Tel: 707-554-8011

41 Commando Royal Marines are hosting The Chosin Few, April 15-20 in Bournemouth, England, Contact: Ron Moyse, 5 Haycock Way, Strumminster, Marshall, Winborne, Dorset, England BH21 4DL

76th Engineer Bn. April 22 to 25, at Ramada Inn, Branson, MO. Contact: Roy Hendra, 4 Stanford Drive, Toms River, N.J. 08757. Tel: 732-914-9184 or E-mail CAPTROY@AOL.COM

U.S. Constabulary Outpost #3 April 23-24 at Fort Knox/Radcliff, KY Contact: John Hollern, Box 1165, New Garden Station, Fort Knox, KY 40121-1165, Tel: (502) 877-5952.

May 1999

Ammo Co. 1st Ordnance Bn. 1st Marine Div. Korea 1950-3, May 7-9, at Holiday Inn Select -Airport, San Antonio, TX. Contact, James A. Hunter at jahunter@tir.com or 2102 Ainsworth St, Flint, MI. 48532

1st Battalion 7th Marines 1st Mar Div Korea, for those who served in Korea September 1950 to July 1953; to be held in Palm Springs May 19- 23. A side trip to 29 Palms is planned. Contact, Bob Licker, 1402 Calle Cecilia, San Dimas, CA 91773-4462 Tel: 626-331-8115 or e-mail: chosinbob@yahoo.com.

USS Soley (DD 707) reunion in Charleston, South Carolina, May 28- 31, Contact: Eugene Blum, 6749 San Benito Way, Buena Park, CA 90620-3741 Tel: 714-527-4925 or by E-Mail: eblum2@juno.com

USS Mount Baker AE-4, May 21-23 in Phoenix, AZ, Contact: Dick or Rae Anderson, 2233 E. Behrend Dr., #143, Phoenix, AZ 85024 Tel: 602-569-3505, Fax: 602-569-3593

The Fifth Regimental Combat Team Association, May 25-31, Myrtle Beach, Landmark Resort Hotel, For further information call Richard Lewis (TollFree) 1-888-221-8418. Fax: 304-264-2411 or e-mail FifthRCT@intrepid.net P.O. Box 2538 Martinsburg, WV 25401-2538

June 1999

USS Davidson, DD618/DMS37 June 2-5 at Best Western Midway Airport Hotel in Milwaukee, WI. All past crew members and family welcome, Contact: Earl J. Lee, 2169 West Dr. El Cajon, CA 92021, Tel: 619-444-5384 or E-mail: dms37@sprintmail.com

USS PRESIDENT MONROE -AP104, at Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky, 3 -5 June, Contact: Raymond J. Marek, 2330 Cemetery Rd. West, TX 76691-1901 Tel: 254-826-3622

General Harry Taylor - AP145, June 3-6, in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, Contact: Jim Bonnot, Jr., 312 Bellwood Ave., Pigeon Forge, TN 37863, Tel: 423-429-5698

AP Transport Group, USS Generals Mitchell-AP114; Randall-AP115; Gordon-AP117; Richardson-AP118; Weigel-AP119; Hodges-AP144; Breckinridge-AP176; and USS Admirals Capps-AP121; Eberle-AP123; Hughes-AP124; Mayo-AP125, June 3-6 at Ft. Mitchell, KY, Contact: Chuck Ulrich, 35 Oak Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040, Tel: 516-747-7426. Includes Navy, Coast Guard and Marines.

Nagoya/Komaki Reunion Association will hold their 13th Annual Reunion in Indianapolis, Indiana 17-20 June, Contact Ted Eaton, 7860 N Prairie Rd, Springport, IN 47386. Tel: 765-755-3587.

KWVA, Department of Illinois State Convention Decatur, IL, June 25-26, Holiday Inn. Contact: D. Boriff, Phone 217-422-8754 or Email Boriff@aol.com, or 2453 Hill Park Avenue, Apt 4, Decatur, IL 62521

1453 Med-Air Evac Sqdn, June 1999, Pensacola, FL, Contact James M. Rochelle, 9525 Weidon Cir. Apt 111, Tamarac, FL 33321-0955

July 1999

91st MP Bn. Korea, 1952-1954, July 30 to Aug. 2, at Birch Run, MI Contact: Manuel Sanchez, 4160 Burnham St., Saginaw, MI 48603, Tel: 517-793-4277

August 1999

I & R Platoon, Hq. & Hq. Co. 31st Inf. Regt., 7th Division. Our 3rd reunion will be held on August 6-7, in St. Louis, MO. Contact: Don Zierk, 6 Weiss Pl., Palm Coast, FL 32164-7873, Tel: 904-445-1603

USS Waldren (DD699) 10th Reunion in Washington, DC, Aug. 19-22. Contact: John (Jack) Valloric, 2010 N Brandywine St., Arlington, VA 22207-2213, Tel: 703-528-8395.

USS Bon Homme Richard (CV/CVA-31) Ships Company and Air Groups & USS BON HOMME RICHARD (LMD-6) August 13-15, in Niagara Falls, NY, Contact Ralph Pound P.O. Box 1531 -410 Clark Street, Tupelo, MS 38802 Tel: Work 601-842-0572, Home 601-842-8247

September 1999

6147th Tac Con Gp, Korea, 1950-56 personnel of and all supporting units: 6132 TC Det "A", 6164 TCS, 6150 TCS (TACP), 6147 TCS, 6148 AB Unit, 6148 & 6149 TCS, 6147 ABS, 6147 M&S, 6147 MED Sq., 942nd FACS and US Army and UN Forces personnel who flew as observers in T6 aircraft. Next reunion will be in Shreveport, LA Sept. 7 -12, Contact: Dick Souza, 79 Bradstreet Ave., Lowell, MA. 01851. Tel: 978-453-3887.

51st Signal Battalion, September 14 -16, at Wapakoneta, Ohio. Korean Vets and all former members welcome. Contact Glenn Carpenter, 810 Glyncrest Dr. Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895. Tel (419) 738-3369, E-Mail ICORP@bright.net

Corps Artillery Reunion Alliance I Corps, IX Corps, X Corps Korea 1950-1954, 1st FA Ob. Bn., 2nd Chem Mtr. Bn., 17th FA Bn., 75th FA Bn., 88th Hvy Mtr Bn., 92nd FA Bn., 96th FA Bn., 145th FA Bn., 159th FA Bn., 176th FA Bn., 187th FA Bn., 196th FA Bn., 204th FA Bn., 213th FA Bn., 300 FA Bn., 555th FA Bn., 623rd FA Bn., 780th FA Bn., 936th FA Bn., 937th FA Bn., 955th FA Bn., 984th FA Bn., 987th FA Bn., 999th FA Bn. Will hold 1999 reunion in Covington, KY. September 19-23, 1999. For information contact Nick Vanderhave 1333 Littleton Rd., Morris Plains, N.J. 07950 or call 973-538-7189.

2nd Chemical Motar Bn. (and 461th Infantry Bn.) Reunion (Korea 1950-53), September 22-26 at the Radisson Inn Airport, Colorado Springs, CO. Observing the 50th anniversary of our Battalion's reactivation in 1949. Contact: William R. Thomas, 7418 Overdale Drive, Dallas, TX 75240. Phone: 972-387-1247

29th Inf. Regt., Sept. 23-26, at Ft. Benning, GA - Columbus, GA, WWII, Korea and former members welcomed. Contact: CSM Frank C. Plass, 579 Pike Drive, Ellerslie, GA 31807-5522, Tel: 706-561-0774

3d U.S. Inf. Regt (The Old Guard), Sept. 23 -26, at Ft. Myer, VA. Open to all who served with the Army's Oldest Regt., all Bns. Former Old Guardsmen from Ft. Snelling are invited, as well as those who served in Washington and Europe. Contact: Don Cofsky, 36 Tilegate Glen, Fairport, NY 14450, or e-mail to: kvet-donc@frontiernet.net Association Membership now open, not required to attend.

U.S.S. Oglethorpe AKA 100, September 23-26, in Minneapolis Minnesota.

Write: Ron Williamson 639 Oxford St., Belvidere, NJ 07823 or call 908-475-4435. E-mail misty1@epix.net

50th AAA reunion will be at Ft. Bliss, Texas where the units inception was in 1949. We will be celebrating the 50th year. Sept. 1999 Contact: Bob Matis, 2251 Terrace View-Spring Hill, FL, 34606 or E-Mail bobmatis@fiber-net.com

7th Ordnance (DS) Co., Korea 1952-1954 Hwachon, Sept. 1999, Contact: Rocco Marcarelli, 12 Getty Road, Stony Point, NY 10980, Tel: 914-942-0370

October 1999

11th Engineer Combat Battalion Association. 7th Annual Reunion, October 7-10, in Louisville, KY. All members of the 11th Engineer Battalion, past and present, are invited to attend. Contact: Fred Boelsche, 54 Edstan Drive, Moonachie, NJ 07074 Tel: 201-641-5828

USS Ozbourn (DD846), October 13-17, Maxim Hotel, Las Vegas, NV., Contact: R. C. Whitten 408-252-9213 for details

USS Francis Marion APA-LPA 249 Charleston, SC Oct. 21-24, Contact, Bob Martin, 16 Staples St Melrose, Ma 02176 Tel: 781-665-9222

45th Inf. Div., 279th Inf. Reg., Co. L (Thunderbirds), Oct. 25 -26, at Carriage House Hotel in Branson MO, Contact: Paul Elkins,, 671 44th St, Los Alamos, NM 87544, Tel: 505-662-4634

96th Field Artillery Bn. , Korea 1950-1958, all Batteries, Oct. 1999 in Baltimore, MD area, Contact Arnold Anderson HC83 Box 116A, Custer, SD 57730, Tel: 605-673-6313

In reading other magazines I see that they charge for reunion notices. I hesitate to ask a member or a supporting organization of KWVA National to pay for reunion notices. Since we are in need of support at this time, I think it is appropriate to ask you to send a minimum donation of \$1.00 for each reunion notice. Again, this request is not mandatory. Please send notices directly to editor, make checks payable to KWVA National. Typed reunions preferred.—Editor

Membership Application
Pg 63 - inside back

“FREEDOM IS NOT FREE”

I watched the flag pass by one day.
It fluttered in the breeze.
A young Marine saluted it, and then
He stood at ease.

I looked at him in uniform,
So young, so tall, so proud -
With hair cut square and eyes alert
He'd stand out in any crowd.

I thought, how many men like him
Had fallen through the years?
How many died on foreign soil?
How many mother's tears?

How many pilots? planes shot down?
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?
Where are our missing?
We need to know, the family raves.

I heard the sound of taps one night,
When everything was still.
I listened to the bugler play
And felt a sudden chill.

I wondered just how many times
That taps had meant “Amen”
When a flag had draped a coffin
For a brother or a friend.

I thought of all the children,
Of the mothers and the wives
Of fathers, sons and husbands
With interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard
At the bottom of the sea
Of unmarked graves in Arlington
No, Freedom is not free!

Author unknown

(Sent in by BGen. John Gemeny (Ret.))



Korean War Veterans Association
PO Box 10806
Arlington, VA 22210

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